

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (DR. JITENDRA SINGH) : Chopper services are to be provided by the State Governments' concerned. However, Pawan Hans Limited, Public Sector Enterprise under the Ministry of Civil Aviation, provides helicopters on long-term lease basis to State Governments / Government Agencies / Private Agencies etc. as per their requirements. In the North Eastern Region, Pawan Hans presently provides helicopters to Government of Sikkim, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya and Mizoram on long-term lease basis. Pawan Hans has also offered one medium helicopter for deployment of Government of Nagaland *w.e.f.* 01.05.2015. If any States have further requirement of deployment of additional helicopter, Pawan Hans would endeavour to meet their requirement.

#### **Development of infrastructure in NER**

332. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new development initiatives have been taken to develop the infrastructure to improve connectivity in the North Eastern Regions of India, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of the amount of power that can be produced in the region and statistics for the amount that is currently being produced;

(c) the details of investment in power in the region and their latest developments; and

(d) all initiatives taken to boost tourism in the region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (DR. JITENDRA SINGH) : (a) As per information furnished by concerned Ministries/Departments.

(a) Yes, Sir. To improve connectivity in the North Eastern Region, the Ministry of DoNER has sanctioned 13 road projects worth Rs.235.38 crore under Non-Lapsable Central Pool of Resources (NLCPR) scheme. The North Eastern Council (NEC) has approved 2 road projects costing Rs. 359.55 crore and also sanctioned viability gap funding for air connectivity in North Eastern Region at a cost of Rs.124.12 crore. With assistance of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region is implementing the North Eastern State Roads Investment Programme (NESRIP) for upgradation of 433 km long roads in 6 North Eastern States at estimated cost of Rs.1353.83 crore. For development of roads in the North Eastern Region, the Union Budget 2014-15 has, further, allocated Rs.200 crore for the N.E. Roads Corporation.

In order to expedite road construction, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has set up a company named as "National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited" (NHIDCL) on 18th July 2014 for construction/upgradation/widening of National Highways in the regions that share international boundaries with neighbouring countries. The main emphasis of NHIDCL is for implementation of balance projects under SARDP-NE in NER. Further, review meetings and monitoring of projects are being done at highest level in the Government. However, to avoid cost and time overrun, Ministry has adopted Engineering Procurement and Construction (EPC) mode for award of new works so that works can be completed within stipulated time and cost.

The Railways Budget 2014-15 announced an allocation of Rs.5116 crore, a 54 per cent increase over previous year, for the 23 ongoing railway projects of which 11 are National Projects. It was also announced to take up Eco-Tourism and Education Tourism in North Eastern States. In this year, Meghalaya has been brought on the railway map for the first time and direct train service from Arunachal Pradesh to New Delhi has been introduced.

The Government has fast-tracked the development of greenfield airports at Pakyong in Sikkim and Holongi in Arunachal Pradesh. Upgradation of Guwahati Airport as Inter-Regional Hub with connectivity to all major airports of the country and upgradation of Agartala, Dibrugarh and Imphal as Intra-Regional Hubs with connectivity to all the State capitals in the region have been taken up. Further, to connect remote areas in the region, non-operational airports *viz.* Along, Daparizo, Passighat, Tezu and Ziro in Arunachal Pradesh, Rupsi in Assam and Kailashahar in Tripura have been taken up for development and operationalisation.

The Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) is developing and maintaining for shipping and navigation purpose, the Brahmaputra from Dhubri to Sadiya which has been declared as National Waterway no. 2. This waterway of North Eastern region is connected with Kolkata Port *via* Indo-Bangladesh Transit & Trade Protocol Route. IWAI is providing requisite infrastructure like navigable fairway, aids to navigation and pilotage etc. for smooth navigation.

To improve telecommunication system in the region, the Government approved on 10th September, 2014, the Comprehensive Telecom Plan for North Eastern Region at a cost of Rs. 5,336.18 crore.

(b) Based on the studies for re-assessment of hydro-electric potential of the country, completed by Central Electricity Authority in 1987, identified hydropower potential in the country is 1,48,701 MW. This includes 62,604 MW of potential

in North Eastern (NE) Region including Sikkim. Presently, 10 projects with an installed capacity of 1242 MW are in operation in North Eastern region. In addition, 3 H.E. Projects with an installed capacity of 669 MW are in operation in Sikkim. In addition, thermal power plants with total installed capacity of 1000 MW are under development in the region. Gas based Palatana Power Plant (Unit II) of 726 MW in Tripura has been commissioned on 1st December, 2014.

(c) The details are given in the Statement (See below).

(d) The North Eastern Council (NEC), Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region has developed in December, 2011 an "Integrated Tourism Master Plan for NER". The main recommendation of the Master Plan for promoting identified tourist circuits is currently being implemented by the Ministry of Tourism, the NEC along with the eight North Eastern States. The Government sponsors several tourism promotion campaigns in print and television media and is also supporting popular festivals like the Hornbill Festival in Nagaland and Sangai Festival in Manipur.

### **Statement**

#### *Details of investment in power in the region and their latest developments*

#### **A. Investment in Transmission & Distribution System in NER**

In order to strengthen the transmission and distribution infrastructure in NER & Sikkim, Government of India has given investment approval to two schemes as given below:

- (i) The investment approval for comprehensive scheme for strengthening of transmission and distribution system in Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim was given on 10th October, 2014. The estimated cost of scheme is Rs. 4754.42 crores. (April, 2013 price level). The scheme will be implemented as a Central Sector scheme through PGCIL.
- (ii) The investment approval for North Eastern Region Power System Improvement Project (NERPSIP) Tranche-I in six states of NER (Assam, Manipur, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Tripura) was given on 1st December, 2014. The estimated cost of scheme is Rs. 5111.33 crores (February 2014 price level). The scheme will be funded by Government of India through the budget of Ministry of power and World Bank on 50:50 basis.

The State-wise break up of allocation of fund under above-mentioned schemes is given below:

(Rs. in crore)	
State	Amount
Arunachal Pradesh	3199.45
Sikkim	1554.97
Assam	1473.80
Manipur	442.22
Meghalaya	776.93
Mizoram	316.76
Nagaland	729.42
Tripura	1372.20

**Development of Distribution System in NER :** Central Government supplements the efforts of States through various schemes. Recently Government of India has approved Integrated Power Development Scheme (IPDS) and Deendayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojna (DDUGJY) to provide funds for improvement of distribution infrastructures.

**Integrated Power Development Scheme (IPDS) :** Integrated Power Development Scheme (IPDS) is for improving the distribution infrastructure in urban areas with following components:

- (i) Strengthening of sub-transmission and distribution network in the urban areas.
- (ii) Metering of distribution transformers/feeders/consumers in the urban areas.
- (iii) IT enablement of distribution sector and strengthening of distribution network as per CCEA approval dated 21.06.2013 for completion of targets laid down under Restructured Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (R-APDRP) for Twelfth and Thirteenth Plans by carrying forward the approved outlay of R-APDRP to IPDS.

The outlay for first two items is Rs.32, 612 crores [with budgetary support of Rs.25, 354 crore].

For component (iii) indicated above the scheme of R-APDRP as approved by CCEA for continuation in Twelfth and Thirteenth Plans will get subsumed in this scheme as a separate component relating to IT enablement of distribution sector and strengthening of distribution network for which CCEA has already approved the scheme cost of ₹ 44,011 crore including a budgetary support of ₹ 22,727 crore. This outlay will be carried forward to the new scheme of IPDS in addition to the outlay indicated above.

Budget provision for IPDS scheme for FY 2014-15 is ₹ 100 crore.

#### **Deendayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojna (DDUGJY)**

Deendayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojna (DDUGJY) has been approved in November] 2014 with an estimated outlays of ₹ 44,033 crores including budgetary support of ₹ 33,453 crores from Government of India during the entire implementation period. The scheme covers all State/UTs of India including NER. The scheme has the following components:

- (i) Separation of agriculture and non-agriculture feeders facilitating judicious restoring of supply to agricultural & non-agriculture consumers in the rural areas;
- (ii) Strengthening and augmentation of sub-transmission & distribution transformers/feeders/consumers; and
- (iii) Rural electrification, as per CCEA approval dated 01.08.2013 for completion of the targets laid down under RGGVY for Twelfth and Thirteenth Plans by carrying forward the approved outlay for RGGVY to DDUGJY.

Budget provision for DDUGJY scheme for FY 2014-15 is ₹ 500 crore.

As per Government of India approval the projects under these schemes are to be completed within a period of 24 months from the date of issue of Letter of Award (LoA) by the utility.

#### **24x7 Power for All**

Gol has also taken a joint initiative with States to provide 24x7 Power for all. State specific documents for 24x7 Power for All (PFA) have been prepared in respect of Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh. For other States the matter is being pursued and meetings have been held at MoP/CEA level with the States.

Salient features of 24x7 Power supply initiatives are as under:

1. Reliable 24x7 supply to the consumers (except agriculture) in a phased manner within a period of three years from the date of commencement of the programme.

2. Increase duration of supply of electricity to agriculture consumers from present level to eight/nine hours per day in a phased manner (as per the policy of the respective State Government)
3. All unconnected households to be provided access to electricity in a time bound manner by 2016-17 or later by 2018-19.
4. Assessment of energy requirement for providing 24x7 power supply to all households in the State has been assessed.
5. Assessment of the adequacy of availability of power to the State from various sources *i.e.* from generating sources owned by the State both existing and under construction, from central sector stations both existing and under construction, Common projects, generating sources owned by private sector and PPAs.
6. Review of Inter State Transmission System (ISTS), Intra State Transmission System and distribution infrastructure to ensure their adequacy for providing 24x7 power in the States. Identification of Works required for strengthening and augmentation of distribution infrastructure for supplying uninterrupted power to the consumers.
7. Monitoring the timely commissioning of various generating plants, transmission and distribution infrastructure to meet the expected growth in demand.
8. To ensure reduction of aggregate technical and commercial (AT&C) losses as per the agreed loss reduction trajectory.
9. Overall Power Supply Improvement — To be achieved by undertaking measures such as energy mix optimization, reduction in power operational efficiency of State generation plant(s) and optimal fuel procurement costs including sources of supply.
10. Financial measures including optimizing investments and undertaking necessary balance sheet restructuring measures to ensure liquidity in the utility finances.
11. Introduce modern technologies to monitor reliable supply like sub-station automation, providing adequate communication infrastructure, GIS, Reliability, Centralized Network Analysis and Planning tools, SAP driven ERP systems, DMS (Distribution Management Systems), OMS (Outage Management System), etc.

12. This joint initiative of Government of India and Government of States aims to enhance the satisfaction levels of the consumers, improve the quality of life of people and increase the economic activities resulting into inclusive development of the State.

*State-wise projects approved and funds released in Power sector under NLCPR Scheme of Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region*

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	State	No. of Projects	Approved Cost	Total Release
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	18	196.85	168.41
2.	Assam	49	249.04	208.20
3.	Manipur	38	539.61	364.86
4.	Meghalaya	14	343.27	267.08
5.	Mizoram	10	210.72	177.77
6.	Nagaland	44	240.53	201.97
7.	Sikkim	27	352.90	267.09
8.	Tripura	28	385.94	315.49
TOTAL		228	2518.86	1970.87
BTC Package		1	5.20	2.60
GRAND TOTAL		229	2524.06	1973.47

*State-wise projects approved and funds released in Power sector by the North Eastern Council (NEC)*

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	State	No. of Project	Approved Cost	Financial Release
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	8	83.16	66.19
2.	Assam	2	18.44	12.37
3.	Manipur	9	44.10	22.67
4.	Meghalaya	11	57.39	40.03

1	2	3	4	5
5.	Mizoram	6	50.01	31.65
6.	Nagaland	7	107.64	57.34
7.	Sikkim	8	56.74	35.14
8.	Tripura	4	25.78	13.55
TOTAL		55	443.26	278.95

**B. Investment in power generation**

**(i) Thermal power projects in the North Eastern States**

**1. Bongaigaon TPP (3 x 250 MW) in Assam by M/s NTPC**

The project is being executed by M/s. NTPC. The main plant order was placed on M/s. BHEL in February, 2008 with original commissioning schedule of Jan, 2011 for Unit-1, May, 2011 for Unit-2 and Sept., 2011 for Unit-3. But the project has been delayed due to frequent bandhs, violence and mass exodus of labours from the site, heavy monsoon and poor performance of the main plant civil agencies of M/s. SPML. Due to poor performance of M/s. SPML, civil works for unit 2 & 3 were offloaded to M/s. Punj Lloyd Limited in July, 2011. There after due to the poor performance of both the civil agencies, their contracts were terminated. For the balance civil and structural works NTPC has placed orders on M/s NBCC on 29/09/2014 and NBCC further placed orders for civil work, structural work etc. These agencies have started work at site. Unit-1 Boiler lighted up on 29/11/14 & SBO expected to start by 02/15. TG boxed up in 01/15. Oil flushing started on 16.01.15 and is in progress. M/s. NTPC & BHEL are trying hard to commission the unit-1 by March, 2015. Commissioning of unit-2 & 3 are expected in the year 2016-17. The original cost of the project is ₹ 4375.35 crores and ₹ 4891 crores have been spent on this project till Nov., 2014.

**Critical Issues:** - Law and order, Frequent bandhs, Shifting of BTPS School outside NTPC Township and Acquisition of balance land for railway siding.

**2. Monarchak Gas Based Power Project (101 MW) in Tripura by NEEPCO**

The project is being executed by NEEPCO in Tripura. LOI for the main plant was placed on BHEL in July, 2010 with original commissioning schedule of May, 2013 and order for BOP packages was placed on to M/s. NBPPL. Erection of all major equipments completed. Gas turbine is ready for synchronisation



in open cycle. Erection of STG, HRSG etc. are in progress. Main chimney has been completed. Contractor for laying of gas pipe line stopped work because of some contractual issues with ONGC and ONGC cancelled the contract. ONGC engaged a new contractor for pipe line work for supplying gas from Palatana gas source to this project, because of non readiness of the original gas supply (Khedbari GGS) station. Gas supply pipe line work has been completed and gas supply made available at site on 05.02.15. The commissioning activities of GT are in progress. The gas booster compressor commissioned on 16.02.15. The commissioning of GT is expected in 03/15 and ST by 06/15. The revised cost of the project is ₹ 994.8 crores and ₹ 869.41 crs have been spent on this project till 01/15.

**Critical Issues:** -Readiness and completion of balance work of BoP's. Replacement of smaller size gas pipe erected at gas station at project site by ONGC.

### 3. AGTP CC Extension Project (51MW) at Agartala

The project is being executed by NEEPCO in Tripura. LOA for the main plant was placed on M/s. Thermax Ltd. on 12.09.2012. The project has two modules. Each module consists of two HRSGs and one STG. Civil work in most of the area has been completed. All 4 chimneys erected. Switch yard work also completed. Generator transformer erection completed. Work of other systems like Water Treatment Plant, auxiliary cooling system etc. is in progress. STG-2 synchronized on 10.02.2015 and full load is also expected in 02/15. ST-1 synchronization is expected by 03/15. The revised cost of the project is ₹ 382.41 crores and ₹ 298.09 crs. has been spent on this project till 01/15.

### 4. Namrup CCGT (70 MW GT + 30 MW ST) — Assam

Namrup CCGT 100 MW is a replacement power project being executed by Assam Power Generation Corporation Ltd. (APGCL) in District Dibrugarh, Assam. EPC contract was awarded to BHEL in February, 2009 with target date of commissioning as January, 2012. Main plant civil works were started in April 2010 but, civil work was stopped since 01.08.2013. BHEL/NBPPL terminated civil contract on 05.09.2013. BHEL awarded fresh civil contract on 13.03.14 & work was started in 05/14. BHEL also terminated NBPPL order for 12 EPC packages on 22.11.14. Now, on the request of BHEL, NBPPL has been again engaged to complete the balance work of these EPC packages. There are 126 non turnkey packages on M/s NBPPL. Out of 126 non turnkey

packages, 108 packages are already awarded by NBPPL and balance 18 packages are to be awarded by 03/15. GT & GTG placed on foundation. HRSG insulation work almost completed. Commissioning of GT is expected in 09/15 and ST by 12/15. The revised cost of the project is ₹ 694 crores and ₹ 329.10 crs. has been spent on this project till Dec., 2014.

**Critical issues:**

- (1) Outstanding payment of BHEL with project developer. - Project Authority
- (2) Placement of order for BoPs to complete balance works. - BHEL
- (3) Slow progress of mechanical, electrical and Instrumentation contractor. - BHEL

**Hydro Power Projects in NER**

Presently 16 nos. Hydro Projects (above 25 MW) aggregating to 5576 MW are under various stages of construction for the growth and development of NE Region including Sikkim. The details of such hydro projects are placed below:

*Under Construction Hydro Electric Projects in NER Including Sikkim  
(Above 25 MW)*

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	Sector	State	I.C. (No. x MW)	Cap. Under Execution (MW)	Comm. Schedule
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Subansiri Lower (NHPC)	Central	Ar. Pr	8x250	2000.00	2018-19
2.	Kameng (NEEPCO)	Central	Ar. Pr.	4x150	600.00	2016-17
3.	Pare (NEEPCO)	Central	Ar. Pr.	2x55	110.00	2016-17
4.	Tuirial (NEEPCO)	Central	Mizoram	2x30	60.00	2016-17
5.	New Umtru	State	Meghalaya	2x20	40.00	2016-17
6.	Gongri	Private	Ar. Pr.	2x72	144.00	2017-18
7.	Teesta St. III	Private	Sikkim	6x200	1200.00	2014-16
8.	Teesta St. VI	Private	Sikkim	4x125	500.00	2017-18
9.	Rangit-IV	Private	Sikkim	3x40	120.00	2016-17

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10.	Jorethang Loop	Private	Sikkim	2x48	96.00	2015-16
11.	Bhasmey	Private	Sikkim	3x17	51.00	2017-18
12.	Tashiding	Private	Sikkim	2x48.5	97.00	2017-18
13.	Dikchu	Private	Sikkim	3x32	96.00	2017-18
14.	Rangit-II	Private	Sikkim	2x33	66.00	2017-18
15.	Rongnichu	Private	Sikkim	2x48	96.00	2017-18
16.	Panan	Private	Sikkim	4x75	300.00	2018-19
TOTAL					5576.00	

### Funding under NEC

333. SHRI SANTIUSE KUJUR : Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that funding under North Eastern Council (NEC) is allocated for North Eastern States, if so, the details thereof and the total budget for the 2014-15, State-wise;

(b) the number of projects that have been retained for funding and the percentage amount utilized so far; and

(c) the total number of schemes selected under NEC in the Financial Year 2014-15, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (DR. JITENDRA SINGH) : (a) Funding under the North Eastern Council (NEC) is allocated to schemes and projects pertaining to various sectors sanctioned in the NEC for the development of North Eastern States. The schemes and projects are implemented by the North Eastern States and in some cases by Central agencies such as Airports Authority of India (AAI), Border Roads Organization (BRO) and North Eastern Region Community Resource Management Project (NERCORMP) etc. The NEC releases funds to the implementing State Governments and other agencies depending upon the progress in implementation of schemes/projects. The sectoral allocation of the NEC Budget for 2014-15 (RE) of ₹ 579 core is given in the table below: