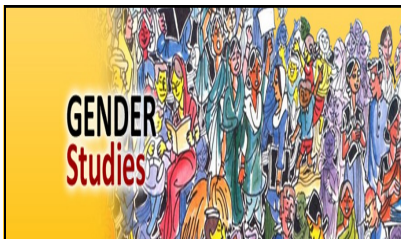
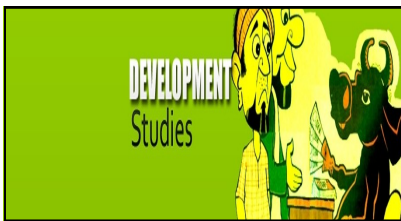


SAMVAD



Institute for Development & Communication (IDC)

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



The institute's campus in Chandigarh

From the Editor's Desk

The ultimate goal for any constituent institute through academic exploration is to create a society whose hallmark is peace, prosperity and balanced development, a habitat where culturally and ethnically diverse citizens, feel safe and empowered. To achieve this said 'utopia', socially relevant issues which are persistent and pose hindrances in alleviating the quality of living need to be diluted. At the

institute through academic exploration we aim to arrive at solutions. Solutions, which in turn will help build a framework for eradicating conflict, exploitation and injustice; and institute accountability and diligence. A unique initiative has been taken to initiate the publication of SAMVAD to disseminate, authenticate and validate knowledge.

Newsletter Topics

Seminars Conducted | Research Studies | Training Sessions | Upcoming Publications

Roundtable interaction

Women Safety — Challenges and the Way Forward

A three week long editorial campaign, initiated by The Hindustan Times, dealing with women safety in the Tricity area (Chandigarh-Panchkula-Mohali) culminated with a roundtable conference at IDC under the banner Women Safety: Challenges and The Way Forward. Dr. Kiran Bedi, IPS (Retd.) presided over the interaction as the chief guest.

She emphasized that regarding the concern for women's safety, it was necessary to get acquainted with the changed rape laws and process of trial post recent amendments that resulted in the aftermath of 2012 Nirbhaya tragedy. She also highlighted while referring to Tejpal rape case that it was the "redefined rape law that got him booked." "Government woke up to realize that they cannot sleep,"

In light of the growing instances of atrocities against women, Dr. Bedi discussed a strategy she devised, called the 6 'P' Plan.

Enumerating on the '6P Plan' Kiran Bedi began with "how do we groom our children" questioning the role and significance of campaign wherein parents, preachers and principals were to be held responsible for "priority prevention that began at home". She spoke on role of *panchayats*, RWA and other community entities that could enable in "creating a gender sensitive child." According to Bedi, ground reality changed (even though marginally) primarily due to *Nirbhaya* gang rape and the huge youthful demonstrations that trickled across the nation as a consequence.

Bedi's second 'P' – politician was equally responsible for this issue by checking his language and behaviour in public dealing. "A dos and donts charter by the political parties has to be in place for ensuring that Politicians are mind full of their responsibility towards the people and society," she said. Then came Police, as third 'P' and while elaborating on it she said, "Both Delhi Police and Goa police have done a great job in their respective investigations during Nirbhaya and Tejpal cases."

Prosecution being the fourth

'P' Bedi said that "missionary zeal" was needed by prosecutors. While talking about the fifth P, Prison, Bedi emphasized that for ensuring transparency and accountability of governance and judicial system "dry cleaned and reformed, special packages" are required for rapists and offenders of women related crimes as they eventually do step back in society.

Lastly, about the sixth 'P', Press, she said, ' it is all around us. How does it protect women,"



“Government woke up to realize that they cannot sleep,”





While concluding her reflections on the theme, Bedi suggested that there is need to promote through workshops, youth movements, and academic seminars to tackle this pivotal concern.

Following the key speaker, Bedi, Dr. Rainuka Dagra heading Gender Studies at IDC shared an academic presentation on the comprehensive survey done in Tricity on safety for women that highlighted the fact that 95% women had experienced sexual harassment outside their homes and only 7% had complained to the Police and reported it.

They gave an overview of the situation with regard to women safety and preventive measures. "Law does not control values. We need to change gender differentiation," said Dr. Dagar. "Both sexes suffer alike"

There is need for social reformation," was Dr. Neelam Man Singh Chaudhary's observation during the interaction. Satish K. Sharma, IPS, ADGP, Punjab

Police highlighted the community policing 'Saanjh' programme of Punjab that has made women feel less threatened and alone. He urged the media to project vulnerable areas with regard to implementing measures for ensuring safety for women.

“ **Law does not control values. We need to change gender differentiation, both sexes suffer alike”**



Seminar on Social Security Welfare: Justice for Inclusive Growth

On 20th December, there was a roundtable seminar on the importance of Inclusive Growth, and the role it plays in the economic and financial development of the country. The interaction was initiated by Professor Sukhadeo Thorat, who is the Present chairman of Indian Council of Social Science and Research (ICSSR). and the former chairman of the University Grants Commission (UGC).

Prof. Thorat based his address on his co-written paper 'How inclusive Growth Has Been During 1993/94-2009/10: Implications for the 12th Plan strategy'. The paper is based on the on-going research project sponsored by the UNDP on Inclusive Growth.

Prof. Thorat began by reiterating the concept of Inclusive Growth as defined by economists such as Grin-spun (2009), Ahluwalia (1976 and 78),

Rauniyar and Kanbur (2010) and Revallion (2009). A country's economic growth is categorized as inclusive growth when there is consistent pro-poor growth. Pro-poor growth is growth in terms of income that benefits the poor people. Furthermore, for growth to be 'pro-poor'



it should benefit the poor proportionately more than the non-poor. Pro-poor growth must encompass growth with declining inequality in income distribution.

Inequalities such as, social

exclusion, discrimination and constraints in human development curtail the poverty reduction in marginal groups.

The seminar further explored other aspects of Inclusive Growth such as, indicators of pro-poor growth, and poverty lines, mapping changes in rural poverty, livelihood categories and socio-religious groups, growth and changes in monthly per capita expenditure, contribution of growth and distribution in poverty reduction.

Professor Thorat summarized the discussion by focusing on the Government's 12th Five Year Plan. He mentioned how the 12th Plan emphasizes on inclusive growth aimed to reduce incidence of poverty particularly of the traditionally deprived groups such as the SCs, STs, OBCs, minorities and other marginal groups.

Roundtable interaction on politics of National and International heritage in South-east Asia

Angkor-wat (Cambodia)– A Case Study

On 22nd October, 2013, Prof. Philippe M.F.Peycam, (Director, International Institute for Asian Studies, Leiden) delivered a lecture on 'Angkor – a World Heritage Site as an Arena of Competition, Connivances and State (s) Legitimation' at the Institute for Development and Communication (IDC), Chandigarh.

Dr. Peycam's referred to his stay in Cambodia from 1999 to 2009. During that time he stumbled upon some interesting aspects regarding the involvement of the locals of the country in relation to their monumental heritage and cultural antiquity. Dr. Peycam's current academic pursuit deals with a thorough reflection on postcolonial and post-conflict situations in regions of Asia and Africa.

He addressed the concept of heritage, how it came about, what it entails and the queries that are raised

within its gamut. "Cambodia is still recovering from its 20 year war period that saw about 2 million people killed by the nationalist regime, Khmer Rouge who aimed to create a new Cambodian identity," stated the historian. Tracing Cambodia's history especially the period between 9th and 14th century, Dr. Peycam spoke about the political dynamics and power games which colonial and post colonial players like the French and the Japanese have been exhibiting at the Cambodian heritage sites in the name of cultural diplomacy.

In his presentation, Dr. Peycam highlighted the state of affairs regarding Cambodia's monumental legacy. He claimed conservation and restoration work in sites in and around Angkor Vat e.g



The talk was chaired by eminent Art Historian Prof. B.N. Goswamy who spoke of the “dilemma and fuzziness regarding Heritage and the fact that there are no hard and fast lines in Politics that plays a major role in matters of heritage”.

Heritage has been mystified. To demystify heritage, enquiry and exploration has to be scientific,” observed Dr. Pramod Kumar, Director, Institute for Development and Communication (IDC) while initiating a roundtable interaction on Politics of National and International Heritage in South East Asia held at IDC, Chandigarh.

Ruins at Ankor Wat

.Bayon, Buphon and Ta Phrom by international entities like the French, the Japanese, the Chinese etc. are largely political manoeuvring.

In most of the discourses on heritage there exists a “disconnect between the locals and the site”. Furthermore, countries engaged in the conservation and restoration work have built their own narrative.

While connecting the dots from past to present, Dr. Peycam also spoke about the socio political role being played by various educational and cultural entities in the sphere of heritage. In this respect he made special mention of the French Far East School (Ecole Française d’Extrême Orient), ICC, APSARA and UNESCO. “By the mid-19th century Cambodia (then popularly known as the Sick man of

South East Asia) was not perceived as a viable political entity and had become a failed state model which made it an easy target for the Thai and the Vietnamese for territorial expansion. However, Cambodia was never conquered. Interestingly, it was the French who built every monument in association with the Cambodian polity. This was a glaring example of post colonial and colonial political manoeuvring under the cover of consolidating identity. Interestingly, it was their obsession with China that led the French to set up colony in Vietnam and they consolidated their power over Cambodia in 1859. The French were keen on antiquities and they negotiated with the Thai for the revival phenomenon. “The French needed their pyramids and they found it in Angkor,” explained Dr. Peycam. (pictured below)



“ In most of the discourses on heritage there exists a disconnect between the locals and the site”

Seminar on the Changing Contours of Punjabi Society in Post Militancy Phase

On 4th February, Professor. Ron Krebs (Associate Professor Department of Political Science, University of Minnesota Minneapolis) visited the Institute to initiate an interaction about Militancy and the various dynamics of Punjab after the post-militancy phase.

Prof. Krebs is working on two major projects : (1) Liberty's Trial- Organization, International Conflict and the Health of democracy (2) Narrative and the making of US National Security



Text, Context and reader: A trend study of content and reception of feature stories in new media

On November 26th, Dr, Bhavneet Bhatti, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Journalism & Mass Communication, Panjab University, initiated a talk on the content and reception of modern media.

She emphasized how technology has changed the way we perceive and receive information and entertainment. Innovations in design and content have changed the perception of newspapers as a monotonous list of facts, and events.

In her discussion Dr Bhatti referred to her research and discussed the trends of feature stories, the prominent themes and writing style of these feature stories. The study can be used to understand how readers use and choose content. Furthermore, from the academic perspective the study can help enrich the theoretical perspective on understanding the diverse journalistic forms.

A interaction on Representation of Nation in 21st Century Hindi Cinema.

On 4th March 2014, Dr. Sarvchetan Katoch from the Indian Institute of Advanced Studies (IIAS, Shimla)) initiated a conference on the depiction of nation in cinema, as well as the journey this depiction has taken from the early 50's.

During the seminar an interesting pattern emerged. It was observed that nationalism in cinema during a particular period invariably ended up reflecting the socio-economic tempo of the country during that particular period.

For example, in the 50's, films were largely rich in themes of 'Glorious India'. This patriotic feel which focus could be related to the general post-independence sense of optimism the country was exhibiting.

During the 60's, and 70's, films started to deviate from the patriotic sensibility to a more gritty tone. A tone that reflected the frustration of the nation as it became slowly evident all the dreams and plans post 1947 necessarily were not going to be materialized.

As the public became even more disappointed with the leadership, economy etc the anti-hero came in the picture. During 80's and 90's characters who broke social norms to achieve a better status quo became icons. It was generally agreed in the meeting that the current propagation of nationalism in cinema is largely based on financial appropriation.

Today, the concept of profit has taken over the creative process of film-making. As the reach of media expands, the profit market becomes varied and ever increasing. In a way the capitalist mantra of the nation today of 'monetary compensation' can be seen in our films.

RESEARCH STUDIES CONDUCTED

IDC is a reputed facility that has been a driving force in conceptualising effective reforms to counter issue such as, violence, gender abuse, economic stagnation and poor development. Specifically, it is engaged in social research with implications for change in the field of social development, governance to improve public safety and justice, economic development for distributive justice.

The institute continues to work at the grass root level to ensure in today's rapid urbanization the impoverished and marginalised sections are not left behind. The institute has been working closely in partnership with fellow activists, professional bodies, citizens and the government.

At the same time, we maintain research autonomy in order to pursue research as per our own priorities and mandate. A conscious decision was made not to build research capacities dependent on maintenance grants. Rather we compete for research projects and execute them with our own institutional resource base by nurturing research capital.

Dalit Identity Architecture : From Selective Adaptation of Cultural symbols to nurturing of exclusive sites

—Dr. Pramod Kumar

The literature on Dalit Identity and policies in India, usually focuses on the large number of issues—these range from—neglect of marginalized social groups in the economic processes, need for special programs to meet their needs, neglect of the specificities of the marginalized groups to social policy, 'accommodation' of the so called 'dalit interests' in the ongoing economic processes, need for political power to articulate these demands, atrocities on the dalits and the failure of the law to provide justice and so on.

Each of these issues are of considerable importance and needs to be addressed with great deal of seriousness.

To begin with, Punjab is distinct in its socio-religious context.

This in itself provides a different flavor to the concerns and challenges of Dalits in Punjab. However, in addition there is relatively weak presence of untouchability because of the presence of Sikhism and other social reform movement in the region.

The economic and social positioning of Dalit's in Punjab is not very encouraging. Even in the mainstream politics, there is not a very strong presence of 'dalit' political forces in Punjab, contrary to what has happened in other states, and dalit politics is articulated within the larger regional politics of the state. Social programs in Punjab, also do not exclusively focus on just

the dalits and participation in social sphere is fairly on common lines with the dominant social group (Jats) in the state.

The distinct nature of dalits in Punjab from the other regions of India, does not mean that the exclusive space of *dalit* identity and politics does not exist in Punjab. It is this very nature of exclusivity that is the concern of this research project

“

Punjab is distinct in its socio-religious context. This in itself provides a different flavor to the concerns and challenges of Dalits in Punjab

Study on Educational status of slums of Punjab

In view of the increasing number of slums and slum population, it was thought pertinent to assess the educational status of slums of Punjab.

The study was conducted with the main objective to assess the quantitative parameters of the status of education in respect of: 1) Access to education in terms of enrolments of slum children in primary and upper primary classes. 2) Progress made by these children in completion of primary and upper primary education within stipulated period as cohorts pertaining to their success, retention and drop out of the system. 3) Knowledge as outcome of teaching and learning.

The qualitative aspects of the study were evaluated, with the focus on:

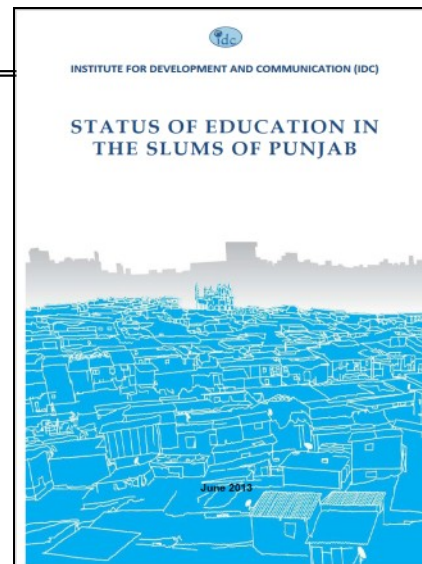
1) Teachers' assessment of slum children regarding the knowledge attained by them and understanding of the subject matter. 2) Views of the teachers on various schemes of the Government for promoting elementary education. 3) Assessment of literacy and educational status of slum dwellers, and the educational and vocational plans for their sons and daughters.

4) Slum children's perception of importance of education, and their future educational and vocational plans.

The study was conducted in 69 Government Primary schools,

16 Government Middle/High Schools, 9 Private English Medium Schools; and 69 urban slums/colonies sampled from the Municipal Corporation cities of Punjab namely: Ludhiana, Jalandhar, Amritsar, Patiala and Bathinda. In accordance with varied nature of the study, the sampling was done combining purposive, incidental, and random methods.

The primary data were in the form of: Achievement tests scores of Class V and Class VIII school children and Data pertaining to interviews held with teachers, persons living in slums, and Class V and Class VIII school children. The secondary data were used for: 1) Sampling of slums: by taking lists from Municipal Corporations; and for schools from Directorates of Elementary Education. 2) Accessibility to education: data was collected from school records in the form of enrolments, success, repetition of grades, migration and drop-out cases. 3) Assessment of quality of education: in respect of teacher input, enrolments, P-T ratio, literacy rates and population figures, data was collected from school records as well as from Statistical Abstracts of Punjab.



by Dr. Asha Sethi

Objective

To assess the accessibility of slum children to education, progress made by the children; and knowledge and skills acquired by them as outcome of teaching and learning

Growth of Non-Agricultural Enterprises in Rural Punjab —Prof. H.S Shergill

The employment of human labour in agriculture is declining fast in Punjab due to increasing mechanization of farm operations. This is making the unemployment

problem in rural Punjab more serious and complex. The farm sector is not only failing to absorb the new entrants to labour force in rural areas, but is also shed-

ding some of those who were earlier employed in it. Moreover, most of the young rural females are also unemployed or underemployed due to low participation rate of females in agriculture in Punjab. The scope of this growing number of unemployed and underemployed being absorbed

in Urban –Industrial sector jobs is bleak. The Urban-Industrial sector of the state is neither growing at a sufficiently fast rate, nor is it generating jobs suitable for the employment of rural youth. Most of the jobs generated by Punjab Industry are low wage, low status and menial type that rural youth are not willing to take up. Moreover, young rural females cannot leave their families to take up urban jobs alone because of cultural factors and security reasons.

The only plausible solution to the growing unemployment of rural youth, under the present conditions, seems to be development of non-agricultural enterprises in rural areas in which they can find gainful employment without leaving their families and villages.

Many such non-agricultural enterprises have already come up in Punjab villages under the impact of market forces. But this spontaneous growth of rural non-agricultural enterprises has

been slow and needs to be speeded up through systematic and vigorous government policy intervention.

The present study is aimed at generating the ground level information on the current state of development of such enterprises and to identify the ones that have a good scope of further development in rural areas of the state.

The Drug Menace: Dimensions Trends & Tribulations—Prof. P.S Verma

The use of illegal drugs has assumed global dimensions. It is not bound by territory or, for that matter, caste class, religion, ethnicity, region and country. India is equally affected by drug abuse and trafficking. In the past, the limited use of cannabis or Bhang had formed a part of the socio-cultural ceremonies in different parts of the country. The consumption of Bhang (Cannabis) on festivals like Durga Puja, Dasera, Holi, Dipawali, Sankranti, Ramnavami, Shivratri etc was commonly practiced by the various castes and communities. Moreover, the Fakris, Sanyasis and ascetics had been using Bhang, Charas, and Ganja on a regular basis. The post-war period saw the rise of synthetic drugs—both stimulants and depressants. At present, the use of illicit narco drugs and psychotropic substances has permeated all the regions and sections of Indian Society. Astonishingly, the consumption of psychoactive substances has become equally startling among the youths belonging to weaker sections of the state resulting in a sizeable number of drug users amongst the poor and marginal families residing in urban and rural areas. The bane of drug abuse in Punjab has acquired the proportions of a pestilence that has shaken the entire society in the state. It is observed that in Punjab Drug abuse is a raging epidemic, especially among the youth'

'It has wrecked the younger generation and also fueled crime, anomie and deadly health hazards.

The empirical component of the study undertaken by the Institute for Development and Communication (IDC) on the drug abuse reveals that an overwhelming number of the sampled substance abusers (1527) from the border districts (Ferozpur, Gurdaspur, Tarn Taran and Amritsar) of Punjab belonged to the social categories namely, the Jat Sikh farmers and the scheduled castes.

The study was conducted by the Institute to evaluate, assess the impact of drugs, as well construct a framework to restrict the flow and consumption of the same. The project exposed a disturbing trend- there exists a strong relationship between the illicit drug use and younger age group. More than three-fourths of the sample abusers in the four border districts belonged to the age group 15-35.

“ More than three-fourths of the sample abusers in the four border districts belonged to the age group 15-35.

Study—Farm Accidents & Financial Assistance provided to the victims in Punjab

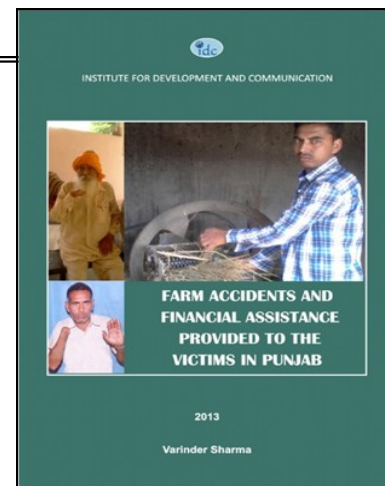
Today with the modernization and mechanization of agriculture, working conditions of farmers have changed drastically. Incidents of farm accidents involving machinery have increased, with cases of farmers getting injured happening regularly. At present the number of tractors in Punjab is around 4 lakh and the number of tube wells about 13 lakh. A great number of harvesting combines and other machines are also in use. Apart from these the use of agro-chemicals, electric tube wells and various types of farm machinery have also increased manifold.

A systematic study was carried out to analyze the nature and extent of machine accidents in agriculture and the subsequent consequences for the victims. According to the census of six villages located in three zones of Punjab (Majha, Malwa and Doaba). A total of 9188 farm accidents have been estimated for whole of Punjab for the last five years i.e. from 2007-08- 2011-12. For the same period on the basis of data of 148 agricultural marketing committees (which administer compensation to accident victims), we found record of a total of

8760 accidents in Punjab. The records indicate that the maximum number of accidents take place in the Southern Malwa (roughly 840 incidents per year).

A majority of farm accidents (70.73%) have occurred while operating machinery like the tractor and its related implements, combine harvesters, threshers and chaff cutters. The estimated income loss for a victim in the sample is Rs 53095.69 per annum. Maximum income loss in case the victim was deceased is Rs 108461.59 per annum and in case of injured victim it is Rs 63,650.09. In 1984, Punjab became the first state in India to start financial assistance schemes

The objective of the project was to analyze the extent, nature, causes and outcomes of farm accidents in form of injury or death. Intense census survey in a total of six villages from the regions of Majha, Malwa and Doaba were conducted.



by Dr. Varinder Sharma

Findings

- Instances of farm accidents can be reduced by improving the efficiency and quality of agricultural machinery, as well as impounding machinery which is backdated and malfunctioning.
- At *Tehsil* and district level hospitals there should be 24 hr emergency medical services available.
- Using the services of social bodies like the gram sabha and in the presence of agricultural marketing committees, genuine beneficiaries for financial assistance should be identified
- The amount taken to delegate monetary compensation should be reduced.
- Increments should be made in compensation if victim is above a certain age and is a landless agricultural laborer.

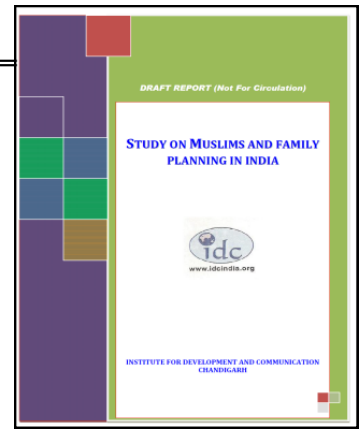
“ A total of 9188 farm accidents have been estimated for whole of Punjab for the last five years i.e. from 2007-08- 2011-12.

Study on Islam and Family Welfare

— S.Y Qureshi

There has always been a need for authentic referencing on the issue of family planning, maternal health and HIV under the spectrum of Islam. There aren't any authentic texts readily available for scholars, religious leaders etc. Even though a small effort was made many years back, the study report was not completed. There is still keen interest shown by academics to construct an authentic framework on Islam and its references to FP, MH and HIV.

Interaction with key stakeholders was conducted in four regions in the country. The partially completed study report will be shared and feedback will be taken for revision and completing missing sections. Based on the inputs, before it is sent to get published the completed report will be shared with a few scholars and prominent citizens for opinion and feedback



Objectives

Revising the earlier document on Islam and FP to broad base it to cover other health issues as well

Developing the final document, on Islam on FP, MH and HIV, based on discussions with key stake holders

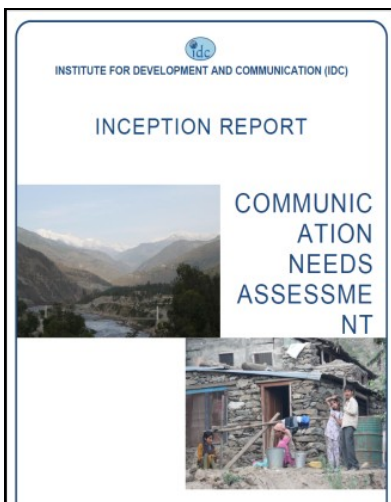
Communication Needs Assessment

Himachal Pradesh Hydro Power Project

(In association with World Bank)

— R.N Gupta

The goal was to help the hydro-development program gather wide stakeholder support. Through secondary data provided by the state government and web sources, the study has examined the role and relevance of national and state policies regarding the said issue. A total of 226 respondents directly or indirectly affected by project activities (PAF/NPAF) were interviewed through structured schedules. 90 respondents were selected from- government, project management, PRI representatives, local population/media were also interviewed (semi-structured schedules). Apart from these, 213 respondents from selected categories of power consumers-industry/commercial/domestic-in the districts of Kangra, Solan, Chamba, Kinnaur and Shimla were also interviewed.



Training Orientation Resource Centre (TORC)

The Institute for Development and Communication and T.O.R.C organized the 'Training Orientation Courses' in the month of October (2013) and February (2014). For two weeks, experts in various disciplines conducted workshops for the guidance and training of NSS Program Officers. IDC used eminent experts as resource persons from different regions who interacted with participants during workshops.

Training courses were conducted for officers from Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Chandigarh and Jammu & Kashmir. Workshops for the PO's by IDC on themes such as Environment Enrichment and Role of N.S.S. volunteers, Child abuse and Role of Teachers, Gender Justice and Women Development, Adolescent Reproductive Health, Child Survival and Safe Motherhood, HIV/ AIDS: Awareness Program. Use of Audio-Visual aids and multimedia by experts made the presentation more impressive, lively and easy to grasp. This aided in the dissipation of first- hand knowledge, information, and experience and made them more aware regarding different problems.

They discussed reproductive health problems with them and made them aware of HIV/AIDS by distributing pamphlets and educational material. Besides this, the trainees were educated about child survival and safe motherhood, adoption of safe sexual practices to prevent HIV/AIDS. The workshops were conducted both in English and Hindi. Accommodation for the attendees was provided by the Institute.

Officers who have showed exceptional commitment and sincerity were facilitated by the Institute.



Coordinator Dr. S. Malik (TORC, minister of youth affairs & sports GOI) distributing participatory certificates of orientation course.



G.S Bhatti (APO, minister of youth affairs & sports GOI) giving a lecture



Dr. Ravinder Paul (lecturer) giving a presentation on adolescent reproductive health

Latest Additions to Research Department

• **The Jawaharlal Nehru Chair-Establishment of Chair for governance of vulnerable groups**

An endowed Chair provides independence and autonomy for generation of knowledge, creating new opportunities for innovation and collaboration and providing unique opportunity to learn from the best in their field. It is with this aims that we endow a professional Chair in the field of Governance for Vulnerable Sections.

The objective of the Chair would be

- to generate Knowledge
- to enrich the policy planning and to accelerate the processes of social change;
- to specifically focus on gender, Dalits and other vulnerable groups;
- to make governance systems citizen-friendly and pro-people development models sustainable; and

• **The IDC Research Forum**

A unique initiative has been taken by the Institute to develop a common platform where researchers can come together and aid each other in addition, validation and dispersal and knowledge. Till date the Forum has organized various conferences and lectures regarding pertinent issues.

A list of seminars organized by the Forum

- Seminar on 21st Century Hindi Cinema
- Seminar on Maritime Security
- Workshop on feature stories & modern journalism in New India
- Workshop on impact of Literature
- Seminar on Leadership

Information regarding this can be found on the IDC website .

Upcoming Publications

Female Deselection in India : Politics of Identity and Violence

By Dr. Rainuka Dagar

—Director (Research), Gender Studies Unit. at IDC

Female deselection in India : Politics of Identity and Violence spans historical contexts to examine the practice of selective rights to life. It maps the dynamics of change from the matrifamily to fathr-son lineage where male infanticide redeems the blood debts to establish a new social order; documents the failure of an elaborate colonial mechanism to suppress female infanticide in an established social paradigm and analyses the effects of militancy and *khaap* claims on female deselection and the gendered order. It draws critical attention to -survival as interlinked to the positional capacity to generate resources and reservoir for identity politics.