

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION

Tour Note of Smt. Gauri Chatterji, Secretary, DoNER and Shri D.S. Poonia, Joint Secretary, DoNER's visit to Arunachal Pradesh from 3rd to 5th April 2006.

Smt. Gauri Chatterji, Secretary, DoNER accompanied by Shri D.S. Poonia, Joint Secretary, DoNER visited Tawang and Itanagar in Arunachal Pradesh from 3rd to 5th April 2006.

3.4.2006

2. On arrival at Tawang by Indian Air Force helicopter from Guwahati. Secretary and JS, DoNER were received by Shri Dorjee Khandu, Hon'ble Minister(Power), Arunachal Pradesh, Hon'ble MLAs from Tawang, DC, SP and other district officials.

3. Secretary, DoNER visited the memorial for the Indian soldiers who had laid down their life during the conflict with China in 1962 and paid homage to the martyrs.

4. Secretary and JS, DoNER accompanied by Hon'ble Minister(Power), Hon'ble MLAs and the officials visited the site of **the Indoor Stadium (Rs.1.21 crores)** under construction with assistance from the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports. The local people expressed their gratitude for the Central Govt's assistance for construction of the Indoor Stadium. It was pointed out that due to the harsh weather conditions, the people of Tawang had been demanding construction of an **Indoor Stadium** for several years.

5. They also visited the site of the proposed High Altitude Sports Complex for which the Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh has sought financial assistance from NLCPR.

6. The site for construction of the “**Ropeway from Tawang Monastery to Ani Gompa**” was also inspected. It was noted that the foundation stone of the project was laid by H.E. the President of India. Smt. Chatterji informed that the NLCPR Committee in its meeting held on 28.3.2006 has recommended sanction of funds from NLCPR for this prestigious project. It was assured that sanction would be issued shortly. Smt. Chatterji requested the State Govt. officials to ensure that the work plan, indicating items of work proposed to be taken up with the first instalment, is submitted through the State Govt. to enable release of funds.

7. Secretary, DoNER also visited the site of a **Multi-purpose Hall** under construction. It was noted that NEC had funded this project.

8. Secretary, DoNER visited the **Tawang Monastery** and met the Buddhist Monks. They submitted a proposal for assistance to upgrade the Monastery infrastructure, particularly for housing the Monastery’s library and hostel for student monks.

9. During the visit to the **District Hospital complex**, it was noted that the new building was incomplete. Several local people have made donations. But additional funds are required for completion of the new hospital building.

10. A meeting was held at 4 p.m. with the district level officials. The MLA from Tawang requested that the Tawang Monastery be declared as a World Heritage site. Assistance was also sought for renovation of Monks’ quarters. Other requests included expediting sanction to the proposal for construction of the **Vivekananda Kendriya Vidyalaya building at Kitpi, 41 km. road from Dudunghar to BTK road, 33 KV Transmission line from Tawang to Lumla, High Altitude Sports Complex etc. in Tawang.** On a query from Secretary, DoNER it was informed that 32 ICDS centres, which cater to 500 children, are being served cooked food and biscuits as supplementary nutrition. It was noted that literacy at 41.15% was low. There is a shortage of teachers and a need for intensive implementation of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan though the midday meal scheme

was being implemented. Request was also made for construction of **Inter Village Schools with hostels** so that children from remote hamlets could avail of education facilities.

4.4.2006

11. Due to bad weather, the Indian Air Force helicopter could not come to Tawang for airlifting Smt. Chatterji, Secretary and Shri D.S. Poonia, JS, DoNER. As such they traveled by road from Tawang through Sela Pass, Dirang Valley, Bomdilla and halted at Bhalukpong.

5.4.2006

12. The State Govt. helicopter airlifted Smt. Chatterji, Secretary and Shri D.S. Poonia, JS, DoNER from Bhalukpong to Itanagar.

13. Immediately after arrival Secretary and JS, DoNER visited the following project sites :

- (i) **Sub-transmission and distribution - 33 KV DC line from Nirjuli to Itanagar.**
- (ii) **Augmentation of Water Supply at Naharlagun-Nirjuli Township (Phase-I).**
- (iii) **Ramakrishna Mission Hospital, Itanagar :**
 - (a) **Construction of new OPD Block (Rs.3.88 crores)**
 - (b) **Renovation/repair and extension of School of Nursing (Rs.17.82 lakhs)**

14. It was noted that the power transmission project as also the water supply project had expanded beyond their original scope. The State Govt. officials requested for sanction of additional funds. Secretary, DoNER informed that the NLCPR guidelines do not permit sanction of any escalation in the cost of the project. The State Govt. officials were advised to ensure that the projects were completed within their original estimated cost. The State Govt. was free to

provide any additionality for the purpose. However, in the case of change in scope of work, the proposal could be forwarded to the Ministry of DoNER with adequate justification for consideration by the NLCPR Committee.

15. Secretary, DoNER expressed her satisfaction at the facilities being provided to the public at the R.K. Mission Hospital at Itanagar. It was noted that NEC had also provided equipment to the hospital. The construction of the new OPD Block had commenced. Swamiji was requested to furnish the progress report and the UC for the first instalment. The R.K. Mission had done a commendable job of utilizing the balance amount of Rs.17.82 lakhs for renovation/repair and extension of the School of Nursing. It was noted that this could be done with the savings affected from the approved cost of 30 residential buildings and special repair/maintenance of 100 existing buildings of the R.K. Mission Hospital, Itanagar.

16. Secretary, DoNER held a meeting with the State Govt. officials to review the progress of NLCPR funded projects. Shri K.K. Sharma, i/c Chief Secretary and Senior State Govt. officials were present.

17. Secretary, DoNER informed that Ministry of DoNER has provided Rs.8 crores towards meeting 15% of the State share under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. She emphasized the need for submission of QPRs and UCs in time and to avoid time and cost overruns. The procedures under the NLCPR schemes were explained in detail. State Govt. officials were requested to expeditiously submit the two pending DPRs and three revised DPRs. Secretary, DoNER also advised improvement in the quality of DPRs. She explained in detail the problems arising out of escalation in the estimated cost of the projects and explained that NLCPR guidelines do not permit sanction of funds to meet the cost of escalation.

18. Secretary, DoNER informed the State Govt. officials that Ministry of DoNER implements a **Capacity Building Scheme** and requested that Govt. officials be sponsored for trainings under the same. She requested the Chief Secretary to

ensure that quarterly reviews of NLCPR funded schemes are carried out and Minutes of such meetings invariably endorsed to M/DoNER. She also requested that the Concept Notes in respect of all project proposals included under the State Govt.'s priority list for 2006-07 be forwarded immediately.

19. JS, DoNER referred to the need for expediting the DPR for the District Sports Complex at Jengging. He expressed concern that DPR for the proposed Multi-purpose Outdoor Stadium was awaited for a long time. The State Govt. officials informed that this proposal had been referred to the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports for funding. JS, DoNER pointed out at the inordinate delay in implementing the project for completion of 532 incomplete school buildings. He informed that Rs.14.48 crores were sanctioned from the NLCPR on 15.2.2000 and an amount of Rs.5.54 crores was released on 15.11.2001. Proper UCs indicating school-wise details of work carried-out and the amount utilized were still awaited despite several reminders. State Govt. officials pointed out that the original sanction was based on old estimates. There has been considerable escalation in the prices of all the inputs since the estimates were prepared. CS, Arunachal Pradesh was requested to review the project and furnish a comprehensive report to the M/DoNER for a final decision.

20. Secretary, Health, Arunachal Pradesh informed that DPR for the Referral Hospital (500 bedded) at Itanagar had been prepared by M/s HSCIL. He agreed to look into the comments of the Ministry of Health forwarded by M/DoNER to the State Govt. and expedite submission of the revised DPR.

21. Secretary, DoNER informed the State Govt. officials that the estimated cost of the project in the Concept Note should be realistic and the final estimated cost in the DPR should not exceed more than 20% of the estimated cost indicated in the Concept Note. She advised the State Govt. to prepare and maintain a shelf of projects with realistic cost estimates well in advance of the date for submission of the project proposals under NLCPR.

22. State Govt. officials drew attention of Secretary, DoNER to the delay in upgradation of the airports at Tezu and Pasighat. JS, DoNER informed that these NEC projects were awaiting “in principle” approval of the Planning Commission. It was explained that the Finance Ministry’s guidelines require proper technical and financial appraisal of the projects by the concerned technical and financial agencies before consideration by the SFC/EFC.

23. Chief Secretary, i/c Arunachal Pradesh drew attention of the Secretary, DoNER to the revised policy of the Central Govt. which requires the State Govts. to raise 10% loan component of Plan schemes through market borrowings. Secretary, DoNER explained that the Ministry of Finance had taken this decision following acceptance of the 12th Finance Commission award. She informed that the M/DoNER had also taken up the matter with the Ministry of Finance.

24. JS, DoNER informed that three new projects had been approved by the NLCPR Committee in its recent meeting held on 28.3.2006. These are as follows:

- (i) Water Supply Project for Lumla Township.
- (ii) Ropeway from Tawang Monastery to Ani Gompa.
- (iii) Construction of State Assembly Building.

25. He requested the State Govt. officials to quickly submit the work plans to enable release of the first instalment of funds.

26. Secretary, DoNER thanked the Chief Secretary and the State Govt. officials for the hospitality and other arrangements made during the visit to Arunachal Pradesh. She expressed the hope that through improved coordination, the development process in Arunachal Pradesh will be given the necessary fillip.

27. Secretary, DoNER and JS, DoNER returned by helicopter to Guwahati in the afternoon and from Guwahati to Delhi by Indian Airlines flight.

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