



Sisseri River Bridge

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Recently, the Defence Minister inaugurated the **Sisseri River Bridge** located at lower Dibang Valley in **Arunachal Pradesh**. The 200m long bridge provides connectivity between **Dibang Valley and Siang**.

- The bridge was constructed by '**Project Brahmanak**' of **Border Roads Organisation (BRO)**.

There are **four projects of BRO** in Arunachal Pradesh namely **Vartak, Arunank, Brahmanak, and Udayak** to not only meet the **strategic requirement** of India but also contribute to the **socio-economic development** of the region.

- This bridge is strategically important from the military viewpoint and will be a part of **Trans Arunachal Highway**.

The Trans-Arunachal Highway was ₹10,000-crore two-lane highway project that aimed **to connect Tawang in the west to Kanubari in the east** of Arunachal Pradesh. It was conceived in **2008**.

- The Government has adopted the **Border Area Development Programme (BADP)** for infrastructural upgradation of the area, necessary for the security of the North-East and the entire country.

Border Area Development Programme

- BADP was **started in the year 1986-87** for balanced development of border areas of states bordering Pakistan, namely, Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Gujarat, and Rajasthan. It was subsequently extended to all the land borders.
- The programme is administered by the **Department of Border Management** of the **Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA)**.
- States are provided a 100% **non-lapsable Special Central Assistance fund** under BADP to meet the special developmental needs and well being of the people living in remote and inaccessible areas situated near the international border.

- The programme was **amended in 2015** to provide the provision for third party inspection and quality control mechanism under MHA for random inspections of the BADP schemes.

Source: PIB