



INDIAN SOCIOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Flat No. 1046, Sector-C, Pocket-1

Vasant Kunj, New Delhi 110 070

Phone: 011-26132510

Email: societyinsoso@gmail.com,

Website: www.insoso.org

PRESIDENT

Maitrayee Chaudhuri

Former Professor of Sociology

JNU, New Delhi

Delhi - 110067

presidentinsoso@gmail.com

Mob:9910190401

Dated: 19th April 2024

Dear Colleagues,
Warm greetings to all.

I am very happy to reach out to you, after having assumed the Office of the President of the Indian Sociological Society (ISS) on January 5th 2024. It is an incredible honour to be elected as the President of the ISS, but also an onerous responsibility. I shall try to give my best to the ISS and look forward to the support of all members to carry forward its rich legacy. I thank my colleagues in the Managing Committee (MC) for their steadfast support. My thanks to the conveners of Research Committees (RCs) and members of Regional Associations for their cooperation. I also wish to place on record the cordiality and help that the earlier Presidents and office bearers of the ISS have extended to me. Allow me to delineate some of the key initiatives and concerns that the present team has been deliberating on:

The ISS has over the decades been a space for learning, sharing, and mentoring. As envisioned in my mission statement, our goal is to systematically enhance interactions between established and young scholars across various regions, facilitating the development of robust sociological research, writing, and publishing skills among the younger generation. To achieve this, multiple academic workshops focusing on reading, writing, and methodology are being organized by various institutions across different regions, serving as platforms for these engagements. Some have already begun and many more are in the pipeline. Importantly some will be conducted in Hindi. We are opting for both online and offline possibilities to ensure accessibility and inclusivity. I look forward to reaching out to our senior scholars to actively engage with the younger generation through regular lectures and workshops.

It is important to involve young people as much as possible in the activities of ISS. Raising their interest in the discipline is paramount, particularly at a time when globally Sociology has been facing severe challenges. We have started more social media engagement with the help of a young team, highlighting our activities. I hope this will increase ISS's reach across generations.

We are all aware that the Research Committees are the building blocks of the ISS. One way to further strengthen them is to hold online lectures/panel discussions on the theme of the RCs. We have initiated special lecture series that are going to be hosted by the RCs. These are early days, yet many RCs have already initiated the process and I hope others will follow soon. You will be happy to know that the first lecture has been hosted by RC 05 (Sociology of Education). These lectures by subject experts will be recorded and uploaded on the website of the ISS. This will help build a rich archive which can be accessed easily.

I am looking forward to midterm conferences by Research Committees, but as discussed at the Managing Committee meeting held on 9th March, the ISS itself will not hold a midterm conference. Research Committees are most welcome to volunteer to conduct midterm conferences.

The changes in the last decades have been both rapid and unprecedented. This has been reflected within the discipline of sociology. The ISS has responded to varied social and intellectual assertions of the last decades. Many of the Research Committees (RCs) bear witness to the emergence of new substantive, theoretical and methodological interventions. I look forward to new Research Committees. The MC has accepted one proposal on the Research Committee on Pedagogy, Teaching and Learning and is actively looking into others, including one on Knowledge Systems.

Similarly, Regional Associations are the key face of the sociological community at the regional level. Strengthening and streamlining the interface between the ISS and Regional Associations is a pressing concern for the ISS. I am very keen that the ISS takes a leading role in the conduct of regional seminars/workshops/conferences in association with regional sociological associations. I urge the office bearers of the Regional Associations for more involvement with the National Council of Regional Associations that has been recently instituted thanks to the previous ISS leadership.

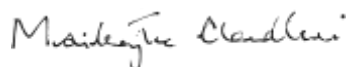
The new editorial board of the *Sociological Bulletin*, *Bhartiya Samajshastra Sameeksha* and *Explorations* have taken over. There has been a felt need by the editors that a few special workshops for young scholars could be held to train them how to write research articles and book reviews. In the case of *Sociological Bulletin*, it was decided that the members of the editorial board as well as senior sociologists could share in these workshops their research journey to motivate the young scholars.

The website of the ISS is its face and gateway. We have tried to update the list but many gaps remain. Please help us with this exercise. We have also sought to have a separate list for deceased life members ([Click here](#)). Kindly help us rectify any inadvertent errors we may have made.

You are aware of the difficulties that we have been facing with the Glue Up website. We have discussed this in the MC (9th March 2024) and decided to look for new possibilities. The process is on. We have already notified this on the website but shall be thankful if it can be further amplified.

I look forward to being in touch with you.

Warm regards



Maitrayee Chaudhuri