## **ABSTRACT**

## Studying Borderland Communities with special reference to India-Nepal Border

Rajesh S Kharat, Associate Professor, Centre for South Asian Studies, JNU, New Delhi

- To study people, who live along and are divided by India Nepal borders, have adjusted to the borderland situation and what strategies they use in order to extract different types of resources from it. Particularly, when Nepal is landlocked country and buffer between two Asian powers, India and China.
- To focus on the border populations and socio-economic, cultural and political fragmentation of various ethnic groups and dilemma in their approach towards the nationalities, they generate across the dividing lines.
- To analyse the role of rebel groups (separatists, secessionists and Maoists) in extracting political and human resources from the India-Nepal borderlands and challenges the territorial integrity and sovereignty of both the countries.
- Due to constant changes in the demography of India-Nepal Borderland region, the proposed study will examine the trends and pattern of migration and issue of Dual Citizenship and its impact on their voting behavior during the various regimes as it has a strong cross-border dimension.
- To study the borderland communities their agony, problems faced by them and their socio-economic challenges to their existence on the border, nature of their affiliations during the crisis (ethnic, political and economic) at the border states like Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Sikkim and West Bengal, (especially in Darjeeling, Kuresong and Kalimpong)
- Critically examine the role of local politicians and governments in overplaying unclear political loyalties of the borderland people which can lead to conflict or conflict like situation between India and Nepal.