

Through the Diasporic Lens

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12	○ Through the Diasporic Lens	106
6.	'Good Punjabi Women': Home and Abroad Hina Nandrajog	
7.	Identities in <i>Flux</i> : Piecing the Diasporic Puzzle out in Chitra Viraraghavan's <i>The Americans</i> Indu B. Kurup	122
8.	Diaspora – The Secondary Perspective Jhumijhum Chakrabarti	138
9.	Politics of Language and Silence: Bengali Muslim Diaspora in Monica Ali's <i>Brick Lane</i> Nabanita Chakraborty	153

DIASPORA AND POLITICS

10.	Determinants of Migrants Voting Behaviour Anuranjita Wadhwa	167
11.	Changing Paradigms and Policies: Open Border between India and Nepal Sangit Sarita Dwivedi	183
12.	Understanding Policy and Development Challenges in India: A Critical Study of Cross-border Migration from Bangladesh to Assam Adrita Gogoi	199
	Contributors	216
	Index	220

Determinants of Migrants Voting Behaviour

Anuranjita Wadhwa

The evolution of democratic institutions is not uniform all over but is conditioned by time and space. Democratic process is moulded by the social order and in turn social order shapes its character. Indian politics has been witnessing the expansion of democratic political space and the nature of the functioning of political institutions. Democratic political institutions effect people attitude and cultural norms of the society and are in turn affected/shaped by it. Indian polity has undergone a wide range of developments. The political developments of the 1990s in response to social change have clearly contributed to 'greater democratisation of federalism and federalising of democracy'. Migrant's intense politicisation and participation in the political process as the natives in response to the changing currents witnessed by the Indian democracy places an onus on the leadership of the political parties to win their confidence and further the process of democratisation. Migrants are a critical group which can no longer be ignored necessitated by the compulsions of the electoral politics.

Keywords: Migrant, Political behaviour, Democracy

Introduction

Political participation is traditionally understood as involving the formalised participation in elections, the active involvement in political parties, and up to standing for election. Political participation is the involvement of a political actor in the