

International Conference on

Society, Environment and Sustainable Development: Emerging Issues and Alternatives

(Chandigarh Climate Meet-3)

(20-22 March, 2024)

Organized by

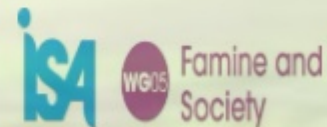
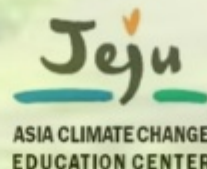
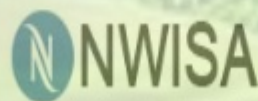


Centre for Research in Rural and
Industrial Development (CRRID), Chandigarh

Supporters & Collaborators



Knowledge Partners



Venue: CRRID, 2A, Sector 19A, Madhya Marg, Chandigarh 160019



Dr Murli Manohar Joshi
Former National President, Bharatiya Janata Party
Padma Vibhushan Awardee

Message

I am very happy to know that CRRID, Chandigarh is organising an International Conference on "Society, Environment and Sustainable Development: Emerging Issues and Alternatives" from 20th to 22nd March 2024 in collaboration with a large number of colleges and Universities, public institutions, associations and NGOs.

Climate change is becoming an important issue globally and locally and serious efforts are needed to combat its implications on society and planet as a whole. In this context The Karakorum – Hindukush – Himalaya – massif – region deserves special attention. The recent happenings particularly in the Uttarakhand– Himachal – J&K region pose an existential threat to the Himalayan Ecosystem and the adjoining Indian peninsula.

At the same time governments and communities are committed to achieve Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which is also one of the important dimensions to be discussed during the three days international conference. Serious efforts have to be made to reduce poverty and address the problems of food, health, education and other basic needs. I believe that the conference while discussing these issues would also deliberate on the alternatives for creating an ecologically safe planet. I am sure, the deliberations on these important aspects during the conference will be helpful to the policymakers and other stakeholders. I wish great success to the organising team for meaningful outcomes.

Dr Murli Manohar Joshi
Former HRD Minister, Minister of Home Affairs,
Minister of Science and Technology,
Member of the Lok Sabha, etc.

Lord Rami Ranger CBE

Baron of Mayfair



House of Lords, London SW1A 0PW
Telephone: + 44 (0)20 8575 3700
Email: rangerr@parliament.uk

Message from Lord Rami Ranger CBE

I am delighted to learn that the Centre for Research in Rural and Industrial Development (CRRID), Chandigarh is organizing an International Conference on "Society, Environment and Sustainable Development:

By bringing such important issues under the spotlight in the conference from March 20 to 22, 2024 at CRRID, Chandigarh the conference will highlight the importance of global order for sustainable development through cooperation and collaboration with the world.

The world is facing environmental challenges like never before in the history of mankind.

The economic, social, political, and cultural development must be with the view to preserve present world for our next generations. We are already facing crises such as shortages of food, water, and power. These issues can only be tackled with responsible development.

Global warming is affecting the poorest nations of the world more due to the irresponsible lifestyle of rich countries. The progress of any nation must not affect any other nation.

I commend the work undertaken by the team at CRRID. The impact will be far reaching.

I send my best wishes to the organisers and participants.

Lord Rami Ranger CBE



CENTRE FOR RESEARCH IN RURAL & INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

(supported by the Indian Council of Social Science Research, (ICSSR), Ministry of Education,
Government of India and the State Government of Punjab)

ग्रामीण एवं औद्योगिक विकास अनुसंधान केन्द्र
ਦਿਹਾਤੀ ਅਤੇ ਸਨਅਤੀ ਵਿਕਾਸ ਖੋਜ ਕੇਂਦਰ

Message



Dear Colleagues

I am happy that CRRID, Chandigarh is organizing an International Conference on "Society, Environment and Sustainable Development: Emerging Issues and Alternatives" from March 20 to 22, 2024 at CRRID, Chandigarh. The International Conference is part of Chandigarh Climate Meet (third in the series). It is being organised with the support from the *Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR)*, New Delhi; Chandigarh Region Innovation and Knowledge Cluster (CRIKC), PU, Chandigarh, National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA), New Delhi; Punjab State Human Rights Commission (PSHRC); Chandigarh Renewal Energy and Science & Technology Promotion Society (CREST) and Deptt of Sociology, Post Graduate Govt College (PGGC-11). The Working Group 05 of International Sociological Association (ISA) on Famine and Society; Research Committees-08, 10, 11, 19, 20 and 23 of Society Himachal Pradesh Indian Society (ISS); Sociological Sociological (SSHP); Chandigarh; Academy of Innovation in Technology and Management, Jalandhar, and Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA)-Haryana Regional Branch; Global Research and Educational Foundation India (GREFI), Inclusive Human Resource Development Initiative, Foundation (IHRDI) and some other institutions are likely to support the organization of events in various capacities as technical and knowledge partners/collaborators. I am happy that '3rd Chandigarh Green Awards 2024' ceremony is also being organised to the people for green initiatives to cope with climate change and improve environmental conditions in Northwestern India. I am sure that conference will be useful for the academic people as well as policy makers.

I send my warm wishes to all the delegates and our organising team

Dr S K Mangal

Chairman, Governing Body, CRRID

2-A, Sector 19-A, Madhya Marg, Chandigarh - 160 019 (India)

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हिमाचल प्रदेश केन्द्रीय विश्वविद्यालय
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Dr. Harmohinder Singh Bedi
Chancellor



Dear Delegates

Climate change is a pressing issue affecting the entire planet, driven primarily by human activities such as burning fossil fuels, deforestation, industrial processes, etc. leading to global warming, altering weather patterns, and causing numerous adverse impacts on ecosystems, economies, and human societies. Addressing climate change requires global cooperation, policy interventions, technological innovation, and behavioural changes across all sectors of society. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and climate change are closely interconnected concepts within the broader context of global sustainability. The SDGs provide a framework for countries to integrate climate action into broader sustainable development strategies, emphasizing the interconnectedness of environmental, social, and economic goals. By achieving the SDGs, including those directly related to climate change, the international community aims to build a more resilient, equitable, and sustainable future for all.

India has pioneered a home-grown initiative for a sustainable and healthy lifestyle called LiFE - Lifestyle for the Environment - and placed it on the global agenda, including at G20. The concept was unveiled by Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi, at the annual global climate summit, COP26 in Glasgow on 1 November 2021. India calls upon the global community to drive LiFE as an international mass movement towards mindful and deliberate utilization, instead of mindless and destructive consumption to protect and preserve the environment. Life calls for transformations at various levels from individuals to institutions. This is perhaps fundamentally linked with value and ethical approaches that need to be mainstreamed for reforming institutions, processes, and practices. Life is animated by an underlying belief that changing deeply ingrained individual and community behaviour alone can make a difference in the environmental and climate crises.

I am happy to learn that CRRID, Chandigarh is organizing an International Conference on "Society, Environment and Sustainable Development: Emerging Issues and Alternatives" from March 20 to 22, 2024 at CRRID, Chandigarh. I am also happy to see that a large number of institutions are partnering in the event.

I am sure that it will generate a lot of good ideas for the benefit of the research and teaching communities' students and society at large. I send my warm wishes to the CRRID organising team and particularly Dr Manoj Kumar Teotia for initiating this series of events namely the Chandigarh Climate Meet (the third in the series). I send my warm greetings to the organizers and all those joining this mega event.

With regards and best wishes

Dr Harmohinder Singh Bedi

Chancellor, Central University of Himachal Pradesh



पंजाब केन्द्रीय विश्वविद्यालय, बठिंडा Central University of Punjab, Bathinda

(संसद के अधिनियम संख्याक 25(2009) के द्वारा स्थापित)/(Established vide an Act No. 25(2009) of Parliament)

Prof. Raghavendra P. Tiwari/ आचार्य राघवेन्द्र प्र. तिवारी
Vice-Chancellor/ कुलपति



संदर्भ सं./Ref. No. : CUPB/VCO/24/28

दिनांक/Dated : 18th March 2024

Dear Participants,

It gives me an immense pleasure to express my views about the International Conference on "Society, Environment and Sustainable Development: Emerging Issues and Alternatives" which CRRID is organising from March 20 to 22, 2024 at Chandigarh.

I am told that this Conference is a precursor to the Chandigarh Climate Meet (third in the series) scheduled to be organized by CRRID with the financial support from the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), New Delhi; and other organizations concerned with the issue that is central to the current development narratives.

The theme of the Conference is of utmost significance in the present context as our mother earth is warming at an alarming rate and severely affecting civilizational discourse in several ways. This may be attributed to the development narratives pursued by us which is not in consonance with India's age-old and time-tested interaction with nature.

We in the North-western region of India are also facing climatic vagaries like erratic temperature and rainfall patterns, melting of glaciers, delay in snow fall, and other biotic and abiotic stresses, etc.

I am sure the Conference will provide a platform to experts, researchers and teachers together to seriously discuss the critical issues relating to climate change. I am confident that some concrete resolutions will emanate from this academic congregation for coping with the adverse impact of global warming, climate change and resultant socio-economic and ecological issues.

My compliments to CRRID and Dr Manoj Kumar Teotia for organising this event on the focal theme which should be a part of the thought process of the humankind. My best wishes for the success of the Conference.

18/3/24
Prof. Raghavendra P. Tiwari

Professor Renu Vig
Vice-Chancellor



PANJAB UNIVERSITY
CHANDIGARH, India 160 014

MESSAGE



Esteemed Participants,

It gives me immense pleasure that CRIKC is organizing an international conference in collaboration with CRRID on "SOCIETY, ENVIRONMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: EMERGING ISSUES AND ALTERNATIVES". We embark on a journey of exploration and discovery. Our discussions will delve into the intricate web of connections that bind humanity to the natural world and explore the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

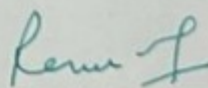
At the heart of our deliberations lies the recognition that the well-being of society and the health of the environment are inextricably linked. It is not enough to pursue economic growth at the expense of our planet's finite resources and delicate ecosystems. True progress must be measured by the extent to which it promotes human flourishing while safeguarding the integrity of the natural world upon which we all depend.

As we examine the complex dynamics of this relationship, we must confront the pressing issues that threaten both society and the environment. Climate change, biodiversity loss, pollution, and resource depletion are not isolated problems but symptoms of a deeper systemic imbalance. Addressing these challenges requires us to adopt a holistic approach that considers social, economic, and environmental factors in tandem.

Crucially, our discussions must be guided by a spirit of inclusivity and equity. Too often, marginalized communities bear the brunt of environmental degradation and suffer the consequences of unsustainable development practices. As we seek solutions, we must ensure that the voices of these communities are heard and that their needs are prioritized. Moreover, we must not shy away from exploring alternative paradigms and approaches to development. The dominant model of growth-at-all-costs has led us to the brink of ecological collapse and perpetuated social inequalities. It is time to embrace more sustainable and regenerative alternatives that prioritize human well-being and planetary health over short-term profit.

In our pursuit of sustainable development, innovation will be our greatest ally. From renewable energy and circular economies to regenerative agriculture and green technologies, the possibilities are endless. By harnessing the power of innovation, entrepreneurship, and collaboration, we can chart a course towards a more just, resilient, and sustainable future for all. I wish the conference a grand success.

Thank you.


(Renu Vig)

Satya Pal Jain

Ex-MP & Senior Advocate

Additional Solicitor General of India
Ex-Member, Law Commission of India



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Ref. No.: _____

Dated: 16-03-2024

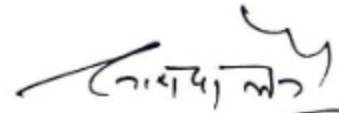
Message

Climate change is a pressing issue that requires urgent attention and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) emphasize the integration of climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning. Furthermore, it highlights the need to improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity regarding climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning. This includes a particular focus on women, youth, local and marginalized communities. By taking these actions and acknowledging the importance of climate change issues, we can work towards a more sustainable and resilient environment future.

It is a matter of happiness to acknowledge that the upcoming international conference will shed light on the interconnections between climate change, environment, SDGs, new urban agenda and various issues society is facing today.

I am eagerly looking forward to reading the deliberations of "Society, Environment and Sustainable Development: Emerging Issues and Alternatives" organized by the esteemed Centre for Research in Rural and Industrial Development (CRRID), Chandigarh. This conference will serve as a platform to engage with experts from various countries, providing valuable insights into this pressing matter.

I extend my best wishes for the conference's resounding success.


(Satya Pal Jain)



CENTRE FOR RESEARCH IN RURAL & INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

(supported by the Indian Council of Social Science Research, (ICSSR), Ministry of Education,
Government of India and the State Government of Punjab)

ਗਰਾਮੀਣ ਏਵੰ ਔਦਯੋਗਿਕ ਵਿਕਾਸ ਅਨੁਸੰਧਾਨ ਕੇਂਦਰ
ਦਿਹਾਤੀ ਅਤੇ ਸਨਅਤੀ ਵਿਕਾਸ ਖੋਜ ਕੇਂਦਰ

Message



Dear Delegates,

The Centre for Research in Rural and Industrial Development (CRRID), a national status institute under Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) is actively involved in research, education, publications, training and capacity building in important areas of social and economic concerns. It organizes conferences, seminars, lectures, meetings, symposia and workshops. In view of the contemporary emerging scenario at the regional, national and global levels, one of the major thrust areas of CRRID is Environment and Climate Change.

It gives me great pleasure to announce that an International Conference on "Society, Environment and Sustainable Development: Emerging Issues and Alternatives" under Chandigarh Climate Meet-3 is being organized by CRRID with the support of esteemed institutions/agencies from India and abroad. The main aim of this international conference is to hold holistic discussions and kindle public policy discourse on climate change challenges for sustainable development. This conference is particularly relevant as world is currently facing substantial environmental degradation due to deforestation, industrial and vehicular pollution, burning of agricultural residues etc. I am confident that this conference will incorporate innovative ideas from various academicians and scholars and also provide a platform to recommend doable action programme to address many of the urgent environmental challenges the mankind is facing today.

With warm greetings and best wishes.

Dr. Bindu Duggal
Director (Actg.)
CRRID, Chandigarh

2-A, Sector 19-A, Madhya Marg, Chandigarh - 160 019 (India)

2-ਏ, ਸੈਕਟਰ 19-ਏ, ਮੱਧ ਮਾਰਗ, ਚੰਡੀਗੜ੍ਹ-160019 (ਭਾਰਤ)

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MESSAGE



The world today is facing an unprecedented challenge as the very basis of human nature relationship has been jeopardised. As social scientists, our first task is to understand the reasons for the same. Empirically sound studies are necessary before any hasty policy measures are suggested. It is a matter of pride that the Indian Sociological Society (ISS) is an integral part of the International Conference on "Society, Environment and Sustainable Development: Emerging Issues and Alternatives" from March 20 to 22, 2024 at CRRID, Chandigarh. My best wishes to the organizers for what I am sure will be a very successful conference.

Maitrayee Chaudhuri

Maitrayee Chaudhuri

President, Indian Sociological Society

Friday, 15 March 2024



Dear Conference Participants,

I am very pleased to welcome you to this International Conference on Society, Environment and Sustainable Development: Emerging Issues and Alternatives. The global challenges of climate change, sustainable development and environmental protection are complex and they require both local and global solutions and action. Congratulations to Dr. Manoj Kumar Teotia and the organisers for putting together an important and interesting program. I look forward to hearing the outcomes of your deliberations.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jo Lindsay', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Professor Jo Lindsay

President International Sociological Association Environment and Society Research Committee (RC24)

E: Jo.Lindsay@monash.edu

PRABODH KUMAR, IPS
Sel Director Central of Police.
Punjab State Human Rights Commission
Chandigarh.



It gives me immense pleasure to learn that the Centre for Research in Rural and Industrial Development (CRRID), Chandigarh is co-organizing an International Conference on “Society, Environment and Sustainable Development: Emerging Issues and Alternatives” from March 20 to 22, 2024, in association with various institutions of eminence of India and abroad.

Strategies of Sustainable Development, as identified in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) — 2015, are not only essential for ensuring the resource-secure future for coming generations, they are equally imperative for the very survival of the inhabitants of Planet Earth even today. Indeed, the key messages contained in the latest Global Sustainable Development Report of July, 2023, can be ignored only at the peril of humanity: That the progress on 50% SDG targets is “weak”; and 30% of these targets have either “stalled”, or even “reversed”. To that extent, deliberations at such a Conference to strategize for such critical areas of deficits, and to lay down a workable roadmap for implementing these strategies, do not come a day too soon.

Human Rights are universal by definition, but their delivery to the deprived and marginalized sections of society is adversely impacted in the scenario of unplanned and unsustainable development, where the socio-economic growth tends to favour a few and ignore the rest. We at Punjab State Human Rights Commission are acutely cognizant of this fact, and hence feel privileged to be given an opportunity to act as a collaborator and knowledge partner at the proposed Conference.

I wish the organizers of this Conference all success.

(Prabodh Kumar, IPS)
Special Director General of Police,
Punjab State Human Rights Commission,
Chandigarh.

TAMILNADU SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION (TNSA)

(Regd-TNSA-SRG/Salem West/7/2021)

Prof. S. Gurusamy

President

Prof. & Head (Retd), Dept of Sociology,
Dean, School of School of Social Sciences.
Gandhigram Rural University, Gandhigram,
Tamil Nadu, 624 302. sellagurusamy@gmail.com
Mob: 94435 67855



MESSAGE

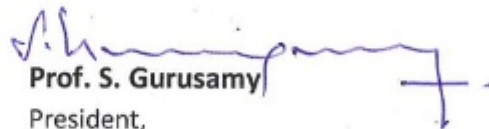
Esteemed Colleagues!

Greetings from Tamil Nadu Sociological Association (TNSA).

I am delighted to know that the Centre for Research in Rural and Industrial Development (CRRID), Chandigarh is organizing an International Conference on "Society, Environment and Sustainable Development: Emerging Issues and Alternatives" from March 20-22, 2024, as part of Chandigarh ClimateMeet (CCM) in collaboration with prominent premier social science institutions of national and international reputation and also various Research Committees of International Sociological Association (ISA) and Indian Sociological Society (ISS). I feel immense joy to note that this conference is deliberating a globally relevant issue like environment and sustainable development and its interlink with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with specific focus on society, environment and sustainable development. The social health depends on the nature of environment like land, water, soil and climate. Over exploitation of the same implicates nature of human and sustainable development.

I am glad that the CRRID, Chandigarh is regularly organizing CCM, the current one being the third in the series, the conference would provide a common platform to deliberate the critical issues emerging from the thematic areas to find solutions to ensure environmental sustainability and development. I am sure that the deliberations would influence policies and programmes towards sustainable social development as well as to realize SDGs in India in its letter and spirit.

I extend my heartfelt appreciations and best wishes to the faculty, administration and more particularly my colleague Dr. Manoj Teotia for the grand success of the conference.


Prof. S. Gurusamy
President,
Tamil Nadu Sociological Association (TNSA)



North West Indian Sociological Association



Dr. Sukhdev Singh

MESSAGE

I am delighted to learn that the Centre for Research in Rural and Industrial Development (CRRID) is organizing an international conference on Society, Environment and Sustainable Development: Emerging Issues and Alternatives". As we all know due to the adoption of 'consumeristic' life patterns, especially after the emergence of the Industrial Revolution in the mid-18th century and the recent advancement of technology, the environment is experiencing intense changes visible in the forms of pollution of various types and rising scarcity of natural resources. The environmental changes are posing new challenges for the smooth survival of humanity across the globe. Changing weather conditions are further posing negative impacts on crop production and the health of human beings and animals as well. All these issues demand serious academic discourse and this conference is a welcome step towards that. I do hope that deliberations of the present conference will provide adequate ideas for addressing the emerging challenges pertaining to the environment and sustainable development of society. I express my special thanks to Dr. Manoj Kumar Teotia Coordinator of the conference for bearing a huge responsibility in organizing the international conference.

I wish the Conference a great success.

Dr. Sukhdev Singh
President, NWISA
Former Professor of Sociology
PAU, Ludhiana



Global Research and Educational Foundation India (GREFI)



Prof. Virendra P. Singh

Message

It gives me immense pleasure to note that the Centre for Research in Rural and Industrial Development (CRRID), Chandigarh is organizing an International Conference on "Society, Environment and Sustainable Development: Emerging Issues and Alternatives" from March 20 to 22, 2024 at CRRID, Chandigarh.

At a time when global order is facing challenges in economic, social, political and cultural spheres due to various crises that emerged in the last one decade from COVID-19 to warfare between two former states of the USSR, between Israel and non-state terrorist organizations with active support of western world on the one hand and Socialist block countries and their allies on the other, the issues related to environment and climate change are most pertinent for academic discourse. The current conflicting situations in different parts of the world also pose threats not only to social and cultural orders but the use of lethal weapons in these wars has serious implications for environment and sustainable development goals.

I wish to congratulate CRRID and collaborating organizations for organizing this academic endeavour aimed to discuss various pertaining issues not only academically relevant but also are important for making appropriate policy decisions in order to achieve sustainable development goals specifically for the fast-growing economies of the world.

I express my warm greetings to all the delegates and wish a great success for the Chandigarh Climate Meet (CCM-3) 2024.

Prof. Virendra P. Singh

Chairman, GREFI & President, ISA-WG01 Sociology of Local-Global Relations (2023-27)

Former Professor of Globalization and Development Studies, University of Allahabad, Prayagraj

Former Professor of Sociology, Assam University, Silchar

Head Office: C-28, Pallavpuram, Phase I, Meerut-250110, India

Camp office: B-1305, KM Residency, Raj Nagar Extension (NCR), Ghaziabad-201017, India

CRIKC/02Ext/2024

14 March 2024



CRRID, Chandigarh in collaboration with CRIKC is organizing an International Conference on "Society, Environment and Sustainable Development: Emerging Issues and Alternatives" from March 20 to 22, 2024 at CRRID, Chandigarh under the aegis of Chandigarh Climate Meet-3 (CCM-3). The conference

is expected to invite keen interest from a plethora of sections of the society, academics and industry. The theme of this meet is broad based and the reflections will go a long way in creating productive roadmaps for coming generations. The event can be turned into a more frequent discussion forum and platform to make everyone aware of the direction in which the current practices are leading us to. The outcomes should include follow-ups and joint venture-ships amongst all stakeholders. I propose to convert CCM-3 into smaller and regular discussion group(s) in order to achieve fruitful results. CRIKC along-with CRRID and all other organizations involved at this point can take a lead in creation of such sub-groups. I am sure this conference can trigger productive partnerships and foster collaborations for times to come.

Pledging complete support through CRIKC, I wish this forum all success and meaningful deliberations.



Gaurav Verma



Postgraduate Government College

Sector - 11, Chandigarh

Ref.No.: 12

Dated: 09/03/2024

Phone: +91-172-2740597

Website: www.gc11.ac.in

E-Mail: principal@gc11.ac.in



I am extremely delighted that we are partnering with Centre for Research in Rural and Industrial Development (CRRID) Chandigarh in organising an International Conference to reflect upon the intricate web that connects society, environment and sustainable development- a much deliberated theme - "Society, Environment and Sustainable development: Emerging issues and Alternatives".

The need for this conference is critical and manifold as Environmental sustainability is a continuous thought which aims at ensuring availability of services and resources for present and future generations without affecting the health of the ecosystems that sustains them. We stand at a critical juncture, facing emerging issues that demand our urgent attention an innovative alternative. Climate change, biodiversity loss and social inequities challenge out very existence, calling for bold and collaborative solutions yet, amidst these challenges lie opportunities for transformative change.

This conference is an apt stage to spread awareness and take concrete steps to work together with a long-term perspective – focusing on anticipating and adapting to change in both the present and future. By embracing sustainability as a guiding principle, we can forge a path towards a harmonious co-existence with nature and each other. We must warrant that our planet is not exploited for human greed, it is a safe place where people of diverse backgrounds and perspectives feel welcome and safe, where everyone has enough for sustainability has a seat at the decision-making table, and where prosperity is shared. Let us harness the power of collective action, foster dialogue across disciplines and nurture a shared commitment to building a more resilient and equitable future for all. Together, let us embark on this journey of discovery, exploration and action in these 3 days and beyond

Agarwal
Principal
Post Graduate Govt. College
Sector 11, Chandigarh



DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
MIZORAM UNIVERSITY: AIZAWL, MIZORAM

R.K. Mohanty
Professor & HoD

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No. HoD/CON/43/2023-24/Sociology/IConf

Dated: Aizawl, 11th March, 2024



MESSAGE

The overall health and survival of individuals is under threat due to the climate-related disasters which not only require actionable solutions but meaningful explanations. United Nations has undertaken several steps over a time including preparation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Goal 13 of the SDGs specifically focuses on climate actions. It aims to strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural/manmade disasters in all countries.

Academic sociologists are now engaged in developing a specialised branch of knowledge called 'Green Criminology' with multi-disciplinary concerns. Green criminology is the study of crimes and harms affecting the natural environment, the planet, and the associated impacts on human and non-human life. It covers the range of harms from those of omission, to the individual, to corporate and state violence, to genocide and ecocide. The emphasis is not only on how environmental harm is socially constructed but also how to investigate the issues surrounding law enforcement practices, compliance mechanisms, prosecution, and prevention.

It gives me enough pleasure to record that this international conference entitled "Society, Environment and Sustainable Development: Emerging Issues and Alternatives", scheduled to be held at the Centre for Research in Rural and Industrial Development (CRRID), Chandigarh under the auspices of the 3rd Chandigarh Climate Meet, from March 20 to March 22, 2024 shall discuss the issues and challenges by bringing together academics from multi-disciplinary pursuits. Hope that it shall provide an opportunity for experts from around the globe to collaborate and brainstorm ideas to combat climate change.

I extend my best wishes to the organizers for such grand academic endeavour.

11.03.2024

(Rabindra Kumar Mohanty)
Professor and Head Department
of Sociology, MZU.
CONVENOR RC 23 (ISS)
LAW CRIME & SOCIETY



DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
KURUKSHETRA UNIVERSITY KURUKSHETRA
(Established by the State Legislature Act XII of 1956)
(A++' GRADE, NAAC ACCREDITED)

Dr. Sunil Kumar
Professor



Message

It gives me immense pleasure that CRRID, Chandigarh is going to organize an International Conference on "Society, Environment and Sustainable Development: Emerging Issues and Alternatives" from March 20 to 22, 2024 at CRRID, Chandigarh with the support in various capacities (technical and knowledge partners/collaborators) from the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), New Delhi; Chandigarh Region Innovation and Knowledge Cluster (CRIKC), Panjab University, Chandigarh; National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA), New Delhi; Punjab State Human Rights Commission (PSHRC); The Working Group-05 of International Sociological Association (ISA) on Famine and Society; Various Research Committees of Indian Sociological Society; Sociological Society of Himachal Pradesh (SSHP); Deptt. of Sociology, Post Graduate Govt. College (PGGC-11), Chandigarh; Academy of Innovation in Technology and Management, Jalandhar; and Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA)-Haryana Regional Branch; Global Research and Educational Foundation India (GREFI) and some other institutions.

Now a days, the study of ecology and development has assumed significance in the context of various emerging concerns including environment protection, sustainable development, and related issues.

I am delighted that social scientist across the globe are engaged to conceptualise the problem to the extent of amicable solutions. I welcome all the delegates from India and abroad and wish them a memorable stay in this city beautiful.

I wish the organisers that the conference will achieve great success.

(Dr. Sunil Kumar)



CENTRE FOR RESEARCH IN RURAL & INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

(supported by the Indian Council of Social Science Research, (ICSSR), Ministry of Education, Government of India and the State Government of Punjab)

ग्रामीण एवं औद्योगिक विकास अनुसंधान केन्द्र

ਦਿਹਾਤੀ ਅਤੇ ਸਨਅਤੀ ਵਿਕਾਸ ਖੋਜ ਕੇਂਦਰ

Message



The 21st century demands very dynamic new approaches to address sustainability of food and nutritional security, biodiversity, green employment, clean environment ethics, cultural values and equitable distribution of the inclusive faster development. The International Conference on Society, Environment and Sustainable Development: Emerging Issues and alternatives offer a platform to navigate at this critical juncture.

Excessive consumption of fossil fuels, carbonization, climate change related risks needs local regional and global actions. Urbanization, change in life style, food habits, gender, social, economic and political, development need rejigging of policies, politics, programmes, investments and sharing of cutting edge technologies. Digital, Artificial Intelligent (AI) and social media technologies, demands different kind of education, teaching aids, learning processes and infrastructure. All inclusive social, economic and climate change resilient growth is needed to reduce poverty, inequality, ethnic concerns, psychological, social and political abrasions. Honouring minorities, regionalism, casteism, human rights, secularism delivery of enabling policies, sharing of common property resources and green technologies is required for ensuring all inclusive sustainable growth.

There are lot of regional imbalances in terms of access to most efficient technologies, financial institutions, digital and AI laced technologies. Very serious side effects of AI applications like deep fake, frauds, computer hacking, sim cards cloning, sexual abuses, impersonation, changing opinions of voters is a great danger to the humanities. Swarming defence, autonomous weapons, confusing radars of the enemies and overall war strategies need very strong ethical local and international policies. On 13th March, 2024, Google have joined with the election commission of India to expose generative data during the current election. European Union countries have passed an AI act. USA parliament is debating baring of TiKToK operation in their country.

J.S. Samra
15/3/2024

Dr. J.S. Samra,
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Dr Rajeev Kumar
Chairperson

Department of Environment Studies Panjab University, Chandigarh (INDIA)

Tel. : 0172-2534016
E-mail : devs@pu.ac.in



Greetings to all participants,

It is with great pleasure that we welcome you to our Climate Meet on the theme: "Society, Environment, and Sustainable Development: Emerging Issues and Alternatives." We are honoured to have you join us as we embark on a journey of exploration, dialogue, and collaboration towards a more sustainable future.

The challenges posed by climate change, environmental degradation, and social inequality are among the most pressing issues of our time. They demand urgent attention and concerted action from all sectors of society. Through this Climate Meet, we aim to shine a spotlight on the interconnectedness of society, environment, and sustainable development, and to explore innovative solutions and alternatives that can pave the way for a more resilient and equitable world.

Over the course of our discussions, we will delve into the emerging issues at the intersection of these domains, from the disproportionate impacts of climate change on vulnerable communities to the imperative of adopting sustainable practices in our everyday lives. We will also examine alternative approaches and strategies for achieving sustainable development, including the role of technology, policy, and community empowerment.

We believe that meaningful change can only be achieved through collaboration and collective action. As such, we encourage active participation and engagement from all attendees, irrespective of background or affiliation. Your insights, perspectives, and ideas are invaluable contributions to our shared goal of building a more sustainable future for all.

We extend our sincere gratitude to all participants, speakers, sponsors, and partners for their support and commitment to this important endeavor. Your involvement is a testament to your dedication to addressing the challenges facing our planet, and we are grateful for the opportunity to collaborate with you in pursuit of our common goals.

Together, let us seize this moment to catalyze positive change, to inspire innovative solutions, and to create a legacy of sustainability for generations to come. The journey ahead may be challenging, but with determination, creativity, and collaboration, we can build a future that is both prosperous and sustainable.

Thank you for being a part of this Climate Meet, and we look forward to fruitful discussions and meaningful outcomes.

Best regards,

Dr. Rajeev Kumar
Chairperson
Department of Environment Studies
Panjab University, Chandigarh



Indian Sociological Society

RC-11 Sociology of Environment



Dr. Amar Pal Singh
Convener RC-11

MESSAGE

Greetings to all the delegates and participants of the Chandigarh Climate Meet (CCM-3) International Conference on Society, Environment and Sustainable Development: Emerging Issues and Alternatives hosted by C R R I D Chandigarh. The theme of the conference is necessary and vital in the view that includes many contemporary environmental challenges confronted by the world. Moreover, the 21st century has unveiled a cascade of interconnected crises that need to be addressed with transdisciplinary approaches crossing boundaries. It also gives me immense pleasure as the convener RC-11(Sociology of Environment) of the Indian Sociological Society New Delhi to be one of the collaborators of this summit. I am sure that the conference proceedings and the academic discussions to take place will suffice the aim and serve as an intellectual treat to all the participants.

Finally, I extend my heartfelt best wishes for the success of the conference. May it be a forum where minds meet, ideas converge, and solutions germinate a transformative experience that transcends the boundaries of knowledge.

Dr. Amar Pal Singh

Message & Acknowledgements from The Editor and Conference Coordinator

I conceptualised the first Chandigarh Climate Meet- in 2017 in the form of an International Conference on "Mountain Cities, Climate Change and Urban Sustainability" and "Youth Forum for Social and Solidarity Economy, Peace and Urban Sustainability" from November 6-8, 2017 and two days Pre Conference Workshop on "Towards Achieving Green Growth, Eco-Efficiency & SDGs for Urban Sustainability" from November 4-5, 2017. This was followed by second Chandigarh Climate Meet in 2019 in the form of another International Conference on "Global Frameworks in the Local Context: Challenges and Way Forward" on December 5 to 7, 2019, a Mayors Forum on Climate Change and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) on December 6, 2019 and a Pre-Conference Workshop on "New Urban Agenda, SDGs and Climate Change Initiatives: Issues and Alternatives" on December 3- 4, 2019. I prepared the concept note of the Third Chandigarh Climate Meet way back in 2020 but due to outbreak of Covid 19, we could not organise it earlier. I initiated the process of organising the Third Meet as an International Conference on *Society, Environment and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)* only about 4 months back and I am happy that it is being organised at CRRID on March 20 to 22, 2024 with the financial and knowledge support from several prestigious institutions/ organisations. Despite the short notice we received large number of abstracts.



The conference is being organised by CRRID, Chandigarh with the support from the *Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR)*, New Delhi; Chandigarh Region Innovation and Knowledge Cluster (CRIKC), PU, Chandigarh; National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA), New Delhi; Punjab State Human Rights Commission (PSHRC); Chandigarh Renewal Energy and Science & Technology Promotion Society (CREST) and Deptt of Sociology, Post Graduate Govt College (PGGC-11), Hartek Group, Rewardoo and the eco conserve foundation. The Working Group 05 of International Sociological Association (ISA) on Famine and Society; Research Committees- Inequalities, Stratification and Exclusion Studies (RC-08), Gender Studies (RC-10), Sociology of Environment (RC-11), Urban Studies (RC-19); Media Studies (RC-20); Political Sociology (RC-21) and Sociology of Law, Crime and Deviance (RC-23) of Indian Sociological Society (ISS); Sociological Society Himachal Pradesh (SSHP); Academy of Innovation in Technology and Management, Jalandhar; Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA)-Haryana Regional Branch; Global Research and Educational Foundation India (GREFI), Inclusive Human Resource Development Initiative, Foundation (IHRDI) and some other institutions are likely to support the organization of events in various capacities as technical and knowledge partners. The financial and other assistance received from ICSSR, CRIKC, NIUA, CREST, PGGC-11, Hartek Group etc towards various expenditure heads including publication of book of abstracts, programme schedules, banners/standees, mementoes, proceedings, edited book and other material is gratefully acknowledged.

Chandigarh, planned by the French Architect is emerging as a role model in addressing emerging concerns of climate change. City government is devising knowledge based innovative tools to cope with the emerging ecological challenges. The major reform initiatives of the city are housing the urban poor, introduction of Garbage Bin Free Scheme, Sahej Safai

Kendras (Easy Sanitation Centres), Scientific Landfill of Waste, Setting up of Waste to Energy Plant, revitalization of green belts, parks and roundabouts, opting for energy saving street lights, augmentation of secondary and tertiary treatment of liquid waste, SCADA for water management, construction of dedicated bicycle lanes, switchover to CNG/LPG based automobiles, rehabilitation of slum dwellers after biometric survey etc. The results of the initiatives of Chandigarh have been remarkable. The greenery has improved and today city is one the greenest cities of the country. The city has embarked on clean energy initiatives and CREST is playing remarkable role.

The city beautiful having architectural grandeur and beautiful green infrastructure is very appropriate place to organize this event. The themes are crucial in the context of growing challenges of climate change, urgency to achieve sustainable development goals and New Urban Agenda. We are happy with the overwhelming response from the delegates from various institutions of India as well as abroad. In a short period, we have received large number of papers and many of the delegates have shown the willingness to attend the conference despite we could not provide full financial support to several delegates due to financial constraints. We acknowledge our sincere gratitude to our collaborators, supporters, knowledge partners, associates for extending their full support. We are extremely grateful for the patronage and whole hearted support of the President of CRRID Society Dr Murli Manohar Joshi, Former HRD Minister and Minister of Home Affairs, Government of India; Lord Rami Ranger, Baron of Mayfair, House of Lords, UK; Shri Satya Pal Jain, Ex-MP, Ex Member, Law Commission of India and Additional Solicitor General of India; Prof Maitrayee Chaudhuri, President, Indian Sociological Society; Prof Renu Vig, Vice Chancellor, PU, Chandigarh; Shri Prabodh Kumar, IPS, Special DGP, Punjab State Human Rights Commission; Prof Debal K SinghaRoy, President of WG05 of ISA on Famine and Society; Prof Gourav Verma, Coordinator, CRIKC and Dr Anupam Bahri, CRIKC, PU, Chandigarh; Dr Debolina Kundu, Director, NIUA, New Delhi; Shri T C Nautiyal, IFS, Secretary, Science and Technology, UT Administration; Shri Navneet K. Srivastava, IFS, DCF, UT Chandigarh; Shri Rahul Mahajan, noted Environmentalist; Prof Jo Lindsay, President RC24 Environment and Society; Prof Dr Punam Aggarwal, Principal and her colleagues Dr Rakesh Thakur and Dr Sukhwant Siddhu, PGGC, Sector 11, Chandigarh; Prof V P Singh, GREFI; Dr Rajeev Kumar, Chairperson, Deptt of Environmental Studies, PU; Prof. Sukhdev Singh, President, NWISA; Prof Sunil Kumar, KUK, Kurukshetra; Shri Deepak Singh, DSP, PSHRC; Shri Himanshu and Ms Supriya from Hartek Group; Managing Directors of Rewardoo Pvt Ltd and Eco Conserve Foundation and last but not least Dr S K Mangal, Chairman, CRRID and Dr Bindu Duggal, Director (Acting), CRRID. The knowledge support from ISS, NWISA; CEPR, ACCEC, WG05, AITM, IHRDI, IIPA, GREFI and Convenors of various RCs of ISS is also acknowledged. The contribution of faculty and support staff of CRRID for their assistance and efforts in bringing out this publication is also gratefully acknowledged. Our special thanks are due to Ms Neetu, Mr Prashant, Mr Nishant, Mr Amit, Ms Parmeet, Mr Anirudh for their assistance in communications, bookings and giving final shape to programme schedule and to the book of abstracts besides helping me in all other conference related matters. I hope this conference will benefit the policy makers, academicians and other stakeholders. I am sure this effort will help in addressing the challenges of environment, climate change, adaptation, resilience and achieve sustainable development goals.

Dr Manoj Kumar Teotia
Conference Coordinator



Chandigarh Climate Meet (CCM-3)

International Conference
on
"Society, Environment and Sustainable Development: Emerging Issues and Alternatives"
(March 20 to 22, 2024)

INTRODUCTION

CRRID, Chandigarh proposes to organize an International Conference on "Society, Environment and Sustainable Development: Emerging Issues and Alternatives" from March 20 to 22, 2024 at CRRID, Chandigarh. The International Conference is part of **Chandigarh Climate Meet** (third in the series) which is likely to be organized by Centre for Research in Rural and Industrial Development (CRRID), Chandigarh with the support from the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), New Delhi; Chandigarh Region Innovation and Knowledge Cluster (CRIKC), PU, Chandigarh; National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA), New Delhi; Punjab State Human Rights Commission (PSHRC); Chandigarh Renewal Energy and Science & Technology Promotion Society (CREST) and Deptt of Sociology, Post Graduate Govt College (PGGC-11). The Working Group 05 of International Sociological Association (ISA) on Famine and Society; Research Committees- Inequalities, Stratification and Exclusion Studies (RC-08), Gender Studies (RC-10), Sociology of Environment (RC-11), Urban Studies (RC-19); Media Studies (RC-20); Political Sociology (RC-21) and Sociology of Law, Crime and Deviance (RC-23) of Indian Sociological Society (ISS); Sociological Society Himachal Pradesh (SSHP); Chandigarh; Academy of Innovation in Technology and Management, Jalandhar; and Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA)-Haryana Regional Branch; Global Research and Educational Foundation India (GREFI), Inclusive Human Resource Development Initiative, Foundation (IHRDI) and some other institutions are likely to support the organization of events in various capacities as technical and knowledge partners/collaborators.

CALL FOR SESSIONS/ABSTRACTS FOR THE CONFERENCE

The call for sessions/abstracts for International Conference is open. The conference aims to deliberate on interlinked issues of Society, Environment & Sustainable Development. Society has been facing various social, economic challenges which seem to hinder sustainable

development. The sustainability seems to be at stake due to un-sustainability of human induced development practices. Achieving many of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) will be challenging particularly for states, cities and villages due to their weak institutional and fiscal base along with multiple social economic and environmental vulnerabilities. There is a need to protect habitats and safeguard the interests of poor people. The conference is likely to come up with concrete ideas for better future of the planet amid the climate change and gaps in all major areas to be addressed through SDGs.

Since role of habitats & their institutions are crucial for addressing many social, economic, environmental concerns, the conference will deliberate and discuss the issues, alternatives, innovations and modalities for sustaining the same. The sessions/papers on different contexts of the theme/s are being invited. The sessions and papers on various aspects of environment, sustainable development, climate change, water and forest management, adaptation, resilience, marginalization, poverty, hunger, food, decentralization in local as well as global contexts are welcome and how the same can help in resolving various types of problems in the developed as well as developing societies. The environment and sustainable development have been major concerns around the world and crucial issue for research and action having important social, cultural, political & other linkages & implications. The current challenges of managing pollution & providing health services to the huge population enhance the relevance of these important issues.

The post liberal regimes seem to serve better to the capitalists and rich sections and very negligible to meet the interests of larger sections of the poor populations. The global exploitative systems of colonialism seem to have changed their nature and forms with more modern systems and tools of exploitation. Now own institutions and own people seem to have developed new exploitative tools and procedures to exploit their own people and exploit own institutions. The marginalisation of poor and inequality is on rise. The exclusion of sizeable population is visible in terms of food, shelter, employment, education and health services. The progress of SDGs is very slow. The wealth is being captured by few people in the world. The few powerful and mighty seem to control wealth and power to decide the fate of majority. Climate change and human induced environmental problems are creating another kind of challenges. The air, water & soil pollution is on rise & having tremendous implications on health & therefore big challenges for habitats and their sustainability. The emerging situations need better interdisciplinary understanding and better public responses to reverse the exploitative trends, tools, practices, marginalization, exclusion and environmental stress to check the emerging discontents among the masses and promote sustainable development.

The sessions/abstracts are invited on a wide range of areas, including the following:

- o Society: Challenges, Reconstruction, Reflection, Responsibilities, Transition and Transformation
 - Poverty, inequality & exclusion
 - Marginalization & deprivation
 - Women empowerment/gender issues
 - Atrocities/violence/crime against dalits/minorities/tribes/women and children & their empowerment/mainstreaming

- Rights based development – social, economic & political
- Planning, governance & management: macro & micro dimensions
- Collective action and social movements
- Participation, organizational democracy and self-management, urban development and e- governance
- Transition to transformation: social, economic, physical and environmental dimensions
- Religions philosophies for peace, non-discrimination, love, happiness & environmental protection
- Caste, class & gender: inequality, discrimination & remedial measures
- Work, employment & capability formation/poverty alleviation
- Education, health, social welfare & inclusion & sustainability
- Media, art and culture

o Environment & Related Issues

- Environment: Concepts, Theories & emerging realities
- Climate Change (IPCC, UNFCCC, COP 28 etc)
- Global initiatives-local impact
- Energy efficiency, renewable energy, national energy missions/ plans and local actions
- Nature-based approach to climate change
- Critical review of Paris and other agreements and other initiatives like COP 28.
- Managing river basins and related issues
- Global water governance
- Climate change, water, energy and food: Interlinkages and issues
- Hydro based development in Himalayan and other mountain regions
- Carbon management and green technological interventions
- Natural disaster management
- Social dimensions of climate change
- The role of environmental NGOs in response to climate change
- The role of citizens in response to climate change
- The role of enterprises in response to climate change
- Towards safe and sustainable human settlements.

o Sustainable Development: concepts, contexts, issues & goals

- Sustainable development: concept, theories and realities
- Local contexts of macro frameworks of SDGs/Localizing SDGs
- SDGs as Holistic Macro Framework for all countries: Efforts, initiatives, linkages and best practices
- Who takes the lead: Role of Governments and other key stakeholders
- Financing the SDGs at sub- national and local levels.
- Role of cities and local governments in sustainable development goals
- How to overcome over-urbanization, growth of slums, poverty and ever increasing inequality
- Eco mobility and environmental refugees
- Challenge of affordable housing, slum development and poverty alleviation
- Urban transportation and environmental pollution
- Improving Eco-efficiency and Green Growth
- Issues and alternatives in water, sanitation, SWM etc.
- Building a sound-material-cycle society through 3 Rs
- Environmentally sustainable transport
- Culture, traditional wisdom and identity
- Challenges against cities in the context of New Urban Agenda
- Strategy on prevention of natural and manmade disasters
- Improvement of educational, cultural and social welfare facility
- Improvement of housing quality, basic services and livelihood
- Green growth of cities- smart innovations and inclusive initiatives
- Addressing urban concerns to promote Social Solidarity Economy (SSE)
- Meeting demands of energy, water and food
- Smart and sustainable development amid globalization, liberalization and privatization

The focus of the conference is to understand social, environmental development related issues and alternatives and how the same are likely to influence sustainability. In this context what alternatives are emerging to cope with the emerging challenges to achieve sustainable development across various continents, will be deliberated upon during three days conference. It aims to provoke questions in different contexts vis a vis many of the above aspects is concerned and explore various alternatives to manage the growth and development in juxtaposition with increasing pressure on society due to growing inequalities, poverty, social exclusions, deprivations and climate change/environmental stress.

The social issues and environmental capturing the full import of the acronym FAMINE (Food insecurity as a consequence of severely diminished purchasing power of vulnerable groups in society, Alienation on account of discrimination based on Caste, Color or Creed; Marginalization on account of severely diminishing real incomes; Inequality based on dysfunctional social systems and travails of the workers in Informal Sector, Negative impact on vulnerable groups of natural calamities & man-made disasters such as civil wars and economic shocks caused by market volatility; & Exclusion from mainstream society based on social and economic ostracization resulting in social conflict, unrest and violence) in the context of the environment & sustainability are also likely to be discussed in the conference.

THE HOST INSTITUTION

Centre for Research in Rural and Industrial Development (CRRID), an autonomous research institute, is among the 27 research institutes in the country supported by the **Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR)**, New Delhi. It enjoys the distinction of being the only one of its kind in the northwestern states of Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab and the UT of Chandigarh. CRRID was accorded the "national status" in 1984 by the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), Government of India, in recognition of its contribution to the cause of social science research in the broader national perspective. CRRID has a Population Research Centre, Urban Governance and Development Unit, RBI Chair and formerly SBI Chair, SAIL Chair and HUDCO Chair etc. CRRID's primary focus has been on carrying out socially relevant research on rural and industrial development in the wider social, economic and political context. CRRID is located in centre of the city and is at a distance of about 13 kms from the Chandigarh Airport, 4 kms from the Interstate Bus Terminal and 9 kms from Railway Station. It is well networked with innumerable universities and educational institutions. The institute is old, renowned and prestigious and has a vibrant intellectual, cultural and social ethos. Please visit website of CRRID for more information: <http://www.crrid.res.in/>

COLLABORATING, SUPPORTING AND KNOWLEDGE PARTNER INSTITUTIONS

Financial Support:

Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) was established in the year of 1969 by the Government of India to promote research in social sciences in the country. ICSSR provide grants for projects, fellowships, international collaboration, capacity building, survey,

publications etc. to promote research in social sciences in India. Documentation center of ICSSR - National Social Science Documentation Centre (NASSDOC) - provides library and information support services to researchers in social sciences. ICSSR has developed ICSSR Data Service to serve as a national data service for promoting powerful research environment through sharing and reuse of data among social science community in India. Please visit website of ICSSR for more information: <http://icssr.org/>

National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA), New Delhi: National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) is a premier institute for research, capacity building and dissemination of knowledge for the urban sector in India. It conducts research on urbanization, urban policy and planning, municipal finance and governance, land economics, transit oriented development, urban livelihoods, environment & climate change and smart cities. The institute was set up to bridge the gap between research and practice, and to provide critical and objective analyses of trends and prospects for urban development. NIUA has assisted in policy formulation and programme appraisal and monitoring for the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), state governments, multilateral agencies and other private organizations. It contributed to the National Commission on Urbanisation, participated in drafting the 74th Constitutional Amendment of 1992, prepared the Draft National Urban Policy and other documents for the roll out of the JNNURM, PMAY, SCM, AMRUT, SBM mission mode programmes. It also guided the discourse on municipal finance by framing the Model Municipal Law. Please visit website of NIUA for more information: <http://www.niua.org/>

Chandigarh Region Innovation and Knowledge Cluster (CRIKC) was initiated at Panjab University in 2013, where institutions in Chandigarh region agreed for the creation of a Knowledge Cluster whose mandate is to use Science, Technology and Innovation for Socio-Economic development in the region. The regional impact can then be transformed to national and global goals to align with the UN SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals). The Institutes which are part of CRIKC include Medical Institutes like PGIMER and GMCH-32, Chandigarh; Engineering Institutes like IIT (Ropar), PEC, NITTTR, CCET at Chandigarh, C-DAC, Mohali; Higher Education Institutes like Panjab University, Chandigarh; IISER, NIPER, Chitkara, Rayat-Bhara University Mohali, Desh Bhagat University, Gobindgarh and Maharaja Agarsen University, Baddi and Research and Development Institutes like CSIR-IMTECH, DRDO-SASE, DRDO-TBRL, PSCST, IDC, CRRID, Chandigarh and DBT-CIAB, DBT-NABI, DST-INST, SCL in Mohali. Please visit website of CRIKC for more information: <https://crikc.puchd.ac.in/>

Chandigarh Renewal Energy and Science & Technology Promotion Society (CREST): The main objective of CREST is to promote the development/ implementation of alternative non-conventional energy technologies as per MNRE, GOI guidelines; Energy technologies programs/projects; Implementation of a comprehensive energy conservation programme in the industrial, agricultural and commercial as well as household sectors; Promotion and development of new and emerging technology areas such as cogeneration, Alternative fuels, Battery operated vehicles; Collection of energy database to provide policy and planning input

to the UT Administration; To set in place the policies/guidelines for facilitating private sector participation in Non-Conventional energy based projects. Please visit website of CREST for more information: <http://solarchandigarh.com/>

Post Graduate Govt. College Sector 11 (PGGC-11): PGGC-11, now a co-educational Institute, was established in 1953. Over the years, its illustrious students have carved a niche for themselves in fields as diverse as Politics, administration, business, law etc. It offers a broad curriculum and a range of opportunities for all our students to achieve excellence in academic, creative, social, cultural, sporting and community endeavours. There are as many as 30 departments. Please visit website of PGGC-11 for more information: <https://www.gc11.ac.in/>

RC19 on Urban Studies, Indian Sociological Society (ISS): The RC 19 on Urban Studies of ISS was created to promote understanding of emerging urban realities and learn concepts, theories and carry research in urban studies and while doing so create a network of thinkers to promote the field. Currently India is urbanizing and urban society is undergoing profound changes and hence it is important to understand the same by developing network of scholars and thinkers studying various dimensions of urban society and enable policy makers to evolve the policies for the marginalized, homeless, segregated, and in distress.

Hartek Foundation: At Hartek Group, our purpose is to pioneer India's energy transition towards a sustainable energy ecosystem, empowering individuals, industries, and communities with innovative solutions that drive progress and prosperity.

With the mission to add value to the lives we touch, we aim to shape a brighter, cleaner, and more resilient future for all. Established in 1991, Hartek Group is a top Engineering, Procurement & Construction (EPC) company in the power sector. A leader in India's Energy Transition to Renewables, we've connected 7GW+ of Solar to the grid, reducing ~150 million tonnes of carbon emissions. Expanding our reach, we have installed 100 MWp of rooftop solar nationwide, offering turnkey solutions from site assessment to project commissioning.

Committed to smart cities and intelligent infrastructure, Hartek Group is shaping a sustainable future, one watt at a time. Hartek Group – Making the Future Powerful. Please visit website of Hartek for more information: [Hartek Foundation- Giving back to the society through socially meaningful initiatives](#)

The Rewardoo and The Eco Conserve Foundation: The support of the two groups is thankfully acknowledged.

Knowledge Partners

Punjab State Human Rights Commission (PSHRC): Punjab State Human Rights Commission (PSHRC): The PSHRC was set up and started functioning in 1997 under the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993 (Act No 10 of 1994). Section 21 (2) of the Act makes provision for constitution of State Human Rights Commissions to work on the matters relating to human rights in the States. The PSHRC, during its functioning from 1997 onwards, has played a momentous role in alleviating the violations of human rights within its jurisdiction, and it is an active watchdog of human rights in the State of Punjab. Please visit website of PSHRC for more information: <http://pshrc.net/Home/Index>

Asia Climate Change Education Center (ACCEC), Jeju, South Korea: ACCEC was established jointly by Jeju Local Government and the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Korea in 2009 to respond to climate change needs of governmental organizations and other stakeholders to contribute to the solutions of the problem of climate change through education. ACCEC runs courses of education on climate change and its related issues-General and Professional Courses. ACCEC runs a creative and responsible climate change education with a goal to be accredited by United Nations as a world-class professional climate change educational institute. Please visit website of ACCEC, Jeju, South Korea for more information: http://www.jeju-accec.com/pages_e.php?p=1_1_1_1

Working Group 05 of International Sociological Association (ISA) on Famine and Society: The Thematic Group of ISA on “Famine & Society” was founded in 1985 and Prof. T.K. Oommen was its founder-President. In 1998, “Famine & Society” became a Working Group (WG05). Besides organising a large number of Inter-Congress Conferences, Famine & Society has organised multiple sessions and its members have presented various papers at World Congress assemblies organised by the ISA in Delhi (1986), Madrid (1990), Bielefeld (1994), Montreal (1998), Brisbane (2002), Durban (2006) Gothenburg (2010), Yokohama (2014), Toronto (2018), Melbourne (2023) and ISA Forums in Buenos Aires (2012), Vienna (2016) and Porto Alegre (2021). Please visit the website for more information: <http://www.isa-sociology.org/en/research-networks/working-groups/wg05-famine-and-society/>

Indian Sociological Society (ISS): The ISS was set up in Bombay with the initiative of Prof. G. S. Ghurye, Head of the Department of Sociology, University of Bombay. The Society was registered in December 1951 under the Societies Registration Act. The Society started a biannual journal Sociological Bulletin from March 1952. It held seminars/workshops occasionally on selected themes but did not organize large conferences. With the initiative taken by Prof. R. N. Saxena, from the year 1955 onwards six All India Sociological Conferences (AISC) were held in different parts of the country. The Indian Sociological Society as a professional body has come of age. The Society stands as a shining example of how academic affairs of a social science discipline could be organised and how Sociologists, young and old from different regions of India having academic interest in diverse fields of specialization could be brought on one forum. There are 28 research committees of ISS which promote scholarship, dialogue and discussion in various important themes of sociology. Please visit website of ISS for more information: <http://www.insoso.org/>

North West Indian Sociological Association (NWISA): The NWISA promotes study of sociology and sociological problems in the states of Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir and the Union Territory of Chandigarh. It also aims at promoting interaction and exchange of ideas among scholars carrying out sociological studies in the states and the Union Territory. Please visit website of NWISA for more information: <http://www.nwisa.in/>

RC 08 on Inequalities, Stratification and Exclusion Studies, Indian Sociological Society (ISS): RC08 of ISS was created to promote understanding of emerging realities related to inequality, stratification and exclusion studies and learn various concepts, theories and ideas. Another purpose was to create a network of sociologists to work on these issues and study various dimensions of Indian society to evolve the socially relevant policies for the marginalized and excluded.

RC10 on Gender Studies, Indian Sociological Society (ISS): The Research Committee on Gender Studies (RC-10), under the auspices of the Indian sociological society, New Delhi, plays a pivotal role in the advancement of gender studies in India. By organising technical sessions on gender issues at All India Sociological Conferences and conducting mid-term conferences and seminars, the Committee provides a rich platform for academic discourse and research dissemination. It places a strong emphasis on encouraging research scholars and young faculty to delve into the field of gender studies.

RC11 on Sociology of Environment, Indian Sociological Society (ISS): Research Committee 11 on Sociology of Environment of ISS is dedicated to work on the environmental dimensions of society and development. The RC is committed to work to prepare professional environmental sociologists who can work on different aspects of human interactions, including; population and demography, organizations and institutions, science and technology, health and illness, consumption and sustainability practices, culture and identity, and social inequality and environmental justice.

RC20 on Media Studies, Indian Sociological Society (ISS): The RC-20 plays a crucial role in the advancement of media studies in India. It organises technical sessions on issues related to media studies at All India Sociological Conferences and Mid-term conferences and collaborating with other quality seminars. The Committee provides a rich platform for young budding students and scholars for academic discourse. It places a strong emphasis on the importance of media as the fourth pillar in the society.

RC21 on Political Sociology, Indian Sociological Society (ISS): The RC-21 is an important platform for debate on shaping and transforming politics and society in India and making better world for every human being. This RC keeps organising academic events on various issues related to polity and society in All India Sociological Conferences and keeps conducting mid-term conferences and seminars. The RC provides a rich platform for academic discourses for and research and encouraging young scholars and young faculty to delve into the field of political sociology.

RC23 on Sociology of Law, Crime and Deviance, Indian Sociological Society (ISS): The RC-23 focusses on sociology of law, crime, and deviance and related issues in Indian society and how it influences the various social processes, institutions and communities. How various social policy paradigms interplay with law, crime and deviance and how they help in coping with these social problems are also subject matter of the RC. Currently various SDGs are trying to address some of these concerns directly or indirectly and any emerging solutions at micro and macro level in the society and how various social institutions react and respond to the problems are also matter of debate and discussions in the RC.

Adhoc Group- 2 on Sociology of Sanitation, Indian Sociology Society: The Indian Sociological Society approved Adhoc Group- 2 on Sociology of Sanitation in 2023. The

discipline that investigates the social causes and consequences of health and illness was inspired by the health and sanitary reforms that the relations between sociology and sanitation are extremely intimate. This theme will help solving the problems of society regarding sanitation, environment, social deprivation, water, public health, hygiene, poverty welfare of the children, and empowering knowledge for environment and sustainable development.

Department of Environment Studies, Punjab University (PU), Chandigarh: It is one of the important departments. Panjab University is very prestigious university of India and it has long history. It is ranked number one amongst Universities in India and Ranked 363 in the Thomson Reuters-powered 'Best Global Universities Rankings 2016' by US News and Global Report. PU has 78 teaching and research departments and 15 Centers/Chairs for teaching and research at the main campus located at Chandigarh. The Department of Environment Studies of PU runs M.Sc. and PhD programme. The department has achieved good visibility in India and abroad. The Department has its own library with latest books and reading material, laboratory facilities with many analytical equipment for teaching, demonstration and research. The facility of Visual aids like LCD projector, Slide and Over-head projectors are available for imparting instructions to the students. The department also has equipments like HPLC, UV-VIS Spectrophotometer, BOD Incubator, Air Quality Monitor, Thermo-hygrometer, Dust track, and Gas Analyzer. Please visit website of Department for more information: <http://devs.puchd.ac.in/index.php>

Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR), Chandigarh: Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR) is an independent think tank, which works in macro-economy, politico-economy, public policy, banking, agriculture, infrastructure, energy, international trade, manufacturing sectors. CEPR helps government in shaping the policy, via sector reports, stakeholder's consultations, policy briefs etc. Along with this, CEPR also helps organisations to understand the public policy and the market scenarios. CEPR fills up gap between industry and policymakers and strives to make both ends meet. Nationally, CEPR is network of odd professionals and economists, who are regularly contributing to make the work more meaningful. At present we operate out of two offices, Noida in Delhi NCR and Chandigarh. Please visit website of CEPR for more information: <http://cepr.in/>

Academy of Innovation in Technology and Management: Academy of Innovation in Technology and Management (AITM), under the aegis of PAHAL Society, organizes different academic programs on different topics relevant to academicians and professionals working in different domains. The program includes various types of conferences, short term courses, training, tailor made training programs, etc. Please visit website of AITM: <https://www.aitm.co.in/home>

Sociological Society Himachal Pradesh (SSHP): SSHP is registered not for profit association of people working for sociology at different levels. Its members include sociologists, social scientists consisting of academicians, PG, research scholars, public servants, consultants, NGO people, social researchers etc. SSHP is committed to promote sociology and develop sociological thinking and committed to facilitate sociological teaching and research and enhance the professional development of its members. SSHP aims to work

for sociology in Himachal specifically and in India and world in general by providing a network of sociologists at all levels. Please visit website of SSHP: www.sshp.co.in

Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA)-Haryana Regional Branch: IIPA was set up to build capacity among public servants through training and research and impart knowledge and soft skills required for managing the tasks of governance at the Centre and State level. In order to promote the ideology and mandate of IIPA, its governing body established Regional Branches in most of the States and Union Territories of the country. IIPA, Haryana Regional Branch is located at Haryana Institute of Public Administration, Gurugram and has been acting as a flag bearer of the initiatives and agendas of IIPA in Haryana. All the members of IIPA residing in Haryana State are the members of IIPA HRB. IIPA HRB has been organizing various workshops and conferences on the current issues in Administration and Governance. Please visit website of IIPA-HRB: <http://iipahrb.com/>

Global Research and Educational Foundation India (GREFI): Dealing with the challenges of today requires problem-solvers who bring different perspectives and are willing to take risks. GREFI emerged out of a pursuit to inspire and support the community, and a desire for actions to speak louder than words. Established in 2000, it is an organization driven by progressive ideas, bold actions, and a strong foundation of support. Please visit website of GREFI for more information: <https://www.grefiglobal.org/>

Inclusive Human Resource Development Initiative, Foundation (IHRDI): IHRDI is a NGO/Civil Society set up under the Societies Registration Act, 1860. It has been set up by a group of academicians and practitioners to improve the human resources of our society through education, training and facilitation. The Governing Body of IHRDI is adorned with senior eminent personalities having a lot of experience and knowledge in the field of training and development. IHRDI works extensively in the field of Environment, Social and Governance (ESG) and strives to bring about sustainability in thought, actions and conduct of all global citizens. Since its inception IHRDI has taken a number of initiatives to sensitize the citizens about Sustainable Development Goals promulgated by the UNDP and conducted a series of 62 weekly online webinars on important topics like climate change, SDGs, financial management, leadership, gender, poverty, fighting CORONA, etc. during the COVID times which were well attended. Please visit website of IHRDI for more information: IHRDI Foundation

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International Conference
on
"Society, Environment and Sustainable Development: Emerging Issues and Alternatives"
(3rd Chandigarh Climate Meet)
(March 20 to 22, 2024)

Venue: Centre for Research in Rural and Industrial Development (CRRID), Chandigarh

DAY - 1: Wednesday, 20th March, 2024

Session	Time
Registration	8:30 A.M – 10:00 A.M
Inaugural Session	10:00 A.M – 11:30 A.M
High Tea	11:30 A.M – 12:00 Noon
Panel Discussion - I	12:00 Noon - 01:00 P.M
Lunch	01:00 P.M – 02:00 P.M
Special Lecture - I	02:00 P.M – 02:30 P.M
Technical Session – 1*	02:30 P.M - 03:30 P.M
Technical Session – 2*	02:30 P.M - 03:30 P.M
Technical Session – 3*	02:30 P.M - 03:30 P.M
Tea Break	03:30 P.M - 04:00 P.M
Special Lecture - II	04:00 P.M – 04:30 P.M
Technical Session – 4*	04:30 P.M - 05:30 P.M
Technical Session – 5*	04:30 P.M - 05:30 P.M
Technical Session – 6*	04:30 P.M - 05:30 P.M
Technical Session (Online) – 7	04:00 P.M – 06:00 P.M
Cultural Evening	6:30 P.M – 8:00 P.M
Dinner	8:00 P.M – 10:00 P.M

*: Technical Sessions will be conducted in parallel

International Conference
on
"Society, Environment and Sustainable Development: Emerging Issues and Alternatives"
(3rd Chandigarh Climate Meet)
(March 20 to 22, 2024)

Venue: Centre for Research in Rural and Industrial Development (CRRID), Chandigarh

DAY - 2: Thursday, 21st March, 2024

Special Lecture - III	09:00 A.M – 09:30 A.M
Technical Session – 8*	09:30 A.M - 10:30 A.M
Technical Session – 9*	09:30 A.M - 10:30 A.M
Technical Session – 10*	09:30 A.M - 10:30 A.M
Tea Break	10:30 A.M – 11:00 A.M
Chandigarh Green Award 2024 Ceremony	11:00 A.M – 11:40 A.M
Special Lecture – IV	11:40 A.M – 12:00 Noon
Panel Discussion – II	12:00 Noon - 01:00 P.M
Lunch	01:00 P.M - 02:00 P.M
Technical Session – 11*	02:00 P.M - 03:30 P.M
Technical Session – 12*	02:00 P.M - 03:30 P.M
Technical Session – 13*	02:00 P.M - 03:30 P.M
Tea Break	03:30 P.M - 04:00 P.M
Special lecture - V	04:00 P.M - 04:30 P.M
Special Lecture - VI	04:30 P.M - 05:00 P.M
Technical Session – 14*	05:00 P.M - 06:30 P.M
Technical Session – 15*	05:00 P.M - 06:30 P.M
Cultural Evening	06:30 P.M – 08:00 P.M
Dinner	08:00 P.M - 09:00 P.M

*: Technical Sessions will be conducted in parallel

International Conference
on
"Society, Environment and Sustainable Development: Emerging Issues and Alternatives"
(3rd Chandigarh Climate Meet)
(March 20 to 22, 2024)

Venue: Centre for Research in Rural and Industrial Development (CRRID), Chandigarh

DAY - 3: Friday, 22nd March, 2024

Panel Discussion- III	09:30 A.M – 10:30 A.M
Special Lecture - VII	10:30 A.M - 11:00 A.M
Tea Break	11:00 A.M – 11:30 A.M
Special Lecture – VIII	11:30 A.M - 12:00 Noon
Special Lecture – IX	12:00 Noon – 12:30 P.M
Special Lecture - X	12:30 P.M - 01:00 P.M
Lunch	01:00 P.M - 02:00 P.M
Technical Session – 16*	02:00 P.M - 03:00 P.M
Technical Session – 17*	02:00 P.M - 03:00 P.M
Tea	03:00 P.M – 03:30 P.M
Valedictory Session (Closing Ceremony)	03:30 P.M - 05:00 P.M
Cultural Evening	6:30 P.M – 8:00 P.M
Valedictory Dinner	8:00 P.M – 10:00 P.M

*: Technical Sessions will be conducted in parallel

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Abstracts

International Conference

on

Society, Environment and Sustainable Development: Emerging Issues and Alternatives

The Aspects of Food Security and Subsistence System of Climate Change Affected Coastal People in the Era of COVID-19 Pandemic

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Climate change-induced hazards and environmental change pose great threats and vulnerabilities to the livelihoods and food security of forest-dependent coastal people in Bangladesh. Moreover, the recent surge of COVID-19 has aggravated this vulnerability manifold. This paper is an attempt to examine the aspects of food security and subsistence systems of coastal people (CP) in dual hazards. It also explores the gender roles and responses of coastal people in food security and subsistence systems in climatic hazards during the period of COVID-19. This project employed participant observation, in-depth interviews (N=55), and Focus Groups (FGs)(N=7) for collecting data. The findings of the research demonstrate that climate-induced hazards severely reduce the resources of the forest and river and threaten the food security of coastal people. Many of the CP are forced to change their occupations, diversify their livelihoods, or migrate to other places for subsistence. Moreover, the recent outbreak of COVID-19 restricts them in-house and stops their income-generating activities. In addition, forest departments do not allow them to enter forests to collect forest resources during and after the hazards that severely affect their food security. In coastal areas, women play a great role in food security and subsistence systems, but dual hazards limit their working opportunities by restricting agricultural inputs, and technological supports, disrupting the environment, closing markets, breaking supply chains, and so on. However, CP tries to overcome these challenges by applying their local strategies. This paper helps policymakers and governments to get an insight into the real situation of coastal people during and after the hazards that can influence policymakers to formulate effective policies for the betterment of the coastal community.

Keywords: Climate change, coastal people, mangrove forest, COVID-19, Food security, Livelihoods.

Sustainable Development and Resilience of Russia's Regions in search of the "New Normal"

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Regions as socio-economic systems face various challenges caused by global processes including world market fluctuations, large-scale migrations and environmental problems. In Russia, the transition to sustainable development has been complicated by a high degree of interregional differentiation of development and resource potential. Russia consists of more than 80 administrative territorial units (regions) which are the constituent entities of the Federation. Regional authorities have full state power over their territory when not otherwise stipulated. In recent years there have been discussions about the insufficient volume of regional tax revenues and the presence of unfunded mandates. All these factors limit and slow down regional sustainable development.

There are some experts who think that Russian regions with a higher level of development were less stable. These regions included rapidly developing mining regions and regions in which manufacturing was the predominant industry. Economically diversified regions, even with a low level of development, turned out to be the most stable.

Our study identifies significant differences in the extent to which the development of Russia's regions is sustainable, and the factors contributing to these differences. An analysis of the factors influencing regional resilience is crucial for the development of targeted socio-economic policies and strategies to cope with regional economic shocks.

The methodology involving an extensive list of indicators makes it possible to identify the strengths and weaknesses in the development of the regions and to determine the directions of policy focusing on the maximum use of the region's potential, solving problems and preventing the risks of sustainable development.

These research results demonstrate that in Russia achieved levels of sustainable regional development cannot be regarded as high. The most stable regions are diversified regions with high GDP and developed industries. At the same time, the least stable ones are regions with a low level of economic resilience. One of the key mechanisms for ensuring sustainable development is the establishment of new principles of socio-economic development to align them with the SDGs.

Self-reliance is more important for national economy in Russia now, after 2022. So, the sustainable development of Russian regions has entered the New Normal.

Green Infrastructure in Russian Cities under Global Challenges

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The preservation of green areas is a hot topic amongst decision-makers and citizens in the largest cities. About $\frac{3}{4}$ of the population live in urban settlements. More specifically, 23% (or about 34 million people) reside in cities with over one million inhabitants. Moscow, which is now Europe's largest city and the only megacity in Russia.

In our previous research, we presented the results of a high-resolution survey of green infrastructure in Russia's 16 largest cities before discussing the connection between it and the urban climate. We examined three main types of urban green infrastructure: tree-vegetation, non-tree vegetation and agricultural land.

The main features of green infrastructure in Russia's most populated cities are follows. Tree vegetation of varying density makes up 16 to 61% of the total expanse of green infrastructure. The cities Omsk and Volgograd, located in the steppe zone, have the smallest share of tree cover at 18 and 16% respectively, while cities of the forest zone such as Ekaterinburg and Perm have the most tree cover at 59 and 61% respectively. Although Voronezh is situated in an ecological zone with climate conditions similar to that of Omsk and Volgograd, its tree cover is about two times greater. The same disparity can be seen when comparing the lower extent of tree vegetation of Kazan with that of Perm and Ekaterinburg, which have similarly favorable climate conditions. Although Krasnoyarsk and Rostov-on-Don lie in different ecological zones, their extent of tree cover is similar. Our analysis showed that cities in the steppe zones often incorporate large forests (both natural and artificial) outside the main urban core into the administrative borders, generally to be used for recreation. In contrast, areas of woodland in the forest zone are usually not incorporated within the city.

So, Russia's most heavily populated cities, i.e. Moscow, Saint Petersburg, Novosibirsk, Ekaterinburg, and Nizhniy Novgorod, all enjoy a particular status. Acting as pioneers and innovators, these cities define the green infrastructure development for other administrative centers in the country. Here it is also important to note that the administrative boundaries have repeatedly changed in most of these cities over the last 20 years (for which reason we used the most recent boundaries). The major changes to urban boundaries have occurred after 2011. Several cities have followed the example of Moscow, whose area has enlarged by a factor of 2.5, with many small towns being incorporated into large neighboring cities.

Our assessment of green infrastructure transformation revealed a loss of green space in all cities. The greatest change was found in Moscow and Nizhniy Novgorod with the smallest in Ekaterinburg. In Moscow, most green area has been replaced by roads and other infrastructure building as part of the development of "New Moscow" since 2012. Much less green infrastructure has been lost in the inner-city areas.

**Intersecting Pathways: Ethnographic Explorations on Climate Change,
Migration, and Ecological Transition in Sicily – Italy,
Abstract Research Project**

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The research is an ethnographic study of an interdisciplinary nature aimed at combining environmental issues related to ecological transition with the phenomenon of migration. The ethnographic method, participant observation technique, and research-action strategy will be the key tools for conducting the investigation.

The paper explores various dimensions of daily life, including working conditions, housing issues, and cultural practices of the Sikh communities residing in the province of Ragusa, a province in Sicily. This study is articulated in periods of immersive participant observation and in-depth interviews (both narrative and biographical), with the aim of understanding not only the challenges to mobility and work that Sikh communities face as a result of climate change and migration but also the strategies adopted to anticipate or mitigate its effects.

This choice is motivated by the predominant presence of immigrants of Indian origin, mainly of Sikh faith and from the Indian state of Punjab, in the livestock farming sector. The latter would mainly involve activities related to the stable and milking of animals. Furthermore, it is significant to mention that at the national level, especially in the regions of Emilia Romagna and Lombardy, in the North of the country, the livestock sector has undergone the same process of ethnicization.

The analysis does not intend to investigate the causes of climate change in relation to transnational migrations. In other words, it does not intend to hypothesize or verify that the reasons underlying the emigration of this community from the Indian continent are exclusively related to climate change (which may be true in part and which may be one of several push factors that contributed to the emigration of the Sikh community to the Ragusa territory). On the contrary, I investigate the intricate relationships between the migratory dynamics of the Sikh community in Ragusa and the internal production processes of the livestock farming sector. The phenomenon cuts across different global realities and is an integral part of the broader dynamics of globalization and increasing international mobility.

From initial conversations with breeders in the Ragusa area, a prejudice underlying the phenomenon of work ethnicization emerges, associating the Sikh community with the veneration of the bovine animal. The conception of the "cow as a sacred animal" for Indians automatically leads to assuming an innate predisposition to work in stables with this animal.

To conclude, the ethnographic study delves into the intersection of environmental shifts and migration within Sikh communities in Ragusa. This research aims to contribute to a deeper understanding of these interconnected issues in the context of globalization.

Redesigning post-industrial cities under the scope of climate change: The Emscher Conversion and its Impulses for the Blue and Green Transformation of the Ruhr Metropolis

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The Emscher Conversion is nearing completion: since 1992, 328 kilometres of the Emscher and its tributaries have been reshaped to create a vibrant watercourse that closely reflects its original natural state. The Emscher has been free of all wastewater discharge since the end of 2021. This project – built at a cost of over 5.5 billion euros – marks the blue and green transformation of the Ruhr Metropolis, Germany’s largest industrial area, that improves the quality of life in the communities. Channelling wastewater into an underground canal creates new spaces for innovation above ground: The city districts redesigned within the scope of urban development programmes create an exceptional atmosphere for local residents owing to their proximity to the many attractive green spaces and bodies of water along the Emscher River system. An awareness of the role of water in urban planning and an integrated water management system are crucial for climate protection and measures for adapting to the consequences of climate change, as well as efforts for enhancing the quality of life for local residents. Launched by the Emschergenossenschaft in 2014 and founded by the Ministry of Environment, the project “Klima-Werk” aims at implementing different measures of climate change adaptation in the Ruhr metropolis area. Its main aims consist in achieving 25% less Stormwater runoff to wastewater treatment plants and in increasing the evaporation rate by 10% until 2030. The climate change adaptation measures implemented by the “Klima-Werk” encompass green facades, green roofs and the general unsealing of surfaces to increase the capacity of rainwater infiltration, among others. These measures are primarily implemented in so called “focus areas”, where several disadvantages, such as a high risk of floodings, heat hotspots and a lower income structure, accumulate. The successful implementation of climate change adaptation measures at a regional scale depends on comprehensive and interdisciplinary thinking and acting instead of sectorial approaches of local city bureaucracies. In this sense, the “Klima-Werk” seeks to contribute to the development of a more participatory approach of regional governance grounded on extensive networking and community building, that can be applied not only to the climate change adaptation programme but also to other strategic fields of urban transformation, such as transportation and urban infrastructure. This paper seeks to assess the challenges when it comes to project planning and implementation of “Klima-Werk” at a regional scale. For this purpose, several in-depth interviews with stakeholders and civil society are conducted to find out what are main potentials and obstacles in the process of redesigning the cities of the Ruhr Metropolis under the scope of climate change.

Solid Waste Disposal - A challenge to Himalayan Towns - A Case Study of Manali Town

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Manali town is a small town in Kullu District of Himachal Pradesh and is located on the right bank of River Beas and is about 6500 feet elevation above mean sea level . It is just in the lap of Pir - Panjal range where Dhaladhar mountains converge with Pir punjal range making a beautiful V shaped valley. Although Manali town holds urban population of 8095 as per the latest census, but it is attracting lacs of tourists in summer and winter season. The paper would outline the various options too for the disposal at the proximate point.

1. **Land filling:** It is one of the oldest traditional method which is still existing and still supplements other methods. It's viability in Himachal Pradesh is not fit due to the following reasons:

[1] The towns are located on river banks and there is plenty of rain fall which makes soil and water highly vulnerable for the seepage of pollutants from the collected waste.

[2] It is difficult to find out suitable piece of land in the town or adjoining towns.

2. **Incineration Technology:** In this method the garbage [after segregation [of trash] is burnt at high temperature. After burning it results in 25 % as ash residue which again require land filling. The ash could contain Dioins , furans and other contaminants so it will hasten the entry of these pollutants into the environment . Therefore, this method is not as such fit for the town in Himachal Pradesh.

3. **Biological composting:** under this method complete segregation of solid waste in to inorganic and organic parts [garbage] is mandatory. It is only the organic component which could be composted by microbes through aerobic or anaerobic methods. Aerobic composting can be further enhanced and quality of compost improved through agency of Earth worms.

In Manali town, the council was in search of a most fit technology to address the issue of solid waste. A project based on waste to Energy basis was awarded to M/S Nextgen Chemicals on 4--8-- 2017. The project involves two parts.

[1] After mechanical segregation of trash {metals, glass etc] the plastic and it's plastic inert material is packed in bundles in the form of RDF [resource derived fuel]. This part of the project is made functional from 25-2-20.

[2] in other par the RDF will be burned to generate electricity which will be purchased by the the govt. and for which power purchase agreement has been signed between the company and the HPERC . This part of the project is not yet functional. To further increase the production of RDF and to clean the valley the company has extended this facility to entire Kullu-Manali valley including Kullu and Bhunter towns.

To safeguard the soil, water and air quality which is the three important components of the environment such projects need to be replicated in each district of Himachal Pradesh and every village of the district should be integrated with the project through panchayats along with towns, since solid waste is now a equal concern of all.

Transform to Transformation: Community to Digital Economic Community in the Periurban Chennai, India

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The overlapping field of digital sociology focuses on understanding the use of digital media as part of everyday life, and how these various technologies contribute to patterns of human activities, behaviour, social relationships, and the concepts of the self. Tradition to transformation is evident that the society engaged in adapting technology as means for living especially urban and peri-urban way of life. Digital India has significantly improved access to various personalized, familial and community based services can now access a wide range of services online buying, renting a house, travel to meet social needs, purchase house hold consumable and durable commodities apart from access to government and banking services.

The digital economy has become an essential carrier for promoting the transformation of cities and economies. The term digital economy has been broadly applied to describe how an ICT based economy has become gradually interconnected with lifestyle including housing and mobility of the peri-urban households.

This author uses transform to transformation approach to understand the emerging digital urban community in the peri-urban living environment especially focus on housing and mobility system in the case of peri-urban area of Chennai city. In the process of emergence of digital economic community the article attempt to seek answer for the following questions. It includes (a) what are the features of the digital economy community? (b) Does the spatial evolution of the digital economy have choice of spending on housing and mobility? (c) Is there any difference between conventional housing and mobility and the contemporary housing and mobility? (d) Is the peri-urban living influence by the digital economy different from that of urban living in general? and (e) What role did the technology play in this process? Digital sociology provides a lens through which to understand the individual and society after digitization. Also to know about modern societies one must understand what about the society is digital in terms of chose and adopt a new way of life.

Implementation of Fiscal Federalism in Nepal – Finding Issues and the Way Forward

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Since the promulgation of Nepal's Constitution in 2015, fiscal federalism has become integral to the country's governance framework. The Constitution delineates exclusive and concurrent functions for federal, provincial, and local levels, alongside provisions for revenue assignment to all three tiers of government. Intergovernmental fiscal grants, including fiscal equalization grants, aim to reduce vertical imbalance and maintain horizontal equity among provinces and local governments by providing grants based on their expenditure needs and fiscal capacity, aligning with the spirit of federalism provisioned by the constitution. However, despite significant progress, there remain challenges in effectively implementing fiscal federalism.

This research aims to evaluate the current state of fiscal federalism in Nepal, focusing on key areas such as functions, finance, functionaries, and fiduciary governance. The study uses secondary available data from government reports, academic literature, and other relevant sources to assess the implementation challenges and propose the way forward for addressing them. By addressing these challenges, Nepal can effectively realize the principles of fiscal federalism and facilitate its successful implementation.

Keywords: fiscal federalism, functions, finance, functionaries, fiduciary governance, implementation challenges, way forward.

One Welfare Through the Lens of Reconstructive Social Theory: Social Farming in Organic Context as Concrete Ideas for Better Future

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In the current context of challenges that seem to hinder sustainable development, reconstruction social theory aims to replace the catastrophist approach with an optimistic view geared toward encouraging transformative processes in society (Vandenberghe 2018). In this context, sociology can provide not only tools to understand and then develop critiques and diagnoses, but also highlight what is working and what can be changed from an emancipatory perspective (Wright, 2013). Reconstructive social theory aims to highlight the relevant potentiality in present societies, and empirical research to show their morphogenetic power in society, in its three characterizing principles: metariflexivity, normative professionalism, and post capitalism.

In the context of this theoretical background, this paper draws attention to a central issue in the policy agenda: One Health / One welfare. The One Health approach presupposes an integrated

view between the welfare of humans, animals, and the entire ecosystem (WHO, 2024). The term One Welfare develops in the veterinary field from animal health, but in fact reiterates the need for an integrated health perspective (Pinillos et al. 2016). The terms One Health and One Welfare originated within the medical disciplines and place emphasis on a biomedical view that puts the sociological, relational, and systems perspective in the background (Craddock, Hinchliffe, 2015).

This paper adopts the term One Welfare, anchoring the word ‘welfare’ to the term welfare state, because welfare policies have a history and meaning rooted in the Western world where the welfare state has become an institution of equal importance to the democratic system, in the redistributive perspective of capitalist societies.

Adopting the perspective of the social theory of reconstruction (Vanderberghe, 2018), this paper intends to focus on some post-capitalist practices that have matured in the field of territorial welfare policies that can be considered concrete experiences of One welfare. Therefore, this paper discusses social agriculture experiences in contexts that practice organic farming as concrete practices of a better future.

The focus is on the Italian case study, in the context of European welfare policies. Through the collection of data on these concrete experiences, this work sheds light on already present but little visible processes of social change with a post-capitalist character. Through a participatory research design (Hall, 1975; Cornwall, Jewkes 1995), data were collected on 8 national case studies whose characteristics were collected and analysed through co-research practices.

Therefore, this paper intends to contribute to promoting the maturation process of reconstructive social theory by supporting metariflexive processes through participatory research practices. Considering the dimension of normative professionalism, it intends to position and enhance the work practices of all the actors involved: researchers, farmers, social workers, and protagonists of social agriculture pathways, and in doing so recognize their power to change and transform society by shaping processes that are already rebuilding society. The study highlights the presence of a work ethic as a common thread in the actions of the people involved in social farming practices in organic contexts that testifies to the practice of work seen as serving a common good.

These practices as concrete post-capitalist manifestations are real, but often invisible to an interdisciplinary One Welfare vision that is the essential prerequisite for coping with the complexity of current change (Bhaskar, 2010). It is up to social research to highlight social farming in organic context practices so that they can provide concrete ideas for a better future.

Climate Change Induced Hydro-Poverty, Impacted Communities, and Rethinking Local Sustainability Models

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Hydropotentials have played a significant role in driving human civilizations on a pan-world basis. This has been evident since the days of the rise of the river valley civilizations. However, the recent anthropogenic activities propelled climate change has a footprint on the existing hydro deposits of the planet. The fast depletion of hydro deposits has emerged as a great risk to human existence and sustenance. Hydro resources are the greatest resource of mankind. The depletion and deficit of this resource generate multidimensional poverty that is difficult to fight. This paper provides a comprehensive view of the linkage between climate change-induced hydro poverty and its impact on local communities and the sustainability strategies that the communities think over. Studies on climate change and hydro scarcity are abundant. However, there is a dearth of literature relating to the socioeconomic impacts and local sustainability models in the context of the growing hydro-scarce districts of Odisha. In this context, this paper is the outcome of a study undertaken in the district of Nabarangpur of Odisha based on the field study carried on during the last two summers when parts of the district reel under acute hydro poverty and the way it has impacted the lives and livelihood of the local communities. Further, the study has tried to capture people's opinions and indigenous knowledge to develop sustainable hydro conservation and use strategies to mitigate the situation and for rightful adaptation strategies. The "go along" and "get along" tools have been used to collect the qualitative data while a standardized interview schedule is used to collect the quantitative household information about hydro use.

Keywords: Climate change, Hydro poverty, Local community, Sustainability, Adaptation and Mitigation

Climate Justice in New Anthropocene Epoch

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This paper intends to look into the question of equity and vulnerability in fragile floodplain landscape like Kosi River basin in particular and riverine floodplains in general riddled with developmental projects. It tends to flag-off the questions like who is affected most in times of climate change, how does different groups based on different social indicators get affected differently? We live in a liquid world (Bauman, 2011) fluid and flowing. In 2018, the US National Climate Assessment concluded that the "earth's climate is now changing faster than at any point

in the history of modern civilization, primarily as a result of human activities” (Jay et al. 2018, p.34). In reference to this, climate-justice across lines of stratification including race, class, gender, indigenous identity, sexuality, queerness and disability owes to articulate the effects of climate change on our relationship to human and non-human species. In this paper, gender inequalities between the sexes reflects women more vulnerable to man. Field observations have indicated the difference in the way men and women often view natural resources. Inequalities between the sexes exist in all sections of society and all communities. Though unacknowledged, in most resource dependent communities’ women do the bulk of collection for commercial and domestic use, especially of resources like fuel, fodder, non-timber forest produce. Yet in most communities women have a very little say in decision making with regard to the management of these resources particularly in studies based on developmental interventions in riverine floodplains, wherein, case studies and analysis show development as not universally benign. Development for some means underdevelopment and dispossession of many. Development interventions aimed at commercialization of natural resources involve a major shift in the manner in which right to resources are perceived and exercised. It transforms commons into commodities and deprives the politically weak communities of access to resources and robs resources from nature, to generate growth on the market for more privileged groups in society. Most critical ecology movements are based on the need to protect nature and the need to strengthen people’s collective rights to common resources. In the context of highly unequal sharing of the cost of economic growth, visible development accrues to the privileged while invisible under development accrues to the dispossessed. It’s a review paper based on content analysis and critical questioning from the secondary sources of qualitative data from scholarly writings, books, journals etc.

Keywords: Climate Justice, Equity, Vulnerability, Access, Riverine floodplain

Localizing Sustainable Development Goals; Challenges and Opportunities

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The paper is an attempt in understanding localizing SDGs, its implications, examining the status of localization and arguing for a central role to the Panchayats.

It has been argued that the localization of SDGs taking place in three phases while it needs to be mentioned that in order to localize SDGs at the grassroots level and bring about a change, the non-negotiables include; preparing Vision Documents and Action plans to guide their efforts on the SDGs; Setting up the Implementation and Coordination structures at different levels; Mapping of all Development Programmes implemented in the State on the SDGs and associated targets;

Identifying the State-specific indicators for monitoring SDGs; Preparing capacity building resources and tools in local languages, and Aligning the State budgets with the SDGs.

Further, challenges in the implementation of SDGs include; data gaps, coordination between different agencies, convergence of stakeholders, documentation of the work done and institutional arrangements.

These state experiences show a lack of consensus on how to implement the SDGs by localizing them with a proper strategy. NITI Aayog, being a nodal agency for SDGs, should have given orientation to all the States and UTs uniformly to localize the SDGs and adhere to timelines. In the absence of it, each State has its own methodology while lacking an understanding of the implementation and monitoring progress.

The paper suggests that the Panchayats require the following policies and strategies which are essential to achieve SDGs.

1. Building policy frameworks that explicitly recognize Panchayats as a central force in coordinating local responses to SDGs implementation
2. Learning from, and building synergies with, existing programs for decentralization in addressing poverty, rural development, and public service delivery
3. Strengthening the answerability of government actors and increasing opportunities for citizen engagement in planning processes
4. Building local capacity for coordinating effective development activities.

Decarbonising Electricity: Comparing Renewables Regions in India, Germany and Australia

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Renewable energy is often presented as a 'win' for the economy as well as for climate. Cheap renewable electricity is seen as laying the basis for a new wave of 'green' growth. But what are the consequences, especially for people embedded in the transition? This paper tracks recent experience in renewable energy regions using multi-sited ethnography and political economy. It takes three contrasting regions – Karnataka in India, Brandenburg in Germany and the state of South Australia – and finds surprising overlapping themes and differences, offering important lessons for energy transitions into the future. The paper focuses on corporate utility-scale wind and solar plants and problems of legitimacy for transition. Impacts in terms of energy geography, spatial reordering and social stratification are highlighted. Energy transition on the neoliberal model is highly contested and this undermines legitimacy for renewable energy, but it also lays the foundations for new claims, including for social ownership and energy democracy. The paper argues the transition is generative, enabling new aspirations, and new forms of energy participation.

**Plastic with a Difference- Good Roads, Good Economics and Good
Environment: Environmental Impact Assessment**

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The Project of SUSTAINABLE WASTE MANAGEMENT CONCEPT TO POLICY - IMPLEMENTATION 2011 & BEYOND: Which won National Award under GOOD GOVERNANCE PRACTICES, (for 2009-10) in 2011, conceptualized in 2001* was a need felt innovation, aimed at providing Economically Viable; Scientifically Proven; Socially Acceptable solution to the plastic waste menace, in a tiny Himalayan State of Himachal, having fragile ecology & environment with.

The research paper would argue that the Plastic waste Based roads having scientifically proven track record consuming 1ton SUP /plastic waste per Km, are not only 30% more durable as compared to conventional Bituminous roads but do save 34K -40K per Km. The coating of plastics over aggregate (8 -12% by weight) improves Impact, Los Angels Abrasion and Crushing Value with the increase in the percentage of plastics. • The extracted bitumen showed almost near value for Marshall stability. The roads did report good skid resistance and texture values. The unevenness index values of 3000 mm/km, have not developed any potholes, rutting, raveling or edge flaw, even though these roads are more than four years of age. Till 2019 India has constructed 30K Km roads using plastic waste {green Technology}, from Himachal Pradesh to Island State of Andaman & Nicobar* report NHAI, GOI.

The application Plastic Waste to Poly fuel/GASOLYSIS to yield RDF , is yet another multi utility, cost effective ,eco-friendly milestone achieved, in rendering solution to weed out the menace of Plastic waste . Installations of PET bottle crushers, water ATMs, making pavement tiles , school toilets, boundary walls with empty PET bottles , using plastic waste as fuel ,filler in cement industry added new feathers to its cap , in reaching “Less Plastic world” UNEP,2018 . Besides proving boon for fund starved ULBs, Rural Roads facing varied temperature, rainfall extremities across Nation. Finally, the project resulting in Good Roads – Good Economics – Good Environment. EOM.

ISHT A Model for Sustainable Tourism in Himachal Pradesh Concept to Reality

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Tourism sector is an extremely sensitive industry which is affected by various environmental factors and incorporates distinct features of information of the society not only of one country but across the world. In striving to reduce disorderly tourism development practices, and to overcome the daily turbulent changes happening in our surroundings like climate change, economic recessions, and recent pandemic attack on humanity. Solid planning for sustainable tourism development is required.

The IHR ie INDIAN HIMALAYN REGION of which Himachal is part sandwiched between River Indus and Brahmaputra , encompasses several sensitive and fragile human-environment systems and ecological carrying capacities are a critical factor for tourism development. Tourism development and promotion in the IHR should therefore be built around the principles of sustainable tourism as opposed to mass tourism. The prevailing model of tourism in the IHR is viewed as a source of environmental damage and pollution, a threat to socio-cultural heritage, a heavy use of scarce resources, and potential cause of negative externalities in society. These internal tourism development dynamics coupled with the impacts of climate change, are important drivers of change affecting sustainable tourism development in IHR. The World Tourism Organization defines sustainable tourism as "tourism that takes full account of its current and future economic, social and environmental impacts, addressing the needs of visitors, the industry, the environment and host communities". In order to stop over crowding , depletion of natural resources ,scenic beauty , haphazard concretization of structures and deteriorating fragile ecology , environment , Geo-Geographic setting and increasing natural and man made disasters without taking into consideration the carrying capacities of major tourist towns, Tourism development limited to Hotel Development has forced thinkers to adopt ISTH like concepts, which are need based innovations.

The sustainable tourism as envisaged ISHT is model based on a malasyian phrase, DEAD FISH worth 5 \$ Live FISH worth 25\$.concept where tourism related activities are developed, controlled and executed by local community especially in the rural settings where due to Geo-demographic constraints employment / income generation opportunities are very limited, thus resolving livelihood issues without causing exodus from hills to plains in search of better earnings.

Keywords: ISHT, USP, Local Stakeholders, Eco-Tourism, Unknown Himachal, Carrying Capacity, Orchard Tourism

Climate Change Impact on Indian Economy and Health: Policies, Programmes and Sustainable Action

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Climate change has a great impact on the Indian economy and health. Nowadays Extreme weather is “becoming the new normal” and recently the Secretary-General of the UN warned that “the era of global warming has ended” and “the era of global boiling has arrived.”

Similarly, Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), Government of India in 2020 has published a report on ‘Assessment of Climate Change over the Indian Region’ highlighting that India’s average temperature has risen by around 0.7 deg. C during 1901-2018.

Therefore, extreme weather events are inevitable due to climate change. Climate change affects health directly, causing more sickness and death. In more indirect ways, it affects nutrition, reduces working hours, mental health and increases climate-induced stress.

So, the adverse impacts of climate change have hugged mainly vulnerable citizens like the elderly, women, children, migrants, and people living in the urban slums. Indian cities are witnessing urban floods, cyclones, sea level rise, harsh winters, air pollution and oppressive heat waves with increasing frequency and intensity due to climate change. It has high-risk impacts on health, agriculture, water, and energy, exacerbating of inequality and migration. It is an huge impact on population health including nutrition.

According to the World Meteorological Organisation, sea level rise is a major threat for India's large coastal populations mainly living in Chennai and Kolkata. A 2019 study by the Tata Centre for Development at the University of Chicago warned that if India continues on a path of high emissions, by the year 2100, it could face as many as 1.54 million additional deaths per year due to heat-induced by climate change.

Urgent attention is required to prepare a vulnerability assessment of all the ares, climate action plan, focus on the use of renewable energy, e-governance, E-vehicle and Energy efficiency, development of the smart city, protection of ecology, bio reserves and environment, land use and water management and conservation of biological diversity. The major objective is to save mankind, increase the happiness index and protect our people and aim to achieve net zero emissions by 2070. So it needs the adaptive capacities of the policy and health facilities to manage climate-related health disasters.

Keywords: Climate change, global warming, global boiling, urban population, vulnerability, urban ecology, and smart city.

Understanding Elder Abuse

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Elder abuse is projected to become an increasingly more urgent issue, impacting millions of people globally, as the number of older adults rises. Elder abuse is a severe public health concern that should receive attention due to the terrible personal and societal costs it is linked to. The problem of elder abuse in public health has many facets. The purpose of this study is to give a summary of elder abuse in India among persons 60 years of age and above. A certain amount of income and education must be attained to stop abuse. Only 10% of the gender disparity in elder abuse cases can be linked to differences in financial situations. In 28 percent of cases, health-related variables and in roughly 29 percent of cases, sociodemographic factors account for the gender disparity in elder abuse.

Additionally, this study makes some recommendations for how to deal with the issue of elder abuse. Although the overall prevalence of elder maltreatment in India is very low (5.22 percent), there are significant state-level variances, according to data from the 2020 Longitudinal Ageing Study in India. The likelihood of abuse is considerably higher for women, working older persons (particularly working women), those under the age of 70, those with more household assets, single people, those residing in rural regions, and those with poor health than for their counterparts.

Keywords: Aged, elderly, Abuse, elderly women, gender disparities, India, global issues of elderly abuse. Socioeconomic factors

Tourism, Identity, and Inclusion: A Sociological Analysis of Disability in Nepal's Travel Industry

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This sociological investigation explores the multifaceted relationship between disability, tourism, and identity within the vibrant context of Nepal's travel industry. As global tourism continues to grow, inclusivity becomes a pivotal aspect of the sector's development. However, little research has been conducted on the experiences of individuals with disabilities within this dynamic landscape, particularly in the unique cultural and geographical setting of Nepal. The research employs a mixed-methods approach, combining qualitative interviews, participant observations, and quantitative surveys to comprehensively investigate the social dimensions of disability within the Nepalese travel industry. The study examines how individuals with disabilities navigate and experience various facets of tourism, from transportation and accommodation to cultural attractions and adventure activities. By employing a sociological lens, the research seeks to unravel the complex interplay between disability and identity formation in the tourism context. It explores

the role of societal attitudes, cultural perceptions, and policy frameworks in shaping the experiences of individuals with disabilities as both tourists and service providers. Additionally, the study investigates the impact of inclusive tourism practices on altering broader societal perceptions of disability and fostering a more equitable and accepting social environment. Preliminary findings indicate a range of challenges faced by individuals with disabilities in accessing and participating in Nepal's tourism activities. These challenges are not only physical but also deeply rooted in social and cultural constructs. Conversely, instances of successful inclusion initiatives showcase the potential for tourism to act as a catalyst for positive social change, challenging stereotypes and fostering a sense of empowerment among individuals with disabilities. This question aims to understand the practical aspects of tourism experiences for people with disabilities in Nepal. And explore how disability is perceived and managed within the context of Nepal's tourism industry. Ultimately, this research aims to contribute to the growing body of knowledge on disability studies and tourism sociology, providing valuable insights for policymakers, industry stakeholders, and academics interested in fostering a more inclusive and equitable travel environment in Nepal and beyond.

Keywords: Disability, Tourism, Inclusion, Nepal, Accessible Tourism

Integration of Low-Cost Mobile Sensors for Dynamic Air Quality Data Visualization

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Air pollution is a significant environmental and public health in which the presence of harmful quantities of particulate matter. These pollutants can originate from various sources, including industrial activities, vehicle emissions, agricultural practices, and natural sources like wildfires and volcanic eruptions. There are only three air quality monitoring stations throughout Pokhara valley as in static mode. The stationary monitoring stations could not represent the solution for air quality monitoring of the representation of the continues surface area. So, the dynamic way of measuring air quality is a matter of representation all the surfaces. The aim of this paper is to identify the air pollution status of the Pokhara valley in dynamic way. Air quality monitoring is accomplished by using low-cost mobile sensors. The sensors used to determine the pollutants like PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀ with the corresponding location, temperature, and humidity data of the desired place. The accuracy and reliability of the sensors were verified by the data compared with static station. It was tested by performing the accuracy assessment of the sensor system where the sensors were placed near the monitoring stations. The corresponding results from both methods were compared, and the result was analyzed. The result obtained from our system is more reliable and accurate than the traditional location-based monitoring stations.

Key words: Sensors, Air pollution, Dynamic, Particulate matter

Enhance the Efficiency and Reliability of Public Transport System in Pokhara with Mobile Apps and GNSS Technology Towards Achieving SDG 11 – Sustainable Transport

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Sustainability in urban transport is hidden behind the reliability of public transport. However, public transport in Nepal is unreliable in terms of both departure, arrival and travel time. Apart from that it is not trustworthy in terms of safety, health and hygiene of passengers during the travel. This has led road users preferring private vehicles such as motorbikes and cars, schools and colleges to manage own buses to pick-up students and teachers, instead of public vehicles leading to traffic congestions in urban areas in Nepal although road networks have been improved a lot in recent years. Significant rise in fossil fuel consumption is because of the increased traffic volumes which have direct impact on problem of air pollution in urban areas.

Pokhara is one of the cities with expansion of urban area in recent years and its urban areas are expected to grow further in the future. Now, it is time for the city authority to think about the sustainability of the urban transport system which ensures reliable, efficient and environment friendly solution in public transport. This paper aims to address the urban transport problems in Pokhara particularly focusing on providing reliable services to commuters which ultimately helps significantly to minimize fossil fuel consumption, air pollution and public health. Obviously, this will have better economic benefit.

In an effort to deal with the urban transport problems, this research is focused on developing a smart transport management integrating mobile apps called 'Merobus' with GNSS technology. With this app users are able to see bus arrival schedules to his/her nearest station including travel time, so that the user can save useful time minimizing time of waiting at the stations. Further integrating air quality sensors, the device helps to monitor air pollution along the urban roads. The data collected by air quality sensors is utilized in comparative study of air pollution before and after the implementation of smart public transport system and to suggest any further mitigation measures if needed which shall enhance the life standard of urban dwellers.

Keywords: Public transport, GNSS, Sustainable transport, SDG

Real-Time Public Bus Tracking System Using GNSS, GPRS and Mobile Application

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An electronic device installed in a car that allows its owner or a third party to track the location of the vehicle is called a vehicle tracking system. Vehicles such as public buses are essential for commuting from one place to another. Delay in arrival time at the bus station and delay in travel time to the destination can cause a number of problems tangible and intangible for passengers. The Internet of Things (IoT) is a rapidly developing technology that links and integrates a range of devices to produce more useful data which is useful in the public transport management as well. This paper presents how the design of vehicle tracking system called Smart Bus Tracking System (SBTS) is done and how it works in combination with GNSS and GSM/GPRS modem. This basically is an android application controlled by ESP-WROOM-32, which would be low-cost and efficient vehicle tracking system useful for under-developed countries like Nepal. The device that is being used to track navigation and positional signal is SparkFun GPS Breakout - Chip Antenna, SAM-M8Q (Qwiic) which consists of a high-quality GNSS board with equally impressive configuration options. The SAM-M8Q is a 72-channel GNSS receiver, capable of receiving signals from the GPS, GLONASS, and Galileo constellations which increases precision and decreases lock time. The SAM-M8Q GPS Breakout can also be automatically detected, scanned, configured, and logged using the OpenLog Artemis datalogger system. The Tracking Unit, Server, and Android application are the three primary components of SBTS. The Tracking Unit is installed within a bus to detect the speed and location of the vehicle before uploading the data to the server over a GSM network. This system enables the passengers to observe and track the vehicle and find out about vehicle current position. This proposal has significant application for vehicle security, ambulances, municipality garbage truck, public buses tracking and private drivers.

Keywords: Tracking, GNSS, GPRS, Smart Bus Tracking System (SBTS)

Respiratory Diseases and Dust of the City of Ulan Bator

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Background:

The National Center for Public Health publishes an annual compilation of environmental health reports, which aggregates and analyzes environmental and health indicators collected nationally

for different purposes and delivers them to decision makers and policy makers at all levels. However, there has been a need to provide researchers with primary data for environmental health research, to report to the public how environmental pollutants affect morbidity and mortality, and to monitor the accuracy of data. Therefore, environmental indicators such as air quality, water, soil, climate and morbidity and mortality caused by them needed to be collected into the database of environmental health monitoring.

Purpose:

Identify the relationship between PM10, PM2.5 and respiratory diseases in Ulaanbaatar

Material Methodology:

According to these data, PM2.5 and PM10 emissions were collected from the NAMEM Environmental Monitoring Department, which monitors 15 points of the city of Ulaanbaatar and daily obtained data on respiratory diseases from IHD from 2018-2023 year by day and calculated correlation, regression on the R studio software.

Conclusion:

PM2.5/PM10 and doctor visits is statistically very significant; we can be over 99% confident that there is a relationship between the pollution and the doctor visits.

Keywords: Respiratory Disease, PM10, PM2.5

Integration of Climate Finance into Public Finance in Nepal

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The purpose of this research is to evaluate how prepared Nepal's federal and provincial governments are to incorporate climate change into the public financial management system. In-depth interviews and desk reviews were done while gathering the data. Checklists to evaluate preparedness were formed by using the Climate Change Budget Integrated Index (CCBII), developed by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP). The evaluation was done by assessing nine aspects: policy, requirements, prioritization, implementation, calculation, tagging, performance, parliaments, and reporting of the three dimensions policy, system, and accountability. Each aspect is bolstered by a particular question and a potential response with assigned points. Based on overall scores in all three dimensions, the study concluded that the federal government's readiness level to integrate climate change into the public finance system in Nepal is medium. Individually top-performing in terms of system dimensions, with policy coming in second and accountability coming in last. In a similar vein, the study also shows that the provincial government performs at an average or worse level across all three of these aspects. The data gathered from the key informants also supported the result ratings and inputs to reform.

**Local Governments and Citizens as a Factor of Institution-Based
Development: Republic of Bashkortostan (Russia) and Kerala (India)**

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The experience of the State of Kerala in India with local governance is of particular importance to Russia, since it may help to take a fresh look at the possibilities of developing a Russian system of local governance. The democratic decentralization in Kerala has led to the formation of viable local governments, which, in turn, have created an institutional mechanism for people's participation in preparing, implementing, and evaluating local plans for economic development and social justice. The enhancement of the public engagement has become a potent stimulus for achieving effective decentralization. This paper critically looks into the local self-government system in the Republic of Bashkortostan in Russia, taking cues from the system of Kerala in India.

The experience of the Indian state of Kerala is of interest to the Republic of Bashkortostan primarily due to its practices of participatory budgeting and planning. Nowhere in the world has participatory budgeting become a channel for as much mass mobilization as in Kerala. However, local self-governance in Russia can only become fully operational under reduced state control and democratic structure. The key organizational controversy that can become a deterrent in the development of participatory budgeting in the Republic of Bashkortostan at the municipal level is the imbalance of subjectness in the relations between local authorities and the public. Indeed, the hierarchically organized structure of municipal administrations acts on the part of the local self-government bodies while the other part is represented by an amorphous, unstructured and unorganized mass of "public in general." The transition from discussions on private issues of the residents of municipalities in the

Republic of Bashkortostan to comprehensive municipal planning based on the people's opinions will allow actualizing the potential of citizens who express their desire to participate in the solution of local issues, which is particularly relevant during the pandemic. The development of people's activity in the work of local governments will be possible if local governments create institutional conditions for their systemic interaction and partnership based on explicit, well- understood and stable rules.

Climate Change and Occupational Health of Workers in India: Challenges and Coping Strategies

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Climate change is impacting all aspects of life nowadays. The entire world has witnessed its effects on land, water, and air, affecting continents, oceans, and atmosphere. The most vulnerable groups like the working class and lower-income people are the worst affected by climate change. According to the Climate Vulnerability Monitor 2012 report, labour productivity loss caused by extreme heat in workplaces amounted to US\$1.250 million PPP (Purchasing Power Parity dollars) in 2010, and is projected to increase to US\$7.250 million by 2030. India being a tropical country, is already facing various challenges of floods, droughts, cyclones, heatwaves, etc. and these weather phenomena get intensify due to Climate Change. In India, the recent delay of rains or snowfall in the North Himalayas has affected various sectors, including the tourism industry, agriculture, and other primary sectors. The labour class of India which includes Construction workers, Farm labourers, Mining workers etc. face the direct impact of these Climatic disturbances. They usually work in open fields and have to face the worst challenges posed by climate change. As per some of the studies, climate-changing factors like increasing heat stress are reducing the productivity of the workers. This study is mainly based on secondary data which is taken from various research journals, Census, NSSO etc. In this study, we will analyze the various types of occupational health hazards created by climate change, the effect of these hazards of climate change on the socio-economic life of the workers, and the steps taken by all stakeholders to mitigate this ever-changing problem.

Keywords: Climate change, Outdoor workers, Occupational Health Hazards, Productivity etc.

Fluid Transformations: Rights, Relationships, and Sustainable River Governance

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Recent developments within ecological jurisprudence discourse stand in opposition to the destruction occasioned by anthropocentric models that drive environmental ‘planning,’ development,’ and ‘management.’ Proliferating across spatial scales and jurisdictional domains, designations of natural systems as legal entities are advanced to recognise and enshrine ‘nature’s’ inherent moral and legal rights. Yet while this ethically progressive turn in transnational discourse

invites more careful considerations of the rights and needs of ecosystems, it also highlights a core governance problematic and ethnographic reality – that human communities and natural systems are inherently intertwined. Reflecting on ethnographic research undertaken with the Birrarung (Yarra River) in Australia, which was granted legislative protection in 2017, this paper explores the transforming institutional relationships between humans and rivers. By considering what it means for a river to be legally protected from ‘inappropriate development,’ it considers the implications of legal designations on the politics of ‘sustainable development,’ suggesting that the implementation of rights of nature frameworks holds some promise in the transformation of water governance towards more equitable and sustainable outcomes.

Advancing Collaborative Innovation in Clean Energy: A study on Omdena's AI-Enabled Solutions for Cleantech Startups

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In the swiftly changing realm of clean energy advancement, technology, collaboration, and entrepreneurial drive have grown significantly essential. The study offers a thorough outline of a case study centered on Omdena's AI-driven solution for cleantech startups, emphasizing its importance in tackling intricate issues within the clean energy domain. Omdena, a global platform specializing in collaborative AI and data science projects, launched an innovative venture aimed at harnessing the potential of artificial intelligence (AI) and collective intelligence to drive progress in the field of clean energy. Utilizing its unique approach to online collaboration, Omdena assembles diverse teams composed of experts, data scientists, developers, and domain specialists worldwide. These teams collaborate to tackle real-world challenges in the clean energy sector, drawing upon their passion and expertise to develop effective solutions. The study emphasizes the critical role of rigorous impact assessment and validation in ensuring the effectiveness and viability of Omdena's AI-powered solutions. By utilizing a mix of qualitative and quantitative evaluation methods, the Omdena's teams are able to measure the social, environmental, and economic impact of their solutions accurately. This comprehensive approach provides valuable insights for cleantech startups and stakeholders, enabling them to make informed decisions and drive sustainable advancements in the sector. By exemplifying its collaborative framework, Omdena showcases how diverse teams can utilize AI and collective intelligence to instigate impactful transformation and forge a sustainable future for future generations.

An Ecological Study on Exclusion and Indifference: Migrant labourers Negotiations on Yamuna Banks in Noida

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The central concern of this paper is to unravel the underlying dynamics of the Anthropocene approach. The paper acknowledges that exploitation and dependency have become a complex issue in the post-pandemic era. During Covid-19 pandemic, conservation efforts got flip during lockdown with the closure of industries, markets, transportation and it seemed for a while that the healing process for Mother Earth had begun. The paper closely examines the lifestyle of marginalized labour on the banks of River Yamuna in Noida and argues that the needs of the slum dwellers leave a smaller carbon footprint than those living in gated communities. The goal of this research was to understand women's lived experiences of sanitation by documenting their urination-related, defecation-related and menstruation-related concerns, to use findings to develop leaders among women in low-income settings and to develop a conceptual model to explain the factors that contribute to degrading bank catchment by habitation and (ab)use of water for domestic purposes. Thus, challenge is to awaken their indigenous knowledge and care for the ecological balance that can transform them into nature trainers for the world.

Reality of the Virtual World: Agonies of the Parents in A Sociological Study

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The pandemic introduced us to a new virtual world which certainly existed before but had never percolated in our lives in the manner it is present today. Internet has become the most inevitable part of a student's life today. The precarious social relationships created virtually pose a new threat upon the young students aging between 15 and 18 years in Kolkata. The use of the various dating apps has disconnected the real entities around these teenagers. The pandemic and the consequent lockdowns made the busy parents available to their children which seemed entangling to these school goers. They felt more controlled because of being present in front of the parents all 24 hours at home without school and friends and tuitions. For the studies being held online, the accessibility to the internet grew amongst the students. This gave them pleasure of entertainment and privacy which they have been missing. This access to the digital media exposes the teenagers to the very common modes of violence through these latest and easy sexually implicit media which provokes such sexual and dating violence. This creates an obvious interest because of their hormonal changes within this age group and that gets triggered through the accessibility of these sexually implicit videos which remains unregulated in many occasions. This paper puts an insight to the

problems the parents are facing with their children studying in reputed English medium schools of Kolkata and aging between 15 and 18 years of age. It is further trying to locate the risks which these students entail through interactions with the strangers and if unhealthy digital watching of filthy videos are affecting their behavioural growth and educational performances for their career. The growing anxiousness of the parents to see their children getting disconnected with what is present in front of them and the chase to remain ever 'entertained' is causing them peacelessness where the 'options for plenty' is failing to satiate them in anything for long leading to depression, arrogance, loneliness and others. 30 parents were interviewed from across Kolkata to locate the changing trend in their upbringing patterns and if they feel tensed about coping up with this virtual competitor. Purposive sampling was used for the study.

Keywords: virtual-reality, 'options for plenty', virtual-competitor, parental agonies, depression, anxiety, loneliness, pandemic-effect

Cultural Embedded Role of Women in Water Conservation: A Comparative Study of Rajasthan State

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"Water challenges go beyond questions of access. In many countries, girls are forced to drop out of school owing to a lack of sanitation facilities, and women are harassed or assaulted when carrying water or visiting a public toilet."

Ban Ki-moon, UN Secretary General

"Aapaha Punanthu Prithveem"

"Prithvee Poothaa Punaathu Maam"

The above means-Let copious flow of rain water purify the Earth from garbage--dirt--filth--Thus purified Earth by giving me food purify me also¹. As it is rightly said that nobody has ever lived without water hence its shortage have become a global calamity. Moreover, the interlinkage of cultural consciousness of women vis-à-vis water conservation predates the current structure of society. Recently the resolution established the role of women in water management 'Water for Life' (2005-2015 which explicitly recognizes the central role of women in the provision, management and safeguarding of water)². Hence, most affected are marginalized local communities and particularly women, who carry a great part of the burden of providing water for household domestic uses-water conservation training begins around these water bodies when accompanied by children and is passed on to generations in the form of folklores and local narratives. The religious practices are intertwined in the traditions of valuing water as sacred is transmitted to future generations for sustainable use. This is one way, whereby sense of

¹ Brainly.in - <https://brainly.in/question/373632#readmore>

² <https://www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/gender.shtml>

community can halt the alienation of ecological consciousness and commodification of water resource. Significantly, when fetching water is observed as a form of cultural labour guaranteeing unequal access as compared to male counterpart. This social fact of a lower order is capable of exerting constraints (morality, values, beliefs) on women and solution lies in its antecedent traditions of cultural empowerment in decision making and governance of water conservation.

Democratic Community Engagement in Eco-system Management – The Experience from Sri Lanka in North Central Province

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The geographical and climatic textbooks of Sri Lanka identify two major climatic zones, namely the 'Wet Zone' in the southwestern region, including the central hill country, and the 'Dry Zone,' covering the rest of the country (Punyawardena, 2010). Approximately, the Dry Zone covers 70% of the land area on the island. Man-made tanks were built to hold water during dry seasons to sustain the life and livelihood of the people in Sri Lanka.

Accordingly, about 30,000 tanks have been built in a land area of about 40,000 km² in the Dry Zone (Mendis, 2003; Marambe et al., 2012). Some of them have been in operation continuously for more than 2000 years. These man-made tank cascade systems cover a large area, enabling farmers to continue rain-fed agriculture during any season. Without small-scale irrigation, farmers in the Dry Zone in Sri Lanka will not be able to cope with the increasing intensity and frequency of droughts and attain food security. Approximately 18,000 man-made ponds and tanks in the Dry Zone are classified as 'abandoned' or in need of repairs.

Traditionally, there was a well-organized self-governing mechanism for managing village irrigation systems, led by village community leaders with the full support of beneficiary communities. This system functioned well until 1818 when the British captured Sri Lanka. Due to negligence during the colonial period, a vast number of cascades in the Dry Zone were abandoned and forgotten over time, gradually paralyzing the system. The indigenous irrigation management system entailed transparency, participation, collective decision-making, and implementation. However, the effectiveness of the historical tanks and cascade management system was recognized by different parties.

Therefore, a number of initiatives taken by the government, donor agencies, civil society organizations, and farmer communities are working to reactivate the traditional participatory governing system in irrigation management. This paper is based on a project implemented in Anuradhapura, a dry zone district in Sri Lanka. This initiative has successfully reestablished local participatory ecosystem management with active stakeholder engagement.

Keywords: Governance, Participation, Collective decision-making

Exploring the Vulnerability of Himachal Pradesh to Natural Disasters: A Comprehensive Overview

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The state of Himachal Pradesh has been grappling with the persistent issue of natural hazards and disasters such as landslides, flash floods, earthquakes, and cloudbursts for a considerable period. These calamities have significantly impacted the lives of the people residing in Himachal Pradesh, resulting in numerous fatalities and the loss of livelihoods. Consequently, the government and development policymakers of Himachal Pradesh have been confronted with numerous inquiries regarding the nature of these disasters. Specifically, there is a pressing need to determine whether these disasters are of natural origin or if human activities have contributed to their occurrence. Furthermore, it is imperative to identify effective solutions to address this predicament. This research paper endeavours to furnish a comprehensive account of the various types of disasters and natural calamities prevalent in Himachal Pradesh, elucidating their underlying causes. Moreover, it will delve into preventive measures and propose future strategies aimed at mitigating the devastating consequences of these disasters and natural hazards. The primary objective of this research paper is to provide an overview of the recent natural disasters that have transpired in Himachal Pradesh. The findings presented in this paper are based on secondary data obtained from sources such as the Census of India, Himachal Pradesh Disaster Management reports, and other relevant sources. Researchers have utilized this data to develop a composite index and assess the level of vulnerability in different districts of the state.

Keywords: - Natural Disasters, Himachal Pradesh, Landslides, Flash Floods, Cloudburst

Carbon Handprint: Elevating Performance beyond Impact Reduction: Investigating a Sustainable Future

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In the realm of environmental management and sustainability, the concept of carbon handprint has emerged as a compelling approach that transcends conventional notions of environmental impact reduction. Unlike the prevalent focus on minimizing negative footprints, carbon handprints emphasize proactive measures that enhance performance and foster positive outcomes. There has been a notable surge in interest regarding the quantification and assessment of positive impacts. This paradigm shift is exemplified by the metaphor of a "handprint," which complements the widely adopted notion of environmental footprints for impact measurement and accounting. Handprint thinking, as a concept, emphasizes actions that yield positive impacts and enhances

conventional footprint reduction analyses by broadening the perspective to encompass proactive measures. By reframing the discourse from mere reduction of carbon emissions to the amplification of positive actions, carbon handprint offers a holistic and proactive approach to sustainability. It encompasses a wide range of initiatives aimed at maximizing carbon sequestration, promoting renewable energy adoption, optimizing resource efficiency, and fostering community resilience.

Lastly, carbon handprint represents a transformative approach to environmental sustainability that transcends traditional notions of impact reduction. By emphasizing the enhancement of performance and the generation of positive outcomes, carbon handprint initiatives offer a pathway towards a more resilient and thriving future. Through collaboration, innovation, and a shared commitment to sustainability, we can harness the power of carbon handprint to craft a sustainable future for generations to come. The paper attempts to introduce the concept of handprint thinking and underscores its significance in driving actions towards comprehensive environmental sustainability, employing the Carbon handprint approach. The paper also enables organizations, communities, and policymakers to identify priority areas for intervention, track progress towards sustainability targets, and communicate achievements effectively. The paper uses secondary data in its analysis.

Keywords: Carbon handprint, Carbon footprint, Sustainability, Environment

Discourse on Caste and Dalits: From Social Exclusion to Urban Slums

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Caste has been an issue of debate and discourse for Indians vis-à-vis foreign scholars. Because caste is not just an identity, even it has been in the center of Indian society. The term 'caste' used to describe a system of social relations that makes Indian society differ from the western³. But recently it has been analyzing that caste has become a most important and complex component for the discrimination, it had recognized by United States America, as the California state has banned caste discrimination, California the first US state to add caste as a protected category in its anti-discrimination laws, even earlier Seattle became the first US city, where also accepted that caste is also factor for discrimination, then its local council passed a resolution⁴. After this, as

³ Jodhka, S. Surender (2018). *Caste*. New Delhi, Oxford University Press. p.1

⁴ California state senate passes bill to ban caste-based discrimination. *The Times of India*. Chandigarh. 14 May 2023.p12

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar spoke that 'if Hindu migrate to other regions on earth, caste would become a world problem'. Firstly the so-called untouchables were excluded from the main course of society on the ground of caste based prejudices. They are living in trauma, as per NCRB, every week thirteen Dalits are murdered; five Dalits' homes are burnt; six Dalit people are kidnapped or abducted; twenty-one Dalit women are raped⁵. Besides, caste is a matter for the urban India as every sixth urban Indian lives in slums unfit for human habitation. Slums, in fact, are so common that they are found in 65 per cent of the Indian towns. Yet slum dwellers are the most overlooked section of society. Six out of 10 slum dwellers live close to unsanitary drains and almost four of every 10 do not get treated water.⁶ Might be various factors could be responsible for the growth of slums in India's big cities such as unemployment, lack of educational facilities in rural area, lack of electricity facilities and hope to be millionaire, hence, Chinmay Tumbe described in his book, "India Moving: A history of migration" how caste is also responsible for migration. Even Amnesty International estimates that caste discrimination is widespread across Asia and Africa, affecting over 260 million people⁷. Hindu community is arranged in hierarchical order by caste. Hindu society is like a tower each floor of which is allotted to one caste. The point worth remembering is that this tower has no staircase and therefore is no way of climbing up or down from one floor to another. The floor on which is born is also the floor on which one dies. No matter how meritorious a person from a lower might be, there is no avenue for him climbs up to the upper floor. Likewise, there is no means by which a person entirely devoid of merit can be relegated to a floor beneath the one of which he has been assigned. The inter-relationship between castes is not founded upon the logic of worth. However unworthy an upper-caste person might be, his status will ever remain high. In this research paper I will try to explore the various dimensions of caste and its impact on Indian society. How caste does social exclusion of Dalits? How Caste is anti-social and anti-nation? How caste is responsible for migration of Dalits? How caste is responsible for the urban slums?

Keywords: Caste, discrimination, thought, social, slums

⁵ Yengde, Suraj (2019). *Caste matters*. Gurgaon: Penguin, p 92

⁶ Slumming is out. Accessed on 15 May 2013. URL: <https://www.downtoearth.org.in/dte-infographics/slums/index.html>

⁷ Tackling Caste Discrimination. Accessed on May 12 2023. URL: https://www.childrenontheedge.org/castediscrimination.html?gclid=CjwKCAjwx_eiBhBGEiw

**Challenges and Issues of Accessibility with reference to Different Programs
and Policies for Education Amongst Children with Special Needs
(CWSN) in India**

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The Constitution of India under Article 45 has made education free and compulsory to all, belonging to the age group of 6 to 14 years and under Article 21 (A) (86th Constitutional Amendment Act) it has become the fundamental right of each and every citizen of India. To enhance the inclusiveness and accessibility and to achieve the universal access, enrolment and retention in education for the specified age group Government of India in partnership with the state governments implemented the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA). This education equips all individuals to face the challenges of life irrespective of any difference and especially able or disable person. The Children with Special Needs (CWSN)/Persons with Disabilities (PWD) need this education more than others (normal), to enhance their differential talents so that they can become equal participants and productive members of the society as that of the normal children. Soon after the Independence the government of India has made tremendous efforts to educate the children with disabilities. Different schemes have been made for the enhancement and well being of such children. From time to time different educational programs and policies had been put in work to include the children with disabilities with that of the mainstream in India. The principle of inclusive education was adopted at the “World Conference on Special Needs Education: Access and Quality” (Salamanca, Spain 1994) and was restated at the World Education Forum (Dakar, Senegal 2000). The idea of inclusion is further supported by the United Nation’s Standard Rules on Equalization of Opportunities for Person with Disability Proclaiming Participation and equality for all. Of late, a consensus has emerged among Indian intellectuals and pedagogues for adopting inclusive education in mainstream schools. In this paper an attempt has been made to introspect the challenges and issues of accessibility through different programs and policies for educating the Children with Special Needs (CWSN) in India.

Key Words: Inclusive education, inclusion, accessibility, CWSN, PWD, programs, policies

**Relevance of Gandhian Perspective an Alternative Mode of
Sustainable Development**

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Against the backdrop of economic neo-liberalism, modernity, hypermodernity, resurgence of populism and cultural politics on the one hand, and persisting social, economic and energy

inequalities on the other, this paper aims to critique the dominant development discourse and elaborates the relevance of Gandhian perspective on sustainable development. It is argued that the growth oriented development perspective has paved the way for unleashing the forces of capitalism, consumerism, modernity, imbalanced economic and social development and social inequality; and the same growth path of development has been augmented by economic neoliberalism through consumerism, proliferation of ICTs. The contemporary world simultaneously experiences the unprecedented fragmentation, speed and hypermodernity in the social landscape, and populism and cultural politics with an attempt to keep the society rooted in nativity and ethnocentrism. All these keep on contributing towards the depletion of natural resources and ecological imbalances threatening the very basis of existence of humanity on this earth. As an alternative to these paths of development, this paper suggests Gandhian path of development that talks about a simple life within given social environment. It highlights the significance of Gandhi's idea of supremacy of man, equality, social trusteeship, decentralization, swadeshi, self-sufficiency, cooperation, satyagraha, equality of religion, panchayatiraj, Nai-Talim, constructive programme and non-violence in ensuring the paths of sustainable development.

Overcoming Disasters: Local Governments in Kerala Show the Way

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The 2018 flood that had brought havoc through out the State has led the local governments in Kerala for the preparation of Disaster management plan with the involvement of the people. The participatory planning culture persisting among the community since the introduction of people's campaign for 9th plan has contributed much in developing an all inclusive plan for the mitigation of disasters. It also shows that the spirit of voluntarism has not faded from the community as rescue operations during the catastrophe had been appreciated far and wide. Cutting across the political differences the people joined hand in hand to help each other, even without waiting for a direction from the higher level. The local self governments in Kerala led the volunteers to provide to the needy, shelter, food items and medical support. Volunteer groups were constituted in every ward who were ready to serve the community. Community kitchen also started functioning for shake of homeless people, Boats were made available to shift the people to safer places. The volunteers waited for the call of affected people only to help them as per the need. The local governments and the community rose to the occasion only because of the system of institutionalization of decentralized governance system of Kerala. Kudumbasaree, NGOs, CBOs and various religious organisations participated in all the initiatives of local governments post-disaster activities. The paper highlights the spirit of voluntarism persisting among the community which is the main contribution of the participatory planning existing since 1996.

**Decentralization in Morocco after the Movement of 20 February
and the Question of the Fundamental Rights of the Local Population - A
Sociological Pilot Study in the "Region of Fes-Meknes"**

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This paper addresses the problem of decentralization and its role in the realization of basic rights of the local population after the February 20 movement in Morocco and its demand for change and social justice. The paper adopts an exploratory sociological approach; open to other scientific fields concerned with local Affairs, Governance and Development. A descriptive approach has been adopted, based on both quantitative and qualitative, for a better understanding of the phenomenon, on the one hand, and to interpretation it, on the other. The research in the Fez-Meknes region was conducted on a sampling of 300 participants for quantitative research, and consisting a sample of 25 members of local and regional councils for qualitative research, so that the "snowball" technique was adopted in the selection of the participants. While quantitative data were analyzed using analysis content, and the quantitative data were analyzed by SPSS technique. The study concluded that the experience of decentralization of the studied area could not achieve the basic rights of the local population. The study further concluded that there is a symbolic dominance of the central actor over the local one, in the sense that the representations of the latter have not got rid of the idea of the centralization

Key words: Decentralization – movement of 20 February – local actor – local development - basic rights.

Rights Based Development – Social, Economic & Political

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In light of the expanding critical academic literature on the social and ecological limits to a growth-based paradigm, this article investigates the ties between economic, social and political rights. Indian constitution with various other enacted laws provides the protection to these rights. Human rights are probably the dominant normative conception in the contemporary globalized world. It is common for struggles for national self-determination, the recognition of alternative identities, class-based and labor empowerment, gender equality, democratic inclusion, property rights protections, rectification of state violence, and consumer goods to use rights discourse – in spite of varying political orientations and alliances among the actors involved. Development is no exception.

Part III of the Indian Constitution mainly deals with civil and political rights while Part IV mainly deals with social and economic rights. The categorization of civil and political rights under Part III and socio-economic rights under Part IV is comparable to ICCPR and ICESCR respectively. The core rights mentioned in the ICESCR can be found under Part IV of the Indian Constitution. It includes provisions pertaining to basic needs, workers rights, and social justice. The main point of distinction between human rights in theory and practice of human rights is minimalism. The minimalism of human rights refers to the rights having priority over other policies of the state. There are various factors that lead the human needs identified as legal rights. They are the idea of human dignity, freedom, and equality as legal rights because the very basic human needs seem to have been inconsistent with the idea of human dignity, freedom, and equality. At that time the definition of Liberty did not include the capability of individuals to be able to enjoy their freedom meaningfully.

Women Empowerment/Gender Issues

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Women Empowerment refers to increasing and improving the social, economic, political and cultural strength of the women. The position of women in society is still influenced by social and cultural factors like traditions and customs, religion, caste, class, gender and income strata. These factors are influenced determinants of social perception of women. Gender is closely related to the roles and behavior assigned to women and men based on sexual differences. As soon as a child is born families and society begin the process of gendering. Women discrimination starts early in life, leading to girl children and young women in families getting less care, nutrition and education than boys. Their position in many aspects is lower than men especially in the family. The pairing of the two concepts of women's empowerment and gender equality into one Millennium Development Goals (MDG) implicitly recognizes that gender equality and women's empowerment are two sides of the same coin: progress toward gender equality requires women's empowerment and women's empowerment requires increases in gender equality as shown. This paper deals with importance of gender equality towards achieving the goal of women empowerment. Indicators of gender equality/inequality are typically designed to compare the status of women and men on particular characteristics of interest; whereas, by definition, indicators of empowerment/disempowerment tend not to be relative.

Empowerment of Women in India - A Study of Representation of Women in Indian Parliament

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Introduction

India has a history of marginalization and exploitation of women framed by patriarchal social structures and mindsets. A truly representative democracy seeks adequate representation of women in politics. Though representation of women in the Indian parliament has marginally increased in the last few decades but the participation is still low. Therefore, this study intends to investigate Indian women's representation in the Indian Parliament since 1950s, impact of the 73rd & 74th Constitutional and investigate the problems and difficulties that women in politics confront.

The main objectives of the study are as under: -

- To study the representation of women in Indian Parliament from 1950 to 1990.
- To understand scope of Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam Bill, 2023 and its future impact on Women representation in Indian Parliament.
- To understand the challenges in women representation at the National Level

The study is proposed to be based on secondary data. This data will be collected from various published sources like literature published by Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India, Election Commission of India, Ministry of Panchayati Raj, books, journals, magazines, newspapers, research papers, websites etc.

The data so collected will be analyzed by suitable tools to arrive at appropriate conclusions.

Climate Change as a Social Determinant of Health: The Case of Gujjar Tribe in J&K

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Extreme climate affects each and everyone by one or the other means and tribal population of Kashmir region are no exception to it. Tribals are often the first-hand victims of extreme climatic conditions, because they mostly live in transient accommodation in hilly and difficult terrains and will disproportionately experience negative health consequences and have fewer available resources to adapt to the changing climate. Extreme weather events especially during prolonged winters in Kashmir in these terrains often lead to temporary damage in the form of loss of livestock, delayed migration or irreversible damage such as land collapse, loss of life, disconnecting higher

reaches from pathways. One important condition which is least explored in contemporary tribal researches is the health status of these marginalized population during extreme climatic conditions. This research is a modest attempt in this direction and all the major and minor findings of the study are based on empirical observations in tribal areas of district Budgam in J&K.

The health facilities such as Primary Health Care centers and Health and wellness centers setup in lower reaches meant to cater to the population are not efficient or sufficient. The unavailability of doctors or drugs on 24*7 basis is one reason and sometimes the facilities are inoperative during extreme winter season. During the research it was found that the families travel long distances only to find that the facility is shut, because most of these facilities are available during working days and during official hours only. Trained doctors and nurses do not wish to be posted in such tough areas resulting in dearth of medical staff. The mid-wife system is still continuing and these people generally do not prefer hospital births, unless there is a complication, the response for the same is loud and clear that crossing the difficult terrain during extreme weather puts the health of pregnant women in more risk. The Gujjar women, because of their low social and political participation are unaware of schemes meant for their health and social upliftment. Government has launched a plethora of schemes since they live in farflung areas and continue moving, they are unable to avail the benefits of such schemes. Their geographical isolation means lack of communication channels, so they hardly receive information about such programmes. There is also a general aversion to allopathic medicine. Healthcare facilities for livestock is another challenge, mainly due to logistical issues during winters. Carrying that animal to reach a health facility through difficult terrains is a problem. This research has important social significance because delay in response to climate changes from health administrators will increase health risks, undermine improvement in the health of these tribals and contravene our collective commitments to ensure the human right to health for all.

Enhancing Citizen Engagement and Service Delivery: A Comprehensive Analysis of Digital Portals in Local Government

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The term E-Government is a way for citizens to instantly connect with the government via different portals. India initiated the Electronic Government in late 1987 when it launched a National Satellite-based Computer Network (NICNET). The implementation of government portals started a long time ago but the question is how effectively citizens are taking benefits from these portals. The major objective of establishing electronic government was transparency with citizens, ease of

accessibility for citizens, and real-time data collection, making democracy more organised, and the major objectives were preserving resources, working to enhance the quality of environmental dimensions and promoting SDGs.

The objective of this research paper is to find out the effectiveness of the transition from paper governance to e-governance and how effectively these e-governance portals are helping citizens in day-to-day life. Also, every government transition can happen when the citizens are participating to grab the new features of governance and how the government is educating them about the new services. The research area of this study is Chandigarh (UT). The mixed research methods are applied to study with quantitative and qualitative data. These electronic portals were established for the citizens and every age group have a different perspective and reasons to use them. We are categorising the sampling collection into 4 different age groups as follows:

- First age group – 14 years to 20 years
- Second age group – 21 years to 30 years
- Third age group – 31 years to 40 years
- Fourth age group – Above 40 years

This paper intends to find out the factors which make people unable to reach and take benefits from these portals, to take feedback from them and suggestions to enhance the accountability of these portals. The two portals below are covered in this research:

1. E-Municipal Corporation Portals, Chandigarh
2. Swayam Portal, Ministry of Education

Keywords: E-Government, Implementation, Effectiveness, Organizational Democracy, Digital Services, SDGs.

“C-DYTE Jammu: A Mission Youth Initiative for Engagement and Empowerment of Youth in Jammu and Kashmir”

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Jammu and Kashmir has been subjected to turmoil for several decades. The turmoil has affected the daily lives of the people, including the youth, who have had limited opportunities for education, employment, and economic growth. Union Territory is bestowed with a predominantly young population with about 69 % of the population being below the age of 35 years. In order to provide a platform for holistic implementation of all youth engagement and outreach initiatives, and to bring the interests and empowerment of youth to the centre of policy making, government of Jammu & Kashmir Union territory has rolled out a pioneering initiative called Mission Youth.

Mission Youth is aimed to provide a vibrant medium for youth engagement & empowerment in Jammu and Kashmir and the mission & strategy is to facilitate youth to become ambassadors of peace, prosperity & socio-economic growth through systematic interventions across domains.

Centre for district youth training and empowerment (C-DYTE) is an initiative of district administration Jammu in collaboration with Mission Youth, J&K for the empowerment of young minds of the 20 blocks of district via providing them needful trainings as per capability/capacity/requirement/ aspirations at their doorsteps and thereby facilitating their recruitment in various armed forces/other jobs.

Understanding the social behaviors of youth is the broad theoretical goal of the sociology of youth. A wide range of factors affect youth social behaviors, including socioeconomic background, family life, peer groups, age, and education. The sociological study of youth is also the study of broader continuity and change. It locates young people's experience in a context of social change, investigating the ways in which employment, education, family, gender, social class, youth culture and geographic location shape the meaning of youth in different ways in the early 21st Century. It explores the new ways in which young people approach learning, work and relationships and examines the impact of the digital revolution, globalisation, and the 'Asian Century' on young lives.

In conclusion, the youth of Jammu and Kashmir have a critical role to play in promoting the development and prosperity of the region. Their engagement and participation are essential to building sustainable peace, prosperity, and social inclusion in the region.

Key words: C-DYTE, Mission Youth, Art. 370, Social Inclusion, Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act 2019, Sociology of Youth

Understanding the Environmental Movements Through a Social Constructivist Lens

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Social movements, a social phenomenon that had once been centred on discipline, what earlier generations of experts and students of sociology analyzed as a special variety of "collective behaviour" or as processes of social and political revolution have blossomed into an object of specialization on its own. From the 1930s and 1940s sociologists have conceptualized social movements either as an isolated, particular social phenomenon or reflected in classical breakdown theories which regarded participation in collective action as an unconventional, irrational type of behaviour, or as epiphenomenal expressions of deeper structured strain in the social system or as a third middle range variant- institutionalized social actors mobilizing supporters for political purpose.

Times changed, the late 1960s saw an enormous growth in the field of social movement, the civil rights movement, the student movement, the environmental movement, and the peace movements all

flourished. Interpretations of these forms of collective action changed from viewing as spontaneous 'irrational' outbursts to movement activities that clearly articulated general values and interests, and rational calculations of strategies with concrete goals. From the 1980s onwards a constructivist viewpoint has developed within the sociology of social movements, the social constructivist approach concentrates on questions about how individuals and groups perceive and interpret material and socio-political conditions. This new position is characterized by many different and partly contradictory meanings and calls for attention to meaning and its construction and identity. This perspective argues that, if we want to understand why people protest, we need to know how the participants of the movement perceive their socio-political as well as cultural context.

The present study explores environmental movements through the lens of the social constructivist approach and tries to analyze how environmental issues are constructed and understood within societal contexts. This approach to studying the environmental movement emphasizes how environmental issues and threats are socially constructed through interactions among individuals, groups, and institutions as well as focuses on understanding how meanings, values and beliefs about the environment are shaped for the collective mobilization to participate in the social movement by social processes. Social constructivism challenges the perception of the environmental crisis, it focuses not only on the causes which brought about the environmental problems but also emphasises, the social, cultural and political processes by which environmental conditions are defined as being unacceptably risky. This paper aims to capture the sociological interpretation of environmental movements and the environmental issues within the theory of social constructivism, largely covered by Peter Berger and Thomas Luckmann.

Keywords: Social movement, social construction, environment

Caste - Based Discrimination in Access to Graveyards: A Theoretical Analysis

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This paper endeavours to delve into the intricate issue of caste-based discrimination within the context of graveyards. Despite legislative efforts and societal progress, the spectre of caste prejudice remains prevalent, particularly concerning access to burial grounds. The study aims not only to explore the contemporary manifestations of this discrimination but also to trace its historical roots, unravelling the intricate tapestry that binds caste to burial practices. At its core, this research seeks to illuminate the plight of marginalized caste communities who endure stigmatization and exclusion even in death. By meticulously examining case studies and conducting a thorough analysis of existing literature, the study endeavors to offer a nuanced understanding of the lived experiences of these communities. Through this

exploration, it hopes to unravel the complex web of social dynamics that perpetuate discrimination within graveyard settings. Significant to this investigation is the identification of potential solutions that can foster inclusivity and equality within graveyards. By identifying and analyzing successful interventions, the study aims to provide actionable insights for promoting social change in this domain. These include policy reforms, community initiatives or educational campaigns. The research endeavours to delineate pathways towards dismantling the entrenched structures of caste-based discrimination within burial grounds. The significance of this research extends beyond its immediate scope, offering valuable contributions to our broader comprehension of caste-based discrimination. By shedding light on this often-overlooked aspect of social inequality, the findings from this study have the potential to serve as a catalyst for broader societal change. Through increased awareness and informed discourse, it is hoped that the insights gleaned from this research will pave the way towards a more inclusive and equitable society, where caste-based discrimination holds no place, even in the solemn spaces of burial grounds.

Key Words: Caste, Graveyard, Discrimination, Conflicts, marginalized and Policy Reforms

Cyber Grooming among College Students: An Exploratory Study in the Southern Districts of Tamil Nadu

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The internet is nowadays an incredible place for youngsters especially college girls to attach with their friends to find out new things and conjointly educate themselves. The method of online grooming facilitates abuses and is a danger to young girls across the world. This research explores the research surrounding how adolescents are attacked by offenders on the internet. There are methods of techniques used by internet groomers to manipulate adolescent/young girls and different ways that adolescent/young girl engage in risk taking actions on the internet. Cyber Grooming could be a play where sexual predators adopt roles such as a close friend or a sympathetic beholder to gain the trust of adolescents/ young girls and use them for sexual acts or favours. This research aims to study about the techniques, victimisation and the impact of online grooming among the college girl students. Primary data were taken for this study to analyse the growth, seriousness of online grooming and the response from the victim to the offender. The study recommends that individuals, parents and teachers, education and school systems, religious institutions, governments and non-governmental organizations and others should be committed to collectively combat the menace of online sexual grooming among college girls and students especially in their young lives through more inclusive digital age sex education content in homes,

schools, communities, temples, churches and mosques, supported with appropriate and effectively enforced laws to checkmate and sanction online sexual grooming activities in all educational institutions of Southern Districts of Tamil Nadu.

Keywords: Online/Cyber Grooming, Techniques, Victimization, Sexual abuse, College girl students & educational Institution

Green Warriors of India: Determined Fight for Climate Justice by Young Activists

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Climate change is the biggest global problem of today's era. No one is immune to this problem. Continuous deforestation, carbon emissions from industrialization, behavior and lifestyle that pollutes the environment, and the wastage of natural resources have now started to show their adverse effects in the form of climate change. The fact that climate change is a global problem necessitates a global fight for climate change action. This fight becomes even more important for a developing country like India due to a high number of people who are highly vulnerable to the effects of climate change, including the youth. Apart from having to deal with the various effects of climate change throughout their lives, the young generation has no other option left by their previous generations. They are not only the policy makers of the next generation, but are also contributing significantly to climate action in the present time with their innovative ideas and methods. Inspired by environmentalists from all over the world and with the ability to inspire young people from all over the world, many Indian youth climate activists have stood up, who have made significant contributions to climate action while also making India proud. The present research paper is an analytical study, based on secondary data sources, of the contributions, journey, problems, methods, and demands of some of these young people engaged in climate activism. Objectives of the study include investigating the specific methods and motivations of young Indian climate activists, assessing the impact of their actions on public awareness and policy change, and highlighting their potential to inspire and empower future generations in addressing climate challenges. Despite limited support, young Indian climate activists tend to persevere, employing diverse tactics. Some leverage social media and technology for awareness and dissent, while others organize school strikes and protests. Some focus on and combat specific issues like plastic use and deforestation, while others champion sustainable living and inspire broader participation in sustainable way of living. This research reveals their unwavering fight for climate justice, motivating countless youth to join the movement for a safe future of the planet as well as their own.

The Urban Dream: Building Equitable, Sustainable, and Smart Cities

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This century has been called the Urban Century. But this second coming of the urban revolution differs significantly from the former—the one global north went through around 1900 CE. During the first urban revolution, rapid urbanization was followed by economic growth and an income boom. Industries prospered, cities filled up and soon the Urban Dream was born. The rapid urbanisation in the global south, however, isn't following similar routes to prosperity. It has promoted economic growth – to an extent – but along with it, problems like cramped-up cities, homelessness, slums, and high economic inequality, followed. The global urban population is expected to increase by about 60 percent by 2050, with a 2.5 billion increase in just the city population. The global south dominates this second wave of urbanisation, as by mid-century, it is estimated that about 52% of the world's urban population will be living in Asia.

India doesn't only have this unprecedented rate of urbanization to accommodate; it also has to ensure that the accommodation is equitable, and sustainable. India, projected to become the most populous country by 2050, has a history of disproportionate and top-heavy urban population distribution. The consequences of current decisions, thus, become much higher, but so do the payoffs.

In this era of building cities, India is en route to an ambitious transition. From building industrial corridors to 'smart cities', work toward the Urban Dream has already started. Immersed in these projects, is our opportunity to bolster the Indian society towards economic equity. The decisions of today can change the trajectory of Indian Urbanisation and determine the cities of tomorrow. This paper thus attempts to contextualize modern Indian Urbanisation, explore the challenges and opportunities in front of us, and analyze the potential of having smart, sustainable, and more importantly, equitable cities in our future.

Keywords: Equitable, sustainable and top heavy

Effects of Climate Finance on Decarbonization: A Study on Selected Asian Economies

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Climate change, a global phenomenon, driven largely by industrialized nations, poses threat to the well-being of the planet and its inhabitants. The effects of climate change in the near to medium future will primarily depend on the vulnerability of communities, their ability to withstand the current rate of climatic change, and the degree and speed of adaptation. Asian countries are also vulnerable to climate hazards because of extreme temperatures, flooding, droughts, cyclones, sea level rise etc. As the adverse impacts intensify, the importance of climate finance, particularly for developing nations, becomes increasingly evident.

Climate finance means to local, national or international financing, received from public, private and other resources that aim to provide mitigation and adaptation supports to tackle climate change. Financial instruments are crucial for achieving decarbonization by stimulating the adoption of clean energy, improving efficiency, and strengthening climate resilience.

This study aims to evaluate the impact of climate finance on environmental deterioration for selected Asian countries. The variables considered are mitigation finance, adaptation finance, country wise gross domestic product (GDP), human development index (HDI), foreign direct investment (FDI), regulatory quality (RQ) and governance effectiveness (GE) and CO₂ emissions. The study gathered data from a panel of 17 Asian economies spanning from 2016 to 2022 from Asian Development Banks. Generalized Method of Moments (GMM) is utilized for the estimation of parameters.

Empirical findings indicate that climate finance helps to reduce environmental deterioration, in Asian economies. HDI is negatively related to Co₂ emission in these countries.

Mitigation and adaptation finance efficiently decreases environmental degradation in Asian countries. These tools may be used as important guide line for policy perspective and to establish climate justice. However, in future, with the availability of more data, country specific analysis based on higher and smaller level of carbon emission can be done to get better insight in this direction.

Keywords: Climate finance, Co₂, GDP, HDI, GMM

Formation of Dalit Identity and its Relation with the Politics of Recognition in India¹

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This paper explores how the Dalit identity is formed through the politics of recognition in South Asia. It is divided into six parts, beginning with an overview of the different types of inequality that lead to caste-based discrimination. The second part discusses how identity is formed through cultural hegemony and the exclusion of Scheduled Caste (S.C.) students from educational institutions in India. The third part highlights the institutional frameworks for protecting and promoting the welfare of S.C. communities while addressing the legal system's loopholes that hinder marginalized groups from achieving full empowerment.

The fourth part of the paper examines the curricular justice in which the politics of education and knowledge have been addressed. The fifth part delves into the challenges faced by Dalit students, specifically discrimination, exploitation and oppression which is reflected in the numeric data issued by the All-India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) report and the recent incidents which indicate the drop-out rate of S.C. students. The sixth part discusses the resistance and assertion of the S.C. of Punjab. The concluding part of this paper discusses the role of politics of education and emancipation in developing an insight into the dominant's reduction of the Dalits by shaping their consciousness.

Enhancing Coastal Resilience: Modelling for Tsunami Protection Heights in the Indian Ocean

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Tsunamis represent one of the most devastating natural calamities worldwide, characterized by their sudden onset and minimal warning, particularly in near-field conditions. As the Indian Ocean region is highly vulnerable to devastating tsunamis, the coastal regions require robust protective measures. Using a comprehensive tsunami catalogue and advanced numerical simulations, this research investigates the Level I tsunami (occurring once in 100 years) protection heights for

vulnerable areas across the Indian Ocean. Our analysis suggests a potential tsunami wave height as high as 61.18m between the years 2051-2064, with an estimated inundation of 12sq.km of land area in Indonesia. Similar study has been performed for a few Indian cities which are vulnerable to tsunami. Further, the predicted tsunami protection height can be optimized by considering multifarious conditions such as environment, landscape design, cost, the sustainability of the local society etc. Predicting future tsunami heights and calculating the design height of tsunami defense structure is the initial step towards building coastal resilience against the tsunami disaster.

Keywords: Tsunami height, Barrier height prediction, Levels of the tsunami, Numerical simulation

Plant-Based Biosorbents for Oil Removal from Wastewater

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Rapid industrialization and urbanization have polluted surface-water resources to a great extent. This is a matter of concern as significant quantity of oil and grease are flushed into the water bodies, causing severe environmental problems. Hence, proactive steps towards water quality management and control need to be immediately taken. Conventional methods for removing oil and grease from water encounter challenges such as low removal efficiency, high costs, chemical usage and so on. However, adsorption using natural bio sorbents emerges as a promising alternative technology which are highly affordable and sustainable. This study compares the efficacy of Neem and Pineapple leaf extracts as superior biosorbents for the removal of oil from contaminated effluents and suggests optimum dosage. Through gravimetric analysis, it was observed that pineapple leaf powder (PLP) significantly reduced the concentration of oil and grease in water from 3.2mg/l to 1.2mg/l, outperforming Neem leaf powder, which achieved a reduction to 2.4mg/l. The application of these biosorbents at a concentration of 2g/l not only facilitated the removal of oil but also enhanced water quality indicators, including pH balance, turbidity, Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD), Total Suspended Solids (TSS), and dissolved oxygen levels.

Keywords: Water Quality Index, biosorbents, oil and grease contaminated water

Exploring the Complexities of Indian Urban Settlements: An Integrative Bio-Social Perspective

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“India is the second largest urban system in the world with almost 11% of the total global urban population living in Indian cities. However, 65% of the 7933 urban settlements do not have any master plan which leads to haphazard constructions, urban sprawl, and environmental pollution, aggravating issues like traffic congestion, flooding, etc.” (NITI AAYOG). However, people migrate to cities for better income but end up compromising their quality of life. The present study aimed to analyse the trends of sub-urbanization [2] and highlight the need for resurgence of urban planning through the lens of a biosocial perspective. A bio-social perspective is an interdisciplinary approach that considers the interaction between biological and social factors in shaping human behavior, health, and well-being. It analyses from the standpoint of how biological and social factors work together to influence the phenomenon in question for a more comprehensive understanding of the issue. Since urban stressors are associated with increased cortisol production, humans, in search of respite, likely prefer accommodation in suburbs than city-core. The major aim behind this new migration trend is quality sustenance, a biological factor, with secondary aims being negative connotations associated with the “improvement of quality of life” through urbanicity. Analysis of content reveals that suburbanization is likely to impact work-life environment, providing insights for future studies in this post-pandemic era. The future scope of the study may include urban planning, decongestion of cities and quality rural development to curb unbridled urbanization. India’s trajectory to development includes the effective realization of urban planning via mainstreaming of capacity-building activities, revamping of human resources and re-engineering of urban-planning governance [1]. Synergizing the local level planning programmes with the central acts of urban-planning and effective incorporation of the suggestions of the “think tank”, NITI Aayog can transform the distant dream of urban planning into a reality with the active support of the citizenry.

Keywords: Urban Settlement, Quality of Life, Sub-urbanization, Bio-social perspective, Urban planning.

Sustainable Wellness - Scope and Limitations

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Wellness has created its unique position in the society. Companies like Herbalife, Oriflame, Tata, Saffola etc. have introduced products, clubs and packages specifically targeted on wellness. The need for wellness has grown manifold. After Covid-19 people have started focusing on their emotional, social, physical, and occupational wellness. The importance of wellness has also expanded due to busy lifestyle and higher medical cost. Sustainable living has prime importance if one has to attain longevity. To maintain a consistent habit for a balanced lifestyle wellness plays a pivotal role. All combined factors which are busy lifestyle, higher medical cost, prevention of ailments, to lead a healthy and fulfilling life are the reasons behind the importance and growth of wellness. The paper studies the role of Wellness in creating a sustainable lifestyle for longevity and disease-free living.

Key words: Wellness, Sustainability, lifestyle

Sweating It Up: The Challenges of Extreme Heat Phenomena for the Indian Economy

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The seriousness of an extreme heat disaster has largely been unable to garner widespread concern. This is despite it being one of the natural disasters causing the most casualties. While the last few COPs have focused on the target of limiting the increase in global temperature to 1.5 degree celsius, these efforts have not yield the results that had been anticipated.

2024 may end up being amongst the top five warmest years ever recorded. The dry weather phenomenon is expected to directly impact global food security and decrease the production of food crops due to adverse weather conditions For India in particular, the concern rises due to the high percentage of dependence upon sun-exposed work. Such work employs 75 per cent (approximately 380 million) of the Indian workforce. Their research also posits that around 160-200 million Indians could be living in an area with a non-zero probability of experiencing a lethal heatwave by as early as 2030, due to which about 2.5 to 4.5 per cent of the total labour productivity (approximately \$150-250 billion of the Indian GDP) at risk. Some of the regions in northern India are also susceptible to crossing the 35°C wet-bulb survivability limit.

This paper attempts to take a qualitative look into the dynamics of these emerging extreme heat trends in Indian weather and analyse their impact upon the Indian economy through direct and

indirect means, taking into various multidimensional factors such as poverty, gender, age and development into account, as well as look into the preparatory and anticipatory measures that have been undertaken to minimise these impacts to the best of human ability.

Keywords: extreme heat, global warming, Indian economy

Development with Justice in Bihar: An Assessment

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The state of Bihar has recorded a double-digit growth since nearly two decades, except covid year (2020-21). As an outcome, the size of the economy (gross state domestic product), at current prices, increased by almost 9 times from Rs. 77,781 crore in 2004-05 to Rs. 6,75,448 crore in 2021-22. The trajectory of higher economic growth of Bihar during last two decades is highly debated. These debates have many dimensions – (i) is it sustainable? (ii) is it supported by public investment? (iii) is it inclusive? (iv) does this development have any impact on social justice? And so on. Among the other aspects, many papers and literatures are available those addressed the first three research questions; however, the dimension of development with social justice of Bihar is not much researched. In addition, many researchers found that the social justice is an essential component of inclusive and sustainable development. The paper assesses the development of Bihar through the lens of social justice during the last two decades' tenure. The macroeconomic analysis includes structural change of the Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) and labour force to assess the sectoral transition of the growth of different sectors of GSDP and labour force engagement in the respective sectors. In the above background, the paper focuses on many dimensions to assess the social justice interventions in Bihar. These dimensions are – (i) Transformation of economy, (ii) Access to physical infrastructure, (iii) Public policy assessment, (iv) Financial inclusion and access to credit, (v) Socio-economic and political identity and social justice. Apart from assessment, paper gives conclusion and some of policy suggestions.

Keywords: Economic Transformation, Employment, Financial Inclusion, Public Policy, Social Identity, Social Justice

Journal of Economic Literature (JEL) No.: E01, E62, G21, G28, H51, H52, H53, H54, H55.

Understanding the Nexus of Green Energy, Economic Complexity and Environmental Sustainability: A Systematic Literature Review and Content Analysis

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With the changing economic structure, energy demand has increased manifold. To meet this accelerating demand, there is a need to look for alternative energy resources. However, a major portion of this need is still met by the intensive use of fossil fuels that poses various socio economic challenges as well as threat to environment. To address these challenges, various researchers have proposed green energy as a viable solution. So, the present study has tried to find out the nexus of green energy, environment and economic complexity. This study aims to explore recent advancements in green energy as a viable solution to promote environmental sustainability, adaptations to it, and the role of the economic complexity within this context. This research firstly conducts the systematic literature review of the relationship between green energy, economic complexity and environmental sustainability, using citations as the basis for analysis. The citation analysis offers a comprehensive overview of the literature, allowing for the identification of the most prominent journals, authors, and articles that contribute to the body of knowledge. Further content analysis has been conducted to extract information on the nature of the research, the variables used, the country analyzed, methodology used and the reported findings. The research mapped the results of scholarly publications listed in Scopus from 2017 to 2023. A total of 120 publications were identified as relevant in the Scopus database by using a thorough list of keywords. Besides this the study proposes potential implications based on this analysis.

Keywords: Green energy, Economic complexity, Environmental sustainability, Systematic literature review, Citation analysis, Content analysis

Women Empowerment: Transforming the Lives of Women Through Skill Development

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Women empowerment is one of the fundamental for building resilient and sustainable societies. Empowerment is the process of gaining power to control their own lives and acquire the ability to make strategic choices. Women and girls are poised to be key drivers of progress and growth but they need to be empowered by providing equal rights and equal opportunities. Empowerment of women can be categorized as social, economic, political and psychological. The economic empowerment of women is a prerequisite for sustainable development. Economic empowerment can be defined as the process of assisting women in obtaining the education, training, and job-related skills they require to support themselves and their families. Economic empowerment increases women's access to economic resources and opportunities including jobs, financial services, property and other productive assets, skills development and market information. This is possible only through women's access and control over economic opportunities and benefits. Economic empowerment enhances women's mobility, social interaction, and participation in decision making. In the context of India, education with acquiring skills will enhance their effective employment. Skills development is a key to improve employability and income generating opportunities for women. This will lead the women towards enhanced sustainable development and livelihoods.

Keywords: Women Empowerment, Skills, Employment, sustainable development

Analyzing the Impact of Eco-innovation Amid Green Energy, Green Finance, Environmental Taxes on Environmental Sustainability

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The increasing ecological stress that people have imposed across the globe has led to an increase in environmental hazards, as measured by ecological footprint (EFP) over the past few decades. The 2030 Agenda of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) reflects the worldwide concern for establishing pathways to prevent environmental degradation. Eco-innovation (ECO), Renewable

energy consumption (REN), Green finance (GF) and Environmental taxes (ET) now emerges as the effective methods for achieving sustainable development while protecting the environment. Environmental sustainability is analysed using Ecological Footprint (EFP) as an aggregate measure. The current study aims to analyse the impact of eco-innovation, renewable energy, green finance, environmental taxes and economic growth on ecological footprint. The present study is utilized to apply the cross-sectional autoregressive distributed lag (CS-ARDL) approach. Renewable energy (% of total final energy consumption), Green financing (Investment in renewable energy) and Environmental tax (ET) help reduce ecological footprint (EFP) and achieve environmental sustainability. Non-renewable energy consumption, economic growth, as measured by GDP per capita poses danger to the environment. The key point to consider is that technologies that are related to the environment i.e. Eco-Innovation have a statistically significant impact on ecological footprint. The study's findings unequivocally show that economic growth can be achieved while safeguarding the environment and reducing EFP. The study's results are anticipated to inspire these economies to shift towards Eco-innovation, Green Energy as means to achieve sustainable development through investment in these areas.

Keywords: Green Finance; Ecological Footprint; Renewable Energy; Green Innovation; Environment Tax; Environment Sustainability; CS-ARDL; Economic Growth

Mapping India's SDG Progress: Interconnected Pathways with Urbanisation

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The rapid urbanization in the last two decades, called for the importance of ecological and economic sustainability worldwide. The UN devised a set of 17 sustainable development goals (SDGs) in 2015, to combat the global issues affecting sustainable growth. In the Indian context, this study is based on on four SDGs namely, SDG 8 (Decent work and economic growth), SDG 11 (Sustainable cities and communities), SDG 12 (Responsible production and consumption) and SDG 13 (Climate Action). The aim of the study is to assess the development and progress of the various indicators under the selected SDGs, before and after 2015. We have also shown the interconnectedness among the four SDGs with econometric techniques in order to justify the ripple effect, i.e., a change in any one SDG indicator affects the other indicators under a different SDG. The linking pin of all four SDGs is the phenomenon of urbanization, whereby most of the SDGs address the urban concerns and has gained importance because the problems of solid waste management, vulnerable employment, carbon emissions, etc. are the most menacing manifestations, affecting the globe.

Keywords: Vulnerable employment, SDG, Decent work, Urbanization, Ripple effect

Gender Inequality and Climate Crisis: A Greatest Challenge

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The climate crisis is not “gender neutral”. Women and girls experience the greatest impacts of climate change, which amplifies existing gender inequalities and poses unique threats to their livelihoods, health, and safety. Climate change is a “threat multiplier”, meaning it escalates social, political, and economic tensions in fragile and conflict-affected settings. As climate change drives conflict across the world, women and girls face increased vulnerabilities to all forms of gender-based violence, including conflict-related sexual violence, human trafficking, child marriage, and other forms of violence. Women in developing countries are typically responsible for collecting water for their households. According to **UNICEF**, women and girls are responsible for retrieving water in 80% of households that require water collection. However, as climate change leads to water scarcity, women must travel further to find water, increasing their workload and leaving less time for education or other income-generating activities. Hygiene and sanitation can be severely affected by the lack of access to clean water, which means women and girls can become more vulnerable to communicable diseases. Women and girls of color, low-income women, and women living in poverty are especially impacted by the lack of access to clean water and diseases related to water, sanitation, and hygiene like wash etc. Safe wash creates stronger livelihoods and means vulnerable communities avoid diseases. The World Health Organization states that at least two billion people use drinking water contaminated with fecal matter. When this water is used for consumption and sanitation, it can transmit diseases such as cholera, typhoid fever, and hepatitis A and E. Women are more vulnerable to the health impacts of climate change, such as food insecurity. Heatwaves, floods, and hurricanes can result in injury or death, especially for women who lack access to adequate shelter and healthcare. Additionally, these events can also lead to the spread of disease, as contaminated water and damaged infrastructure can increase the risk of infectious diseases.

The Perception of People on Digitalisation of Public Services: A Study On E-Sampark Kendra in Chandigarh

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In the modern period, the world is moving towards digitalization in all walks of life particularly in the field of administration and governance. The public services are also being made digital by our government for better service delivery and to ensure good governance. Governments are investing in robust cyber security measures, data protection regulations, and secure infrastructure to safeguard citizen information and maintain trust in e-governance systems. The Department of Information and Technology of Chandigarh Administration implemented the e-sampark Kendra in 2009. It has become important to study about the perspective of people on the digitalization of public services and its function. Hence this study tries to find the perspective, observation, experience, and satisfaction level of the working of e-sampark kendras in Chandigarh. The e-sampark kendra was perceived as an effective means of reducing bureaucratic red tape and streamlining administrative processes. Further, this study aims to know about the working of e-Sampark Kendra's in Chandigarh, to understand the services provided by e-Sampark Kendra, to know people's perceptions about e-Sampark Kendras, to find out the issues and challenges and suggest the measures to improvement of the function of kendras and public service delivery mechanism.

'Small and Marginal farmers Challenges'

Substantive Role of (ICTs) in Agricultural Extension Functionaries

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The industrialization of agriculture has favored the use of plenty of agrochemicals including fertilizers, pesticides, micronutrients. Consumption of pesticides has become an integral part of modern agriculture and is an effective and economical way to enhance the yield quality and quantity. Approximately, 2 million tonnes of pesticides are utilized annually worldwide. India stands 12th in pesticide use globally and 3rd in Asia after China. After the green revolution, there is increased use of chemical pesticides which resulted in contaminating the environment and the long-term implications on the society. Indiscriminate and excessive application of pesticides damaged not only the environment but also have entered into the food chain thereby affecting health and development. With the growing role of market in agriculture need for augmenting

extension services is perceptible. In this direction, there have been efforts to make use of information and communication technologies (ICTs) in the agricultural information communication process.

It is believed that ICTs enable prompt, appropriate, authentic delivery of agricultural information in both directions i.e. from experts to farmers and vice-versa. Agricultural extension is now backing on the development agenda. The acknowledged failure of the traditional extension model in India has stimulated debate on extension reforms and the introduction of new extension models. Further, Indian agriculture has recorded an alarming 'knowledge gap' where 'knowledge' became central to agricultural production. The role of extension functionaries today is more challenging and demands structural and functional changes to meet the holistic needs of farmers and they have to equip themselves to cope with the drastic change and dire needs. Agricultural extension is not only about imparting knowledge and securing adoption of improved practices but it also aims at changing the outlook of farmers. Moreover, Indian agriculture is undergoing a rapid transformation under globalization from a simple making a living to complex endeavour. Information revolution leads to fundamental changes in economic, political, social and cultural relations. Information technology is the lifeblood of many other technologies. It is opined that there is direct relationship between communication and development of agricultural sector. New information technology provides the opportunity for innovation. The 'free flow of information' will help the farmers is to overcome the knowledge gap and the availability of the new technology led farmers to make real choice. This paper emphasizes on the role of ICTs in contemporary agricultural context and critically emphasizes the role of extension in sustainable agriculture.

The Role of Media in SDG: Prospects and Problems

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Public access to information and fundamental freedom cannot be achieved without independent media which can help in achieving all SDG's- whether gender equality, climate change, eliminating poverty, reducing inequalities etc. One has to see here how free media impact on the societies and support all aspects of development.

Media plays central role in uprooting corruption, encouraging democratic participation and providing citizen with information about social issues that are otherwise under reported or omitted with bias. Of course the transformative power of media goes beyond our experience. In such a situation the relationship between media and SDG's becomes prominent. Public access to information is included in target 16.10 of SDG's. But they also support the attainment of other SDG's, acting as a pre condition for progress and a multiplier that amplifies the change.

There are a few numbers of best practices of SDG implementation prevailing in different parts of the world which can be brought to limelight for replication elsewhere. In this changing world

scenario along with conventional media social media also plays a vital and important role in disseminating information on all strata of society. Younger generations are more susceptible to social media and are influenced by it a lot. If we carefully utilize and optimize the power of social media to cater information on SDG, the youngsters can be impacted in a big way to become a game changer.

The paper highlights the critical importance of agenda 2030 and illustrates the overarching transformative role media plays for the attainment of a sustainable society.

Coping with Climate Uncertainties: The Community Managed Irrigation Systems in the Hilly Regions of North India

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The impact of climate change on agrarian communities in India has been a subject of immense concern among social scientists and policy analysts alike. This issue is even more challenging for the mountain communities due to their location in high sensitive ecosystems where the adaptive capacity of the people is extremely low. The agriculture in the hilly regions are affected by depleting snow melt water making them the most vulnerable. Studies in fact have shown that how climate change has resulted in drought, crop loss and conflict within communities over access to water. Given this context, the paper argues that there is a need to recognize and document perception of farmers and their indigenous knowledge to cope with uncertainties. Traditional institutions like the Farmer managed irrigation systems (FMIS) which have been in existence for centuries should be considered an important asset for making farming communities resilient. One witnesses the presence of one such institutions - the Kuhl in several hill states like Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Ladakh, Kashmir valley etc.

The paper aims to understand the role of community managed irrigation systems like the Kuhl in increasing the resilience of communities to deal with climate crisis. It tries to engage with some of the emerging questions like What are the impact of climate changes on community managed irrigation systems? What have been institutional and community responses to these challenges? Despite multiple stress on the system, why some community managed irrigation systems continue to persist?

National Urban Learning Platform: A Digital Initiative for Capacity Building of Urban Local Bodies in India

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National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) is a leading national think-tank for Urban Planning and Development having focus on creating and sharing of innovative research in the field of

Urbanization. To pave the path for more inclusive and sustainable cities of the future, the agency aims to offer creative answers to the problems posed by India's rapid Urbanization. In order to provide a more inclusive learning environment for the Urban Local Bodies through modern methods of knowledge and skill enhancement, the NIUA has established National Urban Learning Platform (NULP) with objectives to improve the capabilities of urban stakeholders, including the government, using capacity development and training, to digitally integrate the necessary knowledge and skills. These initiatives are design to empower India's urban functionaries, administrators, elected representatives, civil society, industry actors, and other ecosystem players to build smart, inclusive, sustainable, and resilient cities. The current paper aims to understand the role of National Urban Learning Platforms in resolving the challenges by offering innovative solutions to the Urban Local Bodies.

Keywords: National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA), National Urban Learning Platform (NULP), Capacity Building, Urban Local Bodies

Gender Based Violence as a Weapon of Ethnic Cleansing: A Case study of Rohingya Refugee Survival

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Violence during any conflict in any part of the world has always targeted Woman at the highest. Thus, Gender based Violence has been a traditional weapon in all Conflict zones to oppress the women and create a sense of fear among the weaker sections of the Society. This paper has taken a Case study of 45-year-old Rohingya refugee survival. She is a gender-based violence victim and also an Armed conflict victim. The first purpose of this study is to find out different patterns of Gender based violence on the Rohingya woman survival during ethnic cleansing in Myanmar in the year 2020. The second purpose of this study is to find out the impact of Gender based violence on the migration patterns of the Rohingya refugee survival. An interview schedule with 35 open ended and closed ended questions were asked for in depth interview. The sampling method used is Purposive sampling. The name of the respondent is kept confidential. The theory used in this study is Intersectional theory in which a woman's different identities have dragged her down towards the lowest level of marginalization resulting in Gender based violence during Armed conflicts. Also, Lee theory of migration is used so that there will be better understanding of the migration patterns of the Rohingya refugee survival. The key findings of this study are that Rohingya refugee woman has faced sexual, physical and emotional violence during ethnic cleansing in Myanmar which has deteriorate his quality of life. This paper concludes with the two main coping mechanisms which she has used that is Religion and community bond in order to bring her life back to breathe.

Keywords: Gender based Violence, Migration, Rohingya survival victim, Ethnic cleansing

Theme: Society: Challenges, Reconstruction, Reflection, Responsibilities and Transformation
(Gender issues, Violence, Gender-based Violence)

“Gender Biasness in Commercial Cooking: A Sociological Study of Amritsar District”

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The research paper aims to understand why we don't see more female cooks making decisions at the top of Commercial Cooking Chains. It is long assumed that men have dominated the commercial hotel kitchen. Not to forget, while we do see some female cooks around, when it comes to high positions, gender equality and sensitization are a complete waste. In many instances, it is discovered that female chefs are inhibited, and in order to advance in their careers, they must stand up for themselves against numerous obstacles. The first objective of the paper is to understand the socio-economic profile of the respondent. Second, objective deals with the problems and reason of less number of women cooks employed in commercial restaurants. The purpose of this study is to ascertain the obstacles experienced by female cooks working in commercial hotel kitchens and the effect these obstacles have on their ability to advance in their careers. This study also looks into potential solutions for resolving these issues. For this purpose, the researcher interviewed fifty female cooks from throughout Amritsar and gathered data to understand the status and problems of female chefs in the city. A questionnaire was employed by the researcher as a means of obtaining respondent responses. In which 50-60 open ended and close ended questions were asked to the respondent for the better understanding of the research problem.

Key Words: Gender Equality, Commercial Restaurants, Women Empowerment

“Religious Conversions and Mobility Patterns Among Mazhabi Sikh Women”

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Caste has established itself as a social institution which has polarised the societies into the self-acclaimed inhumane concepts of pure/impure or higher/lower strata of people, mostly based on the imposed occupational choices followed by the systems of spatial and economic segregations. Restricted occupational and social choices based on religious and cultural constructs has retarded the inclusive growth of some particular caste groups in India. The present study is about a particular caste group of Punjab namely *Mazhabi Sikhs*. 31.94% of Scheduled caste population of

Punjab is divided into 39 caste groups. Out of 39 Scheduled caste groups of Punjab, Mazhabi Sikhs are the largest single out group of Dalits comprising 29.72% of scheduled caste population. Recent sociological studies found out that, a considerable number of religious conversions to Christianity are happening from the Mazhabi Sikhs' caste group. The current study provides the analyses of Religious Conversions in relation to the achieved hierarchies among the Mazhabi Sikh women. If changing religion has benefited the social positioning of Women or not? The study unveils the current social and economic position of Mazhabi Sikh women. If women have able to come out of the traditional lifestyles or not? The study tries to understand the enabling indicators of Social Mobility among Mazhabi Sikh Women.

Keywords: Religious Conversions, Hierarchies, Occupational Choices, Achieved Status, Social Positioning, Social Mobility Indicators.

Globalization, Biodiversity and Sustainable Development: Conceptual Issues and Practices

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Climate change is an important environmental problem which attracted attention of the scholars from different disciplines all over the world in past half century. The rapid industrialization and urbanization are important anthropogenic activities having a negative impact on the ecosystem in last three centuries. The important processes which have bearing for the ecosystem are: use of manmade chemicals such as chlorinated hydrocarbons (DDT), heavy metals (mercury), organophosphates pesticides, combustion of Sulphur laden coal, increase in the amount of global cycle of nitrogen, frequent movement of pollutants in air and water crossing the boundaries of oceans and release of high amount of greenhouse gases in atmosphere. These anthropogenic activities have implications for biodiversity and degradation of ecosystem, climate change and global warming. Sustainable development is a paradigm shift to tackle these problems at the global, regional and the local levels. One of the important dimensions of globalization is its concern to address the above-mentioned environmental issues in facilitating the newly emerged global economy which emphasizes on green economy by using eco-friendly technology in its products and other human practices. The present paper is aimed to explore the relationship between globalization, biodiversity and sustainable development at the conceptual level on the one hand and the desired sustainable development practices in the present era of globalization.

Keywords: Biodiversity, Global warming, climate change, sustainable development practices

Nature-Based Solutions and Strategies for Climate Change Mitigation:

A Review

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The role of 'nature-based solutions' (NbS) in the mitigation of climate change impacts has gained popularity nowadays. NbS can be used to slow down further warming, biodiversity conservation and enhance ecosystem services. NbS has the potential to solve the problems of climate change and adaptation challenges in a cost-effective manner, along with the delivery of multiple additional benefits to nature and people. An effective example is restoring natural forests in the upper catchment area can protect downstream communities from flooding and, at the same time act as a carbon sequestration source and add to biodiversity protection. Nature-based strategies encompass a wide range of activities, such as the management and protection of nature, the development of green and blue infrastructure in urban localities and the use of ecosystem-based principles in agricultural lands and systems. A decrease in sources and increase in sinks of greenhouse gases can be attained by ecosystem stewardship and improved agriculture, which have the potential to mitigate around 30% of emitted CO₂ by 2030 to keep the temperature increase to less than 2° C. Nature-based solutions have many advantages over carbon dioxide removal (CDR) methods like, Direct air capture is energy-intensive and expensive and yet not deployed at large scale; bioenergy with carbon capture and storage (BECCS) require large areas of land and time for biofuel generation; Nature-based solutions have large scope in climate change mitigation but the extensive implementation of such policies which offer financial incentives for greenhouse gas mitigation risk sometimes compromise with land rights of local people, results in land grabs by private investors and governments. NbS implementation should be done with precautions and strategic planning so that it results in maximum benefits with the least side effects. NbS can not be used as a substitute for the rapid phase-out of fossil fuels, NbS should use a wide range of land and water ecosystems and not just forest areas; Implementation of NbS needs to involve the local communities and Indigenous Peoples so that their ecological and cultural rights are protected; and NbS should be designed in a way to provide benefits for biodiversity and its conservation.

Keywords: Climate Change, Mitigation, Nature-based Solutions, Biodiversity, Strategies, Greenhouse Gas

Sustainable Development and Globalization in India: Problems and Prospects

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Globalization, as a broad term, has been resonating in political and sociological corridors since the 1990s. Closely related to economic development and sustainability, more recently, there has been

growing concern about inequality of disbursed incomes and lackadaisical use of resources despite focused awareness on sustainability. Broadly, the term “Globalisation” refers to the integration of economies and societies through the flow of information, goods, services, and capital across the country (Popli & Kumari, 2012).

India’s views on sustainability and globalization can be split into two dimensions – urban and rural. The Indian government has launched vibrant schemes, promoting economic growth and, consequently, impacting poverty dynamics across various levels. Apropos of sustainability, the country has been rapidly moving forward to achieve stipulated SDG 5 goals. India is abundant in resources and even holds a greener future while promising economic growth. Natural resources include, for instance, the Deccan Plateau’s Black Soil, Indo-Gangetic Plains, vast expanses of forests, and significant reserves in the form of coal, natural gas, and minerals. While the country is prolific in its desire to achieve stipulated sustainable goals by 2030, there are some key challenges that might hinder its progress. For instance, inconsistencies in the development of certain indicators, the pace of advancements, gender inequality, and environmental sustainability, particularly with regard to waste management, freshwater management, land degradation, and others. Sustainable development by itself has been around for more than a decade with many articles written revolving around the term. However, at its core, the concept along with globalization, seems highly revolutionary and very close to technological advancements. Both these terms have ambitious and vague definitions, but the challenge still remains of whether we can adequately educate people about their real meaning. According to the Sustainable Development Commission 3, UK, “Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present, without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”

“Sociological Factor Affecting Land Consolidation in Village Bhagain”

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The broad objective of the present research paper is to examine some of the sociological factors affecting the state-directed programme of consolidation of land holdings. Although the present study has been conducted in a single village namely Bhagain in district Bijnor of Western Uttar Pradesh, it is hoped that the findings and suggestions emerging out from the present research will be have a wider applicability and similar studies need to be replicated on similar programmes of consolidation in other parts of India.

The broad objective of the present research paper was to examine some of the social and political factors affecting the state-directed programme of agricultural development, such as the consolidation of land holdings.

In light of the above-mentioned broad objectives the specific objectives of the present research were, (i) to spell out the land consolidation policy of the Uttar Pradesh government, (ii) to identify

the social and political factors affecting the consolidation of land holdings and, lastly (iii) to suggest effective policy measures on consolidation of land holdings.

How to Overcome the Limitations Inherent in Sustainable Development

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Sustainable development is the ideology and practical strategy of the present and future socio-economic development in harmony with nature. A wide range of policies and practical activities have been launched at a global, national and regional level in order to achieve sustainable development since WCED suggested its concept and implication in 1987. In 2015, United Nations adopted a set of sustainable development goals to be achieved over the next 15 years as a follow-up action plan of millennium development goals. However, it is true that sustainable development is not achieved as successfully as planned. Its evidences are the facts that we are still faced with serious climate change and natural disasters, all of which are the challenges to humans. This would mean that sustainable development has limitations in its concept and implication. Nonetheless, it is quite rare to conduct a research on the limitations inherent in sustainable development. In such a context, this presentation aims at exploring the limitations inherent in sustainable development and how to overcome them.

This presentation will first examine the emergence process of sustainable development, and followed by its concept and implication, the critical debates on its concept and implication in the late 1990s and early 2000s, and the concept and implications of sustainable development goal launched in 2015. Based on the findings from the above review, this presentation will draw the limitations inherent in the concept and implications of sustainable development and examine what and how to overcome the limitations.

The conclusion of this presentation will focus on what the existing concept and implications of sustainable development should be supplemented. The significance of this presentation lies in proposing a new direction of the coexistence between humans and nature for achieving sustainable development.

Implementation of the Indian Right to Education Act, 2009 - A Critical Evaluation

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Education has been termed as a process of dissemination of knowledge in the society. Since the time immemorable, the education is being accounted as vehicle of awareness. In many countries, it has been assigned the status of a Human Right. In Indian context, the elementary education was declared as a right vide Right to Education (RTE) which has been enforced as law from 1st of April, 2010, has had a long history. This paper follows an overview of its legislative prehistory, the implementations of earlier reforms in education and then an update on the contemporary situation as India comes close to realization of the Right to Education. The present paper, on one hand, will identify the difficulties being faced by the institutional machinery in its implementation and on the other, it will cite some vital suggestions for its judicious realization.

KEY WORDS: Elementary, Children, Right to Education, School, Amendment

Social Media and Interaction Pattern of University Students in Haryana: A Study of Kurukshetra University

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Social media is the necessary tool in this modern world. Social media applications have reached to areas or fields which we haven't imagined. It is a fact that without social media the smooth functioning of the modern world is not possible. People get influenced with social media in their daily life specially the youth population which are continuously in contact with social media. Youth get influenced in their various areas and one of the major area is interaction pattern of the youth with people around them. In this research paper 200 young university students of Kurukshetra University are chosen by purposive sampling method. The aim of the research is to study the social media influence on interaction pattern of the youth population. Data were collected through interview schedule and results were interpreted. In the results it was found that after using social media their face to face interaction decreased, social media use while sitting with their family members decreased and users interact with their friends and classmates the most on social media.

Keywords: Modern world, Population, Social Media, Youth, Interaction Pattern

A Sociological Analysis of the *Watta-Satta* Marriages in the Kamboj Community of Sirsa

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The practice of exchange marriages, also known as watta-satta marriages, has been prevalent in various parts of the world, such as Africa, Pakistan, China, India, and other countries. The practice is considered as a guarantee of safety and security for female family members who are married into another family. However, it is observed that couples are usually forced into these types of marriages, which can lead to mismatched partners. This study explores the socio-economic and religious factors underlying the practice of watta-satta marriages. The study used snowball sampling and interviews with 60 married couples from the Kamboj community residing in Malewala Village, Sirsa district of Haryana. The findings suggest that low-income families participate in watta-satta marriages due to economic constraints, while high-income families do it to provide their children with a better lifestyle. Illiteracy also plays a role in the practice of watta-satta marriages since it ensures a sense of security, loyalty, and mutual benefit for both couples. However, this practice acts as a double-edged sword and has negative effects such as incompatibility, disputes, and violence between couples, which can create conflicts between other couples as well. In conclusion, despite the perceived benefits of watta-satta marriages, it is observed that most of these marriages end in divorce or death. Therefore, it is crucial to understand the underlying socio-economic and religious factors responsible for this practice to address the negative consequences associated with it.

Keywords: Watta-Satta, Malewala, *Kamboj*, illiteracy, double-edged sword

Unemployment Problem in India – Causes and Solution

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In India, unemployment is a big problem as well as for most of the developing countries. It has adversely affected the people. It has many dimensions which leads to powerlessness, isolation, low income, health problems insecurity and human depression. Hence, present paper is an attempt to analyse the problem of unemployment in present context. The paper is doctrinal in nature which employed analytical and descriptive research design. In this paper, an attempt has been made to study different types of unemployment, causes and remedial measures to the problems of unemployment. In India one of the most disturbing problems has been mounting rate of unemployment, both in the rural and urban sectors. If this problem is solved, then only the future of our country can be bright.

Keywords: Unemployment, Crime, Problem, India, Economy, Per cent

The Blue Economy's Role in Achieving Sustainable Development Goals: A Sociological Overview of Reviewed Papers

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The Blue Economy (BE) is a growing field of study that focuses on economic activities that depend on the ocean and are often linked to other industries, such as fishing, tourism, energy, and maritime transportation. With the potential for untapped growth and innovation in ocean environments, the BE supports sustainable development and contributes to the global economy. India, with its extensive coastline of 8391 km, is the world's second-largest fish producer and plays a significant role in addressing food security. Despite the BE's potential, the interests and roles of stakeholders are unclear, making it difficult to define the sector's boundaries and scope in line with UN SDGs. This research paper analyses the relationship between the UN's SDG programme and the BE by investigating the alignment and relevance of stakeholder interest conflicts with scientific evidence. A literature review from 2000 to 2022 reveals a strong correlation between SDG goals 14 to 17 and the BE, highlighting the need for further research and collaboration among stakeholders to promote sustainable development in ocean environments.

Keywords: Blue Economy, food security, Sustainable Development Goals, coastline, stakeholder

A Study of Social Exclusion and Inclusion of Nomadic and Denotified Castes in Haryana

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Through this research paper, the researcher draws attention to the losses and various problems faced by the *Vimukt* and Nomadic caste people as a result of not including them in the mainstream of development and presents suggestions to bring them into the mainstream of the society. Because the liberated and nomadic society has been deprived of the benefits of various development activities since the beginning. This research paper focuses on the problems of economic, social, political and backwardness of the people of nomadic and liberated tribes. Its title fully justifies the research paper, along with which the people of this society have been ostracized in various contexts, it has also been described in detail. Analytical and exploratory method of research has been used in the writing of this research paper and the problems of the *vimukt* (liberated) and nomadic caste people of Haryana have been analysed accordingly and appropriate suggestions have been presented along with reaching the conclusion.

Keywords: Caste, denotified, deprived, exclusion, livelihood, nomadic, *vimukt*

A Study of Politics and the Human Right Related Issues of Minorities in India

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India home to almost one-sixth of the world population has become a unique case of heterogeneous society. Many major different races, cultures, religions, ethnic groups and diverse identities find an element of their presence in this subcontinent. This varied character of population has always been a significant factor in determining the course of Indian politics. Today this has come to occupy the pivotal issue around which the struggle for power in India revolves. In addition to it there are rich and poor, rural and urban people living in India giving it a further flavour of diversity. Thus, keeping in view the above facts, present paper has been designed to have an analytical glance over the Politics and the Human Right Related Issues of Minorities in India. The paper is doctrinal in nature and attempted to put an exploratory insight over the problem.

Keywords: Minority, Regionalism, Policy, Human Rights, Secular

Emergence of Digital Welfare State in India

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Over the last decade, technology developments and increased state capacity have resulted in a substantial shift in how governments administer benefits to marginalised people. This shift has enabled the federal and state governments to transfer payments directly to recipients, decreasing reliance on intermediaries. A strong digital infrastructure has reduced discretion in beneficiary selection.

This paper investigates the spread of mobile phones and digital technologies, which have made it simpler for beneficiaries to obtain payments, resulting in the emergence of a digital welfare state in India. The implementation of the e-RUPI digital payment system, which is accessible to anyone with a cell phone, allows for fund transfers even without a bank account. This system uses QR codes or SMS messages to transmit e-vouchers to specific recipients, including both continuous welfare services and one-time vouchers. Individuals visiting hospitals, for example, can use digital vouchers to access services.

The linking of bank accounts to mobile numbers and the national identity card, Aadhaar, has streamlined direct relief fund transfers. The digitization of welfare payments via the direct benefit transfer system has resulted in much lower leakages when compared to traditional cash distribution methods. Furthermore, leveraging data has reinforced the rights-based approach by increasing

transparency, accountability, and delivery speed. Several projects, such as Digital India, Aadhaar, MyGov, Mobile Sewa, and Digi Locker, have been introduced over the last decade to promote digital inclusion and governance. Currently, automated decision-making methods are widely used across the country's governmental areas. While digital welfarism is praised for its effectiveness in reducing welfare leakages and assuring transparency and targeted distribution, it has also been criticised for privacy violations, disenfranchisement, data exploitation, surveillance, exclusion, and discrimination.

Period Poverty and Depression: A Sociological Study of University

Girl Students

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Menstruation is a naturally occurring phenomenon; however, millions of girls and women, who bleed every month, are deprived of menstruating safely and respectfully. Those belonging to marginalized sections face the stress of lack of access to water, sanitation, and hygiene facilities; affordable menstrual supplies; and inequitable distribution of menstrual health education. Poverty is one of the major reasons for the girls who are not able to maintain proper hygiene during their menstrual cycle. Even at present girls in the family are not getting sanitary pads so that they can maintain their health hygiene. Due to poverty and lack of awareness about health and hygiene during menstruation period, girls are using traditional methods which can be dangerous to their life. Therefore it can be said that there is a positive relationship between the menstruation hygiene of girls and their level of poverty. Due to lack of awareness among girls about their health and hygiene they are not only facing physical health problems but also they are going through depression which is degrading their mental health also. The objective of the study is to conduct in depth study on the effect of poverty on the non usage of sanitary pads by the university girls and its impact on their physical and mental health.

Key words: Poverty, Menstruation, Sanitary Pads, Mental Stress

Impact of Inclusive Education on Intellectually Disabled Children

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In India, inclusive education is a remarkable initiative to provide equal educational opportunities to all children, regardless of their differences. It encourages students to develop friendships, understanding, and acceptance in the same classroom setting. The principle of inclusion of children

with disabilities is based on their fundamental right to participate in society, which naturally extends to their access to education. Inclusive education has a significant impact on intellectually disabled children. Research indicates that inclusive classrooms can benefit the mathematical progress of pupils with intellectual disabilities. However, if specialized support is not available, inclusive education may not deliver optimal outcomes for intellectually disabled children. Creating an inclusive environment in schools is crucial for the holistic development of all students, including those with disabilities. Inclusive classrooms foster a sense of belonging for all students, ensuring that they feel part of the classroom community and are not excluded or left behind. Teachers and students play an important role in maintaining inclusivity, which can contribute to positive educational experiences for all students. The present study analyzed the impact of inclusive education on the lived experiences of intellectually disabled children in inclusive classroom settings. The findings have the potential to inform future efforts and initiatives to improve inclusivity in education.

Keywords: Inclusive education, children with disability, intellectually disabled, inclusive schools

Beyond Toilet: Environmental and Health Impacts, Contributing to the Empowerment of Women - A Case Study

Dr. Arun Chauhan

Swachh Bharat Mission, the world's largest sanitation initiative was launched by the Prime Minister of India in 2014 to achieve an Open Defecation Free India by October 2, 2019, as a tribute to Mahatma Gandhi. The programme led to the construction of over 10 crore individual household toilets, taking sanitation coverage from 39% in 2014 to 100% in 2019 when around 6 lakh villages declared themselves Open Defecation Free (ODF). The SBM-G campaign led to significant economic, environmental and health impacts, contributing to the empowerment of women in particular, it also led to the achievement of SDG 6.2 (Sanitation and Hygiene), 11 years ahead of the stipulated timeline. The Government of India in February 2020, approved Phase-II of the SBM-G with a total outlay of Rs. 1,40,881 crores to focus on the sustainability of the ODF status and to cover the villages with Solid and Liquid Waste Management (SLWM) that would transform villages from ODF to ODF Plus by 2024-25. To achieve the goal of ODF Plus villages, focus is given to providing access to IHHLs to left-out and newly emerging households; Biodegradable Waste Management through composting and setting up of Biogas plants; collection, segregation, and storage facilities for plastic waste management; construction of soak pits, waste stabilization ponds, DEWATS, etc. for Greywater Management; and Faecal Sludge Management through co-treatment in existing Sewage Treatment Plants/Faecal Sludge Treatment Plants (STPs/ FSTPs) in peri-urban areas and setting up of FSTPs under the programme. There are 3 progressive stages of ODF Plus villages. While a village that sustains its ODF status and has arrangements for Solid Waste Management or Liquid Waste Management is considered an ODF Plus Aspiring village; a village that sustains its ODF status and has arrangements both Solid Waste Management or Liquid Waste Management is an ODF Plus Rising village. On the other hand, an ODF Plus Model village is one that sustains its ODF status and has arrangements for both Solid Waste Management and

Liquid Waste Management; observes visual cleanliness, i.e., minimal litter, minimal stagnant wastewater, no plastic waste dump in public places; and displays ODF Plus Information, Education and Communication (IEC) messages. As per the IMIS of DDWS in October 2023, over 78 per cent of the villages have declared themselves ODF Plus. DDWS has been implementing various innovative campaigns to accelerate momentum, that while achieving ODF Plus goals would lead to a cleaner, greener and healthier nation. As always, community participation has been integral to the success of the campaign.

Local Community Gardens: Cultivating Sustainability and Social Connection

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In Gurgaon, India, community gardens are like little havens of green in the midst of city life. This study looks at how these gardens help the environment and bring people together. We talk to people who work in these gardens to find out why they do it. It turns out, they care about nature and want to be part of a community. In these gardens, people learn about taking care of the earth and share ideas on how to do it better. Every plant they grow is a step towards making Gurgaon cleaner and healthier. Through heartfelt conversations and shared experiences, we delve into the motivations driving individuals to participate in these gardens. Beyond the mere act of gardening, we uncover a deeper commitment to nurturing the earth and fostering a sense of interconnectedness with the community. But it's not just about plants. In these gardens, friendships bloom. People from different backgrounds come together, sharing stories and laughter. In the end, this study shows that community gardens in Gurgaon are more than just places to grow plants. They're about caring for the environment, building friendships, and making our city a better place for everyone.

Key Words: Community gardens, Urban environment, Social cohesion, Social connection, Cultural exchange

The Intersection of Educational Technology, Inclusion, and Sustainable Development: Enhancing Access and Quality in Global Education

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Education has seen a significant transition in the twenty-first century, thanks to the quick development of educational technology. The international community has simultaneously established challenging sustainable development targets to address social, economic, and

environmental issues. The purpose of this paper is to understand in a better way how inclusive educational practices and sustainable development goals can be supported by the thoughtful use of educational technology. With a focus on how technology integration in education can improve accessibility and quality while advancing sustainable development goals globally, this paper aims to explore the synergies between educational technology, inclusiveness, and sustainable development. In order to promote inclusive and sustainable educational practices and, eventually, more equitable and sustainable learning environments for all, the study will look into the potential and obstacles involved with doing so.

Keywords: Educational Technology, Inclusion, Sustainable Development

Himachal Pradesh: A Model of Sustainable Development in Mountains

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Himachal Pradesh is largely a state with mountainous terrain with diverse climatic conditions. The people of Himachal Pradesh have agriculture based profile with horticulture, hydro power and tourism as mainstay economy. The state has performed outstanding in development on economic, social, environmental and fulfilling the aspirations of the people. The paper traces the initiatives taken, driving factors in different sectors and lessons for other states with similar geo physical features to emulate the foot prints. The remarkable strides include economic growth rate close to or above national levels, favourable demographic indicators, sustainable energy, environmental stewardship, first state of country to initiate green forest accounting, incentive to green industries and disincentives to negative industries, green road technologies to build roads by mixing plastic waste with bitumen, poverty eradication universal health protection, comprehensive skill development policy, gender equality and women empowerment and other factors driving sustainable development. The findings and recommendations guide the academicians, policy planners, researchers and others who are at the helm of affairs.

Globalization, Modernity and Sustainable Development: Conceptual Issues

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Development, as a concept, has been associated with diverse meanings, interpretations and theories from various scholars. In classical sociology, development was viewed as an evolutionary process and was related with the notions of growth and progress. However, this type of theories were almost rejected and in post-world war period, a three-fold classification of societies was adopted; traditional society, transitional society and modern industrial society. The goal of development

was to achieve the condition/status of modern industrial society by the traditional societies which were also called developing societies or transitional societies. The “modernity” was set as a goal to achieve and this approach was termed as “modernization approach” to development. However, this approach was criticized on various grounds and an alternative approach based on Latin American countries experiences was formulated by neo-Marxist thinkers like A. G. Frank and Wallerstein, popularly known as school of underdevelopment and dependency theories. In 1980s modernization theory was criticized for not taking into account human development perspective regarding freedoms and self-esteem. Ecological critique of industrialization led to a new approach, namely, sustainable development which is a dominant paradigm of development for last four decades. The rise of global economy and communication revolution had initiated the process of transformation of the “modern industrial societies”. This process was termed as “globalization” which is transforming earlier modernity into a state of ‘high modernity’ (Giddens). This formulation of globalization is multidimensional and included environmental dimension of development. This paper aims to discuss the interrelationship between globalization, modernity and sustainable development by taking into account the views of basic thinkers of globalization on these issues at conceptual level.

Key words: globalization, sustainable development, high modernity, modernization, underdevelopment, dependency

Exploring the Deterministic Role of Social Attitudes and Cultural Influences in Shaping Climate Change Dynamics: A Study of Chandigarh

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Climate Change is the biggest threat to mankind today. It is perceived as an ecological phenomenon where factors such as the increase of chlorofluorocarbons in the atmosphere, rise in global temperatures, increase of greenhouse gases, and pollution of our oceans and seas culminate to change in weather patterns that last for extended periods of time. However, climate change is more than an ecological phenomenon. It is a crisis of our collective ability to comprehend the results of our actions. It is a crisis of our ability to perceive environmental changes around us. Climate change is also a cultural crisis.

Culture is defined as customs, ideas and beliefs of a particular society. Culture is the culmination of our attitudes and value systems that get expressed through our choice of clothes and food habits to our choice of music, literature and art. Culture, ultimately, is an expression of the way we think, collectively.

This paper aims to examine how our choices and social attitudes which are a derivative of the cultural values of our society lead to actions that contribute to climate change. The study aims to investigate the perception that the utilization of air conditioning units and automobiles is perceived

as unavoidable within society. It explores how these practices are intricately linked to the perceived standard of living and are consequently viewed as tools for social advancement. Additionally, the research seeks to scrutinize the prevailing notion that waste segregation has failed to become ingrained within cultural norms and practices. Specifically, the study examines the persistent issue of unsegregated waste disposal as a significant contributor to climate change.

The paper tries to examine our attitudes towards environmentally sustainable practices or lack thereof because of the cultural influences of the society. This study uses a mixed-methods approach. It uses qualitative and quantitative methods to collect and analyze the data. Additionally, the research incorporates an ethnographic component through participant observation, cultural immersion, and informal conversations. The data collection techniques include questionnaire, focus group discussion and semi structured interviews. It will be analyzed using content analysis. The paper ultimately tries to shed light on how our beliefs shape the choices we make and how those choices contribute to climate change.

Keywords: Climate Change, Culture, Beliefs, Social Attitudes

Hegemony of Men in Khaps

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Khap is an institution, which is wielding control over a particular area where it has supremacy or sovereignty (Ibid, 2010). It is important to note that there is a need to examine Khaps from a gender perspective in contemporary times. It is because of injustice, prejudice and discrimination against women is rampant in Khap land. Further, while dealing with gender related cases, Khaps have been taking decisions without taking into consideration women's views. Hence, it is very important to examine the mindset, ideology and the background of the male dominated society in Khap belt of Haryana where diktats issued by Khaps have by and large been gender biased. Historical evidence and relevant literature shows that Khaps have been a patriarchal institution and exclude women, low castes and weaker sections. Thus in this research paper main focus will be on analyzing the structure of Khap with gender lens. To find out representation of women within Khaps. To explore decision making within khaps with respect to gender. Qualitative research methodology was adopted while collecting and analyzing the field data.

Keywords: Khaps, Women, Hegemony, Men, Ideology, Mindset, Patriarchy and Khap Belt.

Localizing Sustainable Development Goals in India: Bridging Theory and Practice for Contextual Impact

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The implementation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) represents a global endeavor to address pressing environmental, social, and economic challenges. However, the achievement of these goals necessitates contextualization to suit the unique socio-economic and environmental landscape of each country. This paper focuses on the localization of SDGs within the context of India, examining both theoretical frameworks and practical applications. Localizing SDGs in India requires a robust theoretical framework that integrates global objectives with national priorities and local contexts. Scholars emphasize the importance of incorporating principles of equity, inclusivity, and participation to ensure that SDGs are relevant and impactful at the grassroots level. Drawing from concepts of sustainable development, governance, and participatory decision-making, theoretical frameworks provide guidance for adapting SDGs to the Indian context while retaining their core principles. India's diverse socio-economic landscape presents both challenges and opportunities for localizing SDGs. Persistent inequalities, environmental degradation, and resource constraints pose significant hurdles to achieving sustainable development objectives. However, India's rich cultural heritage, vibrant civil society, and decentralized governance structures offer opportunities for innovative approaches to localization. Engaging with marginalized communities, leveraging traditional knowledge systems, and fostering multi-stakeholder partnerships are key strategies for overcoming challenges and capitalizing on opportunities.

Praxis, or the application of theory into practice, is essential for effective localization of SDGs in India. Initiatives at the national, state, and local levels demonstrate various approaches to integrating SDGs into development planning, policy formulation, and implementation processes. The Indian government's flagship programs such as Swachh Bharat Mission, National Rural Livelihoods Mission, and National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture exemplify efforts to align national priorities with SDG targets. Furthermore, grassroots organizations, academia, and the private sector play crucial roles in driving innovation and fostering community-led development initiatives. Several case studies illustrate successful localization efforts across different sectors in India. For instance, the "Zero Budget Natural Farming" initiative in Andhra Pradesh promotes sustainable agriculture practices aligned with SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDG 13 (Climate Action). In Kerala, the "People's Plan Campaign" exemplifies participatory governance and decentralized decision-making, contributing to the localization of multiple SDGs. These case studies highlight the importance of context-specific approaches, community engagement, and adaptive management strategies in achieving sustainable development outcomes. Localizing Sustainable Development Goals in the context of India requires a nuanced understanding of socio-economic dynamics, cultural diversity, and environmental challenges. By integrating theoretical frameworks with

practical applications and drawing on lessons from case studies, stakeholders can develop tailored strategies to advance SDGs while addressing local needs and priorities. Embracing principles of equity, inclusivity, and participation is essential for fostering synergies between global aspirations and local realities, ultimately contributing to a more sustainable and resilient future for India and beyond.

Social Dimension of Climate Change in Punjab vis-a-vis Sustainable Development Goals

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Understanding the social dimensions of climate change in Punjab within the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is imperative for developing effective mitigation and adaptation strategies. This abstract delves into the intricate interplay between climate change impacts and social dynamics in Punjab, examining how the SDGs can serve as a guiding framework for addressing these challenges.

Punjab, known as the "Granary of India," faces a myriad of climate change impacts, including rising temperatures, erratic rainfall patterns, and increased frequency of extreme weather events. These changes pose significant threats to agriculture, water resources, public health, and livelihoods, exacerbating existing vulnerabilities and inequalities within the state.

The social dimensions of climate change in Punjab manifest through various channels, affecting different segments of society disproportionately. Vulnerable communities, including smallholder farmers, women, and marginalized groups, bear the brunt of climate-induced risks due to limited access to resources, lack of adaptive capacity, and dependency on climate-sensitive sectors for livelihoods. Moreover, migration patterns, social cohesion, and intergenerational equity are influenced by climate-related disruptions, reshaping community dynamics and exacerbating social

The SDGs provide a comprehensive framework for addressing the social dimensions of climate change in Punjab. Key goals such as SDG 1 (No Poverty), SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being), SDG 5 (Gender Equality), and SDG 13 (Climate Action) intersect with climate change impacts and social vulnerabilities, offering opportunities for integrated action. By mainstreaming climate resilience into development planning and policy formulation, Punjab can advance progress towards multiple SDGs while enhancing adaptive capacity and promoting social equity.

Effective mitigation and adaptation strategies must prioritize social inclusion, equity, and community resilience in Punjab. Investments in climate-smart agriculture, water management, renewable energy, and sustainable urban planning can mitigate climate risks while enhancing livelihoods and fostering social cohesion. Additionally, empowering women, enhancing access to education and healthcare, and strengthening social safety nets can build adaptive capacity and promote social resilience in the face of climate uncertainties.

Community engagement and participation are central to addressing the social dimensions of climate change in Punjab. Stakeholder consultations, participatory decision-making processes, and knowledge sharing platforms facilitate the co-creation of context-specific solutions, ensuring that interventions are responsive to local needs and realities. Furthermore, fostering partnerships between government agencies, civil society organizations, academia, and the private sector can catalyze collective action and enhance the effectiveness of climate resilience initiatives.

The social dimensions of climate change in Punjab present complex challenges that require holistic and inclusive approaches for effective mitigation and adaptation. By aligning climate action with the Sustainable Development Goals, Punjab can leverage synergies between social development objectives and climate resilience efforts, fostering sustainable and equitable development pathways. Through concerted efforts, Punjab can emerge as a model of resilience, demonstrating the transformative potential of integrating social dimensions into climate change discourse and action.

Assessing India's Readiness for the Ageing Population: Policy Analysis and Societal Perspectives

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Global population ageing presents unprecedented and multifaceted challenges for health systems, social structures, and policy frameworks. India too finds itself in the midst of a profound demographic transition wherein the elderly population is expected to surpass that of children by 2046. This review paper aims to critically examine India's politico-structural responses and overall readiness to handle the health and well-being of its elderly. These are examined in light of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 3 (SDG 3): "Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages."

The United Nations Decade of Healthy Ageing (2021-30) is a global collaboration to foster age-friendly environments globally. It serves as an appropriate backdrop to understand the challenges currently facing India's elderly. The seminal India Ageing Report 2023 by UNFPA/IIPS and the Longitudinal Ageing Study in India (LASI) 2020 offer an overview of said challenges. These may be broadly classified as rising rates of non-communicable diseases, disabilities, and socioeconomic vulnerabilities. These are accompanied by the emergent realities of feminization and ruralisation of old-age poverty.

The review critically analyzes India's policy responses through a brief assessment of the National Programme for Health Care of the Elderly (NPHCE). The initiative was launched in 2011 to augment the country's geriatric healthcare infrastructure and services at primary, secondary and tertiary levels. Its achievements, limitations and uneven implementation across states are drawn out through empirical studies and government reports. The distinct roles played by Community-

Based Organizations (CBOs) and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives are summarized.

Finally, these domestic efforts are contextualized within the global signifiers of 'active ageing', 'healthy ageing' and 'ageing in place' in addition to endemic notions of what constitutes "successful ageing". The review attempts to draw out the implicit understandings behind these perceptions as well as their sociological grounding by looking at the changing politico-economic care regime.

By synthesizing empirical data, policy analysis, and sociological theory, this review aims to offer a broad understanding of the interplay between ageing, health governance, and societal responses in India. Its insights help comprehend the state of the country's ongoing commitment to UN SDG 3.

The Organized Hypocrisy of National Security Amid the Scourge of Wars: Unethical Military Spending, Deceptive Symbolism of Weapons and the Human Security Dilemma

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This paper critically examines the rising global military expenditure, which surged by **9 percent in 2023**, reaching an unprecedented **\$2.2 trillion**. Amid ongoing wars such as the **Russia-Ukraine** and **the Israel-Palestine**, or other major conflicts/civil wars across the globe are fueling strategic instability and the upward trajectory of military spending largely failing the developing countries to achieve sustainable development goals or human security at large, which further reflects how states perceive threats and show their willingness to employ aggression. However, the ability to finance military activities hinges on economic size, financial considerations, and governmental priorities. But, unfortunately, the allocation of funds disproportionately favors the military spending over essential human needs of human security, including food, education, healthcare, and environmental concerns. This skewed distribution poses a significant threat to both human development and the overall security.

In conclusion the paper argues mainly drawing upon the evidences of case studies of India and Pakistan that striking a balance between defense requirements and the well-being of citizens remains a critical imperative for sustainable progress and stability worldwide.

Keywords: defense, security, arms, military, sustainable development, budget, economy.

Gendered Insecurities in Cyberspace: Exploring Women's Vulnerability to Cybercrime

Stanzin Angmo, Dr. Reena Rani Chaudhary

The advent of internet has revolutionized human interaction, providing unparalleled access to information and global connectivity. However, this transformative tool has also paved new ways for cyber-crime and victimization with women disproportionately experienced various manifestations of cyber victimization such as online harassment, cyberstalking, revenge porn, and identity theft. Despite the liberating potential of online platforms for expression and socialization, women find themselves confronted with various forms of harassment and abuse in cyberspace, echoing historical patterns of gender-based violence. This paper delves into the intersection of gender and cybercrime, shedding light on the unique vulnerabilities faced by women in the digital age and highlight the urgent need for effective policy interventions and legal frameworks to combat online gender-based violence.

Keywords: Women, Cyber-crime, Victimization, Policy intervention

Jataka Tales: Embracing Indiscrimination, Peace, and Love in Buddhist Teachings

Padma Lhamo

The world of Buddhism has a well-known teaching that comes from the tales of Jataka, which means "previous birth story". These tales consist of 550 anecdotes and fables that depict the earlier incarnations of Buddha, which date back to between 300 BC and 400 AD. Through storytelling, these tales provide moral lessons and teachings that can be applied to various aspects of life. The protagonist of each story is a Bodhisatta, which means a being who is on the path to becoming an enlightened or compassionate being. This character could be any human, animal or bird. Some scholars have concluded that this wide range of character types indicates that all creatures have the same origin, and there is no reason to distinguish one as superior and another as inferior. Similarly, the cultivation of the nature of compassion is important for the path to Buddhahood. The Jataka tales impart moral values and wisdom, with many of them indirectly addressing issues related to discrimination and injustice. They advocate peace, love, and happiness. This paper discusses the Buddhist teaching of indiscrimination, peace, and love through various stories of Jataka.

Keyword: Jataka, Buddhism, Peace, Indiscrimination

Young Visionaries: The Next Generation Entrepreneurs Shaping a Sustainable Tomorrow

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In recent years, the narrative of sustainable development has largely been driven by the innovation and entrepreneurial spirit of the private sector, rather than by direct government action. While governments provide regulatory frameworks, it is private individuals, from large corporations to small startups, who have been the true agents of change. They have pioneered sustainable technologies and eco-friendly practices to create products and solutions that address both environmental and societal needs. This dynamic reflects a shift in traditional governance roles, where the agility, innovation, and foresight of private businesses have filled gaps left by governmental inaction or slow policy responses and execution inability. The global shift from traditional energy sources to renewables marks a significant stride in our journey towards sustainability. This transition is fuelled by advancements in renewable energy technologies, such as solar, wind, and hydro power, which are becoming increasingly cost-effective and efficient. This shift represents not only a move away from environmentally harmful fossil fuels but also a step toward reducing our carbon footprint and combating climate change. Additionally, the maritime industry, a vital component of global trade and a heavy contributor to carbon emissions, is undergoing a transformation. Modern sea vessels are being designed for better fuel efficiency and are incorporating technologies to minimize emissions

Further, the advancements in technology for the treatment of municipal waste, including plastics, have made significant strides in reducing the carbon footprint of urban areas. These technologies enable more efficient separation, recycling, and repurposing of materials, particularly plastics, which have been a major environmental concern. Furthermore, waste-to-energy plants are harnessing the potential of non-recyclable waste, converting it into electricity and heat, and thereby reducing dependency on fossil fuels. This approach not only diminishes landfill volumes but also cuts down on greenhouse gas emissions from both waste decomposition and energy production. In the sustainable development debate, passionate entrepreneurs have historically played a crucial role, acting as catalysts for innovation and change. Their contributions span various sectors, from renewable energy, agriculture, waste management and creating eco-friendly consumer products. As we turn our gaze towards the future, the new generation of entrepreneurs stands on the shoulders of these pioneers, poised to further amplify this positive impact.

With access to advanced technology, a globalized economy, and growing awareness of environmental and social issues, these young visionaries are uniquely equipped to tackle the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) set by the United Nations. In conclusion, the new generation of entrepreneurs has the potential to profoundly impact our world by combining innovation, technology, and a commitment to social and environmental responsibility, leading

towards a more sustainable, equitable, and prosperous future. They can inspire a global movement for sustainability and demonstrate how individuals can live their lives in harmony with the planet.

Tagging Sustainability: A Sociological Perspective on Globalization and Sustainability of GI tagged Indian Folk Art

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The paper is based on a sociological analysis of the conceptual issues in operationalizing a sustainable market for GI Tagged Folk Art products, an activity that itself is out of context of the socio-environmental sensibilities and is anthropogenic in its essence, within an overarching debate on knowledge hegemony under Globalization with reference to issues in IPR regimes in Indian Subcontinent. While Dagne (2014) makes the case for GIs as a sui generis intellectual property form on its own merit with great potential for sustainable environmental (biodiversity conservation) development, promotion of food security, agro-ecological diversity and overall economic empowerment of traditional agricultural practitioners involved in the production of traditional-knowledge-based agricultural products and locates the debate on GIs within the broader international trade diplomacy. It overlooks at the empirical challenges inherent in national implementation of GI regimes, as approaches that involve the restructuring of current social arrangements.

The paper looks at the intensification of GI tag as an intellectual property rights (IPR) protection instrument since the beginning of twenty first century and the resultant discomfort among countries of the global south over an IPR instrument that has limited understanding of the cultural significance and relevance of processes of production in these geographies; the outcome of which are the products that are inherently aesthetic. One of the key reservations over strong IPR protection focuses on the role of IPR in the exploitation and marginalization of traditional knowledge and its custodians. The paper concludes that the emancipatory power of GI in all its implementations is contradictory and it hinges on the manner in which the mechanism and benefits of the GI tagging is equitably understood and shared in the value chain.

Keywords: Intellectual Property Right (IPR), Sustainability, Folk Art Products

Human Health Risk Assessment of Nitrate and Fluoride in Groundwater via Multi-Exposure Pathways: A Case Study in Northwestern Himalayan and Central India

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The present investigation was conducted in the two different topographical regions of India: (1) Supebeda village, Chhattisgarh drew national attention in 2018 reporting about 100 people died and more than 300 hospitalized in a span of few years, and (2) Baddi-Barotiwala-Nalagarh (BBN) is the largest industrial region in Himachal Pradesh. The consumption of nitrate (NO_3^-) and fluoride (F^-) contaminated groundwater is a serious concern due to clinical diseases implication to human. The concentration of NO_3^- above the guideline limit (45 mg/L) in 37% samples, and F^- contents exceeding the acceptable limit (1.0 mg/L) and permissible limit (1.5 mg/L) in 14.8% and 25.9% samples of Supebeda village (BIS 2012). In Nalagarh valley, the contents of NO_3^- and F^- are well within the permissible limit of BIS (2012), except for 3% samples are above the acceptable limit (1.0 mg/L) in groundwater. Non-carcinogenic human health risk (HHR) assessment of NO_3^- and F^- were investigated in children and adults populations through ingestion and dermal pathways. The hazard quotient (HQ) for NO_3^- and F^- ascertain that ingestion **as the prominent pathway** for non-cancerous HHR. Deterministically and probabilistically calculated risk certainty level (RCL) exceeding the hazard index (HI) threshold value ($HI_{\text{NO}_3^-} > 1$) for children (48.15% and 23.01%) and adults (40.74% and 11.62%), and similarly, the RCL ($HI_{\text{F}^-} > 1$) for children (37.4% and 10.56%) and adults (33.33% and 1.25%), for Supebeda village, respectively. In Nalagarh valley, the target age groups RCL ($HI_{\text{NO}_3^-} > 1$) results for deterministic and probabilistic estimates are 9.38% and 1.43% (children) and 6.25% and 0.02% (adults), respectively. On the other hand, the significant RCL ($HI_{\text{F}^-} > 1$) for deterministically and probabilistically calculated are noticed in the children group only (3.13% and 0.08%) for Nalagarh Valley. The order of non-carcinogenic HQ and HI stands as children > adults in the study areas. Children populations are more vulnerable to groundwater pollution due to their lower body weights, organs developmental process, and specific chemical tolerance on the body. Therefore, treated groundwater is strongly recommended to mitigate health morbidities linked with the non-cancerous risks.

Key words: Fluorosis, Blue-baby syndrome, Monte Carlo simulation, Contamination pathways, Ingestion and dermal exposures.

“Unveiling the Marginalization: Impact of COVID-19 on Transgender Individuals in Jammu and Kashmir, India”

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The COVID-19 pandemic has brought to the forefront a multitude of social issues, with marginalized communities, particularly transgender individuals, bearing the brunt of its impact. This study delves into the repercussions of the pandemic on rural and urban transgender individuals in Jammu and Kashmir, India, employing a mixed-methods approach. By engaging with a small sample size of four participants—two from a rural setting and the other from an urban area—the research aims to capture the nuanced experiences of marginalization exacerbated by the crisis. Utilizing both qualitative and quantitative data gathered through questionnaires, the study elucidates the socio-cultural, economic, and educational challenges faced by transgender individuals. The findings underscore the intensified difficulties in accessing healthcare, securing employment, and receiving social support during the pandemic. Through qualitative analysis, the research illuminates the unique barriers encountered by transgender individuals, shedding light on the intersectionality of their struggles amidst the crisis. Simultaneously, quantitative analysis provides statistical insights into the extent of their marginalization, emphasizing the urgent need for targeted interventions and inclusivity in public health responses. Building upon these insights, the study advocates for comprehensive policies and programs tailored to address the specific needs of transgender communities in times of crisis. It highlights the importance of fostering inclusive healthcare systems, promoting economic opportunities, and establishing robust social support networks to mitigate the exacerbation of marginalization experienced by transgender individuals during the COVID-19 pandemic. Through this research, it is envisaged that policymakers, healthcare providers, and community stakeholders will be equipped with evidence-based strategies to foster resilience and promote equity within transgender populations amidst ongoing and future crises.

Keywords: Transgender Marginalization, Covid-19 pandemic, Socio-economic Challenges, discrimination

Unraveling Nexus of Climate, Agriculture, and Migration Across Asian and African Horizons

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The recognition of climate change as a catalyst for mass migration has grown substantially, eliciting apprehensions within both home and host countries. While there is considerable interest in the relationship between climate change and migration, the underlying mechanism of this connection remains an enigma. Furthermore, the agricultural sector bears a profound imprint from climate change, experiencing a substantial decline in productivity because of the altered patterns of weather shocks in terms of their intensity and frequency, along with shifts in average rainfall and temperature. Agriculture is the largest employer for the world's poor, and a decline in productivity can lead to increased migration. Consequently, agriculture can be a significant intermediary in the complex relationship between climate change and migration, warranting a closer examination of their interactions. Therefore, the present study draws upon a rich panel of data from 27 countries from 1995 to 2020, delving into the intricate climate-agriculture-migration nexus. Among the selected countries, 14 were African, 13 were Asian, and the choice of focusing on these two continents stemmed from the notable patterns of emigration they exhibit, coupled with their significant dependence on agriculture. Alongside, the countries manifesting the highest emigration flows within these continents were selected. Methodologically, the study employs the first-stage ordinary least squares (OLS) method and the second-stage ordinary least squares (2SLS) method to account for endogeneity issues in the data. The initial OLS analysis scrutinizes the impact of climate change and agriculture, while the subsequent 2SLS analysis investigates the relationship between emigration and agriculture. The findings demonstrate that rising temperatures significantly diminish agricultural value-added and diversification index. In addition, agricultural value-added and diversification index influence on emigration flows is statistically significant, which concretely establishes the presence of a climate-agriculture-migration nexus. To counteract this nexus, it is incumbent upon governments to bolster the resilience of their agricultural sector. The same can be achieved through the implementation of strategies such as diversification and crop insurance, effectively curbing migration triggered by agricultural adversities. Furthermore, timely dissemination of accurate climate information to farmers can empower them to make informed decisions, mitigating risks associated with impending weather fluctuations. Moreover, fostering non-farm activities and uplifting rural infrastructure stands out as a means to reduce emigration.

Keywords: climate change, agriculture, migration, diversification index, emigration flows



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3rd Chandigarh Climate Meet

International Conference
on

"Society, Environment and Sustainable Development: Emerging Issues and Alternatives"
(March 20 to 22, 2024)

Venue: Centre for Research in Rural and Industrial Development (CRRID), Chandigarh

DAY - 1: Wednesday, 20 th March, 2024	
Registration: 8:30 A.M – 10:00 A.M	
Inaugural Session: 10:00 A.M – 11:30 A.M Venue: Conference Hall	
INAUGURAL SESSION	
Welcome Address	Dr. Bindu Duggal, Director (Acting) CRRID
Introductory remarks	Dr. Manoj Kumar Teotia, Conference Co-Ordinator, CRRID
Guest of Honour	Hon. Justice (Retd.) Sant Parkash, Chairman, Panjab State Human Rights Commission
Guest of Honour	Adv. Satyapal Jain, Former MP, Chandigarh and currently Additional Solicitor General of India
Guest of Honour	Prof. Vladimir V. Klimanov, Director Institute of Public Finance and Policy, Moscow, Russia
Inaugural Address (Online)	Prof. Harmohinder Singh Bedi, Chancellor, Central University, Himachal Pradesh
Presidential Address (Online)	Dr. Murl Manohar Joshi, Former HRD Minister and Minister of Home, Government of India
Vote of thanks	Dr. Rajesh Aggarwal, Former Director CRRID
National Anthem	
High Tea: (11:30 A.M – 12:00 Noon)	
Panel Discussion - I (12:00 Noon - 01:00 P.M)	
Theme: Towards Holistic Socio-Economic Transformations for Sustainable Futures	
Chair: Prof. S L Sharma	
Co-Chair: Ar. Jit Kumar Gupta	
Venue: Conference Hall	
Rapporteur: Nishaant Kapoor and Daman Singh	
Name	Topic
1. Prof (Dr.) Abdul Razak Mohamed	Transform to transformation: Community to digital economic community in the Peri Urban Chennai
2. Prof. Vladimir V. Klimanov	Sustainable Development and resilience of Russia's regions in search of the "New Normal"
3. Dr. Jagir Singh Samra	Prospects and Problems of Artificial Intelligence (AI) Eco-system of Inclusive Economic, Social and Environmental Developments
4. Dr. Joydeb Garai	The aspects of food security and subsistence system of climate change affected coastal people in the era of COVID-19 Pandemic

*: Technical Sessions will be conducted in parallel

Technical Session – 3* (04:30 P.M - 05:30 P.M)	
Theme: Environment, Energy and the Eco-system	
Chair: Dr. S. Guruswamy	Co-Chair: Dr. Rakesh Thakur
Venue: Faculty Hall (2)	
Rapporteur: Ms. Meenakshi	
Paper Presenter	Topic
1. Ms. Dhaniya	Plant-based Biosorbents for Oil Removal from Wastewater
2. Ms. Neharika Singh	Understanding the Nexus of Green Energy, Economic Complexity and Environmental Sustainability: A Systematic Literature Review and Content Analysis
3. Ms. Ridhima Abrol	Analyzing the impact of Eco-innovation amid green energy, green finance, environmental taxes on environmental sustainability
Discussion: (03:30 P.M – 03:30 P.M)	
Tea Break: (03:30 P.M - 04:00 P.M)	
Special Lecture – II (04:00 P.M – 04:15 P.M)	
Prof. Balaji Kendre, Department of Sociology, University of Mumbai	
Topic: Sustainable Development Goals and Right Based Approach: Critical Analysis	
Venue: Conference Hall	
AND	
Special Lecture – II (04:15 P.M – 04:30 P.M)	
Prof. Dai-Yeun Jeong, Director, Asia Climate Change Education Centre, Jeju, South Korea	
Topic: How to Overcome the Limitations Inherent in Sustainable Development	
Venue: Online and Conference Hall	
Chair: Prof. Sapna Sangra	Co-Chair: Dr. Oxana Klimanova
Rapporteur: Ms. Neharika Singh and Ms. Ridhima Abrol	
Technical Session – 4* (04:00 P.M - 05:30 P.M)	
Theme: Technology, Digitalization and Social Media: Opportunities and barriers	
Chair: Prof. Gaurav Verma	Co-Chair: Dr. Rajni Bala
Venue: Conference Hall	
Rapporteur: Ms. Damini Singh	
Paper Presenter	Topic
1. Dr. Rajni Chauhan	Advancing collaborative innovation in clean energy: A study on Omdena's AI-Enabled Solutions for cleantech startups

*: Technical Sessions will be conducted in parallel

2. Dr. Jayeeta Basu	Reality of the virtual world: Agonies of the parents in a sociological study
3. Mr. Sai Krishna, Lt. Dr. R. Sivakumar	Cyber Grooming among College Students: An exploratory study in the Southern Districts of Tamil Nadu
4. Dr. Prakasan Puthiyetti	The Role of Media In SDG: Prospects and Problems
5. Prof. (Dr.) Dinesh Chahal	The Intersection of Educational Technology, Inclusion, and Sustainable Development: Enhancing Access and Quality in Global Education
6. Ms. Meenakshi	Social media and Interaction Pattern of University Students in Haryana: A Study of Kurukshetra University
Discussion: (05:00 P.M – 05:30 P.M)	
Technical Session – 5* (04:00 P.M - 05:30 P.M)	
Theme: Caste and Social Exclusion	
Chair: Prof (Dr.) Vijaylakshmi Brara	Co-Chair: Prof. Kumool Abbi
Venue: Faculty Hall (1)	
Rapporteur: Ms. Bhavani Suri	
Paper Presenter	Topic
1. Dr. Krishan Kumar	Discourse on Caste and Dalits: From Social Exclusion to Urban Slums
2. Mr. Sai Krishna, Lt. Dr. R. Sivakumar	Caste - Based Discrimination in Access to Graveyards: A Theoretical Analysis
3. Ms. Smriti Prasad	Formation of Dalit Identity and its relation with the Politics of Recognition in India
4. Ms. Rinkle	A Study of Social Exclusion and Inclusion of Nomadic and Denotified Castes in Haryana
Discussion: (05:00 P.M - 05:30 P.M)	
Technical Session – 6* (04:00 P.M - 05:30 P.M)	
Theme: Gender And Religious Inequalities	
Chair: Dr. Rajni Bala	Co-Chair: Dr. Vinod Kumar
Venue: Faculty Hall (2)	
Rapporteur: Mr. Mahesh Ghimire	
Paper Presenter	Topic
1. Dr. Anupam Bahri	Gender inequality and Climate Crisis: A Greatest Challenge
2. Ms. Sehrish Rabia	Gender based Violence as a weapon of Ethnic cleansing: A Case study of Rohingya refugee survival

*: Technical Sessions will be conducted in parallel

3. Mr. Avinash Verma	Gender Biasness in Commercial Cooking: A sociological study of Amritsar district
4. Dr. Nirmala Devi	Hegemony of men in Khaps
5. Ms. Lakshana Gupta	“Unveiling the Marginalization: Impact of COVID-19 on Transgender Individuals in Jammu and Kashmir, India”
6. Ms. Rehiana	The Silent Struggle: Psychological Consequences of Islamophobia and Paths to Resilience
7. Mr. Sushil Kumar	A study of Politics and the Human Right Related Issues of Minorities in India
Discussion: (05:00 P.M - 05:30 P.M)	
Technical Session (Online) – 7* (04:00 P.M - 06:00 P.M)	
Theme: Myriad Issues related to Environment and Development	
Chair: Dr. Shabnam Ara and Dr. Sanjay Tiwari Co-Chair: Dr. Sukhwant Sidhu	
Venue: Online and Computer Room.	
Rapporteur: Ms. Smriti Prasad	
Paper Presenter	Topic
1. Dr. Stephan Treuke	Redesigning post-industrial cities under the scope of climate change: the Emscher Conversion and its impulses for the blue and green transformation of the Ruhr Metropolis
2. Dr Sumant Swain	Climate change impact on Indian economy and health: Policies, programmes and sustainable action
3. Mudasir Yousuf	Sociology of Traffic: A Sociological Imagination
4. Dr. Manisha Jha	Understanding Elder Abuse
5. Dr. Tsegmed.S, Unursaikhan.S, Bayanjargal L, Norolkhoosuren.D, Unurbat D	Respiratory Diseases And Dust Of The City Of Ulan Bator
6. Dr. Janaka Hemathilaka	Democratic Community Engagement in Eco-system Management – The Experience from Sri Lanka in North Central Province
7. Dr. Mohammad Iqbal Sheikh	Challenges and Issues of Accessibility with reference to different Programs and Policies for Education of Children with Special Needs (CWSN) in India.

*: Technical Sessions will be conducted in parallel

8. Wafae Elarabi	Decentralization in Morocco after the movement of 20 February and the question of the fundamental rights of the local population -A sociological pilot study in the "region of Fes-Meknes"
9. Ms. Preeti Tomar	Rights Based Development – Social, Economic & Political
10. Dr. Manju Singh	Globalization, Biodiversity and Sustainable Development: Conceptual Issues and Practices
11. Ms. Priyanka	Nature-based Solutions and Strategies for Climate Change Mitigation: A Review
12. Prof. Deepti Kaushik	Local Community Gardens: Cultivating Sustainability and Social Connection
13. Dr. Ritu Sharma	An ecological study on Exclusion and indifference: Migrant labourers negotiations on Yamuna Banks in Noida
Discussion: (05:30 P.M - 06:00 P.M)	
Cultural Evening at CRRID - (6:30 P.M – 8:30 P.M)	
Dinner - (8:00 P.M – 10:00 P.M)	

*: Technical Sessions will be conducted in parallel

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DAY - 2: Thursday, 21 st March, 2024	
Special Lecture – III (09:00 A.M – 09:30 A.M)	
Prof. James Goodman Topic: Decarbonizing Electricity: Comparing Renewables Regions in India, Germany and Australia Chair: Prof. Debal K. SinghaRoy Co-Chair: Prof. Rani Mehta Venue: Conference Hall Rapporteur: Ms. Rinkle	
Technical Session – 8* (09:30 A.M - 10:30 A.M)	
Theme: Sustainable Transport System, Tourism and Urban Development Chair: Ar. Jit K. Gupta Co-Chair: Prof Dr. Sanjeev Chaddha Venue: Conference Hall Rapporteur: Ms. Lakshana Gupta	
Paper Presenter	Topic
1. Dr. Rakesh Kapoor	ISHT A model for sustainable tourism in Himachal Pradesh: Concept to reality- A case study
2. Mr. Ramesh Khanal	Tourism, Identity and Inclusion: A sociological analysis of disability in Nepal's travel industry
3. Dr. Minakshi Rana	Exploring the Complexities of Indian Urban Settlements: An Integrative Bio-Social Perspective
4. Dr. Sumit Arora	National Urban Learning Platform: A Digital Initiative for Capacity Building of Urban Local Bodies in India
5. Mr. Prashant Yadav	Enhancing Citizen Engagement and Service Delivery: A Comprehensive Analysis of Digital Portals in Local Government
6. Mr. Hemanta Mahatara	Real time public bus tracking system using GNSS, GPRS and Mobile Application
7. Mr. Bikash Sherchan	Enhance the efficiency and reliability of Public Transport System in Pokhara with mobile Apps and GNSS technology towards achieving SDG 11- Sustainable Transport
Discussion: (10:20 A.M – 10:30 A.M)	
Technical Session – 9* (09:30 A.M - 10:30 A.M)	
Theme: Socio-Cultural, Art and Narratives Chair: Prof (Dr.) Vijaylakshmi Brara Co-Chair: Dr. Sumit Arora	

*: Technical Sessions will be conducted in parallel

Venue: Faculty Hall (1)	
Rapporteur: Mr. Ramesh Khanal	
Paper Presenter	Topic
1. Mr. Karanbir Singh Sahota and Dr. Nirmala Devi	Religious Conversions and Mobility Patterns Among Mazhabi Sikh Women
2. Dr. Naveen Malik	A sociological analysis of the Watta-Satta marriages in the Kamboj community of Sirsa
3. Ms. Rachna Atri	Tagging Sustainability: A Sociological Perspective on Globalization and Sustainability of GI tagged Indian Folk Art
4. Ms. Padma Lhamo	Jataka Tales: Embracing Indiscrimination, Peace, and Love in Buddhist Teachings
Discussion: (10:20 A.M – 10:30 A.M)	
Technical Session - 10*: (09:00 A.M - 10:30 A.M)	
Theme: Management of Natural Forces and Man-Made Waste	
Chair: Prof. Pampa Mukherjee	Co-Chair: Dr. Vikash Kumar
Venue: Faculty Hall (2)	
Rapporteur: Mr. Hemanta Mahatara	
Paper Presenter	Topic
1. Mr. Mohinder Singh Thakur	Solid waste disposal - A challenge to Himalayan towns: Case study of Manali Town
2. Mr. Ankur Kamal	Development of Dedicated Green Corridor for Storm Water Management
3. Mr. Nazeel Sabah	Enhancing Coastal Resilience: Modeling for Tsunami Protection Heights in the Indian Ocean
Discussion – (10:00 A.M – 10:30 A.M)	
Tea Break: (10:30 A.M – 11:00 A.M)	
Chandigarh Green Award 2024 Ceremony (11:00 A.M – 11:40 A.M)	
Chief Guest: Prof. Raghavendra P. Tiwari, Vice-Chancellor, CUP, Bathinda (TBC)	
Guest of Honour: Shri Sanjay Swami, Rashtriya Sanyojak Paryavaran Shiksha, Convenor, Environment, S.S.U.N.	
Guest of Honour: Dr. Subhash Sharma, Director CEPR	
Guest of Honour: Advocate Asha Jaiswal, Former Mayor, Chandigarh	
Guest of Honour: Prof (Dr.) Punam Agarwal, Principal, PGGC, Sector 11, Chandigarh	
Chair: Dr. S.K. Mangal, Chairman, CRRID	
Session Coordinator: Dr. Manoj Kumar Teotia	
Venue: Conference Hall	

*: Technical Sessions will be conducted in parallel

Special Lecture – IV (11:40 A.M – 12:00 Noon)	
Prof. S L Sharma	
Chair: Prof. Raghvendra Tiwari	Co-Chair: Prof. Mahalaya Chatterjee
Venue: Conference Hall	
Rapporteur: Mr. Bikash Sherchan	
Panel Discussion – II (12:00 Noon - 01:00 P.M)	
Theme: Sustainable Development and Resilience in the Face of Global Challenges	
Chair: Prof. Rajesh Gill	Co-chair: Prof. Abdul Razak Mohamed
Venue: Conference Hall	
Rapporteur: Ms. Rachna Atri	
Name	Designation
1. Prof. Pampa Mukherjee	Coping with Climate Uncertainties: The Community Managed Irrigation Systems in the hilly regions of North India
2. Dr. T Gopinath	The Perception of People on Digitalisation of Public Services: A Study On E-Sampark Kendra in Chandigarh
3. Dr. Shabnam Ara	The Urban Dream: Building Equitable, Sustainable, and Smart Cities
4. Prof. P P Balan	Overcoming Disasters: Local Governments in Kerala show the way
5. Prof. Oxana A. Klimanova	Green Infrastructure in Russian Cities under Global Challenges
Lunch - 01:00 P.M - 02:00 P.M	
Technical Session – 11*: (02:00 P.M - 03:30 P.M)	
Theme: Environmental Movements, Education and Youth Initiatives	
Chair: Prof. Rekha Saxena	Co-Chair: Dr. Neetu Gaur
Venue: Conference Hall	
Rapporteur: Mr. Ankur Kamal	
Paper Presenter	Topic
1. Dr. Rakesh Kapoor	Plastic with a difference: One for the road- Good Roads- Good Economics- Good Environment. Environment impact assessment
2. Dr. Surinder Kumar	C-DYTE Jammu: A Mission Youth Initiative for Engagement and Empowerment of Youth in Jammu and Kashmir
3. Mr. Alok Kumar Tripathi	Understanding the Environmental movements through a Social Constructivist lens
4. Mr. Rajat Pandey	Green Warriors of India: Determined Fight for Climate Justice by Young Activists
5. Ms. Yashna Syal	Impact of Inclusive Education on Intellectually Disabled Children
6. Mr. Kulvir Singh	Implementation Of the Indian Right To Education Act, 2009- A Critical Evaluation
7. Mr. Deepak Jugran	Young Visionaries: The next generation entrepreneurs shaping a sustainable tomorrow
Discussion - (03:20 P.M - 03:30 P.M)	
Technical Session – 12*: (02:00 P.M - 03:30 P.M)	

*: Technical Sessions will be conducted in parallel

Theme: Migration, Poverty and Unemployment	
Chair: Prof. S L Sharma	Co-Chair: Dr. Surinder Kumar
Venue: Faculty Hall (1)	
Rapporteur: Mr. Nazeel Sabah	
Paper Presenter	Topic
1. Mr. Daman Singh	Intersecting Pathways: Ethnographic explorations on climate change, migration and ecological transition in Sicily-Italy
2. Ms. Adyasha Sahoo	Climate change induced hydro-poverty, impacted communities and rethinking local sustainability models
3. Ms. Neetu	Unemployment Problems in India- Causes and Solution
Discussion - (03:20 P.M - 03:30 P.M)	
Technical Session – 13*: (02:00 P.M - 03:30 P.M)	
Theme: Climate change	
Chair: Dr. Abdul Razak Mohamed	Co-Chair: Dr. Arun Chauhan
Venue: Conference Hall	
Rapporteur: Mr. Alok Kumar Tripathi	
Paper Presenter	Topic
1. Dr. Sukhwant Sidhu	Social Dimension of Climate Change in Punjab vis-a-vis SDG
2. Ms. Priti Sikha Thakuria	Exploring the Deterministic Role of Social Attitudes and Cultural Influences in Shaping Climate Change Dynamics: A Study of Chandigarh
3. Ms. Khushi Kumari Shukla	Sweating It Up: The Challenges of Extreme Heat Phenomena for the Indian Economy
4. Ms. Rajveer Kaur Ritu	Unravelling nexus of climate, agriculture, and migration across Asian and African horizons
Discussion – (03:20 P.M - 03:30 P.M)	
Tea Break: (03:30 P.M - 04:00 P.M)	
Special lecture - V (04:00 P.M - 04:30 P.M)	
Dr. Jagdish Pundir, Former Head of Sociology and Dean, Social Sciences, CCSU, Meerut, U.P.	
Topic: Sustainable Development and Environmental Concerns: Observations from Grassroots	
Chair: Prof. R S Sandhu	Co-Chair: Prof. Pampa Mukherjee
Venue: Conference Hall	
Rapporteur: Ms. Bhavani Suri	
Special Lecture - VI (04:30 P.M - 05:00 P.M)	

*: Technical Sessions will be conducted in parallel

<p>Dr. Vidyut Joshi, Former V.C., Bhavnagar University, Former Director, Centre for Social Studies, (ICSSR), Surat Topic: Sustainable Development Goals and their Implementation Chair: Prof. S L Sharma Venue: Conference Hall Rapporteur: Ms. Harpreet Kaur Hazara</p>	
<p>Technical Session – 14*: (05:00 P.M - 06:30 P.M)</p> <p>Theme: Sustainable Development Goals: India and the World Chair: Dr. Vinod Kumar Co-Chair: Dr. Meenakshi Rana Venue: Conference Hall Rapporteur: Ms. Ankita Singh</p>	
Paper Presenter	Topic
1. Prof. T Prabhakar Reddy	Localizing Sustainable Goals: Challenges and Opportunities
2. Dr. Rakesh Thakur	Localizing Sustainable Development Goals in India: Bridging Theory and Practice for Contextual Impact
3. Ms. Preeti Tiwari	Globalization, Modernity and Sustainable Development: Conceptual Issues
4. Dr. Sanjeev Kumar	The Organized Hypocrisy of National Security amid the Scourge of Wars: Unethical Military Spending, Deceptive Symbolism of Weapons and the Human Security Dilemma
<p>Technical Session – 15*: (05:00 P.M - 06:30 P.M)</p> <p>Theme: Women Empowerment and Related Issues Chair: Dr. Rajni Bala Co-Chair: Prof Dr Sanjeev Chaddha Venue: Conference Hall Rapporteur: Mr. Ajit Kumar</p>	
Paper Presenter	Topic
1. Dr. Ritu Sharma	Cultural embedded role of women in water conservation: A comparative study of Rajasthan State
2. Dr. Devendra Pal Singh Tomar	Women Empowerment/Gender Issues
3. Ms. Harpreet Kaur Hazra	Women Empowerment: Transforming The Lives of Women Through Skill Development
4. Dr. Arun Chauhan	Beyond toilet: environmental and health impacts, contributing to the empowerment of women a case study.
5. Stanzin Angmo	Gendered Insecurities in Cyberspace: Exploring Women's Vulnerability to Cybercrime
<p>Cultural Evening at CRRID - (6:30 P.M – 8:00 P.M)</p>	

*: Technical Sessions will be conducted in parallel

Dinner - (8:00 P.M – 10:00 P.M)

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DAY-3:Friday,22ndMarch,2024

Panel Discussion- III: (09:30 A.M – 10:30 A.M)

Theme: Climate Federalism and Strengthening Local Governments and Processes

Chair: Prof. R.S. Sandhu

Co-Chair: Prof. Oxana A. Klimanova

Venue: Conference Hall

Rapporteur: Ms. Khushboo

Ms. Akhmetianova Rimma Anasovna

Local governments and citizens as a factor of institution-based development: Republic of Bashkortostan (Russia) and Kerala (India)

Mr. Nawa Raj Koirala

Implementation of Fiscal Federalism in Nepal – Finding Issues and the Way Forward

Prof. Mahalaya Chatterjee

Mapping India's SDG Progress: Interconnected pathways with Urbanization

Dr. Krishna Prasad Bhandari

Integration of low-cost mobile sensors for dynamic air quality data visualization

Prof (Dr.) Sanjeev Chaddha

Empowerment of Women in India- A Study of Representation of Women in Indian Parliament

Special Lecture – VII (10:30 A.M – 11:00 A.M)

Prof. Debal K. SinghaRoy

Topic: Relevance of Gandhian Perspective: An Alternative mode of Sustainable Development

Chair: Prof. James Goodman

Co-chair: Prof. T Prabhakar Reddy

Venue: Conference Hall

Rapporteur: Ms. Sarah Thomson

Tea Break: (11:00 A.M – 11:30 A.M)

Special Lecture – VIII (11:30 A.M – 12:00 Noon)

Prof S. Guruswamy, President Tamil Nadu Sociological Association

Chair: Prof. Vidyut Joshi

Co-Chair: Prof. Virender Pal Singh

*: Technical Sessions will be conducted in parallel

Venue: Conference Hall Rapporteur: Mr. Rahul Mukand	
Special Lecture – IX (12:00 Noon – 12:30 P.M)	
Prof. Yuri Kazepov, Department of Sociology, University of Vienna, Austria Chair: Prof. S L Sharma Co-Chair: Prof. Debal K. SinghaRoy Venue: Online and Conference Hall Rapporteur: Ms. Sehrish Rabia	
Special Lecture – X (12:30 P.M – 01:00 P.M)	
Prof. Angela Genova, University of Urbino Carlo Bo, Italy. Topic: One Welfare through the lens of reconstructive social theory: social farming in organic context as concrete ideas for better future	
Chair: Prof. Vladimir Klimanov Co-Chair: Dr. Rajeev Kumar	
Venue: Conference Hall	
Rapporteur: Ms. Rehiana	
Lunch - 01:00 P.M - 02:00 P.M	
Technical Session – 16*: (02:00 P.M - 03:00 P.M)	
Theme: Climate Justice Chair: Mr. Prabodh Kumar, IPS, Special Director General of Police, Punjab State Human Rights Commission Co-Chair: Prof. Akhmetianova Rimma Anasovna Venue: Conference Hall Rapporteur: Mr. Ramesh Khanal	
Paper Presenter	Topic
1. Prof. Rajeev Bansal	Himachal Pradesh: A Model of Sustainable Development in Mountains
2. Dr. Bakshi Amit Kumar Sinha	Development with Justice in Bihar: An assessment
3. Ms. Ankita Singh	Climate Justice in New Anthropogenic Epoch
4. Dr. Hamendra Singh	Sociological Factor Affecting Land Consolidation in Village Bhagain
5. Mr. Rahul Mukand	Emergence of Digital Welfare state in India
Technical Session – 17*: (02:00 P.M - 03:00 P.M)	
Theme: Health and Environment Chair: Dr. Rakesh Thakur Co-Chair: Dr. Sukhwant Sidhu Venue: Conference Hall Rapporteur: Mr. Kulvir Singh	
Paper Presenter	Topic
1. Mr. Ajit Kumar	Climate change and occupational health of workers in India: Challenges and Copying strategies

*: Technical Sessions will be conducted in parallel

2. Mr. Rajkumar Herojeet	Human health risk assessment of nitrate and fluoride in groundwater via multi-exposure pathways: a case study in Northwestern Himalayan and Central India
3. Dr. Pramod Kumar	Period Poverty and Depression: A Sociological Study of University Girl Students
4. Mr. Nishaant Kapoor	Assessing India's Readiness for the Ageing Population: Policy Analysis and Societal Perspectives
Tea Break: (03:00 P.M – 03:30 P.M)	
Valedictory Session (Closing Ceremony): (03:30 P.M – 05:00 P.M)	
Chair: Dr. S.K. Mangal, Chairman, CRRID	
Venue: Conference Hall	
Rapporteur: Ms. Yashna Syal	
Welcome Address	Dr. Bindu Duggal, Director (Acting), CRRID
Summary of Proceedings	Dr. Manoj Kumar Teotia
Guest of Honour	Prof. Angela Genova
Guest of Honour	Prof. Oxana Klimanova
Valedictory Address	Prof. Raghavendra P. Tiwari, V.C. Central University of Punjab, Bathinda (TBC)
Vote of Thanks	Dr. Vinod Kumar
Distribution of Certificates	
Cultural Evening at CRRID - (6:30 P.M – 8:00 P.M)	
Valedictory Dinner - (8:00 P.M – 10:00 P.M)	
International Conference Ends	

*: Technical Sessions will be conducted in parallel