

*Leave no One Behind:
Revisiting Pedagogy and Practice
of Social Work in India*



XI INDIAN SOCIAL WORK CONGRESS 2023

3-5 NOVEMBER

SOUVENIR

*Organized by
Department of Social Work
Maulana Azad National Urdu University, Hyderabad and NAPSWI
in Collaboration with UNFPA*



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Vice Chancellor, Maulana Azad National Urdu University

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University of Delhi (formerly), New Delhi

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ORGANIZING SECRETARY

Prof. Mohd. Shahid

Head, Department of Social Work, MANUU

Mob: 9958222106 Email: shahid@manuu.edu.in



XI Indian National Social Work Congress 2023

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XI Indian National Social Work Congress 2023

Message



مولانا آزاد نیشنل اردو یونیورسٹی
MAULANA AZAD NATIONAL URDU UNIVERSITY
A Central University under Ministry of Education
Government of India



پرو. سید عینول حسن، کولچالی
پروفیسر سید عین الحسن، شیخ الجامعہ
Prof. Syed Ainul Hasan, Vice-Chancellor



VC'S MESSAGE

I am glad that the Department of Social Work at Maulana Azad National Urdu University (MANUU) and the National Association of Professional Social Workers in India (NAPSUI) in collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund India (UNFPA) are organising the **XI Indian Social Work Congress 2023 from 3rd to 5th November 2023**.

The theme of the XI ISWC, *Leave No One Behind: Revisiting Pedagogy and Practice of Social Work in India*, is completely in sync with the Mandate of the Maulana Azad National Urdu University (MANUU) which aims to reach the unreached for the quality higher education.

I thank the office bearers of the NAPSUI for agreeing to hold the XI Indian Social Work Congress 2023 at MANUU, Hyderabad. Prof. R.P. Dwivedi, President, NAPSUI and Prof. Sanjai Bhatt, Immediate Past President deserve special mention.

I also appreciate the kind gesture of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) India for collaborating in this intellectual endeavour. We at MANUU value the long term relationship with UNFPA for working together with the Madrasas in Bihar. I believe, this is another feather in the cap and we look forward to further strengthening this collaboration. I take this opportunity to thank Ms. Andrea Wojnar, the Resident Representative for UNFPA India and her team members Mr. Sriram Haridass, Deputy Representative and Dr. Nilesh Deshpande, National Program Specialist.

I am delighted to know that Dr. Safina A.N., I.A.S. Principal Secretary, Minority Welfare Department, Government of Bihar has kindly agreed to grace the Inaugural session of the XI Indian Social Work Congress 2023. We have always valued the support of the Minority Welfare Department, Bihar Government to MANUU Darbhanga Campus. I look forward to welcome Dr. Safina and her team of senior officers especially Dr. Amir Afaque Ahmad Faizi, Joint Secretary cum Director at MANUU.

I am pleased to know that more than 400 participants have registered for the XI ISWC. I am also happy to know that the scholars and field practitioners of repute have agreed to come for the XI ISWC. I look forward for intensive deliberation and discussion in the XI ISWC.

I convey my best wishes to the Department of Social Work and the participants for the success of the XI ISWC. I am sure that the deliberations and outcome of the XI ISWC shall guide the scholars and institutions to revisit their curricula in tune with the rising aspirations of youth in India.

Prof. Syed Ainul Hasan

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XI Indian National Social Work Congress 2023

Message



MESSAGE

I am delighted to welcome you to the prestigious 11th Indian Social Work Congress (ISWC), jointly hosted by the Department of Social Work at Maulana Azad National Urdu University, and the National Association of Professional Social Workers in India (NAPSWI), in partnership with United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

The ISWC has a rich legacy of bolstering the social work field and advocating for the cause of social justice and human rights. The theme for this year, "Leaving No One Behind" (LNOB), holds a special significance as it resonates deeply with the fundamental tenets of social work. It also aligns seamlessly with the central principle of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Social workers demonstrate unwavering dedication to working with individuals of various and diverse life situations, with the shared goal of them achieving their full potential. The LNOB principle urges us to think critically about the systems and frameworks responsible for generating and sustaining disparities. Moreover, it inspires us to work together to create a more just and equitable society.

As a notable platform, ISWC provides an encouraging environment for social workers to collaborate, convene and bring forth new strategies for addressing the challenges of our time.

I look forward to incorporating these learnings and observations into the social work pedagogy. The theme of Leaving No One Behind should reflect the transformational changes that the pedagogy needs to undertake in order for us to equip the social workers with newer and efficient ways of doing innovations that are inclusive.

I have strong faith that this year's ISWC event will be brimming with productivity and informative insights. I encourage you to participate fully and share your innovative ideas and experiences. Together, we can make a real difference in the lives of those who are most marginalized and vulnerable and shape a world of dignity, hope and equal opportunity.

Andrea M Wojnar
UNFPA Representative India and Country Director, Bhutan



XI Indian National Social Work Congress 2023

Message



National Association of Professional Social Workers in India
Reg. No. 53647 of 2005 (Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860)
SECRETARY Office: C/o. Faculty Of Social Work,
MS University of Baroda, Vadodara, India-390002
www.napswi.org Email: napswi@gmail.com

16.10.2023

Prof. R P Dwivedi
President, NAPSWI

I am pleased to welcome you to the XI Indian Social Work Congress (ISWC) 2023, hosted by Department of Social Work, Maulana Azad National Urdu University (MANUU), Hyderabad in association with NAPSWI and UNFPA. There are three noticeable points in this ISWC. First, it is taking place in a University which has been established *to promote and develop the Urdu Language to impart education and training in vocational and technical subjects through the medium of Urdu, through teaching on the campus as well as at a distance, and to provide focus on women education*. Second, it is taking place after National Education Policy to discuss the issues of pedagogies and practices as its title says 'Leave No One Behind (LNOB): Revisiting Pedagogy and Practice of Social Work in India' and thirdly, UNFPA has extended its helping hand to this event for the great cause. These three factors remind me, as a student of Gandhian Studies, that LNOB is an extension of Gandhiji's ideal of *Antodaya* (Antodaya's vision is to realize a society where there is no hunger, fear, injustice-arising out of the culture of silence and disease.



It is indeed a matter of great personal and professional pride to me to share that the ISWC has also evolved to become one of the most important national events dedicated to social work education, research and action. NAPSWI has developed, nurtured and enriched the idea of organizing a national level conference annually on the pattern of Indian Science Congress. I anticipate that this ISWC shall provide an opportunity for soul searching and relocating our approaches and methodologies as well as reimagining future of social work profession. I sincerely expect that the ISWC shall turn out to be unique platform for social work fraternity to revalidate their professional presence in the dynamic and challenging times.

I am grateful to Prof. Syed Ainul Hasan, Vice Chancellor of MANUU for his patronage to this ICSW. On the behalf of organizing committee, I wish to convey grateful acknowledgement for the support received from our partner UNFPA and their team.

I congratulate Prof Mohd Shahid, Head, Department of Social Work, MANUU, Hyderabad for taking pains to organize this ISWC and being our host. I take this opportunity to thank all NAPSWI members especially executive committee members and, organizing committee, ISWC's advisor Prof Sanjai Bhatt, friends, and core working group for their untiring efforts in making XI ISWC as a resounding success. I also congratulate all NAPSWI Life Time achievers for accepting the award and their contribution in social work knowledge and practice.

Prof. R P Dwivedi



XI Indian National Social Work Congress 2023

Message



National Association of Professional Social Workers in India
Reg. No. 53647 of 2005 (Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860)
SECRETARY Office: C/o. Faculty Of Social Work,
MS University of Baroda, Vadodara, India-390002
www.napswi.org Email: napswi@gmail.com

15.10.2023

Prof. Sanjai Bhatt
Immediate Past President
Conference Advisor, XI ISWC 2023



I am pleased to welcome you all to the 11th Indian Social Work Congress (ISWC) 2023, organized and hosted by the Department of Social Work, MANUU, Hyderabad and National Association of Professional Social Workers in India (NAPSWI) in collaboration with United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

The XI ISWC is taking place in an institution which is named after well-known educationalist Abul Kalam Ghulam Muhiyuddin, also called Maulana Abul Kalam Azad or Maulana Azad. He adopted the pen name Azad as a mark of his mental emancipation from a narrow view of religion and life. He became the first Minister of Education in the Indian government.

It is indeed a matter of great professional pride for me to say that as an initiative of NAPSWI, ISWC has succeeded in achieving its purpose to bring the fraternity of professional social workers and other stakeholders together to discuss and deliberate upon the issues related to the social work education, practice and research in India. The ISWC has also realized its aim to strengthen the social work profession and to ensure social justice and human rights to its target constituencies. The first ISWC was held in Delhi in collaboration with Department of Social work, University of Delhi from 23-25 February, 2013 on theme 'Social Work Profession in India: Building Bridges and Bridging Gaps. This year theme of the ISWC is unique 'Leave No One Behind: Revisiting Pedagogy and Practice in India'. Leaving no one behind (LNOB) is the central, transformative promise of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals. It not only entails reaching the poorest of the poor, but requires combating discrimination and rising inequalities within and amongst countries, and their root causes. Social work is committed for LNOB through its approaches.

I am sanguine that the ISWC, like past years, shall prove an excellent forum for exchanging information and facilitating discussion on theme of ISWC, 'LNOB and pedagogies and practices. I hope that we will be able to converse the causes, context, concerns and convictions to respond to LNOB approaches, strategies, and interventions in this fast changing socio-economic and political context. This event shall provide an opportunity for soul searching and re-locating our approaches and methodologies as well as in re-imagining future of social work profession. I sincerely expect that the ISWC shall turn out to be unique platform for the social work fraternity to revalidate their professional presence in the dynamic and challenging after pandemic times. I admire the collaborative spirit of UNFPA who has extended helping hands in this task. As ISWC advisor, I gratefully acknowledge this partnership with UNFPA, particularly thankful to Sh Nilesch Deshpande, who cemented architecture of this partnership. I am sure that we will create similar opportunities to work for this cause in coming days.

I congratulate Prof Mohd Shahid, Organizing Secretary, XI ISWC 2023 and all Faculty Members of Department of Social Work, MANUU. I also congratulate the Office bearers and team of NAPSWI for their untiring efforts in making XI ISWC 2023 a resounding success.

I wish XI ISWC 2023 a great success.

Prof. Sanjai Bhatt

(NAPSWI has been granted a special consultative status by UN ECOSOC since 2019)
President Office: Department of Social Work, University Of Delhi, Delhi -110007,
email: sanjaibhatt@gmail.com



XI Indian National Social Work Congress 2023

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Government of India



SCHOOL OF ARTS & SOCIAL SCIENCES

Prof. Farida Siddiqui
Dean

Date: 23.10.2023



MESSAGE

I am glad that the XI Indian Social Work Congress 2023, themed 'Leave No One Behind: Revisiting Pedagogy and Practice of Social Work in India', is being organized by the Department of Social Work at the School of Arts and Social Sciences.

The chosen theme, 'leave no one behind', reflects the core principle of the 2030 agenda for sustainable development set forth by the United Nations. This theme reminds us of our shared responsibility, which resonates deeply with the ethos of our School, to ensure that the dividends of development and social progress reach every strata of the society irrespective of their identity, background or circumstances. It represents our commitment to promote welfare, social justice, the inclusion of marginalized communities, the reduction of inequalities and the pursuit of positive change within our society.

We are privileged to host the renowned scholars, practitioners, and experts from around the world who will share their insights, experiences, and research findings during this Congress. Furthermore I am optimistic that young social work enthusiasts would actively engage in the proceedings, contribute their fresh perspectives to the discourse while gaining valuable wisdom from the seasoned practitioners of the field.

I would like to express my gratitude to the National Association of Professional Social Workers in India and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), New Delhi for sponsoring this event. Their unwavering dedication and support underscores the significance of this conference.

I extend my best wishes to my colleagues and students from the Department of Social Work as well as our valued Sponsors and all participants for their commitment and remarkable efforts in organizing this Congress. I hope that this Congress will be a remarkable platform for the exchange of knowledge and ideas, fostering collaborations that will undoubtedly lead to positive transformations in the field of social work. I am confident that the XI Indian Social Work Congress will be a big success.

Best wishes for the event!

Farida
Farida Siddiqui

Gachibowli, Hyderabad-500 032, Telangana, India.

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XI Indian National Social Work Congress 2023

Message



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MAULANA AZAD NATIONAL URDU UNIVERSITY
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Government of India



Prof. Mohd. Shahid
Head, Department of Social Work

XI ISWC
Organizing Secretary

Project Director
UNFPA AEP Madrasa Project



Greetings from the Department of Social Work, Maulana Azad National Urdu University (MANUU), Hyderabad!

On behalf of my colleagues and students, I welcome all the participants of the XI Indian Social Work Congress 2023. I am grateful to senior social work educators from different universities and institutions for appreciating and agreeing to the proposed theme, **Leave No One Behind: Revisiting Pedagogy and Practice of Social Work in India**. The theme resonates with the vision of the Department to develop social work professionals committed to social justice for human well-being. I am sure that the deliberations in the XI ISWC shall help all of us to revisit the social work curriculum and work towards innovative social work pedagogy and practices in sync with the global and national mandates and contemporary realities.

I am thankful to the General Body of the National Association of Professional Social Workers in India (NAPSWI) for agreeing to organize the XI ISWC 2023 at Maulana Azad National Urdu University (MANUU), Hyderabad. My personal thank and gratitude to Prof. R.P. Dwivedi, President, NAPSWI and Prof. Sanjai Bhatt, Immediate Past President, NAPSWI.

I am thankful to Dr. Safina A.N., I.A.S. Principal Secretary, Minority Welfare Department, Government of Bihar for kindly agreeing to be the Chief Guest in the Inaugural session.

I am thankful to Mr. Sriram Haridass, Deputy Representative, UNFPA India for agreeing to deliver the Inaugural Address.

I am grateful to senior social work educators Prof. S.M. Sajid and Prof. Surinder Jaswal for kindly agreeing to deliver the Keynote Address and Valedictory Address respectively.

I am thankful to Dr. Sunitha Krishnan (*Padma Shri Awardee*) Co-Founder, Prajwala and Mr Ajay Khara, Country Representative (India) EngenderHealth for being the Guests of Honour.

It is no coincidence that the United Nations Population Fund, New Delhi kindly agreed to collaborate for the XI ISWC. Probably, it was the theme of the XI ISWC and the MANUU's engagement with UNFPA in the Madrasas of Bihar that brought this collaboration to fruition. For this, I would like to put on record my sincere thanks to Dr. Nilesh Deshpande, National Program Specialist, UNFPA India and Dr. Muhammad Nadeem Noor, former State Head, UNFPA Bihar.

I am thankful to the galaxy of plenary scholars both educators and practitioners for agreeing to deliberate on the key sub-themes of the XI ISWC. I also look forward to the speakers and paper presenters in the plenary and the technical sessions. I am also hopeful that the two round table discussions on *Revisiting Social Work Curriculum* and *Revisiting NAPSWI Definition of Social Work* would be fruitful.

The local organizing team hopes to provide all possible facilities during the XI ISWC from 3rd to 5th November 2023.

Prof. Mohd. Shahid
Organizing Secretary, XI ISWC

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XI Indian National Social Work Congress 2023



DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK, MANUU, HYDERABAD

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL SOCIAL WORKERS IN INDIA, NEW DELHI
In collaboration with
UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND, NEW DELHI

Invite you to the Inaugural of the

**XI INDIAN SOCIAL WORK
CONGRESS 2023**
3-5 NOVEMBER

Theme
**LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND: REVISITING PEDAGOGY AND
PRACTICE OF SOCIAL WORK IN INDIA**



Dr. Safeena A. N. I.A.S.
Principal Secretary, Minority Welfare
Department, Government of Bihar



Prof. Syed Ainul Hasan
Vice-Chancellor, MANUU, Hyderabad



Mr. Sriram Haridass
Deputy Representative, UNFPA India



Dr. Sunitha Krishnan
(Padma Shri Awardee) Co-Founder, Pragwala



Prof. R. P. Dwivedi
President, NAPSWI, New Delhi



Prof. Sanjai Bhatt
Conference Advisor/Immediate Past
President, NAPSWI, New Delhi



Prof. Farida Siddiqui
Dean, School of Arts & Social Sciences
MANUU



Prof. Mohd. Shahid
Organizing Secretary, XI ISWC/
Head, Department of Social Work

Date: 3 November 2023 | Time: 10:30 am - 12:00 pm | Venue: DDE Auditorium



XI Indian National Social Work Congress 2023

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK, MANUU, HYDERABAD
&
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL SOCIAL WORKERS IN INDIA, NEW DELHI
In collaboration with
UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND, NEW DELHI

Valedictory

XI INDIAN SOCIAL WORK
CONGRESS 2023
3-5 NOVEMBER

Theme
**LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND: REVISITING PEDAGOGY AND
PRACTICE OF SOCIAL WORK IN INDIA**

Prof. Surinder Jaswal
School of Social Work
TISS, Mumbai

Dr. Nilesh Deshpande
Program Specialist, UNFPA India

Dr. Ajay Khera
Country Representative
EngenderHealth India

Prof. Sonjoy Roy
Vice-President, NAPSWI, New Delhi

Prof. Shagufta Shaheen
OSD-I MANUU, Hyderabad

Prof. Md. Shahid Raza
Department of Social Work, MANUU

Date: 5 November 2023 | Time: 03:00 pm - 05:30 pm | Venue: Library Auditorium



XI Indian National Social Work Congress 2023

Online Pre-Conference Lectures

XI INDIAN SOCIAL WORK CONGRESS 2023
3-5 NOVEMBER

Theme
**LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND:
REVISITING PEDAGOGY AND PRACTICE
OF SOCIAL WORK IN INDIA**

Pre-Conference Lectures

<p>Brij Mohan Louisiana State University, USA <i>Topic</i> "Pedagogy and social practice"</p>	<p>Paul Michael Garrett University of Galway, Ireland <i>Topic</i> "A note on dissenting social work and the destabilisation of common sense"</p>	<p>Kris Clarke University of Helsinki, Finland <i>Topic</i> "Decolonizing social work in a world in flames"</p>

Available on IMC YouTube Channel  



XI Indian National Social Work Congress 2023

Keynote Speaker



XI INDIAN SOCIAL WORK CONGRESS 2023

3-5 NOVEMBER

Keynote Address

*Social Work Curriculum and Pedagogy:
Challenges in Contemporary Times*



Prof. S. M. Sajid

*Former Professor of Social Work &
Pro Vice-Chancellor, Jamia Millia Islamia
New Delhi*

Chair

Prof. Manish K. Jha

Date: 3 November 2023 | **Time:** 02:45 pm - 03:30 pm | **Venue:** DDE Auditorium



XI Indian National Social Work Congress 2023

Plenary 1-A Speakers

Day One

Plenary-1 (A)

XI INDIAN SOCIAL WORK CONGRESS 2023
3-5 NOVEMBER

Theme
**LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND:
REVISITING PEDAGOGY AND PRACTICE
OF SOCIAL WORK IN INDIA**

Social Work Pedagogy and Pedagogical Challenges

Plenary Speakers

Prof. Murli Desai
Formerly, TISS, Mumbai

Dr. Ajit Kumar
Formerly, Matru Sewa Sangh
Institute of Social Work, Nagpur

Prof. Zubair Meenai
Department of Social Work, JMI, New Delhi

Prof. Avatthi Ramaiah
CSSEIP, TISS, Mumbai

Moderator
Prof. Neera Agnimitra
Department of Social Work
University of Delhi

Date: 3 November 2023 | Time: 03:45 pm - 06:00 pm | Venue: DDE Auditorium



XI Indian National Social Work Congress 2023

Plenary 1-B Speakers

Day Two

Plenary-1 (B)

XI INDIAN SOCIAL WORK CONGRESS 2023
3-5 NOVEMBER

Theme
**LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND:
REVISITING PEDAGOGY AND PRACTICE
OF SOCIAL WORK IN INDIA**
Social Work Pedagogy and Pedagogical Challenges

Plenary Speakers


Prof. Neera Agnimitra
Department of Social Work, University of Delhi


Prof. Manish K. Jha
School of Social Work, TISS, Mumbai


Prof. Bipin Jojo
School of Social Work, TISS, Mumbai


Prof. P.K. Shajahan
School of Social Work, TISS, Mumbai


Dr. Farrukh Faheem
Department of Anthropology
University of Kashmir, Srinagar

Moderator
Dr. Ajit Kumar
Formerly, Matru Sewa Sangh Institute of
Social Work, Nagpur

Date: 4 November 2023 | Time: 11:30 am - 01:30 pm | Venue: Library Auditorium, MANUU



XI Indian National Social Work Congress 2023

Plenary 2 Speakers

Day Two

Plenary-2

XI INDIAN SOCIAL WORK CONGRESS 2023

3-5 NOVEMBER

Theme
**LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND:
REVISITING PEDAGOGY AND PRACTICE
OF SOCIAL WORK IN INDIA**

Youth Interventions in Institutional and Community Settings

Plenary Speakers


Prof. Neelam Sukhrmani
Department of Social Work, JMI, New Delhi


Mr. Sandeep Chachra
ActionAid India, New Delhi


Ms. Keerti
UNFPA, Patna


Mr. Sunil Jacob
UNFPA, Madhya Pradesh


Dr. Syed Hubbe Ali
UNICEF, New Delhi


Ms. Naghma Abidi
ISDM, NOIDA


Mr. Ovais Sultan Khan
Future Council, New Delhi


Moderators
Dr. A A A Faizi
Joint Secretary cum Director, Minority Welfare
Department, Government of Bihar

Date: 4 November 2023 | Time: 02:45 pm - 05:00 pm | Venue: Library Auditorium



XI Indian National Social Work Congress 2023

Special Session-1 Speakers

Day
Three





XI INDIAN SOCIAL WORK CONGRESS 2023
3-5 NOVEMBER

Special
Session
1

Theme
**LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND:
REVISITING PEDAGOGY AND PRACTICE
OF SOCIAL WORK IN INDIA**

Youth Interventions in Institutional and Community Settings

Speakers

			
<p>Prof. R. Nalini Department of Social Work Pondicherry University</p>	<p>Prof. Seema Sharma Department of Social Work University of Delhi</p>	<p>Prof. Neena Pandey Department of Social Work University of Delhi</p>	<p>Mr. Kumar Manish UNFPA, Rajasthan</p>
			
<p>Ms. Amrita Goswami USAID, Hyderabad</p>	<p>Mr. Dawood Alam EngenderHealth, New Delhi</p>	<p>Prof. A. Shahin Sultana Department of Social Work Pondicherry University</p>	<p>Dr. Namami Sharma Department of Social Work Tezpur University, Assam</p>

Moderator

Prof. Bipin Jojo
School of Social Work TISS, Mumbai

Date: 5 November 2023 | Time: 10:45 am - 01:15 pm | Venue: Library Auditorium



XI Indian National Social Work Congress 2023

Special Session-2 Speakers

Day Three

Special Session 2

Association of Professional Social Workers in India • NA-PSWI

UNFPA

XI INDIAN SOCIAL WORK CONGRESS 2023

3-5 NOVEMBER

Theme
**LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND:
REVISITING PEDAGOGY AND PRACTICE
OF SOCIAL WORK IN INDIA**
From Social Work Curriculum to Practice

Speakers



Prof. Vijay Raghavan
School of Social Work, TISS, Mumbai


Dr. Saumya
IGNOU, New Delhi


Dr. Pushpanjali Jha
Department of Social Work
University of Delhi


Dr. Bhat Iqbal Majeed
Department of Social Work
Central University of Jammu


Dr. Manoj Joseph
School of Rural Development
TISS, Tuljapur Campus


Dr. Varun Sharma
Independent Researcher


Dr. Iftekhar Alam
Department of Social Work
Pondicherry University


Dr. Syed Ghufuran Hashmi
Indian Institute of Information Technology
Sonapat

Moderator
Dr. Farrukh Faheem
University of Kashmir

Date: 5 November 2023 | Time: 10:45 am - 01:15 pm | Venue: CPDUMT Auditorium



XI Indian National Social Work Congress 2023

NAPSWI Lifetime Achievement Awards

NAPSWI
Lifetime Achievement Awards

Dr. Sudershan Pasupuleti
University of Texas
Rio Grande Valley

Prof. Raj Kumar Singh
University of Lucknow

Prof. Noor Mohammad
Aligarh Muslim University

Dr. S R Billore
Indore School of Social Work

Ms. Sachi Singh
Founder Ehsas

Date: 3 November 2023 | **Time:** 12:30 pm - 01:30 pm | **Venue:** DDE Auditorium



XI Indian National Social Work Congress 2023

XI Indian Social Work Congress 2023

National Association of Professional Social Workers in India (NAPSWI), New Delhi is organizing the XI Indian Social Work Congress (ISWC) from 3rd to 5th November 2023 at the Department of Social Work, Maulana Azad National Urdu University, Hyderabad. The XI ISWC is being organized in collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), New Delhi.

Social work is committed to facilitating and promoting self-reliant individuals, sustainable group practices and an egalitarian and undivided society through the science of teaching and the art of doing. With the early moorings in social service traditions and organized social welfare, social work has evolved to cater the changing needs of society in the wake of industrialization, urbanization and obtuse development. It marked its presence to provide specialized services to individuals, groups and communities. Social work as human service profession is committed- *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*. The global commitment to LNOB Pledge (leave no one behind) amidst shrinking state welfare, diminishing social capital and increasing humanitarian crisis demand revisiting the pedagogies and practices. It is important to revisit the existing practices of teaching-learning on one hand, and on the other, to review, reflect and learn from the sustainable models of engaging people on the margins. This Congress would like to revisit the efforts of social work community in the past and deliberate on the plans for future.



In the last eight decades, social work progressed enormously in terms of the spread of social work educational institutions and students receiving professional education and embarking on their journey as human service workforce. The period also saw dynamic responses and initiatives on the part of the professional bodies of social work, government regulatory bodies, academic institutions and individuals in shaping and imagining the profession. This resulted in the production of the voluminous literature on social work including the textbooks and encyclopaedias of social work, review reports and model curricula, and the publication of professional journals.

Adhering to the pedagogy of the question rather than the answer, there is a need to re-examine and reflect on the journey travelled so far. The profession of social work in India is not without contestations. Still, there are many good old unresolved questions around the very professional status of social work and its indigenous base in India which need to be explored in conceptual and theoretical realms. During COVID-19, the community of professional social workers in India has launched a digital advocacy campaign for setting a national council for social work education. It is quite ironic that social work is still entangled with the rigidity of societal structures and the uncertainty of professional limits coupled with profound intellectual and ethical musings.

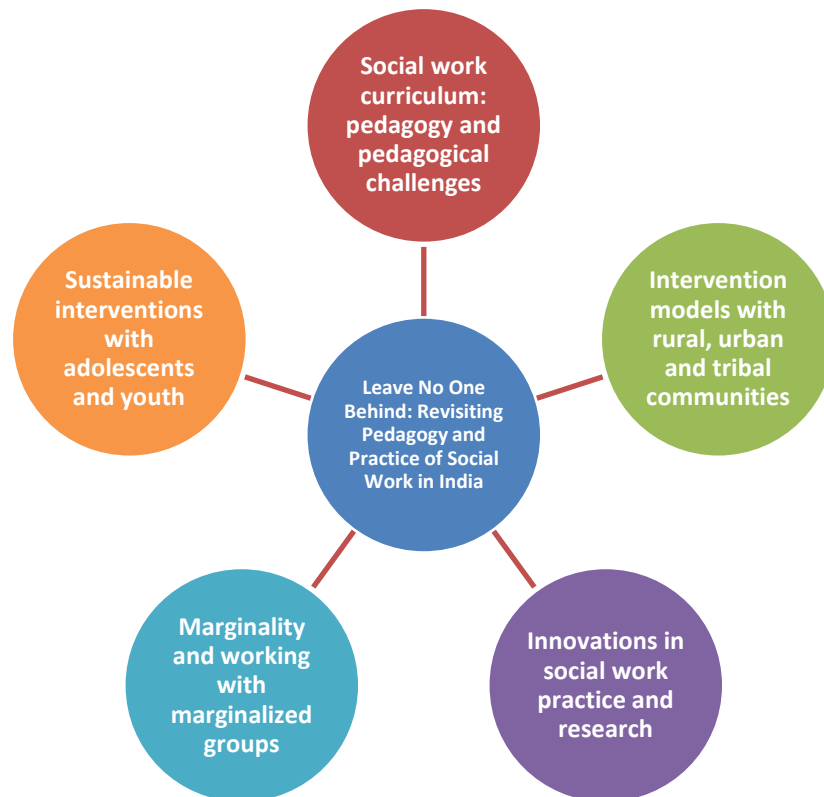
There are also questions on the future of social work in the wake of the shrinking welfare sector and competition in the job market from allied professions. Equally, pertinent is the need to look back and reflect on our socio-political legacy, the professional literature developed, the evolving nature of the curriculum and the



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intervention models that emerged from the field. The challenges and opportunities within the larger questions of disciplinary contours and professional competencies are two aspects for critical scrutiny. This requires a renewed discussion on social work pedagogies and practices in India. The voyage of relooking the past paradigms of social work requires a convergence of its sailors (educators and practitioners) for deliberations in the fast-changing contemporary times.

We are pleased to invite social work community representing the academicians, professionals, researchers and other stakeholders committed to human service professions to come and to be part of this historic experience as well as contribute to this deliberation on social work education and practice in India. We hope that together the fraternity could introspect and reflect on a better present as well as the future of our profession, professional education and sustainable practices.





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Sub Themes

Social work curriculum: pedagogy and pedagogical challenges

- ❖ National framework; regional specificities; and vernacular challenges in making and transacting curriculum in the context of National Education Policy 2020 and Sustainable Development Goals 2030
- ❖ Accounts of educators and practitioners on teaching and practice of different methods of working with people
- ❖ Lessons from social reform movements/social reformers and civil rights/grassroots movements
- ❖ Theorizing indigenous knowledge (nature, context and relevance) for social work education and practice

Sustainable interventions with adolescents and youth

- ❖ Adolescents, youth and sustainable development goals 2030
- ❖ Universal access to sexual and reproductive health
- ❖ Demographic dividend and life skills
- ❖ Social work and youth friendly mental health services
- ❖ Intervention by social work professionals in promoting reproductive choices and reproductive health services

Intervention models with rural, urban and tribal communities

- ❖ SDG-2030 and emerging issues in rural, urban and tribal spaces
- ❖ Poverty alleviation initiatives by state and non-state actors
- ❖ Education, livelihoods and self-governance
- ❖ Exclusion and right assertion movements
- ❖ Role of CSR in creating sustainable communities
- ❖ Non-governmental organizations and sustainability

Marginality and working with marginalized groups

- ❖ Muslims and other minorities
- ❖ Homeless, elderly and LGBTQIA+
- ❖ Migrants, refugees and persons with disabilities
- ❖ Social work and persons living with HIV/AIDS
- ❖ Environment and social work
- ❖ Gender centric social work

Innovations in social work practice and research

- ❖ School/Sanskrit Vidyalyayas/Madrasas and community linkages
- ❖ Digital revolution and social work
- ❖ New practice models in different sectors
- ❖ Social innovation and social enterprises for sustainability
- ❖ COVID pandemic and social work
- ❖ New paradigms in social work research
- ❖ Collaborations, partnerships and co-creation



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Major Highlights of the Congress

Data Matrix

Delegates	473
Online Registration	389
Accepted Abstracts	216
Participation from States & Union Territories	22
Participating Academic Institutions	112
Academicians	161
Field Practitioners	63
Research Scholars	142
BSW & MSW	107
Total Technical Sessions	18
Total Plenary Sessions	03
Special Sessions	02
Thematic Workshops	02
Round Table Discussions	02
Students' Forum	01
Book Release	03

Book Release

The Congress is hosting book release function related to social work. Three books authored by Dr. Ajeet Kumar Pankaj, Indira Gandhi National Tribal University, Manipur; Dr. Rahul Kapoor, Gautam Buddha University, Greater Noida and Dr. D. Srinivasa, Central University of Karnataka are scheduled to be released during the Congress. Dr. Rahul Kapoor has authored *Feminist and Ferocious: Women student Activists in Contemporary India*. *Vrundagatha Samajakaarya* (Kannada language) is authored by Dr. D. Srinivasa and Dr. Ajeet Kumar Pankaj has authored *Dalit Migrants: Assertion, Emancipation and Social Change*.

Cultural Evening

University students are showcasing a variety of cultural performances at the university's open-air theater in the Inaugural Evenings. Moreover, in recognition of the substantial presence of social work students, educators, and practitioners in the audience, a Qawwali performance centered on gender construction is being organized by the female members of the Shaheen Women's Resource and Welfare Association.



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United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

UNFPA is the United Nations' sexual and reproductive health agency. UNFPA's mission is to deliver a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe and every young person's potential is fulfilled. UNFPA calls for the realization of reproductive rights for all and supports access to a wide range of sexual and reproductive health services, including voluntary family planning, quality maternal health care and comprehensive sexuality education.

National Association of Professional Social Workers in India (NAPSWI)

National Association of Professional Social Workers in India (NAPSWI) is one of the largest member-based organization of professional social workers in the country. Established in 2005, NAPSWI is a non-profit, non-political, national level organization dedicated to the promotion of the standard and status of social work profession. NAPSWI intends to promote the social work profession across the country with the aim of improving the quality of services in the social welfare and social development sectors on one hand and protecting interests of social work professionals on the other. NAPSWI has been granted a special consultative status by UN ECOSOC since 2019. NAPSWI believes in shaking hands with different stakeholders- be it social work educational institutions, government, non-government, civil society or any likeminded person/institution with similar philosophy.

Maulana Azad National Urdu University (MANUU)

Maulana Azad National Urdu University (MANUU) is a Central University established by an Act of Parliament in 1998. The main campus of MANUU is located in Gachibowli, Hyderabad, Telangana State, over an area of 200 acres. MANUU has been accredited with A+ Grade by NAAC. The University is named after Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, the freedom fighter and outstanding scholar, who as the first Education Minister of Independent India envisioned and laid the foundation of technical, scientific and higher education in India. The academic thrust of MANUU lies in its unique service of providing education from elementary to doctoral levels through the medium of the Urdu language. MANUU is the only academic destination offering a large number of higher education programmes for Urdu speaking people in the country. MANUU has its presence in 11 States across India.

Department of Social Work

The Department of Social Work aspires to develop social work professionals with an inclination and orientation to work with the marginalized sections and contribute to human wellbeing. It is a young department which started Master of Social Work in 2009 and doctoral degree program in year 2014. More recently department has initiated skill lab for facilitating students to make sense of (hegemonic) common sense. It endeavors to facilitate students in questioning their own perceptions, develop sensitivity to issues and imbibe progressive human values.



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Program Schedule

S. N.	Resource Person	Session	Date/Time
Pre-conference Lectures (Online)			
1.	Prof. Brij Mohan Dean Emeritus, School of Social Work Louisiana State University, United States	Pedagogy and Social Practice	20th October
2.	Dr. Paul Michael Garrett School of Political Science and Sociology University of NUI Galway, Ireland	A Note on Dissenting Social Work and the Destabilisation of Common Sense	20th October
3.	Dr. Kris Clarke Faculty of Social Sciences University of Helsinki, Finland	Decolonizing Social Work in a World in Flames	26th October
Day-1: 3rd November			
Registration starts @ 8.00 am at DDE Lawn			
Inaugural Session at DDE Auditorium			
Anchor: Mr. Abu Osama, MANUU			
@ 10.30 am – 12.00 noon			
1.	MANUU Tarana	Pre-recorded (by IMC)	
2.	Snaps of Pre-Conference Online Lectures (Introductory Remarks)	Pre-recorded (by IMC)	
3.	Prof. Mohd. Shahid Organizing Secretary, XI ISWC/ Head, Department of Social Work	Welcome	10.35 am – 10.40 am (5 minutes)
4.	Memento Presentation to Guests		10.40 am – 10.45 am (5 minutes)
5.	Prof. Sanjai Bhatt Conference Advisor/Immediate Past President, NAPSWI, New Delhi	About XI ISWC	10.45 am – 10.55 am (10 minutes)
6.	Prof. R. P. Dwivedi President, NAPSWI, New Delhi	About NAPSWI	10.55 am – 11.05 am (10 minutes)
7.	Dr. Sunitha Krishnan (Padma Shri Awardee) Co-Founder, Prajwala, Hyderabad	Guest of Honour	11.05 am – 11.20 am (15 minutes)
8.	Dr. Amir Afaq Ahmad Faizi Joint Secretary cum Director, Minority Welfare Department, Govt. of Bihar	Guest of Honour	11.20 am – 11.35 am (15 minutes)
9.	Mr. Sriram Haridass Deputy Representative UNFPA India	Chief Guest	11.20 am – 11.35 am (15 minutes)
10.	Prof. Syed Ainul Hasan Vice-Chancellor, MANUU	Presidential Remarks	11.50 am – 12.05 pm (15 minutes)
11.	National Anthem		Pre-recorded (by IMC)
Tea Break (12.15 – 12.30 pm)			
NAPSWI Lifetime Achievement Awards Ceremony (12.30 pm – 1.15 pm)			
Lunch at University Guest House (1.30 pm – 2.30 pm)			



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Day-1: 3rd November			
Felicitations to Sponsors (2.30 pm – 2.45 pm)			
Keynote Address (2.45 pm to 3.30 pm) at DDE Auditorium Anchor: Prof. Mohd. Shahid, MANUU			
Prof. S. M. Sajid Former Professor of Social Work & Pro Vice-Chancellor, Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI), New Delhi		Social Work Curriculum and Pedagogy: Challenges in Contemporary Times	Chair: Prof. Manish K. Jha TISS, Mumbai
Tea Break (3.30 pm to 3.45 pm)			
Plenary-1 (A): Social Work Pedagogy and Pedagogical Challenges at DDE Auditorium Anchor: Prof. Md. Shahid Raza, MANUU @ 3.45 pm – 6.00 pm Moderator: Prof. Neera Agnimitra, Department of Social Work University of Delhi			
1.	Prof. Murli Desai Formerly, TISS, Mumbai	My Experiments with Social Work Curriculum and Pedagogy	3.45 pm – 4.10 pm (25 minutes)
2.	Dr. Ajit Kumar Formerly, Matru Sewa Sangh Institute of Social Work, Nagpur	Challenges Addressed and Self-Doubts Resolved: Social Work in India Today	4.10 pm – 4.35 pm (25 minutes)
3.	Prof. Zubair Meenai Department of Social Work, JMI New Delhi	Deconstructing Decolonisation of Social Work Education & Practice in India	4.35 pm – 5.00 pm (25 minutes)
4.	Prof. Avatthi Ramaiah CSSIEP, TISS, Mumbai	Leave No One Behind: Why should We Revisit first the Pedagogies and Practices of Social Work Profession?	5.00 pm – 5.25 pm (25 minutes)
Q & A 35 Minutes @5.25 pm – 6.00 pm			
Cultural Evening at Open Air Theatre @7.00 pm – 9.00 pm [with Tea] followed by Open Lawn Common Dinner at University Guest House @ 9.00 pm – 10.30 pm			



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Day-2: 4th November

Parallel Technical Sessions (PTS 1-6) – 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6

9.00 am – 11.00 am

at School of Arts & Social Sciences (Moonis Raza Bhawan)

[13 Presentations per Technical Session | 78 Presentations | 08 Minutes per Presentation]

PTS-1: Social Work Curriculum: Pedagogy and Pedagogical Challenges

Chair: Prof. Suresh Pathare, CSRD, Ahmednagar, Maharashtra

PTS-2: Sustainable Interventions with Adolescents and Youth

Chair: Prof. Atul Pratap Singh, BRAC, University of Delhi

PTS-3: Intervention Models with Rural, Urban and Tribal Communities

Chair: Prof. Mouleshri Vyas, School of Social Work, TISS, Mumbai

PTS-4: Marginality and Working with Marginalized Groups (A)

Chair: Dr. Habeebul Rahiman V.M., JMI, New Delhi

PTS-5: Marginality and Working with Marginalized Groups (B)

Chair: Prof. Keshav Walke, MSSISW, Nagpur

PTS-6: Innovations in Social Work Practice and Research

Chair: Prof. Asok Kumar Sarkar, Visva Bharati, Shantiniketan

Q & A | 15 Minutes @ each Session

Round Table Discussion-1

9.00 am – 11.00 am

Global and National Mandates: Revisiting Social Work Curriculum

Chair: Prof. Zubair Meenai

Co-Chair: Dr. Nilesh Deshpande

Round Table Members

Prof. Murli Desai

Prof. Sanjai Bhatt

Prof. Bipin Jojo

Prof. Manish K. Jha

Prof. Anoop Kumar Bhartiya

Prof. Sanjoy Roy

Dr. Iqball Bhat Majeed

Dr. Namami Sharma

Mr. Dawood Alam

Mr. Ovais Sultan Khan

Prof. Mohd. Shahid

at Department of Social Work, School of Arts & Social Sciences (Moonis Raza Bhawan)

Parallel Workshop-1

9.00 am – 11.00 am

Title: Innovative Pedagogy in Social Work Education: Emphasizing Experiential Learning, Blended Methodologies, and AI-Driven Possibilities for Outcome-Based Skill Development

Resource Person: Dr. Anish K.R., Rajagiri College of Social Sciences, Kerala
at Conference Room, School of Arts & Social Sciences (Moonis Raza Bhawan)

Tea Break (11.00 am – 11.15 am) at Moonis Raza Bhawan



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Day-2: 4th November			
Plenary-1 (B): Social Work Pedagogy and Pedagogical Challenges at Saiyid Hamid Library Auditorium, MANUU Anchor: Dr. Md. Aftab Alam, MANUU @ 11.30 am – 1.30 pm Moderator: Dr. Ajit Kumar, Formerly, Matru Sewa Sangh Institute of Social Work, Nagpur			
1.	Prof. Neera Agnimitra Department of Social Work, University of Delhi	Community and Community Practice in Contemporary Times: Dialectics and Responses	11.30 am – 11.50 am (20 minutes)
2.	Prof. Bipin Jojo School of Social Work, TISS, Mumbai	Indigenous Knowledge and Social Work Education and Practice in India	11.50 am – 12.10 pm (20 minutes)
3.	Prof. Manish K. Jha School of Social Work, TISS, Mumbai	Social Policy and Practice in Social Work: History, Reality and Relevance	12.10 pm – 12.30 pm (20 minutes)
4.	Prof. P.K. Shajahan School of Social Work, TISS, Mumbai	Localizing SDGs through Research and Action: Social Work Responses for an Equitable Society	12.30 pm – 12.50 pm (20 minutes)
5.	Dr. Farrukh Faheem Department of Anthropology, University of Kashmir	Call for Indigenizing Social Work in India: Decolonization Quest or Push for Localism?	12.50 pm – 1.10 pm (20 minutes)
Q & A 20 Minutes @ 1.10 pm – 1.30 pm			
Lunch at University Guest House (1.30 pm – 2.30 pm)			



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Day-2: 4th November			
Plenary -2: Youth Interventions in Institutional and Community Settings at Saiyid Hamid Library Auditorium, MANUU Anchor: Mr. Md. Israr Alam, MANUU @ 2.45 pm – 5.00 pm			
Moderator: Dr. Amir Afaque Ahmad Faizi, Joint Secretary cum Director, Minority Welfare Department, Govt. of Bihar			
1.	Prof. Neelam Sukhramani Department of Social Work, JMI, New Delhi	Revisualizing Youth Social Work: Instrumentality to Individuality	2.45 pm – 3.00 pm (15 minutes)
2.	Mr. Sandeep Chachra Executive Director, ActionAid India	Role of Youth Collectives in Voicing their Rights	3.00 pm – 3.15 pm (15 minutes)
3.	Ms. Keerti UNFPA, Bihar	Adolescence Education Program in Madrasas of Bihar	3.15 pm – 3.30 pm (15 minutes)
4.	Dr. Syed Hubbe Ali Health Specialist, UNICEF, New Delhi	Need for National Adolescent Resource Centre (NARC): India	3.30 pm – 3.45 pm (15 minutes)
5.	Mr. Sunil Jacob UNFPA, Madhya Pradesh	Integration of life skills to empower adolescents in the educational institutions - Experience from Madhya Pradesh	3.45 pm – 4.00 pm (15 minutes)
6.	Mr. Ovais Sultan Khan Trustee, Future Council, New Delhi	Fostering Global Fraternity through Social Work Education: The Power of Listening	4.00 pm – 4.15 pm (15 minutes)
7.	Ms. Naghma Abidi Program Director (Academics) ISDM, NOIDA	Re-Imagining Pedagogy for Transformational Social and Individual Change	4.15 pm – 4.30 pm (15 minutes)
Q & A 30 Minutes @ 4.30 pm – 5.00 pm			
Tea Break (5.00 pm – 5.30 pm) @ Moonis Raza Bhawan			
Parallel Technical Sessions (PTS 7-12) – 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 & 12 5.30 pm – 7.30 pm at School of Arts & Social Sciences (Moonis Raza Bhawan) [13 Presentations per Technical Session 78 Presentations 08 Minutes per Presentation]			
PTS-7: Social Work Curriculum: Pedagogy and Pedagogical Challenges Chair: Dr. Shaizy Ahmed, CURAJ, Rajasthan			
PTS-8: Sustainable Interventions with Adolescents and Youth Chair: Dr. Arif Ali, IHBAS, New Delhi			
PTS-9: Intervention Models with Rural, Urban and Tribal Communities Chair: Dr. D.C. Kirtiraj, Bharati Vidyapeeth, Solapur, Maharashtra			
PTS-10: Marginality and Working with Marginalized Groups (A) Chair: Dr. Reena M Cherian, Christ University, Bengaluru			
PTS-11: Marginality and Working with Marginalized Groups (B) Chair: Dr. Sanjay Ingole, JMI, Delhi			
PTS-12: Innovations in Social Work Practice and Research Chair: Dr. Pushpa Mishra, Jannayak Chandrashekhar University, Ballia, Uttar Pradesh			
NAPSWI General Body Meeting (7.30 pm – 8.30 pm) at Saiyid Hamid Library Auditorium, MANUU			
Dinner at respective Accommodation Venues (8.30 pm – 9.30 pm)			
Post-Dinner Students' Forum at Cultural Activity Centre (9.30 pm – 10.30 pm) Facilitators: Prof. Keshav Walke, Prof. Neena Pandey, Mr. Suneel Vatsyayan & Ms. Ankita Singh			



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Day-3: 5th November

Parallel Technical Sessions (PTS 13-18) – 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 & 18

9.00 am – 10.30 am

at School of Arts & Social Sciences (Moonis Raza Bhawan)

[10 Presentations per Technical Session | 60 Presentation | 08 Minutes per Presentation]

PTS-13: Social Work Curriculum: Pedagogy and Pedagogical Challenges

Chair: Prof. Anoop Kumar Bhartiya, Lucknow University

PTS-14: Sustainable Interventions with Adolescents and Youth

Chair: Prof. Md Faiz Ahmad, MANUU CTE, Darbhanga

PTS-15: Intervention Models with Rural, Urban and Tribal Communities (A)

Chair: Prof. D. K. Lal Das, Formerly, Roda Mistry College of Social Work, Hyderabad

PTS-16: Intervention Models with Rural, Urban and Tribal Communities (B)

Chair: Dr. Prakash Amin, MV Shetty Institute of Professional Sciences and Management, Mangalore

PTS-17: Marginality and Working with Marginalized Groups (A)

Chair: Dr. Rupesh Kumar Singh, Dr. Shakuntala Mishra National Rehabilitation University, Lucknow

Q & A | 15 Minutes @ each Session PTS-18: Marginality and Working with Marginalized Groups (B)

Chair: Dr. Shyna Saif, Aligarh Muslim University

Q & A | 10 Minutes @ each Session

Round Table Discussion-2

9.00 am – 10.30 am

Revisiting NAPSWI Definition of Social Work

Chair: Prof. P.K. Shajahan

Round Table Members

Prof. Neera Agnimitra

Prof. Neelam Sukhramani

Prof. Ankur Saxena

Prof. Asok Kumar Sarkar

Prof. R. Nalini

Prof. Atul Pratap Singh

Prof Asutosh Pradhan

Prof. Anish K.R.

Dr. Siddharth Gangale

Dr Farrukh Faheem

at Department of Social Work, School of Arts & Social Sciences (Moonis Raza Bhawan)

Parallel Workshop-2

Title: Social Work and Spirituality

Resource Person: Prof. Suresh Pathare, CSR, Ahmednagar, Maharashtra

at Conference Room, School of Arts & Social Sciences (Moonis Raza Bhawan)

9.00 am – 10.30 am

Tea Break (10.30 am – 10.45 am)



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Day-3: 5th November			
Special Session-1: Youth Interventions in Institutional and Community Settings at Saiyid Hamid Library Auditorium, MANUU Anchor: Dr. Siddharth Gangale @ 10.45 am – 1.15 pm Moderator: Prof. Bipin Jojo, TISS			
1.	Prof. R. Nalini Department of Social Work, Pondicherry University, Puducherry	Towards a Drug-Free Puducherry: Preventive Education, Outreach and Support among Higher Educational Institution (HEI) Personnel and At-Risk Communities	10.45 am – 11.00 am (15 minutes)
2.	Prof. Seema Sharma Department of Social Work, University of Delhi	Corporate Social Responsibility and Social Development: Possibilities, Contentions, and Implications for Teaching- Learning in Social Work	11.00 am – 11.15 am (15 minutes)
3.	Prof. Neena Pandey Department of Social Work, University of Delhi	Social Work with Prisoners: Exploring Avenues of Engagements through Empowering Process	11.15 am – 11.30 am (15 minutes)
4.	Mr. Kumar Manish UNFPA, Rajasthan	Reaching to Marginalized Adolescent Girls Studying in KGBV Schools of Rajasthan with Life Skills Education	11.30 am – 11.45 am (15 minutes)
5.	Ms. Amrita Goswami USAID, Hyderabad	Efforts to address health and wellbeing of adolescents and youth	11.45 am – 12.00 noon (15 minutes)
6.	Mr. Dawood Alam Engender Health, New Delhi	Social Work Macro Practice for Sustainable Adolescent Health Development	12.00noon– 12.15 pm (15 minutes)
7.	Prof. A. Shahin Sultana Department of Social Work, Pondicherry University, Puducherry	Enhancing School Well-Being Initiatives through School Social Work Practice: Insights and Perspectives	12.15 pm– 12.30 pm (15 minutes)
8.	Dr. Namami Sharma Department of Social Work, Tezpur University, Assam	Revisiting Community Organisation: From Archives to the Field	12.30 pm– 12.45 pm (15 minutes)
Q & A 30 Minutes @ 12.45 pm – 1.15 pm			



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Day-3: 5th November			
Special Session-2: From Social Work Curriculum to Practice			
at CPDUMT Auditorium, MANUU			
Anchor: Dr. Abul Salim Khan, MANUU			
@ 10.45 am – 1.15 pm			
Moderator: Dr. Farrukh Faheem, University of Kashmir			
1.	Prof. Vijay Raghavan School of Social Work, TISS, Mumbai	The Invisibility of Minority Communities among the NT-DNTs: Southernising Criminology and Criminal Justice Social Work	10.45 am – 11.00 am (15 minutes)
2.	Dr. Saumya Associate Professor IGNOU, New Delhi	Social Work Education: Aligning with the goals of NEP 2020 and SDG 2030	11.00 am – 11.15 am (15 minutes)
3.	Dr. Pushpanjali Jha Department of Social Work University of Delhi	Theorizing Social Work Knowledge for Social Work Education and Practice in India: Multiple Epistemologies and Diverse Arenas of Practice	11.15 am – 11.30 am (15 minutes)
4.	Dr. Bhat Iqbal Majeed Sr. Assistant Professor Department of Social Work, Central University of Jammu	Changing Contours of Fieldwork in Social Work Education: A Contextual Analysis	11.30 am – 11.45 am (15 minutes)
5.	Dr. Manoj Joseph Assistant Professor School of Rural Development TISS, Tuljapur Campus	Compulsions, Compliances and Compromises: Examining Social Work Curriculum Using a Disability Studies Lens	11.45 am – 12.00 noon (15 minutes)
6.	Dr. Varun Sharma Independent Researcher	Googling the Goddess's Earth: Sitala, Science and Social Work	12.00 noon – 12.15 pm (15 minutes)
7.	Dr. Iftekhar Alam Department of Social Work Pondicherry University, Puducherry	Informal Nature of Groups: Revisiting Group Work Method in India	12.15 pm – 12.30 pm (15 minutes)
8.	Dr. Syed Ghufuran Hashmi Indian Institute of Information Technology, Sonapat	Language and Communication in Client Worker Relationship	12.30 pm – 12.45 pm (15 minutes)
Q & A 30 Minutes @ 12.45 pm – 1.15 pm			
Book Release/Open Discussion			
at Saiyid Hamid Library Auditorium, MANUU			
@ 1.15 pm – 1.45 pm			
Lunch at University Guest House (1.45 pm – 2.45 pm)			



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Day-3: 5th November			
Valedictory Session at Library Auditorium			
Anchor: Mr. Abu Osama, MANUU			
@ 3.00 pm – 5.30 pm			
1.	Prof. Md. Shahid Raza Department of Social Work, MANUU	Welcome	3.05 pm – 3.10 pm (5 minutes)
2.	Dr. Md. Aftab Alam Department of Social Work, MANUU	XI ISWC Report	3.10 pm – 3.20 pm (10 minutes)
3.	Resolution of Round Table Discussion – 1 Resolution of Round Table Discussion – 2		3.20 pm – 3.30 pm (10 minutes)
4.	Best Paper Awards /Special Thanks		3.30 pm – 3.45 pm (15 minutes)
5.	Prof. Sanjai Bhatt Conference Advisor/Immediate Past President, NAPS, New Delhi	Way Forward	3.45 pm – 3.55 pm (10 minutes)
6.	Prof. Sanjoy Roy Vice President, NAPS, New Delhi	Guest of Honour	3.55 pm – 4.10 pm (15 minutes)
7.	Dr. Ajay Khera Engender Health, New Delhi	Guest of Honour	4.10 pm – 4.25 pm (15 minutes)
8.	Prof. Surinder Jaswal School of Social Work, TISS, Mumbai	Valedictory Address	4.25 pm – 4.55 pm (30 Minutes)
9.	Dr. Nilesh Deshpande Program Specialist, UNFPA India	Chief Guest	4.55 pm – 5.10 pm (15 minutes)
10.	Prof. Shagufta Shaheen OSD-I MANUU, Hyderabad	Presidential Remarks	5.10 pm – 5.25 pm (15 minutes)
11.	Prof. Mohd Shahid Organizing Secretary, XI ISWC/ Head, Department of Social Work	Vote of Thanks	5.25 pm – 5.30 pm (5 minutes)
12.	National Anthem	Pre-recorded (by IMC)	
Tea Break (5.30 pm – 5.45 pm)			
Certificate Distribution			



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Abstracts

Keynote Speaker

Prof. S.M. Sajid

Former Professor of Social Work and Pro Vice-Chancellor
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Social Work Curriculum and Pedagogy: Challenges in Contemporary Times

The new millennium has brought major changes resulting in challenges at the global level. Communities across the world are confronting hardships with regard to rapidly changing demography, widening disparities between poor and rich, concentration of wealth, reduced welfare spending by the state, and extreme nationalism, racism, war, and human rights violation and terrorism. All these among others results in new challenges for human service professions in terms of identity, credibility, and efficacy. Social work by default is a profession aspiring to achieve a just and equal society. Social justice, equality, and human dignity are the core areas where social work educators and practitioners are expected to focus during their professional practice. Interestingly, social work as a service profession centered its curriculum and teaching towards social problems in many parts of the world and thus aimed for training the workforce to address these emerging social problems. It is generally expected that the social work education as well as practice should be influenced by the social realities and the social issues that are experienced by a society. In other words, the formation, implementation, and delivery of social work educational programmes including curriculum, pedagogy, research, teaching, and practice components, should largely be decided by social realities that a particular society experiences.

It is in this context that we need to examine the debates on universalism, contextual social work and international social work as well as the relevance of curriculum and pedagogy generally adopted by most of the schools of social work in India. Social Work Profession's expectations from itself according to some are too daunting and they cite promotion of social cohesion, collective responsibility, empowerment, liberation, social justice and human rights as the examples. Social workers ability to create a just and equal society depends to a large extent on the profession's ability to influence the political processes and accordingly gearing social work education and practice. Re-examination of 2014 global definition of social work is also therefore needed to make the agenda of social work practice more realistic and achievable. A modest attempt is made hereunder to redefine social work particularly in the context of global south: *Social Work is a profession to help individuals, groups and communities to critically assess their situations and alter their relationships with significant others, if they so feel the need. It also helps people to understand and assess their capacities to change themselves, others, and restricting situations including the environment in which they operate and strive to acquire and improve the required skills for this purpose. Social work believes in the values of human dignity, social Justice and human rights and with the help of theories of behavioural sciences, social sciences and social work help people to address life challenges by working in collaboration with other helping professions and civil society.*

It is hoped that this will trigger much needed debate to attempt a redefine social work globally. Comments and suggestions therefore, in this regard are welcome.



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Plenary Speakers

Prof. Murli Desai

Former Professor of Social Work
Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS)
Mumbai

My Experiments with Social Work Curriculum and Pedagogy

This article examines the author's career trajectory with the theme of experiments for relevant social work curriculum planning and pedagogy, or what is called research and development in industries. She shares why and how she carried out these experiments, for social work in general, as well as in her specialisation of family social work. The aim was to improve the quality of social work curriculum planning and pedagogy, as an ongoing exercise, through interdisciplinary and practice-based updation for relevance, and internationalised as well as indigenised. She used the dynamic approach that requires critical and creative thinking and praxis. She examined the changing social realities by reviewing the applied/ inter-disciplinary social science theories as well as changing social work ideologies and development policies. She drew from social work practice wisdom, innovations, and practice-based research. The author's experiments with social work curriculum and pedagogy were sometimes carried out as individual initiatives and sometimes as group projects.

Whatever experiments the author carried out, she published books or articles or reports. The academic spirit requires that educators read what others have written and give positive as well as constructive negative feedback. Without the cycle of sharing and feedback, the work individuals or groups do, does not make an impact on the profession. The author concludes that for the profession to grow, we need to develop a system of research, sharing, writing, feedback, and development, to make social work curriculum and pedagogy a dynamic exercise.

Dr. Ajit Kumar

Formerly, Matru Sewa Sangh Institute of Social Work, Nagpur

Challenges Addressed and Self-Doubts Resolved: Social Work in India Today

This paper views the proposed 'The Indian Council of Social Work Education and Practice Bill, 2020' as marking a significant milestone in the journey to professionalization traversed by social work in India. NITI Ayog and the Ministry of Education, Government of India have taken cognizance of the need for such a bill. These governing structures have recognized the significant role that trained social work personnel can play for Indian society and economy. How did social work in India advance to reach this stage of official "recognition"?

This paper examines this advance of Indian social work with reference to two challenges. Since they were of a somewhat amorphous character, I am referring to them as tensions. The first tension was posed by the Indian voluntary sector, one outcome of the several forces unleashed by the Indian freedom struggle. The voluntary sector in its modern form by its very intrinsic nature raised questions of legitimacy for the trained social worker in the practice realm. The second tension was posed by the American influence on Indian social work curriculum and it raised the questions of relevance. These questions raised doubts in the minds of the Indian social work educators about the validity of their discipline. Eventually Indian social work came to resolve these two tensions and progress towards professionalization. This resolving is discussed in two parts.

Firstly, social work educators and their institutions could train a large number of students. By the end of 1980s this number had turned into a critical mass reflected in the ten state-level and one city-level associations of social workers. Right from inception, field-based research and collecting data was an integral part of social work training. As the Indian economy expanded into a global force, social work intervention and research-based domain knowledge became essential to its further expansion. Also, social workers intervened in local issues. Also, only they could claim to have a methodology



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of intervention: working with individuals and groups. The effectiveness of these three elements have yielded public recognition from the governing structures in 2020.

Secondly, from 1947 to 1991, Indian social work and the voluntary sector did diverge but not visibly because the Indian state had subsumed both capital and labour uniting their respective interests under its umbrella. The 1991 economic reforms altered both Indian society and Indian economy. Market forces have expanded enormously.

India is now more urbanized, globalized and consumerised. The collective ethos of the joint family ethos is declining and being replaced by individualism. Nuclear families and single parent families are visible today. M S Gore earlier had pointed out that the absence of paying clients was one of the dilemmas faced by Indian social work. Today there is a paying Indian middle class. And they are demanding social work services. Counselling has been mainstreamed. The burgeoning private schools and higher-education institutions today employ trained social workers. So, does the hospital, corporate and development sectors. The Indian path to industrialization, urbanization and individualism may vary from the American path but the destination remains the same and the outcomes. Can the ideas of American social work be completely irrelevant to Indian social work today?

In the Indian social work quest for professionalization, the domain knowledge of social work theory and practice were their key strengths. The intrinsic nature of a free-market economy is to create cascading specializations and generate domain knowledge. This probably explains why the governing structures in India are taking initiatives to statutorily accord a professional status to Indian social work.

Prof. Zubair Meenai

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Deconstructing Decolonisation of Social Work Education & Practice in India

Since its inception, Professional Social Work Education and consequently, its practice in India has been based on western models of social work. The western knowledge system generated through its own unique epistemology has continued to be used to understand and make sense of the Indian reality. Similarly, western value frameworks and interventions have also been rigorously followed across almost all schools of social work in India. The Indian state has also ratified a number of 'universalist' frameworks and covenants for implementation, including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, etc. It has been observed that there is a serious disconnect between the situation obtaining on ground in India and the western, universalist ideas on which social work education and practice has been based. The present paper intends to examine Social Work Education and Practice in India from a de-colonising perspective and indicates that a serious exercise needs to be carried out to decolonise social work knowledge, values and practice to make the profession of social work relevant and responsive.

Prof. Avatthi. Ramaiah

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Leave No One Behind: Why should we revisit first the Pedagogies and Practices of Social Work profession?

If we consider "Leave No One Behind" a part of the primary mission of social work profession, should we not revisit first the commitment of social work professionals in realising the existing core values of the profession, instead of revisiting only the pedagogies and practices of the profession. The latter are merely the means to achieve the mission. My lecture will focus on responding to this fundamental and other related questions.



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Prof. Neera Agnimitra

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Community and Community Practice in Contemporary Times: Dialectics and Responses

Working with communities has always been a core, yet a complex domain of practice for social workers. To begin with, the community itself is deemed to possess a distinctive character that is historically located and theoretically contested. The plurality of meanings and images of a community render the idea of the community ambiguous and even amenable to differential deployment. It augurs differential perspectives about its transformative potential. Often the popular/ dominant image of the community is aligned to justify a range of political positions held by its beholders. While this construction manifests certain distinct features, it manages to camouflage other core elements, and may be deliberately contrived to suit the interest/ vested agenda of the diverse stakeholders who are deemed to engage with communities. The distinct traditions of understanding communities also yield distinct approaches to engage with communities. The process of community practice also resonates with an element of dialectics, as it portends the possibility of progressive, status-quoist and even regressive outcomes. The neo-liberal and post-pandemic contexts have only led to enhancing the complexities and dichotomies associated with community and community practice. The historically manufactured discourses of development and empowerment that are instrumental in setting the agenda for community practice often undermine the reality, and the depoliticization of community and community practice obfuscates the core agenda of social workers to foster social justice and human rights. This paper attempts to highlight the dialectics of community and community practice in the specific context of the contemporary times. Inherent ambiguities and contradictions notwithstanding, interest in communities and community engagement is the continuing focus of public policy worldwide. Located between rhetoric and reality, community practice continues to uphold the possibility for creating democratic, participatory, inclusive and empowering spaces for all, and to ensure ...that no one is left behind.

Prof. Bipin Jojo

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Indigenous Knowledge and Social Work Education and Practice in India

UNESCO's Local and Indigenous Knowledge Systems programme (LINKS) refers to the understandings, skills and philosophies developed by societies with long histories of interaction with their natural surroundings. This knowledge is integral to a cultural complex that also encompasses language, systems of classification, resource use practices, social interactions, ritual and spirituality. These unique ways of knowing are important facets of the world's cultural diversity, and provide a foundation for locally-appropriate sustainable development. This counters the hegemonic Eurocentric paradigms that have informed western philosophy and sciences in the "modern/colonial capitalist/patriarchal world-system" (Grosfoguel, 2005) of the last 500 hundred years which assumes a universalistic, neutral, objective point of view. On the other hand, the black feminists, the so called third world scholars would always speak from a particular location in the power structures. Western philosophy and sciences are able to produce a myth about a Truthful universal knowledge that covers up, that conceals epistemic location in the structures of colonial power/knowledge from which the subject speaks.

Historically, this has allowed Western hegemony to represent its knowledge as the only one capable of achieving a universal consciousness, and dismiss non-Western knowledge as particularistic and, thus, unable to achieve universality. This epistemic strategy has been crucial for Western global designs. By hiding the location of the subject of enunciation, European/Euro-American colonial expansion and domination was able to construct a hierarchy of superior and inferior knowledge and, thus, of superior and inferior people around the world.

In this context, this paper intends to engage with its knowledge base, skills and perspectives/values which are the basic foundation of the professional social work education and practice in India. We have had the debates against the western theoretical base on which the Social Work education started and argued to indiginise. We had to two UGC review



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Committees on Social Work Education, several seminars and conferences of the social work educators to deliberate on the need for changes. There have been some changes but largely with same perspectives of universalising the particulars in its knowledge base except a few initiatives. There are attempts to counter perspectives of so called modernisation or development from the west in Canada, Africa, Australia and New Zealand and the dominant or the majority as anti-oppressive social work, decolonising social work, culturally relevant/sensitive/competent social work around the world. It is pertinent of have this discussion on the Indigenous Knowledge and Social Work Education and Practice in India in this context.

Prof. Manish K. Jha

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Social Policy and Practice in Social Work: History, Reality and Relevance

This paper engages with the history and trajectory of a tumultuous relationship between social policy and social work. Though there has been an indisputable and symbiotic relationship, the question of why and how social workers engage in social policy-making and practice has been a matter of concern and deliberation. While tracing the history, the paper delves into the ideological, socio-economic and political influence of the evolution of social policy and the mandate of social work engagement with policy and welfare provisions. Unfortunately, policy decisions are predominantly made in a bureaucratic manner without input from the ground up. Inadequate deepening of learning-teaching of social policy and hence lack of proper knowledge and skills in policy practice puts social work students in a secondary position in the policy domain that is largely dictated by people from economics and other disciplines. The paper makes a case for intense and comprehensive engagement of social work teaching-learning to respond to critical social questions of rights and entitlement. Factoring policy dynamics and influence of National Education Policy (NEP), the paper presents the contemporary milieu of social policy and practice and how social work curricula should engage at different levels of welfare provisioning.

Prof. P.K. Shajahan

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Localizing SDGs through Research and Action: Social Work Responses for an equitable society

Communities are at critical crossroads across the Globe. In a technology and market-driven process of development, the expanse of the marginalised and deprived sections of communities has increased. Those who have been historically disadvantaged, dispossessed of land, lack appropriate skills, quality education and/or other resources, remain neglected. Taking cognizance of this, more than half of the SDGs are critically linked to poverty and inequality (including gender inequality). Scholars in the development sector have established that there is no automatic trade-off between growth and equality. With greater push for infrastructure and technological solutions to meet the development challenges of today, a section of the society who are deprived of education, skills and resources tend to pay higher price and have not been able to benefit from the fruits of "progress" and "development" which a country or region may have. This make it essential that global goals such as SDGs need to be grounded on local realities for its realisation which is possible only through concerted efforts in localising SDGs.

Thus, the motto of "leaving no one behind" becomes achievable only if actions are tailored to address the multiple marginalities of communities and groups emanating from poverty and inequality in an integrated fashion and not as exclusive actions aimed at achieving the targets under specific goals. Social work educators and practitioners have the responsibility to engage with this process of localisation of SDGs. Adapting and implementing the global goals to address specific challenges, priorities, and contexts at the local level. Localization of SDGs essentially means that the global aspirations need to be aligned with local realities and tailoring strategies to address the specific needs and aspirations of local communities. As an academic and practice community Social work is well poised to undertake such integrated



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models through research and policy practice using a critical and reflexive approach that recognises the different realities, community dynamics, and perspectives of local communities. Through the address I would like to emphasise the role of Research and action from a policy research undertaken by TISS in preparing compensation package for fisher community affected by a major infrastructure project in Mumbai. The study was driven by SDGs and Sustainable Livelihoods framework.

Dr. Farrukh Faheem

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Call for Indigenizing Social Work in India: Decolonization quest or Push for Localism?

The debate on social work and its history in India often revolves around the 'foreign' versus 'indigenous' origins argument. The scholars who highlight the 'foreign' origins of social work tend to argue that although India has an ancient tradition of social service, social work discipline's emergence is not indigenous. Its origins are often traced to establishment of the first school of social work, the Dorabji graduate school in 1936. Such scholarship highlights that the theories and concepts of American social work were 'transplanted' to Indian schools without any modification. They also argue that the emergence of social work education in India has been deeply influenced by the American model of social work (Mukundarao, 1969) (Nagpaul, 1971). Contemporary scholarship on Indian social work while acknowledging that the Indian social work has evolved and changed over the years, also underscore the influence and dominance of Eurocentric perspectives in Indian social work. They emphasize the need to 'Indigenize' social work by including the ancient Indian Philosophy enshrined in classical Hindu texts (Bishnu Mohand Dash, 2021). The scholars who highlight 'indigenous' origins of social work in India argue that it did not evolve in a vacuum. It descended from the 'long and rich [Indian] civilizational heritage' and 'from global forces of modernization' (Kulkarni, 1993). A cursory look at the scholarship regarding the emergence of social work in India reveals that the debate regarding 'foreign' versus 'indigenous' origins of social work often overshadows the fact that social work in India emerged in the backdrop of British colonialism and the Indian anti-colonial movement in the 19 century. Therefore, instead of debating the 'foreign' versus 'indigenous' origins one should look at how colonialism and the anti-colonial struggles shaped the emergence of social work and its broader contours.

While contemporary scholarship like (Bishnu Mohand Dash, 2021) rightly highlights the Eurocentricism in Indian social work and suggests de-colonization of the discipline. It doesn't delve into the British colonialism or the anti-colonial movement and its influence on emergence of social work discipline. The paper is divided into four parts. Part first discusses how 19th century anti-colonial struggle rejuvenated a strong social service tradition in India and created space for associational culture. The second part gives a historical overview of the Social work in the light of Indian social service tradition and initial attempts of engaging with the Indian social service associations. The subsequent sections of the paper raise the question why social work followed a trajectory which was very close to the social work tradition in America or Britain. The paper also engages with the recent calls for 'indigenization' and de-colonization of Social work in India and reflects that these calls in pursuit of 'indigenizing' social work essentialize.

Prof. Neelam Sukhramani

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New Delhi

Revisualizing Youth Social Work: Instrumentality to Individuality

The repertoire of interventions with youth has to see an expansion in consonance with the altered social reality. The bliss experienced on attaining adulthood is shadowed by limited inputs on the paths to be traversed in a world that bombards them. Youth re-experience the breaking of the umbilical cord with substitutes that are equally clueless. The societal context has seen a significant change with premium being placed on material acquisition and fame. Youth who struggle with issues of identity get trapped in this whirlpool that holds the potential of sinking them. The current paper argues the imminent need to move beyond the overemphasis on viewing youth as instrumentalities of nation building to recognizing



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their distinctive needs which have seen a drastic change in an altered context. Focus Group Discussions with youth and current literature form the basis of this paper. The paper explores youth engagement, current youth interventions and the reimagination that youth work warrants.

Mr. Sandeep Chachra

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New Delhi

Role of Youth Collectives in Voicing their Rights

With half the world's population now under 25 years of age and 89% residing in developing countries, young people play a vital role in transforming and shaping more just, equitable and sustainable societies. Young people have been part of advancing societal change for centuries and in the modern era, have played a pivotal role in social movements and struggles all along. Engaging and working with youth in the community settings is key to build progressive society and a democratic world in the 21st Century. In present day, youth face a myriad of issues, such as unemployment, rising expenses, climate change, and growing political extremism. They must navigate their way through these issues while grappling with rampant misinformation and an ever-increasing number of societal problems. We discuss the challenges that youth face, particularly those from disadvantaged communities, and what the way forward must be, to advance just and equal futures for all.

Mr. Ovais Sultan Khan

Trustee, Future Council, New Delhi

Fostering Global Fraternity through Social Work Education: The Power of Listening

In an era of unprecedented global connectivity, the world is paradoxically witnessing increasing division and violence. Societies are plagued by a pervasive sense of insecurity, hindering the establishment of harmonious relationships. This is particularly concerning as the world experiences a surge in youth population, particularly in the Global South and India. Consequently, it falls upon the youth to cultivate compassionate and inclusive connections among individuals worldwide, fostering a sense of global fraternity. Social work education emerges as a valuable tool in this endeavor, with a particular emphasis on the practice of active listening. By harnessing the potential of listening as an enabler, significant social change becomes attainable. This conference paper explores the role of social work education, highlighting the transformative power of listening in building a more interconnected and peaceful world.

Dr. Syeda Naghma Abidi

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Indian School of Development Management, NOIDA

Re-Imagining Pedagogy for Transformational Social and Individual Change

India currently has a unique opportunity to benefit from the demographic dividend if it is able to adopt forward looking policies that cater to holistic development. In this context, pedagogical shifts within the higher institutions, especially within the disciplines where young people graduate to work in the social sector are also required to be forward-looking. Young people entering the job market are expected to be equipped with skills to look at the larger eco-system holistically, rather in silos. I argue that for this to happen the pedagogy that they are exposed to needs to be anchored in universal values and equip students to think about designing systemic and cultural shifts if transformation social change is envisaged. This is however not limited to the social science programs. This article explores how an experience of such a pedagogy during the course can build the competencies of the students that are relevant for their later career in the social sector as well as contribute to their individual well-being. Using the framework proposed by Dr Monica Sharma, I will critically look at the pedagogical intervention currently in practice at Indian School of Development Management to present critical insights for social practice.

Key Words: Pedagogy in HEI; Wellbeing in HEI; Transformational leadership



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Towards a Drug-Free Puducherry: Preventive Education, Outreach and Support among Higher Educational Institution (HEI) Personnel and At-Risk Communities

Substance abuse and dependence are serious social problems afflicting individuals, families and communities across diverse socio-economic and cultural strata of Indian society. Of serious concern is the increasing use of psychotropic substances among youth and children in the country. At the national level, around 18.5 per cent of current users of alcohol consume alcohol in a dependent manner. However, more than 40 per cent of alcohol users drink alcohol in a dependent pattern in Puducherry (48.3%), Punjab (44%), Andhra Pradesh (43.5%) and Karnataka (40.3%).

<https://socialjustice.gov.in/writereaddata/UploadFile/Survey%20Report.pdf>

This paper discusses the initiatives and outcomes of the one-year project funded by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India under the Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan (NMBA) Campaign. Launched in April 2022, the main objectives of the project are to prevent substance use and abuse among children, youth and at-risk communities in Puducherry District through sensitization, preventive education, and community outreach through student peer educators. The project team conducted preventive education workshops for approximately 1,373 college students and faculty members from over ten colleges of Puducherry, training workshops for support staff, police personnel, and community-based workers. Student volunteers from these institutions underwent intense training as peer educators were assigned to the adopted communities for peer education, awareness and sensitization, and mobilization of community members for psychosocial support and other interventions. Based on the lessons learnt, efforts are on to develop a focused plan of action for drug-demand reduction and prevention of substance use in Puducherry, especially among youth and children.

Key words: substance abuse, student peer educators, community outreach, interventions

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Corporate Social Responsibility and Social Development: Possibilities, Contentions, and Implications for Teaching- Learning in Social Work

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) is increasingly being seen as an important vehicle to deliver the goals of social development in India. Most corporates especially the Public Sector Undertakings now focus on linking their CSR initiatives with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which is also an expectation of the Governments of the day from CSR interventions. This paper examines the objectives and focus of social development and situates CSR within the social development discourse. It takes a critical view of the potential of CSR to achieve these social development goals. The paper finally looks at the implications of prevailing discourse around CSR and social development for teaching learning within the context of social work profession.

Prof. Neena Pandey

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Social Work with Prisoners: Exploring avenues of engagements through Empowering Process

The approach to working with prisoners is comparatively a recent phenomenon. Only in 1959 did the Council on Social Work Education formally present the teaching curriculum on correctional social work. However, the social workers were engaged in Probation and parole, victim assistance, police departments, jails, and awareness campaigns on drugs and trafficking. However, it needed to be clarified about their numbers and roles in the prison setting.



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The common scenario in the prison has been that the prison is populated with marginalised categories: racial, ethnic, persons from lower caste and tribal groups, minorities, etc. (Matejkowski et al., 2015). The representation of these categories in society and prison is highly disproportionate and imbalanced. It is an area of serious research to explore the relationship and interplay between power, position, poverty and prison. On the other hand, it is crucial to understand that there is a provision of equal justice to all, so why the categorisation of the prison population is skewed in nature? More importantly, the women and young offenders in the prison are a group which requires a restorative and integrative strategic approach to reformation. There is a continuous increase in young offenders and women in prison. Women prisoners have been 5% more from 2012 to 2022. Such data reflects unhealthy scars on human society. Convincingly, the age of young offenders, considered 18 to 21, is how a person can be moulded and shaped for the future with robust training processes. The theme of the congress 'leaving no one behind' generated immense strength to contemplate about searching empowering avenues to work with the prison population especially the young offenders and women. Further, it is equally important to design a strategy of social work to work with the most vulnerable in the jail. The layers of vulnerability required to be navigated, keeping in focus the issues of intersectionality. The social worker must be trained in the nuances of the forensic approach with the empowering process to achieve measurable results. The present paper intends to elaborate on some of the social work field experiences in the form of residential camps and fieldwork internships, which instilled the idea of working in prison more firmly. In addition, an attempt has been made to assert that the reasons to work with young offenders and women are a top priority. Also, the measures and processes which are governed through the principles of social work have been explored.

Keywords: prison social work, young offenders, forensic approach, restorative strategies

Mr. Dawood Alam

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Social Work Macro Practice for Sustainable Adolescent Health Development

The World Health Organization (WHO) estimated that more than 33% of the disease burden and almost 60% of premature deaths among adults might be associated with behavior or conditions that began or occurred during adolescent age (WHO 2002). Recognizing the severity of the issues around adolescent health and its implications on overall quality of life, the Government of India (GoI) launched Rashtriya Kishor Swasthya Karyakaram (RKSK) in 2014. GoI included strategic partnership as one of its core priorities.

The overall goal of the project is to institutionalize that state and civil society organizations support the healthy growth and development of adolescents by facilitating access to the information, services, and enabling environment they need.

Aligning with the strategic partnerships, EngenderHealth, a leading global health organization provided support to the Government of Jharkhand in 2008 and in 2011 the project was scaled up in Bihar. Complementing the RKSK seven pillars, the TARUNYA Project implementation model formulated its strategies based on the socio-ecological model. The project believes that if adolescents have the knowledge, confidence, and skills to get the sexual and reproductive health (SRH) information and services they need and want; their peers, families, and broader communities support them; and health systems and other institutions provide what they need, free of gender bias and discrimination; in the context of supportive laws and policies; then they will exercise their rights, participate as equal members of society, and live their best lives leading to the national development.

As part of the interventions, the project identified key stakeholders and the overall system around adolescent health aligning with the socio-ecological model. The stakeholders across the continuum included the adolescent community, their peers and the family, the health system, and the governance and policymakers. The stakeholders were segmented into four different systems – an initiator system, a client system, a support system, and finally a controlling system. Subsequently, the program analyzed the systems' readiness to change and accordingly developed program interventions. The program interventions are clubbed under tactics such as collaboration and campaigns. Interventions around collaboration tactics included direct implementation and capacity-building of stakeholders who agreed with the proposed changes around adolescent health. Interventions around the campaign were formulated where there was somewhat agreement with the action system. Advocacy was done with such stakeholders and initiated actions.



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Through phase-wise implementation, the project achieved its goal. At the community level, the project reached over 31,000 males and over 38,000 females through adolescent health-friendly clubs (AFHCs) and reached around 4000 males and 4400 females through health and wellness centers.

EngenderHealth implemented baseline and end-line surveys to measure the impact of program intervention, SRH knowledge, attitudes, and practices among adolescents to help inform and guide future interventions. The two cross-sectional studies interviewed adolescents aged 15-19 (n=1,632 at baseline and n=1,717 during endline) and were implemented in August 2019 and October 2020 respectively. The end-line survey revealed that awareness on health services among the community increased from 27.9% at baseline to 70.6% at endline. The survey also revealed that use of menstrual hygiene products increased from 75.7% to 85.9% in intervention blocks. Involving a systematic approach in the design of a project based on social work macro-change principles makes it effective and achieving scalable and sustainable project goals.

Prof. A. Shahin Sultana

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Enhancing School Well-being Initiatives through School Social Work Practice: Insights and Perspectives

Schools are spaces for children to grow, learn, develop and evolve academically and holistically. The early days of the child determine the later part of an individual and his or her personality. Hence it is necessary that these early experiences tend to be positive, constructive, lively, engaging, interactive, safe and secure physically and psychologically. To understand the genesis of School Well-being initiatives, it is necessary to understand the main stakeholders – Students - and their contemporary concerns. The Young population below 25 years constitute 53.7 per cent of the population and as per NCRB in 2020, a student took their own life every 42 minutes which means on an average everyday more than 32 students are committing suicide (Sarveshwar, S and Thomas, J, 2022). The statistics is quite alarming. Subsequently in 2021, the number of deaths by students by suicide saw an increase of 4.5 percent (Verma, T, 2022). This is becoming an invisible public health disaster.

The main objective of this paper is to document the crucial truth – increasing student suicides and highlight the initiatives of schools in addressing this critical problem. This paper would examine the secondary based data over a span of one decade from 2013-2023 with regard to Student Suicides and School Well-being initiatives. The focus would be to select the school well-being initiatives addressed specifically towards student mental health and well-being. It would further discuss, deliberate and present the best practices adopted to enhance the scope for social work practice in addressing this public health disaster through School Well-being initiatives.

Dr. Namami Sharma

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Revisiting Community Organisation: From archives to the field

This paper will revisit the archives and make an effort to establish the importance of historical archives in classroom transactions and fieldwork. The focus of the paper will be the feminist organization called Tezpur District Mahila Samiti (TDMS) which was formed in the year 1919. It will examine the methods of community organisation the organization had adopted under the leadership of a few eminent women leaders. The archives of TDMS will be revisited to understand the significance of the same in social work pedagogy.

Keywords: Fieldwork, Archives, Community organisation



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TISS, Mumbai

The Invisibility of Minority Communities among the NT-DNTs: Southernising Criminology and Criminal Justice Social Work

The Centre for Criminology and Justice (CCJ) in the School of Social Work (SSW) at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) has been attempting to expand the boundaries of criminology with a focus on southern criminology (Carrington, Hogg and Sozzo, 2015). Southern criminology is a growing body of scholarship emerging largely from the global south in response to issues related to crime and justice in the southern context. These southern criminology scholars emphasize the need to decolonise criminology based on empirical studies located in the global south and theorise to contribute to better informed responses to global justice and security. The CCJ's location within social work education and practice places it in a unique position to understand issues relating to criminalisation of poverty and social exclusion of marginalised groups, through its field work placements and Field Action Projects (FAPs). Once such initiative has been the placement of second year field work students in communities inhabited by NT-DNTs, leading to the establishment of a FAP in 2011 titled TANDA (Towards Advocacy, Networking and Developmental Action). The FAP has been working in slum communities in Mumbai and Navi Mumbai areas towards promotion of citizenship rights and entitlements of NT-DNT communities.¹ As part of its objective to understand issues that affect the lives of these communities, the project undertook a study in 2013-14 titled A Situational Analysis of Minority Communities among Nomadic and Denotified Tribes: A Study of Maharashtra funded by the Research Council, TISS, to examine the socio-economic condition of religious minorities within NT-DNTs in Maharashtra.

This paper, based on this study, traces the lives of some of minority communities among the NT-DNTs and highlights their current socio-economic situation by studying their trajectory from nomadism to current semi-nomadic and settled lifestyle. It is an attempt to address the invisibility of the religious minorities within NT-DNTs by unpacking the historical marginalisation processes of alienation and criminalisation unleashed by the colonial forces; their exclusion from citizenship entitlements in postcolonial India and subsequent developments leading to facing the punitive slant of poverty, loss of history, fractured assimilation and stigmatisation in the neoliberal world order. The paper provides a trajectory of three NT-DNT communities (two nomadic -Bhartiya Irani, Sikh Sikligar and one de-notified -Chapparband) from nomadism as a way of life to their present struggles of citizenship rights and entitlements, and gives an overview of their current socio-economic situation.

The paper highlights the need for such studies which are rooted in the southern context of poverty, marginalisation and social exclusion of communities. The paper also highlights the need for social work education and practice to expand beyond its traditional practice areas and engage with issues that are central to the democratisation and empowerment of marginalised and criminalised communities. In doing so, it may lead to strengthening the rationale and scope of criminal justice social work practice, which remains a neglected area within social work education and practice.

Dr. Saumya

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Social Work Education: Aligning with the goals of NEP 2020 and SDG 2030

National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 launched on 29th July 2020, aims to increase Gross Enrollment Ratio (GER) by 50% by 2035, provide the option of multiple entry and exit, ensure multi-disciplinary and holistic education, and focus on outcome - based education. It intends to restructure and reorient the education system in India and is in conformity with the Sustainable Development Goal-4 (2030). SDG-4 envisages inclusive and quality education for all and promote lifelong learning by 2030. NEP brings forth the idea of Academic Bank of Credit, internationalization, promotes professional development, vocational and skill-based education, besides research and innovation. Another aspect which NEP 2020



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brings forth is promotion of Indian languages, arts and culture (Indian Knowledge System), online and digital education in an equitable, accessible, affordable and inclusive manner. In this backdrop, the paper will discuss how social work education aligns with the goals of NEP 2020 and SDG 2030, the opportunities, and the challenges faced by the discipline to improve student learning outcomes. It will discuss the tasks at hand, the scope of Open and Distance Learning (ODL), online and digital education in Social Work in the context of recommendations of NEP 2020, SDG, 2030 and the changing demands of the students and society. The paper will attempt to bring out a roadmap for social work education in alignment with the goals of NEP 2020 and SDG 2030 in areas of appraisal of existing curriculum, pedagogy, assessment strategies, technology-enabled teaching-learning, extending reach, providing professional ethics, skill and employability, research and innovation.

Dr. Pushpanjali Jha

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Theorizing Social Work Knowledge for Social Work Education and Practice in India: Multiple Epistemologies and Diverse Arenas of Practice

Within Social Work, there has been considerable debate over many years about the most suitable epistemologies and research methods for creating professional knowledge to inform practice. Currently, there are several epistemological approaches used within social work, each with relative strengths and limitations. However, there is a growing understanding that multiple epistemologies are needed to generate the types of knowledge required to inform social work practice (Miller et al., 2008). Although formation of unique epistemological foundations, is not occupying primary space for most practicing social workers, it becomes important in the context of creating knowledge for critical practice, particularly in the given socio-economic, political and cultural context of India. The socio-economic and political context of India is wrought with deep rooted structural problems and prevalence of oppressive and discriminatory practices. A growing recognition of the limitations of the remedial and clinical practice models with micro practice approaches, has propelled us to have a wider disciplinary understanding and compels us to explore macro approaches in Social Work discipline and practice. Such an approach would mean, leading an enquiry into multiple epistemological fields and diverse arenas of practice within Social Work discipline. The argument raised in this paper is that without deeper exploration and commentary about critical issues such as poverty, discrimination, and social exclusion and in the absence of critical self-reflection, to draw from Houston, the moral purpose of social work appears at risk (Houston, 2001). Thus, the paper aims to engage in the theoretical exposition of the macro practice approaches and practice.

The paper attempts to locate specific historical contexts paving the backdrop of the evolution of Social Work education, in the colonized countries, with a special focus on India. The enquiry highlights the stark need of of epistemological plurality when it comes to designing and framing Social Work curriculum, looks for alternative approaches applicable in the diverse arena of theoretical and practice frameworks and suggest ways to incorporating them in the Social Work curriculum taught in the post-colonial countries, particularly in India. The paper presents two major strands of argument, first addresses the critical self-reflexive knowledge traditions present in Indian and wider postcolonial context, a brief historical overview of these traditions, and the failure of the educators and practitioners of Social Work, in furthering these indigenous critical-emancipatory traditions and enriching the knowledge base of Social Work for a context specific teaching-learning pedagogy. This strand of argument focuses on the critical tradition present in the diverse knowledge systems which extols the virtues of equality, liberty, and emancipation of the most oppressed. The emphasis on dialogue, anti-oppressive and structural Social Work, all constitute a valid case for exploring the roots and gleaning some of these for enriching the social work methodology.

The second set of argument proposes the Critical post-structural and postcolonial route to subverting the universalist gaze within the Social Work Education and its over-reliance on Eurocentric and westernized content of Social Work Pedagogy. The social work education was founded in most of the third world, by the colonial interventions, possibly with good intentions, but also to establish and legitimize western/European knowledge and undermine local knowledge as irrational and unscientific, the post-colonial discourse serves as a tool attempt to uncover these deep layers of historical erasure. The Critical- Structural, Post-structural and post-colonial theory involves a conceptual reorientation towards the



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perspectives of knowledge as well as needs, developed outside the west and enunciates a politics and philosophy of activism that contests that disparity. These set of theoretical frameworks –poises consistent critique of the ways we had been constructing the knowledge of the education and practice of Social Work in our contexts and attempts to shift the dominant ways in which the relations between the western and non-western knowledge and ours and their worlds are viewed. It has been seen in the debates, how colonial and post-colonial knowledge of alternate cultures are exercise of power, which has valorized and glorified certain knowledge, on one hand and suppressed and erased some, on the other hand. Irrespective of the geographies it is being practiced in, addressing such omissions and commissions, these plural epistemological perspectives aim to change the gaze and vantage point through which the socio-historical realities are understood in the postcolonial countries. Thus, the paper calls for specific directives and ripostes to be formulated to reorient and restructure the 'Social Work education' incorporating diverse arenas and epistemological/theoretical frameworks from the Global North to the South, adapting them to the specific contexts of postcolonial countries like India.

Dr. Bhat Iqbal Majeed

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Changing Contours of Fieldwork in Social Work Education: A Contextual Analysis

Education has been witnessing colossal change in current times. Heavy emphasis on technology embedded curriculum and teaching along with emergence of online education has brought profound changes in the way education is being conceptualized and imparted. Moreover, the growing demand for skilled human resource and stated induced push aided by market forces is completely redesigning the nature of education per se. It is in this context social work education and fieldwork in particular has to be envisaged. Fieldwork as an essential domain in social work education needs radical rethinking. Fieldwork forms an essential structure of social work education across the globe. Fieldwork is considered as the backbone of professional social work. What hospital is to doctors, fieldwork is to social work profession. Fieldwork as a category is encompassed both by its theoretical aspect and the praxis; however, its signifying element is indeed the praxis. Therefore, it is essential to know what is it all that becomes part of 'fieldwork' in social work curriculum in these changing times. In common parlance across all the schools of social work in India and globally, field work is seen as a training immersion module. However, there is no such uniformity in this training immersion module as we find in many other professions in the world be it engineering, medicine or law. There are indeed varied reasons as to why we are yet to arrive at a uniform module of fieldwork across all the schools of social work. An important question that we need to find answer is 'do we really need to have a uniform module of field work across all schools of social work'? Also, we need to figure out can there be an attempt to build a homogenised field work module to be followed across all schools? Is homogenisation a right approach to be undertaken for standardisation of fieldwork? How to reconfigure the relationship between educators and practitioners in the broader domain of fieldwork? Besides all this there is an urgent need to decipher how current changes in the education sector per se are impacting the fieldwork in social work education and what responses do social work educators and practitioners need to construct in this context. This paper tries to open up the debate in this direction and thereby laying an emphasis on re-evaluating of fieldwork in social work education. The papers analyses the fieldwork in two broader categories; field in the fieldwork and worker in the fieldwork. This attempt is to decipher as to how both these constituents of fieldwork encompass each other and shape fieldwork.

Dr. Manoj Joseph

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TISS, Tuljapur Campus

Compulsions, Compliances and Compromises: Examining Social Work Curriculum Using a Disability Studies Lens

The process of curriculum designing has to engage with a set of constraints. These constraints often emanate from compulsions envisaged in educational policy. The compliance stipulated by statutory and professional bodies adds other



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layers of constraint. It is essential to look at these compulsions and constraints as the curriculum often directs and limits the choice of contents and pedagogy that educators can employ. Many times, the process of curriculum development is not neutral, and the outcome of the curriculum design is an acceptance of compromised curriculum contents and pedagogical practices. This paper aims to understand and list compulsions and compliances that emerge from the New Education Policy 2020 and its implications for Social Work Education and Practice with the disabled. It also discusses compromises that social work educators will likely make while selecting content and pedagogy for educating social work students to equip them to work with disabled people. The emergence of disability studies as a distinct field of academic inquiry challenged how disability is framed, presented and taught in mainstream rehabilitation sciences. It is noted that social work education has been responding to the developments in disability studies and incorporating new insights into social work education and practice. However, it is noted that the revision of the social work Curriculum is often fragmented and not in pace with emerging theories and practices in disability studies. The frames of ableism are embedded in the mainstream social work education curriculum.

Dr. Varun Sharma

Independent Researcher

Googling the goddess's earth: Sitala, science, and social work

Social work is often hailed as an interdisciplinary field of study. Over the years, it has combined varied perspectives to make something of a collage. Yet, the broader field of Science and Technology Studies (STS) has failed to earn a place within it. Even if the question of science and technology is entertained, there is a tendency to see it critically as part of top-down, market-driven initiatives. While this can urge otherwise legitimate concerns over technocracy, laissez-faire policies, and erosion of local knowledge, only an anthropology of the social margins reveals the fuller complexity of the matter. This paper briefly center-stages the case of vulnerable tribal groups in the state of Chhattisgarh, particularly the Bhunjias, and the diverse ways in which they have begun to leverage the benefits of market-driven internet facilities, freeware, and GIS/GPS technologies to map the borders of their forests. In the process of establishing their rights over such regimes, we find that traditions do not get left behind in a manner as to produce a linear transition towards modernity. The increased use of geotracking devices, smartphones, Google Earth, and the like, has been matched with the rise and growth of the myth of Sitala—a local Adivasi goddess that permits, guides, and incorporates digital transformations on the ground. Sitala's maps, as they are sometimes called, serve to revisit our understanding of colonialism, modernity, and development. Among other things, it serves to foreground a case for the inclusion of STS in the existing pedagogic repertoire of social work.

Dr. Iftexhar Alam

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Informal Nature of Groups: Revisiting Group Work Method in India

Social group work method in social work practice was mostly informal in nature until 1955, and the very evolution of group work was based on informal activities—recreation and voluntarily informal education (Andrews, 2001). Remarkably the constitution of the informal group is largely based on group members' desire to meet their social need which forms naturally due to the 'common interest' of the group members. The treatment group which meets the socio-emotional needs of the participants encourages informal collaboration whilst facilitating an interpersonal attraction perspective to theories of group formation.

In Indian context the informal groups have long history in solving community issues, reducing vulnerability of marginalised sections, enhancing solidarity and mutual support and forming sub groups to deal with situation like pandemic and other adversities. Historically the social reform movements, civil rights and grassroots movements built its foundations on informal collaborations of groups.



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However, such collaboration in the contemporary time have been obscured by formal organizations, undermining the fact that there could be informal collaborations in formal organization. Therefore, drawing upon these perspectives, the paper argues the reiteration and incorporation of informal nature or informal collaborations of group at par with formal collaborations in the social work pedagogy. Thus, the paper attempts to widen the scope of teaching and practice of group work in India.

Keywords: Informal Groups, Collaborations, Group Work Method, Social Work Pedagogy

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Sonepat

Language and Communication in Client Worker Relationship

This paper analyzes client-worker interaction (CWI) in medical context. More precisely, it deals with the language form and the communicative function relationship in client-worker interaction. The study is based on naturally occurring primary data collected at the Department of Pediatrics and the Department of Community Medicine, Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College and Hospital (JNMCH), located in Aligarh Muslim University, India. The data are composed of audio-visual recordings of Hindi-Urdu interaction between 8 workers and 27 clients. We identified compliance and condescension as the two unique functions the worker seeks to accomplish and/or fulfil in their interaction with the clients. We also found four other functions – information seeking, recall, greeting, and diagnosis, which are sought by the workers through in their interaction with the clients. The findings also suggest that these functions maintain and promote what can be termed as a worker-centered interaction, and thus reflect asymmetrical power relationship between workers and their clients. This language form and the communicative function relationship in client-worker interaction need to be incorporated in social work curriculum. The form function relationship would provide a new perspective in social work education and could be a springboard to make social work a client centered, egalitarian and empowering profession in the true sense of the word.

Keywords: client-worker interaction, form-function relationship, worker-centered interaction, power relationship.



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Theme Specific Abstracts

PTS – 1: Social Work Curriculum: Pedagogy and Pedagogical Challenges

Sharon Menezes and Vijay Raghavan

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Abstract Title: *Developing Curriculum for Criminal Justice Social Work from the Field*

Social work curriculum in India draws heavily from Western literature and there is dearth of indigenously developed theory especially in areas such as criminal justice social work (CJSW). Practice literature in this area is mostly treatment and corrections focused which is decontextualized in the Indian scenario of over-representation of dalits, tribals and minorities in the CJS along with intersectionality in terms of class and gender. The clinical approach towards deviance and crime is sometimes too simplistic a model in this context and there is a need to decolonize practice and curriculum in the area of criminal justice social work. The Centre for Criminology and Justice in the School of Social Work at TISS has been making a concerted effort to strengthen its curriculum and pedagogy through its field placements and field action projects. One such project called Prayas, which works on legal rights and rehabilitation of crime affected persons and their families, has made a significant contribution towards developing literature and theory through praxis in the area of CJSW. In the last couple of years, the project leaders and its team have taken a step further in this direction by developing a certificate programme on social work intervention in the field of criminal justice which is now being further developed into a diploma programme. The unique feature about this programme is that it has been developed through continuous discussion and drawing outfield experiences by the Prayas social workers led by the authors. This paper attempts to highlight the process through which the programme was developed from the field and the contribution of the field staff of Prayas in developing the various courses that form a part of the diploma programme. The paper tries to establish that praxis can play a significant role in decolonising social work curriculum and developing indigenous literature.

Shewli Kumar

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Abstract Title: *We only want Justice! An experience of doing intersectional feminist research*

This article aims at sharing research done on caste based sexual violence in 13 states of India. It brings out the major aspects of how caste and gender work in the lives of Dalit women, and how the oppressiveness and systemic violence leads to denial of their rights and justice. Caste and gender are taught as a sociological construct in social work education, often missing the entire process of self-reflexivity and lived reality of these two social stratifiers. This article brings out the process of doing research with a bottom-up approach with the grassroots Dalit women activists actively defining the methodology, objectives, implementation and sharing of research findings. The research shows a new direction and potential towards intersectional feminist social work research methodology, especially when it concerns the lives of people from the margins.

Md Ibrahim Quadri

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Abstract Title: *Scope of School Social Work in India: A Supply-Demand Analysis of Social Work Education Institutes and Service Providers*

The research paper explores the dimensions of School Social Work (SSW) in India, examining the symbiotic relationship between Social Work Education Institutions (SWEI) and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) operating within the education sector. SSW in India is still in its early stage even after 100 years of its genesis. Employing a comprehensive mixed-method approach,



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the study amalgamates secondary data collection, an extensive literature review, and meticulous data analysis. In a landscape teeming with diverse actors, the research sheds light on several salient findings that illuminate the multifaceted role of well-trained social workers in shaping the educational ecosystem.

Enshrined within the National Education Policy 2020, social workers significance is underscored through a prism of holistic student development. Trained social workers and counsellors emerge as prerequisites in addressing pivotal aspects such as student's mental well-being, nutrition, and community engagement. The policy envisions the integration of these professionals as catalysts in fostering a conducive learning milieu and optimizing student potential. These constructs encompass not only educators but also social workers and counsellors, underpinning the notion that effective governance transcends isolated institutions. The study also supports the idea that the demand will grow substantially in the future after successful implementation of NEP 2020. None or very few institutions are providing specializations in social work for school settings. The research further amplifies the discourse on pivotal role of SSW within educational tapestry of India, emphasizing the profound contributions of adept social workers and the strategic importance of NGOs, both serving as catalysts in fostering equitable, inclusive, and holistic learning environments.

Keywords: School Social Work (SSW), Social Work Education Institutes (SWEI), NGOs in Education, National Education Policy 2020, Inclusive Education

Shenbakam Natarajan

Senior Research Fellow

&

Sharnitha Shanmugam

&

Dr Sheeja Remani B. Karalam

Christ University, Bengaluru

Karnataka

Abstract Title: Incorporating Evidence-Based Practice into Psychiatric Social work education

Evidence-based practice is where a professional provides service drawing upon the empirical research. With the growing burden of mental health illnesses and elevated rates of co-occurrence with medical disorders, there is increased focus on evidence-based psychotherapies. Evidence-based psychotherapies are efficacious and cost-effective for a wide range of psychiatric conditions. However, there is a large gap between the volume of research and the application of the research in practice. Contemporary psychiatric social workers do not translate or disseminate this research for use in community settings that are likely to have positive impacts. This paper intends to analyze the current situation and prospective role of social work education in equipping future social workers with evidence-based practice, which will enable social workers to provide high-quality service. While evidence-based therapy is introduced as a concept in a postgraduate semester, this is insufficient to develop the necessary competence in the area. Needless to mention that the lack of trained professional social workers is one of the biggest problems in effective mental health care delivery in India. There is, thus, a need to develop an evidence-based psychotherapy movement in India. This paper recommends ways to advance the evidence-based psychotherapy movement to become truly integrated into practice by incorporating Evidence-Based Therapy into Psychiatric social work education on curricula, practicum, research and practice.

Key Words: Psychiatric Social Work, Mental Health Social Work, Evidence-Based Practice, Evidence-Based Therapy, Evidence-Based Treatment (EBT)

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&

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Abstract Title: Social Work Practice with School Children: Reflections from Rural Communities.

Children are the precious assets of any nation and thus their responsibility of care and protection lies not only with the government, but also on each and every citizen. Social work professionals do have a significant role to play with children in



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community, child care institutions and schools. The need of children varies with their community and the socialization process e.g., children of urban areas are facing different issues as compared to children residing in rural and tribal areas. The present study is focusing on school going children of rural areas of Rajasthan. Qualitative approach was used to study their difficulties. Thematic analysis was used for analysis purpose, wherein, three major themes were identified including education, individual concerns and family-based challenges. Children studying between class eight to twelfth were selected because they are unaware of their basic rights, absenteeism rate during the time of harvesting and ploughing crop is high, they had limited exposure to life skills, prone to abuse and moreover, they are less connected with the development of outside world. Many girl students were forced to leave their education at senior secondary and above level due to long distance of schools, unavailability of functional toilets and early marriage. Hence, the role of social work professionals in identifying the challenges of school going children in rural areas and designing Research Informed Practices is essential. The present paper is an attempt to investigate these challenges. The key findings suggest that rural children are mostly unaware of their rights. Those aware, are not in a position to practice them in a true sense. They are not getting an environment to study. Caste-based discrimination is also vigilant in peers. They are curious to know about and experiment with web sources leading to victimization.

Anwar Ahmad Ansari

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Abstract Title: NEP 2020 and the Future of Madrasa Education in India

With a focus on inclusivity, flexibility, and holistic development, India's National Education Policy (NEP) of 2020 has ushered in a transformative vision for the country's educational landscape. Despite the fact that the policy covers a variety of educational sectors, it is notable that the Madrasa education system, which has a strong historical and cultural significance, is significantly absent throughout the policy document. This study examines the implications of NEP 2020 on madrasa education in India and considers various strategies for its holistic integration. A significant majority of the population received religious instruction, moral education, and traditional knowledge from madrasas, which have formed an essential component of India's educational past. However, it appears that the NEP 2020 largely overlooked these institutions, which raises questions about their viability in the changing educational scenario. The absence of the term "Madrasa" within the policy draft suggests an inadvertent disregard for these institutions' unique contributions and challenges. This research paper employs a multifaceted methodology approach comprising two key components: a systematic review of available literature and interviews based on structured open-ended questions. The synergy between the systematic literature review and the in-depth interviews ensures a comprehensive exploration of the research topic from both theoretical and observational perspectives. By triangulating findings from these two distinct methods, the research aims to provide a holistic understanding of the implications of NEP 2020 on Madrasa education. Keywords: NEP 2020, Madrasa, Future of Madrasa, Education, Contemporary Skills.

Devidas Pralhadrao Shambharkar

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Abstract Title: Constitutional Value Based Social Work in India: Relevance and Commitment

In India, professional social work education has commemorating 87 years of its contribution in addressing social problems and social welfare in India. Even though its replicate and operationalized on American model. Recently social work education in India is going through an identity crisis. This crisis is characterized by great degrees of theoretical poverty and a greater degree of inefficacious and disempowering interventions. In these early stages of social work training, the mindset of the Indian elite and social work educators continued to be colonial in its essence; in the absence of what was identified as an indigenous social work knowledge base. In such a state of affairs, an understanding is dawning among many critical social work educators, that it is only in countering the worldview of dominants. India is home to a large and diverse population, with a wide range of social, economic, and cultural challenges. This article has used secondary published reference source and also practical pedagogical experiences. Researcher has tried to describe how the Indian constitution would be a valuable resource for value-based social work as an indigenous social work knowledge base. And also tried to describe how the constitutional enshrines the principles of equality, justice, and liberty, which are central to the social work profession. Also, has tried to described how the constitutional value based social work practices is a commitment to the social work profession and Indian



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constitution. Finally, described the methodological experiences of programs that introduce constitution values to social work students.

Dr Kavya Jyotsna Uppuleti
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Andhra Pradesh

Abstract Title: Awareness levels on POSH Programme among University teachers in AP

Sexual Harassment (SH) in the workplace is evidenced to decrease employees' productivity as well as negatively impact financial performance of an organisation. The POSH Act 2013 defined SH in the workplace and outlines a complaint mechanism that organisation must implement. It requires that an Internal Committee (IC) be set up within every establishment that has 10 or more employees to examine and investigate SH related matters within the workplace. According to the Act, SH training is mandatory for Indian organizations with more than 50 employees. It requires every employee to complete training on the topic of workplace SH at least once every year (Ministry of Women & Child Development, GoI, 2013). Considering the widespread prevalence of SH in the workplace and the negative implication of it for employees, organizations and society at large; there is an urgent need to address this problem. Key findings show that there has been a huge gap in knowledge on the POSH act, the participants have positive attitude in reporting the SH at work place, and there is significant ability to identify SH situations.

Anoushka Jha
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Abstract Title: Tackling Online Gender Based Violence Through Social Work Practice and Methods

Digital spaces reflect, reinforce and exacerbate systemic structural gender inequality. The existing socio-technical realities in the offline world create fertile ground for imitation of the similar socio-technical challenges in the online world. The existing gender divide coupled with limited literacy are compounded in the online world in the form of digital gender divide and lack of digital literacy resulting in online violence. The existing research on violence against women through technology is only anecdotal in nature and the overall picture of tech-facilitated violence generally comes from the perspective of the global north. This research paper will provide a perspective specific to India and the larger global south on the role of technology in facilitating online gender-based violence such as cyberstalking, fraud, sextortion, hate crime and heinous crimes such as human trafficking. This paper will use digital ethnography through in-depth interviews in Delhi with survivors of commercial sexual exploitation coupled with online participant observation of how women and adolescent girls use technologies such as mobile phones and interact on social media platforms such as Meta (formerly Facebook), X (formerly twitter) etc. and Internet. Additionally, this paper will establish emerging patterns of usage and practices (including safeguarding) of digital technologies by sex workers in a network society for their profession. The paper will argue for the need of developing a robust mechanism through social work practice for generating awareness in rural and peri-urban communities on digital literacy for leveraging mobile and internet technology to build support system and connect with crucial information in a timely manner.

Hina Khan
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Abstract Title: Professional Satisfaction of Social Workers: Concept and Components

In the pretext of the social work profession, the fields of practice of social workers are growing with the varied nature of interventions, engagements and work culture. Deviating from their basic and linear aspirations, they are aspiring for self-development, personal growth, job satisfaction, upholding social work values and philosophy and contributing to the profession along with handsome income, job security and a safe work environment. Based on the secondary sources, this paper aims to explore the concept, components and dimensions of professional satisfaction of social work educators and practitioners.



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Dr Anish KR

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Rajagiri College of Social Sciences (Autonomous),

Kochi

Abstract Title: Case-Based Pedagogy for Teaching Social Casework: Enhancing Conceptual Clarity and Skills in Graduate Students

Teaching social casework to graduate students demands an effective and engaging pedagogical approach that fosters a deeper understanding of the casework process and enhances practical skills. This presentation explores the implementation and impact of case-based pedagogy in teaching social casework, focusing on the step-by-step procedures of engagement, assessment, intervention planning, intervening, and evaluating. Additionally, the integration of peer-based learning and its contribution to enhancing social casework practice during fieldwork will be discussed. The study adopts a mixed-methods approach, combining qualitative and quantitative data to assess the outcomes of the case-based pedagogy. The findings indicate a significant positive impact of case-based pedagogy on the conceptual clarity of the casework process. Students reported increased confidence in their ability to navigate the complexities of real-life cases, demonstrating a deeper understanding of theoretical concepts applied to practice.

Naresh Kumar, Research Scholar

&

Prof. Ranvir Singh, Department of Social Work,

Department of Social Work,

Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar University, Agra

Abstract Title: Implementation of National Education Policy 2020 in Preschool Education: A Sustainable Development Strategy

The Sustainable Development Goal-4 (SDG4), which India adopted in 2015, aspires to "ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all" by the year 2030. It reflects the global education development agenda. In order to promote healthy brain development and growth, it is crucial to provide the right care and stimulation for the brain in the early years. Over 85% of a child's cumulative brain development happens before the age of six. The National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020) in India places a significant emphasis on Early Childhood Care and Education. A five-year foundational stage of education is envisioned in the NEP 2020, which encompasses three years of preschool education and the first two years of primary school. Prior educational policies in India have mostly dealt with access and equity concerns in their implementation. A considerable improvement over the preceding Policy of 1986, the "Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act of 2009" laid the constitutional framework for achieving universal basic education. This Policy (NEP 2020) correctly addresses the unfinished tasks of the National Policy on Education from 1986, as modified in 1992. This study is based on secondary data and provides a review analysis of the National Education Policy 2020. The purpose of this article is to provide an understanding of the NEP-2020 implementation policy as it relates to preschool education and its importance from a long-term viewpoint. The study concluded that the NEP-2020 represents a substantial advancement for ECCE in India. It's essential to keep an eye on how the NEP 2020 is being put into practice and to guarantee that all children have access to high-quality preschool education.

Keywords: NEP, ECCE, Preschool Education, Sustainable Development.

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New Delhi

Abstract Title: Learning from Experiences- Reflections and Insights from 'Retired' Social Work Educators and Professionals

A few years back, in one of the sessions of the very prestigious Indian Social Work Congress, I as a research scholar, presented a paper on 'self-reflexivity' and its relevance in the life of social workers- young and experienced both; educators as well as professionals, job opportunities, how it is being taught at our Universities and its future scope in the Indian socio-economic-



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political context. The present paper however, intends to focus exclusively on the experiences of social workers who have contributed a lifetime in the endeavour of professional social work in the similar context and have retired from their respective professional engagements as academicians and practitioners both. Although a social-worker cannot retire 'fully' from her/his engagements as there exists a very thin line for the very straitjacket definitions of 'personal' and 'professional' in the lifetime of a social worker, the present paper intends to collate repositories of valuable insights and self-reflections from across the interview responses of the 'retired' Social Worker. Using purposive sampling, primary and secondary sources as per relevance and a plethora of online and offline means, for all purposes pertaining to communication and in-depth and conversational interviews, the findings shall be presented both thematically and through case studies that shall help to pave the path for posterity in 'doing' social work within the present contours of its pedagogy, curriculum and methods.

Keywords: Social Work profession, self-reflexivity, retired professionals, educators

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Abstract Title: Insights into Teaching Social Work Practice with Individuals

The 'Methods courses' were always considered the core of teaching social work curriculum. It was these courses that provided students with the skills and know-how of working with individuals, groups, communities, agencies and interface at the policy level through advocacy. Over time, this traditional teaching of methods has been under scrutiny and discussion for its relevance and value by both educators and practitioners. This article looks at teaching 'Social Work Practice with Individuals' (SWPI) popularly known as 'Case Work' in most syllabi. As teachers teaching SWPI for the last 15 years, one can see a changing profile of the millennial generation students who have a different orientation to skill sets and values as that of senior social work practitioners in the field. Therefore, there is a need to document work done in the various sectors like hospitals, schools, police stations, institutions, children, women, in NGOs working with issues related to gender, health, education, rights, justice etc. And to examine current practices adopted for case management, documentation in the tech-savvy system, to document case examples as teaching aids, understand the role of the social worker and skills being used when working with individuals across various sites of practice.

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Abstract Title: Photographs in Field Work Recordings: How Students present the Field, and What We Learn from them

Written recordings of field work events and processes are central to field education in social work. In India, given the diversity in profile of social work students and educators, writing of any form tends to be a mixed experience for students. Supervisors too, while facilitating effective writing, may themselves be less keen on writing. Yet, as a key requirement for becoming professional social workers, writing needs to be taught, and learnt. Most educator-supervisors would have negotiated with students about expectations and requirements involving the submission of adequate, if not coherent and comprehensive field work reports.

We draw upon photographs in student field recordings of their placement with social audit units engaged in monitoring state welfare programmes in rural community settings since 2016. The high stakes of local persons and the bureaucracy at various levels, make social audits a contentious process. Social Work students are viewed both as stakeholders, and as outsiders to the district, panchayat, and communities. Field work recordings are therefore replete with details - of everyday tasks, dynamics, and conflicts, and productive grounds for our discussions of visual presentations and representations. By selecting experiences that



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are curated and communicated, students also attempt to make the fieldwork 'real'. Supervisors need to learn to engage with multiple meanings that are made apparent in this process, including the silences, quiet assertions, and back-stage processes implicit in photographic recordings. The pervasive nature of photographs in the present century including its ability to influence, build, or criticize public identities and reputation, we argue, need to be viewed not just as a tool for documentation or advocacy but as a medium to be learnt, in order to understand shifts in field contexts and engagements, and to strengthen pedagogy in Social Work education.

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Abstract Title: National Education Policy 2020 and role of Social Work Intervention

India will have the highest population of young people in the world over the next decade, and our ability to provide high-quality educational opportunities to them will determine the future of our country. The global education development agenda reflected in Goal 4 (SDG4) of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by India in 2015- seeks to "ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all" by 2030.

N.E.P. 2020 is the first education policy of the 21st century and aims to address the many growing developmental imperatives of India. This Policy proposes the revision and revamping of all aspects of the education structure, including its regulation and governance, to create a new system that is aligned with the inspirational goals of 21st-century education, including SDG4 while building upon India's traditions and value systems. A Social Worker, working in the field of education, is assigned many responsibilities for the formulation, execution, and evaluation of various programs at different levels as the level of Individual and the level of school. To establish programmers for at-risk pupils, special education, gifted and talented students, and alternative education, school systems rely on trained personnel. The Social Worker, who works in the field of education, is called an Educational Social Worker or School Social Worker. ESW or SSW is very important in assisting teachers in the classroom. Social Workers can assist instructors in better understanding everything from social barriers to developmental delays by having expanded knowledge of the different possible learning obstructions that a student may face.

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Abstract Title: Extended Social Work Activities beyond the Professional Limits: (Initiatives by Baroda Muslim Doctors Association and Gandevikar Jewelers, in Vadodara)

With an objective of 'enabling people to learn by themselves', the contemporary paper discusses the initiatives of the Baroda Muslim Doctors Association- a registered Non-Government Organizations of more than 650 Doctors and Para-medical Staff from Central and south Gujarat mainly belonging to Vadodara District. To join hands with the association, the educationists, the young activists, and the social workers are also associated with the association. BMDA is now not only known for the provision of varied medical services at subsidized rates in Vadodara city area but is also widely known for its extended social work activities such as helping the women and people from the uneducated section of society fill up the requisites to get the benefits of the government schemes to setting up of required infrastructure, as well as providing guidance and mentoring to the future generation through its various activities, with the sole objective of leaving no one behind.

Subsequently, the paper also elaborates on the extended social work activities of SARA Gandevikar Jewelers – a well-known business group in the city of Vadodara. The group is not merely known in the field of ornaments and jewellery, but the group have managed to reach the underprivileged citizens of the city during the Covid-19 pandemic by rendering financial help to the Below Poverty lines families and has continued the practices since then, additionally by establishing the training academy with an intention of 'helping people to enable themselves'.



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Abstract Title: Transforming Social Work Education: A Deep Dive into the National Education Policy-2020

The education system in India is currently undergoing a significant transformation. The National Education Policy 2020 represents a comprehensive plan aimed at shifting the focus of education from a knowledge-based approach to one that emphasizes skills and practical application. This policy initiative has been spearheaded by a dedicated committee, which has diligently worked to address the shortcomings of previous education policies and elevate the quality of education to meet global standards. The primary objective of higher education, as envisioned in this policy, is to equip the younger generation with the skills and knowledge needed to harness India's demographic dividend, contribute to the national and global economy, and foster self-reliance through initiatives like "Atmanirbhar Bharat". Amidst this educational transition, there lie both significant opportunities and formidable challenges for Social Work education in India. Social work education is a relatively youthful branch within the broader spectrum.

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Abstract Title: Trauma-Informed Care in Social Work Application

Trauma-informed care has emerged as a transformative approach within the field of social work, revolutionizing how professionals address the needs of individuals who have experienced trauma. This paper delves into the conceptual framework and practical implications of trauma-informed care, examining its origins, key principles, and the profound impact it has on social work practice.

Rooted in an understanding of the pervasive and lasting effects of trauma on individuals, trauma-informed care represents a paradigm shift that recognizes the prevalence of trauma and its potential to shape behaviours, relationships, and overall well-being. The researcher explores the foundational principles of safety, trustworthiness, choice, collaboration, and empowerment that underpin trauma-informed practice, fostering an environment that promotes healing and resilience.

The author examines the practical strategies that social workers can employ to create safe spaces for clients, minimize re-traumatization, and support individuals in regaining a sense of control over their lives. By acknowledging the interconnectedness of personal history, trauma responses, and systemic factors, social workers can tailor interventions that promote holistic healing. The researcher also addresses the challenges and considerations associated with trauma-informed care implementation. The comprehensive transformation of practice necessitates ongoing training, a commitment to self-awareness, and organizational shifts to align with trauma-informed principles. Additionally, it discusses the ethical implications of implementing trauma-informed care, emphasizing the importance of informed consent, boundaries, and cultural sensitivity.

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Abstract: Revisiting Fieldwork Practicum in Social Work: Reflections from Indian Experience

Preparation for the profession and professional practice is the precedential constituent of social work education. To achieve this intent is the collaborative quest of all the stakeholders engrossed in it. Developing, understanding and operationalizing the compartmentalized but relative, interdependent and reciprocal structure and roles and responsibilities of each stakeholder are the prerequisites to this intent. This article is to explore and revisit the fieldwork practicum in social work and how its varied components are operationalized in the ultimate purpose of knowledge creation, skill building, attitudinal change and practice competencies. Also, to propose dialectic praxis



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among these components and how these dialectics serve to count the stakes and contributions of all the stakeholders involved in it.

Keywords: Fieldwork Practicum, Fieldwork Components, Dialectical Praxis, Signature Pedagogy, Field Education

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Abstract Title: Interdisciplinary Collaborations in Social Work Research and Pedagogy: With an Eye to the Future

While social work research at the doctoral level in India primarily restricts itself to a strict, limited number of themes, interdisciplinary research is usually identified with the fusion of pluralistic ideas and concepts across disciplines, potentially leading to better and improved decision-making processes. Originating from the Latin root 'inter-' (meaning 'between') and 'disciplina' (meaning knowledge) the word suggests an unambiguous relationship between similar and not-so-similar insights and perspectives.

This article differentiates the terms inter-, multi-, and cross-disciplinary and deals with the idea of interdisciplinary collaboration between the disciplines of social work and law; the liberal arts (such as puppetry, painting, music, and dance); agriculture; healthcare; pedagogy; political science; commerce and finance; even science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) disciplines, et al. It also sheds some light on doctoral research carried out in three major social work institutions in the country between 2011 and 2021, where the primary findings indicate a penchant for research on human resource management and labour laws.

Furthermore, potential ideas (such as political social work; forensic social work and the role of Public Interest Litigations (PILs); death penalty mitigation; heterogeneity; indigenisation and nativity; decentralized education; and frames of reference, et al.) for social work pedagogy and practice in India drawn from a variety of secondary sources (both related to an unrelated to social work research and pedagogical practices) are also put forward as potential concepts to be dealt with within the discipline of social work in the not-so-distant future. Such an interaction between disciplines has been and will remain, in fact, a crucial source for the growth and advancement of the disciplines. Additionally, interdisciplinary research provides a crucial fillip to the discipline, research, and the formation of future policies for welfare, growth, and development.

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Abstract Title: Encapsulating Innovative Social Work Practices, Pedagogy & Research

New advancement brings numerous paradigms and opens several dimensions for exploration, study, research, and practice. Such has been the fate of Social Work pedagogy and practice. The profession that began from charity and voluntarism is now a formalized practice reaching out to every fragment of society to enhance well-being, foster human worth, and social justice. Throughout this journey, Social Work gathered numerous concepts such as human rights, policy making, entrepreneurship etc. which at present act as a significant part of the Social Work fraternity to solve various societal issues. Although several segments of society benefit from this integration, a continuous expansion of Social Work is required to address contemporary problems arising from excessive use of technology as well as sudden emergencies like the advent of a pandemic like COVID-19 etc. This article aims to explore the coherence of Artificial Intelligence, Technology and Social Media, Data Science and Performing Arts with Social Work practice, pedagogy, and research. Artificial Intelligence is a technology that combines computer science with datasets to perform the tasks associated with human intelligence like problem-solving. This acts as a novel approach. One of the primary uses of this tech is to analyse large datasets, such as demographics, economic conditions, and social support systems. Telehealth services (i.e. use of electronic information and telecommunication technologies to support long-distance clinical health care, patient and professional health-related education, health administration, and public health.) on the other hand gained momentum during the pandemic COVID-19. Videoconferencing, and web-based messages, are also an important part of the evolving approaches. They offer a proactive platform to social workers for reaching out to their clients in real time.



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Abstract Title: Role of Social Work Profession in Promoting Communal Harmony and Social Cohesion

Social Cohesion, peace, stability, human rights and Supply of Adequate Resources are among the quintessential for social development. Frequent disturbances in the social environment and subsequent communal tensions result in disruption of developmental initiatives, besides the gross violation of respect and dignity, especially of women, children and the elderly. Our country has been witnessing communal clashes of varying intensities from time to time, adversely affecting the peaceful coexistence of different communities. Erosion of respect for diversities, and violation of basic human rights are both causes and effects of the frequent communal clashes. Hence, this should definitely be one of the major concerns of the Social Work Profession in India.

The Sustainable Development Goals in its Goal 16 emphasised on promoting just, peaceful and inclusive societies, providing access to justice for all. The UN suggests steps like promoting inclusion and respect towards people of different ethnic origins, religions, genders, sexual orientations or different opinions and working together to improve conditions for a life of dignity for all. The present paper is an attempt to consolidate the views of various trained social work professionals, both from academia and practitioners regarding the potential role the social work profession can play, in preventing communal tensions, curating the negative effects of communal clashes and promoting communal harmony and social cohesion in the community so as to enhance social wellbeing. The paper is based on the effort of the author to contact the social work alumni of one of the prominent schools of social work education, passed out in over the past 50 years, serving in different fields in different capacities across the globe. The participants were asked to share the five most effective ways, in their opinion, the social work profession can contribute to promoting communal harmony in the country.

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Abstract Title: The impact of Western ideologies on Social Work Practices in India

Social work as a profession and practice originated in the 19th century. Western countries, which have had a big influence on social work practice all over the world, are where social work first emerged and got its framework. Examining how Western beliefs have impacted social work practices in India is the main goal of this paper. Social Work practice can vary noticeably between Western countries and India due to differences in all domains including social, cultural, etc. There is an extensive disclosure of whether Western thoughts can match up with the indigenous practice of social work. A variety of study papers, articles, and journals will be reviewed by the researcher as part of a secondary research process to reach full comprehension. The paper attempts to understand the gaps that may not align with the indigenous practice. It revolves around three specific domains Individualism vs. collectivism, traditional family systems, and cultural diversity. India favours collaborative decision-making whereas Western nations prioritise personal freedom and autonomy. And unlike other Western nations, India has a wider variety of cultures. It is important to give special attention to the vast and diverse population of India and help them understand the significance of indigenous knowledge in social work practices. Family is the primary institution and in India, it holds a specific stipulation whereas flexibility in family structures in Western countries strives to reconsider the prevailing theories formulated with the Western ideologies. This paper is directed at making an attempt to consider all the aforementioned elements in social work practice in India.

Keywords: Western, India, Social Work Practice



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Abstract Title: A Study on Social Work Pedagogy in the Context of National Education Policy 2020- Prospects and Challenges

Education is essential for realizing one's potential, building a just and equitable society, and promoting human development. Goal 4 (SDG4) of the 2030 goal for Sustainable Development, ratified by India in 2015, reflects the global education development goal and aims to "ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all" by the year 2030. By 2040, India is progressing to develop a world-class educational system with equal access to the best instruction for all students, regardless of their social or economic status. The first education policy of the twenty-first century, National Education Policy 2020, intends to address the nation's numerous expanding developmental imperatives. This study uses secondary data gathered from a variety of sources in order to assess how well new educational policies would open up new possibilities for skill development among the next generation and to look into potential ways to put new educational policies into practice with the aid of Social Work experts. The new education policy has also placed more emphasis on the appointment of school social workers and their critical role in working with parents, teachers, management, and students to recognize, identify, and nurture each student's unique abilities. Further there are criticisms on various aspects of the National Education Policy from state governments to the general public. Therefore, it is important to analyze the scope of social work and identify the prospects and challenges in the context of NEP 2020.

Keywords: Social Work, Pedagogy, NEP 2020

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Abstract Title: Disruptive yet Inventive: Navigating Fieldwork in Social Work Education amidst Covid-19 - Insights from Indian Students

This paper delves into the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on fieldwork in social work education, particularly in India and explores various interruptions and innovations experienced by social work students in completing the fieldwork during the COVID-19 pandemic. The authors collected information from social work students through an online survey to identify the mode of fieldwork, satisfaction in doing fieldwork, application of social work methods, fieldwork conferences and challenges faced during fieldwork. The study provides valuable insights for social work practitioners to design and implement various modes of fieldwork, including online, offline, and blended formats, to meet the requirements of fieldwork education in pandemic situations. The article emphasises the importance of adopting a systematic approach to ensure that students receive adequate and effective fieldwork education despite the interruptions caused by the pandemic.

Key Words: Covid-19, Fieldwork, India, Pandemic, Social Work, Students.



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Abstract Title: The Generative Artificial Intelligence AI and its Applications in Social Work Praxis

Generative AI tools and applications are emerging as a transformative force in various fields in the current technological era, and their potential interventionist approach in social work is indeed promising. Although AI technologies are just starting to get attention in social work, now is the ideal time for students, practitioners, and field workers to think actively about leveraging this tool to enhance and streamline service delivery, empower vulnerable populations, and foster more equitable outcomes. Collaboration between AI experts and social workers can help ensure that these technologies are applied in ways that prioritize the well-being of individuals and communities. AI can analyse vast amounts of data to identify trends and patterns that can inform decision-making in social work. For example, it can help identify at-risk individuals or communities, allowing social workers to allocate resources more effectively. AI can help tailor interventions to individual needs. By analysing a client's history, behaviour, and circumstances, AI systems can suggest personalized strategies and interventions that are more likely to be effective. AI-powered chatbots and virtual assistants can provide 24.7 mental health support. These tools can engage with clients in a conversational manner, providing them with information, coping strategies, and referrals to appropriate services. Language barriers can be a significant obstacle in social work. AI-driven translation tools can help bridge these gaps, ensuring that social workers can communicate effectively with clients who speak different languages. AI can provide ethical guidance by offering recommendations based on established ethical principles and legal frameworks, helping social workers navigate complex ethical dilemmas. So, engaging with the praxis of professional social work in collaboration with generative AI has the scope of some productive outcomes for the better of modern society.

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Abstract Title: Social Work and Minorities in India: Advocating a Rekindled Commitment

The term minorities can have varied meanings depending on the context. In its typical usage, it is often associated with the demographic size or representation of a particular group within a population. Muslims, Sikhs, Christians, Buddhists, Jains, and Zoroastrians (Parsis) have been officially designated as minority communities under Section 2 (c) of the National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992. According to the 2011 Census data, these minority groups collectively constitute approximately 19.3% of the total population of the country. The prejudices embedded in the government has infiltrated and empowered the certain groups to Persecute, intimidate, and assault religious minority groups with impunity. The unavoidable process of "othering" that minority communities experience has often caused lasting disruptions to the cohesion and structure of these communities, which may be challenging to reverse. Even more distressing is the fact that the majority of social work practitioners choose to remain oblivious of these issues. Given the context, this paper seeks to explore the social work approaches practiced in India and analyze the scope of critical and anti-oppressive practices which is necessary in the contemporary scenario thereby advocating for a renewed commitment of social workers towards restoring harmony in the society and peace for minorities.

Keywords: Social Work, minorities, anti-oppressive practice



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Abstract Title: Navigating the Challenges of Inclusive Education in the Post-COVID-19 Era: A Study of Socio-economic Impacts on Secondary-level Students in Online Learning Environments

The global health crisis precipitated by COVID-19 has necessitated the widespread adoption of social distancing measures as the foremost strategy to curtail community transmission, compelling the temporary closure of educational institutions in a collective effort to protect lives. This abrupt disruption has, in turn, exerted a profound influence on the teaching and learning process. Educators and learners alike have found themselves confined to their homes, ushering in an era of educational transformation and, often, ambiguity. Consequently, the quest for effective learning has been considerably impeded, giving rise to pervasive sentiments of uncertainty, insecurity, and pedagogical quandaries. The pandemic, in its relentless march, has not only exposed the vulnerability of the educational system but has also prompted an accelerated shift toward digital, online learning as the primary means of instruction. While online education had previously been regarded as a supplemental tool within the educational toolkit, the rapid transition to an exclusive reliance on virtual platforms has triggered an array of pressing concerns about its adequacy as a substitute for traditional, in-person pedagogy. In this context, it becomes imperative to underscore the critical theme of inclusion in education. The primary objective of this study is to delve into the socio-economic challenges encountered by secondary-level students in the post-COVID-19 landscape, particularly with regard to the inclusivity of online education. Inclusivity encompasses not only equitable access to digital resources and online learning platforms but also the ability of diverse students, including those with disabilities, different cultural backgrounds, and varying socio-economic circumstances, to fully participate and thrive in this new educational paradigm. The research findings have illuminated a myriad of obstacles faced by students, revealing disparities in access to technology and the internet, uneven digital literacy levels, and disparities in socio-economic resources. These challenges underscore the compelling need for proactive interventions and support mechanisms to ensure that no student is left behind in the transition to online education. Social workers, with their expertise in addressing social and economic inequalities, play a pivotal role in addressing these issues and promoting the principles of inclusive education, ensuring that education remains a universal and equitable right even in the face of unprecedented challenges.

Key Words: Inclusive Education, Socio-economic Impacts, Secondary-level Students, Post-COVID-19 Era, Educational Disparities, Role of Social Workers

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Abstract Title: Navigating the Neoliberal Landscape as a Social Work Educator Challenges and Transformation in Contemporary Social Work Practice

In the era of pervasive neoliberalism, social work educators find themselves at the forefront of multifaceted challenges and transformative shifts in contemporary social work practice. This paper delves into the intricate web of issues confronting social work practice and education, primarily focusing on the profound changes in the welfare social model, state budget allocation, and the diverse stakeholders shaping the field. The welfare social model has undergone a significant shift, characterized by reduced state intervention and an increasing emphasis on individual responsibility. As social work educators we must equip our students to navigate this shifting landscape with the knowledge and skills to address clients mounting economic insecurities due to diminishing social safety nets. Furthermore, the rise of privatization in social services raises ethical concerns, compelling us to instill in our students a solid ethical foundation that prioritises client's well-being over profit. Neoliberalism's most striking feature is its role in exacerbating income inequality along with numerous social fault lines. As Social work educators, we must prepare our students to confront this stark reality. This requires identifying the challenges and shortcomings within our profession.

As social work educators, we have to prepare the practitioners to deal with the onslaught of the manifold challenges of contemporary practice. This requires us to engage in critical reflection and dialogue to ensure that our profession and education remain inclusive, accountable, and resilient in the face of neoliberal pressures.

Dr. Pradeep Kumar Sahoo



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Abstract Title: Professional Social Workers of India: Practice-based Issues and Challenges in Human Right Prospective

This paper examines the practice-based challenges and human rights issues faced by professional social workers in India. Social work as a professional discipline was introduced in India in 1936. After 85 years, the profession has not been able to establish a strong footing in Indian subcontinents due to numerous practice-based issues and challenges. To understand the intensity of practice-based issues and challenges faced by professional social workers in India, a primary study was conducted among 300 respondents from 12 Indian states.

The result of the study found that the absence of a social work council for the professional identity and lack of recognition in work are the major problems of a professional social worker that give rise to a number of practice-based challenges and human rights issues. The practice-based challenges like; casual job contract, low and irregular salary, long hours of work with extensive fieldwork, job and life insecurity, exploitation, abuse, harassment by supervisor and inter-professional conflict appears with a greater intensity and violate the human rights of professional social workers extensively. Furthermore, due to the casual nature of job contracts, social workers are deprived of a number of basic rights i.e., pension, bonus, gratuity, paid leave, health and life insurance and other entitlement as per law, which steeply increases the social insecurity of social work professional both during the job and after retirement. In this context, the study followed the human rights and workers' rights principles and provisions of the United Nations-Human Rights Council, International Labour Organization and International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and recommended a set of principles to address the challenges of professional social workers of India.

Key Word: Human Rights, Professional Challenges, Professional Social Worker, Social work.

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Abstract Title: Dalit Autobiographies: The Subaltern Literature and 'Pedagogy' of Social Work Education

Dalit autobiographies are known as a powerful text of self-reflection to express caste-based discrimination, social exclusion, injustice, poverty, and structural inequalities. Some of the Dalit autobiographies—Murdahiya, Manikarnika, Joothan, Baloota, and Ants among Elephants, are very popular subaltern literature in contemporary India to narrate pain, suffering, grief, struggle, challenges, marginalization, and sub-standard everyday life of Dalits. However, amid being significantly relevant subaltern literature to explain the notion of justice, exclusion, and inequality from a social work perspective, we found very minimal presence of subaltern literature in social work education, training, and pedagogies. Therefore, drawing upon 'Murdahiya and Manikarnika—a popular Dalit autobiography of Tulasiram, and our own experiences as social work educators, we argue that subaltern literature has significant relevance to social work pedagogy, education, training, and practice. The article endeavours to find answers to these questions: How Dalit autobiographies are popular in subaltern literature? How does subaltern literature share a resemblance with the core principles and values of social work education? How do Murdahiya, Manikarnika, Joothan, and Baloota as Dalit autobiography share the notion of social exclusion and injustice against the core values and ethics of social



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work? How can subaltern literature be useful in pedagogies, education, training, and practice of social work education in India and from a global perspective?

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Abstract Title: An Exploration of Social Work Educators' Competencies in Degree Collages of Karnataka

Social Work Education is a 'practice-oriented' discipline. The two components critical to Social Work Education are knowledge enrichment and skill enhancement which are expected to occur parallelly and reciprocally complementing each other. With this objective in focus, Social Work Education across Universities and Institutions are designed in such a way that practical learning is given equal importance as the theoretical evolution of Social Work, the primary and secondary methods of Social Work, and the different specializations; the practical component is delivered through skill labs and different kinds of field engagements such as field visits, fieldwork, rural camps and block placements. This paper attempts to assess the Social Work Educators' competencies with regard to Social Work Education.

Methodology: This study follows an exploratory research design. The main objectives of the study are 'To explore the discipline-related competencies of Social Work Educators', 'To identify the gaps in the discipline-related competencies of Social Work Educators' and 'To suggest ways to address the competency gaps identified', if any. The tool used for data collection is the 'Questionnaire' executed through Google Forms. The universe includes all permanent and temporary faculty of Social Work discipline, working in different degree colleges of Karnataka and the units are individual teachers of Social Work in different degree colleges of Karnataka, present at the time of the survey. The study uses a survey method. The study looks into variables such as teachers' specialization, practice experience, Empirical research works, projects, skills, understanding of different kinds of practicum designs and networking.

Result: The study is in progress

Key Words: Social Work Educators competency, Social work practice, Networking, Empirical works

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Delhi

Abstract Title: Anti-Caste Social Work Theory and Its Framework: Locating Dalit/Subaltern Literary Perspectives in Social Work Teaching-Learning Pedagogy.

The social work profession in the era of neo-liberal times has more challenges than ever before. The growing corporatism and market profit-making endeavours are posing the challenge of rising inequality, ecological disruptions, poverty, hunger, and the geo-political concerns of nation-states facilitating the wars between nations. In this situation, peace and harmony are in grave condition. The social work profession is quite sanguine and committed to ensuring justice and the well-being of all. The profession strongly believes in and advocates for the empowerment and liberation of the marginalised and oppressed community. It cherishes and promotes the values of social justice, protection, and the realisation of human rights for every individual. As time changes rapidly, debate and discourse around artificial intelligence (AI) is also taking place in social work education. In this context, some pertinent questions need to be asked about whether the roles of social workers would be replaced by AI technology for problem-solving. Where and how can we use technology in social work interventions to address the issues of marginalised and oppressed communities? The Indian social work academia now needs to look forward to novel liberatory and emancipatory approaches to address concerns related to oppression, injustice, hatred and violence.

In this paper, the researcher has argued that Dalit and subaltern literature is organically produced with deeper sensitivity and lived experience. The language articulated by these authors' appeals to others and challenges their conservative mindset and consciousness to seek the treatment of dignity, honour, and respect in the larger anti-caste framework of humanism.

Keywords: Anti-caste Social Work, Dalit/ Subaltern Literature, Emancipatory and Liberatory Social Work, Decolonization, Indigenization.

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XI Indian National Social Work Congress 2023

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Abstract Title: Views of Social Work Educators on the NEP 2020 with special reference to National Framework, Regional Specificities and Vernacular Challenges

The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 has marked a significant paradigm shift in India's educational landscape. This quantitative study explores the views and perceptions of social work educators regarding the NEP 2020, with a specific focus on its National Framework, adaptation to regional specificities, and the challenges presented by vernacular languages in the context of social work education. Utilizing a rigorous survey-based research design, this study gathered data from a representative sample of social work educators across diverse regions of India. A structured questionnaire was employed to assess educators' awareness of the NEP core components, their perceptions of its potential impact on social work pedagogy, and their strategies for accommodating regional and linguistic diversity within the classroom. Key findings highlight a general consensus among social work educators regarding the NEPs transformative potential for higher education in India. Respondents expressed optimism about the National Frameworks emphasis on multidisciplinary education, skill development, and research integration, believing these elements align well with the overarching goals of social work education. However, regional variations emerged as a prominent theme, with educators emphasizing the importance of tailoring NEP implementation to address specific regional needs and challenges. Concerns were raised regarding the preservation of vernacular languages and the need for faculty development to effectively implement multilingual teaching approaches. This study provides empirical insights into the nuanced perspectives of social work educators, offering valuable guidance for policymakers, institutions, and educators themselves as they navigate the evolving landscape of social work education in the post-NEP era. The findings underscore the importance of balancing national policy directives with the diverse regional and linguistic contexts of India, ensuring that social work education continues to serve as a catalyst for inclusive, equitable, and contextually relevant higher education.

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Abstract Title: Social Work Practice in India: Need for a Paradigm Shift from Conventional Social Work to Radical & Structural Social Work.

Right from the beginning there has been a critical and radical orientation in social work. Social Work has always struggled with tension between its focus on the individual and its concern about Socioeconomic and political forces. Dominelli (1998: 154) refers to this as a struggle between 'Social activists and 'individual interventionists'. Social Work embraced Freudian psychology as a theoretical framework for social Work practice in the USA and UK during 1920s and 1930s (Yellowy, 1990). Many social workers look at this as a shift from the environment to the psychic of individuals. However, changing oppressive social conditions was not seen as being either scientific or professional therapy (Jennifer Martin, 2003). The dominance of psychiatric social works was challenged by Bertha Capen Reynolds (1963) a social work educator and trainer from the USA who believed that social workers should align themselves with clients and workers in order to fight for their Social Justice.

In the Indian Context, the Social Work curricula, models, theories and practice have not moved away from the era of psychic social work of the 1930's. Looking at the structural macro problems and the magnitude of deprivation, exclusion, segregation, marginalization and exploitation at the mass level it is high time that we revisit the entire social work practice in terms of its values, philosophy, principles, ethics methodologies and theories. The present paper argues that the Indian subcontinent especially India has a strong theoretical and historical background with regard to structural challenges posed by our ancestors to the hegemony and exploitative regimes in the past, which is more than enough to radicalize the social work practice in India and to bring it in consistent with the global human right framework.

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Title of paper - Enhancing Social Work Education: Integrating Participatory



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Approaches for Effective Classroom Teaching-Learning Processes

The synergy between classroom inputs and fieldwork is critical for a holistic learning experience in social work education. Students imbibe knowledge, attitude-building, and skill training through structured coursework in the classroom. They apply some of their classroom knowledge to fieldwork, and their fieldwork experiences are brought back into the classroom for sharing, reflection, or analysis through an iterative process. Especially in social work education, the reflexive engagement of the learner becomes critical for the effective use of 'self' in social work. The National Education Policy 2020, (NEP) aims for transformative learning with a focus on learner-centered and outcome-based education. The NEP emphasizes collaborative learning strategies and developing essential student attributes and competencies. Within this context, this paper explores the author's extensive experiences as a social work educator, including teaching/training, designing courses/workshops, writing training manuals/modules, and using participatory methods without compromising content quality and course objectives. The paper will be primarily located within the theoretical framework of Malcolm Knowles's adult learning and David Kolb's Cycle of Experiential Learning. The paper contends that social work education, being values-based, must demonstrate these values in the classroom by recognizing the inherent dignity of every learner and conveying a firm belief in the potential of youth learners. Participatory training is based on the premise that adult learners bring their knowledge and life experience into learning spaces. Participatory methods and approaches include individual and group exercises/discussions, case studies, role plays, audio-visual material, and experiential learning exercises. Assessment and evaluation of learning can also incorporate participatory methods. The key thrust of the paper will be on the different participatory methods that can be seamlessly integrated into the curriculum design. The article is supplemented with the author's examples and illustrations from classroom teaching and training. The paper underscores that the use of participatory approaches goes beyond mere "activities" or "entertainment;" each method should be thoughtfully linked to the specific curriculum goals and session objectives. Successful implementation of these methods necessitates meticulous planning and preparation by the teacher or facilitator. The paper also highlights some challenges in using participatory approaches as they are inherently process-oriented, and the learner outcome cannot be fully anticipated. It would depend on how each learner absorbs the inputs and engages with the exercise or activity. The paper includes different ways to address some of the challenges. Interesting, purposeful, and meaningful learning methods create curiosity and enthusiasm among young learners to delve deeper into a subject. Optimal learner engagement increases the likelihood of knowledge retention, recall, and real-time application. Given the people-centered nature of social work and the overarching vision to address myriad social issues, social work educators play a pivotal role as catalysts of change.

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Abstract Title: Navigating with the Remoteness of 'Muslim Question' in the Depoliticized Social Work Education in India

The 'birth' of social work is rooted in the broader discourse of poverty alleviation (Philp, 1979) of ethnic minorities and other groups in fast-grown industrial-urban spaces in the late 19th century West (Zaviršek, 2008). However, the eligibility to qualify as an epistemic subject in contemporary social work histories has been pretty competitive! 'Good' clients always suspend their being and repose faith in the service provider's professional expertise in the field, (McLaughlin, 2008), and nation-state and its apparatuses calculate a cost-benefit scanning in the 'selection' of people and problems in the academic world, as Guha (2000) indicates. The entry of communities, issues such as Muslims and Dalits, and ethnic conflicts and violence had predominantly been halted at the doors of social work's literature, pedagogy, and practice in India.

The proposed paper opens up a contextual discussion on the bleak presence of Muslims and global Islamophobia in the pedagogical and field practices of social work (Lavalette & Penketh, 2014). Concurrently, state-commissioned encyclopaedias, the vivid oeuvre of research papers and books, and personal-reflective sketches of social work educators and professionals did not give a crossway towards the socio-cultural-psychological-political placement of Muslims and their perennial issues of survival, security, and identity in India.

This paper is a modest attempt to navigate with the thematic debates given centrality, and the forms of knowledge that have (not!) been created in the past decades, and posits that Muslims, a marginalized category, did not receive substantive epistemological expressions. In doing so, the paper deconstructs how a systemic invisibilization of Muslims is crafted with the help of depoliticized nature of engagement, more specifically in the academic and curricular areas of social work practice. It augments that the case of 'missing Muslim' from social work episteme does not occur in the ideological vacuum.

Keywords: Social work epistemology; depoliticized education; Muslim question, ideology



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PTS – 2: Sustainable Interventions with Adolescents and Youth

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Abstract Title: Meeting the Challenges of Covid-19 in Adolescence for Future Well-Being

Covid-19 has been the biggest pandemic of our lifetime. It started as an outbreak of a novel virus of acute respiratory distress syndrome in Wuhan, China in December 2019. Very quickly this virus spread all over the world wreaking havoc of a scale never imagined or planned for. This virus which of zoonotic origin jumped species and evolved to become a human virus with the ability of efficient human to human spread. Rapid global travel, climate change, human encroachment, global urbanization and an increasing human population on the planet all helped this virus to spread rapidly all over the world. Although the health sector faced the major impact of the pandemic, a negative effect of the pandemic was seen in almost all aspects of society. Economy, education, politics, governance, food security, travel and tourism, sports and entertainment all were badly hit by this pandemic. The pandemic has waned but is not over and we have still not recovered from it. The educational crises that happened globally was unprecedented. Schools were closed for many months in most countries and children were forced to learn at home. The holistic social development which occurs in physical schools was not there. Privileged children could access alternate online learning module, but this was not available to everyone and created inequity. Students in low- and middle-income countries suffered the most as many did not have the means for online learning and computers. They literally had to spend more than a year with no education at all. Underprivileged and girls suffered more, and it has been estimated that many will not return to school.

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Arif Ali, &
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Abstract Title: Predicting the Mental Health of Undergraduate University Students in Northeast India with Academic Psychological Capital: A Cross-Sectional Study

Background: Undergraduate students are increasingly experiencing and being affected by mental health problems such as depression, anxiety, suicidal thoughts, stress, substance abuse, and self-injury. The shift and transition from a high school student to a university student are difficult, stressful, and demanding.

Objectives: The present study aims to predict mental health among undergraduate students in northeast India with Academic psychological capital.

Material and Methods: A cross-sectional research design study was conducted among undergraduate university students. A total of 120 students aged between 18 to 25 years were recruited for the study through a multi-stage stratified random sampling technique with proportional allocation.

Results: The results show that there are statistically significant correlations between all of the PsyCap variables and mental health variables. Overall-life PsyCap ($r = 0.729, p < 0.01$), School-work PsyCap ($r = 0.610, p < 0.01$), and total PsyCap score ($r = 0.695, p < 0.01$) have significant positive correlational with total mental health scores. The linear combination of three out of eight PsyCap variables was found to be the best model in predicting mental health score Overall-life Efficacy, Overall-life Optimism, Overall-life Hope, $R^2 = 0.486, F(3, 227) = 51.38, p < 0.001$.

Conclusion: The study shows that psychological capital is associated with the mental health functioning of university students. The findings have important ramifications for the formulation and content of programs designed to support undergraduate students' mental health and emphasize the value of further study into positive psychological traits as the cornerstones of university students positive mental health.

Keywords: Mental Health, Psychological Capital, Languishing, Flourishing, Well-being, & Undergraduates.



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Abstract Title: *Attitude and Reactions of Educated Girls Towards Menstrual Health Management in rural Rajasthan*

Adolescence is widely regarded as the most unstable period of life regarding health, profession, and identity. Concerns become more pressing in the case of girls, who must deal with the onset of menarche. The physical and psychological changes connected with puberty necessitate appropriate guidance for menstruation management. Although menstruation is a regular occurrence, it is related to several communal attitudes and practices that can lead to adverse health outcomes. Despite significant efforts to raise awareness to promote menstrual hygiene and increase access to and use of high-quality sanitary napkins by the National Health Mission through the State Programme Implementation Plan. However, there is still a significant need for more information on proper hygiene and sanitation practices during menstruation. Various taboos surrounding this topic restrict girls and women from expressing their wants. This has resulted in issues with inadequate menstrual hygiene management that have gone unnoticed or need to be more widely understood. The present study is conducted in government schools of Ajmer, Rajasthan, India. The aim is to identify the attitudes and reactions of educated girls towards menstrual health management in rural Rajasthan. The study's findings show that good menstrual hygiene is critical for adolescent girls' health, education, and dignity. Women with enhanced awareness about menstruation hygiene and safe menstrual practices are less likely to contract Reproductive Tract Infections (RTIs) and their repercussions. As a result, providing Adolescent Girls with the necessary information on menstrual cleanliness and management can empower them with the knowledge to boost their self-esteem and academic achievement. Study's findings will help Social Work professionals working on managing menstrual hygiene among adolescent girls by addressing various aspects related to menstruation, including education, access to resources, destigmatization, and empowerment.

Keywords: Menstrual hygiene, adolescent girls, menstrual taboos, cultural beliefs

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Abstract Title: *Youth Perspectives on Dowry: A Study of Female Adolescents Attitudes, Awareness, and Beliefs in India*

This research paper explores into the perspectives of female adolescents in India towards the dowry system, aiming to uncover their attitudes, awareness, and beliefs regarding this deeply rooted practice. The study employs a quantitative approach, utilizing a questionnaire-based methodology to collect data from a sample of 46 female adolescents aged 14 to 19. Through simple random probability sampling, the respondent's viewpoints are assessed, emphasizing binary responses. The findings illuminate the prevailing attitudes among the surveyed adolescents. The research reveals unanimous acknowledgment by the surveyed female adolescents recognizing the continued prevalence of the dowry system in Indian society. An overwhelming consensus of respondents advocate for the abolition of the dowry system, indicative of a collective desire for change. The study explores the financial implications of the dowry system, with majority of respondents acknowledging the economic burden it places on families. This acknowledgment underscores the potential economic instability caused by dowry-related practices. Additionally, a good portion of participants perceive a link between the dowry system and an increase in domestic violence, revealing their awareness of the complex interplay between dowry and gender-based violence. The research sheds light on the impact of dowry on mental health, as robust majority of respondents believe in a connection between the two. In conclusion, this study delves into the attitudes, awareness, and beliefs of female adolescents in India towards the dowry system. The findings underscore a resounding desire for change and a recognition of the multifaceted negative impact of this practice. This research contributes to the ongoing discourse on dowry and calls attention to the vital role that youth perspectives play in transforming traditional norms for a more equitable society. The overwhelming consensus on the need for change signifies a pivotal moment for addressing this deeply ingrained issue.



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Abstract Title: An Epidemiological study of Health Risk Behavioural and Protective Factors among School-Going Adolescents of Assam and Jharkhand using the Global School-based Student Health Survey (GSHS) questionnaire

Background: The study aimed to estimate the prevalence of various health risk behaviours and protective factors using the Global School-based Health Survey (GSHS) in the state of Jharkhand and Assam.

Methodology: In the present study cross-sectional descriptive study design was used. Convenience sampling was used for the selection of Schools from rural areas of Ranchi district, Jharkhand and from Dibrugarh district, Assam, India. Permission was taken from the school authority. Students with assent and parental consent were included in the survey. The total enumeration method was used for the selection of the students. Socio-demographic data sheet and The Global School-based Student Health Survey (GSHS) were administered to the school children.

The findings of the present study identified various unhealthy risk behaviours and protective factors among school-going adolescents. The difference was significant in both states. There is a need for intensified school mental health promotion programmes to reduce such risk behaviours. Early identification and treatment are necessary for the prevention and promotion of mental health among school children.

Keywords: Health Risk Behavior, protective factors, Mental Health Status, Tribal Adolescents, and Community

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Abstract Title: Sustainable Interventions with Adolescents and Youth: Promoting Positive Development and Well-being

This research paper delves into the realm of sustainable interventions designed to enhance the development and well-being of adolescents and youth. The transitional period from childhood to adulthood is marked by significant physical, cognitive, emotional, and social changes. As this phase carries both opportunities and challenges, implementing interventions that cater to the unique needs of adolescents and youth is crucial. This paper explores a variety of sustainable interventions, considering their effectiveness, ethical considerations, and long-term impacts on individuals and society. The paper also examines the role of technology, community involvement, and education in supporting the successful implementation of these interventions. By shedding light on evidence-based practices, this research contributes to the broader discourse on fostering positive youth development and creating a sustainable future.

Keywords: Adolescents, youth, sustainable interventions, positive development, well-being, technology, community involvement, education.



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Abstract Title: Does Youth use Internet as a method of Cybercrime

According to the Dictionary of Youth (2012), it is also described as having "the appearance," "freshness," "vigour," and "spirit." These are traits that are typically associated with young people. The National Youth Policy of India (2014) defines youth as being between the ages of 15 and 29, however, the WHO defines it as being between the ages of 15 and 24. The development of the Internet has displaced the established mass communication techniques and opened the door to the creation of numerous communication webs. One of the main interactive communication technologies in contemporary culture is the Internet. Today, it is inconceivable to imagine living without connectedness. Numerous academics have investigated how the Internet has facilitated connectivity in contemporary culture (Kumar, 2015). Cybercrime, often known as computer crime, is the use of a computer to advance unlawful goals, such as committing fraud, trafficking in child pornographic material and stolen intellectual property, stealing identities, or invading privacy.

This study is mainly focused on whether youths use the Internet as a method of Cybercrime. It is based only on the secondary data collection method by using data sources like journals, internet browsing, articles, government-released reports etc. It is a Descriptive study.

Keywords: Youth, Cyber Crime, SDG, Internet, Social Work

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Abstract Title: Demographic Dividend and Life Skills in India

The current population of India is 1,430,662,911 in the month of August 2023 based on World Meter elaboration of the latest United Nations data. India's population is equivalent to 17.76% of the total world population. In India, almost 41% of the population was below the age of 20 years. They can utilize their potential to contribute to the economy's growth by having a better primary, secondary and higher education system. Skill knowledge is very important to utilize their potential effects and it also increases productivity, which further helps in the economy's growth. Youth has the potential and power to change the world for the better.

To utilize the demographic dividend and life skills in India, the main focus is to improve education, health, and job creation, skill development, enabling entrepreneurship potential, startups, youth entrepreneurship and life skills education. India cannot utilize the demographic dividend in India, whereas the most populous countries like China have become manufacturing hubs by utilizing the demographic dividend power. In India, there is a lack of skills in most of the population in the age group of 15 to 59 years. As seen during the pandemic COVID-19, most people became unemployed. Due to the lower literacy and lack of skills, there is the possibility that the new job will be highly skilled, and the lack of skills will become a major challenge. Most developed nations are experiencing an ageing population, but India has the opportunity to produce skilled human resources and become the world's skilled capital.

Methodology: This article uses a secondary data collection method. Reviews such as enabling entrepreneurship potential, startups, youth entrepreneurship and life skills education, discuss life skills development in India.

Keywords: Enabling Entrepreneurship Potential, Startups, Youth Entrepreneurship and Life Skills Education.



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Abstract Title: Knowledge of Sexually Transmitted Infections among School-Going Adolescents: Experimental Group Intervention Study.

Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) represent a detrimental Behavioural risk for contemporary society, with adolescents being more vulnerable to contracting such diseases due to a lack of appropriate knowledge and attitude towards them. Consequently, the purpose of the present investigation is to implement an intervention aiming to enhance STI awareness and knowledge among school-going adolescents. The study is focused on prevalent STIs, such as AIDS or HIV, HPV, Genital Herpes, Gonorrhoea, Syphilis, Chancroid, Chlamydia, Cervical Cancer, Hepatitis B, and Pelvic Inflammatory Disease. Employing a quasi-experimental design with pre-post-test experimental groups, the study was conducted in school settings located in the state capital, Thiruvananthapuram, utilizing a convenient sampling technique for school selection and a simple random sampling method to administer the intervention. The intervention consisted of a four-day workshop carried out by the researcher on the aforementioned topics, with pre and post-assessments being conducted before and after the intervention on 21 class XI and XII adolescents. Data analyses were performed using SPSS, with results from descriptive statistics and paired sample t-tests indicating highly significant correlations between pre-post-test STI knowledge outcomes. Socio-demographic data revealed a mean age of 16.43 and a standard deviation of .676, with 52.4% of students being male and equal distributions of 33.3% each in science, commerce and humanities. The results of the study emphasize the need to upgrade knowledge and attitudes of school-going adolescents in relation to STIs. Furthermore, ensuring adequate hygiene knowledge and practices is crucial to the overall development of this age group. Finally, regular follow-ups and periodical assessments are necessary to effectively address this pressing health issue.

Keywords: Knowledge, STIs, School-going Adolescents, Experimental group and Intervention study.

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Abstract Title: Psychosocial Impact of Menstruation on Visually Impaired school Girls (age 12-17)

Menstruation is a normal and natural bodily function, which starts between the ages of 11 and 14. Yet millions of menstruators are denied the right to manage their menstruation cycle in a healthy way. Despite being a natural and normal part of life, it can have a significant psychosocial impact on school girls, especially those who are visually impaired. Visually impaired Girls face double stigma due to social norms related to menstruation around them and having a disability. This study aimed to assess the emotional, social, and psychosocial impact of menstruation on visually impaired school girls. A qualitative study was conducted with visually impaired school girls (aged 12 - 17 years) in Lucknow district of Uttar Pradesh. The findings of the study showed that visually impaired girls experienced a range of psychosocial challenges related to menstruation.



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Dr Sameera Khanam

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Abstract Title: Black Magic and Pregnancy: Perceptions and Motivations

Magic that invokes evil spirits to inflict harm on others and to achieve sinister selfish causes is called black magic. The presence of black magic has been felt in human society for ages across cultures creating a sense of enigma. There are several studies on black magic, however black magic and pregnancy an under-researched terrain. The present paper attempts to analyse black magic in the context of pregnancy which can be called "pregmagic". This paper more precisely deals with the question of why pregnant women are considered susceptible/vulnerable to black magic, and what are the perceptions of women as to the reasons for black magic in the time of pregnancy?

The study is based on the primary data collected from the slums of Aligarh, which comprises focused group discussions and a case study. It is found that there is a strong belief that the cast of black magic gets prominently active at the time of pregnancy; particularly the first pregnancy needs to be more guarded. It is also observed that women are not supposed to go out in the initial days of their pregnancy particularly in the noon time, evening and night as it is believed that the evil spirits wander during those times, and people may take advantage to cast spells of black magic.

The study noticed that the perceptions of women as to the reasons for black magic are varied ranging from getting rid of black magic spells on themselves to harming pregnant women and their unborn child, to ending progeny and lineage. The findings also suggest that these perceptions and proscriptions to evade black magic during pregnancy are prevalent among both Hindus and Muslims among all the caste groups of Hindus and Muslims thus making it ubiquitously present in the studied population.

Keywords: Black Magic, Pregnancy, Pregmagic, Evil spirits, Magic Spell

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Abstract Title: Mental and Emotional Problems of Adolescence after COVID-19 Pandemic Needs and Solution

In 2019, the COVID-19 pandemic emerged as a major crisis in front of the global scenario. India is also fighting very strongly with this pandemic. The pandemic has opened up the floodgates of mental and emotional problems across all communities and turned the spotlight on this vastly neglected space of human suffering. In this order, we will talk about adolescence's different problems such as mental and emotional needs. Adolescence is an important heritage of any country. We cannot neglect their mental and emotional issues during the pandemic and post-pandemic. These issues are not only related to the health and development of adolescents, but they also protect adolescents and the nation in many ways. The COVID-19 pandemic has affected adolescents at different levels. Due to underdevelopment adolescents do not have proper knowledge of their mental and emotional needs and resources. They do not know exactly what is required for their proper mental and emotional development. Here we have to understand and accept the importance of collective contribution. What is required is a much deeper and continuing intervention with all stakeholders including parents, educators, pivotal institutions, policymakers, professionals, people with lived experiences and adolescents who have faced the brunt of these tumultuous times and survived. As adults, we can make a difference, as long as we are able to witness and undertake the journey with our adolescents and be there when they need us the most. We can build a better future for them. In our study, we have focused our attention on the kind of problems that adolescents have to face after the covid-19 and what can be their needs and solutions.

Keywords: Mental, Emotional, Problem, Adolescence, COVID-19 pandemic, Impact, Solution.



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Dr. Prakash S. Yadav

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Abstract Title: Sustainable Livelihood Initiatives through Women Entrepreneurship leads through Zero Poverty and Hunger

Abstract: Contemporary social work practice is increasingly becoming complex and challenging. Social workers are engaged in working with society's most vulnerable, disadvantaged and deprived sections of the population who require help with multiple needs. The situations and needs requiring social work intervention could be intrapersonal, inter-personal, inter-group or inter-organizational (Dr. I. S. Subhedar, 2011). From the academic year 2017-18 under the Institutional Social Responsibility the Tilak Maharashtra Vidyapeeth, Pune has adopted the tribal village entitled Bahirwadi from Purandar Block of Pune District. The department of Social Work has initiated the Field Action Project namely Bahirwadi Village Development Field Action Project. The department has done need assessment through the PRA and PLA, based on the need assessment under this field action projects the department has decided the core areas of social work intervention such as Health intervention, Livelihood Generation, Natural Resource Management, Education and Training, Women and Child development, Entrepreneurship development, Positive Ageing and strengthening of Local Self Governance Body (Gram Panchayat) etc. The researcher has conducted participatory action research study with pre and post intervention measurements was taken up. The study was universalized with 140 women members of Ahilyadevi Women Gram Saangh through Non-probability sampling method the need assessment study was conducted and based on that the social work intervention was adopted through capacity building and training programs such as Poultry Farming, Dairy development, Goat farming and Mushroom farming for generating sustainable livelihood opportunities. Then the 10 women have been selected for the research study and involved the as the participants with the use of ethical concerns in research study. Through these initiatives the women got benefitted and every woman has started their start-up such as Goat farming, Dairy Development and Poultry farming. Initially one of Khushi SHG group has started the Goat farming business with 10 goats and within one year they have generated the 200 goats and sheeps on large scale. Based on post intervention measurements the inferences are made. The result of this participatory action research study it is found that women got the sustainable livelihood opportunities in the village, the daily based migration for wages has decreased at 70 to 80 percent which leads to zero poverty and hunger. Also, women have politically empowered and 3 of them has elected as unopposed members of Gram Panchayat. This paper focuses on Sustainable Livelihood initiatives through Women Entrepreneurship leads to Zero Poverty and Hunger: A Participatory Action Research.

Key Words: Sustainable Livelihood initiatives, Women Entrepreneurship, Zero Poverty and Hunger, Participatory Action Research study, etc.

Dr Chandrashekhar Singh

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Abstract Title: Emergence of Drug in Adolescence in the Sustainable Development Goal's Era

India is developing a Country with a low and medium population in the country proportion of adolescents is increasing social change is also taking place along with age as well as drug addiction, An intervention area has been applied for adolescent drug addiction and their social including drug addiction mental health and violence. Due to the rise of drug addiction among teenagers, the fear of socialization is increasing in the social environment due to which instability in the country is being created which is the form of social disintegration of social disease. Juvenile society is an institution and behaviour if one is not able to adapt to the structure of rules then a situation of social disease will arise. Social Pathology is the study of social dis-organisation or maladjustment in which there is a discussion of the meaning Extent of causes results and treatment of the factors that prevent or reduce social adjustment and increase old age. There are multiple types of eradication programmes to reduce and remove drug addiction through awareness programmes, training and workshops.

Main Keywords: Emergence, Drug, youth, Sustainable Development Goal's, Era



XI Indian National Social Work Congress 2023

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Assam

Abstract Title: *Leaving No Girl Behind: A Comprehensive Analysis of Universal Access to Sexual and Reproductive Health for Adolescent Girls in Tea Tribe Community*

The domain of Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) holds significant importance in the context of holistic well-being, particularly with regard to adolescent girls. It addresses a wide range of issues concerning sexuality, reproductive processes, and the physical, mental, and social components of the lives of individuals. It is widely noted that adolescent girls face many challenges when seeking access to reproductive healthcare services, primarily due to various reasons. Access to comprehensive sexual and reproductive health information and services can be particularly difficult for adolescents from marginalised communities, such as the Tea Tribe. This paper attempts to describe the key aspects of adolescent girls' sexual and reproductive health, including knowledge levels, access to healthcare services, the prevalence of early marriages, contraceptive use, and awareness of sexually transmitted infections among adolescent girls in the Tea Tribe community. Utilising secondary data sources, this paper presents a comprehensive analysis of the sexual and reproductive health status of adolescent girls within the Tea Tribe community of Assam. The theoretical framework of the paper is centered on the Human Rights Perspective. The findings of this study shed light on the disparities and limitations encountered by adolescent girls in the tea tribe community. It emphasises how cultural norms, socioeconomic conditions, and geographical isolation may contribute to these disparities. The findings provide a foundation for designing targeted interventions to address the specific requirements of this population, thereby improving sexual and reproductive health outcomes. The proposed recommendations include the implementation of community-based educational programmes, the provision of accurate sexual and reproductive health (SRH) information to empower girls, the sensitization of parents and community members, and the improvement of accessibility to youth-friendly healthcare facilities.

Keywords: Adolescent Girls, Sexual and Reproductive Health, Tea Tribe Community, Assam, Marginalized Communities.

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Abstract Title: *Impact of Resilience on Mental Health among Youth - A Structural Equation Model*

This study aims to find the impact of Resilience on Mental Health among Youths. This study adopted a descriptive research design and 240 samples were collected from Srivilliputhur, Virudhunagar district, Tamil Nadu, India. The standardised scales were used such as the Bharathiyar University Resilience Scale (2009) developed by Dr Annalaksmi and the Mental Health Inventory (1983) developed by Veit and Ware. In this study, the researcher found a strong positive correlation between resilience and mental health among youth. Youth with greater resilience also tend to have higher levels of mental health. This research evidenced that those youths who studied in government schools have a higher level of resilience than youths who studied in private schools. The Structural Equation Model evidenced that age and the number of adverse events in life significantly influence resilience. This model found that resilience significantly predicts mental health among youths.

Pooja Sharma

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Abstract Title: *Green Menstruation in India: An Assessment of Initiatives, Actions and Role of Social Work*

The COVID-19 pandemic taught us a significant lesson that "Earth is bleeding" and we are witnessing the repercussions of nature's fury, from deadly viruses to catastrophic cyclones, destructive landslides, volcanoes and earthquakes—all of which are dreadful. It is time that we all contribute towards healing Mother Nature. As women, we can contribute positively by embracing green menstruation for the betterment of both the environment and our health (Sarkar, 2021). Green menstruation means the use of biodegradable/ sustainable/eco-friendly menstrual products like menstrual cups, reusable cloth pads, menstrual panties and cotton pads. They are green because they are environment friendly (Ahuja, 2021).



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Sustainable alternatives for managing menstruation are gaining recognition as superior alternatives when contrasted with disposable menstrual products. This evaluation takes into account the potential health hazards linked to disposable menstrual products such as vulnerability to various infections and cervical cancer along with their impact on climate change stemming from their manufacturing processes and inadequate disposal practices (Maurya, 2020). In addition, disposable pads require 800-900 years to decompose, whereas compostable products break down in three to six months and reusable options like cloth pads and menstrual cups decompose within one to ten years after disposal.

This article aims to assess the current situation of green menstruation in India by reviewing the existing initiatives, actions and role of social work. The article is based on a qualitative method by reviewing secondary literature. The article aims to add a body of knowledge on how green menstruation can enhance the well-being of women and girls and the important role social work can play in this.

Key Words: Green Menstruation, Sustainable Menstrual Products, Menstrual Hygiene Management, Social Work Interventions, Sustainable Development Goals and India.

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Abstract Title: "A Qualitative Study on Productivity Loss due to Menstruation at Workplace" falls under the theme "Sustainable Interventions with Adolescents and Youth"

Menstruation is a natural physiological process experienced by women, yet its impact on productivity and work performance is often overlooked. Menstruating people can face prejudice, which is referred to as "period stigma." Women's productivity at work is impacted by their mood and physical symptoms related to their menstrual cycle, which frequently results in absenteeism. This research article aims to provide a descriptive study on productivity loss due to menstruation. There aren't many employer-led initiatives, nevertheless, to address these problems. Women's health-specific digital health treatments could close this gap. The stigma associated with periods can take many different forms, and it typically creates a significant obstacle at work. The purpose of the study is to understand and quantify the impact that menstruation has on individuals' productivity in the workplace. The study aims to gather descriptive data from Focused Group Discussion to support the existence and extent of this productivity loss, which can then be used to advocate for better workplace policies and accommodations for individuals who menstruate. Through this Focused Group Discussion, the study investigates more information on women's perception towards menstruation and productivity. By examining factors such as absenteeism, presentism (being physically present but not fully productive), and overall decrease in productivity, researchers can investigate the potential economic and social consequences of menstruation-related issues. This study can also help raise awareness about the need for menstrual leave policies, flexible work arrangements, access to menstrual products, and other support measures that can promote gender equality and well-being in the workplace.

Keywords: Menstruation, Productivity, Absenteeism, Presenteeism, Workplace, Work Performance

Akshit Katoch

&

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Abstract Title: Mental Health and Laws in India

The World Health Organization (WHO) defines mental health as "a state of well-being in which the individual realizes his or her abilities, copes with the normal stressor of life, can work productively and fruitfully, and is able to make a contribution to his or her community". India had a rich traditional history of laws but laws related to mental health derived during the British era. Initially, laws in India related to mental health were to protect the society from persons with mental illness. Especially the Indian Lunatic Asylum Act, of 1858 under which a person with mental illness was detained for indefinite periods of time in inhuman conditions to rectify this the Indian Lunacy Act, of 1912 was enacted which allowed parole services not exceeding a period of 60 days. The Indian Psychiatric suggested this act was inappropriate and after 30 years of independence enacted the Mental Health



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Act, 1987 which amended the law related to the treatment of persons with mental illness and protecting their property rights or its affairs. This Act protects persons with mental illness from unnecessary detentions, provisions for separate places for children, addicts, convicted persons etc. but human rights for person with mental illness was not adequately protected. When India adopted the United Nations Convention for Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) in 2006 and was ratified by the parliament of India in 2008 it required changes in the laws and policies in harmony with it. Therefore, the Person with Disability Act, 1995 and the Mental Health Act, of 1987 was replaced with the Rights of Person with Disability Act, 2016 and the Mental Healthcare Act, 2017 respectively. The present paper reviews the various laws in India in the context of mental health.

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Abstract Title: Access to Reproductive and Child Health Services among Rural Women

Introduction: Universal access to sexual and reproductive health is closely aligned with several international agreements and frameworks, including the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), specifically Goal 3 (Good Health and Well-being) and Goal 5 (Gender Equality). It is also linked to global initiatives such as the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) Program of Action and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. Efforts to achieve universal access to sexual and reproductive health are vital for improving public health, reducing maternal and child mortality, advancing gender equality, and upholding human rights. Governments, non-governmental organizations, healthcare providers, and civil society organizations work together to expand access to Sexual and Reproductive Health services and information and promote policies that protect and enhance sexual and reproductive rights. Objective: To assess the utilization of RCH Services among rural women. Materials and Methods: It is a Community-Based Descriptive Study. The sample of the study consists of 160 rural women.

Loyola Aumose

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Abstract title: Exploring the Reciprocal Relationship between Mental Health, Social Support, Stress and Happiness

People around the world strive for happiness since it is the foundation of a better life. Happiness is something that everyone desires; therefore, understanding the elements that drive it is essential. This study aims to identify the level of mental health, perceived stress, perceived social support, and happiness among schoolchildren and to explore the reciprocal relationship between mental health, stress, social support, and happiness. In this study, a descriptive research design was used, and 120 samples were collected using quota sampling techniques. Data collection is done by using standardized scales such as the Oxford Happiness Scale developed by Hills, P., and Argyle, M. (2002), the Perceived Stress Scale developed by Shelton Cohen (1994), the Multidimensional Scale of Perceived Social Support developed by Zimet et al. (1988), and Mental Health Inventory (1983) developed by Veit and Ware. The data will be analyzed by SPSS software. Expecting results is the level of school students' mental health and level of perceived social support will be positively associated with their level of happiness, while the level of school students' perceived stress will be negatively associated with their level of happiness.

Keywords: Happiness, Social Support, Stress, Mental Health, School Students



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Abstract Title: Life Skills among Adolescents of Urban and Rural Areas – A Cross Sectional Study

The stress faced by the adolescents in current situation is enormous. Research studies show that various psychosocial factors and life skills deficits are the mediating factors resulting in behavioural, psychological and health related problems among adolescents. The objectives of the present study were to study the life skills among 8th and 9th grade students of Udupi District, Karnataka, India and to examine them between the genders, medium of instruction, urban and rural areas across the socio demographic variables.

Methods:

The study was conducted among 594 students of 8th and 9th grade students. The sample was drawn randomly from two urban and eight rural schools of Udupi District, Karnataka, India representing English and Kannada medium schools. A descriptive research design was considered for the current study. It aimed at describing the variables associated with life skills among 8th and 9th grade students of urban and rural areas of Udupi District, Karnataka, India. The descriptive variables were ranging from socio-demographic details such as family size, gender, parents' education and occupation, family income and having number of siblings.

Conclusion:

The current study helped to understand the level of life skills among 8th and 9th grade students. The levels of life skills were moderate in general; nevertheless, more than 23% of the students had low life skills. This confirms that approximately one of every five students has low life skills. Differences were found in the level of life skills between the genders, domicile and medium of instruction. Findings of the current study illustrate the need for evaluating further and providing appropriate life skills education and other necessary interventions to the students in general and with special reference to gender, domicile and medium of instruction specific.

Keywords: Life skills, adolescents, students, domicile.

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Mounee Jesmin

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Abstract Title: Iron Folic Acid (IFA) Supplementation among Pregnant Women in Urban Slums of Kolkata Obstacles and Enabling factors

Maternal health is still a major concern among urban slum communities around the world, including those in Kolkata. This study focuses on the utilisation of Iron Folic Acid (IFA) supplementation among pregnant women in these difficult situations. The goal is to figure out what factors influence IFA supplementation adherence. A Mixed – Methods Approaches were used to explore the



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IFA supplementation programmes in three Boroughs of the Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC) in West Bengal. Qualitative data from focus group discussions and interviews with women and service providers were utilized for content analysis to find common themes about internal, external, and relational barriers and enablers.

Our findings suggest to a complex set of factors influencing IFA supplementation, including socioeconomic limits, access to healthcare, knowledge gaps, and cultural perspectives. Misconceptions and a lack of information about IFA supplements were recognized as significant barriers. In contrast, critical enablers that can promote IFA supplementation adherence were discovered. Among them are community-based interventions, targeted health education campaigns, and increased access to low-cost healthcare services. Additionally, the importance of community health professionals and local influencers in increasing awareness and modifying behaviours cannot be overstated. This study emphasises the significance of establishing context-specific interventions to meet the unique obstacles that pregnant women in Kolkata's urban slums face. Understanding the limits and leveraging the enabling components may assist policymakers and healthcare practitioners in developing more effective approaches for improving maternal health outcomes through IFA supplementation. This will eventually minimize the burden of anaemia and related pregnancy problems in this susceptible population.

Dr. Prakash Amin

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Abstract Title: Awareness about the Cause and Effects of Drug Use among College Students

Since the beginning of human history, people have found ways to alter their bodies and consciousness by taking various substances such as herbs, alcohol, and drugs. Over the last few decades, drug consumption has become one of the biggest problems affecting millions of children and youth in the country. The present study was conducted in Mangalore, which is one such city known for its quality education. There are eight medical colleges and other professional courses, and now it seems to have become a place where, just dialing a number or sending an SMS, one can receive a drug at his doorstep. As per the report, drug abuse has increased following the start of offline classes. In the probe into the drug case involving medical students, other students, and professors, the police report identified that many students were turned into drug peddlers and used MDMA, LSD, and ganja. The drugs were supplied to the rooms of medical, management, hotel management, and engineering students' rooms through online food deliveries. The present study attempts to shed light on students' awareness of the causes and effects of drug use. According to the findings, curiosity is the major reason for substance use among adolescents (83.50%), whereas 60 per cent of them said failure in the relationship can cause substance use. Further, 61.7 per cent of them believed that substance use can lead to a chemical imbalance, while 79.10 per cent of them were unaware that addiction causes dementia. Educating the youth can reduce the adverse health, social, and economic consequences of drugs among adolescents. The findings of the study may attract the attention of mental health professionals and policymakers to provide necessary interventions.

Key Words: Adolescent, Alcoholism, Drugs & Substance Abuse

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Abstract Title: Maternal and New-born Care Practices: A Thematic Review

In India, there is a steady decline in the under-five (U-5MR) mortality rate, however, neonatal and infant mortality remained a cause of concern. According to UNICEF, there are roughly 2.6 million deaths every year of which 24 percent of neonatal deaths occur in India which is worrying. The Government of India is committed to the welfare of its citizens and is a signatory to the declaration on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (SDG). SDG-3 explicitly aims to reduce global maternal and newborn deaths and promote well-being for all. In India, pregnancy, childbirth and postpartum are culturally significant episodes around maternal and child health (MCH). The "reproductive repertoire" is marked by adherence to various traditional practices governed by the rules of prescriptions and proscriptions (Shahid, 2014). Many of these practices are sometimes detrimental to the health of the mother and newborn and work as an impediment to better maternal and newborn health. Therefore, to understand the intricacies, commonalities and differences of these practices a thematic review was conducted. The results of the study show that there is a wide range of beliefs and practices that surmount the trajectory of maternal and child health. There are both the commonalities and the variations in MCH practices across the regions with the intent to facilitate better care during pregnancy, childbirth and postpartum periods. However, the efficacy of several of these practices is questionable. But equally undeniable is the pervasive and deep-rootedness of these practices. The result of the study will help in understanding and designing a better intervention plan in the field of maternal and newborn health.



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Abstract Title: Menstrual Leave: Necessity or Privilege? Way Forward to the Most Vexed Question.

Menstruation is regarded as a private activity, and acknowledging it in public is taboo which surrounds the workplace. In India, there has been a long-running discussion about whether paid menstrual leave should be institutionalised at all workplaces. Any government or entity that declares menstruation leave must be viewed from the perspective of human rights. Policies allowing women to take time off from work or school during their menstrual cycle are referred to as menstrual leave policies. Many nations support menstruation leave, including Spain, Japan, Indonesia, the Philippines, Taiwan, South Korea, Zambia, and Vietnam. In India, companies like Zomato, 2020, introduced a 10-day paid vacation policy, and businesses like Swiggy soon followed the lead. The central research questions of the paper are as follows: Should paid menstrual leave be institutionalised at all workplaces in India, and how does it relate to human rights perspectives?

The aim of the paper is to examine the feasibility and implications of institutionalising paid menstrual leave in workplaces in India, with a focus on its relationship to human rights, and women's well-being. Additionally, the paper aims to address societal taboos surrounding menstruation and advocate for a more inclusive and supportive work environment for women. This research paper derives data and facts from various secondary sources like books, journals, magazines, web pages, and blogs. It concludes by reaffirming that the continuing taboo around menstruation must be broken in order for women to break the glass ceilings holding them back. The only way for women to move forward and reach their full potential in our country is to de-stigmatize the topic of menstruation and foster an environment that allows women the freedom to develop.

Keywords- Glass ceilings, menstrual leave, menstrual activism, menstrual equity

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Abstract Title: Efficacy of Menstrual Cups in Menstrual Hygiene Management: A Study based on Users Experience in Kolkata

Menstruation is a normal bodily function and a symbol of reproductive health. Menstrual hygiene management is a crucial aspect of women's health and well-being. In Kolkata, like many other urban areas in India, menstrual hygiene practices are still evolving. Conservative methods are available to manage menstruation; along with that ignorance, prejudice, costs, and safety fears often impede girls and women from trying the full range of products available. Sanitary pads have been the most common menstrual hygiene product. The transition from natural products like cloth to sanitary napkins has been long and resulted in a negative impact on the environment. This has resulted in the demand for alternatives like tampons and menstrual cups which have gained attention worldwide for their eco-friendliness, cost-effectiveness, and potential health benefits. This study aims to investigate this change and the efficacy of menstrual cups in menstrual health and hygiene management among women in Kolkata. The primary objective of this study is to assess the awareness and knowledge of menstrual cups among women in Kolkata and determine the factors influencing the choice between menstrual cups and sanitary pads. The study also aims to evaluate the



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user experience, comfort, and satisfaction of menstrual cup users and the environmental impact and cost-effectiveness of menstrual cups compared to sanitary pads with regard to Menstrual Hygiene Management.

Keywords: menstrual cup, menstrual health, hygiene management, eco-friendly

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Abstract Title: Unveiling the Hidden Burden: Prevalence of Depression among the Destitute in Kerala

The current study examined the prevalence of depression within the destitute population in Kerala. The study explored how societal elements such as poverty, destitution, health issues, and depression are interconnected among these vulnerable individuals in the state. The study focused on the intricate links between poverty-related factors and major depression. The data was collected from 440 respondents, wherein a stratified sampling method was used. The sample was drawn from the list of Destitute Free Kerala Scheme list (A government of Kerala project that aims to eradicate destitution from the state) and it has samples from three districts viz. Alapuzha, Kottayam, and Idukki (which geographically represent the state). The data was collected using the 20-item Center for Epidemiologic Studies Depression Scale (CES-D) complemented with a questionnaire developed for the requisites of this study.

The findings revealed that a significant proportion of the participants (62.73%) experience depression. 62% of the participants are unemployed, with almost 98% reporting a monthly income below INR 1000/-. Almost 50% of the respondents have been living in the present condition of destitution for more than the last ten years. The majority report chronic health problems for either self or a family member. The multivariate analysis also showed that sudden health shock, chronic health problems, education, employment status, and marital status are the variables that showed significant association with depression.

Keywords: Destitute; Depression; Mental Health; Kerala; Development Policies.

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Abstract Title: The Practice of Psychiatric Social Work in Child Guidance Clinic.

Psychiatric Social Workers can play a major role in child guidance clinics. The major areas for the intervention are screening, counselling, collateral contacts, referrals, advocacy, and networking. However, knowledge about child rights and mental illness is essential for psychiatric social workers to work in the Child Guidance Clinic. Psychiatric social workers with clinical diagnosis and therapeutic skills can perform better in these clinics. Early detection, diagnosis, and treatment for children and families who have developed behavioural, emotional, social, speech, language, hearing, intellectual, and communication problems and provide intervention services that enhance the development of children.

The objective of the child guidance clinic is to help in "bettering the adjustment of children to their immediate environment, with special reference to their emotional and social relationship, to the end, that they may be free to develop to the limit of their individual capacities for well-balanced maturity." The clinics are recognized as more important in helping children with their current problems for the sake of their current satisfaction. The child guidance clinics were offering their social, psychiatric, and psychological services to this end in their work with children and parents.

The newer realization is that a child's symptoms and behavioural difficulties are an expression of his experience of conflict in some areas of interpersonal relationships usually centred in the family constellation. Various methods for the treatment of parents are worked out, most of them proceeding from a desire to change the parent's attitudes in order that the child would have a more favourable environment

Keywords: - Psychiatric Social Work, child, Guidance clinic



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Abstract Title: Engaging Adolescents in Better Health Care and Nutrition in Madhya Pradesh

POSHAN Abhiyaan endeavours to improve nutrition outcomes in pregnant women, lactating mothers, adolescent girls, and children under the age of 6 years in a holistic manner. Adolescence is a transition period of growth and development from childhood to adulthood. During this phase, adolescents usually establish behavioural patterns related to diet, physical activity, substance use, and sexual activity that can protect their health. Improving adolescents' behaviours is important not only for their own health now and in adulthood but also for the health of any future children.

Anaemia affects 32% of girls 10-14 years and 48% of girls 15-19 years in India. Among boys 10-19 years old, 20% are anaemic. Only 2 out of 5 adolescents (45%) take milk in their daily diet (CNNS, 2019). Only 1 out of 5 adolescents (20%) take pulses and green leafy vegetables. Every fourth adolescent reported zero consumption of green leafy vegetables even once a week. Two percent of adolescents reported at least thrice a week consumption of junk foods. Pulses and dark green leafy vegetable consumption increase around ages 12 to 14 years, but these gains are lost in later years.

According to NFHS-5, 58.1% of adolescent girls (15- 19 years) and 30.5% of adolescent boys (15- 19 years) are anaemic in Madhya Pradesh. This paper talks about the major health and nutritional problems of adolescent girls in one of the tribal districts i.e. Damoh in Madhya Pradesh. It also reflects how they can be engaged in different community-level interventions for better health care and nutrition.

Namita Seth
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Sambalpur University
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Abstract Title: The Use of Sustainable Menstrual Hygiene products: A KAP study among Young Unmarried Women in Odisha, India

Menstruation is a natural and essential aspect of individuals, as it is part of a woman's reproductive health. While a woman in her menstrual cycle has approximately 480 periods. In India, menstruation is considered taboo; therefore, women have little or no understanding of it, which results in low awareness and few options for menstrual goods. The traditional menstrual product market is dominated by non-disposable products like tampons and pads, which are frequently composed of non-biodegradable materials like plastic and produce a lot of trash. However, when discussing sustainability, the environmental impact of menstrual product selection and disposal methods has drawn a lot of attention recently. A study was carried out in Odisha in the year 2022-23 among young unmarried menstruating women between the ages of 18 – 28 years through a purposive sampling method; additionally, 250 samples were collected for a mixed-method approach. The data was collected through a standard online Google form questionnaire. The main objective of the study is to explore and understand the environmental impact of menstrual products, as well as the use and awareness of sustainable menstrual products (SAP). The research also covers the emic perspectives of the participants to locate the gap in using sustainable menstrual products. The results of the study show that most participants were not aware of the amount of plastic in menstrual products and that the other issues linked to the environmental impact that people are generally not aware of. It also talks about the possibility of regulatory efforts to support the manufacturing and distribution of eco-friendly menstrual products, ensuring that all women in India can easily access them. Keywords: Menstruation, Sustainability, Sustainable menstrual product, Awareness among girls, Reproductive rights



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Abstract Title: Sustainable Development Goals and Empowerment of Adolescent Girls: An Overview of Initiatives from Indian Government

Adolescent girls are a critical demographic in the pursuit of sustainable development. Some of the indicators of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) have a direct or indirect influence on lives of the adolescent girls, also their empowerment and well-being contribute directly to several SDGs, among which most notably are End Poverty in all its Forms Everywhere (SDG 1), End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture (SDG 2), Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages (SDG 3), Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all (SDG 4), Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls (SDG 5), Promote sustained inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all (SDG 8), and Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels (SDG 16). The Indian government has undertaken various initiatives to promote well-being, gender equality, and access to quality education, nutrition, etc. for adolescent girls. Healthcare is a fundamental aspect of overall well-being. Sanitation and hygiene are essential for the health and dignity of adolescent girls.

This comprehensive study delves into the multifaceted approach of the Indian government to advance the empowerment and well-being of adolescent girls in alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This paper understands the significance of tailored policies and collaborative efforts through a careful and systematic review of literature focusing on government initiatives for the empowerment of adolescent girls through existing research works, scholarly articles, government reports, international development documents, and relevant academic literature to gain insights into the subject.

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Abstract Title: Attitude towards Suicide and Perceived Barriers for Seeking Help among Adolescents

According to World Health Organisation, Suicide is an important cause of death among 15-29 years. This serious public health problem is seen among adolescents more. To address and prevent this timely and accessible intervention are imperative. This paper focus on understanding the attitude of adolescents towards suicide and the perceived barriers in seeking help. The study adopted descriptive research design and the sample was collected using systematic random sampling technique. Attitude towards Suicide was measured using standardised scale and perceived barriers for seeking help was measuring using self-structured scale. Collected data were analysed using parametric and non-parametric tests. This study will help in developing indigenous mechanisms in academic institutions and communities to support adolescents at times of distress.

Keywords: adolescents, suicide, stress, depression, intervention.

Ophelia Dominica Dcruze

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&

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Abstract Title: Life Skills Incongruance – Empowering Demographic Dividend among Youth

The burgeoning demographics unequivocally illustrate that India will continue to be a youthful nation and the principal supplier of human resources to the global workforce over the next few decades. A youthful populace is India's irrefutable demographic dividend. India is home to more than 600 million people aged between 18 and 35, with 65% under the age of 35. India's



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demographic dividend is expected to persist at least until 2055–56 and will peak around 2041, when the share of the working-age population — 20–59 years — is expected to hit 59%. This paper documents the intensity of the skills gap in India, explains some of the drivers and determinants of the skills mismatch and unpacks the inherent implications of skill incongruity on leveraging India's demographic dividend. The aim is to explain the urgency of accelerating the pace of life skills development initiatives to capture the demographic dividend. Realizing the precision that employability of the youth is the derivative of adequate education, training and corporate readiness skills, this paper endeavours to best explain how skill mismatch, reasons for the mismatched skills and shortages can upset productivity growth, which is crucial for India to augment its long-term growth. To bridge the gap between existing skills and what employers demand in the coming days, it is high time for the appropriate authorities to pay heed and make combined efforts by all the actors in the system for sustainable intervention with regard to youth and adolescents.

KEYWORDS: Demographic Dividend, Employability, Human Resources, Skill Incongruity, Skill based Learning, Skill Mismatch, Life skill development.

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A Critical Examination of Smart Village: A Case Study of Madkona, Maharashtra

Smart Village initiatives have garnered significant attention as a means to bridge the rural-urban divide and foster sustainable development. This research paper presents a critical examination of the Smart Village project in Madkona, a large tribal population settlement located in the state of Maharashtra, India. Employing the case study method, this study seeks to provide insights into the challenges and opportunities encountered during the implementation of Smart Village initiatives in a complex, tribal-dominated context. The case study begins by offering a comprehensive overview of Madkona's unique socio-economic and cultural landscape, emphasizing the significance of tribal communities in the region. It then delves into the conceptual framework of Smart Villages, drawing attention to the ambiguity in defining and conceptualizing these initiatives, and how this ambiguity influences project outcomes.

Through an in-depth analysis of the Madkona case study, this research paper uncovers a range of critical issues. Firstly, it examines the digital divide within the tribal population, highlighting disparities in access to information and communication technologies (ICTs), digital literacy levels, and the availability of essential infrastructure. The research reveals how these disparities have shaped the success and impact of Smart Village interventions in Madkona. Furthermore, the study emphasizes the role of community engagement and local empowerment in Smart Village projects. It identifies strategies that have effectively engaged the tribal population in Madkona, fostering a sense of ownership and participation in decision-making processes, thus contributing to the initiatives' sustainability.

The paper also investigates the financial sustainability of the Smart Village project in Madkona, shedding light on funding mechanisms and resource allocation strategies. By exploring the project's long-term financial viability, the research highlights the challenges faced by such initiatives in tribal regions and offers potential solutions for ensuring their continuity. Lastly, this research paper examines the environmental implications of Smart Village interventions in Madkona, considering their impact on the local ecosystem and sustainable agricultural practices.

In conclusion, this case study of Madkona in Maharashtra provides a critical and holistic assessment of the Smart Village initiatives in a tribal-dominated region. By addressing issues related to digital inclusion, community engagement, financial sustainability, and environmental stewardship, this research contributes valuable insights for policymakers and practitioners working to enhance the effectiveness of Smart Village projects in similar contexts. Ultimately, this study underscores the importance of tailoring Smart Village initiatives to the specific needs and dynamics of tribal populations to achieve sustainable and inclusive rural development.



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PTS – 3: Intervention Models with Rural, Urban and Tribal Communities

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&

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Abstract Title: Sustainable Sanitation and Hygiene: Role of Panchayati Raj Institution in Rural India

Millions of people die every year from the diseases associated with the sanitation and hygiene (UNICEF). Use of toilets is one of the important indicators of the clean hygiene behavior. Habit of open defecation is a generation old behavior in India. India had the highest number of people in the world, about 620 million who defecated in the open (UNICEF). India built over 9.5 crore toilets across the country and was declared Open Defecation Free (ODF) in 2019. But still, at least 15 per cent of the total population in India defecates in the open (UNICEF & WHO, 2021) among them majority belongs to rural areas. India is working hard to achieve the SDG's, goal 6 which aims to ensure sanitation for all. The provision of clean water and sanitation for all is a precursor to achieving many of the other SDGs. Many experts of WASH (Water, Sanitation & Hygiene) believed that without progress on Goal 6, the other goals targets cannot be achieved. The objectives of this paper are to evaluate the behavioral aspects of the community around the use of toilets and related hygiene aspects, and review the effectiveness and willingness of the panchayat in implementing the ODF programs, as Gram Panchayat (73rd constitution amendment act, 1992) have fundamental role in the implementation of sanitation schemes or programs in rural area. On the basis of the availability and correct use of the toilets and other related hygiene aspects (6.2.1a & 6.2.1b) through the household surveys in some randomly selected panchayats of Katihar district, Bihar, some practical strategies for people engagements/participation and Social & Behavioral Change Communication (SBCC) tools for behavioral change of the community will be recommended for the panchayats.

Aswathy Mohan

Ph. D. Scholar

&

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Jenikrishna MU

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Abstract Title: Revival of Indigenous Farming Systems and Rural Sustainability through Green Social Work: A Case Study of Pokkali Farming in Kerala, India

The continuous degradation of natural resources like land, forests, and water on a global scale has been a pressing concern. The influence of globalization and the green revolution on local agricultural and food systems has emphasized issues such as food security and sustainability in developing nations. In the coming century, a pivotal challenge in agricultural research will be devising sustainable management systems for the humid tropics, prompting increased attention to Indigenous farming systems (IFS). This research, based on a case study conducted in Ezhikkara village of Kerala, assesses the potential role of the Indigenous Pokkali Farming System (IPFS) in addressing the state's sustainability issues. Additionally, it explores how social work intervention can promote the adoption of IPFS. Pokkali is an integrated organic farming approach practiced in coastal wetlands in of Ernakulam, Thrissur, and Alappuzha districts of Central Kerala, offering valuable insights and methods to mitigate environmental degradation and climate variability. The Pokkali farming system (PFS) delivers diverse benefits spanning socio-ecological, economic, and climatic domains, including safeguarding biodiversity, resilience against floods and salinity, climate change mitigation, and ensuring food, water security, and livelihoods. Its geographical uniqueness led to its recognition with a Geographical Indication (GI) tag in 2008. The research underscores the potential for linking rural cooperatives with local food systems and provisioning essential resources to farmers. This approach presents a viable pathway for sustainable transformation that empowers rural producers, upholds environmental stability, and ensures food security. The study also proposes preliminary actions for social work involvement in supporting Indigenous farming initiatives.



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Dr. Shaizy Ahmed

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Nikita

Department of Social Work,
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Abstract Title: Corporate Social Responsibility Initiatives on Women Empowerment: A Case Study of Rajasthan

The core of Corporate Social Responsibility is structured around the belief that businesses have a sense of responsibility towards society and the people from whom they derive their success. In addition, CSR focuses on enhancing livelihoods through skill development training; it is contributing to various SDGs such as creating means to end poverty, zero hunger, quality education, gender equality and economic growth. The present study will be looking into the influence of CSR activities on women empowerment in Ajmer District of Rajasthan, India. The objective of this research is to comprehensively analyze the nature, impact, and effectiveness of CSR interventions directed towards enhancing women's empowerment within the local context. These CSR initiatives if channelized will support the building of women's financial sources and enable them to develop their human capacity, feel integrated within society and encourage others towards financial liberty. The research adopts qualitative approach to gather and analyze data. Qualitative methods include personal interviews with key stakeholders from NGOs and content analysis of relevant CSR policies and annual Reports. Through this comprehensive approach, the abstract aims to provide insights into the diverse ways in which CSR initiatives have contributed to women empowerment in Ajmer. The research not only highlights CSR initiatives for women in the Ajmer District, but also assesses their effects in terms of women's socioeconomic progress, education, healthcare, skill development, and involvement in decision-making processes. It also investigates the extent to which these measures have improved women's income-generating activities, general well-being, and social growth.

Shahdab PP

PhD Scholar
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Delhi University, Delhi

Abstract Title: Vanishing Playgrounds: Climate Change, Football, Faith, and Community Building

The intense love for football in Kerala, especially in northern Kerala, is widely acknowledged. The local enunciation of seven football tournaments is a befitting manifestation of the love towards football. Interestingly, football is also one of the avenues for the work. More clearly, football is a money-making source for the football aspirant, especially the youth. The youth of Muslim fishing community, otherwise lying outside the Kerala development model and bearing the burden of inferior social status within the Muslim community in Kerala, also aspire to become professional sevens football player. It allows them to claim social mobility and escape from the fishing job, traditionally associated with inferior social status. The debate of intense love towards football, or football as a work, overlooks another intriguing area: football and faith. More ostensibly speaking, football and faith are very much related to the Muslim fishing community. The widespread conviction among the community is that if the children are engaged in football, they won't transgress from the 'desired straight path'. A considerable number of scholarship and literature looking into the scholarship about sports underscores the relationship between sports and masculine cultivation. Looking at football through the lens of faith fundamentally provides an entirely different yet overlooked aspect. Generally, the morality and moral construction discourse primarily focuses on the female body. Since football is a medium for cultivating the righteous and good boys, it unfolds an exciting phenomenon. More clearly, the male body is subjected to morality and moral construction here. Although, it is fundamentally different from the moral construction of female bodies. The lens of football and faith is an interesting vantage point to make sense of nuanced aspects of masculine studies.



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Dr. Shyna Saif

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Department of Social Work

AMU, Aligarh

Abstract Title: Empowering Communities: Self Help Groups as Catalysts for Sustainable Livelihood and Poverty Reduction

Self Help group (SHG) is a self-governed, peer-controlled small and informal association of the poor, usually from socio-economically homogeneous families who are organized around savings and credit activities. SHG has emerged as an agent of change in the developing countries for the past few years. It has not only been a strategy to alleviate the destitute or downtrodden or to uplift those below poverty line but it caters to the needs and aspirations of the most vulnerable section of the society. The proposed paper focuses on the role of self help groups in maintaining and enhancing the synergetic relation between rural development and sustainable livelihood for poverty alleviation. Poverty is both a cause and outcome of inequality in the society. The concept of Sustainable Livelihood (SL) is an attempt to pay more attention to various factors and processes which either constrain or enhance poor people's ability to make a living in an economically, ecologically, and socially sustainable manner. The SL concept offers a more coherent and integrated approach to poverty. The merger of self-help groups and sustainable livelihoods approach has broad and encompassing objectives and has successfully improved the overall conditions of rural poor. It improved access to high-quality education, information, technologies and training and better nutrition and health; a more supportive and cohesive social environment; more secure access to, and better management of, natural resources; better access to basic and facilitating infrastructure; more secure access to financial resources; and a policy and institutional environment that supports multiple livelihood strategies and promotes equitable access to competitive markets for all.

Dr Reena Merin Cherian

Assistant Professor of Social Work

&

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Christ (Deemed to be University)

Bengaluru

Abstract Title: Role of Women in Preventing Substance Abuse in the Community: Promoting Healthy Behaviour in Rurban Communities of Bangalore, India.

Substance abuse continues to pose a significant public health challenge worldwide, including in the rurban communities of Bangalore, India. This abstract focuses on exploring the role of women in preventing substance abuse and promoting healthy behaviour within these communities. A qualitative research methodology was employed to gather data and gain a deeper understanding of the perspectives, experiences, and practices of women in addressing substance abuse.

The study employed various qualitative data collection methods, including in-depth interviews, focus group discussions, and observations. The participants consisted of women from diverse backgrounds, including community leaders, healthcare professionals, educators, and women who have personal experiences with substance abuse. Thematic analysis was conducted to identify common patterns and themes emerging from the collected data. Through the qualitative data analysis, the study aimed to identify the specific strategies and initiatives undertaken by women to prevent substance abuse and promote healthy behaviour in the rurban communities of Bangalore. The findings highlighted the multi-faceted roles of women in addressing substance abuse issues, including advocacy, education, community mobilisation, counselling, and support services. The study also revealed the challenges faced by women in their efforts to prevent substance abuse, such as societal stigmas, limited resources, and cultural barriers.

Keywords: women, social action, substance abuse prevention, health promotion, qualitative research, urban community organization



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&

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Professor

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Dindigul, Tamil Nadu

Abstract Title: Empowering Rural Women through Self-Help Groups: A Catalyst for Sustainable Development

Rural Women Self-Help Groups (SHGs) have emerged as a dynamic and transformative force in the socio-economic landscape of rural communities worldwide. This abstract shed light on the multifaceted impact of SHGs on rural women and their surrounding communities. In rural settings, women often face myriad challenges, including limited access to education, healthcare, and economic opportunities. SHGs offer a beacon of hope by providing a platform for women to come together, pool resources, and collaborate on various initiatives. These groups empower women to enhance their livelihoods, improve their decision-making abilities, and foster social cohesion. The abstract explores key themes, including the economic empowerment of rural women through microcredit and income-generating activities. The study shows that SHGs enable women to access financial resources and build their entrepreneurial skills, leading to increased income and financial independence. Consequently, this financial independence has a ripple effect on household well-being, nutrition, and children's education. Additionally, SHGs serve as centers for capacity-building and skill development. Rural women gain knowledge in areas such as agriculture, healthcare, and sanitation, thereby becoming change agents within their communities.

The methodology of the study focuses on a specific geographic area of Tamilnadu, Dindigul with a well-established network of Rural Women's Self-Help Groups (SHGs). The selection is based on the prevalence and success of SHGs in the chosen region. This is a qualitative case study, aiming to provide an in-depth understanding of the experiences, impacts, and challenges faced by rural women engaged in SHGs. The abstract concludes by emphasizing the broader impact of rural women's self-help groups on rural development, poverty alleviation, and gender equality.

Keywords: Empowering Rural Women, Self-Help Groups, Sustainable Development.

Shivangi Trivedi

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Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh

Abstract Title: Fourth Wave Feminism through the Lens of Web Series: A Deeper Perspective in Indian Context

Feminism has been a debated topic since time immemorial. Various renowned authors have made deliberate attempts to make people understand the concept of feminism through their postulates & thesis. Since the repullulation of civilisation, four waves of feminism have come into light, granting the Right to vote, emphasizing on sexuality, family, reproductive rights, political activism to expand civil rights, empowerment of women through Internet Tools and Intersectionality etc. This paper attempts to unfold the idea of fourth-wave feminism through the lens of Web Series in the Indian context, which comes into incept with the anti-rape movement embodying generalised misogyny, sexual harassment & violence in 2021 through content analysis based on secondary data sources and opinions of police personnel, law personnel, civil society organisations and Law practitioners in the form of questionnaire based on primary data source. It also makes a deliberate attempt to unravel what kind of change web series imbibe on the minds of people in the context of fourth-wave feminism.

Keywords: Fourth Wave Feminism, Intersectionality, Misogyny Web Series



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Ajanta Sarkar

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Department of Social Work,

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Abstract Title: Social Stigma and Gender Inequality A Barrier to Rural OBC Women Academic Advancement in West Bengal

Academic advancement and equal participation of women in education are vital elements for the overall development of the country. But since the ancient era, women's sufferings, social stigma and persistent gender inequality have the everlasting issues in the way of their academic advancement which have created significant differences between genders, castes and religions of the country. In the case of rural OBC women, the studies are extremely limited and social stigma with gender inequality is affecting largely in their academic advancement (Khubchandani et al, 2017). Therefore, this research aims to study the educational status and decision-making power of 180 OBC women (16 to 21 years) from the rural belts of Bankura and Birbhum districts, West Bengal. It further tries to explore the influence of social stigma and gender inequality in their academic advancement and based on the results it attempts to suggest measures to bridge the gap for equitable academic growth for all in the country. For conducting the study, a mixed method research design and multi-phrase sampling technique have been adopted. Based on the results, the findings denoted that educational status has witnessed a serious downfall after secondary education and academic advancement in higher education is extremely limited after 18 years of age for OBC women. The lack of decision-making power and social obligations has affected their academic interest enormously. Moreover, factors like socio-economic instability, cultural rigidity, low education of parents, early marriage and pregnancy, violence and limited scope for the job have influenced the social stigma and gender biases in the family as well as in society which has serious repercussions in the academic growth and interest of OBC women in education.

Key Words Social Stigma, gender inequality, Rural OBC women, Academic advancement

Sudipta Mondal

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Abstract Title: Nutritional Inequities among the Tribals & the Contemporary Challenges for the Government of India: A Review of Secondary Sources

Tribes are the indigenous population who historically reside in a distinct geographical location from an ancient time referred to as Scheduled Tribes/ Adivasis in India. According to Census 2011, they comprise 8.6 % of India's total population which was 8.2% in the Census 2001. There are approximately 705 distinct tribal groups that display distinctions in socio-cultural and ethnic-lingual arenas living in different regions in India (National Tribal Policy, 2004; Negi & Singh, 2018). The Report of the expert committee on Tribal Health (Ministry of Tribal Affairs & Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, GOI, 2018) asserts that the overall scenario of nutrition among the tribals in India is not very satisfactory. The existing gap between them and their counterpart has remained unchanged or amplified. NFHS-3 found that 65% tribal women (15-49 years of age); and 77% of ST children were anaemic compared to 64% of all other categories. NFHS-4 estimated 42% of the tribal children were underweight while two-thirds of pre-school children consume 50% below the Recommended Dietary Allowances (RDA). Though in India, the Government has planned and implemented a range of developmental programs & welfare schemes to uplift their condition and bring them to the mainstream of society; they are still left behind due to various factors such as their hard-to-reach locations (Nallala et al., 2023) and avoidance towards mixing-up with the non-tribal population.

The present paper aims to examine the existing nutritional inequities among the tribal population and the contemporary challenges for the Indian Government through secondary sources. It concludes by suggesting some policy-level improvisations to enhance the nutritional status of the tribal population in India.

Keywords: Tribal, Scheduled Tribe, Nutrition, Inequities, Hard-to-Reach, Census, NFHS, Recommended Dietary Allowances (RDA), Secondary Sources



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Abstract Title: Exploring Citizen Engagement and Social Work Interventions in Tackling Civic Challenges an Investigation in the Mumbai Metropolitan Region

In India's lively city of Mumbai India where the heart of the nation's financial activity beats strongest the urban landscape is marked by a complex web of civic challenges These challenges from infrastructure deficits to environmental degradation can have a larger impact on the quality of life of a diverse population As cities expand and diversify the need for prioritizing for effective citizen engagement and social work interventions to address civic issues becomes increasingly critical and important Set in the context of Sustainable Development Goal 11 SDG 11 Sustainable Cities and Communities this study seeks to delve deep into the field of citizen engagement and social work interventions as critical tools in addressing and mitigating these urban challenges

To systematically explore this varied civic issue this study employs a quantitative research methodology that combines the use of online questionnaires from key stakeholders including citizens social workers community leaders besides secondary sources Crucially this research does not limit its scope to identifying challenges but broadens its focus to the role of civic participation and social work interventions in addressing these civic issues and in shaping urban policies and decision-making processes Mumbai's complex urban challenges require a collaborative approach involving both the government and its engaged citizen's Social work interventions with an emphasis on community development and bridging divides have a larger potential to contribute to urban renewal and enhance the quality of life in the Mumbai Metropolitan Region MMR. It aims to examine the effectiveness of social work interventions in facilitating dialogue mobilizing communities and accelerating change in the context of civic issues.

Dr. Sudeshna Saha

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&

Baisakhi Somondal

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Abstract Title: Role of NGOs in Promoting Sustainable Livelihood with Special Emphasis on Dokra & Terracotta Artisans of Chhattisgarh & Odisha

Handicrafts contribute to expressing the diverse cultural beauty of the nation and the artisans act as the shield through preserving its aesthetic cultural heritage. Though the demand for handicrafts has increased the condition of the artisans has deteriorated, pushing their livelihood sustainability at stake. There are various NGOs worldwide born to look after the underprivileged sections like rural artisans preparing Dokra, Terracotta handicrafts, etc. They assist the artisan communities through capacity building - by supplying orders, providing training, education, campaigns, and providing technical and marketing support which encourage them to be engaged with sustainable livelihood practices. Yet, there are various areas where these handicraft sectors lack proper intervention by the NGOs to assist them in procuring a sustainable livelihood.

Objective: To understand the role played by the NGOs in promoting sustainable livelihood to the dokra and terracotta artisans of Chhattisgarh and Odisha.

Methodology: This paper is based on secondary sources of data, collected from various newspaper articles, open-access journals, webpages, government websites, etc.

Indication of the main findings: Odisha is located on the east coast of India, and is famous for its temples, forts, eco-tourism and eye-dazzling handicrafts. On the other hand, Chhattisgarh is located in the central-east part of India and has a rich cultural heritage including its world-famous handicrafts. A rigorous literature analysis unveiled the various types of difficulties endured by the dokra and terracotta artisans of Odisha and Chhattisgarh - there as scarcity of raw materials and funds for their purchase,



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improper market linkages, exploitation by the intermediaries, difficulty in marketing their products in exhibitions, lack of exposure and poor working environment. Moreover, the new generation did not show much interest in pursuing the age-old occupation of their ancestors.

Keywords:

Role of NGOs, Sustainable livelihood, Dokra & Terracotta artisans.

Sujan Banerjee

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Bishnupur

Abstract Title: Impact of Natural Disaster on Rural Livelihood: A Case Study of Sundarban Community from Green Social Work Perspective

The Sundarban, a global heritage site shared by Bangladesh and India, is the most widespread mangrove forest in the world. It is home to a variety of species that are among the most endangered in the world. Millions of people rely on the Sundarban for their livelihood, making it a highly vulnerable ecosystem. The impact on the ecosystem of development, climate change and urbanisation is likely to become ever more severe in the Sundarban during the next few decades. At present, the Sundarban witness a variety of threats related to rising global temperatures including flooding, bank erosion, and cyclones. Therefore, with the prevalence of climate change, natural disasters, and its impact on livelihood it has become relevant to understand the different and related effects of these crises on societal and physical environments in disasters from the lens of Green Social Work. In this context using the case study method the present study explores how people in the Sundarban community in West Bengal perceive changes in their environment, and how they view changes in their lives across generations, which are likely to be largely caused by environmental changes which has impacted thousands of livelihoods there. Besides, the paper also highlighted the scope and opportunities of Green Social Work intervention to address the issues of the Sundarban community so that they can get a better sustainable livelihood and environmental justice.

Keywords: Climate change, Green Social Work, Natural disaster, Sustainable livelihood, Indian Sundarban.

Arya Vats

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Abstract Title: Sustainable Fashion: A Luxury that makes a Difference

"Sustainability is not an end goal, it's a journey." – Eileen Fisher The "new luxury" is about knowing that the clothing you wear has a positive impact on the planet, not merely a designer label or a high price tag. Sustainable fashion, also known as ethical eco-fashion, is a sound approach towards the planet Earth in terms of designing, producing, and consuming clothing and accessories that take into account the fashion industry's environmental, social, and ethical consequences. It strives to reduce environmental harm, promote fair labour norms, and make clothing with a longer lifespan. It is a response to the negative implications of conventional fast fashion businesses, which frequently lead to overconsumption, worker exploitation, and degradation of the environment. It advocates for a more holistic and responsible approach to garment manufacturing and consumption in order to create a more sustainable and ethical fashion industry. This paper delves into the evolving paradigm of sustainable fashion, not only as an aesthetic movement but as a powerful force for societal change. Central to this discussion is the pivotal concept of leaving no one behind, echoing the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals.



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Pekham Basu

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Abstract Title: Sustainable Communities – Impact of Corporates and Corporate Social Responsibility

Corporate Social Responsibility is a model of corporate self-governance that encourages corporations to work with their communities and invest in their social, economic, and ecological growth. Along with being a statutory mandate enshrined in Section 135 of the Companies Act, 2013 and Companies (Corporate Social Responsibility) Rules, 2014, it is also an opportunity for corporations to create an impact beyond their commercial mandate. CSR usually undertakes developmental projects in geographical locations where its business operates, or on issues decided by its Board. Only those corporates who fall within the purview of the law undertake CSR projects i.e. interventions funded from the CSR budget of the company. CSR projects can be found in urban areas, rural areas and tribal communities. Health livelihood, and education are some of the common areas of intervention. CSR goals align with the mandate of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the five SDG pillars of people, prosperity, planet, peace, and partnership. Hence, many corporates work in collaboration with the government and non-government organisations to deliver the CSR mandate.

The local businesses generated by the presence of many companies have seen the growth of entrepreneurs running businesses like taxi services, hotels and restaurants, and generated employment for the local people as drivers, tailors for uniforms of the companies and security guards. Drawing from the experiences of the authors in conducting impact assessments of CSR projects, and also working with communities where CSR operates, this paper will explore the role of corporate and corporate social responsibilities in sustainable communities.

Riya Ghosh

Ph.D Scholar

Visva-Bharati University.

Sriniketan, West Bengal

Abstract Title: A Discourse Analysis on Gender and Climate Change In The Coastal Areas Of Sundarbans.

The contemporary climate change discourse has divulged the challenges of twenty-first century of human race against the constantly degrading climate. Climate change has prompted changes in temperature, precipitation, and inflicted various natural disasters that have serious impact on human life as well as on various social, political, and economic issues. Due to the social construction of 'gender' women experience the impact of climate change more severely has long been recognized. The connection between day to day lives and climate change is complex and deeply rooted in social context. Capacities of women to cope with the impacts of changing climate is getting hampered due to pre-existing gender norms which include unequal access to resources, cultural disparities, lack of rights in decision making and many more. The objective of this paper is to comprehend the difficulties experience by women at household level as well as at livelihood sector due to the double jeopardy of gender norms and climate change. This paper has delineated its findings in relation to gender and climate change in the coastal areas of Sundarbans on the basis of secondary data. A thoroughgoing discourse analysis has unfolded many instances where women face difficulties in order to cope with the impact of climate change caused by pre-existing gender norms coupled with climate crisis while fulfilling household responsibilities as well as during livelihood generation. The unequitable share of responsibilities at household levels and inability of women to participate in decision-making have contributed to the difficulties of women in the context of climate change and gender discourse. As social work discipline thrives to attain social justice and equality, thus looking at the discourse analysis of gender and climate change from a social work perspective is crucial.

Key words: gender inequality, pre-existing gender norms, livelihood, climate change, Sundarbans coastal area.



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PhD Scholar
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Abstract Title: *Social Innovation and Enterprise for Sustainable Community-Driven Waste Management in Rural Kashmir A Qualitative Study.*

This abstract offers a glimpse into a qualitative research study that investigates the dynamic role of social innovation and enterprise in fostering sustainable Community-Driven Waste Management (CDWM) solutions in the unique context of rural Kashmir. The region, characterized by its distinct cultural, social, and environmental landscape, faces waste management challenges that necessitate innovative approaches to address local needs while preserving its fragile ecosystem.

Through an array of qualitative research methods, including in-depth interviews, focus groups, and content analysis, this study explores the intricate interplay of social innovation and enterprise in rural Kashmir's waste management ecosystem.

The study also casts a critical eye on the unique challenges faced in rural CDWM in Kashmir, such as the regions remote and mountainous terrain, seasonal variations, and cultural considerations. The research scrutinizes the long-term viability of social enterprises engaged in rural waste management and examines their potential to stimulate economic growth, foster employment opportunities, and strengthen social bonds within the intricate fabric of Kashmiri society. This qualitative research unveils a nuanced understanding of social innovation and enterprise within the context of rural waste management in Kashmir. By capturing the voices and perspectives of those directly involved, it offers invaluable insights into the intricate dynamics that shape community-driven initiatives in this region. Ultimately, this study serves as a valuable resource for policymakers, practitioners, and scholars seeking to support sustainable waste management practices in rural Kashmir through the lens of social innovation and enterprise.

Shelley Saha Sinha

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Department of Social Work,
Visva Bharati University

Abstract Title: *Sustainable Development Goals and Health of Scheduled Tribes in India: A New Era or a Missed Opportunity?*

Introduction: Health status is influenced by diverse and complex factors that are interrelated resulting in inequities in health interventions and outcomes. Despite India's promising social inclusion processes, unequal power relations and social inequalities leave scheduled tribe populations largely excluded. 'Transforming the World: 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development' seeks to deal with the social realities like poor health through state efforts and bridge the inequities that are deeply entrenched in our society. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with its principle of 'leaving no one behind' puts social justice and equity at the crossroad of development, emphasizing universal coverage of health care for all.

Objective: This paper explores (i) health status and access to reproductive health care services of the scheduled tribes using equity lens and (ii) identify policy gaps and suggest public health strategies to achieve the SDG target by 2030.

Methods and procedures: Data of select health indicators from NFHS – 5 survey is used for analysis. Data of scheduled tribes are compared with upper caste groups to highlight how the tribal populations in India are marginalized.

Findings: The paper highlights the difficulty in achieving targets on some key indicators on health care services including key determinants of health for tribal populations in India. The results show that significant proportion of children from tribal households suffer from all forms of undernutrition.



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Conclusion: To make progress on the SDGs, India must assess the needs and priorities of the tribal population, and design integrated health care services to address systemic inequities, discrimination and consequent poor health outcomes. At the end we propose possible strategies to address the perceived gaps.

Dr Puneet Kumar Ojha

Research Professional

Department of Social Work,

University of Delhi, Delhi

Abstract Title: Impact of Corporate Social Responsibility on Public Health

CSR is characterized as a business approach that produces long haul investor esteem by accepting up open doors and overseeing dangers beginning from socially mindful choices. Early subjects in CSR conceptualization featured the way that business volunteerism was critical to achieving social obligations. Additionally, CSR was viewed as a business cost that may unfavorably affect influence the primary concern. All things considered, the rising example that dreams CSR and investor riches as blending objectives are driven and roused by an alternate school of thought. There is a basic need to really grasp corporate social responsibility (CSR) and moral rules that would advance equivalent conveyance of medicinal services assets. Pertinent CSR exercises would be accomplished by making the most critical medical issues in a given society the highest need of human services associations.

Debayan Dutta

&

Prof Asok Kumar Sarkar

Department of Social Work,

Visva-Bharati University

Abstract Title: Swasthya Sathi Scheme, Social Protection and Social Cohesion: Experiences of Rural West Bengal, India

In India, large inequalities and inequities in availability, accessibility and affordability of secondary and tertiary health care services impact directly and indirectly the larger social safety nets and efforts to improve the socio-economic inclusions of the marginalized. Social Protection schemes on health try to reduce these gaps by covering its targeted population through insurance, reducing out-of-pocket expenditure (OOP), delivering good governance, and promoting equity-inclusion. The study has been conducted in rural areas of Birbhum District, West Bengal because of its socioeconomic and demographic characteristics and scores in different indexes. It has used a qualitative approach, selected ten samples purposively at different phases, and adopted an exploratory research design. Data have been collected through in-depth interviews of beneficiaries and service providers to understand the multidimensional experiences.

The findings of the study reveal that the scheme has a significant role to play in dealing with inequality and inequity aspects of health services by enhancing the availability, accessibility and affordability of secondary and tertiary health services to the people. Findings also highlight that cutting down on OOP expenditure and ensuring social protection influences the lives of socioeconomically backward people, fights exclusion, and promotes social inclusion and social cohesion at large where no one is felt left behind.

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Abstract Title: Exploring Effective Social Work Interventions in Rural Communities: Insights from Open-Setting Fieldwork Experiences

This research paper delves into the realm of social work interventions in rural communities, aiming to extract valuable insights from open-setting fieldwork experiences. Fieldwork is an integral part of social work, which enables the students to practice their classroom learning. In most cases, the students are placed in NGOs or governmental organisations under the supervision



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of faculty as well as agency supervisors. However, there is a wider scope too in rural areas for the practice of macro social work under the supervision of social work faculty.

Through a comprehensive examination of open-setting fieldwork, this study seeks to uncover key learnings and best practices that can enhance the effectiveness of social work interventions in rural settings. Drawing on a combination of qualitative and quantitative data collection methods, including interviews, surveys, and case studies, this research explores the multifaceted dynamics of social work in rural communities. It investigates the roles of social workers, community engagement strategies, and the impact of cultural and environmental factors on intervention outcomes. By examining real-world experiences and success stories, this study aims to provide practical insights that can inform the development of evidence-based practices for social work professionals operating in rural contexts. The findings from this research offer valuable guidance for social workers, policymakers, and organizations seeking to improve their effectiveness in rural areas. By understanding the nuances of rural community dynamics and the lessons learned from open-setting fieldwork, we could better address the unique needs and challenges faced by these often-underserved populations. Ultimately, this research contributes to the ongoing effort to enhance the quality of social work interventions in rural communities and promote the well-being of their residents.

Jayatree Buragohain

&

Vaishag Velayudhan

Delhi School of Social Work,
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Abstract Title: Empowering Rural Communities: A Study on the Role of CSR by the Public Sector Undertakings in Assam

This paper studies the multifaceted contributions made by the Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) in Assam, towards the empowerment of rural communities through Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives. It examines the Triple Bottom Line (TBL) framework, which emphasizes the people, planet and profit, as a guiding principle of CSR. The paper involves reviewing the legal framework of CSR, thereby shedding light on Section 135 of the Companies Act, 2013 in the context of OIL and NRL.

Methodology: The paper involves a thematic review of literature, thereby organizing literature by the topics and theoretical concepts in order to analyze the relevance and significance. The literature has largely been collected from academia.edu, JSTOR and the official websites of OIL and NRL.

Findings: The paper underscores the significance of CSR in achieving a balance between the economic, environmental and social imperatives. It discusses the CSR initiatives of Oil India Limited (OIL), such as the OIL Rupantar Project focusing on the formation of Self-Help Groups (SHGs) in order to promote economic activities among the rural communities, the education-related projects such as OIL Dikhya Schools and OIL Super 30 aiming to provide quality education and coaching to the underprivileged students in the rural areas, and several others. The study also delves into the CSR projects of NRL such 'Niramoy' which is a mobile medical camp initiative benefitting the nearby villages, the Drishti project addressing the eye care needs through free screening and cataract operations, scholarships supporting education for disadvantaged students and several others.

Keywords: Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs), Rural Communities, Triple Bottom Line

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Abstract Title: The effectiveness on implementing CSR activities in Puthoor Government School, Chennai: An Empirical Study

Corporate social responsibility (CSR) refers to the voluntary actions taken by businesses to contribute to the social and environmental well-being of their stakeholders and society at large. CSR has been a topic of growing interest and importance in both academia and industry since the 1950s, but its implementation and impact remain largely unexplored, especially in the field of education.

This study aims to address this gap by examining the impact of CSR on government schools in Chennai, the capital city of Tamil Nadu, one of the most industrialized and urbanized states in India. Government schools are public schools that provide free and compulsory education to children from economically and socially disadvantaged backgrounds. The study uses a non-probability



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sampling method, selecting 50 samples from a government school in a prime location of Chennai through convenience sampling. Convenience sampling is a method that chooses individuals or items that are easily reachable or suitable for the researcher. The study shows that CSR has a positive but limited impact on government schools in Chennai. The study discloses that only 10% of the government schools in Chennai have obtained CSR funds or support in the last three years. It is also discovered that many teachers have paid money from their own pocket to support the school and the COVID-19 pandemic has negatively affected the implementation and outcomes of CSR projects in government schools. This results in a decline in school strength, and disruption of learning activities. The study also emphasizes the need for better comprehension and execution of CSR in government schools by developing a coherent policy framework, setting up monitoring and evaluation mechanisms, ensuring transparency and accountability, and promoting innovation and best practices.

Keywords: CSR, Government School, Education, Materialistic Aid, Corporate Collaboration

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Abstract Title: Assessing the Role of Life Skills in Enhancing Demographic Dividend in Developing Nations

Demographic dividend, the potential economic boost resulting from a large working-age population in developing nations, has gained prominence as a catalyst for sustainable development. However, harnessing this dividend remains a multifaceted challenge, particularly in regions with diverse socio-economic contexts. This paper investigates the pivotal role of life skills in unlocking the demographic dividend's full potential in developing nations. Drawing on a comprehensive review of literature, empirical data, and case studies from various developing nations, this study explores the multifaceted relationship between life skills development and demographic dividend outcomes. The analysis delves into the acquisition of critical life skills, including but not limited to education, health, financial literacy, and problem-solving abilities, and their subsequent impact on demographic transition dynamics. Our findings underscore the significance of life skills as a fundamental determinant in demographic dividend realization. We demonstrate how life skills empower individuals, particularly youth, to make informed decisions regarding education, health, family planning, and economic participation. Furthermore, we examine the ripple effects of life skills on productivity, employment, and entrepreneurship, all of which contribute to a country's overall demographic dividend potential. The paper also highlights the challenges and disparities in access to life skills education within developing nations, emphasizing the need for targeted policies and interventions that promote inclusivity and equity. We discuss successful strategies and best practices employed by select countries to integrate life skills into their educational systems and youth development programs.

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Abstract Title: Impact of Swachh Bharat Mission Grameen on Jangaon District of Telangana State: A Secondary Data Analysis

The role of sanitation in promoting human health is paramount. A clean environment can only be achieved through proper sanitation management, which involves various factors. Sanitation is not limited to the elimination of garbage and maintenance of sewers, as open defecation is also a significant concern. Open defecation is not only an indecent act but also a matter of women's self-respect and safety. The eradication of open defecation is essential for determining the development of a society. Open defecation poses personal and social risks, and individuals who engage in this practice are exposed to various dangers, such as snake bites, scorpion stings, insect bites, murders, rapes, and road accidents. Therefore, the elimination of open defecation is of utmost importance in sanitation management.



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Open defecation is a significant contributor to the prevalence of many diseases, and deaths can occur as a result. Young children are particularly vulnerable to the effects of open defecation, as they have low immunity and are prone to disease and illness. Sending young children to engage in open defecation not only exposes them to diseases but also increases the risk of insect bites, such as snake and scorpion bites, which can be fatal.

Against this backdrop, the research study is focused on finding out the current state of sanitation and prevalence of open defecation in India on rural sanitation, a major programme initiated by the Government of India on diverse sectors of India with particular reference to rural Telangana. A critical analysis will be done by using secondary data sources such as various books, newspapers, and pertinent websites such as swachhbharatmission.gov.in and Government Publications.

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Abstract title: Towards a Hunger-Free State: Strategies and Initiatives in Kerala

Hunger is a complex and persistent issue which has far-reaching implications on health, economic development, and social well-being. Despite advancements in agriculture and food production, millions of people around the world still experience chronic hunger. To eradicate hunger, the United Nations incorporated zero hunger initiatives in its Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). SDG -Goal 2 aims to end hunger in all its forms by 2030 on a global scale. In the 2022 Global Hunger Index (GHI), a peer-reviewed annual report that measures and tracks hunger, India ranks 107th out of 121 countries.

The primary objective of this research is to analyse Kerala's commendable achievement in SDG 2 - Zero Hunger and the current status of programmes and policies on hunger, food security and nutrition in Kerala. The study is based on secondary data from sources like government reports, articles and materials from the related field of study.

The research findings show that the state demonstrates a Kerala model which stresses investment in socio-economic development with responsible participation of the people is essential for ensuring sustainable development. The state showcased a comprehensive approach in its pursuit of a hunger-free society. Kerala's effective action plans and policies on tackling hunger can be adapted and replicated on a global scale and inspire other states on their journey towards a hunger-free future.

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Abstract Title: Determinants of Utilizations of Postnatal Care Services among the Santal Women in West Bengal

Each year an estimated 289,000 maternal deaths occur worldwide; of which 50 % are pertaining to labor, delivery and the immediate postpartum period. Thus, postnatal care (PNC) is an essential issue but comparatively, it is a neglected component. For a marginalized community like Santal, again PNC is very crucial. There are several programs in India to improve health care services, yet the maternal and neonatal mortality rates remain high. Therefore, it is important to understand the factors influencing utilization of PNC services. The present study is taken in this direction. It is eclectic in nature with 390 Santal new mothers as respondents. Interview schedules, FGDs and in-depth interviews are administered to collect data.

The study reveals that 384 respondents have done institutional delivery and have initiated the PNC services, only 135 respondents have completed the process. There are multiple positive factors like the role of the ASHAs, the safety of the child, etc. which influence the completion of PNC services. It is to be noted that there are factors like lack of road connectivity,



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occupation of the respondents and behaviour of the health service providers are also responsible for the non-utilization of the PNC service.

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Abstract Title: Leveraging National Service Scheme for Quality Educational Sustainable Development in Urban Slums

Urban slums pose significant challenges to quality education and sustainable development. In this context, the National Service Scheme (NSS) emerges as a crucial instrument for fostering positive change engaging in a wide array of activities. This abstract explores the role of NSS in enhancing the quality of education and promoting sustainable development within urban slums.

NSS, a voluntary program under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports in India, empowers young volunteers to engage in community service. In urban slum areas, where access to quality education is restricted and poverty persists, NSS volunteers play a pivotal role in bridging the educational divide. They organize educational campaigns, provide tutoring support, and facilitate skill development workshops, thus empowering slum dwellers with knowledge and skills essential for socio-economic advancement. Furthermore, NSS fosters a sense of civic responsibility and environmental consciousness among its volunteers, contributing to sustainable development in urban slums. Volunteers engage in cleanliness drives, tree planting initiatives, and awareness campaigns on sanitation and hygiene, leading to improved living conditions and overall well-being.

This study involves identifying the importance, aims and objectives of NSS in urban slum development activities among the NSS volunteers to leverage the measure to overcome in order to utilize future generations in a positive direction.

This research adopts a mixed-methods approach, combining quantitative and qualitative research methods to provide a comprehensive analysis of the impacts of NSS, the challenges it faces, and potential future measures. As a part of the study, the sample includes urban slums such as Biju Adarsha Colony and Acharya Vihar Science Park Slum, as well as the NSS volunteers affiliated with the IMS Co unit in Bhubaneswar.

Key Words: NSS, Rural development, Community Development, Social Service, Youth

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Abstract Title: Impact of Land Pooling and Land Acquisition on Rural Livelihoods: A Study of Amaravathi Region of Andhra Pradesh

In a growing economy like India, land acquisition for ongoing developmental projects is inevitable. The compulsory acquisition of land causes large-scale displacement of people, especially the farmers who lose their land and thus their livelihood, as three-fourths of the country's population lives in the countryside and agriculture is their only livelihood option. The need for land acquisition arises for developmental projects because it is the first step towards the completion of any major project. The concept of land pooling is based on The Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement (Amendment) Bill, 2015 that was introduced in Lok Sabha on February 24, 2015.

The research has conducted a study and the Multistage Random Sampling method was adopted with 300 respondents selected for the study. In the context of land acquisition and land pooling for CRDA, this present study was proposed to analyze some important aspects like compensation package given in the acquired sample area, change in employment structures, and opinion about mass departure from present occupation and villages etc. the present paper further throws a light upon the problems of farmers, landless workers and the compensation given by the Government.



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Abstract Title: Impact of Climate Change on Women in Prakasam District of Andhra Pradesh

Climate change has serious ramifications in four dimensions of food security: food availability, food accessibility, food utilization and food systems stability. In the context of climate change, traditional food sources become more unpredictable and scarcer. Women face loss of income as well as harvests often their sole sources of food and income. Related increases in food prices make food more inaccessible to poor people, in particular to women and girls whose health has been found to decline more than male health in times of food shortages. Furthermore, women are often excluded from decision-making on access to and the use of land and resources critical to their livelihoods. For these reasons, it is important that the rights of rural women are ensured in regard to food security, non-discriminatory access to resources, and equitable participation in decision-making processes. Three broad themes emerged from the submissions with respect to how the impacts of climate change are differentiated: firstly, and most commonly, an actual or perceived increase in the vulnerability of certain individuals, groups and communities; secondly, who is involved in decision-making and what attitudes are taken towards responses to climate change impacts; and lastly, who benefits from action on climate change impacts. The research area is Prakasam district in the state of Andhra Pradesh, India. Prakasam district facing many problems due to climate change, especially in the western part of this district facing water scarcity and low rainfall will lead to women migrations, and health issues to the women, By these factors this topic has been taken for the study. A convenience sampling method was used for the study. The present paper throws light on the impact of climate change on women.

Aishwarya Rajesh Mishra

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Abstract Title: Role of CSR In Creating Sustainable Communities

Corporate Social Responsibility plays a vital role in creating Sustainable Communities. CSR initiatives encompass a wide range of activities undertaken by corporations to align their business practices with social, environmental and ethical concerns. This paper is an empirical study of organisational change for corporate sustainability which brings together global issues of human resource management, ecological sustainability, corporate citizenship and community renewable to create a unified approach to global sustainability. The findings show that the understanding of corporate responsibility has evolved from being limited to the generation of profit to the latest belief of shared value in communities. The findings also indicate that CSR continues to be relevant within the academic literature and improvising rural and urban communities. In 1930's and 40's the role of the executive and the social performance of corporations discussed the specific social responsibilities of companies. The study analyses the theory of Sustainable Development and Corporate Social Responsibility, by means of what development process the two theories came near to each other and the reason behind CSR being considered to be the corporate concept of Sustainable Development. CSR promotes environmental sustainability through practices such as reducing carbon emissions, conserving natural resources, adopting eco-friendly technologies and contributing to educational institutions by providing scholarships. These efforts not only mitigate the adverse impacts of business operations on the environment and contribute to the global goal of combatting climate change but also support needy students. This study also includes the relationship between Sustainable Development and Corporate Social Responsibility based on the content analysis of the main milestones of the Sustainable Development process. Furthermore, CSR enhances economic sustainability by encouraging responsible business conduct.



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Abstract Title: Traditional Knowledge Practices and Education in Tribal Community

In the process of change, every society experiences changes in aspects like social, cultural, economic and political. When the world has shifted from agrarian society to modern technological advancement, there are still tribal communities who are in confusion either to adapt to the modern society or to the age-old traditional ways of life. In such confusion, the advancement of modern technology and individualism is deeply rooted in society. This has brought about the loss of traditional knowledge practices with the advancement of modernity. Modern society has little respect for traditional knowledge practices or ways of knowing. Even though traditional knowledge practices have enabled people to cope with issues such as healthy eating, illness challenges and other ways of managing certain events for many years. Such kinds of practices enable more sustainable living and safeguard traditional practices and culture against modern culture.

Therefore, this paper will focus on the transition as the tribal community that seeks to move towards sustainable living without compromising old rich traditional practices. The importance of traditional knowledge and achieving a more sustainable world is the need of the hour. The traditional knowledge practice which is unique to tribal community/ society and its culture, like the preservation of seeds for cultivation and water management for the purpose of irrigation and drinking needs to retain in the present generation. As a result, I would like to identify the traditional practice of seed keeping and document it so the present society continues to practice and revive the traditional knowledge practice in spite of the modern changes.

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Abstract Title: Understanding Livelihood Security of Organized Farmers in Morigaon District of Assam

The notion of livelihood is fresh and on the rise. Agriculture, being the primary source of livelihood for the majority of the population in Morigaon district, farmers face several issues that affect their income, food security, and overall well-being. The study aims to understand the livelihood security of organized farmers and includes the working model, risk assessment, and targeted intervention for the holistic development of the farmers. It aims to identify the key factors that contribute to the farmers' vulnerability and develop interventions to address these factors. Furthermore, understanding the livelihood security of organized farmers can help identify the critical role of farmer's organizations in improving their wellbeing.

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Abstract Title: Bridging Global Aspirations with Local Realities: NGO Strategies and Challenges in Community Empowerment for Sustainable Development

This abstract delves into the topic of NGO strategies and challenges in community empowerment for sustainable development. It explores the vital role played by NGOs in connecting global aspirations to local realities. The paper investigates various strategies employed by NGOs to empower communities while addressing the obstacles they encounter.

The paper uncovers how NGOs facilitate the realization of global sustainability goals at the grassroots level. It sheds light on the nuanced approaches employed by NGOs, highlighting their adaptability and responsiveness to local contexts. By promoting community engagement and inclusivity, NGOs foster sustainable development that aligns with the aspirations of global sustainability agendas.



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However, this abstract also underscores the challenges faced by NGOs in their mission. It emphasizes the need for effective impact measurement and the ability to adapt strategies to local dynamics. The paper illuminates the complex interplay between global ideals and the practicalities of local implementation.

Ultimately, this abstract encapsulates the core themes of the paper, providing a glimpse into the strategies and challenges encountered by NGOs in bridging the gap between global sustainability aspirations and the realities of local communities.

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Abstract Title: Impact of CSR Initiatives on Healthcare Access and Well-being in India: A Study

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programs have gained substantial prominence as a mechanism for corporations to contribute positively to society. This study delves into the impact of CSR initiatives on the healthcare sector in India, focusing on their influence on healthcare services accessibility and their contribution to healthier, disease-free living among the primary benefactors. India's healthcare sector faces multifaceted challenges, with issues like limited access to quality healthcare services and the prevalence of preventable diseases. Simultaneously, CSR initiatives by corporations have witnessed significant growth in the country. This study seeks to explore whether these CSR programs, engineered for the betterment of social welfare, have effectively addressed the healthcare needs of their primary beneficiaries. The central inquiry of this research is whether the CSR program implementation has a discernible effect on healthcare services accessibility and contributes to healthier, disease-free living among its primary beneficiaries in India.

To address this question, a mixed-methods approach has been adopted. First, quantitative analysis involves the collection and examination of healthcare data and CSR expenditure records over a specific timeframe. This phase has employed statistical techniques to identify patterns and correlations between CSR investment and healthcare service improvements. The second phase of the study is qualitative, involving interviews and surveys of primary benefactors of CSR programs in healthcare. Their perspectives have provided valuable insights into how these programs have influenced their lives and healthcare access.

The key predictors under examination are CSR program investment (measured in financial terms), the duration of CSR initiatives, and the geographic reach of these programs. Constructs include healthcare service accessibility (proxied by metrics like healthcare infrastructure development and proximity to beneficiaries) and health outcomes (measured through data on disease prevalence and health improvement indicators).

Keywords: Corporate Social Responsibility, CSR, healthcare infrastructure development.

Aswathi K. R., Aswathy Mohan & Rahana S R

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Abstract Title: Analyzing the Role of Local Self Government Institutions in Disaster Risk Reduction in Kerala: A Content Analysis

Kerala is one of the very few states that have successfully incorporated Local self-governance into the disaster management system. The research's primary focus is to explore the role of local self-governments in implementing disaster risk reduction in Kerala. Therefore, the study aims to assess how various local self-government institutions in the state execute disaster management plans and the hurdles they encounter during implementation by employing both subjective and objective content analysis techniques. Subjective content analysis will involve scrutinizing sources such as newspapers, magazines, and television



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channels to identify the initiatives and practices adopted by the Kerala government. In contrast, objective content analysis will examine the websites of local self-government institutions, annual reports, and their disaster management plans. Thematic saturation will be achieved when no new themes emerge from observations and analyses.

Nandita Mondal Mondal

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Abstract Title: Livelihood at the Margins: limiting space to continue the livelihood of Kolis of Mumbai City

Mumbai, the glittering commercial hub of India, is laced with the Koliwad, the bastion of Subaltern Son Kolis for ages. This is one of those cities where the 'have' and 'have not' share the coastal line. The Arabian Sea, creeks and open seashore are important 'community resources' to continue the livelihood for Kolis to survive for decades. Men and women engage in putting the fish to get dried on Bamboo stilts as part of their family business activity. Processing wet catch and drying fish generally continue for eight months of the year barring the four months of monsoon. Traditionally, the area of open seashore to put up such structure to dry fish and get distributed among local Koli families are being carried out as per the decision taken by Patil of local fishing community collective, officially known as Panch or Koli Samaj (Koli Council) in consultation with other council members. This paper attempts to argue that the 'journey' of this toiling army of citizenry (that are Kolis) at the margin to create its own 'space' to continue their livelihood on coastal line should be looked at through the lens of social, historical and cultural processes rather than as a sector that propels towards a crisis and looked at as a hindrance to the urban development of the apathy of the superstructure called state. It is critically drawing upon Ostrom's work where she tried to incessantly investigate through her work related to governing Common Pool Resources. The paper sets out to explore the role of Fisherfolk association (Koli Council) and its strategic movement as an intervention as community response against limiting the 'space' traditionally marked for community usage. The qualitatively methodology has been applied to protect their livelihood.

Radharani Jena

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&

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Abstract Title: Corruption in the Healthcare System of India: Challenges and Solutions

India has a very vast and mixed healthcare system. But both in public and private healthcare services we can witness corruption. Health is the most important component for the economic stability of a country. Still, India stands behind Bangladesh and Nepal in records of healthcare achievements. However, a lot of government healthcare facilities and private healthcare institutions are there; because increasing illicit practices in the healthcare system, it is ruining all the efforts and policies related to the healthcare system. India's healthcare corruption is deep-rooted in various aspects like political, social and economic malpractices. India spends a less proportion of its national income on the health care system. Factors such as lack of public discussion on health care, medical negligence, overcharging and forceful consultation by private sectors, drug procurement scams, scandals in medical college admissions and lack of strict law enforcement contribute to the perpetuation of corrupt practices. To mitigate corruption in the healthcare system the government, the people, the healthcare professionals, the providers, and the civil society organizations need to take a collaborative approach. Some more steps like better laws, promoting ethical practices among health care professionals, improving transparency and educating people should be on focus. Addressing all the issues and taking necessary actions by the government can improve the situation which can foster to create clear, accessible healthcare system for the people.



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Abstract Title: Facelift of the Rural India The NGOs intervention in SDG Case Study of IRCDS Thiruvallur District

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) aim to transform our world. It is an immediate call to action to end poverty and inequality, to protect the planet, and to ensure that all people enjoy health, justice, and prosperity with the motto of leaving no one behind. To achieve the 17 goals of SDG, the non-governmental organisations (NGOs) play an active role along with the Government by steering its action to progress.

In pre-independent India, pilot projects were introduced to address these issues, but they did not yield the expected results, in the wake of Independence the government introduced Community development programs in 1952 as the country's largest rural reconstruction program to address the issues of rural India yet we were not able to tang the expected outcomes.

The objective is to study the current issues in rural areas and the strategies adopted by the NGO, IRCDS in Tiruvallur district in handling the problems of the community in the light of SDG.

The researcher adopted the Qualitative method and conducted in-depth interviews with the stakeholders of the organization, further, the annual reports were also taken as secondary data. The major finding of the study reveals the problems of the community and the strategies of the NGO in addressing those problems. They utilised education as a powerful tool to progress toward sustainable development. The usage of Participatory Rural Appraisal by the IRCDS helped to identify the needs of the community and prioritization of needs was done based on its emergency. Goals were attained through networking, collaboration, and professional Social Work interventions. They act as a resource center in training and guiding the government and other NGOs.

Key Words: Rural India, SDG, PRA, Social Work intervention.

Dr Shailesh

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Abstract Title: Investigating the relationship between Panchayats and Marginalized Community through a case study on Nat Community in Uttar Pradesh.

This research study is based on the extensive involvement of researchers in Badaun district which is a western part of Uttar Pradesh. This paper examines the socio-economic profile of the Nat Community along with the day-to-day challenges of their life. The paper talks about how local institutions support the community and how governance responds to the problems of the community. Focus group discussions (FGDs) and informal interviews were used to collect the requisite data for the study. Nat community is considered a nomadic community as per their lifestyle. By religion, the community belongs to Hindus and Muslims, Nats were historical performers, and some still carry on this tradition. Stunting and dancing are the favourite professions of this community. During dance performances, the basic rights and human rights of the community are violated regularly. Panchayats may deal with these issues through the participatory approach. However, due to the lack of participatory approaches of Gram Panchayats and the unawareness of the community, it is not happening. Disunity and a nomadic lifestyle pose a significant challenge to the progress of the Nat Community. Male members of this community have little role in the arrangement of their livelihood. The Nat Community faces many problems because of the inactivity of its male members, which affects their dignity. Social and educational backwardness hinder Schedule Castes from enjoying their constitutional rights. The basic needs of their life are very far away from their approach. Because of this Nat community is not enjoying their employment opportunity even



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after being a member of the scheduled caste. This inhibits the emancipation and well-being of the Nat Community in the caste-ridden society within the society.

Keywords: Participation, Emancipation, Nomadic Community, Communal Tribes, & Schedule Castes.

Ashish Tiru

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Abstract Title: Tribal Women Vulnerabilities in the Context of Mining, Environment, and Gender

In the realm of development and social justice, it is crucial to examine the impact of degradation on marginalised communities, particularly in resource-rich regions like Jharkhand, India. Jharkhand, known as the Land of Forests, is blessed with mineral resources and has experienced rapid industrialization, leading to significant environmental consequences from mining activities. This paper delves into the experiences of women living in Jharkhand mining areas who often find themselves on the fringes of development discussions. By focusing on gender-centric social work, this paper aims to explore the unique challenges faced by tribal women and investigate how social work interventions can help alleviate their vulnerabilities.

The findings reveal that mining activities have gender effects on tribal women in terms of environmental degradation. Firstly, women bear the brunt of health-related issues because they are more exposed to pollutants and waterborne diseases, mainly due to their responsibilities as caregivers and gatherers of water and firewood. Second, mining operations damage to biodiversity and soil erosion have a significant impact on their way of life, which primarily revolves around agriculture and forest-related activities. As a result, these women face vulnerability and food insecurity. Additionally, limited access to education for girls is hindered as they often need to assist with household chores and caregiving duties due to constraints, creating a cycle that perpetuates low educational achievements. Social work guided by a gender approach plays a role in mitigating these challenges and empowering women to lead resilient and sustainable lives. By working towards development with an approach that leaves no one behind, we can create a more equitable society where the voices and needs of marginalised women are heard, acknowledged, and acted upon.

Keywords: Mining, Environmental Degradation, Tribal Women, Marginalised, Gendered Consequences, Social Work Intervention.

Devend Bhadu Suryawanshi

&

Dr. Prakash Yadav

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Head of Department of Social Work,
Tilak Maharashtra Vidyapeeth (Deemed University), Pune

Abstract Title: The Knowledge, Attitude and Practice About Garbage Segregation Among Urban Families: A Social Work Intervention Study In Pune City.

Urbanisation is rapidly increasing in India which majorly effects on the environment and social sectors. Pune is the second largest city in the Maharashtra and 9th level metropolitan city in India. The city has large space area in and around covered by the rivers. The generation of waste in and around urban and suburban area particularly. The paper focuses on the uneven movement of the wastage and also focuses on the distribution of wet and dry garbage and its recycling with surviving the environment. As per Taken public review related to the waste management arranged by various sectors in PMC (Pune Municipal Corporation) and satisfaction related to the arrangement done by the community. Paper focuses on priority of the people related to the waste management material and their distribution related to the Garbage management done by the public sector with their views. After studying survey try to reduce the carbon footprint or revolution in nature as well as environmental impact and suggest some ideas to the PMC for sustainable development.

Keywords: Knowledge, Attitude, Practice, Garbage Segregation, urban families, Intervention, Pune city, Warje area waste. Management sustainability, Dry and waste garbage management and distribution.



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Ratndip Bhimrao Gangale

Assistant Professor

Mahatma Jyotiba Fule College of Social Work, Yavtamal

Abstract Title: *The Contribution of Maharashtra State Rural livelihood Mission (UMED Project) on Women's Empowerment and Social Work Intervention*

Abstract: This research paper aims at investigating the impact of the Maharashtra State Rural Livelihood Mission (UMED Project) on the socio-economic development and empowerment of women in rural villages of Maharashtra state. The UMED Project, an initiative by the Maharashtra state government, focuses on the sustainable development of rural areas by promoting socio-economic empowerment, livelihood opportunities, and community participation.

The research explores how the UMED Project has specifically addressed the needs and challenges faced by women in rural communities and how it has contributed to their empowerment. Additionally, the paper examines the role of social work intervention in implementing and supporting the UMED Project's objectives. The study utilises qualitative and quantitative studies to gather data from secondary sources such as books, academic articles, online journals, government policies, programmes, schemes, etc. to comprehend and analyse the findings and shed light on the outcomes, effectiveness, and potential areas for improvement of the UMED Project in promoting women's empowerment and social work intervention in rural Maharashtra. Women's empowerment in rural areas and the relationship between rural development initiatives and women's empowerment. It delves into various theoretical and conceptual frameworks used to understand women's empowerment and discusses the importance of addressing socio-economic disparities

The research aims to provide valuable insights to policymakers, practitioners, and researchers being involved in rural development, gender equality, and social work.

Key words: Maharashtra State Rural livelihood Mission (UMED Project), Women's Empowerment, socio-economic development, SHGs, Livelihood, Rural development, Social work intervention



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PTS – 4: Marginality and Working with Marginalized Groups

Bandana Meher

PhD Scholar, Social Work
Sambalpur University, Odisha

Abstract Title: *Reviving Traditions: Exploring Sambalpuri Textile Weavers Journey through Occupational Mobility and Social Enterprise in Western Odisha*

Demand for and the public image of various occupations will vary as society continues to develop. As a result of that, people gravitated towards emergent profession alternatives as the dynamic of supply and demand changed and the new professional opportunities attracted the younger generation, which affected occupational mobility among different lifestyles. When it comes to long-standing caste-based craft employment, the art has always had its foundations in antiquated and conventional forms. These professions occasionally struggle to thrive in a market-based economy due to changing social structures, which over time leads to more occupational mobility. One of the traditional crafts from the western part of Odisha is the weaving of Sambalpuri textiles. The craft is passed from generation to generation through the caste-based community of Bhulia. But with the current trends, it is found that the younger generation is gradually shifting towards different occupations, and due to the involvement of various stakeholders, the enterprises of weaving are becoming much more unorganised. In the above context, the current paper tries to shed light on the weaver community of Sambalpuri textile, Bhulia, and the reasons for their occupational mobility from the Bargarh cluster of Western Odisha. Two villages were selected as the sample study due to their higher concentration of handlooms and Bhulia among the population. The data were collected through interviews, observation, and focused group discussion. The government as well as various social entrepreneurs are working towards the survival of the craft. But the unorganised nature of the traditional craft and the involvement of various stakeholders have made the situation complicated, and there is a need for intervention in terms of social enterprise development. So, further, the paper tries to visualise a few remedial measures from the perspective of social entrepreneurship and enterprises to tackle the factors causing occupational mobility among the weavers and introduce survival strategies for the traditional craft as well as the weavers.

Najma Mushtaq

Research Scholar
Department of social work, Maulana Azad National Urdu University Hyderabad
Telangana

Abstract Title: *Livelihood Realities of Gujjar Tribes in Jammu and Kashmir: An Ethnographic Account*

Indigenous people are distinct social and cultural groups distinguished by their ancestral ties, lands, and natural resources, so in India, they are different by their origin, ancestral lineage and way of life, living and livelihood. Taking note of the studies done by other researchers in the past, the Gujjar people are gradually shifting away from their traditional employment and adopting new ways of life and livelihood. This article focuses on the Gujjar tribes living in Jammu and Kashmir focusing on their difficult livelihood realities and their vulnerabilities by using ethnography as a process for data collection.

Arham Hasan Rizvi

Research Scholar

&

Dr Mohammad Tahir

Assistant Professor
Department of Social Work
Aligarh Muslim University
Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh

Abstract Title: *Social Work in Palliative Care in India: Emergence, Current Status and Future Prospects*

Social Work in Palliative care has gained recognition and importance in India over the years, addressing the holistic needs of patients with life-limiting illnesses and their families. In 1980's and early 1990's palliative care initiative began in India, primarily led by the healthcare professional and volunteers. Recognizing the need for psychosocial support, social work professionals started playing an important role and 2011 The Indian Association of Palliative Care (IAPC) acknowledged the role of social workers in Palliative Care in India and established the Social Work Special Interest Group (SWSIG). Social workers are now an



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integral part of palliative care teams, working alongside doctors, nurses, psychologists, and other healthcare professionals. Addressing psychosocial needs: Social workers provide psychosocial assessments, counseling, emotional support, and practical assistance to patients and families. The concept of palliative care and the role of social workers in this field are still relatively unknown among the general population and even some healthcare professionals. There is a need for specialized training programs in palliative care social work to equip professionals with the necessary skills and knowledge. To enhance social work in palliative care in India, collaboration among stakeholders, capacity building, awareness campaigns, policy advocacy, and research initiatives are crucial. With concerted efforts, social work can contribute significantly to improving the quality of life for individuals facing life-limiting illnesses and their families in India.

Keywords: Chronic illness, clinical social work, psychiatric social work, psychosocial, terminal illness, Palliative Care.

Dr Rohit Bharti

Young Professional

Ministry of Labour and Employment

New Delhi

Abstract Title: Child Labour Rehabilitation: What Does the Jiwica Framework Say?

“JIWICA” is a Hindi word that means livelihood, a source of income to live and grow. Here JIWICA is the short form in which J denotes Job to family; I for Identification; WI-Withdrawing children from workforce; C for providing Compensation; and the last letter A for Any other assistance. The five Indicators/heading is inspired by the Honorable Supreme Court direction in M.C Mehta vs. State of Tamil Nadu & Others. Honourable Supreme Court delivered a number of mandatory directions in “M.C Mehta V. State of Tamil Nadu and Others” to eliminate the practice of child labour and ensure access to the Constitutional provisions of Articles 23, 24, 39, 45, and 47. It's a landmark judgment in the history of child rights in India, also encouraging recommendations that really enforced the prohibitive and rehabilitee measures for children and families of working children in India. This research paper examines the existing programs and policies of child labour rehabilitation in India on the basis of the indicators given under the JIWICA framework.

Dr Afsana

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Tehjeeb Alam

AMU Aligarh

Abstract Title: Knowledge and Attitude toward ‘Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act 2019’ of India: A Study of Kinnar community of Bareilly division of Uttar Pradesh

The situation of transgender persons in India is complex and challenging. Transgender individuals face a great deal of discrimination, violence, and economic exclusion from mainstream society. Due to this, transgender individuals often struggle to access basic human rights such as healthcare, education, employment, and housing. The objective of the study is to explore the knowledge, attitudes and perceptions of the Kinnar community towards the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act 2019 and to assess the perceived impact of the Transgender Persons Act 2019 on the everyday lives, social interactions, and access to services for members of the Kinnar community in the Bareilly division. The study employs a mixed methods research approach to gain a deeper understanding of the perceptions and awareness of this marginalized community regarding the legal framework designed to safeguard their rights. The research involves a sample size of 100 individuals from the Kinnar community, chosen through snowball sampling techniques. The study qualitative phase employs in-depth interviews to capture nuanced insights into the community's awareness and comprehension of the Act, as well as their perceptions of its implications on their daily lives. Additionally, quantitative data is collected through a structured interview schedule to quantify the level of knowledge and measure the attitudes of the Kinnar community members towards the Act.



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Jenikrishna MU

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&

Aswathy Mohan

Department of social work, central University of Tamil Nadu, Tamilnadu Nadu

Abstract Title: Health of Inter-state migrants in Marine Fisheries: A Qualitative Study with Special Reference to Kerala Marine Sector

One of the inevitable components of Kerala's maritime industry are interstate migrants. The Kerala maritime sector employs thousands of inter-state migrants from different regions of India due to greater earnings and more employment opportunities, especially after mechanization. Initially, workers in Kerala were mostly immigrants from southern India, but as a result of better pay and working conditions in the unskilled sector, citizens of north-eastern India have started to follow suit. Due to an increase in migrant flux, Kerala's health system is under stress. Interstate migration happens frequently in the marine industry, which is an important sector. For workers in the marine industry who migrate, health is especially crucial due to the hazardous nature of their profession. They labour long hours using heavy machinery and spend 10 to 15 days at sea while fishing, breaking the 8-hour rule. As a result, they have a range of health needs, and getting treatment might be difficult. One of the key elements of interstate migration is health. The host country's public health can be significantly influenced by immigrant health. This study is a qualitative investigation into the health problems experienced by interstate workers in Kerala's Ernakulam and Alappuzha districts. These are the major districts that accommodates inter-state migrants largely. Case study and FGD are used as the tool of data collection. Data analysis is done via content analysis. The study's findings emphasize the health and accessibility challenges that exist among immigrants working in the maritime industry.

Liyanage Chandima Inoka Jayasena

Ph.D. Research Scholar

Department of Social work,

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&

Abhishek Thakur,

Department of Social Work, Delhi University

Abstract Title: "Resilience in Higher Education: Analysing Academic Constraints and Coping Mechanisms among Visually Impaired Students in Sri Lankan Universities of Higher Learning"

This study aims to study the barriers faced by students with visual impairment in higher education. The study captures their insights on surmounting academic obstacles, all to foster an inclusive learning environment within Sri Lankan higher education institutions. Utilizing a qualitative methodology, the study adopts purposive sampling to engage 20 participants, ensuring a gender-balanced group of students with visual impairments and other social stratification from universities known for educational accessibility in Sri Lanka. The research garners comprehensive data through in-depth interviews, case studies, and focus group discussions.

Academic environments, especially classrooms, often do not adequately support students with disabilities. Specific issues include the absence of tailored attention from teachers, inaccessible class notes, inclusive teaching pedagogy, barrier-free infrastructure, excessive time required for assignments by visually impaired students, economic hardships, insufficient technological familiarity, a deficiency in English proficiency, and the need for appropriate assistive technology.

The findings suggest comprehensive training for educators to support students with disabilities better, incorporating individualized student interventions, ensuring assignments and lecture materials are accessible, enhancing teachers' understanding of students with disabilities, and upgrading infrastructure to facilitate inclusive learning. These insights pave the way for an innovative learning atmosphere that effectively accommodates the unique needs of students with disabilities in Sri Lanka's higher education system.

The study also explores how visually impaired students overcome academic barriers and challenges for their growth and development. The findings reveal that students with disabilities who are self-directed tend to exhibit enhanced coping mechanisms characterized by clear educational objectives, utilizing peer group networks, advanced social



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skills, and creating support group networks. These students leverage self-determination into self-empowerment, adeptly adapting to academic environments, making informed decisions, overcoming obstacles, and cultivating substantial social support networks. Conversely, those lacking in self-determination and robust social networks face adverse attitudes, increased stress levels, and doubts regarding self-fulfillment.

Keywords, Students with disabilities, academic barriers, coping strategies, self-empowerment

Dr Prakanshi

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Abstract Title- Women's Safety- A Path to Empowerment

We are in an era where women are getting empowered economically, socially and politically and are able to live their lives on their own, but can a woman really be empowered without Safety and Security? Safety is the first step towards women's empowerment, but we are still far behind in providing safety to women. According to NCRB Report 2021, crime against women has increased by 15.3% from the previous year 2021. Every girl or woman has to face inappropriate behaviour towards her at least once in her life, like lewd comments, bad touching, eve teasing, molestation, etc., and such inappropriate behaviour instills a fear in the mind of women that remains with them throughout their life as a woman. This fear puts a question mark on women's empowerment, which has always been a burning issue for Social Development. This Paper is based on Qualitative research uses secondary data and discusses safety as an essential factor for women's empowerment. This paper highlights the major threats related to the safety of women, the types of security and safety that women need, the current scenario of women's safety and how it is affecting women's empowerment and the provisions and measures adopted by the government of India.

Dr. Sasmita Patel

Associate Professor

Department of Social Work, Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya (A Central University), Bilaspur, Chhattishgarh, &

Anmol lama

Research Scholar

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Abstract Title: Unraveling Community Views on Drugs Addiction: A Study in Darjeeling District

Within our society or any given community, each person holds predetermined beliefs regarding drugs and drug addiction. These notions have the potential to generate disorder within society and contribute to the marginalization, bias, and categorization of those who are vulnerable (individuals struggling with addiction). A significant portion of the population views addiction through a moral lens or disregards it as a display of frailty — a perspective that lacks a foundation in reality. This perspective, when directed towards certain individuals, becomes a potent motivating factor, often resulting in an upsurge of addiction cases. Perception involves our interpretation of circumstances based on our observations and beliefs. For this qualitative research, information was gathered through the utilization of a Case Study Guide as an instrument, employing the Case Study approach through in-depth interviews. The aim was to gain insights into the diverse viewpoints and convictions held by both individuals who use drugs and those who do not, concerning drugs and drug addiction. The data was obtained from both initial and secondary sources. As per the research findings, both individuals who use drugs and those who abstain from them demonstrate a rather limited comprehension of drugs and drug addiction. Prior to trying drugs, they were aware of the negative impact on their health and were advised to steer clear of associations with drug users. However, curiosity and peer pressure led them to experiment with drugs, ultimately leading to addiction. The study also revealed that drug users faced numerous stereotypes from the community, which acted as triggers for their drug use. The study unveiled that most of the participants' understanding of drugs and drug addiction was derived from personal encounters with illegal cases involving drug users or inherited from previous generations.

Pranita Sunil Indulkar

Doctoral Scholar

Delhi School of Social Work, University of Delhi

Abstract Title: Right to the city: Space for women in urban spaces

UN Habitats work showcases that around half of the cities space is allotted as urban space in well-functioning cities. Urban spaces refer to the physical spaces in the cities that are available at the disposal of people, irrespective of their gender, caste or



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financial status, meant to facilitate interaction and bonding amongst the city dwellers. Urban policy makers and planners hold the responsibility of manifesting public owned urban spaces for their work, leisure, recreation, welfare etc. (Shaftoe, 2008). However, rapid urbanization, infrastructure development, congestion, urban slums, deteriorating social cohesion, and the race for growth has compromised the concept of public spaces in urban areas, and the rampant gender inequality further worsens the accessibility to urban spaces for women. The cities are becoming smart to be at par with the global level of cities, but the fundamental question that remains unanswered and still struggles to acquire a substantial position in the urban planning discourse is- Are the cities inclusive and gender-sensitive? Is Right to the city available to women? Hence, the ground realities shall be understood with the lens of gender and through the theoretical understanding gyrating around Henry Lefebvre and David Harveys Right to the city theory, to comprehend the conflicts arising out of limited resources and the escalated gravity of putting women on periphery, for the discriminatory societal structure and the gendered norms. The paper shall also deliberate on the role of social workers and civil society organizations with the government stakeholders in creating equitable urban spaces, ultimately facilitating the fulfilment of Women's right to the city, that advances equality, social justice and fulfilment of basic human rights, which every individual is entitled to.

Nuzhat Parween

Research Scholar

Department of Social Work,
University of Delhi, New Delhi

Abstract Title: How we Label Refugees: Deciphering the Politics of Terminologies

In the context of global migration & displacement, the choice of terminology when referring to individuals— who are on the move— holds significant implications for shaping policy responses, public discourse, and the protection of human rights. The primary objective of this research is to critically analyse the underlying motives and innuendo of diverse terminologies applied to individuals who are forcibly displaced or seeking new shelters. This study delves into the intricate web of terminologies associated with refugees and migrants, unravelling the underlying politics & power dynamics that influence their usage as well as underpinning the far-reaching consequences that arise from these choices. By plunging into these complexities, this research seeks to provide a comprehensive understanding of the impact and implications of the language used in discussions surrounding forcefully displaced. By employing a multidisciplinary approach for a meticulous analysis, this study blends the understanding of Linguistics, Political Science, and Social Psychology to analyse the subtle nuances associated with refugee and migrant terminologies. The study incorporates a comprehensive review of relevant literature, media discourse, and official documents. The same is supplemented by qualitative interviews with stakeholders from social work educationists to capture the enigmas of terminology selection. The study insights encourage the need for conscientious and unbiased language use in policy formulation, media reporting, and public discourse by shedding light on the power dynamics and political motivations behind terminology selection. It is crucial to revisit the bureaucratic labelling tactics in accordance with conformity and identity disaggregation. Such awareness is pivotal for fostering empathy, advancing accurate understanding, and upholding the rights and dignity of individuals on the move.

Keywords: Terminology, Refugees, Migrants, Asylum seekers, forcibly displaced, Public perception, Label

Anuranj K K

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Pondicherry University, Pondicherry

Abstract Title: Student organizations among LGBTQA+: Fostering Inclusive Education in Higher Education Institutions

Transgender individuals face unique challenges in higher education, including discrimination, harassment, and a lack of institutional support. This study explores the role of student organizations in supporting transgender individuals on campus. Secondary data from various studies and other secondary data sources are used for this study. Results indicate that these organizations are critical in creating a sense of community and providing social support for transgender individuals. Members of these organizations engage in advocacy efforts, organize events and educational programming, and offer mentorship and



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guidance to transgender students. However, challenges remain, including limited resources and support from the university administration and issues related to intersectionality and inclusivity within LGBTQ+ organizations. This study highlights the importance of student organizations in supporting transgender individuals in higher Education and provides insights into practical strategies for creating inclusive and supportive campus environments.

Shama Fatma

Research Scholar

Department of Social Work

Maulana Azad National Urdu University, Hyderabad

Title: Impact of Reservation on The Employment of Women: A Study of Bihar

In a significant step, the Bihar government has taken the decision to reserve seats for women in educational institutions and in government jobs. This step has been taken to ensure equal representation of females and to reduce gender disparity in the field of education and employment. As per the National Statistical Office (NSO) report 2020, Bihar stands third from the bottom among the states with low literacy rates. With a 70.9% overall literacy rate, Bihar was 6.8% lower than the national average of 77.7%. The female literacy rate is 60.6% in Bihar which is increased from the last census-2011 which was 51.5% only. As per the 17th Bihar Economic Survey (2022-2023), it has the lowest labour force participation ratio for both males and females among all states in India. The female labour force participation rate is 10.9% and the male labour force participation rate is 72.2%. In 2013, the Bihar government made a provision for 35% reservation for women in police recruitment and it also reserved 50% seats in cooperative societies. Irrespective of various initiatives specific to women for equal representation in society and gender parity or social justice, Bihar is still lagging behind in fulfilling these shortcomings. The main reasons are economic disadvantages, gender discrimination, caste discrimination, early child marriage, technological barriers, lack of educational institutes and teachers, delays in procedure to complete the courses, limitation of government job opportunities and also delays in process for taking competitive examinations and final recruitments etc. which lead to high dropout rate in females from colleges and also low female participation in jobs in Bihar.

Dr. Faiyaz Ahmad

Research Fellow, UNFPA-MANUU (AEP) Project

Department of Social Work

MANUU, Hyderabad

Abstract Title: Negotiating Challenge into Opportunity from the Perspective of Muslim Women Pursuing Higher Education

In India, accessibility to education is unevenly distributed across religion, region and gender lines (Chanana, 2011). There is a comprehensive discussion of various structural barriers that affect girls' access to education. In the case of Muslim women, accessibility to education is not satisfactory. As Muslim women advance in their trajectory, representation falls. When it comes to their representation in higher education, it abruptly falls in comparison to representation in matriculation and intermediate (Hasan & Menon, 2004). There is insufficient specific data on Muslim women in relation to higher education (Abidi, 2015; Chanana, 1993; Hasan & Menon, 2004). Therefore, the present study was conducted to understand and describe the challenges faced by Muslim women in their day-to-day lives during the pursuit of their higher education. Further, the study also tries to shed light on how Muslim women are able to negotiate with these challenges. It was found that women face various challenges at the individual level which are mostly related to movement, movement over distance, lonely movement over distance, quality education, irregular classes and lack of hostel facilities. These challenges seem to emerge from the discriminatory attitude of the family towards women education. It was found that Muslim women negotiated with these challenges by persuading their parents, resilient behaviour and winning the trust and confidence of mothers. Thus, Muslim women have utilised their agency to convert these academic challenges into opportunities and were able to find safe and secured academic space for their dmission as per their choices.



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Aditya Giri Deka

MSW Student

Department of Social Work,
University of Delhi

Abstract Title: *The Role of Vocational Training in the Skill Enhancement of Persons with Visual Impairment*

This paper examines the role of vocational training in the skill development of individuals with visual impairment. It focuses on the multi-skill training program offered by the Blind Relief Association in Delhi, which is a one-year course specifically designed for visually impaired trainees. Current and former trainees participated in in-depth, open-ended interviews to gather their experiences. The research findings demonstrate that the program has successfully enhanced the skills of the trainees, leading to improved livelihood opportunities. The training pedagogy of the program is tailored to meet the current market demands, ensuring that the trainees acquire the necessary skills for securing employment. Based on these positive outcomes, the paper proposes the implementation of the vocational training model of the Blind Relief Association in other regions of the country. Furthermore, it suggests expanding the program to accommodate individuals with additional or multiple disabilities.

kundurthi Venkatesh

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Abstract Title: *Peer Support for Persons with Mental Illness*

A priority of the current global mental health (GMH) agenda is to address long-term mental health (MH) conditions through diverse approaches, including person-centred, recovery-oriented services better to support people with severe mental illness (SMI); one such approach is Peer Support (PS) interventions. Peer support has shown promising results in encouraging hope and empowerment among people diagnosed with mental illness. The peer interventions have created opportunities for people diagnosed with mental illness to encourage, support, model, empower, and learn from each other in ways that are not possible under traditional care. It is accepted truth that there is a huge disparity between mental health service users and providers to address the disparity between providers and users. Lay workers and service users have been proposed as the only viable immediate solution. Large randomized controlled trials from India have also demonstrated the efficacy of lay health workers for depression. Peer support workers were better at reducing inpatient service use and at improving the relationship with providers, engagement with care, empowerment, behavioural activation, and hopefulness in persons with mental illness. However, there is a contradiction when compared with more rigorous designs employing meta-analyses that have found less impact; a consistent challenge has been the lack of methodological rigour in studies (i.e., lack of randomized designs). Peer support has shown promising results in mental health setups, and it has been actively being implemented across higher-income countries and considered an essential service. At the same time, it is nearly absent in low- and middle-income countries. More evidence-based research is required about peer support to demonstrate the impact of peer support on mental health.

Violet Duttson

Program Leader-

Aspirational Districts Collaborative

Piramal Foundation

Barpeta Assam

Abstract Title: *Tale of a Conical Hat: A Study on the Jaapi Industry of Nalbari District*

Jaapi has been an integral part of the culture, tradition and history of Assam since time immemorial. Accordingly, the production of jaapi has been an indigenous handicraft industry in the state of Assam since early 1900s and since then, a major



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portion of the rural workforce in a few districts of Lower Brahmaputra valley has been dependent on the industry for their livelihoods (Bhuyan, 2019).

This research study is an effort to understand the daily lives of the jaapi artisans, traders and other existing entities in Nalbari's jaapi industry, understand the current challenges of the industry through the perspectives of the artisans, market structure of the industry and government efforts in reviving the traditional industry. The study follows a qualitative approach of research with a descriptive research design constituting in-depth interviews of 10 respondents who are artisans and traders of five villages in the district.

Key findings include a lack of organized market structure, mistrust between individuals, loopholes in the accessibility of government schemes and minimal role of development organizations in the revival of the indigenous industry. The limited participation of development organisations highlights the need for comprehensive interventions to protect and revive the indigenous jaapi industry. In addition to improving livelihoods, this will help to safeguard a significant portion of Assam's cultural heritage for future generations. Accordingly, the concluding chapter of the research states brief approaches non-governmental organization could adopt to intervene in the jaapi industry of the Nalbari district in order to ensure the sustainability of the art, industry and artisans.

S Bavajan

Research Scholar

University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad

Abstract Title: A Study of Challenges Faced by Urdu Medium Students Studying in English Medium Schools in Andhra Pradesh

The study aims to explore numerous challenges faced by Urdu medium students who enrolled in English medium schools in the state of Andhra Pradesh, India. The education system in Andhra Pradesh, like many other states in India, predominantly follows the English medium of instruction. The existing literature reveals that Urdu medium students delve into language barriers, cultural adjustments, English language teaching and learning, and pedagogical issues differences hinder their academic progress and overall integration into the English medium educational system. The present study uses qualitative and quantitative research methods. The study used secondary data to study the objectives which is collected from various educational journals, books, websites, and databases. This study provides solutions for key factors that affect the multifaceted challenges faced by Urdu medium students studying in English medium schools in Andhra Pradesh. Through a comprehensive analysis of linguistic, cultural, and pedagogical factors, the study provides insights into the obstacles impeding these students' academic success and suggests strategies to create a more equitable and effective learning environment.

Biswabhusan Ghadai

Research Scholar,

TISS, Mumbai

&

Amita Singh

Chandrasekharapur,

Bhubaneswar, Odisha

Abstract Title: The disguised community in India: Exploring the marginality of the farming community

The agrarian sector in India has been going through a painful phase for the last few decades. The major among them is the period of economic reform which had an adverse impact on the Indian economy. The most excluded sector during the reform period was agriculture which showed low growth and experienced more farmers' suicides. For the first in Indian history it experienced suicide of more than three lakhs of food producers committed suicide. "On average, one farmer commits suicide every 30 minutes in India," (Center for Human Rights and Global Justice, 2011). The NCRB 2014 data indicate that almost 75% of the 5650 suicides that were recorded during 2014 were by small and marginal farmers holding up to two hectares of land. This phenomenon of farmer suicides is not only a national crisis but it becomes an international crisis. Against this backdrop the present study critically looks at the farmer suicide issue in India in general and Odisha in particular that become one of the important crises for the last two decades. The study is basically looking at the cause and consequences of this drastic act. The present study also opens the door for policymakers to rethink their strategies while dealing with agrarian distress.



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Saifuddin Soz

Research Scholar

&

Professor Md. Shahid Raza

Dept. of Social Work

MANUU, Hyderabad

Abstract Title: Disruption in Agricultural Pattern Due to Unpredictable Weather Conditions and its Effect on Farmer's Family of Kishanganj District of Bihar

The unpredictable weather conditions due to climate change have resulted in significant changes in global weather patterns, affecting various sectors; most notably the agriculture sector. The current study focuses on the changing agricultural patterns caused by climate change and their severe effects on farmers' livelihoods in the Kishanganj District of Bihar. The purpose of this research is to look at the dynamic interaction between changing weather patterns and agricultural practices, as well as the socioeconomic implications for the local farming community.

This study intends to uncover the effects of climate change in terms of unpredictable weather conditions in the region and their direct impact on traditional agricultural practices through a comprehensive literature review and primary data collection, including in-depth interviews with local farmers. It seeks to discover variations in agricultural patterns, distinct growing seasons, and changes in farming practices adopted by farmers in response to unpredictable weather conditions. According to the findings of this study, the agricultural sector in Kishanganj is extremely vulnerable to unpredictable weather patterns such as severe droughts, unseasonal rainfall, and variations in temperature. The disruption in weather patterns has resulted in significant crop losses, lower agricultural production, and more debt for farmers' families. The negative effects of weather-related disruptions extend beyond economic factors, affecting farmers' families and food security.

Dr. Syeda Saba Quadri

Roda Mistry College of Social Work and Research Center

Hyderabad

Abstract Title: Socio-Economic Status of Persons with Disabilities Availing Welfare Schemes: A Study of Hyderabad

Persons with Disabilities (PwD) and the families providing care and support are at higher risk of poverty and marginalization. Welfare schemes are provided to raise the socio-economic status (SES) of persons with disabilities the social intervention by the Government, yet there is a need to bridge the gap between government programs and their awareness, access and availability to the beneficiaries. This paper aims to describe the socio-economic status of persons with disabilities availing welfare schemes in the light of supported empirical study done. This quantitative study used a descriptive research design, and structured interview schedule with a multistage sampling technique to collect primary data from 394 respondents and analyzed the data through SPSS. Statistical findings of the study indicate a significant relationship between socio-economic status and awareness ($X^2 = 56.594$ df = 4 p = .000 c = 0.354), accessibility ($X^2 = 65.579$ df = 4 p = .000 c = 0.378) and availing ($X^2 = 78.808$ df = 4 p = .000 c = 0.408) of welfare schemes of persons with disabilities and focus on the need of perspective social work intervention at government, family and community level to improve the socio-economic status of persons with disabilities.

Key Words: Socio-Economic Status (SES), Persons with Disabilities (PwD), Welfare Schemes (WS), Social Work Intervention

Md Faizan Alam

Research Scholar

&

Professor Md Shahid Raza

Department of Social Work,

MANUU, Hyderabad

Abstract Title: Occupational Social Work as a Catalyst for Sustainable Health and Wellbeing in Indian Tea Garden Workers

Occupational Social Work (OSW) is a specialized field that examines the interplay between the lives of individuals and their work, promoting social justice, enhancing worker well-being, and fostering healthy, sustainable workplaces. The Indian tea industry, a



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major employer, confronts challenges such as occupational hazards, low wages, and limited healthcare access, adversely affecting worker conditions. This study advocates applying OSW interventions to cultivate healthful, sustainable environments within Indian tea gardens, benefiting workers, factory personnel, and the wider community. A quantitative approach using descriptive design to investigate the relevant secondary data will be employed in this study. This study assesses stress levels, physical and mental health, and chronic disease prevalence among tea workers. Anticipated outcomes highlight the potential of Occupational Social Work to enhance long-term well-being by identifying worker needs, implementing interventions like support groups and health education, advocating for safety regulations, fair compensation, and healthcare access, and promoting self-care awareness among the workforce.

Keywords

Occupational Social Work, Sustainable Health and Wellbeing, Occupational Hazards, Tea Garden Workers, Health Disparities

Jenikrishna M U

Research Scholar

&

Dr. Neelmani Jaysawal

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Department of Social Work,

Visva-Bharti University,

West Bengal

Abstract Title: *Inter-state Migrants and the Response of Kerala's Health System during the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Review*

Kerala got international recognition for its battle against Corona. The government led by the Chief Minister of Kerala, Pinarayi Vijayan and the Health Minister, Shailaja Teacher strategically played against the coronavirus pandemic. Health Minister of Kerala, K.K. Shailaja was honoured and praised by the UN for maintaining a low mortality rate in the state. Interstate migrant labourers are mostly employed in Kerala's construction industry, as well as in domestic and brick kiln work, as well as in the textile, mining, transportation, and agricultural sectors. These migratory workers were in their early 20s and had no formal schooling. Due to employment loss during the lockdown, the economic downturn, health problems, and mental health problems, migrants suffered during the epidemic. Several studies during the lockdown emphasised the economic crisis among migrants. The initiatives of the government to address the immediate needs of migrants include the creation of migrant call centres, active symptomatic surveillance, and contactless screening using technology, mobilisation of volunteers, risk satisfaction of camps, sample collection and testing, and risk satisfaction of camps. Kerala State stood out from other States during COVID-19 by announcing a thorough plan for the protection of migrant workers' livelihoods not long after the lockdown started. The welfare of migrant workers thanks to its attention to the holistic welfare of its population. The study is grounded in secondary data. For the study, a variety of secondary resources that were published between 2020 and 2022 are retrieved and examined. Researchers undertake an in-depth investigation of the obstacles faced by Kerala's public health system during the epidemic, as well as how the state's health system responded to the demands of migrants and set the standard for other states. Keywords: Inter-state migrants, Public health, Kerala, COVID-19.

Sadaf Fatima

Research Scholar

Dept. of Social Work

Maulana Azad National Urdu University

Abstract Title: *Social Work Intervention with Refugees: A Systematic Review*

Social workers play a crucial role in helping refugees and those seeking asylum, when they are relocating from one nation to another. It is necessary to have a deeper awareness of their struggles with reintegration and adjustment to the host country in order to provide effective services. Research on social work interventions with refugees across the globe is examined in this systematic review. The Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analysis (PRISMA) Statement is used in this review. Databases like JSTOR & Google Scholar and a reference list of included articles were used. The result shows that studies were mostly carried out in high-income nations. The use of literature reviews as a fundamental component was the major methodology used in modern scholarly research. The systematic review makes an effort to clarify the complex array of interventions used by social workers in their work with the refugee population. This article endeavours to reflect on the gaps in professional social work engagement with reference to Asia in general and India in specific.



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Mohd Shakeel Ahmed

&

Mohd Gayas

Ph.d. Research Scholar
College of Social Work,
Amravati, Maharashtra

Abstract Title: Status of Children Living in the Child Care Institutions of Amravati Division Maharashtra: An Empirical Study

The development of any nation depends upon the growth and enhancement of the over-development of the Children of the entire Nation. Children's development is as important as the development of material resources and the best way to develop national human resources is to take care of children. According to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (abbreviated as UNCRC), a child is a person who has not attained 18 years of age. India is home to 472 million children in the age group of 0-18 years constituting almost 39 percent of the Nation's population. According to an estimate around 40% [172 million] of Indian children are vulnerable to or experiencing difficult circumstances. Children constitute the most vulnerable section in the society. The present study was conducted to know the socio-economic background of children and to find out the reasons for placing the children in the institution. It was carried out in government and non-government institutions working for children in need of care and protection. The study was conducted in all the childcare institutions registered under the Juvenile Justice Act, 2015 in Amravati Division of Maharashtra State. The data was collected from the children living in childcare institutions. The sample of 280 children was selected through the Purposive sampling technique. The study is descriptive in nature and an Interview schedule was used for collecting the data. So, in this research paper, an attempt has been made to study the role of childcare institutions and reasons for admission of children into childcare institutions and to study the socio-economic background of Children.

Dr Shazia Manzoor

Associate Professor

&

Sabah Jan

Researcher

&

Dr Javaid Rashid

Assistant Professor

Department of Social Work

University of Kashmir

Abstract Title: Managing Uncertainty in HIV: The Crucial Role of Social Support for Women Living with HIV in Kashmir.

Women living with HIV (WLHA) face a multitude of uncertainties related to their health and relationships. This qualitative study, conducted in a Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) hospital ART (Antiretroviral Therapy) centre, investigates the impact of social support on managing these uncertainties and improving the well-being of WLHA. Utilizing the Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis (IPA) methodology, this hospital-based study engaged 21 participants from an ART centre. IPA is a qualitative investigation and interpretative method used to discover the profound meaning that women living with HIV/AIDS (WLHA) attach to their suffering, adversity, and uncertainty. This research delves into how WLHA navigate and manage the uncertainties and adversities that accompany their condition.

The findings of this study underscore the profound influence of social support in helping WLHA manage uncertainty, enhance their psychological well-being, and navigate the complexities of their condition and relationships. The study underscores that public health interventions should focus on promoting the holistic health, both physical and mental, of WLHA. Attention to the quality of social relationships is essential for successful psychological adaptation to HIV, aiding in the management of uncertainties related to health and relationships.



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Ibne Hasan

Research Scholar

&

Professor Md Shahid Raza

Department of Social Work

Maulana Azad National Urdu University

Hyderabad, India

Abstract Title: Contribution of SHGs for Marginalized Women in Achieving Sustainable Goals in India

Despite seventy-six years of independence, the present socio-economic conditions of marginalized women remain challenging, hindering inclusive and sustainable development. In the context of rural India, Self Help Groups (SHGs) have emerged as a potent strategy to address SDG 1 (end of poverty), SDG 2 (end of hunger), SDG 4 (good health and well-being), SDG 5 (achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls), SDG 8 (promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth), SDG 10 (reduce inequalities), and SDG 16 (peace, justice, and strong institutional relationships), particularly among marginalized Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and Muslim women. This research paper offers a comprehensive overview of the concept, origin, and evolution of the SHG movement, underpinned by a robust analysis of secondary data. It focuses on the contribution of SHGs for marginalized women in achieving sustainable goals in India. This research delves into the multifaceted dimensions to shed light on the transformative potential of SHGs in the lives of marginalized women in the poorest states of India, such as Bihar, Jharkhand, Meghalaya, Uttar Pradesh, and Madhya Pradesh and their contribution to achieving India's Sustainable Development Goals.

Keywords Self-Help Groups, Marginalized Women, Sustainable Development Goals

Afreen Hussain

Tezpur University

Napam, Tezpur, Sonitpur

Assam

Abstract Title: Economic Empowerment Challenge for Muslim Women of Kacharipam Village

Objective. The goal of the study is to examine and comprehend how Muslim women in the Kacharipam Community are framed in terms of their gendered roles. The researcher will also make an effort to compare the labour performed by women who work in households to the Standard of Pay Rate established by the Government of India.

Methodology. The researcher original data and firsthand information were used to create this study. It is based on the women's home visits and interviews. Additionally, the researcher will try and address Sustainable Development Goal 5 which is to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls and offer ideas for how to address the problem of gendered roles.

Findings. The paper intends to find the issues of gendered roles in the community. The victims and defenders of patriarchy in the community are women. In the guise of culture and religion, they are taught by their family and society that women should only be allowed to perform domestic tasks and that it is the sole responsibility of the male members of society to support the family.

Originality and value. The researcher firsthand information was used to create this study. **Keywords.** Cultural Orientation, Religion, Gendered Roles, Gender Equality, Sustainable Development Goals. **Paper type.** Research paper

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Abstract Title: The Scope of VIKASAM for the Upliftment of the Disability Community.

This study focuses on the VIKASAM implemented by the Andhra Pradesh Government in order to uplift the disability community. The A.P. state has taken a decision to make various changes within the disability community, especially in the urban context. This was started in 2012, with a view to providing maximum care and support for the person with disabilities in Urban Municipal Community areas. The field of study covers nearly 18 circles in Greater Hyderabad Municipality by examining social security pensions, conducting sadaran camps, and forming self-help groups within the disability community. This project aims to



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enhance communication skills as well as capacity building. It will also focus on community-based living programmes, vocational training, employment opportunities and all types of supportive mechanisms for the upliftment of the urban disability community. The project has to provide various resources for a person with disabilities at their community level through various schemes and policies so that the persons with disabilities can come out from pressing social problems like poverty as well as the problems that stem from their religion and community. Thus, the present paper examines the scope and relevance of disability empowerment as it is envisaged by the VIKASAM.

Suma Mani

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Department of Social Work,
Kalasalingam Academy of Research and Education

&

Dr. Maria Antony Raj

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Abstract Title: Repercussion of AI in Perpetuating Gender Stereotypes

Artificial intelligence (AI) simulates human intelligence, including learning, reasoning, perceptual abilities, and natural language comprehension (Brooks, 1991). Artificial intelligence (AI) is evolving rapidly and has the potential to completely transform a variety of facets of our lives. However, a growing array of people are apprehensive that the way AI is being constructed may reinforce gender stereotypes. Biased data sets are one method being used to achieve this. As a result of the fact that many AI systems are trained using human-collected data, gender biases may frequently be found in this data. Many AI systems have been designed with a male default, which means that unless otherwise stated, they are expected to be used by men. This might end up in AI systems that are not as beneficial to women or fail to take into consideration their unique demands. There may be a lot of undesirable effects if AI reinforces gender norms. It can make it more challenging for women to receive the same amount of support and resources as men and can result in the exclusion of women from some sectors, such as technology. The study is based on secondary sources, and it is crucial to understand that gender socialization, the process through which children and adults learn about the social expectations associated with their gender, is increasingly involving artificial intelligence (AI). Every day, people engage with various AI agents. As a result, in this day and age, the significance of interactions between people and AI agents is becoming more and more apparent.

Keywords: AI, Gender Stereotype, Gender Socialization, Equity, Inclusion

Dr Samhita Barooah

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Department of Social Work
Tezpur University

Abstract Title: Queer Affirmative Social Work Education in Universities of North East India.

Gender is a dynamic discourse which engages diverse approaches and perspectives in the social structures of society. Gender within the social, political, professional, and personal frameworks are blended for most of social work practitioners and educators. This paper is rooted within the feminist social work and anti-oppressive social work approaches. Gender is understood beyond the binary and diversity of gendered agency and gender-specific interventions which might be of relevance in the nuances of understanding social work practice. The assumptions of teaching social work and practising social work at the same time are dealt with in the auto-ethnographic narratives used for this paper. The gender-based discrimination and resistance within the regimes of oppression, abuse and disbelief are also accounted for through various group and individual interviews conducted within the fields of social work across boundaries. Gender inclusivity as a practice within and outside the classrooms, during assignments and through individual and group conferences is analyzed and addressed through the lived experience of the researcher. The quest for gender identity and claiming a new space within the struggles for identity is another unclaimed space within social work education, research, and practice. Being a gender in imparting social work education is another queer practice which needs to be understood and included. As a social work student, educator, researcher, and administrator it becomes very crucial to understand and engage with this perspective of Gender centric social work. This paper will be qualitative research based on both primary and secondary sources of students, co-workers and social workers in agencies and field areas. The scope of the paper will include anybody willing to share their views on the theme of the paper.

Keywords: Gender, Social Work, Queer Affirmative, North East, University.



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Muhammed Thareekh Bin Basheer

University of Hyderabad

&

Ravi Prasad Varma

Additional Professor, AMCHSS, SCTIMST

Abstract Title: Hospitalisation-related Expenses and Coverage of Ayushman Bharat – Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana – A Pilot Study from Rural Elderly in Kerala

The Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri - Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY), the world's largest healthcare financing scheme, provides Indian Rupees (INR) 5, 00,000 per family per year for hospitalization. The scheme aims to minimize economic shock due to high out-of-pocket expenditure (OOPE) related to hospitalization for poor and vulnerable families. Kerala state converged pre-existing schemes with the national scheme under the title Karunya Arogya Suraksha Padhathi (KASP). In this context, given the ageing and rapid increase in non-communicable disease levels in Kerala, data from a pilot study on the health of elderly persons in rural Thiruvananthapuram was analysed to assess hospitalization patterns, expenses and insurance coverage of the elderly. This was a secondary data analysis of a case series study in Manickal Panchayat in rural Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala. Manickal panchayat has initiated an elderly-friendly initiative by establishing neighbourhood groups of the elderly similar to the successful women's self-help group initiative called Kudumbashree. It was found that over a third of elderly persons reported hospitalization in the year preceding the survey. Coverage of the AB-PMJAY/KASP scheme seems low in the study area, and considerable expenditure seems to be incurred even when a person is enrolled in the scheme. These aspects related to expenditure for health care and insurance coverage need to be explored further in a systematic way as the rate of ageing and the increase in non-communicable diseases in the state is very high.

Dr. Pravin B Yannawar

Assistant Professor

&

Mahadev Singh Sen

IHBAS

Delhi

Abstract Title: Digitization of Disability Certificates in India: Social Work Perspective

In India, the Government has made it mandatory to have digitization of disability certificates to avail the benefits of welfare measures for persons with disabilities. Disability associated with mental illness is a major contributor to the global burden of diseases. However, defining psychiatric disability is not an easy task and it is becoming clear that no single definition can cover all aspects of disabilities. According to the International Classification of Impairment, Disability and Handicap (ICIDH, 1980), disability is interference with the activities of the whole person in relation to the immediate environment. There has been a constant push by all the State Governments to devise strategies to enhance accessibility and streamline the administrative process. Also, the Government is working on various steps to ensure improved services to persons with disabilities and also to avoid duplicity. The government of India has opened up the Swavlambancard portal for the digitization of certificates. The aim of digitization of disability certificates is to make the process more efficient, transparent, accessible, and able to utilise disability benefits. The current paper covers the details regarding background, current scenario, the mechanism followed and also the cumulative efforts being made by the Government and hospitals in facilitating the public in availing the social security measures provided by the respective state governments in a smooth and hassle-free manner.

Key Words: Disability, Digitisation, UDID Portal, Swavlamban



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Dr Lakshmi Mallik

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Hyderabad, Telangana

Abstract Title: Green Social Work – Strategies and Challenges in Incorporating Environmental Justice And Sustainability

Climate change is an increasing threat to mankind and sustainable development, a phenomenon that is particularly caused by human activity. The impact on the biophysical and social systems is anticipated to vary widely across India, depending on both local and global causes. The effects of climate change and climatic risks are not consistent over time and space. The degree of exposure and susceptibility of various systems, whether they are ecosystems, economic sectors, or social groups, differs among locations. In turn, sustainable practices can help mitigate and promote resilience to the effects of climate change. The aim is to analyze the necessity and role of the social work profession in responding to this need for environmental protection through conceptual and practice engagements. An approach that can contribute to addressing climate change and environmental degradation and recognizes that social and environmental issues are interconnected and that addressing one issue requires addressing the other is Green Social Work. It is a new paradigm for managing social issues and addressing the impairment that the industrial civilization of mass consumerism has done to the environment. It emphasizes sustainable practices and environmental sustainability. This involves working with individuals, communities, and organizations to promote sustainable practices, reduce waste and pollution, and address the root causes of environmental problems, as well as advocating for policies that promote sustainability.

Megha B Maria

MSW Clinical and Community Practice,

Christ Deemed to be University,

Bangalore

Abstract Title: The Study on Teachers' Psychological Well-Being While Dealing with Children with Specific Learning Disabilities

Teachers play a vital role in shaping the minds of children, and their psychological well-being is very important for effective teaching. When it comes to dealing with children with specific learning disabilities, this importance has increased. Specific learning disabilities (SLDs) consist of an extensive range of academic problems that can affect the psychological well-being of the teacher. Apart from this, children with SLDs may experience feelings of sadness and shame as a result of repeated failure, and the role of teachers is more essential in this period. They are the ones who can motivate the child and help them feel strong, whatever happens. If the teacher's psychological well-being is not good, it can affect the child's holistic development. The purpose of the study is to understand the teachers' psychological well-being while dealing with children with specific learning disabilities. It's quantitative in nature, and a descriptive research design was used. Purposive sampling techniques were used to collect data from 60 special educators from different special schools in Trivandrum, Kerala. Data were collected using a standardised Ryff's scale, and the research will use statistical analysis. The result of the research will be detailed in the whole research paper.

Key Words: Psychological well-being, Special Educators, Children with Specific Learning Disability

Dr Asif Khan

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Abstract Title: Locating the role of Support Persons for the Victims of Child Sexual Abuse under POSCO Rules 2020

According to the most recent data from the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), the number of crimes committed in India against minors grew by 16.2 percent between the years 2020 and 2021. During the course of the previous year, all of the states and Union Territories in the country combined recorded slightly under 1.5 lakh cases of crimes committed against children. This



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involves a wide variety of crimes including child sexual abuse. Child sexual abuse (CSA) is a prevalent and grave issue in India, akin to numerous regions across the globe in contemporary times. The experience of sexual abuse can have a detrimental impact on the development of individuals, leading to a range of psychological and emotional issues that may persist throughout childhood and adolescence.

In India, a lesser number of child sexual abuse cases get registered and the victims and their families face the myriad problems that come with the registration of the case. Therefore, in this situation, the role of a support person is indispensable for providing assistance to the victims. The term support persons refer to people who offer assistance to victims of child sexual abuse and the families of those victims during the course of the investigation and the trial of the cases. Through this paper, I have deliberated upon the role and intervention of support persons in the empowerment of victims through the rehabilitative measures that are provided, empowerment that manifests itself in other facets of the lives of victims under POCSO rules 2020 and beyond.

Gopika Sivan

Ph.D. Scholar

&

Dr. A. Balakrishnan

Deen & Director

Center for Applied Research

Gandhigram Rural Institute

(Deemed to be University)

Gandhigram

Abstract Title: *The Impact of Single Mother Family on Child Development and Management of Household Responsibilities: A Review of Literature*

The role of women in the management of household responsibilities and taking care of children is regarded as an integral part of their lives within the country. Since ancient times, this element has been recognized as vital. Transform the family system from a two-parent into a single-parent family system need a variety of adjustment, particularly when two parent divorce. There are several types of single-parent family systems, but most are headed by women. Single parent system caused by parental divorce may affect children either short or long-term and positively or detrimental. As a result of the initial response to parental separation, there are short-term repercussions that include behavioural issues at home and at school. Long-term impacts could not become evident until adolescence or maturity when people enter into intimate relationships and encounter difficulties starting them. The study paper discusses the short-term and the long-term effects of parental divorce on children, the participation of women in making choices on various issues, women's leadership roles, different sorts of household obligations, and the impact of women's multiple roles in children's home responsibilities are the primary topics that have been considered.

Keywords: Short-term Effect, Long-term Effect, Decision Making, Education, Household Responsibilities, Leadership Roles, Multiple Roles, Management

Md Israr Alam

Research Scholar, TISS

&

Professor P.K. Shajahan

TISS

Abstract Title: *Muslim Women and Livelihood Choices – An Empirical Analysis of Lived Experiences*

'Gender Equality and Empowerment of all Women and Girls' in Sustainable Development Goals-2030 is a globally felt concern. Women's economic and political empowerment and their transformational participation in public spheres is an important mark of modern civilization aspiring to address the key challenges of systemic patriarchal inequalities resulting into the intersectional marginality which women face, especially in countries like India that thrive on perennial issues of caste, gender, cultural dogmas and religion and power politics. Economic independence of women through sustainable livelihood means is essential ensuring their basic human needs of hunger, dignity and development. On the other, women experience multiple identities and intersectionality based on gender, caste, class, ethnicity, age (Crenshaw, 1989, 1991; Kabeer, 2005). Muslim women are a doubly vulnerable category within them. There are societal constraints that inhibit women's (also as Muslim women) free choices (Kabeer & Sweetman, 2015; Walby, 1990) and the condition with their participation in income generation activities and struggle



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for livelihood systems. Studies on poor Muslim women under rigid socio-cultural and religious norms due multiple layers of intersectionality resulting into complex set of challenges they encounter in their life and the same also exists in availing their economic and livelihood rights (Nussbaum, 2007; Robinson, 2007; Sachar Committee, 2006). This paper attempts to explore the need to undertake focussed researches to identify and highlighting issues and concerns of Muslim women in participating livelihood activities as way to achieve sustained development and dignified life. This paper proposes for a careful investigation of issues like the notion of freedom/unfreedom to Muslim women; use of agency; and examines what issues a researcher may face while undertaking researches.

Keywords: Muslim Women, Sustainable Livelihood, Intersectionality, Lived Experiences

Sushree Subhalaxmi Behera

PhD Scholar

Sambalpur University

&

Prof. Arun Kumar Acharya

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Odisha

Abstract Title: Gender stereotypes and Representation of Victims of Women Trafficking in Indian Media

Human trafficking is a significant issue that plagues several countries worldwide, including India. India, with its large population and economic disparities, is a major source, transit, and destination country for human trafficking. According to the Global Slavery Index, India has the highest number of people in modern slavery worldwide, with an estimated 8 million people trapped in forced labour or sexual exploitation. The media, as a critical agent of public opinion, plays a vital role in gender equality and raising awareness about the issue, highlighting the plight of the victims, policy responses towards trafficking and their rights. The objective of the study is to examine the representation of trafficked victims in Indian media and the impact of such representations on public attitudes and policy responses. The current study used a qualitative content analysis approach to examine the representation of trafficked victims in Indian media. We have analysed news articles and news cut-outs published in English and Hindi newspapers and news websites, and Bollywood films on human trafficking. Our analysis found that the Indian media often portrayed trafficking victims as helpless and passive individuals. The Indian media use different gender stereotype languages and often stigmatize and dehumanize, using terms such as "prostitutes," "slaves," or "rescued girls," which further marginalize and victimize the victims. Most of these media news articles portrayed and analysed the victims of women trafficking in a patriarchal socio-cultural structure and pointed out trafficking victims as a result of women's culpability, ignoring the masculine domination in the process of women trafficking.

Mehreena Manzoor Tak

Research Scholar

Jawaharlal Nehru University

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New Delhi

Abstract Title: Understanding the Intersections of Gender and Ageing in India through a Scoping Review

Gender plays an important role in the ageing process with significant differences noted in the ageing process, variations in health conditions (Nair et al., 2021), access to healthcare services and receiving of social care. Gender is different from biological sex and consists of social identities as well as the associated gender roles, norms, and relationships (Kiely et al., 2019). Gender identity, which is formed over a lifetime and influenced by cultural norms and values, has an impact on how older people view themselves and the roles they believe they can and should perform as they get older (Schatz and Seeley, 2015). It defines the roles and responsibilities even in old age and this is especially true for India where rigid patriarchal norms dominate most of the cultures and regions. Gender-based relationships and responsibilities that are traditional and segregated persist throughout the lifetime. In this context, this study aims to understand the intersection of gender and ageing in India through a scoping review. Through a scoping review, we can chalk out what aspects of ageing and gender have been studied in India and which aspects need further exploration. The methodology adopted for this scoping review will be informed by the preferred reporting items for systematic reviews and meta-analyses extension for scoping reviews (PRISMA-ScR) given by Tricco et al. in 2018. A scoping review will tell us how much has been done in this aspect and what gaps can be filled by future research while dwelling on the intersections of gender and ageing in India.



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Mohd Shahzeb Khan

Research Scholar

&

Dr. Pushpanjali Jha

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University of Delhi

Abstract Title: Rohingya Refugees amid COVID-19 Pandemic: Perspectives on Social Exclusion and Learnings from India

The COVID-19 pandemic in India unfurled one crisis after the other, from its devastating economic impact and the migrant crisis to the startling death toll. The glaring gaps in our system became more visible during the pandemic. Although the government of India has announced the COVID-19 social assistance package of INR 1.7 lac crore (or 25\$ billion US\$) under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana (PM-GKY) to provide immediate relief to the vulnerable population, the Rohingya refugees, belonging to a Rakhine ethnicity, were subject to extreme hardship as they are not legally entitled to avail the government aid since India doesn't have a refugee law.

The immobility and confinement, such as lockdown, enforced by the local and central government to contain the virus, proved to be a nightmare for hundreds of thousands of Rohingya refugees who lost the necessities of life. This paper delves into the aspect of social exclusion of the most vulnerable refugee community whose population in India has been one of the largest among other refugee ethnicities. The study draws on the key informant interviews with 10 participants belonging to Rohingya ethnicity in rural & urban settings. Responses to the interviews were content analyzed. A qualitative assessment of the situation has been done with a view to gain insight into the condition of Rohingyas during the pandemic.

Keywords: Social Exclusion, Rohingya Refugees, Govt. Programmes, COVID-19

Manoj Kumar Biswas

Field Organizer & PhD Research Scholar

Department of Social Work

Visva-Bharati University

Sriniketan, West Bengal

Abstract Title: Coping Mechanisms of Fluorosis Positive Patients an Empirical Study of Birbhum West Bengal

The survival of humanity is reliant on fulfilling basic needs, which include food, clothing, shelter, and access to potable water. Throughout history, many great civilizations have been established around rivers, as they provide a source for necessities of life. However, contaminated water poses a significant concern. Groundwater, in particular, may contain elements such as fluoride, which can become hazardous if levels exceed the permissible limit of 1.5mg ltr (WHO). Fluoride is a deadly pollutant that can silently impact human health. In India, 19 states are affected by fluoride contamination. Birbhum is the second most fluoride-affected district in West Bengal. The present study has been conducted based on three major objectives such as (a) to investigate the various types of coping mechanisms of fluorosis-positive patients; (b) to comprehend the characteristics of the dietary practice prevalent within the households of fluorosis-positive patients and (c) to undertake an investigation into the contributions of both government and private health care services in supporting the population affected by fluorosis in fluoride contaminated regions. In this study, principles of mixed method approaches were followed and a sample of 260 fluorosis-positive patients were interviewed along with 6 case studies and 3 key informant interviews conducted with community members. The study finds that the majority of the patients do not have access to any water purification system, some homemade arrangements are there for filtration, follow poor dietary practices and utilization of Government health care services is low. The present study recommends multi-sectoral approach to combat the issue.

Key Words Coping Mechanisms Fluoride Contamination Fluorosis Positive Patients.



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Arpna Rattu

&

Prof. Monica Munjial Singh

Centre for Social Work

Panjab University

Chandigarh

Abstract Title: *Fostering Resilience among Traumatized Children in Child Care Institutions – A Social Work Perspective*

Traumatized children residing in childcare institutions in India represent a vulnerable population in need of care, support, and intervention. Resilience is the ability to cope with challenges and bounce back from hardships. Specifically, the trauma-informed approach increases the children's access to various factors related to resilience building. This research seeks to address the critical issues of resilience-building among these children, acknowledging the deep impact of trauma in their lives. This research from a social work perspective employs a trauma-informed approach, which tries to understand the traumatic experiences of children and integrates this valuable knowledge into interventions aimed at resilience building. This research contributes to the growing body of knowledge on trauma-informed care within childcare institutions. The study is based on secondary data. The method of systematic literature review has been adopted. The content analysis method is used to identify the themes and a review of the literature has been done by analyzing published academic articles, case studies, reports, and chapters to bring out the thematic conceptualization of the article. The objective of the paper is to bring insights into the effectiveness of trauma-informed interventions in promoting resilience among traumatized children. By analyzing the existing data and knowledge, this study provides a foundation for informed decision-making, policy development, and the enhancement of trauma-informed care practices, by providing a supportive and nurturing environment in which they can heal and rehabilitate back to society. The implication of this study provides comprehensive interventions, with the potential to draft policies and practices in social work, child care, and mental health.

Keywords - Trauma-Informed, Resilience Building, Rehabilitation, Social Work, Children in Need of Care and Protection, and Child Care Institutions.

Robin Choudhary

Research Scholar

Panjab University,

Chandigarh

Abstract Title: *Social Work Practice with Marginalised Communities*

Since independence significant socio-economic and political changes have occurred in India. This independence represented not just a political transformation, but also the hopes of millions of people who envisioned a republic ruled by justice, liberty, and equality. The upliftment and socio-economic emancipation of historically marginalised communities were central to this concept. India is a developing country with a substantial Scheduled Castes (SC) population. The estimated population of 1.37 billion with 16.2 percent Scheduled Caste (SC) population comprising 1108 Jatis. The Scheduled Caste population, which has historically been marginalised and discriminated against, has been at the forefront of many of these developments. The practice of social work has been centered on addressing human needs and unlocking human potential. By utilizing the core values of social justice, equality, and diversity, social work as a human services profession helps disadvantaged populations' combat stigma and discrimination. This research looks at social work interventions and their influence on the Scheduled Caste population. The study also recommends intervention techniques where such communities can make informed decisions and take ownership of their resources. This study is based on secondary data. Considering health and education as significant development indicators, the study proposes intervention approaches to create awareness and improve accessibility.



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Sivalini. A.P

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&

Nandhakumar.M

University of Hyderabad

Abstract Title: Role of Green Social Work in Climate Change Mitigation with Special Reference To Siruthuli Civil Society Organization

Climate change is one of the most pressing issues facing humanity today. The impacts of climate change are already being felt around the world, and they are expected to become more severe in the future. Civil society has a key role to play in mitigating climate change. Civil society organizations can raise awareness of climate change, advocate for policies that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and support communities that are vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. Siruthuli is a non-governmental organization (NGO) based in Coimbatore, India. It was founded in 2003 with the mission to "restore and rejuvenate water bodies in Coimbatore and its surrounding areas." The name Siruthuli means "a tiny drop" in Tamil. Siruthuli has been working to restore water bodies in Coimbatore for over 15 years. It has desalted and deepened over 20 lakes, built check dams, and planted trees along river banks. Siruthuli has also worked to raise awareness about the importance of water conservation and rainwater harvesting. This paper is an attempt to study the impact of social work in the environment along with Siruthuli that have immense potential and thus create a positive impact on climate change. The study will undergo qualitative research to analyse the significance of the importance of conservation and sustainable environment along with the role of social workers in the present context. Further, this research would try to contribute to the thematic concept note through its outcomes on the communities.

Keywords: Siruthuli, Civil society, Water management, Climate change, Tamilnadu

Gandherikar Ramesh

Research Scholar

Telangana University

Nizamabad, Telangana

Abstract Title: Empowering Vulnerable Communities: The Role of Social Workers in Climate Resilience and Environmental Justice

Empowering Vulnerable Communities: The Role of Social Workers in Climate Resilience and Environmental Justice

Gandherikar Ramesh, Research Scholar, Telangana University

This article explores the pivotal role that social workers play in addressing the pressing challenges of climate resilience and environmental justice, with a primary focus on empowering vulnerable communities. Social workers emerge as crucial agents of change in an era marked by escalating climate change impacts and growing environmental disparities. They facilitate and advocate for initiatives that not only build the resilience of disadvantaged populations but also strive to rectify historical and contemporary environmental injustices. The first section of this article delves into the multifaceted nature of climate resilience. The second section delves into the concept of environmental justice and the critical role social workers play in advocating for equitable access to environmental resources, protection from environmental hazards, and involvement in decision-making processes. The article discusses the evolving challenges posed by climate-related displacement and migration. Social workers are increasingly involved in helping displaced communities, both internally and internationally, navigate the complex landscape of environmental migration, advocating for their rights, and facilitating their integration into new environments. This article underscores the indispensable role of social workers in promoting climate resilience and environmental justice. It emphasizes the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration between environmental scientists, policymakers, and social work professionals to achieve lasting positive impacts on vulnerable communities and the environment as a whole.

Keywords:

Empowerment, Vulnerable Communities, Social Workers, Climate Resilience, Environmental Justice.



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Dr Suchetana Ghosh

Assistant Professor

Department of Social Work

Bankura University

Abstract Title: HIV & AIDS Control Strategies and Interventions in West Bengal: Debates and Discourses

In the discourse of HIV & AIDS control in the contemporary West Bengal two distinct ideological approaches could be seen. One is Foucauldian theorization of the power of institutional surveillance and regulation over the prostitutes' bodies and the other is the human rights approach of collectivization of Women in Prostitution (WIP)/People in Prostitution (PIP) for better life and well-being. Ironically, although these two perspectives are drastically different from one another, one perceives a synergy of these two. In this paper, various models of intervention amongst marginalized high-risk groups living with HIV&AIDS, such as WIP/PIP, have been discussed to show the manifestations of certain debates, discourses and strategies of HIV& AIDS interventions and disease control- both the paradoxes and synergies.

Mentioning some such interventions can be focused on, the beginning of the SHIP project leading to the formation of the Durbar Mahila Samanwaya Committee (DMSC) leading to discourses supporting legalization of prostitution, while Sanlaap model generated from women's collectivization favouring the rehabilitation model, and the interventions by the Govt. of West Bengal (WBSAP&CS) especially 'Bula di Campaign'. In all these instances, one sees the dominant discourses/ideologies are observing, controlling, and exercising power over the non-dominant ones leading to the production of knowledge. Thereby, what may apparently seem a liberating idea is in reality sometimes leading to further control of the WIP/PIP?

Prachi Devidas Salve

Trustee

ACAR, Pune

&

Adv.Priyadarshi Telang

Secretary,

Ambedkar Centre for Action & Research (ACAR),

Pune

Abstract Title: An Analytical Study of Gender Budgeting and Its Implications on Women Development in Maharashtra

The Constitution of India guarantees equality of status to everyone with respect to civic, economic and political rights. However, there are certain inequalities that are experienced only by specific sections of the population based on their age, gender, caste, class, and religion. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) promise to leave no one behind by creating a world that is more prosperous, more equal and more secure by the year 2030. As Maharashtra progresses towards these 17 goals, the state is keen to adopt policies that ensure all people have the opportunities to develop their capacities to the fullest. Given the interconnected nature of the SDGs across economic, social and environmental pillars, the state has also adopted a holistic approach towards sustainable development. While in the case of women; inequalities are exacerbated owing to patriarchal norms. Women's subordinate participation in society is primarily an issue of "multiple power imbalances between the sexes." Women are often confined to reproductive and caregiving roles, and their contribution to production is ignored. Gender budgeting has emerged as a critical accountability mechanism that can help to incorporate the perspective of gender equality into government policies and programmes. (Maharashtra, 2019). The study will help to understand existing policies and schemes and the role of the gender budget in women's development and financial resource allocations.

This research employs a qualitative research methodology to comprehensively explore the Gender Budget Statement and its execution in the state of Maharashtra. The study aims to focus on the significance of gender budgeting and the role of policies and schemes in women's development in Maharashtra. The aim of this research is to provide recommendations for the effective implementation of gender budgeting in Maharashtra.



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Saptaparni Dutta Majumder

Executive (CSR)

Fin-Lex Business Consultive LLP

Kolkata

West Bengal

Abstract Title: Situation Analysis of Migrant Female Domestic Workers in Kolkata

Female domestic workers constitute a major part of the unorganized labour force of India. Due to rapid industrialization and a significant improvement in the field of trade and commerce, more and more unemployed workforce in the rural areas of Bengal and of the other neighbouring states of Bengal are relocating to the city of Kolkata in search of employment. This workforce has a significant share of women who lack any formal education or vocational skills which makes them work as housemaids to earn their livelihood. Moreover, they are largely subjected to injustice and deprivations due to a lack of legal safety and strong welfare measures.

This study primarily focuses on the socio-demographic profile of the migrant female domestic workers, the causes of their migration, their reasons for choosing domestic work as their occupation, and the challenges faced by them. Both primary and secondary sources were used to collect data. Further, the study proposes suitable measures to improve the quality of life of migrant female domestic workers. Initiatives should be taken by the NGO's to conduct adult education programmes. As they have no job security a legal paper contract between the employers and the domestic workers should be made necessary. Proper enforcement of labour laws is necessary to safeguard their interests. The focus should be given to laying a set of rights and entitlements to resolve the issues of underpayment and leave benefits. Creating proper job security and decent wage structure to bring them under institutional credit societies. A comprehensive approach should be taken to bring them under the social security umbrella to promote a holistic development of their living conditions.

Key words: migrant, female, domestic worker, Kolkata.

Lalu P Joy

&

Dilshana P.V

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Irinjalakuda, Kerala

Abstract Title: A Study on Occupational Diversification among Parayar Community and its Contributing Social Factors with Special Reference to Chalakudy Municipality, Kerala

According to the Indian Government Act of 1953, The Scheduled Caste people are backwards due to their poor rural nature, illiteracy, Dependence on Agricultural labour or other occupations with low earnings, and due to injustice, exploitation and operation. They have been suffering from three Social disabilities- Untouchability, Atrocity and bonded labour. Focusing upon the Parayar or Adhidraidas, most of the Parayas are now placed for new jobs from their traditional occupations like agricultural work, construction of Muram, Kutta, Panamba etc. Whereas the occupation of Parayas of Thrissur district was mainly "kuttaneythu" (Basket making). This study focuses on the applicability of education on the caste occupational diversification of Parayas with special reference to Thrissur district. The relevance of this study in the current scenario is that it is necessary for the scheduled castes of India to be developed more and one of the ways for it may be through education. The study is descriptive in nature with a convenient sampling method for a population of sixty respondents. The study area is focusing on Chalakudy Municipality in Thrissur District, Kerala. 51% of respondents strongly agreed that the Parayar community can reach high strata of society by following occupations other than hereditary occupation and only 2% of respondents strongly disagreed. Respondents have the opinion that they can be at high status by following other occupations. Respondents (45%) strongly agreed that following a hereditary occupation is prestigious to them, even if they are doing other occupations.

The study concluded in general towards pointing out that not just education but several other factors also have arisen as reasons for job diversification among the parayar community. Such as the unavailability of raw materials and the low market price of the products.

Keywords: Job Diversification, Parayar Community, Education



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&

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Abstract Title: A Study on Educational Awareness among Kota Teenage Tribal Girls

ABSTRACT: Education is the act of learning and acquiring knowledge, skills, values and beliefs. It is derived from the Latin word "Edu care" which means to "bring up" or "to rise". Education is a systematic process that helps to acquire knowledge through learning. It makes an individual civilised, cultured and educated. It is one of the necessary requirements for man-making and nation-building. Awareness is a term denoting the knowledge or perception of a situation or a matter of fact. It suggests concerns and a well-informed interest in a particular situation or development. Teenage is the age of an individual who falls between the age groups of 13 and 19. The data has been collected from 101 respondents, Kota teenage girls ages 15–18, collected using stratified random sampling techniques. Statistical tools used include percentage analysis, descriptive analysis, and ANOVA to analyze the collected data from primary and secondary sources. The findings of the study conclude that they are aware of education, yet many girls avoid studying, go to work, or get married. If education is not focused, there will be no development or economy, as India is 60% comprised of youth and the development of the nation can be attained only through educating them. This study is an eye-opener that helps to understand the reality of today's situation still prevailing in tribal communities and will be a way forward to implement new policies and improve existing policies for the overall development of the educational status of tribal people.

Keywords: Education, Kota teenage tribal girls, Awareness on education.

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**Abstract Title: Rural Development through Social Entrepreneurship: A Reflective Discussion
Cultivating Change: Rural Advancement through Social Entrepreneurship**

The article offers a comprehensive overview of the role of social entrepreneurship in rural development. It seeks to identify the diverse requirements for effective social entrepreneurship in rural contexts, shedding light on the intricate relationship between social entrepreneurship and rural development through the application of various theories, including the Resource-based view, Social Capital theories, and the Sustainable livelihood framework, among others. Furthermore, it investigates government policies aimed at fostering social entrepreneurship and examines the historical evolution of the concept, particularly from an Indian perspective. This historical exploration reveals that entrepreneurship has spurred many social entrepreneurs to engage in various humanitarian endeavours, leading to transformative changes in societies over the centuries and the establishment of numerous institutions.

This paper underscores the distinctiveness of social entrepreneurship as it possesses characteristics such as addressing social issues, caring for marginalized communities, creating social value, demonstrating a high degree of innovation and creativity, and maintaining accountability. Consequently, social entrepreneurship contributes to society by devising solutions to persistent challenges that have remained unresolved through conventional means. While traditional business owners prioritize profit margins, social entrepreneurs evaluate their success based on the scale of their social impact. Thus, social entrepreneurship has gained recognition as a significant source of social, economic, cultural, and environmental enrichment. In summary, this article



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relies on secondary data to underscore the opportunities and roles of social entrepreneurship as a potential solution for promoting rural livelihoods and working towards the holistic development of rural India.

Keywords: Rural advancement, social entrepreneurship, Social change, Social value

Prof Mangesh Vilas Bhutade

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Washim

Abstract Title: Problems of Rural Landless Women Labourer: An Intersectional Perspective

The status of Rural Indian Women in terms of Education, Health, Employment, economics, and politics is not very good. Often, she is being excluded by getting benefits from welfare schemes and programmes. Her illiteracy makes her more vulnerable. Though, there are constitutional remedies for her the male dominance in every sphere doesn't let her lead. In a caste-patriarchal society, the lower castes and women did not have the right to accumulate wealth or Land. As a result, many men and women from lower castes have to work hard for a livelihood often they have to work as bonded labourers. Gender inequality, Casteism, Class and Patriarchy make their life miserable.

Rural Landless women labourers are the most vulnerable section of society. They caught vicious cycles of poverty, every day they faced the following problems in their life i.e. the double burden of work, wage inequality, homelessness, discrimination, sexual harassment at the workplace, physical, and economic exploitation, and seasonal migration for employment, low standard of living, poverty, and malnourishment. The present study focused on the status and problems of Rural Landless Women Laborers through an Intersectional Perspective. The Intersectional perspective or theory first developed within the legal studies and the humanities as a way of making sense of interlocking societal oppression experienced by subordinated groups i.e. black women and their movements. This perspective can be considered as a frame or tool of highlighting the complexity of oppression.

Key words: Gender, Caste, Patriarchy, Landless Laborer

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&

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MANUU, Hyderabad

Abstract Title: Women's Empowerment and Gender Equality within the Framework of SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals): A Missing Link.

Women's empowerment and gender equality are critical components of achieving sustainable development goals (SDGs) worldwide, including India. The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) were a set of eight international development goals that aimed to address various global challenges by the year 2015. These goals have now been succeeded by the SDGs, which are a broader and more comprehensive framework to tackle global challenges by 2030. Deep-rooted patriarchal norms and cultural practices contribute to gender discrimination and inequality. These societal attributes often limit women's access to education, healthcare, and economic opportunities. Despite of significant achievement of MDGs, millions of people are left behind, especially the poorest and disadvantaged groups. Women continue to face discrimination in access to work, economic assets and participation in private and public decision-making. Women remain at a disadvantage in the labour market. This paper has having quantitative approach and data have been collected from secondary sources of published reports on MDGs and SDGs by different national and international bodies such as the UN and various respective Govt. reports. The outcome of this paper is that women have poor status in terms of education, health, employment, and decision-making process in comparison to their male counterparts. Statistical data suggests that there is a need to put women in the mainstream of the development agenda by providing equal opportunities in various life streams.

Key words: Women empowerment, Gender Equality, Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



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Shaik Himayathullah

CEO

Sathupally Samisti Krushi Farmers Producer Company Limited

Kurnool

Andhra Pradesh

Abstract Title: Poverty alleviation in rural community through integrated farming systems

Integrated farming systems will play a major role in alleviating rural poverty Income Rounds the year: Due to the interaction of enterprises with crops, eggs, milk, mushrooms, honey, cocoons silkworms. Provides flow of money to the farmer around the year. Environmental Safety in IFFS waste materials are effectively recycled by linking appropriate components, thus minimizing environmental pollution.

Employment Generation Combing crops with livestock enterprises would increase the labour requirement significantly and would help in reducing the problems of under-employment to a great extent IFS provide enough scope to employ family labour around the year.

Shaik Firoj Basha

Nannur Farmers Producers Cooperative Society Limited

Kurnool

Abstract Title: Role of Social worker in promoting Sustainable Agriculture

Sustainable Agriculture can change the perspective of the world. It will have an impact on soil health, environment health and living beings' health. Social workers can become a primary promoter of Sustainable Agriculture.

Vinola Sharo Bell W

Research Scholar

&

Dr. Alban Nishanth Lalu

Associate Professor,

Department of Social Work (SFS),

Madras Christian College

Abstract Title: A Study on the Occupational Well-being of Women Employees in IT Industry

Psychosocial well-being in the workplace directly affects the performance and productivity of any employee. The concept of occupational well-being becomes a very important need for women employees as they manage both family and work responsibilities. A workplace which fosters autonomy, personal growth and good relationships with others is needed for women employees to continue in the organisation for a longer period of time. This paper focuses on understanding the occupational well-being of women employees in the IT industry. The study adopted a descriptive research design and the sample was collected using a purposive random sampling technique. Collected data were analysed using percentage analysis and non-parametric tests. This will help the organisation to develop employee loyalty where the employees also visualize the career progression in their work life.

Keywords: women, employees, work, career progression, loyalty.

Snehal Arvind Pawar

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Thane West, Maharashtra

Abstract Title: Education institutes - "When local Dialect is Different from Medium of instruction: Voices of Tribal Children."

Education being one of the primary agents of transformation towards development can help to bridge the gap. Education is in fact, an input not only for the economic development of tribes but also for the inner strength of the tribal communities which helps them in meeting the new challenges of life. India is a home to a large variety of indigenous people. The Scheduled Tribe population represents one of the most economically impoverished and marginalized groups in India. With a population of more than 10.2 crores, India has the single largest tribal population in the world. This constitutes 8.6 per cent of the total population



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of the country (Census of India, 2011). Despite having a significant population of tribal communities, the development indicators are still very low. Whether it is nutrition, livelihood, infrastructure or education. As a nation, a lot more emphasis needs to be placed on tribal development. Tribal education in India is beset with a multiplicity of problems which are as follows –lack of educational programs for tribal, difficult geographical locations, lack of infrastructural facilities in the school, Lack of interest of the teachers, inappropriate material, preference to employability by parents, communications barrier and so on. The majority of the students face linguistic problems in the education process. Communication is the tool for transforming information from one to another. It is one of the key aspects when it comes to education. Most of the tribal speak their own language or dialects. These languages are only restricted to a particular tribe, and hence they automatically become a minority language. The objective of this paper is to locate the issues of tribal children's educational institutions when they are instructed in different languages.

Praiselin Selva Mahiba J

&

Dr. S. Rachel

SRM Institute of Science and Technology,
Chengalpattu District, Tamil Nadu.

Abstract Title: Hybrid Model of Work and its relevance to Sustainable Development Goals: A Qualitative Study

The purpose of this study is to disseminate the adoption of the hybrid mode of work and how it paves way for the sustainable development of the business industries. Also, to understand the positive changes it has brought among the working community. This study highlights the commercial value that this model has added and the identification of business models that are sustainability-driven by the Hybrids. The main objective is to accentuate the relevance of this new hybrid model to some of the 17 Sustainable development goals. Also, to provide recommendations for future research in adopting new innovative models of work for corporate sustainability.

Methods:

A qualitative research method is adopted along with a descriptive research design. A single case study method or approach is employed which is very significant as it holds value-added suggestions. The sample is identified through the purposive sampling method. A semi-structured on one interview will be carried out. The interviews will be recorded for further reference. A suitable data analysis tool will be incorporated for the effective communication of the results.

Result:

This research may bring out the models that are sustainability-driven and aid for the development of the business sectors without disturbing the social balance. Also, the result may depict how the hybrid model relates to the SDG's and aids in corporate sustainability.

Keywords: Hybrid, SDG, Working Community, Sustainability, Business

Prof Nilesh Uttam Gaikwad

Assistant Professor

Mahatma Fuley MSW and Matoshri Zaveriben Motilal Turakhiya BSW College.

Taloda, Nandurbar

&

Dr. Ghansham Jagtap

Social work College Nashik

Abstract Title: An innovative approach to investigate intrapersonal violence for public health promotion

This is the approach to studying the personal or interpersonal violence that is already inbuilt in every human being researcher study the activity of a person who has miss behavior in our society or activity did like that researcher find out the internationalist framework to check the violence of human beings done it may be one person group or community through this intersections framework person going to recover or rehabilitate

When a person is angry, the brain prompts the body to release the stress hormones, adrenaline and noradrenaline. This compound assists the body with directing pulse and circulatory strain Serotonin and its metabolites the idea that serotonin irregularities might be connected with sociality and self-destructive way of behaving comes from the association of the serotonergic framework in gloom and imprudent forceful way of behaving, the two of which are significant gamble factors for self-destructive way of behaving. Outrage sets off the body's 'instinctual' response various sentiments that trigger this response



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consolidate worry, intensity, and anxiety. The adrenal organs flood the body with pressure synthetic compounds, for instance, adrenaline and cortisol when any individual can do such miss conduct or action about changes in her/his body. Utilization of individual meeting perception study and logical techniques are utilized for the improvement of this methodology.

Keywords - innovative approach, investigation, intra personal violence, and public health.

Prashant K. Jambhule

Jotirao Fule College of Social Work,
Umred Dist-Nagpur

Abstract Title: Culture in Harmony with the Nature in the Context of The Mana Tribe

Human activity is altering the dynamics and functioning of the earth system to a degree never before seen. We have exceeded the limits of our entire system of the mother earth. We have broken harmony with nature. We are living through a series of rising crises that could cause the collapse of the system. In the mana tribe there is system to percolate culture of harmony with the nature to the next generation. Culture of connecting with the nature. Their entire life with the nature and it is important to human society to understanding nature through their culture.

Key words: Mana Tribe, Percolate, Culture, Harmony

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Abstract Title: Issue of Hysterectomy among Sugar Cane Cutter Women Workers: Social Work Interventions for Inclusion, A Case Study of Ambejogai Block of Beed District.

Hysterectomy is the partial or total surgical removal of the uterus. Hysterectomy is one major issue among rural women of Maharashtra. Rural Maharashtra is getting industrialized because of sugar Industries. Co-operative sugar industries change the life of rural Maharashtra farmers & also cane cutter workers. The women are the worst off as they carry large loads and are forced to work even though their menstrual cycles and pregnancies.

To avoid complications of pregnancies and periods in the field, the women are forced by the family, contractors and doctors to undergo hysterectomy. The main objectives of the said paper are to discuss about the social, economic and mental problems of cane cutter women due to Hysterectomy; to discuss the reasons behind Hysterectomy of cane cutter women; to study the unhygienic habits and inhumane condition of work Results Heath complications and Hysterectomy. The present study will also focus on social work interventions about this issue. The geographical scope of the said research study is Ambejogai block of Beed District, The depth interview will be conducted of cane cutter women in between age group of 18 to 50 years which is considered as reproductive age of women. The researcher will use the descriptive and exploratory research design for the said research paper. For conducting the said research, the non-probability sampling design will be used and snowball sampling will be used as sampling method. The said paper will present the true story of violation of reproductive rights of cane cutter women.

Key words: Cane Cutter Women, Hysterectomy, Reproductive Health, Menstruating, Reproductive Rights, Sexuality etc.

Dr. Sanjay Onkar Ingole

President, Model Village Trust
Assistant Professor, Department of Social Work,
Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi.

Abstract Title: Developing Model Villages: Reflections on Civil Society Initiatives

Village Development has remained a core concern of social work education and practice in India. "Rural Camp" in social work education is an intrinsic and most fascinating component. Secondly, may it be the history and philosophy of professional social work, Social Development, Rural Development, Economic Development, National Health-Education-Employment, etc. that brings into its ambit the matter of developing self-sufficient and sustainable villages or the volumes of planning commission (1950-2014) reports, village occupies a prominent space in their contents. Numerous books, research papers, articles and documentaries on development in India focus on the same theme. Even the popular film contents of the beginning of independent-republic India revolves around the village life and its development connect. However, it has remained a most neglected area as far as the investment is concerned. Particularly the state still continues to extract natural resources including the rural human labour from the village but its pay back planning does not match the debt it owes. We the social work professionals who have come from the villages to the cities as first-generation learners and social service professionals, therefore



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have greater responsibility to highlight this issue and also contribute our bit in the mission- Village Development. Bearing this in mind, various efforts are being made at different part of the country in this field. Model Village Trust is one such initiative, which the researcher is a part of. The intervention of MVT is unique in the sense that it aims to choose the most backward villages and try to develop them as model villages by bringing them above the national average in terms of development indicators. Model Village Trust, Delhi (registered on 13 February, 2019) have resolved to select the neediest and deserving 100 villages across the country to help each of them evolve as a model village. This paper while tracing the contemporary history of village development, tries to bring into the light the efforts of Model Village Trust. This will not only help to disseminate the best practices, but also to take suggestions from the academicians and practitioners and add value to the interventions.

Gaurav Babasaheb Sangale

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Abstract Title: Impact of Climate Change and Environmental Issues on Food Insecurity among Tribals

The paper seeks to identify the issues and concerns with regard to food insecurity among tribal communities vis-à-vis the impact of climate change. Climate change is a global phenomenon that has been affecting the world in various ways. It has had an adverse effect on food production and a decline in agricultural output, leading to a rise in prices of essential commodities and food insecurity. Some of the factors that lead to food insecurity among tribals in India are lack of livelihood options, lack of resources like agricultural land, accessibility and availability of services. A large number of tribal communities is dependent on forest yields for their livelihood. Tribals have limited access to markets and other sources of income which makes them vulnerable to hunger. Climate change has increased the incidence of droughts in some regions which leads to a rise in food prices and shortages. The government has been trying to tackle the issue of food insecurity in India by implementing various schemes. But the problem of food insecurity has many other dimensions linked with poverty, lack of access to food and malnutrition. This paper highlights the factors that are associated with the food insecurity of tribal community as an impact of climate change. Tribals are one of the most vulnerable communities as they often live far away from urban centers that also make them more vulnerable to natural disasters like floods, droughts, cyclones, or landslides.

Keywords- climate change, tribals' food insecurity, malnutrition, environmental issues

Noor Jahan

PhD Scholar

&

Prof. Richa Chowdhary

Bhimrao Ambedkar college,

DU

Abstract Title: Financial contribution of female artisans in the handicraft sector: Qualitative findings from Nagina

Handicraft upholds traditional values from decades ago and has a marvelous past in India. Handicraft is the second most prevalent occupation after agriculture in the nation. People are familiar with handicraft culture and its rich heritage. Women play a significant role in the handicraft sector, as they constitute a major workforce in Handicrafts. It analyzed females belonging to low economic status and poor families, depending on women's economic productivity. In Nagina, women have been engaged in craftwork since long ago and spent their livelihoods. This article depicts the participation and contribution of women artisans in the handicraft sector in Nagina District, Bijnor. Descriptive exploratory research and purposive sampling have been adopted, and case studies were conducted by utilizing an in-depth interview guide. Respondents to the current study are experienced female artisans involved in the Handicrafts sector. Structured and Semi-structured interview guides have been administered based on available literature.



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Andria John

Research Scholar

&

Dr Laxmi Putran

Dept. of Social Work, Central University of Kerala

Abstract Title: Promoting Environmental Justice through Social Work: The Case of Forest-Dependent Tribal People of Western Ghats

A community depends on natural resources to sustain itself. Historically, forest-dependent tribal communities relied on the natural capital and benefitted from the ecosystem services, and this continues to date. However, through the colonial and post-colonial age, they have been systemically alienated from the land, thereby alienating themselves from their identity. The forest laws from the colonial period to protect timber, as a resource for development to postcolonial forest laws that assert local people who have been traditionally dwelling in the forest as a threat, have liaised and led to the current situation of the forest-dependent tribals. Further, the Forest Rights Act (2006) was brought to light to undo the historical injustice faced by the community. In this backdrop, this paper focus on the nexus between forest laws and rights; and aims to understand environmental justice and the extent of marginalisation of forest-dependent particularly vulnerable tribals, Kattunayakan through a socio-ecological lens. The study concludes by providing an overview of the role of Social Work, in empowering the forest-dependent tribals stuck in the margins, through protecting the environment.

Keywords: Kattunayakan; Forest Resources; Rights; Access; Marginalisation

Amaladevi C S

Research Scholar,

&

Prof. Mohan A.K

Head

Department of Social Work,
Central University of Kerala

Abstract Title: Empowering Senior Citizens: Lifelong Learning as a Catalyst for Enhanced Quality of Life

The rapidly growing global population above the age of sixty, being classified as older adults by the World Health Organisation is creating an exigency in understanding and addressing the unique needs and challenges faced by them. Geriatrics researchers are recently focusing on aspects such as quality of life, interactions, and mental well-being. This paper focuses on the benefits of lifelong learning for older adults which can help to improve cognitive function, enhance their quality of life, promote active ageing, and foster social engagement. The study also explores the role of technology in acquiring lifelong learning opportunities for them in the present tech-driven scenario (Westerholm & Takanen, 2023).

The study aims to fill this gap by focusing on older adults with the Digitisation perspective using their occupational and educational histories. The extensive literature review will be conducted to analyse existing research, theories, and practices in the field of lifelong learning for older adults by collecting data from reputable sources and academic databases. Since this study draws upon the socio-economic perspective presented by Alan Walker and Liam Foster in 'Aging and Social Class, An Enduring Relationship,' the paper examines how occupational history, education, and health impact the socioeconomic status of older adults and their access to lifelong learning opportunities in digital technology. The study anticipates shedding light on the importance of policymakers and communities focusing on tailored lifelong learning programs for older adults.

Keywords: Older adults, Quality of Life, Lifelong learning, Digital technology

E Shireesha

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Abstract Title: Women and Entrepreneurship the Role of Female Entrepreneurship in Economic Empowerment

Women's entrepreneurship has emerged as a transformative force in the global economic landscape presenting a potent avenue for women's economic empowerment. As societies continue to strive for gender equality and inclusive economic growth understanding the role of female entrepreneurship becomes paramount. This research examines the various dimensions of entrepreneurship, including its contribution to wealth generation, job creation and innovation. It explores the challenges and



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opportunities that women entrepreneurs encounter in diverse sectors, from technology startups to traditional small-scale enterprises. Moreover, it scrutinizes the influence of socio-cultural factors, access to finance, and supportive ecosystems in shaping the entrepreneurial journey of women. Women's entrepreneurship not only enhances individual economic well-being but also fosters broader societal benefits. It leads to increased financial independence for women, a reduction in gender-based income disparities, and a more equitable distribution of resources. Furthermore, women-led businesses often exhibit a distinct approach to corporate social responsibility and sustainability, contributing to the socioeconomic development of communities.

This research also highlights the importance of policy interventions and support mechanisms aimed at bolstering female entrepreneurship. Initiatives such as mentorship programs, access to affordable credit, and networking opportunities play pivotal roles in enabling women to overcome barriers and thrive as entrepreneurs. Additionally, the study underscores the need for fostering a culture of entrepreneurship among women from an early age, encouraging them to aspire to leadership roles and breakthrough gender-specific constraints. Women's entrepreneurship serves as a catalyst for women's economic empowerment, offering a pathway towards financial autonomy and gender equality. This abstract underscores the significance of continued research, advocacy, and policy formulation to harness the full potential of female entrepreneurs in driving sustainable economic growth and inclusive development on a global scale.

D Hanni Pavithra

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Department of Women Studies

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Andhra Pradesh

Abstract Title: Migration and Quality of Life Effect of Seasonal Migration on Children

The phenomenon of seasonal migration is widespread in various parts of the globe and it has a significant impact on the lives of children who migrate. This study aims to delve deeper into the effects of seasonal migration on the welfare of these children and explore the multifaceted aspects of how it shapes their physical, mental, academic, and socioeconomic wellbeing over time. While seasonal migration does provide economic opportunities for migrant families, it often disrupts the stability of children's lives, resulting in long-lasting consequences that cannot be ignored.

One area where the impact of seasonal migration is evident is in education. The study highlights the negative effects of frequent school transitions, language barriers, and limited access to educational resources, which ultimately lead to lower educational achievement among migrant children. These challenges are not only hinder their academic progress but also have a lasting impact on their overall development and future prospects. Additionally, the research sheds light on the psychological toll of migration; the stress, anxiety, and feelings of displacement experienced by migrant children can have a profound and enduring impact on their mental health. It is crucial to acknowledge and address these psychological challenges to ensure the wellbeing of these vulnerable children. Moreover, the socioeconomic consequences of seasonal migration are also explored in this study. It is revealed that migrant children may face a cycle of poverty due to lower educational attainment and limited access to opportunities, perpetuating intergenerational inequality. This underscores the urgent need for comprehensive support systems, programs that ensure educational continuity, and policies that take into account the unique challenges faced by these children.

Keywords: Migrant, Seasonal migration, children, education, quality of life

Dr. Lakshmana G

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&

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Abstract Title: Perception of couples on family environment and quality of life of families of persons with alcohol abuse

Once the person is addicted to alcohol, not only this affects the person but also affects the entire family, especially the spouse. Compared to others, families with persons with alcohol abuse have more conflict between parents, spouses, and children.

In the present study, an attempt was made to study the family environment and quality of life of families of persons with alcohol abuse and find out the interaction between these variables. A total sample of 200 persons with alcohol abuse and their spouses



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was recruited for the study from the community (200 persons with alcohol abuse and 200 spouses). The importance of families in mediating the progression and recovery of alcoholism is well known. The study shows a significant difference between the cohesion domain of the family environment ($t(200) = -3.97, p < .05$). The family environment and quality of life are interdependent and alcohol abuse significantly affects them. The present study shows that alcohol abuse significantly affects the family environment and quality of life of the persons with alcohol abuse. This study has been conducted the community setup and emphasises the importance of community-based interventions for families with alcohol abuse and the role of social work professionals.

Key words: Family environment; Quality of life; Families of persons with alcohol abuse

Ashfaq Ahmad Dangroo

Research Scholar

&

Dr. Ravinder Singh

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Delhi School of Social Work,
University of Delhi

Abstract Title: Psychosocial Interventions in Autism Spectrum Disorder at Early Intervention Centres

Autism is a chronic disorder that has an impact on both the family caregivers and the autistic child. There is growing understanding of how critical it is to treat autism in a way that considers the needs of both the child and the family. Autism is a long-term condition that has an impact on both the family caregivers and the autistic child. There is growing understanding of the importance it is to treat autism in a way that considers the needs of both the child and the family. There are arguments that the treatment strategy needs to be organized around the patient's various life stages. Therefore, speech and language therapy, special education, and parent assistance should be emphasised with young children. On the other side, with teenagers, the emphasis should be on sexuality concerns, occupational therapy, and psychosocial interventions. In this paper, we try to emphasise the importance of psychosocial intervention at early intervention centres an empirical approach was used to explain the intervention in ASD at early intervention centres. A third of children with ASD experience delays in their ability to function in daily life, temper tantrums, anger, self-destructive conduct, and anxiety are just a few examples of behavioural issues that are known to regularly co-occur with illnesses including seizure disorder and gastrointestinal trouble (Kim, 2016)

Keywords: Autism, Psychosocial, Intervention, Psychoeducation

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Abstract Title: Role of Civil Society Organizations in Digital Empowerment: An Empirical Study of Women in India

For both women and men, being able to harness the potential of digital transformation is a keystone of more sustainable and inclusive economies and societies. However, women are still lagging in their ability to access, use, and afford digital tools (OECD, 2019). Women especially in the rural areas have difficulty in learning how to use the internet because of a lack of resources to buy a smartphone and the social stigma attached to illicit use of the internet. The current study was carried out to understand the digital gender divide in India, and identify the best practices and the gaps with a main focus on CSOs working at the grassroots level and thereafter giving suggestions and preparing a footprint for policymakers. The Qualitative study presents a literature review to highlight the reasons for the increasing digital gender divide and to identify the hurdles and challenges being faced by women for getting access, use and affordability to digital tools. The proposed study was descriptive in nature and an Interview schedule to conduct unstructured and semi-structured interviews with these 10 CSOs. The findings show rigid family attitudes as one of the major reasons contributing to the digital divide faced by adolescent girls and women. The study supports



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Ogburn's Cultural Lag theory, indicated by the slower pace of transition of women to digital modes of technology. The study iterated the best practices of the CSO which can be used by Social workers in their respective community fieldwork and also concluded the major challenges for the CSOs working towards women such as funding issues and Mobilizing women to be a part of this change.

Keywords: Digital Empowerment, Digital gender divide, Women, Civil Society Organizations, Social Work

Mohammad Qasim

&

Abad Ali

MSW Student

Delhi School of Social Work

Abstract Title: Justice Denied: Muslims Facing Discrimination in Mewat

This paper addresses the widespread problem of discrimination and recurrent targeting based on religious identity in Mewat, Haryana. It examines the causes, effects, and the timeline of these incidents. Recognizing the profound influence of religious identity on social dynamics, it explores its significance for individuals, communities, and society as a whole. Utilizing research and a case study of Nuh and Firozpur Jhirka in Mewat, where numerous Muslim youths were arrested, and houses were demolished by authorities.

This study aims to illuminate the intricate nature of religious-based discrimination and unlawful actions. To begin with, the paper investigates the underlying factors contributing to discrimination based on religious identity. It emphasizes elements such as ethnocentrism, bias, historical conflicts, and political exploitation through interviews and questionnaires. Through an examination of these root causes, the study aims to offer a comprehensive understanding of the mechanisms that sustain discriminatory attitudes and behaviors. Subsequently, the paper delves into the multifaceted consequences of discrimination and illegal actions on vulnerable segments of the community, including women, children, the elderly, and minorities. It explores the psychological, social, and economic impacts on individuals and the Mev community, which faces marginalization and discrimination due to their religious identity. Furthermore, it investigates the broader implications for societal cohesion and intergroup relations, underscoring the urgency of addressing this issue.



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PTS – 5: Innovations in Social Work Practice and Research

Dr Anita Victorina Rego

CEO & Founder

PEARLSS 4 Development Private Limited

Hyderabad, Telangana

Abstract Title: Single case Intervention: Art in Social Work Interventions for grief

Grief and the expression of grief is an essential component in mental health interventions. The intensity of grief may restrain the person from channelling the grief when the pain is intense. The paper will demonstrate the use of grief interventions using art as part of therapeutic social work intervention.

Dr. Siddharth Gangale

Associate Professor

Dept. of Social Work, MANUU

Puja Bhujade

MJFCSW Yavatmal

Abstract Title: Mental Health Intervention & Youth Friendly Services in India

Mental health interventions and youth-friendly services in India are essential for improving the mental well-being of young people. India is a young country, with over 600 million people under the age of 25. Young people bear the burden of these disorders throughout life, however mental health problems are common among young people, according to a 2019 study by the National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences, 13.6% of young people in India aged 13-19 years' experience a mental health disorder. Despite this, there is a scarcity of mental health services in India. Very few researches on mental health interventions for young people in India and not many attempts have been made to collate the existing literature. This systematic review aims to synthesize the available evidence from community-based mental health interventions for young people in India. In the research paper primary and secondary database were used. For the primary database Ph.D. research data from the field were used along with secondary data including a range of major electronic databases also review systematically.

Mental health problems are a major public health concern in India, especially among adolescents and youth. However, there is a significant gap between the need for mental health services and the availability of such services. To address this gap, it is important to develop and implement youth-friendly mental health interventions.

The findings indicate that the number of interventional studies conducted in India to address youth mental health issues are very limited. Mental health interventions and youth-friendly services are essential for improving the mental well-being of young people in India. There are a number of challenges to providing these services, but there are also a number of effective interventions available. It is important to invest in mental health services for youth in India in order to promote their mental well-being and productivity.

Athira V.H

Department of Social Work,

Pondicherry University, Puducherry

Abstract Title: Generational Care in Indigenous Communities: A Study of Grandmothers Raising Grandchildren in Attappadi Indigenous Belt, Kerala

The term 'Grand families' represents the households in which grandparents raise grandchildren; such families remain a growing and underserved population. The prevalence of grandparents raising grandchildren is disproportionately higher among Indigenous communities. The current paper explores the unique situation of indigenous grandmothers raising grandchildren from an indigenous belt in India. This paper was undertaken to gain insight into and generate awareness of this population's lived experiences and needs. The study adopted criterion sampling, and eight grandmothers shared their stories. An interpretive phenomenological approach guided the data analysis. The five themes that emerged are Reasons for parenting grandchildren in the later stage of life, Reciprocal intergenerational obligations and symbiotic caregiving, Adverse physical and Mental health outcomes for the elderly, Role-induced stressors and fears, and Experiences of economic hardship and resource constraints. The article presents practice reflections and puts forward a framework to guide future research and interventions on the matter.



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Rosna Vincent

Research Scholar

Department of Social work,

Pondicherry University, Puducherry

Abstract Title: *Leave No One Behind: The BUDS Institutions Kerala Model for Integrating Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities into the Community*

In India, individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities frequently encounter significant obstacles in accessing education, training, employment, and rehabilitation services. These challenges place substantial financial and emotional burdens on their caregivers. This study investigates the pioneering approach of Kerala's BUDS institutions, which employ community-based rehabilitation to empower these individuals and their families. The article evaluates the profound impact of BUDS institutions on fostering the community inclusion of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and offers valuable recommendations for further enhancement. While BUDS present a promising model for inclusivity, it underscores the imperative need for collaborative initiatives and sustained investments to construct a genuinely inclusive society that accommodates individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities with dignity and equity.

Kajal

Research Scholar & Assistant Professor,

School of Social Work,

IGNOU, New Delhi

Abstract Title: *Empowering Resilience: The Crucial Role of NGOs in Supporting the Transgender Community amidst the COVID-19 Pandemic*

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought forth unprecedented challenges globally, disproportionately affecting marginalized communities such as transgender individuals. Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) have emerged as pivotal actors in providing essential support, advocacy, and resources to address the unique hardships faced by the transgender community during these trying times. This paper delves into the multifaceted role of NGOs in fostering resilience within the transgender community amidst the pandemic. By examining various case studies, this study highlights the significance of NGOs in ensuring access to healthcare, mental health services, livelihood opportunities, and social networks for transgender individuals. Additionally, the paper underscores the importance of collaborative efforts between NGOs, government agencies, and local communities to create an inclusive and supportive environment that mitigates the adverse effects of the pandemic on transgender lives. Through this analysis, the study aims to shed light on effective strategies employed by NGOs and to emphasize the necessity of sustained support systems for the betterment of transgender lives during crises.

Dr Ravilla Mahendranath Chowdary

Assistant Professor

The Apollo University

Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh

Abstract Title: *A Critical Study on the Importance of School Volunteering and Social Work to Increase Academic Success?*

This important investigation explores the crucial contribution that social work and school volunteering make to improving pupil achievement. The investigation successfully reveals a substantial positive association between active school volunteering and engagement in social work programmes and higher academic success through a thorough analysis that uses both descriptive and regression approaches. According to a descriptive analysis, students who volunteered at their schools had better attendance, more involvement in class, and greater quantities of motivation, all of which contributed to their achievement in school. This association was clarified using regression analysis, which also demonstrated that social work and active involvement in school volunteerism had a beneficial effect on students' GPAs.



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Dr. Sohini Sengupta

Assistant Professor

&

Prof. Mouleshri Vyas.

Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai

Abstract Title: Transparency-work: Formats, Contention, and Truth-Telling in the Practice of Social Audits

During the period of economic slowdown and more recently the pandemic induced economic shutdown, MGNREGS, appeared to have emerged from stagnation to gain a new lease of life, both in terms of government financial allocation and rising dependence of rural communities on the public works lifeline. In this context, we aim to explore the pandemic-induced role, efficacy and robustness of transparency and accountability mechanisms such as social audit to understand how 'the right to work' principle that guides the social protection instrument is being realized.

Our contribution explores the possibilities and challenges in translating accountability through social audits, which involves bridging the hierarchical bureaucratic settings shaped by rules and procedures with the complexity of rural community contexts where the work demand arises. We draw upon our experience of training community social auditors and student placements in social audit field settings, to argue that although transparency work is intrinsic to visions of participatory democracy, in practice, this translates into building capacity to deal with the multiple, contentious voices that demand accountability, often in non-standard ways in the context of rural communities.

Our field experience in observing and teaching social audits, reveals similar challenges in processes of truth-telling and account giving, embedded in social audit protocols, that have resulted from 'scaling up' successful models without addressing diverse fields of practice. At the same time, we continue to believe that creating and strengthening grassroots accountability processes, are essential for addressing the complex exclusions created by the overreliance on digital data gathering and tracking design of welfare and social protection programme delivery. For social audits to retain relevance, imposed regulations need to be recognised and not erase the contradictions that result from truth-telling and account-giving at the community level.

Sumaya Rashid

Research Scholar

&

Sarafraz Ahmad

Assistant Professor

&

Zahid Ahmad Lone

Research Scholar

Department of Social Work

University of Kashmir

Abstract Title: Ineffectiveness of Current Social audit Practices: Identifying Gaps and Limitations in Achieving Accountability and Transparency

With the primary goal of guaranteeing accountability, transparency, and equitable allocation of resources, social audit has evolved as a crucial instrument for measuring the socio-economic effect of policies, programs, and initiatives. This study, however, illuminates the gaps and limitations that are inherently present in these techniques and reduces their efficacy.

This study examines the flaws in conventional social audit techniques by means of a thorough examination of the relevant literature and by means of in-depth case studies. Problems like poor. Stakeholder participation, varying data quality, and a lack of defined evaluation criteria are highlighted. In addition, the study highlights the importance of overcoming these constraints in order to maximize the influence and applicability of social audits in the modern world. The paper suggests the adoption of innovative approaches, including technology-driven solutions, participatory methodologies, and strengthened regulatory oversight, to bridge the identified gaps and strengthen the accountability and transparency achieved through social audits.



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Suraqua Fahad

Ph.D. Scholar

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University of Delhi, Delhi

Abstract Title ***Leveraging Artificial Intelligence in Enhancing Medical Social Work Practice: A Paradigm Shift in Addressing Public Health Challenges***

Overview: This research paper delves into the intricate integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) applications within the realm of medical social work operating against the backdrop of the multifaceted challenges that plague the Indian healthcare landscape.

Methodology Employed The research methodology is underpinned by a rigorous and meticulous literature review that draws sustenance from an extensive corpus of existing studies dynamic case analyses and practical instances that illustrate the seamless fusion of AI into medical social work.

Theoretical Underpinning At its theoretical core the paper amalgamates insights from an intricate tapestry of disciplines including medical social work healthcare management and technology integration.

Discernible Findings: The paper unveils a panorama where AI-powered tools carve pathways towards augmenting client assessment bolstering mental health support optimizing resource allocation transcending linguistic divides via real-time translation orchestrating seamless remote monitoring and harnessing the power of data analysis to discern patterns and potentials that lay concealed. These findings echo the resounding clangour of AIs' potential to streamline intricate processes weave personalized interventions and elevate the very echelons of care quality. The research paper concludes with an evocative crescendo underscoring the transformative capacities embedded within the AI medical social work alliance. This transformative potential when steered by the compass of empathy and patient-centered care positions medical social workers as avant-garde navigators of a future where the symphony of AI and the human touch harmoniously elevate the well-being of individuals and communities across India.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence client-centred approach healthcare disparities healthcare challenges Indian healthcare landscape linguistic diversity mental health support medical social work personalized interventions real-time translation and transformative potential.

Tirtha Ghosh

Research Scholar

Department of Social Work

Visva-Bharati University

Abstract Title: ***Developing an Environmental Migration Governance Framework for Coastal Regions of West Bengal***

As early as 1990, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) predicted that climate change-related phenomena such as shoreline erosion, coastal flooding, and agricultural disruption would lead millions of people to be displaced and compelled to migrate (IOM, 2008). According to the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (2023) in India, around 14 million people have been displaced as a result of climate change. Underdeveloped and developing countries will be disproportionately affected by this environmental migration problem due to their high exposure and limited structural resilience level to environmental catastrophes. These forced migrants are deprived of numerous fundamental constitutional rights, including the right to life, the right to a livelihood, and the right to property, food, and water, among others. To address these circumstances at the international level, organizations like ILO, UNFCC, and UNDRR are developing a variety of protection and response mechanisms for better understanding and alleviating the situation. Nansen initiatives, the Sendai Framework, Global Compact for Migration are some of the multi-governmental actions to protect and safeguard the rights of environmentally displaced populations. This article examines the governmental acts, policies, and programs linked to disaster risk reduction at the central and state levels, with a focus on the Sundarban region of West Bengal, which is confronting multiple hazards. This study attempts to build a stronger governance framework capable of addressing both quick on-set and slow on-set disaster-led migration and displacements by comprehending the aforementioned policy consequences and ground realities. This research examined governmental acts, policies, and programmes up to the year 2022, and focus group discussions and PRA methods were utilised to grasp the ground reality.

Keywords: Climate migration governance, Coastal areas, Disaster risk reduction policies.



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Habeeb T

PhD Scholar

&

Chitra K P

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Central University of TamilNadu, Thiruvarur

Abstract Title: Sufi Legacy in Kerala: Illuminating the Dynamics of Muslim Life

Mysticism, a sense of connectedness to the sacred, is a phenomenon that is prevalent in all important religious traditions around the world, including Christianity, Judaism, Hinduism, Islam, etc. This tradition, known as 'Sufism' in Islam, became popular with the codification of a number of teachings, especially the tenet of Wahdat al-Wujud, or the Unity of Being, which postulates the oneness of the creations with God. Initially, it was spread in the Middle East and from there across the world.

In the context of Kerala, it occurred through maritime trade relations with the Arabs. Sufis - the followers of this tradition became a transformative force of the socio-cultural fabric of the society- especially of the Muslim life in Kerala. They acted as 'spiritual resources' and actively contributed to socio-cultural and political developments, becoming an indispensable component of people's lives. The Sufi leaders assumed proactive roles in Kerala's resistance against colonial forces, guiding and leading the way through the creation of anti-colonial literature and the issuance of religious 'Fatwas' to fuel anti-colonial sentiments. The Sufi shrines or Dargahs continue to play an important role in the socio-cultural life of the common people by providing a platform for the socio-cultural integration of various sections of the society through its specific cults and also offered healing practices for the cure of physical and mental illnesses to the common people irrespective of religious differences (which warrants critical debates). The paper also discusses various criticisms faced by Sufism in the current scenario. The material for this paper is derived from a comprehensive review of existing literature and a textual examination of documents pertaining to Sufism in Kerala.

Keywords: Sufism, Sufi literature, Anti-colonial movements, Social Reform, Kerala.

Ritika Chhetri

MGNCRE Project

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Dr. Debayan Dutta

Department of Social Work

Visva-Bharati

Abstract Title: Community Engagement in select Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in West Bengal

Community Engagement is a strategic process with the specific purpose of working with identified groups of people and addressing the issues affecting their well-being. The importance of community engagement can be viewed in academics, research, and practice. The objective of the paper is to describe the community engagement carried out by select Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in West Bengal, India. Methodology: This study was a mixed methods research design, exploratory and descriptive by nature including both quantitative and qualitative data collection tools and data analysis techniques. The tools of data collection used were interview schedule and interview for quantitative and qualitative respectively. The analysis was done through SPSS and thematically for quantitative and qualitative data respectively. The systematic random sampling technique was used in the research with a sample size of 65 HEIs from which data was collected. Results: The results of the study display that there is a lack of specialization courses on rural community development (3.1 %, 2 out of 65 institutions) with the most concentration being in the form of compulsory individual courses (55.4%). The fieldwork module is a part of the curriculum at 63 institutions but is compulsory every semester at 16 of those institutions. 34 responses mentioned that they have not started the process and 26 responses mentioned that they are in the process concerned with restructuring and revision of curriculum as per the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. There are also differences displayed in the participation of students and



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participation of community leaders in outreach programmes. The study concludes that the relationship and role of community engagement in education are both organic and of mutual enhancement.

Keywords: Community Engagement, Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), West Bengal.

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Abstract Title: Trauma-Informed Social Work: Emerging Pedagogy and Practices for Navigating Empowerment among Clients and Communities Survived with Trauma

The social work profession in human service delivery evolved from passive assistance through charity and welfare to empowering individuals and communities. Empowerment is a complex developmental process. It involves active and effective empathetic engagement by social workers to understand and explore the dynamics of presenting problems of clients and communities to deliver customizable services. In contemporary societies, individuals' lifetime exposure to traumatic events accounts for 80.7%. The individual's chronic and prolonged exposure to developmentally adverse experiences has a horrendous impact on their psychosocial, somatic and spiritual dimensions across life and generations, eventually hindering the attainment of social work goals, i.e., empowerment. In high-stress environments, clients' history of trauma poses a risk for disempowerment or re-traumatization—reliving overwhelming past traumatic experiences in the present moment. Consequently, Trauma-Informed Care (TIC) has been promulgated in human service delivery contexts to resist re-traumatization and foster a healing environment for trauma survivors. Prolonged empathetic and compassionate engagement in TIC by social workers and their chronic exposure to survivors' traumatic narratives make them vulnerable to experiencing traumatic experiences of compassionate fatigue, secondary and vicarious trauma, and/or re-traumatization. TIC framework predominantly emphasises on the service seekers' care perspective, which indirectly shadows attention on the 'self-care' of service providers in their practice.

Considering the limitations and challenges encountered in implementing existing TIC frameworks, this article proposes revisions and recommendations for Trauma-Informed Social Work pedagogy and practice at three domains: self-care, general pedagogy and specific practices in trauma-informed social work.

Keywords: Trauma-Informed Social Work, self-care, general pedagogy, specific practices, trauma survivors, re-traumatization, empowerment.

Dr. Pushpa Mishra

Head, Department of Social Work

&

Dr. Sanjeev Kumar

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Jananayak Chandrashekhar University, Ballia, UP

Abstract Title: Plastic Waste Management: Challenges and Solutions

Plastic waste has emerged as a pressing global environmental challenge due to its persistent nature and detrimental impact on ecosystems and human well-being. This paper provides an in-depth exploration of plastic waste, its various types, and the grave consequences it poses. Single-use plastics, packaging materials, consumer goods, industrial plastics, microplastics, and



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discarded fishing gear collectively contribute to this burgeoning problem. The multifaceted environmental impacts of plastic waste include marine pollution, wildlife harm, habitat destruction, soil and air contamination, carbon footprint, and aesthetic degradation. Addressing these impacts necessitates a comprehensive approach involving reduction, recycling, proper disposal, and innovative alternatives.

The paper further delves into the solutions required to mitigate the plastic waste crisis. Strategies encompass banning single-use plastics, promoting reusable alternatives, enhancing recycling infrastructure, embracing extended producer responsibility (EPR), advocating for minimalist packaging, and fostering public awareness campaigns. Additionally, innovative approaches like bioplastics, edible packaging, and incentivizing research in plastic alternatives are explored. The importance of international agreements, local regulations, and collaborative efforts in combatting plastic waste is emphasized.

Social work emerges as a critical force in this endeavor. The role of social workers in plastic waste management is highlighted through their involvement in raising public awareness, advocating for policy changes, engaging communities, collaborating with stakeholders, promoting behavior change, and supporting sustainable alternatives. Social workers contribute to the development of community-led initiatives, data collection, capacity building, monitoring, and crisis response. Their ability to empower communities and foster sustainable change makes them indispensable allies in the fight against plastic waste pollution. By combining these solutions and leveraging the influence of social work, a more sustainable future can be forged, where the impacts of plastic waste are significantly diminished.

Smriti Sikri

PhD Student

Jawaharlal Nehru University,
Delhi

Abstract Title: Social Work Interventions in Prisons in India: History and Analysis

Prison reforms in India have a long history, starting from colonial interventions to reduce the cost of prison management while keeping them effective to the post-colonial shift from retribution to reformation. This change is even reflected in the name of prisons, as they are currently called correctional institutions. This change of mindset and facilities has come about through consistent efforts by civil society and NGOs. They have consistently engaged in prison social work, along with other specialists such as lawyers as well as through legislative advocacy to institutionalise the change in mindset. It has resulted in an understanding of crime as circumstantial and as an outcome of multiple vulnerabilities. Hence, shifting crime from the individual to the structure of society itself. However, this role of social work and their contributions are hardly acknowledged, especially institutionally. This paper is aimed at discussing the trajectory of social work in prisons in India and situating it within the perspectives and principles followed in social work practice. It will highlight the contributions of the discipline in prison reforms, including through direct intervention and legislative action that has aimed at institutionalising social work in prisons.

I do this through two sources, a secondary literature review and by referring to Ph.D. dissertations submitted on the role of social work in prisons in the last ten years. I will access them through Shodhganga (literally a reservoir of Indian theses; an online repository of PhD theses submitted in Indian Universities). Through the paper, an attempt is made to situate the discipline and teaching of social work in its consequences of change. It will also enable future social work students to understand the nature of prison social work.

Dr Tanuka Roy Sinha

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&

Dr. Surajit Sarkar

Taylor and Francis Group

Abstract Title: NGOs Capacity Development and Network Building A Way towards New Resolutions to Old Issues

Developing capacity has been a central element for the inclusive progress of the developing countries including India. In such scenario Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) have taken an important role in generating a supplementary sustainable society. They are promoting and working towards a more justifiable way of economic and social development, and are fighting for environmental protection in many ways. Above and beyond, networking and capacity-building activities support the NGO's own events and enable connections with many organizations in other areas, including government agencies. Networking also



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supports NGOs in organizational, economic and legal difficulties that they have. Against this backdrop, the present paper using exploratory research design with a quantitative approach from different NGOs working for sustainable development at Bankura District of West Bengal tries to understand the fundamental role of NGOs in resolving the issues of the community people they are confronting in their daily lives. Moreover, the paper also addresses how NGOs employ numerous approaches to accomplish their aims, such as advocacy and awareness raising for policy change, capacity-building and training for community empowerment, fundraising, rehabilitation, support innovation for entrepreneurial ventures and resource mobilization for sustainability, and collaboration with other stakeholders to influence communal impact. Finally, the paper recommends some measures to improve the role of NGOs in developing a more sustainable and generous society.

Keywords: NGOs' capacity and networking building, sustainability, community empowerment, resource mobilization, advocacy.

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Abstract Title: Artificial Intelligence and Human Connection Essential in the Field of Social Work Practices

AI (Artificial Intelligence) refers to the capability of machines or computer programs to perform tasks that typically require human intelligence, it is gradually finding its way into various fields including social work practice. Russell and Norvig (2016) defined the term AI to describe systems that mimic cognitive functions generally associated with human attributes such as learning, speech and problem-solving. The aim of the study is to know about AI and Human connection which are essential in the field of social work practices. The researchers performed an expert-driven literature search to identify connections between AI and humans (Social work practice). Researchers have argued for a more realistic future where the relationship between AI is likely to transition towards a human-in-the-loop collaborative context rather than an industry-wide replacement of humans (Katz, 2017; Kumar, 2017). The study is based on secondary data which helps to identify the research gaps of AI in the field of social work practices. Another challenge is that the potential for AI is to replace human workers while AI can be a useful tool for social workers, it cannot replace the human connection and empathy that is essential in the field of social work. This suggests that for AI developments to matter in social work, it is important for social workers to maintain a human-centred approach, using AI to enhance their work rather than replacing it.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence, Human Connection, Social work practices.

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Abstract Title: Digital Revolution & Advancing Pedagogy: Training of Next Generation Social Workers In Disaster Risk Reduction And Management.

In a complex world marked by novel changes and growing challenges, social work education and practice. The emergence of the fourth industrial revolution has led to significant impact not only on industry but also education. Social Work education in Western countries has been reshaped as a result of the fourth industrial revolution. Such technology driven change can provide social workers the opportunity to positively impact families, communities and organizations. The technological innovations can be harnessed to address the grand challenges of social work. Despite the growing scientific interest in AI and its application in social work practice, there is a dearth of literature that examines the use of AI in social work. This paper seeks to explore the benefits of virtual reality simulations when it comes to disaster training for social workers. It is essential because, over the past 100 years, the modern world has seen a tenfold growth. Recent advancements in AI, particularly when combined with virtual reality (VR), demonstrate the promise for immersive teaching and learning experiences in social work education. This paper



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capitalizes on the growing interest and novelty of AI in the field of natural disaster management to help lay the groundwork for best practices in the use of AI in social work education and practice.

KEYWORDS: Social Work Education, Disaster Management, AI

Anisha J

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&

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Abstract Title: SOCIAL WORK IN SCHOOLS: NEED AND SCOPE IN INDIA

Schooling is an integral part of the life of most children. Though schools are dedicated institutions where children are educated, moulded and prepared for the future in a controlled environment, a school-going child's life is not void of problems. Apart from manifest issues like academic stress, fear of the future and friendship issues, school-going children face much more serious problems owing to factors like personal practices, excesses by others, poor family environment and so on among school-going children are increasingly reported. Though school teachers make efforts to help children overcome such issues, certain issues require specialised intervention. In this context, there is a growing need for school social workers who can work with children for their well-being.

This conceptual paper focuses on the need and scope for school social work in the Indian context. This paper is structured into four sections: (i) problems faced by school-going children and the growing need for school social workers; (ii) the essential competencies of school social workers; (iii) the roles of a school social worker; and (iv) the global standards and framework for school social work practice that could be adapted in the Indian context. In terms of the pressing problems faced by school-going children, substance abuse, child sexual abuse, smartphone addiction, and mental health issues are discussed and the ensuing need for school social work in the Indian context is presented.

Some of the essential competencies of school social workers are traced in terms of cultural competency, inter-professional collaboration, evidence-based practice, etc. Roles that can be played by a school social worker as a counsellor, educator, mediator, advocate and so on are discussed.

Keywords: School-going children, school social work, schools, India

Vishnu Vinod

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Abstract Title: Social work intervention in correctional setting among young offenders within community: based on a case study in Alappuzha.

This article is looking at social work intervention in correction at the Alappuzha district, Kerala with Young Offenders. The author shares his experiences as a fellow of TISS-BALAJI Foundation Fellowship Program (Criminal Justice Fellowship Program). As a part of the fellowship, the work of the fellow aimed at identifying young offenders who are either alleged or undergoing trial or on Probation and attempts to work towards corrections/rehabilitation. Given past experience as a fieldwork student, the fellow felt it best to associate with the District Probation Office (DPO) in Alappuzha (Social Justice Department, Kerala) to engage with this population.

The fellow/author over the period of one year worked with 15 young offenders who were put into psycho-social rehabilitation by the Probation system. This paper discusses the strategies for intervention used during the rehabilitation process, such as need assessment, analysis of the push-pull factors that encourage an offensive nature in each client, how to use different reintegration methods for offenders to stabilize in the community, how to reduce the recidivism among youth etc. Additionally, the piece of writing highlights the challenges that are encountered in various aspects. In one context, it focuses on client-centric like convincing and building rapport with the individual and their family to ensure their cooperation. Through this paper, the author tries to demonstrate how social work intervention in correctional practices can be practicable within the community. It goes on to discuss the extent of the influence produced by these actions. The author identifies several ideas that could catalyse the process of correction inside the community while simultaneously outlining a possible route to drain the efforts of social work correctional practices in the community



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Anita V Rego

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Abstract Title: Processing trauma through Art

Marital problems often lead to painful departures of relationships. Processing through words becomes difficult and working through personal resources such as art connects with the client. In the case study presented, the therapist will share the use of art to process the emotional issues as homework following the therapy session. Carried over 35 days with long and short sessions, the client who has a Post-traumatic disorder was helped to transition and move forward in life connecting back to her professional space.

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Abstract Title: Smart-apps on Mental Health Literacy for School Teachers: A Design and Development Study

Background: There is a growing need for the promotion of mental health literacy [MHL] especially among Indian school teachers due to the challenges they face in the teaching profession. The objective of the research was to develop a smartphone application for schoolteachers on mental health literacy to improve their mental health knowledge and help-seeking behaviour.

Methods: The study adopted the developmental research approach to analyse, design & develop, validate and evaluate the smartphone application. Need analysis was conducted in five schools with a sample size of 94 school teachers to assess the feasibility of a mental health smart app. In the design- the development phase nine teachers and eight mental health professionals explored the needs framed the smart app learning objectives and developed teacher-specific e-content (I-CVI value of 0.85, Lynn method). In the Intervention-evaluation phase, pre & post-test design was adopted in which 26 teachers participated. The MHL questionnaires for school teachers and app utility feedback form, developed for the study purpose were used to assess the effectiveness of the newly developed smart app. Results: Preference for the digital format was found high as 69% of teachers preferred digital over printed formats for mental health literacy. The evaluation results showed that after the usage of the newly developed smart app for two months, the majority of the participants 66 % had improved their scores on MHL. Conclusion: Apart from knowledge translation and reducing misconceptions, the smart app enables school teachers for basic self-screening on common mental illnesses and aids them to screen emotional and behavioural problems in children.



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KC Premrajan & Nanda Kishore

Abstract Title: Community Resilience amidst COVID 19 Pandemic – A Qualitative Study

COVID-19 is recognized as a global health emergency. It has affected almost every country in the world with over 262 million cases and nearly 5 million deaths to date. Cases, rapid spread, and fatalities have posed a huge burden on the health system. It has also caused greater panic and insecurity among the people worldwide. However, on the other side of the coin, there are instances in the past where such dramatic events caused a silent positive transformation. An example in a social context is the improvement in gender roles and equality with the civil war in Somalia. At an individual and family level lockdown has provided a liminal period for self-introspection and transformation for the population. Similarly, with this COVID-19 pandemic, there are anecdotal instances of positive transformation in media. COVID-19 has made major changes in the social, behavioural and psychological aspects of the community. Most studies focus on the negative impact of the pandemic. Other than isolated case studies or media reports or viewpoints on the positive impact, there are no organized, systematic studies of the positive changes. Hence, this study is planned to explore the socially beneficial consequences that happened as a response to the COVID-19 Pandemic in society at the individual, family, and community levels. Consolidated criteria for reporting qualitative research (COREQ) guidelines were followed for reporting. Ascertaining community resilience, the overarching themes were presented as Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) namely zero hunger, good health & well-being, quality education, clean water, & sanitation, Affordable and clean energy, decent work and economic growth, reduced inequalities and life on land.

Divya J

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&

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Abstract Title: Exploring Resilience in Social Work Trainees

Social work students are at risk for burnout and stress due to the demanding nature of their education and the challenging populations they serve. Resilience is the ability to adapt and bounce back from adversity, and it is essential for social work students to develop in order to succeed in their studies and future careers. Social work education often involves long hours of coursework and fieldwork. This paper through a descriptive research design discusses the resilience among social work students and the role of social work education in fostering the same. The final-year postgraduate trainees were chosen for the study and the data was collected using the Connor-Davidson Resilience Scale. The scale comprises of 25 items reflecting five general factors: personal competence, tolerance of negative affect, acceptance of change, control and spiritual influences. The individual difference factors that have an effect on resilience are understood by examining their support systems and distress. Research revealed that social work students are resilient and they are able to cope with stress and adversity. There is a significant negative relationship between resilience and psychological distress. The various interventions based on the findings to promote resilience among social work trainees is discussed in the paper.

Keywords: Resilience, Social Work, Education, Classroom, Stress, Burn out, Support Systems, Psychological Distress



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Abstract Title: Exploring the Use of Digital Devices

Today, the use of digital devices has become a part of everyone's life. Digital devices play an important role in, for example, education, business, healthcare, fitness, social networking, etc. The use of digital devices has become an important part of modern life and has a great impact on various aspects of society. This study examines the trends, effects and aspects related to the use of digital devices. It explores how personal, professional and social digital relationships are changing, highlighting the opportunities and challenges brought about by the proliferation of devices and technologies. Research helps to understand how digital devices shape and influence communication, productivity, entertainment and even the concept of privacy. The study also discusses the importance of responsible and intentional use of digital devices to maximize benefits and minimize harm. The widespread use of smart phones, tablets, laptops and other digital devices has changed the way we interact with today's world. These devices have given us unprecedented convenience, connectivity and access to information. With the use of digital devices, a great change has taken place in society. It has changed the way information is shared, influenced public opinion, and even defined political outcomes. The digital divide has emerged as a critical issue to ensure fair opportunities for all, and access to devices and the internet remains unequal. It presents both opportunities and challenges that demand our attention and thoughtful action. This study aims to find out how people of different social classes use digital devices. The study helps to understand how digital devices are managed in work and private life.

Key Words Digital device, Digital relationships, Digital divide, Social classes.

Dr. Vijay Kumar Pandey

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&

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Abstract Title: Technology, curriculum and community: an intent of Extension and Outreach Services

Universities and other educational institutions are the pillars of any society, which cater to youths' needs by providing knowledge, facilitating information dissemination and fostering cognitive and intellectual growth. Nevertheless, their role outdoes traditional classroom teaching. In addition to teaching core subjects in the traditional teaching-learning process, technical institutions can play an essential role in community development by actively engaging in outreach activities and extension work, emphasizing the transformative potential of such initiatives in fostering a mutually beneficial relationship between educational institutions and the wider community. The policy document of the University Grant Commission for adult, continuing education, extension and field outreach quotes the policy statement (1977), "If the University system has to discharge its responsibilities adequately to the entire education system and the society as a whole, it must assume extension as the third important responsibility and give it the same status as teaching and research. This new and extremely significant area should be developed based on high priority & quote. The prime vision of incorporating extension and outreach activities is establishing a meaningful and sustained rapport between the universities and the community. Further, the New Education Policy 2020 envisioned education as an instrument for social change. It considers the educational institutions 'Samajik Chetnaendra' (Social Awareness Centre), emphasizing their role in reshaping broader societies through constant community engagements. The Centre for Extension and Field Outreach of DTU runs various programs such as credit courses in extension



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and outreach activities, the Desh ke Mentor programme, the Lab on Wheels, Exploring Engineering and other vocational and community outreach activities and contribute to the people & life. The paper describes the transformative potential of outreach initiatives in fostering a mutually beneficial relationship between the University and the wider community.

Santhana Kamaz Vincent

PhD Scholar

&

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Abstract Title: An Empirical Evidences of Education in Transforming Transgenders in Madurai District, Tamil Nadu

Development process of any human society depends on the social inclusion of everyone, especially the disadvantaged groups like transgender. According to United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (No.4) quality education and (No.5) gender equality, ensure on inclusion of transgender in educational setting. In reality the social stigma in educational environment, detract the gender non-confirming children's enthusiasm; more importantly, they feel avoided, neglected, disrespected, or shamed, lead to dropout from high school or college. It is evident based on 2011 census, the literacy rate of transgender fall on 56 %, compare to the national literacy rate of 74%. Seeing the plight of the transgender, the government of India enacted Transgender Protection Bill, 2019, in that Section 13 address the protective measures in education of transgender. This study aim to depict the scientific evidence on educational status of the respondents, henceforth to suggest innovative strategies in transforming the life of transgender. The findings of the study reveal that the family plays significant role in providing psycho-social support and basic educational needs, but in contrary the non-acceptance at home environment, force the gender non confirming child to migrate and join the transgender community at adolescent stage. After physical transformation and surgical procedure, the transgender resume in to educational setting, but the social stigma haunt in the form of exclusion by peer, teaching faculty and administration remains so unpleasant. The study conclude that the holistic development of transgender has a long way to reach its goal on gender equality and inclusive criteria in educational setting.

Keywords: Gender non-confirming child, Transgender, Education, Social stigma, Development

Immaculate Mary

&

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Abstract Title: Leave No Girl Child Behind: Enhancing Leadership, English and Life Skills Education through Community-Based Peer Learning Model for the Marginalised Girls in UP, Bihar and Delhi Slums in India.

Education is a vital means for unleashing the potentialities of a human to emerge in a positive direction, so that they live with dignity and be self-reliant. Access to quality education is and always has been a key to freedom from subjugation, it serves as a weapon to break the cycle of poverty. Despite great strides made in girl's education in India, over the last few decades, girls from marginalized communities, especially in rural India are still left behind. 'Girl Champions English and Life Skills Empowerment' is a year-long intervention designed through a collaborative effort of a team of subject experts, professional social work practitioners, Civil Society leaders and women led CBO leaders at the grassroots those especially for working for empowerment of the girls in marginalized communities in (Purnea) Bihar, (Shravasthi) UP and Wazirpur, Old Delhi. This program is currently implemented for 30 Girl champion leaders in online twice a week. The Girl Champions reaches out to 300 young adolescent girls in their respective communities during weekends to repeat the activities what they learnt, through in peer learning circles. The project aims to provide Learning English and Life Skills which is 150 hours of intervention spread across 10 months. It is designed through an interdisciplinary approach and by integrating technology for remote learning. The emerging outcomes of this participatory collaborative action learning program is girls developing more interest to learn, overcome fear to use English, improved their life skills to negotiate with parents to travel independently, explore new ideas with critical and creative mindset, confidence to present themselves in public and make decision to delay early marriage, choose education and employment as priority.



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Sonepat Haryana

&

Dr. Rita Goel

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Abstract Title: Understanding who is Left Behind and Why; How to Include Them?

The concept, 'To Leave No One Behind', a 2030 agenda of the UN member states to prioritize more on human dignity and place the progress of the most marginalized communities first. The women and girls are one such important group in most of the societies. The notion being, that the people with the fewest development opportunities should be reached first, required for the realization of the cause and concerns of human rights and justice, defining Servant Leadership. The assumption of this paper is that reaching Sustainable Development Goals would be only possible, with the eradication of the Dark Leadership Thought Process (DLTP) relating to existing inequalities, discrimination, exclusion etc. The barriers in achieving SDG, we need to understand the existing social reality of who is being left behind and why? Therefore, Social work professionals need to reorient their pedagogies and practices in the light of their micro governance styles, necessary for social development, inclusive of their spiritual and conscious development by taking inspiration from global developmental efforts.

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&

Dr. Gaurav Gaur

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Abstract Title: Healthcare of Prisoners in India: An Overview

The healthcare of incarcerated individuals is a critical yet often neglected facet of public health. In India, the prison population faces unique challenges in accessing adequate healthcare services, stemming from a combination of systemic deficiencies and resource constraints. This study aims to provide a comprehensive overview of the state of prisoners' healthcare in India, focusing on key dimensions such as infrastructure, preventive care, mental health support, and rehabilitation initiatives. The central thrust of this study is to assess the quality and accessibility of healthcare services for prisoners in India. It explores the multifaceted nature of healthcare provision, encompassing preventive care, management of acute and chronic diseases, mental health support, and post-release rehabilitation. This study employs a mixed-method approach to comprehensively analyse the state of prisoner's healthcare in India. Primary data is gathered through structured interviews with prison healthcare professionals, inmates, and administrative personnel. A quantitative survey complements this approach to provide a broader perspective on the healthcare infrastructure within the Indian prison system. Secondary data is drawn from official reports, policy documents, and academic literature. The study yields several significant findings, highlighting critical aspects of prisoner's healthcare in India such as infrastructure and resource constraints, preventive care and health education, mental health support, barriers to specialty care and emergency services, rehabilitation and follow-up care and policy recommendations. In conclusion, this research offers a comprehensive evaluation of the healthcare ecosystem within Indian prisons. By spotlighting the existing challenges and providing targeted policy recommendations, this study endeavours to contribute to the ongoing discourse on human rights and healthcare reforms within the Indian prison system.

Keywords: healthcare, inmates, prison population, rehabilitation.



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Dr Shaik Rafi

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Abstract Title: “A Community Advocacy Organizations as a Formidable Strategy to Address the Social Environment of Female Sex Workers in Andhra Pradesh, India. - An Insightful study”

The purpose of this study is to examine how the presence of CAGs influences the outcomes of police advocacy for female sex workers. Data were obtained through a cross-sectional survey that was conducted in the years 2021 and 2022 with the participation of 1986 FSWs and 104 NGO outreach workers from five districts in Andhra Pradesh. From 104 primary sample units (PSUs), FSWs were chosen using a probability-based sampling approach. According to community mobilization efforts, a PSU is a geographic region for which one outreach person is responsible and is anticipated to have an active CAG. “The existence of an active committee or advocacy organization in the area was used to define the presence of active CAGs (PSU).” The attainment of various social rights and measurements of the police reaction, as reported by FSWs, were outcome indicators. Researchers investigated the relationships using multivariate linear and logistic regression. Areas with active CAGs had considerably more FSWs linked “to bank accounts (9.3 vs. 5.9; $p=0.05$), health insurance (13.1 vs. 7.0; $p=0.02$), and ration cards (12.8 vs. 6.8; $p=0.01$)” than their counterparts. FSWs from areas where CAGs are active reported that the police treat them more fairly now than they did a year ago in a significantly higher percentage than other FSWs (79.7% vs. 70.3%; $p=0.05$), and “in a significantly higher percentage (95.7% vs. 87%; $p=0.05$),” respectively. It is essential to recognize the roles that CAGs play in community mobilization since FSWs living in areas with active CAGs were more likely to get access to key social benefits and receive a fair response from the police.

Keywords: Female sex

Srinivasa D

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Abstract Title: The Impact of the Heat Wave on Marginalized Communities in India: Reflections of Social Workers

Rising heat waves are a major climate change consequence. The world is unpredictable and unstable, and numerous calamities occur daily in different corners of the planet. Natural catastrophes include earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, tsunamis, fires, floods, drought, and severe weather (hot waves, snowstorms, tropical storms, and avalanches). War, social unrest, transport accidents, fires, terrorist attacks, nuclear radiation, and atomic explosions are “human disasters” that can kill more people than natural disasters. The comprehension of the social work profession for many individuals, the key objective of the social work profession revolves around the augmentation of the requirements of individuals categorised as vulnerable, oppressed, and residing in impoverished conditions. Nevertheless, my comprehension of the social work profession entails facilitating individuals in effectuating constructive transformations in their lives, ultimately leading to an enhanced standard of living. With the greediness of human lives, the fauna and the flora are facing much distress-the heatwaves one among them. Most of us agree that our world is exceptionally unpredictable and uncertain, and many calamities occur daily in different regions of the globe. Even though we need more disaster management expertise, it is simple to comprehend that catastrophes are separated into two main categories: natural and human disasters. While most middle-class individuals find summer uncomfortable, daily labourers, marginalised casual workers, and industrial manual workers suffer greatly. The impact of the incident affects various marginalised community stakeholders like construction, mining, domestic, NREG, Industrial, forest producer and forest, sanitation, farm and farmers and street, rickshaw and hand art pullers are forced to labour in it. This research addresses the intervention of social work to prevent, cure and develop marginalised communities during heat wave season.



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Daniel Jacinth Boddu

Student

&

Dr. Sriramulu

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Abstract Title: Role of Social Work education for promoting clean energy and mitigating strategies to deal with Climate Change

Typically, the term “clean” or “carbon-free” energy is used to refer to the electricity that is generated by facilities that do not directly emit greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide during the generating process. Also the impact of using fossil fuels increases the level of heat across the globe resulting into climate change, which brings many types of environmental changes across the globe. Clean energy production allows us to generate the energy we need without the greenhouse gas emissions and negative environmental effects that come with fossil fuels, in turn helping to reduce climate change. The more we’re able to reduce our carbon footprint and rely on clean and renewable sources of energy, the better chance we’ll have of mitigating the effects of climate change and preserving our planet for future generations. This paper aims to explore the concept of Clean Energy, its developments and the role of social workers in promoting it. The role of social work education in educating the impact of fossil fuels and developing as well as evolving new technologies to reach the intended target of the Government is essential. There is a huge impact on people across the globe due to climate change and the vulnerable communities become more vulnerable due to various kinds of environmental impacts, particularly there is a lot of impact on children’s education and school as well as there is an impact on rural livelihoods

Dr Surabhi Parihar

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Abstract Title: An Assessment of The Protection of Women against Sexual Harassment at Workplace Act 2013 after a decade: Reality, Challenges and Suggestions.

Despite the Indian economy has grown more than 10 times since 1990, there is reduction in female workforce participation from 30 per cent in 1990 to 19 per cent as of 2021. This report shows opposite graph as it should be. The reason can be various like lack of job opportunity, patriarchal society, and social conditioning also. Gender parity is not recovering and it will take another 132 years to fill this gap according to world economic forum. India rank 135th out of 146 countries in global gender gap index for 2022. Since this paper will explore the challenges of women at workplace and their grievance redressal with special reference to sexual harassment at workplace so it is necessary to know the present information about female workforce. Sexual Harassment at workplace Act 2013 enacted in the organizations, enterprises, and institutes where female worker is working. This law is come for protection of women at workplace to give them safety, respect, just and dignity at workplace. This study is based on working women in the organization and their experience regarding grievance redressal committee under this act. How efficiently and honestly these committees are working will determine the future of women to retain and work soundly. This study will also explore the challenges under this scheme and suggestions by victim in itself. There designation must be impacting their condition in the organization and harassment against them too.

This paper will analysis all the possible dimension with reference to Internal Complaints Committees under the POSH Act 2013, based on the data of respondent.

Shubham Kumar

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Abstract Title: Undoing the Harm through Restorative Justice in the Cases of Child Sexual Abuse

For years justice has been served in a retributive manner as there is always a huge hue and cry for criminals of grave offences like child sexual abuse (CSA) to be severely punished. It is in this context that the criminal justice system has been focusing on the component of restorative justice (RJ) lately. It emphasizes on rehabilitation of criminals through rapprochement with victims and larger society. It seeks to make up for the harm that the unlawful behaviour has caused. It encompasses collaborative processes that involve all the key stakeholders and embarks on bringing about changes for individuals, their close ones, and the



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communities. Despite being pervasive, child sexual abuse in India is difficult to record because of the secrecy surrounding it, and various factors like fear of social stigma, and reluctance to accuse close family members. This paper will analyse RJ as it applies to child sexual abuse cases. Additionally, the paper includes all concepts relevant to the subject and it will help the readers understand different perspectives on the notion of RJ. The paper will be based on a qualitative descriptive approach, based on a review of secondary resources like WHO, and UNICEF reports. The key findings of the paper suggest that Child sexual abuse is a grave offence and society deems it negatively with a stigmatic approach revolving around it. The cases are difficult to handle in the traditional set-up of the criminal justice system and further exacerbate the psychological, social, and economic impact on the survivors. By understanding the role of legal professionals, the paper suggests filling the loopholes of the system with RJ.

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Maharashtra

Abstract Title: Environment and Social Work

As a profession with a long-standing declared focus on person-in-environment, social work might be expected to play a leadership role in interdisciplinary efforts to tackle environmental threats to human well-being and continued existence, yet the profession has generally been silent or less than relevant. This abstract explores the dynamic relationship between social work and the environment, highlighting the crucial role that social workers play in addressing environmental issues and promoting sustainable practices. As the world faces escalating environmental challenges, from climate change to resource depletion, the field of social work has evolved to encompass eco-social perspectives. The profession's longstanding person-in-environment perspective is examined for constraints that inhibit understanding of environmental issues and the development of effective strategies. This paper delves into the ways in which social work interventions can contribute to the well-being of both individuals and the planet, emphasizing the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration and holistic approaches. It also underscores the ethical imperative for social workers to address environmental concerns as an integral part of their practice, ultimately striving for a more just and sustainable society. Alternative understandings of the environment from specializations within the profession and related disciplines are considered. It concludes with directions toward new models of practice incorporating a view of people as a place that may help us towards a broader mission of learning to live well in place. This paper discusses the evolving role of social workers in environmental contexts, emphasizing their contributions to environmental justice, disaster response, and community resilience. It also explores the ethical imperatives guiding social workers in their efforts to promote sustainable living, protect marginalized communities, and foster a sense of environmental responsibility among individuals and community.

Indhumathi Srinivasan

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Dr. Binu Sahayam D

Vellore Institute of Technology

Chennai

Abstract Title: Exploring the Nexus of Technology and Social Determinants of Health in the Elderly

Understanding the interplay between technology and social determinants of health becomes paramount for improving their overall well-being. This qualitative study will investigate the multifaceted relationship between technology access, utilization, and the social determinants of health in elderly individuals. By examining factors such as socio-economic status, education, social support, and community engagement, this research seeks to unveil how technology can influence and be influenced by these determinants. In-depth interview guide will be used to gather a holistic understanding about the influence of technology in elderly. Unified theory of acceptance and use of technology theory and ecological model of social work intervention will be incorporated. The qualitative study will offer insights into personal experiences, shedding light on the significance of technology's impact on



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access to healthcare, social interactions, and community involvement. Using convenient sampling technique 30 elderly people will be involved in this study. This research contributes to the discourse on aging and technology by offering an in-depth view of the intricate relationship between technology and social determinants of health in the elderly. The findings underscore the importance of tailored interventions that bridge the digital divide, ensuring equitable access to technology resources and promoting digital literacy. Ultimately, this study informs policy formulation and intervention strategies that aim to enhance the health and quality of life of the elderly population in an increasingly technology-driven society.



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Technical Session Presentation Schedule

Parallel Technical Session – 01

Sub-theme: Social Work Curriculum: Pedagogy and Pedagogical Challenges

Date: 04 November 2023 | **Time:** 9:00 am to 11:00 am

Venue: First Floor, Room No. 207 | School of Arts & Social Sciences

Chair: Prof. Suresh Pathare

S. N.	Name of the Presenter (s)	Affiliation	Title of the Paper
1.	Dr. Sharon Menezes Prof. Vijay Raghavan	TISS Mumbai	Developing Curriculum for Criminal Justice Social Work from the Field
2.	Dr. Shewli Kumar	TISS Mumbai	We only want Justice! An Experience of Doing Intersectional Feminist Social Work Research
3.	Mr. Md Ibrahim Quadri	Dept. of Social Work AMU	Scope of School Social Work in India: A Supply-Demand Analysis of Social Work Education Institutes and Service Providers
4.	Ms. Shenbakam Natarajan Ms. Sharnitha Shanmugam Dr. Sheeja Remani B. Karalam	Christ University Bengaluru	Incorporating Evidence-Based Practice into Psychiatric Social Work Education
5.	Dr. Shaizy Ahmed Mr. Praveen Singh	Dept. of Social Work Central University of Rajasthan Dept. of Sociology & Social Work Banasthali Vidyapith Rajasthan	Social Work Practice with School Children: Reflections from Rural Communities
6.	Mr. Anwar Ahmad Ansari	Dept. of Social Work University of Delhi	NEP 2020 and the Future of Madrasa Education in India
7.	Dr. Devidas Pralhadrao Shambharkar	Mahatma Jyotiba Fule College of Social Work Yavatmal	Constitutional Value-Based Social Work in India: Relevance and Commitment



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8.	Dr. Kavya Jyotsna Uppuleti	Department of Social Work Dr. B R Ambedkar University Andhra Pradesh	Awareness levels on POSH Programme among University teachers in AP
9.	Ms. Anoushka Jha	Dept. of Social Work University of Delhi	Tackling Online Gender-Based Violence Through Social Work Practice and Methods
10.	Ms. Hina Khan	Dept. of Social Work MANUU Hyderabad	Professional Satisfaction of Social Workers: Concept and Components
11.	Dr. Anish K.R.	Dept. of Social Work Rajagiri College of Social Sciences Kochi	Case-Based Pedagogy for Teaching Social Casework: Enhancing Conceptual Clarity and Skills in Graduate Students
12.	Mr. Naresh Kumar Prof. Ranvir Singh	Dept. of Social Work Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar University Agra	Implementation of National Education Policy 2020 In Preschool Education: A Sustainable Development Strategy
13.	Dr. Risha Baruah	1899, Outram Lines North West Delhi	Learning from Experiences- Reflections and Insights From 'Retired' Social Work Educators and Professionals
14.	Dr. Muhammad Nayim Dr. Rupesh Kumar Singh	Dept. of Social Work Bundelkhand University Dr. Shakuntala Mishra National Rehabilitation University Lucknow	National Education Policy 2020 and Role of Social Work Intervention



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Parallel Technical Session – 02

Sub-theme: Sustainable Interventions with Adolescents and Youth

Date: 04 November 2023 | **Time:** 9:00 am to 11:00 am

Venue: First Floor, Room No. 208 | School of Arts & Social Sciences

Chair: Prof. Atul Pratap Singh

S. N.	Name of the Presenter (s)	Affiliation	Title of the Paper
1.	Prof. Pratibha J. Mishra	Gurughasidas Central University Bilaspur	Meeting the Challenges of COVID-19 in Adolescence for Future Well-Being
2.	Mr. Fayaz Ahmad Paul Mr. Indrajeet Banerjee Dr. Arif Ali Dr. Nurnahar Ahmed	Dept. of Psychiatric Social Work, LGB Regional Institute of Mental Health Tezpur	Predicting the Mental Health of Undergraduate University Students in Northeast India with Academic Psychological Capital: A Cross-Sectional Study
3.	Dr. Shaizy Ahmed Ms. Abhilasha Sharma	Dept. of Social Work Central University of Rajasthan	Attitude and Reactions of Educated Girls Towards Menstrual Health Management in rural Rajasthan
4.	Mr. Mohd Faizan Quraishi	Dept. of Social Work AMU Aligarh	Youth Perspectives on Dowry: A Study of Female Adolescents Attitudes, Awareness, and Beliefs in India
5.	Dr. Arif Ali Dr. Jahanara M Gajendra Ms. Edlina Karketta	Dept. of Psychiatric Social Work, IHBAS Delhi Dept. Social Work Tezpur University Assam	An Epidemiological Study of Health Risk Behavioural and Protective Factors Among School-Going Adolescents of Assam and Jharkhand Using the Global School-Based Student Health Survey (GSHS) Questionnaire



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6.	Mr. Shailesh Vitthalbhai Brahmbhatt Dr. Falguni Mistry	Children's University Gandhinagar Gujarat Vidhyadeep University Surat	Sustainable Interventions with Adolescents and Youth: Promoting Positive Development and Well-being
7.	G. Naveena Dr. Prof. P. Arjun	Dept. of Social Work Andhra University Visakhapatnam	Does Youth Uses Internet as a Method of Cybercrime
8.	Dr. Lakshmikant Bhojram Chopkar	Kumbhakar Evening College of Social Work Nagpur	Demographic Dividend and Life Skills in India
9.	Ms. Sara Elizabeth B Mr. Harikrishnan U Sojan P Joseph	Don Bosco Arts and Science College Kerala	Knowledge of Sexually Transmitted Infections among School-Going Adolescents: Experimental Group Intervention Study
10.	Mr. Amit Rawat	University of Lucknow Lucknow, UP	Psychosocial Impact of Menstruation on Visually Impaired school Girls (age 12-17)
11.	Dr. Sameera Khanam	Dept. of Social Work AMU Aligarh	Black Magic and Pregnancy: Perceptions and Motivations
12.	Dr. Prabhanjan Kumar Dr. Ved Prakash	Dept. of Social Work M.G. Kashi Vidyapith Varanasi	Mental and Emotional Problems of Adolescence after COVID-19 Pandemic Needs and Solution
13.	Dr. Prakash S. Yadav	Department of Social Work Tilak Maharashtra Vidyapeeth Pune	Sustainable Livelihood Initiatives through Women Entrepreneurship leads to Zero Poverty and Hunger: A Participatory Action Research Study of Bahirwadi Village, Tal Purandar, Dist. Pune



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Parallel Technical Session – 03

Sub-theme: Intervention Models with Rural, Urban and Tribal Communities

Date: 04 November 2023 | **Time:** 9:00 am to 11:00 am

Venue: First Floor, Room No. 307 | School of Arts & Social Sciences

Chair: Prof. Mouleshri Vyas

S. N.	Name of the Presenter (s)	Affiliation	Title of the Paper
1.	Dr. Qurratul Aein Ali Mr. Ehtesham Akhter Mr. Mohd Ishaq	Dept. of Social Work AMU, Aligarh	Sustainable Sanitation and Hygiene: Role of Panchayati Raj Institution in Rural India
2.	Ms. Aswathy Mohan Mr. Aswathi KR Jenikrishna MU	Central University of Tamil Nadu Visva-Bharati University West Bengal	Revival of Indigenous Farming Systems and Rural Sustainability Through Green Social Work: A Case Study of Pokkali Farming in Kerala, India
3.	Dr. Shaizy Ahmed Ms. Nikita	Dept. of Social Work, Central University of Rajasthan	Corporate Social Responsibility Initiatives on Women Empowerment: A Case Study of Rajasthan
4.	Mr. Shahdab PP	Dept. of Social Work University of Delhi	Vanishing playgrounds: Climate change, football, faith, and community building
5.	Dr. Shyna Saif	Dept. of Social Work AMU Aligarh	Empowering Communities: Self-Help Groups as Catalysts for Sustainable Livelihood and Poverty Reduction
6.	Dr. Reena Merin Cherian	Christ University Bengaluru	Role of Women in Preventing Substance Abuse in the Community: Promoting Healthy Behaviour in Rurban Communities of Bangalore, India
7.	Ms. Seema William Xalxo Dr. A Balakrishnan	Gandhigram Rural Institute Centre for Applied Research Gandhigram University Tamil Nadu	Empowering Rural Women through Self-Help Groups: A Catalyst for Sustainable Development



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8.	Ms. Shivangi Trivedi	University of Lucknow	Fourth Wave Feminism through the Lens of Web Series: A Deeper Perspective in Indian Context
9.	Ms. Ajanta Sarkar	Dept. of Social Work Visva-Bharati University West Bengal	Social Stigma and Gender Inequality A Barrier to Rural OBC Women Academic Advancement in West Bengal
10.	Ms. Sudipta Mondal Prof. Asok Kumar Sarkar	Dept. of Social Work Visva-Bharati University West Bengal	Nutritional Inequities Among the Tribals & The Contemporary Challenges for The Government of India: A Review of Secondary Sources
11.	Mr. Yadnesh Mahipat Kadam Ms. Mital Ganpat Kamble	TISS, Mumbai IGNOU, New Delhi	Exploring Citizen Engagement and Social Work Interventions in Tackling Civic Challenges an Investigation in the Mumbai Metropolitan Region
12.	Dr. Sudeshna Saha Ms. Baisakhi Somondal	Visva-Bharati University West Bengal	Role of NGOs in Promoting Sustainable Livelihood with Special Emphasis on Dokra & Terracotta Artisans of Chhattisgarh & Odisha
13.	Mr. Sujan Banerjee	Bankura University West Bengal	Impact of Natural Disaster on Rural Livelihood: A Case Study of Sundarban Community from Green Social Work Perspective
14.	Ms. Arya Vats	Miranda House University of Delhi	Sustainable Fashion: A Luxury That Makes a Difference
15.	Ms. Pekham Basu	TISS Mumbai	Sustainable Communities – Impact of Corporates and Corporate Social Responsibility



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Parallel Technical Session – 04

Sub-theme: Marginality and Working with Marginalized Groups (A)

Date: 04 November 2023 | **Time:** 9:00 am to 11:00 am

Venue: Second Floor, Room No. 308 | School of Arts & Social Sciences

Chair: Dr. Habeebul Rahiman V.M.

S. N.	Name of the Presenter (s)	Affiliation	Title of the Paper
1.	Ms. Bandana Meher	Social Work Sambalpur University Odisha	Reviving Traditions: Exploring Sambalpuri Textile Weavers Journey through Occupational Mobility and Social Enterprise in Western Odisha
2.	Ms. Najma Mushtaq	Dept. of Social Work MANUU Hyderabad	Livelihood Realities of Gujjar Tribes in Jammu and Kashmir: An Ethnographic Account
3.	Mr. Arham Hasan Rizvi Dr. Mohammad Tahir	Dept. of Social Work AMU Aligarh	Social Work in Palliative Care in India: Emergence, Current Status and Future Prospects
4.	Dr. Rohit Bharti	Ministry of Labour and Employment New Delhi	Child Labour Rehabilitation: What Does the Jiwica Framework Say?
5.	Dr. Afsana Mr. Vishal Maurya Mr. Tehjeeb Alam	Mahatma Jyotiba Phule Rohilkhand University Bareilly AMU, Aligarh	Knowledge and Attitude Toward 'Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act 2019' of India: A Study of Kinnar Community of Bareilly Division of Uttar Pradesh
6.	Ms Jenikrishna MU Aswathy Mohan	Visva-Bharati University West Bengal Dept. of social work, Central University of Tamil Nadu	Health of Inter-State Migrants in Marine Fisheries: A Qualitative Study with Special Reference to Kerala Marine Sector.
7.	Ms. Liyanage Chandima Inoka Jayasena Abhishek Thakur	Dept. of Social work Pondicherry University Dept. of Social Work University of Delhi	Resilience in Higher Education: Analyzing Academic Constraints and Coping Mechanisms among Visually Impaired Students in Sri Lankan Universities of Higher Learning



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8.	Dr. Prakanshi	Lucknow U.P.	Women's Safety: A Path to Empowerment
9.	Dr. Sasmita Patel	Dept. of Social Work Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya	Unraveling Community Views on Drugs Addiction: A Study in Darjeeling District
	Anmol Lama	Dept. of Social Work Visva- Bharti, West Bengal	
10.	Pranita Sunil Indulkar	Dept. of Social Work University of Delhi	Right to The City: Space for Women in Urban Spaces
11.	Ms. Nuzhat Parween	Dept. of Social Work University of Delhi	How We Label Refugees: Deciphering the Politics of Terminologies
12.	Mr. Anuranj K K	Dept. of Social Work Pondicherry University	Student Organizations Among LGBTQA+: Fostering Inclusive Education in Higher Education Institutions
13.	Ms. Shama Fatma	Dept. of Social Work MANUU Hyderabad	Impact of Reservation on The Employment of Women: A Study of Bihar
14.	Dr. Faiyaz Ahmad	UNFPA-MANUU (AEP) Project MANUU Hyderabad	Negotiating Challenges into Opportunities: From the Perspective of Muslim Women Pursuing Higher Education



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Parallel Technical Session – 05

Sub-theme: Marginality and Working with Marginalized Groups (B)

Date: 04 November 2023 | **Time:** 9:00 am to 11:00 am

Venue: Third Floor, Room No. 407 | School of Arts & Social Sciences

Chair: Prof. Keshav Walke

S. N.	Name of the Presenter (s)	Affiliation	Title of the Paper
1.	Mr. Aditya Giri Deka	Dept. of Social Work University of Delhi	The Role of Vocational Training in the Skill Enhancement of Persons with Visual Impairment
2.	Kundurthi Venkates Shanivaram Reddy K Dr. Aarti Jagannathan B.P. Nirmala L Ponnuchamy	Dept. of Psychiatric Social Work NIMAHNS Bengaluru	Peer Support for Persons with Mental Illness
3.	Ms. Violet Duttson	Piramal Foundation Assam	Tale of a Conical Hat: A Study on the Jaapi Industry of Nalbari District
4.	Mr. S Bavajan	University of Hyderabad	A Study of Challenges Faced by Urdu Medium Students Studying in English Medium Schools in Andhra Pradesh
5.	Ms. Biswabhusan Ghadai Amita Singh	TISS Mumbai National Institute of Social Work and Social Sciences Bhubaneswar	The Disguised Community in India: Exploring the Marginality of The Farming Community
6.	Mr. Saifuddin Soz	Dept. of Social Work MANUU Hyderabad	Disruption in Agricultural Pattern Due to Unpredictable Weather Conditions and its Effect on Farmer's Family of Kishanganj District of Bihar
7.	Dr. Syeda Saba Quadri	Roda Mistry College of Social Work Hyderabad	Socio-Economic Status of Persons with Disabilities Availing Welfare Schemes: A Study of Hyderabad



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8.	Mr. Md. Faizan Alam	Dept. of Social Work MANUU Hyderabad	Occupational Social Work as a Catalyst for Sustainable Health and Wellbeing in Indian Tea Garden Workers
9.	Jenikrishna M U Dr. Neelmani Jaysawal	Dept. of Social Work Visva-Bharti University West Bengal	Inter-State Migrants and The Response of Kerala's Health System During The COVID-19 Pandemic: A Review
10.	Ms. Sadaf Fatima	Dept. of Social Work MANUU Hyderabad	Social Work Intervention with Refugees: A Systematic Review
11.	Mr. Mohd Shakeel Ahmed Mohd Gayas	College of Social Work Amravati	Status of Children Living in The Child Care Institutions of Amravati Division Maharashtra: An Empirical Study
12.	Ms. D Hanni Pavithra	Dept. of Women Studies Sri Padmavati Mahila Visva Vidhyalayam Tirupati	Migration and quality of life effect of seasonal migration on children
13.	Mr. Ibne Hasan	Dept. of Social Work MANUU Hyderabad	Contribution of SHGs for Marginalized Women in Achieving Sustainable Development Goals in India
14.	Ms. Indhumathi Srinivasan Dr. Binu Sahayam D	Vellore Institute of Technology Chennai	Exploring the Nexus of Technology and Social Determinants of Health in the Elderly



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Parallel Technical Session – 06

Sub-theme: Innovations in Social Work Practice and Research

Date: 04 November 2023 | **Time:** 9:00 am to 11:00 am

Venue: Third Floor, Room No. 408 | School of Arts & Social Sciences

Chair: Prof. Asok Kumar Sarkar

S. N.	Name of the Presenter (s)	Affiliation	Title of the Paper
1.	Dr Anita Victorina Rego	PEARLSS 4 Development Private Limited Hyderabad	Single Case Intervention: Art in Social Work Interventions for Grief
2.	Dr. Siddharth Gangale Ms. Puja Bhujade	Dept. of Social Work MANUU Hyderabad MJFCSW Yavatmal	Mental Health Intervention & Youth Friendly Services in India
3.	Ms. Athira V.H	Dept. of Social Work Pondicherry University	Generational Care in Indigenous Communities: A Study of Grandmothers Raising Grandchildren in Attappadi Indigenous Belt, Kerala
4.	Ms. Rosna Vincent	Dept. of Social Work Pondicherry University	Leave No One Behind: The BUDS Institutions Kerala Model for Integrating Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities into the Community
5.	Ms. Kajal	School of Social Work IGNOU New Delhi	"Empowering Resilience: The Crucial Role of NGOs in Supporting the Transgender Community amidst the COVID-19 Pandemic"
6.	Dr Ravilla Mahendranath Chowdary	The Apollo University Tirupati Andhra Pradesh	A Critical Study on The Importance of School Volunteering and Social Work to Increase Academic Success?
7.	Dr. Sohini Sengupta Prof. Mouleshri Vyas	TISS Mumbai	Transparency-Work: Formats, Contention, And Truth-Telling in The Practice of Social Audits
8.	Mr. Suraqua Fahad	Dept. of Social Work University of Delhi	Leveraging Artificial Intelligence in Enhancing Medical Social Work Practice: A Paradigm Shift in Addressing Public Health Challenges



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9.	Ms. Namita Seth	Sambalpur University Dhanupali Odisha	The Use of Sustainable Menstrual Hygiene Products: A KAP Study Among Young Unmarried Women in Odisha, India
10.	Tirtha Ghosh	Dept. of Social Work Visva-Bharati University West Bengal	Developing an Environmental Migration Governance Framework for Coastal Regions of West Bengal
11.	Habeeb T Chitra K P	Dept. of Social Work Central University of Tamil Nadu	Sufi Legacy in Kerala: Illuminating the Dynamics of Muslim Life
12.	Ritika Chhetri Ushnish Guha Dr. Paramita Roy Prof. Prasanta Kumar Ghosh Dr. Debendra Nath Dash Dr. Debayan Dutta	Dept. of Social Work Visva-Bharati West Bengal	Community Engagement in select Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in West Bengal
13.	Chengol Mallesham Dr. Ramesh B Chiluka Harish	Selection Centre Central Bhopal Dept. of Social Work IGNTU Amarkantak University of Hyderabad	Trauma-Informed Social Work: Emerging Pedagogy and Practices for Navigating Empowerment among Clients and Communities Survived with Trauma
14.	Dr. Pushpa Mishra Dr. Sanjeev Kumar	Dept. of Social Work Jananayak Chandrashekhar University U.P.	Plastic Waste Management: Challenges and Solutions



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Parallel Technical Session – 07

Sub-theme: Social Work Curriculum: Pedagogy and Pedagogical Challenges

Date: 04 November 2023 | **Time:** 5:30pm to 07:30pm

Venue: First Floor, Room No. 207 | School of Arts & Social Sciences

Chair: Dr. Shaizy Ahmed

S. N.	Name of the Presenter (s)	Affiliation	Title of the Paper
1.	Dr. K.P. Asha Mukundan Dr. Roshni Nair Shaikh	TISS Mumbai	Insights into Teaching Social Work Practice with Individuals
2.	Prof. Mouleshri Vyas Dr. Sohini Sengupta	TISS Mumbai	Photographs in Field Work Recordings: How Students Present the Field, And What We Learn from Them
3.	Dr. Nabila Kamil Raza Qureshi	The MS University of Baroda	Extended Social Work Activities beyond the Professional Limits: (Initiatives by Baroda Muslim Doctors Association and Gandevikar Jewelers, in Vadodara)
4.	Dr. Sateesha Gouda M	Govt. First Grade College Karnataka	Transforming Social Work Education: A Deep Dive into the National Education Policy-2020
5.	Dr. Sundarraj Palanichamy	Meenakshi Mission Hospital & Research Centre Madurai	Trauma-Informed Care in Social Work Application
6.	Dr. Md. Aftab Alam Dr. Iftekhar Alam	Dept. of Social Work MANUU Hyderabad Dept. of Social Work Pondicherry University	Revisiting Fieldwork Practicum in Social Work: Reflections from Indian Experiences
7.	Dr. Tushar Singh	Amity Institute of Liberal Arts Amity University	Interdisciplinary Collaborations in Social Work Research and Pedagogy: With an Eye to the Future



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8.	Ms. Vidushi Srivastava	Amity Institute of Liberal Arts Amity University	Encapsulating Innovative Social Work Practices, Pedagogy & Research
9.	Dr. Habeebul Rahiman V.M.	Dept. of Social Work JMI New Delhi	Role of Social Work Profession in Promoting Communal Harmony and Social Cohesion
10.	Ms. H.M.D Subodini Herath	National Institute of Social Development Sri Lanka	Navigating the Challenges of Inclusive Education in the Post-COVID-19 Era: A Study of Socio-economic Impacts on Secondary-level Students in Online Learning Environments
11.	Ms. Subhaa Shree T Mrs. J. Tresa Sugirtha	Dept. of Social Work PSG College of Arts & Science Coimbatore	The Impact of Western Ideologies on Social Work Practices in India
12.	Ms. Sarikha T Mrs. J. Tresa Sugirtha	Dept. of Social Work PSG College of Arts & Science Coimbatore	A Study on Social Work Pedagogy in the Context of National Education Policy 2020- Prospects and Challenges
13.	Vishal Mishra Rambabu Botcha	Dept. of Social Work University of Delhi Dept. of Social Work RGNIYD Tamil Nadu	Disruptive yet Inventive: Navigating Fieldwork in Social Work Education amidst Covid-19 - Insights from Indian Students
14.	Dr. Mohmad Iqbal	ICSSR Jammu and Kashmir	The Generative Artificial Intelligence AI and its Applications in Social Work Praxis



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Parallel Technical Session – 08

Sub-theme: Sustainable Interventions with Adolescents and Youth

Date: 04 November 2023 Time | 5:30 pm to 07:30 pm

Venue: First Floor, Room No. 208 | School of Arts & Social Sciences

Chair: Dr. Arif Ali

S. N.	Name of the Presenter (s)	Affiliation	Name of the Title
1.	Dr Chandrashekhar Singh	Dept. of Social Work MGKVP, Varanasi	Emergence of Drug in Adolescence in the Sustainable Development Goal's Era
2.	Ms. Chayanika Das	Assam University	Leaving No Girl Behind: A Comprehensive Analysis of Universal Access to Sexual and Reproductive Health for Adolescent Girls in Tea Tribe Community
3.	Dr. M. Maria Antony Raj	Kalasalingam Academy of Research and Education Tamil Nadu	Impact of Resilience on Mental Health among Youth - A Structural Equation Model
4.	Pooja Sharma Dr. Nembikkim Rose	SOSW IGNOU	Green Menstruation in India: An Assessment of Initiatives, Actions and Role of Social Work
5.	Ms. Abhinaya R Dr. Anbu Selvi G	Dept. of Social Work Sree Saraswathi Thyagaraja College Coimbatore	A Qualitative Study on Productivity Loss due to Menstruation at Workplace
6.	Akshit Katoch Prof. Monika Munjial	Research Scholar, Centre for Social Work Panjab, University Chandigarh	Mental Health and Laws in India.
7.	Dr. Sneha Chandrapal Prof. Ankur Saxena	Anand Institute of Social Work Anand Faculty of Social Work The M.S. University Vadodara	Access to Reproductive and Child Health Services among Rural Women



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8.	Mr. Loyola Aumose	Research Scholar Kalasalingam Academy of Research and Education Tamil Nadu	Exploring the Reciprocal Relationship Between Mental Health, Social Support, Stress and Happiness
9.	Vishwesh K Thippeswamy V Dr. Arif Ali	Dept. of Psychiatry SDM college of Medical Sciences & Hospital Dept. of Psychiatric Social Work, IHBAS, New Delhi	Life Skills Among Adolescents of Urban and Rural Areas – A Cross Sectional Study
10.	Mithun Mondal Ms. Mounee Jesmin	Dept. of Social Work Visva Bharati University West Bengal St. Xaviers University Kolkata	Iron Folic Acid (IFA) supplementation among pregnant women in Urban Slums of Kolkata Obstacles and Enabling factors
11.	Dr. Prakash Amin	Dr. M V Shetty Institute of Professional Sciences and Management, Mangalore	Awareness about the cause and effects of drug use among College Students
12.	Dr. Abul Salim Khan	Dept. of Social Work MANUU Hyderabad	Maternal and Newborn Care Practices: A Thematic Review



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Parallel Technical Session – 09

Sub-theme: Intervention Models with Rural, Urban and Tribal Communities

Date: 04 November 2023 | Time: 5:30 pm to 07:30 pm

Venue: First Floor, Room No. 307 | School of Arts & Social Sciences

Chair: Dr. D. C. Kirtiraj

S. N.	Name of the Presenter (s)	Affiliation	Title of the Paper
1.	Ms. Riya Ghosh	Visva-Bharati University West Bengal	A Discourse Analysis on Gender and Climate Change in The Coastal Areas of Sundarbans.
2.	Irtifa Mukhter Richa Chowdhary	Dept. of Social Work University of Delhi Dept. of Social Work B R Ambedkar College University of Delhi	Social Innovation and Enterprise for Sustainable Community-Driven Waste Management in Rural Kashmir a Qualitative Study
3.	Ms. Shelley Saha Sinha	Dept. of Social Work Visva Bharati University	Sustainable Development Goals and Health of Scheduled Tribes in India: A New Era or a Missed Opportunity?
4.	Dr. Puneet Kumar Ojha	Dept. of Social Work University of Delhi	Impact of Corporate Social Responsibility on Public Health
5.	Debayan Dutta Prof. Asok Kumar Sarkar	Dept. of Social Work Visva-Bharati University West Bengal	Swasthya Sathi Scheme, Social Protection and Social Cohesion: Experiences of Rural West Bengal, India
6.	Dr. Kanagaraj S.	Dept. of Social Work Amrita School of Social and Behavioural Sciences Coimbatore	Exploring Effective Social Work Interventions in Rural Communities: Insights from Open-Setting Fieldwork Experiences
7.	Ms. Jayatree Buragohain Mr. Vaishag Velayudhan	Dept. of Social Work University of Delhi	Empowering Rural Communities: A Study on the Role of CSR by the Public Sector Undertakings in Assam



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8.	Ms. Geethamaaligha G Ms. S Gayathri	Anna Adarsh College for Women Chennai	The Effectiveness on Implementing CSR Activities in Puthoor Government School, Chennai: An Empirical Study
9.	Ms. Anju P Dr. A K Mohan	Dept. of Social Work Central University of Kerala	Assessing the Role of Life Skills in Enhancing Demographic Dividend in Developing Nations
10.	Minnalapuram Ramgopal Dr. K. Visweswara Rao	Dept. of Social Work Andhra University Visakhapatnam	Impact of Swachh Bharat Mission Grameen on Jangaon District of Telangana State: A Secondary Data Analysis
11.	Dilu Mangalath Saji S. Kalaiselaya	Mangalath House Aruvappulam P.O Konni SRMV College of Arts and Science Coimbatore	Towards A Hunger-Free State: Strategies and Initiatives in Kerala
12.	Dr. Indranil Sarkar Prof. Asok Kumar Sarkar	Dept. of Social Work Visva-Bharati, Sriniketan West Bengal	Determinants of Utilizations of Postnatal Care Services among the Santal Women in West Bengal
13.	Mr. Raghunath Mandal	Dept. of Social Work Institute of Media Studies Bhubaneswar	Leveraging National Service Scheme for Quality Educational Sustainable Development in Urban Slums
14.	Yenibera Rajesh Prof. V. Venkateswarlu	Dept. of Sociology and Social Work Acharya Nagarjuna University Guntur	Impact of Land Pooling and Land Acquisition on Rural Livelihoods: A Study Amaravathi Region of Andhra Pradesh
15.	Kuvvarapu Avulaiah Prof. V. Venkateswarlu	Dept. of Sociology and Social Work Acharya Nagarjuna University Guntur	Impact of Climate Change on Women in Prakasam District of Andhra Pradesh



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Parallel Technical Session – 10

Sub-theme: Marginality and Working with Marginalized Groups (A)

Date: 04 November 2023 | **Time:** 5:30 pm to 07:30 pm

Venue: Second Floor, Room No. 308 | School of Arts & Social Sciences

Chair: Dr. Reena M Cherian

S. N.	Name of the Presenter (s)	Affiliation	Title of the Paper
1.	Ms. Afreen Hussain	Tezpur University Assam	Economic Empowerment Challenge for Muslim Women of Kacharipam Village
2.	Dr. S. Shanker	Dept. of Social Work Osmania University Hyderabad	The scope of VIKASAM for the Upliftment of the Disability Community.
3.	Ms. Suma Mani Dr. Maria Antony Raj	Dept. of Social Work Kalasalingam Academy of Research and Education	Repercussion of AI in Perpetuating Gender Stereotypes
4.	Dr Samhita Barooah	Dept. of Social Work Tezpur University, Assam	Queer Affirmative Social Work Education in Universities of North East India
5.	Mr. Muhammed Thareekh Bin Basheer Mr. Ravi Prasad Varma	University of Hyderabad AMCHSS, SCTIMST	Hospitalisation-related expenses and coverage of Ayushman Bharat – Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana – a pilot study from rural elderly in Kerala
6.	Dr. Pravin B Yannawar Mr. Mahadev Singh Sen	IHBAS Delhi	“Digitization of Disability Certificates in India: Social Work Perspective”
7.	Dr. Lakshmi Mallik	Roda Mistry College of Social Work Hyderabad	Green Social Work – Strategies and Challenges in Incorporating Environmental Justice and Sustainability
8.	Ms. Megha B Maria	Christ University Bengaluru	The study on teachers' psychological well-being while dealing with children with specific learning disabilities
9.	Dr. Asif Khan	Dept. of Social Work University of Delhi	Locating the Role of support persons for the victims of child sexual abuse under POCSO Rules 2020



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10.	Mrs. Gopika Sivan Dr. A. Balakrishnan	Center for Applied Research Gandhigram Rural Institute Gandhigram	The Impact of Single Mother Family on Child Development and Management of Household Responsibilities: A Review of Literature
11.	Mr. Md. Israr Alam Prof. P.K. Shajahan	Dept. of Social Work MANUU Hyderabad TISS Mumbai	Muslim Women and Livelihood Choices – An empirical analysis of Lived Experiences



XI Indian National Social Work Congress 2023

Parallel Technical Session – 11

Sub-theme: Marginality and Working with Marginalized Groups (B)

Date: 04 November 2023 | **Time:** 5:30 pm to 07:30 pm

Venue: Third Floor, Room No. 407 | School of Arts & Social Sciences

Chair: Dr. Sanjay Ingole

S. N.	Name of the Presenter (s)	Affiliation	Title of the Paper
1.	Ms. Sushree Subhalaxmi Behera Prof. Arun Kumar Acharya	Sambalpur University Burla, Odisha	Gender Stereotypes and Representation of Victims of Women Trafficking in Indian Media
2.	Ms. Mehreena Manzoor Tak	JNU New Delhi	Understanding the Intersections of Gender and Ageing in India Through a Scoping Review
3.	Mr. Mohd Shahzeb Khan Dr. Pushpanjali Jha	Dept. of Social Work University of Delhi	Rohingya refugees amid COVID-19 Pandemic: Perspectives on Social Exclusion and Learnings from India
4.	Mr. Manoj Kumar Biswas	Dept. of Social Work Visva-Bharati University West Bengal	Coping Mechanisms of Fluorosis Positive Patients an Empirical Study of Birbhum West Bengal
5.	Ms. Arpna Rattu Prof. Monica Munjial Singh	Centre for Social Work Panjab University Chandigarh	Fostering Resilience among Traumatized Children in Child Care Institutions – A Social Work Perspective
6.	Mr. Robin Choudhary	Panjab University Chandigarh	Social Work Practice with Marginalised Communities
7.	Ms. Sivalini. A. P Nandhakumar.M	Kumaraguru College of Liberal Arts and Science Coimbatore University of Hyderabad	Role of Green Social Work in Climate Change Mitigation with Special Reference to Siruthuli Civil Society Organization
8.	Mr. Gandherikar Ramesh	Telangana University	Empowering Vulnerable Communities: The Role of Social Workers in Climate Resilience and Environmental Justice



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9.	Dr. Suchetana Ghosh	Bankura University	HIV & AIDS control strategies and interventions in West Bengal: Debates and discourses
10.	Ms. Prachi Devidas Salve Adv. Priyadarshi Telang	Ambedkar Centre for Action & Research Pune	An Analytical Study of Gender Budgeting and Its Implications on Women Development in Maharashtra
11.	Ms. Saptaparni Dutta Majumder	Executive (CSR) Pratham West Bengal	Situation Analysis of Migrant Female Domestic Workers in Kolkata
12.	Mr. Lalu P Joy Dilshana P. V	Christ College Kerala	A Study on Occupational Diversification Among Parayar Community and Its Contributing Social Factors with Special Reference to Chalakudy Municipality, Kerala



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Parallel Technical Session – 12

Sub-theme: Innovation in Social Work Practice and Research

Date: 04 November 2023 | **Time:** 5:30pm to 07:30pm

Venue: Third Floor, Room No. 408 | School of Arts & Social Sciences

Chair: Dr Rupesh Kumar Singh

S. N.	Name of the Presenter (s)	Affiliation	Title of the Paper
1.	Ms. Smriti Sikri	JNU New Delhi	Social Work Interventions in Prisons in India: History and Analysis
2.	Dr. Tanuka Roy Sinha Dr. Surajit Sarkar	Bankura University West Bengal Taylor And Francis Group	NGOs Capacity Development and Network Building: A Way towards New Resolutions to Old Issues
3.	Ms. Nithya Shree G M	Sri Ramakrishna Mission Vidyalaya College of Arts and Science Coimbatore	Artificial Intelligence and Human Connection Essential in The Field of Social Work Practices
4.	Mr. Prashant K. Jambhule	Jotirao Fule College of Social Work Nagpur	Culture in Harmony with The Nature in The Context of The Mana Tribe
5.	Prethikka.S. T Mrs. J. Tresa Sugirtha	Dept. of Social Work PSG College of Arts & Science Coimbatore	Digital Revolution & Advancing Pedagogy: Training of Next Generation Social Workers in Disaster Risk Reduction and Management
6.	Ms. Anisha J Dr. Gunavathy Js	Madras School of Social Work Chennai	Social Work in Schools: Need and Scope in India
7.	Mr. Vishnu Vinod	TISS Mumbai	Social Work Intervention in Correctional Setting Among Young Offenders Within Community: Based on A Case Study in Alappuzha
8.	Mr. Anita V Rego	PEARLSS 4 Development Private Limited (OPC) Hyderabad	Processing trauma through Art



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9.	Dr. J S Santhosh	Kumaraguru College of Liberal Arts and Science Coimbatore	Smart-Apps on Mental Health Literacy for School Teachers: A Design and Development Study
	Dr. J. George Bernardshaw	Anugraha Institute of Social Sciences, Nochiodaipatti Tamil Nadu	
	Prof. F.X. Lovelina Little Flower	Dept. of Social Work Bharathiar University Coimbatore	
10.	Mr. Zunatha Banu Abdul Aseem Mahalakshmy Thulasingham KC Premrajan Nanda Kishore	Dept. of Preventive and Social Medicine, JIPMER Puducherry	Community Resilience amidst COVID 19 Pandemic – A Qualitative Study
11.	Ms. Divya J Dr. K. Sathyamurthi	Dept. of Social Work Madras School of Social Work	Exploring Resilience in Social Work Trainees
12.	Dr. R Baskar N Divyasthri C Prabavathi	Department of Social Work Bharathiar University Coimbatore	Exploring the Use of Digital Devices
13.	Dr. Vijay Kumar Pandey Prof. Amit Kumar Srivastava	Delhi Technological University	Technology, curriculum and community: an intent of Extension and Outreach Services



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Parallel Technical Session – 13

Sub-theme: Social Work Curriculum: Pedagogy and Pedagogical Challenges

Date: 05 November 2023 | **Time:** 9:00 am to 10:30 am

Venue: First Floor, Room No. 207 | School of Arts & Social Sciences

Chair: Prof. Anoop Kumar Bhartiya

S. N.	Name of the Presenter (s)	Affiliation	Title of the Paper
1.	Ms. J. Tresa Sugirtha Ms. Priyadarshini T	PSG College of Arts and Science Coimbatore Ms. Priyadarshini T, Junior Executive HR IIT Madras	Social Work and Minorities in India: Advocating a Rekindled Commitment
2.	Dr. Ruchi Sinha	TISS Mumbai	Navigating the Neoliberal Landscape as a Social Work Educator Challenges and Transformation in Contemporary Social Work Practice
3.	Dr. Pradeep Kumar Sahoo Ms. Renuka Kumar Prof. Asutosh Pradhan	UNDP Odisha Utkal University Odisha Central University of Himachal Pradesh	Professional Social Workers of India: Practice-based Issues and Challenges in Human Right Prospective
4.	Mr. Abu Osama	Dept. of Social Work MANUU Hyderabad	Navigating with the Remoteness of 'Muslim Question' in the Depoliticized Social Work Education in India
5.	Dr. Ajeet Kumar Pankaj Prof. Manish K. Jha	IGNTU Manipur TISS Mumbai	Dalit Autobiographies: The Subaltern Literature and 'Pedagogy' of Social Work Education
6.	Ms. Nandini C K	Government First Grade College Mysuru	An Exploration of Social Work Educators' competencies in Degree College of Karnataka



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7.	Dr. Sudhir Keshav Maske	Dept. Social Work University of Delhi	Anti-Caste Social Work Theory and Its Framework: Locating Dalit/Subaltern Literary Perspectives in Social Work Teaching-Learning Pedagogy.
8.	Dr. Mukshita Dhrangadharia	Dept. of Social Work Sardar Patel University Gujarat	Views of Social Work Educators on the NEP 2020 with special reference to National Framework, Regional Specificities and Vernacular Challenges
9.	Dr. Dadarao Champatrao Kirtiraj	Bharati Vidyapeeth, Solapur	Social Work Practice in India: Need for a Paradigm Shift from Conventional Social Work to Radical & Structural Social Work.
10.	Dr. Mohua Nigudkar	TISS, Mumbai	Enhancing Social Work Education: Integrating Participatory Approaches for Effective Classroom Teaching-Learning Processes
11.	Ms. Snehal Arvind Pawar	Thane West Maharashtra	Education institutes - "When local dialect is different from medium of instruction: Voices of Tribal Children"



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Parallel Technical Session – 14

Sub-theme: Sustainable Interventions with Adolescents and Youth

Date: 05 November 2023 | **Time:** 9:00am to 10:30am

Venue: First Floor, Room No. 208 | School of Arts & Social Sciences

Chair: Prof. Md Faiz Ahmad

S. N.	Name of the Presenter (s)	Affiliation	Title of the Paper
1.	Ms. Basudha Bhattacharya Dr. Subhashree Sanyal	Dept. of Social Work Visva-Bharati University West Bengal	Menstrual Leave: Necessity or Privilege? Way Forward to The Most Vexed Question.
2.	Dr. Srenwantee Bhattacharjee Dr. Debarati Sarkar	St Xaviers University Kolkata, West Bengal Dept. of Social Work Kanayashree University Krishnanagar	Efficacy of Menstrual Cups in Menstrual Hygiene Management: A Study Based on Users Experience in Kolkata
3.	Neenumol Babu Ms. Lekha D Bhat	Central University of Tamil Nadu	Unveiling the Hidden Burden: Prevalence of Depression Among the Destitute in Kerala
4.	Dr. Lalit Mohan Nayak	Aajeevika Development Analytics Pvt. Ltd. Jaipur	The Practice of Psychiatric Social Work in Child Guidance Clinic.
5.	Dr. Bijayalaxmi Panda	The Antara Foundation Bhopal	Engaging Adolescents in Better Health Care and Nutrition in Madhya Pradesh
6.	Ms. Sumaya Rashid Mr. Sarafraz Ahmad Mr. Zahid Ahmad Lone	Dept. of Social Work University of Kashmir	Ineffectiveness of Current Social Audit Practices: Identifying Gaps and Limitations in Achieving Accountability and Transparency
7.	Dr. Madhura Chakraborty	Madhura Chakraborty Ratanpally, Santiniketan West Bengal	Sustainable Development Goals and Empowerment of Adolescent Girls: An Overview of Initiatives from Indian Government



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8.	Mr. Prashant Karale	Research Scholar Department of Social Work PhD Scholar, University of Delhi	A Critical Examination of Smart Village: A Case Study of Madkona, Maharashtra
9.	Mr. Jerome Nesa Raj L	Dept. of Social Work Patrician College of Arts & Science Chennai	Attitude Towards Suicide and Perceived Barriers for Seeking Help Among Adolescents
10.	Ms. Ophelia Dominica Dcruze Dr. R. Arjunan	Dept. of Social Work Bharathiyar University Tamil Nadu	Life Skills Incongruance – Empowering Demographic Dividend Among Youth
11.	Mr. Ashish Tiru	JMI New Delhi	Tribal Women Vulnerabilities in the Context of Mining, Environment, and Gender



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Parallel Technical Session – 15

Sub-theme: Intervention Models with Rural, Urban and Tribal Communities (A)

Date: 05 November 2023 | **Time:** 9:00 am to 10:30 am

Venue: First Floor, Room No. 307 | School of Arts & Social Sciences

Chair: Prof. D. K. Lal Das

S. N.	Name of the Presenter (s)	Affiliation	Title of the Paper
1.	Ms. Aishwarya Rajesh Mishra	Tirpude College of Social Work Nagpur	Role of CSR In Creating Sustainable Communities
2.	Ms. Chonchuila Magdalene C. S	Awungtang Hungpung Village Ukhrul District-Manipur	Traditional Knowledge Practices and Education in Tribal Community
3.	Ms. Nabanita Hazarika Prof. Molankal Gangabhushan Mallesham	Dept. of Social Work Royal Global University Guwahati	Understanding Livelihood Security of Organized Farmers in Morigaon District of Assam
4.	Mr. Amen Xavier Kaushal	Matru Sewa Institute of Social Work Nagpur	Bridging Global Aspirations with Local Realities: NGO Strategies and Challenges in Community Empowerment for Sustainable Development
5.	Mr. Mohd Salman Ms. Lakshya Kadiyan Aksa Jan	University of Delhi University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign University of Delhi	Impact of CSR Initiatives on Healthcare Access and Well-being in India: A Study
6.	Ms. Aswathi K. R. Ms. Aswathy Mohan Ms. Rahana S R	Dept. of Social Work Central University of Tamil Nadu	Analyzing the Role of Local Self Government Institutions in Disaster Risk Reduction in Kerala: A Content Analysis
7.	Mr. Nandita Mondal	TISS Mumbai	Livelihood at the Margins: limiting space to continue the livelihood of Kolis of Mumbai City



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8.	Radharani Jena Dr. Chittaranjan Subudhi	Dept. of Social Work Central University of Tamil Nadu	Corruption in the Healthcare System of India: Challenges and Solutions
	Ms. Leena Roseline P Dr. S. Rachel	SRM IST FSH Kattankulathur Tamil Nadu	Facelift of the Rural India: The NGOs intervention in SDG Case Study of IRCDS Thiruvallur District
9.	Dr. Shailesh	Amity University of Haryana Gurugram	Investigating the Relationship Between Panchayats and Marginalized Community Through a Case Study on Nat Community in Uttar Pradesh.
10.	Mr. Ratndip Bhimrao Gangale	Mahatma Jyotiba Fule College of Social Work Yavatmal	The Contribution of Maharashtra State Rural livelihood Mission (UMED Project) on Women's Empowerment and Social Work Intervention
11.	Mr. Devend Bhadu Suryawanshi Dr. Prakash Yadav	Department of Social Work Tilak Maharashtra Vidyapeeth (Deemed University), Pune	The Knowledge, Attitude and Practice About Garbage Segregation Among Urban Families: A Social Work Intervention Study in Pune City



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Parallel Technical Session – 16

Sub-theme: Intervention Models with Rural, Urban and Tribal Communities (B)

Date: 05 November 2023 | **Time:** 9:00 am to 10:30 am

Venue: Second Floor, Room No. 308 | School of Arts & Social Sciences

Chair: Dr. Prakash Amin

S. N.	Name of the Presenter (s)	Affiliation	Title of the Paper
1.	Dr. R. Arjunan Ramachandran	Dept. of Social Work Bharathiar University Coimbatore	A Study on Educational Awareness Among Kota Teenage Tribal Girls
2.	Dr. Sasmita Patel Chanju Sherpa	Dept. of Social Work Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya Research Scholar Dept. of Social Work Visva- Bharati University West Bengal	Cultivating Change: Rural Advancement through Social Entrepreneurship
3.	Mr. Mangesh Vilas Bhutade	Asst. Prof. Shri. Ramrao Sarnaik College of Social Work	Problems of Rural Landless Women Labourer: An Intersectional Perspective
4.	Md. Tarique Enam Prof. Md. Shahid Raza	Dept. of Social Work JMI New Delhi Dept. of Social Work MANUU Hyderabad	Women's Empowerment and Gender Equality within the Framework of SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals): A Missing Link.
5.	Mr. Shaik Himayathullah	Sathupally Samisti Krushi Farmers Producer Company Limited Kurnool	Poverty Alleviation in Rural Community Through Integrated Farming Systems



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6.	Mr. Shaik Firoj Basha	Nannur Farmers Producers Cooperative Society Limited Kurnool	Role of Social Worker in Promoting Sustainable Agriculture
7.	Ms. Vinola Sharo Bell W Dr. Alban Nishanth Lalu	Dept. of Social Work Madras Christian College	A Study on The Occupational Well- Being of Women Employees in IT Industry
8.	Praiselin Selva Mahiba J Dr. S. Rachel	SRM Institute of Science and Technology Chengalpattu Tamil Nadu	Hybrid Model of Work and Its Relevance to Sustainable Development Goals-A Qualitative Study
9.	Prof. Nilesh Uttam Gaikwad Dr. Ghansham Jagtap	Mahatma Fuley MSW and Matoshri Zaveriben Motilal Turakhiya Nandubar Social work College, Nashik, MH	An Innovative Approach to Investigate Intrapersonal Violence for Public Health Promotion
10.	Dr. Kartiki Subakade	Department of Social Work Tilak Maharashtra Vidyapeeth Pune, Maharashtra	Issue of Hysterectomy among Sugar Cane Cutter Women Workers: Social Work Interventions for Inclusion, A Case Study of Ambejogai Block of Beed District.



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Parallel Technical Session – 17

Sub-theme: Marginality and Working with Marginalized Groups (A)

Date: 05 November 2023 | **Time:** 9:00am to 10:30am

Venue: Third Floor, Room No. 407 | School of Arts & Social Sciences

Chair: Dr. Pushpa Mishra

S. N.	Name of the Presenter (s)	Affiliation	Title of the Paper
1.	Mr. Gaurav Babasaheb Sangale	PhD Scholar CSRSD- Institute of Social Work and Research Ahmednagar	Impact of Climate Change and Environmental Issues on Food Insecurity Among Tribals
2.	Ms. Noor Jahan Prof. Richa Chowdhary	University of Delhi	Financial contribution of female artisans in the handicraft sector: Qualitative findings from Nagina (District Bijnor, Uttar Pradesh)
3.	Ms. Andria John Dr. Laxmi Putran	Central University of Kerala Kerala	Promoting Environmental Justice through Social Work: The Case of Forest-Dependent Tribal People of Western Ghats
4.	Amaladevi C S Prof. Mohan A. K	Dept. of Social Work Central University of Kerala	Empowering Senior Citizens: Lifelong Learning as a Catalyst for Enhanced Quality of Life
5.	Ms. E Shireesha	Sri Venkateswara University Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh	Women and Entrepreneurship the Role of Female Entrepreneurship in Economic Empowerment
6.	Dr. Shazia Manzoor Ms. Sabah Jan Dr. Javaid Rashid	Dept. of Social Work University of Kashmir	Managing Uncertainty in HIV: The Crucial Role of Social Support for Women Living with HIV in Kashmir.
7.	Dr. Sanjay Onkar Ingole	Department of Social Work JMI New Delhi	Developing Model Villages: Reflections on Civil Society Initiatives



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8.	Dr. Lakshmana G Prof. Channaveer RM	Dept. of Social Work University of Delhi Dept. of Social Work Central University of Karnataka	Perception of couples on family environment and quality of life of families of persons with alcohol abuse
9.	Mr. Ashfaq Ahmad Dangroo Dr. Ravinder Singh	Dept. of Social Work University of Delhi	Psychosocial Interventions in Autism Spectrum Disorder at Early Intervention Centres
10.	Mr. Navdeep Kaur Ms. Prasann Kumari	Dept. of Sociology Guru Nanak Dev University Amritsar Center for women's studies JNU New Delhi	Role of Civil society organizations in Digital empowerment: An empirical study of Women in India
11.	Mr. Mohammad Qasim Mr. Abad Ali	Dept. of Social Work University of Delhi	Justice Denied: Muslims Facing Discrimination in Mewat



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Parallel Technical Session – 18

Sub-theme: Marginality and Working with Marginalized Groups (B)

Date: 05 November 2023 | **Time:** 9:00 am to 10:30 am

Venue: Third Floor, Room No. 408 | School of Arts Social Sciences

Chair: Dr. Shyna Saif

S. N.	Name of the Presenter (s)	Affiliation	Title of the Paper
1.	Ms. Santhana Kamaz Vincent Dr. A. Balakrishnan	Gandhigram Rural Institute Centre For Applied Research Tamil Nadu	An Empirical Evidences of Education in Transforming Transgenders in Madurai District, Tamil Nadu
2.	Immaculate Mary Madhumitha, M	i4 Connect Foundation Hyderabad	Leave No Girl Child Behind: Enhancing Leadership, English and Life Skills Education through Community-Based Peer Learning Model for the Marginalised Girls in UP, Bihar and Delhi Slums in India
3.	Ms. Madhu Choudhary Bhatt Dr. Rita Goel	Freelance Researcher Sonapat Haryana Gynecologist, Family Therapist Dehradun	Understanding Who Is Left Behind and Why; How to Include Them?
4.	Ms. Aashima Kajla Dr. Gaurav Gaur	Centre for Social Work Panjab University Chandigarh	Healthcare of Prisoners in India: An Overview
5.	Mr. Shaik Rafi	Kurnool Andhra Pradesh	A Community Advocacy Organizations as a Formidable Strategy to Address the Social Environment of Female Sex Workers in Andhra Pradesh, India. - An Insightful study



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6.	Dr. Srinivasa D	Dept. of Social Work Central University of Karnataka	The Impact of the Heat Wave on Marginalised Communities in India: Reflections of Social Workers
7.	Mr. Daniel Jacinth Boddu Dr. Sriramulu	Roda Mistry College of Social Work and Research Centre Hyderabad	Role of Social Work education for promoting clean energy and mitigating strategies to deal with Climate Change
8.	Dr. Surabhi Parihar	BHU Varanasi Uttar Pradesh	An assessment of The Protection of Women against Sexual Harassment at Workplace Act 2013 after a decade: Reality, Challenges and Suggestions
9.	Mr. Shubham Kumar	Dept. of Social Work University of Delhi	Undoing the Harm through Restorative Justice in the Cases of Child Sexual Abuse
10.	Mayur Wankhede	Tripude College of Social Work Nagpur	Environment and Social Work



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For more details, visit <https://helenkellersinstitute.in/>

Kriti Social Initiatives

Kriti Social Initiatives (Kriti) is a Public Charitable Trust established in 2009 and works with women and children in the slums of Hyderabad to help them on the path towards economic independence and a better quality of life through improvement in the livelihoods of women and education for the children.

As part of Kriti's capacity building programme, every year over 300 women receive free training on tailoring skills. In 2007, Kriti established a Community Production Centre - Kritikala at Tolichowki in partnership with Bashir and Sarwar Babukhan Trust and the Telangana State Minority Finance Corporation that support sustainable income to women associated with it. They make jute bags, laptop bags and many other sustainable products that support the crafts and textiles of the region. All products made by Kritikala directly support the livelihoods of women from marginalized background.

To know more about us visit <https://www.kriti.org.in> or call us on 8008951144

Supreme Charitable Trust

Supreme Charitable Trust was established by Dr. Saif Kamran, a seasoned practitioner with two decades of experience in Unani medicine. Where Unani medicine was often viewed with skepticism, relegated primarily to the impoverished, perceived as having little efficacy, Dr Kamran boldly asserted a transformative belief: Unani is a miraculous form of medicine, capable of curing a multitude of ailments. Through his unwavering conviction and dedication, he succeeded in instilling this faith in the hearts of the people. Driven by a deep-seated commitment to philanthropy and a vision to uplift the underprivileged segments of society, Dr. Kamran founded the Supreme Charitable Trust. This noble institution is dedicated to providing essential medical services, including critical surgeries, to those who are financially unable to bear the burden of exorbitant medical expenses.

In this noble endeavor, the Trust receives invaluable support from Ketto, a prominent crowdfunding and medical fundraising platform in India.

Shaheen Women's Resource and Welfare Association (Shaheen)

Established in 2002, Shaheen is a women-led grassroots organization in Hyderabad's Old City. It provides support and intervention for marginalized women from the Muslim, Dalit, and other backward communities who experience various forms of violence. The organization operates in an impoverished area with limited sanitation facilities, where the population faces frequent communal conflicts, socio-economic oppression, and adherence to strong fundamental ideologies. Women and girls in this area have restricted mobility and limited access to education and healthcare, making them vulnerable to forced early marriages, sexual abuse, incest, domestic violence, and servitude.



LESSONS FROM LEGACY

I beg you to be humble. You are graduates (at social work) studying in a graduate school, but there is much that both you and we of the faculty have still to learn.

Clifford Manshardt

Social work should identify the functional consequences of industrialisation, urbanisation, and the rapid development of market- oriented agriculture. So, social workers should institute services which will smoothen the change.

MS Gore

The history of the professions seems to be mainly history of specialization, industrialization and urbanization

Hans Nagpaul

Professional development in any field of service is a product of the industrial civilization. The development of the profession of social work similarly, has resulted from the influence of industrial development.

Meher C Nanavatty

Every country does not have to reinvent the wheel as it were. The point may as well be made here when one talks of social sciences; there is bound to be a common broad spectrum as part of a universal continuum.

PD Kulkarni

Th major problem is that the profession of social work has always faced is its inability to develop sufficient amount of theory by social works researchers and practitioners.

Shankar H Pathak

If social work has to survive as an effective profession particularly in Asian countries, a rethinking of existing mode of social work education and objectives it tries to accomplish becomes inevitable

HY Siddiqui

Uncritical acceptance of and adherence to an unrealistic faith' becomes a dogma which requires cultish fellowship. This is exactly what has become of social work in general.

Brij Mohan