

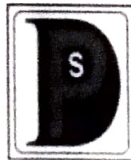
12

2023

Rural Development in Asia-Pacific Region (Vol. II)

Chapters in book
Border trade and rural
development :- A tail of two hooking
villages in Mizoram.

Dr. Jayanta Choudhury
Dr. Narayan Sahoo
Dr. Rongsentemjen Ao



D.P.S. PUBLISHING HOUSE

NEW DELHI - 110002

Rural Development in Asia-Pacific Region

(Vol. II)

© Author

First Published: 2023

ISBN : 978-93-91870-94-2

[All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted, in any form or by any means, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without prior written permission of the publisher]

Published by

D.P.S. PUBLISHING HOUSE

4598/12B, Gola Cottage,

Ansari Road, Darya Ganj, New Delhi- 110002

Ph. No.: 011-43586184 **Mob. No.:** 09811734184

Website: www.dpspublishinghouse.com

Printed at:

Delhi

Laser Typeset by:

70. The Impact of Rural Development and Mgnrega: Perspectives from Tea Garden Areas of Jalpaiguri District, West Bengal, India 902
Puja Das & Subhadip Barman
71. Nexus between Delivery of Basic Services and Wellbeing 913
Nicodim Basumatary & Bhagirathi Panda
72. Is Solar Power the Future Alternative for Irrigating Small Tea Plantations? Observations from the World's Largest Tea-Producing Region 924
Unmilan Kalita, Dhritiman Kakati & Madhumita Das
73. A Study on Infrastructure Development in Rural Areas of Karbi Anglong, Assam 936
Mrs. Mousumi Gogoi & Dr. Utpal Deka
74. "RUDSETI" Model for Rural Employment: A Case Study of RUDSETI and its Role in Rural Youth Employment 949
Karuna Devi Mishra
75. Optimization and Development of ICT in Rural Areas of Sundarbans 956
amad Hussien & Dr. Abhishek Das
76. Infrastructure and Rural Development Activities with Saemaul Undong Spirit: The Case Study in Patheingyi Township, the Dry Zone Region, Myanmar 968
Dr. Moe Swe Yee & Soe Myint

SECTION 8 - BORDER ISSUES AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

77. Cooperation between Russia and China in the Border Areas on the Rural Development of Asia-Pacific Region 983
Olga Zalesskaya
78. Rural Out-Migration and its Impact on Agriculture: A Study in Assam 991
Utpaljit Deori & Dr Rangalal Mohapatra
79. The Politics of Justice within Borders: A Cosmopolitan Perspective 1004
Dr. Udayprakash Sharma
80. Border Trade and Rural Development: A Tale of Two Bordering Villages in Mizoram 1023
Lily Sangpui & Easwaran Kanagaraj
81. Trends and Patterns of Influx of Migrants in the North-Eastern States 1038
Ms. Hardeep Kour & Mr. Vipul Yadav
82. Act East Starts with Bangladesh: Where Northeast India Identifying Economic, Connectivity, and Trade Potential with Bangladesh 1051
Ashok Brahma

Border Trade and Rural Development: A Tale of Two Bordering Villages in Mizoram

Lily Sangpui & Easwaran Kanagaraj

Introduction

The Look East Policy (LEP) rechristened as the Act East Policy (AEP) was formulated on the backdrop of looking towards the east, with the drive to integrate with the economies and in strengthening relations with the Southeast Asian (SEA) countries in the varied fields of security, trade and energy (Thomas, 2000; Haokip, 2015). As a part of India's external policy under AEP, bilateral trade agreement with Myanmar, considered as a gateway to SEA, was signed in 1994. Bilateral trade was seen as a rapprochement with Myanmar to mark India's new engagement in a pragmatic manner rather than banking on idealist manoeuvre that had continually ill-placed India in the past (Routray, 2011). It is in the domestic consideration of the AEP, to help transform the geographical constrained of Northeast region (NER) by taking advantage of its geo-strategic location, that generated much hype and attention.

The opening of borders for trade, where the troubled frontiers of NER aggravated it to be more receptive towards security, has assumed a new narrative in the light of the AEP. The connotation of border trade as a linkage to development changes the way how development narrative is seen for the NER. This ostensibly posits border trade not just as a strategic tool to build relations but also as a tool for development. As a strategic tool border trade helps in forging relations across countries especially with neighbouring countries within the objective for greater economic ties. Another aspect is that it helps draw the line of control and recognition of border line demarcation. At a local level, border trade is viewed as part of a larger border development plan, one that has the potential to usher in the much needed development in border regions. As part of border area development plan border trade provides alternative means of livelihood to border residents, generate employment opportunities, and inject infrastructures that are critical to boost the local economy. From these perspectives, border trade acts not just as a strategic tool on its own, but also as a catalysing agent for regional development.