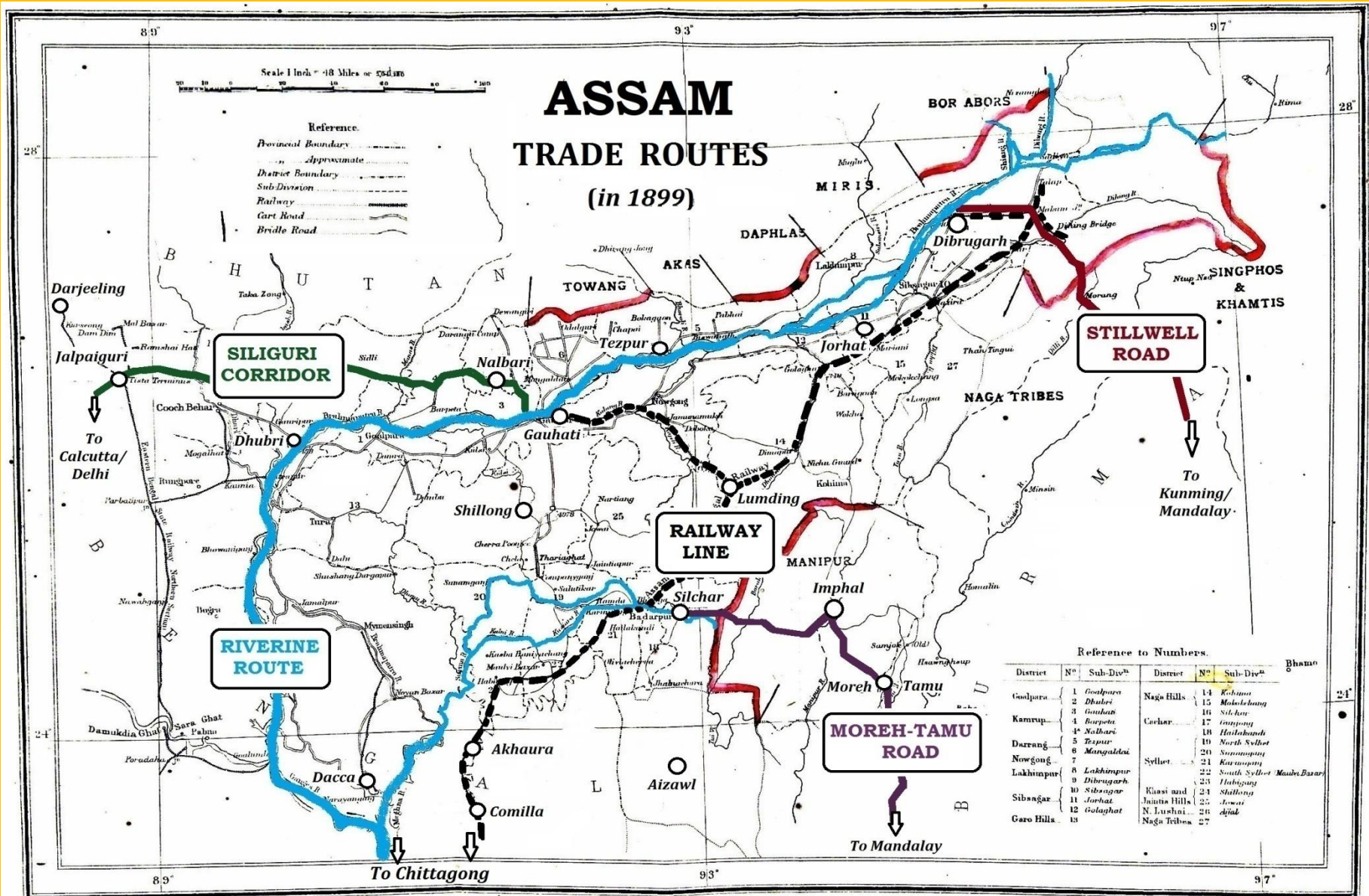


ACTING ON ACT EAST

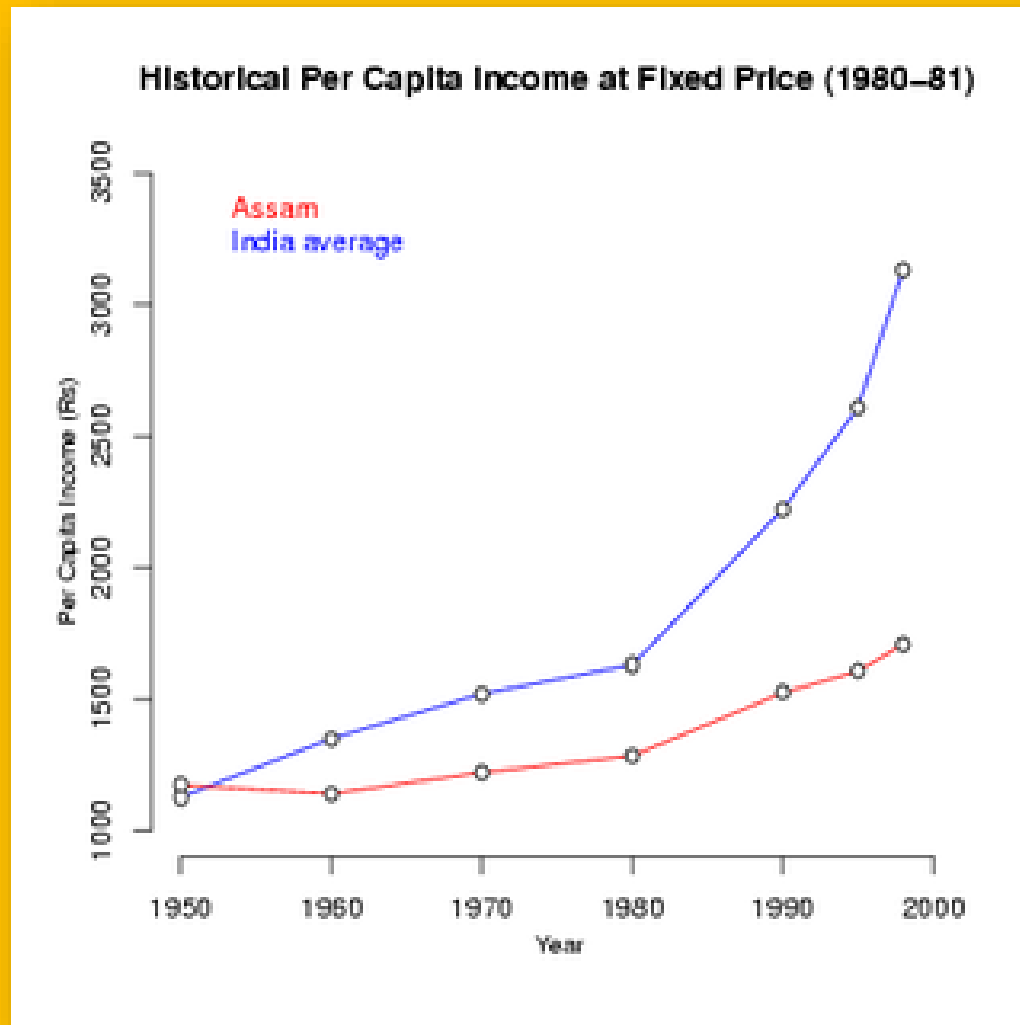


HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE



HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE



LOCATION IS THE KEY



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

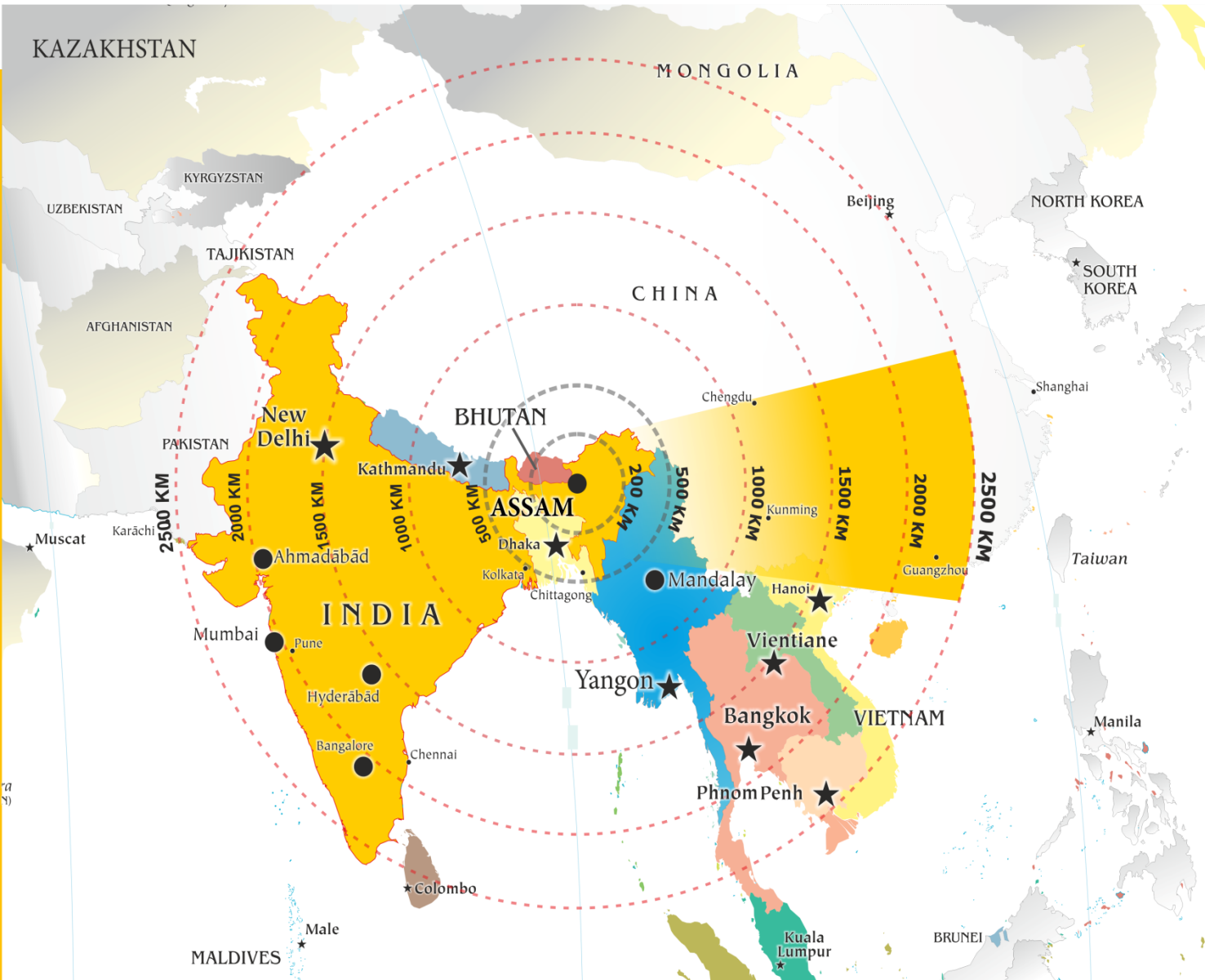
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
BIMP-EAGA	Brunei Darussalam-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area
BIMSTEC	Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multisectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation
CAREC	Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation
GMS	Greater Mekong Subregion
IMT-GT	Indonesia 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

PROSPECTS OF AIRWAYS



- **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)

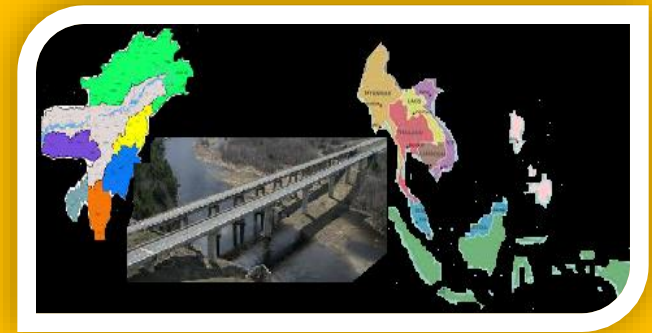
SYLHET	156
THIMPU	248
DHAKA	303
KOLKATA	525
MANDALAY	662
KUNMING	1107
YANGON	1126
VIENTIANE	1447
NEW DELHI	1500
HANOI	1547
HYDERABAD	1671
BANGKOK	1680
CHENNAI	1885
AHMEDABAD	1961
MUMBAI	2071
PHNOM PENH	2133
COLOMBO	2482
KUALA LUMPUR	2772
SINGAPORE	3319
JAKARTA	3929

PROSPECTS OF ROADWAYS



- **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]**



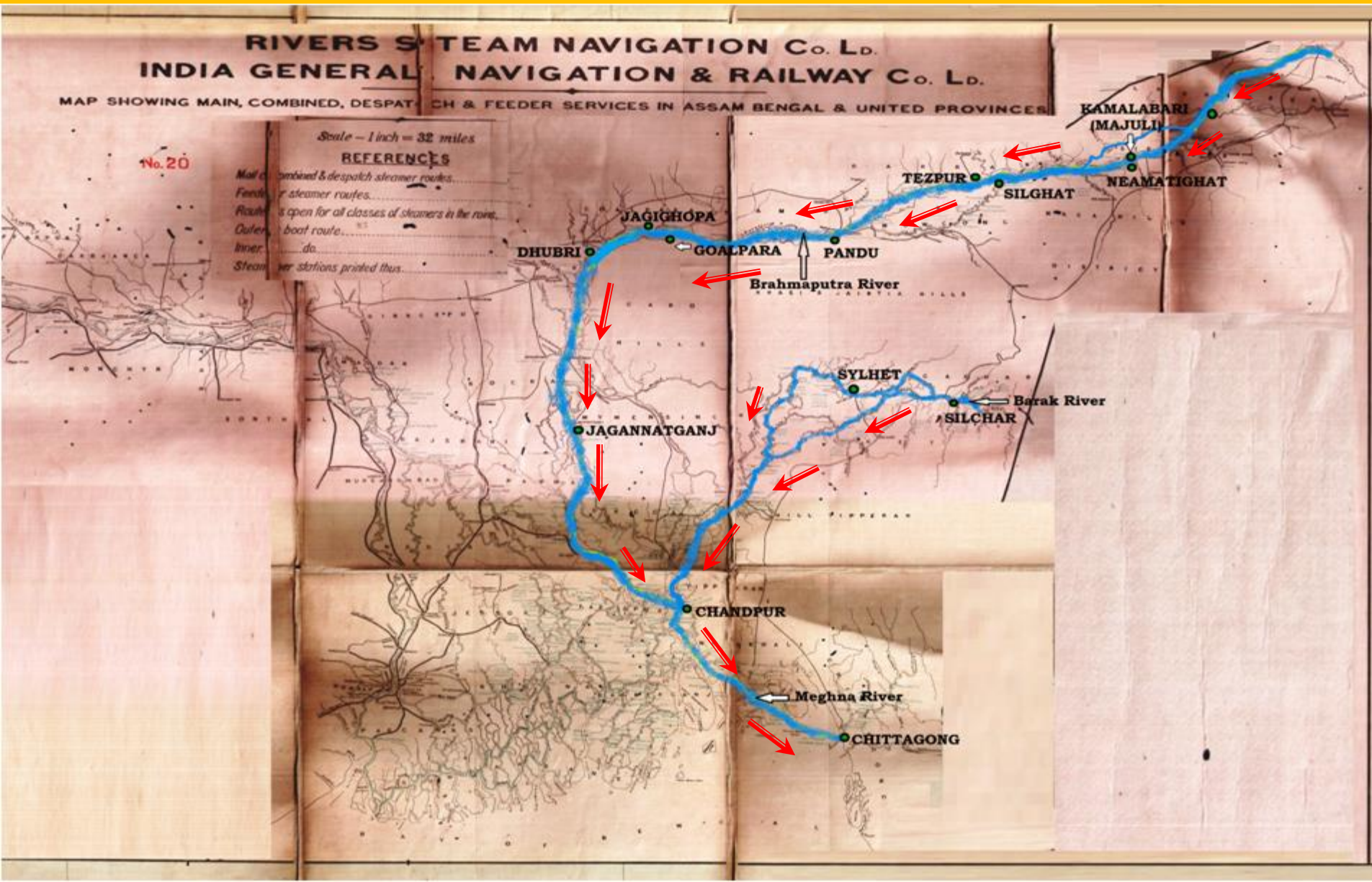
ASIAN TRILATERAL HIGHWAY

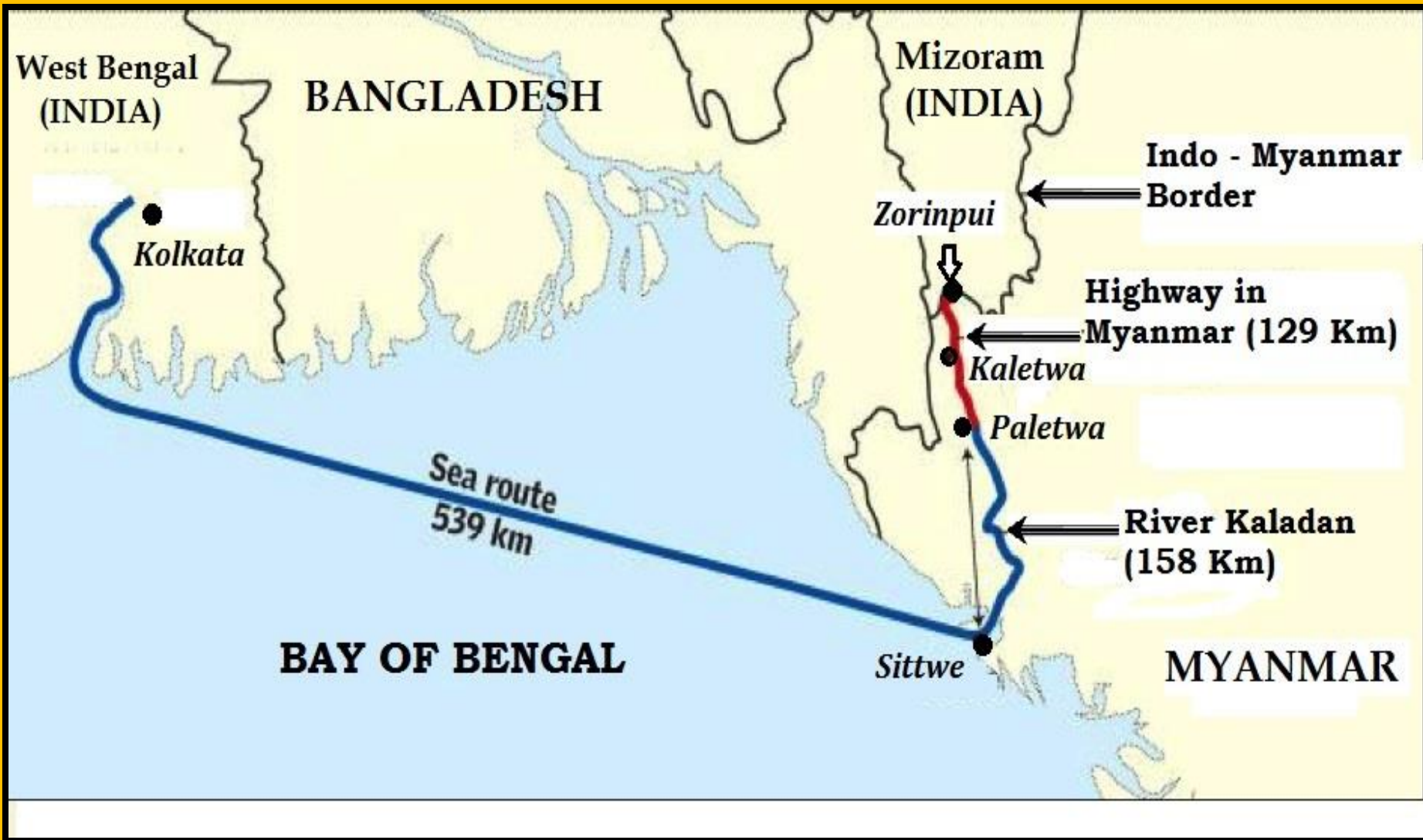
PROSPECTS OF WATERWAYS



- **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





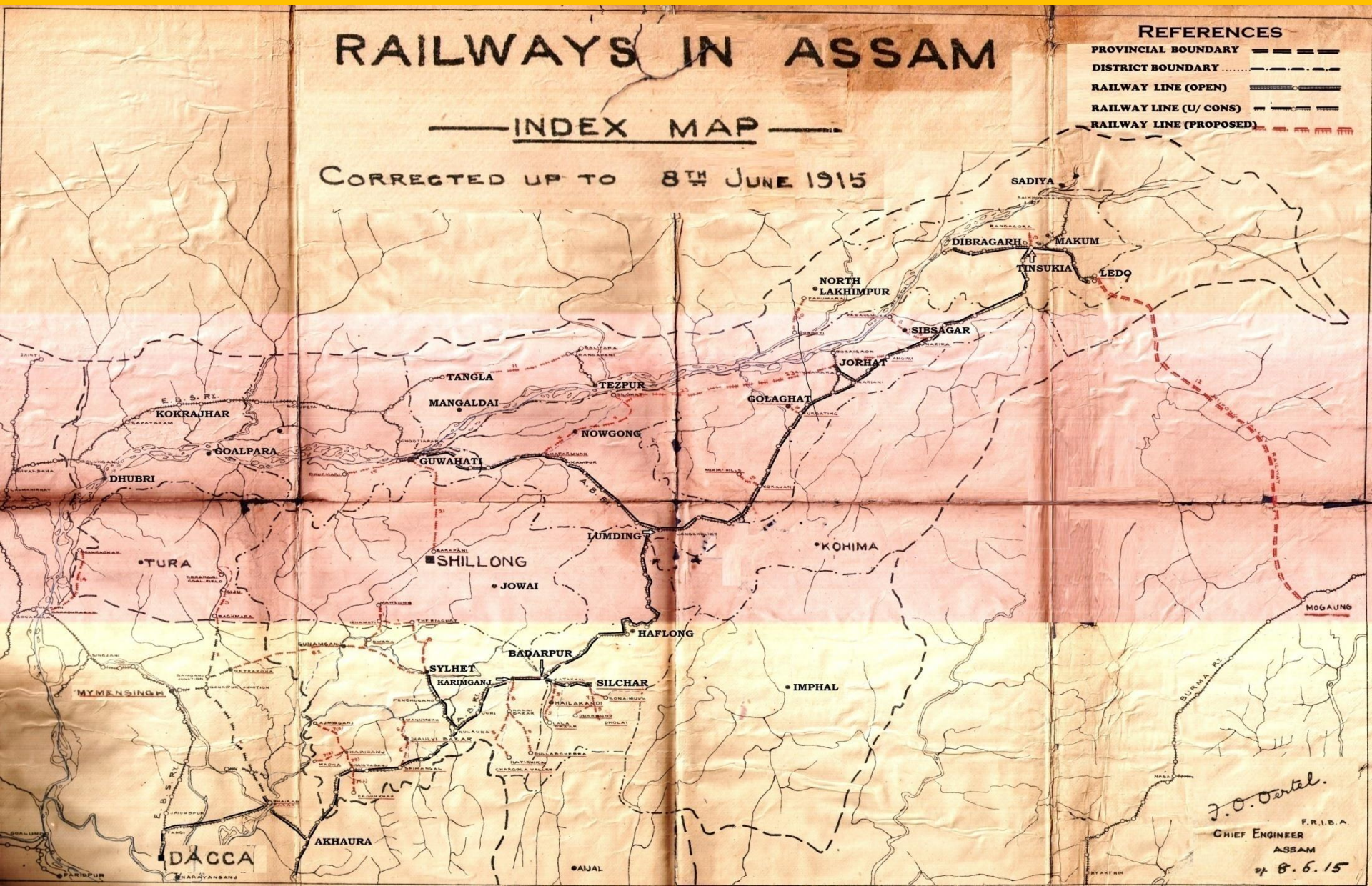
KALADAN MULTI-MODAL PROJECT

PROSPECTS OF RAILWAYS



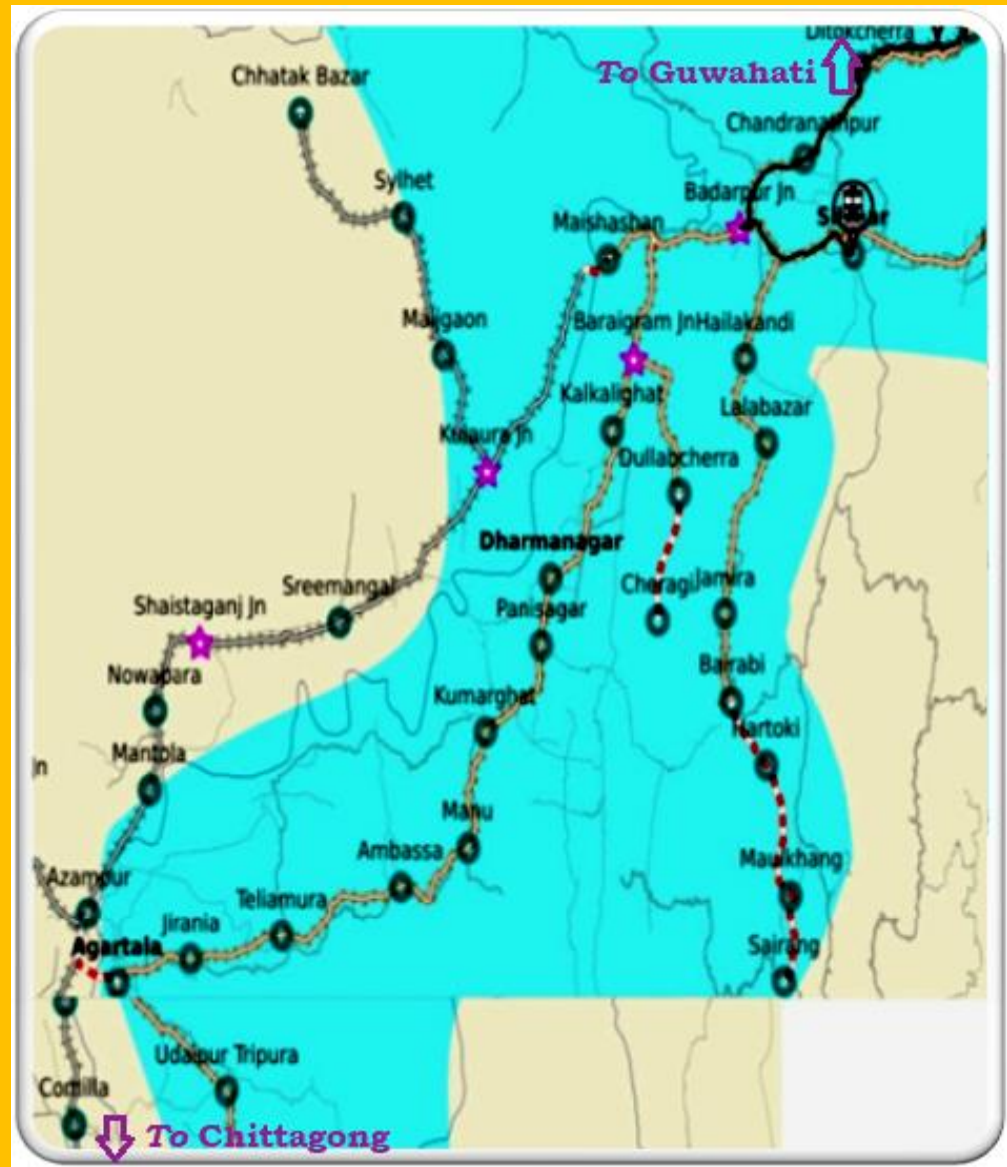
- **Railway Connectivity to Border Towns (e.g. Golokganj, Sutarkandi, Zorinpui and Moreh) – *in order to facilitate large scale Border Trade.***
- **Railway Link with South East Asia**
**Silchar – Mandalay Line *via* Imphal & Moreh/
Tamu *may set the ball rolling***

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.**

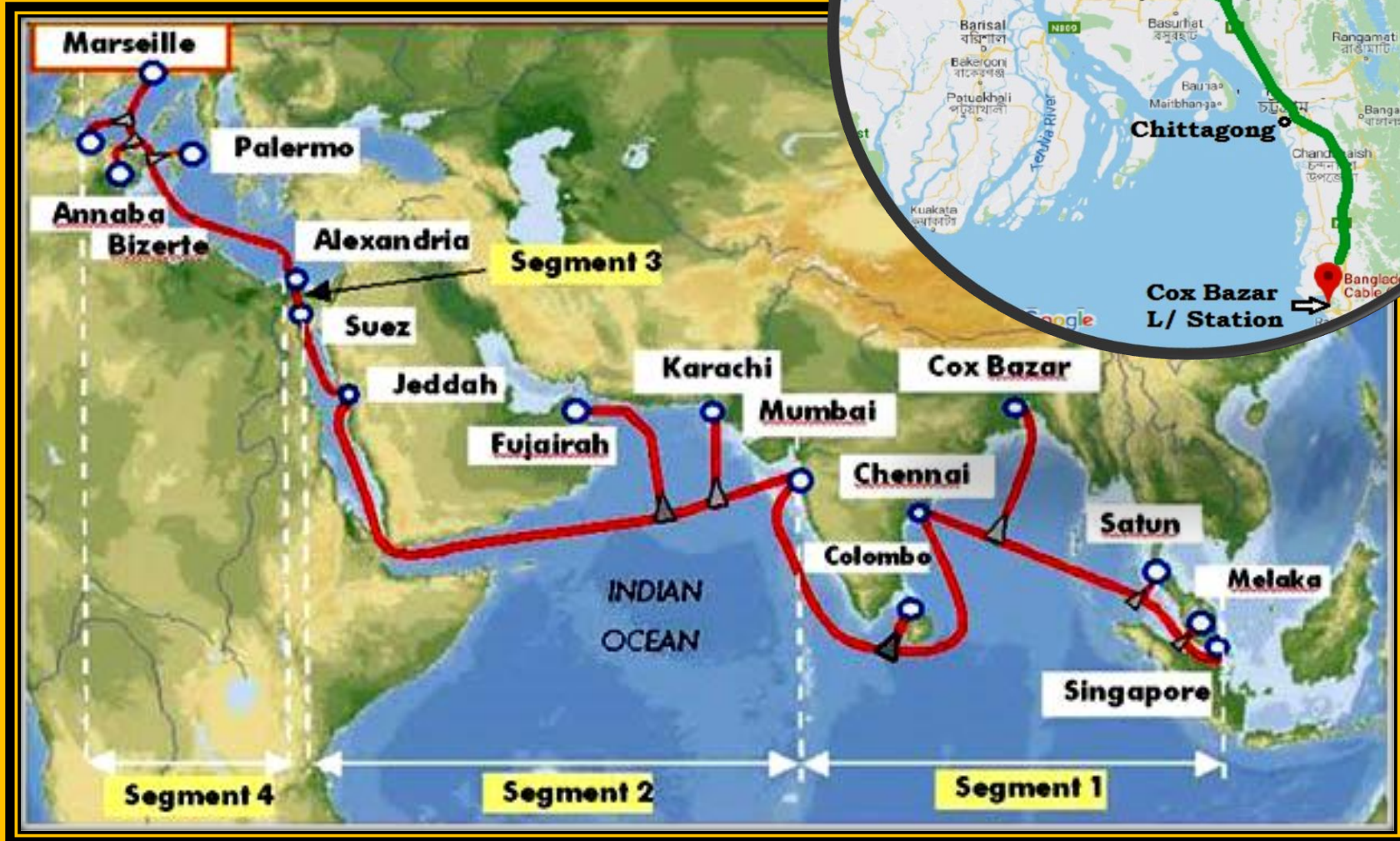


PROSPECTS OF I-WAYS



- **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



ISSUES OF TRADE

- **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**

PROSPECTS OF TRADE & COMMERCE

- **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**

PEOPLE TO PEOPLE RELATIONS

- **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**

PROSPECTS 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**

COLLABORATION IN EDUCATION SECTOR

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

CULTURE

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

INTERNAL INFRASTRUCTURE

- **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