



Address of  
**Shri D. D. LAPANG**  
Chief Minister, Meghalaya.

At the  
**34th Meeting of the  
North Eastern Council**

On  
**5th March, 1992**  
at **Guwahati.**

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

It is my great pleasure to join you all in this Council today and to participate in its deliberations. This meeting of the Council is being held after four months when the Council discussed and finalised its 8th Five Year Plan within this period. The Plan has been discussed with the Planning Commission. The final picture of the Plan is now before us. We trust that under the sagacious leadership of Shri Dwivedyji and Co-ordinated efforts by all the seven States of the region would be possible in solving problems faced in common for the development of the Region.

The Council has already achieved commendable success in its efforts to build up the economic infrastructure in the region. However, despite its best efforts, there appears to be a tremendous task ahead of the Council for removal of the development imbalances arising out of the region's economic backwardness. The Council would have to play a dynamic role to bring about effective change in the region. I, on behalf of the State of Meghalaya assure my fullest cooperation in this endeavour.

2. We have gathered here to consider the Annual Plan 1992-93 of the Council. The size of the Annual Plan has already been approved by the Planning Commission and its priorities fixed. The final picture of the Plan that has emerged before us as a result of various exercise undertaken at different levels i.e. at State, Council and Planning Commission is not as encouraging as it was expected to be.

The Council formulated the Annual Plan 1992-93 with an outlay of Rs. 488.00 crores. The working Group of the Planning Commission, after detailed discussion of the Plan proposals with the N.E.C. officials recommended an outlay of Rs. 443.00 crores. But ulti-

