

NHIDCL : an agent of change for North-East and other hill States

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While addressing the media at the Regional Editor's Conference in Chennai today, the MD , National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd.(NHIDCL), Shri Anand Kumar gave an account of the role of his organization which is just two years old .Coming into existence on 18.07.2014 NHIDCL became functional on 1.1.2015 with the first project being transferred from MoRTH .After just one year and 8 months it has completed to its credit 34 projects over 1000 km at an estimated cost 10,000 crore. Presently it is handling 130 projects over 8000 km for an estimated cost of 80,000 crore

Efficiency , transparency and accountability are its guiding principles the MD said , while trying to create world class infrastructure for the seven sister states of North-East, Sikkim, West Bengal, A&N, J&K, Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh. NHIDCL also is going to provide consultancy to Nepal Govt. for construction of roads.

Shri Anand Kumar informed that they use E Tools for efficiency & transparency such as E Office , E Access ,E Pace ,WhatsApp. Their site Infracon is used for bringing objectivity and transparency in award of DPR & Engineer Consultations . E-pace is used for monitoring projects through Dash Board approach. Inamprois used as a Market place for procuring materials like cement and soon steel too will be introduced.

They use new and appropriate technology for reducing cost, improving efficiency, meeting safety standards and addressing environmental concerns like slope stabilization, Soil stabilization ,Modified bitumen , Quick launch bridges ,Tunneling.. Where needed NHIDCL involve IITs and other institutions to avoid over designing & addressing safety & environmental concerns .

The MD told the senior journalists about their unique style of functioning .They believe in dispute resolution within time limits , unambiguous contracts, clear REPs , regular consultation with stakeholder, communicating with the State Governments, besides alignments & other concerns are taken care of at the time of DPR . We make sure bills of contractors are cleared in HQ in 72 hrs. to build confidence and as per contract agreement. Any contractor can email, SMS their problem to MD, NHIDCL and other senior officials.

NHIDCL also helps in building capacity of contractors and their workers in local areas so that local talent is encouraged and nurtured and development becomes inclusive.

UM/NP/MS

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