

## **CLIMATE CHANGE AND RISK MANAGEMENT IN NORTH EAST INDIA**

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### **ABSTRACT**

States of North East India are big store house of fresh water and the region lies in one of the 34 bio-diversity hotspots of the globe. It is one of the largest blocks of cheap hydro-power with one third water resource potential of the country. The region, predominantly with recurring flood problems caused by the mighty Brahmaputra and Barak river systems and excessive rainfall presently facing drought like situation at least in fourteen districts with reported deficit of rainfall to the tune of 79% at places till June 2009. With the growing concern of climate change and global warming it is felt more than ever that the region should have a thorough strategy to understand implications of climate change so that measures could be taken for its people to adept to its effects. Adapting to the changes would require infrastructure, technology and policy initiatives. Further, there existed a moral and ethical obligation to cut down on carbon emissions if the effects of climate change were to be reduced. Alarm has been sounded on speeding up efforts to curb the pace of climate change. It is now understood that window of opportunity to do things is closing very fast. In the light of the above facts, an attempt has been made in this paper to analyze hydro-climatic scenario of the region and suggest some measures to be taken at all levels specially at grass root level through capacity building and mass awareness.