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POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF DIMASA KACHARIS: FROM INSURGENCY PERSPECTIVE

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ABSTRACT

The Northeastern region of India consists of the states of Assam, Manipur, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Tripura, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh. Except Sikkim, Northeastern States in combination share 98 percent of its borders with four countries, Bangladesh, Myanmar, China and Bhutan. Its connection with the rest of the country is only 2(two) percent. Out of the total borders of 15000 km of India with her neighbours, 4600 km lies around Northeast India, which turns out to be 31 percent of the total. With India opening up its economy post 1991, then after India has taken initiatives to forge closer trade and economic ties with her immediate neighbours. Despite having a huge amount of natural resources, the region remains backward due to a variety of reasons. Like lack of adequate infrastructure, very low volume of cross border trade, high transportation costs of goods, often strike/bandh and disturbances caused by insurgent/militant groups. At present insurgency is a common phenomenon to the North Eastern part of India in general and particularly in Assam. The Assam has been affected badly by insurgency involving number of insurgent groups. Insurgency problem of Assam is a threat to social stability and stands as a barrier to all round development. Insurgency creates so many socio-economic, political problems to the society, which pull back the process of economic development of this region. The present paper is an attempt to understand political and economic development of Dimasa Kacharis from insurgency perspective.

KEY WORDS: economy, insurgency, identity, autonomy, movement, peace and settlement.