ADMINISTRATIVE DEVELOPMENT IN ARUNACHAL PRADESH (FROM IMPERIAL RULE TO THE BIRTH OF NORTH-EAST FRONTIER AGENCY) I.E. NEFA

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Abstract

We may trace the genesis of the politico-administrative evolution of the state to the “Inner Line Regulation of 1873”. To consolidate their authority, the British appointed as an Assistant political officer, Mr. Francis Jack Needham at Sadiya in 1882. The Dibrugarh frontier tract was created in 1882 in order to fill up the gap between the administrative areas and the ‘Inner line’ through the extension of political control. In 1914, the Govt. of India, by a notification in its Foreign and political department extended the Assam frontier tracts Regulation of 1880 to the Hills and constituted in to the North-East Frontier Tracts (NEFT). The purpose of introducing the Assam Frontier (Administration of justice) Regulation in 1945 was to ensure that a vast majority of disputes and cases, both civil and criminal, were adjudicated in accordance with the prevailing traditional codes of the tribal communities. The Govt. of Assam assumed administrative jurisdiction over the area by virtue of the provisions of the Indian Independent act, 1947. From January 26, 1950, the administration of the area was administered in a different way by the president of India through the Govt. of Assam, acting in his discretion under the supervision and control of the Ministry of external affairs, Govt. of India, Mr. N. K. Rustomji was appointed the first Indian Adviser to the Governor of Assam. In 1951, the plain portion of the tracts were transferred to the control of the Govt. of Assam and the remaining hill portions was designated as North East Frontier Agency, popularly known as NEFA in 1954.