

ANNUAL REPORT 2007-08



MINISTRY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NORTH-EAST REGION
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

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1. PROLOGUE



Promoting N.E India & SE Asia Economic Cooperation Shri Mani Shankar Aiyer, Minister for DoNER in Bangkok

- 1.1 Despite being rich in natural resources with fertile land, rich biodiversity, water resources and hydrocarbon deposits, development in the North Eastern Region has lagged behind the rest of the country due to historical reasons. The challenge of development of the NER arising from its unique situation has been accepted as a national task. The handicap of resource-constraint has been met through special dispensation for the States in the Region. The development concerns of these States are pursued through their respective Five Year and Annual Plans as well as those of the Union Ministries and Central Agencies. In order to further enhance public investment in the Region, the Central Ministries, except those which are specifically exempted, are required to make lump-sum allocation of at least 10% of their GBS for the NER.
- 1.2 The creation of a Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region, on 27th May 2004, signifies the commitment of the Government of India to accelerate the pace of socio-economic development of the region. The renewed focus of the Central Government towards the NER is aptly reflected from the special provisions in the National Common Minimum Programme.
- 1.3 Rapid Development of the North-East Region is a sine-qua-non for ensuring peace and harmony in this strategic part of the country. This requires concerted and coordinated approach by the States and the Central Ministries. The Ministry is expected to provide the necessary impetus to accelerate the process of development of the Region. Towards this end, the Ministry of DoNER, alongwith the NEC, at the

initiative of the Hon'ble Minister, decided to analyze key sectors affecting the socio-economic development of the Region at the 53rd Plenary of the North Eastern Council held at New Delhi in November 2006. The objective was to acquaint with issues concerning specific sectors, analyze their developmental status, identify gaps and suggest changes both in policy and programmes. The sectors reviewed include Power, Road, Railways, Air Connectivity, Inland Waterways, Plantations, Irrigation & Flood Control, Tourism, HRD and Telecommunication & IT. The sectors which are going to be reviewed shortly are Trade & Commerce, Petroleum, Forestry, Handlooms & Handicrafts, Health, Drinking Water and Food Processing. The Ministry of DoNER is regularly following up the conclusions arrived at through a process of reviews at the level of Hon'ble Minister, DoNER and Secretary, DoNER. The reviews also involve the concerned Central Ministries/ Organizations and State Governments.

- 1.4 Connectivity through road, rail, air, water, and telecommunication has been one of the biggest reasons for the slow development of the region. Road connectivity in the North-East Region is well below the national average on most parameters. The high priority to be accorded to the development of roads in the North-East Region is well reflected in the Union Government's intention to invest nearly Rs. 50,000/- crore on the roads sector in the North-East over the Eleventh Plan period. The programmes include SARDP-NE, East-West Corridor, NHDP-II, PMGSY and programmes initiated by Ministry of DoNER and NEC.
- 1.5 Railway network in the North-East is far more deficient than the required level. It is only 4% of the country's rail system. The historical gap that needs to be made up is so large that a much accelerated program of rail connectivity is required to provide the basic infrastructure capacity for the North-East to realize its

economic potential. It has been decided that the projects of the Railways designated as National Projects will be supported by Government of India in the ratio of 75:25 where 25% will be given from the GBS of Railways and 75% from Government of India. It has also been decided to create a Fund for development of rail infrastructure in the North East.

- 1.6 Many places in the North Eastern Region are inaccessible and located in far-flung areas. Therefore, air connectivity is the most viable means of transportation in the Region both for intra-State connectivity and the Region's linkage to the mainland. Three proposed Greenfield airports are to be developed at Itanagar, Cheithu and Pakyong. Two new Greenfield airports have been proposed by the States at Tawang and Kokrajhar.
- 1.7 Inland Water Transport offers a shorter and cheaper route for transport of bulk commodities and project cargo. Development of IWT in NER is a strategic and economic imperative. Renewal of Indo-Bangladesh IWT protocol on long-term basis is being pursued. Kaladan River multi-modal transport route from Mizoram to Sittwe port has been approved.
- 1.8 Geographical location and difficult terrain make the development of telecommunication and information technology a sine-qua-non for the socio-economic development of the Region. The tele-density in the NER is much lower than All India Average. To bridge the gap, the BSNL declared year 2007 as the "Year of Development of Telecom Network in NE Region".
- 1.9 The power sector in the North Eastern Region constitutes the most important resource of the Region and holds the highest potential to propel the region to the front-rank of development in the country. The primary need is to take the benefits of power availability to the people of the Region and for economic development of the Region. Another priority would

be export of power from the region to elsewhere in the country so that the North East becomes the 'powerhouse' of the country. A judicious mix of the conventional and renewable sources of energy can address the needs of the Region in an optimum manner.

- 1.10 The Tourism sector holds the highest promise for generating large employment and income-augmentation opportunities spreading and reaching down to all segments of society in all States of the North-Eastern Region (NER). The single most inhibiting factor for tourism is the perception of NER as being ridden with insurgency, militancy and terrorism. This perception is so much at variance with ground realities that projecting a true and nuanced picture of the vast swathes in NER of total peace and tranquility for the tourist is as essential for the development and promotion of tourism in NER as for investment in other sectors of development.
- 1.11 Education is a key factor in the overall long-term development of NE Region. It must be ensured that all the boys and girls should be able to complete full course of primary schooling. There is a surge in demand for secondary education due to progress in Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA). The goal is to make secondary education of good quality available, accessible and affordable to all. Cabinet has given its approval for implementation of the SSA programme on 90:10 basis in the NER.
- 1.12 The process of development cannot be sustained solely through Government intervention. The Ministry of

DoNER has also initiated the process of attracting private investment, including foreign investment. This has been done both through domestic business summit and also through interaction with potential foreign investors. DoNER has been able to provide the necessary platform for interaction between the entrepreneurs and the State Governments. The Ministry efforts for getting foreign institutional funding for the NER are nearing the final phase. To oversee the implementation of the projects under foreign funding, project management units (PMU) are being set up.

- 1.13 The Ministry has made significant effort for capacity building and skill upgradation in the North Eastern Region. The main focus is on improving the delivery of public services, upgradation of skills of technical manpower including medical and engineering personnel and employment oriented programmes. Some notable initiatives include training in the field aviation, nursing, electronics, and IT. A pioneering step was taken to conduct the NASSCOM Assessment of competence (NAC) for the undergraduate youth, which is a certification and benchmarking programme for employment in IT-Sector.
- 1.14 It is expected that the steps taken by DONER, along with other Central Ministries, will accelerate the process of socio-economic development of the Region. These efforts have to be sustained by all concerned, with the State Governments playing a pro-active role to ensure both speedy implementation and a planned future development.

2. SYNERGIZING DEVELOPMENT



(L-R) Shri. D.N.Sahaya, Governor, Tripura; Shri. Rama Rao, Governor, Sikkim; Shri. Mani Shankar Aiyar, Minister, DoNER; Shri. Naranbhai Rathwa, MoS, Railways; Shri. S.K.Singh, Governor, Arunachal Pradesh; Shri. O.Ibobi Singh, Chief Minister, Manipur

2.1 Following the decision taken in the meeting of the North Eastern Council, 8 Special Sectoral Summits of the NEC have been organized in different sectors. These summits have helped in sensitizing both the Central Government and the States to improve delivery systems and focus attention on the Region and its issues.

2.2 There have been some key decisions taken by Central Ministries with regard to project implementation in the North-East States as a result of the recommendations made in these Summits. The Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. is preparing a comprehensive transmission, sub-transmission & distribution plan for the North-East States, an area which was largely overlooked by specific agencies. The Ministry of Tourism has decided to set up an Institute of Hotel Management in every State of the North-East Region. As decided in a meeting organized by PMO, National Projects of the Railways in the North-East will now be implemented on a 75:25 funding pattern by the Planning Commission and the

Ministry of Railways. It has been decided to set up a North East Rail Development Fund with a view to ensuring that National Projects in the North-East are completed within five years.

2.3 The Ministry is actively pursuing the progress of implementation of the recommendations of these Summits. This is an ongoing process in which the Central and State Governments have to constantly interact and support each other.

2.4 The important recommendations of each of the eight Sectoral summits are given below:

First Sectoral Summit, Pasighat (16-17 January, 2007)

Power Sector

- * A two pronged strategy to be adopted for power generation with focus on Small/Localised Hydel & Thermal and NRE projects for catering to local

needs and High capacity Hydel & Thermal Power Projects with associated Transmission lines for first meeting the demand for power of the North Eastern Region and thereafter that of the rest of the country.

- * Ministry of Power to develop a clear, coherent and sustainable Power Policy for the NER taking into account the special characteristics and needs of the Region.
- * CEA to undertake feasibility studies for utilizing considerable shale deposits in Arunachal Pradesh and coal deposits in Assam and Meghalaya with the objective of increasing the share of thermal power.
- * PGCIL to invest more in the trunk transmission lines for improving inter and intra-region connectivity. Priority to be accorded for creating a grid to meet power shortages in the North Eastern States.
- * Transmission, sub-transmission and distribution system improvement to be one of the thrust areas for NEC during 11th Plan.
- * State Govts. to prepare perspective plans for Transmission, Sub-transmission and Distribution Systems in their respective States to cover the XIth Plan period(2007-12).
- * The Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas to accord due consideration to the suggestions of the NE States and to resolve the issue of pricing of gas expeditiously.
- * The issue of high transmission charges, presently under reference to CERC, needs to be resolved at the earliest.
- * On the basis of the reports of the 4 sub-groups, a Master Plan for Power Development in the Region be developed which should include an appropriate funding mechanism relevant to the North East Region.

Second Sectoral Summit, Shillong (8-9th February, 2007)

Road Sector

- * The BOT(Toll)/BOT(Annuity) funding pattern is not presently feasible for NER. DORTH to consider budgetary support as has been done for roads entrusted to BRO and Assam PWD.
- * DoRTH may consider including an institution development and capacity building component in SARDP-NE and other road programmes.
- * Maintenance of road assets is important. To take care of maintenance of roads, the NE States to consider enactment of legislation on the lines of the Mizoram Road Fund Bill.
- * DoRTH to consider the demand for extension of the East-West Corridor or, in the alternative to upgrade road linking all State capital cities and district HQs with four/two lane roads.
- * DONER to accord priority to funding of conversion of timber bridges to RCC bridges.
- * A Master Plan encompassing all categories of roads to be developed by Ministry of DoNER.
- * DORTH to make all efforts to complete implementation of selected roads under NHDP-II, NHDP-III and SARDP-NE within the targeted dates.
- * States to rationalize royalty rates being imposed on construction materials.
- * States to streamline/ simplify procedures for various clearances.
- * DORTH, NHAI and BRO to consider freezing of alignments so as to reduce delays in implementation.
- * Efforts to be made for getting transit facilities to

the North Eastern States through Bangladesh.

- * NEC to examine the proposal to create a pool of road construction equipment which can be leased/rented out to registered contractors.
- * Adequate provision to be included in the original cost of construction of roads for maintenance during construction phase.
- * Ministry of RD to devise suitable and effective strategies for improvement of quality.
- * Ministry of Rural Development to assist States to enhance capacities in respect of documentation and accounting under PMGSY.
- * States to control high cost of construction under the PMGSY scheme.

Third Sectoral Summit, Guwahati (9-11 March, 2007)

Commodity Boards and APEDA

- * Tea Board to introduce incentives for orthodox tea planting and set-up Village Resource Centers to assist small tea growers.
- * Indian Institute of Plantation Management be set up at Jorhat.
- * Transport subsidy for tea exported directly from ICD, Amingaon, Assam @ Rs.1.50 per kg to be introduced.
- * Tea Board to streamline electronic auction system for online trading of tea.
- * Tea Board to support Tea Research Association (TRA) and Tea Research Foundation (TRF).
- * Tea Board to support diversification/multi-cropping and intensify marketing support.
- * Rubber Board to fund for area expansion and rejuvenation of sick plantations and introduce

technology for increasing productivity.

- * Rubber Board to upgrade quality at primary process level for better price to farmers and support formation and empowerment of farmer groups.
- * Spices Board to be strengthened and to intensify its activities in the NER to promote spices production and productivity particularly that of organic spices.
- * Coffee Board to facilitate consolidation of holdings in NER and also provide financial support for expansion, processing and quality up-gradation. Inter cropping in the coffee plantation also to be promoted.
- * States to cooperate with Coffee Board for raising coffee plantations in clusters particularly in the States of Nagaland and Mizoram which hold maximum potential.
- * Coffee Board to provide technical support and build capacity of coffee growers and State Govt. staff for improving production and productivity and facilitate marketing with the involvement of NERAMAC, VDBs in Nagaland and NGOs.
- * APEDA to operationalise four Agriculture Export Zones (AEZs) in Tripura (1) for Pineapples, Sikkim (2) for Ginger, Orchids and Cherry Pepper and in Assam (1) for Fresh & Processed Ginger.
- * APEDA to expedite conclusions of negotiation with cargo companies to provide complete cold chains in the NER.
- * APEDA to coordinate with CONCOR and NERAMAC to work-out the logistics for a complete cold chain from the field to the point of export.
- * State Governments to assist the Commodity Boards and APEDA in matters relating to land acquisition,

organization of farmers, awareness programmes and identification of clusters, etc.

Flood & Erosion Control and Irrigation

- * Ministry of Water Resources (MOWR) and Brahmaputra Board to take up immediate and short term measures in consultation with the States for flood and erosion control on priority.
- * The Brahmaputra Board to play a more active role in taking up flood control schemes in all NE States.
- * CWC to expedite preparation of DPR by 12/2007 in respect of Mizoram Govt's revised proposal for a 450MW Koladyne project.
- * NEC would provide funding to the States for engaging Consultants for preparation of project reports for micro/minor irrigation projects.
- * Planning Commission to examine the pattern of release of installments so that the loss of working period can be avoided.
- * MOWR to examine the possibility of modification in the AIBP scheme, like increasing the limit of project cost per ha, providing for maintenance etc. for minor irrigation schemes, reducing the area of irrigation potential to five ha per scheme etc.
- * MOWR to examine the possibility of taking up ground water irrigation scheme under AIBP including construction of check dams.
- * MOWR to explore the possibility and desirability of exploitation of ground water in the NER in view of the possibility of hazardous elements.

Inland Water Transport

- * Efforts to be made for the renewal of Indo-Bangladesh IWT protocol on long term basis and approval of the Kaladan River multi-modal transport route from Mizoram to Sittwe port.

- * IWAI to develop credible night navigation facilities on NW-II to reduce travel time.

- * To reduce manual handling of cargo, IWAI to consider providing mechanical handling of cargo.

- * Ministry of Shipping/IWAI to take up the Tripura Government proposal for declaring Ashuganj as Port-of-Call with Bangladesh.

Fourth Sectoral Summit, Gangtok (27-28th April, 2007)

Tourism

- * A "Forum" consisting of representatives of Ministries of DoNER, Tourism and Civil Aviation, NEC, Public and Private Stakeholders, tour operators etc. to be established for the formulation of tourism circuits, Eco and Village tourism and promotional events.
- * DONER to formulate and launch a professionally prepared publicity programme on security for tourists in the North-East.
- * DONER/NEC to take up with the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, the possibility of organizing major commemorative events to which descendants of those buried in the North-East war cemeteries will be invited.
- * DoNER/NEC to sponsor NE promotion films aimed at schoolchildren and college students in other parts of India.
- * NEC to broaden its collaboration with ILFS for facilitating construction of star category hotels at identified locations.
- * The possibility of setting up a North-East Tourism Development Corporation "a subsidiary of ITDC" will be explored.

- * DoNER will organize promotional events at different locations in the country aimed at Government servants for LTC visits to tourism destinations in the NE.
- * Institute of Hotel Management (IHM) to be set up in NE States that do not have any such institutions.
- * MHA/States to consider relaxation of PAP/RAP/ILP restrictions.
- * DoNER to organize a tourism promotional event at Bangkok.

Fifth Sectoral Summit, Aizwal (19th May 2007)

Air Connectivity

- * Action to be taken for a dedicated airline to serve the NE States.
- * Guwahati to be developed as an airline hub in North part of NER and Agartala/Imphal to be developed as hubs in the southern part of NER.
- * Airports to be upgraded for night operations.
- * Alliance Air should increase flights in the Category-II routes of NER.

Sixth Sectoral Summit, New Delhi (19th June, 2007)

‘Rail Connectivity’

- * The source of funding for the ‘National Projects’ should be clearly identified by the Planning Commission and the Ministry of Finance. The allocation of funds to the Railways for these projects should be made at the B.E. stage.
- * DoNER/ NEC should be involved with regard to planning of rail projects in the North Eastern Region.
- * Security concerns at project sites should be addressed by State Governments and the Ministry of Home Affairs.

- * All State capitals need to be connected by rail.

Seventh Sectoral Summit, Kohima (31st July -1st August 2007)

IT, ITeS & Telecom

- * Government should review the restriction on mobile telephony within 0-500 metres of the international border.
- * BSNL will take steps to introduce online billing facility in the Region.
- * NEC to consider setting up of a Regional Institute for Training of Telecom Personnel.
- * The states should have a single window, time bound and efficient system for according clearances for laying of cables. Restoration charges should be rationalized so as to not become deterrent.
- * The States should facilitate acquisition of land for setting up of telecom infrastructure and also provide security for the officials wherever required.
- * The North-East States should endeavour to develop themselves into preferred IT destinations by creating an enabling environment.
- * Quality infrastructure should be created to position the Region as an attractive and viable destination for the IT industry.
- * The North-East Region should position itself to become the back office for the Southeast Asian and Far East Asian countries.
- * The DOEACC to consider establishing centres in all the States of the Region.
- * The Government should work towards a One India Plan for Bandwidth so that the North-East States do not suffer from this handicap.

Eighth Sectoral Summit, New Delhi (20th-21st August 2007)

‘Education, Sports, Art & Culture’

EDUCATION

- * Teachers’ Training programme to be launched with the support of NCERT and IGNOU.
- * A Committee to be formed with representatives from HRD, NEC and DoNER to seek solution to specific problems of Arunachal Pradesh.
- * For recruitment of teachers for schools the institution of village Panchayats may be used.
- * Community Polytechnics should be involved for vocational training alongwith conventional system.
- * Village Panchayats local self governing units/communities may be made responsible for the effective delivery of MDM.
- * Engineering and Management Faculties should be operationalized and modern course also introduced as an amount of Rs. 5 crore has been released for each Engineering Faculty and Rs. 2 crore for Management Faculty in the Region.
- * Process of updating/upgrading the knowledge and competence of teachers, especially in science and mathematics, to be addressed by the Ministry of HRD.

SPORTS

- * “Catch them Young” policy should be adopted for exploiting the immense potential in sports.
- * MoYAS and DONER to consider providing financial support for developing sports infrastructure in rural/urban/hill areas.
- * MoYAS will examine providing support for popular games like Archery and other indigenous games in NE states.
- * MoYAS will also examine providing support for setting up center of Excellence for training of Coaches and also for developing Yoga Centres.
- * Adventure Sports will be included as an important component of Sports Policy as it has tremendous potential in NER.

ART & CULTURE

- * The Scheme of Setting up of Multipurpose Cultural Complex should be revived.
- * NEC to take up an exercise to organize trekking expeditions to identify flora and fauna.
- * In case of the Schemes/ projects in the Art & Culture sectors, the maxim of accepting only those worth more than Rs. 2 crore would be relaxed.
- * An Institute of Mountaineering, Adventure Sports and Disaster Management should be located in Arunachal Pradesh at Dirang near the snow line.

3. LOOK EAST POLICY (LEP) AND PROMOTING COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

North East Industrial & Investment Promotion Policy, 2007

- 3.1 The Central Government has notified a new industrial policy, NEIIPP 2007, for the NER for a period of 10 years with effect from 1.04.2007. The Policy provides a slew of incentives for new industrial units and existing units on their substantial expansion. The incentives include income tax and excise exemption, capital investment subsidy, interest subsidy, insurance subsidy and transport subsidy and are applicable to industrial units set up in the NER, regardless of their location. The benefits will also accrue to hotels, adventure sports, medical facilities and vocational training institutes. The new Policy is a substantial improvement over the earlier policy which was announced in 1997 and is, therefore, expected to bring private investment in the Region leading to accelerated economic growth and creation of employment opportunities. The Government has issued various notifications required under the Policy.

LOOK EAST POLICY (LEP):

Several initiatives taken in this regard are as follows:

- 3.2 The North-East Region is ideally located to become an important player in India's growing economic ties with the countries of South-East Asia. In addition, the Region has common frontiers with Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh and Tibetan Autonomous Region. Apart from its geographical proximity, the Region has cultural similarities and historical ties with the people of these countries. A close economic cooperation between the North-East States and the neighbouring countries would be mutually beneficial by cutting costs and creating a viable market. In this regard, the Union Minister for External Affairs, Shri Pranab Mukherjee, held a meeting on 31.10.2008 with the Chief Ministers of the North-East States and Central Ministries concerned to formulate a strategy for a meaningful involvement of the North-East Region in the Look East Policy. A number of important suggestions

emerged from this interaction which are being followed up. The other important developments in this regard include resumption of Indo-China trade at Nathula Pass in Sikkim and progress on Kaladan multi-modal route through Mizoram to Sittwe port which provides an alternative to transit through Bangladesh.

3rd North East Business Summit



Inaugural event at North East Trade and Investment Week in Bangkok

- 3.3 The Thrust Areas for Investment in the NER include Agro and Forestry, Tourism & Hospitality Industry, IT and IT enabled services, biotechnology, Handicrafts & Handloom, petrochemicals, hydel-power and cement industry. The Ministry, in association with the Indian Chamber of Commerce, Kolkata, organized the 3rd North East Business Summit on 10-11 April, 2007 to promote the NE as an investment destination. The Summit was attended by over 900 Indian delegates, 80 foreign delegates, 40 Heads of Mission and 5 Union Ministers apart from high level representation at the level of Governors and Chief Ministers from the NE States, besides senior officials from several Central Ministries. It was inaugurated by the Vice President and the Valedictory Session was attended, among others, by the Commerce Minister of Thailand. The Summit included technical sessions on Investment & incentives, infrastructure, Agro & Food Processing, Tourism and Look East Policy apart from the plenary session. The main event in New Delhi was preceded by a Road

Shows in Bangalore, Kolkata and Bangkok. As a result of the Summit, 128 expressions of interest were received from entrepreneurs for investment in the NER.

North-East India - Thai Cooperation

3.4 A high level business delegation from Thailand, led by the Thai Minister of Commerce, visited the North-East States of Tripura, Assam and Meghalaya during 22-24 June 2007 at the invitation of the Minister, DoNER. This was a major breakthrough in being the first ever visit by a foreign Minister to these States in the context of the development of the North-East Region and provided, at long last, a North-East Region dimension to our 'Look East Policy'. Apart from Minister, DoNER, MOS- Commerce, Shri Jairam Ramesh, Governors and Chief Ministers of the States concerned, senior officials of the Central Ministries and State Governments and Indian businessmen participated in the deliberations. There were presentations and discussions on important sectors like roads, power, tourism, inland water transport, rubber, handloom & handicrafts and food-processing in which Northeast India-Thai cooperation can be mutually beneficial. From the statements made in the plenary, the media and to the Minister, DoNER by the Thai Minister and his colleagues, the North-East Region appears to have made a considerable impression on the minds of the delegation, with the investment potential being described as tremendous.

3.5 As a follow up of the Thai Minister's visit, the Ministry organized the 'North-East India Trade & Investment Opportunities Week' at Bangkok from 1st to 4th October 2007 in association with the Indian Chamber of Commerce, Kolkata and Thai Department of Trade Negotiations. The primary objective of the initiative was to attract investment from Thailand in sectors like infrastructure, horticulture, food processing, tourism & hospitality, handlooms & handicrafts, rubber and bamboo in which Thailand has considerable advantages

in terms of technology and surplus capacity. The event was attended by Minister, DoNER, MOS, Industry, Chief Ministers of Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Nagaland, other State Ministers and officials from the Centre and the NE States. Apart from the 70 odd official delegation, the Indian side was also represented by a strong delegation of over 180 businessmen and trade bodies. The Thai participants included their Commerce Minister, Mr. Krik-Krai Jirapet, Deputy Minister, Industry, senior officials and more than 150 businessmen and organizations. The event had Sectoral sessions on tourism, infrastructure, agro & food processing and handlooms & handicrafts. The Thai participants showed keen interest.

3.6 The main Plenary Session was attended by over 500 delegates from India and Thailand. A general presentation about the strengths and potential of North Eastern Region for various investment and trade opportunities was made. It covered all the eight North Eastern States. Minister, DONER highlighted the scope and potential for investment in various sectors in the Region along with a brief description of major attractions of North Eastern Industrial and Investment Promotion Policy (NEIIPP), 2007. Thai Commerce Minister appreciated the enthusiasm in the North Eastern Region for investment and trade from Thailand. He stressed greater need for cooperation in both trade and investment in the Region and expressed hope that the efforts initiated by Minister, DONER will go a long way in establishing ties between two sides for mutual benefit. The Minister of State, Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion, Government of India briefed the gathering about the general environment for investment in India and the main provisions of NEIIPP, 2007. The Chief Ministers/Ministers made presentations for showing their strengths, areas of mutual cooperation, potential for investment and trade in various sectors and the need for starting a dialogue between the two sides.

3.7 The sectors highlighted were tourism, infrastructure, agro & food processing, handlooms & handicrafts. The sessions on infrastructure, agro & food processing, handlooms & handicrafts were addressed by Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar, Minister, DoNER; Dr Ashwani Kumar, Minister of State for Industry, Government of India and Mr Piyabutr Cholvijarn, Deputy Minister Industry, Government of Thailand. Minister of State (Industry) highlighted the main provisions of NEIIPP, 2007 and stressed the need for large investments in the region, inter-alia, because of extremely attractive provisions. Dy Minister, Industry, Thailand informed that in the Ministry of Industry, they have opened an India Desk in the Thailand Board of Investment. An important part of this session was one-to-one interaction between the businessmen of India and Thailand. Officials from the State Governments and the Central Ministries as well as from Thai Government were there to facilitate the discussions. In all around 300 businessmen from both the sides interacted. Altogether there were 12 agreements/MOUs. The initiative will be followed by detailed interaction and reciprocal visits by both the sides.

3.8 H.E. Piyabutr Cholvijarn, Deputy Minister of Industry of Thailand, led a Thai delegation, comprising both the Thai public and private sectors, to visit three North Eastern States of India (Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh and Assam) from January 9-12, 2008 to follow up on the earlier visit to Tripura, Assam and Meghalaya of H.E. Krirk-Krai Jirapaet, Thai Minister of Commerce, and the North-East India Trade & Investment Opportunities Week held in Bangkok. The Thai delegation consisted of representatives from the Thailand Board of Investment, the Royal Thai Embassy in New Delhi, the Thai Office of Commercial Affairs in New Delhi, and Thai Companies in the Food, Construction, Banking and Steel Industry. The Indian delegation was headed by Ms. V.S. Rao, Secretary, Ministry for the Development of the North Eastern

Region. Meetings at Guwahati (Assam) and Gangtok (Sikkim) were chaired by the respective Chief Ministers of the States, Shri Tarun Gogoi and Shri Pawan K. Chamling. The meeting at Itanagar was chaired by Shri Lombo Tayeng, Minister for Public Health Engineering & Water Supply, Government of Arunachal Pradesh.

3.9 The business seminars were very successful with more than 100 people participating in each seminar. Both sides recognized that food processing, agriculture, tourism and infrastructure improvement in roads, hydro-electricity, dams, water control in rivers, etc. are areas with the greater potential to be further pursued. The meetings concluded that there will be further cooperation through exchange of information and, further visits of organized trade, investment and tourism delegations to advise and assist each other to further promote Thailand-India trade and investment.

North East India Investment Conference at New York

3.10 As a part of the Incredible India @60 event, the Ministry for the Development of the North Eastern Region, Government of India in collaboration with Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), organized the "North East India Investment Conference" on 26 September 2007 at Hotel Grand Hyatt, New York.

3.11 The Inaugural Session of the Conference was addressed by Dr. Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission, Government of India, Mr. Sunil Bharti Mittal, President CII, Ms Neelam Deo, Consul General of India, New York, Smt. Sushma Singh, Secretary, DoNER and Mr. Dipankar Chatterji, Chairman, CII North East Council.

3.12 The Inaugural Session set the perspectives for the Conference by highlighting the opportunity areas in the North Eastern States of India and the Government's

approach and policy initiatives for promoting economic and industrial growth.

- 3.13 Mr. Dipankar Chatterji, Chairman, CII North East Council while welcoming the dignitaries and participants at the Seminar said that the North Eastern Region with its rich reserves of mineral resources, forest resources, horticulture, floriculture and access to markets like Bangladesh, Bhutan, Myanmar and China has tremendous scope for development.
- 3.14 Ms Neelam Deo, Consul General of India, New York spoke about the scope of investments in the North East in various sectors like tourism, floriculture, horticulture, bio diversity, information technology and infrastructure. The Consul General mentioned that the obstacles of the Government of India's Look East Policy and the opening up of infrastructure links like roads, railways and waterways with Myanmar and by building up road links through Myanmar into Thailand and South East Asia.
- 3.15 Mr. Sunil Bharti Mittal, President, CII reiterated the deep rooted commitment of CII for the development of the North East India. He said that to develop the North East in tandem with other parts of the country, the Central Government offered unique concessions and incentives for investments in the Region. He added that Bharti Enterprises had recently entered into the agricultural sector and was eagerly looking for investments in the Region.
- 3.16 Dr. Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission in his address said that the Government was committed to develop the North East in tandem with other parts of the country. He reiterated that special efforts are needed to project the tremendous prospects in the North East. In order to implement the Look East Policy and open it to the rest of Asia, it was imperative to first develop the North East which was strategically placed and was

closer to the rest of Asia than any other part of the country. The Government in the last couple of years had taken a number of initiatives aimed at energizing economic activities in the North East taking care of constraints and by building up significant comparative advantages.

- 3.17 Apart from tea and minerals, North East India offered enormous scope for horticulture like the unique orchids of Sikkim. He also stressed the importance of bamboo for serving various needs of both traditional and leading edge industries. The scope of the processing industries are also immense and logistical arrangements are required to market the horticultural and agricultural products to the rest of India, SAARC countries and the rest of Asia.
- 3.18 Tourism offered great potential in the North East because of its natural beauty and incredibly rich cultural diversity. The Kaziranga wildlife sanctuary, the caves of Meghalaya, the Majuli riverine island and cruising the mighty Brahmaputra are the most favoured attractions for the tourists.
- 3.19 Other sectors like information technology, education, hydropower generation, electricity transmission and distribution offered scope for prospective investors. He mentioned that Arunachal Pradesh had tremendous scope for hydropower generation which was to the tune of 50,000 MW and there was scope for public-private partnership in the development of this resource which was environment friendly.
- 3.20 Dr. Ahluwalia highlighted the Government of India's initiatives to promote investments in the North East by removing the various obstacles and offering a package of incentives particularly delicensing for prospective investors. He further mentioned that the Government of India in its XIth Five Year Plan had paid special attention to connectivity problems in the North East. The XIth Five Year Plan envisaged major

expansion plans for rail networks in the North East and unifying the two major gauge systems. The Government also planned to expand air connectivity and set up airports in every States. Major development activities in the roads sector would include both the public sector and public-private partnership. He said that the North East was a favoured part of the country as far as human resources are concerned because of its educated English speaking manpower.

- 3.21 Ministry of DoNER's presentation mentioned that the North East comprised of 8 States and was a land of golden opportunities. The Central Government as a part of its conscious policy decisions, was committed to invest a huge amount of funds for the North East to bridge the economic gap of this Region with the rest of the country and take it to a path of higher economic growth. The NEIP was the most friendly policy for investors offering tremendous scope for investments with huge concessions, subsidies and rebates. It was also stressed the importance of promoting tourism and thereby increasing trade with the neighbouring countries of Asia.

North East India Investment Summit at Guwahati (January' 08)

- 3.22 As a follow up action of North East Investment Conference held on 26th September 2007 at New York, as a part of Incredible India@60, an inter-Ministerial initiative of Government of India, Ministry of DoNER in collaboration with Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) has organized the North East India Investment Summit, on 11-12 January 2008, at Guwahati. The North East Industry Ministers Forum and Government of Assam were the other partners of the Event.
- 3.23 The objective of the Summit was to provide information and share experiences on investment opportunities in the North Eastern States. It also facilitated interaction with the representatives of 8 States, industrialists and



Chief Minister of Assam Mr. Tarun Gogoi addressing at the Investment Summit

NRIs, mostly from North East. The Summit was structured on Ministry's instance with a funding support of Rs. 20 lakhs.

- 3.24 It is on our suggestion that it should be held soon after Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) organized by Ministry of Overseas Affairs in New Delhi from 7th to 9th January 2008. The dove-tailing with PBD gave requisite fillip and opening for NRIs to visit North East and discuss the issues of mutual interest.
- 3.25 The inauguration was made by Shri Tarun Gogoi, Chief Minister, Assam in the presence of Dr. Jairam Ramesh, Union Minister of State for Commerce, Shri Pradyut Bordoloi, Minister for Industry & Power of Assam and Ministers and officials from other 8 NE States including 60 NRIs from 11 countries. Total 467 delegates attended the Summit. I participated on our Ministry's behalf and offered views in the proceedings of the event.
- 3.26 It was brought out by Union Minister of State for Commerce (MOS) that around Rs. 50,000 crore is proposed to be invested in the expansion of roads and highways in the region. There are 23 airports in the region of which 11 are operational. Efforts are afoot to make the remaining the 12 airports operational in the next 5 years. Indian Railways would be spending

around Rs. 10,000 crore on the expansion of rail network in the North Eastern Region in the next 5 years.

3.27 He also mentioned that efforts are on to double the effective power generation capacity from 1800 MW by 2011. The broadband users are to be increased from 20,000 to 1.5 lakhs in the next 5 years. The Central Government has also planned to invest Rs. 300-400 crore on waterways. Thus, the region is poised for very high growth in the next few years.

3.28 As regards NRIs who have evinced interest in setting up Public Private Partnership and carry forward the development dialogue, some of them are as follows:

(i) M/s Friends of Assam and Seven Sisters (FASS), USA: (Represented by Mr. Rajen Barua)

Mr. Barua spoke about need of holistic approach towards development of NER and suggested that people of North East India Origin (NEIO) should be given incentives for investing in the Region. He suggested a few areas where FASS could provide assistance, which are as under:

- * Act as goodwill ambassadors and help with proper representation of the Region abroad.
- * Locate and connect investors with consumers
- * Provide necessary help in marketing NEI products
- * Make the foreign governments interested in NEI
- * Arrange overseas seminars for NEI
- * Bring expertise to NEI for education & exchange
- * Seek and develop new business possibilities
- * Act as an information bank for students from the Region

* Receive feedback from the public

* Seek overseas job opportunities for NEIOs

(ii) NRIs Surgeons Association, United Kingdom: (Represented by Dr. Bhupendra Dev Sarmah)

Dr. Sarmah underlined the need for improving the physical and social infrastructure of the Region and urged the State Governments should play a proactive role in implementation of infrastructure and social development projects like education and healthcare.

He has shown keen interest in PPP in medi-care and setting up health facilities in the NE States.

(iii) M/s Globally Managed Services (GMS): (Represented by Mr. Prabir Banerjea and Mr. Ranjit Borthakur)

Mr. Banerjea highlighted about 'Naturenomics' practiced by GMS. He mentioned about benefits of 'green audit' and its economic impact in the Region. He requested all State Governments to include natural assets in their budget for making the region richer by promotion of eco-friendly business models.

Their strength is in setting up environmentally appropriate facilities in collaboration with CII and other business conglomerates.

(iv) Patel Enterprises, United Kingdom:

(Represented Lord Adam Hafejee Patel of Blackburn)

Lord Hafejee felt the need to follow success stories in States like Gujarat and Maharashtra. He also mentioned that it should not disturb the ecology of the Region and pollution creating industry should be avoided.

He expressed keen interest and emphasized on

harnessing the natural resources of the Region like agriculture, water resources, eco and wildlife tourism, thus making the Region richer and expressed desire to work in this field.

- (v) National Editor, The Mint:
(Ms. Sanghmitra Kalita, NRI from Assam)

Ms. Kalita called upon all journalists of the North East to take the responsibility of projecting a positive image of the Region. This will help change the perception of the rest of India towards the Region.

She specially offered to provide mentoring to all those interested in pursuing a career in journalism in New Delhi and urged all the NRIs to think on similar lines.

- (vi) Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok:
(Represented by Mr. Saumar Jyoti Deka)

Mr. Deka informed about the inception of Asian Highway project and mentioned that it was a cooperative project among countries of Asia and United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asian and the Pacific (ESCAP) to improve the highway systems in Asia.

He also felt that the thrust should be on infrastructure building and tourism. The religious and eco-tourism has more acceptance to the South-Asian countries and fortunately NER is extremely rich in it. It is also for enhancing ties with these countries

- (vii) Cognition Group on Health Care, USA
(Represented by Mr. Subhash Goswami)

Their areas of interest for investment in the Region include - de-addiction (detox), psychosis, depression, anxiety disorder, general medicine, research and CME.

His group is evaluating a super speciality psychiatry care facility in the region and focusing on social cognition thereby raising the standards of health care in the Region.

Their partnership is to flourish very shortly in a confirmed health enterprise of world class in one of the cities of the Region.

- (viii) Rebuild USA
(Represented by Mr. Vishwanath Somnath)

Mr. Somnath discussed about technology innovations in pre-engineered building construction for providing affordable housing and highways in the Region. They are searching partners in this sector. CII may provide support from their network.

- (ix) University of Durham, U.K.
(Represented by Dr. Ritu Katakya)

Dr. Ritu Katakya urged the State Governments to focus on biotechnology as a thrust area for growth in the Region and also suggested combining the expertise available to set up centre of excellence for innovative technologies based on plant biodiversity as NE India was a key location for plant biodiversity.

- (x) Eapen AIA, New York
(Represented by Ms. Porie Saikia)

Ms. Porie Saikia was key coordinator in New York, and facilitated there, a dialogue on construction industry from USA & Middle East to work in India. In her presentation on 'urban infrastructure', she mentioned that DoNER had recognized the need to create critical infrastructure like roads, railways, airways, waterways, power and telecommunication to generate investment, employment and revenue in its Eleventh Plan and

suggested adopting a holistic approach while designing the master plan for urban development.

She also suggested implementing proper waste management techniques for keeping the cities 'clean and green' and offered her assistance by way of providing consultancy for implementing the infrastructure projects in the Region.

- (xi) Urban & Town Planning, U.K.
(Represented by Mr. Bipul Katakya)

Mr. Bipul Katakya, Town Planner from U.K. mentioned that town planners should make an effort to plan the roads keeping in view the ever increasing population and vehicles on the streets while expressing his concern over Rs. 1 lakh car hitting the market.

He expressed his desire in helping transport sector as well as eco-friendly solutions for traffic congestions in the cities.

- (xii) Trent Hotels, Austria
(Represented by Mr. Y. Mohanta)

Mr. Y. Mohanta offered to set up a 'North East

Tourism (NET) Institute' in the Region in collaboration with an European Institute. The institute would provide training facilities for manager and help creating skilled employees, tour guides, coach drivers, entertainers, travel agents, receptionists for trade, etc.

The institute would undertake exchange programmes for students of the Region with countries all over the world.

- (xiii) Synergy Consultancy, Singapore
(Represented by Pranab Choudhury)

Dr. Choudhury focused upon the potential for tourism development in the North East and suggested setting up more eco-tourism resorts, spice gardens, medicinal plant gardens, tower/ walkways, convention centres, tourist amenities/ hotels etc. His company offered to help the State Governments by way of providing consultancy services to all the tourism development projects to be undertaken in the Region.

- 3.29 CII has been asked to follow up these partnerships and report MoDoNER on quarterly basis.

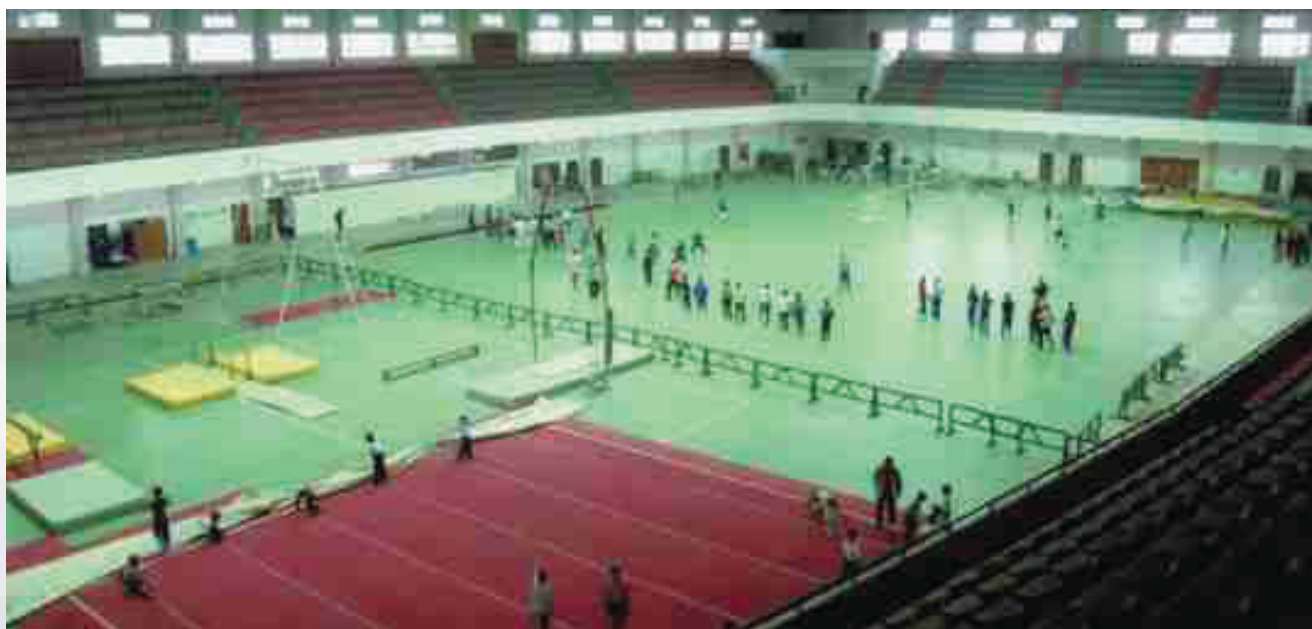
NORTH EAST INDIA TRADE AND INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY WEEK, BANGKOK



NORTH EAST INDIA INVESTMENT CONFERENCE, NEW YORK



4. BUILDING INTRA-STATE INFRASTRUCTURE NON-LAPSABLE CENTRAL POOL OF RESOURCES



Sports Complex, Imphal

4.1 The Union Cabinet had approved constitution of a Central Pool of Resources on 15.12.1997(NLCPR), was created in 1998 for accrual of the unspent balances out of the 10% earmarked in their budget by various Ministries/Departments for North Eastern Region. The Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) are provided budgetary allocation for sanction

of infrastructure development projects to the North Eastern States out of the NLCPR. The broad objective of the NLCPR scheme is to ensure speedy development of infrastructure in the North Eastern Region.

4.2 So far, up to 30.11.2007, eight hundred ninety nine (899) projects have been taken up for implementation with funding from the NLCPR. The total approved cost of these projects is Rs. 6428.78 crore. Out of this Rs. 4787.15 crore have been released up to 30.11.07.

Accruals to the NLCPR

4.3 The budgetary provision for the North Eastern States in Central Plan of various Ministries / Departments has steadily increased from Rs. 3211 crore in 1998-1999 to about Rs. 13,539 crore in 2007-08. The actual expenditure in the North Eastern States has risen from around 6.63% in 1998-99 to over 10% in 2004 - 05. In 2006 - 07, the total expenditure by Central Ministries / Departments in NER is worked out at Rs. 9677.45 crore (Provisional), which is about 88% of the total allocation of Rs. 10930.35 crore. The accrual in the



Thermal Power Plant, Mizoram



Flyover in Dimapur

NLCPR during 2006-07 is worked out at Rs. 1307.11 crore (Provisional). The balance in the NLCPR as on 01.04.2007 is worked out at Rs. 5074.74 crore (Provisional).



Shopping Complex at Mawphleng, Meghalaya

Implementation and Monitoring of Projects

- 4.4 The Planning and Development Department of each State has been entrusted with field inspections of the projects through senior officers of the State and submission of inspection notes. Besides, the State Chief Secretary has been entrusted with the responsibility of quarterly review of each of the projects and to send the proceedings of the quarterly review at the end of each quarter.



R.K. Mission Residential School at Narobtem Nagar, Arunachal Pradesh

Project support during 2007 - 2008

- 4.5 During 2007 - 08, budgetary provision for NLCPR is Rs. 600.00 crore as 'Grant' component only. Separately, there is a budgetary provision of Rs. 100.00 crore for infrastructure development projects in Bodo Territorial Council (BTC) Area. As on 30.11.2007, Rs. 340.82 crore have been released under NLCPR and in addition, Rs. 7.90 crore have been released for BTC Area.
- 4.6 During 2007 - 08 116 projects with an estimated cost of Rs. 1305.82 crore have been retained for techno-economic examination (upto 30.11.2007). Also, 59 projects have been sanctioned at a total cost of Rs. 462.10 crore during this period. Sector-wise distribution of projects retained / sanctioned and funds released during 2007 - 2008 is indicated below:-

(Amount in Crore Rs.)

Sector	No. of Projects retained	No. of Projects sanctioned	Cost of sanctioned projects	Amount released
Education	16	9	23.12	5.63
Health	0	4	42.80	49.33
Irrigation & Flood Control	2	3	7.18	13.71
Power	13	5	116.95	60.61
Roads & Bridges	61	23	181.04	151.61
Water Supply & Sewerage	8	7	42.62	45.00
Misc. (Sports, Market Bldgs, Tribal Dev. etc)	16	8	48.39	14.93
TOTAL	116	59	462.10	340.82



Dimapur Niuland Road (Nagaland)

4.7 In the wake of tripartite Memorandum of Settlement signed between Government of India, Government of Assam and Bodo Liberation Tigers in February 2003, a total of 39 projects have been sanctioned at an indicative cost of Rs. 413.18 crore since the year 2004 - 05 till 2007 - 08 (up to 30.11.2007). An amount of Rs. 277.92 crore has been released to the State Government / BTC authorities against these projects.

4.8 State-wise and project-wise details of funds released from NLCPR during 2007 - 08 (till 30.11.2007), are given at ANNEX - I.

4.9 State Governments in this financial year (2007-08) have reported completion of 13 projects up to 30.11.2007. State wise list of these projects is at ANNEX - II.

5. BUILDING REGIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE NORTH EASTERN COUNCIL



(L-R) Shri H.V. Lalringa, Secretary, NEC; Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar, Hon'ble Minister, DoNER; Smt. Ambika Soni hon'ble Minister of Culture

5.1 The North Eastern Council has been mandated to implement schemes and programmes that benefit the Region holistically and contribute to its physical and social infrastructure. Concerted efforts are being made by NEC to accelerate the completion of its existing commitments and further the development of the region.

5.2 Vision 2020 NER

A special thrust in the year has been to present before the people of the North East an articulated and holistic vision of the region by the year 2020. This is now called the NER Vision 2020. The core document is being prepared by a panel of experts while NEC has taken steps to raise awareness about the Vision Document and conducted well attended public hearings in all the States. Electronic and Print Media gave elaborate publicity to the process. NER Vision 2020 will achieve its final shape in 2008-09.

5.3 Transport and Communication

- * Transport and Communication is the major thrust area of NEC with 40% of its budget allocations being consumed by this sector.
- * During 2007-2008, 127.83 Kms. of road formation, 152.61 Km pavement and 1 bridge have been completed. 62 bridges are in different stages of progress. Rs.285.00 crores has been kept as outlay for the communication sector out of NEC's budget of Rs.600 crores.
- * Agreement between NEC and Alliance Air has been extended for the year 2008 for operating ATR services between locations in the North East. NEC will pay Alliance Air Rs.38.5 crores as viability gap for operating the services. This is a critical intervention to promote air linkages within the NER.

- * Airports Authority of India (AAI) and NEC have undertaken improvement of ten airports in NER - Guwahati, Lilabari, Jorhat, Dibrugarh, Dimapur, Silchar, Tezpur, Imphal, Agartala and Umroi (Meghalaya). As per MoU between them, funding will be made on a 60:40 basis i.e. 60% by NEC and 40% by AAI. Works in seven airports have been completed and Silchar, Dibrugarh and Umroi area are in different stages of progress. Out of Rs. 54.00 crores outlay for this activity, Rs.35.00 crores has been released to AAI.

5.4 Power Sector



Khandong Dam, Kopili H.E. Project (275 MW), Assam

- * Since inception NEC has contributed 673.50 MW of capacity addition (630 Hydro & 43.50 thermal), about 30% of the current installed capacity in NER with a total investment of Rs. 1692.09 crores.
- * To fill the missing link in matching transmission systems to evacuate excess power outside the region as well as to efficiently distribute it within the region, NEC has funded 1285.50 Circuit Kilometers transmission lines at a cost of Rs. 363.07 crores.
- * NEC has successfully completed commissioning 21MW Baramura Gas Based project Unit-IV, in Tripura during the 10th Plan period at a cost of Rs. 96.74 crore. Recently, Ministry of DoNER, New

Delhi has approved the 21MW Baramura Gas Based project Unit-V in Tripura at project cost of Rs 80.00 crores on 7.8.2007 and Rs 10.00 crore was released to Government of Tripura towards meeting the expenditure of the project on 2nd November, 2007. After completion of this project, NEC will further enhance its contribution by another 21 MW capacity addition to NE Region.

- * 33 system improvement schemes comprising of 20 Sub-Stations and 13 Transmission Line projects are envisaged to spread over all the eight States of the region. The approved cost of all the 30 projects is Rs.244.17 crore.

5.5 Irrigation and Flood Control Sector

- * NEC has funded survey and investigation of twelve Hydro Electric Projects, two major irrigation projects, eighteen flood & erosion control schemes and two minor irrigation schemes during the 10th Plan in the North East Region. Out of these, two irrigation schemes in Assam are 95% complete. Others are in various stages of construction. In the same period, NEC has also funded nine water supply schemes, one erosion control scheme and one sewerage scheme in Sikkim.
- * Rs. 19.85 crore is allotted for irrigation and flood control sector in 2007-08.

5.6 Medical and Health Sector

- * In pursuance of a major policy shift, three regional health Institutions managed and funded by NEC- Regional Institute of Medical Sciences, Imphal, Regional Institute of Paramedical and Nursing Sciences, Aizawl, Lokopriya Gopinath Bordoloi Regional Institute of Mental Health, Tezpur have been transferred to the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.
- * NEC continues to extend financial assistance to

Dr. B. Borooah Cancer Institute, Guwahati, Sri Sankardeva Netralaya, Guwahati, Regional Dental College, Guwahati and Regional College of Nursing, Guwahati. Besides, assistance has been provided to several other medical institutions for infrastructure and equipment to provide advanced medical care to the people of the North East. NEC is also supporting the setting up of Accident and Trauma Centres in NER.

5.7 Human Resource Development Sector

- * To improve skills of the youth of the North East and make them employable, NEC has invited Expression of Interest from reputed firms/institutes/agencies to impart employment oriented training especially in the service sector. The courses include Tourism, Hospitality, Hotel Management, Marketing and Sales Management, BPO Call Centres/ICT Activities, Airhostess



Dr. B. Baruah Cancer Institute, Guwahati

Training, Accountancy and other Information Technology related service sectors. The objective is to train at least 500 unemployed educated youths. The institute selected will help in finding suitable placement for the successful candidates.

- * To improve the quality of teachers, NEC is working with North Eastern Regional Educational Council



Sankardeva Netralaya, Guwahati, Assam

(NEREC), NCERT and IGNOU for training of untrained teachers in Primary Schools and to upgrade the skills of Science and Mathematics teachers. This programme will be launched with the support of NCERT & IGNOU.

- * It has sanctioned Rs. 250.00 lakhs during the current year for construction of a 500 capacity girls' hostel for Delhi University for girl students from North East studying there. The hostel will be co-funded with Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
- * The construction of NE Working Women's Hostel at Delhi in collaboration with the Ministry of Women and Child Development is being supported by NEC. NEC will fund 50% of the project cost.
- * The Ministry of Civil Aviation has given an in principle approval to set up a Pilots' Training Centre at Lilabari, Assam, the techno feasibility of which is underway.

5.8 Capacity Building in Cane and Bamboo Sector

- * NEC has assisted the Cane and Bamboo Technology Centre, Guwahati since its inception in 2000. CBTC is now an integral part of the National Bamboo Mission and is designated as the Bamboo Technical Support Group (BTSG) for all the States of North Eastern Region and also West Bengal, Orissa, Jharkhand and Bihar. Also in the pipeline is a Bamboo Technology Park (BTP) in the State Forest Training College, Byrnihat, Mizoram leased by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Govt. of India. This facility will be first of its kind in the entire South Asia which will have state of the art machinery and equipments and related infrastructure. The work is at a preliminary stage. NEC is also funding the setting up of a Bamboo Technology Park at Sairong, Mizoram. It is also assisting the Bodo Territorial Council, Assam to plant Bamboo on commercial basis.

5.9 Tourism Sector

- * A new scheme on 'Tourism Circuit Development in the North East Region' has been initiated in 2007-08. NEC is also working with the States for developing a master plan for tourism. It has cooperated with Infrastructure Leasing and Financial Services Ltd (IL&FS) for project profiles of budget hotels in the cities of the North East.
- * A Corpus Fund of Rs. 2.00 Crores was built up for this revolving fund project (called North East Tourism Project Development Fund) with equal contribution by NEC and IL & FS. IL&FS has taken up preparation of project profiles for 10 hotels, circuit development in Assam and Arunachal Pradesh and one project for development of inland water transport in the region. NEC is also assisting the Bodo Land Territorial Council in the field of tourism.



Student at Laboratory, Ripan

5.10 Science & Technology Sector

- * Assistance is provided under various remote sensing application schemes to Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Tripura, Manipur and Meghalaya. Mizoram has completed Natural Resource Mapping reports for all the districts.
- * Mapping of areas vulnerable to earthquake has been completed for Arunachal Pradesh.

- * North East Institute of Science and Technology (NEIST), Jorhat, Assam has completed installation in all 13 sites under the NEC supported scheme of Online/Real time VSAT based Seismic Network for disaster mitigation in NE-India.
- * State Wide Telemedicine has been successfully launched for 16 District locations by the State Remote Sensing Application Centre of the State Council for S&T of Arunachal Pradesh. A similar scheme is progressing in Manipur.
- * IT Entrepreneurship development training programme targeting 400 educated unemployed youth in Aizawl with the first batch of 200 trainees is nearing completion.
- * ICR (Intelligent Character Recognition System) has been successfully installed at Arunachal Board of School Education.
- * IT education infrastructure has been extended to 94 schools and 4 colleges. 46 more schools and 3 colleges are being taken up during 2007.

6. EXTERNALLY AIDED PROJECTS

Asian Development Bank (ADB) Assisted Projects

North Eastern State Roads Project (NESRP)

- 6.1 The project objective is to upgrade 1300 Kilometers of priority roads, 5500 meters of bridges and construction of 4700 meters of causeway Irish crossings in the eight North Eastern States so as to facilitate regional integration and trade flows. The project also seeks to focus on capacity building of State Implementing Agencies in the areas of road management, road safety, environment & social assessment and an effective and efficient management of road assets.
- 6.2 The total estimated project cost of the project is US\$ 428 million of which ADB proposed to finance up to US\$ 300 million and GOI is required to finance the balance US\$ 128 million. A feasibility study carried out under a Project Preparatory Technical Assistance (PPTA) for the project identified 1073 km of key State road sections for improvement and developed implementation arrangements for the road improvement and the capacity building support. An additional road sections totaling about 100 km are to be identified later during the course of the project implementation. The project is to be implemented in three phases.

ADB ASSISTED NORTH EASTERN URBAN DEVELOPMENT PROJECT NEUDP-PHASE I & II)

- 6.3 The NEUDP seeks to improve urban infrastructure in nine cities in the NER in two phases. The estimated cost of Phase-I of the N.E. Urban Development Project is \$350 million. To avoid duplication in the

implementation of the project and JNNURM, this project has been transferred to the Ministry of Urban development.

NE STATES TRADE INVESTMENT CREATION INITIATIVE PROJECT

- 6.4 The Project seeks to develop a trade and investment framework that will enable the Region to position itself better in global and regional markets and to reap gains from specialization, agglomeration of economies and globalization.

WORLD BANK ASSISTED PROJECTS

NORTH EASTERN REGION LIVELIHOOD PROJECTS (NERLP)

- 6.5 The Project is based on the IFAD assisted NER Community Resource Management Project (NERCRMP) which is being successfully implemented since 1998 in two districts each of Meghalaya, Manipur and Assam. DONER moved a proposal for Project Preparation Facility to the World Bank for development of the project and investment framework by the Consultants. World Bank has accepted the proposal.

STUDY ON WATER, NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

- 6.6 The objective of the World Bank Study is to develop a vision for the development and management of water and related natural resource/environmental issues in the Northeast for sustainable and equitable growth. The framework for investment proposals is to be worked out through stakeholder's workshop.

7. CAPACITY BUILDING PLAN SCHEME

7.1. The main aim of the Capacity building & Technical Assistance Plan scheme is to bridge the gap in the technical and managerial skill requirement in the North Eastern Region. The basic strategy has been to select important development sectors, identify the gaps and select relevant training institutes to build customized programmes as per training needs assessment as relevant to the North Eastern Region

7.2. Achievements during the current year.

An amount of Rs 1200 lakhs (RE) was allocated under this scheme for the year 2007-08. During the year the Ministry has tied up with National/ Regional institutes and Centres of Excellence like Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Calcutta, , Central Institute of Plastic Engineering Technology (CIPET), Chennai, Directorate General of Employment and Training (DGET) and organizations like Institute of Toy Making Technology, Kolkata. The Energy Research Institute, New Delhi to design and conduct training programmes for these groups. The objective is to enhance skill and upgrade human resources of NER as a long term investment to the benefit of the Region.

7.3. Government Sector

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF COLLEGE OF INDIA (ASCI), HYDERABAD

- * Conduct of Management Development for women Executives (20 participants) - 05.09.07 to 11.09.07 - Rs 11 lacs
- * Programme on Planning Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation -2 Nos - Rs 23 lacs

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF MICRO SMALL AND MEDIUM INDUSTRY EXTENSION TRAINING (NIMSME) FORMERLY (NISIET), HYDERABAD

They were given an assistance of Rs 24.60 lacs for the conduct

of the following training courses for 165 officers of the NE states.

- * Rural Development through Agro Enterprises
- * Foundation programme for the extension officers of the DICs



Fishery (Kingfisher) trainees (ToTs) getting hands on training on fishery

- * Development and promotion of Artisan Enterprises
- * Training of trainers in Entrepreneurship development

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT (NIESBUD) NOIDA

NIESBUD was granted an assistance of Rs 18 lacs plus the traveling costs for training of officers of the North Eastern states in Project Identification, Micro-financial management and Business Development.

NORTH EASTERN REGIONAL AGRICULTURAL MARKETING CORPORATION LTD.

NERAMAC has been sanctioned Rs 8 lacs for organizing of Entrepreneurship Development Programm (EPD) on Food Processing. Rs 4 lacs has been released the first instalment.

Civil society

Training for Commercial Pilot License/Aircraft Maintenance Engineering

- * Ministry of DONER has launched a new initiative wherein candidates from the North Eastern states would be trained by Dte. General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) approved institutes to enable them to obtain Commercial Pilot License (CPL) and Aircraft Maintenance Engineer(AME) license issued by DGCA.
- * The objective is to select a total of 36 candidates (18 each for CPL and AME) from all the NE states(8 from Assam and 4 each from other 7 states) based on their academic performance/ aptitude/physical fitness prescribed by DGCA.
- * After obtaining Expressions of Interests (EOI) from various DGCA approved institutes, Wings Aviation Academy (for CPL)and Rajiv Gandhi Aircraft School (for AME) have been selected. The total cost is about Rs 4 crores. 10% of fees are payable by students. The training has commenced in February 08

NASSCOM Assessment of Competence

As per an MOU signed between NASSCOM and Ministry of DONER the NASSCOM would conduct a Nasscom Assessment of Competence(NAC) test for the final year graduates and graduates of the 8 NE states, to assess their suitability for various ITES/BPO jobs based on their skills for English languages(written and spoken), analytical ability etc Based on their performance they would be issued a score card where their strengths would be indicated in terms of percentiles. In the subsequent job fairs to be held at some capitals of the NE states, these candidates would be screened for employment in IT sector..

- * NAC tests were conducted in all the 8 NE states as

follows:-

Dates	State	Target	Registered	Appeared
17-18 Nov 07	Mizoram	1500	948	334
30 Nov 07	Sikkim	1000	483	153
30 Nov 07	Manipur	1000	832	712
2 Dec 07	Arunachal Pradesh	1500	201	144
8 Dec 07	Meghalaya	1500	704	507
8-9 Dec 07	Tripura	3500	4525	2135
12 Dec 07	Nagaland	2000	411	287
19-23 Dec 07	Assam	8000	5459	2581
Total		20000	13563	6853

3 job fairs are being organized at Guwahati, Imphal and Agartala for the benefit of the NAC tested candidates.

Airhostess Training.

M/s Ashok Institute of Hospitality and Tourism Management New Delhi (Division of ITDC) has been selected for training about 125 youth in Aviation/Hospitaliy/Tourism fields. Ministry will grant assistance to extent of 90% (i.e.) RS 1,00,12,500/- of the total cost of Rs 1,11,25,000/-



Garments Designed & Developed by CPFC Students

DIRECTOR GENERAL OF EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING (DGET)

DGET is imparting training in various vocational courses through their Regional Vocational Training Institutes(RVTIs)

2007-08 (Long term courses)			(Cost in Lacs)	
Centre	Course	Duration	No.	Cost
RVTI Tura	COPA	One year	20	3.10
	Hair & skin care	One year	20	3.10
	Dress Mkg	One year	20	3.10
RVTI Kolkata	Architecture assistanship	Two years 10 Months	20	8.78
	COPA	One year	20	3.10
	Hair & skin care	One year	20	3.10
	Dress Mkg	One year	20	3.10
	Secretarial Practice	One year	20	3.10
RVTI Allahabad	Electronics	Two year	20	3.10
RVTI Bangalore	DTP	One year	20	3.10
	Instrument Mechanic	Two years	20	6.20



Hands on training



Training at Quality Checking



Training at Cutting Section



DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS ACCREDITED COMPUTER COURSES (DOEACC)

During 2007-08 the DOEACC has conducted following programme for 800 science students.

Course	Centre
Certificate Programme in Information	Odalguri Silchar Tinsukhia North Lakhimpur Assam



Training at Electronic Service Centre

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FASHION TECHNOLOGY (NIFT), KOLKAT

NIFT has been training unemployed women /girls in the fashion technology for the past so many years. During 2007-08 NIFT has been granted Rs. 92 lakhs for Certificate Programmes in Fashion Design Mgmt and Fashion & Clothings.



Garments Designed & Developed by CPFC Students

CENTRAL INSTITUTE OF PLASTICS ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY (CIPET)

CIPET is an organization under the M/o. Chemicals & Fertilizers. They have conducted useful training courses for the unemployed youth in the field of Plastic Engineering Technology. M/o. DONER has extended financial assistance of Rs. 49.26 lakh for training 453 candidates in various applications of plastic and related technology and entrepreneur programmes.

SIKKIN-MANIPAL UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH, MEDICAL & TECHNOLOGICAL SCIENCES, SIKKIM

(a) They have been sanctioned Rs. 14.5 lakhs for conducting

a workshop on Clinical methods and skills for 120 participants.

- (b) 21 students for North East are pursuing B.Sc Nursing Course in SMIMS. They have been sanctioned scholarships of 50% for the first year. Total amount sanctioned and released is - Rs. 7,15,500/- . Fees for 2nd, 3rd, 4th years will be 40% subject to obtaining 50% marks in previous exams



Training Programmes on STI & HIV/AIDS.

PROCESS CUM PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT CENTRE, MEERUT

PPDC is an autonomous organization under the Min. of SMME, engaged in Sports Good Manufacturing Technology. They offered to organize 2 year Modular Diploma Course in Sports Good Manufacture & Technology (Cricket Equipments) to 20 unemployed youth of the North East at a total cost of Rs. 20 lakhs. They have been sanctioned Rs. 10 lakhs for the current year

CENTRAL INSTITUTE OF TOOL DESIGN, BALANAGAR, HYDERABAD

CITD, under the M/o. SSI is a reputed training institute in the field of tool designing. M/o. DONER has sanctioned Rs. 42.5 lakhs for the conduct of the following training programmes for degree/diploma holders in Engineering:

- * Machine Operator Training Programme (100 trainees)

- * Tool design & Manufacture Courses (100 trainees)
- * Low Cost Automation Courses (100)
- * Machine Operator Training Programme (100 trainees)
- * Tool design & Manufacture Courses (100 trainees)
- * Low Cost Automation courses (100 trainees)



Trainees learning the technique of castration at RRTC, UMRAN

ELECTRONIC SERVICE & TRAINING CENTRE (ESTC), RAM NAGAR

- * ESTC under M/o. SSI is a leading organization in the field of vocational training. They have been sanctioned Rs. 11.25 lakhs for providing training to 125 unemployed youth of the Nagaland. The courses include Motor Winding & Repair, Silk Screen design & Printing, Repair & Maintenance of Electrical Household Appliances, Cell Phone Repair & Maintenance. A number of trained youth have gained employment.

JAGDISH BOSE SCIENCE TALENT SEARCH PROGRAMME, KOLKATA

It has been enlisted for identifying and nurturing science talent in the N-E States at school level. A total of 1028 students appeared in the talent tests at 18 centres. Based on their

performance, 27 students were given scholarships and 14 students were given encouragement awards.. The institute also organized 8 awareness programmes/science workshops. The total support for the programme during 2007-08 was Rs. 20.40 lakh.

INSTITUTE FOR DESIGN OF ELECTRICAL MEASURING INSTRUMENTS (IDEMI), MUMBAI

IDEMI a Govt of Society under the Min.of SMME has been granted Rs. 1,42,29,000/- and released amount Rs. 56,91,600/- for training of 380 candidates in the following courses:

Name of the Course
Post Graduate Diploma in Tool Design & CAD / CAM
Post Diploma in Tool Design & CAD / CAM
Post Diploma in CAD / CAM
Master CAM and CNC Programming & Machining
Certificate in CNC Machinist
Workshop Technology (Turning / Milling / Fitting / Advance Machining)
Post Diploma in Industrial Automation
Post Diploma in Mechatronics
Computer Hardware, Maintenance, Installation, Networking & Multimedia
Computer Software (MS – Office, Tally & Foxpro)
Diploma in Software Programming
Advance Embedded Technology
VLSI System Design using FPGAs/ CPLDs
Advance Computer Networking
Advance Animation & Film Making
Classical Animation
Web Designing & Developing
MAYA 8
Film Making (Editing)

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT, LUCKNOW

They have been engaged for conducting an impact/Evaluation study of two schemes viz. Capacity Building & Technical Assistance as per directions of the Min.of Finance at a cost of Rs. 15,90,600/-.An amount of Rs. 7,95,300/- has been released as the first instalment.

NORTH EASTERN REGIONAL AGRICULTURAL MARKETING CORPORATION LTD.

NERAMAC has been supported for organizing Entrepreneurship Development Programm (EPD) on Food Processing at a cost of Rs. 8, lacs.- The first instalment of Rs 4 lacs has been released.



SEBA Exposure Trip to Sualkuchi Silk Producing Centre

Indo German Tool Room Ahmedabad

Indo German Tool Room is a Govt.of Society under the Min.of SM ME.The Tool Room conducts various training programmes for students from 10th Standard to Graduate Engineers. An amount of Rs 1.94 crores (being 90% of the total cost of Rs 2.16 crores) has been sanctioned for the conduct of various short /long term courses as given below:

Diploma in Tool & Die Making
Certificate in Machinist (Tool Room)
Post Graduate Diploma in Tool Design & CAD/CAM
Post Diploma in Tool Design & CAD/CAM
Post Diploma in CAD/CAM
Master of CAM & CNC Technology
Certificate in CNC Machinist
Master Craftsman in Tool Technology
Vocational courses in Tuning/Milling/Fitting

IndoGerman Tool Room Aurangabad

IGTR Aurangabad conducts mainly short term certificate courses They have been granted Rs 62.10 lacs (being 90% of Rs 69 lacs) for the conduct of the following short term courses:

Certificate Course In Machine Tool Operations (Lathe & Milling)
Certificate Course In Machine Tool Operations (Surface & Cylindrical Grinding)
Certificate Course In Machine Tool Operations (Lathe)
Certificate Course In Cnc Operations (Milling)
Certificate Course In Cnc Operations (Edm, Wedm)
Integrated Course In Tool Cad /Cam
Integrated Course In Tool Design & Cad/Cam/Cae

8. ADVERTISING & PUBLICITY PLAN SCHEME



Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar, Minister DoNER, addressing the LTC Conclave

- 8.1. The Plan scheme of Advertising & Publicity aims as to showcase the inherent economic, social and cultural strength of the North Eastern Region as well as to mainstream the Region with the Country to move forward in its entirety.

Achievements during the current year

- 8.2. An amount of Rs. 650 lakhs was allocated under this scheme for the year 2007-08. Under the schemes, various events and programmes were organized within NE region and outside, which included Cultural Exchange Programmes, Trade Expos, Seminars, Advertising, printing of Advocacy Literature and so on.
- 8.3. The important events organized/supported during the year are indicated below:-

North East Trade Expos

- * During 2007-08 4 Trade Expos have been organised- 2 by National Small Industries



Smt. Veena S. Rao, Secretary DoNER, lighting the inaugural lamp at the LTC Conclave

Corporation(NSIC), 1 by North Eastern Handloom and Handicraft Corporation (NEHHDC) and 1 by Confederation of Indian Industries(CII)

- * NSIC
- * New Delhi 8-18 February 2008
- * Chennai 22Feb-3March 2008
- * NEHHDC
- * Goa 11-20 Jan 2008
- * CII-Enterprise North East
- * 21-24 February 2008 Guwahati.



Shri S.C.Jamir Governor, Goa at Inaugration of NE Crafts show in, Panaji



Other Initiatives

- * To show case the unique handloom and handicrafts of the NER, The NEHHDC organized a North East Crafts and Culture festival at Dilli Haat during 12-25 February 2008.
- * A north East India Investment Conference was orgnised by the CII on 26th Sept 2007 as part of the India @ 60 held in Sept 2007 at New York Ministry of DONER contributed Rs 90 lakhs towards the expenditure.
- * A North East India Business Week was organised during 1-5 Oct,2007 at Bangkok by the Indian Chamber of Commerce(ICC). Ministry of DONER extended an assistance of Rs 1.2 crores
- * Tangkhul Naga Society Delhi organised a cultural festival 'Images & Songs of the North East' on 28th Nov.2007. Rs 10 lakhs by way of financial assistance was granted by Min.of DONER



At Nagaland Stall, Bangkok

- * ASHRAY an NGO organised Sanhati Mela at Kailashahar North Tripura in November 2007. Rs 3 lakhs was granted as assistance to the event.



Dancers from various states of India put up a magnificent performance at the Inaugural Ceremony at Lincoln Centre



- * The CII organised a North East India Investment Conference at Guwahati on 11-12 January 2007-08 with a support of Rs 20 lakhs from Ministry of DoNER.

- * The DAVP was engaged for print media publicity and electronic media for telecast of spots etc. A grant of Rs 95 lakhs was given.
- * A media campaign for projecting North East as a safe destination for tourists with a budget of Rs 50 lacs is being worked out in association with DAVP which will prepare videospots and arrange them to be telecast in 20 leading channels.



- * ASSOCHAM was given an assistance of Rs 5 lacs for organizing of the 2nd South Asia Renewable Energy Conference 2007 during 25th – 26th April 2007 at New Delhi and Rs 3 lacs for conducting four regional brainstorming sessions under a common theme “AgroBiotechnology, Opportunities and Challenges.”
- * Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH) was given an assistance of – Rs. 2,41,069 for organizing a Seminar on ‘Intangible Heritage – Protecting the living tradition of North East in Mizoram.
- * Horticulture & Cash Crop Development



Department, Govt. of Sikkim, was provided a grant of Rs 25 lacs for organizing International Flori Show, 2008. Rs 18 lakh has been released as the first instalment

- * GOVERNMENT OF NAGALAND was granted an amount of Rs 5 lacs for organizing Rice Festival during 11th – 15th Decemeber, 2007.

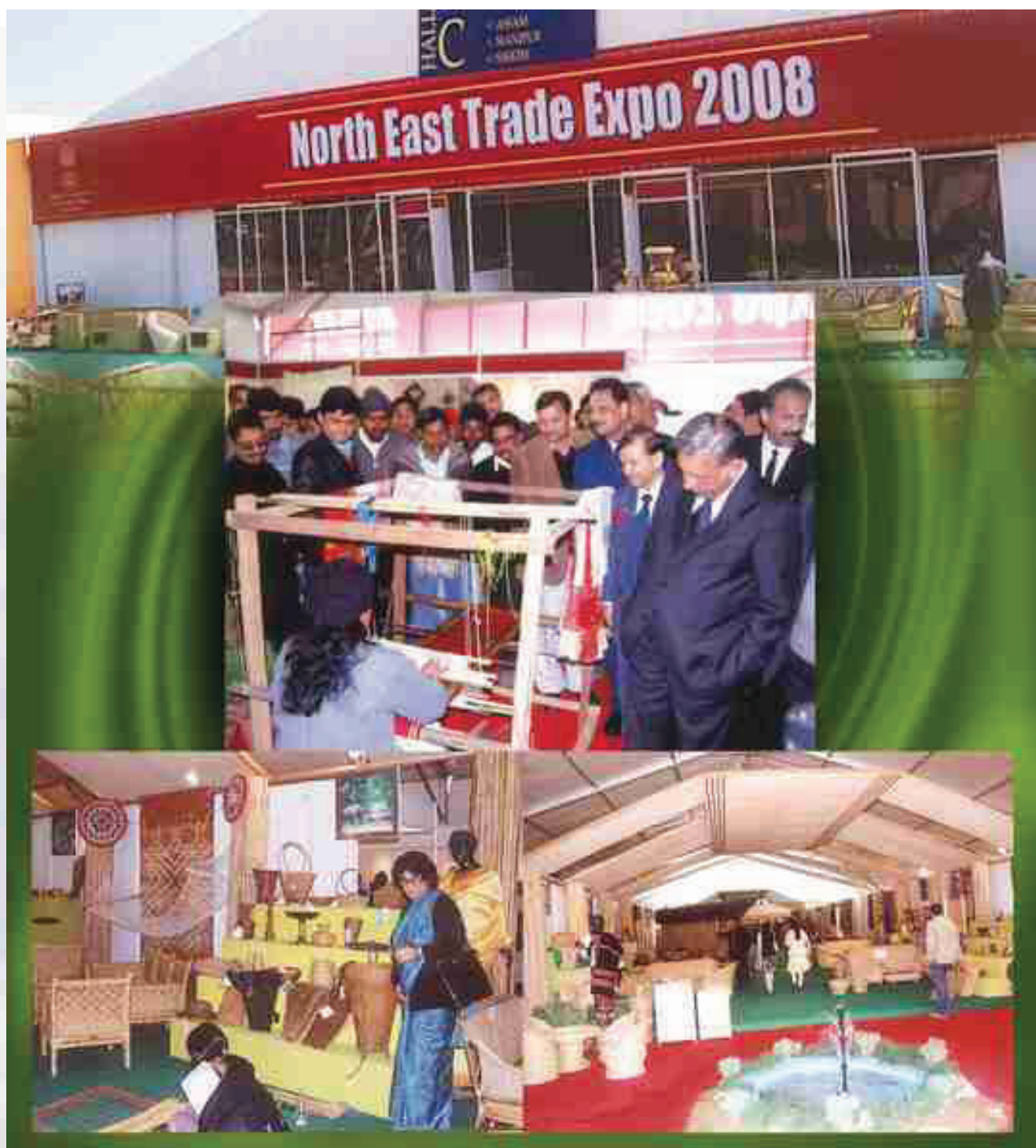


Cultural Programme- Music by Lou Majow



Achieving Excellence in Sports: a Football Team from North East

- * IIT Guwahati was provided with an assistance of Rs. 3 lakh for their annual youth festival ‘Alcheringa’.



9. ENTERPRISES OF THE MINISTRY

North East Development Finance Corporation (NEDFi), GUWAHATI

9.1 NEDFi, a financial institution, whose main objectives include providing credit and other facilities for promotion, expansion and modernization of industrial enterprises and infrastructure projects in the North Eastern Region of India has been playing an active role in promoting economic development of the Region.

Performance

9.2 NEDFi's operational performance has been showing a healthy picture in the current year 2007-08. Upto 23rd November, 2007 sanction & disbursement figure mounted up to Rs. 197.25 crore and Rs. 51.58 crore respectively. During this period, there has been a growth of 42% in the sanctioned amount over the last year's total sanction. NEDFi has sanctioned 140 projects in sectors like cement, power generation, hotels & tourism, health care, agriculture, micro enterprises etc. In funding these sectors, NEDFi helped in creating employment for 1880 people. Under Women Entrepreneurs Development Scheme (WEDS) financial assistance of Rs. 1.55 crore is provided to women entrepreneurs for different income generating activities of the north eastern regions. Likewise, Rs. 1.50 crore is sanctioned to NGOs for encouraging micro enterprises under Micro Finance Scheme.

9.3 Some recent initiatives

- * Conducted Techno Economic feasibility studies for identifying viable projects in NE Region. Till now 55 studies have been completed.
- * Set up NEDFi Haat a marketing platform for the artisans of North East to sale and display their products in a permanent stall. The Haat houses 26 permanent stalls with 1800 sq. ft. of open space.
- * North East Data Bank Quarterly: A quarterly

publication of NEDFi covering the economic issues related to the North East is brought out.

- * In order to boost the SME sector in the North Eastern Region, Business Facilitation Program was conducted in all the North Eastern States targeting first generation entrepreneurs including women entrepreneurs.
- * Development initiatives are being taken for Muga Pilot Project, Bamboo flattening project and innovative products and appropriate technology.
- * Under the project of Aggressive International Marketing Project, supported by DONER, training included the design inputs provided by a reputed Philipino Designer. In addition, 12 handloom and handicraft units were supported for participation of in international fairs in Brazil, UK and Hong Kong in association with EPCH (Export Promotional Council for Handicrafts).
- * Under NEDFi's design & skill upgradation scheme, 30 training programs, involving 1100 members of local youth and artisans, have been arranged.
- * The Corporation disburses Central Capital Investment Subsidy, Transport Subsidy and Working Capital Interest Subsidy provided to the NE States under the NEIIPP, 2007. Cumulative disbursement under these schemes as on 31st March, 2007 stood at Rs.458.21 crore.
- * NEDFi is in advanced talks with Quipo Infrastructure Equipment Ltd. for setting up an Equipment Bank for the North East to facilitate road construction work in the NER.

NORTH EASTERN HANDICRAFTS & HANDLOOM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.

9.4 The objective of the corporation is to develop and

promote the handicrafts and handlooms of the North Eastern region through design development, technology up gradation, training and capacity building of artisans and weavers, R&D and marketing of the finished handicrafts and handlooms products. The NEHHDC is currently organizing 70 marketing related events in the country for the promotion of the North Eastern Handicrafts and Handlooms products.

NEHHDC is also actively engaged in the training and capacity building programmes for the artisans and weavers, design and technical development programmes, creation of permanent facilities like the Common Facility centers for artisans etc in the region.

North Eastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation Ltd.

9.5 The Corporation has mainly been operating in two

areas: Food processing and Marketing. The Corporation had set up a Pineapple Juice Concentrate Plant and a Cashew Processing Plant in Tripura and an integrated Ginger Processing Plant at Byrnihat, Meghalaya. Another unit for Cashew Processing is planned to be established in Mankachar in Assam. The Corporation has been providing marketing support for important agricultural inputs and commodities. Since this region's food industry is dominated by very small units with almost zero quality standards and poor marketing network, NERAMAC's endeavor in this sector is prominent. The Corporation has conducted 3 Entrepreneurship Development Programme on fruit processing with financial support of DoNER. Besides, 10 Awareness Programs were also held during the year.

Annex - I

**NON LAPSABLE CENTRAL POOL OF RESOURCES (NLCPR)
RELEASES FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2007-08**

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Amount Rs. in lac	Sanction Order	
			Number	Date

ARUNACHAL PRADESH

1	Improvement of Doimukh Toru Road 40.00 KM (from NH – 52 (A) Nirjuli to Sagalee in Arunachal Pradesh	657.48	8	28.06.07
2	Improvement/ Construction of Road from Sagalee to Sakiang (50 Km)	1168.19	9	28.06.07
3	Construction of link road from Lhou Nallah to Mukto Circle HQ via Mirba, Gomkelling & Serjong (15 km) in Tawang District	527.38	11	28.06.07
4	Improvement of Palizi – Thrizino Road (17.00 Km) in West Kameng District	217.59	14	28.06.07
5	Upgradation of Medical equipments at R.K Mission Hospital, Itanagar	128.39	33	20.08.07
6	Construction of Road from Nyorak to Rime Moku village in West Siang District (20 Km, Ph-I - 9.20 Km) in Arunachal Pradesh	284.49	44	26.09.07
7	Construction of Motorable Suspension Bridge over river Siang between BRTF road & Komsing (Span 225 m) at Sangam in East Siang District	577.84	47	26.09.07
8	Construction of Road from Jop to Silsango (30 km) in Lower Subansiri District in Arunachal Pradesh	1086.60	62	27.09.07
9	Construction of Road from NH 52 'A' to Pappu Hill Settlement (2 Km) in Arunachal Pradesh	125.68	63	27.09.07
10	Construction of 150 Borders Hostel at Higher Secondary School Koloriang in Arunachal Pradesh	53.09	69	27.09.07
	Sub - total	4826.73		

ASSAM

1	Construction of 220/132 kV, 1x50 MVA, and 132/33 k V, 1x16 MVA Agia Sub-station	227.30	1	07.06.07
2	Improvement of Roads and Natural Drainage System within Greater Tezpur Town in Assam.	348.13	2	07.06.07
3	Raising and Strengthening of Brahmaputra Dyke from Dizmore to Sonarigaon from 14th to 23.15th Km (Phase I & II amalgamated) including closing of Amguri and Arney Nalla	134.62	3	07.06.07

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Amount Rs. in lac	Sanction Order	
			Number	Date
4	Sibsagar Town Water Supply Scheme	499.73	4	18.06.07
5	Golaghat Town Water Supply Scheme	152.93	5	18.06.07
6	Borjan Composite Irrigation Scheme in Assam	1018.00	6	28.06.07
7	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 26/3 on Nagarjun-Samar-Ali Das Road in Karbi Anglong District with approaches	94.34	21	29.06.07
8	Installation of Street Lights from Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi International Airport upto Jalukbari near Guwahati University for National Games 2005	133.70	24	16.07.07
9	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 12/3 on Bakulia Rajapathar Road in Karbi Anglong District with approaches	98.14	25	16.07.07
10	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 1/2 on Manja to Hidim Teron Road in Karbi Anglong District with approaches	100.38	26	16.07.07
11	Improvement of Bhangagarh – Bharalumukh VIP Road for National Games- 2005	548.99	27	16.07.07
12	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 40/2 on CPDMDK Road in Karbi Anglong District with approaches	73.57	29	16.07.07
13	Construction of 1250 capacity Auditorium and Convention Centre at Srimanta Sankaradeva Kalakshetra at Guwahati in Assam	40.10	31	06.08.07
14	Greater Silchar Town Water Supply Scheme in Assam	218.82	32	06.08.07
15	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 42/5 & 74/1 on D.L.H.S. Road in Karbi Anglong District	39.57	35	23.08.07
16	Construction of 220/132 kV Azara (Kukurmara) S/S, with 132/33 kV Azara S/S with LILO of 220 kV Agia – Sarusajai line, 132 kV S/C lines to 132/33 kV Boko and Azara Substation	1140.95	43	26.09.07
17	Conversion of 100 Bedded Civil Hospital to 200 Bedded Hospital with construction of Staff Quarters and Improvement & Renovation of existing buildings at Haflong in North Cachar Hills, Assam	592.64	57	26.09.07
18	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 4/1 on Bhogdoi River and 6/1 on J.B. Road with approaches	101.18	60	27.09.07
19	Construction of Indoor Stadium at Silchar in Assam	139.89	70	27.09.07
20	Drinking Water Supply at Gossaigaon (BAC Area)	81.85	71	28.09.07

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Amount Rs. in lac	Sanction Order	
			Number	Date
21	Construction of Belsiri Lift Irrigation Scheme at Sonitpur	68.48	72	28.09.07
22	'Construction of Dakhindol Lift Irrigation Scheme at Sonitpur and Joisiddhi'	66.53	73	28.09.07
23	Construction of Academic - cum - Administrative Building of K.K. Handique Government Sanskrit College at Guwahati	93.37	74	28.09.07
24	'Development of Jorhat Stadium at Jorhat' in Assam	84.70	75	28.09.07
25	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 24/1 on Barpathar - Nokajan Deithor - Chowkiholder (BBDC) Road in Karbi Anglong District with approaches	27.00	82	03.10.07
26	'Construction of Roads and Bridges under BAC'	1100	84	22.11.07
27	Construction of Road and Minor Bridge from Motinagar to Bhuban Hill Temple – Phase I in Assam	102.71	86	26.11.07
28	Cashew Processing Plant at Mankachar in Assam	104.15	87	26.11.07
29	Construction and improvement of Batabari Kopati Road under Mangaldai Rural Division in Darrang District, in Assam	95.40	89	28.11.07
30	Upgradation of Dalagon Town to Sialmari via Dekerigaon, Kharpurhabli Road in Assam	113.82	90	28.11.07
31	Improvement of Nagaon- Barapujia Road under Nagaon District in Assam	93.87	91	28.11.07
32	Improvement of Dalgaon Kopati (Orang Dalgaon) Road	106.26	92	28.11.07
33	Improvement of Nagaon- Morikolong Nonoi Dakhinpat Road in Nagaon District in Assam.	86.56	93	28.11.07
	Sub - total	7927.68		

MANIPUR

1	Waithoupat Water Supply Scheme in Manipur	1169.03	10	28.06.07
2	Construction of Bridge over Heirolk River at Heirolk Chingdongpok	69.44	19	28.06.07
3	Construction of Singjamei Bridge in Manipur	33.97	22	05.07.07
4	Augmentation of Water Supply Scheme at Khoupam	63.17	23	05.07.07
5	Infrastructure Development of University, Phase II for construction of 100 bedded hostel for boys and girls	37.41	49	26.09.07
6	Augmentation of Water Supply Scheme at Tamei	42.88	50	26.09.07

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Amount Rs. in lac	Sanction Order	
			Number	Date
7	Augmentation of Water Supply Scheme at Tadubi (2.02 MLD)	122.04	79	28.09.07
8	Construction of Senapati-Phaibung Road	1350.00	80	28.09.07
	Sub - total	2887.94		

MEGHALAYA

1	Renovation of Jowai Water Supply Scheme	400.00	34	23.08.07
2	Updating Facilities of Ginger Processing Plant at Byrnihat for commercial production in Meghalaya	51.21	36	06.09.07
3	Construction including metalling and black topping of Lumshnong-Umlong Road (0-8 Km) in Meghalaya	189.55	40	26.09.07
4	Mairang Water Supply Scheme in Meghalaya	230.00	48	26.09.07
5	Widening of road to double lane from Araimile to Dakopgre of Tura town road (4.00 km)	98.86	58	27.09.07
6	Improvement including Metalling and Blacktopping of Mawkyrwat – Rangblang Road (12th to 19th Km) in Meghalaya	151.20	64	27.09.07
7	Construction of Bridge No. 31/1 over River Letein as Permanent RCC Bridge on Dkhiah Sutnga Saipung Moulsei Haflong Road in Meghalaya	76.59	66	27.09.07
8	C/o 220 KV D/C Transmission Line from Misa (Assam) to on Dkhiah Sutnga Saipung Moulsei Haflong Road in Meghalaya	1996.00	78	28.09.07
	Sub - total	3193.41		

MIZORAM

1	Construction of 132 KV Single Circuit Transmission Line from Khawzawl to Champai	278.00	15	28.06.07
2	Construction of Indoor Stadium at Aizwal in Mizoram	410.90	41	26.09.07
3	Construction of 132 kV S/C line on D/C towers from Kolasib to Aizwal (Melriat) with LILO of one circuit at Aizwal (Zuangtui) 132 kV Sub Station in Mizoram	677.60	51	26.09.07
4	Construction of 33 kv D/C transmission line (Tower type) Lawngtlai to Saiha in Mizoram	229.98	52	26.09.07
5	Upgradation of Parva-I to Simensora Road in Mizoram	377.91	53	26.09.07
6	Construction of Secondary School buildings in Mizoram	200.00	54	26.09.07

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Amount Rs. in lac	Sanction Order	
			Number	Date
7	Lower Sakawrdai Water Supply Scheme in Mizoram	41.30	68	27.09.07
	Sub - total	2215.69		

NAGALAND

1	Construction of 2 lane RCC Bridge over Dhansiri river	203.33	16	28.06.07
2	Vitalization of State Referral Hospital, Dimapur	800.00	30	25.07.07
3	Construction and Upgradation of road from Old Phek via Khuza to Satakha Road” (69.07 kms)	656.86	37	13.09.07
4	Upgradation of Dimapur – Khopanala – Jalukie – Peren road from ODR to MDR (Intermediate lane) – length (52.4 km)	1052.57	38	13.09.07
5	Improvement and Upgradation of road from Longkhum via Mangmetong – Aliba (35 kms.)	311.27	39	13.09.07
6	Improvement of Road from Hezidesa Village to Intanki River Bridge (6.60 km) and Upgradation of Road from Mounglumuk to Jalukie Zandi Village (6.30 km) in Nagaland	221.42	56	26.09.07
7	Additional facilities (false ceiling) to Sainik School at Punglwa, Nagaland.	51.87	59	27.09.07
8	Construction of new 66 kv S/C Tizit – Mon Transmission Line (40 kms) and 66 kv line bay at Tizit in Nagaland	169.46	67	27.09.07
9	Integrated Nguiki Irrigation project, Nagaland	73.23	76	28.09.07
10	Upgradation and Modernization of 3 ITIs in the State of Nagaland	128.31	83	31.10.07
	Sub - total	3668.32		

SIKKIM

1	Water Supply Scheme from Chakmakey and Ringyang under Soreng Sub-Division in West Sikkim	207.84	7	28.06.07
2	Augmentation of water supply for greater Rangpo in East Sikkim	519.89	12	28.06.07
3	Establishment of Centralized Load Dispatch Centre in Sikkim	112.64	28	16.07.07
4	Extension of 132 kv system in South and West Districts of Sikkim covering Gyalshing, Pelling and Rabongla	631.4	42	26.09.07
5	Development of Village Tourism at (a) Chirbirey, (b) Zoom and (c) Majhigaon River Bank in Sikkim	528.02	55	26.09.07

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Amount Rs. in lac	Sanction Order	
			Number	Date
6	Construction of Water Harvesting Structure at Rabdentse, Geyzing in Sikkim	145.00	65	27.09.07
7	Water Supply Augmentation Scheme at Sang Naya Bazaar, East Sikkim	61.99	77	28.09.07
8	Synchronisation of Rimbi Stage – I, Rimbi – II and Kkhep (Dentam) with the 66 KV State Grid including Renovation and Modernization of Rimbi Stage – I, Rimbi – II and Kkhep in Sikkim	303.13	81	28.09.07
9	Namachi to Samdruptse Ropeway, South Sikkim	505.33	85	22.11.07
	Sub - total	3015.24		

TRIPURA

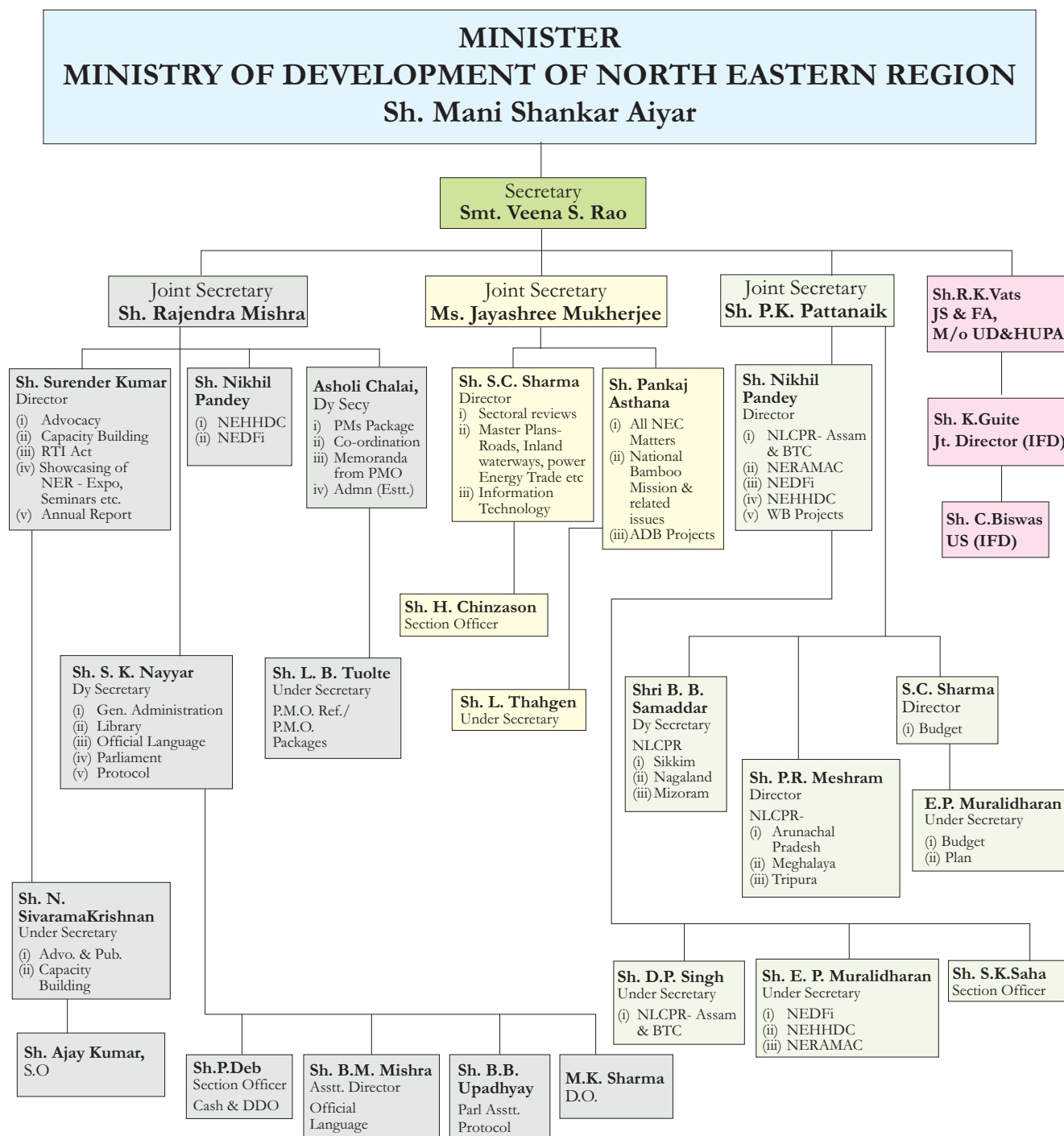
1	Water Supply Scheme at Melaghar	279.23	13	28.06.07
2	Water Supply Scheme at Jatanbari – Nutanbazar	164.13	17	28.06.07
3	Improvement of Banikya Chowmuhan – Shalbagan road (9.121 Km.)	150.00	18	28.06.07
4	State Level Para Medical Institute at Agartala	412.00	20	29.06.07
5	Transmission Scheme including Bodhjangnagar Industrial Estate	295.28	45	26.09.07
6	Water Supply Scheme at Bishalgarh in Tripura	246.06	46	26.09.07
7	Upgradation of Halahali – Ambassa – Dangabari – Thalchera – Bagfa – Belonia Road (173 km)	1800.00	61	27.09.07
8	Construction of Government Medical College and Hospital at Agartala in Tripura	3000.00	88	28.11.07
	Sub - total	6346.70		
	TOTAL	34081.71		

ANNEX -II

Projects completed during 2007-2008(as on 30.11.2007) under NLCPR

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Approved Cost (Rs. in crore)
ARUNACHAL PRADESH		
1.	R.K. Mission Hospital at Itanagar and Renovation of School of Nursing of R.K. Mission Hospital, Itanagar	1.36
2.	Sub Transmission and Distribution - 33 kV DC Line from Geku - Along - Passighat (West and East Siang District)	16.53
3.	Improvement and Realignment of Porter Track from Jang to Sulungthi (95 Km)	2.55
MEGHALAYA		
4.	Sub Transmission and Distribution Scheme - Master Plan for Distribution of Power in Meghalaya	23.19
5.	Construction of 132 kV DC Line from Sarsujai to Byrnihat	9.78
6.	Upgradation of Market at Mawphlang	1.90
MIZORAM		
7.	Greater Mamit Water Supply Scheme	5.77
8.	Bridge over River Tuish on Tuipang - Zwangling - Chheihhlu Road (Mara ADC)	1.14
9.	Bridge over River Vanva on Haulawng - Bualpui - Chhiphir Road	1.46
Nagaland		
10.	Mokokchung - Dikhu - Chare Road in Tuensang District (Tuensang Seminar Road) Tripura	8.70
11.	Construction of 175 Primary School Buildings with provision of Furniture	14.44
12.	1x21 MW GT Project at Rokhia (Unit VIII)	80.94
13.	Electrification of Tribal Villages (10 Nos)	1.44

ANNEX -III



Look Northeast policy

AMIDST the Incredible India/60th Bittering in New York was an event that didn't attract the attention it should have. The one-day 'North East India Investment Conference' of September 26 — aimed at putting the Northeast on the international investment map — was certainly unprecedented. For the first time in 60 years, the Indian government was signalling that it was ready to showcase a region marked by insurgencies, militarisation and alienation — and which it had always kept under wraps — as an investment destination and a paradise for tourism.

Hosted by the Ministry for the Development of the North East Region (DONER) and the Confederation of Indian Industries, the



Government initiatives to attract investments in this region should take people along

PAMELA PHILPOTE

ernment is reluctant to come out strongly against the repressive junta in Myanmar to the general dismay of the international community and human rights activists.

What does this frenetic activity mean? At a national level it means that the Centre is more confident than ever before of being able to manage its northeastern periphery, despite army mobilisation and rock-

as of yesterday. But if the local people are not sufficiently involved in such projects right from their planning stage onwards, if due processes are not followed in implementing them, investment policies of this kind would only foment suspicion, resentment, even resistance, which in turn could see a greater mobilisation of security forces in the area, setting into play the familiar cycle of

guiding principle for any project in the region.

Some lessons seem to have been learnt. The words used in the 'Northeast Industrial and Investment Promotion Policy, 2007', for instance, are chosen with care. A granite mining project near Goalpara town in Assam — the state is believed to have more than a billion cubic metres of granite deposits of various kinds — makes it clear that since these deposits are located in a reserve forest area, anyone mining here would be required to follow environmental norms, fill up the affected top soil and ensure afforestation as part of the project. A proposal for a cement plant near the limestone quarries of Assam's Jorhat district, specifically mentions

North East attracts NRI investments

By [Name] [Date]

The [Name] [Date] [Location] [Details]

NE takes bite of Big Apple

The [Name] [Date] [Location] [Details]

that [Name] [Date] [Location] [Details]

The Telegraph

SALUTED BY THE NEW YORK TIMES

Northeast goes to New York

The NRIs come

that [Name] [Date] [Location] [Details]

that [Name] [Date] [Location] [Details]

The NRIs come

A unique set of circumstances new service

High road to prosperity

DIPLOMACY
K. R. NAYAK

that [Name] [Date] [Location] [Details]

that [Name] [Date] [Location] [Details]

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