

ROLE OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY IN ECONOMIC INTEGRATION OF NORTH EASTERN REGION INTO ASEAN – MAIN ISSUES & PROSPECTS

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The realization of the Mission of the National STI policy 2013 summed up in the acronym SRISHTI that stands for a Science Research and Innovation System for High Technology led path for India requires a strong partnership with the states. The policy therefore has urged the states to prepare state specific Science and Technology vision and by implication State S&T Policies to put in place a demand driven innovation eco system with participation of all stakeholders and S&T oriented civil society groups for ensuring development and dissemination of technology inputs and prompt commercialization of innovations to enable the states to move on to a high technology led growth path. In the backdrop of the Act East Policy it is an imperative for the NE states and the NEC to act on the NSTI Polcy2013 by setting up regional and state level S&T Action groups to help restructuring regional economy based on innovation and technical inputs. It is argued that it is only with such systemic reform and supportive state specific S&T Policies and not just additional Central funds that the North East could succeed in participating in the Act East and such other regional initiatives in South East Asia and Bay of Bengal Region.
