

Dear Organiser of the ISMS conference,

I am writing to you to express my sincere apologies regarding the delayed submission of this abstract due to health related reasons in the past months. However, I would be very thankful if you could still go through and consider my abstract.

Please find my abstract for the ISMS 2023 below.

### **The strategic significance of the North-eastern states of India with special reference to Manipur**

Bharati Sharma\*#, Lakhan Singh Kushre\*

\*Department of Military Science, Government Science College, Jabalpur 482001, Madhya Pradesh, India.

#Contact Dr. Bharati Sharma- [bharatisha@gmail.com](mailto:bharatisha@gmail.com)

*The Northeast of India consists of eight (usually referred to as 7+1) states, also known as the seven sisters and Sikkim. This region is becoming significantly more important strategically as it is connected to the Indian 'mainland' via a 22 sq km of land known as the Siliguri Corridor while being very rich in biodiversity and natural resources. Spread over approximately 265,000 sq. km, and with an international border of 5182 km, this region also serves to bridge India with other countries of Southeast Asia – Bhutan, Nepal, China, Bangladesh and Myanmar. Despite being a part of the Republic of India, under the constitution, it has proved difficult to integrate this region to the mainland. Demographically, the urban and tribal population of these states have a Mongoloid lineage, and most states have large numbers of tribal population. The appearance and the tribal origins of these people, together, have put them repeatedly against the federal system of governance in India and has also contributed negatively towards their integration into the socio-political and cultural landscape. A consequence of this is rampant outbreaks of communal violence within the various tribal minorities of this region, further worsened by the influx of illegal immigrants from neighbouring countries due to natural disasters, poor border control and limited governance, making this region a strategic hotspot. Most recently, the state of Manipur has witnessed severe bouts of violent encounters among its key communities. In this study, the communal scenario of Manipur with respect to other northeastern states has been presented along with its strategic manifestations and consequences towards internal and regional security.*

I look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you.

Best regards,

Bharati Sharma

**Dr. Bharati Sharma, MSc, PhD**

Head of the Department,

Department of Military Science,

Government Science College,

Jabalpur 482001,

Madhya Pradesh, India.