

Foreword


1. The Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region has been established to be involved in matters relating to planning, execution and monitoring of developmental schemes and projects in the North Eastern Region (NER). While the Ministry's role in schemes of other Central Ministries/Departments is restricted to that of coordination, the M/o DoNER is administering its own plan scheme of Non-Lapsable Pool of Central Resources (NLPCR) in the N.E. region. Under this NLPCR scheme, basic infrastructure projects are funded by the Ministry in the N.E. Region.

2. The Ministry of DoNER has prepared the NER District Infrastructure Index (DII) based on 7 broad indicators viz., transport facilities (road density and road quality), energy, water supply, education, health facilities, communication infrastructure and banking facilities.

3. The Districts of the North East are extremely skewed in terms of population, topography, size, development etc. To capture the hill-plain demographic and geographical differences / relative disadvantages of sparsely populated districts, it was decided to have indicators both in terms of population and area for the indicators of (i) schools, (ii) hospital beds (iii) post & telegraph office (iv) telephone exchange and (v) bank branches. Accordingly we have all together 14 indicators in the NER District Infrastructure Index (DII).

4. The data used for computing the NER (DII) has been obtained from the respective Governments of the N.E. States. Data pertaining to area, population, households and villages furnished by State Governments are taken from Census 2001. Infrastructure related data are the latest information available with the State Governments.

5. NER District Infrastructure Index shall be of help to the Ministry and North East State Governments in better targeting of schemes and projects within the NER in order to reduce intra-regional disparity. The index is expected to serve as a useful guide in formulation and implementation of various development policies by the Government of India.


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