

File No. E and P – 12/3/2022- O/o JD (FEA)
Government of India
Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region

Vigyan Bhawan Annexe,
Maulana Azad Road,
New Delhi – 110001
Dated: the 21st August 2023

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Revised guidelines for administration of “Prime Minister’s Development Initiative for North East Region (PM-DevINE)” Scheme of Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region– Reg.

The undersigned is directed to refer to the above mentioned subject and to forward herewith the revised guidelines for administering the scheme of “Prime Minister’s Development Initiative for North East Region (PM-DevINE)” for information and further necessary action.

2. It is requested that all projects posed under PM-DevINE may follow the enclosed guidelines.
3. This issues with approval of the Competent Authority.

Encl: As above


(Biswa B. Panigrahi)
Joint Director
Tel.No: 23794862

To,

Chief Secretaries of all North Eastern States (as per the list attached)

Copy for kind Information to:

1. CEO,NITI Aayog,NITI Bhawan,Sansad Marg,New Delhi
2. Home Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, North Block, New Delhi
3. Foreign Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, South Block, New Delhi
4. Finance Secretary, Ministry of Finance, North Block, New Delhi
5. Secretaries of concerned line Ministries/Departments of Government of India
6. Secretary, NEC, Nongrimbah, Shillong, Meghalaya 793014

Guidelines for Prime Minister's Development Initiative for North-East Region (PM-DevINE) – revised.

1. Background

1.1 A Central Sector scheme named PM-DevINE, fully funded by the Government of India, was announced in the Union Budget 2022-23. The scheme envisages funding infrastructure, in the spirit of PM GatiShakti, supporting social development projects based on felt needs of the North-East, generating livelihood opportunities for youth and women and filling the gaps in various sectors.

1.2 The scheme was approved by the Union Cabinet on 12.10.2022. The guidelines for PM-DevINE were earlier circulated vide letter no. E and P-12/3/2022-O/o US (E&P) dated 29.08.2022. In pursuance of the decision to restructure and harmonize the guidelines of all schemes of MDoNER, and to comply with the latest directions of Department of Expenditure regarding the fund flow under Centre Sector Schemes, the revised scheme guidelines for administration of the "**PM-DevINE**" are necessitated, which are detailed in the subsequent paras.

1.3 The guidelines hereafter will take effect from 12.10.2022; and all projects under PM-DevINE shall be governed by these revised guidelines. Any actions taken under the guidelines for PM-DevINE circulated vide letter no. E and P-12/3/2022-O/o US(E&P) dated 29.08.2022 shall *ipso facto* be also subject to the guidelines now being brought into effect from 12.10.2022; subject further to the removal of difficulties, if any, with the approval of the Competent Authority.

2. Administration of PM-DevINE

2.1 "PM-DevINE" will cover all the eight states of the North Eastern Region of India, viz. Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura.

2.2 "PM-DevINE" will be an additionality over and above the existing schemes of Government of India and State Governments of the NE Region. However, to ensure non-duplication, only those projects would be considered for financial assistance under the scheme which are not covered/ taken up under any other scheme of Central Government or State Government.

2.3 MDoNER will administer the PM-DevINE scheme by selection, sanction and monitoring of projects under the scheme, in consultation with the State Governments,

North Eastern Council (NEC) and Central Ministries concerned. However, the scheme will be implemented through North Eastern Council (NEC) or Central Ministries / agencies.

2.4 The following guidelines detail the process to be followed for projects to be covered under PM-DevINE scheme including, inter alia,

- a) Identification and prioritization of project proposals by the State/ Central Ministries and submission of project proposals for selection to the Ministry
- b) Selection of the candidate projects by the Ministry of DoNER
- c) Preparation of DPRs, techno-economic vetting and approval of the DPRs; submission of projects for sanction to the Ministry of DoNER.
- d) Sanction of projects by the Ministry
- e) Award of works by Implementing Agencies
- f) Release of funds as per extant guidelines of Ministry of Finance
- g) Monitoring and evaluation of projects
- h) Completion and operationalization of projects

2.5 The Hon'ble Minister, MDoNER will be the 'Competent Authority' for the scheme, unless specified otherwise.

3. Objectives

In keeping with the overall vision of the Ministry of DoNER i.e. "Transforming the North Eastern Region through Development, in an Accelerated yet Sustainable manner, affording access to ease of living to all its citizens", the broad objectives of "PM-DevINE" are as under:

- Rapid and holistic development of the North-Eastern Region (NER) through –
- (a) Infrastructure development projects in the spirit of PM GatiShakti,
 - (b) Social development projects based on the felt needs of the region,
 - (c) Enhancing livelihood activities for youth & women of the region, and
 - (d) Filling up developmental gaps in various sectors.

4. Institutional and Administrative Arrangements

4.1 Empowered Inter-Ministerial Committee (EIMC) at Central Level

There will be an Empowered Inter-Ministerial Committee (EIMC), chaired by the Secretary, Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region, comprising representatives of relevant line Ministries and North Eastern Council, as indicated below:

- i. Secretary, Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region – Chairperson
- ii. Secretary, North Eastern Council – Member
- iii. Chief Secretary of concerned North Eastern State – Member
- iv. Chief Executive Officer of NITI Aayog or his/her representative not below the rank of Joint Secretary - Member

- v. Home Secretary or his/her representative not below the rank of Joint Secretary - Member
- vi. Foreign Secretary or his/her representative not below the rank of Joint Secretary - Member
- vii. Secretary, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade or his/her representative not below the rank of Joint Secretary - Member
- viii. Representative(s) of line Ministries/ Departments/organizations concerned with the project/ subject in question not below the rank of Joint Secretary - Member
- ix. Financial Adviser, Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region - Member
- x. Financial Adviser, Concerned Central Ministry - Member
- xi. Financial Adviser, North Eastern Council - Member
- xii. Planning Adviser, North Eastern Council - Member
- xiii. Senior Economic Adviser or Economic Adviser or Joint Secretary in-Charge of PM-DEVINE in the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region - Member Secretary.

Note: Representatives of the State Government(s), Central Ministries/ NEC, etc. may be co-opted by the EIMC, as and when felt necessary.

4.2 Functions of the EIMC

The functions of EIMC shall, *inter alia*, be as under:

- i. To consider the preliminary project proposals received under PM-DevINE, in terms of their quality, viability and tangible socio-economic impact together with the representatives of concerned line Ministries/Departments of Government of India and State Governments; and make suitable recommendations for selection from amongst the candidate projects
- ii. To consider the final project proposals received from the SLECs together with the comments of the concerned central line Ministries/Departments and make suitable recommendations for approval of the Competent Authority
- iii. To recommend effective means for Monitoring and Evaluation through field inspection *inter alia* through suitable third-party agencies
- iv. To review the progress of project implementation under PM-DevINE, through the North Eastern Council (NEC) / SLEC / Central Agencies.
- v. To suggest suitable mechanisms for Operation and Maintenance (O&M) of the PM-DevINE projects undertaken
- vi. To consider any other issue as may be received from the NEC or SLEC seeking removal of any difficulty in the implementation of PM-DevINE projects or clarification of guidelines; and make suitable recommendations, including for relaxation/minor modifications, if any, to the provisions of the Scheme.

4.3 Meetings of EIMC

EIMC will meet as frequently as needed, but at least once in three months. EIMC can meet physically, virtually or in hybrid mode, at New Delhi or at any other place in the NER.

4.4 State Level Empowered Committee (SLEC)

The State Governments will respectively constitute a State Level Empowered Committee (SLEC) chaired by Chief Secretary of the State, with the Secretary Planning as the Convenor and comprising Finance and other concerned Secretaries of the State Government Departments, and technical experts deemed necessary, as Members. NEC will be represented in the SLEC by Planning Adviser or his representative. The Ministry of DoNER will be represented in the SLEC, by Senior Economic Adviser/ Economic Adviser/ Joint Secretary in-charge of PM-DevINE and the Financial Adviser or his representative. Representatives from the concerned Institution of repute may be specially invited to the respective meetings of the SLEC.

4.5 Functions of the SLEC

The functions of SLEC shall, *inter alia*, be as under:

- i. To review the preliminary project proposals being posed under PM-DevINE by the State Government to the EIMC at MDoNER, in terms of quality, viability and tangible socio-economic impact of the projects and their alignment with the guidelines of PM-DevINE
- ii. To prioritize and recommend project proposals to be posed by State Government under PM-DevINE
- iii. To review and approve for selected projects, the DPRs / techno-economic vetting undertaken by designated reputed institutes like IIT, IIM, NIT, etc. and make suitable recommendations to MDoNER towards sanction of these projects
- iv. Regular review and monitoring of the project implementation process, *inter alia*, the award of work, timely completion and sending regular/periodic reports to MDoNER relating to projects previously sanctioned under PM-DEVINE; in coordination with North Eastern Council (NEC);
- v. Improving/ strengthening project management system in the State to avoid cost and time overruns in sanctioned projects
- vi. Ensuring proper mechanisms for Operation and Maintenance (O&M) of PM-DevINE projects throughout their lifecycle
- vii. To consider any other issue as may be received from the IAs seeking removal of any difficulty in the implementation of PM-DevINE projects or clarification of guidelines; and make suitable recommendations to the EIMC, including for relaxation/minor modifications, if any, to the provisions of the Scheme.

4.6 Meetings of SLEC

SLEC will meet as frequently as needed, but at least once in three months. SLEC can meet physically, virtually or in hybrid mode.

5. Financial Outlays

The total approved expenditure outlay for the PM-DEVINE scheme for a prescribed

period shall be as recommended by the EFC and approved by the Union Cabinet. For the period from 2022-23 to 2025-26, the approved expenditure outlay is Rs. 6,600 crore; out of which an initial allocation of Rs 1,500 crore was made for FY 2022-23. To the extent possible, efforts are to be made to complete the PM-DevINE projects by 2025-26, so that the committed liabilities beyond this year are minimized. This may imply front-loading of the sanctions under the Scheme.

6. Selection of projects

6.1 All North East States are expected to put in place institutional arrangements for implementation of Gati Shakti, such as Empowered Group of Secretaries (EGoS), Network Planning Group and Technical Support Unit. The States must also notify a State Logistics Policy and must update the required data layers on Gati Shakti National Master Plan, including land revenue maps. States that do not meet this criteria, will not be sanctioned any new projects under PM-DevINE from 2023-24 onwards.

6.2 Selection of projects under the scheme will be based entirely on their alignment with the scheme guidelines and on the quality of project proposal posed before the EIMC, in terms of the project viability and tangible socio-economic impact. Therefore, a pre-fixed normative allocation would not be prescribed under PM-DevINE. However, efforts will be made to ensure that the benefits of the scheme can be availed by all the North Eastern States.

7. Identification, Prioritization and Submission of project proposals

7.1 Identification of Projects

Budget 2022-23 had already announced seven PM-DevINE projects (**Annexure A**). Concerned line Departments of the State Government or Central Government are to formulate further project proposals in line with the **focus sectors** and **preferences** indicated below, while also avoiding any project proposals that may fall under the specified **Negative List**.

7.1.1 The PM-DEVINE scheme shall focus on projects targeting the objectives of the Scheme (economic infrastructure, social infrastructure, livelihood activities, and filling of gaps in various sectors).

7.1.2 Proposals under PM-DevINE may either be posed by the North Eastern States, duly recommended by State Level Empowered Committee (SLEC) or by Central Government Ministries / Departments or their Agencies, duly recommended by the concerned Central Ministry/Department. While both State and Central agencies can pose their candidate projects, priority will be given to those posed by the States.

7.1.3 Planning and selection of projects should be based on State-wise GatiShakti Master Plans. There should be convergence with GatiShakti approach and the National

Master Plan and its portal for superimposing of various data layers while planning and designing of projects to avoid duplication and to ensure efficiency.

7.1.4 Subject to eligibility as per Scheme guidelines, preference will be accorded inter se to –

(a) projects based on a comprehensive plan / core network for a target sector and drawn up to saturate the related requirements on the basis of KPIs of Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) or Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) – either for the entire Region, or for multiple States or for an entire State;

(b) projects constituting a part of larger programmes being funded through other sources including other Ministries / Departments, Multilateral or Bilateral agencies, etc.;

(c) projects addressing the developmental requirements of backward areas or populations identified as such, for example border areas, tribal areas and populations, etc.

7.1.5 Negative List

Projects/project components of the following nature shall not be taken up under PM-DEVINE:

- i. Projects creating long-term or permanent individual benefits or entitlements; or for “Direct Benefit Transfer” components;
- ii. Projects for which the concerned line Ministry has already provided funds or plans to provide funds (non-duplication); Purchasing / acquiring of land/site for any proposed project; cost towards staff component (secretariat expenses) will also be inadmissible under the scheme and will have to be borne by the Central/State Government Ministry/ Department/ Agency concerned.
- iii. Projects seeking to create accommodation or administrative buildings for any central or state government office or their agencies; or for requirements of institutions, whether public, private or autonomous;
- iv. Projects in sectors which are covered under any other scheme of MDoNER
- v. Any other specific sector project that may be further specified to be in the Negative List by the Ministry of DoNER.

7.1.6 Minimum and Maximum Project Size: The minimum project size/cost will be Rs.20 crore while the maximum support per project will be capped at Rs. 500 crore.

7.1.7 Project Site(s): It shall be the onus of the project proposing agencies to ensure that the project site should be available unencumbered to be handed over to the IA for taking up project implementation activities. In no case, the scheme funds shall be used for purchase / acquisition of land/site for any PM-DevINE project. The latitude and longitude of the project site must be indicated; in case of projects spread across multiple locations the coordinates of all sites, must be indicated, preferably in the concept note itself and necessarily in the DPR.

7.1.8 Cost Estimates: The cost estimates for the projects posed under the scheme

should be based on latest Schedule of Rates (SOR) of the concerned central line department / State Government. For projects for which no SoRs are available, estimates may be prepared by the concerned department(s) as per prevailing rules, regulations and practices of the concerned line Ministry of the Government of India. The techno-economic vetting thereof, shall be further undertaken through the institutions of repute / NEC.

7.1.8.1 A portion (upto 1% of the approved outlay) of the budget of the scheme can be earmarked for "**administrative expenses**" for the scheme by MDoNER. This would include charges towards a technology driven comprehensive monitoring architecture covering all activities starting from project formulation, project approval, project implementation, field inspection and validation visits; setting up a Project Management Unit; capacity building, etc.

7.1.8.2 The total cost sanctioned for any project must be inclusive of the GST. The **CGST and SGST** applicable must therefore be explicitly mentioned in the cost estimates at the stage of submission of the project DPR for seeking sanction of projects.

Note: The various unit costs in the applicable Schedule of Rates may be inclusive or exclusive of the CGST and SGST. Nonetheless, the explicit mention as prescribed herein above must be ensured in every case.

7.1.8.3 The **Operations and Maintenance (O&M)** cost for the first four years after project completion shall be made a part of the total project cost. The mechanism proposed for O&M support beyond the four-year period may also be clearly indicated in the DPR and highlighted during the EIMC meeting. Unless specified otherwise, the O&M cost of the projects sanctioned under the scheme beyond the first four years after completion shall be borne by the State Government concerned.

7.2 Prioritization of Projects

The prioritization of projects proposed by the States will be done through the SLEC headed by the Chief Secretary. Prioritization amongst the projects of Central Ministries / Departments will be done by the Ministry of DoNER.

7.3 Submission of Proposals for selection

7.3.1 The State Government will submit the proposals along with all requisite documents and checklist to the Ministry of DoNER, for selection under PM-DEVINE, after due approval of the SLEC chaired by the Chief Secretary. Central Ministries / Departments will submit the proposals along with all requisite documents and checklist for selection to the Ministry of DoNER.

7.3.2 The Checklist for Selection (**Annexure-B**) shall include the specified requisite documents *inter alia* Concept notes highlighting the need/justification for undertaking such projects, intended beneficiaries, cost estimates based on latest Schedule of Rates, envisaged Output & Outcomes linked to targeted district-level SDG gaps, etc.

7.3.3 Mode of Submission of proposals: Initially, the proposals under the PM-DevINE scheme may be submitted to the Nodal Wing for the Scheme at MDoNER either through email or physically. However, once a workflow-based online system for the scheme is launched by MDoNER, all proposals along with the necessary supporting documents must necessarily be submitted to MDoNER through the online system only, and no proposal will thereafter be accepted through any other mode.

8. Project Selection at MDoNER

8.1 MDoNER, on receipt of the project proposals / concept note, will, after preliminary scrutiny of the same as expeditiously as possible, circulate the same to the concerned Central line Ministries/Departments, NITI Aayog, IFD MDoNER (as applicable), etc. for their preliminary comments to be sent, within 2 weeks. For projects in regulated sectors like power and water, the comments from respective authorities may also be obtained. In the preliminary comments, the concerned ministry/department is expected to provide broad guidance on the following aspects:

- a) Whether any components of project can be funded under an existing scheme of the line dept/ministry
- b) Choice of technology to be considered
- c) Standard cost norms to be followed
- d) Convergence related points to be considered when preparing DPR
- e) Their overall recommendation for the project to be taken under PM-DevINE

8.2 After receipt of preliminary comments of Central line Ministries/Departments, IFD MDoNER and other stakeholders, if any, the Project Division in MDoNER after preliminary scrutiny will place the project proposal together with its comments, before EIMC for consideration for selection of the projects. Projects that address gaps identified by Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indices shall be preferred for selection.

8.3 EIMC, after due consideration of the project proposals placed before it will make suitable recommendations for the **selection** of the projects. The recommendations of EIMC would be submitted to Competent Authority in MDoNER for approval.

8.4 Recommendations of EIMC as approved by the Competent Authority will be conveyed to the Implementing Agencies to enable them to get the DPR of the selected project prepared and take further necessary steps for obtaining sanction eventually.

Note: The list of projects posed by State Governments before the EIMC will be indicative guides and the EIMC will not be bound by that priority. Project acceptance would depend on its soundness in terms of its viability and tangible socio-economic impact.

9. Preparation of Detailed Projects Report (DPR) and its techno-economic vetting

9.1 The State Government or Central Ministries will prepare Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) of the selected projects communicated to them after convening of the EIMC. The scope of the project in the DPR must be the same as proposed in the Concept Note and approved by Competent Authority at MDoNER based on recommendations of EIMC.

9.2 In the DPR, the provision and cost for evaluation of the project at completion may also be included. For projects with long gestation periods, a mid-term evaluation may also be provisioned. The DPR must contain the quantifiable details for Output-Outcome deliverables including but not limited to the number of beneficiaries, targeted SDGs, quantum of employment generation, project sustainability and O&M arrangements.

9.3 The final proposal will be placed before the State Level Empowered Committee (**SLEC**) for approval and making suitable recommendations to MDoNER for sanction of the project. Proposal placed before the SLEC must contain the DPR confirming the reasonableness of cost estimates, mechanism for O&M, sustainability plan, all the necessary/applicable regulatory and statutory clearances like forest & environment, land acquisition, certificate regarding non-duplication of projects with other schemes, robust Monitoring and Evaluation mechanism, etc.

9.4 Planning Department of the State will submit the final proposal to MDoNER for sanction along with SLEC recommendations/minutes together with a **Sanction Checklist (Annexure-C)** and all regulatory and statutory documentation, inter alia, forest & environment clearances, land availability certificate, non-duplication certificate, abstract of costs, the techno-economic vetting report of DPRs, output-outcome brief/analysis, etc. The final proposal should also be accompanied with the Executive Summary of the DPR and the techno-economic vetting report of the institute of national repute.

10. Sanction of Projects

10.1 MDoNER, on receipt of the final proposal for sanction, will, after preliminary scrutiny of the same, circulate the same to the concerned Central line Ministries/Departments, NITI Aayog, IFD MDoNER, etc. for comments.

10.2 After obtaining the comments of Central line Ministries/Departments, NITI Aayog, IFD MDoNER, etc., if any, the Nodal Division of the scheme in MDoNER (being the Programme Division) will place the same before EIMC for consideration for recommending approval / sanction of the project.

10.3 The EIMC, after due consideration of the project proposals placed before it, will make suitable recommendations for the **sanction** of the projects. The recommendations of EIMC would be submitted to the Competent Authority in MDoNER

for approval. After approval duly to the recommendations of EIMC by the Competent Authority in MDoNER, the **Administrative and Financial Sanction (AFS)** of the project will be issued in consultation with Integrated Finance Division (IFD), MDoNER to NEC or Central Ministries/ Agencies.

11. Award of Work by Implementing Agencies

11.1 Work shall be awarded by the Implementing Agencies within six months of the issue of the AFS by the Ministry of DoNER and a copy of the work order must be endorsed to the Ministry. In case, no work order is received by Ministry of DoNER within a period of six months from the date of AFS, the sanction of the project may be liable for cancellation, unless approved by the Competent Authority at MDoNER.

11.2 No work shall be undertaken by the Implementing Agencies before the issue of AFS by the Ministry of DoNER. No execution of Contract Agreement or Award of work should be done before issue of AFS. Any work done prior to issuance of AFS of the project will be liable to be not funded by the Ministry of DoNER.

11.3 Implementing Agencies should award the contract through open competitive bidding after fulfilling all codal formalities as per prescribed procedures in a transparent manner to ensure value for money. As far as possible, e-tendering process with 2 stage bidding may be followed.

11.4 Infrastructure projects requiring tendering / selection of contractors for implementation should be awarded in Engineering-Procurement-Construction (EPC) mode, on fixed cost basis, with provision for liquidated damages, to limit construction risk (time and cost over runs) falling on the Government/ public sector. The tender notices and contracts may also include binding clauses for incentives to contractors for early completion and penal provision for delay. The updated General Financial Rules (GFR) of the Ministry of Finance, Government of India, as applicable, shall be strictly followed.

11.5 For non-infrastructure projects like those related to livelihood and agriculture to be implemented through NEC / Central Ministries/Departments/agencies, etc. EPC mode of procurement will not be strictly applicable. However, adequate monitoring mechanisms must be put in place to ensure there is no time and cost overrun. An 'Expenditure Plan' over the project period must be submitted by the government departments, indicating the quarter-wise expenditure over the project period along with commensurate progress (also in terms of outputs and outcomes). Furthermore, to ensure these projects are successful and sustainable, it must be ensured that the community benefits from the project in a fair and equitable way and that the projects are sustainable, both economically and environmentally. The updated General Financial Rules (GFR) of the Ministry of Finance, Government of India, as applicable, shall be strictly followed.

11.6 In case of projects worth more than Rs. One Hundred (100) crore, there should

be adequate contractual provisions for concurrent monitoring of the projects by an independent third party agency.

12. Change in Scope

12.1 Change in scope of a project selected under PM-DevINE would not be permitted in the usual course. However, at times there may arise situations that necessitate some minor change in scope/cost of the projects. For instance, the ground situation may necessitate some minor change in scope/cost with reference to the previously indicated scope/cost at the time of submission of concept note considered by the EIMC. Similarly, the ground situation may also necessitate some change in scope/cost of a project during its implementation, with reference to the previously sanctioned cost/scope of the project (as per DPR) by the EIMC.

12.2 In both these cases, any proposal for change in scope/cost of a project will be governed by the Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure OM no 24(35)/PF-II/2012 dated 05-08-2016 as amended from time to time. Any such minor change envisaged in the scope/cost of the project must be submitted before the EIMC giving adequate justification for such minor changes, along with the **Checklist at Annexure-D**.

13. Release of funds under the scheme

13.1 The funds under PM-DevINE scheme will be released in Model-1: Implementation through Treasury Single Account (TSA) in compliance with the Department of Expenditure OM dated 09.03.2022 (revised procedure for the flow of funds). This will ensure that the funds are released "Just-in-Time" from the Consolidated Fund of India (CFI). The North Eastern Development Finance Corporation Limited (NEDFi), Guwahati has been designated as CNA for PM-DevINE scheme. The implementing agencies will open assignment account with RBI and configure the same in PFMS for further release of funds

13.2 Based on the decision of the EIMC, all sanction orders will be issued by MDoNER through PFMS and the Implementing Agency will need to draw funds from the CNA. Inter alia, the updated General Financial Rules (GFR) and the guidelines for flow of funds under Central Sector Schemes issued by the Ministry of Finance, Government of India, as applicable, shall be strictly followed.

13.3 Sanctioning of new projects will be based entirely on their alignment with the scheme guidelines and on the quality of project proposal in terms of their viability and tangible socio-economic impact (as indicated in **para 7** above), actual fund releases to the Implementing Agencies shall be made from the approved budgetary allocations of MDoNER for a particular year flexibly, depending on the actual progress in implementation of ongoing projects, submission of necessary documents as per GFR, compliance of any other prescribed conditions against earlier releases, etc.

14. Monitoring & Evaluation Mechanism

14.1 Instructions of Ministry of Finance, as applicable, for concurrent monitoring and mid-term evaluation of the schemes shall be followed.

14.2 The primary responsibility of monitoring of the projects sanctioned under the scheme vests with the State Government and its designated officers, including the officers of Implementing Agency, State Planning Department and SLEC. The objective of monitoring will be to ensure the completion of projects as per the committed time schedule, sanctioned cost and prescribed quality standards.

14.3 The State Government will put in place a robust mechanism for monitoring the implementation of projects sanctioned under the scheme. The head of the designated departments of the State Government will be deemed as a Nodal Officer, and Secretary (Planning) of the State Government will be deemed as Chief Nodal Officer for monitoring purposes.

14.4 The SLEC must monitor the implementation of previously sanctioned projects as a specific part of the agenda during its meetings convened. For this purpose, quarterly physical and financial progress report of the project should be furnished by the Implementing Agency to the SLEC, within three weeks of the end of the quarter under report.

14.5 The State Government must carry out periodic inspections for ensuring faster execution, quality check of the projects and their timely completion. For project worth more than Rs 100 crore, inspections shall be carried out at predefined milestones. While such milestones could be individual project-specific, the inspections should be conducted no later than 25%, 50%, 75% and 100% of physical progress of the projects.

14.6 The Field Technical Support Units (FTSUs) operationalized by MDoNER in all the eight North East States shall also report the monthly progress of projects until their operationalization to the NEC and MDoNER. The quarterly reports to be furnished by the FTSUs to NEC/MDoNER should be countersigned by the Project Implementing Agency to ensure consistency.

14.7 The projects will also be regularly reviewed by the North Eastern Council (NEC), through its respective Sectors, and the observations of NEC must be submitted to the respective SLEC and EIMC before their review meetings. MDoNER may also conduct inspection(s) of the project on sample basis through its officers.

14.8 All Implementing Agencies must adopt Information Technology and Space Technology (geo-tagging of assets, NeSDR) for better monitoring of projects. NEC will facilitate the States in this monitoring by providing the necessary technology platform and guidance to the designated Chief Nodal Officers of all States.

14.9 Third party monitors may also be engaged for concurrent monitoring to ensure timely completion of projects. The EIMC may also recommend third party monitoring of selected PM-DevINE projects, preferably from amongst those costing more than Rs. 100 crores.

15. Completion and Operationalization of Projects

15.1 The project should be operationalized and put to its intended use at the earliest possible. For timely completion and operationalization of infrastructure projects, use of EPC contracts with liquidated damages should be followed by the Implementing Agencies. For timely completion of livelihood and other non-infrastructure projects, a robust monitoring mechanism must be put in place by the Implementing Agencies to ensure there is no time or cost overrun. All projects must be got completed within the scheduled time frame as given in the work order/contract agreement. Any cost overrun over and above the approved/ sanctioned cost in any project, due to delay in implementation or any other reasons, shall be subject to standard escalation clauses under the GFR.

15.2 After completion of the project, a Completion Certificate along with necessary documents will be submitted by the implementing agency through Planning Department of the State Government, as per GFR.

15.3 The State Government / Central Agencies shall also ensure proper upkeep, operation and maintenance of the assets/ facilities created through the PM-DevINE project.

15.4 The State Government / Central Agencies shall ensure that the land on which the project is constructed and the assets/ facilities created out of PM-DevINE funds will not be transferred/ sold/ alienated/ mortgaged without the approval of Ministry of DoNER, Government of India.

16. Transparency and Publicity of Information

In order to ensure that the information about development schemes/plans/projects being financed through the PM-DEVINE reaches the targeted beneficiaries, there is need to ensure greater transparency and publicity of information. Hence, basic details of the project such as date of completion, cost of the project, source of funding i.e.PM-DEVINE, name of the designated agency for execution of the project, contractor's name, etc. must be available in public domain and given wide publicity in media (including social media) as per the guidelines of Government of India in this regard.

17. Interpretation/Relaxation/Modification to Scheme Guidelines

17.1 Within the broad framework of the guidelines, MDoNER may, from time to time,

issue instructions for ensuring effective and timely implementation of the scheme, processing / appraisal of the proposals in a time-bound fashion, regular monitoring, supervision, and such other related matters.

17.2 In cases of any doubt or lack of clarity related to these guidelines, arising during the life cycle of a project, the relevant rules, guidelines, codes, manuals, etc., of the concerned Central Ministries would be applicable.

17.3 Within the broad framework of the scheme, MDoNER may, based on the recommendations of the EIMC and with the approval of the Competent Authority make necessary modifications to the scheme's guidelines in any clause of the scheme guidelines, which are considered necessary for ensuring smooth implementation of the scheme and/or removing any bottlenecks in its implementation.

17.4 In exceptional circumstances, and for reasons to be recorded in writing, the competent authority, on the recommendations of the EIMC, may relax any of the above conditions.

Annexure-A**INITIAL LIST OF PROJECTS UNDER PM-DevINE**

[Ref. Para7.1 of the Guidelines]

Sl.	Name of the Project	Total Tentative Cost (in crore)
1	Establishment of Dedicated Services for the Management of Paediatric and Adult Haemotolymphoid Cancers in North East India, Guwahati (Multi-State)	129
2	NECTAR Livelihood Improvement Project (Multi-State)	67
3	Promoting Scientific Organic Agriculture in NorthEast India (Multi-State)	45
4	Construction of Aizwal By-pass on Western Side	500
5	Gap funding for Passenger Ropeway system from Pelling to Sanga-Choeling in West Sikkim	64
6	Gap funding for Eco-friendly Ropeway (Cable Car) from Dhapper to Bhaleydhunga in South Sikkim	58
7	Pilot Project for Construction of Bamboo Link Road at Different Locations in Various Districts in the State of Mizoram	100
8	Others (to be identified)	537
	Total	1500

Annexure-B

Checklist for Project Selection

[Ref. Para 7.3.2 of the Guidelines]

S.No.	Item	Remarks
1.	Concept Note, highlighting the following: a. rationale for the project, intended beneficiaries and its socio-economic benefit b. alignment of proposed project with the focus areas indicated under the scheme guidelines c. KPIs for monitoring the project d. SDG or other indices that the KPIs will impact and how e. Rough cost estimates as per latest SoR	
2.	Convergence Plan – indicating how the proposed project converges with the other ongoing interventions of government in the space	
3.	Prioritized list of projects, duly approved by the SLEC, chaired by the Chief Secretary	

Annexure-C

Checklist for Project Sanction

[Ref. Para 9.5 of the Guidelines]

S.No.	Item	Remarks
1.	Approval of Concept Note from MDoNER (<i>Minutes of EIMC</i>)	
2.	Compliance with the comments (<i>if any</i>) of the concerned line department and conditions specified by EIMC (<i>if any</i>) at time of selection of project	
3.	Endorsement of DPR by SLEC and submission of project proposal to MDoNER (minutes of SLEC to be enclosed)	
4.	Proposal submitted to MDoNER must indicate, inter alia, the following: a) Project Profile b) Expected beneficiaries and socio-economic impact c) Alignment of proposed project with the focus areas indicated under the scheme guidelines d) Timeline for implementation e) Sustainability Plan f) Mechanism for O&M (after project completion) g) Cost Estimates, clearly indicating the basis for unit costs h) All Sources of funding for the project i) Location(s) of project with geo-coordinates j) Satellite image / photograph of project site k) Alignment with Gati Shakti Master Plan to demonstrate convergence l) Compliance with guidelines of concerned line department m) Output-Outcome framework with KPIs for monitoring the project n) Provision for project	

	evaluation(s)	
5.	Report of the institute of repute on the techno-economic vetting of DPR, along with the Executive Summary of the DPR	
6.	Statutory Clearances, <i>as applicable, such as:</i> a) Forest & Environment b) Town and Country Planning c) Industries	
7.	Certificates for following: a) Availability of encumbrance-free land for the project b) Certification that costs proposed is as per the latest applicable Schedule of Rates c) Non-duplication Certificate, duly endorsed to the concerned line department in the States, and concerned line Ministry at the Centre, within whose purview the project falls	

Annexure-D

Checklist for Change in Scope of Sanctioned Project

[Ref. Para 12.2 of the Guidelines]

S.No.	Item	Remarks
1.	Project Profile	
2.	Reason for proposing Change in Scope, along with certification that the proposed change is within the scheme guidelines	
3.	Revised Timeline for completion	
4.	Change in the cost of project due to proposed change	
5.	Vetting of revised cost by the institute of repute that had previously vetted the project proposal	
6.	Approval from SLEC on the Change in Scope	
7.	Compliance with comments of concerned line department or EIMC received previously, if any	
