

CHANGING POPULATION STRUCTURE AND IMMIGRATION PROBLEMS IN ASSAM: AN APPROACH TO REALITY

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Abstract

The population structure of a country or a state is influenced by the male-to-female sex ratio, the percentage of rural-to-urban population, the composition of the population by age, religion, and language. Population growth in a particular region is determined by the birthrate, death rate, and net migration. If the population growth rate is increased due to natural growth, then it is a general matter. However, it has occurred as a result of migration outside of the country; it is an illegal matter that may result in domestic treats for the common people of that region. In Assam, from the independence of the country, the changing population structure is a big question which is the root problem for the state. It is claimed that the percentage of the Muslim population is growing day by day. The question is whether it is growing naturally or as a result of immigration from neighbouring countries. In this study, the researcher tries to investigate the ongoing changing population structure in Assam. An attempt has also been made to bring out in real detail the depth of the immigration problem in the state.

Keywords: Assam, population, D Voter , NRC , Population structure ,Muslim

I. Introduction

Assam, India's northeastern state, has a demographically diversified population. Since antiquity, migration of people from various ethnic backgrounds into Assam has been a manifestations. The people of Assam have a reputation for being kind to visitors. However, later in the nineteenth century, during the colonial period, local elites expressed an articulated kind of anti-outsider resentment for the first time. It was a period that saw the birth of Assamese nationalism, as well as an unprecedented wave of large-scale immigration of numerous communities into the state in a short period of time. Since the late 1920s, Assamese anti-immigration attitude has become increasingly crystallised, and during the post-independence period, the topic gradually became one of the key issues, resulting in ongoing tension as well as intermittent violence and bloodshed.

The inflow of Bangladeshi immigrants into Assam, and the resulting noticeable shift in the state's demographic mix, has become a source of severe worry. It poses a huge threat to the people of Assam's identity as well as national security. As in Tripura and Sikkim, this threatens to reduce Assamese to a minority inside their own state. Because of historical ties as well as geographical and physical proximity, Bangladeshi immigration to India's Northeast area has been steady throughout the twentieth century. In Assam, better job possibilities and the availability of fertile agricultural land act as a pull factor, whereas in Bangladesh, poverty, livelihoods, floods, and other natural catastrophes act as a push factor. In Assam, from the independence of the country, the changing population structure is a big question which is the root problem for the state. It is claimed that the percentage of the Muslim population is growing day by day. The question is whether it is growing naturally or as a result of immigration from neighbouring countries. In this study, the researcher tries to investigate the ongoing changing

population structure in Assam. An attempt has also been made to bring out in real detail the depth of the immigration problem in the state.

II. Objectives:

- 1) Investigate the ongoing changing population structure of Assam during the 20th century.
- 2) Changing the population structure and growing face of Muslims in Assam.
- 3) Explore the consensus of growth rate of Muslim population, immigrant problem, NRC and “D” Voter.

III. Changing Population Structure of Assam During 20th Century

Diversification of populations is enabled by population structures. This is why population structure is such a crucial aspect of evolutionary genetics. The movement of individuals from one permanent residence to another is known as migration. The population of a location changes as a result of this movement. The movement of people from one country to another is known as international migration. Emigrants are people who leave their home nation. Immigrants are people who relocate to another country. Immigration is the movement of people into a country, and it has the potential to affect the population structure of a region.

Table-1: Trends of Population Growth in Assam and India

| Year | Total Population (in lakh) | | Decadal Growth | | Share Of Assam |
|------|----------------------------|----------|----------------|--------|----------------|
| | Assam | India | Assam | India | |
| 1901 | 32.90 | 238.300 | - | - | 1.38% |
| 1911 | 38.49 | 252.000 | 16.99% | 5.75% | 1.53% |
| 1921 | 46.37 | 251.200 | 20.47% | -0.32% | 1.85% |
| 1931 | 55.60 | 278.900 | 19.91% | 11.03% | 1.99% |
| 1941 | 66.95 | 318.500 | 20.41% | 14.20% | 2.10% |
| 1951 | 80.29 | 361.000 | 19.93% | 13.34% | 2.22% |
| 1961 | 108.67 | 439.100 | 35.35% | 21.63% | 2.47% |
| 1971 | 146.25 | 548.200 | 34.58% | 24.85% | 2.67% |
| 1981 | 180.41 | 685.200 | 23.36% | 24.99% | 2.63% |
| 1991 | 222.95 | 846.300 | 23.58% | 23.51% | 2.63% |
| 2001 | 266.55 | 1027.015 | 19.56% | 21.35% | 2.60% |
| 2011 | 312.05 | 1210.854 | 17.07% | 17.90% | 2.58% |

Source: Census data of India

In the census year 1901, the population of Assam was 32.90 lakh, which has increased to 312.05 lakh in the census year 2011. The question now is whether this increase in population is attributable to the population's natural growth rate or to immigration from neighbouring countries. The population of Assam has increased by 948.48 percent over the last 110 years, whereas the population of India has increased by 508.12 percent. Naturally, questions may arise regarding the simultaneous increasing

trends of the Assam population. In addition to this, Assam's population share has climbed from 2.58 percent in 2011 to 1.38 percent in 1901(Table-1).

Between the census years of 1901 and 1951, Assam's population grew by 144.07 percent, from 32.9 lakh to 80.3 lakh. Assam's population increased by 187.88 percent between 1951 and 2011, from 80.3 lakh to 312.06 lakh, a growth rate of around 187.88 percent. However, India's population increased by 51.46 percent between 1901 and 1951, from 2384 lakh to 3610.9 lakh. In the 60 years after independence, India's population has increased by around 175.61%, from 3610.9 lakh to 12105.7 lakh. It has been proved that Assam's population growth rate was significantly higher before to independence.

Figure-1 Trends of Population Growth in Assam and India

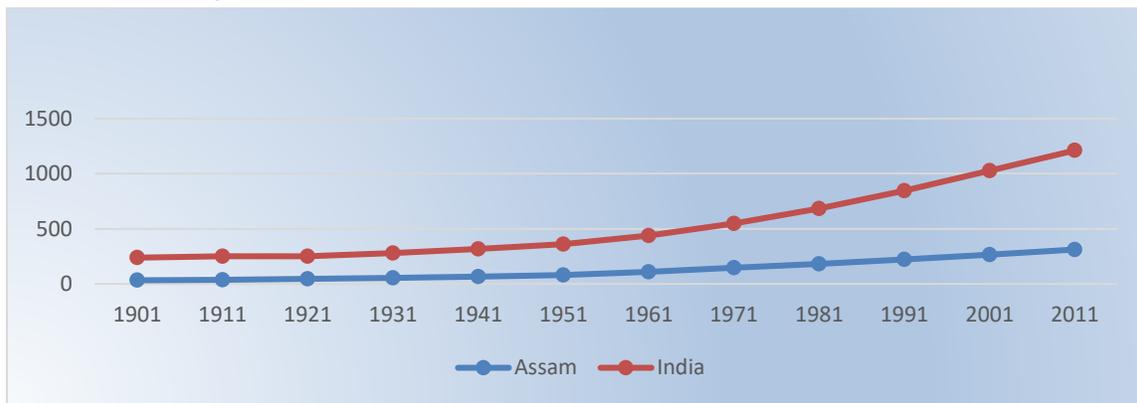
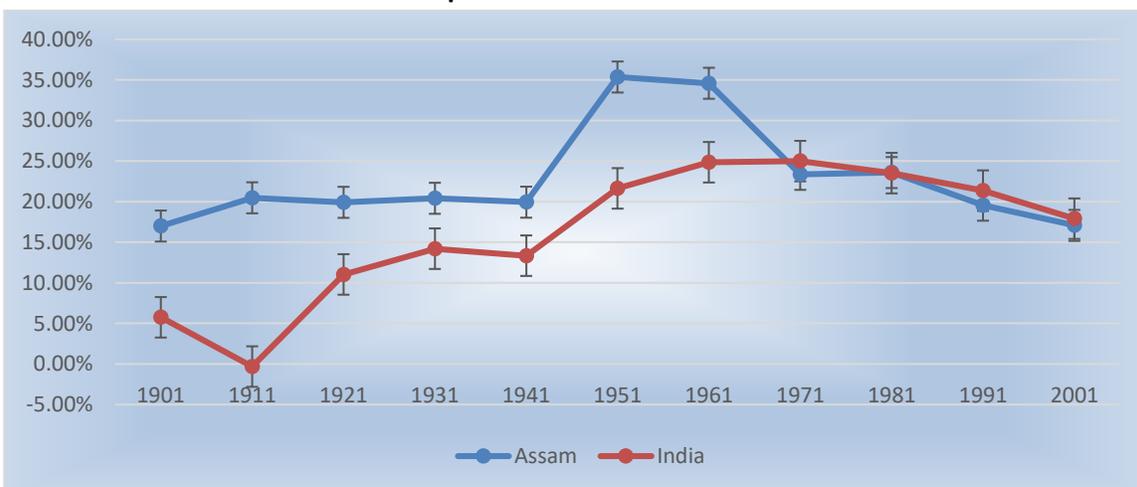


Figure-1 shows a positive upwards trends of the growth of population over the period of time both in Assam and all India but the population growth curve of all India is relatively more steeper with upward slope than the population growth of the state of Assam within 110 years.

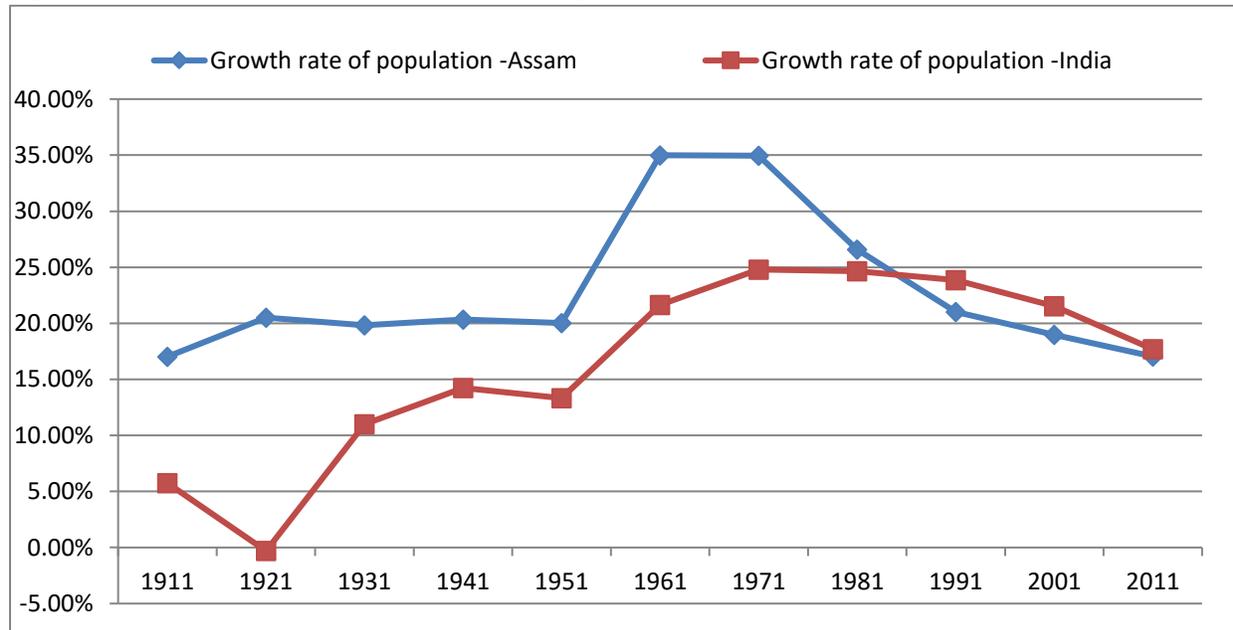
Figure-2 Trends of Decadal Growth of Population of Assam and India



From figure-2, it has been observed that the decadal growth rates of population of Assam and India over the 110 years in which there is a huge fluctuations. It has been seen that the decadal growth rates

of the population of Assam were than the all India's decadal growth rate of Population upto 1971 census period. After 1971, the decadal growth rates of population of Assam almost equal or less than the all India's decadal growth rates of population growth.

Figure-3 Trends of Decadal Growth Rates of Population of Assam and India



In figure-3, there was a big divergence between the population growth rates of Assam and India before 1981, but after 1981, the gap in the growth rate began to close, which might be attributed to either increased natural population growth rates or illegal migration from surrounding countries.

IV. Changing the Population Structure and Growing Face of Muslim:

Since the eve of independence, the issue of immigration has agitated the minds of Assamese citizens, as well as the state's socio-economic and political existence. Though the Assam Movement began as a response to illegal immigration from neighbouring nations, it has since expanded to include all unlawful Bangladeshi issues, regardless of religion. With the passage of time, the focus has shifted to Muslim Bangladeshi issues as well.

From the beginning, there has been a lot of debate about the number of undocumented Bangladeshi migrants in Assam. Regardless of the figures reported by various organizations or individuals, experts attempt to uncover the realities underlying Assam's changing demographic structure. It goes without saying that the Muslim population has been growing since the country's independence. The percentage of Muslims in the population remained practically stable from 1951 to 1971, while it slightly increased in the census year 1961. However, since 1971, the Muslim population has grown at a significant rate.

V. Trends of Growth Rate of Muslim population in Assam

Because of the conflict, a census was not held in Assam in 1981. Since NFHS-3, which was done 14 years ago, Muslims in Assam have seen the most drastic drop in fertility. According to the fifth National Family Health Survey, the Muslim community in Assam has a total fertility rate (TFR) of 2.4, which is greater than the Hindu community's TFR of 1.6. The reduction in fertility among Muslims has been from 3.6 in 2005–06 to 2.4 in 2019–20, a drop of 1.3 compared to 0.4 among Hindus in the same period, although from a lower base.

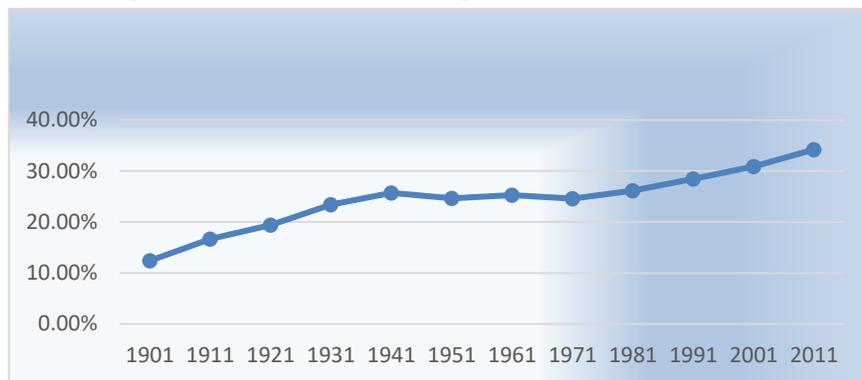
Table-2: Trends of Growth Rate of Muslim population in Assam

| Year | Muslim Population | In Percent |
|-------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| 1901 | 3,03,170 | 12.40% |
| 1911 | 6,34,101 | 16.69% |
| 1921 | 8,80,426 | 19.41% |
| 1931 | 12,79,388 | 23.41% |
| 1941 | 16,96,978 | 25.72% |
| 1951 | 19,95,936 | 24.68% |
| 1961 | 27,65,509 | 25.26% |
| 1971 | 35,94,006 | 24.56% |
| 1981 | 47,22,467 | 26.15% |
| 1991 | 63,73,204 | 28.43% |
| 2001 | 82,40,611 | 30.92% |
| 2011 | 1,06,79,345 | 34.22% |

Source: Census of India from 1901-2021

The Muslim percentage has increased from 12.4% in 1901 to 40.03% in 2021 (which is a sharp rise of 27.63% in just 120 years). The estimated Muslim population of Assam for the upcoming 2021 census is 14.61 million out of a 36.54 million total population, making up 40.03% of the state's population.

Figure-4 Trends of Muslim Population Growth in Assam



Between 1901 and 1951, the number of Muslims in the population increased from 503670 to 199536, owing to an influx of poor farmers from various districts of today's Bangladesh. Migrants are drawn to Assam's newly formed char areas' low-lying rich soil in order to produce jute to meet the demands of a jute mill in Kolkata. Muslim cultivators from East Bengal were lured to Assam by the Muslim League administration of Mohammad Sadullah, reportedly for the Grow More Food Campaign. The Muslim community's higher natural growth rate, on the other hand, could be a factor.

It's worth noting that the Muslim population expanded at a rate of 17.62 percent in the census year 1951, which was much lower than the prior growth rate of the census years 1901 to 1941. What exactly happened in this case? Under the guise of being doubtful full Pakistani nationals, the Bordoloi government passed the Immigrants (Expulsion from Assam) Act, 1950, which was used to deport them by intimidating and harassing Muslim people. Because their names were not reported in the 1951 census, around 53,000 households, or over 4.5 lakh people, were compelled to seek refuge in east Pakistan (Mannan, 2017).

The Muslim population share increased to 25.26 percent from 24.68 percent in 1961, with the Muslim community's higher natural growth rate impacting the growth rate. Individuals who had sought refuge in east Bengal during the riots of 1951 returned to India when Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru and Liaquat Ali Khan signed the landmark bilateral treaty in 1958. Around 1,61,360 people returned to India, helping to increase the country's Muslim population. Another growing truth is that the Muslim population's percentage of the overall population has declined from a startling 24.56 percent in 1971 to 24.56 percent in 1971 in the state of Assam. The Muslim population grew during the twentieth century, but in 1971, what was the reason for the decline?

Between 1962 and 1969, the Chaliha government implemented the "Prevention of Infiltrators of Pakistan Nationals into India (PIP plan)," under which police evicted six lakh Muslims from India (Mannan, 2017). The population grew during this period (between 1961 and 1971) since the natural growth rate of the population was lower than the number of expelled people, resulting in a decrease in

the Muslim population share. In 1963, Nagaland was divided from Assam, which has a predominantly non-Muslim population.

The period from 1971 to 1991 was the most noticeable for the migration of Bangladeshi immigrants into the state of Assam. Muslims grew at a pace of 77.33 percent over this time, which is a major source of concern for Assamese citizens. In Assam, there hasn't been a census since 1981. However, the proportion of Muslims in the population has risen from 24.56 percent in 1971 to 28.43 percent in 1991. There could be two factors contributing to the rise in Muslim population: the separation of states like Mizoram and Meghalaya in 1971 and 1973, respectively. Both states were predominantly non-Muslim in nature. Meghalaya, Nagaland, and Mizoram were all part of Greater Assam. On January 26, 1950, it was granted full statehood. Nagaland (1963): The state of Nagaland was established on December 1, 1963. It is distinct from Assam. Meghalaya (1972): In 1970, Meghalaya was established as an autonomous state within Assam. On January 21, 1972, it became a distinct state. Mizoram (1987): On February 20, 1987, it became a state. Originally, it was an Assam district. It was established a Union Territory in 1972, but the Mizo National Front objected, and it was eventually granted complete statehood.

Between 1991 and 2001, the Muslim population increased to 30.92 and 34.22 percent of the total population, respectively, which is a major concern in the state of Assam. However, between these two census periods, Muslim population growth rates climbed by 29.30 percent and 29.59 percent, respectively. The basic facts are that, on the one hand, the Muslim population is expanding faster than the non-Muslim population, and that, on the other hand, the non-Muslim population is rising at a considerably slower rate than the Muslim population.

If Assam's population growth rate has been frightening, there are two other aspects of the situation that are far more so. The first is the pace of voter growth in the state, and the second is the rate of Muslim population growth, which is nearly completely attributable to illegal immigration. The number of voters climbed from 4.493 million to 4.943 million in just five years, from 1957 to 1962. (10 per cent). The number of voters climbed by 13% to 5.585 million over the next four years. By 1970, there were 5.702 million registered voters. However, after a year, the number of voters had increased by 10.42 percent to 6.296 million. The goal of the reigning political party at the time was to ensure that the Congress won easily in elections, even if it meant allowing foreign people to vote in Indian elections, which was illegal under Indian law. The party was a resounding success, despite the fact that it did not consider the ramifications for Assam, the North-east, or the country as a whole.

VI. A comparison Between Muslim and Hindu Population Growth in Assam

After Kashmir, Assam is the country's second-largest Muslim-populated state. In Assam, Islam is the fastest-growing religion. In Assam, Muslims form the majority in nearly thirteen districts, with four districts having a large concentration of Muslims. This inflames tensions among Assamese so-called "mainstream" citizens. Table-3 shows that in 1901, 12.4 percent of the population was Muslim, despite the fact that the geographical boundary and demographic structure were completely different. Between 1941 and 1971, however, the percentage of Muslims remained nearly unchanged. From 1971 through

2011, the Muslim population's percentage of the population increased steadily, reaching 34.22 percent in 2011.

| Table-3 Share of Muslim and Non-Muslim population in Assam | | |
|---|---------------|-------------------|
| Year | Muslim | Non-Muslim |
| 1901 | 12.4 | 87.6 |
| 1911 | 16.69 | 83.31 |
| 1921 | 19.41 | 80.59 |
| 1931 | 23.41 | 76.59 |
| 1941 | 25.72 | 74.28 |
| 1951 | 24.68 | 75.32 |
| 1961 | 25.26 | 74.74 |
| 1971 | 24.56 | 75.44 |
| 1981 | - | - |
| 1991 | 28.43 | 71.57 |
| 2001 | 30.92 | 69.08 |
| 2011 | 34.22 | 65.78 |
| <i>Source: Census Report of India, various issues</i> | | |

Non-Muslim account for the majority of Assam's population, according to the 2011 census.65.78 percent of the population of Assam lives in Assam. In Assam's 18 out of 27 districts, Hinduism is the majority religion. Muslims account for 1.07 crore (34.22 percent) of Assam's total population of 3.12 crore. Out of a total population of 3.12 crore in Assam, Christians account for 11.66 lakh (3.74 percent). Muslims make up a considerable 34.22 percent of Assam's population, and they play an essential part in the state's election process.In 9 of the 27 districts, Islam is the religion of choice. However, in the following section of this article, an attempt will be made to investigate religious structural changes in the population of the state of Assam.

Figure-5: Share of Muslim and Non-Muslim population in Assam

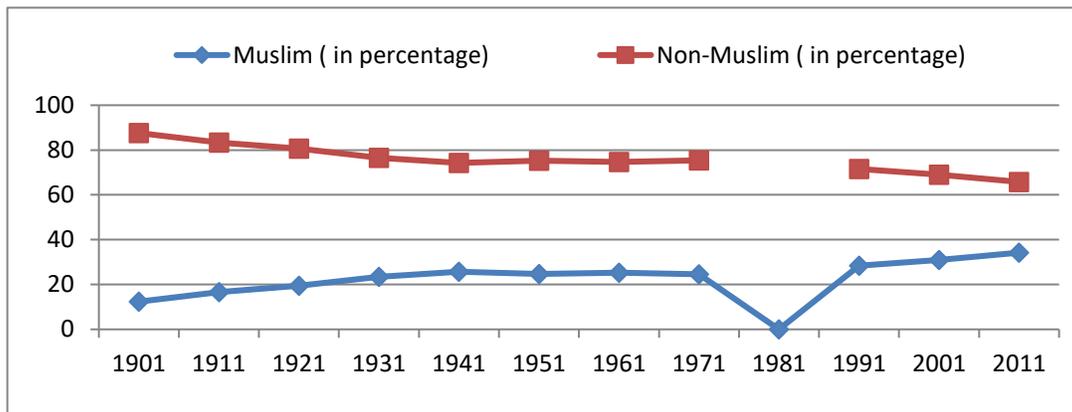


Figure 5 depicts the increasing trends in the Muslim population share and the declining trends in the non-Muslim population share in the state of Assam over time.

VII. Immigrant Problems and its Real Picture in Assam:

In the name of illegal immigrants from the very beginning the government of Assam adopted number strategies like line system ,colony system, , The Immigrants (Expulsion from Assam) Act, 1950, Prevention of Infiltrators of Pakistan Nationals into India (PIP scheme) 1962 Illegal Migrants (Determination by Tribunals) Act,1983 and ultimately the Supreme Court, headed by the bench of Justice Ranjan Gogoi and Justice Rohinton Fali Nariman, mandated the Union Government and the State Government to complete the updating of NRC, in accordance with Citizenship Act, 1955 and Citizenship Rules, 2003. Among all the approaches, Updetation and preparation of NRC is considered the most scientific and wider strategies to find out the bonafide citizen of India or the illegal immigration in the state of Assam. A total of 3, 11, 21,004 people have been found eligible for inclusion in the final version of the NRC. This leaves out a total of 19, 06,657 people, including those who did not submit their claims after March 25, 1971 and deport them to their native country. Now these excluded people will be considered just like the doubtful citizen and the citizenship of these people will be identified in the *Foreigner's Tribunal*. Now comes to another point is that the researcher try to depict the real picture of the illegal immigrants in the state of Assam. In this study, the verdict of the foreigner's tribunal is considered as an indicator to find out the probable foreigner's among the excluded 19, 06,657 people. Out of the total 112791 Referred Cases 24021 are disposed which is the 21.30 % and still 78.70% (88770) are pended in the court. Out of the total solved cases, 12846 persons are declared as a foreigner which is 11.39 %. This is average result of the of the doubtful citizen by the state machinery from the year 1985 to 2005 which is considered as an indicator to estimate probable foreigner's among the excluded 19, 06,657. The probable foreigner's will be 217168 people in this approach.

Without depend any scientific base, a number of prominent personality and organizations put the total number of illegal immigrants. In the year 1994, the former governor of the state of Assam, Lt. General S.K. Singha had sent a report to the President of India with the claimed that six thousand Bangladeshis

enter into Assam every day (GOA,1998). If this report is true then if we calculate the total number of illegal immigrants from Bangladesh (since Bangladesh formed in 1971) from 1971 to the latest census of 2011, it will be (6000 x 365 x 40) 8.76 crore but according to the census of 2011 , total number of population of Assam was 3.12 crore. What was a surprising report! Otherwise if consider the year 1994 as a base year for this calculation, the the total number of illegal immigrants from Bangladesh 5.69 crore.

To find out the illegal immigrants. The NRC in Assam was undated under the supervision of Supreme Court of India. More than 19 lakh of the 3.29 crore applicants in Assam were left out of the final National Register of Citizens (NRC) that was published in 2019 to conclude a Supreme Court-monitored exercise that took five years and ₹1,220 crore. Now question may arise in our mind that whether these excluded 19 lakh people are foreigner. The answer will be very complex and difficult. From the field survey undertaken by various social groups claimed that most of the people who are left out from NRC but their parents name are included in the final draft. In some cases, it has been seen that children name is included from the final draft but their parents name are excluded. Another observation is that a large section of the married women names are excluded from the final draft of NRC and their parents names are included but to fail to provide appropriate legacy certificate. Such types of excluded incidents indicates that there is high probability that most of the name of excluded from from the final draft of NRC will be included. Now , it would be possible in the up coming days ? why will be the reason behind the growth rate of Muslim population in the state of Assam ?

Out of the total population, 61.47% of the Population in Assam are Hindus, 34.22% Muslims, 3.74% Christian, and the rest 0.58% comprises of Sikh, Buddhist, Jain, other religious communities and religion not stated. Assam is home to the fifth largest Muslim population in India after Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Bihar and Maharashtra (Census of India, 2011). Muslims are the second largest and the fastest growing community in Assam. The districts with high Muslim Population in Assam are Dhubri, Barpeta, Darrang, Hailakandi, Goalpara, Karimganj, Nagaon, Morigaon and Bongaigaon. Muslims outnumbered Hindus in the state not because of illegal Bangladeshi immigration but because they were illiterate, and as a result, bore more children.

The high total fertility rate, high crude birth rate, high female illiteracy rate, child marriage, no use of antiseptic measures, impact of religion on dogmatic thinking and its diverted explanation, adverse effects of **Dewani and Mullah Tantra**, particularly in the char areas, low level of economic condition, and so on are the main reasons for the Muslim population's high growth rate.

| Table-4: TFR of the Muslim Population of Assam Between 2001 and 2011 | | |
|---|-------------|-------------|
| Category | 2001 | 2011 |
| TFR of Hindu | 2.8 | 1.7 |
| TFR of Muslim | 5.1 | 3.1 |

| | | |
|--|-----|-----|
| Difference Between Hindu and Muslim TFR | 2.3 | 1.4 |
| Overall TFR | 3.2 | 2.2 |
| <i>Source: Census data, 2001 & 2011</i> | | |

High fertility is the primary driver of Assam's Muslim population growth. According to the table -4, the TFR of Assam's Muslim population was 5.1 in 2001 and has since declined to 3.1 in 2011. The TFR of Assam's Hindu population, on the other hand, was 2.8 in 2001 and has since dropped to 1.7 in 2011. However, it is hoped that the discrepancies in TFRs between Muslims and Hindus will continue to decrease. For example, in 2001, the difference was 2.3, but by 2011 it had fallen to 1.4. The level of education and the population growth rate in a certain region have a direct and positive relationship. It is pretty apparent that Assam's Muslim population has a lower literacy rate than the state's other religious groups. Female illiteracy has a significant effect on child marriage, TFR, and dogmatic religious thought, all of these are related to the state of Assam's population growth.

VIII. High Growth Rate of Muslim Population, Immigrant Problem and “D” Voter :

Without certain essential rights that are necessary for a peaceful and healthy existence, human life is useless. A person's life cannot be deemed democratic and free in a country like India unless they have political rights. Some questions were posed about the human and political rights of some Assamese people, eliciting their human and political rights. The Election Commission of India sent a circular to the Government of Assam on July 17, 1997, instructing it to remove non-citizens from the electoral rolls. Following that, an aggressive revision of electoral rolls in Assam commenced, which included a door-to-door survey to ensure that only authentic Indian citizens were included. People who could not offer documentation in support of their Indian nationality were marked with a D in the electoral rolls, indicating that their Indian identity was in doubt or disputed.

The absentee voters were also given a D at the poll. The Election Commission of India classified around 370,000 people as "D" voters. People who were labelled as "D" voters were not allowed to vote or run in the elections. The Indian Election Commission further ordered that the "D" voters be tried before Foreigners' Tribunals established under the Foreigner (Tribunal) Order of 1964. Only 199,631 instances were referred to the tribunals for verification out of an expected 370,000. During the preliminary hearings, 3,686 people were discovered to be aliens, and their names were removed from the voter rolls.

The proceedings at the 36 Foreigners' Tribunals moved slowly. Meanwhile, a number of Bangladeshi illegal immigrants who had been designated as "D" voters and were awaiting trial absconded. As a result, the Gauhati High Court ordered the "D" voters to be detained in detention camps until their cases were resolved on April 4, 2004. As a result, "D" voters facing trial before the Foreigners' Tribunal were transported to the Goalpara and Kokrajhar prison camps.

The Election Commission conducted another door-to-door poll in 2005. During the survey, it was discovered that a large number of "D" voters who had been blacklisted in 1997 had vanished. The official number of "D" voters has been revised to 181,619. In Assam, there were officially 157,465 "D" voters whose credentials were being verified as of June 2012. The State Government told the Legislature on January 6, 2014, that there were 143,227 "D" voters in the state.

However, neither the Citizenship Act of 1955 nor the Citizenship Rules of 2003 define the terms "doubtful voter" or "doubtful citizenship." The Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2003 prompted the creation of the Citizenship Rules, 2003. The National Population Register (NPR) and the National Register of Indian Citizens (NRIC) are prepared according to standards established in 2003. (NRIC). It has only been specified that details of individuals whose citizenship is in doubt will be entered by the Local Registrar with "appropriate remark in the population registry for further enquiry" under sub section 4 which deals with the preparation of NRIC.

Table-5 "D" Voter Cases and its Ultimate Result in Assam from 1985 to 2005

| Period | Cases Referred | Cases Disposed | Percentage of Cases Disposed | Cases pending (cumulative) | Percentage of cases pending | Number of Persons declared as foreigners | Percentage of Number of Persons declared as foreigners | Number of declared foreigners pushed back/deported | Percentage of foreigners deported |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|--|--|--|-----------------------------------|
| 1985-90 | 22682 | 6486 | 28.60% | 16196 | 71.40% | 6724 | 29.64% | 521 | 7.75% |
| 1991-95 | 3488 | 7335 | 210.29% | 12349 | 354.04% | 2577 | 73.88% | 792 | 30.73% |
| 1996-2000 | 17623 | 4420 | 25.08% | 25552 | 144.99% | 902 | 5.12% | 179 | 19.84% |
| 2001-July 2005 | 68998 | 5780 | 8.38% | 88770 | 128.66% | 2643 | 3.83% | 55 | 2.08% |
| Total | 112791 | 24021 | 21.30% | 88770 | 78.70% | 12846 | 11.39% | 1547 | 12.04% |

Source- White Papers Published By Assam Government, 2012

From 1985 to July 2005 (GOA,2012), the total number of "D" voter referral cases was 112791, with 24021 cases disposed of (21.30 percent) and 78.70 percent (88770) of the cases pending. Only 11.39 percent (12846) of "D" voters' cases were determined to be foreigners. It's worth noting that only 12.04

percent (1547) of "D" voters were deported between 1985 and 2005(Table-5). When we look at the whole number of "D" voter instances and the total number of proclaimed foreigners, we notice that the percentage is only 1.37 percent (1547 out of 112791). What exactly is the issue here? Only 1.37 percent of the overall referred "D" voter instances were deported by the appropriate authorities! It is a well established matter is that most of the "D" voter cases , judges' behaviour has not been seen unbiased to provide justice to the "D" voters, inefficiency roles of advocacy services, irresponsible role of the Border police. A number of cases have been found in which border police filed a case without any field verification.

IX. Conclusion:

The increasing population growth rate, particularly among Muslims in the state of Assam, is unavoidable. It is also true that, as a result of rising literacy and consciousness, the Muslim population in the state is steadily declining. If we would raise the literacy rate among Muslim females, reduce or eliminate the number of child marriage instances, boost the use of antiseptics, scientific thinking, and improve the socio-economic conditions of Muslims, we would be able to minimize the Muslim population's growth rate. The fundamental phenomenon is to sluggish the rise of the Muslim population and creating a steady population structure.

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