

ANSISS Newsletter

Vol: 2, No: 1 (January-June, 2017)

From the Director's Desk

The most incredible achievement of the Institute during the period concerned was its successfully organisation of the international seminar on 'Cohesive development: An alternative paradigm? The single most important focus of the seminar was to build up an alternative development paradigm in an attempt to replace the mainstream one which is based on flawed theoretical foundation. The growing misery of humans and nature coupled with enormous inequality human history has ever witnessed in the past provide enough reason to be dismissive about latter. The response of the scholars from several countries was overwhelming. Around 70 scholars from UK, Germany, Canada, Netherland, Brazil, Bangladesh and India attended the seminar. While debates and discussions were held to a scale unmatched to the one witnessed in the recent past by the Institute, conviction on the possible emergence of another world deepened further. So much so that the seminar could foresee how the theoretical edifice of the alternative paradigm could evolve further.

Another significant milestone of the Institute was the Development Dialogue on "Malnutrition among Children and women in Bihar". This was another academic congregation at the Institute in recent past where eminent scholars working in the field of nutrition attended and flagged of issues related to higher incidence of malnutrition in the state of Bihar. While intensive dialogue between the civil society organizations, researchers and government officials took place, it finally led to unfold a structured framework on 'Action Against Malnutrition' with clearly



defined goals, targets and action points.

The successful completion of five-day orientation programme for SC and ST faculty members and Ph.D scholars drawn from various parts of the country was an equally important academic event of the Institute. The programme was designed meticulously to open space for the participants to initiate lively debate and discussion. Scholars were given exposure to contemporary development debates in India in particular and the third world countries in general apart from research methodology to conduct quality research in social science. They were made familiar with the right based approaches especially highlighting the problems faced by the marginalized section of the society.

The celebration of the Foundation Day of the Institute on 31st January, 2017 was a joyous moment for the ANSISites. Amongst several activities a lecture was delivered by Dr. Sunita Narain, on "Environmentalism of the poor: How India can reinvent growth without pollution". While she had in her presentation deep reflections on the issue of sustainable development, she foresaw a local resource centric development with local communities. Cultural programme was also organized as a part of celebration of the foundation day.



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Welcoming New Chairman of ANSISS

Honourable Minister of Education, Government of Bihar, Sri Krishna Nandan Prasad Verma assumed the office as Chairman of the Institute. On the occasion, Director, Prof. Sunil Ray apprised Hon'ble Chairman about recent achievements of the institute and looked forward to his guidance in



bringing about positive changes further. In brief, he focused on new academic activities planned to be taken up in the coming days, such as various research Projects, Seminars & Conferences. Hon'ble Education Minister lauded special position that ANSISS occupies in the academic world. He assured of his cooperation and help to the Institute to reach new heights in the field of higher education.

Foundation Day Celebration

The Institute celebrated its foundation day on 31st January 2017 by organising a lecture followed by a cultural program. The program started with welcoming guests of the program and welcome address by the Director of the institute Prof. Sunil Ray. He welcomed the Chief Guest, Shri Vijay Choudhary, Hon'ble Speaker Bihar Vidhan Sabha, Shri D N Sahay former Chairman of ANSISS and Governor of Chhattisgarh and Tripura, and well renowned environmentalist, Padma Shree, Dr. Sunita Narain.

In his welcome address Prof. Sunil Ray highlighted the significance of social science research institute and how this institute is carrying forward the visions of freedom fighters like Anugraha Narayan Sinha, Dr. Rajendra Prasad and visionary leader Lok Nayak Jayaprakash Narain to ameliorate the conditions of powerless and marginalized citizens of the country. He also outlined the recent changes that the institute is witnessing in terms of its activities like in-house presentation by faculty members and research scholars; Development Dialogues; Champaran Lecture Series; International Seminars and publication of working papers. He further argued that these activities inter alia will lead to creation of new knowledge base that is inclusive and sustainable.

Shri Vijay Choudhary congratulated the Director and members of the ANSISS family. He opined that ANSISS has a pioneer role to play in solving societal problems through its research. Remembering Gandhiji he argued that Bihar was his first social laboratory in which he led the peasants of Champaran Satyagraha against the British. A careful reading of Gandhian thought reveals that Gandhi was the first environmentalist as he was against commercial farming and talked of village communities to go for cottage industries.

Shri D N Sahay pointed out despite the issue of environmental pollution being discussed across the globe there has not been any agreement to address the problem in a big way because of differential perception among the developed and developing nations. He further argued that a holistic view

needs to be taken in order bring harmony between environment and development imperatives and its reflections on the poor.

Dr. Sunita Narain delivered the foundation day lecture on "Environmentalism of the poor: How India can reinvent growth without pollution". She in her lecture threw open a number of questions which triggered contemporary environmental movement across India. She began her address by congratulating the Director for the event. Discussing in detail about the ever increasing inequality all across the globe she argued how developing as well as developed nations are facing the problem of unequal rainfall, floods due to ever increasing environment pollution.

At the end, vote of thanks was given by Prof. Nil Ratan, Registrar in-charge of the institute.



International Seminar on 'Cohesive Development: An Alternative Paradigm?'

The AN Sinha Institute of Social Studies organized an international seminar on 'Cohesive Development: An Alternative Paradigm?' on February 24-25, 2017. The objective of the seminar was to bring together scholars, academicians and practitioners on a common platform to facilitate a fresh debate free from preconceived notions about development especially with special reference to the third world countries like India. As expected, this exercise was able to unfold theoretical insights as well as practical pathways to a development process based on cohesiveness and solidarity. These insights also dwelt upon challenges and constraints before alternative development.

The seminar started with welcome address by Director, ANSISS, Prof. Sunil Ray. He outlined the objectives of the seminar and explained how the conceptual framework of the theme of seminar was developed.

The seminar was inaugurated by Emeritus Professor, IDS Kolkata, Amiya Bagchi's address, who dealt more explicitly and critically with the limitations of growth and need for an alternative paradigm. Emeritus Professor, University of Amsterdam, Jan Breman delivered the keynote address on 'Subverting the Social Question' and described how capital got rid of societal control in its switch from a dominating rural-agrarian mode of production to an urban-industrial one.

The overall deliberations were organized along following five sub-themes viz.

- i. Cohesive development: forging theoretical space
- ii. Tracing cohesive development: from practice to theory
- iii. Barriers to cohesiveness: social identity interface
- iv. Civil society and cohesive development: critical reflections, and
- v. Economics of solidarity.

In addition, a panel discussion and a special lecture by Vandana Shiva were also held during the programme. Eminent scholars from across the globe were actively engaged in these sessions. Other than Amiya Bagchi and Jan Breman, Barbara Harriss-White - Professor Emeritus, University of Oxford, Gail Omvedt – eminent sociologist, Vandana Shiva – noted environmentalist, Ramji Singh- Gandhian Scholar and MV Nadkarni (Retd. Professor, ISEC Banaglore) also joined the two day seminar among others. More than thirty speakers from countries including India, Bangladesh, Brazil, UK and Netherlands contributed to the deliberations. The seminar was supported by Government of Bihar and ICSSR and was coordinated by Sunil Ray, Neetu Choudhary and Rajeev K Kumar.



Five-Day Orientation Programme for SC&ST Faculty Members and Ph.D. Scholars

A N Sinha Institute of Social Studies (ANSISS), Patna, organised Five-Day Orientation Programme for SC&ST Faculty Members and Ph.D. Scholars in Social Science Research (27-31 March 2017) sponsored by ICSSR. The purpose of the programme was to enhance capability of conceptualising and conducting quality research in social sciences. Starting with orientation on various contemporary development debates of India in particular and third world countries in general, the workshop gave exposure to the participants to research methodology, statistical methods and data analysis with the help of statistical software. The objective of the programme was also to give exposure to right based approaches highlighting the problems faced by the marginalised section of society.

Objective of the programme was to enable the participants to conceptualise research issues in social sciences, enable them to develop research proposal and write PhD thesis. Programme had also enhanced skill for data collection and analysis. The application of appropriate statistical techniques in social science research and computer application of statistical analysis were also taught.

The Programme had been of interactive nature and incorporated group works, lectures, discussions, and presentations. The course expectedly benefited participants drawn from all social science disciplines. Many acclaimed academicians in India had shared their understanding and experiences about the area of focus under consideration.

Prof. C.P. Chandrasekhar, Professor, Centre for Economic Studies and Planning School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, inaugurated the function followed by his special lecture on "Finance Capital and the Nature of Capitalism in Contemporary India" on dated 27th March, 2017. Prof. J B G Tilak, Professor and VC, National University of Educational Planning and Administration, Delhi, gave orientation to participants on the topic entitled "Contemporary Researchable Issues related to Education". Prof. Barun Kanjilal, Indian Institute of Health Management Research (IIHMR) shared his understanding and experiences with participants on issues related to health equity. Prof. Gopinath Reddy, Centre for Economic and Social Studies, Hyderabad, spoke on issues on forest rights.

The valedictory address on "Improving the quality of social science research" was delivered by Prof. R S Deshpande, Honorary Visiting Professor, Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC), Bangalore, on 31st march 2017. Participants from all over India participated in the programme.



Development Dialogue on 'Malnutrition among Children and Women in Bihar: A Comprehensive Picture'

Subsequent to the completion of the study on 'Malnutrition among Children and Women in Bihar: A Comprehensive Picture' conducted by the A N Sinha Institute of Social Studies, Patna with the support from UNICEF, a development dialogue was organized to share the findings from this study as well as to brainstorm the issue of malnutrition in Bihar. The dialogue was coordinated by Dr. Neetu Choudhary and Dr. Abhijit Ghosh. The objective of the dialogue was to bring researchers, practitioners and policy persons on a common platform for understanding the ground realities and to arrive at a common framework on nutrition policy and intervention strategy. In the process, it will engage all the stakeholders to develop a consensus on identification and dissemination of possible solutions.

Monograph titled 'De-stunting Bihar?' which is an output from the aforementioned research project was released in the program. The seminar started with welcome address by Prof. Sunil Ray, Director, ANSISS. He outlined the objectives of the dialogue and explained how important the issue of malnutrition is in the context of Bihar. The keynote address was delivered by noted economist and activist Jean Dreze. Prof. Dreze's address reflected critically on policy approach to children's right to food and nutrition. The inaugural address was given by Vandana Kini, Principal Secretary, Social Welfare Dept., Government of Bihar. N Vijaylaxmi, Managing Director, Women Development Corporation, Government of Bihar was the Guest of Honour.

Other eminent scholars who joined the dialogue included Udaya S Mishra - Professor, Centre for Development Studies, Kerala, Neerja Chowdhury - Senior Journalist, Basudeb Guha-Khasnobis - then Senior Economic Advisor, UNDP Nepal, Neha Raykar - Lead Economist, Public Health Foundation of India, New Delhi, Reetika Khera - Associate Professor, IIT Delhi, Rabi N Parhi, Nutritional Specialist, UNICEF Bihar, Nilachala Acharya - Research Coordinator and Saumya Shrivastava, Research Officer at Centre for Budget and Governance Accountability, New Delhi. The valedictory address was given by Binayak Sen, Public Health Specialist and Social Activist. In addition, Sunil Ray - Director, ANSISS, Asadur Rahaman - CFO, UNICEF Bihar and Arjan De Wagt - Section Chief, UNICEF also spoke during the programme. The dialogue also witnessed participation from senior bureaucrats and concerned officials from several government departments, practitioners, academicians and social activists among others.



Submission of Research Report

- *Bihar - Report: Educational Status of Scheduled Castes in Bihar & Jharkhand (Attainments and Challenges) 2014*
Sponsoring Agency: Indian Council of Social Science Research
Researcher: Kumar, Awadhesh
- *Land acquisition for construction of RCC bridge across River Gandak at Sattarghat in 27th KM of Chakiya – Kesariya Road in the district of East Champaran, Motihari, Bihar.*
Sponsoring Agency: Dept. of Revenue & Land Reforms, Government of Bihar
Researcher: Vidyarthi Vikas and Kishor, Kaushal
- *Social Impact Assessment of 02 villages – Bhagwanpur Chaksekho and Singhia Bujurg Basti and Chadar -2 in Samastipur district on land acquisition for the improvement/ upgradation of SH-88 from Varuna Bridge (NH-103) to Rasiyari Road in Darbhanga District*
Sponsoring Agency: Dept. of Revenue & Land Reforms, Government of Bihar
Researcher: Ansari, Habibullah
- *Proposed land acquisition for approach road to newly constructed bridge across Jagjeevan Canal at Chenari along Shivsagar – Chenari Road, Mauja Chenari, Thana No. 477, Rohtas district*
Sponsoring Agency: Dept. of Revenue & Land Reforms, Government of Bihar
Researcher: Kumar, Sudhir; Kumar, Awadhesh and Kumar Bipul
- *Social Impact Assessment Study on Land Acquisition for Hajipur Ramdayalu Nagar Double Track Pariyojna*
Sponsoring Agency: Dept. of Revenue & Land Reforms, Government of Bihar
Researcher: Vidyarthi Vikas and Kishor, Kaushal
- *RCC Bridge across the river Budhi Gandak between village Bhogari in West Champaran and village Piparpati in East Champaran pariyojna, 2016*
Sponsoring Agency: Dept. of Revenue & Land Reforms, Government of Bihar
Researcher: Vidyarthi Vikas and Kishor, Kaushal
- *Socio-economic impact study of proposed land acquisition under new B.G. Line Between Barh and Bakhtiyarpur*
Sponsoring Agency: Dept. of Revenue & Land Reforms, Government of Bihar
Researcher: Prasad, B. N.
- *Report on Development Dialogue on land reforms, water conservation and agricultural transformation in Bihar*
Sponsoring Agency: Dept. of Revenue & Land Reforms, Government of Bihar
Researcher: Vidyarthi Vikas
- *Dalit assertion and emerging rural social formation in Uttar Pradesh (Draft Report)*
Sponsoring Agency: Indian Council of Social Science Research
Researcher: Prasad, B. N.
- *Social Impact Assessment due to proposed land acquisition for "widening of approach road and construction of Guide Bandh due to construction of RCC bridge across Bagmati river Khagaria – Sonmanki Road" Khagaria district*
Sponsoring Agency: Dept. of Revenue & Land Reforms, Government of Bihar
Researcher: Kumar, Sudhir; Kumar, Awadhesh and Anuja.
- *Social Impact Assessment of 02 villages – Jadupatti and Thengaha in Darbhanga District on Land Acquisition for the construction on bridge and approach road on the western bank of Kamala River at Madhepur – Thengaha Ghat in Darbhanga District (Draft Report)*
Sponsoring Agency: Dept. of Revenue & Land Reforms, Government of Bihar
Researcher: Ansari, Habibullah

Faculty Publication

- Ghosh, Abhijit. (2017). "Non-cooperative Game Theory and pay-off", *Economic and Political Weekly*, Jan. 28, 2017, vol. LII, No. 4. (With Atanu Sengupta).
- Choudhary, Neetu. (2017). "Increased female participation in economic activities does not always equate to empowerment", www.enewsdesk.in

- Vidyarthi Vikas. (2017). *"Doubling farmers' income: agriculture sustainability and policies"*, Kumar, Surinder, *et.al*, (ed.), An aspect of farm size and productivity: evidence from Bihar, Black Prints, New Delhi.
- Mahapatro, Sandhya R, (2017), "How effective health insurance schemes are in tackling economic burden of healthcare in India", *Clinical Epidemiology and Global Health*.
- Choudhary, Neetu. (2017). "Group dynamics in urban food systems: implications for nutrition governance", UNSCN News, Issue No. 42

ANSISS Working Paper and Monograph

- *"Female employment in India: what determines the choice of sector of activity?"*
Author: Mahapatro, Sandhya, Working Paper No-3. ANSISS.
- *De-stunting Bihar?*
Author: Choudhary, Neetu and Ghosh, Abhijit, Monograph. ANSISS

Paper Presentation

Vidyarthi Vikas

- "An Aspect of Farm Size and Productivity: Evidence from Bihar" in National Conference on Roadmap for Doubling Farmers' Income by 2022: Towards Addressing Agriculture Sustainability and Ways Forward, during March 29-30, 2017, at Department of Economics, University of Jammu, Jammu.

Sandhya Mahapatro

- "International Migration, remittances and household development: Evidence from Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Kerala", in International Conference on Migration and Diaspora: Emerging Diversities and Development Challenges, during 22-23 March, 2017, at IGNOU, Delhi,
- "Why do they Remit: Exploring Remitting motivation of migrants in India", in IIPS National Seminar on population and health in the context of sustainable development goals, during 11-13th January, 2017, at NCDS, Bhubneswar,

Neetu Choudhary

- 'Informal Workers' Organizing: Can Pragmatism invoke Cohesiveness?' in International Conference on 'Cohesive Development: An Alternative Paradigm?', during February 24-25, 2017, at Patna, organised by A N Sinha Institute of Social Studies, Patna (India)
- 'De-Stunting' Bihar? Development Dialogue on Malnutrition among Children and Women in Bihar, during April 25, 2017, at Patna, organised by A N Sinha Institute of Social Studies in partnership with UNICEF. (with Abhijit Ghosh)

Sunil Ray

- "On Philosophical Aspects of Gandhi's related to Environment" in the National Conclave on Gandhi, during April 10-11, 2017, at Patna, organised by Govt. of Bihar.
- "Quest for an alternative development paradigm: Revisiting at originalism" in the International Conference on 'Cohesive Development: An Alternative Paradigm?' during February 24-25, 2017, at Patna, organised by A N Sinha Institute of Social Studies, Patna (India). (with Rajeev Kamal Kumar)

Abhijit Ghosh

- 'It is possible...' in International Seminar on *Cohesive Development: An Alternative Paradigm?* during February 24-25, 2017, at Patna, organized by A N Sinha Institute of Social Studies (ANSISS),

Rakesh Tiwary

- 'Environment and the Poor: Political Ecology perspectives on Cohesive Development', during February 24-25, 2017, at Patna, organized by A N Sinha Institute of Social Studies (ANSISS).

Bipul Kumar

- 'Social Identities, Conflicts and Cohesive Development: A view from Jharkhand', during February 24-25, 2017, at Patna, organized by A N Sinha Institute of Social Studies (ANSISS).

Sports & Cultural Event

A sports and cultural event was organised during 23rd to 26th January, 2017, by Ph.D. research scholars under the leadership of Dr. Rajeev Kamal Kumar. Ph.D. research scholars, faculty members, staffs and their family members participated in various events including Badminton, musical chairs, tag of wars, shot put, marble race, sprint etc. The event ended with a cultural event and family get together on 26th January after observing the Republic Day function.



ANSISS in News Media

Experts discuss alternative paradigm for development

Patna: eminent academics from across the globe shared their views on the inaugural day of an international seminar on 'Cohesive Development: An Alternative Paradigm' organised by A N Sinha Institute of Social Studies (ANSSIS) here on Friday. The academics spoke on current trends in markets, civil society and role of capital among other issues. Resilience suggestions were given for more public control on capital.

The seminar started with welcome address by ANSSIS director Gauri Bhat who urged for search of development paradigm that address for equity and environmental sustainability. The alternative paradigm is not based on mere economic development but is based on more cohesive relationship between man and nature. "The cohesive development approach is the only precondition of sustainable development," said Bhat.

Amiya Banerji (emerging professor, Institute of Development Studies, Kolkata) in his inaugural address talked about barriers that communication, research oriented at eradicating and benchmark effect leading to inequality and social consumption of products, which are at times not need based.

The program commenced with performance of

Capital has to be under state control for growth: Breman

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The program commenced with performance of

'Bihar is one of the most undernourished states'

Patna: Child rights experts on Thursday criticised the health care department for not providing benefits of various government-sponsored schemes, including midday meals in government schools and the Janani Suraksha Yojana.

"With the percentage of stunted children being around 48.2%, Bihar is one of the most undernourished states of India as per the National Family Health Survey (NFHS) report," said economist Jean Drèze during a development dialogue organised by the ANSSIS in partnership with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

Drèze said that in Bihar, 48.2% of children are stunted, which is the highest among all states. He said that the percentage of children who are malnourished is 40%, which is the highest among all states. He said that the percentage of children who are severely malnourished is 10%, which is the highest among all states.

शोध छात्रों के लिए पांच दिवसीय ओरिएंटेशन

अनुपम नारायण सिंह समाज अध्ययन संस्थान के संयोजित कार्यक्रम के अंतर्गत, विभिन्न देशों में सम्मिलित विद्यार्थियों एवं शोध छात्रों के लिए पांच दिवसीय ओरिएंटेशन कार्यक्रम का शुभारंभ हुआ। कार्यक्रम का उद्देश्य शोध छात्रों को शोध कार्य में सम्मिलित करने और उनके शोध कार्य को प्रोत्साहित करना है। कार्यक्रम के अंतर्गत, विभिन्न देशों में सम्मिलित विद्यार्थियों एवं शोध छात्रों के लिए पांच दिवसीय ओरिएंटेशन कार्यक्रम का शुभारंभ हुआ। कार्यक्रम का उद्देश्य शोध छात्रों को शोध कार्य में सम्मिलित करने और उनके शोध कार्य को प्रोत्साहित करना है।

Editorial Team

- | | |
|-----------------|----------|
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| Neetu Choudhary | Member |
| Abhijit Ghosh | .. |
| Aviral Pandey | .. |
| Vidyarthi Vikas | .. |

