

# The Udayak Saga

Project Udayak was raised on 01 Jun 1990 at Doomdooma, Assam at the peak of militancy. Its two Task Forces, 48 BRTF and 752 BRTF were carved out of Projects Vartak and Sewak respectively to form the two powerful arms of this young Project.

In the eighties, the two erstwhile easternmost projects Vartak and Sewak had five and four Border Road Task Forces respectively. It was felt that a new project was required for better command and control. On 23 May 1989, a new project named "Udayak" was sanctioned. A pictorial chronology is given below.

Being the easternmost project, we were named Udayak, symbolic of the 'Rising Sun'. The project was to take on responsibility of roads and other works in erstwhile districts of Siang, Lohit and Tirap of Arunachal Pradesh.

Doomdooma located amidst tea gardens in upper Assam region was selected for the HQ location. The project had been created at a period when the ULFA agitation in Assam at its peak and Doom Dooma area was a centre of anti-national activities. Though the units, by themselves, were not affected directly but interruption and delay in movements were frequent.

48 Border Road Task Force of Project Vartak and 752 Border Road Task Force of Project Sewak with all their units, roads and other works came under Project Udayak from 01 June 1990. Col P.K. Chowdhury, Commander 48 BRTF officiated as Chief Engineer of the new Project.

Entrusted with 1260 Kms of road which include Indo-China Border Roads, GS Roads and National Highways, Project Udayak was also been at the forefront of bridging in the BRO. Achieving over 1132 metres of bridging target, the Project had the distinction of giving the highest figure of bridging target for any Project in 2009. Siku, Passighat (longest Bridge in BRO), Semen, Noadhing, Brahmakund and Digaru (longest departmental bridge) are examples of the bridge construction capability of the Project. We can say with modesty that all the seven important ICBRs entrusted to this project stand completed. The present focus of the project is on construction of roads to establish inter-Valley connectivity.

The rising sun sign of Project Udayak symbolizes new hopes and progress in the remotest regions of Eastern Arunachal Pradesh. With renewed developmental focus in this remote region, Project Udayak is committed to development of road infrastructure upto the farthest corner of Arunachal Pradesh. The Project remains committed to its motto 'Achievement Through Excellence'.

#### **48 Border Road Task Force (48 BRTF)**

48 BRTF was initially raised as 4 BRTF on 14 Sep 1960 with its HQ at Kimin. On taking over the responsibility of construction and maintenance of roads in Lohit District from Project Sewak, 4 BRTF was redesignated as 39 MTF in Jan 69 and its HQ was shifted to a place called Pinegrove located at Ziro. Due to its increased workload and to have better administrative control, the HQ was further shifted to the present location, Demwe in the year 1972. In the year 1972, 39 MTF was reverted back to its earlier status of 4 BRTF. However, due to dwindling work load it was converted to 1302 FTF wef Jan 1976. With the commencement of CI-5 unsurfaced road Hunli-Anini, initially a Home Ministry Project under GS Projection in the year 1978, the TF was re-organised and re-designated as 48 BRTF on **15 Jan 1979**. This Task Force has been flying ever since!!

In the year 1990 the Task Force was transferred to Project Udayak. Since its inception in Project Udayak, this Task Force has been adjudged with **Best Task Force** award in Border Roads Organisation during the year **1993-94 and 2003-04** and also **Runner up Best Task Force** award for the year **2007-08**.

The HQ of 48 BRTF is located at Demwe, in Lohit district of Arunachal Pradesh. It is one of the oldest TFs of Border Roads, despite various names and nomenclatures. This TF is responsible for development/maintenance of road and construction of bridges in Lohit, Namsai, Anjaw and part of Lower Dibang districts of Arunachal Pradesh. A total of **609.33** Kms of road (Major portion of which is GS road) is under construction/maintenance by this Task Force.

Three executive units viz 116 Road Construction Company, 1444 Bridge Construction Company and 1446 Bridge Construction Company have been placed under command of this Task Force to undertake the commitment of development of roads and major/minor permanent bridges in this remote, far flung and undeveloped area of the country. The task Force is relentlessly working to ensure better communication facilities. They are truly 'The Versatiles'.

### **752 Border Road Task Force (752 BRTF)**

752 BRTF was originally raised under Project Sewak, at Kohima, during 1984, primarily for development of roads in Tirap district of Arunachal Pradesh. In may 1985 the Task Force was moved to Nagnimora in Mon District of Nagaland and than eventually to Khonsa.

On Raising of Project Udayak, this Task Force was placed under the command of Project Udayak wef 01 June 1990. They came armed with two RCCs namely 112 RCC at Khonsa and 100 RCC at Mon(Nagaland).

On disbandment of 757 BRTF under the command of Project Vartak, its 62 RCC alongwith its sub unit was placed under 752 BRTF. During Apr 1993, 1080 Field Workshop was moved from command of 15 BRTF from Project Sewak to 752 BRTF.

In 1994, 73 RCC from Project Pushpak was inducted at Sille under command of 752 BRTF which subsequently moved to Ranaghat in 1995 and reorganized as 1443 BCC. 103 RCC under the command of 48 BRTF was moved to 752 BRTF in 1995 on entrustment of strengthening work of Dibrugarh Airfield. 100 RCC moved out from 752 BRTF to 15 BRTF, Project Sewak in June 2009.

The Task Force moved to its present location of Roing in 2012. At present the area of responsibility of 752 BRTF is spread over four Districts of Arunachal Pradesh viz, Lower Dibang Valley, Upper Dibang Valley, Tirap and Changlang. Two executive units namely 62 RCC at Hunli and 103 RCC at Khonsa and one section of 1446 BCC are at present functioning under its command.

*Veni, Vidi, Vici*