

Themes and Areas for the Workshop

The Workshop will cover the following topics:

- Understanding Human Rights in the Context of Northeast India: Issues and Challenges
- Institution and Legal Framework of Human Rights in India
- National Security versus Civil Liberties: The Question of AFSPA and Human Rights Movements.
- Refugees and Non – Nationals: A Special Reference to North – East



About Dibrugarh

Dibrugarh is a city and is the headquarter of the Dibrugarh district in the state of Assam. It is also known as the Tea City of India. Dibrugarh is located 439 km (273 miles) east of Guwahati, the capital of Assam. Dibrugarh is well connected to the rest of India by rail, road and air transport and thus serves as a gateway to eastern Assam and also parts of Arunachal Pradesh. Mega projects like Brahmaputra Cracker and Polymer Limited, India's longest rail cum road bridge Bogibeel Bridge and other upcoming modern urban infrastructure are transforming Dibrugarh into a vibrant city. Of late, the city of Dibrugarh is emerging as a popular destination for business and leisure trips for tourists from India and abroad and the 9th edition of the North East Business Summit was held in the city with the theme 'Building bridges with South East Asia', where representatives from South East Asian nations and business leaders of the country pledged to contribute substantially for the socio-economic growth of the North East.



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NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON Human Rights A North- East Perspective

12 - 17 March 2016

Centre for Juridical Studies
Dibrugarh University

In collaboration with

Department of Political Science
Dibrugarh University

Sponsored by : National Human Rights Commission, New Delhi

Background

Human Rights are those rights which a person enjoys by virtue of being human and without which individuals cannot pursue a dignified life. Notwithstanding the relativist reservation there seems to be emerging consensus about the need to protect and promote human rights of peoples irrespective of their cultural, social, economic and political locations. Despite this emerging consensus the concept of human rights remains shrouded in controversy as they refer to a complex and contested social practice that organize relations between individuals, society and the state around a distinctive set of substantive values.

The controversies related with the concept of human rights make it imperative to contextualize any understanding of human rights violations. The complexity associated with the issue of human rights can be clearly seen in Northeast India. Northeast India has been under the scanner for its poor record of human rights. There is emerging concern for preventing and ending such violations of human rights in Northeast India. However, there are some issues which complicate the discourse on human rights in Northeast India. The complexity with regard to the issue of human rights in Northeast India demands a deeper understanding of the problems associated with the region in order to promote and protect human rights in Northeast India.

It is in this context that the proposed Workshop intends to generate in-depth discussions and debate among scholars, activists, students, legal and security personnel and civil society. It is hoped that the ideas generated in the Workshop will contribute towards a better understanding of the issue of human rights in general and its violations in Northeast India and will offer insights with regard to the appropriate means to protect and promote human rights in the region.

Objectives

The Workshop will specifically try to put focus on transitional justice including following sub – goals:-

- To promote the development of a culture of human rights;
- To promote a common understanding, based on international instruments, of basic principles and methodologies for human rights education;
- To ensure a focus on human rights education at the national, regional and international levels;
- To provide a common collective framework for action by all relevant actors;
- To enhance partnership and cooperation at all levels;
- To evaluate and support existing human rights education programmes, to highlight successful practices, and to provide an incentive to continue and expand them and to develop new ones.
- To promote the interdependence, interrelatedness, indivisibility and universality of human rights;

- To foster respect for and appreciation of differences, and opposition to discrimination on the basis of race, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national, ethnic or social origin, physical or mental condition, sexual orientation and other bases.

Participation

The Workshop is expected to draw professionals from a wide range of disciplines. **Around 40 – 50 participants on first-cum-first basis** with keen knowledge and interest on human rights are expected to participate in the Workshop. The **participation fees is Rs. 700/-**. This fee includes six days refreshment and lunch facilities during the session only. The expenses relating to the lodging have to be managed by the participants themselves. The University will provide accommodation facilities on payment of fees if given 15 days prior intimation. Please note that the last date to apply for the National Workshop is **February 20, 2016**.

Programme Structure

The Workshop will be of one week duration and will be divided into one Inaugural Session followed by Eight Technical Sessions and one Valedictory Session. The Inaugural Session will be graced by a Key Note Address to be delivered by an eminent personality working on the area of human rights. Technical Sessions will include presentations by different resource persons coming from various regions, and academic engagements between resource persons and participants in forms chosen by the respective resource persons with regard to various themes associated with the issue of Human Rights in Northeast India. In the Valedictory Sessions and overall stock of the Workshop with regard to the outcome of the exercise will be taken with a note of acknowledgement in the form of Vote of thanks.

Tentative Programme Structure:

- 12-March-2016 (First Day) : Registration : 2 pm am onwards
- Inaugural Session : 3.30 pm to 5.00 pm

13-March-2016 (Second Day)

Theme : Understanding Human Rights in the Context of Northeast India: Issues and Challenges

Technical Session 1: Concept of Human Rights in India.

Technical Session 2: Human Rights Protection in India- Police and Court.

14-March-2016 (Third Day)

Theme : Institution and Legal Framework of Human Rights in India

Technical Session 1: Human Rights in Northeast India.

Technical Session 2: Efficacy of Human Rights Institutions in India.

15-March-2016 (Fourth Day)

Theme : National Security versus Civil Liberties: The Question of AFSPA and Human Rights Movement in India

Technical Session 1. Terrorism and Question of National Security

Technical Session 2: AFSPA, State Machinery vs. Human Rights Violations

16-March-2016 (Fifth Day)

Theme : Refugees and Illegal Migrants: A Special Reference to North - East India

Technical Session 1: Human Rights of Refugees: Issues and Concerns

Technical Session 2: Illegal Migration and Human Rights Violation

17-March-2016 (Sixth Day)

Valedictory Session

Place of Interest:

- **Dibru – Saikhowa National Park** : Dibru-Saikhowa National Park is located at about 42 km north of Dibrugarh town of Assam covering an area of 350 km².
- **Jeypore Rainforest** : Situated 60 km southeast of Dibrugarh town in eastern Assam, Jeypore Rainforest is India's easternmost rainforest, one of very few wildlife reserves on earth housing seven wildcat species including clouded leopard, golden cat and marbled cat.
- **Shrikshetra Dhaam, The Lord Jagannath Temple** : A replica of the Lord Jagannath Temple, Puri, Odisha, this temple is the 2nd after the original Jagannath Temple, Puri in India. The height of this temple is 85 feet.



About Us

DIBRUGARH UNIVERSITY

The University is situated at Rajabheta, five kilometres to the south of the premier town of Dibrugarh in the northeast India. The Dibrugarh University Campus is well connected by roads, rails, air and waterways. The National Highway No.37 passes through the University Campus. The territorial jurisdiction of Dibrugarh University covers seven districts of Upper Assam, viz, Dibrugarh, Tinsukia, Sivasagar, Jorhat, Golaghat, Dhemaji and Lakhimpur. The University Campus extends over an area of more than 500 acres.

Centre for Juridical Studies

Considering the importance and demand for 5 – Year Integrated Law Education, the Dibrugarh University established the Centre for Juridical Studies (CJS) in its campus in the year 2006 to impart 5 Year Integrated Legal Education with conferment of B.A.LL.B. Degree. From the year 2009 B.A.LL.B. (Honours) Course has been introduced in the Centre. The Centre started LL.M. Programme in the year 2012. The alumni of the Centre are well established and serving the society with a commitment in the field of legal profession like advocates, judges, academicians, social workers, etc. The mission of the CJS includes promotion of legal education so as to assimilate, create and disseminate knowledge. Besides training and developing human resources, the centre also inculcates the values of good citizenship, national unity and integrity, respect for national values and symbols.

Department of Political Science

The Department of Political Science, Dibrugarh University, established in the month of February 1967, has been one of the oldest Departments of the University. The Department has produced alumni who are well placed in different spheres of life. The Department engages with teaching and research of a high standard and quality in the field of Political Science with an interdisciplinary approach whenever necessary. It strives to create thinking human beings concerned with problems of our social realities with a commitment to understand, analyse and find solutions to them. Besides developing critical insight and create original, innovative and creative ideas, the department also works to create future citizens with a moral commitment to certain values, such as, Liberty, Equality and Justice. Its long-term mission is to make the Department a Centre of Excellence.