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DEEMED-TO-BE UNIVERSITY

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SOCIAL SCIENCES
AND EDUCATION



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"Climate change isn't something people get to choose to believe or not: it's happening."

- Matt Gaetz

The international community's effort in bending the curve of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions globally has remained insufficient. The UN Climate Change Report of October 2022, highlighted that the current commitments by the countries to reduce GHG emissions were increased by 10.6 per cent as compared to 2021. However, the path that the countries are undertaking, would increase the emission by 13.7 percent approximately. Therefore, the combined pledge of the 193 countries under the framework of the Paris Agreement is not enough to address the devastating consequences of climate change and the road to sustainability.

With the global mission to keep the downward trend in emissions progressing, there is a need for the national governments to strengthen their climate action plan through effective policies directed towards addressing climate change and its impact. Though the countries are adopting Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) in their effort to implement the mechanism under the Paris Agreement, it cannot be effective enough unless the countries focus on 'limits to growth' and implement effective policy alternatives at the local level too.

Acknowledging the fact that there are communities that face direct and catastrophic consequences of climate change is crucial. It is high time that the States and the local authorities also realise their duty to operate the in public interest keeping in mind the local consequences of climate change. The vulnerable communities require a comprehensive response at the local level to adapt to the impact of climate change. Hence, the mitigation efforts at the global level also need to integrate adaptation strategies for vulnerable communities at the local level to achieve the goal of sustainable development.

We, at CeRSSE, committed to our social responsibility of inculcating social awareness among our readers, are bringing to you a selection of editorial articles, also,

presenting our interdisciplinary social approach reflected through our various activities. This is the ninth edition of TSSP covering the period between January and March 2023. The introductory piece analyses the economic crisis in Pakistan, followed by the recent earthquakes in Turkey and Syria and their impact on refugees, and the judicial reforms in Israel to capture The World Perspective. The other original articles cover vital issues such as a reflective essay on the changing goals of Indian foreign policy in India Matters; an insight into challenges in Research in Language and Literature in Approaching Research; and issues of the Pakistani Hindu refugee women in Jodhpur, Rajasthan in The Gender Perspective. We have an essay by a student of Master of Arts in Public Policy and Administration (MAPPA) analysing the Union Budget 2023-2024 in Student Essay. Along with this, we also share with you the reports on the events organised and attended by the Centre during this period and a comprehensive report on students' field visit to Ramanagara Zilla Panchayat in the Students Field Trip Report. This issue also includes a section on Faculty Achievements to highlight the work that the faculty have been involved in during this period. This issue also highlights the activities of the students from the MAPPA as part of the Students' Corner. Besides, with much pleasure, we have showcased the academic achievements of the PhD scholars from JAIN. We hope you enjoy reading this issue as much as we took pleasure in curating it for you.

- Priyanca, Rubina, Debangana
Editors, TSSP

THE WORLD PERSPECTIVE

- Pakistan Economic Crisis: An Analysis

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Independent Researcher



The economy of the South Asian country has plunged into a grim state with enormously high inflation, depreciation of the currency value against the dollar combined with the shoot up of fuel prices. The sorry state of affairs in Pakistan brings back the recent memories of Sri Lankan instability of the last year. The deep economic crisis was not a sudden development and several events have built up which resulted in the recent growth of the economic crisis.

Background

Despite the support from the International Monetary Fund, Pakistan is struggling with what is termed the worst economic crisis since its formation in 1947. With multiple crises at hand, the country has been questioned about its continuous instability in the political sphere which contributed to the current economic crisis. The journey has been a process that evidently started in the last three years and naturally affected the lower-income groups the most. The inflation rate rose to 41% and the debt-to-GDP ratio was dangerously risky in the zone of 70% (Banerjee 2023). The forex reserves of the nation have dwindled to a point where the government has declared that it will last only three weeks before the country goes bankrupt.

The country has also witnessed continuous clashes with its neighbours, contributing to its decline in economic conditions. The impact of these clashes including the recent clash in the Durand line affects the production cycle which further fuels the economic depreciation. Thousands of people belonging to the lower strata of society have been in protests in recent times due to a shortage of food and an increase in fuel prices. The country has also experienced severe power outages which were one of the means that was initiated by the present government of Pakistan to save

energy (Deuskar 2023).

Causes

The economic crisis of Pakistan was not built in a day and multiple factors over the years contributed to the position that it is in today. Following are some of the major causes discussed below:

Political Instability

Since its formation, the political condition of Pakistan has been unstable. The situation can be predicted from the point that no government has completed a full five-year term until now since its formation in 1947. The current government of Shahbaz Sharif lost their esteem and reliability within months of coming to power, the setback of which was further pushed by the last ruling government led by Imran Khan demanding an internal military enquiry and fresh elections. Moreover, the policies of the country have to be always supported and backed by the military which puts constant pressure on the ruling government of Pakistan. Additionally, the imbalance between the general Pakistani budget and the defence budget concerning the persistent border dispute with India has further contributed to the ongoing economic crisis of Pakistan (Khilji and Mahmood 1997).

Economic Liberalisation

After struggling with irregularities in external deficits and financial imbalances, Pakistan adopted the structural adjustment program under World Bank and reforms resulting in economic liberalisation in the year 1988. However, the implementation of the policies could not attain the goals and Pakistan was hit with an economic crisis at the end of 1988. The country was trapped in a vicious cycle

of low returns, poverty, low investment, and low growth. To curtail this, Pakistan privatised the state-owned enterprises so that the role of the state can be reduced in economic activities (Khan n.d.). However, the country has faced economic constraints repeatedly over the years and the financial sector has continued to be frail with the export-import imbalance and no retrieval from bad loans. All these factors combined with the country's constant struggle with economic instability and no chance to recover have contributed to the current economic crisis.

External debt from China and other countries

Pakistan is struggling with a huge external debt of around \$100 billion from different countries, the highest of which is from China and Saudi Arabia. With the huge gap in the current account deficit after Pakistan has been trying to attract several countries for additional loans, the debt pile has just increased over time. Pakistan has failed to repay the loans from time to time because of which countries like Saudi Arabia has refused to provide any loan further. China has been accused of using "Debt-Trap Diplomacy" against several developing countries which includes Pakistan (Shaikh and Kai Chen 2021). The "China-Pakistan Economic Corridor" (CPEC) project that connects Kashgar province of China to the Pakistani port of Gwadar has raised major concerns about the debt trap and has forecasted the economic loom long back among experts but the project is still positively supported by many actors in the domestic front. All these factors have contributed to economic dependency of Pakistan on the international community and have resulted in the ongoing economic crisis.

Natural Calamities

Fourthly, natural calamities have also played a major role in causing the recent economic crisis. Pakistan has suffered the wrath of rain Gods in the form of floods that have resulted in the loss of 1730 lives and affected around 33 million people out of which 8 million people got displaced. The expenditure required for reconstruction and rehabilitation as a result of the flood has intensified the already difficulties of the economy (Altaf 2022).

Current Crisis

A gap in the Balance of Trade

Pakistan has always experienced a deficit in its export and a surplus in its import. This naturally has created a negative balance in the trade which means that exports are not getting enough currency to pay for the imports. The enormous piling up of the deficit over the years has created a burden on the Pakistani economy. Moreover, internal

clashes, as well as instability, have further widened the trade gap which is compounded by high unemployment and unskilled youth. The imbalance in trade has gathered every month until it reached its present position (Baloch n.d., 151).

Devaluation of Currency

As the alarm bells started ringing for the Pakistani economy, the government sought refuge from the international community once again. However, due to multiple refusals from several fronts, Pakistan had no other option other than the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for external sourcing of money. One of the major conditions from the IMF was to remove the cap resulting in the artificial distortion in the economy. The removal of the cap resulted in the devaluation of the currency to a very low point of 275.58 PKR per dollar (Shahid and Shahzad 2023). The Pakistan Stock Exchange however is positive that the devaluation of currency will lead to the road to recovery.

Strict Conditions by IMF

The IMF had agreed to help out Pakistan with the crisis by adding \$1 billion to the 2019 bailout of \$6.5 billion but with multiple conditions. These include devaluation of the currency, hike in electricity and fuel prices, imposition of taxes on luxury goods and richer sections of the society apart from other restrictions on the government personnel. Although the conditions have been described by Prime Minister Sharif as "beyond imagination", Pakistan has to bow down with no other options open against bankruptcy. In a recent development, China has approved \$700 million for Pakistan, which will help the country come out of its cash crunch (Jain 2023).

Implications for India

As a neighbouring country, India would naturally have certain consequences. Two kinds of speculations can be observed among the experts regarding the implications for India of the economic crisis of Pakistan. One observation is that while Pakistan's crisis would affect India's exports to a certain extent, India should look at this as an opportunity to consider formal talks with Pakistan regarding every issue between them. India has helped other neighbouring countries before and sees this as an opportunity (Deccan Herald 2023). On the other hand, another observation is in contrast to this which observes that Pakistan's downfall would negatively affect India as it would invite the further influence of China in the region. However, the trouble in the Pakistani economy does not directly suggest an alliance that would be against India (Dhyeyaias 2023).

Is there any Remedy?

Although it would take time for Pakistan to bounce back, some steps can be taken in this regard. Firstly, Pakistan should focus on building industries on the domestic front which would help in reducing the dependency on exports. Secondly, the focus must be put on widening the taxes of the higher-income individuals of the nation (Nazar 2022). Thirdly, steps can be taken for initiating a privatisation programme that would invite external investments to the country and lastly, the huge chunk of the Pakistani budget that is dedicated to the defence sector should be reduced to half of its present level.

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THE WORLD PERSPECTIVE

- The Impact of Earthquakes on Refugee Crisis: An Overview of the Recent Cases in Turkey and Syria

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Introduction

Turkey and Syria are countries located in a seismically active region known as the Mediterranean seismic belt. Frequent earthquakes and volcanic eruptions characterise this region, and Turkey and Syria experienced devastating 7.7 and 7.6 magnitudes of earthquakes in February 2023, killing over 50,000 and injuring 100,000 people. This earthquake surpassed the devastating 7.4 magnitudes Izmit earthquake in north-western Turkey in 1999, killing over 17,000 people. Syria also had considerable losses in the past and present owing to the impacts of earthquakes, which killed its people and destroyed many buildings in the cities of Aleppo, Damascus and Qamishli. In addition to earthquakes, Turkey and Syria have experienced a significant refugee crisis in recent years. In Syria, the ongoing civil war has forced millions of people to flee their homes. Turkey has taken in millions of refugees from Syria and other neighbouring countries. The combination of seismic activity and the refugee crisis creates significant challenges for both countries in managing disaster response and supporting vulnerable populations.

The magnitude of the Refugee Crisis caused by earthquakes in Turkey and Syria

As per UNICEF, more than 850,000 Turkish and Syrian children remain displaced. According to the current estimates, at least 2.7 million people out of 14 million got displaced in various locations, including migrants. Out of the total population, 1.8 million people are migrants in Turkey. Based on official data available at the governorate level, mapping of displaced people outside the affected provinces shows that at least 1.1 million people—primarily Turkish citizens—have relocated to other areas of the nation. This number includes the 2.7 million displaced people within the

11 provinces. The earthquakes are thought to have ejected more than 500,000 people from their homes in Syria. When the aftershocks persist, many youngsters are terrified to return to their damaged houses, where many families' homes have been destroyed. With 6.8 million displaced people, including approximately three million children, Syria had the highest number of internally displaced persons worldwide, even before the earthquakes. In Turkey alone, the earthquakes caused more than 150,000 buildings to collapse or become unusable, leaving an estimated more than a million people homeless.

Economic, social and Psychological impacts of earthquakes on refugee communities in Turkey and Syria

Turkey is the largest host home to refugees, hosting 3.7 million people, according to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). The earthquakes have surmounted the economic challenges in rebuilding, and the volatile region will face repercussions. While the refugee crisis is already a challenge the world faces, the environmentally induced refugee crisis can have long-term impacts that force people to stay displaced for extended periods. Responding to environmentally induced refugee crises often requires different solutions and resources than typical ones. The displacement caused by natural disasters like earthquakes requires much economic assistance for rebuilding, immediate humanitarian aid and protection measures. According to the World Bank rapid damage assessment report, the earthquakes that struck Turkey have directly inflicted \$34.2 billion in damages, around 4 per cent of the nation's 2021 GDP. The cost of rebuilding is estimated to be much higher than the direct damages.

Earthquakes can be traumatic events leading to post-

traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) in many individuals. Refugees who have experienced trauma in the past may be particularly vulnerable to developing PTSD after an earthquake. The refugees are already trauma inflicted as they face difficulties navigating life and are more vulnerable to conflicts. The earthquake has made many children orphans and lost their support systems (Duzova et al., 2023). Earthquakes have destroyed various necessary infrastructures, including hospitals and schools. The disruption of community structures and networks that are essential sources of support for refugees can further isolate refugees and exacerbate feelings of loneliness and despair.

Potential conflict during a disaster

Refugee crises can often lead to conflict between the affected countries and neighbouring countries. Conflict can happen in many ways. The sudden influx of refugees in the aftermath of earthquakes can put a strain on the resources of the host country, including food, water, and shelter, which can also create competition for resources between the refugees and the host community, leading to tensions and conflict. According to Amnesty International, Syrian refugees have been victims of verbal and physical abuse by civilians and state actors during the earthquake. The aftermath of a natural disaster like an earthquake will push the country into the need for resources. Refugee crises can also create political tensions within the host country, as different groups may have different opinions on responding to the crisis. This can lead to political polarisation and conflict. The reason why most countries refuse to host refugees is because of presumed security concerns. There are considerable xenophobic and hypocritical elements in the discourse of “who should carry the burden of refugees?”

Conclusion

The impact of earthquakes on refugee crises is significant and can exacerbate already dire humanitarian situations. Recent earthquakes in Turkey and Syria have shown that displaced populations are particularly vulnerable to the effects of earthquakes, as they often lack the resources to prepare for and respond to these disasters adequately. These

earthquakes have resulted in the widespread destruction of homes, infrastructure, and essential services, forcing many refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) to endure even more hardship.

The earthquakes in Turkey and Syria have highlighted the need for increased attention to disaster risk reduction and preparedness, particularly in regions with large populations of refugees and IDPs. The disparities in assistance from the international community were also a matter of concern; While Turkey got speedy assistance and aid from the international community, Syria was getting less attention for several reasons, including the political sanctions. There is also a need for greater coordination and cooperation among governments, humanitarian organisations, and other stakeholders to ensure that affected populations receive the support they need to recover from these disasters and rebuild their lives.

Overall, it is clear that earthquakes significantly impact refugee crises and that more needs to be done to address the vulnerabilities of displaced populations in the face of natural disasters. By taking a more proactive approach to disaster risk reduction and preparedness and working together to provide adequate support to affected populations, we can help mitigate the impact of earthquakes on refugees and IDPs and ensure that they can better cope with these disasters in the future.

THE WORLD PERSPECTIVE

- Israel's Controversial Bill to Overhaul Judicial System

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Introduction

Israel is witnessing mass protests against the judicial reforms that Benjamin Netanyahu's government proposed in all major cities, including Tel Aviv. Israelis headed to the streets to protest against limiting the judiciary's power. The protest came after the recently solved Israeli Political crisis from 2018 to 2022. Netanyahu and his right-wing allies formed a majority government in December 2022. This government includes many controversial ministers, such as the Minister of National Security, Itamar Ben- Kivir. This is one of the most rightist governments in Israeli history. During the election, many right-wing politicians proposed many controversial legislations and policies. Judicial reform is one of the controversial legislations proposed by Netanyahu during the election.

Background

The current anti-judicial reform protests are one of the crucial political events after solving the political crisis between 2018 and 2022. The 2022 Israeli crisis was a time of political instability in Israel, which saw five consecutive snap elections in four years. The main reason for the political crisis was the opposition of opposition parties towards Benjamin Netanyahu. Netanyahu was facing several corruption charges against him. The opposition parties were against forming a government, including Benjamin Netanyahu. The political crisis was solved after the 2022 Israeli legislative election, in which Netanyahu and his right-wing allies finally got a majority in four years. The new Israeli government was formed on 29 December 2022.

Likud party leader Yariv Levin was appointed as Justice Minister in January 2023; he announced a plan to reform the Israeli judiciary. The major reform was to reduce the power of the Supreme Court and the government's legal

councillors. The reform plan also included granting the governing coalition a majority on the committee that appoints the judges.

The main reason for the judicial reform is to save Benjamin Netanyahu from indictment and disqualification, who is facing many corruption charges against him.

Processes and operations that the proposed modifications will influence

Judiciary selection: The proposed amendments aim to alter the committee's makeup, giving the government a majority of votes and influencing the appointment and removal of all judges, including those on the Supreme Court. A full bench of Supreme Court justices must preside over any case in which the legality of routine legislation passed by the Knesset is considered, and 80% of them must rule for the invalidation of such legislation. These and other measures are part of the proposed efforts to limit judicial review over legislation.

Knesset Override: The measures being considered would give the Knesset the power to overturn a Supreme Court ruling on a piece of legislation's validity if 61 of the 120 Knesset members vote against it. Legal advisors to government ministries - The proposed changes aim to reclassify ministry legal advisers from independent authorities, subject to the professional oversight of the Justice Ministry, to politically selected counsel whose opinions are explicitly non-binding upon the government and its ministers, allowing ministers to individually choose and fire their legal advisors and choose whether or not to abide by legal advice.

By legislating against the idea of "reasonability," the proposed revisions aim to restrict the scope of judicial review of governmental and administrative actions. As a

result, the courts would not be allowed to entertain petitions or appeals challenging governmental and administrative decisions because they are “unreasonable.”

The protest

Following the announcement of judicial reforms, many organisations, including the Crime Minister, announced their intention to organise protests on January 7. Tel Aviv, Habima square, witnessed a mass protest attended by more than twenty thousand people. Smaller protests also took place. The protestors view the changes in the judicial system as a threat to democratic checks and balances on the ministers and court. The protestors believe that the future of Israeli democracy is at stake if the government succeeds in implementing judicial reforms. These changes would tighten the political control over the judiciary and judicial appointments—the Supreme court’s powers to overturn government decisions.

The protest has been going on for two months now. During his visit to London, Netanyahu was greeted by protestors shouting and whistling outside Downing street, as opposed to judicial reform plans.

The Risk of the Judicial Reforms

The reform would weaken the Israeli Judiciary and could pave the way for Knesset’s controlled judicial appointments. The independence of the Israeli Judiciary is seriously threatened, and the Judiciary will be put under the effective

control of the Knesset. Opposition fears that Israel would be pushed towards a system where the leader veils control over all significant levels of power. Opposition fears that Netanyahu and their allies want to weaken the Supreme Court and establish more settlements on the occupied Palestinian territories. This will also help Netanyahu and his nationalist allies to pass discriminatory laws against Palestinians and minorities in Israel.

Conclusion

Israel is witnessing one of the significant protests directly against Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his judicial reforms. His judicial reforms include plans to curtail the powers of the Israeli judiciary over government decisions and laws passed by the Knesset. Accordingly, the Judicial reforms Knesset can overturn Supreme Court verdicts by a simple majority. According to the opposition and protestors, this judicial reform is a serious attempt to weaken the Supreme court and reduce the independence of the Israeli judiciary. The protest has been ongoing for almost two months. There is criticism against these reforms in Israel and the rest of the world. Critiques believe that it is a direct attack on the democratic setup.

INDIA MATTERS

- Changing goals of Indian foreign policy: A reflective essay

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India has completed 75 years of its independent foreign policy. It is time to reflect on how India articulated its foreign policy goals over the decades. To begin with, it needs to be recorded that even before becoming a free country, the Indian National Congress which spearheaded the freedom struggle under the leadership of Gandhi, Nehru and others had consciously articulated its 'foreign policy', independent of the British. Accordingly, the INC passed several resolutions expressing its support for freedom struggles in Asia and Africa. It even distanced itself from the Second World War.

After becoming independent, India pursued its goal of opposition to Colonialism, Imperialism and Apartheid. It convened the Asian Relations Conference in 1948 and took a leadership role in articulating a non-aligned foreign policy under Prime Minister Nehru, leading to the organisation of the first summit of the non-aligned nations in Belgrade in 1961. India also expressed itself strongly against the Soviet-American arms race and pleaded for nuclear disarmament. India opposed the nuclear non-proliferation treaty (NPT) as discriminatory and unequal and refused to sign it. It is a different matter that under Indira Gandhi, India carried out peaceful nuclear tests in 1974. In 1998 India became a nuclear weapon state to protect its national security, but in keeping with its commitment to the goal of Nuclear Disarmament, it gave a no-first-use of nuclear weapons pledge.

Under Indira Gandhi, India vigorously put forward its pro-Third World goals by supporting the Palestinians in their struggle for independence, opposed the Apartheid policy in South Africa and played a pioneering role in the passage of resolutions on the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace and the New International Economic Order in the UN General

Assembly and its resolution on the Nuclear Disarmament under Rajiv Gandhi.

With the ending of the Cold War and the disintegration of the Soviet Union and the dawn of the era of Liberalisation, Privatisation and Globalisation (LPG) in the early 1990s, there was a paradigm shift in India's foreign policy goals. It also coincided with the gradual rise of China with its growing challenges to our security-strategic interests, leading to a gradual move towards the United States to contain the Chinese challenge. It manifested itself in the form of the 'Nuclear Deal', an agreement signed by the UPA regime under Dr. Manmohan Singh with the United States ending the latter's policy of nuclear 'apartheid' towards India. Over the years and decades, India's military-strategic ties with the US have strengthened, despite allowing continuity in our test-timed defence ties with Russia. But, somewhere down the line, Indian leadership's attachment to the policy and strategy of nonalignment also changed so, one heard about other leading nations in the NAM taking over the leadership of the movement. The Rabat fiasco is often cited as an example of it.

It also needs to be mentioned that the NDA coalition government under Vajpayee and presently under Narendra Modi, emphasized improving ties with China, other South Asian neighbours and the larger Asia-Pacific nations. The Look East and Act East policies were manifestations of such policies. In a novel manner, Narendra Modi invited his South Asian counterparts to his Government's swearing-in ceremony signalling the importance he attached to improving ties with the neighbours. His efforts to strengthen relations with China were manifested in his summit meetings, formal and informal, with the Chinese President. But, the Balakot developments with Pakistan and

the Chinese military adventures in the Galwan Valley in 2021 led to a realistic assessment of the Pakistani and Chinese challenges respectively. The Chinese challenge also led to our getting closer to the United States and members of the QUAD, though India doesn't want to get sucked into the US military approach to the handling of China.

However, the Russian invasion of Ukraine in February 2022 provided the Indian leadership with an opportunity to rediscover the virtue of adopting a nonaligned stand towards the ongoing war. Right from the beginning of the Ukrainian crisis, India has followed an independent stance by not joining the west in its resolutions condemning the Russian invasion of Ukraine by abstaining from the UN resolutions. But it has strongly expressed itself in favour of diplomacy and negotiations to end the war. Prime Minister Modi's statement at the Bali G-20 summit that 'this is not the decade of wars' projected our peace approach and won, grudgingly though, western appreciation. External Affairs Minister, Dr. Jaishankar, during his visits to western capitals and in his periodic interviews with the western media explained the validity of our approach towards the Ukrainian crisis.

While there is a clamour for Indian mediation to end the war as President of the G-20, the Indian leadership is treading cautiously in trying to bring Russia and Ukraine to the negotiating table. Prime Minister Narendra Modi was well aware of this strategic reality and hence advised the G20 nations at the recent Foreign Ministers' conference in New Delhi to set aside their differences and focus on the economic and other challenges facing the Global South. (Hindustan Times, 3rd March 2023.) While reiterating that the theme of India's G20 Presidency was 'One Earth, One Family and one Future', Modi stressed the need for unity in action to strengthen the areas of agreement. While making no direct reference to the Ukrainian crisis in his speech, he observed that the foreign ministers were meeting "at a time of deep global divisions. The New Delhi meeting could not issue a joint communique due to the contending positions

taken by Russia on the one hand and the US and European countries on the other on the Ukrainian issue.

Realism demands that as President of G20, India should concentrate its attention on achieving tangible benefits to the member states, especially, for those belonging to the Global South in areas such as climate financing, North's developmental assistance to the countries of the South, educational and technological advancement etc. The need of the hour is to push the concerns of the developing South on issues of food security, fertiliser prices, fuel supply and rising inflation across the world.

As President of the G20 India's priority should be on the cessation of hostilities first and the initiation of diplomatic negotiations to resolve the tangle. If India cannot directly mediate between Ukraine and Russia, it should offer its good offices to Russia and Ukraine to talk to each other within the overarching framework of preserving Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity, addressing Russia's security concerns and the imperative of preserving the rules-based international order. Our leadership should try and build a consensus on the idea of Ukraine becoming a neutral nation, acting as a bridge between Eastern and Western Europe. Success in this direction would be the crowning glory of India's G20 leadership. It would be a recognition of India's place as a major player in world politics.

APPROACHING RESEARCH

- Integrating Research in Language and Literature

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A very important discussion among the researchers in language and literature poses a challenge and tries to answer the question – “How to develop innovative research practices to overcome the challenges of language research?”

Integration of research in the language is mainly developed on ethical, epistemological and pedagogical issues. These parameters are best answered when the researchers explore their practices as co-researchers. The primary question that arises is what exactly does research mean? Who can lead, conduct, analyse, innovate, enact, or practice research?

A practitioner, a teacher, a teacher educator, and a researcher in language cannot shed one identity to take another but integrate all to emerge as a dynamic being. The notion of research and the way it gets integrated into teaching-learning can become an important topic to be considered by a language researcher. The changing paradigms of research have led to new doubts as to whether all research activities are ontological and epistemological. Each decision seeks to focus and complete attention. Any research should be technically convincing, systematic and innovative. Recent studies have shown that a large number of teachers consider research irrelevant. The critical question one has to ask is to decide how rigorous the research is, how impactful is the research and how original are the ideas.

In the domain of language and literature, critical questions like what the research agenda is, who conducts research, who generates the reports, what are the benefits of the research and how it matters for further research become very important. There is an urgent need to respond to the growing awareness of the large gap between research guidelines governing qualitative research and challenges

in fieldwork during data collection. A large number of researchers in the field of language and literature face difficulties in accessing the right topic, and worries while dealing with sensitive information and many more.

Being more creative in identifying research topics is very important. It is essential to know how important and valuable information relevant to the research focus can be obtained. The researcher should be able to present both theoretical and practical aspects. Lack of empirical research can be due to pragmatic reasons such as time and access due to work pressure. This, according to relevance, document analysis, focus group discussions and interviews become very important.

Most of the researchers in languages aspire for more opportunities to engage with supervision and develop academic writing skills. But due to varied reasons, the researchers have expressed dissatisfaction in this regard.

There is a need for a strong base in theory and practical information for those researchers navigating the complex world of language research. There is a need for the integration of research, writing and teaching processes. Originality, clarity, and connectors of featured information should be the focus of research culture. Comprehensive research in new domains like applied linguistics establishes a positive correlation between both speaking and writing skills and enhances language proficiency. Language research requires the involvement of both the researcher and the researched. The research projects aimed at exploring the impact of different subjects should be able to analyse the glaring difficulties and devise methods to overcome them.

The specific challenges faced by language teachers in their research journey should guide them to sustain their commitment throughout the project and provide them with the strength to handle the physical and emotional strain. The potential language researcher should embark on this demanding but rewarding endeavour.

Specific challenges in language and literature Research

A basic question that arises in the mind of a researcher is what are the issues that affect the research and teaching in the present context and how have the researchers identified strategies to overcome them.

Interdisciplinarity has been instrumental in effecting changes in both fields and establishing the relationship between languages and the connection between literature and language. Nowadays research on language and literature has challenging concerns in the form of either specific queries or responses to those queries. The new systems of enquiry have enhanced the interest of researchers. Scholars are keen to address the questions and seek satisfactory solutions. It becomes appropriate to discuss the changes in research in the field of language and literature in the recent past. It may not be an overestimation to say that cross-cultural interaction has proven to be beneficial. The primary concern would be to take advantage of the technological innovations in cultural and political settings and whether they have impacted positively. The biggest challenge is to foster the development of new research topics and cope with the challenges posed by them. Hearing ecologies going beyond the normal need to be created and nurtured. The availability of basic resources sometimes remains underfunded.

The general component of literature broadens the level of understanding and creates cultural awareness and values which enhance skills like independent thinking and creativity. Literary appreciation helps researchers to develop critical sensitivity. It is important for researchers to facilitate the attainment of their research objectives through diverse themes like social vices, technology, history, gender, multicultural issues, politics, and governance.

As the world continues to adjust and cope with the new normal brought in by COVID-19 digital literacy, creativity, innovation, and soft skills have become the essential

components of good research. A high level of efficiency is required to develop the necessary research skills.

Research in language and literature goes beyond reading a piece of literary work. Knowing the subject matter within the text is insufficient. Asking more questions, making relevant clarifications and active interactions is not optional but a pre-requisite for all researchers in the domain.

Literary appreciation should be enhanced by close and purposive reading and giving attention to intricate details. Researchers should engage in discussions which enhance their research focus. Researchers should be encouraged to actively engage in activities which contribute to gaining deeper insights and adopting different approaches. The socio-political and historical contexts of each text should be thoroughly explored. Literature should be used as a model for development and growth which becomes relevant in daily life.

The NEP 2020 has emphasised literature and identified it as a tool to create cultural awareness. It promotes art and culture, fosters nationalism, and explores new insights. Engagement in different aspects of language use and practice helps a researcher in discourses and the development of analytical skills.

Research not only provides higher degrees but also brings about the connection between experiences of the fictional world and individual experiences. Fundamentally we should understand that all literary works, irrespective of the genre, are about life experiences perceived by scribes at different places, during different times. Researchers in literature can understand human nature better than others and present the truth about human conditions. Literature coupled with good language skills enables a researcher to face the challenges of life.

Several studies have been carried out to improve the quality of research in literature and language. The studies have found that there is a lack of trust in socio-cultural and gender issues. If the teaching fraternity did not consider this domain irrelevant there could be an improvement in the quality of research in language and literature.

THE GENDER PERSPECTIVE

- The Pakistani Hindu Refugee women in Jodhpur, Rajasthan

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Introduction

Forced Migration has become a global phenomenon, especially in the twentieth and early twenty-first centuries. People are forced to leave their nation, and their identity and relocate to a place/space unknown to them. The International Organisation for Migration (IOM) defines a forced migrant as any person who migrates to 'escape persecution, conflict, repression, natural and human-made disasters, ecological degradation, or other situations that endanger their lives, freedom or livelihood' (Hugo, 2005). It has affected the lives of people across ages, gender, and social background. However, gender is a critical factor that shapes the experiences and outcomes of forced migration. This article, based on the interview conducted with the Pakistani Hindu refugee women, will explore the causes and experiences of forced migration from a gendered perspective, highlighting the differential impacts on these women, who seek refuge in Jodhpur, Rajasthan, India.

Causes of Migration – Case of Pakistani Hindu Refugee Women

The constant struggle to remain in their country of origin or return to it, claiming it as one's own, renders a huge population of people stateless, refugees –the ones who belong to nowhere. The religious minorities who decided to stay back in the country of their choice, after the partition of the sub-continent became the 'other', a fearful identity that they live with. This category of 'Pakistani-Hindu' represents the 'paradox of the situation' (Sethi, 2021). Unlike the other refugees seeking refuge in India, Pakistani Hindu refugees seek recognition with a historical and cultural genealogy that differs from the understanding of the refugee definition given by UNHCR (Chatterji, 2012). They are deeply connected with the host country, India, based on religion, history, and culture, thus becoming a 'unique case of migration' (Nizami,

2022).

Though the state of Pakistan was formed based on being a democratic and tolerant nation, as envisaged by its founder Muhammad Ali Jinnah, which would respect the rights of the non-Muslim population (Ishapani, 2017). But things did not remain the same. Rather post the 1970s and 1980s, with the state of Pakistan supporting hardline radicalised ideas, 'legal persecution' and 'extrajudicial persecution' became legitimised, leading to the violation of the rights of religious minorities in the state (Rahman, 2012). Consequently, religious discrimination, exploitation, forceful conversion, abduction, and rape of young girls and forceable marriages started to be on the rise (Fuchs & Fuchs, 2020). According to the Universal Just Action Society, since 2012, factors like regular killings, abduction, and forceful religious conversions have been prime factors for crossing borders. Alongside, reports of discriminatory economic policies resulted in issues of unemployment, unequal wages, and loss of jobs among others (FIDH and HRCP, 2015). Unfortunately, people belonging to the Dalit, nomad community suffer from further discrimination because of their caste identity (Malik, 2002).

Implications of Migration

The Pakistani Hindu women refugees have been enduring the legacy of the partition of the subcontinent. 'Dishonouring' and humiliating the 'other' women became an everyday phenomenon during this period, something which still haunts the lives of Hindu women back in Pakistan. The female body of the minority Hindu 'other' in Pakistan serves as a terrain through which the dramatic act of violence is exchanged, since 1947. The violence done on Hindu women in Pakistan served as a metaphor, 'indicating the place that

women's sexuality occupies in the all-male and patriarchal arrangement of gender relations, between and within religious or ethnic communities' (Menon and Bhasin, 1998).

Fleeing these insecurities and a life full of uncertainties, when these women enter Indian territory, they face a different set of challenges. These refugees do face a lot of issues within the Indian territory. Their experience of migrating is traumatic and taxing because of the high cost of migration. The family has to prioritise who will migrate first amongst them all, resulting in the breaking of the family.

Not only do they have to take care of the household but also have additional responsibilities of meeting their daily needs. To meet their daily needs, these women are put in new spaces which they haven't encountered until now. They are left with no choice but to accompany their husbands, by engaging in livelihood activities. In doing so, many of the Pakistani Hindu refugee women end up challenging the traditional gendered roles that ascribe men as breadwinners and women as homemakers, deeply embedded in patriarchal norms. For women, leaving behind their maternal family rips them off. Since the majority of them aren't a part of the decision-making process of travelling to India, they live under the constant fear of not being able to see their parents again.

Further, because of their caste identity and the stigma associated with their Pakistani identity, they are left with little or no choice but to be able to access livelihood options in India. It is important to look at the overlapping identities, in their context, as the intersectionality of these identities puts them in a far more vulnerable condition, producing a whole matrix of hierarchies. Since it is difficult for men in the community to get a decent livelihood opportunity, these women are compelled to accept a variety of accessible occupations to contribute to the family's financial well-being. As they become independent, crucial here is to underline that it is not out of choice that they venture out into the public arena, but out of pure compulsion, hence, breaking the old, gendered norms.

Moreover, they face challenges in accessing healthcare services, including reproductive health services, during forced migration. They may lack access to menstrual products, contraceptives, and safe abortion services, putting their health and well-being at risk. They often face barriers to accessing basic services, including healthcare,

education, and protection. Women's reproductive health needs are often overlooked in humanitarian responses, and women may face obstacles in accessing contraceptives, prenatal care, and safe delivery services. Women and girls are also often excluded from education and skills training programs, which can limit their opportunities for economic empowerment and social integration.

The process of assimilation of this community has been a question out of sight. The analysis states how even after becoming citizens of India, nothing major has changed for them, as they still lacked basic facilities of sanitation, water, and electricity. Even though on paper they become Indians, they are still identified as Pakistani refugees, someone who is always seen with suspicion. Even though religiously, culturally and based on language, the case of Pakistani Hindu refugees stands out expectational to be able to integrate with the locals, unfortunately, nothing much has been achieved in this regard, as they still rat the periphery.

Conclusion

In conclusion, forced migration is a complex phenomenon that affects individuals and communities in diverse ways. Addressing the differential impacts of forced migration and its implication for Pakistani Hindu refugee women is essential for promoting gender equality, preventing gender-based violence, and ensuring the protection and empowerment of all individuals affected by forced migration. It is thus important to recognize and address the gendered implications of forced migration to ensure that the rights and needs of all individuals are met, regardless of their gender identity.

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STUDENT ESSAY

- Union Budget 2023-2024: A Gender Analysis

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The Union Budget of India keeps the brief about the government's finances for the fiscal year that starts from the 1st of April to the 31st of March and is presented in the parliament by the finance minister. The Union Budget is divided into two parts: The Revenue budget, which consists of revenue receipts and expenditure, and the Capital Budget, which consists of the government's capital receipts and payments. India's Budget for the year 2023-24 has been presented by Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman on 1st February 2023.

Amrit Kaal, a term first used by PM Narendra Modi in 2021 to provide a roadmap for India. This year, the budget has clearly demarcated priorities in seven specific areas known as the 'Saptarishi', which include:

- 1) Inclusive Development
- 2) Reaching the Last Mile
- 3) Infrastructure and Investment
- 4) Unleashing the Potential
- 5) Green Growth
- 6) Youth Power
- 7) Financial Sector.

The major allocations to the Ministries include 5.94 Lac Crores to the Ministry of Defence, 2.70 Lakh Crores to the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, 2.41 lakh crore to the Ministry of Railways; 2.06 lakh crore to the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food Production, and Distribution; 1.96 lakh crores to Ministry of Home Affairs. While this year's revision of the tax regime caught ample attention, arguably catering to the middle-class interest, its gender aspect seeks a closer look.

Gender and Union Budget 2023 -24

Gender Budgeting aims at gender mainstreaming through fiscal policies intending to reduce the gender gap. Though significant efforts are made, India largely lacks Gender Responsive Budgeting. Part A of the Gender Budget includes schemes fully dedicated to women, whereas Part B consists of policy schemes that reserve 30 per cent of the funds for women.

In the year 2023-24 Union Budget, the gender budget has been allocated 2.23 lakh crores, accounting for about 5 per cent of the total expenditure. Even though on the surface this may look satisfactory, in terms of increase in allocations, it is merely a 2.12 per cent increase as compared to the 2022-23 Budget. Regarding the expenditure proportion, as compared to last year Union budget, it is only a 0.63 per cent hike. Despite the minimal increase in allocation, relatively speaking, this is not proportionate to India's gender-based needs. Thus, it is important to identify that fiscal remedy alone is not enough when it comes to addressing the socio-economic and structural needs stemming from gender.

It is worth highlighting that the process of the selection of schemes for gender budget remains imprecise. For example, the maiden Mahila Samman Saving Certificate scheme, valid for two years, enabling women to deposit up to two lakhs for two years with an interest rate of 7.5 per cent, is oblivious to a significant structural factor. The majority of Indian women with little to no control over finances are either unable to access the benefits of the scheme or its benefits are subject to patriarchal control by the male members of the family. Additionally, the well-known Jal Jeevan Mission, which ensures the provision of tap water to all rural households, lacks a gender mainstreaming

approach with no gender-responsive allocation being made. In India, women walk long distances in rural areas to fetch water and inclusive accessibility to tap water can potentially enhance their quality of life.

The gender budget of India includes schemes like Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan; the National Health Program, the National Urban Health Mission, the Samagra Shiksha Scheme; the Samarthya Scheme, and the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM). These schemes add up to almost 45000 Crores. Out of which, while 5000 crores have been allocated to SBM for the construction of toilets and proper sanitation facilities, it fails to address the dearth of hygienic and gender-inclusive public toilets along the major highways of the country. Apart from a few petrol pumps and restaurants along the way, public toilets for women during long journeys remain largely inaccessible. While one may argue this to be an infrastructural impediment across genders, the nuisance of public urination among men is not unknown.

The Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Gramin encompasses the Part B of the gender budget as an example of gender mainstreaming in the government's housing policy. The scheme aims at making women more self-reliant by providing houses in their names and supporting them in an effort to uplift women. While this shows a ray of hope, despite 54% of participants in the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment (MGNREGA) beneficiaries being women, gender-based allocations for the scheme have been cut from INR. 73,000 crores to INR. 60,000 crores. Moreover, the schemes related to Micro, Small, and Medium-Sized Enterprises (MSMEs) are not gender inclusive in nature. With an allocation of 22,138 crores towards the Ministry of MSMEs, it becomes crucial to take into consideration that, in a patriarchal society like India, women face larger barriers towards becoming entrepreneurs and starting their businesses. Hence, allocations should have been made with respect to the needs of women to encourage entrepreneurial initiatives among them. Additionally, the concern of intersectionality comes into play. For instance, availing of these scheme-based benefits is relatively easier for women belonging to the upper caste as compared to the marginalised castes. This also calls for more decentralization to be effectively implemented at the grassroots levels.

While the Union Budget tries to work towards setting up surveillance cameras, better transport facilities, the establishment of 150 women's colleges to encourage higher education accessibility, 100 women hostels in universities etc. highlighting gender-based considerations in budgeting, the approach remains paternalistic. It is also worth noticing that the ambit of 'Gender' not only calls for the needs of women but also other sexual minorities including transgenders. Yet, India's budget has confined itself to only considering women's needs by erecting merely protective measures. In fact, clubbing women's and children's needs together prioritises women's maternal needs instead of considering women as individuals. It holistically fails to address the specific structural barriers faced particularly by women. Most importantly, having a gender budget on paper is not equivalent to effective implementation and therefore, a comprehensive gender-responsive budget is the need of the hour.

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EVENT REPORT

- Topic: Gender Budgeting 2023-2024
Challenges and Future Trends

The event commemorated the very occasion of International Women's Day- the same day when many parts of India are celebrating, immersed in the colours of Holi. It is a day to commemorate the strengthening of the women's rights movement, bringing attention to issues such as gender equality, reproductive rights, and violence and abuse against women. The moderator of the session, Dr. Debangana Chatterjee, Assistant Professor of the Centre, began the session by tracing the origin of the day in the labour movements of North America, Europe and Soviet Russia during the early 20th century. The Centre for Research in Social Sciences and Education (CeRSSE), JAIN (Deemed-to-be University), rightfully takes pride in being able to rally behind the global efforts towards gender equality.

Gender gaps exist in every sphere, including education, employment, entrepreneurship, public life, etc. Gender budgeting as a fiscal policy aims to promote equality through government budgeting. Incorporating gender perspective at all levels of the budgetary process and reforming the revenues and expenditures and being sensitive to gender-based concerns are some of the crucial ways to achieve gender mainstreaming. This is where panellist Laurene Garneau who is a Senior Gender Equality and Social Inclusion Advisor and is currently associated with the Forum for Federations (FoF), Canada, discussed the broad domain of Gender Responsive Budgeting while highlighting some of her experiential accounts from Canada. She specifically mentioned how effective GRB implementation may enable marginalised communities as a whole. She also noted that while the budget is an instrument towards achieving gender equality, it requires synergy among social, political as well as economic spheres.

In India, gender minorities lag behind various socio-economic indicators. This seeks special attention, given the lack of access to resources and existing vulnerability- stemming

JGI JAIN CENTRE FOR RESEARCH IN SOCIAL SCIENCES AND EDUCATION

Organises
A Virtual Panel Discussion
Commemorating
International Women's Day
On
GENDER BUDGETING 2023-2024
Challenges and future trends

📅 8 March 2023 | 🕒 03:30 pm - 05:00 pm

Panelists

Prof. (Dr) Lekha S. Chakraborty
Professor, National Institute of Public Finance and Policy, New Delhi

Laurene Garneau
M. Sc. Economics, Senior International Gender Equality and Social Inclusion Advisor, GESIA Advisor to Forum of Federations, Canada

Dr. Jyotsna Jha
Director, Centre for Budget and Policy Studies, Bangalore

Moderator

Dr. Debangana Chatterjee
Assistant Professor
Centre for Research in Social Sciences and Education

Webinar Coordinator

Dr. Rubina Pradhan
Assistant Professor
JAIN (Deemed-to-be University)
Centre for Research in Social Sciences and Education (CeRSSE)
✉️ rubina.pradhan@jainuniversity.ac.in

Mode
Online | Platform: Zoom **zoom**

Registration Link:
<https://zoom.us/joining/register/1000094086495WB1U/0VJc3pLKyUz0>

Meeting details will be sent upon successful registration
E-certificates will be provided to the participants

from both the societal and institutional structures. Eminent panellist Dr. Lekha Chakraborty, Professor at NIPFP and elected Member of the Governing Board of Management, International Institute of Public Finance (IIPF) Munich, who has been instrumental in framing India's first GRB framework in 2004. India released a gender budget from 2005 onwards and since then the Union budget on gender has been between 4-5 per cent of the total budget. She indicated that this highlights not only the concern for lack of proportional budget allocation but also there are issues of underutilization of allocated funds. She also highlighted the efficacy of GRB in increasing the rates of education among women and mentioned the tools of effective decentralisation mechanisms where more participatory approaches are taken in making public expenditure decisions.

Dr. Jyotsna Jha, who heads the Centre for Budget and Policy Studies (CBPS), located in Bangalore, mapped the issue of GRB along the political and economic lines. With a strong feminist stance, she called out the lack of political

commitment and the inadequacy of a holistic approach in defining both 'gender' and 'responsive'. Beyond the cursory implementation of Gender Budgeting, she sought for strengthening the institutional framework for implementing GRB and comprehensive accumulation and analysis of adequate data, especially pertaining to the state of the informal sector.

Overall, the session contributed in making meaningful engagements along the lines of GRB and the related gender-based approaches, as the participants posed critical questions on the possibilities of reform in GRB, its linkages with political participation, and the paradigm of state-led development etc.

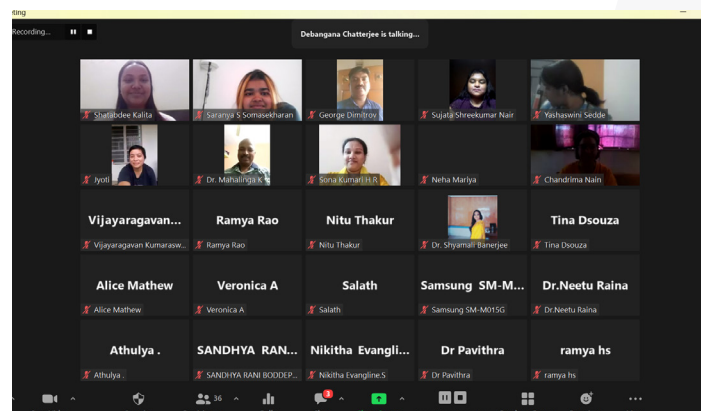
Brief Profile: Resource Persons

Laurenne Garneau

Senior Gender Equality and Social Inclusion Advisor and is currently associated with the Forum for Federations (FoF), Canada. She is a Canadian professional who worked for over 30 years for the Government of Canada.

Dr. Lekha S. Chakraborty

Lekha S. Chakraborty is a Professor at NIPFP and elected Member of the Governing Board of Management, International Institute of Public Finance (IIPF) Munich -the

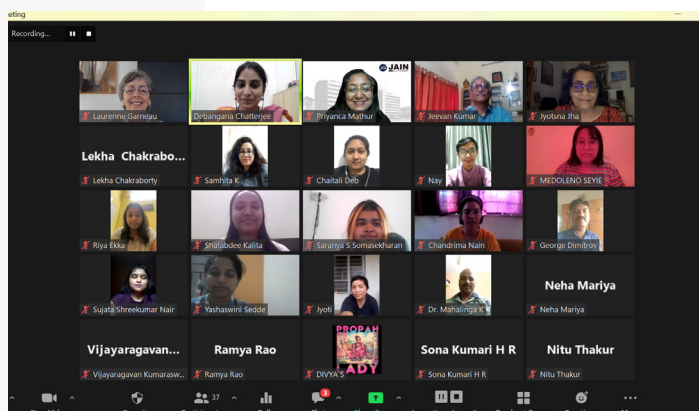
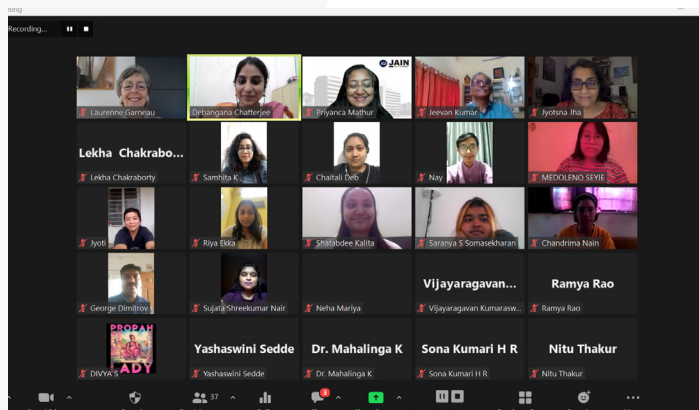


Participants during the panel discussion

world association of public finance economists. She is a pioneering economist in institutionalising Gender Budgeting in India, with Chief Economic Advisor, Ministry of Finance, Govt of India in 2004. Her latest book Fiscal Policy for Sustainable Development in Asia-Pacific: Gender Budgeting in India was published recently by Palgrave Macmillan.

Dr. Jyotsna Jha

Trained as an economist, Jyotsna currently heads the Centre for Budget and Policy Studies (CBPS), located in Bangalore, India. She completed her doctorate from JNU in 1995 and since then, she has led several research initiatives, has written a few co-authored books and contributed chapters on issues related to equity in education, gender, women's empowerment and public finance. In recent years, she has worked on a wide range of public policies and finance issues, including gender budgeting, health finance and public spending on children.



STUDENTS' FIELD REPORT

- Ramanagara- Zilla Panchayat and Gram Panchayat

Contributors

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MAPPA - Semester II

Centre for Research in Social Sciences and Education (CeRSSE)

JAIN (Deemed-to-be University)

Overview of the Visit

Ramanagara is located 50 km from the city of Bangalore. Previously, it was called 'The Closepet'. It was later renamed Ramanagara, derived from the Ramagiri hill near the city. Ramanagara is a newly demarcated district in rural Bangalore comprising four Taluks. Ramanagara, Channapatna, Magadi and Kanakapura. The Ramanagara district is famous for its mulberry trees, silk fabrics, milk and toys. Ramanagara has one of the largest silk markets in India, hence the name 'Silk City'. There is an industrial zone in the Ramanagara area, which houses leading companies such as Toyota, Coca-Cola and Bosch.

On 22nd February 2023, students from the Center for Research in Social Sciences and Education at JAIN (Deemed-to-be university), along with the faculty members visited Ramanagara Zilla Panchayat and Gopahalli Gram Panchayat office to seek information on the functioning of the Panchayati Raj System. After the establishment of the Ramanagara district in 2002, the Zilla Panchayat (ZP) in Ramanagara was formed. Ramanagara Zilla Panchayat was set up under the Karnataka Panchayat Raj Act, 1993, which promotes grassroots planning and programme implementation. The demography of the district, according to the 2011 Census, there are 823 villages in total, 127 Gram Panchayats, 4 Taluks, and a total population of 11 lakhs (10.5 Lakh from Rural and 50 thousand people in the Urban part). There are 2305 households in the Ramanagara district. There are 821 lower primary schools, 565 higher primary schools, and 328 higher secondary schools, including government-funded and non-government-funded institutions. There are also 1,337 Anganwadis of which 59 have smart classes for students.

According to the Karnataka Panchayat Raj Act, a three-tier system of administration has been established, with Zilla

Panchayats, Taluk Panchayats, and Grama Panchayats at the district, taluk, and village levels, respectively. There are 22 elected members of the Ramanagara Zilla Panchayat's elected body, as well as administrative staff members working in several areas including development, administration, planning, accounts, DRDA, and council. The village Gopahalli is located in Ramanagara Taluk of Ramanagara District in the State of Karnataka. Ramanagara, which is around 22 kilometres from Gopahalli, is the closest town.

Chief Planning officer of Zilla panchayat Mr. Chhikkasubbaiah, P.T. Executive officer Mr. Pradeep, Mr. Lokesh assistant planning officer, Mr. Rupesh Kumar Taluk Assistant director and Mr Sunil Gram panchayat accountant and staff from the office were present to assist and provide detailed information on the rural development of the district.

The objectives of the field visit were

- To gather information about the budget allocation, utilization, and implementation status of various schemes and projects at the various Panchayat levels.
- To interact with the officials responsible for budget planning and implementation, review budget documents and reports, and understand the progress of various development projects being implemented by the Zilla Panchayat and also understand their perspectives on the budget and its impact on their lives.
- To identify the challenges faced by the Panchayat in effectively utilizing the budget.
- To learn and provide recommendations for improving the budget planning and implementation process, which can ultimately lead to better outcomes for the local community.

Budget Structure & Allocation in the various Panchayat

Levels

The Karnataka Panchayat Raj Act of 1933 stipulates that the Zilla Panchayat (ZP), Taluk Panchayat (TP), and Gram Panchayat (GP) must prepare a budget and approve it in a meeting to be held between February and March. In the ZP and TP, the finance, audit, and planning committee is in charge of budget preparation, whereas the secretary is in charge of it in the case of the GP. The TPs are required to forward the budget to the ZP for approval similarly, the budget passed by the GP should be sent to the TP within the date fixed by the state government. The audit of the accounts of Zilla Panchayat and Taluk Panchayat is done by the office of Comptroller and Auditor General at the state level while that of the gram panchayat is done by the Local Audi Circle of the State Accounts Department. At present, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) has made social audits for all the activities under the schemes mandatory.

Regarding budgets and allocations, it is the state that releases funds to the Zilla Parishad and Taluk Parishad. An estimate is made by both levels, regarding the funds that would be required to carry out schemes and projects in the district. According to the officials, the allocation of funds by the State is beneficial for them because the State is more aware of the needs and requirements of the people living in different districts. For the year 2023-24, the Zilla Parishad and Taluk Parishad have received INR. 630 crores in total, of which INR. 107 crores have been allocated to Taluk Parishad. This fund is disbursed in 3-4 instalments. All the departments have separate link documents from where they collect the funds and work toward respective projects. The funds come as 'Tied Funds' and 'Untied Funds' which states that 60% of the fund that is tied must be mandatorily spent on the schemes to be implemented and the remaining 40% can be used for the overall urgent requirements of the district.

The budget allocation for Gram Panchayat has different ways to follow. It is not released combined with the other two levels. According to the Fifteenth Finance Commission, a budget proposal is given by the Gram Panchayat to the Union government, where it gets analysed and approved, resulting in the required amount being released directly by the Central government. Moreover, Gram Panchayat receives more political support in comparison to Zilla and Taluk Parishad. Amongst the three levels, Taluk Parishad acts as a cooperating and supervising body and receives the least allocation in comparison to the other two. The gram panchayat is also empowered to make its bylaws.

Jamabandi, which is like a community meeting, and other audits are conducted in the Gram Panchayat to check the accounts of the area in presence of all the people living in the Area. This ensures effective accountability and transparency toward people.

The first interactions with the officials revealed that Ramanagara Zilla Parishad consists of 28 departments, including Health, Education, Animal Husbandry, Sericulture, Fishery, and so on, which comprises one Head Officer in each department.

Development and the Ramanagara Model

Ramanagara District has an interesting model, where they plan to converge the scheme funds so that all the branches work together to yield better outcomes from the projects. Rather than a division of funds and working separately, they combine the funds and work together in the needed areas, and this according to them has been able to bring about more development in the district.

With respect to healthcare, Ramanagara has 1 District Hospital, 3 General hospitals, 4 Community Health Centers, 61 Primary Health Centers, 240 Sub Centers, and 4 Urban Primary Health Centers (UPHC). Since the last year (2022), there has been the construction of hospitals for Physically Handicapped individuals, where Missionaries from abroad are brought specifically to treat children from 0-3 years. Moreover, they have 161 veterinary hospitals in the district. Another highlight is the role of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in the district, helping in building up new schools and Anganwadis. The representatives of the companies like Toyota, Bosch, Coca-Cola, and so on, plan meetings with the local government and collaborate in development projects. Amongst the projects, a visit to Gopalhalli Gram Panchayat, we could see, Ramahalli Middle School, Kannada medium, constructed by Toyota Kirloskar Auto Parts (TKAP). Amongst other initiatives through CSR includes the opening of a 100-bed hospital by Infosys in Ramanagara and a further plan of building 7620 biogas units has been promised by the foundation. The convergence of two separate government schemes towards a consolidated purpose is also worth highlighting. For example, it was observed Mid-Day Meal and MGNREGA led to the construction of a hall for serving school meals and workers involved in the construction included workers registered under MGNREGA. This, hence, helped the children living in the area to get access to better infrastructure.

The convergence of funds refers to the pooling of resources from different sources or government schemes to achieve

common goals and objectives. The convergence helps to deal with the sector-wise shortage of funds leading to better planning and implementation. For example, in Ramanagara, the convergence plan resulted in focused and holistic development in specific areas, optimum utilization of available resources, and minimization of the duplication of efforts. This approach led to better outcomes and impact, as the combined efforts of different schemes lead to collaborations and complementarity. It also helps mitigate the impact of budget cuts and reduce the gaps in expenditure. In many cases, when budgets are reduced or delayed, there is a significant impact on the implementation of development initiatives. This can lead to significant delays in funding, which, in turn, can have a negative impact on the implementation of projects and programs, particularly at the grassroots level.

Gopahalli Gram Panchayat is also efficiently working toward sanitation facilities, highlighted by the officials that all the houses in the panchayat areas have toilets, they are also provided with drinking water under Jal Jeevan Mission, street lights for safety purposes, and the full-fledged working of MGNREGA is ensured. All three levels of local government have received a 5 lakhs allocation for MGNREGA respectively for works to be done under the scheme in the district. In Ramanagara district, according to data from the Zilla Panchayat and Gram Panchayat office, 166,173 job cards have been issued, of which 102,035 are currently active. However, the number of active workers, which stands at 276,747, exceeds that of active job cards due to individuals opting out of the NREGA scheme. The convergence of the department of animal husbandry with NREGA has yielded impressive results for the district. The Gopahalli GP has issued 2,250 Job Cards and has 50.8 % of women participation under the scheme. Amongst other initiatives within the district, having kitchen gardens and growing daily used vegetables in their own houses is encouraged. In addition to making social audits obligatory for all activities under NREGA, the planning process for the scheme in Ramanagara district involves door-to-door surveys, Gram Sabha, and Ward Sabha meetings to identify potential beneficiaries. Furthermore, various workshops and training programs are initiated to enhance the scheme's performance. The district's NREGA program includes a range of work, such as constructing farm ponds, multi-arch check dams, and planting mulberry trees, as well as river rejuvenation and plantations.

Yet, there are no separate initiatives towards environmental conservation. The severe drought that has plagued the region for the past four years has had a devastating

impact on the community, particularly those involved in dairying, which constitutes a quarter of the population. Contagious diseases have spread rapidly among cattle due to the unhygienic environment, leading to a decrease in milk production and rendering the livelihood of the farmers unsustainable. Additionally, the contamination and wastage of fodder have only compounded the issue, making it increasingly difficult for the community to overcome these challenges and secure a stable source of income. Urgent action must be taken to address these pressing concerns and provide support to the affected individuals and families.

Thus, the result of the convergence led under the Pashu Bhagya program, technical and financial support was provided to 32 beneficiaries from the Scheduled Caste (SC) or Scheduled Tribe (ST) communities, along with 293 other beneficiaries. The support amounts to Rs. 20.40 lakhs and Rs. 87.09 lakhs, respectively. In addition, under the SCP/TSP initiative, 100 beneficiaries receive a financial grant of Rs. 60 lakhs. The National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) provides skill training to 901 individuals belonging to families involved in dairying. Milk societies and Bangalore Milk Union Limited (BAMUL) provide an assured market, assured price, and timely payment through banks within 15 days. Additionally, medical aid and health camps are organized, and the yashaswini health insurance scheme offers full subsidy for SC beneficiaries and a 50% subsidy for life coverage of up to Rs. 2 lakhs.

Local government administrators in the Ramanagara district are responsible for planning, implementing and monitoring development initiatives at the grassroots level and their efforts can have a significant impact on the growth and development of the village. Through their efforts and planning, the administrators have helped improve the livelihood of the villagers by creating employment opportunities, anganwadis with smart classes, libraries with open access to all, drinking water, street lights, sanitation facilities, financial and technical support, also working closely with civil societies for development of the villages. The administrator also came up with the initiative of greywater management. Greywater management refers to the practice of treating and reusing wastewater generated from domestic activities such as laundry, dishwashing, and bathing. This wastewater, also known as greywater, can be a valuable resource when properly managed, as it can be used for non-potable purposes such as toilet flushing, irrigation, and even groundwater recharge. The management of greywater can involve various treatment methods, such as physical, chemical, and biological treatment, depending

on the intended reuse application. Thus, the need for competent administrators becomes vital.

Conclusion

The key highlight of the district is its method of converging funds to work for development projects, and it would be better if this model is also used in other areas in the district and other districts as it would facilitate better development outcomes. Moreover, promoting the role of CSR and extension of this collaboration would facilitate Public Private Partnership (PPP) between the corporate and government which would lead to better results.

Understandably, some jurisdictions do not come under the local government, but issues such as climate, pollution, etc. know no boundaries. Hence working more towards cleaning rivers, proper waste disposal, and conservation of forests becomes not only a duty of the administration there but also the social responsibility of the people living in a district. This will not only help environmental conservation but would also ensure better health and food for all.

In a district like Ramanagara where silk production is high, it becomes a way for the local government there to expand the sector, which would also help generate more jobs for people, especially women. Support and promotion of self-help groups in all the districts would also contribute ways for women towards entrepreneurship and financial stability. Besides, recently Chief Minister of Karnataka has also announced the construction of a huge Ram Mandir in Ramanagara District, and effective execution of projects like these can turn the district towards having more income, job opportunities, and development of all.

In the domain of education, the smart classes in the anganwadis of Ramanagara district become a model for other districts to work towards the same. Building physical libraries, considering the digital divide in many areas is also a significant step towards providing access to academic materials to students and would help the continuity of learning, even in unprecedented situations, after looking into the consequences of the recent pandemic.

ಜೈನ್ ವಿವಿ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಂದ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರ ಭೇಟಿ



ಜೈನ್ ವಿವಿ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಬೋಧಕರು ರಾಮನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿಗೆ ಭೇಟಿ ನೀಡಿ ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣಾಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಮತ್ತು ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳ ಕುರಿತು ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪಡೆದರು.

ರಾಮನಗರ: ಜೈನ್ ವಿವಿ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಬೋಧಕರು ರಾಮನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿಗೆ ಭೇಟಿ ನೀಡಿ ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣಾಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಮತ್ತು ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳ ಕುರಿತು ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪಡೆದರು.

ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ನೀಡಿದರು. ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ಅನುಷ್ಠಾನದ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಮಾಹಿತಿ: ಜಿಪಂ ಲೆಕ್ಕಾಧಿಕಾರಿ ಸುನೀಲ್, ಜಿಪಂಗೆ ಹಂಚಿಕೆಯಾಗುವ ಅನುದಾನದ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರವಾರು ಹಾಗೂ 15ನೇ ಹಣಕಾಸು, ಕ್ರಿಯಾಯೋಜನೆ, ಅನುದಾನ ಬಿಡುಗಡೆ, ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ಅನುಷ್ಠಾನದ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಸಮಗ್ರ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ನೀಡಿದರು. ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರ ಭೇಟಿ ನೀಡಿದ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಯೋಜನೆಯ ಅನುಷ್ಠಾನ ಹಾಗೂ ಅನುದಾನ ಕುರಿತು ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳಿಂದ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪಡೆದರು. ರಾಮನಗರ ತಾಪಂ ಇ.ಒ. ಪ್ರದೀಪ್ ಅವರು, ಸಹಾಯಕ ಯೋಜನಾಧಿಕಾರಿ ಲೋಕೇಶ್, ರಾಮನಗರ ತಾಲೂಕು ಸಹಾಯಕ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು ರೂಪೇಶ್ ಕುಮಾರ್, ಜಿಪಂ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ಇದ್ದರು.

ಜಿಪಂ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಯೋಜನಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ಚಿಕ್ಕಸುಬ್ಬಯ್ಯ ಅವರು, ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗೆ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರ ಭೇಟಿ ನೀಡಿದ ತಂಡದವರಿಗೆ ಜಿಪಂ ಆಡಳಿತ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯ ಕುರಿತು ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಳ ಜೊತೆಗೆ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯ ಕಾರ್ಯ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ, ಸ್ಥಳ ಆಡಳಿತ, ವಿಕೇಂದ್ರೀಕರಣದ ತತ್ವಗಳು, ಬಜೆಟ್ ವಿಷಯಗಳು, ವಲಯವಾರು ಅನುದಾನ ಹಂಚಿಕೆ ಇವುಗಳ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಪ್ರಾತ್ಯಕ್ಷಿಕೆ ನಿರೂಪಣೆಯೊಂದಿಗೆ

ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿಗೆ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳ ಭೇಟಿ

■ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ ರಾಮನಗರ

ಜೈನ್ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳನ್ನು ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಬೋಧಕರು ಸ್ವಲ್ಪದಿಂದ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿಗೆ ಭೇಟಿ ನೀಡಿ ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣಾಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಮತ್ತು ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳ ಕುರಿತು ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪಡೆದರು.

ಮುಖ್ಯ ಯೋಜನಾಧಿಕಾರಿ ಚಿಕ್ಕಸುಬ್ಬಯ್ಯ, ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗೆ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರ ಭೇಟಿ ನೀಡಿದ ತಂಡದ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಕುರಿತು ಮಾಹಿತಿ, ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯ ಕಾರ್ಯ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ, ಸ್ಥಳ ಆಡಳಿತ, ವಿಕೇಂದ್ರೀಕರಣದ ತತ್ವಗಳು, ಬಜೆಟ್ ವಿಷಯಗಳು, ವಲಯವಾರು ಅನುದಾನ

ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿ ಕಛೇರಿಗೆ ಜೈನ್ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳನ್ನು ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಭೇಟಿ ನೀಡಿದ್ದು, ಪಂಚಾಯತಿಗೆ ಹಂಚಿಕೆಯಾಗುವ ಅನುದಾನದ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರವಾರು, 15ನೇ ಹಣಕಾಸು, ಕ್ರಿಯಾಯೋಜನೆ, ಅನುದಾನ ಬಿಡುಗಡೆ, ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ಅನುಷ್ಠಾನದ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಸಮಗ್ರ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ನೀಡಿದರು. ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರ ಭೇಟಿ ನೀಡಿದ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಯೋಜನೆಯ ಅನುಷ್ಠಾನ ಹಾಗೂ ಅನುದಾನ ಕುರಿತು ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳಿಂದ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪಡೆದರು.

ರಾಮನಗರ ತಾಪಂ ಇ.ಒ. ಪ್ರದೀಪ್ ಅವರು, ಸಹಾಯಕ ಯೋಜನಾಧಿಕಾರಿ ಲೋಕೇಶ್, ರಾಮನಗರ ತಾಲೂಕು ಸಹಾಯಕ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು ರೂಪೇಶ್ ಕುಮಾರ್, ಜಿಪಂ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ಇದ್ದರು.

Local newspaper coverage of the field visit



Students and Faculties with the District Zilla Panchayat officials, Ramanagara



Students and Faculties with the officials at the PPP model school in Gopahalli GP



Students and faculties interacting with the officials at the Gopahalli GP office

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENT

- Dr. Priyanka Mathur

1. As International Trainer, conducted an online two-week Training of Trainers Workshop for women participants from Myanmar for the *UN Women and Forum of Federations spread over February - March 2023*.

2. As International Trainer for Forum of Federations, completed a Five-Day Workshop for State Constitution Consultative Committees of States and Regions of Myanmar on Local Governance and Federalism in *Bangkok, Thailand, January 23-28, 2023*

3. Engaged in Primary Data Collection in Manipur, Mizoram and New Delhi for Field Work of an *International Research Project on the Protection Needs of Myanmarese Refugees in India, awarded by the Foundation for the Study of Displaced Populations (FSDP), Thailand.*

Conducting fieldwork on the Indo-Myanmar border



Indo-Myanmar border

4. Awarded Distinguished International Fellowship Prof. Priyanka Mathur, Head of the Centre for Research in Social Sciences and Education, was invited to Ramapo College, New Jersey, U.S.A. as their *Distinguished Schomburg Fellow* this term in March 2023. As part of the fellowship, Prof. Mathur engaged with students at the School of Humanities and Social Sciences and Global Studies at Ramapo.



Professors of Ramapo College, New Jersey



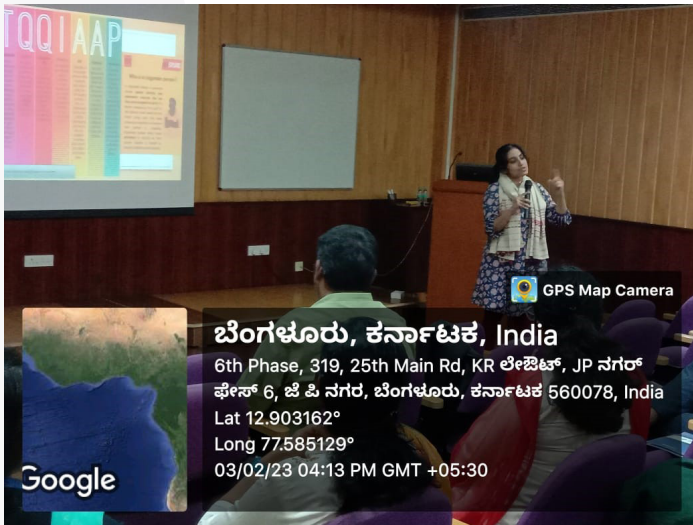
Dr. Priyanka Mathur delivering a lecture at Ramapo College, New Jersey, US

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENT

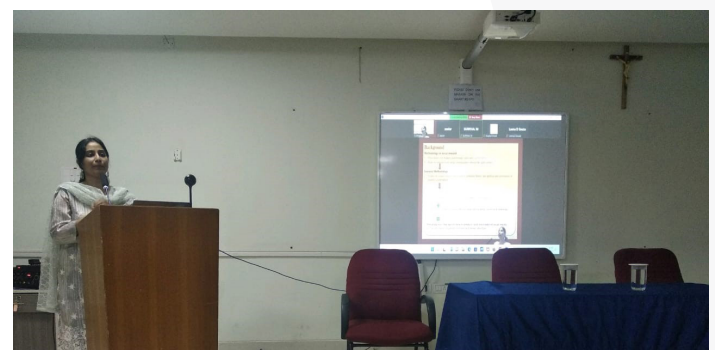
- Dr. Debangana Chatterjee

1. Guest Lecture Delivered on the topic, 'Gender Sensitisation: Vigilance, Awareness, and Accountability' at JP Nagar Campus, Bangalore held on 3rd February 2023.

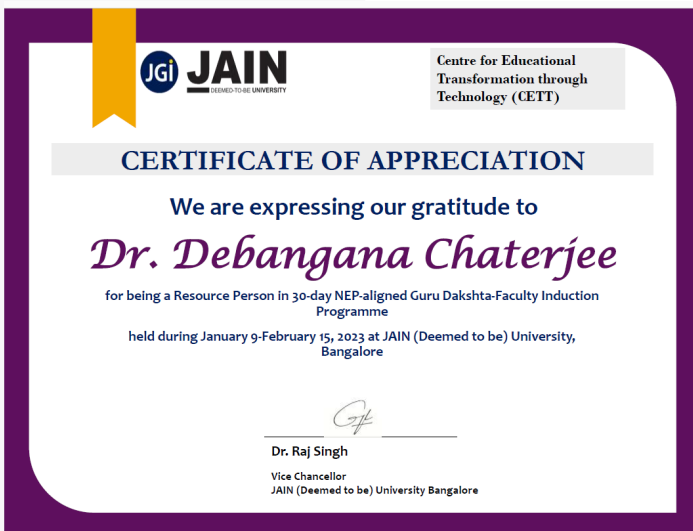
2. Guest lecture delivered on the topic, 'Feminist Methodology in Social Sciences Research' at St. Joseph's University, Bangalore, held on 23rd February 2023.



Dr. Debangana Chatterjee delivering lecture at J.P. Nagar Campus, JAIN University



Dr. Debangana Chatterjee delivering lecture at St. Joseph's University





St. Joseph's University, Bangalore

School of Humanities
Department of International Relations,
Peace and Public Policy

PRESENTS

WORKSHOP ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Chief patron:
Fr. Dr. Victor Lobo SJ
Vice Chancellor

Chief Guest
Dr. Mohandas
COE SJU

Dean of Humanities
Prof Clement Dsouza

THE THEMES WE ARE INVITING ABSTRACTS ON ARE :

- GEOPOLITICS IN THE CONTEMPORARY WORLD
- DIPLOMACY AND FOREIGN POLICY IN 21ST CENTURY
- SIGNIFICANCE OF THEORY IN IR
- RISE OF ASIA AND WORLD ORDER
- GENDER IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Abstracts are invited on the above mentioned themes from Graduates, Post Graduate and Research Scholars based on which only 30 participants will be selected for the workshop.

Abstracts to be of 200-250 words only.

Convenor: **Dr. Karamala Areesh Kumar**

Abstract submission mail id:
karamala.areesh@sju.edu.in

DEADLINE FOR ABSTRACT SUBMISSION:
24th February 2023

Date of Workshop 6th March 2023
Denobli Hall, St. Joseph's University

3. Guest lecture delivered on the topic, 'Gender in International Relations' at St. Joseph's University, Bangalore, held on 6th March 2023.

SPEAKERS



Dr. S. Y. Surendra Kumar
Bangalore University
Rise of Asia and the World Order



Dr. Anurag Tripathi
Christ University
Diplomacy and Foreign Policy in the 21st Century



Dr. Shalini. B
Christ University
Geopolitics in Contemporary World



Dr. Debangana Chatterjee
Jain University
Gender in International Relations



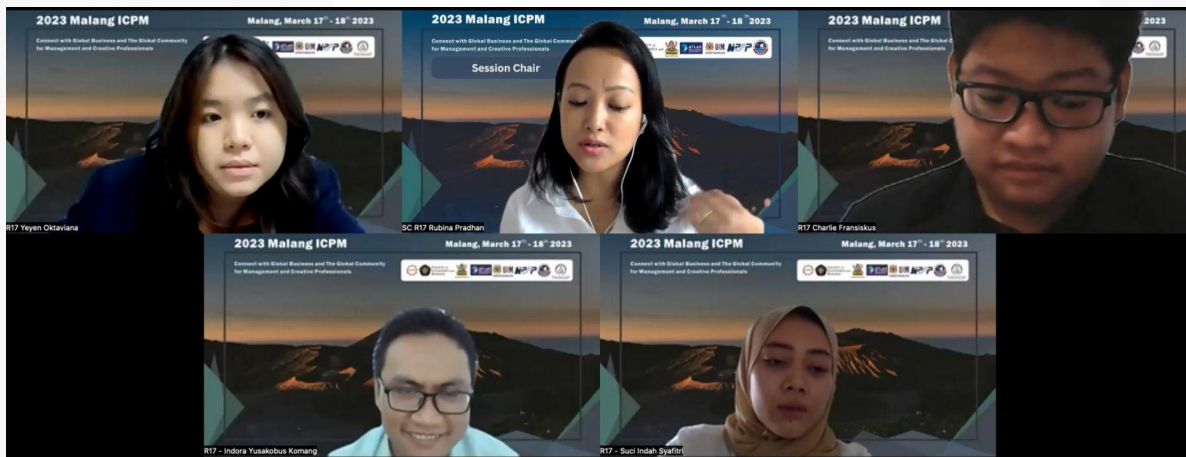
Dr. Sreejita Biswas
St Joseph's University
Significance of Theory in International Relations

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENT

- Dr. Rubina Pradhan



Invited to chair a session at the 2023 Malang International Conference of Project Management.
Date-17-18 March 2023
Platform: Zoom



Dr. Rubina Pradhan chairing the session at the Malang International Conference of Project Management

STUDENTS' CORNER

Students of MAPPa- Semester 2 – performing role play on the topic, 'Impact of Climate Change'

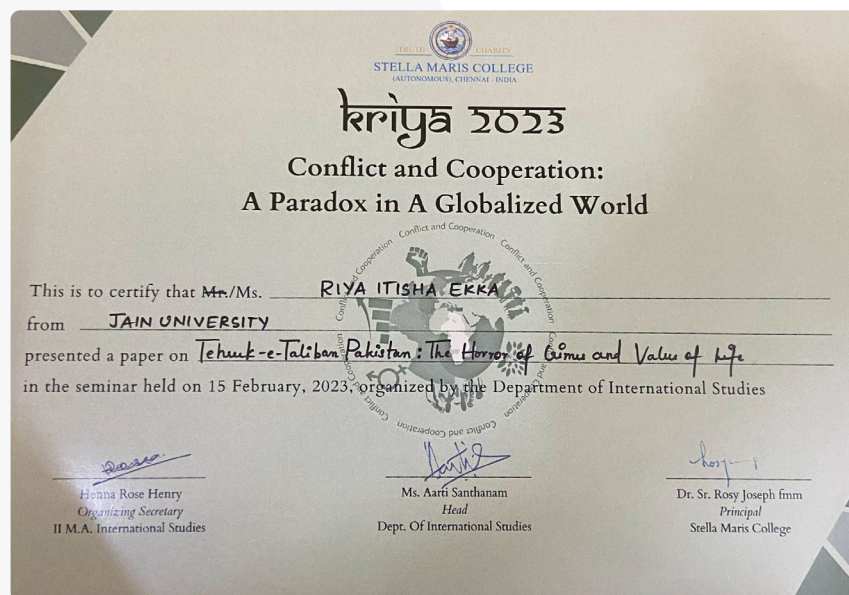
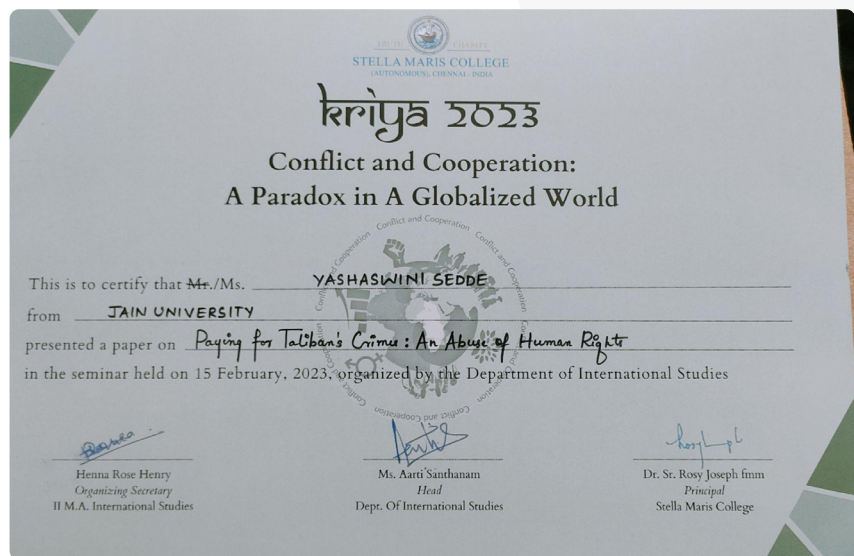


STUDENTS' ACHIEVEMENTS



1. Shatabdee Kalita, student-MAPPA Sem 2, presented a paper titled, 'Sexual Violence as a Weapon of War: Revisiting the Chapter of Rwandan Genocide' in the seminar organised by the Department of International Studies, Stella Maris College, Chennai.

2. Yashaswini Sedde, student-MAPPA Sem 2, presented a paper titled, 'Paying for Taliban's Crime: An Abuse of Human Rights' in the seminar organised by the Department of International Studies, Stella Maris College, Chennai.



3. Riya Itisha Ekka, student-MAPPA Sem 2, presented a paper titled, 'Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan: The Horror of Crime and Value of Life' in the seminar organised by the Department of International Studies, Stella Maris College, Chennai.

List of Research Scholars awarded PhD degrees between January and March 2023

Name	Subject	Guide	Date of Viva Voice	Title of the Thesis
Gemechu Getahun Amente	Economics	Dr. Nila Chotai	2nd Feb 2023	The Nexus between Social Capital and Rural Households Welfare: A study in Eastern Wollega Zone, Ethiopia
Sadhvi Anugya	Cultural Studies – Jain Studies	Dr. Mythili P Rao	6th Feb 2023	Vishwa Ke Pramukh Dharmo Me Nirupith Yati Dharm Me Sthree Ka Sthan: Ek Anveshanaatmak Adhyayan
Kakali Roy Chowdhury	Cultural Studies	Dr. Meera Chakravorty	24th Feb 2023	Revisiting Kautilya's Arthashastra: Leadership, Humanism, Ethics
Worku Sendek Mengistu	Public Policy and Governance	Dr. Anita Walia	3rd Mar 2023	Human Resource Management and Employee Motivation in Federal Ministries of Ethiopia
Temesgen Mendo Biddu	Political Science	Dr. Sonam Mansukhani	2nd Mar 2023	Ethnic Diversity and Federalism in Ethiopia: "A study of Development from 1995- 2018."
Anupama Jayasimha	Dance	Dr. Shobha Shashikumar	9th March 2023	Study of the Influence of Mārga Karana on Adavu from the The perspective of Structure and Aesthetics
Mekuriaw Chanie Bayable	Public Policy and Governance	Dr. Sachin K. Parappagoudar	9th March 2023	Community Participation in Urban Local Administrative Decision-making in Gambella Region of Ethiopia
Bitew Kassaw Belay	Cultural Studies	Dr. Priyanca Mathur	10th March 2023	Religious Organisations in Conflict Resolution and Culture of Peace Building in Ethiopia

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