



Tarun Gogoi

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Assam Development Report

Foreword

Contrary to what was envisioned in our constitution, the five decades of planning could not reduce the regional disparity in our country; in fact, in many spheres the gap has widened further. The rate of economic growth in a vast majority of areas is abysmally poor and Assam is not a case in exception in this trend. Therefore, it is high time we looked back at the strategies of development adopted during the last five decades and make an in depth analysis of the net results thus arrived at. It is clear that, for the country to prosper as a single entity, there has to be all round uniform development across the length and breadth of the country and for that purpose the areas of low growth syndrome needs special attention from the top policy makers.

The Assam Development Report prepared by the Planning Commission along with the Government of Assam and Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research suggests a framework for the development of Assam. It also makes a number of policy recommendations for accelerating the pace of development in Assam. We will strive to take all the measures that are within our means to accelerate the process of development in the state, however difficult it might be. At the same time, we do urge for the required attention and help from the Central Government, in a proactive manner, particularly for issues where it alone can act.

The present Government in Assam is committed to ensure that the standard of living of the people in the state continues to improve. I hope that the present report will help all of us to come to grips with today's realities and help make quick rational development decisions. I look forward to the Assam Development Report becoming a valuable input in focusing attention to key development issues by all concerned.

Date : 14.8.2002

(Tarun Gogoi)
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