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Afer having secured post graduation in Sociology from Delhi School of Economics and PhD from the University of Kerala, over the past 25 years, I have had the privilege of actively engaging in research, teaching, and advocacy in Sociology and in the activities of our professional association. Some highlights of my engagement with the discipline and Indian Sociological Society include:

- Visiting Professor at Cleveland State University, Ohio, USA & Consultant at the Department of Sociology, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka.
- Since January 2003, serve as the India Coordinator and Principal Investigator of an international research in the US, Africa and India that studies the effect of Information Communication Technology in developing countries. Engaged in researches on the struggles and movements of the excluded people in Kerala, with special reference to the issues of land and water supported by UGC and ICSSR; the low-end job migrants in the Gulf countries, organic agriculture both supported by Govt. of Kerala; the Psycho-Social Effects of COVID-19 on Higher Education Students in Kerala and Canada funded by Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute, Canada; and a ten country study on infodemic, preparedness and response to COVID-19 Pandemic.
- Published 11 books (5 authored and 6 edited) and more than 60 research articles reputed in national and international Journals and several popular articles in leading periodicals.
- Recipient of ICSSR Senior Fellowship to study Land issues and Social Inclusion in Kerala in 2011, FLAIR Award of Excellence from the Department of Higher Education, Government of Kerala in 2015, Research Excellence Award from the World Science Project, Louisiana State University, USA in 2014 and Best Research Paper Award in the International Conference on Skills, Engineering and Technology, by ICT Academy, Govt. of Kerala in 2017.
- Producer/director of academic movies (Video Ethnography) that have won laurels at several documentary festivals. My Academic movie on “Promised Land and the Broken Promises” was selected for the Ethnogrffilm Festival in Paris in April 2014.
- Served as Member, Managing Committee, Indian Sociological Society, Vice President, Secretary and President of Kerala Sociological Society. In 2019, organized 45th All India Sociological Conference in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala. Currently, serves as Member, Editorial Board of the Sociological Bulletin, and Co-Convenor, Council of Regional Associations of the Indian Sociological Society.

I am confident that, together, we can further enhance the Indian Sociological Society's standing and impact in society, prioritizing innovation, inclusivity, diversity, representation, responsiveness and participation in the everyday working of ISS . In the event that I am elected as the Secretary of our esteemed association, here is my **Seven Point Action Plan** to address some of the major challenges that our fraternity is confronting at present:

1. Promote diversity, inclusivity, and the active participation of sociologists in ISS, especially early-career sociologists and the research scholars
2. Enhance professionalism and academic vibrancy in Indian Sociological Society as a professional association
3. Advocate for the continued growth and recognition for sociologists among the public and policy-making fora
4. Work diligently to ensure that our fraternity remains a vibrant academic community sensitive & responsive to the larger issues confronting the present day society
5. Invigorate Regional Sociological Associations as vibrant academic communities of ISS, promoting regional and indigenous sociology
6. Revamp the ISS Research Committees, transforming them into more inclusive, representative and active academic bodies
7. Ensure better access to our printed journals among ISS members in their preferred formats, especially for the seniors



Brief Bio-sketch

- I am currently a ***Professor*** at the Department of Sociology, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi & ***Director***, Centre for the Study of Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy, BHU, Varanasi
- I have a teaching experience of 23 years, with 8 years of Professorship
- I have completed 4 projects and 3 are ongoing- one with the MSU, USA and two transdisciplinary projects
- On the basis of my consultancy to GAIL India Ltd., the diesel boats in river Ganga in Varanasi was replaced with CNG boats
- I am the ***first woman chairperson*** of the Multidisciplinary Expert Committee constituted by the govt. of UP under LARR Act 2013
- My ***most recent book*** is 'Gender, Environment and Sustainable Development: Challenges and Responses from India' from Routledge, UK

International Exposures

- Widely travelled across many countries
- I was a ***Visiting Fellow*** at Michigan State University, USA
- I did a consultancy jointly with the University of Washington for PATH, Seattle, USA
- I led the Eastern UP Hub (Objective 6.2) for an international project titled "Cereal systems Initiative for South Asia" in collaboration with International Rice Research Institute, Philippines
- I was awarded Leadership Training award for Asian Women in agriculture R&D
- Currently, I am working on a collaborative project with Michigan State University titled 'New Kind of Agriculture: Interrogating Structural Transformations along the Axis of Class and Gender'
- I have completed 4 projects with funding from Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, World Bank and USAID (and UGC)
- I have been appointed Review Editor for Frontiers in Tropical Disease for 2 years
- I am a member of RC 32, ISA

Contribution to ISS

- Involvement since student days. However, active involvement of last nearly 14 years
- I have been Convener, RC 10 'Gender Studies' (Jan., 2015- Dec., 2017)
- I am a Managing Committee member of the ISS (2018-2023)