

Approach to Identity the Rangsapara : The Cleanest Village of Assam

Sudarsan Dutta

Research Scholar, Dept. of Geography, Raiganj University (India)

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ABSTRACT

These days, 'Swatch Bharat Mission' is going on in the country. The Prime Minister gives a message of cleanliness from every platform, but the people of Rangsapara have made cleanliness as their mantra just 27 years ago. The result of that Rangsapara got the title of being the cleanest village of Assam. Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal honored the village with a cash prize of five lakh rupees in a big program. The all-Garo Christian rural community with a meager population of 505 has been striving towards a spanking clean village since 1990. And for that, first and foremost, the habits of the dwellers had to change. A management committee was formed in the year 2000 to devise a plan, supervise the executions, and keep a strict vigil that the rules are followed.

1. Introduction

Rangsapara, a sleepy village about 16 km. from Goalpara district HQ situated in the pristine beauty landlocked with hillocks, paddy fields, rubber plantations, at borders of Assam-Meghalaya inhabited by the Christian Garo Tribes has been declared on 8 February 2017 the cleanest place to live in the state of Assam. The Village had started its journey towards cleanliness and peace from 1999. Robert John Momin, the village head and also one of the initiators of the project said that the village has also taken a pledge to be plastic-free from this month and is also planning to become the first village in the country with a cashless economy. Rangsapara was declared the cleanest village in the state for the year 2017 by the Public Health Engineering Department (PHED).

2. Objectives

1. To know about the socio economic condition of the village.
2. To find out what is the factor for this cleanliness in this village.

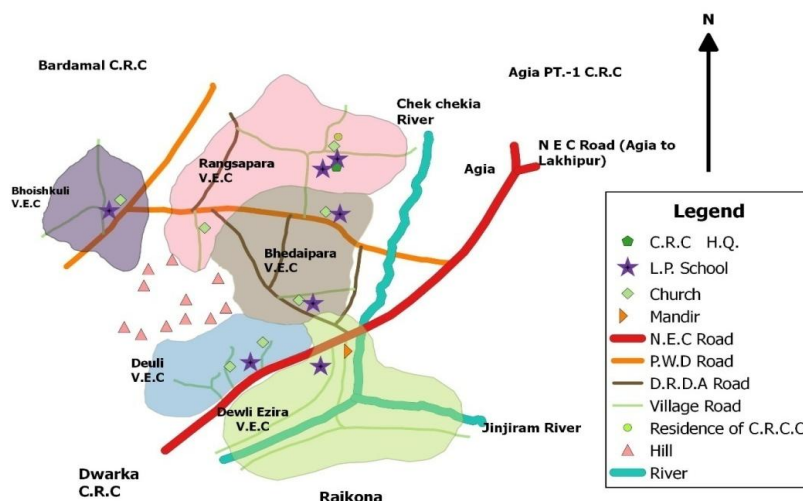
3. Methodology

To make the study more relevant and authentic, various secondary sources were consulted. The secondary data was collected from various published books, journals, Periodicals, magazines, and research articles having direct bearing on research problem. Primary data are gathered through the usual field techniques, direct observation as well as with the help of interviews and queries. In some cases, everything is recorded in the field and sort out at home and in other, the hypothesis are tested at the field itself. Considerable library work is also involved with the study.

4. Study Area

Rangsapara the cleanest village of Assam which is a part of Balijana GP which is located at South –western part of Goalpara District inhabited by the Christian Garo Tribes. The village situated at 26° 0.5'26.66" N latitude and 90° 31'06.2" E longitudes with an elevation of 45 Meters. Rangsapara village covers an area of 128.35 hectares with a total population of 505 people where 230 are male and 275 are female (2011 census).

MAP OF RANGSAPARA CRC



Map of Rangsapara Village

5. Soil and Vegetation:

The soil of Goalpara district is mainly alluvial, loamy, red, some portion of district also have the soil like black, sandy etc. So the village goalpara also has the soil types like yellow loamy, red soil, alluvial soil etc. mainly red soil found in Rangsapara village.



Plate: Soil conditions of Rangsapara Village

In Rangsapara village and its neighboring areas the vegetation of Goalpara district is characterized by Tropical Moist Deciduous Forest (Bambo, Arjun, Sal, Sagoon etc). Tropical Semi Evergreen Forest (Mango, Jackfruit etc).

6. Education:

The Education system of this village is very poor. There are only two schools: one is Rangsapara LP School and another is Rangsapara ME School in which children's of the village go for primary education. Only 50% of the population of the village is literate. Only 7% people are Government jobs. 4 Boys and Girls are going outside of the village for the higher study. It seems that less than 20% peoples of the village are uneducated. The people are neither very rich nor are highly educated. And only 20% of population is literate.



Plate: Rangsapara M.E School

7. Transport and Communication:

The Transport system of the village is too poor. There is mettle road and railways and pucca road is not available. Most of the villagers, the first preference is to work from one to

another place. There is a very few motor cycle, bi-cycle are found. The communication system is not too good. There are few mobile phones in entire village. There is no communication system except it. Usually the Transport and Communication system of the village is very poor that visitors are found to visit this place on the rainy days.

8. Economy:

Economically the village is very poor. Because they are not using their resource properly, there is a bad connection of transport and communication and no market available to sell the product. Mostly they earn money from Banana farm, Rice cultivation, Rubber cultivation, Pig rearing, Betel nuts, etc to another village or town. The villagers also earn money from working as wage labour.

9. Demographic

The village is home to 505 people, among them 285 (53%) are male and 220 (47%) are female. and 100% are schedule tribes. Child (aged under 6 years) population of Rangsapara village is 13%, among them 47% are boys and 53% are girls. There are 136 households in the village and an average 6 persons live in every family.

10. Wangala Festivals:

Wangala dancing has gained prominence as an important cultural expression of the Northeast Indian Garo community. In Rangsapara, a Wangala performance was included in the annual Republic Day parade. Photographs of Wangala dancing have come to play an important role on posters circulated by politicians and on calendars produced by organizations that call for greater political assertion of the Garo community. Beyond these relatively new uses, for adherents of the traditional Garo religion, Wangala dancing continues to be linked to the most important post-harvest festival. In exploring how Wangala dancing has developed into a powerful mediatized expression of the Garo community.



Plate: People Performs During Wangla Festivals

Wangala dance is part of the Wangala festival, which is the most important of all festivals of the Garo. This festival is also used as an occasion for selecting brides and bridegrooms. This dance festival is the most colorful and spectacular among the Garo community. To the tune of rhythmic sounds of native

musical instruments, the students are presenting the Wangala dance.

11. Village Beauty and Houses:

The Rangsapara village is located under Goalpara District. The human settlement of this village is very sparse. On October 2, 2014, the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi launched the Swatch Bharat Movement with the objective of making India clean and open-defecation free. The overall development of a State relies on its presence of a healthy sanitation network to a large extent. Every year a large number of people suffer from various diseases caused by defecating in the open. Keeping this in mind, Government of Assam has

given utmost emphasis to the provision of proper sanitation facilities in rural areas. In 2016-17, 10.54 lakh individual household toilets were built in the State and many more individual and community toilets are under-construction. In order to spread the message of cleanliness, the Government also institutionalized the "Cleanest Village Award" which went to Rangsapara village in Goalpara district. Government of Assam is continuously working hard to improve the level of cleanliness throughout the length and breadth of the State. However, change can come only when all of us work together and bring about positive changes in our State. Support us in this endeavor and let us transform Assam into a cleaner and better one.



Plate: Beautification of the village by planting colourful plans.

12. Concept of cleanliness of Rangsapara:

Rangsapara was declared as the cleanest village in the state for the year 2016/17 by the Public Health Department and also received a reward of Rs 5 lakhs CM Dr. Sarbananda Sonowal. Village head Robert John Momin said it was in the year 1999 when the village people began taking about cleanliness and in year 2000, they formed a ten member committee with was headed by himself he also said that the committee has taken for resolution –to be a peaceful and united village, to be a clean village, to have toilets in every household and availability of clean drinking water for all. Since the formation of the committee did not see any case of open defecation, violence or any one consuming drugs, alcohol or

smoking. They imposed a fine of Rs. 5001 if anyone found not following of the resolution.

13. Swatch Bharat Mission:

Rangsapara was declared as the cleanest village in the state for the year 2016/17 by the Public Health Department (PHED) last month and also received a reward of Rs 5 lakhs CM Dr. Sarbananda Sonowal. The village was selected by Omio Kumar Das Institute of Social Change and Development- a third party which examined every village in every district. The "clean initiative" in Rangsapara started much before NDA government initiated its ambitious Swatch Bharat Mission.



Plate: Dustbins can also be made artistic with and Recyclable modern-day dustbin the simplest form of material.

With the help of mission in 2014 and efforts Public Health Engineering Department (PHED), the villagers began to have pucca toilets. The village has never seen any conflicts; people have learned here to live peacefully and united.

14. Conclusion:

The cleanest village of Assam is very beautiful and cleanest because of proper maintaining system by the people of Rangsapara village. It is 16 kilometer from Goalpara district

headquarters. Rangsapara village covers an area of 128.35 hectares with a total population of 505 persons where 230 persons are male and 275 are female (2011 census). The village is predominantly occupied by Christian Garo tribes. The economic condition of Rangsapara village is not good. The

people of this village are mainly engaged in agriculture, pig rearing, rubber cultivation, handloom etc. most of the people are live in muddy house. The people of Rangsapara village are depends on traditional equipments.

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