

NEC-11/14/2022-UNDER SECRETARY(A) - E.com no. 118108

Government of India  
Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region

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Jodhpur Officer's Hostel, Pandara Park,  
India Gate, New Delhi - 110003.

Dated: 26.09.2025

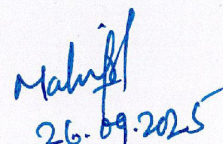
OFFICE MEMORANDUM

**Subject: Comprehensive Guidelines for Administration of Scheme of 'NESIDS (Roads)' of Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (MDoNER).**

The undersigned is directed to refer to the subject cited above and to forward herewith Comprehensive Guidelines for Administration of Scheme of 'NESIDS (Roads)' of Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (MDoNER) (copy enclosed)

2. The Comprehensive Guidelines for Administration of Scheme of 'NESIDS (Roads)' of Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (MDoNER) have been prepared after duly incorporating the past observations from NITI Aayog and the Line Ministries regarding the project proposals of NER and the amendments made from time to time in the Guidelines of administration of the NESIDS(Roads) issued vide letter NEC-11/14/2022-UNDER SECRETARY(A) dated 21.08.2023.
3. The Checklists for Project selection/sanction of the Comprehensive Guidelines have also been revised to ensure the quality of Concept Notes and DPRs submitted by the State Governments of NER under the Schemes of MDoNER.
4. The copy of the directions for filling the revised checklist for Project selection and Project sanction, may be seen under the Annexure-D of the Comprehensive Guidelines of administration of the NESIDS(Roads).
5. This Comprehensive Guidelines are to be uniformly adopted across all North Eastern Region (NER) states for projects submitted under this scheme of MDoNER. State Governments of NER are requested to direct the concerned Line Departments and field officers of State to adopt the revised checklist format with immediate effect.
6. The comprehensive guidelines shall only be applicable for the project Concept Notes/DPRs that will be submitted to this Ministry post issuance of this O.M.
7. This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.

Enclosure: As stated above.

  
26.09.2025

(Mahipal Yadav)

Under Secretary to the Government of India



**To,**

Chief Secretaries, All the North Eastern States

**Copy to:**

1. Chief Executive Officer, NITI Aayog
2. Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs
3. Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development
4. Secretary, M/o Road, Transport & Highways
5. Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs
6. Secretary, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)
7. Secretary, North Eastern Council, Shillong
8. AS & FA, MDoNER
9. Advisor, Transport & Communication, NEC
10. Joint Secretary in-charge of NESIDS (Roads)

**Copy for information to:**

1. PS to Hon'ble Minister, MDoNER
2. APS to Hon'ble MoS, MDoNER
3. PPS to Secretary, Ministry of DoNER
4. PSs to AS(S), SA(DJ), JS(NK), JS(SS), JS(AD)
5. All Directors/ Deputy Secretaries and equivalent Officers in MDoNER
6. Sr. Director, NIC for uploading on the Official Website of MDoNER



## Comprehensive Guidelines for "North East Special Infrastructure Development Scheme (NESIDS)" - Roads Component

### 1. Background

1.1 A Central Sector scheme named "North Eastern Road Sector Development Scheme (NERSDS)", fully funded by the Government of India, was approved during 2014-15 and was implemented through North Eastern Council (NEC) till 31.03.2022 to fill up gaps of road infrastructure in the Region. In addition, road infrastructure projects for gap filling in North Eastern Region (NER) used to be done through other Schemes of MDoNER i.e., North East Special Infrastructure Development Scheme (NESIDS) and NERSDS-Externally Aided Project (EAP).

1.2. The approval for extension of the schemes of Ministry of Development of North-Eastern Region (MDoNER) w.e.f. 01.04.2022 till 31.03.2026 has duly been considered and accorded to by the Cabinet. During the process of extension of the Schemes of MDoNER w.e.f. 01.04.2022, important decisions have been conveyed to streamline the schemes of Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (MDoNER), which, inter alia, include the following:

- i. NERSDS will be subsumed with NESIDS
- ii. NESIDS will be restructured into two components - NESIDS (Roads) and NESIDS (Other than Road Infrastructure (OTRI))
- iii. NESIDS(Roads) will be implemented through NEC
- iv. All ongoing road/bridges projects sanctioned under NERSDS and NESIDS shall be funded through NESIDS(Roads)
- v. Henceforth all the Road projects being sanctioned by MDoNER will be under NESIDS(Roads).

1.3 Accordingly, the following steps for streamlining have been taken to be effective from 01.04.2022:

- i. North East Road Sector Development Scheme (NERSDS) stands subsumed under NESIDS (Roads) component.
- ii. Committed liabilities for the ongoing Road projects sanctioned under erstwhile NESIDS shall be liquidated through NESIDS(Roads).

1.4 The extant guidelines for the NERSDS were circulated earlier in 2014-15. In pursuance of the decision to restructure the scheme, the revision of scheme guidelines for administration of the "NESIDS (Roads)" component is necessitated, which are detailed in the subsequent paras.

1.5 The guidelines hereafter will take effect from 01.04.2022; while the existing guidelines for NERSDS circulated earlier shall ipso facto continue to apply for the ongoing projects sanctioned till 31.03.2022; subject further to the removal of difficulties, if any, with the approval of the Competent Authority.





## **1.6 Saving Clause for Ongoing Projects /Committed Liabilities**

For projects that were sanctioned when the NERSDS guidelines circulated in 2014-15 were in effect will continue to be administered as per those guidelines. The prioritization/selection/appraisal and recommendation by Empowered Inter Ministerial Committee(EIMC)/approval of EIMC recommendation by the competent authority during 2022-23 in accordance with the recommendations of EFC for 2022-23 to 2025-26 shall be deemed to have been made under the Scheme mentioned in the sanction/ approval letter; and such prioritization/ selection/ selection for sanction/ approval of the Project made in 2022-23 will be accommodated under the Guidelines applicable at that time.

## **2. Administration of NESIDS (Roads)**

**2.1** "NESIDS (Roads)" will cover all the eight states of the North Eastern Region of India, viz. Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura.

**2.2** The "NESIDS (Roads)" will be over and above the existing schemes of Government of India and State Governments of the NE Region. However, only those projects would be considered for financial assistance under the scheme which are not covered/ taken up under any other scheme of Central Government or State Government.

**2.3** MDoNER will administer the NESIDS (Roads) through NEC towards selection, sanction and monitoring of projects under the scheme, in consultation with the State Governments concerned. The steps for planning, implementation will be taken through the Implementing Agencies (IA) of the respective North Eastern State Government in general.

**2.4** The guidelines following the detail process to be followed for putting up the project proposals received from States/Central agencies to MDoNER by NEC under NESID(Roads) scheme component covering, inter alia,

- a. Identification and prioritization of project proposals by the State/Central Agencies and submission of project proposals for selection to NEC
- b. Putting up the project proposal received from States/Central agencies to MDoNER Committee
- c. Selection of the candidate projects by the Ministry
- d. Preparation of DPRs and submission of project DPRs to NEC for techno-economic vetting
- e. Techno-economic appraisal and vetting of the DPRs by NEC and submission of project proposals for sanction to MDoNER
- f. Sanction of projects by the Ministry
- g. Award of works by Implementing Agencies
- h. Release of funds as per extant guidelines of Ministry of Finance
- i. Monitoring and evaluation of projects
- j. Completion and operationalisation of projects

**2.5** The Hon'ble Minister, MDoNER will be the 'Competent Authority' for the scheme, unless specified otherwise.

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### 3. Objectives

In keeping with the overall vision of the Ministry of DoNER i.e., "Transforming the North Eastern Region through development, in an accelerated yet sustainable manner, affording access to ease of living to all its citizens", the broad objective of "NESIDS (Road)" is to support road infrastructure development in the North Eastern States.

### 4. Institutional and Administrative Arrangements

#### 4.1 Empowered Inter-Ministerial Committee (EIMC) at Central Level

There will be an Empowered Inter-Ministerial Committee (EIMC), chaired by the Secretary, Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region, comprising representatives of States and relevant line Ministries, as indicated below:

i.	Secretary, Ministry of DoNER	Chairman
ii.	CEO, NITI Aayog, or his/ her representative, not below the rank of Joint Secretary.	Member
iii.	Secretary of the Central Ministry concerned, or his/ her representative, not below the rank of Joint Secretary	Member
iv.	Home Secretary or his representative not below the rank of Joint Secretary	Member
v.	Secretary, M/o Rural Development or his representative not below the rank of Joint Secretary	Member
vi.	Secretary, M/o Road, Transport & Highways (MoRTH) or his representative not below the rank of Joint Secretary	Member
vii.	Chief Secretary of the concerned NE State(s), or his/ her representative, not below the rank of Secretary in the State	Member
viii.	Secretary, Logistics, DPIIT or his representative not below the rank of Joint Secretary	Member
ix.	Secretary, North Eastern Council, Shillong	Member
x.	Financial Adviser, Ministry of DoNER	Member
xi.	Advisor, Transport & Communication, NEC	Member
xii.	Joint Secretary in-charge of NESIDS (Roads), Ministry of DoNER	Member-Secretary
Note: Representatives of the State Government(s), Central Ministries / NEC, etc. may be co-opted by the EIMC as and when felt necessary.		

#### 4.2 Functions of the EIMC

The functions of EIMC shall, inter alia, be as under:

- i. To consider the preliminary project proposals received under NESIDS(Roads), in terms of their quality, viability and tangible socio-economic impact together with the representatives of concerned line Ministries/ Departments of Government of India and State Governments; and make suitable recommendations for selection from amongst the candidate projects

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- ii. To consider the final project proposals received from the SEC, NEC together with the comments of the concerned central line Ministries/Departments and make suitable recommendations for approval of the Competent Authority
- iii. To recommend effective means for Monitoring and Evaluation through field inspection *inter alia* through suitable third-party agencies
- iv. To review the progress of project implementation under NESIDS(Roads), through the North Eastern Council (NEC) as well as the State Level Empowered Committee(SLEC)of the States constituted for other Schemes.
- v. To suggest suitable mechanisms for Operation and Maintenance (O&M) of the NESIDS(Roads) projects undertaken
- vi. To consider any other issue as may be received from the NEC or SLEC seeking removal of any difficulty in the implementation of NESIDS(Roads) projects or clarification of guidelines; and make suitable recommendations, including for relaxation/minor modifications, if any, to the provisions of the Scheme

### 4.3 Meetings of EIMC

EIMC will meet as frequently as needed, but at least once in three months. EIMC can meet physically, virtually or in hybrid mode, at New Delhi or at any place in the NER.

### 4.4 State Level Empowered Committee (SLEC)

The State Governments will respectively constitute a State Level Empowered Committee (SLEC) chaired by the Chief Secretary of the State, with the Secretary Planning as the Convenor and comprising of Finance and other concerned Secretaries of the State Government Departments, and technical experts deemed necessary, as Members. The NEC will be represented in the SLEC by Planning Adviser or his representative or his representative. The Ministry of DoNER will be represented in the SLEC, by Joint Secretary in-charge of NESIDS (Roads) and the Financial Adviser or his/her representative. Representatives from the concerned Institution of repute may be specially invited to the respective meetings of the SLEC. (Included vide O.M. no. NEC-11/14/2022-UNDER SECRETARY (A) dated 25.11.2024)

### 4.5 Functions of the SLEC

The functions of SLEC shall, *inter alia*, be as under:

- i. To review the preliminary project proposals being posed under NESIDS (Roads) by the State Government to the EIMC at MDoNER, in terms of quality, viability and tangible socio-economic impact of the projects and their alignment with the guidelines of NESIDS (Roads)
- ii. To prioritize and recommend project proposals to be posed by the State Government under NESIDS (Roads)
- iii. To review and approve for selected projects, the DPRs/techno-economic appraisal undertaken by designated reputed institutes like IIT, IIM, NIT, etc. and make suitable recommendations to MDoNER/NEC towards sanction of these projects.
- iv. Regular review and monitoring of the project implementation process, *inter alia*, the award of work, timely completion and sending regular/periodic reports to MDoNER/NEC relating to projects previously sanctioned under NESIDS (Roads).





- v. Improving/strengthening project management system in the State to avoid cost and time overruns in sanctioned projects.
- vi. Ensuring proper mechanisms for Operation and Maintenance (O&M) of NESIDS (Roads) projects throughout their lifecycle.
- vii. To consider any other issue as may be received from the IAs seeking removal of any difficulty in the implementation of NESIDS (Roads) projects or clarification of guidelines; and make suitable recommendations to the EIMC, including for relaxation/minor modifications, if any, to the provisions of the Scheme.

#### **4.6 Meetings of the SLEC**

SLEC will meet as frequently as needed, but at least once in three months. SLEC can meet physically, virtually or in hybrid mode.

(Included vide O.M. no. NEC-11/14/2022-UNDER SECRETARY (A) dated 25.11.2024)

#### **5. Financial Outlays**

**5.1** The total approved expenditure outlay for the NESIDS (Roads) scheme for the period from 2022-23 to 2025-26 shall be calculated as per the principles laid down in the EFC meeting dated 29-09-2022 read with the clarification dated 10-11-2022. The outlay so calculated shall be separately circulated to all concerned by the Ministry, after due approval by the Competent Authority.

**5.2** The total approved expenditure outlay shall account for the fund requirement for:

- (i) meeting the committed liabilities of the projects sanctioned till 2021-22 under NERSDS and ongoing road projects sanctioned under NESIDS till March 31, 2022.
- (ii) sanctioning of new projects w.e.f. 01.04.2022 onwards
- (iii) catering to the administrative expenditure for the scheme

#### **6. Allocation for the Sanction:**

There shall be no State-wise allocation for the NESIDS (Roads). However, broad equitable distribution shall be followed keeping in view the merit and needs on the ground of respective state.

#### **7. Identification, Prioritization and Submission of Project Proposals**

##### **7.1 Identification of Projects:**

**7.1.1** The project proposal viz. comprehensive Concept Note may be submitted with the details on geo-tagging, scope of work with cost, likely benefits and outcomes clearly spelling out the techno-economic viability of the project along with gap analysis to NEC. MDoNER will examine and scrutinize the project proposal(s) in consultation with NEC and line Ministries concerned. Concerned line Departments of the State/Central Agencies will formulate project proposal in line with the **focus areas** and **preferences** indicated below, while also avoiding any project proposals that may fall under the specified **Negative List**.





7.1.2 The NESIDS (Roads) component of the scheme shall focus on projects leading to the creation of physical assets in roads/bridges and auxiliary infrastructure only.

7.1.3 States/Central Agencies can propose road infrastructure projects for sanction, with preferences as under:

a) Proposals inter se contributing to road connectivity to every Block/Sub-Division HQ with the District HQ, through already constructed highways or roads. Preference to the proposals which provide connectivity to the districts to saturate the related KPIs of Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) or Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) either for the entire region or for multiple States or for an entire State.

b) Roads of strategic importance, identified by MHA or MoD or for major connectivity in Areas of Autonomous District Councils.

c) Replacement of timber/Bailey/temporary bridges having span more than 20 meters on roads identified at 1 and 2 above.

d) Proposals for providing road, rail and water connectivity for Economic centres or tourist destination, which is recognised by Ministry of Tourism/ITDC or falls on tourist circuits developed by Ministry of Tourism/NEC;

e) Proposed road shall provide connectivity to the remote villages, which are out of the ambit of PMGSY;

f) Project being selected/sanctioned shall have high impact and visibility.

g) New roads to be preferred instead of up-gradation/repair.

h) Rain-resistant technologies to be used in new road projects.

i) The projects should be selected/sanctioned based on gap analysis based on PM-Gati Shakti and SDGs.

(Included vide O.M. no. NEC-11/14/2022-UNDER SECRETARY (A) dated 03.10.2023)

#### 7.1.4 Negative List

The following types of Projects shall not be supported under NESIDS (Roads):

- i. Projects other than road infrastructure
- ii. The costs towards land acquisition, relief and rehabilitation and staff establishment components will not be admissible under the Scheme.
- iii. Projects which are coverable under any Scheme of the concerned line Ministries of Government of India, and for which the concerned line Ministry has already provided funds or plans to provide funds in future.
- iv. Projects which are not as per latest IRC guidelines. Projects which do not make use of IRC approved new technologies of road construction to ensure cost effective, speedy implementation, use of eco-friendly construction material etc.

7.1.5 **Minimum Project Size:** The minimum project size/cost will generally be Rs.20 crore for road projects but maybe less than Rs 20 crore in case of bridges. However, in exceptional



cases, for reasons to be recorded in writing, the EIMC may recommend smaller size of projects.

**7.1.5 Project Site(s):** It shall be the onus of the project proposing State Departments or their agencies to ensure that the project site should be available unencumbered to be handed over to the IA for taking up project implementation activities. In no case, the scheme funds shall be used for purchase / acquisition of land/site for any NESIDS(Roads) project. The GPS track of the proposed alignment of the road/latitude and longitude of the project site; in case of projects spread across multiple locations the coordinates of all sites, must be indicated, preferably in the concept note itself and necessarily in the DPR.

**7.1.6 Cost Estimates:** The cost estimates for the projects posed under the scheme should be based on latest Schedule of Rates (SOR) of the State/CPWD, as the case may be. The project cost estimates at the stage of DPR shall be prepared as per the latest Schedule of Rates applicable and technically sanctioned by the designated technical authority of the concerned central/state line department(s) to whom such powers have been delegated. The techno-economic vetting thereof shall be further undertaken through the Technical Wing of NEC. The reasonableness of cost estimates will be certified by the NEC. In case of any ambiguity, the matter may be posed before the EIMC for appropriate guidance.

**7.1.6.1** The cost towards land acquisition and staff component (secretariat expenses) will be inadmissible under the scheme and will have to be borne by the State Government/Agency concerned.

**7.1.6.2** A portion (upto 1% of the approved outlay) of the budget of the scheme can be earmarked for "**administrative expenses**" of the scheme by MDoNER. This would include charges towards a technology driven comprehensive monitoring architecture, covering all the activities starting from project formulation, project approval, project implementation, field inspection and validation visits; setting up a Project Management Unit; capacity building, etc.

**7.1.6.3** The total cost sanctioned for any project must be inclusive of the GST. The **CGST and SGST** applicable must therefore be explicitly mentioned in the cost estimates at the stage of submission of the project DPR for seeking sanction of projects.

**Note:** The various unit costs in the applicable Schedule of Rates may be inclusive or exclusive of the CGST and SGST. Nonetheless, the explicit mention as prescribed herein above must be ensured in every case.

**7.1.6.4** The **Operations and Maintenance (O&M)** cost for the first four years after expiry of defect liability period shall be made a part of the total project cost. The mechanism proposed for O&M support beyond the four years period may also be clearly indicated in the DPR, and highlighted during the EIMC meeting. Unless specified otherwise, the O&M cost of the projects sanctioned under the scheme beyond the first four years after completion shall be borne by the State Government concerned.

**7.1.6.5** The projects which have been physically completed and put to use, but financially not closed due to continuation of O & M, may be treated as completed with aremark against the project as "**Physically completed but financially active due to O & M.**"

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## 7.2 Prioritization of Projects:

The State Government will **prioritize** the eligible proposals so received under the scheme for submission to NEC for further processing, and obtain **approval of State Level Empowered Committee (SLEC) chaired by Chief Secretary** of the State to the priority list and the individual proposals included therein. (Included vide O.M. no. NEC-11/14/2022-UNDER SECRETARY (A) dated 25.11.2024)

## 7.3 Submission of Proposals for Prioritization:

7.3.1 The State Government will submit the proposals along with all requisite documents and checklist to the NEC, for selection under NESIDS (Roads) after due approval of the **State Level Empowered Committee (SLEC) chaired by Chief Secretary**. Central Agencies can also submit the project proposals to NEC for prioritization under the Scheme. (Included vide O.M. no. NEC-11/14/2022-UNDER SECRETARY (A) dated 25.11.2024)

7.3.2 The **Selection Checklist (Annexure-A)** shall include *inter alia* Concept notes highlighting the need/justification for undertaking such projects, intended beneficiaries, cost estimates based on latest Schedule of Rates, envisaged Output & Outcomes linked to targeted district-level SDG gaps, etc.

7.3.3 Mode of Submission of proposals: Initially, the proposals under the NESIDS (Roads) scheme may be submitted to the Nodal Wing for the scheme at NEC either through email or physically. However, once a workflow-based online system for the scheme is launched by MDoNER, all proposals (along with the necessary supporting documents) must necessarily be submitted to MDoNER through the online system only, and no proposal will thereafter be accepted through any other mode.

7.3.4 NEC shall evaluate the project proposals submitted by the State Govt/Central Agencies based on the parameters mentioned above and send the proposals to MDoNER with their recommendations duly approved by the Secretary, NEC.

## 8. Project Prioritization at MDoNER:

8.1 MDoNER, on receipt of the project proposals / concept notes will, after preliminary scrutiny of the same as expeditiously as possible, circulate the same to the concerned Central line Ministries/Departments, NITI Aayog, IFD MDoNER, etc. for comments to be sent, **within two weeks for Concept Note and within 30 days for DPR** (Included vide O.M. no. NEC-11/14/2022-UNDER SECRETARY (A), dated 18.12.2024).

8.2 After receipt of comments of Central line Ministries/Departments, IFD MDoNER, etc., if any, the Nodal Division in MDoNER will place the same together with the comments based on the preliminary scrutiny, if any, before EIMC for consideration for prioritization of the projects.

8.3 EIMC, after due consideration of the project proposals placed before it will make suitable recommendations for the prioritization of the projects. The recommendations of EIMC would be submitted to Competent Authority in MDoNER for approval.





8.4 Recommendations of EIMC as approved by the Competent Authority will be conveyed to NEC/State Government/Central Agencies to enable them to get the DPR of the selected project prepared and take further necessary steps for obtaining sanction eventually.

**Note:** The list of projects posed by State Governments/Central Agencies before the EIMC will be indicative guides and the EIMC will not be bound by that priority. Project acceptance would depend on its soundness in terms of its viability and tangible socio-economic impact.

## 9. Preparation of Detailed Projects Report (DPR) and its techno-economic appraisal

9.1 The State Government/Central Agencies will prepare Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) of the prioritized projects communicated to them after convening of the EIMC. The scope of the project in the DPR must be the same as proposed in the Concept Note and approved by Competent Authority at MDoNER based on recommendations of EIMC.

9.2 In DPR, the provision and cost for evaluation of the project at the end of the completion of the project may also be included. For projects with long gestation periods, a mid-term evaluation may also be provisioned. The DPR must contain the quantified details for Output-Outcome deliverables including but not limited to the number of beneficiaries, targeted SDGs, quantum of employment generation, project sustainability and O&M components required.

9.3 The DPR so prepared will be submitted to NEC for techno-economic vetting. The cost of DPR preparation shall be an admissible component to be included in the project cost proposed under the scheme

9.4 NEC will submit to MDoNER the final proposal for sanction along with a **Sanction Checklist (Annexure-B)** and all regulatory and statutory documentation like forest & environment clearances, land availability certificate, non-duplication certificate, availability of Stone Quarry Certificate, and abstract of costs, report of techno-economic vetting of DPRs by Technical Wing of NEC, output-outcome brief/analysis, etc duly approved by the Secretary, NEC. The final proposal should also be accompanied with the Executive Summary of the DPR and the techno-economic appraisal report of the Technical Wing of NEC.

9.5 Additionally, all the DPRs submitted to the Ministry for sanction must mandatorily contain details about project completion timelines along with PERT chart, provisions for operationalization of project, and project implementation & monitoring structure at the level of state implementation agency. (Included vide O.M. no. Misc/8/2023-UNDER SECRETARY (PS) dated - 16.12.2024)

9.6 The following measures may be taken by all concerned for new technologies to be promoted in the projects supported by DoNER:

a) Although there is an exhaustive list of such new technologies that can be adopted in road construction projects in NER, the relevant technologies that can be implemented in NER in surface course, base/sub-base course, sub-grade, slope protection, bridges and culverts, have been finalized after due consultation with MoRTH, MoRD/NRIDA and CRRI and is:

- i. Waste Plastic in Bituminous layer
- ii. Cold Mix Technology

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- iii. Cement Grouted Bitumen Macadam Geo-cell Filled Concrete, Short-Panelled Concrete Pavement, Roller Compacted Concrete Pavement in built-up / urban stretches
- iv. Cement Treated Sub base/ Base
- v. Soil Stabilization for Subgrade improvement
- vi. Full depth reclamation (for rehabilitation)
- vii. Geo-synthetics/Jute - Geo textile/ Coir
- viii. Pre-cast concrete segmental box culvert
- ix. New Technologies for Protection / Retention Structures
- x. Prefabricated Modular Steel Bridges

(b) All the DPRs of Road/Bridges projects being submitted for approval to MDoNER under NESIDS (Road), should necessarily incorporate new technology component, for a minimum of 15 % length of the project proposal. The new technology component in the road project should invariably be adopted from the list of technologies mentioned under Para 9.6 (a) above. However, efforts should be made to use the technologies indicated in para 9.6 (a) over more length of the proposed road wherever feasible. Bidding/Contract Document may be prepared in accordance with above provisions.

(c) Defects Liability Period (DLP) of projects using such material / technology shall be at par with that of conventionally constructed pavement.

(d) The bidding/ contract document shall have the provision of involvement of the Technology Provider during execution.

(e) Depending upon the location and size of the project, EIMC will be empowered to exempt any project from the above-mentioned conditions for utilization of new technologies for reasons recorded in writing.

(f) The agencies entrusted with techno-economic vetting of the DPRs of the Roads/Bridges being sanctioned by MDoNER shall ensure that the above provisions are followed in letter and spirit. **(Included vide O.M. no NEC/4/2024-UNDER SECRETARY (A) dated - 18.13.2024)**

## **10. Sanction of Projects:**

**10.A** "If the State Government chooses to propose approval of a project at one go without going through the process of selection as required under para 8 of Guidelines, they can get the DPR prepared at their own expenses and submit the same along with an Executive summary containing the points covered by a Concept note. In such cases, the EIMC shall treat the DPR accompanied by the Executive Summary as a Concept Note as well, and the decision of selection can be done away with and the proposal will be scrutinized as if it is recommended by the EIMC as required under para 8 of these Guidelines; and AFS shall be issued if approved by the competent authority. In case the DPR is recommended by the EIMC under para 10 of these Guidelines, the cost of DPR preparation shall be reimbursed as a part of the project cost. In case the DPR is not approved by the competent authority, the cost of DPR preparation shall not be reimbursed by the Ministry" (Included vide O.M. no. NEC-11/14/2022-UNDER SECRETARY (A) dated 05.08.2024).

**10.1** MDoNER, on receipt of the final proposal for sanction, will, after preliminary scrutiny of the same, circulate the same to the concerned Central line Ministries/Departments, NITI Aayog, IFD MDoNER, etc. for vetting/comments.

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**10.2** After obtaining the comments of Central line Ministries/Departments, NITI Aayog, IFD MDoNER, etc., if any, the Nodal Division of the scheme in MDoNER will place the same before EIMC for consideration for recommending approval / sanction of the project.

**10.3** The EIMC, after due consideration of the project proposals placed before it, will make suitable recommendations for the **sanction** of the projects. The recommendations of EIMC would be submitted to the Competent Authority in MDoNER for approval. After approval duly to the recommendations of EIMC by the Competent Authority in MDoNER, the **Administrative and Financial Sanction (AFS)** of the project will be issued in consultation with Integrated Finance Division (IFD), MDoNER.

**10.4** Technical Wing of the Ministry shall provide necessary assistance to EIMC in examining the technical aspects of the proposals and monitoring of the Scheme, as may be required from time to time.

**10.5** In order to effectively utilize the monsoon season, the State Governments may consider utilizing this period for appraisal and sanction of projects, so that all the post-sanction formalities such as tendering etc. may be finalized during this period. This will ensure timely commencement of road construction during the non-monsoon period.

## **11 Award of Works by Implementing Agencies**

**11.1** Works shall be awarded by the Implementing Agencies within six months of the issue of the AFS by the Ministry and a copy of the work order must be endorsed to the Ministry of DoNER/NEC. In case, no work order is received by Ministry of DoNER/NEC within a period of six months from the date of AFS, the sanction of the project may be liable for cancellation, unless approved by the Competent Authority at MDoNER.

**11.2** No work shall be undertaken by the State Government before the issue of AFS by the Ministry of DoNER. No execution of Contract Agreement or Award of works should be done before issue of AFS. Any work done prior to issuance of AFS of the project will be liable to be not funded by the Ministry of DoNER.

**11.3** Implementing Agencies should award the contract based on competitive bidding through open e-tendering after fulfilling all codal formalities as per State Government's prescribed procedures in a transparent manner to ensure value for money.

**11.4** To limit construction risk (time and cost over runs) projects should be awarded in EPC mode, on fixed cost basis, with provision for liquidated damages. The latest General Financial Rules (GFR) of the Ministry of Finance, Government of India, as applicable, shall be strictly followed.

## **12 Change in Scope**

**12.1** Change in scope of a project selected by the EIMC would not be permitted in the usual course. However, at times there may arise situations that necessitate some minor change in scope/cost of the projects. For instance, the ground situation may necessitate some minor change in scope/cost with reference to the previously indicated scope/cost at the time of submission of concept note considered by the EIMC. Similarly, the ground situation may also necessitate some change in scope/cost of a project during its implementation, with reference to the previously sanctioned cost/scope of the project (as per DPR) by the EIMC.

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12.2 In both these cases, any proposal for change in scope/cost of a project will be governed by the Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure OM no 24(35)/PF-II/2012 dated 05-08-2016 as amended from time to time. Any such minor change envisaged in the scope/cost of the project must be submitted before the EIMC giving adequate justifications for such minor changes, along with the Checklist at Annexure-C.

### 13 Release of funds under the scheme

13.1 Release of funds for the sanctioned projects under the scheme will be done using appropriate Central Nodal Agency (CNA) model, as per M/o Finance, D/o Expenditure's guidelines dated 9.3.2022 and instructions issued from time to time in this regard.

**The following mechanism to release funds in four installment for a sanctioned project under the NESIDS (Roads) (Included vide O.M. no. Infra-11/37/2024-O/o DS (SDM) dated 22.07.2024)**

S.No.	Installment No.	Quantum of Installment	Milestone for eligibility
1	Installment - I	25% of admissible central share as per the approval cost or tender cost of the project, whichever is less	On receipt of demand letter accompanied with the Work Order.
2	Installment - II	do-	75% utilization of Installment - I and codal formalities as per checklist
3	Installment - III	do-	100% utilisation of Installment-I; 75% utilization of Installment - II; and codal formalities as per checklist
4	Installment - IV	do-	100% utilization of earlier installments; 75% utilization of Installment - III; and codal formalities as per checklist

13.2 Before release of funds for any Project, however, NEC must ensure that the State Government or Central Agency as the case may be, have submitted the requisite documentation for justification of the release of funds such as Utilization Certificates (UCs) for funds previously released as per GFR as amended from time to time, latest Quarterly Progress Report (QPR), geo-tagged photographs, etc as proof of physical progress in the Project as well as utilization of funds already released.

13.3 Projects shall be inspected by NEC officials from time to time during implementation. Projects worth Rs. 20 Crore and above shall be inspected by NEC officials before release of the last instalment of funds.

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#### **14. Monitoring & Evaluation Mechanism**

14.1 The primary responsibility of monitoring of the projects sanctioned under the scheme vests with the State Government and its designated officers, including the officers of Implementing Agency, Planning Department and SLEC. Monitoring of projects, including by MDoNER / NEC officials and third party monitors, should be undertaken on concurrent basis to ensure timely completion of projects

14.2 The State Government/ Central agency will put in place a robust monitoring mechanism for proper execution of the projects sanctioned under the scheme. The head of the designated implementing agency of the State Government/ Central agency will be deemed as a Nodal Officer, and Secretary (Planning) of the State Government will be deemed as Chief Nodal Officer for monitoring purposes, who will ensure the completion of projects as per the committed schedule. Quarterly physical and financial progress report of the project should reach MDoNER within three weeks of the end of the quarter under report.

14.3 The NEC/SEC must monitor the implementation of previous sanctioned projects as a specific part of the agenda during its meetings convened.

14.4 The State Government must carry out periodic inspections for ensuring faster execution, quality checking of the projects and their timely completion. It must also make use of Information Technology and Space Technology (geo-tagging of assets, PM Gati Shakti) for monitoring the projects, besides ensuring its convergence with the Gati-Shakti Master Plan.

14.5 The Field Technical Support Units (FTSUs) operationalized by MDoNER in all the eight North East States shall also regularly monitor/inspect the progress of projects until their operationalization.

14.6 The inspections will be carried out preferably at milestones of 25%, 50%, 75% and 100% of physical progress of the projects, before release of funds.

14.7 MDoNER may also conduct inspection(s) of the project on sample basis through its officers. The EIMC may also recommend third party monitoring of the NESIDS (Roads) projects.

14.8 The State Governments of NER must ensure the usage of "PM Gati Shakti" portal for carrying out the gap analysis of new project proposals before submitting the Concept Notes/DPR to the Ministry of DoNER for consideration for selection/sanction. (Included vide O.M. No. Misc/8/2023- UNDER SECRETARY(PS) dated - 16.12.2024)

#### **15. Completion and Operationalization of Projects**

15.1 The project should be operationalized and put to its intended use at the earliest possible. For timely completion and operationalization of projects, use of EPC contracts with liquidated damages should be followed by the Implementing Agencies. All projects must be

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got completed within the scheduled time frame as given in the AFS. Any cost overrun over and above the approved/ sanctioned cost in any project, due to delay in implementation or any other reasons, shall be borne by the concerned States.

**15.2** After completion of the project, a Completion Certificate along with utilization certificate of the total fund released will be submitted by the implementing agency through Planning Department of the State Government.

**15.3** The State Government shall also ensure proper upkeep, operation and maintenance of the assets/ facilities created through the NESID(Roads) projects.

**15.4** The State Government shall ensure that the land on which the project is constructed and the assets/ facilities created out of NESIDS (Roads) will not be transferred/ sold/ alienated/ mortgaged without the approval of Ministry of DoNER, Government of India.

## **16. Transparency and Publicity of Information**

In order to ensure that the information about development schemes/ plans/ projects being financed through the NESIDS (Roads) reaches the targeted beneficiaries, there is need to ensure greater transparency and publicity of information. Hence such basic details of the project such as date of completion, cost of the project, source of funding i.e. NESIDS (Roads), name of the designated agency for execution of the project, contractor's name, etc. must be available in public domain and given wide publicity in media (including social media) as per the guidelines of Government of India in this regard.

## **17. Interpretation/Relaxation/Modification to Scheme Guidelines**

**17.1** Within the broad framework of the guidelines, MDoNER may, from time to time, issue instructions for ensuring effective and timely implementation of the scheme, processing / appraisal of the proposals in a time-bound fashion, regular monitoring, supervision, and such other related matters.

**17.2** In cases of any doubt or lack of clarity related to these guidelines, arising during the life cycle of a project, the relevant rules, guidelines, codes, manuals, etc., of the concerned Central Ministries would be applicable.

**17.3** Within the broad framework of the scheme, MDoNER may, based on the recommendations of the EIMC and with the approval of the Competent Authority make necessary modifications to the scheme's guidelines in any clause of the scheme guidelines, which are considered necessary for ensuring smooth implementation of the scheme and/or removing any bottlenecks in its implementation.

**17.4** In exceptional circumstances, and for reasons to be recorded in writing, the competent authority, on the recommendations of the EIMC, may relax any of the above conditions.

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**Checklist for Project Selection**

S.No.	Item	Remarks
1.	<p>Concept Note, highlighting the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Rationale for the project must include following points: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Project Scope and Introduction (must include a detailed stakeholder matrix and clearly define roles of State Government departments, Central Ministries, private sector, civil society, and the beneficiary population)</li> <li>ii. Gap analysis with regards to existing schemes of Government of India</li> <li>iii. Socio-Economic impact</li> <li>iv. Community engagement</li> <li>v. Future development potential</li> <li>vi. Additional details if any</li> </ul> </li> <li>b. KPIs for monitoring the project</li> <li>c. SDG or other indices that the KPIs will impact and how</li> <li>d. Rough cost estimates as per latest SoR</li> <li>e. Video recording for the entire alignment/stretch of the road duly geo-referenced with latitude and longitude coordinates.</li> <li>f. Date of original construction of road (in case of existing road)</li> <li>g. Details about major repair work done in the last 5 years</li> <li>h. Whether the road or any stretch of the road had been originally constructed under any Scheme of MDoNER or any other Ministry of Govt. of India</li> <li>i. In case of proposal for bridges, location and distance of nearest bridge in upstream/ downstream direction is to be clearly specified</li> </ul> <p>(Included vide O.M. no. NEC-11/14/2022-UNDER SECRETARY (A) dated 30.11.2023)</p>	
2.	Convergence Plan - indicating how the proposed project converges with the other ongoing interventions of government in the space	
3.	Prioritized list of projects, duly approved by the Chief Secretary	

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## Checklist for Project Sanction

S.No.	Item	Remarks
1.	Approval of Concept Note from MDoNER ( <i>Minutes of EIMC</i> )	
2.	Compliance with the comments ( <i>if any</i> ) of the concerned line department and conditions specified by EIMC ( <i>if any</i> ) at time of selection of project	
3.	Endorsement on DPR by NEC and submission of project proposal to MDoNER (minutes of SEC under NEC to be enclosed)	
4.	<p>Proposal submitted to MDoNER must indicate, inter alia, the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Project Snapshot</li> <li>b. Expected beneficiaries and socio-economic impact</li> <li>c. Alignment of proposed project with the focus areas indicated under the scheme guidelines</li> <li>d. Timelines for implementation</li> <li>i. Structured roadmap covering approvals, construction, and operational phase including contingencies via PERT Charts</li> <li>e. Sustainability Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) use of energy efficient solutions for sustainability</li> </ul> </li> <li>f. Mechanism for O&amp;M (during and after project life) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. O&amp;M Mechanism identifying responsible agencies.</li> </ul> </li> <li>ii. Financial Plan for operational sustainability *(Ownership, revenue model, and operational responsibilities post MDoNER funding period.)</li> <li>g. Cost Estimates, clearly indicating the basis for unit costs</li> <li>h. All Sources of funding the project</li> </ul> <p>(Mandatory disclosure on whether Private Investment or PPP has been explored, If feasible, a plan for leveraging VGF/co-funding mechanisms should be detailed)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Location(s) of project with geo-coordinates</li> <li>j. Satellite image / photograph of project site with GIS based accessibility study for evaluation of connectivity</li> <li>k. Alignment with Gati Shakti Master Plan</li> <li>l. Compliance with guidelines of concerned line department</li> <li>m. Output-Outcome framework with KPIs for monitoring the project to be provided as per the sectoral indicators mentioned under Point B of Annexure D of the Guidelines.</li> <li>n. Provision for project evaluation(s)</li> </ul>	





5.	Report of NEC on the techno-economic appraisal of DPR	
6.	Statutory Clearances, <i>as applicable, such as:</i>  a. Forest & Environment	
7.	Certificates for following:  a. Availability of encumbrance-free land for the project b. Certification that costs proposed is as per the latest applicable Schedule of Rates c. Non-duplication Certificate, duly endorsed to the concerned line department in the States/Central Agency, within whose purview the project falls	
8.	Identification of Risks and Mitigation Measures to address potential challenges.  i. Technical Risks ii. Administrative risk iii. Environmental Risk iv. Risks due to natural disasters v. Operational risks	

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**Annexure-C**

**Checklist for Change in Scope of Sanctioned Project**

SN	Item	Remarks
1.	Reason for proposing Change in Scope, along with certification that the proposed change is within the scheme guidelines	
2.	Revised Timeline for completion	
3.	Change in the cost of project due to proposed change	
4.	Vetting of revised cost by the institute of repute that had previously appraised the project proposal	
5.	Recommendation from NEC on the Change in Scope	
6.	Compliance with comments of concerned line department or EIMC received previously, if any	

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**Directions for filling the Checklist for Project selection and Project sanction for proposals submitted under NESIDS-Roads:**

**A. General Instructions**

1. The checklist has been revised and carefully structured to enhance clarity and understanding of the Project proposal.
2. This Annexure provides the guidelines for filling up the additional points added in the checklist of project sanction/selection
3. In accordance with **Point No. 8 of the Checklist for project sanction (Annexure B)**, it is important to identify potential challenges in project execution and outline effective mitigation strategies to ensure smooth implementation. The state government is committed to addressing these challenges through a structured and well-coordinated approach, enabling timely resolutions and supporting successful project delivery. Below are key examples:

**i. Technical Risks -**

Projects may face technical challenges such as design flaws, material defects, technology limitations, or unexpected system failures. To minimize these risks, it is essential to use standardized materials, conduct thorough engineering evaluations, follow established construction or implementation methods, and ensure regular quality checks throughout the project lifecycle.

**ii. Administrative Risks-**

Delays due to approvals, policy changes, budget constraints, or administrative inefficiencies can affect project timelines. To mitigate these issues, it is important to secure necessary approvals early, maintain transparent communication with stakeholders, plan finances carefully, and have contingency plans for administrative roadblocks.

**iii. Environmental Risks-**

Projects that interact with natural ecosystems may contribute to pollution, resource depletion, habitat disruption, or increased environmental footprint. These risks can be minimized by conducting environmental impact assessments, implementing sustainable practices, choosing eco-friendly materials, and adopting responsible waste management strategies.

**iv. Risks Related to Natural Disasters-**

Natural events like earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, wildfires, or extreme weather conditions can impact operations and safety. To enhance resilience, it is crucial to design structures or systems with disaster-resistant features, develop emergency response plans, incorporate climate-adaptive solutions, and establish protocols for risk preparedness.





**v. Operational Risks-**

Once a project is implemented, operational challenges such as system failures, cybersecurity risks, inefficient maintenance, or lack of workforce training can arise. These risks can be mitigated by installing monitoring systems, establishing preventive maintenance schedules, enforcing security protocols, and ensuring proper training for personnel involved in the project.

**B. Key Performance Indicators -**

The Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) outlined below serve as fundamental benchmarks for project monitoring. Additional KPIs relevant to specific sectors/projects may be included to provide further clarity and depth.

Sector	KPIs for Monitoring the Project	Frequency of Data
Roads and Transport	1. Number of towns/villages getting the benefit	One time
	2. Travel time reduction	Daily
	3. Population getting the benefit due to road connectivity	One time
	4. Whether proposals connecting to economic clusters or border trade points	One time Assessment



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