

ISSUE NO. - 61



DATABANK JOURNAL ON ECONOMIC PROFILES OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH



नॉर्थ ईस्टर्न डेवलपमेंट फायनेंस कॉर्पोरेशन लिमिटेड
NORTH EASTERN DEVELOPMENT FINANCE CORPORATION LIMITED

NEDFi DATABANK JOURNAL

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North Eastern Development Finance Corporation Limited, 2024

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FOREWORD



Nestled amidst the mighty Eastern Himalayas, Arunachal Pradesh is a mesmerizing region characterized by its stunning natural beauty and a vibrant cultural heritage. Popularly known as the 'Land of the Dawn-lit Mountains', this northeastern jewel spans an area of 83,743 sq. km, sharing international borders with Bhutan, China and Myanmar. With a population of around 1.4 million, the state is a melting pot of diverse indigenous communities, each with its unique traditions, languages, attires, and customs.

Arunachal Pradesh boasts a diverse topography that is globally recognized as a biodiversity hotspot, housing over 5,000 flowering plants, 650 avian species, and 500 varieties of fauna, including rare and endangered species. This natural wealth, coupled with its rich cultural heritage, comprising 26 major tribes and numerous sub-tribes, each with its distinct traditions, languages and customs, presents a captivating blend of opportunities for sustainable development.

The services sector plays a pivotal role in Arunachal Pradesh's economy, accounting for the largest share of 40% of the state's total Gross Value Added (GVA). The agriculture and allied sector contribute 37%, while the industry sector holds a 23% share, showcasing the region's diverse economic landscape.

Arunachal Pradesh's abundant mineral resources, such as coal, limestone, dolomite, graphite, quartzite, and iron ore, play a significant role in its economic landscape. However, the state faces the challenge of balancing resource exploitation with environmental conservation and the preservation of indigenous cultures. Sectors like horticulture, sericulture, handloom & handicrafts offer promising avenues for sustainable livelihoods and economic growth, aligning with the state's commitment to organic farming and eco-friendly practices.

The state's vast hydropower potential, estimated at over 50,000 MW, positions Arunachal Pradesh as a potential powerhouse of the country. However, only a small

fraction of this immense potential has been tapped, leaving ample room for further development and investment in this sector.

Recognizing the importance of infrastructure development, the government of Arunachal Pradesh has prioritized improving the quality of life for its citizens. Initiatives such as the extensive 4G mobile connectivity project, the State Wide Area Network (SWAN) project for digital governance, and the ongoing efforts to enhance healthcare and educational infrastructure are crucial steps towards fostering inclusive growth and economic prosperity.

While Arunachal Pradesh's remote location and rugged terrain have posed challenges for tourism development, the state's unique natural beauty and rich cultural heritage offer immense potential for eco-tourism and adventure tourism. Initiatives to improve accessibility, develop sustainable tourism practices and promote indigenous experiences could unlock the economic benefits of this sector, while preserving the state's natural and cultural heritage.

This "NEDFi Databank Journal" on the "Economic Profiles of Arunachal Pradesh" presents a holistic view of the state's economic landscape, compiled with the latest available statistical data. It encompasses a wide array of sectors that are pivotal to Arunachal Pradesh's growth and development, including agriculture, horticulture, education, health, power, tourism, banking, forestry, fisheries, handloom, handicrafts etc.

We hope that the information/data provided in this journal will be useful to our readers, stakeholders, and researchers. We extend our gratitude to all those who have contributed to the compilation of this journal and look forward to your feedback & suggestions for further improvement.



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