



# purvodaya

*The Rise of Opportunities*

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## DIRECTOR'S DESK

The Institute of Social and Cultural Studies that has been rolling out interesting facts and trending developments of Eastern India through its Bi-Monthly Purvodaya: The Rise of Opportunities. Thereby makes an attempt to transpire interesting facts pertaining to the development of The Siliguri Corridor is merely a tiny stretch of land. It extends at around 60 kilometers in length and almost 22 kilometers in width, all the while even reducing to 17 kilometers in certain places of the corridor. This being part of West Bengal is a diplomatic manoeuvre place located between Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, India's Seven Sisters and Chumbi Hills in the Eastern Himalayan Region. Being located at the crossroads and centrally situated between all the neighbouring countries the landlocked Siliguri has an especially economic and political value for the regional countries. The parallel article on Security Issues and Emerging Technologies: An Overview tries to magnify security concerns and emergence of technology to confront the security caveats in eastern India. The article conceptualizes how artificial intelligence, cyber security, and satellite-based surveillance to revolutionize security efforts can act as a potential agent to predetermine the security intrusion so that a greater coverage of borders and better enable patrols to respond to potential threats are initiated. The Institute stemming from eastern India forays a lot of emphasis on the developmental perspectives of North-East thereby the Odia article summarizes the Infrastructural development taking place in the North East past 2014.

The event section of the exclusive Bi-Monthly gives its readers a glimpse of the 47th International Kolkata Book Fair and how the Institute being a participant of this mega literary event has been attracting readers across through its new and enriching set of publications.

— Arindam Mukherjee, Director, ISCS, India



Dreamstime

*Toy Train between Siliguri and Darjeeling*

## THE ROADS TO ECONOMIC LIBERATION OF SILIGURI

**Arindam Basu\***

Siliguri means a stack of pebbles or stones. And as the name suggests its importance has stacked up over a period of time as it has become a central point of geo-political importance of the region.

In simple terms Siliguri is a major tier-II city in West Bengal. It forms "Twin Cities" with the neighbouring district capital of Jalpaiguri. The city spans areas of the Darjeeling and Jalpaiguri districts in the Indian state of West Bengal. Known as the "Gateway of Northeast India", Siliguri is popular for three Ts: tea, timber and tourism. It is located on the banks of the Mahananda River and the Teesta River at the foothills of the Himalayas. Siliguri is the third largest urban agglomeration in West Bengal, after Kolkata and Asansol. And talking of Siliguri we can't escape the Siliguri Corridor.

The Siliguri Corridor or the 'Chicken Neck' of India is merely a tiny stretch of land. It extends at around 60 kilometres in length and almost 22 kilometres in width, all the while even reducing to 17 kilometres in certain places of the corridor.

This being part of West Bengal is a diplomatic manoeuvre place located between Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, India's Seven Sisters and Chumbi Hills in the Eastern Himalayan Region. Being located at the crossroads and centrally situated between all the neighbouring countries the landlocked Siliguri has an especially economic and political value for the regional countries.

The corridor being in close proximity to China and India's Seven Sisters has added to the diplomatic mosaic of the Eastern Himalayan Region. The region consists of beautiful landscape, mountains and rivers which not only add to topographical diversity but also demographic mixture. Despite its geopolitical significance the area could not advance for not only being a northeastern border region but also for being a gateway to the Seven Sister States.

But the focus has now been trained on Siliguri and the development of road infrastructure has been a major part of the total revamp and development process that is being undertaken. Ministry of Road Transport & Highways (MoRT&H) is primarily responsible for Maintenance & Development of National Highways (NH) in the country. Besides MoRT&H also provide funds for development of State Roads under Central Road & Infrastructure Funds(CRIF). Ministry executes the development work through different agencies/bodies like NHAI, State PWD, NHIDCL etc.

Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari recently inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of three NH (National Highway) projects worth ₹1,206 crore in Siliguri on Thursday. The projects include 2-lane ROB (road over bridge) in replacement of level crossing at km 615.5 of NH-31 (Oodlabari) and ROB in lieu of level crossing at km 661.100 on NH-31 (Maynaguri). It would help to reduce accidents due to improved safety features and bring down travelling distance and time.

The development of these projects will lead to industrial and economic growth in West Bengal as

well as eastern parts of India with significant inroads towards agricultural sector. The foundation stone for the development to 4/6-laning of NH-31 (new NH-10) with both side service roads from km 569.258 to km 581.030 (end of AH-02 project on NH- 31 near Shivmandir to Sevoke Army Cantonment) was laid giving a major fillip to traffic decongestion in Siliguri.

In addition, the following projects have already been completed including the 104 km long 4-Laning of Dalkhola - Ghoshpukur section including Islampur Bypass of NH 31, the 90 km long 2L+PS of Chanrabandha (Bangladesh border)-Pasaka road (AH-48), 4 laning of Salsalaabri -Assam Bengal Border section of NH 31C, 2L+PS of Phulbari (Bangladesh border)-Panitanki road (AH-2), 2L+PS of Falakata-Pundibari section of NH 31, 2L+PS of Chalsa-Telipara section of NH 31C and the 1.5km stretch of the Mechi bridge on Indo-Nepal border.

Several projects are also ongoing like the 84 km long 4 laning of Ghoshpukur to Dhupguri section of NH 31D (27), 4 laning of Dhupguri to Falakata of NH 31D and 4 laning of Falakata – Salsalabari section of NH 31D road.

The state Public Works Department (PWD) has also set up a dedicated Project Implementation Unit (PIU) at Siliguri in North Bengal for construction of a service road of approximately 12 km covering both Darjeeling and Siliguri district for seamless connection to the development of NH 31 (New NH 10) being executed by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH). The MoRTH has taken up a new project of development to 4/ 6 laning of NH31 with service road on both sides stretching from the end of Asian Highway (AH) 2 Project on NH 31 near Shiv Mandir to Sevoke Army Cantonment.

The Ministry has entrusted the work of the service road to PWD so that the project can be executed in a time-bound manner. The project involves public interest and so we have formed the dedicated PIU in Siliguri so that the project can be executed in an expediting and time-bound manner.

A host of projects are also coming up in the region namely construction of Gorakhpur Siliguri Expressway stretching 520kms, Siliguri Ring Road stretching 172 kms, 118 km long Teesta Bazar – Pedong – Todey- Chalsa Road, 4 laning of Telipara-Birpara-Salsalabari section of section of NH 31& 31C running over 76 kms, 4 laning of Sevoke – Chalsa-Telipara section of NH 31& 31C and construction of new Bridge across river Teesta besides existing coronation bridge from km 595-602 of NH 31 stretching 6.5 kms among others.

As a fulcrum of connectivity as well as transit point between the northeast and the rest of India and with Bangladesh, Bhutan and Nepal, Siliguri has the potential to accelerate economic recovery and growth for the benefit of the people in this sub-region. All three immediate neighbours of India on its eastern side - Bangladesh, Bhutan and Nepal - depend on this trade and transit corridor for their

direct as well as third country trade to connect with ports in India and Bangladesh.

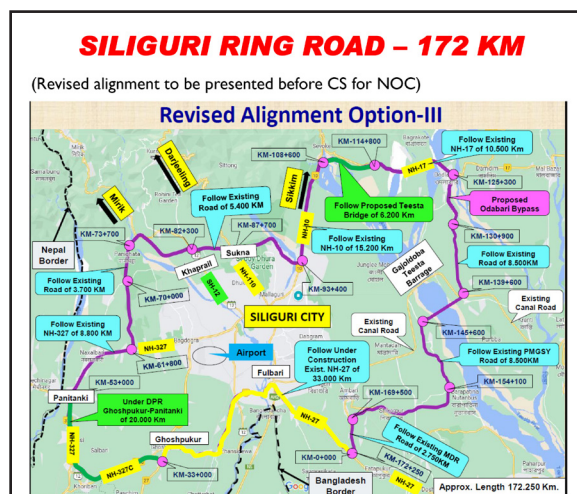
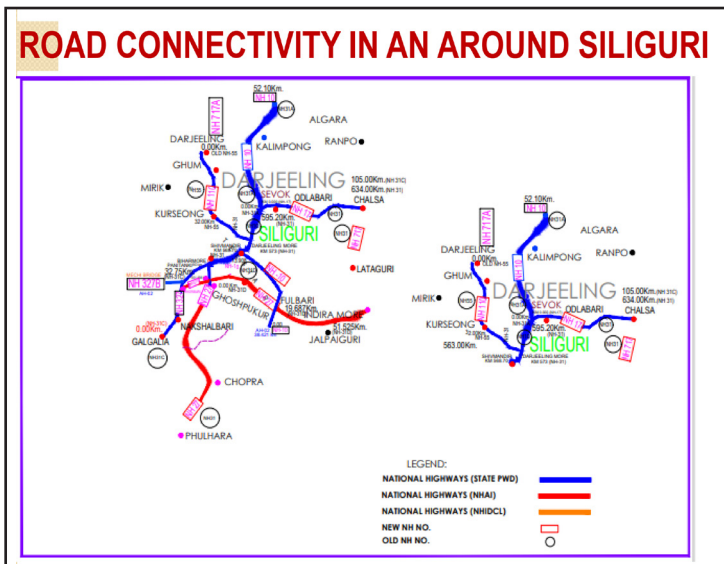
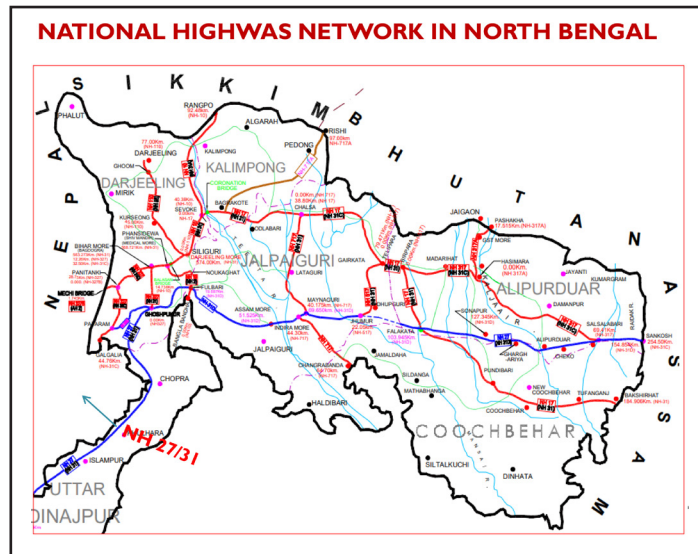
Siliguri provides transit access to Bangladesh for its trade with Nepal and Bhutan. Furthermore, being the most important tri-junction in the Asian Highway-2 (AH-2), it serves as an intersection point between this highway and the Asian Highway-48, which connects India and Bhutan.

With established and emerging trade, transit and logistics connectivity, the potential of Siliguri can help materialise an inclusive transport-led growth for this region, keeping northeast India at its centre. In short, trade- and people-centric infrastructure development in and around the Siliguri corridor that promotes ease of doing business as well as ease of living while enabling socio-economic welfare of border communities is an imperative and its time had arrived. The roads will only lead to the economic boom that it has the potential to realise.



*Cars are waiting for passengers to travel to Gangtok in Siliguri*

# Road Development Programmes around Siliguri in West Bengal



Courtesy : MoRTH, Govt. of India

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Dreamstime

## SECURITY ISSUES AND EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES: AN OVERVIEW

Gautam Banerjee\*

In order to magnify the security concerns and emergence of technology to confront the security caveats in eastern India, ISCS organized a seminar on Siliguri Corridors. Where an exclusive session on Technological Innovation and Future Security Trends did encompass *the potential of emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence, cyber security, and satellite-based surveillance to revolutionize security efforts. The important tenets from the event on the given topic have been conceptualized as these can act as agents to predetermine the security intrusion so that a greater coverage of borders and better enable patrols to respond to potential threats are initiated*

It was divided into several sections, each addressing specific aspects of this intersection.

1. **Emerging Technologies and Warfare:** It began by highlighting the historical waves of general-purpose technologies and their impact on warfare. It outlined the evolution of war technologies through different generations, from massed manpower to non-kinetic military actions, such as social engineering, cyber attacks, and AI-driven autonomous systems.
2. **Four New Wave Technological Revolutions:** These new wave technological revolutions are expected to dominate the near future, including Artificial Intelligence, Synthetic Biology, Robotics, and Quantum Computing. Each of these revolutions is expected to have significant implications for future security and warfare.
3. **Defense Innovations:** The discussion delved into defense innovations and their convergence with emerging technologies. It outlined key convergence areas such as perception, processing, and cognition; human-machine teaming; manufacturing, supply chain, and logistics; communication, navigation, targeting, and strike; as well as cyber and information operations.
4. **Security Issues and Emerging Technologies:** This topic addressed security issues related to emerging technologies, including large-scale information synthesis capacity, AI applications in cybersecurity and surveillance, and the implications of AI-driven systems on security. It also discussed the potential for cognitive hacks and the implications of Combined Joint All Domain Command & Control (CJADC2) on warfighting capabilities.
5. **Geopolitical Implications - China's AI and Security Threats:** This topic specifically focused on China's advancements in AI and its potential impact on future security issues. It highlighted China's vision for 'intelligentized' warfare and its investments in AI, quantum computing, and surveillance systems. The session not only discussed the security threats in the Siliguri corridor but the potential implications of China's technological advancements on South Asian security.
6. **Future Security Issues:** This topic outlined future security issues vis-à-vis emerging technology, including the potential for unmanned automated weapon systems, data security concerns, and the need for India to develop counter-deepfake systems. It also discussed the implications of AI-based smart weapon systems in conflicts such as the Ukraine war and the Israel-Palestine conflict.
7. **Global Power Dynamics and Computing Power:** The discussion concluded by highlighting the significance of computing power in shaping global power dynamics, particularly in the rivalry between the United States and China. It emphasized the importance of cutting-edge chips for advanced technologies and their implications for the global economy and military power balance.

Overall, the presentation provided us with a comprehensive and detailed analysis of the complex relationship between emerging technologies and future security trends, encompassing warfare, defense innovations, geopolitical implications, and the evolving dynamics of global power.

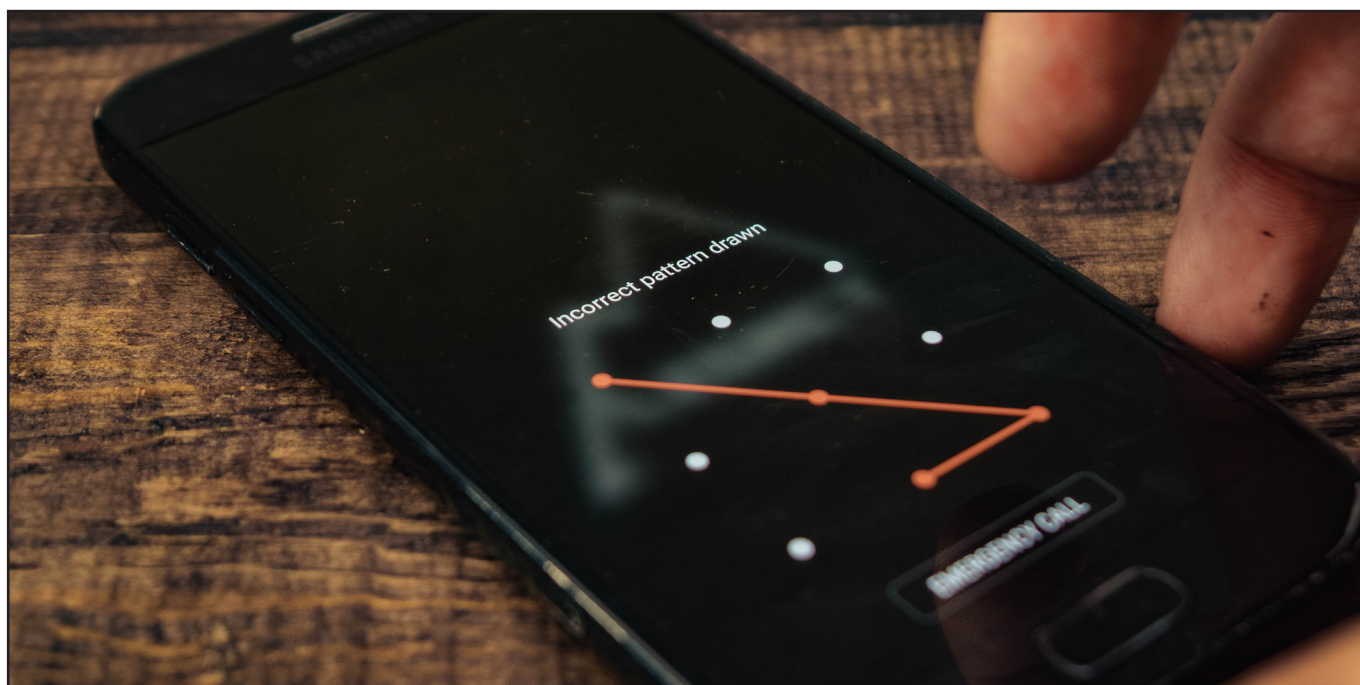
The Discussion also covered the technological innovation and future security trends, focusing on the potential security threats posed by multimedia

morphing, counterfeit electronic components, and imagery intelligence. The discussion hence have been ndivided into following key tenets.

1. Tenet 1 delved into the issue of mis information through multimedia morphing, specifically addressing the availability of software to create realistic fake images and videos. It raises the question of trust in visual media and presented an example of a Malaysian politician allegedly receiving knighthood from Queen Elizabeth II. It re-emphasized the revolutionary impact of generative AI, particularly in the creation of deepfake videos. The presentation also referenced the use of computer-generated imagery in modern cinema and provided examples such as "Life of Pi" and the use of deepfake technology to create a fake video of ex president of USA Mr Obama.It challenged the audience to question the authenticity of visual content, particularly in the context of security.

2. Tenet 2 shifted the focus to common hardware and software threats, setting the stage for the subsequent discussion on counterfeit electronic components. It emphasizes the origin of counterfeit electronics primarily from China and the associated risks to reliability and sensitive informationciting examples such as counterfeit integrated circuits and a fake Apple store in Kunming, China.
3. Tenet 3 introduced imagery intelligence (IMINT) and its relevance to defense intelligence. It emphasized the analysis of aerial and satellite images to extract information, highlighting the widespread deployment of commercial satellites and the importance of IMINT in defense.

The presentations and discussion provided a comprehensive overview of emerging security threats, particularly in the context of multimedia manipulation, counterfeit electronics, and imagery intelligence, underscoring the need for a reconceptualization of security in the Siliguri Corridor.



Dreamstime

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\* Director, Business Brio



## ଉତ୍ତର-ପୂର୍ବ ରାଜ୍ୟଗୁଡ଼ିକରେ ଭିତ୍ତିଭୂମି ବିକାଶ

Dr. Pritish Kumar Sahu\*

ଭିତ୍ତିଭୂମି ହେଉଛି ଅର୍ଥନୈତିକ ବ୍ୟବସ୍ଥାର ସ୍ଥାୟୀ କେନ୍ଦ୍ର । ଏହା କେବଳ ଅର୍ଥନୀତିର ନୁହେଁ ବରଂ ସଭ୍ୟତାର ବିକାଶରେ ମଧ୍ୟ ଏକ ଗୁରୁତ୍ୱପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ ଭୂମିକା ଗ୍ରହଣ କରିଥାଏ । ଏହା ଉତ୍ପାଦନ ଓ ବିତରଣ ସହିତ ଶେଷ ଗ୍ରାହକଙ୍କୁ ମଧ୍ୟ ସଂଯୋଗ କରିଥାଏ । ଭିତ୍ତିଭୂମି ମୌଳିକ ସୁବିଧା ଯୋଗେଇବାସହ ବିଭିନ୍ନ ଆର୍ଥନୀତିକ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକଳାପକୁ ସେବା କରିବାରେ ସାହାଯ୍ୟ କରିଥାଏ ଏବଂ ଏହାଦ୍ୱାରା ଦେଶର ଅଭିବୃଦ୍ଧି, ଦେଶର ବିକାଶ, ଶିକ୍ଷା, ଯୋଗାଯୋଗ, ପରିବହନ, ବ୍ୟାଙ୍କିଙ୍ଗ୍, ସ୍ୱାସ୍ଥ୍ୟ, ପ୍ରଯୁକ୍ତିବିଦ୍ୟାରେ ସାହାଯ୍ୟ କରିଥାଏ । ଭାରତୀୟ ଅର୍ଥନୀତି ପାଇଁ ଏକ ପ୍ରମୁଖ ଡ୍ରାଇଭର ହେଉଛି ଭିତ୍ତିଭୂମି କ୍ଷେତ୍ର । ଦେଶରେ ବିଶ୍ୱସ୍ଥରୀୟ ଭିତ୍ତିଭୂମି ସୃଷ୍ଟି କରିବା ପାଇଁ ସରକାର ଏହି କ୍ଷେତ୍ରର ଅଭିବୃଦ୍ଧିରେ ଯେଉଁଭଳି ଭାବରେ ପଦକ୍ଷେପ ନେଇଛନ୍ତି ତାହା କେବଳ କିଛି ବିକଶିତ ରାଜ୍ୟମାନଙ୍କ ମଧ୍ୟରେ ସୀମିତ ନାହିଁ ବରଂ ଭାରତର ସାମଗ୍ରିକ ବିକାଶ ଉପରେ ଦୃଷ୍ଟି ଦେଇ କେନ୍ଦ୍ର ସରକାର ସୁଦୂର ଉତ୍ତର ପୂର୍ବ ରାଜ୍ୟମାନଙ୍କରେ ଅନେକ ଭିତ୍ତିଭୂମି ମଜବୁତ କରିଛନ୍ତି ଯାହାକି ସେତୁ, ବନ୍ଧ, ରାସ୍ତା, ଶକ୍ତି ପାଖରୁ ଆରମ୍ଭ କରି ଏହା ସହରୀ ଓ ଗ୍ରାମାଞ୍ଚଳର ବିକାଶ ଦିଗରେ ସହାୟକ ହୋଇପାରିଛି । ତାହା ସହିତ ଭିତ୍ତିଭୂମିର ଉନ୍ନୀତ ଏହି ଅଞ୍ଚଳର ସାମାଜିକ ଆର୍ଥିକ ବ୍ୟବସ୍ଥାକୁ ଉନ୍ନତ କରିବା ସହ ଦେଶର ଅନ୍ୟାନ୍ୟ ଭାଗ ସହିତ ଭଲ ସଂଯୋଗୀକରଣ ଓ ପର୍ଯ୍ୟଟକଙ୍କ ସଂଖ୍ୟା ବୃଦ୍ଧିରେ ମଧ୍ୟ ସହାୟକ ହେବ ଓ ରୋଜଗାର ସୃଷ୍ଟି କରିବ ।

ଭିତ୍ତିଭୂମିର ଅଭାବ ଏବଂ ଖରାପ ଭିତ୍ତିଭୂମି ବହୁ ଦଶନ୍ଧି ଧରି ଉତ୍ତର-ପୂର୍ବ ଭାରତର ବିଭିନ୍ନ ହେବାରେ ସହାୟକ ହୋଇଥିଲା । ଭାରତର ଅଭିବୃଦ୍ଧି ଇଞ୍ଜିନ୍ ଭାବରେ ଉତ୍ତର-ପୂର୍ବ ରାଜ୍ୟଗୁଡ଼ିକୁ ମଜବୁତ କରିବାର ଲକ୍ଷ୍ୟକୁ ହାସଲ କରିବା ପାଇଁ ପ୍ରଧାନମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ ନରେନ୍ଦ୍ର ମୋଦୀ ସଂଯୋଗ ଉପରେ ଏକ ଅଦ୍ୱିତୀୟ ଧ୍ୟାନ ଆଣିଛନ୍ତି । ଗତ ୯ ବର୍ଷ ମଧ୍ୟରେ ବହୁ ବିଚାରାଧୀନ ପ୍ରକଳ୍ପ ସମାପ୍ତ ହୋଇ ଜନସାଧାରଣଙ୍କ ନିକଟରେ ପହଂଚିଛି । ପ୍ରଧାନମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ ନରେନ୍ଦ୍ର ମୋଦୀଙ୍କ ନେତୃତ୍ୱାଧୀନ ସରକାର 2014-15ରୁ ଆଜିପର୍ଯ୍ୟନ୍ତ ଉତ୍ତର ପୂର୍ବାଞ୍ଚଳ (NE) ରାଜ୍ୟଗୁଡ଼ିକର ଭିତ୍ତିଭୂମି ବିକାଶ ପାଇଁ 3.84 ଲକ୍ଷ କୋଟିରୁ ଅଧିକ ଟଙ୍କା ଖର୍ଚ୍ଚ କରିଛନ୍ତି । ଏହି ବିକାଶମୂଳକ ପ୍ରକଳ୍ପଗୁଡ଼ିକରେ ମୁଖ୍ୟତ ସଡ଼କ ସଂଯୋଗ, ବାୟୁ ସଂଯୋଗ, ରେଳ ନେଟୱାର୍କ, ଜଳପଥ, ଟେଲିକମ୍ ଏବଂ ଶକ୍ତି ଅନ୍ତର୍ଭୁକ୍ତ । ଆସୀମ ସମେତ ଏହି ଅଞ୍ଚଳର ସାମଗ୍ରିକ ବିକାଶ ପାଇଁ ସମୁଦାୟ 55ଟି କେନ୍ଦ୍ର ମନ୍ତ୍ରଣାଳୟ ଏବଂ ବିଭିନ୍ନ ବିଭାଗ ସେମାନଙ୍କ ମୋଟ ବଜେଟ୍ ସହାୟତାର ଅତି କମରେ 10 ପ୍ରତିଶତ ଖର୍ଚ୍ଚ କରିଛନ୍ତି ।

ପ୍ରଧାନମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ ନରେନ୍ଦ୍ର ମୋଦୀ କହିଥିଲେ- ଯେତେବେଳେ ଭଲ ରାସ୍ତାର ଏକ ନେଟୱାର୍କ ସୃଷ୍ଟି ହୁଏ, ଦେଶର ଅର୍ଥନୀତି ମଧ୍ୟ ଗତି କରେ । ରାସ୍ତାଗୁଡ଼ିକ ହେଉଛି ଦେଶର ଶିରା ଏବଂ ଧମନୀ, ଯାହା ବିକାଶର ଗତି ବଦଳାଇବାରେ ସାହାଯ୍ୟ କରେ ଏବଂ ସମୃଦ୍ଧତା ଆମ ଦେଶର ଦୂର କୋଣରେ ପହଞ୍ଚେ ବୋଲି ନିଶ୍ଚିତ କରେ । ଉତ୍ତର ପୂର୍ବ ଭାରତରେ ଉତ୍ତର ପୂର୍ବ ଅଞ୍ଚଳରେ ୪୧,୪୫୯ କୋଟି ଟଙ୍କା ବ୍ୟୟରେ ଗତ ନଅ ବର୍ଷ ମଧ୍ୟରେ (ଯଥା ୨୦୧୪-୨୦୨୩) ସଡ଼କ ପରିବହନ ଏବଂ ରାଜପଥ ମନ୍ତ୍ରଣାଳୟ ଦ୍ୱାରା ମୋଟ ୪,୯୫୦ କିଲୋମିଟର ଜାତୀୟ ରାଜପଥ ନେଟୱାର୍କ ବିକଶିତ ହୋଇଛି । ବର୍ତ୍ତମାନ ସମୟରେ ୧,୦୫,୫୨୮ କୋଟି ଟଙ୍କାର ୭,୫୪୫ କିଲୋମିଟର ଲମ୍ବର ଅନେକ ପ୍ରକଳ୍ପ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟ ଚାଲିଛି । ଉତ୍ତର-ପୂର୍ବ ଅଞ୍ଚଳରେ ଚାଲିଥିବା ପ୍ରମୁଖ ସଡ଼କ ପ୍ରକଳ୍ପଗୁଡ଼ିକ ହେଉଛି- ନାଗାଲାଣ୍ଡର ଦିମାପୁର-କୋହିମା ରୋଡ୍ 62.9 କିଲୋମିଟର ଚାରି ଚାରି ଲେନ, ଅରୁଣାଚଳ ପ୍ରଦେଶର ହୋଲୋଇଁ ପର୍ଯ୍ୟନ୍ତ 167 କିଲୋମିଟର ଲମ୍ବା ଚାରି ଲେନ ବିଶିଷ୍ଟ, ଅରୁଣାଚଳ ପ୍ରଦେଶର ୧୫୨ କିଲୋମିଟର ଲମ୍ବା ଦୁଇ ଲେନ ବିଶିଷ୍ଟ ରାଜପଥ ମୁଖ୍ୟତ ଭାବରେ ଅନ୍ତର୍ଭୁକ୍ତ ଅଛି । ଏଥିସହ ଉତ୍ତର ପୂର୍ବାଞ୍ଚଳର ବିକାଶ ମନ୍ତ୍ରଣାଳୟ, ଉତ୍ତର ପୂର୍ବ ସ୍ୱତନ୍ତ୍ର ଭିତ୍ତିଭୂମି ବିକାଶ ଯୋଜନା (NESIDS) ଏବଂ ଉତ୍ତର ପୂର୍ବ ସଡ଼କ କ୍ଷେତ୍ର ବିକାଶ ଯୋଜନା

(NERSDS) ଅନୁଯାୟୀ ୩୩୭୨.୫୮ କୋଟି ଟଙ୍କା ମଧ୍ୟ ମଞ୍ଜୁର କରାଯାଇଛି । ଏପରିକି କାଳାଦାନ ମଲ୍ଟି ମୋଡାଲ ଟ୍ରାଞ୍ଜିଟ୍ ପରିବହନ ପ୍ରକଳ୍ପ (KMTTP) ଯାହାକି ଭାରତ ଏବଂ ମିଆଁମାରର ମିଳିତ ପଦକ୍ଷେପ ହୋଇଛି ତାହା ୪୮୪ ନିୟୁତ ଆମେରିକୀୟ ଡଲାରର ପ୍ରକଳ୍ପ ଯାହାର ଲକ୍ଷ୍ୟ ରହିଛି ଯେ ଭାରତର ପୂର୍ବ ବନ୍ଦରରୁ ମିଆଁମାରକୁ ଏବଂ ମିଆଁମାର ଦେଇ ଭାରତର ଉତ୍ତର-ପୂର୍ବ ଭାଗକୁ ମାଲ ପରିବହନ ପାଇଁ ଏକ ମଲ୍ଟି ମୋଡାଲ ପରିବହନ ଧାରା ସୃଷ୍ଟି କରିବ । ଏହା ଉତ୍ତର-ପୂର୍ବ ଭାଗକୁ ବିକଶିତ କରିବାରେ ମଧ୍ୟ ବହୁତ ସାହାଯ୍ୟ କରିବ । ସଡ଼କ ପରିବହନ ଏବଂ ରାଜପଥର କେନ୍ଦ୍ର ମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ 20,000 କୋଟି ଟଙ୍କାର ସଡ଼କ ପ୍ରକଳ୍ପ ବିଷୟରେ ମଧ୍ୟ ଉଲ୍ଲେଖ କରିଛନ୍ତି ଯାହା ମିଜୋରାମକୁ ନାଗାଲାଣ୍ଡ, ମଣିପୁର ଏବଂ ମିଆଁମାର ଅନ୍ତର୍ଭାଗୀୟ ସୀମା ସହିତ ସଂଯୋଗ କରିବ ।

ସେହିପରି ୨୦୧୪-୧୫ ପରଠାରୁ କେନ୍ଦ୍ର ସରକାର ନୂତନ ରେଳବାୟ ଟ୍ରାକର ବିକାଶ ତଥା ବିଦ୍ୟମାନ ଲାଇନକୁ ଦ୍ୱିଗୁଣିତ କରିବା ପାଇଁ ୧୯,୮୫୫- କୋଟି ଟଙ୍କା ଖର୍ଚ୍ଚ କରିଛନ୍ତି । ବର୍ତ୍ତମାନ, ୨୦୦୦ କିଲୋମିଟରରୁ ଅଧିକ ଲମ୍ବା ରେଳବାୟ ଟ୍ରାକର ବିକାଶ ପାଇଁ ୭୪,୪୮୫ କୋଟି ଟଙ୍କା ମୂଲ୍ୟର ୨୦ ଟି ପ୍ରକଳ୍ପ ଯୋଜନା / ଅନୁମୋଦନ / କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକାରୀର ବିଭିନ୍ନ ପର୍ଯ୍ୟାୟରେ ଅଛି । ସର୍ବଶେଷ ଆକଳନ ଅନୁଯାୟୀ ସମୁଦାୟ ୩୨୧ କିଲୋମିଟର ଲମ୍ବ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟ ଶେଷ ହୋଇଛି ଏବଂ ଏଥିପାଇଁ ମାର୍ଚ୍ଚ ୨୦୨୧ ପର୍ଯ୍ୟନ୍ତ ୨୨,୮୭୪ କୋଟି ଟଙ୍କା ବ୍ୟୟ ହୋଇସାରିଛି । ଏଥିମଧ୍ୟରେ ଅନ୍ତର୍ଭୁକ୍ତ ଅଛି: ୫୨,୫୩୫ କୋଟି ଟଙ୍କା ବ୍ୟୟରେ ୧,୧୮୧ କିଲୋମିଟର ଦୀର୍ଘ ବିଶିଷ୍ଟ ୧୪ଟି ନୂତନ ଲାଇନ ପ୍ରକଳ୍ପ, ସେଥିମଧ୍ୟରୁ ୨୫୩ କିଲୋମିଟର ଲମ୍ବ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ଷମ ସମାପ୍ତ ହୋଇଛି ଏବଂ ମାର୍ଚ୍ଚ ୨୦୨୧ ପର୍ଯ୍ୟନ୍ତ ୨୩,୯୯୪ କୋଟି ଟଙ୍କା ବ୍ୟୟ ହୋଇଛି । ତାହାସହିତ ୨ଟି ଡବଲିଂ / ମଲ୍ଟି ଟ୍ରାକିଂ ପ୍ରୋଜେକ୍ଟର ଦର୍ପଣ ୮୩୦ କିଲୋମିଟର, ଯାହାର ମୂଲ୍ୟ ୧୭,୯୩୨ କୋଟି ଟଙ୍କା, ସେଥିମଧ୍ୟରୁ ୨୮ କିଲୋମିଟର ଲମ୍ବ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ଷମ ହୋଇଛି ଏବଂ ମାର୍ଚ୍ଚ ୨୦୨୧ ପର୍ଯ୍ୟନ୍ତ ୨୮୮୦ କୋଟି ଟଙ୍କା ବ୍ୟୟ ହୋଇଛି । ଉତ୍ତର ପୂର୍ବ ଅଞ୍ଚଳରେ ରେଳ ଏବଂ ସଡ଼କ ଭିତ୍ତିଭୂମି ପ୍ରକଳ୍ପର ଲାଭ, ଉତ୍ତର-ପୂର୍ବର ଦେଶର ମୁଖ୍ୟ ସ୍ରୋତ ସହିତ ଏକୀକରଣ, ଅତ୍ୟାବଶ୍ୟକ ସାମଗ୍ରୀ ଏବଂ କୃଷିଜାତ ଦ୍ରବ୍ୟର ଦ୍ରୁତ ଗତି, ଏହାର ଲୋକଙ୍କ ପାଇଁ ନିଯୁକ୍ତି ସୁଯୋଗ ବୃଦ୍ଧି ଅନ୍ତର୍ଭୁକ୍ତ କରେ । ଅଞ୍ଚଳ, ଅଞ୍ଚଳର ସାମାଜିକ-ଅର୍ଥନୈତିକ ବିକାଶ, ପର୍ଯ୍ୟଟନ ଶିଳ୍ପର ବିକାଶ ଏବଂ ଏହି ଅଞ୍ଚଳରେ ଶିଳ୍ପ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକଳାପରେ ବୃଦ୍ଧି ଏବଂ ଏହାଦ୍ୱାରା ଉତ୍ତର-ପୂର୍ବ ରାଜ୍ୟଗୁଡ଼ିକର ସାମଗ୍ରିକ ଅର୍ଥନୀତି ବୃଦ୍ଧି ପାଇବ ।

ଉତ୍ତର ପୂର୍ବ ଭାରତ ଦକ୍ଷିଣ ପୂର୍ବ ଦେଶଗୁଡ଼ିକର ପ୍ରବେଶ ଦ୍ୱାର ହେବା ଜରୁରୀ । ଏହା ହେଉଛି ପ୍ରଧାନମନ୍ତ୍ରୀଙ୍କ ସଂକଳ୍ପ ଏବଂ ଗତ ନଅ ବର୍ଷ ମଧ୍ୟରେ ସେହି ସଂକଳ୍ପ ଏବଂ ପ୍ରତିବନ୍ଧତା ଅନୁଯାୟୀ ଅନେକ ବାୟୁ ସଂଯୋଗୀକରଣ ପାଇଁ ପ୍ରକଳ୍ପ ଘୋଷଣା ଏବଂ ସମାପ୍ତି ମଧ୍ୟ କରାଯାଇଛି । ସ୍ୱାଧୀନତାର ୬୬ ବର୍ଷ ମଧ୍ୟରେ ଉତ୍ତର ପୂର୍ବରେ କେବଳ ୯ ଟି ବିମାନବନ୍ଦର ଥିଲା ଏବଂ ଗତ ନଅ ବର୍ଷ ମଧ୍ୟରେ ପ୍ରଧାନମନ୍ତ୍ରୀଙ୍କ ସଂକଳ୍ପ ସହିତ ଏହି ସଂଖ୍ୟା ପ୍ରାୟ ଦ୍ୱିଗୁଣିତ ହୋଇ ୧୭କୁ ବୃଦ୍ଧି ପାଇଛି । ଏହି ଅଞ୍ଚଳର ୧୭ଟି ଅପରେଟିଂ ବିମାନବନ୍ଦର ସହିତ ଅରୁଣାଚଳ ପ୍ରଦେଶର ତେଜୁ, ଆସାମର ଡିବ୍ରୁଗଡ଼, ଗୁଆହାଟି ଏବଂ ସିଲଚର, ମଣିପୁରର ଇମ୍ଫାଲ, ମେଘାଳୟର ବାରାପାନି, ତ୍ରିପୁରାର ଅଗରତାଲାରେ ନୂତନ ଗ୍ରୀନଫିଲ୍ଡ ବିମାନବନ୍ଦରରେ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟ ଚାଲିଛି । ରିପୋର୍ଟ ଅନୁଯାୟୀ, ଅଗଷ୍ଟ ୨୦୧୭ରୁ ଅଗଷ୍ଟ ୨୦୨୨ ମଧ୍ୟରେ ଉତ୍ତର-ପୂର୍ବରେ ବିମାନ ଚଳାଚଳ ୩୨% ବୃଦ୍ଧି ପାଇ ମୋଟ ୭,୯୭୩ ବିମାନରେ ପହଞ୍ଚିଛି, ଯାହା ପଶ୍ଚିମ, ପୂର୍ବ, ଦକ୍ଷିଣ ଏବଂ ଉତ୍ତର ଜୋନର ଅଭିବୃଦ୍ଧି ହାରଠାରୁ ଅଧିକ । ତୁଳନାତ୍ମକ ଭାବରେ ଉତ୍ତର ଏବଂ ଦକ୍ଷିଣ ଅଞ୍ଚଳର ବିମାନବନ୍ଦରରେ ଅଭିବୃଦ୍ଧି ୫%, ପୂର୍ବରେ ୧୪% ଏବଂ ପଶ୍ଚିମ ଭାରତରେ ୦.୫% ଥିଲା ।

ଉତ୍ତର-ପୂର୍ବ ଭାରତରେ ଅନେକ ବଡ଼ ଏବଂ ଛୋଟ ନଦୀ ଅଛି ଯାହା ଜଳ ପରିବହନ ପାଇଁ ସୁବିଧା ଯୋଗାଇଥାଏ । ସଂଯୋଗ ଏବଂ ସମ୍ବନ୍ଧ ପାଇଁ ନଦୀର ମହତ୍ତ୍ୱକୁ ଚିହ୍ନି ଉତ୍ତର ପୂର୍ବର ୨୦ଟି ନଦୀକୁ ଜାତୀୟ ଜଳପଥ ଅଧିନିୟମ, ୨୦୧୨ ଅନୁଯାୟୀ ଜାତୀୟ ଜଳପଥ ଭାବରେ ଘୋଷଣା କରାଯାଇଥିଲା ।

୨୦୨୦-୨୧ ରୁ ୨୦୨୪-୨୫ ପର୍ଯ୍ୟନ୍ତ ପାଞ୍ଚ ବର୍ଷ ପାଇଁ ଦୁଇଟି ଜାତୀୟ ଜଳପଥ (NW-୨ ଏବଂ NW-୧୨) ଉପରେ ଆଭ୍ୟନ୍ତରୀଣ ଜଳ ପରିବହନ (IWT) ଭିତ୍ତିଭୂମି ବିକାଶ ପାଇଁ ଭାରତ ସରକାର ଦୁଇଟି ପ୍ରକଳ୍ପ ମଞ୍ଜୁର କରିଛନ୍ତି । ଅବଶିଷ୍ଟ ୧୮ଟି ଜାତୀୟ ଜଳପଥ ପାଇଁ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟ ଚାଲିଛି । ଯଦିଓ ଧକ୍ତି (ବାଂଲାଦେଶ ସୀମା) ରୁ ସାଦିଆ (୮୯୧ କିଲୋମିଟର) ପର୍ଯ୍ୟନ୍ତ ବ୍ରହ୍ମପୁତ୍ର ନଦୀକୁ 1988 ରେ ଜାତୀୟ ଜଳପଥ-୨ (NW-2) ଘୋଷିତ କରାଯାଇଥିଲା । ଏହି ଜଳପଥ ବର୍ତ୍ତମାନ ଆବଶ୍ୟକ ଗଭୀରତା ଏବଂ ମୋଟେଇ ସହିତ ବିକଶିତ କରାଗଲା । ସେହିପରି ଭାବରେ 2016 ମସିହାରେ ନଦୀ ବାରକକୁ ଜାତୀୟ ଜଳପଥ -୧୨ (NW-୧୨) ଘୋଷିତ କରାଯାଇଥିଲା । ଏହା ଆସାମର କାଚର ଉପତ୍ୟକାର ସିଲଚର, କରିମଗଞ୍ଜ ଏବଂ ବଦରପୁରକୁ ଇଣ୍ଡୋ-ବାଂଲାଦେଶ ପ୍ରୋଟୋକଲ (ଆଇବିପି) ମାର୍ଗ ଦେଇ ହାଲଡିଆ ଏବଂ କୋଲକାତା ବନ୍ଦର ସହିତ ସଂଯୋଗ କରୁଛି ।

ଭିତ୍ତିଭୂମିରେ ବିନିଯୋଗ ରୋଜଗାର ସୃଷ୍ଟି କରିବା ସହିତ ଉତ୍ତର-ପୂର୍ବ ଅଞ୍ଚଳରେ ବିଚ୍ଛିନ୍ନତାବାଦୀ ଆନ୍ଦୋଳନକୁ ରୋକିବାରେ ଏକ ପ୍ରମୁଖ ଭୂମିକା ଗ୍ରହଣ କରିବ । ଭାରତର ଉତ୍ତର ପୂର୍ବ ଜାତୀୟ ଏବଂ ଆନ୍ତର୍ଜାତୀୟ ସୀମା ଦ୍ୱାରା ଘେରି ରହିଛି । ତେଣୁ ଭିତ୍ତିଭୂମି ବିକାଶ ଭାରତର ଉତ୍ତର-ପୂର୍ବରେ ଅନେକ ବିକାଶ କରିବା ସହିତ ଜାତୀୟ ତଥା ଆନ୍ତର୍ଜାତୀୟ ସାଂଯୋଗିକରଣରେ ଏକ ବୃହତ ଭୂମିକା ଗ୍ରହଣ କରିବା ନିଶ୍ଚିତ ।



Dreamstime

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## REPORT ON KOLKATA BOOK FAIR 2024

The Institute of Social and Cultural Studies for the sixth time participated at the 47th International Kolkata Book Fair 2024 taking place between 18th -31st January 2024 at Central Park Mela Ground, Karunamoyee, Salt Lake City. Institute previous years institute at Hall No II, Stall No-H-83 have been exhibiting institute's new range of enriching publications on International Relations, monographs on national builders, South and South

East Asian relations, books on political cartoons, Indo-Bangladesh Relations etc. along with exciting range of memorabilia's in form of table calendars, series of picture post cards and others. Right from morning till evening Institute's Book Stall not only reveals itself as a centre for admiration for Institute's wide reaching book lovers but also representing institute's inclination of research and work on the diverse subjects altogether.



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