



UGC Sponsored National Seminar on
**Development of Weaker Sections in North East India: Issues, Challenges and Way
Forward**

Organised by
Department of Sociology
Dhakuakhana College, Dhakuakhana

In Collaboration with
Society for Human Security Assam (SHSA)

17th & 18th June, 2016

Dhakuakhana College, Dhakuakhana
Lakhimpur, Assam-787055

Web: www.dhakuakhanacollege.org

Email: dkcsoc2016@gmail.com



INVITATION

Dear Sir/Madam,

It gives us immense pleasure to inform you that Department of Sociology, Dhakuakhana College, Dhakuakhana is going to organise a UGC sponsored national seminar on **‘Development of Weaker Sections in North East India: Issues, Challenges and Way Forward’** on 17th & 18th June, 2016. Since you and your institution has been actively involved in research and allied activities in the respective fields, your participation in the seminar will help in disseminating the information and enriching the knowledge in these fields. So, we invite teachers, students and researchers to present research papers in conformity with the themes of the seminar.

We, therefore, solicit your gracious presence and participation in the seminar to make it a fruitful one.

With sincere regards.

Dr. Jugananda Sut
Principal & Chairperson
Seminar Organising Committee

Dr. Kanchan Gogoi
Pankaj Bora
Joint Coordinator
Seminar Organising Committee

About the Seminar

Traditionally, Indian people were divided into four Caste/Varnas, where birth of men decided their social status. Therefore, majority people who are either lower category as per existing caste system or who enjoy lower social status are far away from being educated, having possessions, human dignity including low economic and political status. After years' long continuation of this process, it resulted some people as depressed classes or weaker sections i.e. women, scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, and backward communities. Therefore, after independence major population was landless, illiterate, ill-health and poor livelihood.

India has also experienced multiple overlaying of the populations dispersing in the South and South East Asia. The stepped up trans-border and internal circulation of people in search of better livelihood opportunities, especially in the post-independence period, has given rise to more complex ethnic formations in India, particularly in its Northeastern region which comprises eight states; namely, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura and Sikkim. It constitutes 7.97% of India's total area and 3.77% of its total population. The hilly terrains cover 72% of its total area. The population structure of Northeast India is comprised of various ethnic communities and primarily it is the tribal region of India. The rural system of the NER economy consists of 35 thousand villages inhabited by over 32 million people who constitute about 85% of the total population of the region.

In the past, the region has witnessed mobile populations of multiple and interspersed ethnic groups, competing for dominance and development in different locales. These groups are different in physical appearance, rituals, dress, population, tradition, political, socio-cultural and economic aspects. Most of the people are living in rural areas and socio-economic and politically backward. Heterogeneity of ethnic groups serves both a reservoir for socio-cultural richness as well as it pushes certain groups to the social margins which have less access to food, shelter and health. Hence, the political leaders who are engaged in interactions for production and governance compete for attaining power by mobilizing people's support on the basis of ethnic identities, on the one hand, and the people compete for their stake in governance to secure a bigger slice of development on the same basis of ethnic identity, on the other hand. Thus, one comes to witness the politics of underdevelopment and scarcity wherein people use their cultural resource, ethnic identity, as means to attain power and status. The result is perpetuation, fragmentation and conflicts of identities as well as

exclusion, deprivation, exploitation and marginalization of certain groups. These sections are lagging on different aspects i.e. (i) majority of the population are deprived, excluded and backward; (ii) exploiting their rights and demands; (iii) out of proper developmental policy; and (iv) alienated from mainland. This raises questions: what are the major issues, challenges and possible ways to uplift these sections of Northeast India? Keeping this in view, the Department of Sociology, Dhakuakhana College is going to organise a UGC sponsored national seminar on **‘Development of Weaker Sections in North East India: Issues, Challenges and Way Forward’** on 17th & 18th June, 2016.

Sub-Themes:

This seminar has the following potential sub-themes:

1. Development, Debate and Theoretical Perspectives for uplift of the Weaker sections in NE India
2. Major challenges towards development of the weaker sections in NE India.
3. Issues of Gender, Social Security among the people of these sections.
4. Socio-economic and Political issues.
5. Impact of Education, Globalisation and Communication on these sections
6. Issues on Health, Empowerment, Labour and Markets.
7. Development/Welfare programmes for ST, SC, Hill and Tea garden communities.
8. Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities and Human Rights.
9. Crime against the weaker sections.
10. Issues of inequalities, poverty and migration.
11. The concept of human development in NE India
12. Cultural tourism and its Prospects.
13. Role of NGOs/Civil societies for development of these sections
14. Any other themes related to the development of the weaker sections in NE India.

Important Dates:

Last Date for Abstract Submission: **10th June, 2016**
 Last Date for Full Paper Submission: **13th June, 2016**

Registration Fees:

Registration fee may be paid through a demand draft in favour of ‘Principal, Dhakuakhana College’ and payable at United Bank of India, Dhakuakhana Branch.

Participants	With Paper (in Rs.)	Without Paper (in Rs.)
Faculty	500/-	300/-
Research Scholar	400/-	300/-
Student	100/-	Free

Registration Fees may also be paid in cash at the time of spot registration.

*** Online Registration is also available at College Website (www.dhakuakhanacollege.org)*

Accommodation:

Accommodation for outstation participants can be arranged in guest houses/hotels on payment basis. The interested participants may approach the coordinator well in advance as per requirement.

Destination:

Dhakuakhana College is located 2 km west of Dhakuakhana Town at a beautiful landscape in the bank of river *Charikaria*. The place is well connected with Guwahati having regular Night Bus Services (Train services also available from Guwahati to Gugamukh) and with Dibrugarh, Sivasagar, Jorhat by regular Ferry Services via Bogibeel-Kulajan, Dishangmukh-Tekeliphuta, Nimatighat- Kamalabari(Majuli) respectively.

Publication:

Selected papers will be published as a book volume having ISBN and will be distributed to the participants on payment basis. Hence it is mandatory for all paper presenters to submit soft copy of the abstract and the full paper along with a hard copy. Abstract should be within 300 words including key words and full papers must not exceed 4,000 words.

Mode of Submission: Hard copies of Registration Form, Abstract and Full Paper should be sent to the mailing address and soft copies should be submitted to the E-mail Address: dkcsoc2016@gmail.com

Address for Communication

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Please see details at www.dhakuakhanacollege.org

REGISTRATION FORM

UGC sponsored National Seminar on
‘Development of Weaker Sections in North East India: Issues, Challenges and Way Forward’
(17th-18th June 2016)

Department of Sociology, Dhakuakhana College
Dhakuakhana-787055

Name:

Designation:

Gender : Male/Female (please tick)

Institution:

Address:

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Telephone:

E-mail:

Title of Paper submitted:

.....

Payment Mode: Cash / Demand Draft (please tick)

Accommodation required: Yes / No (please tick)

Signature of the Applicant

(Photocopy of the Registration Form may also be used for additional registrations)