

**International Seminar
On
Governance, Development and the State in Contemporary Times**

March 10 – 12, 2016

Department of Sociology
Tezpur University, Tezpur, Assam

Last Date for Submission of Abstract (1000-1200 words): October 30, 2015

Communication of the Decision on the Abstracts: November 15, 2015

Last Date for Submission of Full Paper (selected): January 30, 2016.

Concept Note

Our ideas about the world, knowledge and values are shaped by the on-going development discourse. It has by now turned out to be a well-tested axiom that we live in a ‘developmental’ society. The present discourse on the state seems to be over-determined by the closely related ideas of governance and development. In a globalising world these provide opportunities, at the same time bring challenges in various forms. The present world is witnessing rapid economic and political transformations that offer challenges and possibilities to different national as well as local level governments. Multilateral and global financial institutions have been emphasising on issues related to governance and development, and this has had effects on welfare outcomes and social change in a large number of countries. It is instructive to map the shifting nature of the role of the state in governance and development after the Second World War. A deliberation on the political contexts in which development policy is formulated and implemented by the developmental state at the national level and development agencies at international level will give us an understanding of the present governance mechanisms.

In this context it is pertinent to deliberate on these issues which concern everybody irrespective of the location. The objective of the present seminar is to bring together diverse and comparative perspectives related to the theme. We invite papers that examine concepts related to the broader thematic of the seminar. This seminar will also include a special session to understand the issues of governance and development in Northeast India.

Papers may include, but are not restricted to the following issues:

- The State, Politics and Development
- Gender and Governance
- Governance related to various social categories such as Caste, Class and Ethnicity
- Civil Society and Governance
- Development and Democracy
- The Good Governance Agenda
- Science, Technology and Governance
- Citizenship and the State
- Governance, Development and the State in North East India

Conveners

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Places to visit near Tezpur University: Kaziranga National Park, Nameri National Park (Assam), Bomdila, Bhalukpong, Tipi (Arunachal Pradesh) is one hour drive away from the venue.