

Government of India  
Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1555**

To be answered on  
*Wednesday, February 10, 2021/Magha 21, 1942 (Saka)*

**QUESTION**

**Schemes for Development of NER**

1555. SHRI REBATI TRIPURA:

Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has taken any special initiatives to ensure industrialization in the tribal/ backward sub-regions/areas of North-Eastern Region (NER) including in Tripura by way of setting up of industry for economic development and generation of employment in that area;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has any plans/schemes for development of NER;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the funds allocated/released and utilized during the last three years and the current year in NER; and
- (e) the other steps taken by the Government to boost trade in NER?

**ANSWER**

**The Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region**

**[Dr. Jitendra Singh]**

(a) & (b) To promote industrialization in NE States and to boost employment and economic development, a new Scheme namely North East Industrial Development Scheme (NEIDS), 2017 has come into force w.e.f. 01.04.2017 for a period of five years. Besides, the earlier schemes of North East Industrial and Investment Promotion Policy (NEIIPP), 2007 and Freight Subsidy Scheme, 2013 are continuing for committed number of years. Some recent schemes such as North East Venture

Fund, Stand Up India Scheme, Start Up India, Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana, enhancement of Import Duty to 25% on Bamboo Sticks for Agarbattis will aid industrialization in the region, including Tripura. Agartala-Akhaura(Bangladesh) new Rail Link, completion of 2-lane Agartala-Sabroom highway, Feni bridge project connecting Chattogram Port in Bangladesh, Rail link to Sabroom, Inland Waterway connectivity through river Gomati with Bangladesh, Agro Based Food Processing SEZ at Paschim Jalefa, Sabroom, South Tripura District, will immensely benefit the backward and tribal regions of Tripura.

(c) & (d) Yes Sir. The Government has initiated and implemented several initiatives to improve air, rail, road and inland waterways connectivity; undertaken important projects such as Bio-Refinery at Numaligarh, Zoram Mega Food Park at Mizoram, AIIMS at Guwathi etc. The details of the funds allocated/ released/utilized during the last three years and current year in NER, are as under:

<b>(Rs. in crore)</b>				
<b>Year</b>	<b>Budget Estimate</b>	<b>Revised Estimate</b>	<b>Actual Expenditure</b>	<b>Expenditure as % of RE</b>
<b>2018-19</b>	47,994.88	47,087.95	46,054.80	97.81
<b>2019-20*</b>	59,369.90	53,374.19	48,533.81	90.93
<b>2020-21</b>	60,112.11	51,270.90	32,644.79*	63.67
<b>2021-22</b>	68,020.24	-	-	-
* Data shown for actual expenditure relates to 52 Ministries which have provided expenditure figures against the total BE upto 31.12.2020				

(e) To boost trade in NER, Border Trade Infrastructure, i.e., Integrated Check Posts (ICP), Land Customs Station (LCS) and Border Haats improvement has been undertaken. Niryat Bandhu Scheme is being implemented for mentoring of new and potential exporter on the intricacies of foreign trade counseling, training and outreach programmes in the country, including North East. Under the export promotion Schemes, relaxation in conditions relating to exports performance is provided under the 'Status Holder' Scheme and Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) Scheme. Import of various additional products has now been allowed by Government of Bangladesh through certain Land Custom Stations along the India Bangladesh Border, vide notification dated 17.07.2018. This covers products such as raw rubber, rice, broom etc. from Tripura.