

**PROCEEDINGS VOLUME OF
XVTH ANNUAL NEIPSA CONFERENCE, 2006**

South Asia
PROBLEMS & PROSPECTS

Working of Local Government
IN NORTH EAST INDIA

EDITOR: A.B. DEB

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SOUTH ASIA : PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS; WORKING OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN NORTH EAST INDIA. The proceeding volume of XVth Annual NEIPSA Conference is a collection of Seminar Papers presented by the Political Scientists of the region in the conference held at G.C. College, Silchar, Dist. Cachar on January, 21 & 22, 2006. The volume is edited by Dr. A.B. Deb, the General Secretary of NEIPSA and published by NEIPSA.

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Editor's Note

North East India Political Science Association (NEIPSA), founded in 1991, is an organization of academic interest. The aim of the Association is to focus on all social, cultural, economic and political issues of the North Eastern States in all of their space-time dimensions. The Association is primarily active in setting up and supporting study and research in Political Science in particular and Social Science in general. Quite naturally one of its functions is to organize conferences and seminars in order to involve the academic and the social activists to address the region's burning issues.

As a part of pursuing these programmes, the Association invited members and scholars mainly from North Eastern States in a two-day Annual Conference at G.C. College, Silchar on January 21 & 22, 2006, to deliberate on (i) South Asia : Problems and Prospects; (ii) Working of Local Government in North East India. It is now a joy to look back to the Conference which is generated much enthusiasm and insight, even though not all the invitees could come, as a result of which some aspects of the related issues being unaddressed, remained to be explored in times to come. With that prospect in mind, the Association in this volume brings together some of the papers presented in the conference, hoping and trusting that the on going thoughts on the subjects will find fresh impetus and workable direction in academic life as well as in actual life.

As many as 26 papers were presented in the course of the XVth Annual Conference and the appointed panel of referees suggested to publish some of the papers. 3 papers are selected for publication as research notes and 6 papers are selected for publication as abstract. To encourage the young talents especially the students, arrangements were made in the conference for "Young Political Scientists Meet" and in which as many as 14 papers were presented in the meet by the students and it is noted uncomfortably that those papers have not seen the light of publication in this volume.

Though some papers could not be accommodated in this volume, I believe these papers will find space in some form or the other somewhere in the bigger field of publication in course of time.

I take this opportunity to put on record my sincere thanks to all the scholars whose papers are published here and who enriched the deliberations by their active participation in the XVth Annual Conference of NEIPSA. I also express my deep sense of gratitude to all the members of the panel of referees for their pains taking efforts. Members of the Editorial Board rendered valuable suggestions and assistance in every moment of my need. I am extremely grateful to each one of them.

Further, I offer my sincere thanks to the President, Professor A.C. Talukdar and the Vice Presidents especially Professor A.K. Baruah and other members of the Executive Committee, NEIPSA (2006-07), who have been all along making generous efforts to make this volume purposeful. I extend my thanks to the students, teachers and administrative authorities of G.C. College, Silchar and all the members of the Local Organising Committee for their support and encouragement in organising the XVth Annual Conference of NEIPSA. I am also grateful to the optimistic people of Barak Valley for the active help they extended to us in organising the conference.

The XVth Annual Conference of NEIPSA was partly sponsored by Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), New Delhi; Indian Council of Social Science Research-North Eastern Regional Centre (ICSSR-NERC), Shillong. Sri Sontosh Mohan Dev, Professor D.P. Goala, Sri Misbaul Islam Laskar, M/s. Binni Construction and many others contributed to our conference fund but for which this volume could not have been published. To all these organisations and personalities I offer my sincere thanks.

I am also thankful to *Nicety Graphics* of Silchar for its sincere efforts in printing this volume within short time. Acceptance of this volume by the readers will be the greatest reward for this venture of NEIPSA.

February 03, 2007

A.B. Deb
Editor