

**6TH SECTORAL SUMMIT OF THE
NORTH EASTERN COUNCIL**

TO

**REVIEW
'RAIL CONNECTIVITY'
IN THE NER**

**KEY NOTE PRESENTATION
BY
SECRETARY, DONER**

NEW DELHI

19TH JUNE, 2007

TRANSPORT CONNECTIVITY IN NER

- **POOR INTRA AND INTER REGION ROAD, RAIL, AIR AND WATERWAYS CONNECTIVITY.**
- **RAIL NETWORK MINIMAL – 2578 KMS RAIL ROUTE LENGTH IN NER CONSTITUTES ONLY 4.0% OF THE COUNTRY.**
- **RAIL AND WATER SECTOR REQUIRE ACCELERATED DEVELOPMENT TO PROVIDE ALTERNATIVE MODES OF TRANSPORT IN THE REGION. BOTH MODES ALSO OFFER BULK MOVEMENT OF FREIGHT AND PASSENGER TRAFFIC.**

RAIL CONNECTIVITY IN NER

- SINCE 1992-93, ABOUT 1079 KMS OF GAUGE CONVERSION AND 163 KMS OF NEW LINES HAVE BEEN COMPLETED IN THE REGION.
- THERE ARE 8 NEW LINES, 5 GAUGE CONVERSION, 1 DOUBLING AND SURVEY WORKS WHICH ARE IN PROGRESS.
- NEW LINES:
 - KUMARGHAT TO AGARTALA
 - JIRIBAM TO TUPUL
 - DIMAPUR TO ZUBZA
 - AZRA TO BYRNIHAT
 - DUDHNOI TO DEEPA
 - HARMUTI TO ITANAGAR
 - MAHILAGURI TO JOGIGHOPA
 - BOGIBEEL RAIL-CUM-ROAD BRIDGE

RAIL CONNECTIVITY IN NER

CONTD.....

- GAUGE CONVERSION:
 - LUMDING – SILCHAR
 - RANGIYA-MURKONGSELEK
 - KATHAKAL – BAIRABI
 - HAIBARGAON – MAIRABARI
 - SENCHOA JUNCTION – SLIGHAT TOWN
- DOUBLING PROJECT:
 - NEW GUWAHATI – DIGARU
- SURVEYS:
 - BAIRABI TO SAIRANG (AIZAWL)
 - SILIGURI TO RANGPO (SIKKIM)
- THE THROW FORWARD OF THESE PROJECTS IS OF THE ORDER OF RS. 6500 CRORE. RAILWAYS EXPENDITURE IN NER ABOUT RS. 500 CRORE ANNUALLY WHICH IS INADEQUATE.
- PROJECTS TO BE TARGETED FOR COMPLETION IN THE 11TH FIVE YEAR PLAN.

ISSUES RAISED BY STATE GOVERNMENTS

- **RAIL LINKS TO BE ESTABLISHED WITH STATE CAPITALS – AIZAWL, ITANAGAR, IMPHAL, GANGTOK, SHILLONG AND KOHIMA.**
- **RAIL LINKS TO STATE CAPITALS BEING TERMINATED SHORT OF THE CAPITAL – JIRIBAM TO TUPUL (IMPHAL), DIMAPUR TO ZUBZA (KOHIMA).**
- **REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF RAIL LINKS – AGARTALA TO SABROOM.**

ISSUES RAISED BY STATE GOVERNMENTS

CONTD.....

- **SLOW PROGRESS OF PROJECTS – BOGIBEEL RAIL-CUM-ROAD BRIDGE SANCTIONED IN 1997-98, HARMUTI-ITANAGAR INCLUDED IN THE BUDGET OF MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS IN 1996-97, KATAKHAL-BAIRABI GAUGE CONVERSION INCLUDED IN THE RAIL BUDGET 1997-98.**
- **LACK OF FUNDS INSPITE OF PROJECTS BEING DECLARED AS NATIONAL PROJECTS. M/O RAILWAYS UNABLE TO TIE-UP SOURCE OF FUNDING. M/O RAILWAYS DEPENDING ON M/O FINANCE AND PLANNING COMMISSION FOR FUNDING.**

ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED

- **AN IMMEDIATE NEED TO IDENTIFY SOURCE OF FUNDING FOR DECLARED NATIONAL PROJECTS. FUNDS REQUIRED FOR THROW-FORWARD COST OF RS. 6500 CRORE AND ALSO FUTURE PROJECTS.**
- **PRIORITY ACCORDED TO NATIONAL RAIL PROJECT IN J&K AS COMPARED TO PROJECTS IN NER. MAJORITY FUNDS RELEASED TO UDHAMPUR-BARAMULLA RAIL PROJECT.**
- **SUPPORT BY GOVERNMENT OF INDIA AND STATE GOVERNMENT AGENCIES TO ADDRESS SECURITY CONCERNS.**

THANK YOU