

Call for Papers
National Seminar
on
State of Democracy in North -East India
Gauhati University, Guwahati—781014 Assam
25-27th February 2010

The credibility of democracy as a political system depends on how it works and delivers. Any democratic government must be concerned about how its working is experienced by ordinary citizen. How substantive is Indian Democracy? The capacity of the state to meet its requirements of the people has remained low. The procedural norms of a rational political order are yet to find their roots in the soil. And more importantly the task of building such a rational political order has received a severe set back due to deinstitutionalising actions of the political leaders. The remedy however lies in strengthening the institutions. The growing inter-community conflict and violence in North- East India invite us to explore the working of democracy in Northeast India. The objective of this seminar is to assess the contribution of the state in deepening and extension of democracy in socio-economic field.

Panels related to the main theme will be grouped under as:

- Institutional legitimacy, interest representation and democratic practice.
- Democracy as an area of participation
- Quality of governance

The seminar is organized by the Political Science department, Gauhati University under the Special Assistance Programme (SAP) DRS-1, U.G.C. The tentative dates are 25-27th February 2010. We will select about 10-14 papers on any of the above issues and expect that the seminar will result in an edited volumes of articles.

Interested participants should send an abstract of not more than 1000 words to Prof. Sandhya Goswami (email: sandhya_goswami@yahoo.com) by December 15th, 2009. Please specify 'State of Democracy in North -East India' under Subject. Selected authors will be notified by 25th December 2009 and will be expected to submit a draft of their paper by 1st February 2010.