Report of the Seminar on

Gender Issues and Empowerment of Women

Organized by the Social Sciences Division held at Kolkata during 1-2 February 2007

by

Manoranjan Pal

Organizing Committee

Manoranjan Pal (Convener)
Premananda Bharati (Member)
Amita Majumder (Member)
Prasanta Pathak (Member)
Bholanath Ghosh (Member)
Anjali Ghosh (Member)
Swagata Gupta (Member)

The Seminar was successfully organized during 1-2 February 2007 by the Social Sciences Division of the Indian Statistical Institute.

The Inauguration Ceremony was held at the Geology Auditorium in Kolkata on 1 February 2007. Professor J. K. Ghosh, Professor, Purdue University and Professor Emeritus, Indian Statistical Institute, presided over the meeting and delivered the welcome address. Professor Pronab Sen, Principal Advisor, Planning Commission (Now: Chief Statistician of India, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Government of India) was the Chief Guest and gave a short illuminating speech. Prof. Ashish Bose, Honorary Professor, Institute of Economic Growth, delivered the Key Note address. He has delivered a timely and thought provoking address on "India's unborn daughters: Victims of demographic terrorism". Professor M. Pal offered vote of thanks. Professors Pronab Sen and Ashish Bose were present on both the days of the Seminar and participated in the discussions and gave valuable suggestions.

The Inauguration Ceremony was followed by the seminar on "Gender Issues and Empowerment of Women". There were sessions on Empowerment of Women-I, Gender Inequality and Poverty, Empowerment of Women-II, Gender and Education, Gender, Health and Nutrition, Crime and Violence Against Women & Panchayati Raj. There were about 40 contributory papers. Faculty, Scholars and researchers in this area from various Universities and Institutes in India and abroad participated in the Seminar. Besides, there were a few invited speakers like Professors Ranjan Ray, Suddhendu Biswas, Salil Basu, Ishita Mukhopadhyay, T. K. Roy, Santosh Mehrotra, who are stalwarts in this area.

The last session consisted of a Panel discussion on 'Female Feticides in India'. Professor Ashish Bose chaired the session. The discussants were Professors Pronab Sen, Faujdar Ram, Manabendra Nath Mandol and Suddhendu Biswas. The audience also actively participated in the discussion.

In the next phase, a volume consisting of papers presented in the Seminar as well as papers from some experts will be published by a well known Publisher. All the papers will be peer reviewed.
This Seminar was partially sponsored by Dept. of Science and Technology (DST), Govt. of India.

Seminar on
Gender Issues and Empowerment of Women
Platinum Jubilee of Indian Statistical Institute
1-2 February 2007
(Partially sponsored by Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India)

Programme

Date	Item	Time	Venue
1 Feb.	Registration	09.00–10.00	Geology Auditorium
	Session 1: Inauguration: Prof. J.K.Ghosh Chief Guest: Prof. Pronab Sen Key-Note Address: Prof. Ashish Bose	10.00–11.15	Geology Auditorium
	Tea break and registration	11.15–11.45	Geology Auditorium
	Session 2: Empowerment of Women-I: Chair Person – Prof. Ishita Mukhopadhyay	11.45–13.15	ERU Seminar Room 1
	Session 3: Gender Inequality and Poverty: Chair Person – Prof. Ranjan Ray	11.45–13.15	ERU Seminar Room 2
	Lunch break	13.15–14.30	
	Session 4: (Invited Speakers): Chair Person – Prof. Dipankar Coondoo Speakers: Prof. Ranjan Ray Prof. Suddhendu Biswas	14.30–15.30	Geology Auditorium
	Tea break	15.30–15.45	Geology Auditorium
	Session 5: Empowerment of Women-II: Chair Person – Prof. Santosh Mehrotra	15.45–17.30	ERU Seminar Room 1
	Session 6: Gender and Education: Chair Person – Prof. Atis Dasgupta	15.45–17.30	ERU Seminar Room 2
2 Feb.	Session 7: (Invited Speakers): Chair Person – Prof. Ashish Bose Speakers: Prof. Vani K. Borooah Prof. Salil Basu	10.00–11.30	Geology Auditorium
	Tea break	11.30–11.45	Geology Auditorium
	Session 8: Gender, Health and Nutrition: Chair Person – Prof. B. N. Bhattacharya	11.45- 13.15	ERU Seminar Room 1
	Session 9: Crime and Violence Against Women and Panchayati Raj: Chair Person – Prof. Manabendra Nath Mandol	11.45- 13.15	ERU Seminar Room 2
	Lunch break	13.15–14.30	
	Session 10: (Invited Speakers): Chair Person – Prof. Faujdar Ram Speakers: Prof. Ishita Mukhopadhyay Prof. T. K. Roy Prof. Santosh Mehrotra	14.30–16.00	Geology Auditorium
	Tea break	16.00–16.15	Geology Auditorium
	Session 11: Panel discussion Chair Person - Prof. Ashish Bose Speakers: Profs. Pronab Sen, Suddhendu Biswas, Manabendra Nath Mandal and Faujdar Ram	16.15–17.30	Geology Auditorium

Day 1: 1 February 2007

Registration: **Time: 09.00-10-00, Venue: Geology Auditorium**

Session 1: Inauguration: **Time: 10.00-11-15, Venue: Geology Auditorium**
Inaugural Address by Prof. J.K.Ghosh, Professor, Purdue University, Professor Emeritus, ISI
Address by the Chief Guest, Prof Pronab Sen, Principal Adviser, Planning Commission
Address by Prof. Amita Majumdar, Chairperson, Organizing Committee
Key Note Address by Professor Ashish Bose
Honorary Professor, Institute of Economic Growth on "India's unborn daughters: Victims of demographic terrorism"
Vote of Thanks by Prof. Manoranjan Pal, Convener, Organizing Committee

Tea break and Registration: **Time: 11.15-11-45, Venue: Geology Auditorium**

Session 2: (Empowerment of Women-I). Time: 11.45–13.15, Venue: ERU Seminar Room 1
Chair Person – Prof. Ishita Mukhopadhyay
Speakers:

1 Women's empowerment and gender preferences for children: A study of four metropolitan cities in India, By Protap Mukherjee and Lopamudra Ray Saraswati.
2 Women's autonomy and fertility control behaviour in three eastern states of India, By Lopamudra Ray Saraswati and Protap Mukherjee.
3 Status of women in the rural Khasi society of Meghalaya, By Utpal Kumar De and Bhola Nath Ghosh.
4 Mother's status in the family and nutritional status of their under five children, By Aparna Pandey.
5 Empowerment of women: Concept, policy approach and implications, By Prahlad Kumar and Tinku Paul.
6 An analysis of the state of empowerment of females vis-à-vis males at old ages in India, By Sanjeev Bakshi and Prasanta Pathak.
7 Education, health and women's empowerment - Kerala's experience in ilnking the triad, By K.R. Lakshmy Devi.

Session 3: (Gender Inequality and Poverty). Time: 11.45–13.15, Venue: ERU Seminar Room 2
Chair Person – Prof. Ranjan Ray
Speakers:

1. Declining juvenile sex ratio in India: Trends and determinants, By Lekha S Chakraborty and Darshy Sinha.
2. Status of gender differentials and trends in India: Population, health, education and employment, By Barun Kumar Mukhopadhyay and Prasanta Kumar Majumdar.
3. Gender discrimination in quality of employment and wages in unorganized manufacturing sector of India, By Anupama Uppal.
4. Auditing gender equality among Santhals, By Sudipta Ghosh and S. L. Malik.

5. Impact of development expenditure on poverty alleviation and empowerment of women, By U. Devasenadhipathi.

Lunch break: Time: 13.15-14.30

Session 4: (Invited Speakers): Time: 14.30–15.30, Venue: Geology Auditorium

Chair Person – Prof. Dipankar Coondoo

Speakers:

1. Prof. Ranjan Ray

Title: Household expenditure patterns and gender bias: Evidence from selected Indian states.

2. Prof. Suddhendu Biswas

Title: Estimation of female feticide rate and its relationship with related parameters.

Tea Break: Time: 15.30–15.45, Venue: Geology Auditorium

Session 5: (Empowerment of Women-II): Time: 15.45–17.30, Venue: ERU Seminar Room 1

Chair Person – Prof. Santosh Mehrotra

Speakers:

1 Women empowerment through self help groups- A case study, By Ananta Basudev Sahu and Sandhya Rani Das.

2 Technological change in agriculture and rural women of Tripura: Two village studies, By Amitabha Sinha and Ruma Saha.

3 Jhum cultivation of societal status: An enquiry of Garo tribe women in Meghalaya, By A.G. Khan and J.V. Madhusudan.

4 Empowerment of women through household decision making power in India: A state wise analysis, By Susmita Bharati, Manoranjan Pal, Suparna Som and Premananda Bharati.

5 Empowerment of women - A case study in north Sikkim among the Lachenpa, By Sanchita Ghatak.

6 Women empowerment through micro finance: A boon for development, By Tiyas Biswas.

7 On measuring women empowerment: An example of Indian tribes, By Sudeshna Ghosh and Rabindranath Mukhopadhyay.

8 On measures of empowerment: The gender aspect, By Rabindranath Mukhopadhyay and Jaydip Dutta.

Session 6: (Gender and Education): Time: 15.45–17.30, Venue: ERU Seminar Room 2

Chair Person – Prof. Atis Dasgupta

Speakers:

1. Gender, education and work: Determinants of women's empowerment in Kerala, By Alice Sebastian and K. Navaneetham
2. Changing gender inequalities in school enrollment in India, By V. Nirmala.
3. Gender discrimination in child schooling: Why do we observe the gender disparity? By Itismita Mohanty.

4. Does a teacher-mediated model of "Proximal Assessment and Learner Diagnosis" (PALD) help erase learner gaps in mathematics? Early results in gender groups, By Madhabi Chatterji.
5. Problem of gender inequality and expansion of education of women in West Bengal, By Pallav Mukhopadhyay.
6. Incidence of public expenditure on education: Viewing through a gender lens, By Protiva Kundu.
7. Gender disparity in madhyamik examination result, By Rumki Gupta.
8. Status of female teachers when students evaluating teachers, By Sudeshna Lahiri.

Day 2: 2 February 2007

Session 7: (Invited Speakers), Time: 10.00-11.30 , Venue: Geology Auditorium

Chair Person – Prof. Ashish Bose

Speakers:

Prof. Vani K. Borooah

Title: The social determinants of the health of women: A west belfast study.

Prof. Salil Basu

Title: Need for gender sensitive approaches for improving women's reproductive healthcare services.

Tea break: Time: 11.30-11.45, Venue: Geology Auditorium

Session 8: (Gender, Health and Nutrition). Time: 11.45–13.15,Venue:ERU Seminar Room 1

Chair Person – Prof. B. N. Bhattacharya

Speakers:

1. Women's autonomy, women's status and nutrition in India, By Sandip Chakraborty, Kaushlendra Kumar and Faujdar Ram.
2. Gender bias among children immunization against disease: An investigation from India, By Debarati Sarkar and Amenla Nuken.
3. Factors associated with population and MCH policies around the world, By Prasanta Kumar Majumdar and Barun Kumar Mukhopadhyay.
4. Gender inequality and child nutritional status: A cross country analysis, By Anish Kumar Mukhopadhyay.
5. Are men on the front line of risk? Developing HIV/AIDS intervention strategies for reducing men's risky behaviour, By Koumari Mitra and Premananda Bharati.
6. Universal immunization programme in India: The determinants of childhood immunization, By Nilanjan Patra.

Session 9: (Crime and Violence Against Women & Panchayati Raj) Time: 11-45–13-15, Venue: ERU Seminar Room 2

Chair Person – Prof. Manabendra Nath Mandol

Speakers:

1. Methodological issues in measuring crime against women in India, By Chander Shekhar and Daliya Sebastian.

2. Domestic violence in India: An empirical analysis, By Harihar Sahoo and Manas Ranjan pradhan.
3. Individual and interpersonal risk factors in Intimate Partner Violence (IPV), By G. K. Pandey.
4. Gender bias in identity formation: A study of role of women in Panchayati Raj in Punjab, By Sukhdev Singh and Varminder Kaur.
5. A study of issues and challenges in empowerment of women through their participation in the Panchayat Raj Institution: A case study of Allahabad district of Uttar Pradesh, By Shiva Kumar Lal.

Lunch break: Time: 13.15-14.30

Session 10: (Invited Speakers): Time: 14.30–16.00, Venue: Geology Auditorium

Chair Person – Prof. Faujdar Ram
Speakers:
Prof. Ishita Mukhopadhyay
Title: Gender stereotyping in the third world.
Prof. T. K. Roy
Title: Gender disparity in child care in India: Findings from two National Family Health Surveys.
Prof. Santosh Mehrotra
Title: Capability deprivation of women: Are women holding up half the sky in Asia?

Tea break: Time: 16.00 – 16.15, Venue: Geology Auditorium

Session 11: (Panel discussion on 'Female Feticides in India'), Time: 16-15–17-30, Venue: Geology Auditorium

Chair Person – Prof. Ashish Bose
Speakers: Prof. Pronab Sen,
Prof. Suddhendu Biswas,
Prof. Abusalleh Shariff,
Prof. Manabendra Nath Mandal, and
Prof. Faujdar Ram