

NEC-11/2/2024-UNDER SECRETARY(A)
Government of India
Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region

Jodhpur Officer's Hostel
Pandara Road,
New Delhi - 110003
Dated: 04.05.2026

OFFICE MEMORENDUM

Subject: Minutes of the Empowered Inter-Ministerial Committee (EIMC) meeting for Schemes of NEC held on April 22, 2026 at 3:00 PM and on 29.04.2026 in continuation , under the Chairmanship of Secretary, MDoNER to consider various proposals under 'Schemes of NEC- reg.

The undersigned is directed to refer to the subject mentioned above and to forward herewith the Minutes of EIMC meeting for Schemes of NEC held on April 22, 2026, at 3:00 PM and on 29.04.2026 in continuation, under the Chairmanship of Secretary, MDoNER incorporating the points of the stakeholder meeting held on 24.04.2026 for kind information and necessary action please.

2. This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.

Enclosed: As stated above.


04/05/2026

(Pratibha Kumari)
Under Secretary to the Govt. of India
Email: pratibha.kumari@nic.in

All the Members of EIMC for SoNEC

To:

1. Secretary, Ministry of Development of North-Eastern Region - Chairperson;
2. Chief Executive Officer of NITI Aayog- Member;
3. Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs - Member;
4. Secretary, DPIIT- Member;
5. Secretary, North Eastern Council - Member;

6. Financial Adviser, Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region – Member
7. Chief Secretary, Govt. of Sikkim
8. Chief Secretary, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh
9. Chief Secretary, Govt. of Mizoram
10. Secretary, Department of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare
11. Secretary, MSME
12. Secretary, Ministry of Cooperation
13. Secretary, Ministry of Food & Processing Industries
14. Secretary, MoRTH
15. Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development
16. Secretary, Department of Agriculture, Govt. of Sikkim
17. Chairman, APEDA

Copy for information to:

1. Sr. PPS to Secretary, MDoNER
2. PPS to Joint Secretary (AD), MDoNER
3. PPS to Joint Secretary (NK), MDoNER
4. PPS to Joint Secretary, (Sh. Vipul Goyal), MDoNER
5. Director (IFD), MDoNER
6. Technical Wing, MDoNER

Minutes of the Empowered Inter-Ministerial Committee (EIMC) meeting for Schemes of NEC held on April 22, 2026 at 3:00 PM and on 29.04.2026 in continuation under the Chairmanship of Secretary, MDoNER

A meeting of the Empowered Inter-Ministerial Committee (EIMC) on the 'Schemes of NEC' was held on April 22, 2026 at 3:00 PM, and continued on April 29, 2026 in hybrid mode in the Conference Hall, Jodhpur Officer's Hostel, New Delhi-110003. The list of participants is annexed.

2. Welcoming the participants, and in line with the directions of the Secretary, MDoNER, the Joint Secretary overseeing the Schemes of NEC made a presentation. The agenda was taken up point-wise, with deliberations and decisions recorded as follows:

Agenda 1: Confirmation of minutes of previous EIMC meeting held on 25.03.2026.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were circulated vide O.M No. NEC-11/2/2024-UNDER SECRETARY(A) on 30.03.2026. No Comments have been received. Therefore, the minutes were treated as confirmed.

Agenda 2: Action Taken Report against decisions taken in previous EIMC meeting:

The action taken report of the decision on the following projects was discussed and noted by the Committee:

- i. Empowering organic growth: A proposal for ICS strengthening market outreach and trade facilitation in Sikkim.
- ii. Kiwi as USP in Arunachal Pradesh.
- iii. Cluster Based Coffee Value Chain Development in Nagaland.
- iv. Pakke-Seijosa-Itakhola, Arunachal Pradesh (Change of Scope).

Agenda 3: Proposal under 30% Focused Development Component which fall under the subject matter of EIMC: Detailed presentation was made by the Ministry/NEC for the following project proposals. After due discussions and deliberations, the committee made the following recommendations/observations:

S. N (i)	Project Proposed (ii)	Observation of the EIMC (iii)	EIMC Recommendation (iv)
1	Empowering organic growth: A proposal for ICS strengthening market outreach and trade facilitation in Sikkim. (Revised Cost Rs. 55.546 Crore)	• The proposal received support from Ministry of MSME, DPIIT, MoFPI, Department of Agriculture, and Ministry of Cooperation. • NITI Aayog did not support the proposal; its observations have been shared with the State Government and replied by the state government during the meeting. • EIMC sought clarification from the Government of Sikkim on exploring funds under the MOVCDNER scheme of Agriculture and the detailed components of the collection centre. • The State Government explained that under MOVCDNER, support is extended to FPOs, and funds were utilized to create ICS on behalf of FPOs to keep the ICS functional. • On cold chain infrastructure, the State Government informed that the state currently has no cold chain facilities, except for a small cold storage unit. • EIMC advised the State Government to prepare a comprehensive plan with support from stakeholders such as MoFPI, Ministry of Agriculture, APEDA, Ministry of Cooperation, and NERAMAC, to mobilize resources for all components of the value chain—from cultivation to export—ensuring long-term benefits for farmers. Private investment/partnerships may also be explored. • A stakeholder meeting was held on 24.04.2026 with representatives from State Government, MoFPI, Ministry of Agriculture, APEDA, ICAR, NABARD, NERAMAC, and MSME. Following detailed discussions, a strategy paper was prepared and circulated among stakeholders for inputs and identification of components that can be supported under their respective schemes. • EIMC requested NITI Aayog, MoFPI,	In view of the observations made in column (iii), EIMC deferred the project proposal, to be taken up in next EIMC.

		Ministry of Agriculture, APEDA, Ministry of Cooperation, MSME, and other stakeholders to provide their inputs within 3 days on the circulated strategy proposal. The State Government was also requested to incorporate these points and submit a holistic road map for the organic farming sector in the State for guiding future activities, besides the instant Proposal (DPR) under consideration, to the Ministry for consideration in the upcoming EIMC meeting.	
2.	Kiwi as USP in Arunachal Pradesh	- The revised DPR was circulated on 23.02.2026 and the proposal received support from DPIIT, MoFPI, MSME, Ministry of Cooperation, and Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare. - NITI Aayog raised observations, with replies forwarded on 17.04.2026. Further observations from NITI Aayog were shared with the State Government on 29.04.2026. - EIMC enquired about cold chain infrastructure. The State Government informed that the state has negligible cold chain facilities. - EIMC advised the State Government to prepare a comprehensive plan with support from stakeholders such as MoFPI, Ministry of Agriculture, APEDA, Ministry of Cooperation, and NERAMAC to mobilize resources across the value chain—from cultivation to export—so that farmers can benefit in the coming years. It was also suggested to explore private investment/partnerships and consider GI registration of Kiwi, along with revenue generation through exports of kiwi fruit, pulp, jam, etc. - A stakeholder meeting was held on 24.04.2026 with representatives from State Government, MoFPI, Ministry of Agriculture, APEDA, ICAR, NABARD,	In view of the observations made in column (iii), EIMC deferred the project proposal, to be taken up in next EIMC.

		NERAMAC, and MSME. After detailed discussions, a strategy paper was prepared and circulated among stakeholders for their inputs and identification of components that can be supported under their respective schemes. EIMC requested NITI Aayog, MoFPI, Ministry of Agriculture, APEDA, Ministry of Cooperation, MSME, and other stakeholders to provide their inputs within 3 days on the circulated strategy proposal. The State Government was also requested to incorporate these points and submit a holistic road map for the kiwi value chain sector in the State for guiding future activities, besides the instant Proposal (DPR) under consideration, to the Ministry for consideration in the upcoming EIMC meeting..	
3.	Sustainable Cultivation and Post-Harvest Management of Mizoram USP Crop - Mizo Ginger	- The DPR was circulated on 03.03.2026 and the proposal received support from DPIIT, MoFPI, MSME, and the Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare. NITI Aayog raised observations, which have been forwarded to the State Government. - It was apprised that certain buyers cancelled their orders as the product tests failed due to high pesticide concentration. - EIMC requested NERAMAC to help connect major buyers/anchor buyers with farmers by acting as a facilitator, and to explore opportunities in processed products such as ginger oil. - EIMC advised the State Government to prepare a comprehensive plan with support from stakeholders including MoFPI, Ministry of Agriculture, APEDA, Ministry of Cooperation, and NERAMAC, to mobilize resources for all components of the value chain—from cultivation to export—so that farmers can benefit in the coming years. It was further suggested that cold storage infrastructure be developed and that private	In view of the observations made in column (iii), EIMC deferred the project proposal, to be taken up in next EIMC.

		investment/partnerships be explored. • A stakeholder meeting was held on 24.04.2026 with representatives from State Government, MoFPI, Ministry of Agriculture, APEDA, ICAR, NABARD, NERAMAC, and MSME. After detailed discussions, a strategy paper was prepared and circulated among stakeholders for their inputs and identification of components that can be supported under their respective schemes. • EIMC requested NITI Aayog, MoFPI, Ministry of Agriculture, APEDA, Ministry of Cooperation, MSME, and other stakeholders to provide their inputs within 3 days on the circulated strategy proposal. The State Government was also requested to incorporate these points and submit a holistic road map for the ginger sector in the State for guiding future activities, besides the instant Proposal (DPR) under consideration, to the Ministry for consideration in the upcoming EIMC meeting.	
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Agenda 4: Proposed changes to the scope/modification of DPR for ongoing projects which fall under the subject matter of EIMC: Detailed presentation was made by NEC for the following Change of Scope proposals; and after due discussions and deliberations, the committee made the following recommendations/observations:

S. No.	Name of the Project	Observations of the EIMC	EIMC Recommendation
1.	Pakke-Seijosa-Itakhola (Original cost Rs. 166.16 crore but now proposed for Rs. 152.75 Crore)	• The project was originally sanctioned on 02 June 2015 at a length of 70 km for ₹166.16 crore, including 1% Labour Cess and 2% contingency. • The Government of Arunachal Pradesh has now proposed a change of scope at ₹153.12 crore for 55 km, citing changes in alignment of road, pile foundation, and GST.	EIMC recommended the change of scope proposal at the cost of Rs. 152.75 crore. NEC is to take further necessary action.

		• The revised proposal was circulated on 13.02.2026 and has been supported by MoRTH, MHA, and DPIIT. • NITI Aayog raised observations, and replies were forwarded on 22.04.2026. The State Government's comments on these observations were discussed before the EIMC.	
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The meeting ended with the vote of thanks to the Chair.

List of Participants:

1. Secretary, Ministry of DoNER- in Chair
2. Sh. Angshuman Dey, Joint Secretary, MDoNER
3. Sh. Niraj Kumar, Joint Secretary, MDoNER
4. Sh. Vipul Aggarwal, Joint Secretary, MDoNER
5. Sh. Satinder Kumar Bhalla, Secretary, NEC
6. Commissioner, Department of Agriculture & Horticulture, Govt. of Sikkim
7. Secretary, Department of Agriculture, Govt. of Sikkim
8. Shri Abhishek Dev, Chairman, APEDA
9. Sh. Som Kamei, Planning Advisor, NEC
10. Chief Engineer, PWD, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh
11. Sh. Zubair Ali Hashmi, Director, NITI Aayog
12. Sh. Ramesh Kumar Yadav, Director, MSME
13. Dr. B J Brahma, Director, Horticulture, Ministry of Agriculture
14. Dr. G Srinivasan, Deputy Agricultural Marketing Advisor
15. Sh. Arunav Sengupta, DS, MoFPI
16. Sh. Gagnesh Sharma, Director, Ministry of Agriculture
17. Ms. S Sathiya, Director, Ministry of Cooperation
18. Sh. VK Goel, Director, MDoNER
19. Sh. Sandeep Verma, Director (IFD), MDoNER
20. Sh. Tanung Jamoh, Director (S&T), NEC
21. Dr. Saraswati Bose, General Manager, APEDA
22. Ms. Sunita Rai, Deputy General Manager, APEDA
23. Ms. Pratibha Kumari, US, MDoNER

24. Sh. Arun Kumar Biswakarma, US, DPIIT
25. Sh. Suvojit Chatterjee, Consultant, MDoNER
26. Sh. Amit Bhatiya, Consultant, MDoNER
27. Sh. Talim Hussain, ASO, MDoNER