

ANNUAL REPORT 2015-16



CENTRE FOR WOMEN'S DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

NEW DELHI - 110 001

CENTRE FOR WOMEN'S DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

Annual Report **2015-2016**



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From the Director's Desk

The CWDS' Annual Report for 2015-16 is placed before you.

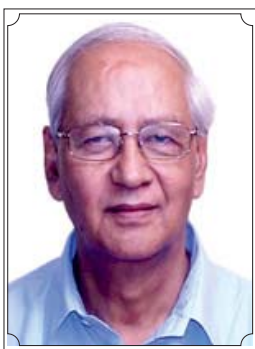
Recent years have seen a shift in the mode of generation of knowledge and the medium of dissemination. The frontiers of social science research are sought to be re-defined. At the same time the connections between policy, research and higher education have become more complex. The challenges for institutions such as ours are manifold. Prime amongst these remain that of delineation of the interconnections between different domains of knowledge, its accessibility and mode of application. At the same time, the direction and pace of change in urbanizing India compel us to think afresh on our ways of analyzing and approaching the lives of women and the people of India. The faculty and academic staff have to continuously engage with these shifts, even as they seek to make critical interventions. The Library and academic support team have to constantly negotiate new forms of accessing and sharing knowledge. At CWDS we continue to pool our resources to move on, in a world where the time span available for the effective reach of the interventions envisaged is itself shrinking. I seek your support in our efforts to achieve our objectives in the face of these multiple challenges.

Indu Agnihotri
Director

In Memoriam

Trilok Singh Papola

(30 August 1941 – 23 November 2015)



Well-known Development Economist, Prof. T.S. Papola passed away on 23 November 2015. With over five decades of experience in teaching and research, his areas of specialization included development planning, labour and employment, industrial economics, regional development and enterprise development. He had been associated with the Universities of Lucknow and Bombay, Indian Institute of Management (Ahmedabad), and University of Cambridge. He was an Advisor with the Planning Commission, GOI for several years, had served as Chairman/Member of several State and National level bodies including the Prime Minister's Advisory Council on Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), and was part time Member and lead researcher with the National Commission on Enterprises in the Unorganized Sector. Prof. Papola contributed to the growth of various academic associations and institutions including the Indian Society of Labour Economics, GIDS, IHD, ISID and NLI. He had a unique capacity to engage with a spectrum of policy debates ranging from development perspectives to labour law reforms, combining macro data and micro empirical findings. Prof. Papola had a deep rooted commitment to the causes of the weaker sections of the society. While working in advisory and consultative positions with international organisations such as ILO, UNCTAD, UNIDO, UNICEF and UNDP, he highlighted the need for balancing development with distributive equity, underlining gender as one of the key elements. His overarching work on the informal sector provided a framework for understanding the interplay of social and economic forces, where caste and gender assumed key roles.

Prof Papola had a long association with the CWDS and contributed to its development, especially in the initial years. We will miss his warm smile, calming influence and above all, his scholarly interventions. CWDS joins the social science community in paying homage to him.

Introduction

The field of Women's Studies has expanded exponentially over the last two decades. The number of Women's Studies Centres in the University system has increased at a rapid pace combining both teaching and research. Their profile varies, given the diverse location of institutions of Higher Education today. Meanwhile, the CWDS, as an ICSSR institute with a primarily research focus, has followed the opposite path of moving from research to incorporation of teaching in its scope of activities. This has helped increase in interaction with younger scholars. It has at the same time, increased the pressure to deal with both, widening agendas and an expanding set of activities in individual and collective ways. The Annual Report presents the work done over the last year in a brief narrative.

The contexts in which we locate women for the purposes of our research are diverse and require inter-disciplinarity and a combination of methodological approaches. In view of the size of the faculty and the strength of the academic team in numerical terms, the geographical spread of the Centre's research activities is vast. While the report indicates the broad areas of the work undertaken it cannot adequately reflect the pressures faced in negotiating a highly complicated and diverse field. It is not easy to capture the challenges entailed in undertaking this research, nor is it always possible to convey a sense of how enriching this process is or the continuous learning that it involves.

Highlights of CWDS' Research and Activities

Research

The broad thematic areas of the research conducted during the year broadly remain the same. These include:

- ❖ **Women, Work and the Economy** with a focus on migration and urban Labour;
- ❖ **Gender and Governance** with special reference to conflict zones;
- ❖ **Gender and Violence** involving research into the world of perpetrators of violence;
- ❖ **Gender and Disability.** This involves working with people with disabilities and institutions working in this area;
- ❖ **Women and Health** to examine the impact of changing policies on people's access to health and the interface between indigenous methods of health care and evolving policy responses;

- ❖ **The Child and the Missing Girl Child.** This is approached from varied perspectives, to examine both the political economy of sex selection as well as issues of childcare in a changing environment

Teaching Women's Studies

- ❖ **The M.Phil/ Ph.D programme in Women's and Gender Studies** is well in place and we are now looking forward to the fifth batch of students as part of our collaboration with Ambedkar University Delhi.
- ❖ There is a continuity to the **ICSSR Doctoral Fellowships** with our Faculty engaged in co-supervision of all the awardees.
- ❖ The **Orientation Course for Research Scholars from the Scheduled Tribes and other Marginalized Communities** was held in partnership with Ravenshaw University, Cuttack with the special aim of reaching out to scholars from non-metropolitan backgrounds.
- ❖ The Workshop for students of the South Asian Studies Centre of the University of Pennsylvania, conducted for the second time round this year, offers a unique opportunity to our faculty to interact with an international community of students- including from South Asia – seeking to understand approaches to Women's Studies from the Indian context.

Action Research

The vast experience gathered through the Action Research Programme over the last three decades and more has built up a rich resource of assets for livelihood generation and collective intervention for social change among marginalized communities. The CWDS' field team, together with the local partners - including women of the Nari Bikash Sangha - form a rare combination with a huge potential to advance perspectives in research and interventions.

Advocacy and Networking

Present times offer a vastly different field for advocacy than the early decades of CWDS' participation in networks. The nature of participants and partners has changed, as also the policy environment.

- ❖ The CWDS' faculty continued to follow up on discussions with the **High Level Committee (HLC) on the Status of Women in India**, including discussion on its findings.

- ❖ **The Ministry of Women and Child Development circulated a Draft National Policy for Women 2016** and invited responses to the same. Faculty members responded jointly with other women's organisations.
- ❖ In recent months there have been several rounds of discussion on the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Vision 2030**. Our members have participated in these and contributed to the discussion on the need to develop Indicators to measure achievements under the different goals.
- ❖ **Universal access to quality childcare** remains a significant issue and the FORCES-CWDS team is an active partner in efforts aimed at this is recognized as the right of all children.

The **Indian Association for Women's Studies (IAWS)**

- ❖ The IAWS secretariat continues to be hosted in the CWDS.

Organisational Structure

The Indian Council for Social Science Research continues to provide the mainstay of financial support to the Centre, which remains one of the leading ICSSR institutions in the country. However, increasingly the need is felt to raise additional resources to sustain the diverse range of activities undertaken by the Centre. The Executive Committee has discussed this matter on several occasions but efforts need to be stepped up if these limitations posed with regard to infrastructural facilities are to be overcome. These directly pose challenges with regard to the sustenance and expansion of the library services and of providing facilities for classroom interaction, conference facilities etc. This requires a plan and follow up measures.

At the end of March 2015, CWDS had 97 life members (79 women and 18 men) and 4 Institutional members. The General Body met on 23rd September, 2014.

The Executive Committee of the Centre, comprising members drawn from academics and professionals with vast experience in administration continues to oversee the broad framework of policy and governance.

NAME	TITLE
Prof. Kumud Sharma	Chairperson
Ms. C.P. Sujaya	Vice-Chairperson
Prof. Vasanthi Raman	Treasurer
Ms. Nirmala Buch	Member
Prof. Jayati Ghosh	- Do -
Prof. Rajni Palriwala	- Do -
Prof. Mohan Rao	- Do -
Prof. Mary E. John	-Do -
Prof. Wandana Sonalkar	ICSSR nominee
Prof. Indu Agnihotri	Member-Secretary
Prof. Renu Addlakha	Dy. Director - Invitee

Three meetings of the Executive Committee and three meetings of the Finance Committee were held during the year 2015-16.

Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation

Faculty meetings are held regularly and discussions revolve around issues emerging from the research, including observations from the field. The Centre's faculty continue to combine a multi-level focus with respect to field research to explore the linkages with macro-policies in a wide range of spheres which directly affect women's lives. The experience gathered in the course of research enables the development of a perspective on emerging frameworks of policy and the debates. Members regularly discuss the progress made in the respective projects. Over the years the teaching activities have gathered momentum, occupying more time and space. This is reflected in the effort spent in co-ordination required with the partner institution, i.e. the Ambedkar University Delhi.

Human Resources

The human resource profile largely remains the same. Recruitment for the posts lying vacant has been undertaken though a few could not be filled. The Centre is following the policy of recruitment as per the Roster drawn up. Guidelines for evaluation and promotions and committees for assessing the progress of the academic staff are in place. The CWDS has adopted a policy on promotions for administrative and support staff along with the MACP guidelines as per GOI procedures and is largely moving on these lines. A response from the ICSSR on the Services Rules approved by the EC is still awaited.

Financial Position

The Centre continued to receive its core funding from the MHRD through ICSSR. This is for research activities, maintenance and development and in addition, Training. During the last financial year project grants were received from the IDRC, UN Women, UNFPA, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM), IFIG, Plan India, WIEGO, ICSSR-NRC and OAK Foundation. Funding towards a students' workshop was received from the University of Pennsylvania. In addition to this, a HIVOS grant was received in July 2015 for the Vina Mazumdar Memorial Fund (VMMF) along with donations from individuals. The amount received from Lotika Sarkar continues to be held as an Endowment Fund.

The Employees' Provident Fund and Gratuity Fund are in place. The matter of raising the amount available to the Centre as a Corpus remains a serious concern.

Research Activities

Development processes continue to impact women's lives in very complex ways and our research represents an effort to understand these from social science perspectives. The crisis in agriculture continues to dominate the discussion especially with regard to women's employment. This in turn impacts migration. Our work addresses issues of urban labour in the context of these processes. The subject of declining child sex ratios is intricately and integrally linked to these developments, as are aspects of health, violence and the impact of political processes on women living in conflict zones. Our field research this year has taken us to several cities and states across India. This has also facilitated the forging of new partnerships.



The Political Economy of Sex Selection: Exploring Family-Development Linkages

Researcher: Mary E. John

The new study that was proposed the previous year could be inaugurated in 2015-16 in both the states of Haryana and Maharashtra as planned. The project began in October 2015 in Rohtak and Jhajjar towns in Haryana with support from UNFPA and In December 2015 in Shirur and Beed towns in Maharashtra with support from UN Women. All these are towns that have seen stagnation or declines in their child sex ratios according to Census 2011. The period till March 2016 involved intensive field work by a team of field investigators working with local coordinators in both the states – with Neerja Ahlawat, M.D. University Rohtak and with Sneha Gole and Deepa Tak, Savitribai Phule University Pune. The first phase of field work was Survey based and focused on 200 households each in four sites in each state, choosing wards with similar child sex ratios compared to that of the town overall as per Census 2011, but with different class and caste compositions. In Haryana the first phase was completed by January as planned but the second phase was significantly derailed due to the Jat agitation and could only commence in April 2016. In Maharashtra the first phase was completed in March 2016. Checking of Survey forms was also undertaken simultaneously and the process of Data entry was begun during this period. A special focus of the questionnaire was to obtain information about the planning by families of their children's education, their aspirations for work opportunities for daughters and sons, and their views on marriage and marriage related expenses. A preliminary finding - though this has to await careful statistical analysis - is the special hold that government and professional jobs have on the 'mindset' of such families, differentiated by class and caste. Another preliminary finding is that the discourse of sex selection (compared to a decade ago) has taken a U turn. While a decade ago the practice of sex selection was openly acknowledged, there is much more denial and claims that it is no longer being practiced at this point in time. However, whatever the changes that have been taking place, our preliminary data also shows that sex selection is very much still being practiced in terms of birth order, even with the very first birth. It is the purpose of this study to identify links between how families plan for their futures through their children and questions of development regionally and more broadly.

Edited Volume Project: Women in the Worlds of Labour – Interdisciplinary and Intersectional Perspectives

Researcher: Mary E. John

A new book project was begun in 2015-16 together with Meena Gopal, TISS to bring out a volume of essays on the theme of women's labour from interdisciplinary and intersectional perspectives. The volume is an outcome of a collaborative conference organized in 2014. About 25 contributors have been contacted and they have agreed to contribute to the volume, including from the faculty of CWDS and TISS. Some of the papers will offer historical overviews and analyses of overall employment patterns. A number of contributors will focus on the care economy and the sphere of domestic labour. Yet others will offer glimpses of different sectors – rural migration patterns, manufacturing, teaching, sex work and so on. Issues of caste, disability, queer identities and their relationship to the gendering of labour and what counts as acceptable forms of work will be addressed in some of the essays. Finally there will be essays focusing on different forms of organizing women's work and women workers – whether governmental such as Self Help Groups and Kerala's Kudumbashree programme, through unionizing and also through other forms of professional collective action. Sage Publications have shown an interest in bringing out the volume.

Gender Dimensions of the Urban Labour Market: Investigating the Terms of Women's Inclusion and Exclusion

Research Team: Neetha N. and Indrani Mazumdar

This study, taken up in the backdrop of a decline in work participation rates of women examines the terms, conditions and factors for women's inclusion/ exclusion in some segments of urban employment in selected cities and towns, across five states in the country. These are NCT Delhi, Kanpur and Mau in Uttar Pradesh in the north, Pune and Ahmadnagar in Maharashtra in the west, Chennai and Sriperimpadur in Tamilnadu in the south and Calcutta and Santipur in West Bengal in the east. The sectors that are studied are paid domestic work, manufacturing, construction, education, retail, and other commercial and personal services, through a series of sector/segment focused surveys in select locations. A household level survey across different social classes and groups was also conducted in all the selected locations to explore critical factors that have propelled, inhibited, or controlled women's entry into the labour market. The two year project is funded by ICSSR and was initiated in September 2015. A presentation on the progress of the study was made in June 2015 in a workshop organized by ICSSR.

The field survey and data collection of the project was scheduled to be completed by February 2016. Due to several difficulties faced the process got extended. This was largely due to the sectoral specificities of the survey schedules, and separate schedules for each sector, demanding extensive training of investigators. The household survey has been completed, except in Mau and, the sectoral surveys are nearing completion in all locations. Data entry of the complete schedules is being done concurrently. The field data collection and entry work is expected to be finished by June 2016, subsequent to which data analysis and report writing will be undertaken. Nayantara Singh is assisting in the project and Sandeep Mishra assists with data issues.

Work in Freedom: Evidence from Odisha: CWDS-LSHTM Collaborative Project

CWDS' collaboration with the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) for a research and evaluation study of the DFID supported ILO programme 'Work in Freedom' in Ganjam, Odisha was formalized in April, 2015 after approval by the CWDS Ethics Committee. The duration of the project is forty months, concluding in June 2018.

Research Objectives

The research is engaging with 20 villages in two blocks of Ganjam district as a source region for migration. The objective of the research is a) to evolve a comprehensive analysis of the context of out-migration and the issues that impinge on women's migration. b) to document experiences of women migrant workers, their migration decisions, risks and opportunities, and c) to assess the impact/potential of the DFID supported ILO/SEWA/AAINA intervention directed at facilitating safe migration for women domestic workers.

Activities

The research activities, that cover 10 villages each in Sorada and Bhanjanagar blocks, have been at three levels: 1) A preliminary census of households in all 20 villages; 2) A more detailed questionnaire based survey of sample households and also of two individual members (one male and one female) from each of the households; and 3) interview based longitudinal case studies of individual women migrant workers.

2015-16 has been the period of the most intensive and continuous field work for the project.

Household Census

Dr. Mamata Dash from Utkal University was engaged as a consultant for field coordination and local supervision of the census. Together with Samantha Watson of LSHTM, the CWDS research team finalized a brief set of questions for the census. 22 student investigators were selected for the census of the selected villages and trained in May, 2016. The household census of 4,674 households across 20 villages was completed by 10th June 2015. All Research Associates, and some administrative staff at CWDS contributed to entering the census data. A representative sample of 1250 households was then drawn for the detailed questionnaire based survey, incorporating however, all households with female migrant workers.

Pilot Survey

The CWDS team and Samantha Watson of LSHTM together drafted a set of three questionnaires- 1) questions for the household; 2) questions for one individual male and one individual female member of the household; and 3) a separate set of questions for migration experiences of the individuals who had migrated. Suggestions from Cathy Zimmerman at LSHTM were also incorporated. A pilot survey was conducted with the draft questionnaires through July and early August, 2016. Several sessions for training and review of experiences with 12 field investigators, were undertaken before questionnaires for the main primary survey were finalized. The field pilot additionally trained and tested the abilities of the field investigators and facilitated selection of competent investigators for the main survey.

Main Primary Survey

The primary field survey commenced in August, 2015. The difficulties and complexities of diverse categories of questions, necessitated several review rounds and sessions with the field survey team, the field survey co-ordinator, and CWDS faculty members during the course of the survey. Investigators faced several difficulties in eliciting responses to the detailed and wide ranging questions, and also the problem of lack of availability of respondents. They were encouraged to go again to households and individuals where questions had not been or incompletely answered. The field survey extended over several months and the last round came to an end in March, 2016. The data is now in the process of being entered.

Case Studies

Field researchers for the longitudinal case studies of women migrant workers were engaged in December, 2015. After an orientation workshop, the first round of 72 interviews of women migrants was completed by February, 2016. After a review and training session, all the interviews have been written up in English. In all, four rounds of interviews with a target of 64 women

migrants are planned. The field work for the case studies is being directly supervised by CWDS faculty. The second round of interviews is to be initiated in August, 2016.

The CWDS research team for this project comprises of: N. Neetha, Indrani Mazumdar, Indu Agnihotri, with support from Gayatri Panda, and Sandeep Mishra.

The research team from LSHTM includes Samantha Watson, Cathy Zimmerman, and Ligia Kiss.

Labour Law and the Migrant Worker

Research Team: Neetha N., Indrani Mazumdar

Work on this project started in early 2016. A national level workshop titled "Labour Law and the Migrant Worker" was organised on 14-15 March, 2016 at IIC, Delhi. A detailed report on the workshop is provided later.

This project is supported by Oak Foundation.

Interrogating Violence against Women from the other Side: An Exploratory Study into the World of Perpetrators Rationale

Researcher: Renu Addlakha

This is the second year of this exploratory study to gain insights into the perceptions of male perpetrators both adults and juveniles (16-18 years) about the reasons for their committing violence against women and girls in order to arrive at some inferences on the intersections between gender, violence, crime and social transformation. During this year the following components of the study were completed:

- Desk Study: Comprehensive review of studies of perpetrators (especially juveniles) of violence against women in India was completed. The dominant theoretical debates from the sociology of deviance, crime and delinquency, as also psychological theories on the topic, were investigated and juxtaposed with empirical studies and public debates in India.
- Primary Data Collection: Semi-structured interviews with a sample of juvenile undertrials (n=37) and juvenile offenders (n=8) were completed from the Observation Home for Boys, Sewa Kutir, Delhi and the Special Home for Boys, Majnu Ka Tilla, Delhi respectively. This data is being analyzed.

- Attempts are being made with support from NHRC to enable access to Tihar Jail so that some interviews may be conducted with adult offenders of crimes against women. Given the recent strict guidelines issued by the Home Ministry, GOI for conducting research in prisons, we are trying to negotiate the complicated administrative process.

Gayatri Panda and Vijay Kumar Jha are assisting in the project.

Gender and Governance in Conflict Zones: A South Asian Perspective

Project Co-ordinator and Researcher: Seema Kazi
with Regional partners: Amena Mohsin, Bangladesh; Malathi De Alwis, Sri Lanka
and Saba Gul Khattak, Pakistan.

The *Gender and Governance in Conflict Zones: A South Asian Perspective* was a three year CWDS-led comparative study of governance systems in four South Asian states, namely, India (Manipur and Kashmir), Pakistan (Swat), Bangladesh (Chittagong Hill Tracts) and Sri Lanka (north and east districts) from a gender perspective. The study used empirical evidence-based research to a) foreground women's gender concerns in conflict zones; b) assess governance practice in conflict zones in terms of its capacity/willingness to address women's concerns; and c) document local women's struggles for justice in collaboration with civil society.

The primary aim of the *Gender and Governance in Conflict Zones: A South Asian Perspective* study was to identify and highlight women's gender concerns in the region's conflict zones. Women's security and justice issues came up as common concerns shared by women in all conflict zones. Several empirical and scholarly stand-alone studies on gender and conflict in South Asia highlight these particular challenges and to this extent this study endorses this particular finding. What distinguishes this study from others however, is its use of women's experience of governance practice in conflict zones to widen debates regarding gender, governance, conflict and women's civil society activism.

Dominant narratives on conflict zones in South Asia suggest the need for 'good' governance as a means towards conflict resolution, the implication being that governance regimes in conflict zones need to undertake corrective measures in order to regain public trust and reinstate public authority eroded through 'bad' governance. The empirical knowledge generated by this study challenges this assumption. It uses women's testimonies to illustrate the unrepresentative and repressive character of governance regimes in all four South Asian conflict zones. The suggestion here is that the question of women's rights, security, and political participation is contingent on structural change in governance systems.

The empirical evidence further indicates that the questions regarding women's participation in governance must be framed in transformative, rather than descriptive terms. In other words, women's experience of governance practice in conflict zones indicates a need for structural top-down change in order to ensure women's presence, participation and voice in governance. With regard to this point, women's testimonies from the *Gender and Governance in Conflict Zones* study underscore the limitations of a numbers-only approach, as well as the great and enduring contradiction between formally democratic national systems of governance on the one hand, and the simultaneous decay and erosion of the legal/constitutional basis of governance at the local/provincial level on the other.

Women's struggles for justice and accountability documented by the study indicate that women's activism invariably occurs outside institutional spaces and channels due to the blocking of institutional channels of redress, repression, and/or the abuse of public power and authority against women who resist. In effect, women's struggles for justice foreground the greatly distorted balance of power between citizens and the state in conflict zones. They also underscore the de-institutionalization and securitization of governance policy and practice in South Asia that is especially detrimental to women.

A gender lens illustrates that democratic governance and women's political participation in conflict zones is inextricably tied up with the nature of the nation-state in South Asia. In contrast to conventional policy prescriptions and scholarly work calling for 'better' governance in conflict zones, and/or a greater presence of women in governance institutions, this study maintains that structural transformation in the nature of the state is an essential pre-requisite towards affirming women's rights, security and dignity in South Asia's conflict zones.

In highlighting all the above points, the study offers a relatively novel, deeper and more sophisticated cross-disciplinary (gender, political science and international relations) understanding of the challenges facing women in South Asian conflict zones.

The main output of the study is a book based on the four country studies to be published by Zubaan Books, New Delhi by December 2016. The project afforded an opportunity for the Project Leader to access secondary literature and develop thoughts and ideas regarding themes that emerged during the course of the study. Several publications have been planned as output generated by the Project focussing on the project's theme and related issues. Of these, those published are mentioned later in this report. In addition to this, the following are forthcoming:

- a] *Gender and Governance in Kashmir* in Chitralkha Zutshi (ed.) *Kashmir: History, Representation, Politics*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.
- b] *Manipur and Kashmir: A Comparative Gender Analysis of Governance*. CWDS Working Paper.

- c] *Sexual Crimes and the Struggle for Justice in Kashmir* in Haley Duschinski and Mona Bhan (eds.), *They Gave Us Blood: Narratives of Normalcy, Sacrifice, and Terror in Kashmir*, University of Pennsylvania Press.
- d] *Gender and Governance in Conflict Zones: A South Asian Perspective*. Zubaan Books, 2016, New Delhi.

Delhi—Capturing Women’s Lives in a City in Transition An Oral History Project

Project Coordinator – Indu Agnihotri

The Project: **Delhi - Capturing Women’s Lives and Change in a City in Transition**, started in 2013, involved discussions and interactive sessions on various aspects with women from different walks of life in Delhi. Apart from the public talks, held at the India International Centre, interviews were conducted. The effort in this project was to uncover the rich and diverse canvas of the way gender relations were shaped in Delhi in changing times by focusing on the experiences of different sections of women. Two workshops were held to facilitate the recording of oral narratives, of which one was with Dalit women and men from different walks of life in Delhi.

In total 60 women were interviewed for this project. These have been transcribed and translated. The report writing was delayed and we are at the stage of analyzing the different strands of conversations from the material collected.

Anshu Singh assisted in organizing the series and in transcription.

Documenting Dalit Women’s Experiences

Efforts are on to to gather experiences from and documents of the Dalit Movement with a special focus on Dalit women. While funding for this is still being explored, the work has been initiated. A half-day workshop was held in September 2015 in CWDS to initiate this work.

Indu Agnihotri and Madhu Shri are coordinating with Rajni Tilak to proceed with this work.



In Search of Justice: A Socio-legal Analysis of the Protection of Women Against Domestic Violence Act, 2005

Researcher: Shalu Nigam**

The Research Project 'In Search of Justice: A Socio-legal Analysis of the Protection of Women against Domestic Violence Act 2005', funded by the ICSSR was initiated in October 2013.

The study finds that the Protection of Women against Domestic Violence Act, designed to empower women to civil remedies in a less adversarial environment, has ended up creating new subjectivities and vulnerabilities, while paradoxically reinforcing an oppressive patriarchal culture. It has been observed that new legal subjectivities and strategies emerge as women negotiate violence and their concerns within the given kinship relationship matrix. Barriers and impediments range from the lack of appropriate physical infrastructure to the lack of training and sensitization of staff, besides conservative attitudes and mindsets both within the legal system as well as outside it.

These influence the manner in which every day realities of women's lives and subjectivities are adjudicated under the law. While the law has enabled new ways of engagement with the state, it has failed to make a dent on entrenched notions of women's vulnerabilities which makes it difficult to imagine women as active agents and actors, going beyond the usual matrix of family. These widespread deeply embedded patriarchal biases, besides narrow cynical interpretations of the law, result in the limited success of the law. The structural context and issues within which women face violence persist, posing challenges with regard to women's vulnerability.

**Dr. Shalu Nigam is affiliated to CWDS and the project is funded by the ICSSR under the Post-Doctoral project grants.



Indigenous Midwives and their Skills in Contributing to the Wellbeing of Birthing Women and Newborns (The 'Jeeva' Project)

Principal Investigator: Mira Sadgopal

Team of Researchers: Mira Sadgopal, Imrana Qadeer, Janet Chawla, Leila Caleb Varkey, Anuradha Singh, Sandhya Gautam and Bijoya Roy

The Jeeva Project is a research initiative of the "Jeeva Collective", a network of persons concerned with strengthening *dais* and the indigenous midwifery system in India and to see them relate appropriately with the formal health services. The main study was a 3-year multi-centric research project focusing on dais in four remote locations in India (Bokaro district – Jharkhand; Bellary district – Karnataka; Nandurbar district – Maharashtra; and Kangra district - Himachal Pradesh) covering a population of about 10,000 each.

During this year a Report titled **Establishing the Scope and Pattern of Care by Dais during and after Childbirth in Four Cultural and Geographic Settings in India** was jointly prepared by all the above researchers. The four sites selected for the study were different in terms of terrain, climate, economic conditions, environmental degradation, caste / ethnic features, reach of services linked with diversity. In the study population 261 Dais were identified of whom 120 Dais were interviewed. In Jharkhand we found a strong traditional system of Dais' provisioning of maternal health care. The study also showed that Dais' knowledge of maternal health care is based on intergenerational experiential knowledge, a long period of apprenticeship, observation, hand holding with the senior Dais, working as helper to elder Dais and then handling births on their own. Before any practical training, most had watched births handled by their elders. This learning includes witnessing the difficult decisions taken about handling a birth at home or sending the woman or baby to hospital. This can be *compared* to the 20 births a medical student has to watch in a hospital labour room in order to qualify for taking her or his final examination! Dais in all sites shared a kind of faith and social ethics centered around serving a birthing woman and the new born baby.

On 3rd and 4th November, 2015, a final dissemination workshop titled '*Childbirth and Community: The Unseen World of the Dai*' was organised at India International Centre, New Delhi.



National Level Monitor work of Ministry of Rural Development

CWDS team: Vasanthi Raman and Dimple Tresa Abraham

As part of a regular monitoring exercise assigned by the Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD), the Centre took up evaluation of rural development programmes across three districts, Dehradun, Tehri Garhwal and Rudraprayag in the state of Uttarakhand during 2015-16. The monitoring and evaluation work commenced in September 2015, beginning with interviews with the district collector/project director, District Rural Development Agency of each district. This was followed by a field survey in 10 villages across 3 blocks, and exit meetings with officials in charge of the programmes in every district. The NLM evaluation work was undertaken by Vasanthi Raman and Dimple Tresa Abraham, and completed in November 2015, with district-wise NLM Evaluation reports being submitted to the Ministry. They also attended periodic workshops conducted by the Ministry, including a workshop on concurrent evaluation of rural development programmes in September 2015, and regular NLM workshop in January 2016.

CWDS is empanelled with the MoRD, Government of India as National Level Monitor for Monitoring and Evaluation of Rural Development Programmes.

Action Research

The Action Research Programme needs a fresh focus. The research aspect needs strengthening. The situation on the ground has changed over these decades. This includes policies and schemes initiated at the state and central level, which partly draw upon experiences of women's collective interventions such as the Bankura story and several other such significant initiatives. There is an urgent need to assess our own role and plan interventions differently in this context.

Partnership with Peasant Women (and Men) in parts of Bankura and Purulia districts, West Bengal

(Team: Pulak Gupta, Meghnad Desmukh, Swapan Chowdhury & Bimal Pakhira; Representatives of Nari Bikash Sangha (NBS), Mahila Samitis (MS), SGSY groups, & Staff and participating farmers (men and women) of Bagicha projects.

This year CWDS' partnership with peasant women and men, completed 35 years in Bankura and Purulia. The present network of CWDS/NBS consists of 34 Gramin Mahila Sramik Unnayan Samitis, 131 Bagicha Women's groups, 49 women SHGs, 70 Forest Protection Committees and 3000 Bagicha (Wadi) households. As in previous years the income earned from the Samiti activities was distributed amongst the women as per their labour/ work contribution.

Tasar Culture has become a major land based alternate livelihood activity of the Mahila Samitis in samiti villages engaged in tasar culture. It is an essential tool to resist the compulsion of seasonal migration. Over the last few years samiti members have started rearing both Bi-Voltine (1st & 2nd crop) & Tri-Voltine (1st, 2nd & 3rd crop) tasar species and production of tasar DFLs through own grainages. Now Tasar culture has become a sustainable livelihood activity of the samitis owning tasar host plantations. To increase the quality and quantity of cocoons, maintenance of Tasar host plants is a regular activity in tasar culture. This year the required pruning & pollarding were completed in 11 samitis. Inputs (Fertilizer and plant protection materials) received from the Directorate of Sericulture (DOS) under various tasar development schemes were applied in selected plantations generally for Chawki rearing.

The work undertaken involves: **Tasar Cocoon production:** In Bi-voltine rearing period 1220 person days of employment was generated. The Tri-Voltine Tasar rearing, generated 7628 person days of employment. During the 3rd crop rearing 15317 person days of employment was generated. **Tasar DFLs production (Grainage)** - The total cost of DFLs was Rs.777635.00. During grainage operations 648 person days of employment was generated. **Babui Culture** - During this year six samitis produced 238.18 quintals of Babui grass on their own plantations. Samiti members used a part of this for rope making and the rest was sold to other samitis and private traders. **Bagicha (Wadi) Project:** The CWDS/NBS are involved in implementation of three Bagicha (Wadi) Projects in different phases in three blocks (Viz. Ranibandh, Raipur and Khatra) in Bankura district, with support from Nabard. While special attention was given to the fruit bearing trees i.e. Mango and Cashew, 670 farmers also cultivated Viz. Potato, Water Melon, Gourd, Tomato, Pumpkin, Gourd, Mustard, Kurti Turmeric, Elephant foot yam etc. as intercrop. The women's groups were engaged in a variety of activities viz., Vermicomposting, poultry farming, puffed rice making, sal plate making.

In addition to Bagicha Crop production CWDS team are involved in **Infrastructure Development** including construction work of two new Broiler farms, one Grainage house and one rearing cum cocoon storage house., Seven Water Tanks & 21 Field huts were constructed in bigger patches of Bagicha fields. **Soil conservation & Water Resource Development** efforts included setting up Staggered Trenches in 51 acres of Bagichas, 11 Water holes, 1 Submersible pump, 1 Hand Pump, 14 Water harvesting structures, 7 Water Tanks were established. In addition to that, 14 Pump sets with required length of delivery pipe were supplied to the 14 Village planning committees/Farmers' groups.

Credit Programme: 216 members from 16 samitis took loans for purposes of development of family, agriculture, i.e. purchase of seeds and fertilizers. 18 members of 10 samitis were advanced loans for small business and as consumption loan.

This work involves **liaising with Government / Non Government Deptt** such as the Deptt. of Sericulture, The Khadi Village & Industries Board, the District & Kolkata Regional Office of NABARD, BCWD Govt. of West Bengal; BCKV (Kalyani & Jhargram), District, Sub-division & Block Offices, Panchayat samitis, Gram Panchayat level representatives and Officials. **Training and capacity building:** Workshops were organised for members of Samitis, SHGs, Bagicha farmers', Bagicha women's groups, related to Tailoring, Maintenance of Tasar & Bagicha plants, Harvesting and Marketing of Bagicha Crops, Grainage operation, Vermicomposting, Vegetable cultivation, Sal plate making, Broiler farming, Rabbit rearing etc. Officials from the block, district, NABARD, NGOs and beneficiaries from Development Research Communication and Services Centre, Purulia district came to observe the activities of NBS. NBS Parichalan Mandali visited Samitis and Raipur Bagicha Project to oversee the progress of activities.

In addition to this CWDS field team has been involved in **social welfare and development activities**, 11 crèches and 6 Village libraries are being run. During the current year the total number of children enrolled was 235 (F-125 & M-120). The usual annual sports for Crèche mothers and children were also organised. **Health & Nutrition:** four health awareness programmes were organised For **safe drinking water** 292 Water filters were supplied to 292 Bagicha participants' households through the women's groups.

Research & documentation: Household surveys of Bagicha (Wadi) farmers, documentation – through interviews and photographs - of the success stories of Bagicha farmers and life histories of NBS members was undertaken.

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NBS General Body Meeting



Awareness Programme for Women's groups



CWDS Workshop at Bankura



Tasar Farmers'Day organized by CSB with CWDS



NABARD officials with Bagicha Women's groups



Manual pruning of Tasar host plants



Pruning of Tasar host plants by Pole pruner



Protection Paste application after pruning



On field demonstration for control measures of Stem borer by CSB official



Cocoon garland in Grainage house



Moth examination under Microscope



Washing of Tasar DFLs



Disinfection of Earthen cup for Grainage



Prize distribution of Creche Children during annual sports



A Child care centre in session



Goat rearing by Women's group



Broiler Farming by Samiti member



Puffed Rice making by Women's group



Sal Plate making



Vermicompost production by Women's Group



Tailoring shop run by Women's group



Fallen Mango by Rainstorm



Mango Slice making by Women's group member



Harvested Cashew Nut



Intercropping with Turmeric



Intercropping with high yield variety Pigeon Pea



Pumpkin as intercrop



Existing Traditional intercrop- Babui Grass



Potato cultivation by Women's group



Intercropping with Brinjal in Bagichas

In Parts of Jhargram, Paschim Medinipur

Meghnad Deshmukh, Shanti Pal

The Jhargram work, broadly following the pattern in Bankura and Purulia, includes: **Tasar Culture: Maintenance of Existing plantation & raising new plantation** to expand employment and income through sustainable livelihood. For all plantations, samiti members managed to lease the required area of land from BL & LRO and Forest Office. The required maintenance viz. pruning, bush cutting of fields, application of fertilizer and pesticides etc. of existing host plants was completed for the year in seven samitis. **Tasar Rearing:** In Bi-voltine (BV) 1st Crop Tasar rearing 191 person days of employment was generated. In Tri-Voltine 2nd crop 2960 person days of employment was generated; **Bamboo & Babui Grass Plantation:** These plantations have been raised in vested land managed by samiti members from BL and LRO. Samiti members cultivated seasonal vegetable as intercrops and undertook the required cultural operation, soil conservation and irrigation for the year; **Vermicompost Production** has become a regular activity in a few samitis. Out of the total produce, 1500 kgs was sold to the Forest Department, while the rest was used for their own vegetable and flower cultivation. Repairing work of one vermicompost shed was also completed during the year. **Vegetable Cultivation:** Seasonal vegetable seeds like gourd, bean, bitter gourd, ladies finger, cabbage, chilli, pumpkin, cauliflower, tomato, cucumber, spinach, cucurbita, brinjal, mustard seeds, till (oil seed), elephant foot yam etc. were distributed among 239 members of 11 samitis; **puffed rice making; goat rearing; fruit plantations.**

Banking and Reen Tahabil: There was no loan disbursement during the year. However, the loan committee met twice for monitoring the loan programme, to also monitor the return of past loans and CWDS staff visited every samiti on a regular basis. Updating of all samiti accounts was completed for the year.

Health Awareness Programme – A one day Health awareness camp was organised by one samiti with an experienced team (Doctors and Lab technicians) from Jhargram. More than 120 participants from three samitis, including local Panchayat members, teachers and others attended the Programme.

Samiti Election/Meeting - Six Executive Committee meetings of the Mahila Sarbik Bikash Sangha (MSBS) - 69 meetings with 11 samitis and one samiti election – was held during the year. CWDS staff attended all meetings and discussed problems and issues related to the activities. The matter of coordination of Jhargram samitis with NBS and of merger or, alternately, the registration of MSBS and other income generation activities were also discussed.

Convergence with local administration/Institution includes liaising with the local Panchayat, Dept. of Sericulture, BL and LRO; Dept.of Forest, Local Bank Branches, BCKV - Jhargram, Khadi Society and Private Traders.

Regular meetings of the Samitis are held in all three districts to facilitate decision making and co-ordination between the CWDS team and NBS in Bankura and Purulia and with members of the MSBS in Jhargram.

The co –ordination with the state administrative bodies also involves keeping track of schemes introduced by the state and central governments.

Efforts are on to explore possibilities for developing research based collaboration along with these activities. A report on the workshop held in Bankura in February 2016 as part of the CWDS-VMMF initiative is presented later.



Fertilizer application on new Arjun plantation



Raising nursery for new Arjun plantation



Intercropping in bamboo plantation



Samiti members discussion with CWDS officials



Vegetable cultivation at Chhanapara samiti



Vegetable cultivation at Godarasta Samiti

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MIDNAPUR ACTION RESEARCH ACTIVITIES



Samiti meeting and vegetable seeds distribution



Fruits plants distribution to samiti members



Harvesting a tasar cocoons



Construction of vermished at Amlatora



Goat distribution to samiti members for income generation programme



Health awareness camp at Mahulboni

Teaching Women's Studies

The partnership with Ambedkar University Delhi has provided a platform for CWDS faculty to engage with the formal teaching of Women's Studies within a growing academic community of scholars within the university system. It also offers interesting opportunities to share concerns, experiences and issues based on our areas of expertise with another generation of researchers. The short courses offer an opportunity to interact with students from different locations both in India and at the international level.

AUD-CWDS Women's and Gender Studies M.Phil.-Ph.D. Programme

The year 2015-16 has been the fourth year of the collaboration between Ambedkar University Delhi and CWDS. The first batch of MPhil students have all completed and successfully defended their MPhil dissertations. There are now three batches of MPhil students as well as three batches of Ph.D. Students on the rolls. All faculty with research degrees within the Centre have been actively involved in this programme, as teachers, supervisors and in its overall administration.

M.Phil. Programme: The overall course structure remained the same as in the previous year. Ten continued to be the maximum number of students in 2015-16, including reserved categories for SC, ST and OBC as per UGC rules.

Semester - I:		Semester -I I:	
1	Women's Movements (4 credits)	4	Feminist Theories (4 credits)
2	Reading Texts in Historical Context (4 credits)	5	Research Methodologies through Exemplary works- Part 2 (2 credits)
3	Research Methodologies through Exemplary Works –Part 1 (2 credits)	6	Guided Reading (2 credits)
Semester III & IV: Dissertation (12) Credits			

The course on women's movements was co-taught by Rukmini Sen (AUD) and Indu Agnihotri. The course 'Reading Texts in Historical Context' was restructured around two new texts, Carole Pateman's *The Sexual Contract* and the *Towards Equality Report of the CSWI* (co-taught by Rachna Chaudhuri and Mary John). As before, Research methodologies through exemplary works was spread over two semesters and sought to enable students to both appreciate different social science methodologies and practice them through small projects. The course was co-taught by Renu Addlakha and Neetha N. In Semester two the course Feminist Theories sought to familiarize students with the different theoretical orientations and conceptual vocabularies that have been used by scholars in the field of women's and gender studies. It was co-taught by Mary John, Seema Kazi and Rachna Chaudhuri. The course of guided reading was repeated with assigned faculty working more closely with one or two students in the field of their interest and towards a fuller working out of their research question.

Student Intake 2015-16: Over 120 students applied for the Course of which about 50 were shortlisted for the entrance exam and interview. 10 students were selected, and 10 joined the course.

Students completing their degree during 2015-16:

1. Priyadarshini Satyam
Title: Migration of Female Women Agricultural Workers from Bihar to Delhi
Supervisor: Neetha N.
2. Aastha Dang
Title: Spatial Practices and Interactions: Exploring Gender in Everyday Life in the Delhi Metro
Supervisor: Rachna Chaudhuri
3. Anusuya Sreedhar
Title: Kaikeyi: Uncovering and Questioning the Making of Tradition for Women As Represented in the Ramayana
Supervisor: Rachna Chaudhuri
4. Aditi Malhotra
Title: Feminist Evaluation: Approaches and Practice
Supervisor: Neetha N.
5. Ankit Sharma
Title: Living Labour, Social Reproduction and Self-valorization: Towards a new methodology (The case of Women Workers in the Garment Industry)
Supervisor: Shubhra Nagalia

Ph.D. Programme: The Ph.D. programme took in a third batch of 7 students during 2015-16.

Administrative and Financial Structure

The administrative structure remained the same with the main administration of the M.Phil./ Ph.D. programme located with the AUD given that it is the degree granting institution. Ambedkar University Delhi continued to provide stipends to 8 students who are in their first and second year of M.Phil. Students with JRF from the UGC are also receiving their fellowships after initial delays.

ICSSR Institutional Doctoral Fellowships in Women and Gender Studies (2015-16)

Since 2014 CWDS has been awarding six ICSSR Institutional Doctoral Fellowships in Women and Gender Studies. Taking into account surrender of fellowship due to having obtained the UGC JRF or the Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship, there were five candidates from 2014 batch whose fellowship came to an end during 2016, of whom one has submitted her dissertation. Of the remaining four, only one candidate enrolled in the CWDS-AUD Programme in Women's and Gender Studies sought extension for the third and final year of the Fellowship, which was granted after due scrutiny of her work by specially constituted committee comprising CWDS and AUD faculty with representation from ICSSR. The five candidates of the 2015 batch comprising three candidates from universities outside Delhi and two from the AUD CWDS Programme continued to avail of the Fellowship. In addition to their assigned supervisors in their respective universities, each candidate who was not part of the AUD-CWDS programme was assigned a CWDS faculty as co-supervisor which was formally accepted by the university after completing the necessary paperwork. The candidates submitted half yearly progress reports duly endorsed by their respective supervisors.

During January 2016, a public online announcement inviting application for the third batch of the ICSSR Institutional Doctoral Fellowships in Women's and Gender Studies was made. Six candidates were called for interview on 24 February 2016. All the six candidates comprising five scholars from the AUD-CWDS Programme and one from the University of Hyderabad were selected for award of fellowships, and ICSSR has sanctioned the funds for them. CWDS faculty will be assigned as supervisor/co-supervisors as per the usual practice for the new batch as well.

Orientation Course - Towards a Multi-disciplinary Perspective on Research in Social Sciences, 27-31 March 2016

This orientation programme for research scholars and Faculty members belonging to ST and other marginalized groups (under the ICSSR's ST Component Plan), was organized in collaboration with Ravenshaw University, Cuttack from 27th to 31st March, 2016. Participants included 20 research scholars of ST background. The course included interactive sessions with the students on the topics of their individual research as well as a computer laboratory session for exercises in quantitative analysis. The subjects and topics in other sessions and resource persons were as follows:

- ❖ Multidisciplinary Approach in Social Science: Some reflections, Bani Kanta Mishra, Prof. Finance, XIMB, Bhubaneswar
- ❖ Inter-disciplinarity and women's studies - sources, methods, and experiences' Indu Agnihotri
- ❖ Work, Employment and Development - Perspectives from women's studies, Indrani Mazumdar
- ❖ Perspectives from History, Prof. Pritish Acharya, RIE, Bhubaneswar
- ❖ Welfare and Empowerment Schemes in Odisha – Amrita Patel
- ❖ Anthropological approaches in research on tribal communities, Sabita Acharya, Utkal University
- ❖ Perspectives in Education – Prof. Gouranga Nanda, Ravenshaw University
- ❖ Understanding Contemporary Social Movements in India: A multidisciplinary Perspective - Sudhir Pattnaik, Editor, Samadrusti
- ❖ Debates in Political Science, Prof. Prakash C. Sarangi, Vice-Chancellor, Ravenshaw University
- ❖ Multi-method and qualitative research methods - Bijoya Roy, CWDS
- ❖ Uses and elements of quantitative research methods and analysis – N. Neetha, CWDS
- ❖ Odisha: Economy and Society - Prof. Kishore Samal, Former Professor, NCDS
- ❖ Dalit, Adivasi movements and the Women's Question - Bijoy Bohidar, Ravenshaw University.

Co-ordinators of the course included Indu Agnihotri and Indrani Mazumdar from CWDS and Asima Sahu and Gyanaranjan Swain of the Deptt. of Political Science, Ravenshaw University.

Interns and Scholars affiliated to CWDS

In the year 2015-16, four students Mansi Tiwari, Uzmi Naaz, Leja Joe Mathew and Priyanka Gogoi completed their internship in CWDS.

The following foreign scholars were affiliated with CWDS:

- ❖ Dr. Samantha Kathleen Watson, Lecturer, Global Health and Development, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, London, UK for research project titled **"Work in Freedom and Finalisation of Impact Assessment Study and Tools in Delhi and Odisha"** from May 2015 for a period of 12 months.

- ❖ Dr. Silke Neunsinger, Associate Professor, Director of Research Labour Movement Archives and Library, Sweden for Research on **“Mind the Gap! An Entangled History of Economic Citizenship and the Demand for Equal Pay 1945-2000”** from October 2015 to June 2016.
- ❖ Dr. Amanda Kate Gilbertson from Newzeland working at the University of Melbourne, Australia for undertaking research on **“Young People’s work around Gender Issues in New Delhi”**, from June 2015 to June 2016 for a period of 12 months.

Advocacy And Networking

The field of advocacy around rights is today marked by the overlap of an official discourse which has become more selective with regard to the diverse perspectives on the ground. This is reflected in the discussions and attitude of international agencies. There is ambivalence with regard to the need for more critical engagement with policies, their outcome and the impact on different sections of women. A large part of the discussion is today centred around the Sustainable Development Goals. The Faculty have kept track of some of these developments along with more specific interventions based on their specific interests. These include aspects related to women's work and care, childcare, human rights, health policy and disability.

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CWDS- FORCES Network

National Coordinator/ Programme Manager- Savitri Ray

Strengthening ECCD in India through Action, Research, Advocacy and Capacity Building- completed in June 2015

The main activities under the project were:

- I. Orientation workshop/ meetings on the issue of ICDS/ ICDS Mission in the context of PRI's role/responsibility and building understanding on ECCD among**
 - i) State level for NGO partners and follow up at State/ district and block level
 - ii) GP level by NGO partners / meetings with various stakeholders also as part of monitoring and reporting.
- II. Develop material for workshop/ meetings and advocacy to be used by state chapters/ Gram Panchayats etc.**

The project has come to an end in June 2015. The last activity conducted under the project was holding orientation workshops on the issue of ICDS/ ICDS Mission and building an understanding on ECCD including other stakeholders such as ICDS functionaries/beneficiaries etc. Workshops were organized in 7 states with the support of FORCES state chapters.

The project outcome was clear as the major intervention was to orient and create awareness through workshops/meetings etc. To achieve this, the secretariat compiled material for advocacy which may be used by state members and organisations involved in this kind of intervention and may also be used in future initiatives. These workshops/ meetings also brought many front line workers to a common platform where participants benefited both from the sharing of information and expressed their own views including problems faced by them in the presence of senior colleagues. Members of other agencies working on the issue of ECCD also took interest in joining the discussions at some places. Agencies like Save the Children became interested in disseminating this kind of sharing in their operational areas also.

Members of panchayats and village based committee members, especially newly elected members, expressed the desire to know more on the subject especially with regard to role/responsibility etc. In fact they have shown interest in having an exclusive training programme on this issue.

During the reporting period, workshops were held in Odisha, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Madhya Pradesh. Workshop material was prepared and distributed by the secretariat and training workshops were also conducted for NGO partners before going into block level workshops. A quantitative analysis of these workshops was also undertaken which brought forth the following result in terms of FORCES outreach in the reporting period:-

Stakeholders	Total in numbers
PRIs /members of GPs etc.	1580
Govt. officials(like CDPO/ICDS supervisor/any other (state/ district/block level machinery)	294
AWWs / AWHs	845
Women's groups (Matri Samooth/ SHGs etc.)	942
Community members	1182
NGO members	363
Media	34
Any other	91
Total	5331

Follow up meetings with the above mentioned stakeholders not only benefited all but also created a demand for crèche facilities. These workshops have generated interest amongst community members and they were very keen to know about the crèche programme under the Mission mode. In fact, crèche is one such demand which has come from many places. The majority are in favour of increased timings of Anganwadi Creches or day care facilities. But the frontline workers who were present in these workshops mainly emphasised on the problem of increased responsibilities with paltry remuneration.

During this phase overall the activities involved the expansion of the network; revival and strengthening; capacity building workshops; theme based consultations/workshops including evidence based advocacy/action research.

Programmes/Activities conducted:

- Odisha state consultation at CYSD, Bhubaneswar on April 5, 2015
- Odisha block level GP meeting at Dhenkanal on April 8, 2015
- Madhya Pradesh block level meeting at Vidisha, April 29, 2015
- Uttarakhand FORCES orientation workshop II, May 18, 2015, Advani Dharamshala, Shyampur bypass, Rishikesh

- FORCES Working group meeting – July 3, 2015 to discuss future action plan
- Networking on the issue of early education and food security.
- Discussion on the National Plan of Action for children 2016, with contributions on the issue of survival, development and child care and circulation of these amongst other child rights networks.

III. Documentation of FORCES case study - On-going

FORCES secretariat is preparing a case study and compiling its experiences in the area of advocacy. This is based on a short assignment provided by Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing (WIEGO) as part of the Child Care Initiative. The case study will provide an analysis of FORCES since its inception, ensuring that the significant work of FORCES is documented, providing insights into how past experience in this field may influence future work on the Child Care Initiative in India, and provide a resource from which other countries/organisations/alliances could learn. This is a three month assignment to be completed by May 2016. *Forthcoming programme: A national workshop is being planned for April 2016.*

Indian Association of Women's Studies (IAWS)

Indrani Mazumdar, CWDS faculty member, is the General Secretary of the Indian Association for Women's Studies and the secretariat is hosted in the Centre. One regional workshop titled "Documenting the contribution of Women's Movements: Women's Organisations and Women," was held in 2016 in Chennai. The IAWS is currently involved with planning for its XV National Conference which is to be held early next year.

Library and Information Services

The Library and Information Services of the Centre form an integral part of our academic activities and the team provides critical support for the teaching, orientation and training workshops the Centre undertakes. This year has seen an expansion of the digitisation programme and holdings in electronic format. The Hindi collection has been considerably improved. The Centre continues to explore ways to expand the scope of activities undertaken in partnership with Bhai Vir Singh Sahitya Sadan, which provides the location for the library hub.

Introduction

The CWDS' Library – now named after the Late Prof. Vina Mazumdar - has provided excellent services to support learning, teaching and research in the area of Women's Studies since the 1980s. It has developed a unique and rich collection of published and unpublished documents on gender and women's studies in various forms i.e. Books, Reports, Institutional Papers, Conference Documents, Journals and Newspaper items. It facilitates access to this collection for the benefit of women's studies scholars through its information services.

Collection Development

The Library continues to receive a wide range of documents on women's issues through purchase and on a complimentary basis in the form of books, journals, reports, mimeo papers, journals, newsletters etc. It pays special attention to collection of unpublished material through its institutional channels in India and abroad. The thrust area of the collection during 2015-16 has been Dalits, Scheduled Castes, Women's Health, Feminism, Feminist Theory, Fiction, Women's Employment, Migration, Self Help Groups, Women's Status, Violence against Women etc.

New additions: The total acquisition/addition of the Library for the year as on March 2016 is the following:

Collection	Added in 2015-2016		Total	Total Collection
	Purchased	Complimentary		
Books/ Reference Documents	200	40	240	9389
Monographs/ Institutional Papers	-	121	121	6995
Conference Documents	-	29	29	1313
Journals/ Newsletters (Indian and International)	56	75	131	550
Back volumes of Journals/ Periodicals	-	33	33	978

Information Services

The Library provides a number of information services on a regular basis to facilitate the dissemination of its resources. Some of the highlights are:

Electronic Services	Others Services
Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC)	Current Awareness Bulletin (Monthly)
Reference and Referral	Database Search including full text
BOL - An Electronic Discussion List on Gender Issues in South Asia	Web-Bibliographies
Reading Room Services	Inter-Library Loan
Photocopying and Printouts	

Software

- ❖ **Koha: Integrated Open Source Library Software** – The Library is using KOHA software and Opac is accessible on Intranet. Currently the database has over **1,10,000** records, including **25,000** full-text articles from journals and newspapers. During 2015-16 over **4,000** records have been added. The database contains the records of books, monographs, reports, institutional papers, conference documents with analytics of chapters from edited books, conference papers and articles from Journals and Newspapers.
- ❖ **Online Databases:** The Library provides access to the following online databases to its users which are funded by ICSSR: JSTOR; India Stat; EBSCO - Econlit with Fulltext and SocINDEX.

Digitization of Newspaper Clippings

The CWDS is developing a digital collection of newspaper clippings on women's issues, which are indexed in the CWDS Library. So far, it has covered a period of 10 years (2007-2016). During the current year, over **1,000** clippings have been digitized and integrated in Koha Software.

CWDS Initiative in Hindi

In the last year compilation of source material, including from old magazines/journals has been stepped up. This involves photocopying and scanning of rare material. In the Current Awareness Bulletin a section on Sources from Hindi has been added. A publication in Hindi is being planned. The Committee set up for this has held one meeting.

Readership Profile

The Library caters to the information requirements of a very wide range of users, both from India and abroad, including CWDS Faculty and CWDS-AUD M.Phil and Ph.D students. During this period 1091 researchers consulted the Library. Further analysis reveals that out of the 213 new users, 148 were from Delhi, 56 were from other states while 9 were from abroad.

Reading Room Statistics

A total of 6,966 documents were consulted by the library users consisting of 4,089 books, 326 reference documents, 577 mimeo papers, 357 Conference documents, 213 clippings files and 1305 periodicals. During 2015-16, delegations from Pennsylvania University and IARI Pusa Institute, New Delhi, visited the Library.

Photocopying Facilities

In the academic world photocopying plays a very important role. This is reflected in the increasing volume of photocopying being done by the Library for users. This also indicates the high usage of the Library resources. During 2015-16, a total of 26,500 pages were photocopied.

Seminars/Workshops/Conferences/ Dialogues

The seminars held and conference related activities continue to be linked to the focal areas of our research. They reflect the thematic concerns of our faculty's work. Women's employment, the context and conditions involving migration ~ in search of work ~ is a continuing theme. Violence against women and the struggle for survival with dignity remain a concern. Our efforts have been in the direction of exploring new ways to understand responses from the women's organizations as well as institutional processes that have evolved. The Centre has been consistent in its support to issues and concerns of people ~ especially women ~ with disabilities.

New Initiatives

❖ **Lecture on "Role of Women in Library Networking: A Journey to COLLNET"**

The lecture by Prof. Dr. Hildrun Kretschmer - founder Director of "COLLNET" - a global interdisciplinary research network under the title "Collaboration in Science and in Technology" **www.collnet.de** was organized by the newly-formed Association of Women Librarians (AWL) in Collaboration with Centre for Women's Development Studies on 18 November 2015 and chaired by Kumud Sharma, Chairperson, CWDS. Over 25 library professionals from Delhi libraries attended. The main objective of AWL is to promote and build the capacity of Library and Information Science Professionals in India, especially women professionals. The initiative for setting up the Association has been taken during 2015 by women library professionals associated with the CWDS Library.

❖ **Action For Autism celebrated Christmas with support from Centre For Women's Development Studies.** The event was held at the National Centre for Autism India, New Delhi, 19 December, 2015.

On 19 December 2015 CWDS supported the annual Christmas Party event of the NGO Action for Autism (AFA): National Centre for Autism India. Action for Autism (AFA) is a national not-for-profit organization that pioneered the autism movement in India and South Asia. AFA was started in 1991 to provide support and services to persons with autism and their families, and to create an environment in India in which people with autism are able to grow to their full potential. The **AFA National Centre** was established in 2004 to expand these services. AFA is involved in lifespan activities including early intervention, education, assessments, work and employment, independent living, as well as awareness, advocacy and research. AFA partners with organisations nationally and internationally to make the world a more inclusive place for individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD). The AFA is internationally acknowledged as a centre of excellence. Renu Addlakha co-ordinated with AFA.

❖ **Course/Workshop on Issues and Approaches under University's programme Gender and Development in India (South Asia) for undergraduate students from University of Pennsylvania, 21-23 December, 2015**

An intensive three day course/workshop was organized at the Centre for 9 visiting undergraduate students from University of Pennsylvania on 21-23 December, 2015. Like in 2014, the request to hold the workshop in 2015 came as part of the course on Gender and Development in South Asia under 'C.U. in India Programme' of the South Asia Centre at University of Pennsylvania.

The course/workshop drew largely on CWDS faculty as resource persons. Guest lecturers were invited for the sessions on media and a CWDS-AUD M.Phil student also presented her work on Women's Studies in India. The topics of the course/workshop and resource persons were as under:

Women in contemporary India and declining Child Sex ratios - Mary E. John; Sources, Resources and Documentation in Women's Studies in India – CWDS Library; Neo liberal policies, and the Indian economy – Surajit Mazumdar (JNU); Women's work and Migration under liberalization – N. Neetha, Indrani Mazumdar; 'Re-presenting Indian Women': An Introduction – Malavika Karlekar; The women's movement in contemporary India: Contexts and Experiences – Indu Agnihotri; Changing Contours of Violence in India: An Introductory Overview- Renu Addlakha; Conflict zones and the state in South Asia -Seema Kazi; Public Health and state policies in India- Bijoya Roy; Interactive session with women activists –Jagmati Sangwan, Sadhna Arya, Primila Loomba; Debates on women's rights and the Law –Tenzing Choesang (Lawyers' Collective); Reflections on Social Change and the media –Pamela Philipose; Panel Discussion on the politics of the contemporary in Indian art forms - Githa Hariharan, M.K. Raina, Sumangala Damodaran – Chair – Syeda Hameed. Indrani Mazumdar coordinated the Workshop.

❖ **Research Scholars' Workshop on "Engendering Social Change: Practices of Resistance"**, held at IIC, New Delhi, on 30 - 31 January, 2016, organized as part of CWDS-VMMF activities.

The Workshop was organized on the basis of a call for proposals from young research students registered in Universities in Delhi. Responses came from Delhi University, JNU, the South Asian University, Jamia Millia Islamia and Ambedkar University, all located in Delhi. The selected papers covered a diverse range of themes, with students being at various stages of their work. Indu Agnihotri began the Workshop pointing out that it was a new initiative taken by CWDS in memory of its founder Director Vina Mazumdar. She thanked HIVOS, the M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation and others who had contributed to building the Vina Mazumdar Memorial Fund (VMMF), for their support. Kumud Sharma, a colleague of Vina Mazumdar (VM) over several decades, recalled how Vina Mazumdar played a distinct role as an educationist, educational planner, the building of women's studies and as an activist in the women's movement. She believed that educational institutions had an obligation to contribute not only to academic excellence but to also directly engage with issues of development. Such an engagement would revitalize both research and teaching.

In the first session titled "Education, Gender and Change" there were two presentations: Pankaj Das on 'Feminine Socialization and Schooling: The Politics of Girls Dropping Out' and Vaishali, who presented three case studies focusing on 'Muslim girls participation in school'. Scholars explored whether conceptual frameworks such as 'resistance', 'difference', 'diverse patriarchies'

could be deployed more strongly in understanding the voices from the field. The papers highlighted that the question of gender and education continued to be framed by the structures and policies of the state, the family, the community and now more so, the market. The discussant, Prof. Geetha B. Nambissan from Zakir Husain Centre for Educational Studies, JNU, underlined the need to examine the specific research themes in the larger context of development policies, widespread poverty and the diversity of location of different social groups. **Session II focused on Life Worlds**, with two speakers. Arya Thomas presenting on the 'Subversive or Subservient? A case for understanding the life-world of working class women' attempted to explore the changing nature of working class subjectivity located within vast economic and social flux. The second was Ranjana Nagar whose paper 'Rethinking Dalit Subjectivity Through the Prism of Caste,' looked at caste in the context of historical changes and the impact on Dalit consciousness and Dalit literature. Prof. Ravinder Kaur of IIT, Delhi chaired the session and gave critical feedback. She emphasised the need for scholars to contextualise the subject of their research along with a clear articulation of the main theme and methodology adopted in the study. In general the young scholars, cutting across sessions, were advised to spell out more clearly the nature of sources identified and used, along with offering a rationale for the problem as well as the need to exercise caution against the danger of sweeping generalisations.

Session III titled "Politics, Patriarchy and Dalit Women" consisted of two presentations – "Fighting Patriarchies: Political Participation of Dalit women in India" by Pragati Burman, and "Understanding Jokes on Women: The Intricate Networks of Language, Society and Politics of Gender" by Anshu Singh, and Tariq Khan. Burman traced the position of Dalit women in the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) in Uttar Pradesh, through the narratives of two Dalit women activists who contested elections as BSP candidates at different points in time. The second by Anshu analysed jokes as a reflection of women's social standing in the South Asian context. The discussant for the session, Patricia Uberoi, Professor of Sociology, Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi, highlighted the need for researchers to evolve a general framework to write and present their on-going research. This included addressing methodological challenges and evolving a structure to frame the problem. She observed that the theme of political participation and reservations for women was a subject very close to Vina Mazumdar's heart. She suggested that the scholars locate their narratives in the context of the dense literature on Panchayati Raj reservations for women; as well as the vast field of biographical representations of women; and bring out more strongly the intersectionality in women's lives and narratives.

Session IV on the second day commenced with the fourth panel 'Symbols and Visual Artifacts: the Shaping of Gender Identities'. The first paper by Preetha Hussain on 'Symbolic Marital Artifacts and Negotiations of Identity among Contemporary Indian Women' focused on the use of marital symbols as a lens to map shifts in women's tastes over the years. The second was on 'Forgotten Struggles, Lost Voices and Unseen/unaccounted/Unrecognized History of Resistance and Social Change: The Case of Women Performers and Performative Traditions of

Colonial India (late 19th and early 20th century) by Hinna Gupta. The paper investigated the processes of stigmatization used to target women performers at the turn of the 20th century across colonial India. Dr. Lata Singh, Centre for Women Studies, JNU pointed out that it was critical to situate marital artefacts within larger frameworks of patriarchal institutions such as marriage, family. It was also important to rediscover the legacies of resistance to social practices, as offered by Periyar and others and explore why this legacy was now lost to us, while studying the context in which women chose to adhere to or abandon marital traditions. For example, Dalit women sometimes chose to wear markers of marriage on their body so as to mark themselves as inaccessible to upper caste men.

IN Session V three papers were presented on the theme "Rights, Religion and Law." This included 'Possibilities of co-existence: Gender Justice and Religious family laws in Multicultural society' by Jyoti; 'Taking the unconscious Seriously: Theorizing Feminist Resistance' by Latika Vashist; and 'Legal not Independent of the Social: Analysis of "land rights" in Haryana' by Paroma Sen. Jyoti's presentation explored the debates around how women's rights and group rights could co-exist in a multicultural society, with specific reference to the Shah Bano case and the Muslim Women's Bill 1986. In Vashist's paper, the relationship of law and emotion was sought to be explored through feminist engagements with law in reference to the Jyoti Singh rape case and the responses to Leslie Udwin's 2015 documentary *India's Daughter*. Sen attempted to discuss women's land rights in Haryana in the context of the amendment to the Hindu Succession Act in 2005, which made women coparcenaries.

Dr. Usha Ramanathan, independent law researcher was the discussant. She noted that while the state pushes for the execution of laws for acquisition of land through a variety of incentives, in the case of laws for gender equality and women's land rights such incentives were not provided. The attempt to trace the history of an idea was interesting as the legal system usually does not engage with these trajectories, given its focus on the present. It is also necessary to contextualize ideas and terms such as the 'pseudo-secular,' as their uses and meanings have changed in different contexts.

The two day workshop ended with wrap up statements by Mala Khullar and Rajni Paliwala. Both reiterated how the workshop and its providing an opportunity to young research scholars on their on-going work was a befitting tribute to Vina Mazumdar's memory and legacy. They explained how the workshop had provided a platform for women's studies' researchers to interact with expert scholars in the field to discuss their work and collectively think through pertinent women's issues.





❖ The Journey from Victim to Survivor: Challenges for Justice

(Coordinated by Mary E. John, 11-12 February, 2016)

The Centre for Women's Development Studies in collaboration with Partners for Law in Development conducted a two day workshop on the broad theme "The Journey from Victim to Survivor: Challenges for Justice" at the India International Centre in New Delhi. The event was the first major event to be conducted with the support of the Lotika Sarkar Endowment Fund, bequeathed to CWDS by Lotika Sarkar herself before her demise. The event brought together academics and activists from very diverse locations across the country for a very intense process of sharing and discussion. The purpose of the workshop was to explore what it means to be a 'survivor' of violence in relation experiences of victimization. In the introductory session, Indu Agnihotri, Director CWDS warmly welcomed all the participants, and Kumud Sharma, Chairperson CWDS dwelt on the life of Lotika Sarkar. Madhu Mehra, Director of PLD, expressed her sense of privilege in co-organising this event in honour of Lotika Sarkar. Mary John, as co-organiser of the seminar from the side of CWDS introduced the main concerns of the seminar.

The first thematic session was on **Compensation** to Victims of Violence, which was chaired by Usha Ramanathan, and had three speakers – Mrinal Satish, National Law University Delhi, Kushi Kushalappa, Enfold Health Trust, Bangalore and Rajat Kalsan, Human Rights Law Network, Haryana. Mrinal Satish gave a comprehensive account of how compensation has been framed by existing laws and what is lacking from the perspective of victims. The next speaker Kushi Kushalappa spoke of compensation in the context of the POCSO for children as it has been unfolding in the state of Karnataka. Rajat Kalsan focused his presentation on what kinds of compensation are available in the state of Haryana for Dalit women, especially in relation to the Prevention of Atrocities (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Act.

The next session on **Comprehensive Crisis Support** was chaired by Ved Kumari, had four speakers Nisha Siddhu, from the organization Aparajita in Jaipur, Sumathi Murthy, activist in Bangalore, Audrey D'Mello, Majlis Mumbai, and Vidya Reddy, from Tulir, Chennai. Nisha Siddhu described the work of her organization which is a one stop crisis centre in Rajasthan and which deals with all kinds of violence against women. Sumathi Murthy brought out issues related to the denial of rights and violence faced by people who identify as lesbian bisexual, female to male transgender and also sex workers. Audrey D'Mello spoke about the work of Majlis and especially their Rahat study to talk about the legal process. The final speaker Vidya Reddy addressed crisis support for children under POCSO. The domain of child sexual abuse she discussed has a very unique dynamic, given the basic dependency that children have on others in positions in authority.

The third session of the day focused on **Shelter Homes**. The session was chaired by Anjali Dave, TISS with Meena Gopal (FAOW), Seema from ANANDI, Gujarat, Bharti from Shakti Shalini, New Delhi, and Avantika, from AALI, Lucknow. Meena Gopal presented a study of a

particular shelter home the Navjivan Mahila Griha in Mumbai for women rescued under the ITP Act. Seema spoke about the work of her organization ANANDI in Gujarat, a special focus on the functioning of Nari Niketans in that state. Bharti from Shakti Shalini provided a very different picture of a shelter home with its roots in the women's movement of the 1980s, which seeks to be both preventive and provide shelter. The final speaker Avantika provided initial findings from her study of the condition of shelter homes in UP, Jharkhand and Haryana based on field visits.

The second day began with a session on **Counselling**, chaired by Kalyani Menon-Sen, WSS Delhi, with Renuka Pamecha, MSSK Jaipur, Anuja Gupta from RAHI, Delhi, and Rituparna Borah, Nazariya Delhi as speakers. Renuka Pamecha made a presentation about her organization Mahila Suraksha Kendra which focusses on empowering women in situations of violence, often domestic. Anuja Gupta discussed how to think about counselling in the context of her organization that deals with incest and child sexual abuse. Rituparna Borah introduced her organization Nazariya which works with LBT people, and raised questions around the loaded term 'counselling', for those who cannot claim to be professionals.

The second session dealt with a range of broad themes – **Education, Skill Development and Livelihoods**; chaired by Anuradha Kapoor, form Swayam, Kolkata with Manjula Pradeep, Navsarjan Ahmedabad, Shampa Sengupta, Sruti Disability Rights, Kolkata and Rehana Adib, Astitva, Saharanpur as speakers. Manjula Pradeep spoke of her personal experiences as a long time activist in the Dalit movement in the Gujarat context and the many challenges she has had to encounter on a range of issues. Shampa Sengupta drew from various cases and experiences to discuss responses to experiences of violence among women with disabilities. Rehana Adib spoke about her many years of involvement in grass roots movements among Muslim women in U.P. The Chair Anuradha Kapoor concluded to say that women's livelihoods have to take into account all aspects of our different identities, while linking this with socio-economic rights and entitlements – this will at least be a step forward.

The third session was on **Community dialogue and Peace building**, chaired by Madhu Mehra, with Indira Pancholi, Mahila Jan Adhikar Samiti Ajmer, Geetha Devi Bhattacharya, Mahila Samakhya Assam and Usha Saroh and Anju, AIDWA activists from Haryana as speakers. Indira Pancholi drew on her organizational work in rural Rajasthan to discuss how to approach violence within communities. Geetha Devi spoke about their efforts in recent years to help women understand their rights and entitlements in the context of Assam. Usha Saroha shared the work of AIDWA in Haryana where most cases involve people with political connections, or Khaps, so that their work depends entirely on having local level support. Anju went on to say that there are also cases where they have to work in the absence of any kind of grass roots support, especially where the victims are Dalit women.

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There was a final concluding round of discussion among all the participants present, in which the richness of the issues that had emerged were taken note of; the diversity of individuals and organisations represented at this workshop, ranging from feminist to child rights groups, all of which made it amply evident that much more work and research are needed on these institutional forms of support that must accompany legal efforts of justice for victims of violence.

❖ **"Remembering Vina Mazumdar - Action Research: Reflections and the Road Ahead",** Bankura, West Bengal, 15-16 February 2016 under the CWDS-VMMF

On 15-16 February, CWDS organized a two day interaction between a central team from CWDS, select invited guests from the academic community and the Action research team working with CWDS in West Bengal. On the second day a workshop was organized at Baroghutu, Bankura in West Bengal to initiate documentation of the Action Research experience. The workshop was organized keeping in mind Vina Mazumdar's close association with the Action Research Programme and her vision of developing a collective leadership from women amongst the marginalized sections through interventions around livelihood generation with a view to achieving social transformation. The two day interaction involved discussions with members of the Nari Bikash Sangha (NBS) and Mahila Sarbik Bikash Sangha (MSBS) drawn from Bankura, Purulia and Medinipur.

The workshop on the 16th was held at a grainage centre near the plantation, the oldest maintained by the NBS members. The field staff of CWDS worked hard to make it a success through the participation of the samiti women. On the 16th the CWDS team was joined by invited guests Ruchira Goswami from NUJS, Deepita Chakraborty, Visva Bharati and Avijit Guha from Vidya Sagar University.

After introductory remarks by Indu Agnihotri, Kumud Sharma spoke of the changed context of the programme. She recalled her memories of the Jhilimili camp of rural women where the local women first raised the issue of continuous seasonal migration in search of work which brought home to participants the need to explore alternate strategies for livelihood generation. Malati Mandi one of the oldest members of NBS from Jhilimili village drew attention to their life before the formation of the collectives, their periodic temporary migration with their children and the abject poverty they faced. The collectives have given them a new identity and they were able to interact with government officials, the Police and others to negotiate their rights and also follow up on incidents of domestic violence in the villages. Through their work in the collectives they were able to negotiate caste and class divisions and practices such as untouchability, by inculcating an awareness about their rights. Amongst those who spoke from the samitis was Kalyani Kapat who spoke about the importance of the crèches and libraries being run by the NBS. From MSBS Niyati Patra recalls the setting up of the first three samitis in East Medinipur. Speakers from Jhargram mentioned the transformation of women regarding education about their children's education and many girls get married only after they attain the age of 18.

Kapumani Soren former panchayat Pradhan, linked awareness of rights to the fight against poverty through collective action. Bhavani Majhi from Bhurkura samiti spoke of how some of the women were now trained to check the quality of *tussar* cocoon and also produce the DFLs. The CWDS field team comprising Pulak Gupta, Meghnad Deshmukh, and Swapan Choudhury made presentations reflecting on the last three decades and more of work.

The invited guests shared their ideas about taking this work forward in the future. Ruchira Goswami and Deepita Chakraborty noted that whereas people are familiar with the academic work of Vina Mazumdar in the areas of Women's Studies, most are not aware of this aspect of her work, how she envisioned action research as a strategy for social transformation and devoted time especially to building such an organisational network on the ground. This field poses a challenge which universities are still grappling with. Avijit Guha recalled being part of the oral history project to document the process of transformation in the 1990's. This itself was a lesson in developing a methodological perspective. It was decided that to take forward this process of awareness raising and discussion on policies. Vasanthi Raman spoke about the need to develop the assets created in terms of both physical and human resources to move ahead in present times. Speakers referred to the need to think about developing a future leadership in view of the changed environment involving rights, policies and political process, while also documenting the past experience.

❖ **Third Prof. Lotika Sarkar Memorial Lecture**

The third Prof. Lotika Sarkar Memorial Lecture on "Remembering the Teacher, Scholar, Feminist, Activist and above all a Humanist Lotika Di" was delivered by Professor B.B. Pande Former Professor, CLC, DU, Currently, Chair Professor in Criminal Law, NLU Delhi. The lecture, held on 20th February, 2016, was organised by Campus Law Centre, University of Delhi, Delhi in collaboration with CWDS.

❖ **Resource Sharing of Documents and Information Sources for Women's Movements in India: A Dialogue with Women's Organisations – CWDS-VMMF**

A Workshop to focus on Resource Sharing of Documents and Information Sources for the study and documentation of the Women's Movement in India was organized on 25th February, 2016, at CWDS, New Delhi. This was envisaged as a dialogue with women's organizations based in Delhi. The objective of the workshop was threefold: to focus on the need for preserving documents so as to allow for the writing of the history of the women's movement in India; to initiate a dialogue among academics and activists for the need to share and build resources, including capacity building through a pooling of resources, given the limitations faced by all in terms of both human and financial resources; and to take steps towards establishing a network and processes to enable resource sharing, including expertise in managing of information resources

on a regular basis. While CWDS had undertaken a similar exercise on a regional basis with several institutions across India, in the 1990s, it was felt that the last two decades had seen vast changes in terms of organizational profile, personnel and the advent of new information and communication technologies, which required constant upgrading of skills, format in which information could be stored. Further, the manner of storage of information by the respective organisations and institutions had itself changed, posing fresh challenges.

The discussion covered a vast range of issues. Since women's libraries in India are small in size and have limited financial resources the challenge faced to meet the information requirements is manifold. This also includes lack of trained personnel with training in resource documentation. It is felt that by establishing networks and resource sharing/ pooling some of these hurdles may be overcome to some extent. At the same time smaller libraries also lack space and infrastructure to preserve the information resources generated. The same is often true of women's organizations, which may in fact be generating the source material that may be required for the study of key issues, apart from their own and shared histories. In the past too efforts were made to establish networks, but it is found that some of these then took the path of commercial ventures, where smaller organizations found it difficult to keep pace due to financial constraints. While facilitating the dialogue CWDS also offered to provide a platform to share the expertise it has gathered in building library and information services with others in this new and changing context.

The Keynote Address delivered by Indu Agnihotri, Director, CWDS emphasized the importance of building resources in both Women's Studies and the Women's Movements and to record the rich experiences of a cross-section of women in order to preserve these in public/ social memory. In the absence of this the contribution made by the movement and by activists goes largely unrecognized and unrecorded. Unfortunately, the wealth of information generated in the course of the efforts made by movements over the last several decades has not been systematically documented and is likely to be lost as earlier activists grow old. Public memory being short, sustained efforts need to be made urgently in this direction.

Participants agreed that several women's organizations have a rich array of documents. These include organizational notes, papers, memoranda, press releases, survey reports conducted by organizations apart from publications. Those are only partially available to researchers. In addition to this, a number of activists/ researchers have rich personal collections of some of the material related to the formative years of the contemporary women's movement. These too are likely to be lost if attempts are not made to retrieve and preserve this in the near future. Libraries, along with organizations, have to adopt a policy to focus on acquisition of these on a priority basis. To enable us to achieve this, it is firstly necessary to build trust and seek cooperation from each other. This is not an easy task, since the nature of these institutions/organizations is diverse and the individual collections of papers is further scattered.

Along with the building of networks, there is a need for training in documentation. Technological skills are also involved, given that we live in the digital era. Archiving of documents poses further challenges given the fact that technologies/ software become obsolete and need continuous upgradation.

The discussion was unstructured but broadly representatives from all the institutions gave a brief introduction about the nature of documents, collections and activities they were involved in, including the information services provided by them. Several amongst them shared their experiences with regard to the difficulties faced in managing their information resources and the skill deficit which posed further constraints in addition to the financial aspects involved. Space, budget allocation, lack of staff and need of training were the common problems mentioned by the staff from the small libraries. Rajni Tilak from Rashtriya Dalit Mahila Andolan drew attention to the rich collection of documents on Dalit women's struggles that she holds and offered to share these with the CWDS so that these could be available to researchers wanting to study these aspects. Reeya from AIDWA informed the group that she is involved in digitizing of the organisational resources but, lacking training in the field of information resource building, she needed guidance and support to allow for the documentation to be accessible through a database management system. ISST drew attention to the numerous survey reports and other policy documents that form part of their holding while Nirantar has focused on building educational resources. Saheli shared their experience of losing precious records due to a fire caused by an adjacent unit.

The participants agreed on the need for resource sharing and also of training in documentation and information resource building. The group identified the following immediate tasks which should be addressed in the coming period: **Creation of a union catalogue** of the Delhi based women's library that will allow better and faster access to resources; the need for each library to share the new arrivals list with the group of libraries as well as organizations along the lines of **Current Awareness Services** provided by libraries, including the CWDS; developing a **Discussion List**; it was felt that since CWDS moderates an e-discussion list on gender, all the group libraries would be added to the BOL Discussion List for communication and dissemination of information to a larger audience, including New Arrivals. The need was felt for strengthening the network and facilitation of **Inter-Library Loan (ILL) services**. To streamline the process of borrowing/ issuing of documents a formal arrangement could be made. The need for a **Training Workshop(s)** to enable the diverse group to deal with the immediate challenge of managing library automation and digital information resources was articulated.

The workshop was attended by 15 participants, including representatives from CWDS, Women's Feature Service, All India Democratic Women's Association, Jagori, Saheli, Nirantar, ISST, and Rashtriya Dalit Mahila Andolan. It was decided that some of those institutions which could not make it in this round should be approached and drawn into the network.



- ❖ **National Workshop on “Labour Law and the Migrant Worker”** held at IIC, New Delhi, 14-15 March, 2016.

This workshop was organized on 14-15 March 2016, as part of a 5 month project ‘Study on Labour Laws and Migrant Workers’, which is being supported by Oak Foundation from January, 2017. Despite its somewhat specialized nature, the workshop drew surprisingly wide ranging participation and interest.

Chaired by *Ilina Sen* (TISS), *Ravi Srivastava* (JNU) began the first session with the question as to whether migrants should be considered a special class of workers requiring a special focus in the law. Given the overlap between protections and rights required by both migrant and non-migrant workers, this question had no easy or straightforward answers. Nevertheless, he argued that migrants under informal employment were: subject to greater discriminatory segmentation and fragmentation; more likely to be less autonomous or tied to middlemen/contractors; faced greater job insecurity; more involved in the core rather than peripheral workforce; less likely to be involved or represented in collective bargaining, and were much more subject to civic discrimination. Labour law therefore needed to be approached from the perspective of migrant workers’ location in the labour market. The key issues he identified included difficulties in deciding which law is to be applied or would best serve the interests of workers, particularly when the laws themselves may overlap; the general experience of non-implementation of the law by a hugely overextended labour law enforcement machinery; and problems in the design of laws that address a sedentary rather than a mobile workforce.

Justice Chandru emphasized that apart from wages and service conditions, other areas like their shelter and civic rights of migrants were also important, though not generally incorporated in labour law. Similarly the security or protection of migrants from becoming criminal suspects simply because they have no local support was an issue. Further, he pointed out that inter-state migrants also often lose rights/protections as tribals, dalits, or OBCs if their communities are not included in the ST/SC lists of destination states. Advocate *Gayathri Singh* argued that the Inter-state Migrant Workmen’s Act, was incapable of being used for migrant workers if their contractors were from destination states. Many women workers were excluded from the purview of labour laws through definitions of workplace/establishments and were not being given due representation in Boards for Construction Workers.

The second session on modes of labour migration was chaired by *Kumud Sharma*. *Jan Lucassen* (IISH, Amsterdam) questioning the connections made between migration/mobility and colonialism/capitalism in Indian history, argued that despite lack of statistics, circumstantial evidence indicated existence of wage labour and mobility in India’s past (since 1500) of a level comparable with Europe. *Navin Chandra* (former Fellow, VGNLI) however, emphasized that analysis should be rooted in a specific mode of production as migration in an earlier period and during the present period may be quite different, the primary reason for migration in the recent

times being the uneven development of capitalism over space and time. Focusing on contemporary distress of labour, *K.B. Saxena* (CSD) pointed to declining access to land, water and forest resources for the poor in rural areas and a triple crisis in agriculture: structural, developmental and environmental. He argued for the need for a paradigm shift in development and growth policies; the objectives and structure of labour laws and in the politics of their implementation. Advocate *R. Vaigai's* paper, presented by Indrani, focused on her experience as amicus curae for a PIL in the Madras High Court on the 'Sumangali' system in which young unmarried girls were kept within the confines of the mills with payment of a stipend rather than a wage and given a lumpsum amount at the end of 3 years. The paper argued for a litigation strategy emphasizing procedural equality and gender sensitive representation in such cases.

The session on sectors and categories of migrant workers, chaired by *Ritu Dewan*, highlighted experiences of activists. *R. Geetha* of Nirman Mazdoor Panchayat Sangam, referred to the accumulation of around Rs 27,000 crores in Welfare Boards for Construction Workers across the country. Yet benefits do not reach migrant workers and in cases of accidents/deaths, even identification of the dead migrants does not take place. She argued that one of the few positive aspects of the Inter-state Migrant Workers Act was that it enabled involvement of the source state. *Sudhir Katyar* spoke about Prayas' experience of approaching migration *streams* as units for organizing. *Santosh Poonia*, spoke of Ajeevika's attempts to render migration into a more positive opportunity by legal counseling and mediation strategies through a labour helpline. *Sudeshna Sengupta* emphasised the social function of reproductive work and the need for universal maternity entitlements for all women. *Bharti Birla* spoke about an ILO project to study the global dimension of forced labour and attempts to integrate the rights-based approach with the current skilling programmes to empower migrant workers. Closing comments from the chair emphasized the need for a greater focus on gender.

The fourth session focused on cases in the courts, and judicial pronouncements on issues of migrant bonded labour. The chair, *Indira Jaising* discussed how in the background of the government policy since 1991, there has been a great change in the attitude of judiciary towards labour laws. *Colin Gonsalves* argued for professional/legal cells in each NGO, and combative PIL litigation as a solution. Mathew Thomas, PIL Petitioner on UID, argued that collecting biometrics data did not work across large sets and any schemes by govt. used the UID number. It did not resolve the lack of identity papers for migrants, since the card itself required submitting proof of identity. *Swami Agnivesh* spoke emotively of his long personal journey in the use of the law and his distress that neither the law nor activism had been able to bring change in relation to poverty and forced labour.

On Day 2 in a session on regional experiences, *Nikhil Dey* (chair) emphasised the potential of NREGA as a law which can be used for labour since it brought women into the workforce with some degree of bargaining power. He argued that the adverse situation vis-à-vis labour laws and workers all round, was also an opportunity for forging broader alliances. *A. Sampath (MP)*

spoke about the special legislation (the first of its kind) for inter-state migrant workers' welfare enacted in Kerala, which has become a prominent destination for migrants from states in the north and east. *Ramesh Sharan* mentioned increasing violence in Jharkhand – caught between the gun of the state and gun of the Naxalites, and referred to a survey that showed 60% of migration was distress driven. Women's migration is often stigmatized as being linked to sex work, while a draft on regulation of placement agencies for domestic workers actually offers no protection to individual workers. *Subhash Jadhav* spoke of recruitment of koytas (male female pairs of migrant sugarcane harvesters) in Maharashtra. Struggles since 2001 had led to tripartite wage negotiations, but a regional Mathadi Board was required through which social security benefits can be provided to migrant sugarcane harvesters. Speaking of migrant construction workers, *Malathi Chittibabu* stressed the need for more coordination between unions in sending and receiving states. *Sushanta Talukdar* referred to the fact that the Construction Workers' law rules in Assam require migrant workers to submit documents proving Indian citizenship, which is a problem for the residents of the sandbars (*chars*) along the course of the Brahmaputra, who have been tagged as Bangladeshis despite being in Assam since 1905.

The next session on emigration laws and policies provided a historical background to current patterns of international migration, the history of the Indian Emigration Act, 1983, and a critical evaluation of regulatory gaps when it comes to women emigrant domestic workers. *Ranabir Samaddar* (chair) commented on the reappearance of certain styles and modes of labour recruitment which are similar to those of previous centuries. He emphasized on the need to study administrative practices and other kinds of labour control rather than laws to understand the regulations/restrictions on movement of migrants. *Prabhu Mohapatra* argued that 19th century transatlantic migration from Europe and Chinese/Indian migration being classified as free and unfree respectively was fallacious. He pointed to the global circulation of regulatory architecture (including indenture) and the need for broadening the concept of regulation to include not just entry but also work and exit. He posited that the regulatory regimes established during the period of mass international migration (1830-1940s) have shaped Indian migration laws in the 20th and 21st century. Arguing that provisions under The India Emigration Act, the regulatory framework for governing 'low skilled' labour migration from India) were inadequate for contemporary emigration *Sasikumar* stressed the need to move towards a more migrant centric regulation in which sub-agents and cost of recruitment are also addressed. Introducing a gender perspective, *Praveena Kodoth* made a distinction between 'protection of rights' and 'protection of person' where women are rendered weak and not workers in a very conservative sense. In the middle-east, the issue was the Kafala system of recruitment and sponsorship (which gave unbelievable power to the employer and therefore highly exploitative), and of Indian policy of favouring migration of women domestic workers to countries with whom GOI had bilateral agreements, such as Saudi Arabia, whose record was so bad that Philippines had blocked migration of domestic workers there.

The seventh session focussed on the Inter-state Migrant Workmen's Act (ISMWA). *Laxmidhar Misra* pointed out that no in-depth analysis of the problems of migrants was done before enacting the law. The ISMWA highlights the role of a contractor, leaving numerous problems associated with other kinds of migrants unaddressed, and non-implementation of the law has made it a complete failure. *Bijaya Bohidar* referred to ISMWA's precursor, the Odisha Dadan Labour Act 1975 (ODLA), as being more true to its nomenclature as focused on a worker from Odisha who is going out to work through a labour contractor. In her concluding remarks, *Kamala Sankaran* (chair) referred to the different opinions on applicability of ISMWA. While the National Commission on Rural Labour argued for broadening to include other migrant workers, the Second National Commission on Labour opposed it as giving migrants an advantage over other employees. In general ISMWA is not applied to domestic workers who come via placement agencies, but Delhi High Court gave directions to register some of these agencies under provisions of the ISMWA.

The last session was a panel discussion on labour law 'reforms' with Trade Union representative *Amarjeet Kaur (AITUC)*, *Saji Narayanan, (BMS)*, *Tapan Sen, (CITU)*, *Amjad Hasan, (INTUC)*, *Gautam Mody, (NTUI)*, and *Sonia George (SEWA)* all spoke with remarkable unity of perspective on the labour law reform agenda being linked to the policies of the government favouring big businesses. Labour law reforms are aimed at taking labour out of coverage of all kinds of protection which working people earned since Independence. Only a small fraction of the labour force is being covered under existing labour laws. Also, the reforms are employer friendly while trade unions are considered a nuisance and can be easily deregistered or its members criminalized. In such a scenario migrants are badly placed and the condition of women migrants is even more precarious. The speakers felt that a greater social cohesion and mobilization is needed and a common ground between women's movement and trade union movement is required to deal with the difficult times.

CWDS Seminar Series - Co-ordinator N. Neetha

- ❖ **'Gender Inequalities and the Insertion of Women in the Labour Market in India and Brazil'** by Janine Rodgers, Development Economist trained in Paris, Sussex and Geneva Universities, October 26, 2015.
- ❖ **'Women, Work and Care in the Asia Pacific: Towards a Feminist Conceptual Framework'** by Elizabeth Hill, Senior Lecturer, Department of Political Economy, University of Sydney on 20th January, 2016.

Fellowship

- ❖ Bhaswati Thakurta from CWDS, was awarded a Fellowship by the International Tropical Timber Association Spring cycle 2015, to participate in the XIV World Forestry Congress organized by FAO.







Childbirth and Community:
The Unseen World of the Dai
Sharing the Findings of the 'Jeeva Study'

13th - 14th October 2015 at IIC, New Delhi

Hosted by the Centre for Women's Development Studies (CWDS)

Supported by the Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India
and the ICICI Foundation for Inclusive Growth (IFIG)

CWDS

ANNUAL REPORT 2015-16

PUBLICATIONS



Publications and Faculty Participation

Indian Journal of Gender Studies

The year 2015-2016 saw the IJGS concentrating on two major themes – education and the commercialisation of healthcare - apart from other interesting papers on various topics. In addition to full-length articles, each issue of Indian Journal of Gender Studies carries a couple of book reviews, a section on research notes and information on new resources.

In **June** 2015 IJGS published a special issue (22:2) on 'Current Issues in Gender and Education' with Rekha Pappu and Nirmali Goswami as its Guest Editors. All the papers were presented at a well-attended session at the *XIV National Conference of Women's Studies* held at Guwahati University, Guwahati from 4-7 February 2014 under the sub-theme "Education, Knowledge and Institutional Spaces". This issue carried informative papers on situating girl's experiences of schooling, a feminist critique of a biology textbook's chapter on reproductive health, maternal involvement in everyday schooling, gendering the debate on school choice in India, gender studies in institutional contexts and exploring the connections between women's education, empowerment and employment.

The **October** issue of 2015 (22:3) had six articles on a variety of topics and a *research note*. One article was a study of selected villages of Himachal Pradesh focusing on female work force in agriculture, traditional knowledge of farm practices, impact of the current development scenario on women's lives, degradation of the environment and neglect of household needs, and the impact of industry and hydro power. Oral narratives from Ponnani, a coastal town in Malappuram district, Kerala were discussed in an article while another explored how the intersection between politics and charity casts women as objects of reform and sympathy. Gender quotas in China were looked at in another paper that showed how the validity of these depends on the coupling of women's status to the Communist Party's overall political agenda. An article on women and climate change discussed women's strengths and vulnerabilities and suggested ways for their inclusion in order to benefit from their perspective and expertise. The issue of shared spaces came up in an article on the reservation of space for women in Delhi Metro. A part of the discussion was based on an analysis of responses to a semi- structured questionnaire administered to men and women who use the system. The last article focussed on women civil servants' experiences of the harassment at the workplace. The analyses and findings highlight the cognitive emotional and behavioural defences used by women civil servants.

The research notes focussed on the history of Kal Oddars (Denotified Criminal Tribe living in southern Tamil Nadu, India) and how they still faced social exclusion, marginalisation and continued stereotyping by law enforcement agencies and society at large.

The *February* issue for the year 2016 (23:1) was a bumper one titled 'Women and Commercialisation of Healthcare' with Bijoya Roy as its guest editor. The papers explored how commercialisation of health care impacts women's life in multiple ways, that is, in terms of general health, access, affordability and utilization. It also asks how commercialisation of reproduction has significantly changed women's lives, particularly in terms of the nature of the assisted reproductive technology market. The articles in this issue show that commercialisation of health care leads to different forms of exclusion, the struggle for decent terms and conditions of women's labour and choice for women's health care continue to remain limited and are affected by a complex set of factors - at times beyond national borders as well.

Summary of Publications and Seminar Participation by Faculty Members

	Books/ Reports/ Edited Volumes	Articles in Journals/ News- papers/e- publications	Chapters in Books/ Reports	Book Reviews	Paper Presentation in Conferences/ Seminars/ Lectures	Participation in Professional Training and International Workshops
Total	4	19	22	3	74	73

Books/Reports/Edited Volumes

- ❖ Nitya Rao (ed.) **"Disciplinary Dialogues on Social Change"** – *Gender, Early Childhood and Theatre*, published by Academic Foundation and CWDS, 2016.
- ❖ Mary E. John (ed.) **"Rethinking Violence"**, *Review of Women's Studies, Special Issue of Economic and Political Weekly*, vol. 50, no.44, October 31, 2015.
- ❖ Bijoya Roy, "A Special issue of the *Indian Journal of Gender Studies* focussing on **Gender and Commercialisation of Health Care**' was published in February 2016. Bijoya Roy was Guest Editor for the issue of *Indian Journal of Gender Studies*, 23:1. The issue also carried an *Introduction* and a paper titled *"Corporate Hospitals in India and Representation of Women's Medical Care"*.

- ❖ Neetha N., **“Minimum wage setting practices in domestic work”**: an inter-state analysis, Conditions of work and employment series –International Labour Office, Inclusive Labour Markets, Labour Relations and Working Conditions Branch.- Geneva: ILO, Working Paper No. 66, 2015.

Articles in Journals/ Newspapers/e-publications

Bhaswati Thakurta

- ❖ **‘Las mujeres en la Gestión Colectiva de Bosques, un estudio a través de algunos Comités para Protección de Bosques en el distrito Bankura, Bengala’** (Women in Joint Forest Management: A Study through some Forest Protection Committees of Bankura, West Bengal) *‘Papeles de la India’* Vol. 44, No.1, June 2015, ISSN No. 0971-1449 (Language-Spanish)

Dimple Tresa Abraham

- ❖ **“Production and Marketing Strategies of SHGs”**, in *KMA Business Review and Research Journal*, Vol.1, No.1, ISSN 2454-177X, April-June 2015.

Gayatri Panda

- ❖ **“Maternal Involvement in Everyday Schooling: A Micro Study”** in *Indian Journal of Gender Studies*, Vol. 22 (2): 219-242, June 2015.

Mary E. John

- ❖ **“Adverse Child Sex Ratio: Is it all about Mindsets?”** *Girlscount Newsletter*, quarter 3, issue 6, July- September 2015: 1-2.
- ❖ **“Intersectionality: Rejection or Critical Dialogue?”** (Discussion) *Economic and Political Weekly*, vol. 50, no. 33, August 15 2015: 72-76.
- ❖ **“Bharat mai aapatkal: ‘Rajnaitik’ ki samajh par kuchh vichar”** (in Hindi) *Alochana*, No. 54, April June 2015: 35-47. (translated by Abha Gupta Thakur).

Meena Usmani

- ❖ **Bibliometric Analysis of Book Reviews** in *Indian Journal of Gender Studies* (1994-2014) **SSARSC** *International Journal of Library, Information, Networks, and Knowledge*, 1(1); February 2016. p. 1-16.

Nayantara Singh

- ❖ **"Microcredit in the context of Women's Empowerment: A Brief Review"**, in *International Journal of Applied Social Science*, ISSN: 2394-1405.

Sandeep Mishra

- ❖ **"An Improved Ratio Estimator of Population mean at Current Occasion"** in *International Journal of Current Research*, Vol. 8, Issue 01, pp.25269-25276, January, 2016.
- ❖ **"On the Choice of Some Estimators of the Estimation Error in Large Sample"** in *International Journal of Scientific and Innovative Mathematical Research (IJSIMR)*, Vol. 3, Issue 10, October 2015, PP 28-34 ISSN 2347-307X (Print) & ISSN 2347-3142 (Online).
- ❖ **"Rural labour in India and Analysis of present trend"** in *International Journal of Advances in Economics and Business Management*, p-ISSN: 2394-1545; e-ISSN: 2394-1553; Vol. 2, Issue 14; October-December, 2015, pp. 1335-1339.
- ❖ **"Optimum Replacement Policy at Current Occasion under Fixed Cost and Fixed Precision Requirements"** in *International Conference on Innovative Research in Mathematical Sciences (CPMSED-2015)*, ISBN:978-93-85822-07. 2015, pp. 6-9.

Savitri Ray

- ❖ **"Sarla Devi Chaudhrani- Beesvin shatabdi mein angrezon ke khilaaf awaz uthane wali pehli krantikari"** in *Beera* : Issue 3, July – September 2015.

Seema Kazi

- ❖ **Rape, Impunity and Justice in Kashmir.** *Socio-Legal Review (SLR)*, National Law School of India, Bangalore.
- ❖ **States of Denial**, *Himal South Asia*, October 2015.

Shalu Nigam

- ❖ **The Privileges of Being a Hindu, Upper Caste, Elite Class Male in India**, February 10, 2016 <http://www.countercurrents.org/nigam100216.htm>; Hail **Patriarchy! Of Supreme Law and Elite Judges**, Countercurrents, November 7, 2015 <http://www.countercurrents.org/nigam071115.htm>; **We the People of India**, The Countercurrents, August 18, 2015 <http://www.countercurrents.org/nigam180815.htm>; **Social and Legal Paradox Relating to Marital rape in**

India: Addressing Structural Inequalities, The Countercurrents, June, 3 2015

<http://www.countercurrents.org/nigam030615.htm>;

Chapters in Books/Reports

Akhlaq Ahmed

- ❖ **Content Analysis of University Library Website (Delhi)**, p.1-10 in *Academic Libraries in Electronic Environment* (eds.) Seema Parmar and Anil Kumar Siwach.- Rohtak, Intellectual Foundation, 2016, 246p.
- ❖ **Sharing information through BOL: Discussion List on Gender Issues in South Asia – An information Service with a Difference**, p.145-153. in *Library Landscape of Future: Essays in honour of Prof. Gopalrao Katti Smruti*.- Aurangabad: Prof. Gopalrao Katti Smruti Granth Committee, 2015. 568p.
- ❖ **Bibliometric Analysis of Indian Journal of Gender Studies** /by Akhlaq Ahmed and Meena Usmani. p. 519-524 in P.K. Jain, Debal C. Kar, Hildrun Kretschmer and Praveen Babbar (eds.) '*Emerging Trends and Issues in Scientometrics, Informetrics and Webometrics*', New Delhi: Ane Books, 2015. 570p.

Anshu Singh

- ❖ **Women's Mobility and Migration: an exploratory study of Muslim women migrants in Jamia Nagar, Delhi'** by Meenakshi Thapan, Anshu Singh and Nidhitha Sreekumar in Deepak Mishra (ed.) *Internal Migration in contemporary India* Sage Publication, 2016, pp.47-70.

Bhaswati Thakurta

- ❖ **'From Development Induced Displacement to the Verge of Migration'** in Dhruv Raina and Surjit Singh (eds.) *Society and Development: Regional Perspective*, Rawat Publication, Delhi, 2016, pp.119-130.

Bijoya Roy

- ❖ **Public Private Partnership in Healthcare: Trajectories and Experiences from West Bengal** in *Social Development Report, 2014: Challenges to Public Health*, Council for Social Development and Oxford University Press, 2015. pp. 191-204.
- ❖ **Must History repeat itself? The role of Dais in maternity care in backward districts of Himachal Pradesh** (Co-authored with Qadeer I and S Gautam) in *Social Development Report, 2014: Challenges to Public Health*, Council for Social Development and Oxford University Press, 2015. pp. 233-245.

Indu Agnihotri

- ❖ **"Gender, Childhood and Creative Communication: An Oral History"**. In Nitya Rao (ed.) *Disciplinary Dialogues on Social Change: Gender, Early Childhood and Theatre*, Academic Foundation, New Delhi, 2015. pp.31-63.

Mary E. John

- ❖ **"Before or after Birth? Child Mortality, Sex Selection and the Girl Child"**, in *Social Development Report 2014: Challenges to Public Health*, Council for Social Development and Oxford University Press, 2015, pp. 59-68.

Neetha N.

- ❖ **Urban Housekeepers from tribal lands: Adivasi women migrants and domestic work on Delhi** in Meena RadhaKrishnan (ed.) *Citizens First: Studies on Tribal, Adivasi and Indigeneous Peoples of India*, Oxford India Studies in Contemporary Society, 2016.
- ❖ **'Confined to the Margins: Female Migrant Workers in Urban Areas'** in Irudaya Rajan (ed.) *India Migration Report, Gender and Migration*, 2015.
- ❖ **'Placing Women's Unpaid Work in Development Policy'**, Briefing Note 17, ISST, *Gender and Economic Policy Discussion Forum*, 2015.
- ❖ **Approaching Data Sources: A Gender Lens**, Centre for Women's Development Studies (CWDS), Mimeo Paper, New Delhi.
- ❖ **'Changing Profile of Women's Employment in India'** Unit written for IGNOU for the Post Graduate Course on Labour and Development.
- ❖ **'Paid Domestic Work in India: Emerging Trajectories'**, edited book manuscript under review with Sage Publications.

Renu Addlakha

- ❖ **'Mining marginalities and mainstreaming differences: The disability paradigm in perspective'** in Bhargavi. V. Davar and T.K. Sundari Ravindran (eds.) *Gendering Mental Health: Knowledges, Identities and Institutions*, Oxford University Press, New Delhi, pp. 87-104
- ❖ **'Deconstructing emerging disability legislation in India'** in Vidhu Verma (ed.) *Unequal worlds: Discrimination and social inequality in modern India*, Oxford University Press, New Delhi, pp. 326-347

Seema Kazi

- ❖ **'South Asia's Gendered Wars on Terror'** in Rawwida Baksh and Wendy Harcourt (eds.) *Oxford Handbook of Transnational Feminist Movements*, Oxford University Press, New York, 2015.
- ❖ **Gender and Militarization in Kashmir** in John Esposito (ed.) *Oxford Islamic Studies*, 2015 Online Series, available at http://www.oxfordislamicstudies.com/browse?_hi=0&_startPrefix=kashmir&jumppage.x=17&jumppage.y=9

Shalu Nigam

- ❖ **"Co-authored Founding Mothers: 15 Women Architects of the Indian Constitution"**, Media House Publications, Delhi, 2016.

Vijay Kumar Jha

- ❖ Gender aur Samajikaran (Mahatma Gandhi Antrarashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalaya, Wardha ki Durasth Shiksha ke liye Ikai)
- ❖ 'Pitrasatta' Kusum Tripathi dwara sampadit kitab ke liye (forthcoming)

Book Reviews**Dimple Tresa Abraham**

- ❖ Amrita Pande, **Wombs in Labor: Transnational Commercial Surrogacy in India**. New York: Columbia University Press, 2014 in *Indian Journal of Gender Studies*, 22(2):325-328.

Shalu Nigam

- ❖ Kannabiran Kalpana (ed.) **'Critical Feminist Perspectives'**, Sage Publications, 2014 in *Indian Journal of Gender Studies*, Sage, December 2015 issue.
- ❖ Singh Kirti, **Separated and Divorced Women in India**, Sage Publications, 2013, in *Indian Journal of Gender Studies*, Sage, December 2015 issue.

Paper Presentations and Lectures

Akhlaq Ahmad

- ❖ PPT on **'Sources and Resources in Women's Studies With reference to India'** on the occasion of Workshop on Issues and Approaches on Gender and Development in India (South Asia) for Undergraduate Students of Pennsylvania University, CWDS, 21-23 December, 2015.

Anshu Singh

- ❖ **'Can a University have 'an' identity and 'a' culture?'** presentation in Education Research Committee of XXXIX Indian Social Science Congress, Mangalore University, Mangalore, 1-5 December, 2015.

Bhaswati Thakurta

- ❖ **'Listening to the inaudible voices: role of female forest committees in degraded forest management in Bankura district of West Bengal'** presented at XIV World Forestry Congress 2015 organized by FAO, in Durban, South Africa, 7-11 September, 2015.

Bijoya Roy

- ❖ **'Reorienting Public Sector Hospitals through Public Private Partnerships: A Case study of India'** National Seminar Private Sector Participation in Public Service, Council for Social Development and South Solidarity Initiative, New Delhi, 28-30 March, 2016.
- ❖ **'Experience of Hospital Births in the Four Study Areas'**, JEEVA Workshop Childbirth and Community: The Unseen World of the Dai, IIC, New Delhi, 4 November, 2015.
- ❖ **'Community and Experience of Birthing Women'**, JEEVA Workshop Childbirth and Community: The Unseen World of the Dai, IIC, New Delhi. 3rd November, 2015.
- ❖ **'Qualitative Research in Nursing Study'** Evidence Based Research for Quality Patient Care, Jamia Hamdard, Delhi, 8 October, 2015.

Dimple Tresa Abraham

- ❖ **'Strategic CSR for Inclusive Business'** presented at the Global Summit on Corporate Social Responsibility 2015 organised by the Indian Institute of Management, Raipur, National Law School of India University, Bangalore and Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs, New Delhi, May 15 - 16, 2015.

Indrani Mazumdar

- ❖ **'Three Decades of the Women's Movement and the framing of the Women's Question in India'** presented at Anfvshan Conference on 'Social Transformation: Perspectives and Alternatives' JNU convention Centre, 25-26, July, 2015
- ❖ **'Of Rights as Workers: Women in Public Services'** presentation in IAWS organized panel on *Women's Labour and Challenges for Organising* at Indian Society of Labour economics organised National Conference 10-12 October, 2015
- ❖ **'Gender, Labour and Women's Work: Issues, Experiences and Debates in India'** paper presented at International conference on *Social Transformation and Cultural Change in South Asia: From the Perspectives of the Socio-Economic Periphery* 14th November, 2015 at the Higashimatsuyama Campus, Daito Bunka University, Saitama, Japan. This paper has been revised and is to be published in an edited volume.

Indu Agnihotri

- ❖ Lecture, **'Interdisciplinarity and Women's Studies'**, in CWDS-Ravenshaw University organized ICSSR sponsored Orientation Course, Cuttack, 27 March, 2016.
- ❖ Panelist in Inaugural Session in National Seminar on **'Gender and Folk Culture'**, organized by the School of Women's Studies, Utkal University, 26 March, 2016.
- ❖ Discussant, AILH Conference on Workers, Labour and Mediation, **Session on 'Modes of Migration'**, AILH, International Conference, VVGNLI, 23 March 2016.
- ❖ Lecture in workshop on 'Feminist Theories and Debate' as a part of **Advance Certificate Course in Gender Studies**, organized by Women's Studies and Development Centre, University of Delhi, Delhi, 29 February, 2016.
- ❖ Lecture, **'Research Methodology in Women's Studies'**, organized by Women's Studies and Development Centre, University of Delhi, Delhi, 22 January, 2016.
- ❖ Lecture **'Women and Agriculture in training programme on Gender Analysis and Mainstreaming in Agriculture'**, Centre of Advanced Faculty Training (CAFT) Div. of Agricultural Extension, IARI, New Delhi, 6 January 2016.
- ❖ Lecture **'Women's Studies, Interdisciplinarity and Contemporary Debates', 3rd Orientation course**, at UGC-HRDC, JNU, 1 December 2016.
- ❖ Chair, session in **'Labour (Un Divided): Categories and Collectivities'**, School of Women studies, Jadavpur University, 18 November, 2015.

- ❖ Keynote Address in National Women's Meet on '**Gender Justice in Politics, Economy and Culture**', organized by C. Bhaskaran Foundation and Costford Stree Shakti Kendram, Thrissur, 28-29 September, 2015.
- ❖ Panel Discussion – National Workshop on Women's Studies in India: **Future Directions of Research and Teaching** organized by Women's Studies Centre, Lady Brabourne College, Kolkata, 7 August, 2015.
- ❖ Lecture, '**Women's Movement in India**', in International Summer School organized by the Dept. of Political Science Jamia Milia Islamia University, 23rd July, 2015.
- ❖ Chair session on '**Food Security and Self Help Groups**' in National Workshop on Best Practices in Food and Livelihood Security in India: Lessons for Upscaling, organized by CSD, New Delhi, 14-15 July, 2015.
- ❖ Key respondent at Plenary Session on '**Integrating Girl Child Development in Gram Panchayat Agenda**' in National Meet on project titled: Intensifying Coordinated Response on Sex Determination, Girl Child and Women's Rights in Rajasthan, Centre for Advocacy and Research (CFAR) in collaboration with Tata Trust, , 24 June, 2015, USO, New Delhi.

Mary E. John

- ❖ '**A Silent Revolution? Gendered Intersectionalities in the University Today**', lecture, St Stephen's College, 28 March 2016.
- ❖ '**Contemporary Feminism in India**', lecture to Alumni of Stanford University, Imperial Hotel, New Delhi, 23 March 2016.
- ❖ '**Approaches to Gender Biased Sex Selection: Culture, Violence and Political Economy**', Meeting on Gender Biased Sex Selection, UNFPA, New Delhi, 22 March, 2016.
- ❖ '**Feminism and International Women's Day**', Address to Bank Officers Association, State Bank of Travancore Regional Branch, New Delhi, 22 March, 2016.
- ❖ '**Revisiting the Women's Reservation Bill: Representation for Women and the Politics of Caste and Community**', Seminar on Democracy, Social Exclusion and Rights, Miranda House, 18-19 March, 2016.
- ❖ '**Women's Studies and Curriculum Development**', International Workshop on Curriculum Development in Women's Studies, Centre for Women's Studies, JNU, 18-19 March, 2016.
- ❖ '**Feminism and the Social Sciences**', National Conference on Contemporary Trends in Social Sciences, Centenary Event, S.P. College, Pune, 7-8 March, 2016.

- ❖ **'Planning Families, Planning Gender: The Political Economy of Sex Selection'**, Workshop on Interrogating 'Female Foeticide', Centre for Women's Studies, Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune, 4-5 March, 2016.
- ❖ **'Gendered Intersectionalities in Higher Education'**, Plenary presentation at UGC Seminar on Representations of Gender, Caste and Religion in Indian Writings, Department of English and Cultural Studies, University of Panjab, Chandigarh, 3-4 March, 2016.
- ❖ **'Ambedkar and the Women's Question'**, Workshop on Interpreting Key Texts of Ambedkar for Contemporary India, Department of Political Science, University of Delhi, 26 February, 2016.
- ❖ **'Gender and the Democratisation of Higher Education Today'**, Second Sarojini Naidu Memorial Lecture, Jamia Millia Islamia, 23 February, 2016.
- ❖ **'Women's Studies and Questions of Violence'**, double lecture, YMCA training course, YMCA New Delhi, 2 February, 2016.
- ❖ **'A Silent Revolution? Gendered Intersectionalities in Higher Education'**, Public Lecture, Visvabharati University, Shantiniketan, 28 January, 2016.
- ❖ **'Gender and Curriculum Issues'** double lecture, WISCOMP and Sherubtse College of the Royal University of Bhutan, New Delhi, 22 January, 2016.
- ❖ **'The New Family: Revisiting Globalisation, Sexuality and the Visual Field in the Twenty-first Century'**, Workshop on Media, Technology and the Family, Humboldt University, Berlin, 13-14 January, 2016.
- ❖ **'Gendered Intersectionalities and Sexual Harassment in Higher Education'**, Plenary Panel at XI Conference of the Comparative Education Society of India, Azim Premji University, Bangalore, 14-16 December, 2015.
- ❖ **'Sex Selection: Perspectives on Culture, Violence and Political Economy'**, National Seminar on Emerging Identities, Increasing Controls and Violence against Women: Perspectives from the North and North West, Institute of Development Studies, Jaipur and Mrinal Gore Centre, Pune, November 30-1 December, 2015.
- ❖ **'Women's Labour: Some Reflections on Value and Stigma'** National Conference on Labour (un)divided: Critical Connections and Collectivities, School of Women's Studies, Jadavpur University, 17-19 November, 2015.
- ❖ **'Gender Sensitization and Equality in Higher Education'**, Keynote Lecture, Don Bosco Higher Education Institutions Association Conference, Don Bosco Provincial House, New Delhi, 23-25 October 2015.

- ❖ **'Feminism in Historical Perspective'** Keynote Lecture, Jesus and Mary College, Delhi University, October 8th 2015.
- ❖ **'Women's Labour in Contemporary India'**, Seminar, Centre for Political Studies, JNU, 8 October, 2015.
- ❖ **'UGC Guidelines on Sexual Harassment and Safety in Higher Education'**, Public Lecture, Tapti Hostel, JNU, 22 September, 2015.
- ❖ **'Marriage and the Women's Movement'**, Panel Discussion, Public Broadcasting Film Festival, India International Centre, 21st September 2015.
- ❖ **'Gender and Patriarchy: Why do these Concepts Matter?'** Seminar, Centre for the Study of Social Medicine and Community Health, JNU, 8 September, 2015.
- ❖ **'The Emergency of Our Times'**, Panel, 6th P.Devanandan and M.M. Thomas Memorial Lecture, YMCA, New Delhi, 7 August, 2015.
- ❖ **'The Problems of Gender Biased Sex Selection'**, Keynote Address, International Conference on Policy Dialogue on Pre-natal Sex Selection, Centre for Social Research, IIC New Delhi, 8 July, 2015.
- ❖ **'Rethinking Sexual Violence'**, Roundtable on the Continuum of Sexuality and Violence, Partners for Law in Development, IIC, 21 April, 2015.
- ❖ **'Feminist Concepts in Historical Perspective'**, Advanced Course on Feminist Theory, Women's Studies and Development Centre, Delhi University, 9 April 2015.

Madhu Shree

- ❖ PPT on **'CWDS Library Collection Development and Its Services'** on the occasion of Workshop on Issues and Approaches on Gender and Development in India (South Asia) for Undergraduate Students of Pennsylvania University, at CWDS, 21-23 December 2015

Neetha N.

- ❖ **'SDGs & Gender'**, Seminar on SDGs: Gender Equality Role of Women in Knowledge Sharing, UNIC - UN WOMEN, 4 March 2016, New Delhi.
- ❖ **'Probing the Low Participation of women in Employment'**, International Conference on Gender Equality, The Gender Park, Ministry of Social Justice, Government of Kerala, Trivandrum.
- ❖ **'Where is the data?'**; Conference on Realising Gender Goals in the SDGs: Role of the Media', 7-8 December, 2015, UN Women, New Delhi.

- ❖ **'Workers or Vulnerable Women?: Organising Domestic Workers';** Conference on "Labour (Un)Divided: Categories and Collectivities" organised by the School of Women's Studies, Jadavpur University, 18-20 November, 2015.
- ❖ **'Placing Women's Unpaid Work in Development Policy'** Gender and Economic Policy Discussion Forum ISST, Delhi, August, 2015.
- ❖ Lead Author of the International Panel on Social Progress Report; Attended two conferences: 27-29 August, 2015 at Bilgi University, Istanbul, Turkey; and meeting on Chapter outline of the chapter on Pluralization of Families, held at Miami University, US.
- ❖ **'Data and Data Systems on Unpaid Work'**, National Workshop on Women's Unpaid Work, 16-17 April 2015, UN Women, New Delhi.

Renu Addlakha

- ❖ **'Perspectives on understanding Women's Mental Health'** lecture organised by SAMA, New Delhi: Indian Social Institute, 3 March 2016.
- ❖ **'Overcoming Schizophrenia (Severe Mental Illness)'** Public Lecture and Panel Discussion. New Delhi: All India Institute of Medical Sciences, 27 August 2015.
- ❖ Presentation on CWDS-NHRC study **'Interrogating Violence against Women from the Otherside: An Exploratory Study into the world of Perpetrators Rationale'**, New Delhi: National Human Rights Commission, 2 July 2015.

Savitri Ray

- ❖ International conference on Education as a Driver for Sustainable Development Goals, paper presented on **'ECCD in context of SDG under Goal 4.4- ECD, Care and pre-primary education'**, CEE, Ahmedabad, 11-13 January, 2016
- ❖ Presented **'FORCES overview'** in a Reflection Workshop organized by Plan India at Hotel Star Grand Villa, Kailash Colony, New Delhi, 8-10 Dec 2015.
- ❖ Chaired a session in a country meeting on National Plan of Action for Children, 2016 organised by IACR, New Delhi, 30 September – 1 October, 2015, **contributed in strategic recommendations on survival and development.**
- ❖ Presented a paper in Third International conference on ECD- Emerging World: Policies and Practices for ECD, organised by Centre for Early Childhood Development and Research, Jamia Milia Islamia and Save the Children at JMI, Paper presented on **Panchayats as**

Partners in Child Development under the Sub Theme: Family and community Participation in ECD, 19-20 November 2015.

- ❖ Chaired a session and spoke on '**Violence faced by women in panchayat**' in a conference on Elimination of All forms of Violence against Women and Role of Panchayats organized by ISS, at Nazir Saab Hall, Institute of Social Sciences, New Delhi., 24-25 April, 2015.
- ❖ Conducted a block level meeting at Vidisha , 29 April, 2015.
- ❖ Conducted a block level panchayat meeting at Dhenkanal, 8 April, 2015.

Resource Persons

Indu Agnihotri

- ❖ Discussion on International Day of Widows, organized by **Guild for Service, War Widows Association in collaboration with the UN** a Round-table on "**Widows: Feminization of Poverty**" for the International Widow's Day, Monday, 22 June, 2015.

Renu Addlakha

- ❖ Research Study on Disability and Abortion. New Delhi: CREA, 11 February 2016.
- ❖ CREST Training Workshop on Faculty Mentorship Programme for Undergraduate MBBS Students. New Delhi: All India Institute of Medical Sciences, 12-13 August 2015.

Savitri Ray

- ❖ Uttarakhand FORCES Orientation Workshop II, Advani Dharamshala, Shyampur bypass, Rishikesh, 18 May, 2015.
- ❖ Odisha State Consultation on Strengthening and Restructuring of ICDS in Mission Mode in Odisha at CYSD, Bhubaneswar, 5 April, 2015

Membership of Committees/Task Force & Other Advisory Functions

Indu Agnihotri

- ❖ Member, Executive Committee, IAWS,
- ❖ Member, Governing Committee, AILH, and Joint Action Committee of Integrated Labour History Research Programme, VVGNI-AILH

- ❖ Member, Academic Council, IGNOU
- ❖ Member, Executive Committee, Institute of Economic Growth
- ❖ Member, Advisory Committee, Centre for Women's Studies, MDU, Rohtak.
- ❖ Member, Advisory Committee, Centre for Women's Studies, Jadavpur University. Kolkata.
- ❖ Member, Advisory Committee, Women's Studies Research Centre, Calcutta University, Kolkata.
- ❖ Member, Advisory Board, Centre for Informal Sector and Labour Studies, SSS, JNU.
- ❖ Member, Editorial Board, Indian Journal of Gender Studies.
- ❖ Member, Editorial Board, Bhai Vir Singh Sahitya Sadan

Indrani Mazumdar

- ❖ General Secretary, Indian Association for Women's Studies

Mary E. John

- ❖ Member, Advisory Council, India International Centre, New Delhi, 2016-19.
- ❖ Member, International Advisory Board, International Centre for Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences and Humanities, "Metamorphosis of the Political: Comparative Perspectives on India's Long Twentieth Century", 2016.
- ❖ Member, Advisory Board, Women's Studies Centre, Visva Bharati, Santiniketan, West Bengal, 2015-present.
- ❖ Member, Advisory Committee, Centre for Social Theory, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, 2014-present
- ❖ Member, Executive Committee, Centre for Policy Research in Higher Education (CPRHE), NUEPA, 2014-present
- ❖ Member, Advisory Board, Advanced Centre of Women's Studies, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, 2013-present
- ❖ Member, Advisory Board, Swallows India Bangladesh (Sweden), 2012-present
- ❖ Member, Governing Council, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi, 2012 - present
- ❖ Member, Advisory Group, Review of Women's Studies, Economic and Political Weekly, 2011-present.

- ❖ Member, Editorial Advisory Board, Contributions to Indian Sociology, 2012
- ❖ Member, Editorial Board, Indian Journal of Gender Studies, 2011-present.
- ❖ Member, Editorial Board, Asian Journal of Women's Studies, 2009-present.

Neetha N.

- ❖ Member, Advisory Committee of the Research project "Multiplier effect of increasing female employment: Assessing impacts in urban Centres", Institute for Human Development, Delhi.
- ❖ Member, Advisory Committee for the research project on 'Poverty, Migration and Development in Rural Bihar, Institute for Human Development, Delhi.

Renu Addlakha

- ❖ Advisory Member WPC Advisory Group Wajood Women Power Connect (WPC), New Delhi.
- ❖ Advisory Member, Jagori Safe City Programme, New Delhi.
- ❖ Advisory Member, CREA Study on Disability and Abortion, New Delhi.



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