

Plight of indigenous citizens



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AT News 22 July 2015 9919 views

Abhoy Saikia of [Hatigaon](#) area is disappointed when he was among those who was waiting in front of a NRC centre in Guwahati to submit his documents. From 7 in the morning he was waiting for his turn. At 1 in the afternoon he lost his cool.

“I am disappointed. What they are doing for so long. Why we are made to suffer even to submit the forms,” rued the 60 year old man in [Hatigaon](#) area.

Same it is with Padmini Gogoi. The housewife from Beltola Survey area has been waiting from 9 in the morning.

“After hours of wait my turn came. But the technical snag made it difficult for the officials to take my forms,” she told Assam Times.

The things are not different from Baharul Hussain who was made to return on Tuesday without submitting his forms.

“I was waiting for 7 hours. But I was not called. I along with 70 others had to return. Today I did it after 4 hours of wait,” he said.

This is how, lack of enough technical support and lack of manpower has been forcing hundreds of people to suffer even to submit the NRC forms across the state.

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AT News 2 October 2026 995 views

GUWAHATI, October 2, 2026 — A two-day People's Consultation on Agroecology & Climate Adaptation concluded here on Wednesday, bringing together more than 20 NGOs and civil society organisations from across Assam, besides farmers, women's groups, indigenous community representatives, environmentalists, academics and development practitioners.

Organised by Jorhat-based grassroots organisation North-East Affected Area Development Society (NEADS) at Hotel Skyline, the consultation focused on agroecology, biodiversity, sustainable food systems, climate risks, disaster preparedness, indigenous knowledge and community-led adaptation.

Technical sessions, panel discussions and community-level sharing examined climate vulnerability in Assam, flood management, locally led humanitarian response, water governance, indigenous seed conservation and sustainable livelihoods.

Participants also shared experiences of changing climate conditions, traditional farming, biodiversity conservation and the role of women and youth in building resilient communities.

NEADS Director Tirtha Prasad Saikia said climate solutions must involve communities and recognise the knowledge already held by Assam's farmers and indigenous communities.

“Our task is to recognise and strengthen this knowledge through science, policy and institutional support, and put communities at the centre of climate action.”

The consultation also discussed Government-NGO coordination and Joint Rapid Needs Assessment (JRNA) to strengthen disaster preparedness and response.

Participants proposed a **Civil Society Declaration on Agroecology & Climate Adaptation** and a policy brief to consolidate recommendations on climate-resilient livelihoods, biodiversity, indigenous seed systems, community-led adaptation and stronger collaboration among civil society, communities, researchers and government institutions.

The consultation concluded with a call for continued collective action towards farmer-led, biodiversity-rich and climate-resilient food systems in Assam.

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