

# A STUDY ON GOVERNANCE AND DEVELOPMENT IN BODOLAND TERRITORIAL AREA DISTRICTS OF ASSAM IN INDIA

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**Purpose of the study:** The study examines the relationship between the quality of governance and level of development in the Bodoland Territorial Area District (BTAD) of Assam in India. It also assesses which dimensions of governance influence the level of development.

**Methodology:** The study is based on the data collected from a field survey of 400 households in both rural and urban areas of BTAD. Important dimensions pertaining to measuring the quality of governance is a broad manifestation in several institutions such as Political, Legal and Judicial, Administration and Public service delivery, and Economic and Social. Similarly, we measure development in terms of economic, social and empowerment dimensions. The study uses statistical techniques of Correlation and CHAID analysis.

**Main findings:** The study finds that the quality of governance is critical to development. Amongst other factors, efficient system and management of political institutions and effective administration and public service delivery is the key to enhancement of economic development.

**Social Implications:** The study depicts disparity with respect to social and economic space; and suggests inclusive participation in political and fine-tuning in the front of administration and delivery of public services.

**Originality/Novelty of the study:** The study brings out the dynamics of deficit of governance and its impact on economic development at the level of the sub-national state. It further confirms and substantially contributes to the literature on development - governance nexus.

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