

**BUILDING
SUSTAINABILITY IN
INDIA'S NORTH-EAST :**
*CHALLENGES AND
OPPORTUNITIES*



EDITORS
DR. SABYASACHI MAHANTA
DR. RIMJIM BORAH

Building Sustainability in India's North-East: Challenges and Opportunities

Editors : Dr. Sabyasachi Mahanta
Dr. Rimjim Borah

Published by
Gargaon College, Simaluguri
Sivasagar, Assam, PIN: 785686

First Published: February, 2025

Copyright © Editors

Cover Design : Satyajit Nath

ISBN: 978-81-945305-3-4

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted, in any form or by any means, without permission. Any person who does any unauthorized act in relation to this publication may be liable to criminal prosecution and civil claims for damages.

Disclaimer: The views expressed in the book are of the authors and not necessarily of the publisher, editors, associates, and printer. Authors themselves are responsible for any kind of plagiarism found in their chapters and any related issues found with their chapters.

Printed at:

Bhabani Offset & Imaging Systems Pvt. Ltd.
7 Lachit Lane, Rajgarh Road, Guwahati-781007

Chapter : 7

An Assessment of the Impact of Climate Change in Traditional Agricultural Practice: A Case Study in Rural Area of Kamrup District, Assam

Dr. Jyotishman Taye

Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology
Gauhati University, Guwahati

Bhaskarjyoti Boro

Assistant Professor (Guest), Department of Anthropology
Jawaharlal Nehru College, Boko

Abstract

Global climate change is a big challenge for earthling. This global issue turned the attention of anthropologists and social scientists to participate in ethnographic research to understand the challenges that people are facing. Present article is a brief analysis of the traditional agricultural practice of the rural farmer of the Kamrup district of Assam where the authors tried to identify the various challenges that occurred in their traditional agricultural activities. The findings of the article are based on an in-depth interview carried out among the rural farmers and elderly persons of villages to find out the local perception of climate and environmental variation. The major challenges like pest attacks, drought, unseasonal rainfall, flood, and increased temperature are the result of the climatic variation and it leads to less productivity of crops and impacts on the various socio-economic aspects. Less agricultural production creates gender issues, causing class division, household conflict, unemployment, rural-urban migration, and many

more problems. The article is an attempt to assess the traditional agricultural system and experiences of rural farmers in the climatic variation in the different stages of agricultural production.

Keywords: Climate Change, Agriculture, Traditional, Impact, Farmer

Introduction

Global climate change has become the most significant challenge in the livelihood of people around the world. The general conception of climate change at a regional level is the experience of adaptation of the native people. If we critically observe the things for understanding local climate change, it is the encountering of regional effects and larger socioeconomic and political matters related to climate and environmental change adaptation. Climate change surrogates such as soil depletion, drought, flood, and frost, which are part of the folk experience in all parts of the world, and consider how to examine the actual adaptive behaviour that takes place under environmental stress (Torry, 1983). Today, anthropologists often study big issues in small places, as well as carry out multisite studies across multiple physical settings and structural locations in hierarchical social systems (Baer & Singer, 2018). The global dimension of climate change is indisputable, but it is also necessary to show in what ways climate change is always local in its implications and has to be understood as such: ecologically, socially, politically, and culturally (Eriksen, 2021:12).

Climate change largely impacts culture, health, subsistence patterns, and all the important aspects of human life. Especially it is a big challenge for rural farmer who depend on nature. Therefore, Sustained interaction with farmers is essential for gaining insight into how they understand and respond to climate information (Roncoli, 2006:93). For