

CALL FOR PAPERS



**National Conference
on
Autonomy and Development in North East India**

jointly organized by

**Centre for North East Studies and Policy Research
Jamia Millia Islamia
New Delhi - 110 025**

and

**Department of Political Science
Bodoland University
Kokrajhar, BTR, Assam- 783370**

Date: 27-28 January 2023

**Venue: Bodoland University, Kokrajhar, BTR
Assam- 783370**

CONCEPT NOTE

Autonomy has become an integral part of federal governance in India. There is also an emergent interest in the study of autonomy today, and hence it is important to understand its functioning. In India, such autonomy is granted, usually at the district level, in areas having significant tribal population.

Now, the district level autonomy in Northeast India is known by varying official names, such as, autonomous district council, territorial council, territorial administration or territorial region. This kind of autonomy under the Sixth Schedule was initially introduced in the hill districts of then undivided Assam in response to demands for separate states. This autonomy arrangement has so far acted as an institution of local governance to fulfill political aspirations and development needs of different tribal communities. In due course of time, more district level autonomous bodies have been constituted to cover more areas having significant tribal population with varying powers and functions.

Till date, the provision of the Sixth Schedule has been amended several times. In addition, there is a similar autonomy arrangement established through different state legislations. Thus, there are altogether twenty-two autonomous areas in different northeastern states in which ten of them are operating under the Sixth Schedule.

Such autonomy operates entirely under the concerned state governments where there is certain amount of demarcation of powers between the state governments and the autonomous bodies. Thus some departments of the state governments are delegated to the autonomous bodies. But, the state governments continue to control key departments such as General Administration, Police, Treasury, Election and Judiciary.

Autonomy is aimed at accelerating development works of the areas having significant tribal population. But, it is not clear how autonomy has been able to facilitate development of the areas having significant tribal population.

We found that the role of autonomy in tribal development has not received sufficient attention from the academics and public policy groups. Thus, the broad aim of seminar is to examine the roles and significance of autonomy in fulfilling political aspirations and development of the

tribes of Northeast India. With this in mind, the conference intends to focus on the following themes:

- working, challenges, and public perceptions of autonomy in Northeast India;
- development works undertaken by the autonomous district councils, territorial council, or territorial administration; and
- policy recommendations

Submission Guidelines

- The manuscript submitted must contain title, all author names, affiliations and the contact information of the corresponding author only.
- All the submissions should be Original.
- Only the shortlisted proposals/abstracts will be contacted to submit the final paper.
- The submission and presentation shall be in English only.
- The manuscript should be submitted in Microsoft Word format only.
- Kindly indicate under which sub-theme you wish to present.
- The final manuscript should normally be between 6000-8,000 words including references, notes and tables.
- Please strictly follow Economic and Political Weekly referencing style.

All the incoming abstracts will be evaluated by a Committee based on their content, quality, and appropriateness to the sub-theme and will be subjected to similarity check.

Note: With regard to joint/co-author paper/s, only one of the authors will be accommodated due to limited fund. However, co-authors willing to participate on their own expense are welcome.

Travel grant: A limited number of travel grants may be available to selected participants

Publication: Shortlisted papers will be considered for publications in the form of an edited volume

Important Dates:

Deadline for the submission of abstracts: **20 December, 2022**

Notification of shortlisted proposals: **22 December, 2022**

Deadline for the submission of full/working paper (6,000-8,000 words): **15 January, 2023**

Send your abstract to: kaisiikokho@gmail.com and schoudhury.oxon@gmail.com

For more information:

Centre for North East Studies and Policy Research
India-Arab Cultural building
Jamia Millia Islamia
New Delhi - 110 025
Email: cnespr@jmi.ac.in