

"A man is  
great by  
deeds, not by  
birth"  
-Chanakya

Welcome to IIMK



INDIAN INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT KOZHIKODE



Working Paper

**IIMK/WPS/694/HLA/2026/05**

March 2026

**Rights and Surveillance: Indian Citizenship at the Altar of NRC**

Suraj Gogoi<sup>1</sup>

©

All rights belong to their respective author.

Please contact the corresponding author, if you would like to access the full paper.

<sup>1</sup>Assistant Professor, Humanities & Liberal Arts in Management Area, Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode, IIMK Campus PO, Kunnamangalam, Kozhikode, Kerala 673 570, India; Email - suraj.gogoi@iimk.ac.in, Phone Number - 0495-2809564.

## **Rights and Surveillance: Indian Citizenship at the Altar of NRC**

### **Abstract:**

This paper is interested in mapping and understanding the different forms of surveillance that are empirically found in contemporary Assam—social and technological. It will map the technological aspects of surveillance, from digital infrastructures to biometrics, enabled by both private and state entities. This paper, however, is more focused on social surveillance of non-state and state entities, whose actions and inactions (mutual surveillance) produce not only terror, fear, and anxiety among the surveilled population but also a “moral economy” of surveillance and punishment, too. It is through such experience of social surveillance that this paper hopes to show the “spaces of appearance” of the minority in public and private palaces.



भारतीय प्रबंध संस्थान कोषिककोड  
**Indian Institute Management Kozhikode**  
*Globalizing Indian Thought*

Research Office  
Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode  
IIMK Campus P. O.,  
Kozhikode, Kerala, India,  
PIN - 673 570  
Phone: +91-495-2809237/ 238  
Email: [research@iimk.ac.in](mailto:research@iimk.ac.in)  
Web: <https://iimk.ac.in/publications>

