Minutes of the meeting taken by the Development Commissioner & Commissioner (Finance) on 22nd September, 2009 on engagement of “Third Party Monitors” for monitoring of Special Plan Assistance approved by the Planning Commission during Annual plan 2008-09.

Shri V.K. Dev, the Development Commissioner & Commissioner (Finance) took a meeting on 22nd September, 2009 at 1100 hrs. in his office chamber with NABCONS and NEDFi on engagement of Third Party Monitors for monitoring of Special Plan Assistance approved by the Planning Commission during Annual plan 2008-09.

2. Following officers attended the meeting:
   (a) Shri P.S. Lokhande, Secretary (Planning)
   (b) Shri P.L. Behara, Executive Director, NABARD, Mumbai
   (c) Shri S.K. Baruah, General Manager & Company Secretary, NEDFi, Guwahati
   (d) Shri Mohan Das, General Manager, NABCONS, Mumbai
   (e) Dr. B. G. Mukhopadhay, General Manager, NABARD
   (f) Shri A.K. Pasrija, Deputy General Manager, NABARD
   (g) Shri Lemli Loyi, AGM, NEDFi, Guwahati
   (h) Shri Kabak Tani, Branch Manager, NEDFi, Itanagar
   (i) Shri C.L. Tungkhang, Director (State Plan)

3. At the outset, Shri P.S. Lokhande, Secretary (Planning) extended his hearty welcome to the Chairman, the officials of NABARD, NABCONS and NEDFi and made specific references to the State Government’s recent on-going initiatives of engagement of NABCONS as “Third Party Monitor” for monitoring of Prime Minister’s Package to ensure transparency in utilization of resources as well as to assess the progress of implementation of projects as per milestones. Two monitoring reports brought out by the NABCONS provided necessary feedbacks and these reports have been hosted in the websites of Planning Department. However, he pointed out that heavy dependence on a particular organization for the same purpose may sometimes dilute the embodied basic objectives and policies of the State Government. Against this backdrop, the NEDFi has been invited to share their experiences in the monitoring exercise along with the NABCONS for monitoring of projects of normal Special Plan Assistance sanctioned and implemented during 2008-09 approved by the Planning Commission. He clarified that engagement of “Third Party Monitor” for Special Plan Assistance is not mandatory. However, in view of institutionalization of various windows of funding from various resources for multifarious projects, it is felt necessary to involve the “Third Party Monitors” to ensure optimal utilization of scarce resources. He further added that focus of the meeting would be to evolve necessary modalities and work out a framework for the said purpose with both the organizations. He then requested the Chairman to address the gathering.

4. The Development Commissioner & Commissioner (Finance) in his address stated that engagement of Third Party Monitor for Prime Minister’s Package in Arunachal Pradesh, a showcase to PMO and Planning Commission, has been immensely appreciated and the State has become a role model for other States for such innovative and pioneering
monitoring mechanism. He appreciated the working environment as well as good wills of NABARD and NABCONS and expressed that the State would like to deepen such close interactions and association in future also. While referring to on-going process of monitoring of ACA for reconstruction of damaged infrastructure by floods and natural calamities, 2005 entrusted to NABCONS, the Development Commissioner & Commissioner stated that recently a lot of focus has been made for proper implementation of this programme and expressed confidence that in the light of experiences gained in undertaking of monitoring of Prime Minister’s Package, excellent qualitative and analytical assessment will be made for the proposed Third Party Monitoring of Special Plan Assistance for realization of State’s envisaged developmental aspirations. He also emphasized the need for a purposeful time bound action programme and called for qualitative change. Further, he asserted that the State Government will provide necessary logistic support to the consultants. Concluding his speech, the Development Commissioner & Commissioner (Finance) said that impact and outcome of this exercise would entirely depend on the earnestness and determination as well as complete commitment of NABCONS and NEDFi in this endeavour.

5. Following decisions were taken in course of deliberations of the meeting:

(i) The monitoring will be undertaken for those projects whose project cost are Rs. 50.00 lakh and above. Thus, a total of 257 Nos. projects of Special Plan Assistance would be monitored.

(ii) NABCONS will be entrusted for monitoring of 241 Nos. projects with the sanctioned cost of Rs. 42060.48 lakh being implemented in 13 districts, namely, Tawang, West Kameng, East Kameng, Upper Subansiri, Kurung Kumey, Lower Subansiri, Papum Pare, West Siang, Upper Siang, Anjaw, Lohit, Changlang and Tirap.

(iii) Geographically East Siang, Dibang Valley and Lower Dibang Valley districts are contiguous area. Therefore, monitoring of 16 Nos. projects under Special Plan Assistance with sanctioned cost of Rs. 2432.76 lakh being implemented in these three districts will be entrusted to NEDFi.

(iv) NABCONS and NEDFi will submit the cost estimate/ contract price for monitoring of projects within 10(ten) days to Planning department.

(v) Before commencement of monitoring, the concerned consultants would insist status of works in the form of digital still photography from the executing departments before commencement of works and after completion of works. Further, they will also take GPS reading at the time of monitoring.

(vi) The projects which are multiple or cluster in nature would be monitored critically through sample survey after site visit only. A separate modus-operandi will be evolved and applied by the concerned consultants. This exercise would be undertaken after completion of second phase of monitoring.

(vii) The modalities for monitoring of projects, viz., Corpus fund for Central Institute of Himalayan Centre Studies at Dahung; Corpus fund for Sange Lahden Sports Academy; Corpus fund for RKM, Aalo; Infrastructure development of selected backward CD blocks; Procurement of Text Book from NCERT; Corpus fund for VKV and Purchase of allopathic medicine would be evolved separately.

(viii) The aspect of quality is to be incorporated along with physical monitoring.
So far as practicable, the concerned consultants would make out duplicacy and overlapping of projects implemented under Special Plan Assistance, if any, and such irregularities should be reflected in their monitoring reports. Further, a critical note is to be incorporated in the monitoring reports highlighting strength and weakness of implementing process as well as suggesting corrective measures, if any.

For each project the Works Departments shall split into various activities/components and then prepare a bar chart for a meaningful monitoring.

Involvement of respective Deputy Commissioners and District Planning Officers in the monitoring process will be mandatory. During field visit of the consultants in the districts, either District Planning Officer or his representative will accompany the monitoring team.

Better coordination with the respective District Level Monitoring Committees will be the cornerstone of envisaged monitoring process.

Onus of providing requisite data/information on detailed projects as well as logistic support to the consultants will rest on the Director (State Plan) at Headquarters and District Planning Officers at the district level, who will maintain both horizontal and vertical coordination. District-wise distribution of projects and other relevant information will be intimated to the consultants in advance.

Both NABCONS and NEDFi will appoint their nodal officers for effective liaisoning with Planning Department, District Planning Officers and concerned implementing departments/agencies.

A similar and uniform set of formats for monitoring will be devised and designed by the consultants in consultation with Planning Department as well as with the concerned implementing departments/agencies. They will also develop website and software for reporting.

The concerned “Third Party Monitors” will enter into a MoU/Contract for Consultants Services with the State Government in the month of November, 2009, which will be preceded by one day workshop at Itanagar. A uniform Deed of Contract or MoU for both NABCONS and NEDFi will facilitate smooth monitoring.

The entire process of Third Party monitoring of projects shall be completed in two phases. The first phase will commence from December, 2009 onwards along with fourth round of PM’s Package. Commencement of second phase of monitoring will be decided after assessing the outcome of first phase as well as ground reality.

Viability of “Impact Analysis” or “Social Audit” to assess the benefits accrued from the projects will be explored after completion of second phase of monitoring.

6. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

(P.S. Lokhande), IAS
Secretary (Planning)

Memo No. PD(P)-25/2008
Dated Itanagar, the 24th September’2009.
Copy to:-
1. PPS to Hon’ble Chief Minister, Government of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar.
2. PS to Chief Secretary, Government of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar.
3. SPA to Development Commissioner & Commissioner (Finance), Government of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar.
5. Secretary (WRD)/ Secretary (Power)/ Secretary (Tourism & UD)/ Secretary (PHED)/ Secretary (Science & Technology), Government of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar.
6. Shri P.L. Behara, Executive Director, NABARD, Mumbai.
7. Shri S.K. Baruah, General Manager & Company Secretary, NEDFi, Guwahati.
8. Shri Mohan Das, General Manager, NABCONS, Mumbai.
9. Dr. B. G. Mukhopodyay, General Manager, NABARD, Itanagar.
10. Shri A.K. Pasrija, Deputy General Manager, NABARD, Itanagar.
11. Shri Lemli Loyi, AGM, NEDFi, Guwahati.
12. Shri Kabak Tani, Branch Manager, NEDFi, Itanagar.
13. Chief Engineer (PWD-EZ)/ Chief Engineer (CZ)/ Chief Engineer (PWD-WZ)/ Chief Engineer (Power-EEZ)/ Chief Engineer (Power-WEZ)/ Chief Engineer (Hydro Power)/ Chief Engineer (WRD)/ Chief Engineer (RWD)/ Chief Engineer (PHED-EZ)/ Chief Engineer (PHED-WZ)/ Chief Engineer-cum-Director(UD), Government of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar.
14. Director (Civil Aviation)/ Director (School Education)/ Director (Higher & Technical Edu.)/ Director (Fisheries)/ Director (Horticulture)/ Director (Agriculture)/ Director (AH & Vety.)/ Director (Sports & YA)/ Director (Geology & Mining)/ Director (Tourism)/ Director (Art & Culture)/ Director (TLH)/ Director (Industries)/ Director (Health & FW)/ Director (Social Welfare)/ Director (Trade & Commerce)/ Director (IPR)/ Director (RD), Director (Accounts & Treasuries)/ Director (Science & Technology), Government of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar/ Naharlagun/ Nirjuli.
15. All Deputy Commissioners, Government of Arunachal Pradesh.
16. All District Planning Officers, Government of Arunachal Pradesh.