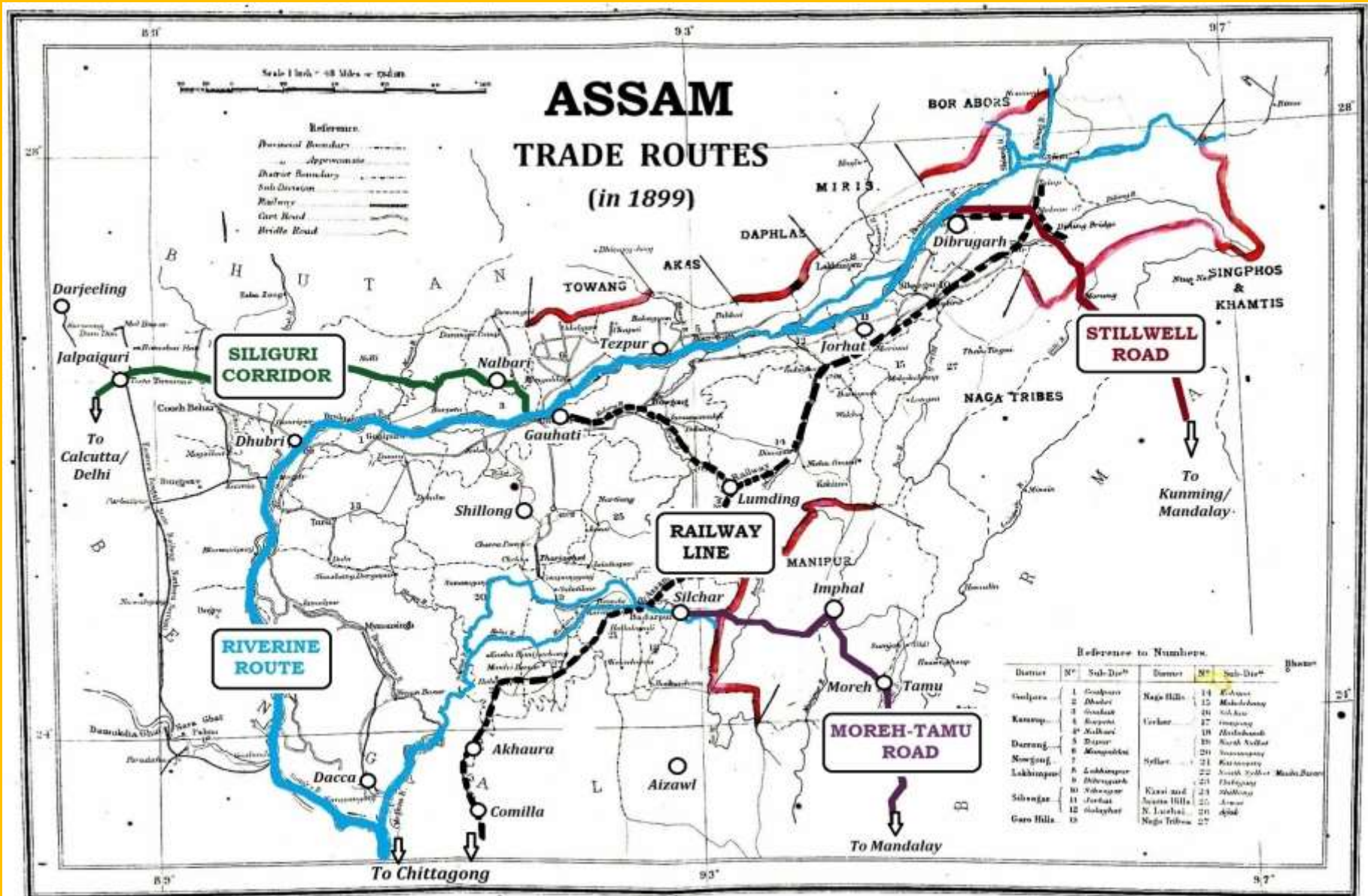


**FUTURE OF ASSAM –
A NEW PARADIGM**

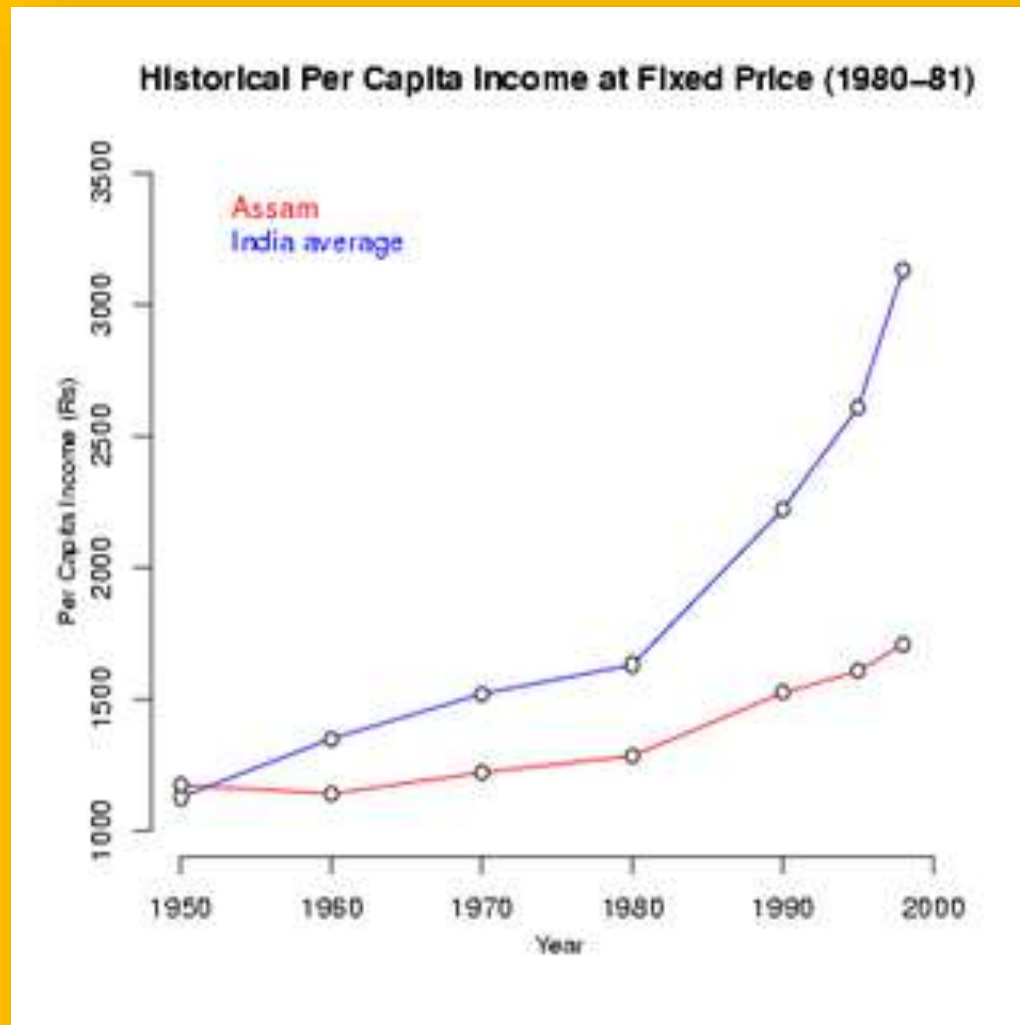


HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE



HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE



LOCATION IS THE KEY





China

Mongolia

Nepal

Bhutan

India

Bangladesh

Myanmar
(Burma)

Yunnan
Province

Laos

Vietnam

Taiwan

China's Perspective of Similar Terrain

“To build an international corridor opening to the ASEAN region, China should make good use of the geographic advantage of Yunnan province”.

From The Belt and Road Initiative vision document released in March states.

Bridge Ahead Strategy China, 2009

- 1. Yunnan : A similar Geo-Strategic area for China.**
- 2. Yunnan Province has 2000 kms. with the borders of Myanmar, Thailand, Laos and Vietnam.**
- 3. Yunnan province Headquarters Kunming : gateway to South/ South-East Asia.**
- 4. Myanmar, Thailand, Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam have opened Consulates in Kunming; Australia – Trade Office.**

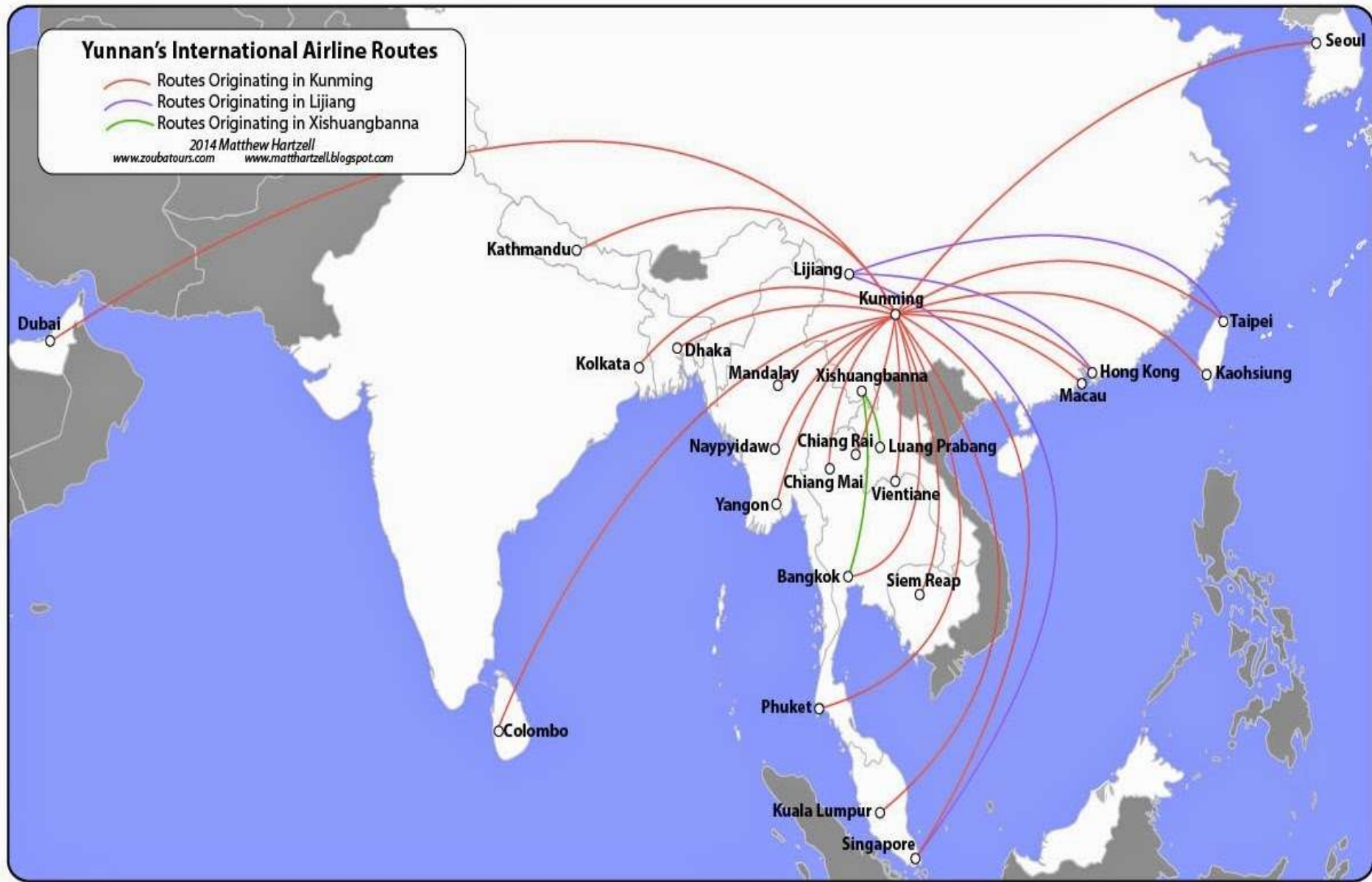
Bridge Ahead Strategy China, 2009

- 5. Yunnan, like North-East, has 25 ethnic nationalities different from China's. Dominant Han population. Has 50% of China's 53 non-Han groups.**
- 6. Kunming tourists : 40 million: 1 million foreign tourists: 40 billion Yuan revenues. 10% of GDP from Yunnan.**
- 7. Spent billions of dollars on rail, river and air transport infrastructure.**
- 8. New airport in Kunming in July, 2012: Flights from all the countries including China, Eastern Airlines from Kolkata.**

INFRASTRUCTURE AND SUPPLY LINES ALONG THE CHINA-MYANMAR BORDER



Air Connectivity



Railway Connectivity







WWW.CCTV-AMERICA.COM

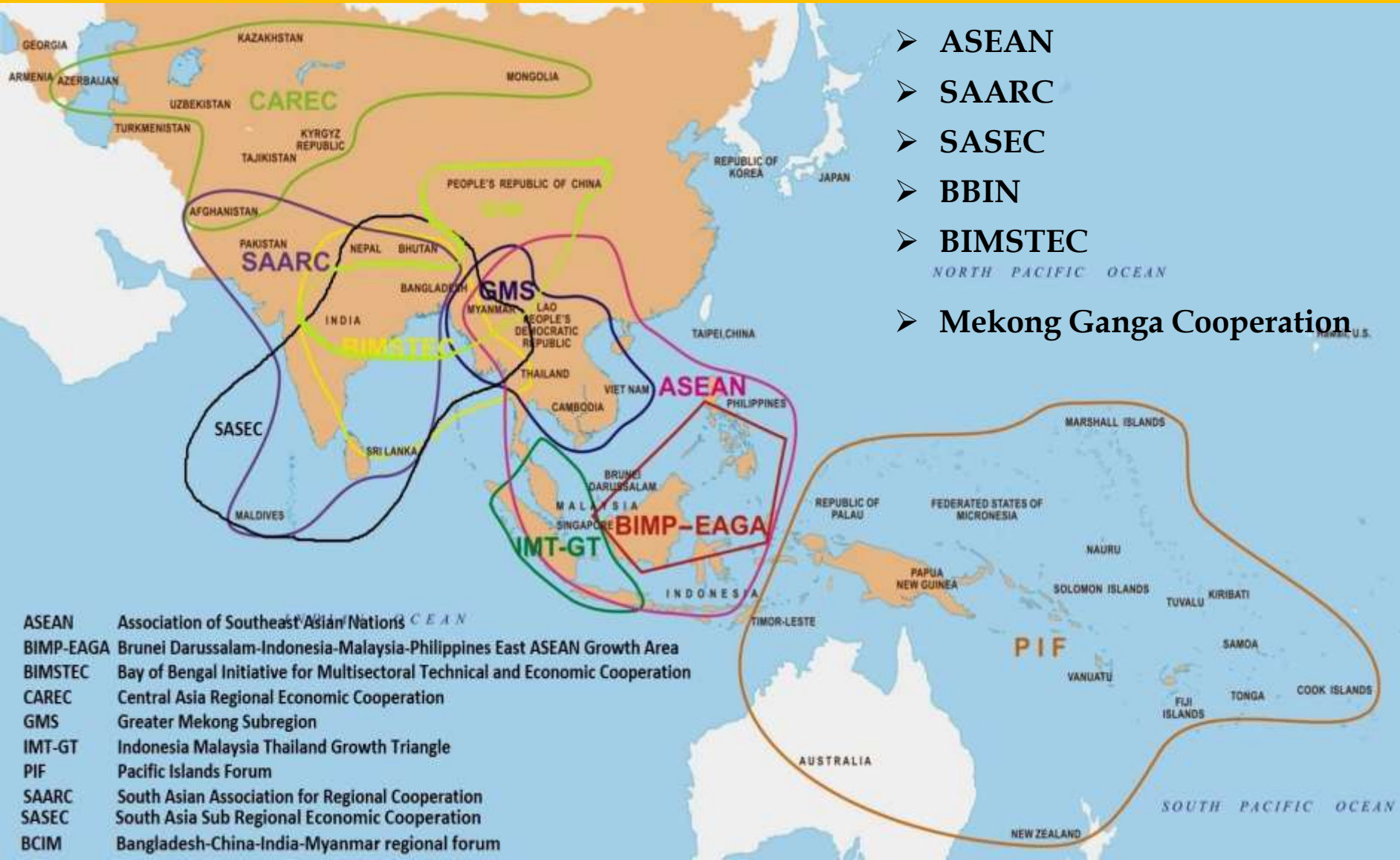
[@CCTV_America](https://twitter.com/CCTV_America)

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India's North East & South East Asia

NER at the center of the Regional Co-operation Frameworks in Asia



- ASEAN
- SAARC
- SASEC
- BBIN
- BIMSTEC
- Mekong Ganga Cooperation

ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
BIMP-EAGA	Brunei Darussalam-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area
BIMSTEC	Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multisectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation
CAREC	Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation
GMS	Greater Mekong Subregion
IMT-GT	Indonesia Malaysia Thailand Growth Triangle
PIF	Pacific Islands Forum
SAARC	South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation
SASEC	South Asia Sub Regional Economic Cooperation
BCIM	Bangladesh-China-India-Myanmar regional forum

EXPECTATIONS FROM UNION MINISTRIES

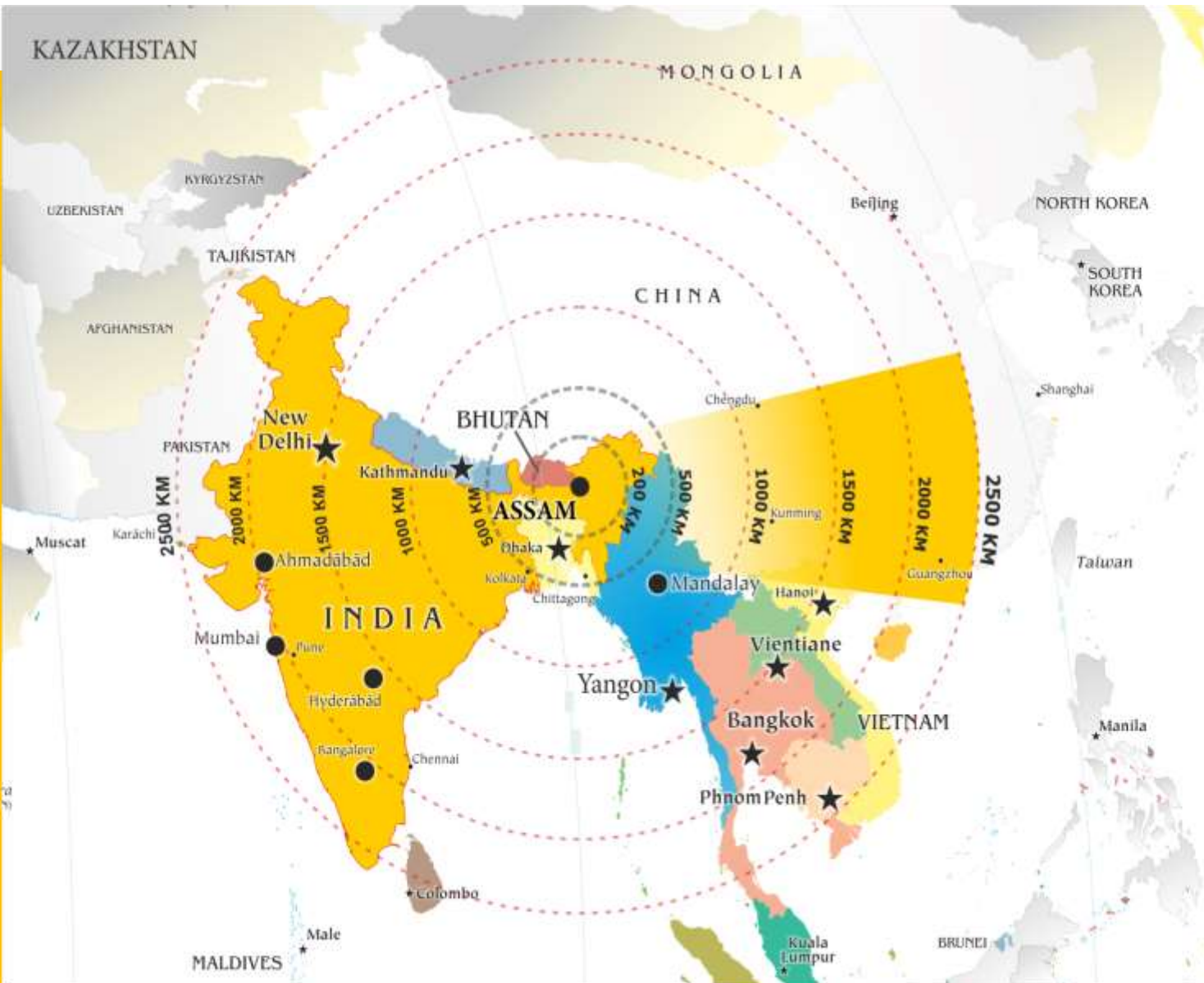
- **Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA)**
- **Ministry of Road Transport & Highways (MoRTH)**
- **Ministry of Shipping (MoS)**
- **Ministry of Railways**
- **Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY)**
- **Ministry of Commerce & Industry (MoCI)**
- **Ministry of Tourism**
- **Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)**
- **Ministry of Human Resource Development (MoHRD)**
- **Ministry of Culture**
- **Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (MoDoNER)**

MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (MoCA)



- **Direct Flights to ASEAN & BBN Countries**
- **UDAN II (RCS Expansion) – VGF offered by Assam**
- **Guwahati as a Global Airport**
- **Cargo Terminal at Guwahati Airport**

Assam: Strategic Advantage



FLIGHT DISTANCE FROM GUWAHATI (IN KMS)	
SYLHET	156
THIMPU	248
DHAKA	303
KOLKATA	525
MANDALAY	662
KUNMING	1107
YANGON	1126
VIENTIANE	1447
NEW DELHI	1500
HANOI	1547
HYDERABAD	1671
BANGKOK	1680
CHENNAI	1885
AHMEDABAD	1961
MUMBAI	2071
PHNOM PENH	2133
COLOMBO	2482
KUALA LUMPUR	2772
SINGAPORE	3319
JAKARTA	3929

MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS (MoRTH)



- **Logistic Hubs along Highways**
- **Development of 4 Lane Expressway from Guwahati to Chittagong *via* Shillong & Dawki**
- **Development of Road from Sebroom (Tripura) to Chittagong Port.**
- **Upgradation of the Important Internal Road from Badarpur to Agartala**
- **Development of Internal Roads/ Connecting NH to Capitals & Commercial Hubs of NE States International Standards**

■ **Development of Road Access to South East Asia**



- ✓ **Road Access has to be developed on all feasible fronts.**
- ✓ **Early Completion of the Asian Trilateral Highway**
- ✓ **Early Completion of the East West Corridor stretch from Doboka (Nagaon District) to Silchar**
- ✓ **4 Laning of 401 Kms of NH 39 from Golaghat to Moreh**
- ✓ **4 Laning of Road from Sutarkandi (Bangladesh Border) to Moreh (Myanmar Border) via Silchar, Jiribam & Imphal**
- ✓ **4 Laning of Road from Dawki (Bangladesh Border) to Silchar**
- ✓ **Reopening of Stillwell Road up to Kunming (Yunnan)**
- ✓ **4 Laning of NH-54 [i.e. from Aizawl – Tuipang]**



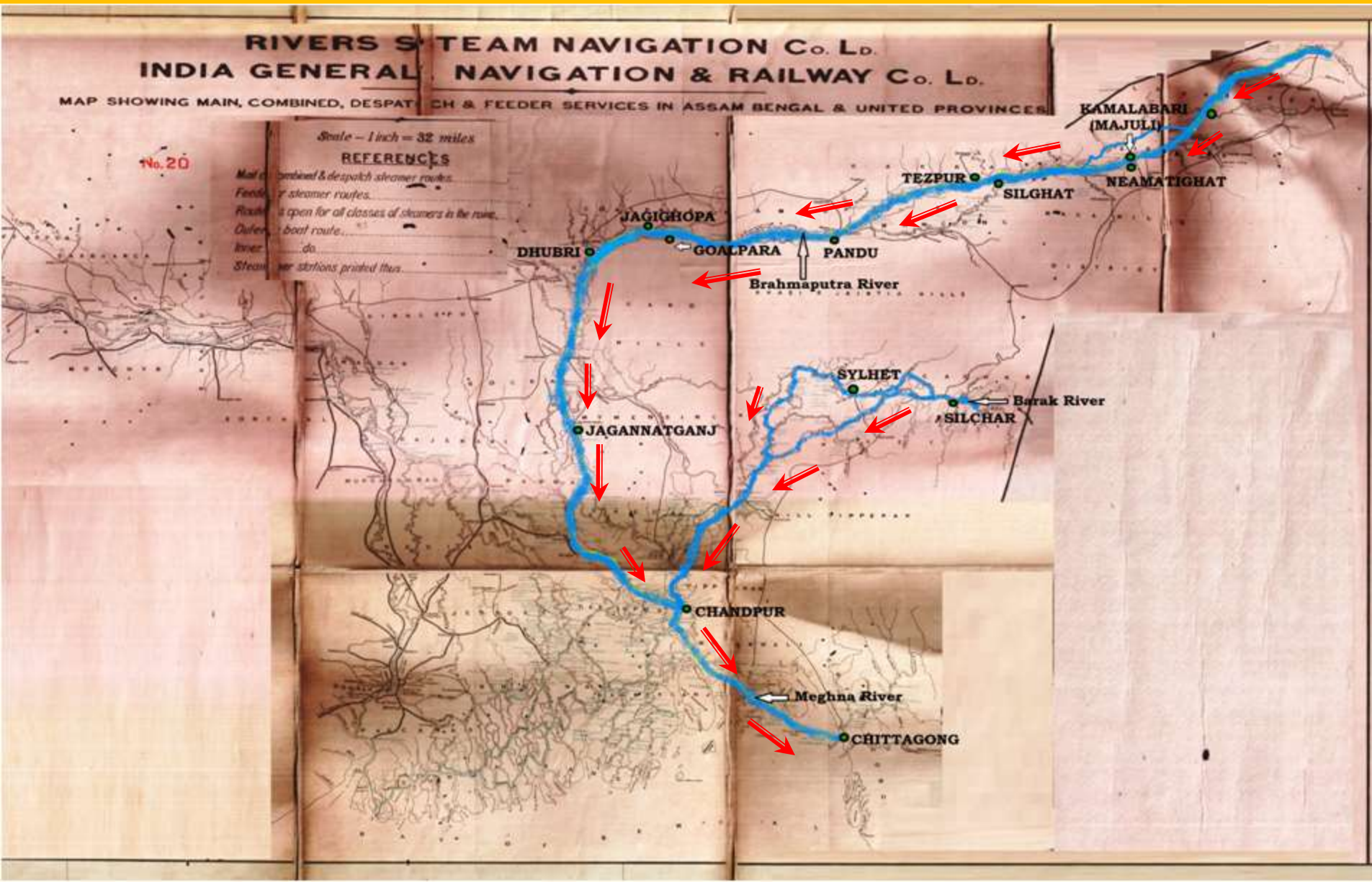
ASIAN TRILATERAL HIGHWAY

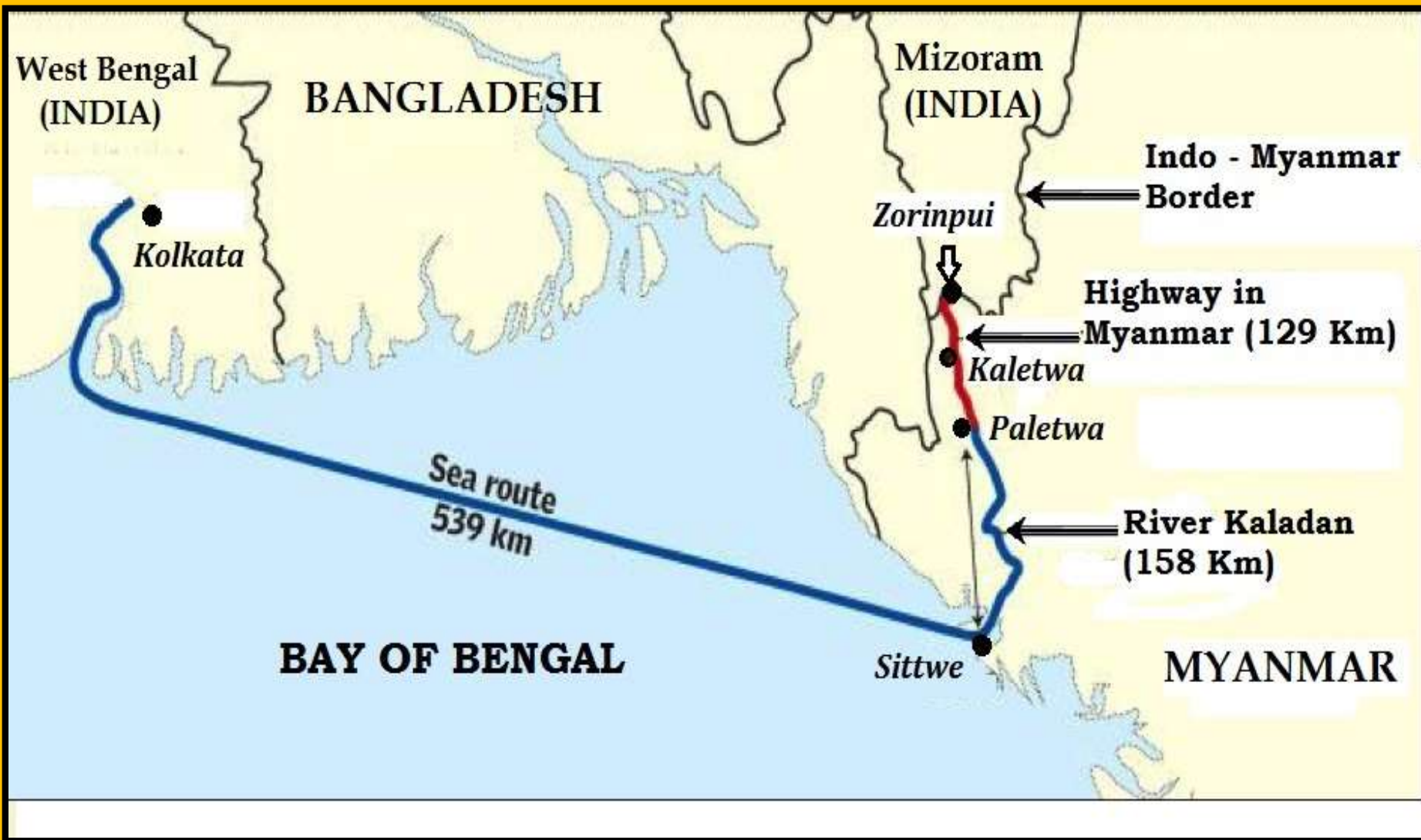
MINISTRY OF SHIPPING



- **Access to Chittagong/ Mongla Ports through Inland Waterways**
- **River Ports & Warehousing for Inland Waterways**
- **Development of Port Townships/ Hubs**
- **Night Navigation Facilities on Brahmaputra**
- **Early Completion of Kaladan Project**

INLAND - WATERWAYS CONNECTIVITY IN THE COLONIAL AGE





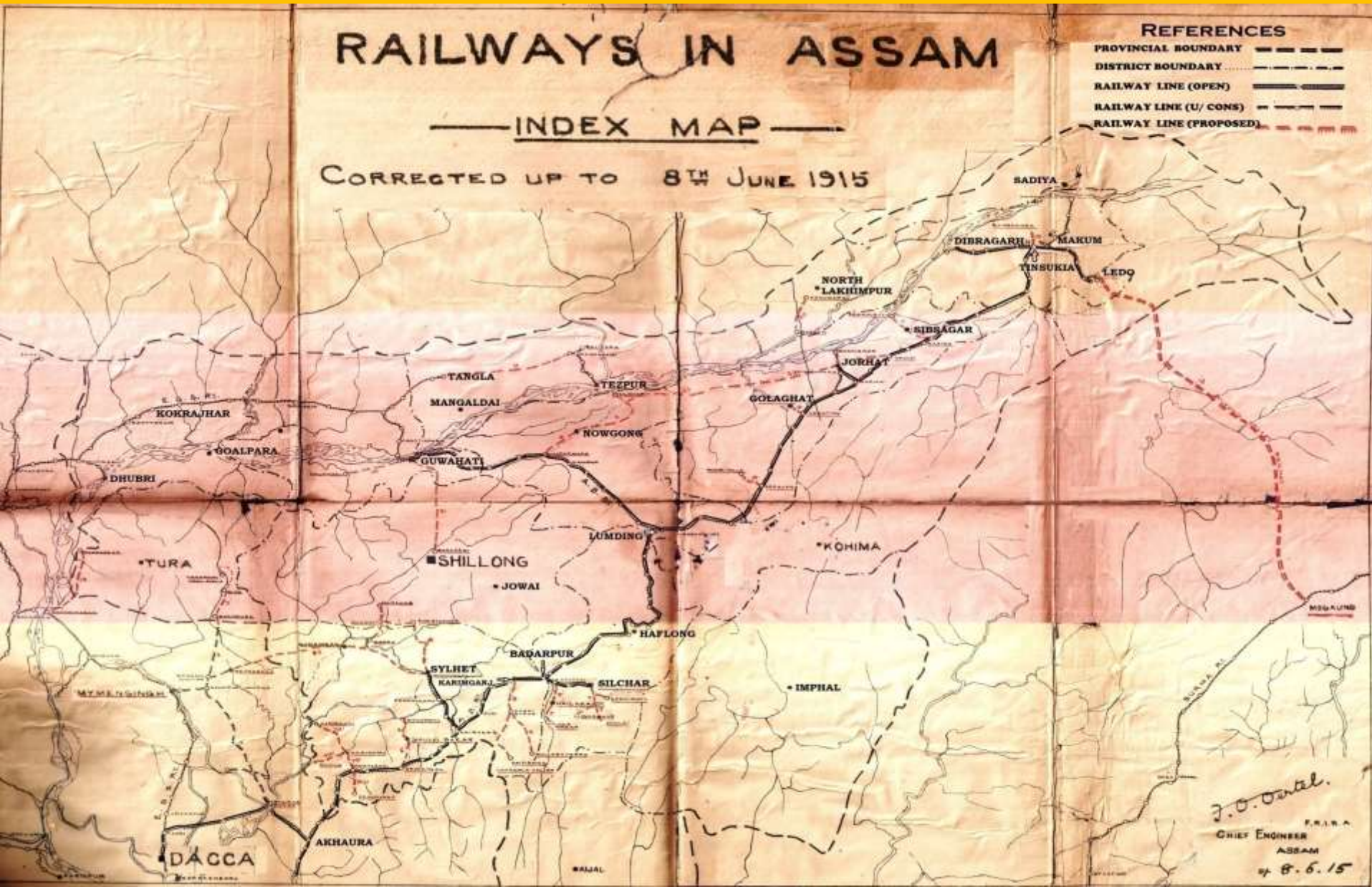
KALADAN MULTI-MODAL PROJECT

MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS



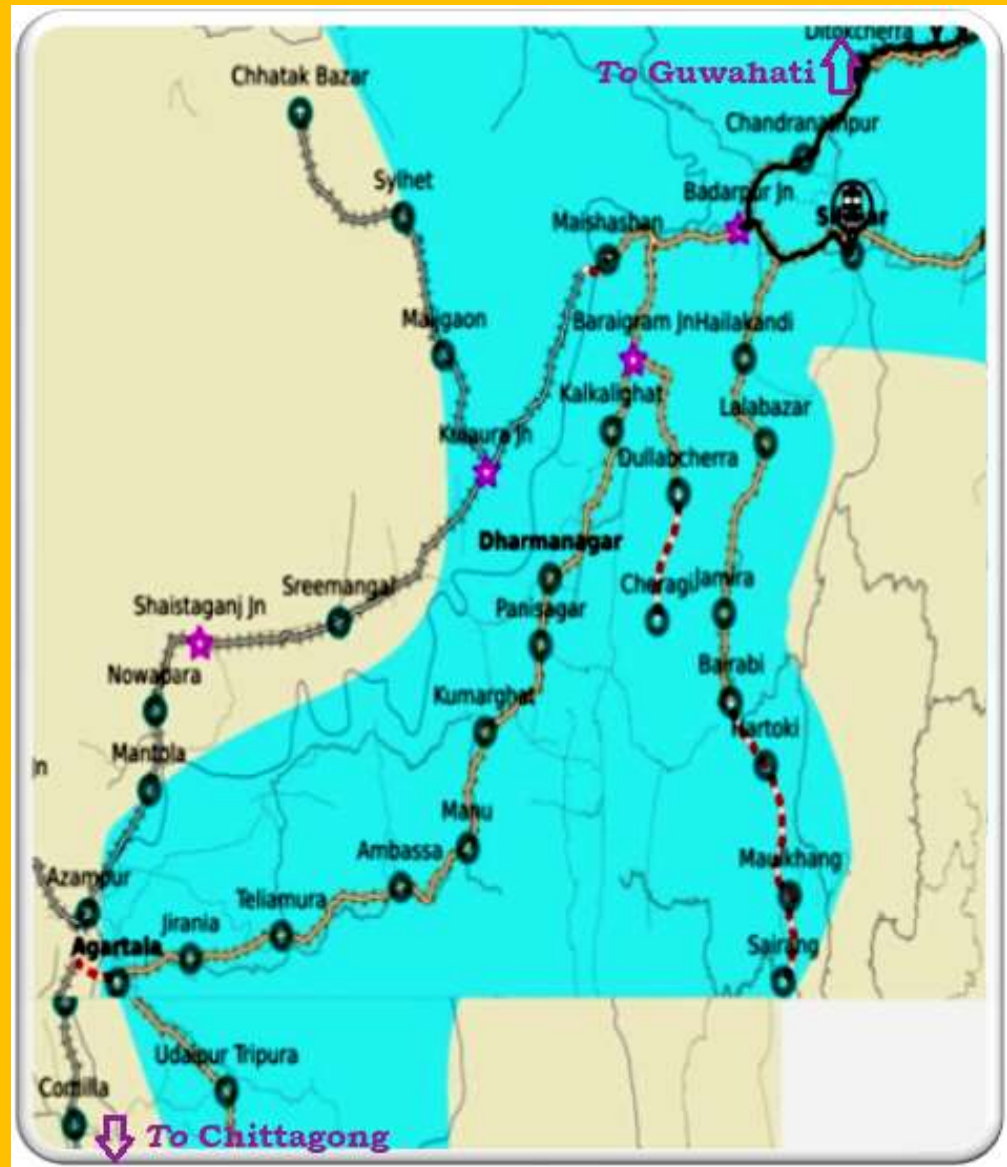
- **Railway Connectivity to Border Towns (e.g. Golokganj, Sutarkandi, Zorinpui and Moreh) – *in order to facilitate large scale Border Trade.***
- **Railway Link with South East Asia**
**Silchar – Mandalay Line *via* Imphal & Moreh/
Tamu *may set the ball rolling***

RAILWAYS CONNECTIVITY IN THE COLONIAL AGE

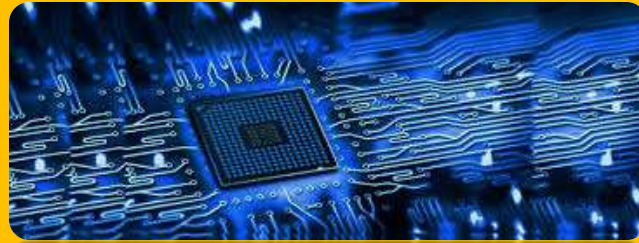


▪ **Railway Connectivity with Bangladesh:**

- ✓ **Railway Line to Chittagong within Bangladesh traverses very close to the Agartala – Sebroom Railway Line within Indian territory.**
- ✓ **Therefore, several potential linkages between the 2 lines.**
- ✓ **15 Km long Agartala – Akhaura Rly Line needs early commissioning.**

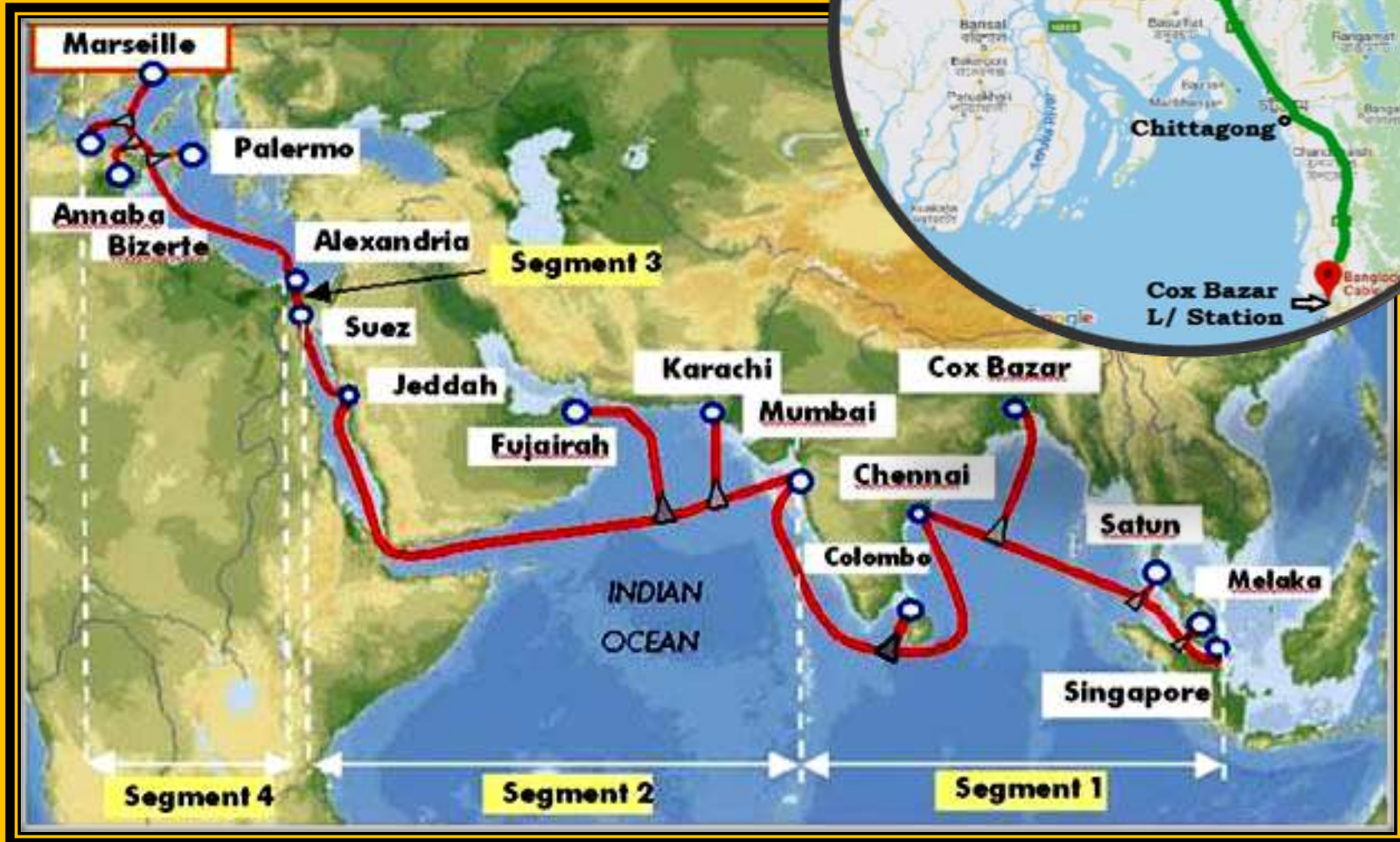


MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS & IT (MEITY)



- **NE – Potential Hub of IT and ITES**
- **Problem of Poor Bandwidth and Speed**
- **Digital Connectivity from Cox Bazar Landing Station of International Information Gateway.**
- **Problem of High Rentals compared to Mumbai & Chennai LS**
- **Necessity of Handholding**

International Submarine Cable – Accessibility from Cox Bazar Landing Station



MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (MoCI)

- **TRADE: Lifting Restrictions on Trade –**
 - **Trade on Specific Number of Items**
 - **Need for a Negative List (*rather than a restrictive Positive List*)**

- **TRADE: Heavy Import Duties on India's Exports to Bangladesh**
 - **Need for Review of SAFTA Agreement**

- **TRADE: Strengthening of Border Trade Centres/ ICPs:**
 - **Basic Minimum Civic Amenities**
 - **Seamless Transportation, Warehousing, Telecommunications *including* Data Availability, ATM and Currency Exchange**

- **TRADE: Signing of Motor Transport Agreements**
 - **Motor Vehicles' Agreement signed with BBN Countries**
 - **Not ratified by Bhutan Parliament – *may be pursued***
 - **Need for doing so with ASEAN Countries**
 - **Shall facilitate free movement of trucks – *thereby* effect seamless Land Trade**

MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (MoCI)

- **TRADE: Development of Logistics –**
 - **Logistic Hubs along Highways**
 - **River Ports & Warehousing for Inland Waterways**
 - **Cargo Terminals in Airports**

- **Industrial Development of North Eastern Region**
 - **Sixth Industrial Corridor**

- **Other Vistas of Economic Cooperation**

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (MEA)

- **Opening of the Consulates of ASEAN Countries in Guwahati – Bangladesh and Bhutan have already opened their Assistant HC/ Consulates,**
- **Easy Visa Regime – Visa on Arrival Provisions**
- **Restricted Area Permit (RAP) may be relaxed for citizens of ASEAN and BBN Countries**
- **Recalibration of Foreign Policy**

MINISTRY OF TOURISM

- **Exploit Tourist Potential of NER**
- **Handhold State Governments in building Tourist Infrastructure – *including* Home-Stay facilities**
- **Promotion of NE Tourism in ASEAN and BBN Countries**
- **Promotion of Eco-Tourism, Rural Tourism & Adventure Tourism**
- **Promotion of Golf & Tea Estate Tourism**
- **Promotion of Medical Tourism**

MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

- **Ties between Universities**
- **Academic and Technical Collaboration**
- **Student Exchange Programmes**
- **Chapter of South Asian University in Assam**

MINISTRY OF CULTURE

- **Promotion of the Cultural Affinity**
- **Deepening of Cultural Exchanges**
- **Tai Connect**
- **Creation of Buddhist Circuit**

MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NE REGION (MoDoNER)

- **Handhold in Creation of Critical Infra-structure – *vital* for reaching out to the ASEAN Bloc**
- **Construction of Internal Road Network – *viz.* Trans-Arunachal Highway, MDRs, Inter-State Roads, PMGSY Roads.**
- **Maintenance of the Internal Roads**
- **Capacity Building in the NE Region**
- **Facilitation of Industrial Development & Water Management**



Thank You