



**ADDRESS OF**

**Shri MADHUKAR DIGHE**  
**Governor of Meghalaya**

**At the**

**THIRTY-THIRD MEETING OF**  
**THE NORTH EASTERN COUNCIL**

**AT SHILLONG**

**On Monday, 28th October 1991**

*Respected Chairman, Hon'ble Governors, Chief Ministers, Ministers  
and Friends,*

It is my pleasure to welcome you all once again to Shillong. We are meeting today to deliberate upon the common problems faced by the North Eastern States and to formulate strategies for their solution through the joint efforts of the States and the North Eastern Council. Since inception of the Council, it has done a commendable job in building up the economic infrastructure necessary to give an impetus to the economic development of these States. It has also helped in creating mutual understanding and co-operation among the people of the region.

Despite best of efforts made by the individual States for improvement of their economy and the quality of life of the people much more needs to be done towards achieving this end. Further, a quick look at the projects of the Eighth Five Year Plan of North Eastern Council indicates the high cost of ongoing projects, leaving very little provision for taking up new schemes in the region. In fact, the commitment to meet the cost of the ongoing projects should, in no case, be allowed to inhibit our taking up new need-based regional schemes in the North-East. I am of the opinion that we should impress upon the Planning Commission to give its thinking to develop North-East as a model area in the country with total employment, health-care, education and infrastructural facilities, which is possible because of its great potentiality and small population. Some of the Centrally Sponsored Schemes should be diverted to these States equally. I would now dwell upon some of the problems concerning the Region in general, and those relating to the State of Meghalaya, in particular.

