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INDIAN SOCIOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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INDIAN SOCIOLOGICAL SOCIETY

(Registered in Bombay in 1951 under Act XXI 1860)

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Colleagues,

I express my sincere gratitude to you all for electing me as President of the Indian Sociological Society. Earlier, you had given me chances to serve ISS in various capacities - as Member of the Managing Committee, Organizing Secretary of the 27th AISC held at Trivandrum, Secretary of the ISS for two terms and Editor of *ISS Newsletter* for eight years. I thank every one of you for your co-operation that inspired me to fulfill those responsibilities satisfactorily. As ISS President, my efforts can succeed only with your full participation and support in all ISS activities. I am sure you will give me your whole-hearted support and I do hope we will all work together to raise the prestige and glory of ISS to still greater heights.

At the Managing Committee meeting held on February 27, 2010 Prof. J. Krishnamurthy of Annamalai University has been elected as the new Editor of the *ISS Newsletter*. I have no doubt that under his Editorship, *ISS Newsletter* will gain more popularity and acceptance among the academic community. I also bring to your attention that Prof. Tulsi Patel is the new Secretary and Prof. J.R. Panda is the new Treasurer of ISS. I deem it my privilege to work with such an eminent team.

I am happy to inform you that the invitation extended by the Vice-Chancellor of Ravenshaw University, Cuttack to hold the next AISC has been accepted by the MC meeting held on February 26. In addition to the Prof. M. N. Srinivas Memorial Lecture we are going to have one more Memorial Lecture in the name of Prof. Radha Kamal Mukherji, at the conference. Prof. Suma Chitnis, has been selected by the M.N. Srinivas Memorial Endowment Committee for this year's lecture and she has graciously

accepted our invitation. The Prof. RK Mukherji Memorial Endowment Committee will meet soon and select a suitable scholar for the lecture. I am also happy to inform you that the periodicity of the *ISS Newsletter* has been increased from two issues per year to three from this year onwards.

The Indian Sociological Society is entering its **Diamond Jubilee** year in 2011. It is very important that we celebrate this event appropriately. The Managing Committee meeting on February 27, 2010 took a special note of the long history of ISS and its contributions and continuing relevance to the field of sociological study and research and decided to start preparing for the event sufficiently early. As you know, ISS is Number One in terms of Life Membership and Number two in terms of total membership among national associations of sociology across the world. Taking all these into account, ISS Managing Committee has begun making conscious decisions that will go a long way to bolster the ISS's finance, physical infrastructure and research and interactive capabilities as a preliminary to entering its Diamond Jubilee year. It is imperative that all members of ISS, which is the premier platform for the sociologists in the country, participate actively in its functioning and give us feedbacks. You are also requested to kindly inform me on how best we could plan the programmes for the Diamond Jubilee Year.

Once again, I request everyone's co-operation and thank you all for the opportunity given to me to serve ISS as its President for the next two years.

With warm regards,

J. J. Kattakayam
jjkattakayam@yahoo.com

SECRETARY SPEAKS

Dear Colleagues,

As secretary of the Indian Sociological Society, I hope to carry forward the culture of dedicated service to the ISS that I have inherited from those colleagues who took up this responsibility for about six decades.

I am happy let you know that Ravenshaw University, Cuttack will host the 36th All India Sociological Conference in the last week of December, 2010. The theme of the conference is Development, polity and social tensions.

We are approaching all the ISS members to procure our surface as well as electronic postal contact and relevant academic information to enable all of us easy connectivity as members of the ISS. A few members have volunteered to approach life members in their region for information in this regard. I hope we can build this contact resource data base before we meet in Ravenshaw University in Cuttack, Orissa in December, 2010. This data bank will hopefully enable us to establish links based on common areas of research interests pursued by members in different parts of the country.

Kindly feel free to give your suggestions to improve the functioning of ISS, the only national level professional association of Sociologists in India. I look forward to meeting you in Cuttack.

Best wishes

Tulsi Patel

sociology_dse@yahoo.com

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

It is my pleasure to be the Editor of the ISS Newsletter from this issue onwards. The Managing Committee of the Indian Sociological Society in its recent meeting on 27th February 2010 elected me as the editor of the ISS Newsletter since Professor J.J.Kattakayam after becoming the President of ISS has relinquished the Newsletter editorship. I sincerely thank the MC for the faith and gesture reposed on me. I assure my best services to all the members of ISS and follow the tradition of making ISS Newsletter more vibrant and members' friendly. In undertaking this venture I seek all your suggestions, support and co-operation in order to bring out the issues on time with more valuable information. It's really a pleasure and as well a challenge to work as an editor of the ISS Newsletter. Members can send their suggestions to improve the quality of the Newsletter by email to krishnaj8@yahoo.com. I feel that with your support and encouragement, I could bring out the newsletters in the future effectively, efficiently and on time.

With best regards,

J. Krishnamurthy.

Editor, ISS Newsletter
krishnaj8@yahoo.com

ISS ELECTION 2009

Election to the post of President, Secretary and 5 members of the Managing Committee was held during the last part of 2009. A total of 1045 ballots were received. They were counted on December 31, 2009, 10 ballots were found invalid. The following persons were declared elected to the different posts by the Election Officer.

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Secretary : Prof. Tulsi Patel (Delhi)

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M. H. Makwana, (Ahmedabad)

B. B. Mohanty, (Puducherry)

C. A. Somasekharappa (Dharwad)

ISS acknowledges with thanks the services rendered by the Election Officer Prof. Partha Nath Mukherji (New Delhi) for the smooth conduct of the election. For detailed election results please visit ISS website : www.insoso.org



Awards / Distinctions of Members

1. B.S Baviskar and Tulsi Patel edited a festschrift in the honor of Prof A M. Shah. The book, ***Understanding Indian Society: Past and Present*** (Orient Blackswan) was formally released in the Dept of Sociology, University of Delhi on February 26, 2010.
2. Dr. S. L. Hiremath, Member of the Managing Committee has been appointed as the Registrar of the Gulbarga University, Karnataka from November 16th, 2009. Also Prof.Hiremath is a member of the Knowledge Commission of Karnataka.



XVII ISA WORLD CONGRESS OF SOCIOLOGY

SOCIOLOGY ON THE MOVE
LA SOCIOLOGIE EN MOUVEMENT
LA SOCIOLOGÍA EN MARCHA
11-17 JULY, 2010
GOTHENBURG, SWEDEN



The World Congress of Sociology will be held at Gothenburg, Sweden on 11-17 July 2010.

For Details Visit :

<http://www.isa-sociology.org/congress2010>

Prof. Suma Chitinis to deliver
Professor M.N. SRINIVAS MEMORIAL LECTURE

- ◆ Prof. M.N. Srinivas Endowment Committee has selected eminent sociologist Professor Suma Chitinis (Former, Vice-chancellor, SNDT Women's University, Mumbai), to deliver the 10th M.N. Srinivas Memorial Lecture. She has kindly accepted the invitation and agreed to deliver the lecture at the next All India Sociological Conference at Cuttack.

BRIEF REPORT OF THE 35TH ALL INDIA SOCIOLOGICAL CONFERENCE HELD AT KASHMIR UNIVERSITY, SRINAGAR,

October 10-12, 2009.

- ◇ The 3-day Conference titled “Identity, Development and Nation Building” was organized by the Kashmir varsity’s Department of Sociology and Social Work in association with the Indian Sociological Society (ISS). The conference was inaugurated by the Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on October 10, 2009.
- ◇ In her welcome address, the head, Department of Sociology, Dr Aneesa Shafi, highlighted the aims and objectives of the Conference. She said that “We are hopeful that the deliberations of the conference will go a long way in helping our society to tackle different issues pertaining to identity, development and nation building”.
- ◇ Apart from general issues and themes there were wonderful sessions of some of the mind thrilling and impressive presentations. The 2nd day of the conference has been a unique episode, as in the second session a Symposium on “Composite culture in J&K:- Retrospect and prospects” was conducted. The renowned sociologist Prof. T N Madan Dr.Haseeb Drabu, Prof. Ishaq Khan and Vice Chancellor of Kashmir University Prof. Riyaz Punjabi were the speakers’ .All the speakers discussed the various aspects of Composite culture and responded the series of queries from the audience. Prof Khan’s major focus remained the fact that Kashmiri culture is culmination of the processes of the past heritage; processes which emerged up till the present context. Both communities (Muslims and Pandits) as Khan asserted, were conscious of their religious identities.. He also asserted the point that exodus of Kashmiri Pandits need not be eulogized to highlight the fragmentary forces that damaged the very essence of Kashmiryat, instead a holistic view is required ,since both the communities visa-vis Hindus as well the Muslim of the state were equal sufferers. Chairman J&K Bank Dr. Haseeb Drabu praised the theme of the conference while registering his discontentment over the fact that throughout research and participatory activities the scholars across nation did not present the paper on Kashmir itself.. Kashmiryat , asserted Drabu , is a shifted term perceived by different scholars keeping their own perspectives and interests in mind . Emergence of the term with its shifting alliance has been visible since the time when Muslim conference changed its appellation to national conference up to the present, he added. Prof T N Madan an eminent sociologist presented his view on the composite culture with emphasis on internally harmonized and non-conflictive aspects, and described the neutrality.
- ◇ About 320 papers in 23 research committees, highlighting various aspects of Indian society, Kashmir society and other emerging issues in social science with special reference to sociology marked the Day 2nd & 3rd of the 3-day Conference titled “Identity, Development and Nation Building” which concluded on 12.10.2009.
- ◇ The KU vice-chancellor, Prof Riyaz Punjabi, said the conference was aimed at strengthening the sociological thought and I hope the outcome of the conference will be of great use to policy makers in the sociological arena. “I am sure this conference has addressed the important issues pertaining to identity, development and nation building,” he said while presiding the valedictory event at Ghandi Bhawan hall of the Kashmir university on 12.10.2009

ISS THANKS SRINAGAR CONFERENCE ORGANISERS

The MC meeting held on February 27,2010 acknowledged the earnest efforts made by the organizing committee of the 35th AISC, Srinagar, under the efficient leadership of Prof. Riyaz Panjabi, Vice-Chancellor, Kashmir University, Srinagar and Dr. Aneesa Shafi, organising secretary towards the smooth conduct of the conference.

INDIAN SOCIOLOGICAL SOCIETY

List of persons who donated for Building Fund at Rs.1,000 /- each

20.	C A Somasekharappa	LMI 1422
21.	Tulsi Patel	LMI 1000
22.	Kamala Ganesh	LMI 1686
23.	B B Mohanty	LMI 1863
24.	Sheobahal Singh	LMI 1824

JSS thanks the contributors for their gesture.

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Approved by MC on 9 October 2009
(Continued from ISS Newsletter June 2009 issue)

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M-796	Ajay Kumar Ranjan, New Delhi	M-848	Kumari Poonam, Varanasi
M-797	Ummay Salma, Aligarh	M-849	Naresh Kumar Sachdeva, Sonapat
M-798	Lalta Prasad, Kapurthala	M-850	Sanjay Mohanbhai Vanani, Kherva
M-799	Rohit K. Rai, Ballia	M-851	Mahima Nayar, Delhi
M-800	Atul Kumar Kesharwani, Raipur	M-852	Lovitoli Jimo, New Delhi

INDIAN SOCIOLOGICAL SOCIETY

XXXVI ALL INDIA SOCIOLOGICAL CONFERENCE

(December 27-29, 2010)

Organized by

**Department of Sociology
Ravenshaw University
Cuttack, Orissa**

Venue

Ravenshaw University, Cuttack

Theme

Development, Polity and Social Tensions

Symposium – I

Revisiting the development discourse in contemporary times

Symposium –II

State, civil society and social conflicts in India

Symposium –III

Social tensions and the politics of development in Orissa

Invitation to submit abstracts to the conference:

It is a great pleasure for us to extend an invitation and hearty welcome to the members of Indian Sociological Society and other participants to the XXXVI All India Sociological Conference being organized for the first time in the state of Orissa on 27-29 December, 2010.

Those who intend to present their papers in the conference are requested to submit the abstracts of their papers through any of the 22 Research Committees (RCs) or Adhoc groups of the ISS.

Since all the paper presentations at the Conference (except those in the Symposia) will be made in the sessions of the respective RCs, the paper presenters are advised to contact the Conveners of the RCs concerned for submission of the abstracts and for additional information that they may require. Two copies of the abstract of the paper in not more than 250 words should be submitted to the RC Conveners preferably by e-mail in the *Abstract Form* latest by September 15, 2010. Each abstract should carry the membership number of the participant and the name and the number of the RC to which it is being submitted. Acceptance of the abstract will be communicated by the respective RC Conveners by September 30, 2010.

The RC Conveners are requested to send an edited copy of each abstract received by them from paper presenters not later than September 30, 2010 to the Organizing Secretary of the Conference. It will not be possible to include in the conference souvenir/abstract book, abstracts received in the conference office after the above mentioned date. The ISS members (Life/Ordinary/Student) who have paid the RC Membership Fee (Rs.200/- for 2 years and Rs. 400/- for 5 years) per Research Committee are entitled to present papers in the conference.

Registration

Participants of the conference – delegates, accompanying persons and paper presenters - will have to register themselves for the conference by paying the prescribed Registration fee as shown below:

Registration Fees for Indian Participants

Up to	Delegate*	Accompanying Person	Research Scholars/ Students
September 30, 2010	Rs.1000/-	Rs.1200/-	Rs. 700/-
October 30, 2010	Rs.1200/-	Rs.1400/-	Rs. 900/-
November 30, 2010	Rs.1400/-	Rs.1600/-	Rs.1000/-
After November 30	Rs.1500/-	Rs.2000/-	Rs.1100/-

1. The registration fee mentioned under the head Delegate* is payable only by those who are currently Life Members / Ordinary Members / Student Members.
2. Those who are not presently members of any of these categories but are desirous of participating in the conference should necessarily enroll themselves as members in any one of the above categories.
3. The fee paid for ordinary or student membership is valid only for one year from the date of payment of the fee. Those ordinary and student members whose membership period is over are required to renew their membership by paying the prescribed membership fee.
4. Only those who have thus become members of ISS will be entitled to be considered for accommodation at the conference time.
5. Only Life Members are allowed to bring with them accompanying persons. A member can bring only two accompanying persons with him/her, and no exception will be made to this rule.

6. The Organizers do not give any assurance about accommodation to those who opt for spot registration. The month of December being the peak tourist season, it would be very difficult to get accommodation at the eleventh hour.

Registration fee for Foreign delegates (as per the categories of countries prepared by ISA): Category A countries: US \$ 200, Category B countries: US \$ 150, Category C countries: US \$ 100. The last date for registration for foreign delegates is October 30, 2010. The foreign participants registering on the spot will be required to pay additional US \$ 50 as late fee.

The Registration fee may be sent to the Organizing Secretary by crossed Demand Draft drawn in favour of **The Organizing Secretary, 36th All India Sociological Conference on any nationalized bank payable at Cuttack, Orissa** along with the registration form. The delegates paying registration fee after November 30, 2010 may not receive the receipt for payments of Registration fee in time. They are advised to produce proof of the payment of registration fee at the conference venue.

Cuttack City

Cuttack is one of the oldest cities of Orissa. For quite a long time, this city was the capital of Orissa. Cuttack is known for its handicrafts and shopping in the city is a delight for shoppers. You can get an amazing variety of Ikat fabrics and appliqué work over here. The fine silverwork done here usually renders the visitors speechless. In fact, Cuttack is famous throughout India for its exquisite silver filigree work. Presently, tourism in Cuttack is experiencing a boom. There are a large number of places worth visiting in Cuttack, for instance Barabati Fort, Chandi Temple and Kadam Rasool Dargah.

Ravenshaw University- The Host University

You are aware of the history and heritage of Ravenshaw as an illustrious institution which is 140 years old. The history of this great institution is, in a manner of speaking, the history of modern Orissa. Its alumni have provided strength and leadership to the state for over a century and attained excellence in academic and intellectual pursuits. Ravenshaw has a majestic infrastructure which is a blend of both traditional and modern including the existing heritage building with its 86.4 acres of land. The institution with all its glorious academic achievements and ceaseless scholastic pursuits has created a distinct niche for itself in India and beyond. The University has 27 departments of which 20 are post-graduate departments. M.Phil. programme is available in 14 departments and all the departments have provision for Ph.D. & D.Litt. programmes. Presently the University runs 23 Post-Graduate courses with research facilities and 27 Undergraduate honours courses.

Climate of Cuttack

The month of December is quite pleasant with an average temperature ranging between 15 and 20 degrees

Celsius. Delegates are advised to bring with them some light woollen clothes.

Connectivity

The best part about the city is that, it is very well connected to almost all the major cities of the country. It is accessible from almost all parts of the country via air, train and buses. However, if you want to travel to Cuttack by air, then Bhubaneswar will serve as one of the most convenient entry points. Bhubaneswar has an airport which is served by Indian, Jet Airways, Kingfisher Airlines, Go Air, Indigo, Jet Lite and Spice jet besides some international carriers. It has direct flights from and to Mumbai, Bangalore, Delhi, Chennai, Patna and Hyderabad. The airport is 25 Kms away from the University campus. Train connectivity is excellent from every part of India and the University campus is adjacent to Cuttack Railway station.

Local Transportation

The host university will arrange transport for the delegates at the Bhubaneswar airport and both Cuttack and Bhubaneswar railway stations and take them to their place of stay. Transport will be available to take the delegates to the conference venue and back during the conference days.

Accommodation

The host university would be providing free accommodation only to those delegates who register up to November 30 in and around the University Campus for four nights i.e. from December 26 evening to December 30 morning only.

Sightseeing

The local Organizing Committee will arrange sightseeing tours on December 30, 2010 on the demand from delegates and on payment basis. Outstation tours to the places like Lord Jagannath temple, sea beach of Puri, Sun temple- Konark, Chilka lake, Lingaraj Temple, Bhubaneswar, Dhauli and Khandagiri and Nandankanan zoo can be arranged provided there are sufficient number of interested delegates. The local Organising Secretary should be contacted by October 30, 2010 for the same.

National Organising Committee

Prof. J. J. Kattakayam, President, ISS
 Prof. Tulsi Patel, Secretary, ISS
 Prof. J.R. Panda, Treasurer, ISS
 Prof. D.R.Sahu, Organizing Secretary

Local Organizing Committee

Mr. Devdas Chhotray, Vice-Chancellor, Ravenshaw University, Cuttack (*Chairman*)
 Prof. D.R. Sahu (*Organizing Secretary*)

• All correspondence to be addressed to: •

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23. **ISS Adhoc group on Sociology of Law**
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REPORTS OF THE CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS HELD

1. **Pondicherry University, Puducherry:** The Department of Sociology of Pondicherry University organized a two days National Seminar on Social Mobility in South India on 24th and 25th of September 2009. This seminar was sponsored by the Indian Council of Social Science Research, New Delhi and Pondicherry University, Puducherry. Prof. T.K Oomman delivered the inaugural address and the key- note address was given by Prof. Partha Nath Mukherji. Prof. Venkatesh Athreya delivered the valedictory address. The seminar brought together researchers from across the social science disciplines from different parts of India and abroad. Besides the inaugural and valedictory sessions, there were five sessions including a round table discussion on conceptual and methodological issues. Twenty-five papers were presented. The participants include Prof. Muzaffar Assadi, Prof. L. Thara Bhai, Dr. Ananta Giri, Prof. G. Sathyanarayana, Prof. G. Palanithurai, Dr. Eric Dennis, Dr. S. Sumati, Dr. Ramesh Bairy and others. Prof. B. B. Mohanty was the Coordinator of the seminar.
2. **V.N.S.G. University, Surat :** The department organized 17th Gujarat Sociological Conference during November 13th – 14th, 2009. About 150 delegates participated in the event. Prof. P. N. Mukherjee gave the inaugural address while Prof. U.V. Bhoite delivered the key note speech. Prof. Ramnik Bhatti, President Gujarat Sociological Society gave the Presidential Note.

Center for the Study of Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy, Dept. of Sociology, also organized a UGC National Seminar “From Exclusion to the Right to Inclusion” on Feb 11th, 2010. Prof. B. A. Prajapati, Vice-chancellor, V.N.S.G. University, Surat inaugurated the seminar while Prof. Sudarshan Iyengar, Vice-chancellor, Gujarat Vidyapeeth delivered the key note address. Papers from different universities were presented. Besides, the Center also organized a workshop on “The Position of Women in India Today” on 8th March, 2010 to commemorate International Women’s Day. Noted social activists from the region participated. The Centre also organized a poster and elocution competition on the theme for the post-graduate students.
3. **University of Delhi, Delhi:** Professor Tulsi Patel organized an International Workshop on, “Undesired Daughters: the paradox of modern India”, on 12-13 February, 2010 in Delhi with Professor Neelambar Hatti, University of Lund, Sweden.
4. **Karnatak University, Dharwad:** The Department of Sociology, Karnatak University organized a national seminar on 12th and 13th March 2010 on Health Inequities and Developmental Problems. The seminar was attended by 450 delegates and 170 papers were presented in 16 technical sessions. The seminar was inaugurated by Dr.K.Chandrasekhariah, founder Head

of the department and Dr Arn bali of ICSSR delivered Key Note address. Dr D.Sundaram delivered Valedictory address and Dr S.L Hiremath Chaired the valedictory Session. The seminar was organized under the UGC SAP DRS I. The department proposes to bring out series of edited volumes on Health inequities. Prof Somashekharappa is the Organising secretary and Coordinator UGC SAP, Dept of Sociology Karnatak University, Dharwad

5. **University of Burdwan:** A two-day National Seminar was organized by the Department of Sociology on 13-14th March 2010 as a part of the Golden Jubilee celebration of the University of Burdwan. In the inaugural session, chaired by Prof. Abhijit Mitra, former Professor of Sociology, BU, Prof. Biswajit Ghosh, the HOD & the Organizing Secretary of the Seminar, delivered the welcome address The Keynote address was delivered by Prof. Anand Kumar of JNU.

Noted experts on the concerned fields addressed the four symposiums of the seminar. In the first Symposium on *State, Market & Civil Society*, chaired by Prof. Swapan Kumar Pramanick, Vice Chancellor, Vidyasagar University, the panelists were: Dr. Surajit C. Mukhopadhyay of CSSS, Kolkata, Prof. Satyabrata Chakraborty of Calcutta University Prof. Kalyan Sankar Mondal of IIMC and Prof. Apurba Mukhopadhyay of NIAS, Kolkata.

Prof. Pradip Bhowmick of IIT Kharagpur chaired the second Symposium on *Gender & Development*. The panelists of this session were: Prof. Samita Manna of Kalyani University, Dr. Manjula Rathaur of CAS, New Delhi, and Prof. Amit Hazra of Visva Bharati.

Prof. Anand Kumar of JNU chaired the third symposium on *Science, Environment & Development* and the panelists of this session were: Dr. Soma Choudhury Lahiri of St. Xavier’s College, Kolkata, Dr Manish Verma of BSBAU, Lucknow Dr. Subhasis Banerjee of BESU, Shibpur, and Sri Bipattaran Ghosh of Burdwan University.

The fourth symposium on *Other Contemporary Issues of Development* was chaired by Prof. Biswajit Ghosh and the panelists of this session were: Dr. Manish Kumar Thakur of IIMC, Dr. Roddur Dey of C. G. College, Hooghli, Dr. G. C. Rath of G.B.P.S.S Institute, Allahabad and Prof. Rahim Mondal of North Bengal University.

There was also one *Open Poster Session* on developmental issues where 14 posters by teachers/scholars were debated and discussed. Prof. Anirban Banerjee of the Department of Sociology presented the Valedictory address under the chairmanship of Prof. Amritava Banerjee, former Visiting Professor of Sociology, BU. Nearly 200 delegates and participants from different universities and colleges attended the seminar.

6. 10th Gopio Convention at Durban: Sociologists and Anthropologists were prominent participants at the 10th Convention of GOPIO (Global Organization of People of Indian Origin), held in Durban, South Africa from March 28 to 31, 2010, on the theme Turning Historical Adversity into Advantage attended by delegates from 14 countries throughout the Indian Diaspora. The President of GOPIO (South Africa Chapter) Dr. Dasarath Chetty is a sociologist and former Pro-Vice Chancellor of the KwaZulu Natal University, and the academic section of the convention was organized by Prof. Anand Singh and his colleagues of the Anthropology Dept. of the same University. From India, several sociologists participated including the distinguished scholar of Diaspora Studies Prof. Ravindra Jain, Prof. Shobhita Jain, Prof. Chandrashekhar Bhat and Prof. Kamala Ganesh.

South Africa was chosen as the venue largely because this year marks the 150th year of the arrival of the first indentured labourers from India and the Convention was appropriately titled 'Turning Historical Adversity into Advantage'. Understandably, the focus was on the specific character and issues pertaining to South Africans of Indian origin, although some papers did deal with Indian Diasporas elsewhere as also theoretical issues. 61 presentations made in two plenary and sixteen parallel sessions. The consensus view was that Indian Diasporic communities needed to contribute to nation building processes in their respective countries, and that this was not inconsistent with their pride in and desire to perpetuate Indian culture, values and traditions. The Convention also provided the business community of Durban the opportunity to interact with the business community of the global Indian Diaspora. A number of resolutions were passed the overall thrust of which was to strengthen interaction between the various Indian diasporic communities and to urge Govt. of India to put in place more and better measures to safeguard the interests of People of Indian Origin within India's polity and economy

7. Annamalai University, Annamalainagar: The Department of Sociology, Annamalai University supported by UGC – SAP (DRS Phase I) organized a two days National Level Seminar on "Caste System in India" on March 19-20, 2010. Dr.S.Rajendran, Dean, Faculty of Arts, Inaugurated the Seminar. Dr. Subramaniya Naidu, Director, Centre for Social Exclusion & Inclusive Policy, Pondicherry University, Puducherry delivered the Keynote address. Over eighty technical research papers were presented in the seminar. The Valedictory Address was given by Dr. S. Gurusamy, Professor of Sociology, Gandhigram Rural University, Gandhigram. The Other speakers include Prof. D. Selvaraju, Prof. R. Rajendran, Prof. J. Krishnamurthy, Prof. C.N. Natarajan, Dr. G. Ramatheertham, Dr. S. Chokkalingam and Dr.C.Ganesan.

The Sociology Wing of the Directorate of Distance Education, Annamalai University has organized a National Seminar on "Women Empowerment: Issues and Strategies" on 01.04.2010 and 02.04.2010. Dr.S.B.Nagewararao, Director, Directorate of Distance Education, Annamalai University has inaugurated the seminar. Dr.Premila Thamizhvanan, Principal and Master Trainer for Women Empowerment (UGC), Mother Teresa Post Graduate and Research Institute of Health Sciences, Puducherry has delivered the keynote address. The felicitation address was given by Dr.C.N.Natarajan, Former Professor and Head, Sociology Department, Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Tirunelveli. Dr.S.Gurusamy, Professor of Sociology, Gandhigram Rural University, Gandhigram, Dindugal has presented the Valedictory address. More than sixty papers were presented in the seminar.

8. Basanti Devi College, Kolkata: The Department of Sociology, Basanti Devi College, Kolkata, organized a State Level seminar on 'Gendering of Science and Technology' on 17th April, 2010.

◆◆◆ OBITUARY

1. Professor S. G. Lele (LMI-473)

Prof. Shankar Ganesh Lele passed away in Pune on 3 January 2010 following a road accident. With M. A. in Sociology from the Nagpur University, Lele was awarded a Ph.D. fellowship by the Department of Sociology, Delhi University in 1959-60. He was the first student to be registered for Ph.D. under Prof. M. N. Srinivas in Delhi.

After working for about ten years as a successful manager of Industries in Ahmedabad and Mumbai, Lele joined the faculty of the Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore and was soon promoted as a Professor of Personnel Management. He also worked as a Dean of the Institute. After retirement in 1996 he settled down in Pune.

Lele was a popular teacher and a friendly colleague admired for his pragmatic approach to management of industry. He is survived by his wife Nalini, two children and three grandchildren.

- Prof. B.S. Baviskar

2. Prof. Magan Lal H Vora (LMI-106) Mumbai died on April 17, 2009.

3. Dr. Hari Sharma, Retired Professor of Sociology at Simon Fraser University in Burnaby, B.C., Canada, passed away on March 16, 2010 after a long battle with cancer.

4. Prof. Deb Kumar Banerjee, a founding Faculty Member and an authority on Marxism of the Department of Sociology, Calcutta University also father of Prof. Anirban Banerjee (LMI-1129), Professor of Sociology, University of Burdwan died on 28th February, 2010.

ISS deeply mourn on the sad demise of these eminent sociologists and may their souls rest in peace.

REPORTS OF THE RC ACTIVITIES OF 35th AISC AT KASHMIR UNIVERSITY, SRINAGAR 10 - 12 OCTOBER, 2009

RC-01 : Theory, Concept and Methodology

The RC received seven papers and four of them could make it to the conference held at Srinagar. The papers were presented in two sessions on 10 and 11th October respectively. Prof. Paramjit Singh Judge chaired the first session on 10th October. Prof. B.K.Nagla of MD University, Rohtak presented the first paper on sociology and sociologists of India: continuity and change in the perspectives of Indian Society. For him, Indian Society has a civilized depth and it is pluralistic as well as secular democratic. With such complexity, he believes that no single perspective can do justice to provide a holistic view of this society.

Mr. Subhasis Bandyopadhyay of the Dept. of HSS, BESU, Shivpur Howrah, spoke on a very critical theme-Recession: Is Sociology above Reproach? For him, recession is just not in the economic sphere, it is Psychological social, culture and political. It should be, therefore, negotiated both ontologically and epistemologically. Here lies the role of the sociologists too.

On the second day, there were two papers. Mr. Aditya Mohanty from IIT Kanpur presented the paper on Ethnographic Research and the adoption of mixed methods. Criticizing the ambivalence of Indian Sociologists for quantitative techniques, Mr. Mohanty favored a radical reassessment of ethnography to fit into the need of post-liberalization economy and society. The suggestion, therefore, was to showcase a creative synthesis of some of the qualitative and quantitative techniques of social research. Dr. Sarala Bijapurkar of K.J.S. College of Arts & Commerce, Mumbai spoke on Identities: Construction and Experience. For her, identities are continually constituted and reconstructed by individuals and groups. Based upon the Marxist and deconstruction – perspective, she believes that complex societies need to recognize multiplicity of identities rather than an identity frozen into a monolithic one.

RC-03 : Economy, Polity and Society

RC 03, Economy, Polity and Society received in all 41 papers for presentation at the 35th All India Sociological Conference, University of Kashmir, Srinagar, 10-12 October 2009. Of these 31 participants presented their papers, whose details are given below. The sessions were chaired by Prof. D.Parthasarathy, Prof.K.S.Mandal, Dr.Prema Rajagopalan and Dr.V.K.Gupta.

RC 03 also had a business session during which the members unanimously elected a new Convener and Secretary. Prof. S.R.Ahlawat, Professor of Sociology, M.D. University, Rohtak, Haryana was elected as the new Convener in place of the outgoing Convener, Prof.D.Parthasarathy. Dr.Prema Rajagopalan, Assistant Professor, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences,

IIT Madras was unanimously elected as the new Secretary of RC 03.

RC-6 : Religion and Religious Communities

There were several interesting presentations on various pertinent themes like religion and its impact on society with special reference to culture and perceptions of people in Kashmir. The paper presenters dealt with socio-cultural and economic changes among the Muslims as well as Hindus in this sensitive region. The presentations revealed several interesting sociological inferences with regard to family, marriage, economy and polity. In all there were four authors who gave presentations although we received ten abstracts. The reason being stated was security concerns which however was not the issue at least during the conference. The business meeting of RC – 6 was conducted and several issues pertaining to the expansion of RC – 6 were discussed.

RC-10 : Gender Studies

Around twenty odd papers were presented in the various sessions of RC 10 (Gender Studies). Their themes ranged from standard topics, such as, women's education, reproductive health, child marriage, skewed sex ratio, maternal mortality, etc. and topics in current fashion, namely, women's reservation, political participation and entrepreneurship among women, HIV/AIDS among women etc. to the relatively less discussed subjects like women and customary law, deserted NRI wives, women's self-help groups, women in situation of armed conflict and militancy etc. In the Panel Discussion on the theme "Culture, Gender and Violence" the panelists were Prof. Suguna Pathy, Prof. Satish K. Sharma and Dr. Neerja Ahlawat. Prof. Pathy dwelt upon the patriarchal, state and institutional forms of violence, as well as, their traditional and politico-economic underpinnings. Prof. Sharma brought to our attention the dualism in the Hindu tradition, which on the one hand, reveres the women's image and on the other reviles them in real life. Dr. Ahlawat focused on the voices from the field by presenting before us case studies of women victims of domestic violence in Haryana and highlighting the role of women's movements in getting rid of such social ills.

Two notable points emerged from the five sessions. First, a majority of the topics selected for presentations in the RC were somewhat clichéd although there were some novel themes as well. This is not to say that the oft discussed issues are not relevant but venturing into uncharted territories would be a good idea. Second, it appeared that all presentations focused on the problems, discrimination and deprivation faced by women and only a couple of papers discussed the subjects of empowerment and enabling of women in different areas in different ways. Once again, without in any way underplaying the issue of the tribulations faced by women globally, papers with a more optimistic and inspirational tone would be a welcome development. We need our success stories to be told too.

All the sessions had large and active audiences who made very vigorous interventions, which is the sign of the success of the RC.

RC-11 : Environment and Society

In this RC, 22 abstracts were received 14 papers were presented on the themes of solar energy, sustainability of industrial development, role of women in sustainable development, community forestry, environment friendly technology, environmental awareness, federal governance of environment, community based environmental education, environmentalism of the poor, domestic electricity, river water pollution, panchayats and climate change.

The issues raised in these papers were from particular parts of Uttar Pradesh, Orissa, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. Majority of the papers were based on data. The RC 11 is becoming interdisciplinary as the paper presenters had background of Environment Science, Geography, Social Work and Political Science.

The sessions were chaired by RC Convener. The discussions were held after every paper in which senior faculty members like Abha Avasthi, Chandrashakar Buggi and Vijay Pratap took part.

RC-13 : Science & Technology

In the 35th AISC at the University of Kashmir in all 17 papers were presented in 4 sessions covering a variety of scientific and technological concerns that have become now public issues and even social problems in all societies, whether developed or not. The more important issues that provoked heated discourses and debates among the RC-13 members were such as these: social effects of arsenic contamination in consumed ground water, facets of internet addiction, technological empowerment of music teachers, activities on the social networking sites of Orkut and Facebook, policing by New Technologies, theoretical approaches to the sociology of technology, role of the BPOs, and the role of ICTs in relation to social ties, intimacy, and trust.

The first session was jointly held in conjunction with RC-21 and the theme was "Becoming and/or Reflexively Existing: A Rethinking of Identity and Marginalization". This was also the theme of keynote address to our joint session by Professor Bula Bhadra, who also delivered another keynote address entitled "The ICTs and Gendering of Cyberspace" in the second session of RC-13, chaired by Professor Karunamoy Subuddhi of Bombay IIT. Professor Bipul Kumar Bhadra of Jadavpur University and the Convener of RC-13 chaired the rest of the sessions.

R.C-14 : Cultures and Communication

The RC organized two academic sessions as well as one business session in which 4 (four) papers were presented and deliberated. The themes of papers have covered a wide range of areas—both core and frontier pertaining to culture and communication. The sessions have critically analyzed different trends and articulations of the communication and cultural array—local, regional, national and transnational. Interestingly the sessions

deliberated issues like modern trends of cultural dynamics and its interfaces merging with the traditional cultural and communication system in the wake of World Wide Web. It also argues how emerging trends of culture and communication are e-merging in the web world with the technical support of mobile, computer, i-pod, gadgets etc. It is also argued that mass media have created different gender identities and consequent social interfaces and their interactions which in turn augment the process of social and cultural dynamics, articulating the complex social situations and transnational organizations. The sessions have raised some fundamental questions as to how this could be empirically studied. The sessions were chaired by Prof. R. Shankar from Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli and Prof. Harish Doshi from Surat.

RC-15 : Social Change and Development

This RC received 56 papers this year. However only 36 participants presented their papers in four sessions. The sessions were presided by Dr. D. Ramamurthy, Dr. B.N. Prasad, Dr. D.K. Saha, Dr. P.C. Jain. Bidyut suman Akka was awarded the best abstract award of Rs. Five Hundred in the second session. She belong to Tata Institute of social sciences, Mumbai. For coming year, it was decided to hold a special session on democracy and social change.

RC-16 : Urban and Industrial Studies

RC 16 has received 9 papers relating to Urban problems, Urban governance Urban and Industrial Management. RC 16 report the ISS that it has decided to compile the best articles it has received over the last three years at the Conference and publish them in a book early.

RC-17 : Social Movements

The Rc-17 had three sessions in the Srinagar conference and these sessions were chaired by Prof. J. Raghavendra Rao, Prof. Parthanath Mukherji and Prof. M.N Karna. In these sessions 9 papers were presented dealing with review of literature relating to different types of social movements, the contribution of development projects to collective actions, naxalite movement and its spread and causes, role of ideology in social reforms and the formation of a Assamese society besides the developmental programmes and their implications on the dalit empowerment and the neglect of human face in development along the role of sugarcane cultivators in collective actions in U.P. were discussed. Future directions in the comprehension of the movements are also discussed and various theoretical models, methodological issues and their limitations were also discussed.

RC-19 : Age and Social Structure

For the Conference at Srinagar of the 33 abstracts received only 13 papers were presented in the four sessions of RC 19. We had in-depth quality presentations on varied themes such as elder abuse in domestic and institutional settings, psychological dimensions of elderly plight, drought and social exclusion of the aged, problems of the elderly widows, old age homes as a substitute of family care, nation building and care for the aged, possibilities of

positive ageing, impact of migration on ageing, governmental policies and programmes etc. were well discussed. All these generated many views and suggestions from prominent experts and old age practitioners present in the RC. A few students of University of Kashmir also very actively participated in the discussions namely Ms. Snober and Mr. Shahzada Salim. Academic sessions were chaired by Prof. Noor Mohd., Prof. J.J.Kattakayam, Prof. Arvind K. Joshi and Prof. B.S. Bisht. It was decided to publish quality papers in a book form.

RC 21 Social Problems and Marginalized Groups

There was an inaugural Lecture by Prof. Bula Bhadra, Professor of Sociology, Kolkatta, W.B on the theme: Marginalization, identity issues and inclusion under the chair of Prof. K L Sharma, Formerly Vice Chancellor, Rajasthan University, Jaipur, Rajasthan, with Prof. John Jacob Katakayam, Director, Academic Staff College, Kerala University, Trivandrum, Kerala, and Editor, ISS Newsletter, Prof. S N Choudhury, Chair Rajiv Gandhi Development Studies, Barkathulla University, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, Prof. P. Jogdand, Professor of Sociology, University of Mumbai, Maharashtra as discussants and with the concluding remarks from Prof. I P Modi, Secretary, ISS. This was followed by a panel discussion on the. Theme - Identity, Locality, Nation Building chaired by, Prof. A Karuppai, Prof and Head, Department of Sociology, University of Madras, with the lecture by Prof. R. Shankar, Professor and Head, Department of Sociology, Barathidasan University, Tiruchirapalli, 620024, Tamilnadu. The regular sessions had sixteen presentations on the theme of the RC.



CALL FOR PAPERS BY RC CONVENERS FOR THE 2010 AISC CONFERENCE AT CUTTACK

RC-13

The proposed major themes for RC-13 at the XXXVIth All India Sociological Conference in December 27-29, 2010 will be such important issues as (a) Development, (b) Civil Society and Social Movements, (c) New Crimes, (d) New Issues in Law, and (e) Governance in the light of the overwhelming role the Information and Communication Technologies are playing in the contemporary Indian society and elsewhere. There will be an open session for those who want to present their researched papers on other sociological issues. All interested and potential presenters are requested to contact the RC-13 Convener, Professor Bipul Kumar Bhadra, as fast as possible in his both e-mail addresses.

RC-21

The RC 21 welcomes paper presentation from the members of RC 21 for the XXXVI AISC at Cuttack on the theme titled: ***Development Scenario In India : Dilemmas, Pressures, Politics and Policies with Special Reference to Marginalized Groups*** as a sub-theme of RC 21 of ISS.

Abstracts can be sent to the convener Prof D Sundaram, (dsundaram@hotmail) as per the guidelines of ISS.

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36th AISC RAVENSHAW UNIVERSITY Cuttack, Orissa

(27 - 29 December 2010)

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Last date for submission of abstracts
September 15, 2010

Last Date for Registration
November 30, 2010

For Details Contact:

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Organizing Secretary

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