



NEC

Newsletter

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Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah addresses the 72nd Plenary meeting of the North Eastern Council (NEC) in Agartala, Tripura

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji has brought the Northeast into the focus of development with his vision and sensitivity

Modi government stands with the northeastern states for resolving their all problems

NEC is working to identify the needs and challenges of various sectors and provide effective solutions, playing a crucial role in determining the direction of development

The goal of the Modi government is to accelerate the pace of development in the Northeast and bring this region at par with the rest of India



Home Minister and Chairman of the NEC, Mr. Amit Shah, is being felicitated by the Minister of MDoNER and Vice Chairman, Mr. Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, during the NEC Plenary in Agartala

Modi government is implementing the mantra of 'Act East, Act Fast, and Act First'

Efforts should be made to change the approach, training and focus of the police in every state of the Northeast, transforming the culture and direction of the police force

In last 10 years, 71% reduction in violent incidents and 86% decrease in civilian deaths in the Northeast has been registered and 10,574 insurgents have surrendered

Modi government has achieved success in establishing peace in the Northeast through various peace agreements

Time has come for every citizen of the Northeast to be given their constitutional rights of protection of property, dignity and their family, which are imbibed in the three new criminal laws

Modi government has attracted investors and worked towards opening global markets for the region, to accelerate the development of the Northeast

Agartala, 21st December, 2024: Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah addressed the 72nd Plenary Session of North Eastern Council (NEC) in Agartala, Tripura today. Union Minister Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, Governor, Tripura, Shri Indrasena Reddy Nallu, Chief Minister, Tripura, Professor (Dr.) Manik Saha and Union Home Secretary, Shri Govind Mohan were present on the occasion. The meeting was also attended by the Governors of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, and Sikkim, as well as the Chief Ministers of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, and Sikkim, along with the Minister of Community and Rural Development of Meghalaya, and several other dignitaries.

In his address, Union Home Minister said under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi past 10 years have been very important for the North East Region. He said that the way Prime Minister Modi has brought this region into the focus of the world is transformative for the entire Northeast. Shri Shah said that for a long time this region was mere an issue of speeches for Delhi, but Prime Minister Modi has brought this area into the focus of development with his vision and sensitivity.

He said that in the last 10 years, due to the unprecedented development of infrastructure in the Northeast, not only has the physical distance been reduced, but Prime Minister Modi has also worked to bridge the distance of hearts between the people of this region and Delhi.

He said that in the last 10 years, due to the unprecedented development of infrastructure in the Northeast, not only has the physical distance been reduced, but Prime Minister Modi has also worked to bridge the distance of hearts between the people of this region and Delhi. Union Home Minister said that when Prime Minister Modi gave priority to the Northeast himself, it naturally became the priority of the entire central government. He said that today our Northeast region is on the path of development despite much diversity.

He said that 10 years ago, more than 200 tribal groups and more than 195 dialects and languages of the region had become our weakness in a way, causing different kinds of conflicts. Shri Shah said that today, when we look back, it is Prime Minister Shri Modi ji who has done the work of converting that weakness into strength and power. He said that today, more than 200 tribal groups, due to their cultural diversity, have become the center of attraction for the entire world, and over 195 dialects and languages have contributed to making the Northeast one of the 36 biodiversity hotspots in the world.



Home Minister and Chairman of the NEC, Mr. Amit Shah, lighting the lamp to mark the inauguration of the NEC Plenary in Agartala.

Union Home Minister said that there are more than 7,500 species of flowers in the Northeast alone, along with various types of wildlife and water resources. The Modi government has made significant efforts over the past 10 years to preserve these natural diversities and transform the region into a preferred tourist destination.

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation said that the Modi government has accomplished the most important task of establishing peace in the Northeast. In the past 10 years, several peace agreements have been signed and about 10,574 armed youths have surrendered and joined the mainstream, bringing peace to the Northeast and laying the foundation for development. He also mentioned the entire country and the world are now accepting Modi ji's concept of 'Ashtalakshmi'.

Union Home Minister said that today the entire country wants the prosperity for every individual and states of the Northeast so that the Northeast continues to contribute to the development of the country.

He said that in the 10 years of the Modi government, efforts have been made to build all kinds of foundational structures to move forward on the path of development with such diversity.

Union Home Minister added that now, it is time to build a strong, tall, and inclusive structure of development on this foundation. He said that the government has always given priority to the Northeast, and the goal of the Modi government is to bring this region on par with the rest of India by accelerating the pace of its development.

Shri Shah mentioned that during former Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee's government, the Ministry of DONER (Development of North Eastern Region) was established. Modi Ji urged the entire Cabinet to visit the Northeast and stay overnight there, resulting in central ministers' spending over 700 nights in the region. He added that Prime Minister Modi himself has visited the Northeast 65 times, and during each visit, he has brought developmental gifts for the region.



A packed session of the 72nd NEC Plenary in full swing at Pragna Bhawan, Agartala.

Shri Amit Shah said that the Modi government has left no stone unturned in preserving the culture of the Northeast. He mentioned that it was the Modi government that worked to include the most languages from the Northeast in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution. Shri Shah said that in various peace agreements, the central government has not only empowered and preserved the different dialects of the Northeast but has also advocated for primary education to be provided in the local languages of the region. This has greatly benefited the preservation of our cultural heritage. He noted that now, it is time to give a big push to the country's efforts to become a 5 trillion dollar economy through the development of the Northeast. He mentioned that for this, the ministries of DoNER and the North Eastern Council (NEC) are working to implement the mantra of "Act East, Act Fast, and Act First."

Union Home Minister said that over the past 50 years, the NEC has served as an important platform for discussing the aspirations, needs, and potential solutions to challenges, and has worked to become the blueprint for the development of the Northeast.

He said that the NEC has played a crucial role in harmonizing the policies of the Government of India and the states of the Northeast, ensuring that development reaches the grassroots level. He added that the NEC has been responsible for formulating development plans, connecting various tribal groups with development, and outlining the development of the Northeast by viewing the entire region from a unique perspective.

Shri Amit Shah said that Prime Minister Modi has created a positive ecosystem and on the basis of this, the states and the Ministry of DoNER must improve the investment ecosystem.

He said that connectivity from the region is no longer a problem and in some time connectivity with the world will also no longer be a problem. Shri Shah said that Prime Minister Modi has created a positive ecosystem, and based on this, the states and the DoNER Ministry must improve the investment ecosystem. He stated that connectivity is no longer a problem, and connectivity with the world will also no longer be an issue.



Home Minister Sh. Amit Shah at the 72nd NEC Plenary Session held in Agartala, alongside Minister of MDoNER Sh. Jyotiraditya Scindia and Governor of Tripura Shri Indrasena Reddy.

He said that after the Bangladesh Enclaves Exchange, our goal of connecting the Northeast with the world will be achieved very soon. He mentioned that this will strengthen the industrial ecosystem in the Northeast, and will also open up global market for those investing here. Shri Shah emphasized that for this, each state must strengthen its efforts. He also stated that the Government of India encourages all investors to invest in the Northeast.

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation said that recently, the Union Cabinet has decided to establish three semiconductor units in the Northeast for the development of the semiconductor and display manufacturing ecosystem. He mentioned that one of these units, Tata Semiconductor Assembly and Test Private Limited, will be set up in Assam with an investment of approximately ₹27,000 crore, which will be the largest investment so far. He added that this will create 20,000 direct jobs and 60,000 indirect job opportunities. Shri Shah further added that keeping this future potential in mind, the Ministry of Education, Government of India, is preparing courses in collaboration with universities in the Northeast to equip the youth with relevant education and knowledge. He emphasized that this will generate a large number of jobs for the youth in all eight states of the Northeast.

Shri Amit Shah said that it is crucial for the Northeast region to attract industrial investment, and efforts to accelerate this need to be intensified. He mentioned that the Northeast cannot remain peaceful solely through the development of the region and states; there needs to be a balance in the development of individuals, villages, and states. He emphasized that for the development of individuals, the development of villages must be ensured, and to achieve this, along with industrial development, the region must become self-reliant in the production of milk, vegetables, eggs, fish, and meat.

He said that organic products, milk, vegetables, eggs, and such items are what can drive individual development in the region, and until every individual is prosperous, the vision of a prosperous Northeast cannot be realized.

Union Home Minister said that organic farming naturally takes place throughout the Northeast. He urged all the governors, chief ministers, and chief secretaries present at the meeting to join the National Cooperative Organics Limited (NCOL) established by the Government of India. Union Home Minister said that organic farming naturally takes place throughout the Northeast.



Home Minister and Chairman of NEC, Sh. Amit Shah delivering his speech at the 72nd NEC Plenary Session in Agartala.

He urged all the governors, chief ministers, and chief secretaries present at the meeting to join the National Cooperative Organics Limited (NCOL) established by the Government of India. The objective of NCOL is to connect all farmers engaged in cooperative organic farming and build infrastructure for packaging, marketing, and export. He emphasized that all states should enter into agreements with NCOL and link their farmers to it, so that their organic products can reach the global market.

Shri Shah further stated that the Modi government has decided to establish an organic certification lab in every state of the Northeast, and in larger states like Assam, one in each district. This will ensure reliable organic certification for both soil and agricultural products. He added that through brands like Amul and Bharat, our products will be able to reach global markets.

Shri Amit Shah said that every type of connectivity in the Northeast is a priority for the Modi government. He mentioned that the Mission Palm Oil has the potential to become a significant pathway for the development of all the states in the Northeast. He highlighted that the production of oilseeds in the country is low, and we are still not self-reliant in the edible oil sector, but Mission Palm Oil can make us self-reliant in this area. Shri Shah added that so far, there is a proposal to develop 10 new oil mills in the Northeast.

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation said that the Modi government has adopted a multi-dimensional approach in the field of security, and by creating a specific strategy for each state, we have made progress over the last 10 years. He mentioned that as a result of this strategy, the police, army, Assam Rifles, and Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) have successfully established a very good system in the Northeast. Shri Shah stated that in the last 10 years, violent incidents in the Northeast have reduced by 71%, and civilian deaths have reduced by 86%. He added that nearly 10,574 insurgents have surrendered, and due to several peace agreements, the Government of India has succeeded in establishing peace throughout the Northeast.

Shri Amit Shah said that Prime Minister Modi has launched a campaign for a drug-free India, in which the Northeast has a special responsibility, as a major route for narcotics entering India passes through the states of the Northeast. He mentioned that significant work has been done in the last 6 years in this direction, but our pace is still not sufficient. Home Minister urged all the governors and chief ministers present at the meeting to emphasize organizing district-level meetings of the District Monitoring Committees and to ensure their effective monitoring. He stated that drug addiction destroys future generations, and our goal is to make India completely drug-free, with the Northeast playing a significant role in this campaign.

Home Minister emphasized that it is time to change the culture and direction of the Northeast police. He said that with peace prevailing in the region, the focus should now be on ensuring citizens receive their rightful entitlements. For this, a change is needed in the approach, training, and focus of the police in every state of the Northeast. He mentioned that the prerequisite for achieving this change is the complete implementation of these three new laws across all states in the region.



Group photo with Union Home Minister & Chairman NEC, Chief Ministers, Governors and officers of MDoNER & NEC at 72nd Plenary at State Convention Centre, Shillong

Shri Amit Shah urged all the governors present at the meeting to personally monitor this process, as it is crucial to establish the belief in the Northeast that citizens can obtain justice through filing an FIR.

He said that for four decades, the police forces in all the states of the Northeast were entirely focused on combating insurgency, and now that insurgency is no longer a major issue, the focus must shift to providing citizens with their rights. He said that if this is achieved, the constitutional rights granted to citizens across the country will also be granted to the citizens of the Northeast.

Shri Amit Shah said that the allocation for the PM-DevINE scheme was approximately ₹6600 crore, but it will soon be increased to ₹9000 crore. He mentioned that for the development of the Northeast, there are more than 111 projects, including roads, power, education, healthcare services, sports infrastructure, and tourism projects.

He added that from 2014-15, the budget for the Northeast has increased by 153%, and through the Bamboo Mission, the government has set an ambitious goal to make the entire Northeast prosperous. Shri Shah emphasized that the Modi government will provide all possible support for every type of connectivity in the Northeast, and there will be no shortage of budget for this purpose.

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation said that plans worth ₹81,000 crore have been made for rail connectivity and ₹41,000 crore for road connectivity. He mentioned that 64 new air routes have been launched, and the remaining work will be completed in the next three years. Shri Shah emphasized that the states of the Northeast should make the most use of NESAC (North Eastern Space Applications Centre).

He stated that until technology is utilized for the development of the eight northeastern states with challenging geographical conditions, the focus on development cannot be properly defined.

Regarding the flood problem in the Northeast states, the Home Minister said that by using technology to create pathways in the natural course, the budget for constructing roads could be reduced by at least 30%. He added that by diverting floodwaters and creating large ponds, all three objectives—flood prevention, agriculture, and tourism—could be achieved.

He mentioned that Assam has created 15 large ponds on an experimental basis, and all states should use this method for flood relief and water storage. Shri Shah also stated that the use of technology reduces corruption and helps in advancing Direct Benefit Transfers (DBT).

Shri Amit Shah said that a peaceful and prosperous Northeast alone is not enough. He emphasized that preserving the cultural diversity, arts, literature, and languages of the Northeast, and ensuring their existence, is important not only for the Northeast but for the entire country.

He mentioned that under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the Government of India stands with the states of the Northeast to solve every issue they face. He expressed confidence that by 2047, when India becomes fully developed, the Northeast will be the country's most prosperous region.

Courtesy: PIB

North East is on transformation under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi : Shri Jyotiraditya Scindia at the North East Plenary

Ongoing progress of North East will not only benefit the region but also serves as a key contributor to the prosperity of Southeast Asia.

In last 10 years, investments worth ₹5 lakh crore have been made in the Northeast

States in the Northeast are growing at 10–12% GDP, far outpacing the national average: Scindia at the Bankers Conclave

"If you do not grow your presence in the Northeast now, the train would have left the station"

Agartala, 21st December, 2024: Union Minister for Development of the North Eastern Region (DoNER), Shri Jyotiraditya Scindia, today addressed the North Eastern Council (NEC) Plenary Meet, emphasizing the transformation of the North East under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.



Union Minister of MDoNER and Vice Chairman, Mr. Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, delivering his address at the Bankers' Conclave 2024 in Agartala.

The 72nd NEC plenary chaired by Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah was held at Agartala today. Addressing the Plenary, Shri Jyotiraditya Scindia, who is also the Vice Chairman of the NEC said that "The Prime Minister's vision and thoughts have brought immense pride to the people of northeastern region of India. His approach is both deeply emotional and thoughtful. He has charted a new direction by transforming the 'Look East Policy' into the 'Act East Policy,' which rests on three key pillars. His vision is to turn this region into a hub of progress and development while ensuring it remains a nonviolent area".

"Once this region strengthens, we must nurture its growth and ensure its development continues to flourish. This progress will not only benefit the northeastern region but also serve as a key contributor to the prosperity of Southeast Asia. This is the Prime Minister's vision, and the steps taken so far reflect his commitment," he added.

Shri Scindia credited the region's transformation to the combined efforts of the Home Minister Shri Amit Shah, state governments, and various departments. "If we observe the current progress and peaceful environment, much of the credit goes to Home Minister Shri Amit Shah. This region, once synonymous with violence, is now being perceived as a peaceful 'Shangri-La.' With the dedication of our security forces, many underground groups and terrorist activities have been eliminated. The Home Minister's role in ensuring peace aligns with the Prime Minister's vision," he said.

Over the past decade, investments worth ₹5 lakh crore have been made in the Northeast, paving the way for its development. Shri Scindia highlighted the Prime Minister's commitment, noting that he has visited the northeastern states 64 times, a frequency unmatched by any previous government. He highlighted that the government's development efforts are driven from the ground rather than from Delhi.

Shri Scindia outlined the region's significant infrastructure achievements, including the development of 6,000 km of national highways, with 45,000 km of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak yojana under progress; the addition of 2,000 km of rail network and airports in the region has increased from 9 to 17 numbers, including Manipur's first railway line; operational airports in Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim, with Arunachal now hosting four airports. He also pointed out that while the region previously lacked waterways, 20 are now operational, significantly enhancing connectivity.

Focusing on economic growth and innovation, he highlighted initiatives such as the Northeast Venture Fund for Startups, which has supported around 5000 startups so far, with the ambitious goal of creating 1 lakh startups in the coming years and envisioning the next unicorn emerging from the Northeast.

Shri Scindia also underscored technological advancements with the establishment of 5G test labs and promoted the concept of "One State, One Product," leveraging the region's unique resources like orchids, cardamom, and silk. He emphasized the development of tourist circuits for each state and district to boost tourism and outlined plans for palm oil cultivation over 7,000 hectares and the export of Nagaland's chilies to Singapore. He also highlighted support for traditional industries such as Eri and Muga silk.

Looking ahead, Shri Scindia announced the upcoming North-East Investors Summit in Delhi to attract investments and position the Northeast as India's gateway to Southeast Asia. He outlined plans to enhance hydropower capabilities, develop state-specific logistics strategies, and continue the region's transformation with world-class infrastructure, a thriving knowledge economy, and strategic connectivity.

Shri Scindia concluded by reaffirming the government's vision to make the Northeast a model of progress, peace, and prosperity, transforming it into a vital contributor to India's growth story and its link to Southeast Asia.



Union Minister of MDoNER and Vice Chairman, Mr. Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, lighting the lamp at the NEC Plenary in Agartala.



Union Minister of MDoNER and Vice Chairman, Sh. Jyotiraditya M. Scindia delivering his address at the 72nd NEC Plenary.

Bankers' Conclave

Addressing the gathering in the Bankers' Conclave in Agartala, the Minister of DoNER highlighted the transformative initiatives of the government and the region's potential as a key economic driver for the nation.

"The Prime Minister's resolve, the Prime Minister's vision is being articulated by none other than our Home Minister Amit Shah, to ensure that this Northeast region truly becomes the growth engine of India's economy," said the Minister, as he detailed India's rise from being the 11th largest economy in 2014 to the 5th largest today, with projections to become the 3rd largest economy by 2026. He described this as a "paradigm shift and an inflection point" brought about by the Prime Minister's unwavering focus on inclusive growth.

The Minister emphasized the Northeast's unique strengths, saying, "This area has been blessed by nature, blessed by Mother Earth, with potential ranging from its abundant natural resources to its skilled human capital."

Over the past decade, the government has invested ₹5.27 lakh crore in the region, resulting in transformative infrastructure developments, including the construction of the Bogibeel Road-Rail Bridge, the Bhupen Hazarika Road Bridge, 6,000 kilometers of national highways, and the expansion of airports from 9 to 17.

He added, "Air traffic movements have nearly doubled, and international routes connecting Agartala to Chittagong and Imphal to Mandalay highlight the region's strategic importance as India's gateway to Southeast Asia."

Highlighting the financial sector's growth, he noted, "The number of bank branches has grown by 50% from 3,330 to 5,182, and credit growth has surged by 282% to ₹1.86 lakh crore. Bank deposits have increased by 152% to ₹3.52 lakh crore, while mutual fund assets have more than doubled to ₹40,000 crore." He stressed the region's booming startup ecosystem, with over 100 startups supported by venture capital funds, saying, "The time has come for a unicorn to emerge from the Northeast."

Urging the banking sector to enhance its presence in the region, the Minister remarked, "The states in the Northeast are growing at 10-12% GDP, far outpacing the national average. If you do not grow your presence in the Northeast now, the train would have left the station. The first-mover advantage is crucial."

He lauded the Prime Minister's "bottom-up development vision" and the Home Minister's efforts in fostering peace and stability, which have created an environment ripe for investment. "Come be part of this opportunity, come be part of this environment that is free for everyone—healthy for the mind, body, and soul, where AQI levels are below 10," he said, inviting stakeholders to contribute to the region's growth story.

Courtesy: PIB



Senior bank officers are deeply engaged in discussions at the Banker's Conclave.

NE is the epitome of our Nation's Diversity and strategic importance: Union MoS for DoNER Dr Sukanta Majumdar

Pre-Plenary Thematic and Technical Sessions lay base for a successful 72nd Plenary Meeting of NEC

Development agendas key to boost progress in the NE states discussed

Agartala, 20th December, 2024: On the eve of the 72nd Plenary Meeting of the North Eastern Council (NEC) being held in Agartala, Pre-Plenary Thematic and Technical Sessions today laid a strong base for a successful Plenary to be held tomorrow under the chairmanship of Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah. Today, officials from various central ministries showcased the development agendas in some of the key areas, which are fundamental for giving further boost to the development of the region.

Union Minister of State for DoNER, Dr Sukanta Majumdar during his address underscored the strategic importance of the North East region and said that the North Eastern region of India is not just a geographically significant part of our country, but it is also an epitome of the nation's diversity, culture, and strategic importance. "The region's unique geographical location at the confluence of India, China, Myanmar, Bangladesh, Bhutan, and Nepal makes it a critical bridge for regional connectivity, trade, and diplomacy", he added.



Union Minister of State for DoNER, Dr. Sukanta Majumdar, during his address, emphasized the strategic importance of the North East region.



Union Minister of State for DoNER, Dr. Sukanta Majumdar, being felicitated by Mr. Angshuman Dey, Secretary, NEC, during the NEC Pre Plenary Session.

Acknowledging the crucial role played by the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), Dr Majumdar said that DoNER has been at the forefront of driving the vision of balanced, sustainable, and inclusive growth for the region. The creation of the Ministry was a landmark moment in Government of India's commitment to the North Eastern States as it understood the need for a dedicated approach to addressing the unique challenges of this region, he added.

While enumerating some of the significant policies and interventions of the Ministry of DoNER and Government of India over the past few years, the Minister said that under the able leadership of the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the North Eastern States have seen a significant upsurge in focus and investment over the last few years. The Minister exclaimed that during the last decade, emphasis has been laid to develop the airways, railways and waterways in the region. The Minister said, "The North East Special Infrastructure Development Scheme provides 100% central funding to the State Governments of North Eastern Region for the projects of physical infrastructure relating to water supply, power and connectivity enhancing tourism and Social infrastructure. Government of India has taken the specific initiative for improvement of connectivity within the region by programs such as SARDP-NE, Bharatmala-I, etc. and with rest of India through East-West Corridor program."

The Minister exclaimed that under the guidance of Hon'ble Prime Minister, it was planned that each NE State would have a visit of a Union Minister in every 15 days in order to accelerate the pace of development in NER and to maximize the efficacy of the projects being implemented by the Government in the region. He further emphasised on the commitment of the central government towards the region while he said, "I would like to share that 74 Union Ministers have visited NER for more than 157 times from January, 2023 to March, 2024. These visits are helping in mapping the aspirations and sentiments of the local population and effective implementation of the schemes of Government in NER."



Mr. Chanchal Kumar, Secretary, MDoNER, during his address at the NEC Pre Plenary Session.



Angshuman Dey, Secretary, NEC, felicitating Mr. Chanchal Kumar, Secretary, MDoNER, during the NEC Pre Plenary Session.



Mr. Angshuman Dey, Secretary, NEC, welcoming the dignitaries during the NEC Pre Plenary Session.

The Minister while acknowledging challenges faced by the region said that there are still some challenges that need to be addressed for the region to realize its full potential such as development of border trade routes, smart cities, and digital infrastructure, promoting agriculture-based industries, improving market access, and implementing sustainable farming practices. He added, "It is only through the collective efforts of the Central Ministries, State Governments, and other stakeholders that we can work towards overcoming these challenges."

He expressed his happiness about today's deliberations and said that the presentations and discussions on the different thematic areas were indeed fruitful. He further said, "As we prepare for tomorrow's Plenary session, I urge all the stakeholders present here today to look beyond the challenges and work together to harness the immense potential that the North Eastern region holds. By forging strong partnerships between the Central Ministries and State Governments, we can create an ecosystem that is inclusive, sustainable, and aligned with the aspirations of the people of the region".

Secretary DoNER, Shri Chanchal Kumar during his address exclaimed that the presentations by the Ministries were informative and crucial to further boost the development of the region. He also said that concerns raised by various states have been well noted by the Ministries concerned and all stakeholders will work together to ensure proper implementation of the government schemes in the region.

Secretary NEC Shri Angshuman Dey in his inaugural address, while explaining the purpose of the Pre-Plenary sessions, said that NEC Plenary meetings provide an important platform to discuss the needs, challenges and possible solutions for the NER which have in many ways over the years shaped the policies and approaches towards NER by Government of India and the State Governments of North East. During the last NEC Plenary four areas of importance for NER was discussed namely: Investment Policies/Programmes in NER States, Industry 4.0 for NER, Strengthening of logistics in NER and Inter-regional trade/import substitution/export. He expressed his satisfaction over the successful actions that have been taken during the last one year by Government of India and State Governments in this regard.



Secretaries of various Union Ministries and Members of NEC are seen on the dais with the Union Minister of State for DoNER, Dr. Sukanta Majumdar, during the NEC Pre Plenary Session.

The Secretary, while enumerating some of the measures taken in order to position Northeast India as a prime investment destination, said that MDoNER is organising the North East Investor Summit in Delhi around April, 2025 whereas a bipartite MoU between Ministry of DoNER and Invest India for strengthening Investment Promotion Agencies (IPAs) in the eight states of North East has been signed.

Further, Government of India has formulated New Industrial Development Scheme, UNNATI (Uttar Poorva Transformative Industrialization Scheme), 2024 as a Central Sector Scheme for the development of Industries and generation of employment in the states of North East Region, he added.

In the technical session, discussions were held on six important sectors which are fundamental for giving further boost to the development of the region namely, National Palm Oil Mission and leveraging North East for increasing Palm Oil Acreage, 4G Saturation Project (State Dependencies, Financial Inclusion (Opening of Bank/IPPB Branch in Uncovered Villages, Un-electrified Villages, Road Connectivity and PM Electric Drive Revolution.



Senior officers from various Union Ministries and North Eastern States are seen engaged in the NEC Pre Plenary Session.



Ms. Sherry Lalhangzo, Economic Adviser (E&M), NEC, delivering her vote of thanks during the Pre Plenary Session.

While underscoring the potential of Palm Oil production in the region, Shri Dey said that the role of the North-Eastern Region is pivotal in achieving Atmanirbharta in edible oil, as the scope for Oil Palm production spans across six NER states:

Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, and Tripura, encompassing a vast potential area of 8.4 lakh hectares, which is 38% of the national potential. As of now, more than 30 nurseries have been established in the region with the capacity of 30 lakh planting material, he added.

Today's session was attended by Members of NEC, Chief Secretaries of State and senior officials of different ministries of the central government and officials of the state governments of the North Eastern states.

Courtesy: PIB

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah addresses the North East Bankers' Conclave 2024, organized by the North East Development Finance Corporation (NEDFi) in Agartala, Tripura

Under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji, Northeast will become the gateway to India's development & trust and will break all records in infrastructure development in next 25 years

Modi Ji has empowered the Northeast from the perspectives of emotion, economy, and ecology

In the next 10 years, the Northeast is expected to experience an average growth rate of 20%

In 2023-24, our public sector banks earned a profit of 1.5 lakh crore, and their NPA remained below 2.8%

The Northeast is the best destination for investing in future business

The greatest potential lies within the Northeast, which is why the region needs to be viewed not through statistics, but through sensitivity

All bankers should explore 100% potential in every state of the Northeast region and move forward in the direction of building a developed Northeast and a developed India

Today, our waterways are connected to Chittagong port, opening the way for products from the northeast to be shipped across the world

India's banks have successfully provided MUDRA loans, SVANidhi loans, and completed the recovery of 10 lakh crore rupees in bad debts over the past 10 years



Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, addressing the Bankers' Conclave 2024 in Agartala.

Agartala, December 21, 2024—Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah addressed the North East Bankers Conclave 2024, organized by the North East Development Finance Corporation (NEDFi) in Agartala, the capital of Tripura. On this occasion, Union Minister of Communications and Development of the North East Region Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, Chief Minister of Tripura Professor (Dr.) Manik Saha, Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh Shri Pema Khandu, Union Minister of State for Northeast Development Dr. Sukanta Majumdar, the Union Home Secretary, Shri Govind Mohan and several other dignitaries were present.

In his address Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation said that for India, with a population of 1.4 billion and diverse geographical conditions, it is essential to promote the economy while ensuring the economic development of every region, state, village, and individual.

He said until we complete economic development of 140 crore people of the country we cannot become a developed nation. Shri Shah added that the concept of a developed nation is that every person is capable of looking after his family, every person has basic facilities and every person contribute in the development of the country. He said that such nation can become a developed nation.

Shri Amit Shah said that equal development is necessary for any country to move forward and our bankers should adopt this basic principle. He said that development of the Northeast is a national responsibility of all of us. Shri Shah requested bankers that they should not see Northeast only from the perspective of business, potential and profit but as a responsibility. He highlighted that under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji, the Northeast will become the gateway to India's development and trust in the next 25 years, serving as the gateway to the entire nation's trust. He expressed confidence that the Northeast will break all records in infrastructure development as well.

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation appealed to the participants of the Northeast Bankers Conclave to assist in financial inclusion, economic development, and infrastructure development, urging that their approach should be sensitive to these areas.

He called for the creation of separate parameters for finance, infrastructure, agriculture, MSMEs, and personal loans in the Northeast.

Shri Shah said that the State Bank of India should develop specific guidelines for Northeast finance, considering the current capacity of the region with a positive outlook. He emphasized that there is immense potential in the region, and the Northeast has become the gateway for India's exports.



Union Minister of MDoNER and Vice Chairman, Mr. Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, delivering his address at the Bankers' Conclave 2024 in Agartala.



Union Minister of State for DoNER, Dr. Sukanta Majumdar, during his address at the Bankers' Conclave 2024 in Agartala.



Chief Minister of Tripura, Dr. Manik Saha, delivering his address at the Bankers' Conclave 2024 in Agartala.

Shri Amit Shah said that a few years ago, the enclaves between Bangladesh and India were exchanged. After independence, some parts of India were inside Bangladesh, and some parts of Bangladesh were within India, which caused significant difficulties in building and maintaining infrastructure. Prime Minister Modi Ji took the initiative, and after 75 years of independence, constitutional amendments were made and talks were held with Bangladesh to exchange the enclaves between the two countries. As a result, today our waterways are connected to Chittagong, and through the Chittagong port, the entire Northeast now has open routes to send products to the world. He said that earlier the transportation cost used to be 12 to 15 percent, making it impossible to export products from the North East to outside the country, but today, whatever is produced in the Northeast, the global market is open through the Chittagong port.

Union Home Minister said that in the past 10 years, a revolution in connectivity for the economic development of the Northeast has almost been completed. Through ISRO, excellent programs have been developed for the proper and efficient use of local resources, and peace and stability have also been achieved in the Northeast. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji has empowered the Northeast from the perspectives of emotion, economy, and ecology. In the past 10 years, Narendra Modi ji himself has visited the Northeast 65 times, and central ministers have spent over 700 nights in the Northeast. This reflects that the Northeast is a major focus of the Government of India.



CMD SIDBI, Chairman NABARD, and MD & CEO PNB joining the Deep prajwalan ceremony at the start of the North East Banker's Conclave 2024.



Home Minister, Sh. Amit Shah sitting on the dais along with Minister, MDoNER Sh. Jyotiraditya Scindia, CM Tripura and Arunachal and MoS, MDoNER.

Shri Amit Shah said that in the past 10 years, many successful insolvency laws have been created in India's banking sector. The banks in India have managed to complete the recovery of bad debts worth 10 lakh crores through schemes like MUDRA loans, SVANidhi loans, and others. Home Minister mentioned that 10 public sector banks have been merged into larger banks. Previously, public sector banks were operating at a loss, but in 2023-24, these banks made a profit of 1.5 lakh crores, and their NPA has reduced below 2.8%. He added that for future business investments, there is no better destination than the Northeast, as it is expected to experience an average growth rate of 20% over the next 10 years. Shri Shah emphasized that the financial policy should be made more flexible, and a good package should be provided to every sector and industry in the Northeast to move forward.



August gathering of senior bankers, high-ranking government officials, and other distinguished invitees at the North East Bankers' Conclave 2024.



Senior members of the banking fraternity and other distinguished invitees at the Agartala Bankers' Conclave.

Shri Amit Shah said that the biggest benefit of UPI will be for the Northeast. 95% of India's villages are now equipped with 3G and 4G connectivity, and 80% connectivity has been completed in the Northeast as well.

Additionally, numerous infrastructure projects have been carried out in the Northeast, over 20 water-based projects have been completed, and peace has been established.

He mentioned that in the coming days, many industries are likely to come to the region. Tata Group's Rs. 27,000 crore semiconductor project indicates that large industrial groups are looking to explore the potential of the Northeast.

Home Minister further stated that the 50,000 MW hydropower potential in the region has not yet been fully explored, and the Brahmaputra River could provide the country with an endless supply of affordable electricity.

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation said that the greatest potential lies within the Northeast, and the region should be viewed not through statistics, but through sensitivity.

Its development should not be seen as a business task, but as a national responsibility. Shri Shah said that all bankers should explore 100% potential in every state of the Northeast region and move forward in the direction of building a developed Northeast and a developed India.



Senior officers are addressing stakeholders' queries at the Banker's Conclave.

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah chaired the 12th meeting of the North Eastern Space Applications Centre (NESAC) Society in Agartala



Union Home Minister Sh. Amit Shah addressing a full house at the 12th meeting of the North Eastern Space Applications Centre Society in Agartala.

Under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, India's space sector has taken a giant leap forward in last 10 years

NESAC Society should further expand the scope of its work in Northeastern states

NESAC Society should take 100 students each with science background from all the states of the Northeast on a visit to the ISRO HQ

20 waterways have been built with the help of NESAC and the Society should explore the possibility of building more waterways

There is a need for extensive mapping for mineral, oil, and coal reserves in the Northeastern states, which will financially benefit from the royalty received for these minerals

Demographic data of people along India-Myanmar border, especially in Nagaland, Mizoram and Manipur, should be mapped to help in fencing of the border and stopping infiltration

Forest area development should be the focus of NESAC Society using space science

Northeastern states should start new courses related to space technology in engineering colleges



Home Minister Sh. Amit Shah with Chief Minister of Tripura Dr. Manik Saha, Minister of DoNER Sh. Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, and MoS, DoNER Dr. Sukanta Majumdar.

Agartala, 21st December, 2024: Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah chaired the 12th meeting of the North Eastern Space Applications Centre (NESAC) Society in Agartala, Tripura today. Union Minister for Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, Chief Minister of Tripura Dr. Manik Saha, Chief Minister of Assam Shri Himanta Biswa Sarma, Chief Minister of Manipur Shri N. Biren Singh, Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh Shri Pema Khandu, Chief Minister of Sikkim Shri Prem Singh Tamang, Union Minister of State for Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) Shri Sukanta Majumdar, Union Home Secretary Shri Govind Mohan, Secretary, D/o Space Dr. S. Somnath and Director, Intelligence Bureau Shri Tapan Deka, senior officials of the Central Government and State Governments of North Eastern Region were present on the occasion.

In his address, Shri Amit Shah said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, India's space sector has taken a giant leap forward in last 10 years. He said that after 25 years of establishment of NESAC Society, the positive aspects of the work being done by the Society are now visible. He said that the NESAC Society should further expand the scope of its work in these states, and, for this, initiatives should also be taken by the state governments.

Union Home Minister urged the NESAC Society to take 100 students each with science background from all the states of the Northeast on a visit to the HQ of Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) so that they can develop interest in space and related technology. He urged the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region to contribute 60 percent for this project. Shri Shah also urged the state governments of the Northeast to start new courses related to space technology in engineering colleges.



Secretary, Department of Space and Chairman of ISRO, Dr. S. Somanath, also the Vice President of the NESAC Society, presenting a memento to Home Minister Sh. Amit Shah.



Dr. S. Somanath, Secretary of the Department of Space, Chairman of ISRO, and Vice President of the NESAC Society, delivering his address at the Bankers' Conclave.

Shri Amit Shah said that so far 20 waterways have been built with the help of NESAC and the Society should explore the possibility of building more waterways. He said that there is a need for extensive mapping for mineral, oil, and coal reserves in the Northeastern states. The Northeastern states will be financially benefitted from the royalty received for these minerals. Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation said that the demographic data of people along the India-Myanmar border, especially in Nagaland, Mizoram and Manipur, should be mapped so that it can help in fencing of the border and infiltration can be stopped. He said that for this, there is a need to conduct a comprehensive survey in the border areas.

Shri Amit Shah said that the NESAC Society should focus on forest area development using space science. He said that for this, necessary steps should be taken by comparing old maps with the latest maps and where there are possibilities, efforts should be made to plant trees in collaboration with the state governments. Similarly, the Home Minister also asked the Society to map floods in the North-Eastern states. Union Home Minister lauded the efforts of NESAC Society for proper and positive use of space technology in administration and emphasized its extensive use in the development

of a difficult geographical area like the North-East in the coming times. Shri Shah also said that the NESAC Society should also focus on developing its revenue model.



Dr. S. P. Aggarwal, Director of the North Eastern Space Applications Centre, delivering his address at the 12th Meeting of NESAC.



Minister of DoNER Sh. Jyotiraditya M. Scindia receiving a memento from Secretary, Dept. of Space and Chairman of ISRO, Dr. S. Somanath.

Achievements of

Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (2024)



1. Achievements under Schemes of MDoNER

(i) Sanctioned Projects for NE States

In the year 2024 till 15.12.2024 a total number of 86 Projects worth Rs. 1970.54 crore have been sanctioned and Rs 1590.81 crore has been released under various Schemes of MDoNER viz. North East Special Infrastructure Development Scheme–Other Than Roads Infrastructure (NESIDS–OTRI), North East Special Infrastructure Development Scheme – Roads (NESIDS–Roads), Prime Minister’s Development Initiative for North East Region (PM–DevINE), Schemes of NEC and Special Development Packages.

(ii) Process reform for approval of project and release of funds:

- a. Simplification of Scheme guidelines: Guidelines of schemes of PM DevINE, NESIDS (OTRI), NESIDS (Roads) have been simplified to jointly consider concept note and DPR of project proposals in one go. This will reduce the lead-time in conceptualization and sanction of projects.
- b. Rationalization of Financial and Sectoral Demarcation: Financial and sectoral demarcation among the schemes of MDoNER has been rationalized to prevent duplication of sanction of projects belonging to similar sectors across multiple schemes of MDoNER.
- c. Simplification of process flow: The process of flow of funds for projects sanctioned under schemes of MDoNER/NEC has been simplified to enable the release of funds for projects in 4 instalments only. This has standardized the process of release of funds and reduced the delay and pendency of release cases.
- d. Poorvottar Vikas Setu portal: This portal has been developed to digitize the process for submission of concept notes and DPRs to MDoNER for expeditious processing of proposals. This has also ensured proper tracking of all proposals received from State Governments.

Achievements of

Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (2024)

e. PM Gati Shakti Portal: MDoNER has created its own instance of the PM Gati Shakti portal which contains the geotagged details of all the ongoing and completed projects. Post sanction processes of all the ongoing projects are monitored through this portal.

2. Expenditure under 10% Gross Budgetary Support for NE Region

As per the extant policy of the Government, all non-exempted Central Ministries / Departments (currently 54) are mandated to spend at least 10% of their Gross Budgetary Support (GBS) of Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes for North Eastern Region (NER). Regular quarterly review meetings at the level of Hon'ble Minister / Secretary, MDoNER are being held to ensure that all Ministries spend the mandatory 10% of their GBS in the North Eastern Region. Meeting with the Ministries/Departments which are not able to spend as per their target are being held separately in order to expedite the implementation of the projects and also the expenditures.

10% GBS scheme developed to depict the information of Budget Estimate (BE), Actual Expenditure (AE) for All India as well as North East Region in scheme level from each ministry/departments collected on monthly basis. All the Non Exempted ministries have been provided login in this portal for data entry. This portal helps in monitoring the progress of 10% GBS Schemes. Various types of reports are also available in this portal.

3. Focus on NER- Fortnightly Visit of Hon'ble Union Ministers to NE States

In order to accelerate the pace of development in North Eastern Region and to maximize the efficacy of the projects/schemes being implemented by the Government in the region, it was decided that each North Eastern State will be visited by a Union Minister in every 15 days.



MDoNER anchors and coordinates these visits by nominating Union Ministers for visiting NE States by rotation every month, since 2015. From January, 2015 to 31st November, 2024, Union Ministers visited NE for more than 723 times. These visits are coordinated and monitored through "PoorvottarSamparkSetu" portal, which provides valuable insights and graphical information about State-wise/District-wise visits of Hon'ble Union Ministers in NE. Action taken on the recommendation of Union Ministers during these visits is reviewed by Hon'ble MoS, MDoNER from time to time.

4. Setting up of various Task Forces:

1. **Agarwood Task Force:** Agar is one of the world's most valuable trees, native to North East Region (NER) used for medicine and fragrance purposes. The agarwood sector in the NE holds significant promise for economic growth and international trade. Recognizing its potential, an Inter-Ministerial Task Force (IMTF) was constituted by Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (MDoNER) to streamline and enhance the agarwood industry in the region towards sustainable development and global competitiveness.
2. **Tourism Task Force:** To develop one world-class tourism site per NE state to attract global visitors; establish GI status for 200 unique products in NE and foster cultural identity and brand recognition, Inter-ministerial Tourism Task Force has been set. Tourism sites for development in each state have been identified and shared with the respective States. The State shall be taking a final decision on the way forward.

5. Key Initiatives:

- **Vividhtaka Amrit Mahotsav:** On 08th February, 2024, Hon'ble President of India, Smt. Drupadi Murmu inaugurated the 4-day cultural extravaganza "Vividhtaka Amrit Mahotsav": A cultural odyssey unveiling the richness of Northeast India at AmritUdyan, RashtrapatiBhavan, New Delhi. The then Hon'ble Minister of DoNER Shri G. Kishan Reddy and Hon'ble Minister of Earth Science, Shri Kiren Rijiju were also present during the occasion. MDoNER organized this event in partnership with the Ministry of Culture. The Mahotsav showcased the rich diversity of Northeast India, blending traditional arts, crafts, and cultures under one vibrant umbrella. The Mahotsav also celebrated the vibrant tapestry of diverse flavours and unique traditions of Northeast India's culinary landscape including Assam Laksa, Manipur's Eromba etc.
- **CSR Roundtable:** On 15 February, 2024, MDoNER organized a Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) roundtable in VigyanBhawan, New Delhi. Secretary, MDoNER, Senior Officers from MDoNER and Ministry of Corporate Affairs; North Eastern States; North Eastern Council; representatives of CPSEs; various corporate and NGOs participated in the event. The roundtable provided a platform to the states to share ideas about increasing CSR spend in NE.
- **Bharatiya Kala Mahotsav:** On 29 September, 2024, Hon'ble President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu, inaugurated the "Bharatiya Kala Mahotsav" held from 29 September to 6 October, 2024 at Rashtrapati Nilayam, Hyderabad. Hon'ble Governors of all eight NE States and Telangna, Hon'ble Minister for Culture and Tourism, Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Hon'ble MoS, MDoNER, Shri Sukanta Majumdar also graced the inauguration. The eight-day festival was held to celebrate the rich cultural heritage of the North-Eastern States, offering visitors a unique opportunity to explore the vibrant arts, crafts, music, dance, and culinary delights from the region. Over 300 talented artists and artisans from these regions showcased their diverse traditions.
- **North East Sammelan:** On 05 February, 2024 Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (MDoNER) organized North East Sammelan at Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi. During the event Hon'ble Minister, MDoNER virtually laid foundation stone of the North Eastern Cultural and Social Institute at Dwarka costing Rs 116.38 crore and inaugurated the Barak Hostel at JNU, New Delhi, costing Rs 28.67 crore.

- **Purvottara Vikas Chintan Shivir:** On 13th September, 2024, “PurvottaraVikas Chintan Shivir” was held under the Chairmanship of Secretary, MDoNER. Representatives of 54 Union Ministries/Departments, NITI Aayog, Border Road Organization, Deputy Commissioners of 14 Aspirational Districts of NER, Planning Secretaries of eight NE States, Senior Officers of MDoNER and its organizations participated in the dialogue and offered valuable inputs for streamlining timely project implementation.
- **World Food India (WFI) 2024:** WFI-2024 was held at Bharat Mandapam from 19-22 September, 2024. In the 4-day Mega event several countries, other Indian States and UTs and 18 Central Ministries and allied Government bodies participated. MDoNER participated in the event through its CPSE, North Eastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation Ltd. (NERAMAC) and all 8 NE States. MDoNER, in association with World Food India, hosted a session on 'Sustainable Agriculture for Livelihoods Promotion in the North Eastern Region (NER) of India'.
- **Ashtalakshmi Mahotsav(6-8 December, 2024):** The first ever Ashtalakshmi Mahotsav was organized at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi showcasing Northeast India's vibrant textile sector, tourism opportunities, traditional craftsmanship, and distinctive Geographical Indication (GI) tagged products.
- **The Mahotsav was inaugurated by Hon'ble PM.CMs of Assam, Sikkim, Meghalya& Tripura and Ministers from Other NE States and other dignitaries attended the inaugural function and technical sessions. It served as a celebration of the region's cultural wealth while focusing on its strategic importance in India's future development. The event introduced Purvi, the mascot of the Ashtalakshmi Mahotsav. Purvi, a young girl representing the region's heritage, culture, and aspirations beyond the duration of the event.**



- Over 250 artisans will displayed unique handicrafts, handlooms, and agri-horti products, including 34 GI-tagged items. Technical sessions focused on key development areas like women's leadership, IT, energy, healthcare, sports etc. An Investors Roundtable explored opportunities in sectors like handicrafts, agriculture, and tourism, while Buyer-Seller Meets promoted business collaborations. The investors roundtable held during Mahotsav garnered a total of Rs 2326 Cr worth of investment intents.
- Bankers' Conclave (21.12.2024): Bankers' Conclave 2.0 has been organized on 21.12.2024 in Agartala, Tripura with the objective to enhance financial inclusion and economic growth in the Northeast. Financial Inclusion, Credit Delivery, Digital Ecosystem and Priority Sector Lending has been the key focus areas. In the conclave deliberation held on in chalking out the strategies to improve financial literacy, promote SHGs, and formalize MSMEs. It may also result in Increased credit flow and end-to-end financing for sustainable development in NER.



6. Investment Promotion in Northeast Region

- The Ministry is organizing investment promotion activities to showcase the region's investment and trade potential. The focus sectors identified for the purpose are agriculture & allied sectors, handicrafts & handlooms, tourism & hospitality, IT&ITeS, sports & entertainment, education & skill development and healthcare. As a precursor to North-East Investor's Summit (NEIS), which the Ministry, plans to organize in March-April, 2025), a total of 4 Road Shows have been organized during 2024 in Kolkata, Mumbai, Hyderabad and Bengaluru to showcase investment and trade potential of North Eastern Region. 115 MoUs worth Rs.38,856 have been signed between the States and Investors so far covering all the 6 Roadshows so far.
- With an intent to strengthen the Investment Promotion Agency (IPA) and to assist the NE State Government to meet the objectives of attracting, facilitating and increasing investments in their states, MDoNER has signed an Memorandum of Understanding with Invest India. The activities and deliverables include smooth investment facilitation, focused investment, improvement in investment ecosystem & Ease of Doing Business development of mutually beneficial partnerships for investment, support in the preparation of investor-friendly policies, identification of key growth sectors and build partnerships for investment and commerce; which would help in leveraging the resources of North Eastern states to ensure sustainable development and inclusive growth.

7. North Eastern Council Plenary

- 72st Plenary of North Eastern Council was held at State Convention Centre, Shillong on 21st December, 2024. It was Chaired by Hon'ble Union Home Minister and Chairman of NEC, Shri Amit Shah in the presence of the then Hon'ble Union Minister, DoNER and Vice-Chairman, NEC, Shri Jyotiraditya Scindia and the Hon'ble MoS, DoNER and Member, NEC, Shri Sukanta Mazumdar, Hon'ble Governors of NE States and Hon'ble Chief Ministers of NE States. The Plenary was also attended by Secretary, MDoNER, Secretary, NEC and Other Senior Officers of Government of India and State Governments of NER. Various issues pertaining to NEC and NER were discussed during the Plenary. Hon'ble Home Minister emphasized on the development of Infrastructure, use of technology etc.

8. IT Interventions:

- Launch of North Eastern Region Agri-Commodity e-Connect (NERACE) app: On 12 July, 2024, Hon'ble Minister of DoNER launched the North Eastern Region Agri-Commodity e-Connect (NERACE) app. The NERACE is a unified digital platform connecting farmers to the global market, enabling direct transactions and price negotiation. The app features a multilingual helpline (English, Hindi, Assamese, Bengali, Nepali, Khasi, Mizo and Manipuri) and integrated farmers and sellers, enhancing agricultural connectivity in North East India. By bridging the gap between farmers and buyers, NERACE aims to empower farmers to reach more buyers, improve their income, and enhance access to new opportunities.
- Mobile Application: For field level monitoring of the projects and to assist FTSUs during the physical inspection of the projects, a Mobile Application has been developed for Post Sanction Monitoring activity. This app has the facility to update physical progress, images of project, tender details, project location etc.

9. Five-point framework for the development of Northeast Region: Ministry has worked out five-point framework for the overall development of NEC. It includes:

- **Competitive Matrix:** To ensure the overall development of Northeast Ministry has determined (i) Competitiveness of a particular State vis-a vis other 7 States in Northeast; (ii) Competitive Strength of a State vis-a vis rest of India; and (iii) Relative Strength of a state compared to its international neighbors. SWOT analysis in terms of Strengths, weakness, opportunities, and threats have been done for each State on various parameters viz Health, Education, Energy, Infrastructure-transport & connectivity, Agri-Allied and Food Processing and Tourism. Recommendations for short term, medium term and long-term measures have been shared with the States. MDoNER has identified areas having potential but not yet tapped fully, such as Tourism, cultivation of Palm Oil, Agarwood, horticulture, etc. and these have been discussed with State CMs during the visits of Hon'ble Minister of Development of North Eastern Region.
- **Vibrant Village:** The program aims to identify and develop villages and towns along the northeastern border, specifically in Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim, to enhance infrastructure and improve the quality of life for residents. It focuses on economic growth, road connectivity, renewable energy, telecom services, ecosystem regeneration, tourism, financial inclusion, skill development, and the establishment of cooperative societies.
- **Capital Investment:** It aims to complete major projects in the State sanctioned under the schemes of MDoNER and 10% Gross Budgetary Support (GBS) provision for other Line Ministries and Departments. The strategy emphasizes the identification and implementation of transformative projects, selecting five landmark initiatives per state to ensure high impact. This approach aims to gradually transition towards fewer but larger and more significant projects, maximizing resources and achieving substantial developmental outcomes.

100% saturation: To Identify one idea for implementation and then work towards ensuring cent-percent saturation of the idea throughout the State.

- **Performance Based Incentives:** MDoNER is planning to incentivize States showing greater efficiency in completion of projects and operationalization by allocating them higher budget outlay.

10. Ministry of DoNER is conducting a series of lectures 'VICHAAR' on monthly basis since January, 2024 on emerging topics of development. The lectures are aimed at engendering high quality interactions and insights into various challenges and opportunities in the North Eastern Region. Eminent speakers from Institutions/Organisations of repute are invited to share their ideas in various fields of development viz. infrastructure, livelihood generation, skill development, entrepreneurship, capacity building, renewable energy etc.

Till September, 2024 six lectures have been conducted by Ministry on following topics involving eminent speakers from Institutions/Organisations etc:-

- Sustainable Infrastructure in North East Region: Possibilities & Challenges on 24.01.2024,
- Opportunities of Livelihood in Agri & Horti in NER on 01.02.2024
- Capacity Building of weavers and Artisans in NER on 29.02.2024
- Promotion of Entrepreneurship-Startups in NER on 28.03.2024
- Ideas and scope of developing renewable energy in NER" on 26.04.2024
- Artificial Intelligence in Public Sector on 09.09.2024.

11. Achievements of North Eastern Handicrafts & Handlooms Development Corporation Limited (NEHHDC)

NEHHDC identified & mobilised 623 numbers of artisans and weavers of all the eight NE states and showcased the rich crafts of the NER and provided marketing platform to them in the recently completed ATMANIRBHAR BHARAT UTSAV, VIVIDHTA KA AMRIT MAHOTSAV 2024, SURAJKUND MELA 2024.

- To highlight the significance of Eri silk culture, as a part of the 78th Independence Day celebrations, 2024, NEHHDC has inaugurated the Eri Silk Rearing and Production Experience Centre (ESRPEC) at the Garchuk office campus. The main aim of this centre is to promote Eri culture and to demonstrate the various stages of the Eri silk lifecycle. Additionally, the centre will feature educational exhibits, videos, and interactive displays to emphasize the history, cultural significance, and technical aspects of Eri silk.
- NEHHDC has also obtained the prestigious OEKO-TEX® STANDARD 100 certification for its Eri Silk from Germany on the Nation's 78th Independence Day.
- Established a Center of Excellency in collaboration with Apparel Made- Ups & Home Furnishing Sector Skill Council at Garchuk, Guwahati for conducting job-oriented and industry related curriculum for under graduate, post graduate and continuing education, to promote Training of Trainers and assessors and skilling industry professional on Apparel & Home Furnishings sectors.
- Launched YARN ON WHEELS (Har Ghar Dhaga) initiative along with yarn through NEHHDC mobile app which have significantly impacted the local weaving community for more affordable yarn directly at their doorstep by supplying 1,907.53 kg of yarns of Cotton, Eri, Tussar and Acrylic of ₹28.40 lakhs.
- Established in-house Smart Handloom and Innovation Centre under the brand name 'Nature's Weave', which has produced 4977 units of sarees, stoles, dupattas, mufflers, bedsheets, curtains cushion covers and 1240 metres of other yardage fabrics made from Cotton, Eri, Mulberry, Muga silks etc. with overall sale of ₹91.03 lakhs.
- Established an NABL accredited Textile Testing Laboratory, at Garchuk, Guwahati and as on date 12,971 numbers of Test Reports are provided to private and government agencies regarding testing fiber, yarns and fabric. The Laboratory is able to carry out various testing like fiber content, fiber fitness, fabric thickness, thread count, yarn count, Lea Strength Test etc.

Courtesy: PIB



REPORT ON OBSERVANCE OF VIGILANCE AWARENESS WEEK, 2024

Vigilance Awareness Week, 2024 was observed at the North Eastern Council Secretariat, Shillong, from 28th October to 3rd November, 2024. As part of the observance, banners were displayed at various locations within the office. A comprehensive programme was planned for the week, and information about the events was shared through the North Eastern Council's social media accounts.



Shri Som Kamei, Planning Adviser, NEC, administering the Integrity Pledge for citizens and organizations during Vigilance Awareness Week, 2024.



Officers and staff of the Secretariat taking the Integrity Pledge during Vigilance Awareness Week, 2024.

The Vigilance Awareness Week commenced with a Pledge-taking ceremony on 28th October, 2024. The Integrity Pledge for citizens and organizations was administered by Shri Som Kamei, Planning Adviser, NEC. All officers and staff of the Secretariat took the pledges.

On 29th October, 2024, a Bi-lingual Essay Writing Competition was organized for the officers and staff of the NEC, on the theme "सत्यनिष्ठा की संस्कृति से राष्ट्र की समृद्धि / Culture of Integrity for Nation's Prosperity." A total of 19 participants took part in the competition. After assessing the essays, three top writers in each category were awarded 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes, along with certificates and cash prizes. The remaining participants received certificates of participation.



Officers and staff of the Secretariat taking the Integrity Pledge during Vigilance Awareness Week, 2024.



Section Officer, Dr. P.K. Ghosh, providing details of the programs conducted during Vigilance Awareness Week, 2024.



Winners and participants of various events posing for a photograph after the prize distribution ceremony during Vigilance Awareness Week, 2024.



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