

## **KOKRAJHAR DISTRICT OF ASSAM; A STUDY OF SOCIOLOGICAL GOVERNANCE**

**Swmaoshar Brahma**

Asst. Prof, Gossaigaon B.Ed College, Assam, India

**Udaysingho Basumatary**

M.A in Political Science

### **ABSTRACT**

Governance has become an important topic in recent years. Governance studies the issues related to the social, economic, politics and over all activity that are related to the citizens. This topic is the subject of study and mainly addressed by political scientists, the contemporary sociologists. The main theme of this paper is to study sociological dynamics of the process of governance. The word governance has very broad meaning in the developmental perspective. The system of governance is hierarchically organized at different levels. The objective of this paper is to analyze the complex processes associated with governance in the context of local level. This paper attempts to study the idea of the state, the government and the role of local people towards governance. Data was collected through observation, people's opinion and survey across a number of communities based in rural areas in the Kokrajhar district of Assam. The sociology of governance help us to monitor, examines and to analyze the plans and policies adopted by the government and how these policies impact our daily life. The Sociology of Governance provides fruitful information to the government about the new way governance to develop the society and to have good governance model. Kokrajhar district of Assam is one of the underdeveloped districts in India, therefore it is important to take up certain measures which can develop both the society and economy as well. The Paper also studies the day to day interrelationship of the local people with the representative. It is well recognized that while all the plans and the policies of governance are framed by the government but their implementation at the local grassroots level is monitor by a multiplicity of factors.

**KEY WORDS;** Sociology, Governance, Kokrajhar, Development, Society

### **STATEMENT OF PROBLEM**

The present study seeks to understand the way how governance has been taking place in the Kokrajhar district of Assam and the response from the society. The topic of Governance is a very controversial issue in the Kokrajhar district, as it has been highlighted so many times about the status of governance or the level of development among the people. The study seeks to understand whether the principle of Good Governance has followed or not and to understand the problem face by the people in the society. It's important to know that central, state frames all rules, policies of the government along with this Kokrajhar district is mainly administered by the local council

government, so there are so much difference factors to understand in the implementation of these rules and policies.

## REVIEW OF LITERATURE

The Present study is sought to undergo reviewing some available literature, which however might not solely relevant for the proposed area of research. However, it may provide the valuable grounds to understand the study topic Sociology Governance of the Kokrajhar District.

Subhash Kashyap in his book “State of The Nation; Democracy, Governance and Parliament” discuss about the true meaning of good governance and the relation between the Democracy and Governance. The book also discuss about the importance of good governance in democratic country along with the governance in the local administration.

Francis Fukuyama in the book “State Building; Governance and World order in the Twenty First Century” discus about the concept of state building. In This book there is detail discussion on weak or failed states, where no government is in control. From, his book we can know the importance of Good governance in the society and how to create healthy states.

A.P.J Abdul Kalam through his book “Governance for Growth in India” giving us knowledge about development of India in every socio, economic, technological, political field. According to him the development and good governance must starts from the local level in order to have fully fledged development of a country.

“Problem and Prospects of Bodoland” A.C Banerjee and S.S Roy though the book mainly realted with Bodoland movement and problem face by the People of the Particular region that’s how movement started meanwhile book also study about the negligence of the center and state government in development of the district. The books discuss about the need for good governance in the local level and lack of effective governance in the Bodo dominated Kokrajhar district.

## OBJECTIVES

- To differentiate the role of Central, State and local government in basis of governance.
- To understand the status of development and responses from the society regarding governance in the region.

## RESEARCH METHODOLOGY AND DATA COLLECTION

The propose research work is both quantitative and qualitative in nature. The study took various methodologies to collect the data from various sources. The methodology is adopted according to the need and objective of the study. The present study is using both the primary and secondary method of data collection. The data collected from various books along with observation and Telephonic conversation with friends from border areas between India and Bhutan. The topic is studied through secondary sources like internet, magazines, journals, books, articles, newspapers and so on.

## FINDINGS

The important of studying the topic of “GOVERNANCE” has been increasing in the 21<sup>st</sup> century due to its meaning changes from “Governance” to “Good Governance”. From, the beginning of 21<sup>st</sup> century the developing countries has been taking action to reduce corruption, increase transparency and accountability, and to implement the meaning of Good Governance. The topic of Governance is mainly related with the Political Science but with the passage of time the study and the important of Governance has been linked to various disciplinary subjects. The lack of a reliable compass to describe where a country is at a given current situation and where it could be moving towards in the absence or acceptance of proposed reforms can result in disastrous missteps.

Kokrajhar District is one of the Administrative District of Assam located in the lower part of Assam with bordering West Bengal in the West and Bhutan in the North. Kokrajhar District has been known for the capital of Bodoland Territorial Area District but according to new peace accord signed between Government of India and All Bodo Students Union, Four National Democratic Front of Bodoland group and United Bodo People’s Organization, its name changed to Bodoland Territorial Region. Among the four district of Bodoland Territorial Region, namely Kokrajhar, Chirang, Baksa, Udalguri; Kokrajhar District is the Headquarter of the Bodoland Territorial Region. Bodoland Territorial Council is located in the Kokrajhar district, which is the autonomous district council administered the four district included in the Bodoland Territorial Region.

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Study shows that there are many factors which determine the sociology of governance in the Kokrajhar district of Assam. The local government played a vital role in governing the society compares to the Union and State level as sometime problems that people face in the local level are undermine by the Central and State government which effects economic, political and social development of the particular region.

Study shows that Kokrajhar District of Assam has been lacking behind in the developmental perspective compares to other district of Assam due to proper governance system. Study shows that Governance and Society both are very much interrelated with each other. In order to develop particular region first the people of this region and society must develop. Society leads the particular area to develop in to the highest level.

Study shows Decentralization of power has been there as local government is enjoying enough power to make new plans and policies for the development of the society.

Study shows that the relationship between government representative and the society has been improved from the last decade as in the social programs such as marriage ceremony, inauguration of new schemes, village activities more and more people are participating and both are helping with each other. The meaning of Sociology of governance has been improved a lot in the Kokrajhar district as people of this region become more aware about government plans and benefits that we can achieve from this policies.

Study shows that people of the region are not so much aware about the governance system. They don't have proper knowledge about the the need of Good governance in the society. Good Governance is important to the particular society because it helps people to live harmonious life. From, the study it reflects that Kokrajhar District of Assam need special attention in developmental field. There is a need of Good Educational Institution and industries which can help people to develop economically.

Study shows that Power need to be distributed at different level in order uplift the country in every field. When power is not decentralized it makes governance system delay and problem in making developmental plans. Through decentralization local people can make their own rules for the developmental perspectives.

From the study we can get to know that the the role of State, Central and Local council government is very important in building develop civilized society. The relation between states, the society and the community play an important role to analyze the true meaning of Governance and sociology of governance.

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