

India's Look East Policy and Securitization of Human Beings in Northeastern Region

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ABSTRACT

This paper examines Look East Policy and the widespread trafficking of human beings in Northeast India. India's Look - East Policy was launched in 1992, after the end of the cold war, and collapse of the Soviet Union (USSR). With economic reforms and liberalization, it was a strategic decision taken by India in the foreign policy. The policy was given an initial thrust with the former Prime Minister Late Narasimha Rao's visit to China, Japan, South Korea, Vietnam and Singapore in which India emerged as an important dialogue partner with Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN). The Look East policy focuses on promising opportunities and challenges for the future of Northeast and portrays the region as a 'Business-Hub' of South East Asia because of its strategic geographical location in the international border with Bhutan, China, Myanmar and Bangladesh. If the Look East Policy is properly implemented so the region would emerge as a producer and exporter in South East Asia. Indian policy also increase tourism in the Northeastern region. Tourism sector has perceived to enhance social integration between Northeast India and South East Asia. India's Look East policy also promote globalization and liberalization process in Northeastern region. After the process of globalization and liberalization borderless world and all Air and sea route are open for the trade. Globalization also involves an extraordinary commercialization of human body at transnational level. It has been made the fastest growing flesh trade of human beings. Human trafficking is non-traditional security issue, in the form of transnational crime, human rights and human security threatening individual's survival, dignity and livelihood. This Paper also emphasized linkage between Look East Policy and individual security in the Northeast India? And how human trafficking is a non-traditional security threat of India.

Key Words : Securitization, Human trafficking, Globalization, Look east policy, Liberalization, North-east region

INTRODUCTION

The formulation of Look East policy is mainly centred upon to make good relation with neighbours and also to increase the development and growth of state mainly through trade and national security that have stayed behind. With regard to look east policy northeast

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states are resource rich states but its accessibility and its connectedness has always been in deficit state to the other parts of the India. One of the reasons to implement look east policy was to increase the opportunity of those states which have left behind and to carve out a policy to address certain issues of economic development and social development which is interlinked and are important for state development. Therefore, to a major extent state development mainly depends on sovereignty and security. Before cold war state security was seen as a more important issue, territorial integrity and sovereignty were the centre point of state security. During that days military threat and protection of state sovereignty were core of national securitization¹. After the end of the cold war, the concept of security has changed from traditional to anon-traditional security threat. In the present scenario, many combined issues like globalization, environmental degradation, transnational crime and international terrorism, has opened new facets of security. The nature of threats and security discourses are incessantly change and this expanding security agenda has gone beyond state and military security. The former UN Secretary General Kofi Annan address the double concept of 'freedom from fear' and 'freedom from want', and recognized that individual sovereignty takes priority over state sovereignty². The current phase of look east policy the approach moves from state-centric security to individual-centric because individual security is important for state sovereignty and security. Similarly UNDP also recognize that without human-centric approach other objective such as peace, human rights, environmental degradation and reduced population growth will be not achieved.

Therefore human security is relevant to everywhere in developing nations or developed nations. As given in report of UNDP Human security can be said to have two main aspects. Firstly it means, safety from such chronic threats as hunger, disease and repression. Secondly, it means protection from sudden and hurtful disruptions in the patterns of daily life", whether in homes, in jobs or in communities. Such threats can exist at all levels of national income and development³. Since the policy implemented by the government have been development and growth oriented, it fails to address the issue of human security, which has also become one of the big problem arising in the northeastern region. Therefore, human trafficking is a fastest growing form of transnational crime across the world⁴. It is also a major threat to human security in northeast India. According to United State Department data, an estimated 600,000 to 820,000 men, women, and children are trafficked across international borders each year, approximately 80 per cent are women and girls and up to 50 per cent are minors⁵. The international territorial borders in the Northeast are largely open and unmanned, which allows flesh trade to spread there without much enforcement against it. Young women are taken across the international border to work in brothels, commercial places for coercive sex work and cheap labour. Few pressing questions needs to asked and addressed through proper policy. Why do such inhuman practices exist in thenortheast region? The proposed study will try to analyse the implication of look east policy on human trafficking in northeast India and how does human trafficking is a major concern to these curitization of human beings. And to what extent does look east policy has been able to address the issue focusing human security?

India has geographical proximity to Southeast Asia, sharing its maritime boundary with many countries. The mainland India and the fact that southern Indian tip is across some of

the most important sea lanes of communication in the Indian Ocean, connecting Southeast Asia with West Asia and Europe through which nearly 40 per cent of the world's trade passes through⁶. During the British colonialism India as a major strategic centre of Britain's Afro-Asian Empire. Viceroy Lord Curzon (1899-1905), for instance, going beyond Viceroy Lord Mayo's (1869-1872) conception of an 'informal empire', often taking a strong line against the strategic thinking of the policy makers in London. It has highlighted his grand vision of treating India as the "important strategic location with major resources and the point from which British interests in the Middle East, Southeast Asia and China could be controlled"⁷. Keeping step with improvement in communication and transport networks, the colonial period would also witness greater and more diverse patterns of migration of Indian indigenous communities in all parts of the world including Southeast Asia and China. These include merchants and other commercial groups, soldiers, policemen, labourers and also educated people to search for jobs⁸. After independence Jawaharlal Nehru was the sole, articulator, formulator and the executor of Indian foreign policy. Broadly Indian foreign policy can be divided into three distinct era. The starting phase began after independence, till 1962. The second phase extended from 1962 to 1991. The third phase began in 1991 and continues to the present day⁹. Since then independent India's foreign policy had been accepted or guided by some of the remarkable principles that are peace, independence, friendship and active cooperation with all countries. During Nehru regime, a broad national consensus emerged around Nehru's ideas on as to follow independent foreign policy. Those ideas clearly gives a indication what was said in the constituent Assembly of India on 8 March 1949, by Nehru said:

When we talk of Asia, remember that India, not because of any ambition of hers, but because of the force of circumstances, because of geography, because of history and because of so many other things, inevitably has to play a very important part in Asia...India becomes a kind of meeting ground for various trends and forces and a meeting ground between what might roughly be called the East and the West...If you have to consider any question affecting the Middle East, India inevitably comes into the picture. If you have to consider any question concerning South-East Asia, you cannot do so without India. So also with the Far East... Even if you think in terms of regional organizations in Asia, you have to keep in touch with the other regions. And whatever regions you may have in mind, the importance of India cannot be ignored¹⁰.

During Nehru regime, India wants' to expand with others countries through the Bandung experiment of 1955. The dynamics of cold war and the rise of the People Republic of China generated division in Asia which was witnessed by India and most of the South East Asian countries. During the phase of late 1950 and early 1960 India had good diplomatic relations with Indonesia, but the other countries of the region did not receive much attention of the South Block in New Delhi. This phase of India's 'Look East Policy' was Asia's reappearance on the globe and the decolonisation of the countries. The content of these aspects was emotional and ideological. During the first wave of look east policy Nehru had a strong political content to back them but it lacked of much real content; of commerce, culture, and the economy as was evident. Further, much attention was paid to save rhetorical recognition, to the security imperatives of the Indian Ocean development it recognised as a 'Zone of

Peace'¹¹. During Indira Gandhi leadership a new approach came up that was an alliance with the Soviet Union and centralization of nations. During this time, India's foreign policy was guided mainly through a realist point of view. Indira Gandhi pragmatic approach made some radical change in Indian foreign policy. She was associated itself the process of the formation of ASEAN in 1966-67. It worked out for evolving broad-base for cooperation of regional organization. In the period of 1975 and 1980 Malaysia invited New Delhi for full dialogue partner and India also missed the second chance with ASEAN. During 1990, India's adopted Look East policy. It was framed by the former Prime Minister Late Narasimha Rao, with the substantial manifestation of India's foreign policy an orientation towards South East Asian Nations. It meant connecting India's more firmly to South East Asia, East Asia and Asia Pacific region and building bridges to them especially through northeastern Indian States¹². Besides its new efforts to capitalise on Southeast Asia's economic success, India now sought purposeful politico-military engagement with other region, in part of which was impelled by the need for new friends and partners after the loss of its superpower supporter in 1991¹³.

During 1990, there were three broad objectives of Look East Policy, to institutionalise linkages with ASEAN and its affiliates; to strengthen bilateral relationships with member states of ASEAN; and to carve a suitable place for itself to prevent Southeast Asia falling under the influence of any one major power. Primarily, India's Look East Policy was emphasized to economic ties with ASEAN countries. As a result, India became a Sectoral Dialogue Partner (1993), Full Dialogue Partner (1995), a member of ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) in 1996, and finally summit partnership in 2002 Phnom Penh Cambodia. Consequently, India-ASEAN summit held annually. In the 3rd India-ASEAN summit in November 2003, India's ASEAN signed the 'India-ASEAN partnership for Peace, Progress and shared Prosperity. It is the cornerstone of India's Look East Policy'¹⁴. Its partnership is based on are as like trade and investment, technological development, human resource development. In 2007 the India-ASEAN summit Prime Minister Manmohan Singh proposed that the cooperation between the ASEAN countries cooperate not only the realm of prevention and management of natural disasters like floods, cyclones, earthquakes, tsunamis, etc. but also cooperates man-made disasters such as terrorism, drugs trafficking, human trafficking, cyber crime, money laundering, etc.¹⁵. India's Look East policy is vital parts of India's foreign policy and strategic shift of India vision in the world with economic and security development¹⁶. Yashwant Sinha, the India's Minister of External Affairs distinguished between the two phases of the Look East Policy in 2003.

The first phase of India's 'Look East' policy was ASEAN centred and focussed primarily on trade and investment linkages. The new phase of this policy is characterised by an expanded definition of 'East', extending from Australia to East Asia, with ASEAN at its core. The new phase also marks a shift from trade to wider economic and security issues, including joint efforts to protect the sea lanes and coordinate counter terrorism activities'¹⁷.

The improving strengthening of economic linkages with ASEAN has inspired India to move into the second phase of its Look-East Policy. Phase 2 is the asides from complete economic issues to the broader agenda involving security cooperation, actively constructing transport corridors and erecting pillars of linkages and connectivity. This phase of India's

Look-East Policy renders ample relevance to the development of its Northeastern region because of its geographical contiguity to South-East Asia and East Asia¹⁸. Northeastern region of India consist seven sister states such as Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Manipur and Tripura. It has along with Bangladesh, Myanmar, China and Bhutan. Assam play an important portal for other six states of Northeastern region to reached other part of India as well as cross border. Northeast has not been at the centre states, but it plays a significant role to connect with Southeast Asian countries. Being sharing to the other countries its border the vulnerability and the scope increases fourfold. Since there have not been any comprehensive approach by policy makers and the planner of the region to overcome skills development, entrepreneurship, agriculture, trade and industries in order to make the region self-reliance. Likewise Jammu and Kashmir, Northeastern received a huge amount of financial aid from central government. Even though there still remains some pressing issues of human security such as drug trafficking, illegal migration, violence against human rights, human trafficking, insurgency, ethnic conflict, etc. Among these human trafficking has emerged the most serious threat of human security in Northeastern region.

Human trafficking is an illegal process of human beings moved from their community and states of origin, regularly complete unlawful migration networks or without proper legal documents, to different destination where they are exploited for the purpose of forced labour, prostitution, commercial sexual exploitation and other forms of exploitation. Human trafficking is an organized crime in the world. As per United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) "Trafficking in persons" means the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, abduction, fraud, deception, abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, any form of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs¹⁹. Therefore, Look East Policy mainly address trade and development issues but on the issues of security it falls to address it properly. Since development is not aloof from security in order to achieve the development goals issues related to security like border security, human security need to be given a proper attention.

India's Look East Policy :

The study includes theoretical debates on India's Look East policy and Northeast India. In 1947, India becomes an independent country after British autonomy from the subcontinent. Despite necessary indications of developing ties with South East Asian nations in the light of regional efforts like the Bandung Conference (1954) and subsequent attempts from the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), India never made serious efforts to Look East ward. It also maintained a marked distance from the South East Asian region. The dramatic change in India's foreign policy to take through its 'Look East Policy'. After the end of the cold war, India's foreign policy adopted a new subjective policy which was based on India's size, culture, civilization and several changes which were taking place at domestic, regional and global level after the drastic change in India's foreign policy it. India's Look East policy signifies India desire for greater gathering with China policy and integration with Southeast

Asia. India's Look East policy is guided by myriad national interests. It signifies a major 'Paradigm Shift' in Indian foreign policy which has brought changes in India's orientation with China and Southeast Asian countries²⁰.

Look East Policy is a foreign policy initiative to focus on South East Asia, framed by Former Prime Minister late Narasimha Rao in 1990s. It was a new international atmosphere after cold war that pushed India to re-open its traditional, cultural, strategic and civilizational linkages with Southeast Asia. In the post-cold war period, India shifted from its immediate neighbourhood policy (South Asia) to 'Extended neighbourhood' policy (South East Asia). Look East Policy initiative marked certain success and opportunities, but it faced serious challenges and lacunae²¹. Thongkhohal Haokip, argue that India's Look East policy was to renew political contacts, increase economic integration and forge security cooperation with several countries of South East Asia as a means to strengthen political understanding²². According to A. Sundaram meanwhile, the two decades India's Look East policy extended it's political, economic and security advancement links with the rest of Asian countries. It is an attempt to frame depth economic integration with its eastern neighbours as a part of the new real politik in evidence in India's foreign policy. It has the potential to undo the impact of colonial geopolitics as well as revamp the region by opening borders for trade and commerce. India's foreign policy vision northeast is often explained as gateway to South East Asia²³. The strategic, political and economic importance of Northeast for India's Look East Policy cannot be overemphasized. It not only provides an opportunity to consolidate India's relations with the near South East Asian countries, but it also holds immense potential for trade expansion and regional development for the Northeast states of India within the framework of BIMSTEC, Mekong-Ganga Project, K2K, and other initiatives. It has been often claimed that South East Asia begins from Northeast of India. Geo-strategically Northeast India is integral to the BIMSTEC initiative. As the current phase of India's Look East Policy seeks to entrench as well as diversify India's relations with the countries of East Asia, considerable attention needs to be paid to channelize the political-economic benefits towards the Northeastern Region²⁴.

Shantanu Chakrabarti, argue that India's expanding links with the countries located in Southeast Asia and East Asia along with her burgeoning influence in the Asia-Pacific and Indian Ocean zones since the 1990s have come under the collective analytical framework of 'Look East Policy', and have been scrutinized and analysed from every possible scholarly dimension over the years. He analyses reappraisal of India's Look East as it has evolved through these various twists and turns trying to find out whether it has developed a degree of strategic coherence and whether it would be appropriate to recast and project it within an alternative 'human security' oriented paradigm²⁵. The emergence of the look east policy as a role model of development for the northeast is often dubbed as the new paradigm of development in the northeast development perspective. Barua and Das, argue that in 1997 government report which was "Transforming the Northeast: High-Level Commission Report" gives the idea of inclusion of the "northeast development concern" as an important component of Look East policy. Instead of this development, the northeast region have faced various problems of development, such as the lack of intra-regional as well as intra-state connectivity infrastructure, ethnic and armed conflict issues, and the issues of security and governance²⁶.

The Northeastern slope of India consisting of contiguous seven sister states- Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Tripura and the state of Sikkim - constitutes a unique narrow passageway connecting the Indian subcontinent to East and Southeast Asia acts as a crucial corridor for human migration between these areas. The Northeast region because of its favourable geographic location supported by the Himalayas in the north, Bay of Bengal in the south and bordered by 5 Asian countries- Nepal, Bhutan, China, Myanmar and Bangladesh, acts as a gateway to Southeast Asia. There are abundant possibilities for Northeastern India to acquire benefits from India's booming relations with Southeast Asia as the process of globalisation provides the countries with the opportunities to tackle with cross-market availability and assisting them to alleviate their poverty and economic backwardness. The Northeast India unluckily is not free from many evils and is often saddened by dreadful happenings retarding the pace of development. The Look-East Policy is being boarded upon with the presumption that the improving trade ties between India and ASEAN will positively uplift the Northeast out of the menace of insurgency, poverty and economic backwardness. During the new phase of Look East policy India's has undertaken some bilateral and multilateral projects for improving connectivity between the Northeast and Southeast Asia. But certain hindrances like, absence of enthusiastic response from local people, lack of infrastructural development, frequent insurgencies, poor governance in the states, the easy availability of arms and weapons from across the international border to be utilised in armed movements and criminal activities like human trafficking, illegal migration obstruct increased relations between Northeastern India and Southeast Asia. Moreover, the geographic location of the Northeastern region makes it more vulnerable to be the core of hostility with massive negative outcomes such as insecurity of people, crime against humanity²⁷.

Securitization of Human Beings :

Following the some selective work on securitization of human beings. This review tries to address the some theoretical debates on human security. Buzan, Waever, and Wilde examine how security, alternatively framed as "securitization," can be conceptualized as particular kind of speech act that elevates issues of concern above normal politics. Thus, the authors establish a continuum between purely 'technical issues' to 'political issues' to 'issues of security'. According to authors security is a "move that takes politics beyond the established rules of the game and frames the issue either as a special kind of politics or as above politics"²⁸. Thus justifying extraordinary means to accomplish the relevant task. In order to qualify as a security issue, the authors insist that 'an issue needs three components: establish an existential threat, demand emergency action, and it must create a space for units involved in mobilizing for the crisis to break free from rules'. Within the analysis of securitization, one must ask: first, 'who' securitizes; then, what is the referent of the securitization act (*i.e.* the state, people, the environment, the civilization); and then, what are the threat. The social constructivist framework of securitization analysis, then, also rests on the idea of an inter-subjective space. Thus, how audiences understand and give consent to securitization speech acts is at least as important as 'who' speaks security; the act of securitization is negotiated between securitizers and audience. In scrutinising the wide versus narrow aspects of security

studies, the authors ask not what areas are relevant for security, but how issues within these areas are framed as security threats through the securitization speech act. Though security is a realm of “competing actors” all actors are not equally able to speak security. Further aspect of securitization studies is the study of how actors gain the ability to speak security²⁹.

Authors analysing securitization speech acts. The authors address that their approach is more objectivist in terms of social relations while their security perspective is radically constructivist. Securitisation theory has become one of the key components of security studies and IR courses in recent years, and Balzacq, examine integrated and rigorous overview of securitization practices within a coherent framework. It organizes securitization around three core moulds which make the theory applicable to empirical studies: the essence of audience, the co-dependency of agency and context and the structuring force of the security arrangement. These assumptions are then investigated through discourse analysis, process-tracing, ethnographic research, and content analysis and discussed in relation to extensive case studies³⁰.

Securitization is an important phenomena of present security challenges in the globe. Monika Barthwal Datta, explore that south Asia is involved in securitizing non-traditional security challenges in the region at the sub-state level. South Asia is the epicentre of some of the most significant international security challenges today. However, the complexities of the region’s security dynamics remain under-researched. While traditional security issues, such as inter-state war, border disputes and the threat of nuclear devastation in South Asia, remain high on the agendas of policy-makers and academics both within and beyond the region³¹. Time to time the meaning of security and securitization has differed. Since the cold war security meant the protection of territorial integrity of state from external military threat and also the protection of sovereignty. It has remained a core feature of national security or securitization of nation for quite long. After that security concept has evolved incorporating broader non-military issues such as oil crises, and environment degradation. Further, after the advent of globalization security became more individual centric rather than being limited to state. It has also explore much debates on security issues³². During the period of 1996-97, Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) introduced securitization against transnational crimes. Transnational crime is a criminal matter in international security debate and Copenhagen School and in securitization theory.

Transnational crime has been illustrate as a threat to state security, sovereignty, rule of law, socio-economic and moral bolt of Southeast Asian countries. Presently, transnational crime is emerging as a serious threat to national, international security and stability. On July 1996, at the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting (AMM), foreign ministers discussed drugs trafficking; money loundering, human smuggling and trafficking were introduced as a transnational crime. This estimate indicated that transnational crime has comprehend threat to societal, political and economic security of ASEAN countries³³. Traditionally, security has been in the realm of the state and its uniformed police and military. However, in the last two decades, many actors and agencies, including schools, clubs, housing corporations, hospitals, shopkeepers, insurers, energy suppliers and even private citizens, have enforced some form of security, effectively changing its delivery, and overall role.

The ongoing structural and cultural changes that have impacted security in Western

society from the 19th century to the present. Thus by analysing the new hybrid of public-private security, Author emphasized deep insight into the processes of securitization and modern risk management for the police and judicial authorities as well as other emerging parties. It draws upon four case studies of increased securitization in Europe—monitoring marijuana cultivation, urban intervention teams, road transport crime, and the collective shop ban – in order to raise important questions about citizenship, social order, and the law within this expanding new paradigm³⁴. According to Sabine Hirschauer, the conflict related sexual violence can be understood through the lens of securitization theory. It reveals the wide-ranging complexities of the securitization against rape. Using the Bosnia war and Rwandan genocide as events which set new, unprecedented legal frontiers that have made to rethink and reformulate the area of security. It explores the inherent links between systematic rape, war and global security. Bosnia initiated the first convictions of rape as a crime against humanity, whilst the Judges of the Tribunal of Rwanda further expanded these legal parameters by viewing rape as a distinct feature and mechanism of genocide. Author not only reaffirms the rape-security connection, but also illustrates the flawed and often violent reproduction of gender³⁵. Litta and Owen, emphasized various security approach from philosophical root to varying definitions. In the philosophical context security refers to “freedom from fear” and “freedom from want”. It explore that security is a basic and elemental need. It allows individuals the pursuit of life, liberty, happiness and justice. Human security or insecurity is an important aspect of this broader security concern³⁶.

International migration increases security issues at different levels because it contains a host of agencies that often have conflicting interests. The concept of security developed after the end of the cold war in response to the failure of traditional state security, which frequently causes of the insecurity of individuals. It explore that structural inequality, human rights and environmental degradation is such assumption of human security which internationalized these issues³⁷. Human security means safety from the constant threat of hunger disease, crime and repression. It means protection from sudden and hurtful disruptions in the pattern of our daily lives, whether in our homes, our jobs, our communities or our environment. Human security is relevant to individual for every society in developing to develop states.

United Development Organization explore that the new paradigm for development in global era. It is facing challenges of human security such as drug trafficking, transnational crime, international terrorism, nuclear proliferation, transmittable disease, natural disaster, ethnic conflicts etc. During globalization human development put individual security at centre for development. It address that presently, we need to another heavy transition in thinking and preferred security and safety from nuclear security to human security³⁸. Presently, transnational crime such as drug trafficking, human trafficking, human dignity, human right violations and terrorism is a major issues of human security and dignity. Therefore, human trafficking is a major human security threat in developing as well as developed states. It is second largest crime in south Asia. Human trafficking is a serious threat of human security in south Asia as well as India. India is source, transit and destination states in south Asia. Most of the Border States are vulnerable for human trafficking such as Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Manipur, Tripura and Nagaland.

Human Trafficking :

Human trafficking is an illegal and unlawful activity through coercive power for the purpose of commercial sexual exploitation, cheap labour and etc. Yet, it has been difficult to understand. The U.N. Report, notes broad definition of human trafficking. It says “Trafficking in persons” shall mean the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring by means of threat or use of force or other forms of power for the purpose of all forms of exploitation³⁹. According to Mcsherry and Kneebone, “human trafficking and human smuggling both are illegal activities for the purpose of exploitation and develop wealth and living standards”. They argued that human smuggling and trafficking both are same in practice⁴⁰. Human trafficking is a modern form of slavery it is a modern form of sex slavery and it recognizes that migrant workers are highly vulnerable to human rights violations in their movements across border for factory, farm, domestic or sex work⁴¹.

According to Shelley all forms of human trafficking globally, revealing the operations of the trafficking business and the nature of the traffickers themselves. He argued that human trafficking are growing in the twenty-first century as a result of economic and demographic inequalities in the world, the rise of conflicts and possibly global climate change⁴². Human trafficking for the purpose of commercial sexual exploitation, forced labour expressed two different categories such as organ trafficking and mutilate murders, which involves after the death of people or persons and removing the body parts and organs *i.e.* used for healing purposes. Child trafficking for the purpose of sexual tourism adoption and marriage are also examined. Human trafficking doctrinaires not only by type but also by current, *i.e.* by the flow of victims which are categorised in terms of source, transit and destination states. Most of the traffickers used common methods regarding various types of trafficking such as such as false job offers that lure potential victims and exorbitant fees charged for recruitment, visas, travel, housing, food, and the use of tools. These practices keep victims in an endless cycle of debt. Authors examine human trafficking scenarios in 24 nations such as Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, France, Germany, India, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Niger, Poland, Russia, South Africa, Syria, Thailand, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, and the United States. They discovered that each country has its own environmental, cultural and geopolitical factors that creates a unique set of anti-trafficking issues and obstacles⁴³.

Mainland Southeast Asia is one of the world’s key regions for the smuggling and trafficking of illegal goods. Armed conflict in the region has spurred an international trade in small arms, and organized nuclear smuggling rings are now believed to operate as well. Human trafficking is widespread, with children being especially vulnerable either for slave labour or sexual exploitation. The region is being flooded with contraband and counterfeit goods such as pirated movies, designer label clothes and currency, especially US dollars, whilst antiques, oil and medicinal drugs - counterfeit as well as authentic ones - are also being smuggled. While such activity has been drawing increased attention, the scope, nature and mechanisms of smuggling and trafficking across the region are far from understood. Even less is known about the various synergies that may exist between the different trafficking activities⁴⁴. Human trafficking is a serious human rights violation in South Asia. It is a major transit state of consensual migration. Consensual migration is a major form of human trafficking in south

Asia as well as world. It is contemporary forms of slavery it violates the notion of universal human rights as well as social work ethics. Due to some factors such as Social exchange, depth bondage and customs gave rise to South Asian women's vulnerability to trafficking⁴⁵.

Conclusion :

During 1990s India adopted Look East Policy. It was framed by the former Prime Minister Late Narasimha Rao, with the substantial manifestation of India's Foreign Policy and an orientation towards Southeast Asian Nations. The formulation of Look East Policy was mainly centred upon to make good relation with neighbours and to increase the development and growth of states (mainly north-eastern states). It was meant to connect India more firmly with South East Asia, East Asia and Asia Pacific regions. And building Bridge to them especially through Northeast Indian. In 1990's there were three broad objective of India's Look East Policy. First was to institutionalized linkage with ASEAN and its affiliates. Secondly, to strengthen bilateral relations with member state of ASEAN. And thirdly, Development and growth of Northeastern region through economic trade and security. Primarily India's Look East Policy has emphasized on economic ties with ASEAN countries. The second phase of this policy mainly characterized an expanded definition of East, extending from Australia to East Asia, with ASEAN countries at its core.

The second phase also mark a shift from trade to wider economic and security issues, including joint efforts to protect the sea lanes and co-ordinately counter terrorism activities. Security issues has also emerged as an important concern for developed and developing nations. Because Security is equivalently more important for development and growth of every state. And Securitization is a process of speech act. It is discursive process which an actor claims that a referent object is existentially threatened, right to take extraordinary counter measures, to deals with that threat convinces an audience that rule-breaking behaviour to counter the threat is justified. During the cold war state development was mainly focused on sovereignty and security. That time state security was seen as an important issue. And territorial integrity and sovereignty were the centre point of national securitization. At that time Securitization was mainly focused on state centric security against national threat. But after the cold war concept of security and securitization has shifted from traditional to non-traditional security issues such as transnational crimes. In 1997 ASEAN introduced securitization processes against transnational crimes. It brought transnational crime as a criminal matter in international security debates. The United Nations (UN) defines transnational crimes as offences whose inception, prevention and/or direct or indirect effects involves more than one country. In the present scenario transnational crime is a major security threat for national security and development. The UN has identified 18 different categories of transnational crime such as money laundering, terrorist activities, theft of art and cultural objects, theft of intellectual property, illegal trafficking in arms, aircraft hijacking, hijacking on land, insurance fraud, computer crime, environmental crime, trafficking in persons, trade in human body parts, illegal drug trafficking, bankruptcy, legal business, corruption and, and finally other offences committed by organized criminal groups. If ASEAN talks about securitization of transnational crime. So why the govt. have not recognized human trafficking as an important issue, while it is also transnational crime. Now if we talk about Look East

Policy it mainly addresses trade, development and security issues, but on the issue of human security it fails to address it properly. After the Look East Policy the movement of technology, goods, services and human resource became easy from Northeast to ASEAN countries.

In the movements of goods and services people there also started illegal activities such as trafficking, smuggling and so on. Because human trafficking is the third most lucrative illicit business in the world, and major source of organized crime revenue. According to Niumai, The Southeast Asia and South Asia are home to the largest numbers of internationally trafficked persons. The international territorial borders in the Northeast are largely open and unmanned, which allows human trade to spread there. The Northeast is generally perceived as an excluded region in India and the victims of human trafficking particularly women and children's. Human trafficking is a major security issue in Northeast India. Since the issues of security and safety has not been taken seriously into cognizance by the govt. so, the study analyses the linkage between look east policy and human security in Northeast region.

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