Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India which came into being in the year 1956 has already completed thirty years of its existence. Over the years the Corporation has not fully succeeded in the spread of life insurance coverage to all the countrymen equally. Specially people inhabiting in the backward regions like the North Eastern Region of India are yet to derive the full benefits expected of the LIC.

The North Eastern Region of India is comprised of seven states i.e., Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura and the Union Territory of Arunachal Pradesh with an area of 2.55 thousand square kilometres and population of about 299 las. The life insurance business of the Region is co-ordinated by two offices — one sonal office at Calcutta and the other Central Office at Bombay. There are only two divisional offices in the Region — one at Guwahati and the other at Silchar which functioned only from 1981. There are only 32 branch offices in the Region. This provides a backdrop as to the organisational set up of life insurance in the Region. There has been always scathing attack on LIC that it is highly centralised and its unitary structure has hampered its efficiency resulting in poor performance. This warrants a careful study of the Corporation and its impact in the North Eastern Region.

Among the several objectives of LIC providing security to the maximum number of people and mobilisation of people's savings are considered to be the important ones. It was my endeavour to study whether these important objectives were achieved in the North Eastern Region and if so to what extent. LIC's performance in the different aspects of the Region's economy were investigated and incorporated in the text papers.
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