Geography · GS - III

The North-Eastern Region has the potential to emerge as an important engine of India's economic growth. Examine its opportunities and challenges, highlighting the role of connectivity and regional development initiatives.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 05/11/2026	GS - III	Geography

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Eight North-Eastern states, Act East Policy, HIRA connectivity, PM-DevINE, ASEAN trade, organic agriculture, hydropower, tourism, infrastructure gaps, border trade, inclusive development

Model Answer

Introduction

India's North-Eastern Region, comprising eight states, possesses significant geographical, cultural and economic potential. Its proximity to Southeast Asia provides opportunities for regional trade and connectivity.

Growth Opportunities

The region offers opportunities in organic agriculture, horticulture, tourism, hydropower and renewable energy. Its strategic location can strengthen India's engagement with ASEAN through the Act East Policy. Improved connectivity under the HIRA approach can facilitate trade, investment and mobility.

Role of Development Initiatives

PM-DevINE supports infrastructure and social development projects in the region. Better roads, railways, airports and digital networks can improve market access, generate employment and attract private investment.

Major Challenges

Difficult terrain, infrastructure deficits, limited industrialisation, connectivity gaps and regional disparities constrain development. Environmental fragility and local livelihood concerns also require attention.

Way Forward

India should promote sustainable infrastructure, local entrepreneurship, skill development, cross-border trade and community participation.

Conclusion

The North-East can become a major growth centre through inclusive development, sustainable resource management and stronger regional connectivity.

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