

Meghalaya Public Works Department



**MEETING WITH THE
SECRETARY, DONER**

ON

**"ROAD CONNECTIVITY IN THE
NORTH EASTERN REGION"**

DATE OF THE MEETING : 05.02.2007

**VENUE : COMMITTEE ROOM No. 243-A,
VIGYAN BHAWAN ANNEXE,
NEW DELHI**

TIME : 3.00 P.M.

INTRODUCTION

Road Transport system which is the only mode of communication in Meghalaya plays a major role in the Socio-economic development of the State. Meghalaya is basically an agricultural State where about 70% of its population live in rural areas. Therefore, for the overall progress of the State it is essential to provide good road network with increased village connectivity.

The total Road length of the State is 8164.74 Kms. only with a road density of 36.40 Km./100 Sq.Km. At present only 51% of the villages are linked by roads.

During the XIth Five Year Plan the State has set target to increase the road density to 40 kms./100 sq.Km., and village connectivity to 58% and to upgrade the busy and important existing Single Lane State Highway (S.H.) and Major District Roads (M.D.R.) to standard Double Lane roads.

Considering the huge investment involved to attain this target the State Government cannot take up all these works from its own resources. We, therefore, request the Government of India through the Ministry of DONER to generously provide necessary financial assistance to the State from its various programmes.

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N.E.C. SCHEMES

- **Physical Achievement:** - A total road length of 825 Kms was funded by the NEC since its inception.
- **Financial Achievement:** - Total Fund Released by NEC since inception is Rs. 232.07 Crores and the amount utilised upto December/2006 is Rs. 218.76 Crores.
- **On-going Schemes:** - 5 Nos. of on-going (10th Plan) road projects costing Rs. 145.06 Crores and covering a total length of 175.60 Kms and 1 No. of bridge project costing Rs. 4.83 Crores will be completed in the XIth Plan period.
- **XIth Plan:** - 18 Nos. of road projects for a total length of 840.045 Kms. and costing Rs. 682.96 Crores have been proposed to NEC for inclusion in the XIth Five Year Plan.

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The 14th Steering Committee Meeting held on the 20th October 2006 at NEC secretariat, Shillong, had selected only 7 Nos. of projects for a length of 406.045 Kms at a total cost of Rs. 358.91 Crores.

The State Government would emphasize that all the above proposed schemes of the 11th Plan, be included under the XIth Plan of NEC.

- **Maintenance:** - Fund allocation for maintenance of NEC completed roads is very much insufficient to meet the actual requirement considering the total length of NEC funded roads. For proper maintenance of these road assets, adequate maintenance fund should be earmarked so that minimum 150 Kms of road length are covered under periodical renewal programme every year.

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NLCPR-SCHEMES

❖ **Sanction of Schemes: -**

- **IXth Plan:-** During the year 2001-02, 4(four) Nos of road schemes were sanctioned by the Planning Commission, Government of India. These schemes are mainly for up-gradation of existing roads at a total cost of Rs.18.6419 (Cr) and covering a total length of 99.875Km.All these schemes have been completed in all respect.

- **Xth Plan:-** During the year 2005-06, 4(four) Nos of road schemes including 2(Two) Nos of bridge schemes were sanctioned by the Ministry of DONER for a total amount of Rs36.78 (Cr)

These schemes involve up-gradation of existing roads of 25 Km and reconstruction of 10 Nos Bridges with R.C.C.

- **Fund: -** The amount released by the Ministry of DONER so far is Rs.11.58 (Cr).
- **Achievement: -** Overall financial achievement upto Dec 2006 is Rs.9.908 (Cr) and overall physical progress is 35%. These schemes are in good progress and targeted to be completed by September 2008.

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Retained Schemes: -

From the year 2003-04 to 2006-07, 30 Nos of schemes have been retained by DONER. 4(Four) Nos of schemes have been sanctioned during 2005-2006 and another 4(Four) Nos have been dropped since these are included under other programmes.

Remaining 22 Nos of schemes involve upgradation of 163.75 Kms of existing roads including reconstruction of 14 Nos of Bridges with RCC at a total estimated cost of Rs154.68 Crores.

The DPRs of these schemes have been prepared and are under scrutiny by the Ministry of DONER/Line Ministry and 5(Five) Nos are being resubmitted by the State Government after attending to recent Ministry's comments.

In view of the very low amount of sanction received by the State under NLCPR, the Ministry of DoNER is requested to expedite sanction of all the schemes so that the works can be implemented at an early date.

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PMGSY

> Status of Connectivity

Particulars	1000+	500-999	250-499	Less than 250	Total
Total No. of Habitations	212	713	1450	2987	5362
Total no. of connected Habitations	203	563	853	991	2610
Total No. of unconnected Habitations	9	150	597	1996	2752

> Sanction: Under PMGSY Programme the State has so far received sanction in 4 (four) phases from the Ministry of Rural Development for providing road connectivity in the State.

- Phase-I (2000-01): An amount of Rs. 34.95 crores was sanctioned by the M.O.R.D. which was utilized for the completion of erstwhile on-going B.M.S. schemes of 208 numbers.
- Phase-II (2001-02) : 99 numbers of road works under 48 packages and covering a total length of 263.06 Km. have been sanctioned amounting to Rs. 74.07 crores which will provide connectivity to 109 habitations.

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85 (eighty five) numbers of road works have been completed and another 12 (twelve) nos. numbers will be completed by March 2007 and 1 (one) no. by December 2007. 1 (one) number of road work could not be taken up due to non-availability of land.

The number of habitation connected upto December 2006 is 95 and the total expenditure is Rs. 62.75 crores.

- **Phase-III (2003-04):** 30 (thirty) road works for a total length of 93.10 Km. and connecting 30 (thirty) habitations were cleared by the S.T.A. and M.O.R.D. for an amount of Rs. 30.05 crores. The physical progress of the work as on December 2006 stands at 51.61% with a total expenditure of Rs.8.38 crores.
- **Phase-IV (2004-05):** 26 (twenty six) nos. of road works under 22 (twenty two) packages covering a length of 105.59 Km. and connecting 30 (thirty eight) habitations have been cleared by the Ministry at an amount of Rs. 39.62 crores. Works will start as soon as the tender process is over.
- **Phase-V (2005-06) :** Proposals for 37 (thirty seven) numbers of New Connectivity and 98 (ninety eight) numbers of upgradation works are under formulation. The proposals will cover 37 nos. of habitations.

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- **Relaxation in PMGSY Guidelines**

PMGSY guidelines provide that a habitation within a path distance of 1.50 Km. from an all weather road as connected. In view of the critical terrain condition in the State and to enable the people to receive the minimum of road connectivity for their daily needs and supplies including transportation of Agricultural and Forest Produce, the distance should be reduce to 500 m and by this it will benefit a number of villages.

In view of the difficult terrain condition, where the used of construction machineries and equipments is very much limited and a long monsoon period in the State, the period of completion of schemes should be extended upto 36 months.

Because of the critical terrain condition where the used of construction machineries are very much limited, the machinery component of Standard Bidding Document should be suitably relaxed to minimum number of machineries like Front End Loader and Air Compressor.

Relaxation in contractor's experience in major works since generally the nature of work require for providing road connectivity in the state involves items like earth work, rock cutting, protection works and cross drainage works which the local contractors conversant with the works are capable of.

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Allotment of work maybe relaxed by way of allowing a work in a package to be splitted out to two or three contractors in accordance with the number of road works sanctioned in the package.

As per the PMGSY guidelines any amount in excess of the cost approved by the Ministry of Rural Development shall have to be borne by the State Government. This provision should be relaxed in specific cases involving price and labour escalation and higher tender rates.

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POINTS RELATED TO THE NATIONAL HIGHWAYS IN MEGHALAYA.

1. Special Road Accelerated Road Development Programme in the North Eastern Region(SARDP-NE)

Phase-A

1. **Four – laning of NH 40 from Jorabat to Barapani:-** This projects covering total length of 61.800Km has been entrusted to NHAI by MORT&H for implementation. It is requested that the Ministry of DONER will take up with the concerned Ministry for early implementation of this important project.
2. **The Shillong Bye-Pass:-** The total Length is 49.676 Km. The Ministry of Road Transport has agreed to take up the project in two phases, i.e. In Phase -I a double lane road to be constructed, for which land is already acquired. In Phase - II the proposal is to be widen this road to four lane. The Ministry of Road Transport and Highway has entrusted the work for construction of the Bypass to NHAI. It is therefore requested the Ministry of DONER will take up with the concerned Ministry for early implementation of the Bypass.

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Phase-B.

The following schemes are included under SARDP-NE Phase-B

1. Improvement of Nongstoin-Rongjeng-Tura Road=195.30 Km
2. Two laning of NH-44E (Shillong-Nongstoin Road)= 83.38 KM
3. Improvement of Williamnagar to Nengkhra road & other road (2 side connectivity with respective length of 14 & 8 Km)=22.00Km.
4. Widening from 91.00Km of NH-62 to Baghmara=48.00Km

For the preparation of DPR's for the above four projects has been entrusted by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways to the Border Road Organization (BRO). It is requested the Ministry of DONER will take up with the concerned Ministry to expedite preparation of the DPR's for early implementation of the above four projects.

2. Construction of Dawki Bridge

Construction of Dawki Bridge is part of the PM' Package of the year 1996 and it is very unfortunate that till now the work is yet to commence. In fact the original estimate which was prepared on the basis of the alignment finalized by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways after a series of inspections of the site by many senior officers in the Ministry with consultation in the Ministry of Defense was sanctioned on 31.03.2000 for an amount Rs. 854.58 Lakh. However, due to contractor's higher quoted rates the Revised estimate amounting to Rs.1645.20 (L)

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was submitted to the Ministry on 24th Nov 2005. The recent decision of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highway to de-sanction the original estimate and also to change the alignment of the Bridge to further down stream towards the In-do Bangladesh Border will unnecessary delay implementation of this vital project. It is requested that the Ministry of DONER will take up with the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways for retention of the original approved bridge alignment and to sanction the revised estimate so that the work can be implemented immediately.

3. Dawki-Amlarem-Jowai Road of NH-40(Extension)

The total length of Dawki-Amlarem-Jowai Road of NH-40(Extension) is 54.400 Km. out of which 34.90 Km. is of double lane standard.

Upgradation of the remaining single lane road portion from 197.00 Km (Amlarem) to 216.500Km(Jowai)=19.50 Km to double lane standard at an approximate cost of Rs.39.00 crores is urgently necessary in order to cope up with the increasing traffic intensity. It is requested that the Ministry of DONER will take up with the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways for inclusion of this project in the next year Annual plan 2007-08.

4. Upgradation/widening of NH-40 From Pynursla to Dawki

The total length of NH-40 from Pynursla-Dawki is 34.661 Km. out of which 0.661 km is double lane, 2.00 Km double laning work have been sanctioned during the financial year 2005-06 and work is in good progress.

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Widening of the remaining single road of length 32.00 Km. at an approximate cost of Rs.48.00 crores is urgently necessary, since this road is leading toward the Zero Point of the land Custom Station situated at Dawki on the Indo- Bangla Border.

The Ministry of DONER is requested to take up with the MORT&H for early sanction of the estimate for widening of 9.661 Km of this road submitted during the current financial year 2006-07 for an amount Rs.12.52 crores. It is also requested that for widening of the remaining length of 22.00 Km is included in the next year Annual Plan 2007-08.

5. **Jowai Bypass.**

The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has included the project for construction of Jowai Bypass length=10.70 Km. under NHDP-III and entrusted the work to the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI). It is requested the Ministry of DONER will take up with the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways for early implementation of Jowai Bypass to ease Traffic congestion in Jowai Town.

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ROADS UNDER EAP

NESRP : Under the North Eastern States Road Project (NESRP) the Ministry of DONER has selected 3 (three) roads namely, (1) Garobadha-Dalu Road (98.50 kms.), (2) Mawngap-Umpung Road (77 kms.) and (3) Mawshynrut-Hahim Road (37.30 kms.) for funding by ADB. The first road scheme falls under Tranche I and the other 2 (two) falls under Tranche III of the Project.

➤ **Replacement :** In lieu of the 2 (two) road projects under Tranche III, to State Government by D.O. letter from the Chief Secretary to the Secretary, Ministry of DONER has requested to replace them with 1 (one) very Important road project, viz., Mawngap-Ranikor-Mahadeo-Baghmara Road with length of 249.00 km. This proposed road will not only cover the 3 (three) Districts of East Khasi Hills, West Khasi Hills and South Garo Hills but also will cover considerable international border areas with Bangladesh and 3 (three) Land Custom Stations (LCS).

The Ministry of DONER is requested to accept the State Government request to take up Mawngap-Ranikor-Mahadeo-Baghmara Road with a length of 249.00 km/ under Tranche III of ADB funded NESRP in lieu of Mawngap – Umpung Road and Mawshynrut – Hahim Road.

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STATE HIGHWAYS

- ❖ The State Highways link the State capital of Shillong and other District Headquarters with different administrative centres.
- **Length:** - The total length of State Highways in the State is 1134.00 Kms comprising of 1097.00 Kms of Surfaced and 37.00 Kms of Unsurfaced roads.
- **Category:** - All these State Highways are of single lane standard only.
- **Up-gradation:** - In view of the increasing traffic intensity and inadequate pavement structure on these roads and for the safety of the road users, up-gradation of these highways to double lane standard including reconstruction of semi-permanent timber bridge with R.C.C., is urgently required.\
- **Cost:** - The cost for up-gradation of all the State Highways including reconstruction of S.P.T. bridges will be about Rs. 2200.00 Crores.
- **Fund:** - The State Government cannot take up the above work from its own resources and in this respect, the Ministry of DoNER is requested to provide necessary financial support to the State Government in this regard.

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ROAD TO NEW SHILLONG TOWNSHIP

- ❖ The State Government is going ahead with the New Shillong Township Project which lies on the north eastern side of Shillong.
- **Road Link:** At present, there is only one road linking Shillong with the New Shillong Township which has no scope for further widening moreover as it is passing through the congested area of Nongmynsong.
- **Alternative Road:** For better and smooth road transport facility with the New Shillong Township, alternative roads are required to be constructed. In this regard, 3 (three) alternative roads have been identified as follows:
- **(A) Route No. 1**
Sawlad – Lapalang Road towards Itshyrwat to touch Shillong – Diengpasoh Road at 3rd Km.
This is an existing single lane road having a total length of 4.80 Km. To Upgrade this road to double lane standard it will cost about Rs.4.80 Crores.
- **(B) Route No. 2**
Road from Golflinks to Mawpat Microwave through Belfonte to meet Shillong - Diengpasoh Road at 4th Km. The approximate length of this road is 6.65 Km. covering some portion of existing road and some stretches to be constructed after acquisition of land.

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For construction, improvement and widening of this road to double lane standard, it will cost about Rs.7.00 Crores.

➤ **(C) Route No. 3**

To avoid using the portion of the existing road passing via Nongmynsong area, a Fly Over could be constructed from Maccabe Road to Shillong – Diengpasoh Road. The length of the proposed Fly Over will be approximately 1.00 Km. and the cost about Rs. 50.00 Crores.

➤ **Funds:** For taking up these projects, it is requested that the Ministry of DONER would generously provide financial assistance.

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INTER-STATE CONNECTIVITY:

Inter-State connectivity schemes are fully funded by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, Government of India.

During 2005-06, only 1(one) Scheme was sanctioned by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, namely "Re-construction of major bridge over river Myntang (span = 100.00 m) along with its approaches on Sahnsiang Kurelia road amounting to Rs.4.29 Crores.

Physical and Financial achievement upto December-2006 is 35% and Rs. 2.00 crores respectively.

Work targeted to be completed by July/2008

➤ **Proposals:** During the year 2006-07, 4(four) nos of proposal have been submitted to the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, Government of India for a total amount of Rs.112.14 crores, covering a total length of 181.00 Km. and approval by Ministry of Road Transport and Highways is awaited.

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ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE.

Economic Importance schemes are funded 50% by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, GOI & 50% by the State Government.

➤ **Approval:** During the year 2006-07 only 1(one) no of scheme has been approved in principle by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, Government of India namely "Widening of single lane road formation to double standard of Tura-Dalu road to Chockpot (Phase-1, length=10Km) widening and strengthening of the existing pavement and re-construction of bridge at an estimated cost of Rs.700.00 (L). DPR is under process by the Department.

➤ **Proposals:** During the year 2006-07,3(three) Nos. of proposals have been submitted to the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, Government of India for a total amount of Rs.17.00 Crores covering a total distance of 26.00Km. and approval is awaited.

Ministry of Road Transport and Highways
Till date not a single number of proposal has been approved by

Government of India is requested to expedite sanction in order to facilitate road connectivity net work in the State.

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CENTRAL ROAD FUND (CRF)

At present there are 3 (three) nos. of on-going schemes. These schemes are in good progress and are targeted to be completed by March 2008.

➤ **Fund:** During January 2007, the Ministry of Road Transport and Highway has released fund amounting to Rs. 5.51 Crores only.

➤ **Proposals :** 3 (three) nos. of estimates have been submitted to the Ministry of Road Transport and Highway priority wise for sanctioned.

The Ministry of DONER is requested to take up with the Ministry of Road Transport and Highway for release of the balance fund of Rs. 2.28 crores due to the State of Meghalaya and also for immediate sanctioned of the 3 (three) estimates.

Thank You