

# Working in North East India

*-An Administrator's Perspective*



Why should we bother about  
North East??

## The Positives...

- Strategic Importance
- Gateway to South East Asia
- Energy needs – Oil and Natural Gas
- Human Resource
- Cultural heritage and Egalitarian society
- Biodiversity
- Scope for second Green Revolution
- Links with Bhutan, Myanmar

# The Negatives...

- Challenges to National Integration
- Terrorism and Insurgency
- Drugs and Women Trafficking
- Illegal Infiltration
- China factor
- Climate Change

## Misconceptions and prejudices...

- Entire North East is one homogeneous entity
- It is full of insurgents and terrorists
- Its socio-culturally backward
- Treatment in so called 'mainland' & national media
- The Blame Game vis a vis Government of India

# Seven Sisters and One Brother...

- Arunachal Pradesh
- Nagaland
- Manipur
- Mizoram
- Tripura
- Meghalaya
- Sikkim
- Assam

# Issues of Concern...

- Floods and Erosion
- Insurgency and Terrorism
- Fragmented Polity – Demand for Autonomy
- Communal Tensions
- Conflict over Land
- Row over big dams
- Illegal Immigration and changing demographic balance
- Bandhs and Agitations
- Border disputes
- Chinese designs

## Future Prospects...

- Economic Integration with East/ South East Asia
- Energy Security – Nuclear, Hydro, Thermal
- Unlocking Tourism potential
- Pan North East Planning – Role of NEC, NEDFI, Brahmaputra Board, DoNER
- Food Security
- Human Resource – Growth in Service Sector
- Green Initiative
- Optimum utilization of Natural resources
- Infrastructure up-gradation
- Soft Power – Sports, Culture



# A bit of personal advice while working in the North East...

- Developing All India perspective
- Stepping out of comfort zone
- Being positive about place of posting/ cadre
- Facing challenging times for Bureaucracy
- Learning to say 'Yes'
- Sincerity is thy greatest safeguard
- Having strong family support
- Opportunity Cost of being in the Government
- EQ matters...not IQ!
- Work- Life Balance
- Small Ego...Big Vision
- Shedding feudal mindset
- Doing 'Public Service' in true sense



See you in North East!