Minutes of the 59th Meeting of the NLCPR Committee held at 1500 Hrs on 10.06.2008 under the Chairmanship of Secretary, M/o DoNER in Committee Room, Vigyan Bhawan Annexe.

Present

1. Smt. Veena S. Rao, Secretary, Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region…..In Chair.
2. Shri P.K. Pattanaik, Joint Secretary, Ministry of DoNER
3. Shri Naveen Verma, Joint Secretary (NE), Ministry of Home Affairs
4. Shri R.K. Vats, Joint Secretary & FA, Ministry of DoNER and Ministry of Urban Development, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi
5. Shri Sarvan Kumar, Director, Planning Commission

Ms. Jayati Chandra, Sr. Adviser (SP-NE), Planning Commission and Shri V.S. Senthil, Joint Secretary (PF-I), Department of Expenditure, M/o Finance were granted leave of absence.

Following Officers were also present as special invitees:

Shri P.R. Meshram (Director), Shri B.B. Samaddar (Deputy Secretary), Shri K. Guite (Joint Director, IFD), Shri D. P. Singh (Under Secretary) and Shri Ajay Kumar (Section Officer), Ministry of DoNER.

The Committee met and deliberated on the Agenda items. Following observations and recommendations were made:

Item No.1: Confirmation of Minutes of 58th Meeting of the NLCPR Committee held on 05.05.2008.

Minutes of the 58th Meeting were confirmed.

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Item No.2: Action taken report of decisions / recommendations made by NLCPR Committee in the 58th Meeting held on 05.05.2008

The Committee noted that the Minutes for 58th Meeting have been issued on 09.05.2008 and action has been taken by the Ministry of DoNER on the decisions/recommendations made by the NLCPR Committee in that meeting.

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Item No.3: Consideration of Priority Lists 2008-09 of NE States by NLCPR Committee

The Committee noted that there is balance of Rs.5016.59 crore in the NLCPR Pool as on 01.04.2007. The most of the Ministries are yet to report the accruals during 2007-08 in the Pool. There is committed liability of Rs.3672.25 crore under NLCPR against the sanctioned and retained projects in the North Eastern States. Therefore, there is balance
of about Rs.1344.34 crores for retention of the new projects. After deliberations, Committee recommended the proposed notional allocation of funds amongst the NE States.

The Committee also considered the priority list 2008-09 submitted by Governments of Assam, Mizoram and Tripura. The Joint Secretary (NE), MHA expressed his concern that the backward areas/ Sixth Schedule areas/ Autonomous District Council areas are not getting proper representation in the projects retained under NLCPR as the projects in these areas are receiving low priority in the priority list submitted by the State Governments. It is affecting the development in these areas and is creating resentment and fertile ground for insurgency. He suggested that projects worth 25% of the total retained cost, at least, should be retained from backward areas/ Sixth Schedule areas/ Autonomous District Council areas of each State. Accordingly, the State Governments in North East region may be requested to propose projects with value of at least 25% of total estimated cost from backward areas/ Sixth Schedule areas/ Autonomous District Council areas in their annual priority list.

After deliberations, Committee agreed with the above proposal of Joint Secretary (NE), MHA and recommended that M/DoNER may consider incorporating the appropriate amendments in the NLCPR Guidelines for allocating 25% to the projects falling in the backward areas/ Sixth Schedule areas/ Autonomous District Council areas. The Committee also recommended that the Joint Secretary (PKP), M/DoNER and Joint Secretary (NE), MHA may jointly short list the projects falling in the backward areas/ Sixth Schedule areas/ Autonomous District Council areas amounting to 25% of the total cost of priority list 2008-09 submitted by the State Governments of Assam, Mizoram and Tripura. Such short listed projects along with the priority lists submitted by these States may again be submitted to the NLCPR Committee for consideration. This procedure may also be adopted in case of the priority lists of remaining States.

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Meeting ended with vote of thanks to the chair.

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