No. 04/02/2012-FB-II(Vol.IV)
Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Economic Affairs
(Fund Bank & ADB Division)

Dated 27th September, 2018

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: - 87th Meeting of the Screening Committee held on 18th September, 2018-forwarding minutes of the meeting-reg.

The minutes of the 87th Meeting of the Screening Committee held on the 18th September, 2018 are enclosed for information and necessary action.

2. Concerned sections are requested to kindly pose the approved proposals to the MDBs and also send the approved proposals with timeline to the Project Authorities concerned, Line Ministries and Divisions of the NITI Aayog.

Encl: As stated.

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To:

1. Director (RS), Director (SA)
2. All Under Secretaries/DDs/ADs/Section Officers in FB&ADB Division.

Copy to: - AS (FB&ADB)
Government of India  
Ministry of Finance  
Department of Economic Affairs  
(FB&ADB Division)  

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Minutes of the 87th Meeting of the Screening Committee held on September 18, 2018 for consideration of proposals seeking financing from Multilateral Development Banks.

The 87th Meeting of the Screening Committee for consideration of proposals seeking multilateral assistance, chaired by Shri Sameer Kumar Khare, Additional Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, was held on September 18, 2018. The list of participants is annexed. The Screening Committee, inter alia, discussed the following proposals:

1. Proposal of Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation regarding ‘National Programme for Improving Quality of Statistical products’

1.1. The project proposal titled “National Programme for Improving Quality of Statistical products” was earlier discussed in the 84th Meeting of Screening Committee held on June 14, 2018 wherein it was decided to grant ‘in principle’ approval to the proposal subject to the condition that MOSPI will submit a revised PPR indicating 50% of project cost amount as counterpart funding. Subsequently, the MoSPI has submitted the revised PPR along with comments of NITI Aayog, which were discussed in the meeting.

1.2. After detailed discussions, the Screening Committee agreed to pose the project proposal for World Bank’s assistance for Rs.1700 crore [which is tentative and subject to finalization at the time of financing].

[Note: It is pertinent that posing of the project does not necessarily mean that concerned MDB has already agreed for financing. The final decision to finance or otherwise will be communicated by the concerned MDB only after mission visits and stakeholders consultations.]


2.1. Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has submitted a proposal for Non-Lending Technical Assistance from the World Bank for Census 2011. MHA has informed that Census of India is the biggest administrative and statistical exercise in the world. Last Census was conducted in 2011 and the next is due in 2021. Preparation for this exercise starts about 3 years in advance. For the coming Census 2021, they are seeking Non-Lending Technical Assistance (NLTA) from World Bank to support improvements in the quality, relevance and use of Population Census for getting global exposure and capacity building and by piloting innovations.

2.2. It is informed that the proposal has the approval of Home Secretary. The approximate cost of NLTA would be around US$ 500,000 and no counterpart funding
by MHA for NLTA would be involved. However, the tentatively calculated cost for the entire Census task during 2019 to 2022 would be approximately Rs.5225 Crores.

2.3. After detailed discussions, the Screening Committee approved the posing of the project proposal for Non-Lending Technical Assistance from the World Bank for USD 500,000 [which is tentative and subject to finalization at the time of financing] subject to incorporation of the comments/views of NITI Aayog and MoSPI in due course of Technical Assistance.

[Note: It is pertinent that posing of the project does not necessarily mean that concerned MDB has already agreed for financing. The final decision to finance or otherwise will be communicated by the concerned MDB only after mission visits and stakeholders consultations.]

3. Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (DRIP) - Phase II

3.1. Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (DRIP), Phase II has been proposed by Ministry of Water Resources, RD&GR for seeking World Bank assistance of USD 1532.24 million in two tranches. The total assistance of USD 996.6 M has been sought in the line of Tranche-I: USD 499 M and Tranche-II: USD 497.2 M and 6 years has been allotted to each tranche with an overlapping of 2 years. The MoWR, RD&GR was represented by Project Director, Shri Pramod Narayan.

3.2. It is mentioned that DRIP-II is preceded by Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (DRIP), the ongoing World Bank funded project. DRIP is being implemented in seven states with two Central agencies, targeting the rehabilitation of about 198 dam projects along with institutional strengthening component of all the participating IAs.

3.3. As regards statutory clearance required and obtained for DRIP Phase-II, it is stated that once approval is accorded by DEA and in-principle concurrence obtained from World Bank, process for statutory clearance will follow. Process for statutory clearance will include consultation and review mission by the World Bank to assess the preparedness of all participating agencies, negotiation with World Bank for firming up the final cost, preparation of EFC for the finalized cost and its circulation to the concerned line Ministries and Departments for comments. After EFC approval, Cabinet approval will be obtained.

3.4. For the proposed phase-II of DRIP, no separate feasibility study has been conducted. However, it is mentioned that experience gained through on-going DRIP as well as problems being encountered are adequate for moving ahead and plan the DRIP-II in a sound and bankable manner.

3.5. As regards Finance Plus Element, DRIP-II proposal indicated following Innovations and Piloting of New Approaches and Innovations in Financing and Leveraging:

   a. Under DRIP, Phase-II, unique rehabilitation measures as per the international best practices would be adopted. Special materials and procedures, dam surveillance, SCADA monitoring and evaluation system, emergency
management, Operation and maintenance manual, tourism component at the
selected dams, concept of smart dams, de-siltation of few reservoirs, risk
assessment of few selected dams, archival of dam inventory and other new
innovations etc. will be adopted under this project.

b. The project will propose the need based O&M fund for each of the proposed
dams through development of O&M Manual for each dam as per the latest
Guidelines. Also, the project will explore to experiment the new model of
sustainability of operation and maintenance of few selected dams in each
state through development of tourism facilities, incidental power generation,
water recreational facilities, fisheries etc. to generate the revenue which can
be used for its O&M needs.

c. Under innovations in Financing and Leveraging, the proposed DRIP-II
being the water resource management; natural disaster management, other
environment and natural resources management, limited scope for private
sector financing is anticipated in this project. However, Project will try to do
PPP models for the revenue generation activities through tourism
development and dam insurance. Also, studies on how O&M cost are being
recovered in other leading countries is planned on pilot basis which will be
proposed to implement in few selected dams after customizing them to Indian
context.

3.6. After detailed deliberations, the Screening Committee approved posing
of the project proposal “Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (DRIP)”
to World Bank subject to the following:

i. The MoWR, RD&GR will send project proposal in a revised PPR
ii. The project proposal would be divided into two phases i.e. phase -II and
    phase-III loan assistance of each phase not exceeding USD 500 M
    [which is tentative and subject to finalization at the time of financing]
    with project duration of 6 years each.
iii. Assistance in each phase would be sought in two tranches.
iv. NITI Aayog clearance would be obtained.

[Note: It is pertinent that posing of the project does not necessarily mean that
concerned MDB has already agreed for financing. The final decision to finance
or otherwise will be communicated by the concerned MDB only after mission
visits and stakeholders consultations.]

4. Investment for Innovation in Solar Power and Hybrid Technologies

4.1. Shri C. Kannan, Director (Finance) and Shri S.K. Mishra, Director (Power
System) representing the Solar Energy Corporation of India Ltd. (SECI) presented
the proposal for seeking extension of time to complete the process of project
appraisal. It was informed that the project titled “Investment for Innovation in Solar
Power and Hybrid Technologies” having total project size of US$ 400 million was
posed to the World Bank on 18.04.2016 seeking external assistance of US$200
million from IBRD. Due to non-appraisal within a period of 18 months, the project
became dormant in October 2017 as per DEA’s guidelines.
4.2. AS(EA) enquired about the reasons of delay in completion of the project’s appraisal/preparations within the timeline. The representatives of the SECI informed that the project focuses on innovative technologies, such as solar-wind hybrid, floating solar, battery storage etc. and that the major factors due to which delays were encountered are as under:

(i) As solar-wind hybrid, with storage, in an innovative emerging technology in India, it took some time in creating awareness among state holders about these technologies and in building confidence among the bidding community;

(ii) In identification of sites suitable for hybrid project and collection of ground-level RE resource data, to determine energy yield and project viability; and

(iii) In the absence of policy and regulatory framework for these technologies, somewhat more time taken for project planning and preparation activities.

4.3. The representatives of SECI also informed that CTF approval for extension of the Board approval was received on 15.08.2018. They requested that in view of the present level of project readiness, an extension up to 31st December 2018 is required.

4.4. Taking into consideration the present status of Project’s readiness, the Screening Committee granted the extension to the Project till 31st December, 2018 for completing appraisal/ preparations and loan negotiations with the World Bank.

5. Uttar Pradesh Core Road Network Development Project

5.1. Shri Y.R. Mishra, Special Secretary, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh PWD presented the case of the Govt. of Uttar Pradesh for extension of the project titled “Uttar Pradesh Core Road Network Development Project (UPCRNDP)”, which was posed way back on 9th October 2013 for external assistance amounting to US$ 400 million (revised) from the World Bank.

5.2. The Screening Committee observed that the Project continues to be in a dormant state even after receiving an extension in the 78th Screening Committee Meeting (SCM) for completing the appraisal, which was last expired in June, 2018. AS’ (EA) enquired about the reasons for not completing the project’s appraisal/ preparations in the prescribed timeline.

5.3. The representatives of the State Government intimated broadly the following reasons of the delay:

(i) World Bank suggested several changes in the bidding process since April 2015 which was partly accepted and final consensus was arrived at after appointment of Independent Procurement Observer (IPO) in July 2016;

(ii) The bidding was carried out in November 2016 after clearance of Bid Document by World Bank. However, the bids could not be opened due to imposition of Model Code of Conduct during Legislative Assembly elections;

(iii) The bids were cancelled on the behest of World Bank in March 2017;

(iv) The World Bank requested for commitment of the new state Government to proceed with the Project. The Govt. agreed to continue with the project in November 2017.
5.4. The representatives of the State Government further informed that all the preparatory activities related to project readiness are almost complete and time up to September, 2018 is required for finalizing the award of contract for three packages in order to fulfill the readiness criteria prior to Loan Negotiation. He further added that the Project may be appraised anytime within a month.

5.5. Taking into consideration the present status of Project’s readiness, the Screening Committee granted the last extension to the Project till December, 2018 for completing appraisal preparations and loan negotiations with the World Bank.

6. **Project for Capacity Augmentation of National Waterways-2 (NW-2), National Waterways-16 (NW-16) and development of other National Waterways (NWs) in the North-Eastern Region (NER) of India.**

6.1. A team led by Shri Shashi Bhushan Shukla, Member (Traffic), Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) presented the project proposal titled ‘Capacity Augmentation of National Waterways-2 (NW-2), National Waterways-16 (NW-16) and development of other National Waterways (NWs) in the North-Eastern Region (NER) of India’, seeking external assistance of US$ 320 million in three tranches i.e. Tranche-I of USD 3.25 million, Tranche-II of USD 309.25 million and Tranche-III of USD 7.5 million from the World Bank (IBRD). The total project outlay is US$ 640 million with the duration of 7 years 5 months starting from January 2019.

6.2. The project aims to augment the capacity of operational National Waterways and develop new National Waterways in NER of India in a structured manner. The project objectives include: (i) provide sustainable IWT Infrastructure to bring down overall logistics costs and achieve cost efficiency; (ii) provide alternate /supplementary mode of transport and de-congest roads and railways; (iii) facilitate easy transportation of ODC and Bulk Cargo; (iv) support economic development in NER including trade, commerce and employment generation; and (v) develop environment friendly mode of transport.

6.3. The Finance-plus elements included in present indicate that the project will help transform the segmented structure of the transport sector (road, rail and water) into an integrated and multimodal concept, where the different modes of transport work together in the supply chain efficiently. The infrastructure to be used in the Project will be of state-of-the-art like Multi Modal terminals (connected via Road & Rail) and Night Navigation to facilitate round the clock navigation along the river.

6.4. The Member (Traffic), IWAI highlighted the development of NW-1 under Jal Marg Vikas Project with technical and financial assistance from World Bank and informed that two stretches of Indo-Bangladesh Protocol routes (Srirajganj- Daikhowa and Ashuganj-Zakiganj) in Bangladesh are being developed by dredging with 80% financial assistance by Government of India to maintain 2.5 m depth in navigation channel. Since NW-1 and NW-2 are connected through Indo-Bangladesh Protocol routes, the subject project for development of IWT in NER also has tremendous potential for improving the connectivity of NER with NW-1.

6.5. While AS, DEA appreciated the project in view of its importance for improving all weather connectivity with the rest of India as well as with Bangladesh and Bhutan, he pointed out that there is an already approved World Bank assisted project of
Government of Assam for upgrading IWT sector of Assam in which there is a component of training. Similar component is also proposed in the subject project of IWAI. He therefore, opined that duplication of efforts should be avoided. It was also informed that an ADB assisted project of Ministry of Road Transport and Highways for development of a Multimodal Logistics Park (MMLP) at Jogighopa is also being planned which includes connectivity with IWT terminal at Jogighopa on NW-2. IWAI informed that due consultations have been made with the Government of Assam and clarified that the interventions being proposed by IWAI are focused on long-haul movement of cargo along the length of the river whereas that of Government of Assam are focused on passenger movement across the river for ferry services at several locations. Further, it was informed that IWAI is also aware of the ADB assisted MMLP project at Jogighopa and has been in touch with the concerned authorities.

6.6. JS (FB & ADB) enquired whether the comments of Central Line Ministries have been obtained. The US (FB), DEA informed that the comments have been sought from MHA, MEA, NITI Aayog and DoNER of which only MHA and NITI Aayog have furnished their comments. While the MHA has expressed support for the project and recommended to include certain safety and security measures, NITI has made certain observations with the recommendations to be addressed in the project preparation plan.

6.7. After detailed deliberations, the Screening Committee granted in-principle approval to the project proposal of Ministry of Shipping for the World Bank’s support of US$ 320 million[which is tentative and subject to finalization at the time of financing], subject to the incorporation of comments of MHA, MEA, NITI Aayog and DoNER. The Committee further decided that in order to ensure synergy amongst all agencies prior to posing the project proposal to the World Bank, a meeting will be held by the DEA with IWAI, Ministry of Shipping, the World Bank, ADB and the Government of Assam.

[Note: It is pertinent that posing of the project does not necessarily mean that concerned MDB has already agreed for financing. The final decision to finance or otherwise will be communicated by the concerned MDB only after mission visits and stakeholders consultations.]

7. Technical Assistance for the development of State Energy Index (SEI)

7.1. Shri Harendra Kumar, Joint Adviser, NITI Aayog presented the project proposal titled “Technical Assistance for developing State Energy Index” seeking an external assistance of INR 50 lakhs from World Bank (IBRD). The project duration is 10 months.

7.2. The objectives of the project include help drive the agenda of affordable, accessible, clean energy and healthy & competitive electricity distribution sector in the States; encourage the States to increase the efficient energy use for their development; rank the States based on their efforts toward energy access & consumption, environment and business friendliness; and highlight best practices & encourage healthy competition.
7.3. On Finance-plus Components, it was informed that the proposal provides first such index in the energy sector to compare and rank the states. The energy sector is critical for the overall development and the index will look not only into accessibility, affordability and sustainability but will also include the need of many clean initiatives and best practices.

7.4. The representative of NITI Aayog stated that Ministry of Power has conveyed their ‘No-Objection’ to the Proposal. It was informed by the US (FB), DEA that comments of Ministry of Power and MNRE have not been received in the DEA.

7.5. After detailed deliberations, the Screening Committee approved the project proposal titled “Technical Assistance from World Bank for developing State Energy Index” of NITI Aayog for an assistance of INR 50 lakhs [which is tentative and subject to finalization at the time of financing] from the World Bank, subject to the condition that the NITI Aayog will incorporate the comments of the Ministry of Power and the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) in the project proposal and inform the DEA for posing the proposal to the World Bank.

[Note: It is pertinent that posing of the project does not necessarily mean that concerned MDB has already agreed for financing. The final decision to finance or otherwise will be communicated by the concerned MDB only after mission visits and stakeholders consultations.]

8. Punjab Urban Infrastructure Investment Programme (PUIIP)

8.1. Shri Ajoy Sharma, Secretary, Local Government Department, Government of Punjab presented the project proposal titled “Punjab Urban Infrastructure Investment Programme (PUIIP)” seeking external assistance from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) for US $ 469 million with the total project cost of US $ 815 million. The project would be completed over a period of three years.

8.2. The prime objective of the proposed project is to provide sustainable water supply, sanitation including solid waste management, efficient urban mobility and public transport, and sewerage infrastructure with improved services and eventually provide better quality of life to the residents. Finance-plus-element of the project would include catering the needs of next 30-40 years of the city with increase in capability of system as well as in latest technology with better output and reliability, sustainability of the system and efficient O&M, optimum recycling and reuse of treated sewerage, implementation of water supply distribution with DMA approach for equitable distribution and NRW management and SCADA system for effective operation and managing system. Project will also implement international practices which have a transformational impact.

8.3. It was informed that Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) and NITI Aayog have supported the proposed project with the following observations:

Observations of MoHUA

(i) That Government of Punjab would explore the possibility of a demonstration project for recharging the ground water in Punjab.
The option of utilization of treated water for industrial use may be explored and to ensure that Rain Water Harvesting is in place for all the new buildings being built under this project.

It may be ensured that there is no duplication in asset creation or overlapping in any of the components forming part of the project.

Observations of NITI Aayog

(i) The investment on Road Over bridges (ROBs), multi-level / underground car parking, etc., be optimized so as to dis-incentivize personal motor vehicles and to incentives mass mobility.

(ii) Government of Punjab may allocate higher share of work to municipal corporations as far as practicable in order to strengthen the municipal bodies in sync with the 74th Constitutional Amendment Act as well as the AMRUT scheme of Govt.

8.4. On the proposed funding arrangements, Director (FB/ADB) sought confirmation on the amount indicated as State counterpart funding ($346 million). The representative of Government of Punjab informed that US $346 million, which has been shown in the PPR as State Govt’s share, would be provided through funds provided by Govt of India under the Smart City Missions and AMRUT scheme. AS (FB&ADB) observed that the proposed funding arrangement without any State share will not be acceptable, and that Govt of Punjab will have to recast the proposal with at least 30% share of the State. Shri Sharma assured that a revised proposal would be sent.

8.5. AS (FB&ADB) expressed concern on delay in release of funds by the State Government for externally aided projects. He advised that Government of Punjab should put in place a mechanism under the proposed project for timely release of funds to the implementing agencies. In response, Shri Ajoy Sharma assured that a special mechanism will be put in place for this purpose.

8.6. After detailed deliberations, the Screening Committee decided that proposal would be posed to ADB after receipt of the revised proposal. The proposed cost is the current proposal is tentative and subject to finalization at the time of financing]

[Note: It is pertinent that posing of the project does not necessarily mean that concerned MDB has already agreed for financing. The final decision to finance or otherwise will be communicated by the concerned MDB only after mission visits and stakeholders consultations.]

9. Technical Assistance (TA) for Madhya Pradesh Skill Development Project

9.1. Smt. Surbhi Gupta, Additional Director, Skill Development, Government of Madhya Pradesh presented the project proposal titled “Technical Assistance (TA) for Madhya Pradesh Skill Development Project” seeking grant of US $2 million from the Asian Development Bank (ADB). The Government of Madhya Pradesh will provide US $0.2 million through in-kind contribution. Duration of the TA would be two years.
9.2. The objective of TA is to support the initial set-up of several GSP components that require specialized expertise (e.g., GSP Society operational plans, advanced agricultural and entrepreneurship programs), and support the implementing agency of MPSDP and 10 ITIs with reform initiatives to improve the ITI management and introduce performance-based incentive schemes, and strengthen TVET knowledge, information, and management capacity. It was also informed that loan negotiation for “Madhya Pradesh Skill Development Project” for financial assistance of US $ 150 million from ADB was held on 17.08.2019.

9.3. Finance-plus-elements include identification and planning for advanced agricultural skills in GSP (e.g., smart farming, post-harvest technology training) to engage youth in primary sector, which will help move up in the value chain and prevent youth migration to urban areas. Piloting entrepreneurship support programs related to advanced manufacturing and other trades in GSP by adopting best practices from various models in the country.

9.4. After detailed deliberations, the Screening Committee approved posing of the project proposal under reference for technical assistance grant of US $ 2 million [which is tentative and subject to finalization at the time of financing] from ADB. Views of Ministry of Skill Development & Niti Aayog may also be obtained and addressed.

[Note: It is pertinent that posing of the project does not necessarily mean that concerned MDB has already agreed for financing. The final decision to finance or otherwise will be communicated by the concerned MDB only after mission visits and stakeholders consultations.]

10. Assam Road Network Improvement Project

10.1. No representative from Public Works Roads Department attended the meeting. The total financial outlay involved in the project is to the tune of USD 375 million, out of which, USD 300 million has been sought as external assistance from the ADB. The counterpart funding from the State Government is USD 75 million. Comments from the NITI Aayog have been received. Comments from MoRTH, DoNER, MHA & MEA are awaited.

10.2. Since no representative from the State Government of Assam attended the meeting, the Screening Committee decided to defer the proposal until the next meeting.

11. Construction of Elevated Highway in the Major Routes of Imphal, the Capital City of Manipur (24.95 Kms.)

11.1. Mr. Y. Joykumar, Programme Director, EAP, Manipur, made a presentation on the aforesaid project proposal. The total financial outlay involved in the project is to the tune of USD 356.06 million. Out of which, USD 284.85 million has been sought as external assistance from the ADB. The counterpart funding from the State Government is USD 71.21 million. The project would be completed over a period of 5 years.
11.2. The goals and objectives of the proposal includes improvement of transport infrastructure of state, de-congestion of traffic in Imphal city, improving road safety and better traffic management, reducing Vehicle Operating Cost and Travel time with value addition of Imphal city. The activities involved in the project include State Road Construction in Manipur and Capacity Development of PWD, Manipur. The outcome of the project would be improved mobility of Imphal city and rapid accessibility to Administrative/Commercial/Educational/Healthcare institutes, improved connectivity of the state with mainland India and ASEAN countries via Myanmar, reduced travel time and Vehicle operating cost. On finance plus components, it was informed that there would be introduction of International Standard procurement practice, construction management, road asset management system to the state PWD.

11.3. During the deliberations, the representative from MoRTH desired that the alignment plan should be added in the PPR. He also stated that the traffic projections in the proposal do not meet the criteria for grade separated intersection/elevated road in this proposal. The problem of land acquisition in the State for ongoing road projects was also cited by the representatives of the NITI Aayog and MoRTH. Mr. Joykumar clarified that the land acquisition was targeted by mid-2019 and actual work on the project would start by September-October 2019, if the project was given a go-ahead. MHA, in its comments on the project, has suggested that it would be prudent to consider construction of a ring-road around Imphal, which could be utilized for movements of goods vehicles from Dimapur and Silchar to Moreh, while bypassing Imphal. NITI Aayog has also requested the State Government to address critical issues such as the total length of the project, lane of the roads, traffic estimates, statutory clearances, land acquisition etc.

11.4. The Screening Committee was of the view that the State Government needs to sort out the issues about jurisdiction over national highway or de-notification, as the case may be, with MoRTH, and NITI Aayog. Thereafter, if the need be, State Government may send a revised proposal.

12. Construction of Imphal Ring Road and Improvement of Traffic Juncions in Imphal City

12.1. Mr. Y. Joykumar, Project Director-EAP, Manipur, made a presentation on the aforesaid project proposal. The total financial outlay of the project is to the tune of Rs. 1108 crore (USD 167.88 million). The proposal seeks external assistance of Rs. 997.2 crore (USD 151.09 million) from the ADB. The remaining amount, i.e. Rs. 110.8 crore (USD 16.79 million) would be counterpart funding by the implementing agency through various sources. The proposal is in the ratio of 90:10, which cannot exceed 80:20 (loan component: State share). The project would be completed over a period of 5 years.

12.2. The goals and objectives of the proposal is the Improvement of Transport Infrastructure of state, de-congestion of traffic in Imphal city, improving road safety and better traffic management, reducing Vehicle Operating Cost and Travel time with value addition of Imphal city. The activities involved in the project include State Road Construction in Manipur and Capacity Development of PWD, Manipur. The outcome of the project would be improved mobility of Imphal city and rapid accessibility to Administrative/Commercial/Educational/Healthcare institutes, improved connectivity
of the state with mainland India and ASEAN countries via Myanmar, reduced travel
time and Vehicle operating cost. On finance plus components, it was informed that
there would be introduction of International Standard procurement practice,
construction management, road asset management system to the state PWD.

12.3. NITI Aayog mentioned that NHIDCL is already undertaking Imphal byepass
project under Bharatmala. Therefore, the rationale of taking up this project needs to
be reconsidered. Besides, the proposal does not show any traffic survey and O-D
studies.

12.4. After detailed deliberations, the Screening Committee advised Govt of
Manipur to recast the proposal in terms of funding arrangements, address
comments of MoRTH / NITI Aayog and obtain comments from MDoNER, MHA
and MEA and revert again to DEA for consideration.

13. Enhancement of Intra State Transmission System of Assam

13.1. Mr. Jishnu Barua, Addl. Chief Secretary, Government of Assam, made a
presentation on the aforesaid project proposal. The total project cost involved in the
proposal is USD693.95 million. Out of the total project cost, State Government has
sought financial assistance of USD490.11 million and counterpart funding from the
State Government is USD203.84 million. The objectives of proposal include
providing power to all household by 2021-22, developing facilities to draw grid power
to bring per capita electricity consumption of people of the state to the national level.

13.2. On finance plus elements, it was informed that the project will enhance the
reliability as well as quality and shall attract the industries, which in turn develop
the economy of the State. It was also informed that to make the network self-diagnostic,
sub-station automation with process BUS technology is introduced. The long-term
economic effects would include quality, reliability and economic power provided by
the State distribution company. The project would draw on international best
practices in power transmission through establishment of institutional cooperation
and knowledge exchange with agencies working on similar projects.

13.3. Ministry of Power has given its no-objection to the proposal with the condition
that detailed examination on technical and financial parameters of the project may be
done by MoP at DPR stage. Government of Assam has responded to queries of NITI
Aayog vide letter dated 07\textsuperscript{th} September, 2018 which has been shared with the NITI
Aayog. Comments from the DoNER, MHA and MEA are awaited.

13.4. After detailed deliberations, the Screening Committee approved the
proposal 'in-principle' for financial assistance of USD 490.11 million [which is
tentative and subject to finalization at the time of financing] from the ADB
subject to comments from MHA, MEA, MDoNER and NITI Aayog.

[Note: It is pertinent that posing of the project does not necessarily mean that
concerned MDB has already agreed for financing. The final decision to finance
or otherwise will be communicated by the concerned MDB only after mission
visits and stakeholders consultations.]
14. Power Distribution System Enhancement and Loss Reduction Project

14.1. Since comments from all concerned stakeholders are awaited, the Screening Committee deferred the proposal until next meeting.

15. Technical Assistance on Improving Community Resilience and Ecosystem Management in Kopili River, Assam

15.1. A presentation on the aforesaid TA was made by the team led by Mr. Jishnu Barua, Addl. Chief Secretary, Government of Assam, and Dr. Deepanker Kumar Baruah and Dr. Jayanta Das, both Environment Experts, APGCIL, Assam. The TA seeks external assistance of USD 2 million from the ADB. The TA would be completed over a period of 2.5 years. The goal and objectives of the TA states that the MFF : Assam Power Sector Investment Programme (Tranche-3) will finance the construction of a 120 MW run-of the river Lower Kopili Hydro Electric Project (LKHEP) on the Kopili River in the State of Assam, for an estimated amount of about $210 million (including investments in substations and transmission lines).

15.2. The proposed grant will benefit an estimated eight lakh people along the Kopili River in multiple districts. Outputs involved in the proposal are (a) system development for Water Management in the Kopili River Basin and (b) community resilience and disaster preparedness leading to outcome as improved capacity for water resource management and strengthening of community resilience and disaster preparedness.

15.3. After detailed deliberations, the Screening Committee approved the proposal 'in-principle' for grant of USD 2 million [which is tentative and subject to finalization at the time of financing] from the ADB subject receipt of comments from the NITI Aayog and MoP.

[Note: It is pertinent that posing of the project does not necessarily mean that concerned MDB has already agreed for financing. The final decision to finance or otherwise will be communicated by the concerned MDB only after mission visits and stakeholders consultations.]