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# DEMOCRACY AND DEVELOPMENT IN NORTHEAST INDIA

## B.P.S.E.-145

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*By: Kshyama Sagar Meher*



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# QUESTION PAPER

June – 2023

(Solved)

## DEMOCRACY AND DEVELOPMENT IN NORTHEAST INDIA

**B.P.S.E.-145**

*Time: 3 Hours ]*

*[ Maximum Marks: 100*

*Note: This paper has two sections. Answer five questions selecting at least two from each section.*

### SECTION-I

**Q. 1. Discuss the socio-cultural and ethnic profile of North-East India.**

**Ans. Ref.:** See Chapter-2, Page No. 11, 'Introduction' and 'Ethnic Groups in Northeast India'.

**Q. 2. Explain the features of the 6th Schedule of the Constitution of India.**

**Ans. Ref.:** See Chapter-5, Page No. 39, 'The VI Schedule' and Page No. 40, Q. No. 3.

**Q. 3. Explain the powers and functions of District and Regional Councils in North-East India.**

**Ans. Ref.:** See Chapter-6, Page No. 47, 'Powers of District and Regional Councils' and Page No. 53, Q. No. 8.

**Q. 4. Write short notes on the following:**

**(a) Interline permit**

**Ans. Ref.:** See Chapter-4, Page No. 41, Q. No. 4 and Page No. 39, 'Inner Line Permit'.

**(b) Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA)**

**Ans. Ref.:** See Chapter-7, Page No. 60, Q. No. 4 and Page No. 59, 'The NRC and CAA, 2019'.

### SECTION-II

**Q. 5. Explain the relationship between students' movement and party politics in North-East region.**

**Ans. Ref.:** See Chapter-11, Page No. 92, 'The Student Movement and Party Politics' and Page No. 94, Q. No. 4.

**Q. 6. Discuss the politics of recognition in the context of North-East region.**

**Ans. Ref.:** See Chapter-9, Page No. 74, 'Politics of Recognition in North East India'.

**Q. 7. Examine the factors contributing to human rights violation in North-East region.**

**Ans. Ref.:** See Chapter-14, Page No. 118, Q. No. 2.

**Q. 8. Write short notes on the following:**

**(a) United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA)**

**Ans. Ref.:** See Chapter-8, Page No. 67, Q. No. 2.

**(b) Naga Mothers' Association (NMA)**

**Ans. Ref.:** See Chapter-12, Page No. 105, Q. No. 5.

■ ■

# QUESTION PAPER

December – 2022

(Solved)

## DEMOCRACY AND DEVELOPMENT IN NORTHEAST INDIA

**B.P.S.E.-145**

*Time: 3 Hours ]*

*[ Maximum Marks: 100*

*Note: This paper has two sections. Answer five questions selecting at least two from each section.*

### SECTION-I

**Q. 1. Analyse the challenges before the Autonomous District Councils.**

**Ans. Ref.:** See Chapter-6, Page No. 47, 'Autonomous District Councils (ADC)', Page No. 50, Q. No. 5 and Page No. 49, 'Challenges before the Autonomous District Council',

**Q. 2. Explain the features of the 6th Schedule of the Indian Constitution.**

**Ans. Ref.:** See Chapter-5, Page No. 40, Q. No. 3.

**Q. 3. Elaborate upon the problems related to refugees in the North East region.**

**Ans. Ref.:** See Chapter-7, Page No. 57, 'Migration, Refugees, Citizenship: Meaning', Page No. 58, 'Refugees' and Chapter-3, Page No. 26, Q. No. 6.

**Q. 4. Write short notes on the following:**

**(a) Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act (AFSPA)**

**Ans. Ref.:** See Chapter-14, Page No. 116, 'Movement in North-East India' and Page No. 117, 'Manipur'.

**(b) United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA)**

**Ans. Ref.:** See Chapter-8, Page No. 67, Q. No. 2.

### SECTION-II

**Q. 5. Explain the political manifestation of politics of recognition in North-East India.**

**Ans. Ref.:** See Chapter-9, Page No. 73, 'Introduction' and Page No. 76, Q. No. 4.

**Q. 6. Discuss the environmental issues in the North-East region.**

**Ans. Ref.:** See Chapter-13, Page No. 111, Q. No. 1, Q. No. 2, Page No. 112. Q. No. 3 and Page No. 113. Q. No. 5.

**Q. 7. Examine the characteristics of political parties and party system in the North-East region.**

**Ans. Ref.:** See Chapter-10, Page No. 84, 'Characteristics of Party System in North-East India' and 'Parties and Party Systems in the States'.

**Q. 8. Write short notes on the following:**

**(a) The Assam Vision Document, 2025**

**Ans. Ref.:** See Chapter-16, Page No. 134, 'The Assam Vision Document, 2025'.

**(b) Mizo National Front (MNF)**

**Ans. Ref.:** See Chapter-8, Page No. 71, Q. No. 4.



# **Sample Preview of The Chapter**

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# DEMOCRACY AND DEVELOPMENT IN NORTHEAST INDIA

## BLOCK-I: INTRODUCTION



### Making of the Region

#### INTRODUCTION

The Northeast India has eight states. They are Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Meghalaya and Sikkim. These states share international borders with countries such as China, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Bhutan and Nepal. Seven states, called “seven sisters” – Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Meghalaya, are linked with the rest of India through Siliguri, known as “chicken neck”. The region has its own history. Starting from the Treaty of Yandabo in 1826 between the British and the Burmese, the region has evolved over the years. Assam became a separate province under the control of a commission in 1874. After Bengal’s partition, in 1905 Assam was annexed with East Bengal. Assam became a province again in 1912 after Bengal’s partition was annulled. In 1919, Assam came under the Governor rule according to the Government of India Act, 1919 and remained so until 1935. The Northeast India is a diverse region in terms of language, levels of economic development and educational attainment. The Government India Act 1935 categorised some areas as “excluded” and some as “partially excluded”. After Independence, District Autonomous Councils were created, but the shape of the region formed during the British rule largely continued until the 1960s with the formation of Nagaland state and reorganisation of Assam in the 1970s. The linguistic reorganisation of states in the 1950s also did not impact Assam. In this chapter, we will study how the Northeast India emerged as a region.

The reorganisation of Assam in the 1970s and establishment of three administrative institutions – North-Eastern Council (NEC), Common High Court and Common Governor – made the region unique. North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) Act and the North-Eastern Council Act – which were passed in

1971 – made the region as a significant administrative concept. The North-East Council aimed to become the “regional planning body” for the development of the states. In September 2001, the Ministry of Development of the North Eastern Region (DoNER) was formed. The NEC was brought under the DoNER. The North Eastern Council (Amendment), Act, 2002 brought Sikkim as one of its member.

#### CHAPTER AT A GLANCE

##### EMERGENCE OF THE NORTHEAST AS A REGION

Nagaland was the first state to emerge from Assam in 1963. Meghalaya was created in 1972. Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram emerged in 1987. Manipur and Tripura were princely states during the British rule. Arunachal Pradesh existed as an administrative unit called the North-East Frontier Agency (NEFA). Sikkim was a country before joining India in 1975.

##### Assam

The emergence of Assam can be trace to 1826 when the Treaty of Yandabo was signed between the British and the Burmese. The Burmese were expanding into Ahom territories and the British found it difficult to face the Burmese. On the invitation of the Ahom king, the British intervened and defeated the Burmese. After that, different areas were annexed by the British rulers. Upper Assam (under Purandhar Singha) was annexed in 1832; Matak country was annexed in 1842; Khasi states were annexed after Anglo-Khasi war (1829-33) and Garo Hills was annexed in 1873. Assam became a separate province in 1874 after the shift of colonial headquarters from Cherrapunji to Shillong. Assam included hill areas and plain areas – Brahmaputra and Barak Vallies. This shape of Assam continued until new states were created.

### Manipur and Tripura

During the colonial period, Manipur and Mizoram were native states. After their accession to Indian Union, they became category C states according to Part C States (Laws) Act of 1950. Category C states are governed through Governors or Lt. Governors. Manipur and Tripura became Union Territories in 1956 after amendment of Part C States (Laws) Act as Union Territories (Laws) Act of 1956. The Union Territories of Manipur and Tripura were made states in 1972. Manipur shares a border with Assam in the west, Nagaland in the north, southwest with Mizoram and Myanmar in the south and east. Tripura shares a border with Mizoram and Assam in the Northeast and Bangladesh in the north, south and west.

### Meghalaya, Nagaland and Mizoram

Meghalaya was created out of the three hill districts of Assam – the Khasi hills, the Jaintia hills and the Garo hills. These hills, captured by the British after the Anglo-Khasi war, were included in Assam when Assam was made a separate province in 1874. Shillong was the capital of Assam at that time.

After a demand for a separate state out of the hill districts in the 1960s, the Pataskar Commission (1965-66) under the chairmanship of H.V. Pataskar looked into the matter and recommended the formation of a State of Meghalaya within the state of Assam. The Assam Reorganisation (Meghalaya) for Act, 1969 led to the formation of a new state of “Meghalaya” within Assam. It was elevated to statehood in 1972. The Mizo hill district was made a Union Territory along with Arunachal Pradesh in 1972. In 1987, the Union Territory of Mizoram was made a state along with Arunachal Pradesh. Different Naga-inhabited areas came under the control of the British administration over seven decades. Parts of Naga hills were annexed in 1835 and in 1866. Lotha-inhabited area was annexed in 1875, Ao in 1899, Sena in 1904, Konyak in 1910. Nagaland became a state in 1963.

### Arunachal Pradesh

The origin of Arunachal Pradesh can be traced to the process of formation of administrative boundaries that started in 1914, when the British administration created North-East Frontier Tract (NEFT). In 1954, the North-East Frontier Tract (NEFT) was renamed as the North-East Frontier Agency (NEFA). NEFA was made into a Union Territory on January 20, 1972. The Union Territory of Arunachal Pradesh was made on February 20, 1987.

### Sikkim

Sikkim was a country before it joined the Indian Union in 1975. Sikkim then enjoyed the status of a

protectorate of India according to the Indo-Sikkim Treaty, 1950, signed between the Government of India and the monarch of Sikkim. In a political unrest in 1973, opposition parties and leaders launched an agitation demanding political reforms, including abdication by the monarch. The monarch held a referendum on the question of the abolition of the monarchy. More than 97 per cent of people voted for the abolition of the monarchy and that led to merger with India. Sikkim is connected with other Northeastern states through the districts of Cooch Bihar, Jalpaiguri and Siliguri (Darjeeling) West Bengal. In 2002, Sikkim was made a member of the North Eastern Council (NEC).

## CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

### Q. 1. What was the significance of the North East Council (NEC) and DoNER?

**Ans.** The North Eastern Council is the nodal agency for the economic and social development of the Northeastern states including: Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura. The Council was constituted in 1971 by an Act of Parliament. The constitution of the Council has marked the beginning of a new chapter of concerted and planned endeavour for the rapid development of the region. Over the years, NEC has been instrumental in setting in motion a new economic endeavour aimed at removing the basic handicaps that stood in the way of normal development of the region and has ushered in an era of new hope in this backward area full of great potentialities. The Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) is responsible for the matters relating to the planning, execution and monitoring of development schemes and projects in the Northeastern region. Its vision is to accelerate the pace of socio-economic development of the region so that it may enjoy growth parity with the rest of the country.

### Q. 2. Briefly state the formation of Northeast India.

**Ans.** The Northeast India has eight states – Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Meghalaya and Sikkim. The region has its own history. The emergence of the region can be traced to the Treaty of Yandabo in 1826 between the British and the Burmese. Assam was a separate province under the control of a commission in 1874. In 1905, Assam was annexed with East Bengal after Bengal's partition. Assam became a province again in 1912 after Bengal's partition was annulled. In 1919, Assam came under the Governor rule according to the Government of India Act 1919 and remained so until 1935.

Nagaland was the first state to emerge from Assam in 1963. Different Naga-inhabited areas came under the control of the British administration over seven decades. Parts of Naga hills were annexed in 1835 and in 1866. Lotha-inhabited area was annexed in 1875, Ao in 1899, Sena in 1904, Konyak in 1910. Nagaland became a state in 1963.

Meghalaya included three hill districts – the Khasi hills, the Jaintia hills and the Garo hills. These hills, captured by the British after the Anglo-Khasi war, were included in Assam when Assam was made a separate province in 1874. After a demand for a separate state in the 1960s, the Pataskar Commission (1965-66) recommended the formation of a State of Meghalaya within the state of Assam. The Assam Reorganisation (Meghalaya) for Act, 1969 led to the formation of a new state of “Meghalaya” within Assam. It was elevated to statehood in 1972.

The Mizo hill district, which was made a Union Territory along with Arunachal Pradesh in 1972, was made a state along with Arunachal Pradesh in 1987. The origin of Arunachal Pradesh can be traced to the process of formation of administrative boundaries that started in 1914, when the British administration created North-East Frontier Tract (NEFT). In 1954, the North-East Frontier Tract (NEFT) was renamed as the North-East Frontier Agency (NEFA). NEFA was made into a Union Territory on January 20, 1972. The Union Territory of Arunachal Pradesh was made on February 20, 1987. Sikkim was a country before it joined the Indian Union in 1975.

Sikkim then enjoyed the status of a protectorate of India according to the Indo-Sikkim Treaty, 1950, signed between the Government of India and the monarch of Sikkim. In a political unrest in 1973, opposition parties and leaders launched an agitation demanding political reforms, including abdication by the monarch. The monarch held a referendum on the question of the abolition of the monarchy. More than 97 per cent of people voted for the abolition of the monarchy and that led to merger with India.

**Q. 3. Which states in Northeast India had been Union Territories?**

**Ans.** After Indian Independence from British Rule in 1947, the Northeastern region of British India consisted of Assam and the princely states of Manipur and Tripura. Subsequently, Nagaland in 1963, Meghalaya in 1972, Arunachal Pradesh in 1975 (capital changed to Itanagar) (formed on 20 February, 1987) and Mizoram in 1987 were formed out of the large territory of Assam. Manipur and Tripura remained Union Territories of India from 1956 until 1972, when they attained fully-fledged statehood. Sikkim was integrated as the eighth North Eastern Council state in 2002.

During the colonial period, Manipur and Mizoram were native states. After their accession to Indian Union, they became category C states according to Part C States (Laws) Act of 1950. Category C states are governed through Governors or Lt. Governors. Manipur and Tripura became Union Territories in 1956 after amendment of Part C States (Laws) Act as Union Territories (Laws) Act of 1956. The Mizo hill district was made a Union Territory along with Arunachal Pradesh in 1972. In 1987, the Union Territory of Mizoram was made a state along with Arunachal Pradesh.

**Q. 4. Discuss the relationship between Sikkim with Northeast India as a region.**

**Ans.** Sikkim was a country before it joined the Indian Union in 1975. After a political unrest in 1973, the monarch held a referendum on the question of the abolition of the monarchy. More than 97 per cent of people voted for the abolition of the monarchy and that led to merger with India. Sikkim is now connected with other Northeastern states through the districts of Cooch Bihar, Jalpaiguri and Siliguri (Darjeeling) West Bengal. Sikkim was made a member of the North Eastern Council (NEC) in 2002.

### **MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS**

**Q. 1. The Northeast states are linked with the rest of India through.**

- (a) Kohima, known as “chicken neck”
- (b) Siliguri, known as “chicken neck”
- (c) Darjeeling, known as “chicken neck”
- (d) None of these

**Ans.** (b) Siliguri, known as “chicken neck”.

**Q. 2. The Treaty of Yandabo in 1826 was signed between:**

- (a) The British and the Nagas
- (b) The British and the Manipuris
- (c) The British and the Burmese
- (d) None of these

**Ans.** (c) The British and the Burmese.

**Q. 3. Which of the following hill districts included when Meghalaya was created out of the three hill districts of Assam?**

- (a) The Khasi hills
- (b) The Jaintia hills
- (c) The Garo hills
- (d) All of these

**Ans.** (d) All of these.

**Q. 4. North-East Frontier Tract (NEFT) was renamed as:**

- (a) The North-East Development Agency
- (b) The North-East Frontline Agency
- (c) The North-East Frontier Agency
- (d) None of these

**Ans.** (c) The North-East Frontier Agency.

**Q. 5. The Northeast India has:**

- (a) Eight states (b) Seven states  
(c) Six states (d) Five states

**Ans. (a) Eight States.**

**Q. 6. Which was the first state created out of Assam?**

- (a) Manipur (b) Mizoram  
(c) Nagaland (d) Meghalaya

**Ans. (c) Nagaland.**

**Q. 7. Sikkim was a:**

- (a) Under Bangladesh before joining India in 1975  
(b) Country before joining India in 1975  
(c) Princely state before joining India in 1975  
(d) None of these

**Ans. (b) Country before joining India in 1975.**

**Q. 8. During the colonial period, Manipur and Mizoram were:**

- (a) Native States (b) Under Nepal  
(c) Under Mynama (d) None of these

**Ans. (a) Native States.**

**Q. 9. Category C states are governed through:**

- (a) Governors or Lt. Governors  
(b) Collectors  
(c) Chief Ministers  
(d) None of these

**Ans. (a) Governors or Lt. Governors.**

**Q. 10. Which commission recommended the formation of a State of Meghalaya?**

- (a) Pataskar Commission  
(b) Patnail Commission  
(c) Burma Commission  
(d) None of these

**Ans. (a) Pataskar Commission.**

**Q. 11. Mizoram implies:**

- (a) Land of the Himalayas  
(b) Land of Indian people  
(c) Land of the hill people  
(d) None of these

**Ans. (c) Land of the hill people.**

**Q. 12. Mizoram was previously part of which state until 1972?**

- (a) Assam (b) Meghalaya  
(c) Nagaland (d) None of these

**Ans. (a) Assam.**

**Q. 13. The former princely state of Tripura was ruled by**

- (a) Manikya dynasty (b) Kakatiya dynasty  
(c) Gupta dynasty (d) None of these

**Ans. (a) Manikya dynasty.**

**Q. 14. Whose travel accounts reveal that Pusyavarman of the Varman Dynasty ruled Kamrup?**

- (a) Ibn Battuta (b) Marco Polo  
(c) Megasthenes (d) Huien Tsang

**Ans. (d) Huien Tsang.**

**Q. 15. Naga originated from:**

- (a) The Sanskrit word 'Nagam'  
(b) The Burmese word 'Naka'  
(c) The Bengali word 'Nagaru'  
(d) None of these

**Ans. (b) the Burmese word 'Naka'**

**Q. 16. The Ahoms ruled Assam for:**

- (a) Nearly four hundred years  
(b) Nearly five hundred years  
(c) Nearly six hundred years  
(d) None of these

**Ans. (d) None of these**

**Q. 17. The British annexed:**

- (a) Cachar in 1832  
(b) Jaintia Hills in 1835  
(c) Both (a) and (b)  
(d) None of these

**Ans. (c) Both (a) and (b)**

**Q. 18. Sylhet was merged with East Bengal:**

- (a) During partition of India  
(b) In 1985  
(c) In 1989  
(d) None of these

**Ans. (a) During partition of India**

**Q. 19. The Palak lake is the biggest in:**

- (a) Mizoram (b) Nagaland  
(c) Manipur (d) None of these

**Ans. (a) Mizoram.**

**Q. 20. Who replaced the Ahoms in Assam in 1826?**

- (a) The Nagas (b) The British  
(c) The Kukis (d) None of these

**Ans. (b) The British.**

### **OTHER IMPORTANT QUESTIONS**

**Q. 1. Write a note on the evolution of Arunachal Pradesh.**

**Ans.** Arunachal became full-fledged state on February 20, 1987. Till 1972, it was known as the North- East Frontier Agency (NEFA). It gained the Union Territory status on January 20, 1972 and renamed as Arunachal Pradesh. On August 15, 1975 an elected Legislative Assembly was constituted and the first council of Ministers assumed office. The first general election to the Assembly was held in February 1978.