

About Nagaland

Nagaland state lies in India's northeastern hill region, bordered by Myanmar to the east, and Assam, Manipur, towards west and south and Arunachal Pradesh in the north. Nagaland is a hilly mountainous state with a rich variety of forest and natural resource cover due to its unique geo-ecological and climatic regime. With a population of 2.3 mn people, Nagas are generally an agrarian society solely dependent on the climatically sensitive resources such as agriculture, forest and natural resources. They display a rich cultural and ecological repository of knowledge in their daily lives.

About Nagaland University

Nagaland University, a Central University established in 1994 is spread across three campuses in three districts. The University Headquarter is located in Lumami, situated in Zunheboto District of Nagaland state. It is about 20 kms from Mokokchung Town. The campus offers basic amenities with Shopping Complex, Health Centre, Post Office, Bank with ATM etc.

How to Reach

Lumami is well connected via road, One can reach Mokokchung via Mariani (Assam) nearest railway station), Jorhat & Dimapur via airport. Direct bus service is available from Guwahati to Mokokchung.

To see the NU location, see <https://maps.app.goo.gl/btNhzDHj3LNM4oN8>

About Sociology Department

The Department of Sociology was established in the year 1997 and over the years conducted numerous programmes and events as part of their academic extension activities. The Department has both Postgraduate and Ph.D. program. The Department also has a Tribal Research Centre to carry out various inter disciplinary research projects on tribal issues in the region.

About Geography Department

The Department of Geography at Nagaland University, established in 1997 at the Lumami campus, is a leading center for geographical studies and research in Northeast India. Under the School of Sciences, it offers Master's (M.A./M.Sc.) and Ph.D. programs that integrate classical geographical concepts with modern geospatial & geo informatics technologies.



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Vice-Chancellor

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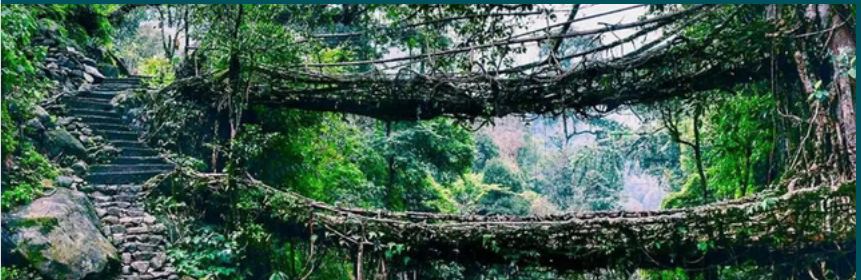
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Important Dates:

Abstract Submission - 10th September 2026
Acceptance of Abstracts - 15th September 2026
Submission of Papers - 15th October 2026



Two-Day
INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR
on
Eco-Tourism, Development and Livelihood in
Northeast India

19th- 20th November 2026
Venue: Nagaland University, Lumami



Organized by
Department of Sociology
Nagaland University
&
Department of Geography
Nagaland University

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Nagaland University

Concept Note

Northeast India stands at a critical juncture where the promises of eco tourism as a pathway to sustainable development converge with deep-seated contradictions of power, identity, environment, and equity. As the region records dramatic tourism growth the imperative to critically examine eco tourism from social science perspectives has never been more urgent. This seminar emerges from the recognition that eco tourism development in the region cannot be understood merely through economic metrics or biodiversity statistics, but must be analyzed through the complex interplay of power structures, cultural transformations, spatial inequalities, institutional arrangements, and geopolitical dynamics that shape how communities experience, negotiate, and reimagine tourism-led development. The seminar therefore foregrounds community, livelihood diversity, ecological limits, and equitable local value creation as essential principles for evaluating eco-tourism initiatives, ensuring that tourism strengthens rather than displaces existing socio-cultural and productive systems.

Located in one of the world's mega biodiversity zone with rich cultural landscape, the Indian ecotourism market has identified Northeast India, particularly, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, and Nagaland as 'untapped ecotourism destinations' representing enormous market potential. The Government of India's National Strategy for Sustainable Tourism (2022), the redesigned Swadesh Darshan 2.0 program, and the ASEAN-India Joint Leaders' Statement on Sustainable Tourism (October 2025) provide policy frameworks that position the Northeast as central to India's Act East Policy and cross-border connectivity vision.

However, these top-down developmental paradigms must be interrogated through the lived experiences of indigenous communities, the ecological vulnerabilities of fragile mountain ecosystems, the commodification of tribal cultures, and the structural inequalities that determine who benefits from and who bears the costs of tourism expansion.



Objectives of the Seminar:

1. To examine eco-tourism as a tool for sustainable development and livelihood enhancement in northeast India.
2. To identify challenges and opportunities in eco-tourism development from developmental, infrastructural, community perspectives.
3. To document existing community and state practices of tourism-based livelihoods and recommendations for sustainable eco-tourism model.
4. To explore the regional governance alternatives for tourism, sustainability and livelihood.
5. To examine strategies for strengthening community ownership, and resilient livelihood systems through eco-tourism.
6. The seminar is also expected to generate practical recommendations on community-led governance, investment, and participatory planning that can guide future eco-tourism initiatives across Northeast India.
7. To facilitate dialogue among academicians, policy makers, and community stakeholders.

Call for Papers & Key Themes:

- Identification and thematisation of potential eco-tourism
- Power, Participation, and the Politics of Community-Based Eco Tourism
- Environmental Conservation, Climate Risks, Human-Wildlife Conflict, and the Contradictions of Protected Area Tourism
- Infrastructure, Connectivity, Spatial Transformation in Fragile Ecosystems & Destination resilience
- Governance, Institutions, and the Politics of Policy Implementation
- Social Exclusion, Marginalization, and the Inequitable Distribution of Tourism Benefits
- Cultural Commodification, Changing Land relations, Identity Politics, and the Authenticity Paradox.
- Gender, Labour, and Care Economies in Eco-Tourism
- Digitalization, Social Media, and the Political Economy of Tourism Promotion
- Ethics of Tourism: Representation, Consent, Community Rights & IPR
- Livelihood Diversity: Agriculture, Jhum Cultivation, Traditional Occupations, and Tourism Linkages
- Role of Community Initiatives, Customary Institutions, Consent, and Local Ownership in Eco-Tourism, Conservation and Traditional Knowledge System

Registration Fee:

- Research Scholars: ₹1000
- Faculties: ₹1500

Note: Registration fees include seminar kit, refreshments, and accommodation.

Accommodation and Travel Assistance:

- Accommodation will be arranged on a shared basis for all participants. Travel assistance (TA) will be provided as follows:
- For participants traveling from outside Nagaland: Sleeper class train fare or bus fare.
- For participants within Nagaland: Taxi fare (only shared taxi i.e. sumo etc.).

Abstract Submission

Abstract length: Maximum 300 words

Font: Times New Roman, size 12

Title, presenter name, and institutional affiliation should be included, Submit the word file only

Full paper length: Around 5000 words

Abstract Submission Link: <https://forms.gle/iCJB39wj84DdEZPw7>

Target Audience

The seminar seeks to bring together a diverse group of participants whose work and experiences intersect with questions of eco-tourism, development, and livelihoods in Northeast India. It will engage academicians and researchers across disciplines, alongside policymakers and government officials involved in tourism and community development. Civil society organisations and tourism related practitioners will also form an integral part of the audience.

For Queries contact

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