

RETROSPECT

Infrastructure Developments in the North East – Leveraging Opportunities

Unlocking North East India's Growth Potential through Infrastructure and Connectivity

3-4 February 2014, Guwahati, Assam

Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) in partnership with the Planning Commission, Ministry of Development of the North East Region (DoNER) and Government of Assam organized the two-day Conference on 'Infrastructure Developments in the North East – Leveraging Opportunities' in Guwahati during 4-5 February 2014.

While addressing at the Inaugural Session, Mr Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission, emphasized that Infrastructure Development in the North East, its connectivity with rest of the country and neighboring nations, and utilizing its power generation

potential could benefit the country. He stressed upon the need to explore the power generation potential of the Region from non-fossil fuel.

The two day Conference was attended by Ministers of the North Eastern States, Policy Makers, and industrialists.



“growth rate in North East is accelerating and in the 11th plan, it has surpassed the all India growth”.

Mr Montek Singh Ahluwalia
Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission,
Government of India



Mr Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission, addressing the Inaugural Session of the Conference on Infrastructure Developments in the North East-Leveraging Opportunities (also seen in picture Ministers' from Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Nagaland)



“Inter and intra state connectivity in the North East will benefit large section of population and create bedrock for regional prosperity”

Mr Paban Singh Ghatowar
State Minister, Ministry of Development
of the North Eastern Region



“To accomplish the essence of India's Look East policy, it was necessary to have pertinent transit arrangements and prolific trade routes and arrangements with participating nations”.

Mr Pradyut Bordoloi
Chairman, Forum of Industries & Commerce Ministers, NER and
Minister – Industry & Commerce, Power, Public Enterprise, Govt. of Assam

‘Networking the North East Region – Building Connections’



Panelists sharing perspectives at the Special Plenary Session on Networking the North East Region – Building Connections

The Session focused on improvements made in the infrastructure sector in the last 10 years especially in Roads, Railways, Civil Aviation, Power, Telecom,

Waterways, and Energy leading to development of new connectivity and economic corridors.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS



“It is expected that in next 10 years around Rs. 5000 crore will be spent for infrastructure development in airports in the Region”

Mr Ashok Lavasa
Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation, Govt. of India



“Commissioning of Harmuti-Itanagar and Dudhnai-Mendipathar new line expected in March, 2014 will provide Rail connectivity to all North Eastern States except Sikkim”

Mr Subodh Jain
Member, Engineering, Railway Board, Govt. of India



“Power projects worth 17,000 MW are planned for the Region...”

Ms Neerja Mathur
Chairperson, Central Electricity Authority, Ministry of Power, Govt. of India



“Telecom Development Plan of Rs.2,320.70 crore for NE to be implemented in 12th Plan.”

Ms Rita A Teaoitia
Additional Secretary
Ministry of Telecommunications
Govt. of India



“Dredging work is undertaken at shallow locations along with other forms of river training works to ensure smooth movement of vessels”

Ms Jayashree Mukherjee
Vice Chairperson – IWAI
Ministry of Shipping, Govt. of India



“Increasing availability of power in the Northeast needs to be put to productive use or else the huge potential would not yield the expected local economic benefits.”

Mr Devendra Chaudhry
Additional Secretary – Hydro, Ministry of Power, Government of India



“State support required for advance availability of land to enable invitation of RFPs”

Mr S K Verma
Chief Engineer (NER), Ministry of Road Transport & Highways, Govt. of India



“The potential of Solar, Small Hydro, Bio Mass are very high in the North East Region”

Mr Tarun Kapoor
Joint Secretary, Ministry of Renewable Energy, Govt. of India



“in NER, infrastructure creation should be supported with growth engines that can create sustainable value chains of synergistic industries”

Mr S Gopalakrishnan
President, CII & Co-Founder and
Executive Vice Chairman, Infosys Limited

“Look East Policy: The Regional Integrator”



(L-R) Mr. R C Agrawal, President, North East Federation on International Trade (NEFIT), Mr. Ajay Bordoloi, Commissioner & Special Secretary, PWD (Building and NH), Govt. of Assam, Dr Nahid Rashid, Counsellor (Commercial), Bangladesh High Commission, Mr. Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, CII, Ms Sujatha Singh, Foreign Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, Dr. Saumitra Chaudhuri, Member, Planning Commission, Mr. P C Lawmkunga, Chief Secretary, Govt. of Manipur, Mr B Lalthmingthanga, Secretary, Trade & Commerce, Govt. of Mizoram and Mr. M Nagaraju, Secretary - Dept. of Ind & Comm, Govt. of Tripura.

Lately, the Look East Policy is gaining strength through several bilateral arrangements with Bangladesh and Myanmar especially the Akhaura project linking Bangladesh and the Kaladan Multimodal project between Mizoram and Sittwe Port and Myanmar. The Session discussed the infrastructural developments between NE India and neighboring countries focusing on logistical linkages and border management as a fundamental pre-requisite of

economic integration between NE India and other South Asian and SE Asian countries.



“The North East is our land bridge to the ASEAN a natural partner in India’s Look East Policy.”

Ms Sujatha Singh
Foreign Secretary
Govt. of India

“Leveraging Infrastructure and Capitalising on growing Business Opportunities”



(L-R) Ms. Hasina Kharbhih, Founder & Managing Director, Impulse Social Enterprises; Mr Sanjay Kumar, GM – Marketing, Pawan Hans; Mr. B. Paul Muktieh, CMD, NEDFi, Dr. Rupali Basu, Chief Executive Officer, Eastern Region, Apollo Hospitals Group; Dr. Saumitra Chaudhuri, Member, Planning Commission, Govt of India; Mr. Tanmoy Chakrabarty, Vice President & Govt Practice, Tata Consultancy Services, Mr. Gokul Patnaik, Chairman, Global Agrisystems Pvt Ltd; Mr. Raman Ahuja, Director, Intrim Business Associates

The Session discussed that though infrastructure is the key to development, creation of it alone may not be sufficient for realizing the NE India’s growth potential fully which can be achieved, only if the efforts are supplemented with the development of other growing sectors that harness resident skills and assets in the Region. In the backdrop of the new developments, members discussed the future prospects and how latent opportunities of the

North East can be leveraged through developing new linkages with major consumption centres and markets which can help in creation of robust and sustainable sectoral value chains of related/synergistic industries such as – Horticulture, Tourism, Textile, Healthcare and other downstream industries. Focussed Workshops were also organized on promoting ‘**Horticulture**’; ‘**Tourism**’; and ‘**Industry**’ in the Region.

