

**Meetings of North Eastern Council held in 1981 and 1982**

2849. SHRI AJOY BISWAS: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) how many meetings were held by North Eastern Council during 1981 and 1982;

(b) what were the major decisions taken by the Council; and

(c) whether the Government feel that major reorganisation in functioning of the NEC are necessary for the speedy development of the region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) During 1981 and 1982 four meetings of North Eastern Council were held.

(b) The major decisions taken during the 17th and 18th meetings in 1981 and 19th and 20th meetings in 1982 are indicated in the attached statement.

(c) The North Eastern Council which came into existence by an Act of Parliament (NEC Act, 1971) has well defined functions to perform. It is to serve as an advisory body for promoting development of the region in the field of economic and social planning inter-State transport and communication, power and flood control and to formulate unified and coordinated regional plans for ensuring balanced development. The Council is duly performing these functions and no change in its structure is deemed necessary at present.

**Statement**

*Major decisions taken during the 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th meetings of the North Eastern Council*

**17th Meeting:**

Decided that:

(i) The Sixth Five Year Plan (1980—85) and Annual Plan, 1981-82 be approved.

(ii) All States/Union Territories would undertake an exercise to project require-

ments of essential construction materials like steel, cement and bitumen for the entire Sixth Plan period for taking up with the Government of India/respective Commodity Controllers.

(iii) A pilot plan for Pineapple and Orange Juice Concentrates and a Coffee Processing Unit would be located in Assam.

(iv) NEC would render assistance in up-graduation of facilities in the B. Barooah Cancer Institute, Gauhati, Assam.

(v) The question of taking up the 50 TPD Mini Cement Plant project at Ukhrul (Hundung) Manipur, would be considered.

(vi) To enable NEC to forward cases of candidates sponsored by the State/Union Territory Governments, the concerned Governments would have to certify that the stipend made available by the NEC would be paid to every sponsored candidate.

**18th Meeting:**

Decided that:

(i) The Government of India in the Ministry of Railways and Home Affairs, be moved to stick to the decisions of (a) construction of a road-cum-rail bridge at Jogighopa, and (b) taking up a separate alignment for broad gauge line from Gauhati via Chaparmukh, Nowgong, Jorhat and Sibsagar instead of taking up conversion of metre gauge line from Gauhati to Dibrugarh in the present alignment.

(ii) The Government of India be moved to delegate powers to the NEC for sanctioning of schemes approved for the Plan without second reference to the technical Ministries. Planning Commission or Ministry of Home Affairs.

(iii) A beginning may be considered on both Dovang (Nagaland) and Kameng (Arunachal Pradesh) hydel projects during the Sixth Plan Period.

(iv) Railways be requested to go ahead with the survey of Lumding-Badarpur section. The alternative route from Jagi road to Badarpur should also be taken up.

(v) Detailed investigation and preparation of feasibility report for a Ceramics project in Tripura would be taken up.

**19th Meeting:**

Decided that:

(i) The Annual Plan for 1982-83 as submitted be approved for Rs. 81.90 crores with the clarification that Rs. 70 crores would be Central assistance and Rs. 10 crores LIC loan. If Rs. 1.90 crores additional amount could not be raised through financial institutions it may be advanced as Central assistance.

(ii) The Secretary, NEC would pursue the matter vigorously with Ministry of Railways for approving a rail-cum-road bridge at Jogighopa.

(iii) That the NEC may finance temporary strengthening weak bridges on NH 44 in the Jowai Badarpur sector at an approximate cost of Rs. 30 lakhs.

(iv) That the Baz Baruah Cancer Institute be upgraded to a regional institute and implementation of the project be expedited.

(v) The NEC would take up the case with Planning Commission regarding proposed imposition of cuts on the State UT Plans for 1982-83.

**20th Meeting:**

Decided that:

(i) The North Eastern Council reviewed the progress of expenditure on the Sixth Five Year Plan and considered the projections made by the Secretary NEC for augmenting the outlay to Rs. 435 crores from the present level of Rs. 340 crores. It was decided that a strong recommendation be made with the Planning Commission at the time of mid-term appraisal for suitable augmentation.

(ii) NEC directed that the working Group set up for preparing an integrated plan for Mini Paper Plants should submit its report early.

(iii) Future meetings of the Council should include a preliminary meeting of the Secretaries/officials prior to the meeting of the Council.

(iv) NEC experts would visit Nagaland in order to take a decision on the Nagaland Governments proposal for a second Watershed Management Project at Tene-phye.

(v) The North Eastern Regional Institute of Science and Technology in Arunachal Pradesh be set up expeditiously. The NEC noted that the provision of Rs. 50 lakhs for the Sixth Plan will not be sufficient and the project may require funds to the tune of Rs. 3 crores.

(vi) It was decided that setting up of Lime Pozzalona and Semi Mechanised Brick Plant (One each in Tripura) be actively considered and thereafter similar plants in other constituent units be taken up.

(vii) It was decided that Doyang Hydel Project (90 MW) be taken up with the existing provision in the councils Plan and the Kameng Project be recommended for inclusion in the Central sector.

(viii) It was decided that the emphasis would be on getting funds from the Railway Ministry for the Jogighopa rail-cum-road bridge.

**Regularisation of Class IV and Class III Employees**

2850. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the period after which Class IV or Class III Employees working in Central Government is regularised;

(b) the number of such employees in various Ministries who have not been regularised even after more than three years service; and

(c) the reasons for not regularising their services and the time by which their services are likely to be regularised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATASUBBALAH): (a) Government servants are appointed on a regular basis only after they are selected in accordance with the Recruitment Rules