Look Northeast policy

A MIDST the Incredible India@60 blitzkrieg in New York was an event that didn’t attract the attention it should have. The one-day ‘North East India Investment Conference’ of September 26 — aimed at putting the Northeast on the international investment map — was certainly unprecedented. For the first time in 60 years, the Indian government was signalling that it was ready to showcase a region marked by insurgencies, militarisation and alienation — and which it had always kept under wraps — as an investment destination and a paradise for tourism.

Hosted by the Ministry for the Development of the North East Region (DONER) and the Confederation of Indian Industries, the government is reluctant to come out strongly against the repressive junta in Myanmar to the general dismay of the international community and human rights activists.

What does this frenetic activity mean? At a national level it means that the Centre is more confident than ever before of being able to manage its northeastern periphery, despite army mobilisation and cock-ups of yesterday. But if the local people are not sufficiently involved in such projects right from their planning stage onwards, if due processes are not followed in implementing them, investment policies of this kind would only foment suspicion, resentment, even resistance, which in turn could see a greater mobilisation of security forces in the area, setting into play the familiar cycle of...

Government initiatives to attract investments in this region should take people along

PAMELA PHILIPPOSE

High road to prosperity

The NRIs come

The NRIs come calling

North East attracts NRI investments

North East goes to New York

E takes bite of Big Apple

The NRIs come calling

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