

F. No. EandP-14/1/2016-O/o EA
Government of India
Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region
(EandP Division)

Room No.284 A,Vigyan Bhawan Annexe,
Maulana Azad Road,New Delhi-110011.

Date: 07.09.2018

Subject: Minutes of the third Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) Meeting on Road Sector Schemes/ Programmes in North Eastern Region (NER) held on 05.07.2018---regd.

The undersigned is directed to forward herewith a copy of minutes of the meeting held under the chairpersonship of Secretary, DoNER and co-chairpersonship of Secretary, Ministry of Road Transport & Highways (MoRTH) on 05.07.2018 in Vigyan Bhawan Annexe, New Delhi, on the subject mentioned above, for information and further necessary action please.

Prerna Joshi
7/9/18
(Prerna Joshi)

Deputy Director

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Encl: a/a

To,

1. CEO, NITI Aayog, NITI Bhawan, New Delhi-110001.
2. Secretary, Ministry of Road Transport & Highways, Transport & Highways, Transport Bhawan, New Delhi-110001.
3. Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi-110001.
4. Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, North Block, New Delhi-110001.
5. Secretary, Ministry of Defence, Sena Bhawan, New Delhi.
6. Secretary, North Eastern Council, NEC Secretariat, Nongrim Hills, Shillong-793003.
7. Secretary, Department of Border Management, Ministry of Home Affairs, North Block, New Delhi-I 10001.
8. Chief Secretary, Arunachal Pradesh, Civil Secretariat, Banquet Hall, Itanagar-791111.

9. Chief Secretary, Assam, Assam Sachivalaya, Block-C, 3rd Floor, Dispur-781006, Guwahati.
10. Chief Secretary, Manipur, Manipur Secretariat, South Block, Old Secretariat, Imphal-795001.
11. Chief Secretary, Meghalaya, Main Civil Secretariat Building, Rilang Building, Shilling-793001.
12. Chief Secretary, Mizoram, New Secretariat Complex, Aizwal-796001.
13. Chief Secretary, Nagaland, Civil Secretariat, Kohima-797004.
14. Chief Secretary, Sikkim, New Secretariat Development Area, Gangtok-737101.
15. Chief Secretary, Tripura, New Civil Secretariat Building, Agartala-799010.
16. Shri P. Srivastava, Chief Resident Commissioner, Tripura Bhawan, Government of Tripura, Tripura Bhawan, Kautilya Marg, New Delhi – 110 021
17. Director General, BRO, Seema Sadak Bhawan, Ring Road Naraina, Delhi Cantt., Delhi-110010.
18. Managing Director, NHIDCL, 3rd Floor, PTI Building, 4 Parliament Street, New Delhi-1 10001.
19. Shri Arun Jagga, GM (T), NHAI, G 5 & 6, Sector-10, Dwarka, New Delhi - 110 075

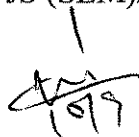
Copy to:

1. Shri Bharat Khera, Joint Secretary (Air/BR), Ministry of Defence.
2. Shri V.K. Rajawat, Director (Technical), NHIDCL, Ministry of Road Transport & Highways (MoRTH)
3. Shri B. P. Mishra, DDG (East), Border Roads Organization (BRO), Seema Sadak Bhawan, Ring Road, Delhi Cantt., New Delhi-10.
4. Shri S.C.Mandal, Chief Engineer, MoRTH, Transport Bhawan, New Delhi-110001.
5. Shri I.K.Pandey, ADG, MoRTH, Transport Bhawan, New Delhi-110001.
6. Dr. Surabhi Rai, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi-110001.
7. Shri M. Kalita, Executive Engineer, NEC, NEC Secretariat, Nongrim Hills, Shillong-793003.
8. Shri Amit Bhardwaj, Deputy Adviser, NITI Aayog, NITI Bhawan, New Delhi-110001.
9. Shri D.Saharia, Chief Engineer, PWD, Govt. of Assam, M.R.D Rd, Krishna Nagar, Chandmari, Guwahati, Assam 781003.

Copy for information to:

- i. JS&FA/JS (SNP)/JS (JKS)/JS (SLM)/ JS (SE)/EA


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- ii. Dir (SPS)/Dir (BNP)/Dir (HS)/Dir (ME)/Dir (RC)/Dir (VLRK)/Dir (AB)/SE (GJ)/
DS (SA) *10/9/18*
- iii. PPS to Secretary (DoNER) *10/9/18*
- iv. PPS to Secretary (MoRTH)

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F. No. EandP-14/1/2016-O/o EA
Government of India
Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region

Subject: Minutes of the third Inter-Ministerial Committee meeting on Road Sector Schemes/ Programmes in North Eastern Region (NER) held under the Chairpersonship of Secretary, DoNER and Co-Chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Road Transport & Highways.

The third meeting of the Inter Ministerial Committee (IMC) on Road Sector Schemes/ Programmes in NER was held under the chairpersonship of Secretary, DoNER and co-chairpersonship of Secretary, Ministry of Road Transport & Highways (MoRTH) on 05.07.2018 in the Committee Room (Room No. 243A), Vigyan Bhawan Annexe, Delhi. The list of participants is at Annexure I.

2. At the outset, Secretary (DoNER) welcomed all the participants present in the meeting and officials of the State Governments of North Eastern States, which were participating through Video Conferencing. Deputy Director, M/o DoNER made a brief presentation, highlighting the agenda of the meeting i.e. review of the progress on the recommendations made in the second IMC on roads, and to discuss the projects of North East Road Sector Development Scheme (NERSDS).

3. While reviewing the progress of the recommendations, Secretary, DoNER explained the need for a consolidated digitized Road Map which captures all kinds of roads, like National Highways, State Highways, District Roads, Other Roads, etc., in North Eastern States for better planning and bringing convergence in the efforts of various stakeholders involved. In this regard, Sh. S.N. Pradhan, Joint Secretary, M/o DoNER informed that M/o DoNER, in association with Bhaskaracharya Institute for Space Applications and Geo-Informatics (BISAG), Ahmedabad, was developing an information system wherein all roads in NER would be mapped. National Highways, State highways and roads undertaken under Pradhna Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) had already been mapped by BISAG. Also, North Eastern Space Applications Centre (NESAC) was also doing some mapping work on roads, which would be integrated with the work of BISAG.

4. In this regard, Secretary (MoRTH) agreed to share details of proposed/ ongoing/ completed roads made by MoRTH, National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) and National Highways & Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd. (NHIDCL), with M/o DoNER. Chief Secretary, Manipur informed that there exists a map which captures all types of roads of Manipur and it can be shared with M/o DoNER. Secretary, DoNER asked the North Eastern Council to

act as the nodal agency for preparation of consolidated digitized road map of NER and advised all State Governments to submit their information/ maps of all types of roads, including PMGSY roads, State Highways, National Highways and other types of road in the state, both in soft and hard copies to NEC, in next fifteen (15) days. It was decided that September 2018 may be kept as deadline for preparing a consolidated Road Map of NER.

5. Secretary, MoRTH highlighted key issues for discussion, such as, high administrative expenses being charged by North Eastern States (except Nagaland and Sikkim), towards the settlement of compensation claims for National Highways; use of State Laws for settlement of land acquisition instead of National Highways Act (applicable all over the country including Jammu & Kashmir). He also pointed out that collection of toll was not being allowed on National Highways. He highlighted about the other issues like problem of side drainage and proper cross drainage of water from the roads before the pavement surface is damaged in the roads, landslides leading to blockage of the drainage path as well as movement of traffic. He stressed on the minimal time lag between the landslide and its removal from the road surface with a view to avoiding the major damage of the road crust. Secretary, MoRTH requested all State Governments of North East to bring down administrative charges for National Highways to 2.5% and keep provision for side drainage system in DPRs to increase sustainability of the roads in the NER. Secretary, DoNER requested all North Eastern States to submit information on prevailing rate of administrative charges being levied by the North Eastern States for land Acquisition.

6. Secretary, MoRTH further informed that as per new directives, the standard width of the National Highways in the North Eastern States would be 5.5 metres and two-lane carriageway would be an exception. While appreciating this decision, Secretary, DoNER expressed concern over declining expenditure in the project "Special Accelerated Road Development Programme in North East (SARDP-NE)". Director (Technical), NHIDCL informed that deficit in the manpower and dispute over construction of 5 Km of part road of the project led to fall in expenditure and assured to resolve it shortly by dropping disputed part and deputing more workforce in the project.

7. Further, it was understood that the contract management had been very weak in North Eastern States and there is an urgent need to train the engineers in State PWDs and other related State Government Departments of NE States, so that they can prepare Detailed Project Reports (DPR) without resorting to the private parties. Secretary (DoNER) added that there was also a need to build capacities of the contractors in NER and requested MoRTH to undertake the same.

8. The participating Central Ministries/ Departments as well as State Governments highlighted various issues and discussed them in order to resolve them; such as crusher issue on

the Imphal- Jiribam road and Imphal- Dimapur Road raised by Government of Manipur, strengthening the bridges of Manipur, issue of land sliding raised by Government of Sikkim, etc.

9. Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development apprised about the progress of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) in NER. She informed that the Ministry had set a target to construct 61,000 Kms of roads under PMGSY in the eight North Eastern States during the year 2018-19. However, even after continuous follow-ups and reviews, the performance of Assam had been highly unsatisfactory. Out of the targeted road length of 5000 kms, the State of Assam has constructed road length of only 90.345 kms as on 05.07.2018. It was pointed out that even if the work is completed, it is not been updated in the Online Management, Monitoring and Accounting System (OMMAS) software of PMGSY. In this regard, Chief Engineer, PWD, Government of Assam informed that due to shortage of manpower, rainy season and shortage of Project Implementing Units (PIUs), there was a reduced pace of construction of roads under PMGSY. He informed that State Government was in the final stage of recruitment of 300 Junior Engineers, appoint 153 contractual Engineers and to increase the number of PIUs from 53 to 63 to address the shortage of manpower and assured to fulfill the targets within the stipulated period.

10. Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development, stated that progress of Nagaland under PMGSY and its updation in OMMAS portal was satisfactory. It was further informed that Ministry of Rural Development would soon come up with PMGSY III, under which the villages would be connected to nearby Mandis. Secretary (DoNER), observed in this behalf that there is a need to connect the urban areas/ towns with nearby Mandis. Accordingly, a North East specific scheme for connecting urban towns may be framed by NHIDCL/ MoRTH, same on lines of SARDP-NE scheme. The representative of MoRTH observed that it may be taken up , after having a consolidated digital road map of NER in place.

11. The representatives from BRO apprised about their road projects. It was observed that BRO currently does not have many projects in NER and, therefore, it expressed willingness to take up road works in NER under its 'Pushpak' scheme.

12. Secretary, DoNER highlighted the need for quality check of roads in North Eastern Region. It was stated that bad quality of roads affects the livelihood and, therefore, it needs to be taken up expeditiously. It was suggested the funding pattern for ensuring quality check of roads in NER may be explored and discussed in next meeting of NITI Forum for North East.

13. In the meeting, the shelf of 17 projects (16 roads and 1 bridge project in Sikkim) identified by the IMC under North East Road Sector Development Scheme were also discussed and the following was decided :

- i. It was pointed out by the representatives of MoRTH and NITI Aayog that Braithwaite Burn and Jessop Construction Co. Ltd. (BBJ) is a sick PSU and its proposal for re-vitalization is going on. In view of this fact, Secretary, DoNER asked not to give any fresh projects for preparation of the DPR. Further, it may be asked to refund the un-utilized fund parked with it, after completion of the on-going works for preparation of the DPR.
- ii. As Mebo Dolla Road in Assam and Arunachal Pradesh was not feasible and economically unviable, therefore, it would be dropped and the DPR preparation may not be undertaken.
- iii. In view of the fact that the road from Avangkhu to Akhegwo in Nagaland has already been considered under Bharatmala of MoRTH, the road Lozaphuhu to Avangkhu LCS can be dropped or realigned to connect with Bharatmala.
- iv. Based on the submission of the Chief Secretary of Manipur through VC, it was decided to replace Kamjong to Kongkan Thana road of Manipur (length of 40.00 km) by Singhat to Behiang Road (length of 18.00 km).
- v. As pointed out by the officials of State Government of Tripura, the entire length of 31.00 Km of Hmanpui Damcherra Road will be considered instead of earlier proposal of 15.00 Km. Further, the length of the inter-state road with Mizoram, namely Kawrthah-Damdia-Vanghmun in Tripura has been corrected as 39.00 Km in place of 18.00 Km. As a result, the total length of the road will now be 69.00 Km against the earlier length of 48.00 Km.
- vi. There will be only 1(one) major bridge over River Rangeet in South Sikkim with overall span of 120 M, instead of earlier proposal of 2 bridges with total span of 120.00 M.

14. After detailed discussions, the following key decisions were taken:

- i. All State Governments of the NE region are to submit the map of the concerned state showing all types of roads, including PMGSY roads, State Highways, National Highways and other types of road in the state, both in soft and hard copies to NEC, within 15 (fifteen) days. NEC is to prepare a consolidated Road Map of NER by September 2018.

(Action by: State Governments of NER/ NEC)

- ii. All State Governments are to submit a chart of administrative expenses being charged from the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways and other related agencies for Land Acquisition for the National Highways and other centrally funded projects being executed by MoRTH and its executing agencies.
(Action by: State Governments of NER)
- iii. MoRTH and NHIDCL to train the engineers in State PWDs and other related State Government Departments of NE States and to build capacities of the contractors in NER.
(Action by: MoRTH)
- iv. MoRTH/ NHIDCL may frame a North East specific scheme for connecting urban towns, on lines of SARDP-NE scheme, after having a consolidated digital road map of NER in place.
(Action by: MoRTH/ NHIDCL)
- v. To discuss the funding pattern for ensuring quality check of roads in NER in next meeting of NITI Forum for North East.
(Action by: NITI Aayog/ DoNER/ NEC)

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the chair.

List of participants

1. Shri S.N Pradhan, Joint Secretary, DoNER.
2. Shri J.K.Sinha, Joint Secretary, DoNER.
3. Shri S.L. Meena, Joint Secretary, DoNER.
4. Shri Bharat Khera, Joint Secretary (Air/BR), MoD.
5. Shri P.Srivastava, Chief Resident Commissioner, Tripura Bhawan. Govt. of Tripura.
6. Shri V.K. Rajawat, Director (Technical), NHIDCL, MoRTH.
7. Shri Arun Jagga, GM (T), NHAI, MoRTH.
8. Shri N.N.Sinha, MD, NHIDCL, MoRTH.
9. Shri A.K.Singh, Member, NHAI, MoRTH.
10. Shri B. P. Mishra, DDG (East), Border Roads Organization (BRO).
11. Shri S.K.Tripathi, ADG, Border Roads Organization (BRO).
12. Shri I.K Pandey, ADG, MoRTH,
13. Shri L.P.Pandey, CGM (T), NHAI.
14. Shri S.C Mondal, Chief Engineer, MoRTH.
15. Shri D. Saharia, Chief Engineer, PWD, Assam.
16. Shri Gunsagar Jain, Superintending Engineer, DoNER.
17. Shri B.N. Prasad, Director, DoNER.
18. Shri Ravindra Choudhary, Director, DoNER.
19. Dr. Surabhi Rai, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development.
20. Shri M. Kalita, Executive Engineer, NEC.
21. Shri Amit Bhardwaj, Deputy Adviser, NITI Aayog.
22. Smt. Prerna Joshi, Deputy Director, DoNER.
23. Shri Babul Borah, SSO, DoNER.