A Journey through the Stilwell Road

Edited by
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The eight north eastern states that constitute the borderlands of India have been the victims of geography, history and politics. It is a landlocked region in South Asia like Nepal and Bhutan and non-traditional cultural and trading lines with the neighbouring countries of Southeast Asia. But the region is inter-connected with its natural allies were serenely coalesced due to the chequered history of the region full of internecine skirmishes and conflicts jeopardizing trade and people to people exchanges and shrinking their economic space. Repealing re-visioning and reconstructing strategic routes can restore the lost connections and open up multiple economic prospects for the entire region. Stilwell Road is one such route, which was built for military purpose during the World War II to connect India’s North-East and Myanmar and China. South-East, it became exploited over time. But the idea to reopen this lost trail has rejuvenated various enthusiastic groups, who have visions for a better future of this region through better connectivity.

The book is premised on the belief that North-East India’s economic prosperity can be realised through an open door policy. The prospect of reopening the lost trail that connects three nations together can give a boost to the process. But there are also issues connected with security sensitivity which are especially important in the present day context and many other dimensions that have been explored in the volume. Minly explained through a number of photographs captured by a team of three scholars, who made a month long journey through this lost trail, and had a first hand experience about the people, the land, the trek and the day-to-day life of three nations, India, China and Myanmar, which were once connected through this historical road.

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