

Three-Day Multidisciplinary
International Seminar
on
**“NORTHEAST INDIA AND BEYOND:
PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE”**

14th, 15th, and 16th November, 2025

Hybrid Mode



Organized by
RAJIV GANDHI UNIVERSITY RESEARCH SCHOLARS' FORUM

In Collaboration with
Department of Mass Communication
Rajiv Gandhi University (A Central University)
Rono Hills, Doimukh, Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh-791112, India

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About North east India

Northeast India is increasingly being recognized as a vital connector in India's engagement with Southeast Asia, aligning with the broader vision of regional integration and transnational cooperation. In keeping with the objectives of the Look East and Act East Policies, the region is undergoing a dynamic transformation—politically, economically, and culturally. Its strategic location, sharing over 5,000 kilometers of international borders with Myanmar, China, Bhutan, and Bangladesh, combined with its rich mosaic of ethnicities, traditions, and ecosystems, makes it a critical frontier in India's Indo-Pacific outreach. Ongoing initiatives such as the India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway, Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project, and various border infrastructure developments are strengthening connectivity and trade across frontiers. Simultaneously, efforts to deepen people-to-people engagement, cultural exchange, and institutional partnerships are redefining the region's role beyond national boundaries. As the region continues to evolve, it stands not only as a space of historical and cultural richness but also as a gateway for India's strategic, economic, and diplomatic linkages with Southeast Asia. This seminar seeks to explore these unfolding trajectories by situating Northeast India within a larger regional and global context, reflecting on its past, engaging with its present, and envisioning its future.

About Arunachal Pradesh

Arunachal Pradesh, the largest state in Northeast India, is proud to host this international seminar aimed at exploring the region's past, present, and future. With its strategic location bordering Bhutan, China, and Myanmar, the state plays a vital role in India's Act East Policy and ongoing regional connectivity initiatives. Home to over 26 major tribes, Arunachal Pradesh is renowned for its vibrant cultural and linguistic diversity. As the state addresses contemporary issues of development, governance, and identity, it provides a compelling backdrop for multidisciplinary academic discourse. The state capital, Itanagar, offers places of interest such as Ita Fort, Ganga Lake, and the Itanagar Zoo. Nearby destinations like Ziro Valley, Pakke Kessang, Malinithan, Parshuram Kund in Tezu, Golden Pagodas in Namsai and the iconic Tawang Monastery and many more further reflect the region's natural beauty and cultural richness—making the seminar not only intellectually engaging but also an opportunity to explore Arunachal's unique heritage.



About the University

Rajiv Gandhi University (RGU), the host of this Three-Day Multidisciplinary International Seminar, is a Central University and the premier institution of higher learning in Arunachal Pradesh. Accredited with an 'A' grade by NAAC, RGU has secured the 13th rank among all Central Universities in the 2025 IIRF rankings, maintaining its position as the top Central University in Northeast India. The university has consistently organized academic events and seminars that foster critical dialogue on regional, national, and global issues. RGU remains committed to promoting research, interdisciplinary engagement, and meaningful discourse on the challenges and opportunities facing Northeast India.



About Department of Mass Communication

Since its inception in 2004, the department from its humble beginning has grown from strength to strength. It has expanded its academic horizon from one-year postgraduate diploma course by starting a Master's Degree program in Mass Communication and PhD program. Today the department is able to cater to a catchment area of not just the state of Arunachal Pradesh, but also neighbouring Assam, Nagaland, Manipur and from other states of the country. The department today operates its many courses with the proactive participation of a qualified and committed team that includes a balance of professionals from media studies, electronic media, print media, documentary film, radio and photography. The department has also procured its own production and Community Radio Station known as Rono Radio. It has built a formidable reputation for its approach to hands-on training of students. This is achieved by engaging them in the production of films, publication of newspaper editions, radio programmes as well as online publications and research projects. The emphasis is as much on a theoretical understanding of media concepts as on applied media functioning. Today, over 80% of working journalist in the state media are alumni of the department, both in electronic and print.



About Rajiv Gandhi University Research Scholars' Forum

The Rajiv Gandhi University Research Scholars' Forum (RGURSF) was established in 2012 with the aim of uniting research scholars from diverse disciplines to promote academic collaboration, representation, and welfare within the university. Guided by the motto "Explore Pristine Knowledge," the Forum plays an active role in fostering a vibrant academic environment through regular engagement in scholarly and organizational activities. RGURSF is committed to strengthening research culture, addressing scholars' concerns, and facilitating constructive dialogue across fields. Since its inception, the Forum has successfully organized one International Seminar, five National Seminars, and two National Workshops, significantly contributing to interdisciplinary dialogue and academic growth at Rajiv Gandhi University. Its sustained efforts continue to enrich the intellectual life of the campus and support the holistic development of the scholar community.

Concept Note

Northeast India, a region of immense cultural, ecological, and geopolitical significance, occupies a unique position within the Indian subcontinent. Comprising eight states and home to hundreds of ethnic groups, languages, and traditional knowledge systems, the region remains rich in diversity yet historically situated at the margins of national policy discourse and academic inquiry. Its strategic location—bordering China, Bhutan, Myanmar, and Bangladesh—has brought increasing attention to its role in shaping India's outreach toward South and Southeast Asia, particularly under frameworks like the Act East Policy. In light of growing regional and global interdependencies, the need for inclusive, interdisciplinary, and future-oriented discussions around the region's transformation is more pressing than ever.

This Three-Day Multidisciplinary International Seminar on "Northeast India and Beyond: Past, Present and Future" aims to provide a platform for critical engagement on the region's historical legacies, present challenges, and potential futures. The seminar will bring together scholars, researchers, practitioners, policy makers, and students from diverse backgrounds to examine the region's evolving socio-political, economic, cultural, and environmental realities. By fostering conversations that cross disciplinary, regional, and national boundaries, the seminar seeks to deepen understanding and open new pathways for academic research, policy innovation, and collaborative action. In doing so, it hopes to reframe Northeast India not merely as a peripheral region, but as a dynamic space of knowledge, resilience, and regional integration.

Rationale

Northeast India, despite its cultural vibrancy and strategic importance, has often been sidelined in mainstream academic and policy discussions. As regional and global dynamics shift, there is an urgent need to engage with the region through a multidisciplinary lens that considers its internal diversities and external linkages. This seminar seeks to bridge academic disciplines and regional perspectives to critically examine Northeast India's historical experiences, present-day realities, and future directions, both within the national framework and in relation to South and Southeast Asia.

Objectives of the seminar

- ✿ To explore the historical and cultural evolution of Northeast India and its connections with broader Asian histories.
- ✿ To examine contemporary challenges related to governance, identity, development, and autonomy in the region.
- ✿ To analyse Northeast India's emerging role in India's Act East Policy and its international linkages.
- ✿ To discuss regional environmental concerns, indigenous knowledge, and sustainable development practices.
- ✿ To envision inclusive and innovative pathways for the region's future amid technological, social, and geopolitical shifts.
- ✿ To promote interdisciplinary dialogue among scholars, policy makers, civil society actors, and students.
- ✿ To encourage collaborative research, policy recommendations, and academic exchange focused on Northeast India.

Theme:

"Northeast India and Beyond: Past, Present, and Future"

Sub-Themes:

- ✿ Histories, Literature, Identities, and Cultural Continuities in Northeast India
- ✿ Governance, Autonomy, and Political Dynamics
- ✿ Migration, Diaspora, and Transnational Linkages
- ✿ Education, Youth, and Psychological Well-being
- ✿ Media, Technology, and Changing Communication Landscapes
- ✿ Ecology, Climate Change, and Environmental Governance
- ✿ Agriculture, Food Security, and Indigenous Knowledge Systems
- ✿ Health, Livelihoods, and Social Justice
- ✿ Trade, Entrepreneurship, and Economic Transformation
- ✿ Future Pathways: Connectivity, Innovation, and Integration
- ✿ Indigenous Rights, Customary Laws, and Legal Pluralism
- ✿ Gender, Sexuality, and Inclusive Development
- ✿ Role of Civil Society and Grassroots Movements
- ✿ Heritage Preservation and Cultural Diplomacy
- ✿ Borderlands, Security, and Geopolitical Shifts
- ✿ Digital Transformation, AI, and Local Knowledge
- ✿ Religion, Belief Systems, and Social Change
- ✿ Art, Music, and Performing Traditions of Northeast India
- ✿ Role of Financial Institutions and Start-ups in Regional Development
- ✿ Implementation and Impact of NEP 2020 in the Northeast
- ✿ Sustainable Tourism and Cultural Exchange

- ✿ Northeast India in India's Act East Policy and Regional Diplomacy
- ✿ Cultural and Economic Linkages between Northeast India and Southeast Asia
- ✿ Comparative Indigenous Knowledge Systems in South and Southeast Asia
- ✿ Northeast India in International Academic and Policy Discourses

Note: Papers relevant to these themes and the broader seminar topic are encouraged from all disciplines.

Call for Papers

The Editorial Committee cordially invites original and unpublished research papers for the International Seminar on “Northeast India and Beyond: Past, Present, and Future.” The seminar aims to provide a platform for interdisciplinary dialogue and knowledge exchange on issues concerning Northeast India in its historical, contemporary, and future dimensions. Selected papers will be published in an edited volume with ISBN by a reputed national publisher. All paper presenters and registered participants will be awarded certificates of participation. Additionally, one best paper presenter from each session shall be given a certificate of appreciation.

Submission Guidelines

Prospective authors are requested to adhere to the following guidelines to maintain consistency and quality:

1. Abstract

- Word limit: 200–250 words
- Must include: objectives, research problem, methodology, and key findings
- Include 4–5 keywords at the end

2. Paper Format

- Word limit: 2500–3000 words (excluding references and appendices)
- File format: Microsoft Word (.doc/.docx)
- Font & Size:
 - o Title: Bold, Times New Roman, Size 15
 - o Sub-headings: Bold, Times New Roman, Size 14
 - o Sub-sub-headings: Bold, Times New Roman, Size 13
 - o Body Text: Times New Roman, Size 12, Single line spacing
 - o For Hindi/Devanagari script: Mangal 14 or Kokila 18 (Unicode)

3. Page Setup

- Margins: Left – 1.5", Right – 1", Top – 1", Bottom – 1"
- Pages must be numbered at the bottom right.

4. Author Details

- Immediately below the title: include Author's Name, Designation, Institutional Affiliation, Full Address, Email ID, and Contact Number

5. References

- Must follow APA 7th Edition citation style
- Non-compliant papers may be returned for revision
- Endnotes (if needed) should appear after the references
- Footnotes are not permitted

6. Additional Guidelines

- Appendices, if any, should follow the main text and come before the references
- Equations (if any) must be on separate lines, left-aligned, and numbered consecutively
- Tables should be created using MS Word table format, with Font Size 11

7. Submission Email

- Send the abstract and full paper as separate Microsoft Word (.doc/.docx) files to: **seminar.rgursf2025@gmail.com**
- The corresponding author will receive confirmation upon receipt and acceptance status of the abstract/paper.

Important Dates

- ✿ Deadline for Abstract Submission: **20th September 2025**
- ✿ Notification of Acceptance: **25th September 2025**
- ✿ Deadline for Full Paper Submission: **20th October 2025**
- ✿ Last Date of Registration: **30th September 2025**
- ✿ Mode of Presentation:

- o The paper presentation will be held in both offline and online modes. Participants from Arunachal Pradesh and other Indian states may choose either mode. However, foreign delegates are required to present online.

Registration

Category	Amount (INR)	Amount (USD Approx.)
Students	₹300	—
Research Scholars	₹500	—
Faculty/Academicians	₹1000	—
Foreign Delegates	₹2000	\$25

Note:

- Registration fees include Seminar Kit, Participation Certificate, and Hospitality during the seminar.
- Fees are non-refundable.
- Each participant may submit only one single-authored and one co-authored paper.
- No TA shall be provided to paper presenters

Scan or Click the link below to get the Registration form:



[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

Note: In case of multiple authors all need to register separately and pay the registration fee to get the paper presentation certificate

Accommodation

Paid arrangements for the accommodation of the paper presenters will be made in the Guest House of the university & nearby institutes. On prior information, it can be arranged in economy & luxury hotels.

Registration Fees

Through Bank Transfer

Account Name : RGU Research Scholars Forum
Bank Name : Bank of Baroda
Branch : Arunachal University, Doimukh
Account Number : 83420100002088
IFSC Code : BARB0VJARUN

Zero

How to reach Rajiv Gandhi University?

By Road

- From Guwahati to Itanagar
- Regular State Government Bus (APSTS Volvo)
- Regular buses operated by Private Travel Agencies (AIRBUS, NETWORK etc.)
- Private Taxi Services are available

By Rail:

Nearest Railway Station is located at Gumto which is just 10 minutes' drive and Naharlagun & Harmuti which are 30 minutes away from RGU

By Air:

Donyi-Polo Airport, Hollongi, Itanagar is the nearest airport. Hollongi is around 51 km from Doimukh, which can be covered at an approximate time of 1 hour 30 minutes. From Hollongi, one has to travel by road to RGU.

Note:

Since Arunachal Pradesh is a protected area under the Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulation, 1873, participants from outside the state are requested to obtain a valid Inner Line Permit (ILP). It can be procured online or offline and must be produced at check gates when requested by the authorities.

For Information & Assistance

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