



ANNUAL REPORT 2022-23

Centre for Women's Development Studies

An autonomous research institute supported by the
Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR)

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CENTRE FOR WOMEN'S DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

Annual Report 2022 - 2023



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FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

The 2022-2023 year was one of consolidation and catching up after the pandemic disruptions. Normal functioning of the Centre facilitated the Centre's activities. At the same time however, the Centre's output continued to be affected by depleted faculty and staff strength. Prof. Renu Addlakha continued in her role as Acting Director till mid-September 2023.

With the appointment of a full-time Director after a prolonged and very challenging period, CWDS hopes to augment considerably its depleted faculty strength, consolidate and expand research areas and output, engage in interdisciplinary, intersectional research, and transform into a dynamic space for research and debate in the broad area of Women's Studies.

The broad areas of primary research studies and projects undertaken by CWDS over the past year are largely a carryover from the previous year. Ongoing research encompasses the broad themes of gender and social change, representation, marginalisation and identities, demographic trends and intergenerational changes, work, migration and the economy, governance, violence and sexuality, health, and disability.

- ❖ While M.Phil/Ph.D. Collaboration Programme in Women's and Gender Studies with Ambedkar University came to a formal closure after a successful decade, CWDS faculty engagement in teaching and co-supervision continued with several students completing their research degrees. Co-supervision of doctoral students receiving ICSSR Institutional Doctoral Fellowships was taken forward. CWDS Faculty also engaged in conducting ICSSR-supported seminars.
- ❖ Other academic activities like workshops, seminars and conferences continued to be held almost exclusively in the online mode.

The Vina Mazumdar Memorial Library (VMML) opened to the public after long period this year. The library also continued to perform its internal critical tasks of acquisition, digitisation of materials, and online outreach.

The FORCES Network Secretariat shifted to Mobile Creches, and CWDS ceased to function as the Financial Secretariat of the Indian Association of Women's Studies (IAWS). As a Founding Member, however CWDS continues to be an active Member of both.

Centre for Women's Development Studies (CWDS) is committed to expanding gender perspectives within the social sciences, developing Women's Studies as an inter-disciplinary area of rigorous inquiry, and contributing to fundamental research as well as policy change.

N. Manimekalai
Director

IN MEMORIUM

Ms. Ela R. Bhatt
(07-09-1933 – 02-11-2022)



Ms. Ela Ramesh Bhatt was an Indian cooperative organiser, activist and Gandhian, who founded the Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA) of India in 1972, and served as its General Secretary from 1972 to 1996. She was the chancellor of the Gujarat Vidyapith from 7 March 2015 to 19 October 2022.

Elabehn made significant contributions to Indian public life. Among them was the Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA) - one of the earliest women's cooperatives of which she was founder. Elabehn was one of the early Life Members of CWDS.

CWDS would particularly like to recall Elabehn's contribution to the Shram Shakti Report highlighting women's critical contribution to India's social economy. The report subsequently laid the foundation for the establishment of a network – Forum for Creches and Child Care Services (FORCES) with other leading women leaders across the country. FORCES foregrounded the intrinsic link between women's lives and the critical question of childcare that has since been an important issue in public policy.

IN MEMORIUM

Dr. Zarina Bhatta
9 August 1933 - 28 April 2023



Dr. Zarina Bhatta, a notable Academician and Women Activist, Author of "From Purdah to Piccadilly" passed away on Sunday, 28th April, 2023. Dr. Bhatta was one of the early life member of CWDS; she was part of an earlier phase of the journey by CWDS towards social justice and equity. Warm-hearted and witty in temperament, she was a pioneer sociologist, feminist and one of the founders and a key member of the Indian Association of Women's Studies (IAWS). Zarina Bhatta was a contemporary of Vina Mazumdar, Lotika Sarkar and others who were pioneers of women's and gender studies of their time.

Zarina Bhatta studied sociology and political science at the London School of Economics and taught at the University of Delhi. She later worked as Gender Specialist with United States Agency for International Development (USAID), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), and Islamic Development Bank (IDB). She was also the recipient of the Devi Awards in 2015.

Dr. Bhatta researched, published, and lectured extensively in India and abroad on Muslim women in India and on women in the unorganized sector. Her study on women in the bidi industry undertaken and published by the International Labour Organization (ILO) received considerable recognition. Dr. Bhatta remained vibrant and recently brought out a book, A Portrait of Aging (2022) with contributions from Romila Thapar, Mohini Giri and several other trailblazers.

INTRODUCTION

The normal routine of everyday functioning was restored in CWDS after the disruptions of the covid-19 pandemic. At the same time, some practical modes of functioning necessitated by work from home have been integrated into the overall functioning of the Centre. In keeping with the post-pandemic institutional trend, CWDS utilised the online mode for workshops, seminars, lectures and networking. Work on existing projects and activities continues even as several planned activities were successfully concluded. A few new projects were undertaken. New publications based on completed field research are planned for the year ahead. The CWDS library resumed normal functioning by welcoming users back on its premises.

The Faculty Members continued with their research within the following overarching themes:

- 1) Women and Social Change as a broad theme was addressed in specific sectors such as health and education: An edition of the impact of Covid 19 and its implications has been added to ongoing studies.
- 2) Representation, Marginalisation and Identities: Enduring and new work is being taken forward in the fields of disability, caste and Dalit identity.
- 3) Demographic Trends and Inter-Generational Changes: these include the Centre's longstanding investigation into the adverse child sex ratio, and the need to evolve better perspectives on early and child marriage.
- 4) Women, Work, Migration and the Economy: Specific issues include issues of employment, the measurement of women's paid and unpaid work, the crisis in agriculture, among other concerns for which the Centre has become well known.
- 5) Gender and Governance: This includes studies with a South Asian scope; and comparative analyses of women's participation in politics.
- 6) Gender, Violence and Sexuality: Studies on violence against women, and on perpetrators of violence have been made more intersectional in ongoing research on disability and violence. Related research seeks to explore questions of sexuality through the lens of disability for both men and women.

- 7) The Multiple Dimensions of Gender Inequality: The BUILD institutional grant explores the multiple dimensions of gender and inequality, building on our existing repertoire and taking it forward through new plans for collaborative research.

CWDS engagement in teaching and the supervision of research continues at different levels such as co-supervision of M.Phil. and Ph.D. students. Students supervised by CWDS faculty are part of the now terminated the M.Phil./Ph.D. Programme in Women's and Gender Studies in collaboration with Ambedkar University Delhi and ICSSR Institutional Doctoral Fellowship Programme.

The Vina Mazumdar Memorial Library continued with its routine activities with a focus on enhancing online accessibility to its resources through developing online platforms.

At the same time, CWDS faces the challenge of depleted staff strength. Dr. Vijay Jha (Research Associate) remains on lien in the School of Letters as Academic Fellow at Ambedkar University Delhi. Two other staff members of CWDS namely, Dr. Dimple Teresa Abraham (Research Associate) and Mr. Swapan Choudhry (Administration) resigned from the Centre. As a result, CWDS is constrained to function with diminished staff strength that requires urgent augmentation.

At an institutional level, the diminishing of CWDS Faculty strength is an urgent concern. For several years, CWDS has been functioning with a reduced permanent faculty of five, severely affecting individual, collective and institutional research output and related activities of the Centre. It is hoped that the appointment of a full-time Director shall facilitate pending appointments at different levels and, by extension, augment CWDS Faculty strength, activity and output.

As CWDS enters the 44th year of its existence, we look forward to widening the scope of our work, broadening our perspectives, increasing Faculty strength, and making seminal contributions to the areas of women's and gender studies. As we move ahead, CWDS hopes to fulfil its research and academic potential in order to develop CWDS into a centre of excellence in the field of Women's and Gender Studies.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

CWDS life members are drawn from a wide community of professionals and academics, while a smaller body of elected representatives oversees the functioning of the Centre. At the end of March 2023, CWDS had 91 life members, and three Institutional members. The last Annual General Body Meeting of the Centre was held on 9th December 2022 online on zoom portal.

The Centre receives financial support from the Indian Council of Social Science Research, (ICSSR) which functions as a statutory body under the supervision of the Ministry of Education. The financial support and conditions for the same are constantly monitored and reviewed at different levels, and are subject to change within the framework of the broad policy environment. The institute continues to face pressures in its efforts to grow on account of financial and infrastructural issues. Efforts to augment resources through project grants, both short term and with a longer institutional scope are ongoing. Paucity of space has been one of the most important constraints in the growth of CWDS

Planning and Monitoring

The Executive Committee (EC) of the Centre continued to provide guidance on administrative and policy matters. Three meetings of the Executive Committee and two meetings of the Finance Committee (FC) were held during 2022-23.

The composition of the EC and its elected office-bearers is as follows:

Name	Title
Prof. Vasanthi Raman	Chairperson
Prof. Mohan Rao	Vice-Chairperson
Prof. Rajni Palriwala	Treasurer
Prof. Mary E. John	Member
Prof. Renu Addlakha	Member
Dr. Bijayalaxmi Nanda	Member
Dr. Mala Khullar	Member
Prof. Kumkum Roy	Member
Prof. Madhu Purnima Kishwar	ICSSR nominee
Dr. Govind Saun	ICSSR Representative
Prof. N. Manimekalai	Member Secretary & Director

The EC continues to oversee the functioning of the Centre through its various standing committees. In addition to the guidance of the EC and the various committees, faculty meetings have been periodically held to examine all aspects of the Centre's functioning including periodic review of research work, monitoring of ongoing projects, taking up new work, as also general management issues pertaining to Administration and Accounts.

Human Resources

There have been further reductions of CWDS staff during 2022-2023 due to a variety of reasons like the, resignation, lien and extraordinary leave being availed of by other staff members. Critical posts continued to remain vacant like those of the Director, and the Administrative and Account Officers. For around six months during 2022, CWDS was able to hire the services of a Consultant for Administration and Accounts to assist in routine work. One important organisational task undertaken to completion is the development of an organisation-specific Financial Manual laying out financial guidelines and policies for the smooth functioning of the Accounts Section. This task was undertaken by an external Consultant in collaboration with the CWDS staff. The Financial Manual was presented and approved in the 162nd meeting of the executive Committee held in March 2023.

There is an urgent need to fill up vacant posts for the smooth functioning of the Centre. Indeed, this is a moment that calls for more than just the filling up of existing vacant posts. There is a need for academic restructuring to increase the number of faculty posts to enable the centre to adequately expand its focus areas. Further, ICSSR support and conditions have undergone major changes demanding new financial and administrative norms and practices. Restructuring administrative and accounts positions, regularising recruitment and promotion provisions is vital.

SC/ST and OBC and Equal Opportunity Cell

The CWDS follows the Government of India's Reservation Policies. There are changes in government rules on recruitment, promotion, financial allocations and so on, that need to be updated. Most importantly, a sensitisation of employees on matters relating to multiple forms of discrimination is an important requirement. In 2019, the Acting Director brought this matter to the attention of the Executive Committee and emphasised the need for CWDS to have a separate institutional mechanism such as a Cell to engage with and address these issues. The EC supported the proposal for ascertaining the necessary requirements for setting up an SC/ST Cell in CWDS.

A small project was initiated in early 2021 to examine existing rules and collect relevant materials on the subject to proceed further. The assistance of Advocate Disha Wadekar was sought as she possessed extensive experience regarding legal aspects of SC/ST matters. Through a series of online meetings, relevant materials were collected and discussed under the following broad heads: Rules and regulations of a Cell, Grievance redressal mechanisms, Sensitisation and other activities of the Cell. In the absence of any detailed guidelines for SC/ST Cells, the ideas and best practices were taken from Sexual Harassment guidelines, anti-ragging rules, etc.

The Centre formally appointed two Liaison Officers on 23rd September 2021.

1. Dr Vandana Liaison Officer, SC/ST Cell
2. Dr Khundongbam Gyanabati Devi, Liaison Officer, OBC and Equal Opportunity Cell

In addition to SC, ST and OBC categories, disability is also a mandatory legally recognised reservation category since 1997. Hence it would also fall within the mandate of the Cell.

The Liaison Officers organised a lecture to launch the Cell in the Centre on 21st January 2022. They invited Dr. Shailaja Paik, Associate Professor of History at the University of Cincinnati, USA. Dr. Paik spoke on 'Critical Dalit pedagogy' at the inaugural lecture.

The committee of SC/ST and OBC, and Equal Opportunity Cell was approved by the EC members on 24th March 2023. The members of the SC/ST, OBC and Equal Opportunity Cell Committee are as follows:

1. Dr. Vandana, Liaison Officer, SC/ST Cell
2. Dr. Khundongbam Gyanabati Devi, Liaison Officer, OBC and Equal Opportunity Cell
3. Mr. Akhlak Ahmad, Internal Member
4. Ms. Kaushalya, Internal Member
5. Dr. Abha Deb Habib, Associate Professor, Miranda House, University of Delhi, External Member
6. Prof. Suryakant Waghmore, Professor, IIT, Mumbai, External member.

Currently, the roster revision of the Centre is ongoing. Both the Liaison Officers are involved in this process.

In addition to its institutional responsibilities, the Cell aims to conduct research/academic activities, capacity-building programme, talks, lectures etc. on related themes.

Financial Position

The ICSSR provides core grants for salaries and maintenance that have been the predominant source of continuous financial support to CWDS over the years. For specific research and other activities and to meet the deficit in salary and maintenance heads, raising of additional resources from external sources is a necessity. During 2022-2023 some project grants year came to a close. No-cost extensions requests were made in the case of other projects that were put on hold due to the pandemic.

After more than three years, steps were taken to organised activities under the Vina Mazumdar Memorial Fund (VMMF) and Lotika Sarkar Endowment Fund (LSEF) which are held by the Centre, as part of a pool of Corpus funds. Meetings of the Committees of these funds were held in January 2023 and a plan of action developed. For instance, the VMMF-IAWS Young Scholars Award was advertised and 26 entries were received. After selection by a duly constituted jury, the Award will be presented at the Next IAWS Conference in September 2023.

The process of the transfer of the cash and securities of the CWDS Employees Contributory Provident Fund (CPF) Trust to the Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) was completed. It may be remembered that since August 2021, CWDS has been crediting the contributions to the employees' individual EPFO accounts. However, employees are still not able to access their monies as the CPF Trust has to be legally dissolved. The reason for the delay in the dissolution of the trust is that the Punjab State Industrial Corporation (PSID) was not giving interest to the Principal of 25 lacs. This matter had to be settled before the Trust could be dissolved. After much correspondence, it was decided by the Trust to go in for one-time settlement to reclaim the principal, and to follow up the matter later to obtain the interest. Consequently, the principal has been received by CWDS, and the process of dissolution will be completed. Furthermore, CWDS is also contesting the penalties being imposed on CWDS for delay in transferring the Trust proceeds. A legal Consultant has been engaged to assist in this regard. It may be noted that much of the delay is due to the extremely slow movement at the EPFO end.



RESEARCH PROJECTS

Research is the central activity of the CWDs. Our work is multiple and cross-cutting in nature and addresses a range of themes such as labour, migration, violence, education, sexuality, health, governance, disability, social exclusion and representation. These themes are explored from diverse and rigorous perspectives and diverse methodologies such as qualitative micro-studies or macro-level data sets.

Engendering Change: Exploring the interlinkages between Marriage, Disability, Sexuality and Knowledge Building in India from a Women's Studies perspective (with support from the Ford Foundation)

This project was initiated in the latter part of 2017 with support from the Ford Foundation, and was set to conclude in September 2022. Due to the delay in pandemic, a request for no-cost extension request was made. The activities are to resume towards completion of the project as soon as the request is accepted. To recapitulate the project comprises the following segments:

(a) Analysing Early and Child Marriage in India: The Interlocking Markets of Education, Marriage and Work

Mary E John is the principal investigator and has been assisted at various stages by Nidhi Mehta, Nidhi Varma and Risha Singh.

(b) Intersectional Analysis of Disability and Sexuality

Renu Addlakha is the Principal Investigator and has been assisted at different stages of the project by Tejaswi Chhatwal, Shantanue Vidhur Nevrekar, K. Radhika and Neha Narayanana.

(c) Knowledge Gateway on Women's Studies in South Asia and Creating a Digital Archive of Grey Literature on Women's Studies

The Library Team is anchoring this segment, which has three sub divisions viz.

- i) Digital Archive Development on Women's Studies
- ii) Knowledge Gateway: Women's Studies Portal
- iii) Specialised library services for Visually Impaired

(d) Building Capacities of Women's Studies Centres in Regional Contexts

Indrani Mazumdar and Indu Agnihotri are coordinating this segment of the project.

Unpaid House Work and Care Work - Rapid Ethnographic Assessment – Phase II

The project is part of a multi-country pilot project of the ILO titled 'Closing the gender data gap on unpaid domestic and care work to support monitoring of the 2030 Agenda.' The overall aim of the project is to develop cost-effective research design for the regular production of data on unpaid domestic and care work (UDCW). As part of this

project, a Rapid Ethnographic Survey to understand time and time use of individuals was carried out by CWDS. The ethnographic survey was taken up in three villages, namely, Gharonthi (rural), Jassia (semi-urban) and Meoli (backward rural) in Haryana. The field work was conducted in October - December, 2021 and a preliminary report was submitted in December, 2021. Based on the preliminary report the project was extended for 5 months with additional funding to analyse the data and developing a detailed report.

Research Team: Neetha N (Principal Researcher), Indrani Mazumdar (Consultant), Aanchal Dhull (Research Associate)

Multi-dimensional Gender Equality and Freedom from Violence: Innovating Research and Catalyzing Partnerships – supported by Ford Foundation

● (Project Directors – Neetha N. and Renu Addlakha)

As in the case of the project Engendering Change: Exploring the interlinkages between Marriage, Disability, Sexuality and Knowledge Building in India from a Women’s Studies perspective the extension of the BUILD grant is pending since June 2022 with the Ford Foundation. Many ongoing activities had to be discontinued and no new activities were undertaken up after May 2022. Five position papers on different themes from the perspective of violence and its inter-linkages with inequality were undertaken by CWDS faculty and are in its final stage. The themes are women’s economic inequality, disability, health, citizenship rights and marginalization.

(a) Layered Gendered Violence, Gender Inequalities and Health Care Settings in India: What Exists and Beyond

Health care settings (clinics, nursing homes, hospitals, diagnostic laboratories) are both sites of care and workplace. These settings are not free of violence, abuse and their types and nomenclatures of violence can be wide and its consequences can be far-reaching. While working on this background paper, we noted that in Indian context there is limited material on the gendered nature of violence in health care settings. Violence in healthcare settings is ubiquitous that requires visibility. Violence within the health care system is one of the most hidden forms of violence women face either while availing care and or as healthcare providers. Dialogues around health care workplace harassment even though minimal have explored issues of workplace (public and private) harassment (physical, sexual and mental). This includes a wide range of violence like physical and verbal violence, mistreatment through exclusion and discrimination, bullying and aggression and institutional and managerial violence. Women health worker’s experiences show that much of it goes undocumented and

unreported. It is imperative to understand the nature of violence women experience in the health care system as it is also a site of care and healing.

The draft background paper prepared will be finalised. It comprises of five sections that explores how do we understand violence within the healthcare system, when the neoliberal policies in healthcare, inequality and gender interact; nature of reproductive violence, its prevalence and impacts; and workplace violence as experienced by the women healthcare workers and redressal mechanism.

Research Team: Bijoya Roy (Principal Researcher), C U Thresia (Consultant), and Sneha B Makkad (Research Assistant)

(b) Disability, Gender and Violence: What we Know and What Needs to be Explored

The aim of this position/background paper is to present an overview of the contemporary research in the area of disability, gender and violence with a particular focus on India. It is important to explicate the core concepts of disability gender and violence both individually and in their layers of intersections. Disability is a term whose definition continues to evolve with time through the advancement in scientific & medical knowledge and the newer ways of interpreting the living environment. The first section of the paper discusses the multiple dimensions of the evolving concept of disability with a brief historical overview, philosophical roots, definitional components, linguistic renderings, models and paradigms. The cross-section of disability and gender is explored in the second section. The focus within gender is mostly on the female gender along with the Cis & Trans* people with disabilities. Within this wide spectrum lies the element of violence. Yet another broad concept that can be tacit or explicit in its expression includes verbal, physical, sexual, mental, emotional, financial, institutional, structural and systemic violence. Additionally, with reference to disability, the denial of food and fluids is also considered to be a form of violence. So there are forms of violence that are disability-specific and other forms of violence that may be gender-specific. Then, there are types of violence that impact the individual, and there are forms of violence that impact a whole group. For instance, domestic violence equally impacts disabled women and non-disabled women, but lack of reporting of crimes against disabled persons is a group-based issue, since such disaggregated data is not collected at a macro-level in most parts of the world.

While offering a theoretical understanding of the core concepts, each section also highlights the dominant recent research carried out on the issue through the lens of disability. For instance, the section on disability contains references to studies looking at it not only from the medical, human rights or legal perspectives but also from the

philosophical, socio-cultural (including religion) viewpoints positioning it within a cross-cultural and trans-historical framework. Similarly, the section on gender highlights how the category has got disaggregated making space for multiple marginalities therein, and how specifically disability and gender intersect in the research domain. The section on violence shows how different research approaches have tried to explore the disability-gender-violence interface and what inferences can be drawn therefrom.

(Research Team: Renu Addlakha (Principal Researcher) and Seema Baquer (Consultant))

(c) Decoding the Economic base of Inequality and Gender-Based Violence in Contemporary India

The paper is part of the BUILD grant. The paper applies a political economy lens to capture development trajectories and economic and social differentiations. Empirical evidence on trends in women's economic location as workers, as women, as citizens, tracking women's exclusion from productive work – decline in agriculture and traditional sector of employment – class/social group – marginality, distress migration, urban slums and working class localities, are examined and analysed to explore women's economic status and how these factors work to worsen/redefine the structural dimensions of women's inequality. The paper also discusses the data gaps and methodological challenges for a better understanding of the interconnections between growing violence and the economic conditions.

(Research Team: Neetha N (Principal Researcher) and Indrani Mazumdar (Consultant))

(d) Gender, Citizenship and Violence against Women

This paper focuses on the intersections between citizenship, gender and violence in contemporary India. The paper presents a critical overview of a select range of contemporary scholarly literature on the core concept of gendered citizenship in India. The suggestion here is that gendering of citizenship takes place along multiple and intersecting axes of caste, class, religion, ethnicity, and sexuality, among others. The purpose of the paper is to identify and map the differential and graded experiences of citizenship along these axes. The hierarchical ordering of citizenship that accumulates along these axes, persuades us to map the experiences of citizenship in terms of both 'deviations' from the principle of equality that inheres in citizenship, and the ways in which 'differentiated' citizenship can be made as the basis of recognising the contexts within which citizenship takes form. The paper is divided into four sections. The first section explores the literature on citizenship to examine the different ways in which citizenship as 'full and equal membership in the political community' has been discussed

in works coming from different fields, disciplines and perspectives. The second section examines the category of violence. The third section titled 'gendered citizenship' elaborates in separate sections the manner in which citizenship is 'experienced' along the different fault-lines of caste, class, sex, ethnicity, religion and sexuality. The fourth section focuses specifically on the gendering of citizenship as seen from the lens of violence. Underscoring the value for an intersectional, gendered analytic frame the paper suggests areas for further areas.

Research Team: Seema Kazi (Principal Researcher) and Anupama Roy Jawaharlal Nehru University (Consultant).

(e) Caste Inequality and Violence against Women in India

The broad aim of this jointly written position/background paper is to discuss contemporary research in the complex interlocking spheres of caste and gender-based violence and inequality with reference to women's lives in India and with a special focus on Dalit women. India's caste system is one of the most complex, multi-layered and longest-surviving social hierarchies worldwide. It has been the subject of long-standing and ongoing research for at least two centuries. While deeply researched at several levels, this research is uneven. The paper has been divided into three sections. The first section focuses on reviewing the existing literature on multidimensional aspects of caste and gender-based violence and inequality. It attempts to review how inequality and violence have been theorised by scholars in social sciences and the work stemming from the Women's Movement. In particular, there is an examination of the concept of "atrocities" as a category in crimes against Dalit women. The second reviews the literature on Caste, gender and Labour. This section reviews recent academic literature on the intersecting themes of gender, caste, and labour. It also considers that it is impossible to understand the gendered connotations of caste and labour without considering all kinds of gender identities. Dalit women's work is among the main focus areas of this review. The third section accentuates Educational Institutions in India. This section broadly aims to interrogate the interplay of inequality and violence in the journey of Dalit women in schooling and higher education, particularly experiences of discrimination. Emphasis will be on reviewing the literature that has studied the production and reproduction of inequality and violence based on caste, class and gender in these sites. This section also analyses how the increase in access to formal education, especially higher education is a contradictory phenomenon – providing inclusion at one level but also giving rise to newer forms of violence and inequality. The last section concludes the paper by reflecting on the future research.

Research Team: Vandana, Mary E. John (Consultant) and Shivani Kapoor, Jindal Global Law School (Consultant), Research Associate: Ms Srishti Srivastava

Measuring Unpaid Domestic and Care Work: Pilot Time Use Survey (Funded by ILO)

The Project is being undertaken at the request of the International Labour Organisation (ILO), Geneva. The 19th ICLS standards expanded the scope of work situations to integrate the regular production of statistics on unpaid care and domestic work (UCDW) as part of official national statistics. This is intended to improve analysis of gender-based inequalities in labour force participation, employment characteristics, divisions of paid and unpaid labour, and total work time, as well as assessments of the relationships and trade-offs between participation in, and access to, paid and unpaid work.

The project is part of this programme to support the implementation of the international standards on statistics of work, employment, and labour under-utilisation. The study aims to assess the performance, and evaluate the relative strengths and weaknesses, of two time-use measurement methods, configured for attachment to national LFS. A CAPI (computer aided personal interviewing) tool developed by ILO was used which had three sections. Section 1 collects background information about the selected household through interviewing one member of each household. Section 2 collects more detailed background information for two selected household members. Section 3 is the time use module, which records what the selected individuals did in the day before the interview. Each eligible household member completes section 2 and 3 for her /himself. For time-use, two different time-use schedules are used with half of the selected households interviewed using one approach.

The study is conducted in Haryana, covering 3 sites - rural, remote rural, and urban area. The three chosen sites were Rohtak, Jhajjar, and Nuh districts. In Jhajjar and Nuh two villages and in Rothak two urban wards were selected. Within each village / urban ward, a sample of households was randomly selected using available data on household listing. Two eligible (aged 15 or over) household members, a couple if possible, were selected and the survey was conducted on select days as per the protocol. From each village, 140 households and 280 individuals were selected thus a total of 1120 time use schedules were collected from the 4 villages. In Rothak, 175 households each from the selected two wards were selected and about 700 time-use schedules were collected. A total of 910 households were finally surveyed, consisting of 1840 individuals. The sample households were divided into 7 days in a week to capture the day wise variation in time use if any. The raw data after cleaning was submitted to ILO. The analysis of the data is in progress and the final report on the study is under progress. A workshop was held on 3 October 2023 in collaboration with ILO Delhi to disseminate the findings of the study.

Research Team: Neetha N (Principal Researcher) & Indrani Mazumdar (Senior Research Consultant), Aanchal Dhull (Research Consultant); Data Analyst- Dinabhandu Mondal

Mothers' Negotiating for Daughters' (Higher) Education: Studying the Intersection of Caste, Class and Gender in the Balmiki Community' (Funded by ICSSR)

The conception of the study began with internal funding from the Centre in 2020. On March 2022, a small grant was received under OH-31 from ICSSR to conduct the empirical study. The study broadly focused on exploring and analysing mothering in the Balmiki community (a Scheduled Castes) that have played a role in their daughters' journey to higher education. The project started on 1st April 2022. The project director recruited one Research Associate (RA) to conduct the fieldwork. A semi-structured interview tool was developed. The project director had to go on Maternity leave from 24th May 2022 to 19th November 2022 and, later on, briefly on Child Care Leave. The project work got delayed. However, she continued guiding RA to carry on the data collection process. The first round of data collection is over, and so far, 30 mothers have been interviewed. The transcription and data coding process is under process.

Principal Investigator – Vandana; Research Associate - Ms Shilpa Bhagat; Transcription - Ms Sunita Kumari

From Memory to History (Funded by CWDS)

An oral history series with the name "From Memory to History" has been initiated to generate resources related to women status, education and social change. Under this initiative, activists, educationalists, and experts on women's issues are invited to share their long engagement and experiences in an interview which will be then document and preserved in the library. These interviews will be made available to the users of CWDS Library for research and scholarly purpose. Under this initiative, so far 12 interviews had been conducted with experts from different parts of India including Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, and also from Bangladesh and Afghanistan

Research Team – Sanghamitra Jana Chatterjee, MadhuShree Pandya, Akhlak Ahmad, Indu Agnihotri.

SHORT PROJECTS FUNDED BY CWDS AND BEING UNDERTAKEN BY RESEARCH ASSOCIATES

Minor Forest Produce & Livelihood in Bankura: A Gender Analysis (Funded by CWDS-ICSSR)

● Principal Investigator: Bhaswati Thakurta

This study explores the role of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) dependent livelihood generation through a gender lens. The study selected four MFPs (Mahua, Myrobalan, Kendu leaves and Bel) for this study in three villages in the southern forest division of Bankura, West Bengal. The value chain of these products has been observed from the lower strata to the city level market. In the case of Mahua, the study extends to Jharkhand to follow the value chain since West Bengal has no market for Mahua. The Pilot study took place in June 2019 and the subsequent field study was conducted in November 2019. The tribal women are mostly involved in the gathering of MFPs, but with minimum gain. The study focuses on women's work and production chain in order to expand knowledge about women's effort in collecting these forest products, their level of earnings and so on including the seasonal dimension. The study emphasises the socio-cultural significance of MFP given the social significance of these products in the lives of women from tribal backgrounds, apart from its economic benefits for tribal women. Further field work on the project was hampered by the pandemic and analysis of existing data is underway. Currently based on this research development of a paper is going on.

Education is the Recipe for all Ailments: Looking into the Everyday Educational Practices at Home and School (Funded by CWDS-ICSSR)

● Principal Investigator – Gayatri Panda

I have been in the process of collecting the reading materials. I have worked on the framing of the paper. I need to once again look through the structure of the paper to align with the recent research studies and weave together to write up the report.

North East Migrant Women in Service Sectors: Evidence from Manipuri women in Delhi and NCR regions (Funded by CWDS-ICSSR)

● Principal Investigator - Khundongbam Gyanabati Devi

This is a field-based exploration of the unique aspects of out-migration of North east women given special reference from Manipur, working in private hospitals and clinics, retail stores and call centers in Delhi and the NCR. The study was targeted to conducted interviews of these women to collect information about social demographic characteristics, working conditions along with exploring their experiences and vulnerabilities in place of work. The study employs snowball method. A large number of women were interviewed using a structured questionnaire.

The initial phase of the study was confined to extensive reading/analysis of available secondary sources, to which a working paper titled 'Understanding Northeast Women Working in Service Sectors in Metropolitan Cities: Reviewing the Story so far' was developed. It is envisaged that this shall be developed into a larger research project substantiated with the collection of primary data.

The study was disrupted at several stages due to unavoidable circumstances related to pandemic crisis and its related consequences. Interviews were held up on account of the pandemic but have resumed in 2023. Data collected has been entered and analysis is in process. In the meantime, a paper titled 'Northeast Women's Migration: Problems and Challenges' which was presented on a national webinar has been developed into a full length research paper incorporating comments and suggestions received during the webinar. The intent is to publish the revised paper in a refereed journal.

Study on the Impact of COVID 19 on Maternal Health in Small Towns of Manipur (Funded by CWDS-ICSSR)

● Principal Investigator - Khundongbam Gyanabati Devi

This is a small study to analyse the impact of COVID 19 on maternal health care in small towns of Manipur, where health services are lacking and social stigma and community norms are strong. Interviews of mothers who gave birth during the Covid-19 episode were conducted. Through the help of Anganwadi workers and ASHA workers, mothers were identified for data collection of the study. Based on the interviews collected, a research paper titled 'Maternal Care and Covid 19: Narratives of Mothers of Imphal, North-east Manipur', was presented at Indian Anthropology Congress, 2022, joint organized by Indian National Confederation and Academy of Anthropologists, INCAA and University of Hyderabad, Dept. of Anthropology. The paper is being further developed into a full length paper for publication in a refereed journal.

Gender Resource Centre Closure and Effects on Women: An Exploratory Study in Delhi (Funded by CWDS-ICSSR)

● Principal Investigator – Nayantara Singh

As per Delhi Government report the main objective of Gender Resource Centres (GRC) was to empower the underprivileged and economically weaker women through social, economic, and legal means. Till the year 2015, 132 GRC centres were operating in Delhi.

This study seeks to explore the changes being made by the present government, the working status of GRC, and the livelihood condition of the women associated with them in order to gauge the effect of GRC closure on women's socio-economic status. It further seeks to examine the employment status of women associated with GRC and the effect of closure on their lives. The study seeks to document the effects of unemployment on women's lives, especially of women working in the unorganized sector.

This is an exploratory study. For the purposes of the study, two NGOs associated with GRC i.e. Action India and Society for Participatory Integrated Development (SPID) were studied. A total of ten women (Program Manager, Coordinator, Mobilizer and Beneficiaries) from each GRC were interviewed. The study used multiple tools of data collection i.e. questionnaire, in-depth interviews, questionnaire based interview with beneficiaries, and focus group discussion with the community member. Field work is complete and a final draft is ready for publication as a research paper based on the study.

Effect of Corona pandemics on Domestic Female workers: A case study of Delhi (Funded by CWDS-ICSSR)

● Researcher: Nayantara Singh

A pilot research study entitled 'Effect of Corona pandemics on Domestic Female Workers: A case study of Delhi' was undertaken based on a review of relevant literature. A paper presentation entitled, "Impact of Corona pandemic on female domestic workers: A study of Delhi" based on the study was made in UGC Sponsored Two Day National Seminar on 'Issues and Challenges of Organized Workforce (pre and post Covid) in India', Organised by Dept. of HRM, Acharya Nagarjuna University, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh.

More comprehensive field work is planned in order to analyse different dimensions of the study and publish a research paper based on the same.

TEACHING WOMEN'S STUDIES

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

CWDS faculty continue to discharge supervisory duties for AUD WGS students some of whom completed and submitted their respective dissertation and await their viva and award of Degree. It may be noted that after September 2023 CWDS Faculty were re-designated as co-supervisors to the students for whom they were primary supervisors. This was necessitated by the AUD adopting UGC Regulations stipulating that there could be no external supervisors for students enrolled in AUD.

List and Status of completed and ongoing AUD Women and Gender Studies Ph.D. Dissertation supervision by CWDS Faculty 2022-2023:

Prof. Renu Addlakha (co-Supervisor)

Submitted: Neeraj Kumar (M.Phil.)

Dissertation Title: Dalit Queer in India: Experiences and Politics

Prof. Neetha N

Completed, Degree awaited:

- ❖ Sudeshna Sen Gupta, WGS Ambedkar University, Dissertation Submitted. Degree yet to be awarded. Title: The Social and Political Economy of Paid and Unpaid Work: Lives of Informal Sector Workers in Urban India.
- ❖ Mamtha Devi: WGS Ambedkar University, Dissertation Submitted. Degree yet to be awarded. Title: Women as Trade Unionists in India: A Case Study of Centre of Indian Trade Unions.
- ❖ Vanita Prabhakar Tumsare: CLSI, TISS Mumbai, Dissertation Submitted. Degree yet to be awarded. Title: Life World of Gond Women Farmers: Daily Lives, Livelihoods Struggles, and Negotiations

Ongoing:

- ❖ PhD supervision: Chaitanya Khandewal, Ambedkar University, Title: Production Organisations, Technological Changes and Women Workers: A Case Study of Handblock Printing Industry of Rajasthan.
- ❖ PhD supervision. Samiksha Kapoor: Jawaharlal Nehru University, ICSSR Doctoral Fellow. Title: Trade Union challenges in organizing the unorganized: A study of NCR region, India.

Dr. Seema Kazi

Ongoing:

- ❖ PhD supervision: Kunzang Angmo, WGS Ambedkar University. Title: Women and Interfaith Marriage in Ladakh.

Dr. Bijoya Roy

Ongoing:

- ❖ PhD supervision Shefali Kishore: (In)Visible Women's Body, Assisted Reproductive Technology and Growth of Fertility Market: An Exploratory Study of Jharkhand.

Coordinators: Dr. Seema Kazi, Dr. Bijoya Roy.

ICSSR Institutional Doctoral Fellowships in Women's Studies (2022-23)

Since 2013, CWDS has been inviting applications and administering the ICSSR Institutional Doctoral Fellowships in Women's Studies. Since its inception a total of 31 fellowships have been disbursed. Fourteen fellows out of the 30 were from the CWDS-AUD Collaborative Research Programme in Women's and Gender Studies while sixteen scholars were from other universities.

In the year 2021-22 the ICSSR suspended the fellowship programme citing financial constraints. Two batches of students from 2018-2020 and 2019-2021 are currently fellowship holders. In 2022-23 two fellowships have been disbursed by ICSSR to CWDS for the scholar.

Fellowship Programme Coordinator: Seema Kazi.

Post-Doctoral Supervision of Dr. K. Annapuranam Affiliated to Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India

Dr. K. Annapuranam has received a two-year post-doctoral fellowship from the Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India to undertake a survey research on Impact of Covid 19 on Education of SC/ST Students'. Currently she is currently finalising her Report. She is affiliated to CWDS and Renu Addlakha is her post-doctoral supervisor.

LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES

The Vina Mazumdar Memorial Library (VMML) named after Late Prof. Vina Mazumdar, is an integral part of the Centre. Set up in 1980 when the Centre was established, the library has till date provided significant research support to faculties, researchers, scholars, activists, students from all over India and abroad. It has a rich collection of research materials related to gender and women studies and is a resource hub on diverse disciplinary approaches and analyses from a women and gender perspective. The VMML library is located at the YWCA building, Ashoka Road, New Delhi. The library provides a range of information services catering to expressed and anticipated needs of the scholars in the form of books, journals, online resources and digital resources.

Ongoing Activities

Knowledge Gateway: VMML has created a portal on Women's Studies in the South Asia Region (SAR). The basic objectives of the portal are: i) to share resources, opportunities and a global integrated technology platform for all Women's Studies' organisations in the SAR Region; ii) to facilitate networking, learning and sharing of experiences among Women's Studies communities in the SAR; iii) to develop a nodal access point for information on and in Women's Studies in the SAR.

Digital Archive Development: The digital restoration work is ongoing on for the following types of collections viz. Institutional Collections, Individual Collections, Conference Document Collections, Miscellaneous Collections and Periodical Articles. So far a total of almost 5000 e-documents have been digitised and integrated in D-Space.

Instituting Specialized library services for the Visually Challenged: The library accords importance to the differently abled. Towards this end, it is in the process of developing specialised services for visually challenged visitors. So far 90 documents have been converted into DAISY format. DAISY Books are made to be a complete audio substitute for print material for use by people with print disability.

Oral History: An oral history series with the name "From Memory to History" has been initiated to generate resources related to women's status, education and social change. Oral conversations are used as a method to capture and recover histories delineating the contours of development of women's lives and women's studies agendas against the backdrop of change within India and the South Asian region.

Collection Development

The VMML Library's Collection Development focuses on the collection of literature on women's studies in the form of mimeo papers, articles, books, annotated bibliographies, statistics, theses, dissertations, occasional papers, conference documents, reports, newspaper clippings, policy documents, audio-visuals and other electronic information resources purchased or received on complimentary basis. Special attention is given to collect unpublished materials through its institutional channels in India and abroad. The thrust areas for the collection during 2022-23 continued to be Early and Child Marriage, Sexuality, Disabilities and Violence Against Women, Marginalised Castes, Women's Health, Feminism, Women's Employment, Migration, Women's Status, Women-Literature, Women-Biographies, Women's Law and Violence against Women and Resources in Hindi etc.

New Additions

Collections which have been added to the Library Database in 2022-23 are:

- ❖ A total of 2,066 articles from journals and newspapers were added during April 2022-March 2023. Full-text newspaper articles were downloaded/ digitized and added to e-collection.
- ❖ A total of 289 books, monographs, reports, conference documents has been added to the library collection database during the period. Out of 289 documents there are 31 Hindi books, 8 Theses, 39 Mimeo Papers.
- ❖ A total of 2,355 records has been added to the Koha (catalogue) database. Currently the library has almost 17,289 books and other documents. Presently the Koha (catalogue) database has over 1,34,355 + records including 46,066+ full text articles from journals and newspapers available only through intranet.

Books purchased and Journal Subscribed in 2022-23 are:

- ❖ Total number of books purchased in 2022-23 is 116.
- ❖ The Library subscribes 32 Indian journals and also receives 5 (2 Indian + 4 Foreign) journals on regular exchange basis for IJGS.

Information Services

The Library has been providing a number of information services on a regular basis to facilitate the dissemination of its resources. Highlights of our information services are:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">● OPAC – Online Public Access Catalogue● Current Awareness Bulletin (Bi- monthly)● Reference and Referral● Database Search including full-text● Inter-Library Loan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Web-Bibliographies● BOL – An Electronic Discussion List on Gender Issues in South Asia● Reading Room Services● Photocopying and Printouts
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Current Awareness Bulletin (Bi-Monthly)

Since 1984, the Library has been regularly bringing out "Current Awareness Bulletin" a bi-monthly publication for users with current information in the field of women's studies appearing in the form of books, conference documents and reports, periodical

articles and newspapers items that have been added to the library collection. During this financial year a total 6 issues of CAB have been brought out and is available for download in PDF format at:

<https://www.cwds.ac.in/information/services/current-awareness-bulletin/> .

- No. 5-6, May-June 2022
- No.7-8, July-August 2022
- No.9-10, September-October 2022
- No.11-12, November-December 2022
- No.1-2, January – February 2023
- No.3-4 March – April 2023

Bol: An Electronic Discussion List on Gender Issues in South Asia

VMML is moderating BOL since 2000. Currently it has 1180 members from 40 different countries.

Users & Documents Consulted

Between April 2022 to March 2023 there 136 users accessed the library out of which 50 are new users. 47 new users are from different states viz. Delhi, Haryana, Jammu & Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh Maharashtra, Mizoram, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and 3 new users are from Japan, USA and UK.

Documents including 285 books, 71 Conference Documents, 5 Reference Books, 11 Mimeo Paper, 107 Journals were consulted in the library between April 2022 to March 2023. Approximately 1400 pages of different documents were photocopied on request from scholars.

ONLINE SEMINARS/WORKSHOPS/ CONFERENCES/DIALOGUES

Organising seminars, workshops and conferences is an important way to interact with a larger pool of researchers, students, activists and policy makers providing newer directions to our work. Over the last year almost all such events were carried out in online mode.

The Distinguished Lecture series celebrating 40 years of CWDS came to a close in May 2022.

CWDS Seminars, Webinars and Lectures

On Occasion of International Yoga Day

❖ Women's Well-being and Yoga

Dr. Kanchan Chowdhury, Assistant Professor, Department of Swasthavritta and Yoga, Faculty of Ayurveda, Institute of Medical Sciences, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi
Yoga Demonstrator: Dr. Jayant Nagar (PG Scholar III), Dept. of Swasthavritta and Yoga, Faculty of Ayurveda, Institute of Medical Sciences, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, 21 June, 2022

Empowering women, particularly in the context of health, not only contributes to improving the quality of their lives but also enhances their capacities to participate fully across all sectors of nation building. Yoga is a science for the integrated, holistic development of the physical, mental and spiritual aspects of human life. The importance of yoga is now recognized internationally but its role in enhancing women's well-being is still not well recognized. Yoga can help women to not only achieve a better health status but also to lead overall successful and fulfilling lives. This presentation sought to combine conceptual ideas with practical demonstration, since Yoga is both a doctrine and a physical and mental discipline.

❖ **Virtual Seminar – Researching Gender during Covid-19: Interdisciplinary Challenges, Organised by CWDS (Supported by ICSSR), 22-23 September, 2022**

A virtual seminar 'Researching Gender during Covid: Interdisciplinary Challenges' supported by ICSSR was organized by CWDS on 22-23 September 2022. Seminar Coordinators were Dr. Seema Kazi and Dr. Bijoya Roy. Transcription of seminar proceedings and assistance in report writing was provided by Rajneesh.

The Covid-19 crisis is complex and cross-cutting. Its effects were not gender neutral, impacting women and men in differential ways. Even as emerging reports indicate strong evidence of gender-specific implications for women across social domains, there is relatively little data or information on the differential impact of Covid-19 on girls and women. Women are among those most heavily affected, especially with regard to sexual and reproductive health. The pandemic has and will continue to have a major impact on the health and well-being of many vulnerable groups.

Increased dependence on the online mode opened up the possibility of using the virtual mode to facilitate collaboration across different disciplines, institutions and regions, increase opportunities to present and share data, and enhance greater interaction between academics and researchers. The seminar provided an opportunity for greater inter-disciplinary, intersectional research across disciplinary areas both as a way to recover from the disruptions caused by Covid19 crisis, and as a method of institutional and academic consolidation.

Individual presenters comprising academics, researchers and students from different disciplinary backgrounds were invited to make panel presentations on different gender dimensions of Covid19 based on the following themes:

- ❖ Women's Employment
- ❖ Gender and Health
- ❖ Gender-based Violence
- ❖ Gender and Disability
- ❖ Caste and Gender
- ❖ Gender Dimensions of Migration
- ❖ Academic Research and Field Work

The Virtual Seminar opened with a Keynote Speech by independent scholar Dr. Suneetha followed by panel presentation on specific themes relating to Covid-19 and gender. There were a total of 24 external participants comprising academics, researchers and students. Three panels were held each day. Each individual panel participant was given

approximately 20 minutes for his/her presentation followed by a 10-minute discussion. The two-day seminar included a Special Talk by Sarojini Nadimpally, Public Health Researcher and Social Scientist. CWDS faculty participated in the Virtual Seminar as discussants.

The schedule of the workshop is given below:

Session 1: Women's Employment

Discussant: Prof Neetha N, Professor CWDS

Speaker: Shiney Chakraborty, Assistant Professor, Amity University, Noida

Crisis Continues for Women Workers in India

Speaker: Deepika Singh, Centre for Political Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University

Care Work during Covid-19: women worked while the world went into lockdown

Speaker: Akashleena, Department of Political Science, University of Delhi

Occupation-Housewife: Navigating 'Home' and 'Work' in times of 'Work from Home

Session 2: Gender, Caste and Religion

Discussant: Dr. Seema Kazi, Professor, CWDS

Speaker: Dr. Smita Patil, Assistant Professor, IGNOU

Reading Caste, Gender and Covid

Speaker: Sylvia Karpagam, Public Health Doctor, Karnataka

Looking through a Gender Lens at the Adverse impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on marginalised and Vulnerable Communities

Speaker: Sanjeev Kumar, Centre for Political Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University

Women, Caste and Religion interrogating the Satrol Khap Panchayat in Covid19 Pandemic in Haryana

Session 3: Gender Dimensions of Migration

Discussant: Dr. Smita Patil, Indira Gandhi National Open University

Speaker: Mithun Som and Rani Rohini Mohan, Independent Researcher and Azim Premji University

Going Back Home: Migrant students' experience of COVID-19 lockdown

Speaker: Gayatri, Department of Applied Economics, Cochin University of Science and Technology, Kochi

Understanding Gender and Autonomy in Social Space: A Brief Study On Migrant Women's Health and Social Adaptation

Speaker: Latika Vishnoi, Department of Political Science, Gargi College

Gender, Morality and Structure: Understanding the Effects of Covid 19 migration

Session 4: Gender, Health and Disability

Discussant: Prof. Renu Addlakha, Professor, CWDS

Speaker: K. Jyothi, and C.T. Anitha, School of Medical Sciences, University of Hyderabad
Community Health Workers' Challenges in Covid 19: An Intersectionality Study

Speaker: Manisha Manjari Jena, Department of Sociology, Utkal University, Odisha
Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic on the Lives of Women with Disabilities Pursuing Higher Education: A Comparative Study in Utkal University, Odisha

Speaker: Sandhya Gautam and Bijoya Roy, SEHER and Centre for Women's Development Studies

Role of Traditional indigenous midwives in India (Dais) during the time of Covid19

Session 5: Gender based Violence

Discussant: Dr. Anagha Sarpotdar, Social Scientist, Independent Researcher

Speaker: Arti Devi, Centre for South Asian Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University
Gender and Disasters: A Study of Violence Against Women during COVID-19 in India

Speaker: Riya Pramanik, Department of Political Science, University of Delhi
Brutalizing Women's Bodies: Impact of Lockdown (Pandemic) in Delhi

Session 6: Academic Research and Field Work

Discussant: Dr. Smitha Sasidharan Nair, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai

Speaker: Neeraj Kumar, Women and Gender Studies Ambedkar University, Delhi
Researching 'Dalit queer' in the time Covid-19

Speaker: Anamika Priyadarshini and Madhuparna Das Joshi, Centre for Catalyzing Change, Patna

Conducting Research in COVID Times: Strength and Potential of Feminist Research Approach

❖ **29th J.P.Naik Memorial Lecture**

Will prenatal sex selection ever stop?

Christophe Z Guilmoto, Senior Fellow in Demography, Centre des Sciences Humaines, New Delhi, India International Centre, 3 February, 2023

CWDS holds an annual J.P. Naik Memorial Lecture in honour of J.P. Naik - a founder of the Centre. A lecture/public talk is delivered by a distinguished speaker on any theme related to women's lives. The 29th J.P. Naik Memorial Lecture was delivered by Christophe Z Guilmoto, Senior Fellow in Demography, Centre des Sciences Humaines, on 3 February 2023 at India International Centre, New Delhi.

The lecture focused on the prenatal sex selection proved that has been difficult to identify after high proportions of male births were first noticed in some Asian countries during the 1980s. It took many years for statisticians to agree on the magnitude of sex imbalances at birth and the role played by sex-selective abortions in them, and many more years for governments to acknowledge the presence of deliberate elimination of female births. The interpretation of a phenomenon observed in India—but also from Albania to South Korea—was not easy given the cultural, economic and political diversity of affected countries and the multiplicity of potential local factors, ranging from family planning policies and dowry to political crises or conflicts. While son preference (or daughter aversion) is at the core of prenatal sex selection, we need to recognize the contributions of other factors such as smaller family size (the so-called fertility squeeze effect) and the emergence of prenatal sex diagnosis tools such as ultrasound.

But can the retrospective understanding of the emergence of prenatal sex selection help us to foresee its future evolution? It is time to wonder if after decades of sex imbalances at birth in several countries from Eastern Europe to Eastern Asia, we are in a better position to anticipate the future course of sex selection. As is common with demographic matters, government interventions are expected to correct population issues and the gradual introduction of policies targeting sex selection—starting with India's Pre-Conception & Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques Act rolled out as early as 1994 - was supposed to reduce the propensity of couples to resort to sex selection. But in view of the modest effectiveness of these policies, the prognosis for future reductions in sex imbalances at birth may appear less optimistic. After all, fertility in many affected countries has become or remained very low—often below the replacement level - and should continue to exert pressure on parents who want a son. Similarly, access to sex-selective technologies has gradually improved due to the

expansion of the private healthcare system. Finally, there is no forceful theory for a downturn in son preference as women's condition was on the whole already improving decades ago.

The lecture focused on various trajectories of sex ratios at birth across the world to try and decipher its specific patterns. Somewhat independently of the pace of local socioeconomic change or of government interventions, sex imbalances appear to invariably level off at a high plateau level—corresponding to a deficit of female births of 5-15%—before beginning a subsequent decline. This particular pattern can be even replicated statistically by using Bayesian tools and the latest forecasts point to a future downturn of prenatal sex selection and its probable disappearance within the next two decades.

Factors endogenous to the initial rise of sex-selective abortions may account for its ultimate downturn and a return to normalcy. While offering a somewhat optimistic assessment of the apparently spontaneous evolution of sex imbalances, this interpretation should not minimize their lasting impact of the age and sex structures of affected populations or underemphasize the massive marriage squeeze mounting in countries such as China and India.

Training Programme

Two-day Training Programme on Time Use – ILO Project

A two-day training programme was organised during 20-21, November, 2022 at YWCA, for 30 people as part of the ILO project on Time Use. The first day was devoted to discussing and orienting the participants on the background of the project, the methodology and the different survey schedules that was developed. Training on using the CAPI tool was held on the second day.

(Team: Samantha Watson, ILO, Geneva, Neetha N (Principal Researcher) & Indrani Mazumdar (Senior Research Consultant), Aanchal Dhull (Research Consultant), Prabhu Pannusamy (Technical Consultant)

❖ Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav Lecture Series (AKAM): “Probing the Field of Dalit Feminism”

Dr. Smita Patil, Associate Professor, School of Gender and Development Studies, Indira Gandhi National Open University, 22 April 2022

Dalit studies is undergoing major ideological shifts. Critiques to changing forms of caste and gender relations are central to those changes. Dalit feminism is caught

between certain inertia and appeasement from the progressive academics. At the same time, progressive academics still are confused whether Dalit feminism should be categorized as part of identity politics or radical political intellectual discourse/praxis in the Indian context. Emergence of Dalit intellectuals/feminists in the dominant-academic space is often celebrated as revolutionary in nature. It is compared to the earlier dalit-women activist phase that was excluded from the questions of knowledge production. Dalit feminism is being discussed as a field of critical enquiry that is sidelined in the hegemonic academics. Such critical inquiry leads to the larger questions of democratization of knowledge. Questions of social and cultural capital are central to Dalit writings. The neo-liberal phase of capitalism affects the larger academic articulations in general and Dalit feminist interventions in particular. Dalit academic space is read as a ghettoised Dalit group within mainstream academic imagination. At the same time, the invisibility of Dalits in reputed educational institutions constitutes a paradox in debates on Dalit studies. The lecture attempted to rethink and re-imagine the existing contours of Dalit feminism through the above mentioned broad issues.

❖ **Situating Assamese Women and their roles in India's Freedom Struggle**

Dr. Simashree Bora, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Cotton University, Guwahati, 30 June, 2022

For long, history has obfuscated the role of women in India's freedom struggle. Specially, women's role in the struggle from North east India is not given its due in the nationalist narrative. Women from this region, their roles, participation and contributions have often gone unnoticed and seldom form collective memory of India's freedom movement. This talk problematized these dimensions while attempting a closer look at the seminal roles played by women and their mobilization during freedom struggle in Assam. The talk was divided into two sections. The first part highlighted women freedom fighters and women's political activities during the freedom struggle while the second section focused on the absence of historical narratives of Assamese women from mainstream feminist writings and literature.

❖ **Sports for Persons with Disabilities in India: The Story So far and the Way Forward**

Dr. SriPadmini Chennapragada, Founder Director, Adapted Sports India Foundation (ASIF) 29 July, 2022

Since the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games, Indian print and electronic media have increased their coverage of sports for persons with disabilities. This growth can be attributed to many factors and one of the most important of them is the passage of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPWD) Act, 2016. Within the Act, Section 30 focuses on sports, culture and recreation. The talk highlighted the paradox

of increased funding for sport from the Central government and the scant support for citizens' sport activity at the grassroots level. Within higher education and social science academia, there is little understanding regarding the intersectionality between disability and the influence of sports on everyday life. The aim of this presentation is to provide a comprehensive overview of what opportunities exist for disability sport in India and abroad. The pathways that exist, and barriers and challenges that prevent equitable access of citizens to sport as well as potential areas of intersectional work for social scientists were highlighted.

❖ **Untold Stories of Trafficked Survivors and Sex Workers in Manipur**

Prof. Ajalliu Niumai, C.V. Raman Fellow and Head, Centre for the Study of Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy, University of Hyderabad, Telangana, 25 August, 2022

Manipur has emerged as an origin and transit point for human trafficking. The presentation is based on an ongoing intersectional study of the linkage between commercial sex work and human trafficking in Manipur. Drawing on the narratives of survivors, government officials, and social workers, the study demonstrates that the processes of neo-liberalism and globalization contribute to human trafficking. The presentation employed hitherto silenced and/or absent narratives of trafficked survivors to highlight the intersectionalities underpinning women sex-worker's experiences in Manipur. Using a mixed method approach with a special focus on purposive sampling, individual interviews and case studies, the talk highlighted the limits of the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 and emphasized the need for a critical review of the Act.

❖ **Reflections on Indian Independence and Nation Building through the Lives of her First Generation of Parliamentary/Political Women**

Dr. Annie Devenish, Lecturer, History Department, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa, 29 September 2022

Does man make the age, or the age make the man?' asks well-known Indian nationalist, socialist and feminist Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay at the start of her autobiography. Of her own life and that of her generation, Chattopadhyay could just as easily be asking 'Does the woman make the age, or the age make the woman?' to which her autobiography was to answer that they make each other. Chattopadhyay's life story like that of her contemporaries – as part of a generation political and social justice activists whose careers straddle the coming of independence in India – was deeply entangled within with the anti-colonial movement and the nation building project. In her book *Debating Women's Citizenship in India 1930–1960*, Dr. Devenish documents and explores the meaning of independence for this generation and how they conceptualised the relationship between citizenship, equality and gender justice and the various

spheres in which the meaning and application of this citizenship was broadened and narrowed, renegotiated, and pursued. The talk highlighted the rich life stories of this generation and its attempt to explore the way in which Indian independence and nation building can be reflected and refracted through the lives of this first generation of Parliamentary/political women. Drawing on these autobiographical and biographical accounts, Dr. Devenish emphasised the value of life histories as a mode and method for gendered narrations of Indian history.

❖ **Foregrounding Courtesan as Political Subject in Feminist Historiography**

Dr. Lata Singh, Centre for Women's Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, 28 October 2022

The voices of marginal women remained invisible in history even as there are some recent attempts to bring them to the forefront. Nevertheless, significant sections of histories of women who do not lead 'conventional' lives and do not fit into the category of 'respectable' mothers or wives, the lives of many remarkable women in nationalist discourse still remains obscured. One such category is the courtesans who remain outside of nationalist discourse and frameworks of the 'respectable' nation underpinning the former. Courtesans are seldom perceived as creative subjects or political subjects in their own right. However, there exists historical evidence of courtesans playing significant political roles. The talk attempted to rupture dominant 'respectable' middle class nationalist discourse to shed a critical light on courtesans' troubled relationship with the nation in the making.

SAMVAD (HINDI LECTURE SERIES):

❖ **आजादी के 75 साल और दलित स्त्री,**

अनीता भारती
20 अप्रैल 2022

संवाद व्याख्यान श्रृंखला (आजादी का अमृत महोत्सव) के अंतर्गत 20 अप्रैल 2022 को "आजादी के 75 साल और दलित स्त्री" विषय पर व्याख्यान का सफल आयोजन किया गया। इस व्याख्यान की वक्ता डॉ.अनीता भारती थी। इस वक्तव्य में श्रोताओं की संख्या काफी अच्छी रही।

अनीता भारती एक प्रमुख कवयित्री, लेखिका, आलोचक और दलित और महिला अधिकारों के लिए कार्य करती है। अनीता भारती दलित महिलाओं के परिप्रेक्ष्य को हिंदी साहित्य में लाने में सबसे आगे रही हैं। वह यथास्थिति से टकराते हुए दलित स्त्री जीवन से जुड़ी कविताएं की संपादक हैं, जो दलित महिलाओं के जीवन और उनके सामने आने वाली चुनौतियों पर पैसठ कवियों द्वारा लिखित कार्यों का संग्रह है। उन्हें कई पुरस्कारों से नवाजा गया है जिसमें 1994 में राधाकृष्णन शिक्षक पुरस्कार, 2007 में इंदिरा गांधी शिक्षक पुरस्कार, 2008 में दिल्ली राज्य शिक्षक सम्मान और महिला जर्नल से 2016 में सावित्रीबाई फुले सम्मान शामिल हैं।

- ❖ **प्राचीन भारत का इतिहास: स्त्री अध्ययन और आंदोलन के संदर्भ में**
कुमकुम रॉय
5 मई 2022

संवाद व्याख्यान श्रृंखला (आज़ादी का अमृत महोत्सव) के अंतर्गत 5 मई 2022 को “**प्राचीन भारत का इतिहास: स्त्री अध्ययन और आंदोलन के संदर्भ में**” विषय पर व्याख्यान का सफल आयोजन किया गया। इस व्याख्यान की वक्ता डॉ. कुमकुम रॉय थी। कुमकुम रॉय ने जवाहरलाल नेहरू विश्वविद्यालय के इतिहास अध्ययन केंद्र से प्राचीन भारतीय इतिहास में पीएचडी की। उन्होंने उसी केंद्र में कई वर्षों तक अध्यापन किया। उनकी विशेषज्ञता प्राचीन भारतीय इतिहास में है। उनकी रुचि के क्षेत्रों में, राजनीतिक संस्थानों और प्रक्रियाओं का इतिहास और जेंडर के मुद्दे शामिल हैं। द इमरजेंस ऑफ मोनार्की इन नॉर्थ इंडिया, द पावर ऑफ जेंडर एंड जेंडर ऑफ पावर, ए हिस्टोरिकल डिक्शनरी ऑफ एन्सिएंट इंडिया उनकी प्रमुख किताबें हैं। वे विभिन्न स्तरों पर शिक्षाशास्त्र के मुद्दों में भी रुचि रखती हैं।

- ❖ **(बिरसा मुंडा की जयंती के विशेष उपलक्ष्य पर)**
भारत की क्रांतिकारी आदिवासी औरतें
डॉ. वासवी किडो, आदिवासी साहित्यकार व सामाजिक कार्यकर्ता, झारखंड
15 नवम्बर 2022

सीडब्लूडीएस CWDS) द्वारा 15 नवम्बर 2022 को शाम 3 बजे, संवाद व्याख्यान श्रृंखला के तहत **बिरसा मुंडा की जयंती के विशेष उपलक्ष्य पर “भारत की क्रांतिकारी आदिवासी औरतें”** विषय पर व्याख्यान का सफल आयोजन किया गया। इस कार्यक्रम में आकादमिक क्षेत्र से जुड़े कुल 26 लोगों ने हिस्सा लिया। इस व्याख्यान की वक्ता डॉ. वासवी किडो थीं। डॉ. किडो झारखंड की सुपरिचित आदिवासी साहित्यकार व सामाजिक कार्यकर्ता हैं। और बतौर पत्रकार के रूप में लगभग 17 साल तक काम किया है तथा कई सामाजिक आंदोलनों में हिस्सा लिया और कइयों का नेतृत्व भी किया है। वे वर्ष 2010 से लेकर वर्ष 2013 तक झारखंड राज्य महिला आयोग की सदस्य भी रह चुकी हैं। डॉ.वासवी किडो को इनके कार्यों के लिए कई प्रसिद्ध सम्मानों से नवाजा जा चुका है। जिनमें ‘चमेली देवी जैन पुरस्कार’, ‘सरोजनी नायडू पुरस्कार’ और ‘शंकर गुहा नियोगी पुरस्कार’ पत्रकारिता में उल्लेखनीय योगदान के लिए दिया गया है। इसके अलावा इन्हें ‘स्त्री शक्ति सम्मान’, ‘प्रेरणा स्त्रोत सम्मान’ और ‘झारखंड रत्न’ सम्मान से भी सम्मानित किया जा चुका है और अनेक देशों का दौरा कर आदिवासी सवाल और आदिवासी महिलाओं के मुद्दे को भी उठाया है।

It may be noted that all the above events were live-streamed on YouTube and may still be accessed.

workers face in the economic, psychological and social spheres of their life. The last piece is 'Gendered Impacts of Increasing Land Sale in Western Maharashtra, India' by Girija Godbole dwelt on the perceived impact of increased land sale in Pune district of Maharashtra that has brought discord in the social fabric of village and family life where women are rarely consulted though they are expected to bear the responsibilities of everyday chores.

This issue published five book reviews as well as a section on New Resources.

IJGS. Vol. 29 No. 3, October 2022

The last issue of the year 2022 carried four articles. The first article 'A Hauntology of Clandestine Transmissions: Spectres of Gender and Race in Electronic Music' by Chantelle Gray put forth Jacques Derrida's perspective of hauntology to understand the historiography of electronic and experimental music that has been enriched with contributions of both men and women across racial and regional diversities yet obscured the role of women and non-western, non-white musicians. The second article 'No Country for Old Women: Female Aging in Bollywood' by Saurav Kumar looked at aging in the Hindi film industry where older women actors are finding comparatively greater opportunities in the recent times. The third paper titled 'Presence Without Empowerment? Women in Rural Local Government in Bangladesh' by Nishat Afroze Ahmed and Md. Mohiuddin recounted increasing women's representation in the union election due to the reservation policy. However, as this barely seemed to translate into meaningful empowerment, there was need for efforts by both elected women representatives and organised support from outside for its realization. U.H. Ruhina Jesmin's 'Locating Female Transgression against Heteronormative Society: A Comparative Study of Three African American Novels' was a comparative analysis of three African-American novels challenging the sexist, racist and homophobic society for promoting universal sisterhood.

The Research Note by Sonia Mondal on 'Women in Cantonments: Evolution of Regulated Military Prostitution in Colonial India' illustrated a form of regulated military prostitution that had evolved in the mid-nineteenth century in British India. The government authorised and systematised a new pattern of brothel life throughout military cantonments until the end of colonial rule in 1947. This was followed by a photo essay by Tapati Guha-Thakurta and Kamalika Mukherjee is titled 'Twin Sisters with Cameras'. It was a report of an exhibition that presented a selection of photographs taken by the remarkable twin sisters, Manobina Roy (1919-2001) and Debalina Mazumder (1919-2012) that was held by CSSS, Calcutta during February–March, 2022. The piece was a tribute to these pioneering women who brought a differently gendered lens to a wide range of themes and subjects.

The book forum discussed Ishita Pande's book titled 'Sex, Law, and the Politics

of Age: Child Marriage in India 1891 -1937' with an introduction written by Antoinette Burton. Janaki Nair, Sanjam Ahluwalia and Rachel Berger wrote critiques of the book followed by a response from the author.

IJGS. Vol. 30 No. 1, February 2023

The first issue of 2023 comprised three articles describing and reflecting on the evolving gender relations, mobility of women, and their taking on several roles in the given context of British colonialism in India and Indian diaspora. Antoinette Burton's short introduction 'New Histories of Gender, Mobility and Labour: India and the Indian Diaspora' initiated an overview of the succeeding three contributions. Uma Dhupelia-Mesthrie's 'The Letters of Sushila Gandhi: From Press Worker to Managing Trustee of Phoenix Settlement in South Africa, 1927 to 1977' discussed Sushila Gandhi's letters to Mahatma Gandhi and her family members, friends, and acquaintances while taking over a key role in managing the Phoenix Settlement in South Africa. The second article entitled 'Stranded: Indian Travelling Ayahs Negotiating Waiting and Repatriation' by Arunima Datta focusses on women in care work in the British empire. These Indian domestic workers had to put up with severe socio –emotional, and economic hardships while working and travelling with their foreign employers. The last article in this section by Utathya Chattopadhyaya titled 'Bodies That Cohere: Notes on Ganja and Gender in Colonial India' argued that the plant ganja, or marijuana, its sexuality and its scaffolding into botanical frameworks on the one hand, and anxieties of colonial patriarchal arrangements on the other, can further complicate and deepen a historical analysis of colonialism in South Asia. Looking at the mutually constitutive formation of the sexuality of a plant body and the body of the sex worker in colonial India, this essay attempted to analyse gender more expansively beyond human bodies marked by imperialism.

Sharada Nayak's 'When Doors Are Opened' wove together a personal narrative about a village woman; unlettered and widowed very early in her childhood who came to live with the author's family even before her birth to take care of the household. This domestic worker eventually became a part of the family who nurtured the children as a foster mother, astutely arguing for equity among daughters and sons for accessing education and professional opportunities.

This issue published 'A Letter from Galle Face' by Senani Dehigolla who recounts together with compelling photographs, the massive protest in Colombo that started on 9th of July, 2022 against the President of Sri Lanka. Diverse groups of people joined in the monumental demonstration over cumulative issues of corruption, economic hardships, rising fear of State authority over peoples' liberties.

The six book reviews were on varied themes ranging from women in the evolving

domains of labour, marriage, music to witch hunting.

Calendar 2023

To commemorate 75 years of the country's independence, members of the curatorial team designed a CWDS Calendar for 2023 titled Towards the Midnight Hour. The calendar content showcased women in Indian Constituent Assembly against the backdrop of Jawaharlal Nehru's Trust with Destiny Speech, and a momentous decade marked by the Quit India movement. It was also a time of creative experimentation in the visual arts, music and the emerging fields of theatre and film.

Recapturing images of that era, the calendar provides a more nuanced understanding of India in the years around the time of freedom. The curatorial team worked on using a wide range of sources to include rare photographs and compelling images. The calendar encapsulates the hope, creativity, dedication and commitment of the post-independence generation of women and the triumph of a new democratic nation.

Summary of Publications and Seminar Participation by Faculty Members and Research Associates

Books/ Reports/ Edited Vols./ Occasional Papers/ Monographs	Articles in Journals/ e-publications/ Edited Journals	Chapters in Books/ Reports	Book Reviews	Paper Presentations in Conferences/ Seminars/ Invited Lectures
6	7	6	1	24

MONOGRAPHS/ MIMEOGRAPHS/WORKING PAPERS/OCCASIONAL PAPERS/ POLICY PAPERS

VMML Library: The following 6 issues of Current Awareness Bulletin (bi-monthly) were brought out from April 2022 to March 2023:

- ❖ No. 5-6, May-June 2022
- ❖ No.7-8, July-August 2022

- ❖ No.9-10, September-October 2022
- ❖ No.11-12, November-December 2022
- ❖ No.1-2, January – February 2023
- ❖ No.3-4 March – April 2023

ARTICLES IN JOURNALS/ NEWSPAPERS/E-PUBLICATIONS

Bijoya Roy

- ❖ Fabiana da Cunha Saddi, Stephen Peckham, Maria Pereira Barretos, 'Critical policy capacity factors in the implementation of the community health worker program in India,' *Policy and Society*, Volume 42, Issue 1, March 2023, Pages 90–103, <https://doi.org/10.1093/polsoc/puac032>
- ❖ 2023 Roy, B., S Gautam and I Qadeer Birth Work, Knowledge and Caste: Traditional Birth Attendants in India, *Medico Friend Circle Bulletin* 381,2023, p 25-29.

Neetha N.

Newspaper Articles

- ❖ "Ankita Bhandari murder: How dreams of freedom are shattered for working women in small-town India", *Indian Express*, Op-ed, September 30, 2022.
- ❖ "Mundka fire is a symptom of all that ails the informal sector", *Indian Express*, Op-ed, May 17, 2022
- ❖ "Gurgaon case: Why the outrage at a minor domestic worker's abuse is unlikely to change things", *Indian Express*, Op-ed, February 10, 2023

Seema Kazi

- ❖ 'Conflict in Kashmir and Manipur: History, Ethnicity, Gender,' *Journal of Aggression, Conflict and Peace Research* Vol. 15 No. 1, pp. 39-50, April 2023. <https://doi.org/10.1108/JACPR-01-2022-0667>
- ❖ 'Women, Gender Politics, and Resistance in Kashmir,' *Socio-Legal Review: Vol. 18: No.1, Article 5*, December 2022, <https://repository.nls.ac.in/slr/vol18/iss1/5>; DOI: 10.55496/AUKX4646.

CHAPTERS IN BOOKS/REPORTS

Bijoya Roy

- ❖ "Government Hospitals in India: Changing Landscape through Public-Private Partnerships" as in Saxena K B (ed.) Private Sector Participation in Public Services: Health, Aakar Publication, 2022, New Delhi

Neetha N.

- ❖ "Economics, Feminist Economics, and Women's Studies: Methodological Orientations and Disciplinary Boundaries"; Mapping Scientific Method: Disciplinary Narrations (Science and Technology Studies) by Gita Chadha (Editor), Renny Thomas (Editor), 222-240, Routledge.
- ❖ "Education, Development and Employment: the ongoing crisis in women's employment and its revelations", India Higher Education Report 2022, Women in Higher Education, Edited By N.V. Varghese, Nidhi Sabharwal, Routledge (forthcoming).
- ❖ "Care Work in India", Chapter for the Social Development Report 2022, Oxford University Press, Delhi (forthcoming).
- ❖ "Misconstrued Notions and Misplaced Interventions: An Assessment of State Policy", chapter for the edited book Domestic Work in India, Women's Paid Domestic-Care Labour, Shalini Grover, Patricia Jeffery, Thomas Chambers, (editors), Zubaan Books (forthcoming).
- ❖ "Researching Women's Labour and Work through an Interdisciplinary Lens", Chapter for the book, Practicing Inter-disciplinarity: Convergences and Contestations, editors Ratheesh Kumar and Babu P. Remesh, Routledge (forthcoming)

BOOK REVIEWS

Seema Kazi

- ❖ Anuradha Bhasin, "A Dismantled State: The Untold Story of Kashmir after Article 370" in ZUVA A Journal of Cross Border Conversations, April-May 2023 (1).

PAPER PRESENTATIONS AND LECTURES

Bijoya Roy

- ❖ Resource Person, "Gender-based Analysis in Public Health, Summer Course on Gender and Development", organised by A N Sinha Institute of Social Studies and Centre for Catalysing Change – Sakshamaa, 23rd June, 2022.
- ❖ Paper Presentator, "Role of Traditional indigenous midwives in India (Dais) during the time of Covid19, jointly presented by Gautam S and Roy B at Researching Gender During Covid19: Interdisciplinary Challenges, Supported by ICSSR, New Delhi, 23 September, 2022.
- ❖ Organised a workshop on "Researching Gender During Covid19: Interdisciplinary Challenges", Supported by ICSSR, New Delhi (22nd-23rd September) (Course Co-Director with Dr. Seema Kazi) (On-line Mode)
- ❖ Guest Editor, With Srinivasan, C., Dasgupta, J., Som, M., Karpagam, S., Contractor, S., & Priyadarsh. Medico Friend Circle Bulletin 381 (2023) Special issue on Caste, Tribe and Religion: Institutionalized Discrimination in Health

Nayantara Singh

- ❖ Presented a paper on "वर्तमान भारतीय समाज में महिला सशक्तिकरण का प्रश्न: एक समाजशास्त्रीय अध्ययन", Third International Conference, Relevance of Indian Knowledge System in the 21st Century, Organized by Haryana Sanskrit Academy, Panchkula and Amity School of Liberal Arts, Amity University Haryana, 29-30 December 2022.

Neetha N.

- ❖ "Women, Unpaid Care Work and Gender Justice in South Asia", South Asia meeting on the "Multiple Crises in South Asia and the role of social movements to protect people's livelihoods and fundamental rights", Kathmandu, Nepal, 26 - 27 May 2022.
- ❖ "Domestic-Care Work: Understanding the 'Gendered' Labour Relations.", Academic perspectives on Gender and Domestic-Care Work; Gendering Domestic-Care Work", One Day Workshop, hosted by O.P Jindal Global University, London School of Economics, Oxford Brookes University & the British Academy, O.P. Jindal Global University, Sonipat, Haryana, 2 August 2022.

- ❖ “Changing Dimensions of Women’s Work and Gender Inequality”, 17th Endowment Lecture, Centre for Gender Studies and Farm Entrepreneurship Development, Vellanikkara, Kerala Agricultural University, Thrissur, 4 August 2022.
- ❖ Discussant, “Women’s Employment, Researching Gender during Covid-19: Interdisciplinary Challenges”, Centre for Women’s Development Studies, New Delhi, 22-23 September 2022.
- ❖ “Economic Aspects of Gender inclusion, Round table on Gender Inclusion for a Sustainable Future”, International Conference on Life Skills Education Hosted by: organised by Indian Association for Women’s Studies (IAWS), Department of Women’s Studies, Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirapalli, Tamil Nadu, Department of Political Science, Rajdhani College, Delhi University, 4-6 November 2022.
- ❖ “Gender and Labour Migration”, Workshop on Methods and Approaches to Research on Migration Issues, Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, 16–20 January 2023.
- ❖ “Women’s Education and Employment Outcomes”, Conference on “Gender and Higher Education, NIEPA, New Delhi, 30-31 January, 2023.
- ❖ Chaired the session on “Indian Women Domestic Workers in the Gulf, ‘Vital Yet Vulnerable: Protecting Indian Workers in the Gulf’” held at the India International Centre, New Delhi, organized by FairSquare Projects in collaboration with Centre for Education and Communication, 31 January and 1 February, 2023.
- ❖ Discussant, “Plenary on Higher Education and Equitable Employment Outcomes”, India International Seminar on Diversity and Inclusion in Higher Education, Centre for Policy Research in Higher Education (CPRHE)”, National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration (NIEPA) and British Council, 16-17 February 2023.
- ❖ “Women’s Employment and Labour Migration, Sustainability and Gender: Priorities Within SDGs” 5th International Gender Conference, 2023, organised by Symbiosis School for Liberal Arts, Pune and DePaul University, Chicago, 4 March, 2023.

Renu Addlakha

- ❖ Lecture, Disability Studies and Gender Studies: Unravelling Oppression through Interdisciplinarity Faculty Development Programme on “Gender Research and Social Change” organized by School of Law (SOL) & Times School of Media

(TSOM) in collaboration with University Women Development Cell (UWDC) & IQAC, Bennett University from 27 July – Aug 3, 2022 in Online Mode.

- ❖ Panel Discussant, Webinar on Transgender in India: Achievers and Survivor Organised by India International Centre, 24 August 2022.
- ❖ Paper Presenter, Violence against Women with Physical Disabilities in India: Findings of a Feminist Action Research Study. National conference on Rights of Women with Disabilities: A Status UPDA, organized by Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, (BITS Pilani Hyderabad Campus), 15 November 2022.
- ❖ Lecture, Discourse of Disability: building an Inclusive Tomorrow. Panel Discussion on Rethinking Disability as a Socio-Political Construct Nexus 23: Annual Youth Convention organized by Lady Shri Ram College for Women, University of Delhi, 15 February 2023.

Seema Kazi

- ❖ Participant, Seminar, 'Engendering Nuclear Disarmament: Challenges and Possibilities. A Seminar organized by Women in Security, Conflict Management and Peace (WISCOMP) and India International Centre (IIC), IIC, New Delhi 29 November 2022.
- ❖ Paper Presentation, International Webinar Panelist: Gender Based Violence and Securitisation: Everyday Experiences with Law Enforcement Agencies. Centre for Women's Rights, Jindal Law School. 1 March 2023.
- ❖ Panel Speaker, 'Silences: Patriarchy beyond the Metropolis', Lady Shriram College, New Delhi, 20 April 2023.
- ❖ Coordinator, 'Researching Gender During Covid19: Interdisciplinary Challenges' Webinar, Supported by ICSSR, New Delhi (22nd-23rd September) (Course Co-Director Dr. Bijoya Roy) (On-line Mode).

Vandana

- ❖ Resource person, IIDS Inception workshop- Political Economy of Higher Education in India: Issues related to Equity and Quality, February 2023
- ❖ Paper presenter, 'Sexual Harassment and Beyond', at the International Conference

'Beyond Access and Parity': Complicating the Narrative of Gender Equality in Higher Education in India', organised by Savitribai Phule Pune University and Brunel University London, 23 - 25 February 2023.

MEMBERSHIPS IN COMMITTEES AND OTHER ADVISORY FUNCTIONS

Bijoya Roy

- ❖ Life Member, Indian Public Health Association
- ❖ Member, Institutional Ethics Committee, Public Health Resource Network, New Delhi
- ❖ 2022-2023 Organising Committee Member, Annual Meet 2023 of Medico Friend Circle
- ❖ 2022-2025 – External Member, Institutional Complaints Committee, George Institute for Global Health, New Delhi

Gyanabati Devi

- Liaison Officer for SC/ST and OBC Cell, CWDS.
- Life Member in Indian National Confederation and Academy of Anthropologists (INCAA)

Neetha N.

- ❖ Committee Member, Northern Region, Indian Association of Women Studies (IAWS)
- ❖ Member, Editorial Advisory Board, "Urban India", National Institute of Urban Affairs, Delhi
- ❖ Academic Committee member, Institute for Human Development, Delhi
- ❖ Member, Committee of Studies, Sarojini Naidu Centre for Women's Studies, Jamia Milia Islamia, Delhi.
- ❖ Selection Committee Member, Preet Rustagi Research Fund, IAWS.
- ❖ Member, Technical Advisory Committee for the study on assessing gender responsiveness of selected girl child cash transfer schemes, set up by IHD and UNICEF

Renu Addlakha

- ❖ Executive and Finance Committee Member, Jagori, New Delhi.
- ❖ Advisory Board member, CREA, New Delhi.
- ❖ World Health Organisation Technical Expert Group on WHO Global Report on Disability and Health

Seema Kazi

- ❖ Member, CWDS Purchase Committee
- ❖ Member, CWDS Ethics Committee
- ❖ Coordinator, ICSSR Doctoral Fellowship

Vandana

- ❖ SC/ST and Equal Opportunity Cell
- ❖ Green Committee

FINANCIAL REPORT

The Centre began in 1980, initially with a small grant from the Vikram Sarabhai Foundation and a few project grants. In 1981, the Centre received a Research and Development grant from the Ford Foundation, which continued up to 1992-93. During this period the Centre received financial assistance from the International Labour Organisation to support the Action Research Project of the Centre in West Bengal and Punjab. In 1984-85, the Centre became one of the Research Institutes supported by the Indian Council of Social Science Research and from then on has been receiving an annual grant. In the period between 1980-2008, the Centre was also able to raise several project grants for Research, Action Research, Library and Information Services, Seminar, Workshops, including special assignments from the UN agencies. In 1993-94, the Centre negotiated an Institutional grant from the HIVOS (The Humanistic Institute for Cooperation with Developing Countries, Netherlands) which was extended up to September 2008. At the instance of the Centre, HIVOS granted a "no-cost" extension upto 31 March 2011 for utilization of 'unspent balance' as per terms of the existing grant. In April 2002, the Centre received an Endowment Grant of \$750,000 from the Ford Foundation for the promotion of research and development on women.

The Centre, during the year 2022-23, received Rs.351.00 lakhs (Rs.301.00 lakhs OH-36 and 50.00 lakhs OH-31) as Maintenance and Development Grant from the ICSSR. An amount of Rs.116.40 lakhs was received from various sources as grants for projects, conference/seminars, advocacy/networking and library services. The Centre raised an amount of Rs.112.85 lakhs derived from its own resources – such as interest income, membership fee, royalty, institutional overheads, miscellaneous receipts etc. The Centre after meeting current year's expenditure and appropriations of Rs.582.73 lakhs incurred a deficit of Rs.40.83 lakhs which was met from the past accumulated reserves.

The General Body in its 42nd meeting held in 9th December 2022 (online) appointed M/s UCC & Associates LLP, Chartered Accountants, as Auditors for the year 2022-23.

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To
**The GOVERNING BODY OF
CENTRE'S FOR WOMEN DEVELOPMENT STUDIES**

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of **CENTRE'S FOR WOMEN DEVELOPMENT STUDIES ("the Society")**, which comprise the Balance Sheet as at 31st March, 2023, the Income and Expenditure Account for the year then ended, and a summary of the significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In our opinion, the accompanying financials statements of the entity are prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with Registrar of Society Act, 1860.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with the Standards on Auditing (SAs) issued by ICAI. Our responsibilities under those Standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Society in accordance with the Code of Ethics issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India. We have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the Code of Ethics. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibility of Management and Those charged with the Governance for the Financial Statements

The Society's Managing/Governing Body is responsible for the preparation and presentation of these financial statements in accordance with provisions of the Registrar of Society Act, 1860 and for such internal controls as management determined is necessary to enable preparation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Society's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Society or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those Charged with Governance are responsible for overseeing the Society's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibility for Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with SAs will always detect a material

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misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with SAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of entity's internal Control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Society's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Society to cease to continue as a going concern.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide Those charged with governance with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

For UCC & Associates LLP
Chartered Accountants
FRN: 010585N/N500017

Umesh Goyal
Umesh Chand Goyal
Partner
M No. 088328



Place: New Delhi
Date: 26/09/2023
UDIN: 23088328BG1XSGE2224

CENTRE FOR WOMEN'S DEVELOPMENT STUDIES
BALANCE SHEET AS AT MARCH 31, 2023

	As at 31-Mar-22	As at 31-Mar-23	As at 31-Mar-22	As at 31-Mar-23	Amount in ₹ As at 31-Mar-23
Liabilities					
	1,01,28,880	1,17,89,090			
Unutilised Project Grants (Note - 3)					
Unutilised ICSSR Salary Grant (OH-36 SC/ST)	16,18,528				
Add: Addition During the year	6,13,705				
Add: Transfer from Reserve	31,39,336	53,71,569			
Unutilised ICSSR Grant (OH-31)	-	15,84,007			
Current Liabilities and Provisions:					
Statutory Dues	11,38,789				
Other Payables	42,21,668	53,60,457			
Total	18,03,10,134	18,25,47,571	18,03,10,134	18,25,47,571	18,25,47,571

Significant Accounting Policies and Notes to Accounts (Note - 1)

The notes referred to above form an integral part of the accounts

for and on behalf of CWDS

Vinayak Sharma
(Vinayak Sharma)
Accounts Clerk-Gr II

Rajni Palriwala
(Prof. Rajni Palriwala)
Treasurer

N. Manimekalai
(Prof. N. Manimekalai)
Member Secretary

V. Vasanthi Roman
(Prof. Vasanthi Roman)
Chairperson

As per our report of even date attached

for UCC & Associates LLP
Chartered Accountants
FRN 010585N/S/500017



Umesh Chand Gupta
M. No. 0853285
Partner

Date: 26/09/2023
Place: New Delhi

CENTRE FOR WOMEN'S DEVELOPMENT STUDIES
BALANCE SHEET AS AT MARCH 31, 2023

As at 31-Mar-22	Liabilities	As at 31-Mar-23	As at 31-Mar-22	Assets	As at 31-Mar-23
8,45,49,490	Corpus Fund	8,45,49,490	56,29,039	Property, Plant and Equipment (Note - 4)	55,76,197
6,29,113	Reserves (Note - 2)	5,64,628	12,27,86,082	Investment (Note - 5)	14,41,11,140
1,24,02,935	Research Development Fund	1,24,02,935	1,00,000	Current Assets, Loans, Advances, etc. :	1,00,000
	Less: Unutilised ICSSR Salary Grant (OH-36 SC/ST)	31,39,336		Security Deposit	
	Less: Amount Transferred to the Income & Expenditure A/c	6,46,705	77,673	Salary Advance	1,06,673
3,74,90,361	General Reserve (FCRA)	3,74,90,361	20,79,303	Recoverable Project Grants (Note - 3)	20,65,678
	Balance as per last Balance Sheet	26,10,251	10,50,000	Recoverable from ICSSR: Development Grant (OH-31)	58,39,137
	Add: Amount transferred from the Income & Expenditure A/c	3,48,802	84,64,645	Other Recoverable	7,56,839
52,76,386	General Reserve (Non-FCRA)	52,76,386	15,20,324	TDS Recoverable	
	Balance as per last Balance Sheet	-	3,85,90,789	Cash and Bank Balances	2,39,71,835
	Add: Amount transferred from the Income & Expenditure A/c	52,76,386	12,281	Balances with the Banks (Note - 6)	20,073
	Less: Amount Transferred to the Income & Expenditure A/c	34,35,873	18,40,513	Cash in Hand	
43,08,868	Prof. Lonika Sarkar Research & Scholarship Fund	43,08,868	45,40,859		
	Balance as per last Balance Sheet	2,31,991			
	Add: Amount transferred from the Income & Expenditure A/c	40,76,877			
1,22,85,300	Dr. Vina Mazumdar Memorial Corpus Fund	1,22,85,300	1,26,33,254		
	Balance as per last Balance Sheet	6,90,352.0			
	Add: Amount transferred from the Income & Expenditure A/c	3,22,398			
	Less: Excess of Interest Accrued on FD	-			
56,29,039	Property, Plant and Equipment Fund	56,29,039	55,76,197		
	Balance as per last Balance Sheet	12,25,297			
	Add: Addition during the year	68,54,336			
	Less: Deletion/ sale during the year	12,78,139			
	Less: Depreciation	-			

Cont....



CENTRE FOR WOMEN'S DEVELOPMENT STUDIES
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2023

Year Ended 31-Mar-22	Year Ended 31-Mar-23	Year Ended 31-Mar-22	Year Ended 31-Mar-23	Year Ended 31-Mar-22	Year Ended 31-Mar-23	Amount in ₹ Year Ended 31-Mar-23
Expenditure		Income			Amount in ₹ Year Ended 31-Mar-23	
3,21,46,230	2,94,29,029	3,43,37,339	2,94,29,029	ICSSSR Salary Grant (OH-36) (Note - 7)	2,94,86,295	
28,46,039	26,54,219	10,50,000	26,54,219	ICSSSR Development Grant (OH-31)	34,15,993	
4,47,000	3,39,615	1,27,58,500	3,39,615	Sponsored Project Grants (Note - 3)	99,66,276	
33,44,779	2,87,773	-	2,87,773	Other Income		
11,95,081	12,13,587	-	12,13,587	Salary Component Project	9,83,917	
		9,94,497,00	2,28,980	Interest on Savings Accounts	11,68,858	
2,71,105	41,234	71,82,722	41,234	Interest on Fixed Deposits	65,14,943	
18,472	-	2,06,305	-	Interest on Fixed Deposits - Dr. Vina Mazumdar Memorial Fund	6,66,055	
-	-	72,813	-	Interest on Fixed Deposits - Prof. Lotika Sarkar Research & Scholarship Fund	2,22,672	
-	-	2,17,889	-	Interest on Income Tax Refund	51,154	
86,564	74,196	8,01,189	74,196	Miscellaneous Receipts	36,786	
99,536	46,995	5,83,232	46,995	Payables Written-off	-	
15,38,985	13,21,924	5,59,108	13,21,924	Royalty	5,50,288	
-	1,41,662	-	1,41,662	Institutional Overhead Recoveries	10,26,951	
-	-	13,46,654	-	Donation	1,00,000	
-	-	14,00,000	-	Salaries met from External Funded Project	-	
4,69,528	5,34,848	14,00,000	5,34,848	Amount Received from UNFPA for Development of a Think Piece	-	
1,44,660	1,75,659	53,55,984	1,75,659	Current Year's Deficit met From:		
54,885	66,452	-	66,452	General Reserve and Other Reserve (Non-FCRA)	40,82,578	
84,071	1,84,581	-	1,84,581			
1,71,793	EDLI Charges	-	-			
71,500	Audit Fee	-	1,01,244			
26,496	Entertainment	-	62,580			
8,13,173	Office Maintenance	-	16,68,885			
5,471	Bank Charges	-	13,848			
2,50,126	Miscellaneous Expenses	-	79,651			
15,16,428	Professional Charges	-	20,68,368			
-	Advertisement	-	35,351			
3,972	Insurance Charges	-	10,339			
1,62,216	Honorarium and Extra Duty Allowances	-	5,23,043			
53,877	Property Tax	-	48,474			
10,00,000	Travel FC and EC Meeting	-	64,419			
-	Gratuity Expenses	-	-			
-	Ground Rent	-	1,18,449			
-	Commission on Selling of Securities	-	78,825			
-	Penalty Charges EPF	-	16,759			
16,52,536	Recoverable Written-off	-	3,12,200			
-	CWDS Provident Fund Trust Written Off	-	17,09,654			
3,10,870	Subsidy CWDPSS-EPF-Trust	-	-			

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CENTRE FOR WOMEN'S DEVELOPMENT STUDIES
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2023

Year Ended 31-Mar-22	Expenditure	Year Ended 31-Mar-23	Year Ended 31-Mar-22	Income	Amount in ₹ Year Ended 31-Mar-23
	Programme Expenditure				
1,27,58,500	Sponsored Project Expenditures (Note - 3)	99,66,276			
9,78,440	Honorarium to Editors/ Consultants/ Visiting Fellows	9,60,000			
	Appropriations:				
92,369	Transferred to Property, Plant and Equipment Fund	1,61,053			
40,71,884	Transferred to General Reserve (FCRA)	26,10,251			
2,06,305	Transferred to Prof. Lotika Sarkar Research & Scholarship Fund	2,31,991			
7,16,600	Transferred to Dr. Vina Mazumdar Memorial Fund FCRA	6,12,296			
-	Transferred to Dr. Vina Mazumdar Memorial Fund GENERAL	78,056			
-	Transferred to General Reserve (General)	-			
-	Excess of Income over Expenditure transferred to Balance	-			
6,76,09,490	Total	5,82,72,766	6,76,09,490	Total	5,82,72,766

Significant Accounting Policies and Notes to Accounts (Note - 1)

The notes referred to above form an integral part of the accounts

for and on behalf of CWDS

Vinayak Sharma
(Vinayak Sharma)
Accounts Clerk Gr II

Rajni Palriwala
(Prof. Rajni Palriwala)
Treasurer

N. Manimekala
(Prof. N. Manimekala)
Member Secretary

V. Raman
(Prof. Vasanthi Raman)
Chairperson

As per our report of even date attached

for UCC & Associates LLP
Chartered Accountants
FRN 010585N/500017



Umesh Chandra
Umesh Chandra
M. No. 088328
Partner

Date: 26/09/2023
Place: New Delhi

CENTRE FOR WOMEN'S DEVELOPMENT STUDIES
NOTES FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2023

Significant Accounting Policies and Notes to Accounts

Note – 1

A. Background

1. Centre For Women's Development Studies (CWDS) is registered in Delhi under Societies Registration Act of 1860 bearing Registration No. S/10935/1980 dated April 19, 1980. CWDS is an autonomous research institute supported by India Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR). Since its inception and institutional recognition by ICSSR, CWDS sought to expand the scope of gender perspectives within social science in general, and to advance the idea of women's studies as an inter-disciplinary field demanding research and policy intervention in particular. CWDS is managed by Executive Committee elected from time to time by members of CWDS.
2. CWDS is registered with the Income-Tax Department under Section 12A of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 vide registration No. CIT-VI/ TE (234)/80/1375 dated March 16, 1981. The registration has been renewed by the Income Tax Department vide Unique Registration Number AAAAC1459QE20168 dated September 23, 2021 which is valid up to the financial year 2025-26.
3. CWDS is approved under section 80G(5)(vi) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 vide approval No DIT(E) 2007-2008/ C-153/ 2698 dated 20/12/2007. The approval has been renewed by the Income Tax Department vide Unique Approval Number AAAAC1459QF20216 dated September 24, 2021 which is valid up to the financial year 2025-26.
4. Permanent Account Number of CWDS is AAAAC1459Q.
5. CWDS is registered under Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 2010 vide registration No. 231650186. The registration has been renewed vide approval dated December 18, 2021 which is valid up to December 31, 2026.

B. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1. Basis of Accounting

The Financial Statements are prepared under the historical cost convention on accrual basis in accordance with the generally accepted accounting principles followed in India, unless otherwise stated.

2. Use of Estimates

The preparation of the financial statements requires estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets, liabilities, revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Although such estimates and assumptions are made on a reasonable and prudent basis taking into account all available information, actual results could differ from these estimates and assumptions and such differences are recognised in the period in which the results are crystallised.



3. Revenue Recognition

- a) Grants received for specific purposes are initially treated as liabilities and adjusted for revenue and capital expenses as per utilisation during the year. Generally, grants to the extent utilised for revenue expenses are treated as income of the year. After fulfillment of obligations attached with a particular grant, any unutilised amount of the grant is refunded to the donor or transferred to the Income and Expenditure Account. Likewise, in case of overspent/ expenses incurred pending receipt of grant amounts are shown as “Recoverable Project Grant” or transferred to the Income and Expenditure Account.
- b) Overhead expenses are charged to the project grants as per the respective grant agreements/ budgets.
- c) Grants disbursed to Independent Researchers for various projects are accounted for as utilized in the year of payment.
- d) Interest earned on the investment created for specific funds are treated as income and transferred to the respective specific funds.

4. Property, Plant and Equipment and Corresponding Fund

Property, Plant and Equipment procured out of grants received for specific purposes are charged off against the said grants as per the terms and conditions set out under the Grant Agreements. However, to reflect a true picture of assets owned by CWDS, these are capitalised in the Balance Sheet against Property, Plant and Equipment Fund.

Property, Plant and Equipment procured out of general funds are capitalised and equivalent amount is appropriated from the Income and Expenditure Account to Property, Plant and Equipment Fund.

Assets once fully depreciated, but not disposed-off are retained in the asset at a token value of Rs. 1 till disposed, for the purposes of internal controls.

5. Depreciation

Depreciation has been provided in the books of accounts at pro-rata basis from the month when the Property, Plant and Equipment procured are using Diminishing Method at the rate as per Income Tax Act, 1961. To reflect this reduction in value of Property, Plant and Equipment procured through grants and general funds, the depreciation is adjusted from Property, Plant and Equipment Fund.

6. Foreign Currency Transactions

Grants / Donations received in Foreign Currency from “Foreign sources” are directly credited to FCRA Bank Account and recognized at the exchange rate prevalent on the date of receipt.

7. Income and Expenditure Account

Project Expenditures under External Funded Programme (other than core support from ICSSR) are shown separately in the Income and Expenditure Account.

8. Employee Benefits

The Centre is contributing towards Gratuity, Employee’s Pension scheme and Provident Fund and charging them to Income and Expenditure Account.



9. Investment

Investments mainly comprise fixed deposits with banks and other financial institutions which are valued at cost.

10. Provisions and Contingencies

Provisions are recognised when CWDS has a present obligation as a result of past events for which it is probable that an outflow of resources will be required to settle the obligation and a reliable estimate can be made. Provision required settling the obligation are reviewed regularly and are adjusted where necessary to reflect the current best estimate of the obligation.

A disclosure for a contingent liability is made when there is a possible obligation or a present obligation that may but probably will not require an outflow of resources. Disclosure is also made in respect of a present obligation that probably requires an outflow of resources, where it is not possible to make a reliable estimate of the related outflow.

C. Notes to Accounts

1. Contingent Liability:

- a) The services of an employee, due to certain acts of violence, in the field/ camp office at Jhargram, West Bengal were terminated after a proper Inquiry in the year 2013. All the terminal benefits, such as Provident Fund, Gratuity and Leave Encashment, etc. were settled and released to the terminated employee. The matter was challenged in the Labour Court in West Bengal by the terminated employee. CWDS challenged the Jurisdiction of the complaint / case in the High Court of Calcutta. The matter is still pending for disposal. Outcome of the case including financial liability, if any, is not ascertainable and no provision has been made in the books of account in this regard.
- b) Aggregate demands for TDS and interest thereon of Rs. 15,740/- are appearing on TRACES web-portal for TAN No. DELC08468F of CWDS for the financial year 2008-09. However, no provision has been made by CWDS for the demands as CWDS is hopeful that most of the demands will be deleted after rectification of errors in the TDS returns and Challans.
- c) As per letter dt. 01.02.2023 and letter dt. 14.02.2023 received from EPFO Department, there is default in payment of contributions by CWDS under section 14B and 7Q of Rs. 65,95,098/-. However, no provision has been made by the CWDS for the demand as CWDS has made the appeal to PF commissioner.

2. Capital Expenditure Commitment: Nil

3. CWDS is eligible for exemption from income tax under section 11 of the Act. Hence, no provision for the current income-tax has been made in these financial statements.

4. In the opinion of the Executive Committee, current assets, loans and advances have a value on realisation in the ordinary course of activities at least equal to the amount at which they are stated in the balance sheet and provision for all known liabilities have been made in the financial statements.

5. None of the suppliers and service providers have informed as to whether they are Micro or Small Enterprises as defined under the Micro Small and Medium Enterprises Development Act, 2006. Hence, the disclosure/ provisioning as per the requirements of the Micro Small and Medium Enterprises Development Act, 2006, if any, have not been made.

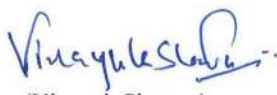

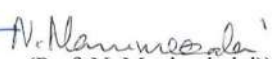

6. All the Figures are rounded off to the nearest Rupees unless otherwise stated.



7. Previous year figures are the balances outstanding at the end of the previous year, No Movement of the previous year balances has been shown in the previous year column.
8. Previous year figures have been regrouped wherever considered necessary to make them comparable with current year figures.


Signatories to the Notes 1 to 7

for and on behalf of CWDS

 (Vinayak Sharma) Accounts Clerk Gr II	 (Prof. Rajni Palriwala) Treasurer	 (Prof. N. Manimekalai) Member Secretary	 (Prof. Vasanthi Raman) Chairperson
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As per our report of even date attached

for UCC & Associates LLP
Chartered Accountants
FRN 010585N/N500017


Umesh Chand Goyal, FCA
M. No. 088328
Partner



Date : 26/09/2023
Place : New Delhi



Centre for Women's Development Studies

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