

DEVELOPMENTAL ISSUES OF NORTH EAST INDIA



D.N. KONAR

SUBHABRATA CHAKRABARTI

North-East India, with its extreme natural beauty, cultural and ecological diversities is not an exception in that sense. Different issues on the development aspects of this region can be discussed from different angles. The book contains 11 chapters on various aspects from eminent authors namely, Chapter 1 is introduction, Chapter 2 reveals the demographic status of all northeastern states except Sikkim. Chapter 3 and 9 examine the relevance of so-called fundamental theories on structural change of any economy, Chapter 4 finds out the implication of development policies in the presence of some primitive social systems. Chapter 5 discusses the tea markets in north-east India. This chapter also brings the conclusion that present agricultural practice goes against sustainable development in the long run. Chapter 6 explains how poverty, environmental degradation and sustainable development have become interdependent in Assam. Chapter 7 shows how the willingness to pay for the better environment may be one guiding force behind the growth of tourism industry. Chapter 9 and 10 give an account of the Central resources injected into the economy of Northeast India for different purpose through Ministry of DONER and recommended by Finance Commission reports. Export is considered as the engine of growth and this is vindicated in Chapter 11 in which we observe comparative advantages over different goods and the Meghalaya-Bangladesh border trade may be helpful to boost up the Meghalayan economy.

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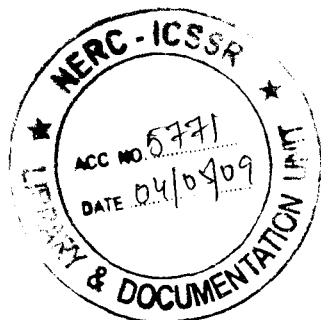
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Introduction

— *Dhirendra Nath Konar*
— *Subhabrata Chakrabarti*

One cannot deny the influence of the given status of any region on its development process. Northeast India, with its extreme natural beauty, cultural and ecological diversities is not an exception in that sense. Different issues on the development aspects of this region can be discussed from different angles. It is really a Himalayan task to write anything about the development experience of this Eastern Himalayan Zone in a concise manner by a single effort. However, any work becomes incomplete or complete only after it is done. And that is exactly done by the authors of this book. Chapter 2 of this book reveals the demographic status of all northeastern states except Sikkim. Chapter 3 and 9 examine the relevance of so-called fundamental theories on structural change of any economy in the light of development experience of northeast India as well as Sikkim and Manipur. Chapter 4 is an effort to find out the implication of development policies in the presence of some primitive social systems. We may get some answers of the question why the tea markets in northeast India have been jeopardized from the Chapter 5. This chapter also brings the conclusion that present agricultural practice goes against sustainable development in the long run. Chapter 6 explains how poverty, environmental degradation and sustainable development have become interdependent on each other in the Char areas of Assam. Based on primary data Chapter 7

shows how the willingness to pay for the better environment may be one guiding force behind the growth of tourism industry. Chapter 9 and 10 give an account of the Central resources injected into the economy of Northeast India for different purpose through Minister of DONER and recommended by Finance Commission reports. Export is considered as the engine of growth and this is vindicated in Chapter 11 in which we observe comparative advantages over different goods and the Meghalaya-Bangladesh border trade may be helpful to boost up the Meghalayan economy.

Same theme may be presented by different by styles. So, corresponding references mean a lot. Those have been given as far as possible. If any missing that is a mistake, which has taken place unwillingly and must be rectified in the next edition.

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