



ज्ञान-विज्ञान विमुक्तये  
UGC

University Grants Commission

# National Seminar

On

## India's Foreign Policy: Strategic and Security Dynamics of the North Eastern States

8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> February, 2016

Organized by

Department of Political Science, Dhakuakhana College

in collaboration with

North East India Political Science Association (NEIPSA)

and assisted by IQAC, Dhakuakhana College

Dhakuakhana College

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## *Invitation*

Dear Sir/Madam,

It gives us immense pleasure to inform you that an UGC sponsored National Seminar on “India’s Foreign Policy: Strategic and Security Dynamics of the North Eastern States” has been organized by Department of Political Science, Dhakuakhana College at Dhakuakhana in collaboration with “North East India Political Science Association (NEIPSA)” on February 8 & 9, 2016.

We, on behalf of the Organizing Committee request your kind presence and active participation in all academic and other exercises to make the seminar a grand success.

With Regards,

Dr. Jugananda Sut

Principal & Chairman

Mr. Nabajyoti Borah

Secretary, NEIPSA

Mr. Dipak Kumar Sarma

Co-ordinator

Mr. Sewak Chandra Chutia


Joint Co-ordinator

Mr. Pankaj Borah

Assistant Co-ordinator

## *About the College and collaborating Organization*

**Dhakuakhana College** is currently celebrating its golden jubilee year (established in 1966) as a premier institution of Dhakuakhana, Lakhimpur, Assam imparting higher education in both Arts and Science stream. The college is affiliated to Dibrugarh University and envisages a pious vision for socio-cultural upliftment through academic excellence, community mobilization and empowerment of underprivileged sections and deepening democratic and national ideals. Situated in a sub-urban beautiful landscape on the bank of Charikoria, a tributary of River Subansiri and in a multicultural social setting the college meets the urge for knowledge of the students. The region is rich in cultural tradition and demographic milieu having great potentiality for eco tourism. The largest river island Majuli is adjacent to the western part of Dhakuakhana.



**The North East India Political Science Association (NEIPSA)** is premier academic organization in the field of Political Science devoted to advancement and the popularization of political science; scientific study of political problems and the public affairs, building a forum for debate and discussion through annual conferences. The V.VRao memorial annual lecture series is special attraction of NEIPSA conference. Besides, NEIPSA has taken effort in organizing and collaborating local level seminars, talk, workshops etc on important themes of socio-political issue. Established in 1990, the association has more than 550 members and large pool of well wishers which include some prominent political scientist of international reputation.

Participants can reach Dhakukhana by daily night super bus service from Guwahati or by ferry service from Sivasagar via Disangmukh-Tekeliphuta Ghat or via Nimati-Kamalabari Ghat through Majuli. They can also avail train journey from Guwahati to Gogamukh which is well connected with Dhakuakhana.

### *Theme of the Seminar*

Foreign policy is an expression of a country's perception of and projection to the world of its national interest. Foreign policy is also about how a nation acts and behaves as a member of international community. A nation's behaviour must be in accordance with international norms, traditions and laws. A country's security, prosperity and human development is linked with diplomatic ability and effective foreign policy. Therefore, constituting states and citizens of a country are stakeholders of foreign policy.

Have our leaders or security experts been able to coordinate national interests and the general will? Does the foreign policy makers understand the strategic security dynamics of the states of the Northeast and civil society apparatus there? These questions arise again when the Big Dam projects in various parts of Northeast continues to create uproar in civil society arena and media about its probable downstream impact. The Sino-India War of 1962 opened up new dimensions about the strategic location of North Eastern States. The Northeast India comprises of eight states, viz., Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Meghalaya, Sikkim and Assam. Till date Central Govt. has been indifferent regarding road connectivity and

infrastructure in these border areas. The North Eastern States are surrounded by the neighbouring countries of China, Myanmar, Bhutan, Bangladesh and Nepal. Ironically, these states are connected with the mainland India through a porous corridor causing problem of communication bottleneck.

On the other hand, Northeast has the potential of transforming the economy of India significantly if connected with the ASEAN countries, China, Bangladesh and Myanmar. Northeast is the key to India's Look East Policy. But, how far the strategists feel that the people of the North East should be involved in the conceptualization, formulation and implementation of the Look East Policy? How much the civil society in the Northeast and in the neighbouring countries as well as dimensions of people to people contact in external affairs is valued in foreign policy prerogative in India? Are the entrepreneurs ready to meet the challenges, offered by the huge possibilities that are likely to come as a result of opening up of the region through future surfaceconnection with the countries in the broad region mentioned already?

Is not it urgent to settle India's borders with China and Bangladesh? China is reluctant to recognize Arunachal Pradesh as integral part of India. Besides, India has disputes with the neighbouring countries over sharing of river water, cross border terrorism and illegal migration issue. Though not having dispute with Myanmar, yet the military Junta pose a challenge for the largest democracy of India. With Bhutan the border is settled but we may be affected by how Bhutan settles its eastern boundary with China. Border issues in Northeast India are moving higher up in Indian foreign policy portico.

The issue of trans-boundary rivers is now a critical one for India's foreign policy. Bangladesh is unhappy over India's inability to sign the Teesta water sharing agreement. We are concerned over China's building of dams over Brahmaputra River in Tibet. India-Nepal Mahakali treaty is in limbo. Moreover, there are issues involving trade, human trafficking, border trade, illegal trade, illegal migration, drugs and arms smuggling, border fencing etc are major issues of concern for India. India's sovereignty is tested by organized crimes, insurgent groups very active in the Northeast. India is trying to evolve a variety of mechanisms with neighbouring countries to deal with these issues.

In this context, the proposed two day National Seminar seeks to critically reflect on a variety of issues revolving around the broader theme of Indian foreign policy and strategic security dynamics of the North Eastern states. The seminar would provide an occasion to bring a diversity of views and themes ranging from background of Indian Foreign policy, recent new directions, geo-political location of the North Eastern states, border and trans-boundary river management for critical deliberation. The prime focus is on mapping the emerging challenges and strategies of India's foreign policy in the rapidly changing and globalizing world; with particular emphasis upon Northeast India.

### *The selected sub-themes of the Seminar*

1. Background of India's Foreign Policy
2. Making of India's Foreign Policy & the Role of the Indian States
3. Strategic importance of India's North Eastern States with the neighbouring countries: India-China, India-Bhutan, India-Bangladesh, India-Myanmar
4. Look East Policy: New potentialities and Challenges
5. Cross border terrorism and its impact upon the North Eastern States
6. New direction of India's Foreign Policy and the position of the North Eastern States
7. Trans-Boundary Rivers and India's Foreign Policy
8. People to people contact and cultural exchange between North Eastern States of India and neighbouring countries

This is just an illustrative and not a comprehensive list of themes. Papers are invited on any issues of India's foreign policy relevant to the seminar.

### *Call for paper*

Teaching faculties, researchers, students and other interested persons are invited to submit abstract of research paper within 300 words on or before 20<sup>th</sup> January, 2016. The abstract

should include a title of the research paper (heading in 14 font size with middle alignment) followed by the name of the author(s) and affiliation with email. The name of the presenting author should be underlined. The abstract may be sent through email (nspsc2015dkc@gmail.com) or by post. The text (preferably typed in Times New Roman font, size-12) should contain an introduction about the research area and issue, methodology applied, results and discussion. The acceptance of the abstracts will be conveyed by email and list of paper presenters will be hosted in the college website (www.dhakuakhanacollege.org). The participants are requested to submit their full research paper within 3000 words (typed in A4 size paper in Times New Roman, Font-12, double space in MS Word) on or before 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2016. APA citation style supported with in-text citation should be followed for referencing. Two hard copies and one soft copy (by email attachment/CD format) will be expected during the day of presentation. Abstract and full length papers can be sent to the convener by email to the following id:

dipakdadhara1@gmail.com

nspsc2015dkc@gmail.com

### *Important Dates*

- Abstract submission by : 20<sup>th</sup> January, 2016
- Full research paper submission : 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2016
- Date of seminar : 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> February, 2016

### *Registration fee*

Participation with paper	: Rs. 500.00
Participation without paper	: Rs. 400.00
Research Scholar (with or without paper)	:Rs. 300.00
Student participant	: Rs. 100.00

Research scholars and students should furnish adequate proof of identity. Participants can also avail online registration link at the homepage of the Dhakuakhana college website (www.dhakuakhanacollege.org). They can pay the fee in cash on the day of paper presentation.



# National Seminar

on

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### Registration Form

1. Name in full (Block Letter):.....
2. Gender : Male/Female (please √)
3. Designation :.....
4. Department :.....
5. Name of the Institution :.....
6. Correspondence Address:.....

E-mail ID : Phone /Mobile No :

7. Accommodation Required : Yes/No ( please √)
8. Participation : With Research paper/Without Research paper
9. Title of the Research Paper:  
.....
10. Registration Fee paid : Rs. .... (Rupees .....)only
11. Payment Mode : Cash

Place:

Date:

Signature

## *Publication*

All presented research papers will be reviewed by a panel of eminent scholars and original thought provoking papers will be published as a book with ISBN from reputed publishing house.

## *Accommodation*

Paid accommodation will be arranged for outstation participants on prior request. TA/DA for the participants cannot be provided. The seminar organizing committee expresses regret for that.

## *Address for Communication*

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Please see details at [www.dhakuakhanacollege.org](http://www.dhakuakhanacollege.org)