

Government of India
Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region

LOKSABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No.1817

To be answered on
Monday, July, 31, 2023 / 9 Sravana, 1945 (Saka)

QUESTION
Budget for Transport Connectivity to North-Eastern States

1817 DR. AMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of Development of North Eastern Region be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of projects the Government Plans to complete worth Rs.1,34,200 crores to create rail, air and road networks in the North-Eastern States;
- (b) the budgetary outlay and expenditure, project-wise; and
- (c) steps taken by Government to ensure the environmental sustainability of these projects?

ANSWER

The Minister of the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region
[Shri G. Kishan Reddy]

- (a) As per the information furnished by respective nodal Ministries, Government plans to complete the following rail, air and road projects in the North Eastern States to strengthen the connectivity in the region:

- **Rail Connectivity:**

A total of 19 railway infrastructure projects, falling fully / partly in North Eastern States, covering a total length of 1909 km at a cost of Rs.81,941 crore have been undertaken and are at different stages of planning/approval/execution. Out of these, 482 km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of Rs.37,713 crore has been incurred upto March,2023.

- **Air Connectivity:**

Ministry of Civil Aviation has launched regional connectivity scheme (RCS)-UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) on 21.10.2016 to enhance regional connectivity across the country from unserved and under-served regions in the country and making air travel affordable to masses. Airport at Rupsi, Tezu, Tezpur, Pasighat, Jorhat, Lilabari, Shillong, Pakyong, Itanagar and Dimapur involving 64 routes have been operationalized under UDAN in the North Eastern Region. There were nine operational airports in 2014 in the North Eastern Region. Presently, there are 16 operational airports in the North Eastern Region. Additionally, Advanced Landing Ground at Ziro has also been operationalized. Further, 13 major infrastructure works worth Rs.1543.70 crore are under implementation in the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya and Tripura.

- **Road Connectivity:**

A total of 261 road projects under different Schemes of MoRTH with a total sanctioned cost of Rs.1,02,594 crore are under implementation through National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), National Highways & Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd. (NHIDCL) and State Public Works Departments (PWDs) in the North Eastern States.

In addition, the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region, under the erstwhile North East Road Sector Development Scheme (NERSDS) and the present North East Special Infrastructure Development Scheme (NESIDS) has sanctioned a total of 77 road projects amounting to Rs.3372.58 crore.

- Moreover, under North Eastern Council (NEC) 51 projects worth Rs.4345.16 crore under Schemes of NEC has been sanctioned in connection with improving rail, air and road connectivity in the North Eastern Region.

(b) Department of Expenditure, Ministry Finance, under the Scheme for Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment for 2022-23 and 2023-24 has released funds to the North-Eastern States as detailed below:

Releases to North-Eastern States under the Scheme for Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment during 2022-23 and 2023-24					
(Rs. In crore)					
Sl. No.	States	BE 2022-23	2023-24		
			Allocation	Amount Approved	Amount released
1	Arunachal Pradesh	1564.10	1757.00	1254.86	
2	Assam	4300.14	3128.00	3128.00	1514.83
3	Manipur	467.22	716.00		
4	Meghalaya	1049.02	767.00	511.75	
5	Mizoram	297.50	500.00	399.24	
6	Nagaland	504.16	569.00	569.00	
7	Sikkim	551.36	388.00	387.62	258.43
8	Tripura	349.79	708.00		
TOTAL:		9083.29	8533.00	6250.47	1773.26

(c) The necessary Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) is done before starting the new projects. The requisite Environment & Forest clearance is also obtained by the concerned Agencies of Ministry/Departments/State Government, as per law.
