

- (i) NEC is implementing North Eastern Region Community Resource Management Project, Phase-II, (NERCORMP-II) in 466 villages (adjoining NERCORMP-I project areas) in the States of Meghalaya, Assam and Manipur at project cost of Rs. 200 crore. Recently, NERCORMP-III project has also been launched by NEC to cover three districts of Arunachal Pradesh and two uncovered districts of Manipur at an estimated cost of Rs. 540 crore to cover 58,850 households in 1177 villages over a period of six years.
- (ii) NEC has taken up important road projects, Inter State Bus Terminus, Inter State Truck Terminus, development of Airports through Airport Authority. NEC has also supported projects for improvement of power transmission and distribution system in NER.
- (iii) In Health Sector, major project of NEC includes revitalization of Dr. B. Barooah Cancer Institute, Guwahati and setting up of North Eastern Regional Multi-Disciplinary Paramedical Institute at Dimapur, Nagaland.
- (iv) In Science & Technology sector major projects include support to North Eastern Space Application Centre at Umiam, Meghalaya.

(b) Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region plays the role of advocacy for the North Eastern Region and coordination with the Central Ministries/ Planning Commission/Parliamentary Committees while NEC plays the role of a regional planning body. NEC Secretariat functions under the administrative control of the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) To ensure smooth functioning, the NEC had been restructured by the Government of India through North-Eastern Council (Amendment) Act, 2002.

Infrastructural Development of NE States

2336. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the infrastructural development needs of the North-Eastern Region was recently discussed between the Prime Minister and the Chief Ministers of the NE States;

(b) a summary of issues discussed at the meeting; and

(c) whether Meghalaya had taken up the issue of strengthening of border trading facilities with Bangladesh, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) Prime Minister held a meeting with the Chief Ministers of North Eastern States on 20.1.2014 to discuss infrastructure development in the North Eastern Region. The sectors covered in the meeting were Railways, Roads, Airports, Inland Water Transportation, Power and Telecommunication.

(b) Summary of issues discussed in the meeting of Prime Minister with Chief Ministers on 20.1.2014 relate to development of connectivity with the rest of the country, including telecommunication and development of power sector; achievement of substantial progress in implementation of number of railways, roads, power projects which are nearing completion; time-bound completion of other ongoing projects relating to power, transmission lines, airport, telecom, connectivity with the neighbouring countries, airport development for intra-regional and international connectivity etc.

(c) Chief Minister, Meghalaya *inter alia* took up the issue of early completion of NH-62 from Damra in Assam and ending at Dalu (Bangladesh border) in Meghalaya and NH-51 starting from Paikan in Assam to Dalu in Meghalaya for strengthening border trade with Bangladesh.

Satellite measurement report

2337. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Ministry of Environment and Forests for creating awareness about the environment pollution and forest protection;

(b) whether the forest coverage of our country is increasing, if so, the State-wise details for last three years; and

(c) whether the Satellite measurement also include the sugarcane, wheat and cornfield if so, how to eliminate these area in the satellite measurement report?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) Environment Education, Awareness and Training (EEAT) is a flagship scheme of the Ministry of Environment and Forests for enhancing awareness and