



ANSISS Newsletter

A N Sinha Institute of Social Studies

North West Gandhi Maidan

Patna-800001, Bihar

Website: www.ansiss.res.in

Phone: 0612-2219395, Fax: 0612-2219226

Volume 1

Number 1

(January-June), 2016

From the Director's Desk

A. N. Sinha Institute of Social Studies had its defining moment when we decided to document the various activities of the Institute for the first time, in the form of a biannual Newsletter. The Newsletter highlights various engagements of the Institute in the area of creative intellectualism that defines the link between theory and practice. Apart from cutting edge research in several branches of social science, other academic engagements of the Institute include conducting training programmes, workshops, seminars, development dialogues, lecture series etc. It is in line with the vision of the founding members who visualized this Institute as a centre to address the problem of under-development at the grass root level particularly in Bihar. While resilience is built in the trajectory that the Institute has chosen to follow, intellectual interaction between the doctoral students, faculty and staff continues to reinforce it and lends credible support to the Institute to accomplish the tasks it has set for itself at all levels of academic discourse.



the last few months, 21 research projects have been grounded, and four research projects are expected to be launched soon. It is equally heartening to note that there has been a significant surge of the participation of the faculty members in seminars, workshops, and training programmes in India and abroad during the last few months. In addition to these, they have also published papers in reputed national and international journals.

One of our major accomplishments during the last few months is that the Institute has been granted affiliation by the Aryabhata Knowledge University for registering our Ph.D scholars for the award of degree. Besides this, a plethora of activities have been undertaken at the institute, starting with the publishing of the working paper series.

Most importantly I am delighted to share that Dr. Ashok Choudhary, Minister of Education and IT, Government of Bihar, has assumed the Chairmanship of the Board of Control of the Institute. I am sure the Institute will access new height with his guidance and help. Also I would like to place on record our collective appreciation of Sri D N Sahaya's able and effective Chairmanship of the Governing Body. ANSISS is indebted to him for his contribution to the Institute.

Development Dialogue is another important series that the Institute has initiated recently. The first Development Dialogue was on 'Quality of Education in Bihar'. I am happy to note that three more such development dialogues are going to take place in the current year.

An important activity put in regular practice is the internal presentation of seminar by the faculty members. Similarly, presentation by the doctoral students on their PhD work is now a regular practice. The Institute also organized a training programme on research methodology for those who are pursuing their doctoral programme and particularly who come from the socially marginalized communities. Apart from this a series of training programmes have been organized on land reforms for the officers of the revenue department of the Government of Bihar, in order to sensitize them about the Land Reforms Act, rules etc. and motivate them towards achieving the goal of development through land reforms in the state of Bihar.

On the research front, the Institute has been witnessing a surge of research projects being carried out by the faculty members. While nine research projects were completed and submitted to the sponsoring organizations during

Prof. Sunil Ray
Director, ANSISS

Inside this Issue

Director's Desk	1
Anugraha Jayanti	2
Conference/Workshop/Seminar	2
ANSISS Seminar Series	5
ANSISS Customary	5
ANSISS Research	6
Student Corner	7
Upcoming Events	8



Remembering Dr. Anugraha Narayan Sinha

On the occasion of the 129th Birth Anniversary of Dr. Anugraha Narayan Sinha, a programme was organised at the institute. The programme was initiated with an illuminating insight into the life of Dr. Anugraha Narayan Sinha by Prof. Nil Ratan, Registrar of ANSISS. Dr. Sinha was a dedicated freedom fighter and illustrious leader of India. His path breaking contribution to the field of economic development and women empowerment is worth emulating. The welcome address was delivered by Prof. Sunil Ray, Director of ANSISS. He spoke about the significance of a social science research institution being named after such a great freedom fighter who dreamt of the emergence of a new India –that guarantees democracy and freedom to live with peace and dignity for all citizens. Prof. P. P. Ghosh, Director of ADRI and former faculty member of the institute, who attended the program as a guest of honour, recalled the contributions made by Dr. Anugraha Narayan Sinha to the Institute. Prof. M.N. Karna, former director of ANSISS, talked about the significant role of Dr. Sinha towards making a new Bihar after its division from Bengal (1912). He reminded us how Mahatma Gandhi honoured Dr. Anugraha Narayan Sinha as an honest and dedicated freedom fighter of India. He also talked of Dr. Sinha's contribution to academics.



Land Reforms Administrative Training Programme

The Institute has been conducting administrative training programmes since September 2014 for officials including ADMs, DCLRs, COs, SDOs from Bihar in collaboration with the 'Department of Revenue and Land Reforms' and 'Bihar Land Reform Core Committee'. The objectives of the programmes have been to sensitize the local land department officials about the present agrarian crisis and landlessness. It seeks to make them aware of land reforms perspective and enhance their understanding of land reforms Acts, rules, circulars, and proceedings (with amendments); it helps to motivate officials and brings about attitudinal change and good work culture and a speedy delivery system. It helps enhance the office management skills, leadership quality, capacity building, and team-building for the implementation of land reforms policy. So far 20 such programmes have been conducted. The programmes were jointly coordinated by Dr. Vidyarthi Vikas and Dr. Kaushal Kishor.



Orientation Programme on Research Methodology

A five day orientation programme on research methodology for the Scheduled Tribe (ST) and the other marginalized groups, supported by ICSSR, New Delhi, was organised at ANSISS, Patna, during 22nd to 24th February, 2016. There were about 35 participants comprising Ph.D. research scholar and faculty members from different Universities of Bihar and Jharkhand.

The participants were taught both theoretical and empirical perspectives of social science research. It covers all aspects from formulating research questions, research design, sampling theory, important statistical methods for analysing data, writing Ph.D. thesis to appropriate ways of citing references. In addition of class teachings participants were also given hands on experiences of statistical data analysis using various statistical software.



The programme was inaugurated by Prof. P.M. Kulkarni. The welcome address was delivered by Prof. Sunil Ray, director of ANSISS followed by the inaugural address by Prof. Kulkarni. Valedictory function was held with an address by Dr. Sunny Jose, Associate Professor, BITS, Hyderabad. The resource person included Prof. Nil Ratan, Prof. B.N. Prasad, Dr. Sudir Kumar, Dr. Habibullah Ansari, Dr. Neetu Chaudhary, Dr. Rajeev Kamal Kumar, Dr. Abhijit Ghosh, Dr. Biplab Dhak from ANSISS. The programme was coordinated by Prof. Nil Ratan and assisted by Mr. Ajit Hansda.

Development Dialogue on Quality of Education

A one day development dialogue was organised at ANSISS Patna on May 27, 2016. The programme was based on the concerns for Quality of Education in Bihar. The program started with the welcome address by Prof. Sunil Ray, director of the Institute. The opening remarks were given by Prof. Ajay Kumar Jha, coordinator of the programme.

Prof. Jha briefly presented the issues and concerns of why the quality of education is not improving in Bihar. The inaugural lecture was delivered by the Honourable Member of Parliament Shri. Pawan K Verma. He spoke on how a colonial mind-set is influencing the education system in India. Shri. Verma emphasised that in India the socio-political nexus of the middle class have channelized a large part of the funds allocated to education towards the higher education system in India. The informal elite coalition with the



education system has led the functioning of the primary education system to deteriorate in India. He also emphasised that democracy has power to sort out this problem, but it needs greater coordination among the have-nots. As a guest of honour Prof. Y D Prasad (Ex- Director ANSISS) spoke on the issue of how bureaucratic interference has been playing a major role in the deterioration of the education system in India and Bihar.

There were three presentations in the first panel discussion session, chaired by Prof. Sunil Ray, Director ANSISS. Prof. Achin Chakraborty (Director, IDS Kolkata) presented findings of recent National Sample Survey (NSS) and Census reports. He emphasised on the need for expanding educational opportunity, since at present, 10 to 12 percent of the children are out of school. On the other hand, taking a cue from Kerala, he also emphasised that private schooling will emerge even in the most literate state of India. Shri. Dayaram (Secretary, ASPIRE), emphasised that lack of 'political will' is responsible for the decline in quality of education. Only Government education system can improve the quality of education in Bihar and India. Prof. D M Diwakar (ANSISS) emphasised that there is a huge gap in demand and supply of teachers and infrastructure and without improving the soft and hard skills of teachers and Infrastructure, quality of education cannot be improved in Bihar.

The second panel discussion session was chaired by Prof. Ranjit K. Verma, Pro Vice Chancellor of Patna University. In that session, Prof. Sudhanshu Bhusan (NEUPA) shared his deep concern over decline of the ideals of university systems as envisioned by the 18th century philosophers. He distinguished between 'ideal' and 'real' university systems. Limitations of the state has resulted in privatisation and neo liberal solutions. Sri Kameshwar Jha, Vice President, Higher Education Council, shared visions of *Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan* (RUSA) and different strategies being adopted by the Government of Bihar, for the advancement of higher education in Bihar.

The programme concluded with a valedictory session. The valedictory address was delivered by Prof. Ramjee Singh, Former Vice Chancellor of Jain Vishva Bharati University, Ladnun, and Member of Parliament. He shared his deep concern over the decline in quality of education and status of teachers in Bihar. In his illuminating speech he highlighted the significance of education in different spheres of life and its role in national integration and social change. According to him education brings about civilizational change as it connects science with spirituality.

Seminar on 'Rediscovering the Common Wealth'

Prof. Geof Wood, Emeritus Professor at Department of Social and Policy Sciences, University of Bath, England, delivered a lecture on '**Rediscovering our common wealth**' on February 16, 2016. Geof Wood in his exposition took into account the material progress, and growth of the world economy along with inequality and environmental crisis owing to heavily unsustainable contents of development initiatives. He was optimistic about restoring the pre-commodified status of the world through development of morality, self-regulation and corresponding institutional arrangements. He took the discourse further by analysing the responsibilities of the affluent societies in caring for the poor staying in remote areas i.e. external periphery, which is essential for sustainable development over the generations. The programme was coordinated by Dr. Renu Choudhary.



Internal Seminars

- ❖ **Dr. Muniza R. Khan**, ICSSR Research Fellow, delivered a lecture on “**Understanding Causes and Extent of Crimes against Dalit and Muslim Women in Eastern Uttar Pradesh**”, on January 23, 2016.
- ❖ **Dr. Habibullah Ansari**, Associate Professor and Head, Division of Psychology, ANSISS, delivered a lecture on “**Needs and availability of technology in care of elderly in India: A question for policy and planning**”, on January 29, 2016
- ❖ **Prof. Ajay Kumar Jha**, Professor and Head, Division of Political Science and Public Administration, ANSISS, delivered a lecture on “**Importance of Sanskrit language in today's context**”, on February 6, 2016.
- ❖ **Prof. D.M. Diwakar**, Professor and Head, Division of Economics, ANSISS, delivered a lecture on “**Make in India: Whether a Paradigm Shift (Employment Prospects and Challenges)**”, on 2 February, 2016.
- ❖ **Dr. Bipul Kumar**, Assistant Professor , Centre for Non-Violence and Peace, ANSISS , delivered a lecture on “**Jharkhand State and the issue of Adivasi Identity**”, on April 9, 2016
- ❖ **Dr. Rakesh Tiwary**, Assistant Professor , Social Geography, ANSISS, deliver a lecture on “**Managing International Waters of Ganges Brahmaputra Basin with Soft Laws**”, on April 30, 2016
- ❖ **Dr. Sandhya Rani Mahapatro**, Assistant Professor, Economics Division, ANSISS, delivered a lecture on “**Association of Household Living arrangement Pattern and Health status among Elderly in India**”, on May 14, 2016.

Farewell to Shri D.N. Sahaya

Former Governor of Chhattisgarh and Tripura, Sri D.N. Sahaya completed his term as Chairman of A. N Sinha Institute of Social Studies on February 10, 2016. Shri Sahaya had taken over the charge as the Chairman of ANSISS on February 10, 2012. Sri Sahaya was accorded a warm farewell by the faculty and staff members of the Institute. Director of the institute felicitated him with a memento and shawl. He expressed his sincere thanks



to Sri D N Sahaya for his able and effective Chairmanship of the Board of Control of the Institute.

Welcoming New Chairmen of ANSISS

Honourable Minister of Education and IT, Government of Bihar, Dr. Ashok Choudhary assumed the office as Chairman of the Institute on April 11, 2016. On the occasion, Director of the Institute, Prof. Sunil Ray welcomed the honourable chairman and presented a brief report of the academic activities of the institute. In brief, he focused on new academic activities planned to be taken up in the coming days, such as various research projects, seminars and conferences. The Honourable chairman laid emphasis on the poor status of higher education in Bihar in comparison to the rest of India and he reminded us about the role of AN Sinha Institute of Social Studies in promoting higher education through evidence-based research and policy intervention. He also promised all possible support and help for the development of the institute. He stressed that the Institute should emerge as a model institute in social science research and training.



Submission of Research Report

- ▲ *Organizing of Young Informal Workers: Does it Pay Off?*
Sponsoring Agency: International Labour Organization, Geneva
Researcher: Neetu Choudhary
- ▲ *Bihari identity: An Uncharted Question*
Sponsoring Agency: ICSSR, New Delhi
Researcher: Jyoti Verma (ICSSR Senior Fellow)
- ▲ *Report on Social Impact Assessment Study of Land Acquisition under Deegha Rail cum road Bridge- 'Link Road' Pariyojna*
Sponsoring Agency: Department of Revenue and Land Reforms, Government of Bihar
Researchers: Vidyarthi Vikas and Kaushal Kishor
- ▲ *Socio-economic Impact Study of Proposed Land Acquisition under New B. G. Line between Barh and Bakhtiyarpur of Patna district*
Sponsoring Agency: Patna Samaharnalaya, Government of Bihar
Researcher: B.N. Prasad
- ▲ *Mid- Term Evaluation of Agro Forestry Schemes under Hariyali Mission – Poplar and Other Species*
Sponsoring Agency: Department of Environment and Forest of Government of Bihar
Researchers: D. M. Diwakar, Rakesh Tiwary and Sandhya Rani Mahapatro
- ▲ *Evaluation of Cycle-Poshak Yojna, Govt. of Bihar, 2015-16: Onsite and Post-Facto Monitoring, distribution of bicycle, school dress, scholarships and sanitary napkin, July-September, 2015.*
Sponsoring Agency: Department of Education, Government of Bihar
Researchers: Vidyarthi Vikas, Kaushal Kishor, and Ajit Kumar Hansda
- ▲ *"Social Impact Assessment Study on Land Acquisition for Mahatma Gandhi Central University, Motihari*
Sponsoring Agency: Department of Revenue and Land Reforms, Government of Bihar
Researchers: Vidyarthi Vikas and Kaushal Kishor
- ▲ *"Social Impact Assessment of Land Acquisition for Siwan- Siswan State Highway 89, Siwan Bihar"*
Sponsoring Agency: Department of Revenue and Land Reforms, Government of Bihar
Researchers: Vidyarthi Vikas and Kaushal Kishor

Faculty Publication

- ▲ Prasad, B.N. (2016). *“Plight of Child Labour in Uttar Pradesh: A Preliminary Investigation”*, Chandra, V., (ed.), Childhood Realities: Working and Abused Children, Kalpaz Publications, Delhi.
- ▲ Kumar, Rajeev K. and T. Khandade. (2015). *“Ability to Take Health Care Decisions: A Case of Rural Women of Vaishali district of Bihar”*, P Kumar and S Gupta (eds.), Relocating Women equal Role in Indian Society, Rawat Publications, Jaipur (back issue).
- ▲ Kumar Awadhesh and M. B. Ganguli (2016). *“Agriculture in Bihar: the latent sector of development”*, International Journal of Humanities and Social Science Invention, Vol: 5(2).
- ▲ Choudhary, Renu. (2016). *“Is Social Transformation Possible through Prohibition?”* Mainstream, Vol. 54(29).

ANSISS Working paper Series

- ▲ "Construction of Niche Structure of Employment Creation: Debating Structural Transformation"
Author: Prof. Sunil Ray, Working Paper No. ANSISS-01

Publication of Journal

The latest issue of the Institute journal **“Journal of Social and Economic Studies”**, Volume XXIV, No. (1-2), 2014, has been published.

Sports & Cultural Event

A sports and cultural event was organised from January 23 to 26, 2016, by Ph.D. research scholars under the leadership of Dr. Rajeev Kamal Kumar. Ph.D. research scholars, faculty members, staff and their family members participated in various events including Badminton, musical chairs, tug of war, shot put, marble race, sprint etc. The event ended with prize distribution ceremony on 26th January after the Republic Day function. The prizes were distributed by Prof. Sunil Ray, Director, ANSISS.



Research Scholars' Bi-Annual Seminar

Bi-annual seminar of doctoral students on their PhD thesis is now a regular practice. They need to present their progress every six months. The first seminar took place in the month of April 2016, and lasted for three days. All faculty members and students across disciplines participated in the seminar enthusiastically. The programme was coordinated by the PhD Programme Convener, Dr. Habibullah Ansari. The next students' seminar will be held in the month of September of the current year.

Research Scholar's Day Out

It was a festive mood when the PhD research scholars, faculty members and staff of the Institute took a trip to Nalanda and Rajgir on January 27, 2016. The PhD scholars under the leadership of Dr. Rajeev Kamal Kumar enjoyed the outing immensely. This new initiative - “Retreat” is expected to provide an opportunity for mutual interaction among scholars, faculty members and their families in an informal setting.



Upcoming Events

- ❖ International Seminar on “Cohesive development: An Alternative Paradigm?” is scheduled to be held during 24-25, February, 2017.
- ❖ Three 'Development dialogues' are planned to be held at the Institute during the months of September, October and December, 2016. The topics of these dialogues will be on (1) 'Land Reforms, Water Conservation and Agricultural Transformation in Rural Bihar'; (2) 'Social Transformation of Bihar through Empowerment of Women of the Marginalised Community: Rhetoric or Reality?' and (3) 'Malnutrition among Children and Women in Bihar'.
- ❖ The first lecture in order to commemorate the centenary celebration of Champaran Satyagraha is scheduled to be held on October 1, 2016. It will be followed by five lectures to be delivered by eminent scholars on Gandhian philosophy and its relevance to the contemporary world
- ❖ A National Seminar is proposed to be held during the third week of April, 2017 to commemorate the centenary celebration of the Satyagraha Movement in Champaran.



Editorial Team

Biplab Dhak
Neetu Choudhary
Abhijit Ghosh
Aviral Pandey
Vidyarthi Vikas