

# **Localising Sustainable Development Goals through Autonomous District Councils in the Sixth Schedule Areas of North-east India: An Exploratory Study**

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## **Abstract**

Localisation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through local self-governments is a fundamental challenge for achieving the seventeen global goals. This paper explores the prospect of localising SDGs in the Autonomous District Councils (ADCs), which are local self-governments in the tribal areas mentioned in the Sixth Schedule of the Indian Constitution. Deriving from policy documents, constitutional provisions, and legal frameworks, our study shows links between the thematic approach to SDG localisation of Panchayats and the legislative provisions of the village local governments of the ADCs. While also exploring the conformity of the goals and indicators of the SDGs with the provisions of the Sixth Schedule, we suggest eight themes for actions at the district/regional level. Due to the distinct functioning of each ADCs, we believe that case studies and interaction with stakeholders could further help towards a bottom-up approach to successfully localising the SDGs in the ADCs.

**Keywords:** Local government, Sustainable development goals, Panchayats, Autonomous District Councils, Sixth Schedule

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