

International Conference on Gandhiji, Gram Swaraj and Democratic Decentralisation

27-29 November 2014 KILA, Thrissur, Kerala

Anthology of Abstracts



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International Conference on “Gandhiji, Gram
Swaraj and Democratic Decentralisation”
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Published by



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Website: www.kilaonline.org

Layout Designing & Cover Designing

Rajesh T.V.

Printed at

Co-operative Press, Mulamkunanthukavu

Phone : 0487-2200391, 9895566621

November 2014

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ON KERALA

The Question of Malnutrition and Poverty Among Tribal Folk in Attappady : What Local Self Government can do?

Aleena Thomas

The UNICEF Report (2013) observed that a total of 39 deaths had been reported from Attappady tribal block in Palakkad district between April 2012 and May 2013. Difference between the nutritional status of Kerala's general rural populace and that of Attappady could be as high as 50%. It has shocked the conscience of the entire country.

The Union and the State governments announced special packages to the tune of Rs. 500 crores for the over all development of the region. However the much-trumpeted initiatives have failed to make headway, largely owing to apathy and negligence of the bureaucrats involved. Now the union ministry of rural development, found that none of the packages were properly implemented in this region, where child mortality resurfaced two months ago.

They found that lack of coordination between various government agencies

is the primary reason for the failure of the packages. So the mere announcement of packages were not sufficient to tackle the issues. There is a need to find a different approach to meet the long-term livelihood and health security of the tribal groups in the region. The poverty ridden region requires the immediate involvement of the government and the rest of the society.

The local self governments can play a decisive role to retain the region to a better position. The panchayath should maintain education, health and other basic facilities for the tribal people.

This paper analyses how far the local self governments can address the challenges of this community. We examine how can they reduce the poverty and malnutrition of the tribal folk.

Efficiency and Effectiveness of Mahathma Gandhi NREGS: A Case Analysis

Aljo C. Cheriyan & Biju S.K.

Mahathma Gandhi NREGS is a milestone in the history of social welfare schemes in India which is a labour and social security measure that aims to guarantee the 'right to work' and ensure livelihood security in rural areas by providing at least 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in a financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work.

This programme covers 644 districts all over India through 247643 Grama Panchayats. 13.3 crores households with 29 crores workers registered across India. 26655 crore rupees was the expenditure for this project in 2013-14 which provided an average of 46 days per households. It was observed and accepted that Mahathma Gandhi NREGS is an efficient scheme for reducing the absolute poverty through rural employment. But from many corners, it was questioned about its effectiveness. In this study Mattathur Grama Panchayat from Thrissur district

in Kerala state was selected because it has got different types of land proportions, SC, ST, and general category people and different types of works. Case Studies are conducted in this study. Interview schedule was used as a tool for data collection. The Elected Representatives, Mates, Farmers, Village Extension Officers, NREGA website etc.

This paper is an effort to cross check the efficiency and effectiveness of Mahathma Gandhi NREGS in Kerala with special reference to Mattathur Grama Panchayat in Thrissur district. In efficiency, the details like 100 days work provided, wage delay, labour budget analysis, and budget expenditure ratio etc, were analysed. In efficiency, the change in the land and Mahathma Gandhi NREGS staff were interviewed for data collection. Collected from secondary sources like, Grama Panchayat registers, site diaries, muster rolls, environment, life status of poor, workers category problems in the field etc. were analysed.

Fiscal Decentralization and Urban Public Service Delivery in Kerala: A Case Study

Anilkumar C

The urban local bodies in India have the status of third tier local self-governments. The 74th CAA in India aims at a decentralization regime through devolution of functions, finances and functionaries to Urban Local Bodies. While the 74th Amendment Act listed the expenditure responsibilities of ULBs, it did not specify the sources of revenue for these responsibilities. Decentralized Urban governments have a comparative advantage in the provision public goods and services, but may not possess a similar advantage in revenue generation. This asymmetry produces what is commonly known as the vertical fiscal gap or imbalance. Hence urban local bodies face the problem of expenditure assignment without a corresponding revenue assignment.

The crux of the financial problem faced by ULBs is the mismatch between

assigned functions and finances and this mismatch is growing with urbanization.

The study analyses the finances of Trivandrum Municipal Corporation in terms of their financial base and its adequacy visa vis standard norms for basic civic services and the revenue and expenditure performance.

The study first analysis of municipal finances using standard and normative approaches. The standard approach includes fiscal parameters like (1) growth of tax revenue and total revenue, (2) fiscal balance and (3) expenditure performance by which fiscal performance of the Trivandrum municipal corporation is generally assessed. But the normative approach is more relevant in the case of ULBs in Kerala because they are statutorily not allowed to have deficits in their budgets.

The study concludes with the observation that the fiscal balance of the

urban local bodies always shows that there is surpluses in the budget. The fiscal surplus shown in the budgets does not indicate the actual fiscal performance of the urban local governments. Because it is mandatory on the part of the municipal corporation to balance its budget without incurring any budgetary deficit. The fiscal surpluses in the budget documents are the results of the underspending on public services. The per capita under spending in the selected ULB is very high compared to the standard norms.

Assessment of the Implementation of Kerala Local Government Service Delivery Project in Grama Panchayats of Thrissur District

Ann Tresa Roby P

Objectives of the study are;

- i. To analyze the implementation of the KLGSDP scheme
- ii. To study the role of this project in development of Grama panchayats through decentralization form of governance
- iii. To understand the challenges faced for the implementation of the KLGSDP project

The universe of the study will be the 978 Grama Panchayats and 60 Municipalities that would benefit through this scheme. The study was conducted using convenience sampling method under non - probability sampling. Data sources would comprise of primary as well as

secondary data. Primary data would comprise of the Annual Approved Expenditure Report KLGSDP project. Secondary sources are the literature that exists. The study is more based on quantitative data, analysed in an explanatory manner as it attempts to assess the KLGSDP project particularly in Thrissur District. The quantitative data is derived from the annual accounts of each Grama Panchayats. Where as the qualitative information is collected from the officials.

In spite of these constraints it would be highly appreciable to convey that it has practically neared to the objectives it had proposed in the project. The objectives of the project was to enhance and strengthen the institutional capacity of the local government system in Kerala

to deliver services to the public and undertake basic administrative as well as governance functions, more effectively in a sustainable manner. The project envisages that there are 978 Grama Panchayats and 60 Municipalities in the State of Kerala, which benefits through this project.

Investments made by the Grama Panchayats and Municipalities will indirectly benefit the entire population of the State of Kerala. Thus it would be ideal to state that the project has been labeled as partial success though it has one more year yet to complete.

Monsoon Diseases and Local Level Interventions : Angadippuram Grama Panchayath

Babitha Ann Joseph

Kerala receives the south – west monsoon known as “Edvappathy” in the first week of June. Rainy seasons are cordially accepted by all after the seasoning of hot sun. The distortion in the environment leads to illness and many serious health disorders. Various water borne, air borne and vector borne diseases like Cholera, Dysentery, Jaundice, Influenza, Malaria, Dengue-Fever, Rat - Fever etc are commonly associated with this season.

This paper aims to explore the monsoon diseases and interventions made by Angadippuram Grama Panchayath. Angadippuram is a first grade Gramapanchayath in Malappuram district. The investigator developed an information schedule for the collection of data.

The objectives of this paper is

- To identify the different monsoon diseases reported on Angadippuram Gramapanchayath from 2010 – 2014.
- To determine the interventions and projects undertaken by the Gramapanchayath towards this venture.
- To analyse the causes and factors related to the reported diseases.

Recognizing the social significance, the study will assist in the development of sanitation status and the health facilities of the region. The information's got from the study will be benefited for developmental officers and policy makers for the wellness of the society.

Access of Women to Media, Its Impact on Women Development

K. Balachandran

Women continue to be marginalized is a matter of concern in a democratic country like India where Gandhian principles have a significant say. Like many other social organizations media the most influential fourth estate also miserably failed in its primary duty of ensuring gender parity. Many portrayed women in limited, stereotyped ways and most failed to present women's perspectives or points of view on subjects that affect women directly.

This paper addresses the basic issue which stands in way of women development and whether traditional media institutions of press, radio and television, or the newly emerging sectors of telecommunications, multi-media and e-media, can bring about a positive change in near future.

A month long study of different media organizations ie print , audio and visual

and its impact on women development. The basic idea was to find out how women represented in media, how people receive news and stories on women and also feedback of women themselves. It also involves the attitude of people at organizational level in media (e.g. in terms of policy guidelines, sensitization etc) to ensure women development.

Studies were also conducted on terms of awareness within the media organizations about the impact of programming and production decisions on patterns of gender content. Efforts have been taken to examine a range of approaches aimed at the feasibility of developing a balanced, diversified and non stereotypical portrayal of women and women's perspectives

Empowerment can be viewed as means of creating a social environment in

which one can make decisions and make choices either individually or collectively for social transformation. Women empowerment enables autonomy and control over their lives. The empowered women become agents of their own development, able to exercise choices to set their own agenda and be strong enough to challenge their subordinate position in the society.

Local Economic Development- A Retrospective Approach on Gandhian Thoughts and its Current Relevance.

Beena Lorance

In spite of the different modern economic measures taken or experimented all over the world for Local Economic Development (LED), nowhere has its expected outcome been achieved. So it is the right time to have a value analysis-why is it so? What alternative measures, techniques or approaches can bring out effective and efficient LED.

The objective of the paper is to make a synthesis of mainstream economics and Gandhian economic thought in the right combination to attain the desirable LED. The methodology accepted is descriptive and analytical.

The purpose of local economic development (LED) is to build up the economic capacity of a local area to improve its economic future and the quality of life for all. It is a process by which the local government, local community, private business and not-

for-profit sectors work collectively to create better conditions for enhancing competitiveness, increasing sustainable growth and ensuring that growth is inclusive with employment generation.

LSGs have an ever increasing role in the use of strategic planning and management methodologies for developing and transferring the vision into successful programs, projects and actions which are missing at implementation part due to lack of right spirit or any sort of selfishness. Here lies the relevance of Gandhian economic thought which is rich in its comprehension of the dynamics of economic processes, and imaginative and thought-provoking in its enunciation of creative alternatives.

Gandhi's vision of sustainable development is based on four key concepts namely Swaraj, Swadeshi,

Trusteeship and Aparigraha. The real understanding of these concepts make the countries self-reliant, which liberate them from the clutches of commanding neoliberal capitalism, will ensure the adequate consideration to traditional and village sector, home economy. Gandhi's efforts towards "spiritualizing economics" are reflected in his concepts of Trusteeship and aparigraha, which arose from his faith in the law of non-

possession and optimization of individual welfare, an answer to the economic inequalities of ownership and income, a kind of non-violent way of resolving all social and economic conflicts in the world.

A proportionate combination of materialism and spiritualism will be the panacea for the actualization of expected LED.

Good Governance in Calicut District, Kerala : An analysis of role of e-Governance for Good Governance

Deepa Puzhakkal & V. Devadas

The development of Kerala has not been uniform across the State. After the 73rd and 74th amendments to the Constitution of India the subsequent Kerala State Acts were passed in 1994. KILA (Kerala Institute of Local Administration) played a key role in decentralization process in Kerala. It functions as a knowledge management center through trainings, publications, seminars, workshops and discussions.

There are a few other institutions also involved in providing training to various groups of stakeholders of decentralization like the State Institute of Rural Development (SIRD) and Institute of Management in Government (IMG). There are no hierarchical relations within the system

of local governance and so each one is autonomous from the other. They function in the framework of the principles of subsidiarity and role clarity. In the field of e-governance Kerala has been implementing lot of programs. There have been stories of successes and failures. But it is proved that the local governments are capable of preparing and implementing the plans but scenario is not the same all across the state.

This paper aims at a detail analysis of role of Local Self Government and e-governance in good governance in Kerala with reference to Calicut . It also provides plausible recommendations for effective functioning of the system.

Empowering Women Through Self - Help Groups: A Study of Vadookara Desam

Fiji Raphael

Discrimination against women in the form of male-female differentiation constitutes the core of the gender-biased system. Education is the biggest liberating force and the rise in the levels of education which nourishes progressive outlook and the advent of industrialization and modernization have effected a sea change in the attitudes and thinking pattern of the people.

The empowerment is not essentially political alone in fact; political empowerment will not succeed in the absence of economic empowerment. The scheme of micro financing through Self Help Groups(SHGs) has transferred the real economic power in the hands of women and has considerably reduced their dependence on men. This has helped in empowerment of women and building self-confidence, but lack of education often comes in the way and many a times they had to seek help

from their husbands for day-to-day work viz; bank, accounts, etc. Distance education provides an opportunity to these women to improve their skills. The higher level of learning will help them to learn skill and vocations and play an effective role in the management of SHGs.

Objectives are,

1. to examine the socio-economic conditions of women beneficiaries
2. to examine the effectiveness of self help groups

Primary and secondary data are used .Statistical tools are also used for the analysis

Women empowerment is a process in which women challenge the existing norms and culture, to effectively promote their well being. The participation of women in Self Help Groups (SHGs) made a significant

impact on their empowerment both in social and economical aspects This study addresses women empowerment through self help groups in Vaddookara Desam . The information required for the study has been collected from both the primary and secondary sources A Random sampling method has been followed. Average and percentage analysis was carried out to draw meaningful interpretation of the results. Chi – Square test used to find whether the two attributes are associated or not. Garret ranking technique was used to find the reasons for joining the Self help group. The results of the study revealed that the SHGs have had greater impact on both economic and social aspects of the beneficiaries.

Gandhian Model of Decentralization in the Digital Era : Aspirations and Challenges of Kerala

Gokul M.A.

It has been seen that in India local governance institutions are found as the corner stone of decentralization process and many of the states have well implemented it and Kerala is one among them.

This paper tries to explore the advantages of technological revolution in the process of democratic decentralization and its impacts in the contemporary India by taking Kerala as a case. It aims to link the people of the country to the technical knowhow in making of good governance and to ensure their maximum involvement in the democratic institutions by raising the Gandhi's view on good governance and the decentralization of the Panchayati Raj Institutions. It also looks to analyse the success history of Kerala in utilizing IT based services for its rapid decentralization process as an example to India.

Thus in the contemporary India democratization of local self government institutions has become most indispensable and profoundly it would be linked to taking the benefits of the growth of IT sector. In this way the state Kerala has been admired in the country by its efficient practice of e-governance system. It arranges a creative and wide space for people to engage in the local governance system and furtherised the transparency and confidence among them towards these institutions.

The present study use both exploratory and analytical methods. The data is used from both primary and secondary data. It includes publications of both Government of Kerala and India, newspaper articles, magazines, books, various study reports of NGOs, and online resources.

“Litigation-free and Legal-literates: Significance of Litigation Free Panchayats in Kerala”

Imthiyas Ali V

Litigation-free Panchayat is not a new concept or an impossible dream; Mahatma Gandhi visualized it when he spoke of “Grama Swaraj”. The Panchayat system in ancient India had well-established procedures for grievance redressal and disciplining offenders.

We had a well-founded people’s court, which functioned extremely well. This system progressively gave way to the present judicial system where the courts, following complex procedures which are time consuming and expensive, have been made responsible for the administration of justice.

The miserable fact is that a large number of cases being dealt with in the courts are those, which do not require the attention of the courts at all. Here comes the significance of Litigation Free Panchayats.

In Kerala, many Gram Panchayats already devised methodology of their own to conduct the Adalath and has succeeded in granting rough and ready justice, though the decisions in their Adalaths are neither legally nor implement through legal institutions. The road to success will be slow, hard and often frustrating.

The system could be improved if the settlement process is held through an adalath constituted by a body which would be constituted by a trained and legally qualified mediator, Panchayath President, ward member, para legal worker, etc. as participants

Grounded on the secondary data, this study highlights the significance of Litigation Free Panchayats in the settlement process of civil cases. This would be a great service for the poor and marginalized in one side and

deliverance of courts from a large number of avoidable civil cases on the other. This paper also reveals some successful Kerala experiences and the aptitude of various Local bodies in the episode of Litigation free Panchayats, which would help Kerala to grow into a forerunner in the theme.

Women Empowerment Through MGNREGA : A Study from Palakkad District, Kerala

Jaseela PT

MGNREGA is a new programme launched in August 2005. As already stated it has a broad vision and measures have been effectively implemented to attain the goal. One of the most significant forces in MGNREGA is the labour force. Among this, involvement of women workers found thrice as much as that of men workers. Thus in the present scenario economic development of a nation is closely related to empowerment of women.

The objectives include,

- To study the involvement of women in MGNREGA programme in Palakkad district.
- To assess and study Gandhiji's wisdom towards women empowerment.
- To verify the underlying possibilities in MGNREGA for constructive women development

The study is both descriptive and analytical. It is descriptive to the extent that it seeks to narrate the salient

features including major aspects of MGNREGA with special reference to Kerala. The study is analytical as it makes a critical analysis of potentials of MGNREGA in bringing women empowerment.

MGNREGA as a new policy tends to attain its broad objectives makes a holistic approach in attaining the vision. Even though it has many related areas women empowerment is one of most crucial aspect. Hence, the level of economic equality and independence are the real indicators for measuring the status of women in any society. In a complex and stratified society like ours the status of women naturally differs from time to time, region to region, class to class, caste to caste, religion to religion, and from occupation to occupation. Both conceptually and practically, women empowerment is an important issue and has to be considered, because it paves the way for the empowerment of future generations.

Role of Anganwadi Workers on Child Development

Nessymol.S & Muhammed Haris

Child hood is a pivotal period of personality development of any individual. So child hood caring and nurturing is very significant. Anganawady played a crucial role in child development by helping the child for soicalization.

Anganwadis were started in 1975 as part of Intagrated Child Development Service. Its aim is to solve hunger and malnutrition by providing supplimentary, nutrition, non formal pre-school education, health care and health education, immunisation with check up, refferal service etc. anganwadi

focus on child up to 5 years from pregnancy onwords and women from 15 to 49 years.

the objectives of the study is

- to study the role of anganwadies on child development
- what are the services anganwadi workers providing to children below 5 years.

The samples are seleceted from 10 anganwadies of malappuram disrict. Data collected on the baisis of semistructured inerviews.

Some Observations of Gender Responsive Budgeting in Gram Panchayats in Kerala

Dr. Nisha V Nair, Dr. John S Moolakkattu

The manner in which gender responsive budgeting has come to be implemented in different countries varies according to the local context and the degree of pressure brought to bear on the process by women's groups and civil society actors. In India, both centre and some states like Kerala have evolved forms of gender budgeting.

The case of Kerala is noteworthy because it now has nearly 16 years of experience behind it in implementation of one form of gender responsive budgeting based on a women's quota in the plan fund at the local level (perhaps not the ideal form of gender budgeting). Although Kerala has constituted a gender board as a potential focal point at the state level in 2009, it is yet to be operationalised.

This paper looks at the state of gender responsive budgeting in Panchayats in

Kerala by studying one Gram Panchayat in the District of Kottayam over a five-year period, focusing on its annual plans and budgets.

The study will also selectively draw on the data relating to Women Component Plan collected earlier from the Panchayats in the same District to corroborate the main arguments of the paper.

In the present study, the researchers will look at the allocation, expenditure, the nature of projects implemented, their probable impacts on women, the persons involved in the planning process, gender character of the beneficiaries and so on. The paper argues that in the absence of gender focal points at the state and district levels and studies or audit focused on the gender impact of WCP, the net results of these initiatives is unlikely to be

estimated. Political support for such schemes is still difficult to garner both at the state and district levels.

Drawing on international experience, the paper argues that the intermediation of a gender sensitive

civil society and women's groups and the development of a gender stake by the women representatives is essential for making gender responsive budgeting an effective instrument of securing gender equality in the Panchayat.

Adoption of Gandhian Philosophy to Create an Inclusive Environment for Women Development in India.

Prabhavathi Prabhakaran

The Objective of the paper is to look into the areas where systematic or persistent discrimination targets women and to incorporate Gandhian philosophies to make our society women inclusive as compared to the existing women excluded model .

Methodology involves incorporating studies to corroborate the information garnered from various sources that depict the exclusion mindset of the society. The process of alienation of women from the political arena in the current scenario and the role of proxy political participation by the males is also considered.

The recent political empowerment of the backward castes has found a corresponding rise in the suppression of their own women, reflecting the existing ethos of rural society. Neither has an effective political leadership risen from amongst them to give courage to other nor are emancipated urban

women able to provide the kind of sustained leadership rural women need largely because of class and caste differences.

Women Empowerment is a process that fosters power in women for use in their own lives, their own communities and in their own society, by acting on issues that they describe as important. Above all, women empowerment would only happen as a result of participation in decision-making. In the Indian context, the Gandhian philosophies will assist in assaying the need of adoption of Gandhian philosophies in making Indian woman gain full opportunity for the balanced and harmonious development of all her faculties and should acquire the capacity for self-reliance in every aspect for a clean, healthy and cultured life, together with an understanding of the social, political and moral implications of such a life.

Rural Decentralisation through Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme : Issues and Challenges

Prasanna V. Salian & Gopakumar K

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) a self-targeting labour intensive public works programme has generated more employment in rural areas than any other program in the history of independent India. The Act is also a significant vehicle for strengthening decentralization and deepening processes of democracy by giving a pivotal role to local governance bodies and brings about greater transparency, responsiveness and accountability in local governance.

This paper therefore focuses on the role of MGNREGA in enabling PRIs to meet local needs by fulfilling the objectives of MGNREGA of providing wage employment in the rural areas and

creating more productive, sustainable and quality assets. Besides assessing various provisions made in the MGNREGA, this paper analyses secondary data on the implementation of the programme in selected major states with a view to address the following research issues:

- a) What is the role of panchayat raj institutions (PRIs) in fulfilling the objectives of MGNREGA?
- b) What is the role of MGNREGA in rural decentralization?
- c) What are the various issues and challenges in the implementation of rural decentralization through MGNREGA?

Realization of Gandhiji's Dream on Women Empowerment - A Kerala Model

Raheena KM

To Gandhi, the three important factors that promote women empowerment are: education, employment and change in social structure. All the three components are equally important and mutually related. Kerala has got an appreciable track record of women empowerment in the whole of India. Kerala's move towards women empowerment got its power with the introduction of KUDUMBASREE, an innovative community based women-oriented initiative to fight against poverty.

Major objectives of this study are-

- To measure the extent to which Gandhiji's dream of women empowerment is realized in Kerala.
- To analyse the role played by Kudumbasree towards achieving the goal of women empowerment.

This study is descriptive and analytical in nature. The study is primarily based

on the existing literature. Quantitative and qualitative data collected from different sources are used in this study. Primary data used in the study are collected through interaction with members of Kudumbasree and local government bodies.

On analysis of the data collected from various sources it can be seen that Kudumbasree is playing a major role in the upliftment of the Kerala women especially in the educationally and socially backward rural areas. As a result the women of the state became active participants in the planning and implementation of various women empowerment and antipoverty programmes. The results of the project show that the women who were regarded as voiceless and powerless started identifying their inner power, their strength, opportunities for growth and their role in re-shaping their own destiny through kudumbasree.

Innovations in Decentralization in Kerala

Rahul C & Dr. V. Devadas

In Kerala, the process of decentralization launched at the beginning of 9th Five Year Plan as the People's Plan Campaign was restructured during the Xth Plan and a number of innovative steps were taken. During the XIth Plan, Government revamped the entire process, emphasising the concept of People's Planning, focusing on institutionalisation of decentralisation.

Decentralized planning in the State operated mainly through the following institutions and instruments; Grama Sabha (GS), Neighbourhood Groups (NHGs), Development Seminar (DS), Resource Persons etc. The following potential dangers and challenges of decentralization are elite capture, corruption, patronage politics, local civil servants feel compromised, impedes further decentralization, incomplete information, constituents not able to

hold representatives accountable, opaque decision-making affects accountability upwards and downwards, rationalizes reform delays and central claw back of power. Besides these, the plans are prepared haphazardly without employing planning techniques and theories.

In this paper an attempt is made to analyse the decentralised plan of Kerala state, identify the pitfalls and conclude with possible recommendations.

Objectives includes

1. To study the process of decentralisation
2. To study and analyse decentralisation in Kerala state
3. To recommend a plausible guideline for evolving a scientific development plan

Methodology:

1. Analysis of the process of decentralization in Kerala state Application of key planning tools and techniques to evolve dynamic development plan
2. Identification of pitfalls This paper concludes with plausible
3. Use of key planning tools and techniques recommendation for improving decentralization in Kerala state

Gandhian Concept of Grama Swaraj and Alternate Dispute Redressal Mechanisms

Dr. A.P. Rajeesh

In India, the concept of grama swaraj has been implemented considerably in legislative and administrative spheres. However, though the Gandhian concept of soulless state is most seriously reflected in judicial mechanism, the concept of grama swaraj got least implemented in adjudication of disputes. Instead of incorporating the Gandhian concept of swaraj in dispute redressals mechanisms, we have given pivotal role to courts in dispute redressals which led to give synonymous meanings to court and justice.

It is necessary to make administration of justice decentralized like any other state function and make it free from the clutches of the state as far as possible. However, whenever we think about decentralization of administration of justice we think about establishing courts at local levels. In order to

properly implement the Gandhian concept of swaraj, and to make the administration of justice in tune with Indian values, the local dispute settlement mechanism must be strengthened and the mechanism must be converted to *interest* based than *right* based.

Objective of the paper is to look into the defects of the present adjudicatory mechanism which is basically based on *right* and the need for the establishment of alternate dispute redressal mechanism which is based on *interest*. The paper also looks into how the ADR mechanism is helpful to achieve the Gandhian concept of Grama Swaraj in adjudication of disputes.

The study is doctrinal in nature. The work focuses the inefficiencies of the present judicial system which is based on *right* and the need of setting up of an alternate system for resolution of

disputes especially in panchayats which is based on interest. Both primary and secondary sources and case laws are resorted.

(a) In the present system of adjudication of disputes through court litigation, the system has been converted suitable to the society and the litigants are somewhat completely neglected.

(b) The right based approach is not suitable to administer justice in

India. Administration of justice must be interest based.

(c) It is highly necessary to provide alternate dispute redressal mechanisms like mediation, arbitration etc at village level to provide justice in the true spirit of the term with less expense.

(d) Adequate training must be given to members of the panchayati raj institutions to make them capable to conduct mediation, negotiation arbitration etc.

Kudumbashree IT Enterprises for Poverty Eradication – The Emerging Issues

Ms. Rashmi M & Dr. Lekshmi V Nair

The ambit of Kudumbashree as a poverty eradication community network has outgrown as one of the largest women empowering projects in the country. Some of the new forms of groups were envisaged ostensibly to support this project. Promotion of micro-enterprises based on applications of ICT was tested for the first time under the Kudumbashree project. The sixteen year old project has lent sustenance to a number of women through employment generation.

This paper studies Kudumbashree IT enterprises as it is one of its kinds that try to tap the potentials of ICT for employment generation among women. The study seeks to highlight the factors that constrain or facilitate the intensity and the purpose with which the group members associate themselves with Kudumbashree IT enterprises. The study is based on the empirical data collected from seven districts in Kerala.

Methods of data collection employed in this study include interview schedules, focus group discussions and key informant interviews. Hence, the study came out with the findings that these enterprises sustained themselves primarily due to the social capital which are the networks, norms and trust that facilitated mutual cooperation and benefit. It is in this context that the concept of non-income poverty has been discussed which can be operationally defined as the lack of services provided by the government authorities concerned. They identified non-income poverty as a major constraining factor for their upgrade than the income poverty faced by them. They are trying their best to survive in this field by utilizing the resources as available to them like local body members, social workers and market strategies. The study has also looked into certain theories of poverty like structural theories, situational theories etc.

Climate Change - Causes and Its Impact

Dr. Remmiya Rajan P.

Climate change has brought about severe and possibly permanent alterations to our planet's geological, biological and ecological systems. The majority of the adverse effects of climate change are experienced by poor and low-income communities around the world, who have much higher levels of vulnerability to environmental determinants of health, wealth and other factors, and much lower levels of capacity available for coping with environmental change. India is confronted with the challenges sustaining rapid economic growth amidst the increasing global threat of climate change.

Objectives of the Study are,

1. To analyse the causes of climate change

2. To analyse the impact of climate change on Environment
3. To analyse the impact of climate change on human beings
4. To analyse the ways to prevent Climate Change

The success of all studies depends on the methodology adopted and the tools employed. In the present study only the secondary source has been used to collect data. A tool consisting of 40 questions has been prepared to analyze the objectives stated above.

In the present study a detailed analysis has been made about the causes, impacts and ways to prevent climate changes. Wastage disposal is one of the most important causes for climate change which is a serious matter to be considered for future generation.

Role of Local Self Government and Peoples Participation in Coastal Security

Renjith K.R.

In India, the present approach to coastal security is inadequate to deal with new challenges posed by Non-state actors and terrorist to Indian Homeland via the adjoining sea space. The present approaches revolve around the misconceptions like the responsibility of national security is, by and large, entrusted to the Central Government under the Constitution. The role of coastal states and especially the local coastal self governance mechanism are under less consideration till the recent years. It is often forgotten that the coast is secure only when adjacent water space is secure. The attack revealed the inadequacies of the coastal security approach.

Considering the situation of Kerala, which is needed a serious concern about

the safety and security of the state, because it has 560kms costal line. Securing India's maritime-littoral space is a gigantic task that cannot be achieved by mere technological implements alone or by constitutional provisions and institutional framework.

This is where the significance of public participants emerged. The coastal areas are more familiar with the neighbouring people or the fishing community. There is a vital role for local self governments to improve the security of the coastal region. So this paper tries to analyze the need of the involvement of local self government and organized popular participation in the effective implementation of the coastal security.

“Fiscal Deentralisation in Kerala: Participation and Accountability of Local Self-Governments”

Renu Krishnan G

In India, fiscal decentralisation is currently emerging as the concept of academic debate and policy interest. The fiscal decentralisation is considered to be very important and it is necessary in a country or a state for its economic benefits, enhanced political and financial accountability and improved effectiveness. Also, there are some issues like declined investment in social infrastructures, macro-economic instability and increased horizontal inequities and conflicts. In this study, the fiscal decentralisation in Kerala has been analysed with respect to the participation and accountability of local government.

The aim of the research is to investigate in detail about the fiscal decentralisation in Kerala in terms of participation and accountability of local self-governments.

Therefore, the main objective of this studies that to analyse the participation and accountability of local government (Gram Panchayats) in fiscal decentralisation in Kerala.

This study uses the secondary data for the analysis and do not include the primary data. This study adopts the positivism research approach. It is inferred from the study that the expenditure is more than the revenues in Kerala which leads to deficit. Also, there is a gap in the minimum and the maximum allocation of local governments in each district of Kerala. This could be rectified by means of increasing the standards of accountability and participation of local self-governments in Kerala by means of introducing innovative tools of responsibility in Kerala.

Need of Real-time Surveillance of Communicable Diseases at the Local Level in Kerala

Riju Stephen

Surveillance on communicable diseases is still in choate in Kerala. Data collection, analysis and intervention based on the analysis are yet to be part of our routine public health. Modern disease surveillance would keep track of the disease incidences and help take preventive measures that contain larger outbreaks. Statistical and geographic analysis of the data is an important component in the system to understand public health dynamics of infectious diseases. In many developed countries, evidence based public health (EBPH), which involves decision making based on scientific analysis, is practiced to achieve the highest standards of public health.

The paper explains the disease surveillance system at Houston Health and Human Services (HDHHS) at Houston, Texas, in the United States. HDHHS is the local government

department which is in charge of implementing the public health standards in Houston. The same process can be implemented at the local level in Kerala with suitable modifications. The local health department acts as the nodal agency in the Houston metropolitan area which collect data on reportable diseases from all the hospitals, clinics and other health facilities within the jurisdiction, subject them to statistical analysis and take intervention measures through public health investigators. The Bureau of Epidemiology within the department has a team of epidemiologists, biostatisticians, disease mapping experts and epidemiological investigators carry out these tasks under various team leads for food borne diseases, STIs and HIV, and vector borne diseases.

Although Kerala boasts of having the best health outcomes compared to the

rest of India, at present the situation seems to be going out of hand and it will not be preposterous to conclude that the laudable public health achievements would soon lose ground in the foreseeable future creating crisis in the much acclaimed Kerala model of development that always stressed on the quality of life and better socio-economic indicators.

Politics of Water : Anti-Coke Struggle in Plachimada Palakkad, Kerala

Ruchi Shree

In the post neo-liberal Indian context, politics of natural resources seems to be going through a paradigm shift. Three levels of federalism i.e. Centre, State and Local level is now juggling to accommodate the multinational companies (MNCs) as another claimant of natural resources like land and water.

Plachimada struggle in Palakkad district of Kerala gained immense popularity worldwide as a villagers' struggle against Coke, a mighty MNC. The dynamics of this struggle unravel the multidimensional orientation of many problems of our times. The growing number of struggles against SEZs, large dams, privatization in water sector leads us to questions like – who owns the natural resources? Whether it is the State or the MNCs or the community?

This paper is an attempt to understand the politics of water through the lens of

social movements as sites of inquiry, enabling us to capture the nuances of macro and micro aspects of the changing social realities around us. The paper tries to explore the complexity of federal structure and governance issues in the Plachimada struggle. The paper attempts to take up Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) as a method to understand this politics. This method could be helpful in capturing the multidimensional nature of our day to day problems rooted around concepts like modernity, development, governance, etc.

To conclude, we may say that the Plachimada struggle could be explored in the light of growing contestations over natural resources and the urgent need to think of alternative ways of managing the resources by empowering the local self-government to realize the decentralization in its true spirit.

Good Governance of PRIs: Experiences from Five Grama Panchayats in Kerala

Sameera Pulikkal

In the beginning of the 9th plan, the Government of Kerala took a bold decision to devolve 35% of the state development budget down from a centralized bureaucracy to local governments where local people could determine and implement their own development priorities under the People's Plan Campaign. In this Dynamic Movement, people were involved at all levels of State's planning, enabling them to take decisions to improve their lives and communities.

Public consultation is being done at the lowest level called Ward/Grama Sabha. It have been given clear rights and responsibilities with absolute powers for identification of beneficiaries, strong advisory powers for prioritizing developmental needs and wide powers of social audit. It should ideally be followed by a participatory approach for implementing, monitoring and evaluating the development activities.

To promote Good Governance, anything that restrains the human possibility of warmth has to be restrained. An effort is made below to interpret the terminologies like Accountability, Efficiency, Equity, Consensus, Responsibility, Transparency, Rule of Law & Participation. The Citizen Charter, RTI Act, RTS Act, RTE Act are also improve the Good Governance.

The Grama Panchayats in Kerala were created to promote people's participation in development programs, to provide institutional framework for public administration based on the concept of 'Good Governance', to act as a medium of social and political changes, to facilitate mobilization process at local levels, and to prepare plan for development and assist in their implementation in the concerned areas can improve the human development aspects. This Paper Objects the Importance of Good Governance of GPs in Kerala. This is based on Primary Data collected by field visit of five GPs & Secondary Data of the state of Kerala.

Kudumbashree and Local Economic Development

Shameem C.C.

Under the Gandhian principle of Indian constitution was greatly support local self help mission Kudumbshree is the one of the great self help mission under the Kerala Government, to promote local economic development in marginalized women's community in Kerala. Kudumbashree functions as the community voice of the LSG – in particular the voice of the economically and socially weak, and of women. Most of the plan interventions of grama panchayaths and urban local governments in the areas of poverty reduction and women's development use the CDS network as agency. There are a lot of programme under Kudumbashree mission directly linked with local economic development, it includes on collective farming, Mahila Kissan Sashtikaran Pariyojana, Micro enterprises, Employment training and skills program, marketing for small scale products, and Samagraha agricultural production .The above Kudumbshree mission greatly influenced local economic development in women community in Kerala. This paper attempt to analyze how is Kudumbasree mission influences on local economic development in women community in Kerala.

Life and Struggle of Unwed Mothers among Tribes: Assessing the Governmental Relief Actions in Wayanad, Kerala

Shilujas M.

This study intends to evaluate the positive impact of governmental actions in the tragic life and tales of tribal unwed mothers of Kerala's Wayanad district, which had been a heated subject on Kerala's Development paradox. The hilly region of Wayanad, once the dwelling place of tribal majority, is now home to more than 1500 unwed tribal mothers, who were enticed and left away by non-tribal settlers. Traditional tribal settlement of Thirunelli alone has registered over 300 such unwed tribal single motherhood; all victims of sexual exploitation. Still, a number of cases of children being born out of wedlock keep popping up in the public from time to time. These women continued to live in a state of penury and neglect; even years after their problems came into public attention.

Since 2001, government agencies kick-started various developmental and relieve projects to rehabilitate these

women. The Kerala Women's Commission, who fought for their cause, had initiated a major campaign to bring the culprits to justice by affirming fatherhood through DNA analysis. The Kerala Legislative Assembly Sub Committee on Tribal Welfare also submitted a report to the Government recommending various steps to tackle the problem. Other expert panels too had recommended many steps including reinstating the alienated tribal land in the district. The state government departments for Women's Welfare, Social Justice, SCST Development and Local administration announced implementation of various projects such as rehabilitation and housing packages, land distribution, monthly pension, distribution of self employment tools and on.

The basic objectives of this paper are to explore, to what extent the governmental policies have contributed

to change in the status and health condition of unwed mothers among tribes of Wayanad with a focus on women empowerment. It probes the efficiency of local governments in implementing the projects. It also examines the current situation of these women and their children through a development perspective.

The study is mainly based on the field work done in five Gram panchayats of

Wayanad District, namely, Pulpally, Panamaram, Thirunelli, Mananthavadi and Muttill. For Primary data the researcher conducted few personal interviews with the unwed mothers of Wayanad district, Government officials and NGO workers. Secondary data collected from Census of India, 2001&2011, news paper reports and official documents of each Panchayat.

Gandhi and Deep Ecology: An Antidote to Contemporary Environmental Issues

Sreeja Nair

Objective: To bring to light another aspect of Gandhi as a deep ecologist and to prove the relevance of his beliefs in the contemporary world wrought with environmental predicaments.

Methodology: To scan the works written by Gandhiji- letters, articles, books etc and also the works by other authors about Gandhiji.

Analysis: To find connections and solutions to current environmental issues by analyzing his social, political and moral philosophies.

Conclusions: To call Gandhiji as an environmentalist, seems to be a bit off

the mark because he is nowhere close to the contemporary environmentalist, ranting against pollution and depleting resources, pleading to protect the world to protect mankind itself. Yet, he is one of the eminent public figures who have been a source of inspiration to the most reputed ecologists like Vandana Siva, Baba Amte, Medha Patkar Arne Naess and Petra Kelly. The reason behind this is that his environmentalism was not narrow but wide and all encompassing. It was a way of life not just another issue to be dealt with separately.

Elderly in Kerala : A Critical Assessment of the Role of the LSGIs

Dr. Sujathan Pandamangalamkalam

This is particularly significant for a state of Kerala. Census 2011 records that people above 60 years constitute 13 per cent of the total population of 3.34 crore in Kerala with compared to the national figure of 8.2per cent.

Existing literature studied on the participatory planning and ageing of Kerala independently. No systematic research or no serious attempt for the alternative plans for the aged by the Local Self Governments' has been made so far. Hence there is a need to introspect on the kind of programmes of Local Self Governments' for the aged. It is in this backdrop that the relevance of the present study comes to the fore.

Objectives of the Study : To examine the trend, pattern and extent of ageing in Kerala.

To examine the extant schemes/public interventions for alleviating the socio-

economic issues of the elderly by the Local Self Governments' in Kerala and assess their performance.

To identify the problems associated with the aforesaid schemes/public interventions and chalk out the alternative for improving the conditions of the aged.

The present study is carried out by collecting both primary and secondary data. Primary data was collected from the 60+elderly as respondents from all the four municipalities of Palakkad (Dt) viz Shornur, Palakkad, Chittur-Thathamangalam and Ottappalam.

Statistical Tools such as mean, standard deviation, coefficient of variation and percentage were used to have a meaningful interpretation of primary data collection. Multiple correlation was computed to decide upon whether there

exists any possibility for framing a model of dependent and independent variables. Multiple regression is used for fitting regression models on socio-economic issues of the elderly. Analysis of variance (ANOVA) and Student's t-test was used for testing the hypotheses laid down in the study.

Local Area Development Programme

Dr. Sunny George

One of the key challenges of planning for economic development and social justice is to identify the geographical unit for planning. In India, on the one hand we have centralised planning by the Union Government and State Government, and on the other hand s level we have the participatory planning by the local self governments. As a result, there exists the centrally sponsored schemes, state sponsored schemes and the projects of local governments. Visibly, there exists a gap between the union and state governments and that of the local governments. The local area development fund for MPs and MLAs are expected to fill this gap. In this context, Kerala Institute of Local Administration (KILA) introduced a planning process for the Local Area Development Programme of the MLAs. In this planning process, a status report of the constituency is prepared and all the projects falling in the constituency are monitored. So far more than 80 constituencies have initiated this integrated local area development plan. The results are very positive. The paper discusses the planning process and its implementation.

Gram Swaraj and Gandhian way of Enforcement of Punishment

Sunil Kumar Cyriac

Gandhi believed that the development of a country, particularly like that of India, shall first begin from villages. He was of the definite view that Panchayat system in India, if worked on scientific lines, is capable of making wonders. The Panchayat will be performing the functions of the legislature, judiciary and executive. Apart from the above functions it can also help the executive in the enforcement of laws.

One of the areas where the service of village Panchayat can be effectively utilized is in the enforcement of punishment. According to Mahatma Gandhi there is a similarity between crime and disease in the sense that both are due to certain causes and conditions which can be eradicated to a large extent. The Gandhian idea of prison is that of hospital and all the inmates are patients and the treatment which they get there shall provide for their moral education and building up their self-

respect, sense of social responsibility and character.

The new system of community service as a punishment is the perfect blending of non violence and gram swaraj, which can be effectively make use of by the village panchayaths. The offender is required to perform unpaid work like cleaning up roadside or parks, providing services to old age homes, or hospitals, attending educational programs and presenting speeches and seminars concerning the negative effect of crime or other activity in the community under the direction of the Panchayat.

The main objectives of the community services are;

- a. To reduce overcrowding in prisons and prevent escalation of detention costs;
- b. To ensure public safety and security through effective supervision and

- control over offenders who serve their sentences in the community;
- c. To prevent or reduce offender stigmatization;
- d. To enhance rehabilitation and reintegration of offenders into the community in order to strengthen their ability to live peacefully with others in the community setting;
- e. To permit the offender to contribute towards his or her family in particular and to society by working
- instead of being confined in prison or jail;
- f. To avoid the risks of family break-up due to separation during incarceration;
- g. To avoid an escalation in deviant behaviour when new offenders are mixed with hardened criminals;
- h. To monitor and supervise offenders in order to ensure compliance with court –ordered conditions and programme requirements.

Local Democracy, Democratic Institutions and The Marginalized : The Case of Scheduled Tribes in Rural Kerala

Surjith M.

Democratic Decentralization is largely seen as a 'magical elixir' to bring about change in local governance by involving the local citizenry. Against this backdrop, the present paper looks at what the decentralization 'experiments' actually produced in the ideals of the inclusion of tribal people, the most marginalized and the least powerful section in the social fabric of Kerala. **Objective** The present paper has intended to explore largely the extent of political inclusion of the culturally distinct tribal communities in the **local democratic institutions** of rural Kerala giving special focus on the inclusion of numerically predominant two tribal groups in Northern Kerala namely the *Paniyan* and the *Kurichiyen*. **Methodology** The insights for the present paper were mainly emanated from the findings of the author's doctoral research in Anthropology on the topic 'Democratic Decentralization

and Tribal Development: An anthropological study of the process and Impact of Local Governance', which was carried out during 2008 and 2013 periods. The present study is essentially a cross-cultural comparative study based on the epistemological tradition of anthropology. The study was mainly conducted using in-depth field research using participant observation in its quasi form. In addition to this, qualitative methods including Case studies, FGDs and Textual Analysis were largely employed for collecting data. **Analysis** As already stated above, this paper is aimed at find out positive outcomes in creating 'inclusionary ideals' of democratic decentralization in the lives of tribal population of Kerala. For analytical purpose, three local democratic institutions were subjected to analysis namely, the Village Panchayat Councils, Gram Sabha and *Oorukkoottam* (Tribal Hamlet

Assembly). As rural Kerala is concerned the above three institutions have already provided them (tribes) tremendous possibilities for negotiating with the rural local governments.

The present paper is not, in any way, aimed at eulogizing decentralization or denigrating its process and impact. Instead, the focus of this study is to highlight its tremendous positive potential that is yet to be explored. As a

society of multi ethnic people and cultures, recognition of multiple cultures and their identities shall have paramount importance and the process of decentralization should inexorably uphold these values. To realize all promises and presumptions of decentralization, a radical restructuring of strategies and process along these lines are essential

Regional Disparity and Local Economic Development in Kerala-An Analysis

Thahira K.K.

Regional disparities in the levels of development have become one of the most important growing problem not only in developing countries but also in the most advanced countries of the world. It can also be seen that there are geographical concentration in infrastructural allocations. There remains a substantial and persistent disparity of opportunity, particularly in education, health and economic prospects of women and other vulnerable groups. The purpose of local economic development is to build up the economic capacity of a local area to improve its economics future and the quality of life for all. It is a process by which public business and nongovernmental sector partners work collectively to create better conditions for economic growth and employment generation. Development of education, precipitate income, industrial development, health facilities, HDI, and

other infrastructural facilities are the indicators of economic development. If any disparities in this sectors of different regions it will resist local economic development.

This study analyses the comparative picture of regional disparities in different sectors of development and its impacts on local economic development of Kerala. And also to suggest policy on local economic development of Kerala sate. This study employs document analysis and relevant statistical technique like percentage and GINIS coefficient of inequality index are used. This study reveals that there is a regional disparity among regions of Kerala. There are large disparities across different regions of Kerala in terms of their performance on economic development. Thus to reduce disparity and to improve economic development certain policies are put forward to local government.

Poverty Eradication through Women 'Empowerment': Localized Governance and its Paradoxes

Umesh O

Governance, all round the world is perceived as the better management of available recourses with a control over externalities. Hence, the issues of "externalities" always, with all its complexities, occupy nucleus in debates about governance of social issues. The best instance for this is gender discrimination in societies and framing within the poverty eradication policies. Here, an attempt is being made to analyze the nature of policy approach towards the gender inequality in Kerala.

Different kinds of polices started to come up to tackle this problem including reservation for women in the Panchayat Raj institutions, women oriented poverty alleviation programmes and job opportunities via the self help group. Even though these three programmes started differently, the aim of all these was mainstreaming women. The term "empowerment" has

very frequently used to describe the goals of the self-help groups and micro-finance projects. "Kudumbashree" is one of the major state run programmes with the maximum state intervention introduced by government of Kerala. By taking Kudumbashree as an example, this paper is trying to understand the women empowerment projects introduced by a state government. First of all the differences between 'development' and 'empowerment' has completely neglected in the process of implementation of these kinds of programmes. Most of the government documents are using these two terms interchangeably.

This paper, therefore, aims at critically reflecting on these kinds of programmes which are meant for the empowerment of women through the poverty reduction. In the light of "Kudumbashree" experience, an

attempt is being made to disassociate the empowerment process from the structural constraints. The concept of empowerment imagined by these programmes is not more than an economic activity under the existing structures of oppression. Practically this economic activity itself is more or less targeting family as one of the main

beneficiary of all the economic activities of the programme. This existing contradiction is the main drawback of all these kinds of programmes. Through Kudumbashree experience, this paper is trying to analyse a best modal where we can locate women, family, society, state in 'gender governance' and government policy of poverty eradication.

Social Capital Generation and Local Level Development: A study on Grass root Level Institutions in Kerala”

Vidya I. V, Dr. Mani K. P.

In the discussions on local level development, the term social capital is gaining much attention. The concept of social capital is broad and commonly used to refer community spirit, social solidarity, civic virtue, trust, cooperation, friendship, neighbourliness, informal and formal networks, social mobilization and so on. Social capital is obtaining wide acceptability and interest in recent years- among varied set of sociologists, political scientists, economists, management theorists, researchers and even policy makers- who are in search for answers to a variety phenomena being threatened in their own fields. There are empirical evidences that increased levels of social capital can create a greater capacity for local economic development. Because of its importance, local governance calls for an increased participation of the civil society (social capital). In Kerala, social capital had its very beginning at the end of the 19th century mainly through the emergence of vibrant Social Religious Reform Movements (SRRMs), followed by the nationalist, agrarian, trade union movements and political mobilization. While the generation of social capital in an organized form takes place after the Decentralized planning that followed the 73rd and 74th constitutional amendments and enactments in the state in 1994 started off as the People’s Plan Campaign and progressed with institutionalization at different levels. After that grass root level institutions like Gram Sabha, Self-help groups (SHGs), Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs), Neighbourhood Groups (NHGs), Kudumbashree units etc flourished with richness in social capital. The main objectives of this study are (1) to assess the extend of social capital formation through selected grass root level institutions in Kerala and (2) to examine the role of social capital in

promoting local development. The study depends on both primary and secondary data. Primary data will be collected from selected grass root level institutions like Gram Sabha, SHGs, NGOs and Kudumbashree units in five sample panchayats by making use of survey method. The paper is divided

into three sections. The first section discusses the concept and evolution of social capital. The second section deals with grass root level institutions and social capital formation and third section presents the association between social capital and local development.

INDIAN SCENARIO

Neoliberalism, Community Participation and Manufactured Consent: The process of Inclusion in Jalanidhi Project, Kerala

Abhilash Babu

Jalanidhi is a World Bank aided rural water supply project started in 1999; initially in four districts of Kerala viz. Thrissur, Palakkad, Malappuram and Kozhikode as pilot phase. Over a period of time, the model has been scaled up at the state level by covering all the districts. Demand driven approach is the basic philosophy of the project. It has been conceived as a holistic approach including elements such as people's participation, environmental and ecological conservation, sanitation, appropriate technology, attitude and behavioural change, gender sensitisation, etc.

Implementation of the Jalanidhi project poses immense challenges before the implementing agencies. The concept of the project was quite new to the people in the sense that they never heard of community based approach to drinking water supply. The social

environment in rural areas of Kerala was wary towards accepting a project like 'Jalanidhi', which is based on physical and monetary participation. In a state like Kerala with a dominant left political lineage, high literacy rate and history of social movements, people are highly conscious about their rights. Even though they mainly rely on open wells for drinking water, which is under private property rights, the social psyche perceives water supply as a duty of the state.

It is evident from the numerous incidents of frequent and widespread public protests against the government machineries in water scarce areas during summer demanding drinking water. Besides, water, like in any part of the country, is a socially and politically sensitive issue in Kerala.

Drawing insights from the Gramscian concept of "hegemony" optic, the paper

argues that hegemony of neo-liberalism as a common sense is pervasive even in the social imageries of rural middle class that weaken the spaces for democratic dialogues in decentralisation process. It is examined through the debate over user charge under the Jalanidhi project implemented in Kerala. The questions of enquiry are; what are the major paradigm shifts in drinking water sector related to the rural, how it was implemented and the axes of

differences among the different sections of people in its acceptance. These questions are examined through a field work conducted in three districts; Palakkadu, Thrissur and Malappuram by employing methods such as personal interviews, group discussions and observation. The respondents include the staff of supporting agencies, politicians, elected representatives, bureaucrats, local people etc.

Challenges in Innovative Waste Management: Case Studies in Mumbai

A.M.Swaminathan & MedhaTapiawala

Developing countries with increasing population, urbanization, changing technology and industrialization face major challenges in dealing with solid wastes. Authorities take up number of measures like collection, recycling and disposing of wastes in such situations. However, effective management requires processes like collecting, transporting, processing, recycling and finally disposing. The best way of management of these waste is to reduce, recycle and reuse them.

Mumbai is one of the oldest and fastest growing metro city in the country. Here there is a regular in migration almost on a daily basis. People come in search of new jobs, as tourists, as students for higher studies etc. While a number of in migrants accommodate themselves in decent places, there are a large number of them who are helpless and try to initially accommodate themselves

on streets and later manage to get settled in any chawal¹ or hutments/slums. People in general are found to litter on streets in Mumbai and among them, the homeless have no other way but to litter on streets only. Thus, with large number of hutments/slums at various places as well as congested accommodation in different places in Mumbai, household waste are in plenty.

The municipality is said to collaborate with different institutions/organisation like NGOs and local bodies like advanced locality management (ALM) to manage the show. This study attempts to examine the procedure involved in management of waste in Mumbai by the municipality and try to get solutions for the possibility of raising funds, creating employment, promotion of organic consumption and creation of suspension for pollution free livelihood for Mumbaikars.

The **objectives of this study** is to find out the possibilities of

- 1) raising funds from waste management,
- 2) creation of employment opportunities in managing wastes,
- 3) promotion of organic consumption through waste management and
- 4) extent of pollution free livelihood for Mumbaikars

The **methodology** is to evaluate a few case studies like the creation of Maharashtra Nature Park and the contribution of ALM in community participation of waste management in different wards of Mumbai city

The solutions to this evaluation could entitle the study to conclude in suggesting policy measures.

Climate Change Education for School Students- A Mixed Methods Approach in Puducherry and Villupuram Districts

R. Alexandar

Many local, regional, national and global issues are climate-related, including basic needs such as food, water, health and shelter. Global warming that can culminate in Climate change and is considered as the world's worst environmental threat, and the greatest challenge facing human society in the twenty-first century. The recent Fifth Assessment Report (AR5) of the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has concluded that global warming is inevitable and that human activity is likely to be the main cause.

The present study was designed to evolve CCE package for school children in order to sensitize them to local climate change issues and challenges and provide the necessary knowledge for changing their attitudes and behaviors besides facilitating adaptation and mitigation strategies at local level.

Two schools from Puducherry and one school from Villupuram district of Tamil Nadu were chosen for climate change education program (CCE). A total of 220 students were selected from each school. The pre and post test design was used for the study to evaluate the effectiveness of climate change education program on student's knowledge, attitudes and behavior.

Based on the present study, it may be concluded that the climate change education would help us to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and facilitate strategies to adapt and mitigate to changing climatic conditions at local level. The mixed method approach is effective educational tool for understanding climate change and global warming and its impacts. Educating about climate change and its consequences is critical in shaping behavior,

attitudes and skills for necessary action for climate change as well as in underpinning international, national and local level action. Educating those currently at school about climate change will help shape and sustain future policy making, and a broad public and international debate will support today's policy makers in taking strong action now.

Waste Management – Exploring Decentralised Participatory Approach with special reference to Chandigarh

Amanjot Kaur & Ramanjit Kaur Johal

Solid waste management is one of the fundamental and essential services provided by municipal authorities in the urban areas of the country. It is a part of public health and sanitation, and according to the Indian Constitution, falls within the purview of the State subject. Further, the 74th constitutional amendment (1992) transferred the responsibility for collection, treatment and disposal of municipal solid waste from state government to urban local bodies. Proper waste management contributes to public health, protection of natural environment and preservation of eco-systems.

This paper seeks to discuss the role of all stakeholders in the management of solid waste on the premise that a clean city is the result of effort of the citizens, the state, the city managers and the civil society organisations. Chandigarh has

been selected as the primary source of study as it is a planned and highly urbanised city. The Municipal Corporation, Chandigarh has been taking initiatives from time to time to strengthen the participation of all stakeholders in waste management. The data will be analysed by using appropriate statistical tools and further conclusions would be drawn from results.

Central pollution control board and the Sahyog Waste Management project have sponsored a demonstration project with the help of NGOs and Resident Welfare Associations. This includes establishment of Sahaj Safai Kendras and Khad Banao Kendras at various locations throughout the city where garbage is systematically collected and segregated and organic waste is converted into compost. Presently, 32 Sahaj Safai Kendras are operating in the

city. With a view to make improvements in the sanitary conditions of the city, the corporation introduced a concept of 'Bin Free Sector Scheme' in Chandigarh. RDF (Refuse Derived Fuel) plant is a public private initiative between Jaiprakash Associates Ltd and the Municipal Corporation, Chandigarh that processes the municipal waste and remains dumped in the dumping site located at Dadu Majra, Chandigarh.

Poverty Allevation Through Participatory Approach

Animesh Ghosh

Gandhian Principles under article 40 of Indian constitution enshrines under the directive principles of state policy that the state shall take steps to organize village Panchayats and endow them with such powers and authority as may be necessary to enable them to function as units of self government. At present, West Bengal has 50 % seats reserved for Women and 33% reserved for Schedule Cast, Schedule Tribe and Other Backward Class in the three tier local self governance structure.

This paper would highlight the challenges of the area, initiatives taken to overcome them and the present socioeconomic status of the families after availing the pilot poverty reduction state sponsored scheme named Muktidhara. Further this paper will also speak on the role of women self help groups as an institution in orchestrating

the process of livelihood generation through decentralized planning and a comprehensive sustainable implementation of the same.

Drawing on the authors' regular interactions and working with the bureaucracy in Purulia, the paper will also try and locate their larger role in handling the politicians and public representatives while sending so called a "decentralized" plans and proposals to the State or Central Government. Besides the paper would also examine the potentiality of the existing infrastructure and capacitated human resources to empower the citizen to use their rights, to raise their voices and make a comprehensive sustainable rural development plan by implementing it through convergence of different Government Departments.

Assessing the impact of participation of women in decentralised Watershed Programme (*Gramya*) in Uttarakhand

Aradhana Singh

The study area is in middle Himalayas, Uttarakhand. This area faces harsh climate and socio-economic backwardness, poverty, illiteracy, poor connectivity and infrastructure. There is a heavy dependence on agriculture and land holdings are small. The region is facing low agricultural productivity and absence of assured irrigation. Besides, there is an absence of industries and hence of alternative employment opportunities.

The SHGs have been formed under the community development programme of the Decentralised watershed programme called Gramya implemented by Government of Uttarakhand and World Bank. The programme implementer is Gram Panchayat as a decentralized institutional setup. The primary research objective of this study is to determine whether and to what extent participation in Self Help Groups has an impact on the empowerment of women members of SHG and also to

explore if the SHG approach has been successful in the empowerment of rural women living in highly traditional societies of the Northern Indian state of Uttarakhand.

For this study three villages were selected from two districts Dehradun and Tehri Garhwal. For the study, 6 SHGs and a total of 80 respondents were contacted and interviewed. The study looks at various dimensions of empowerment – material, cognitive, perceptual and relational. The analysis shows that access to credit can help in expansion of material base of women by enabling them to start and expand small businesses, often accompanied by market access. The women also experienced “Power within”, feelings of freedom, strength, self identity and increase in levels of confidence and self-esteem. This paper also discusses the strength and weaknesses of the microfinance sector in relation to gender equality and women’s empowerment.

Inducing Participatory Planning from the ground up: case of Mumbai

Aravind Unni & Nitin Kubal

This paper highlights a legal-statutory practice. Elaborating on our intervention at the grass root level in Mumbai that for meaningful participation, only legal provisions may not suffice, but collectivization of citizens to stake claim for their right is equally critical.

To re-invent possible participatory mechanisms in the planning processes that I employ the concept of “insurgent citizenship” and “insurgent planning” to theorize the interventions in Mumbai’s development plan revision process by YUVA’s (Youth for Unity and Voluntary Action) and HSVN’s (*Hamara Shehar Vikas Niyojan*) Mumbai DP campaign. People’s collectivization, public outreach, knowledge construction and subsequent campaign interventions in Mumbai have resulted

in the creation of ‘informal and non-statue’ participatory spaces that have altered the state and law paradigm that existed in the city planning discourse; thereby enabling a bottom up transformative and (possibly) replicable participatory process in master planning.

The paper also attempts to carry-out a cross-city comparison of different participatory spaces emerging in the making of city master plans due to independent ‘peoples’ campaigns in other cities. Finally, the attempt is to also assess, if the current informal intervention strategies and methods can be institutionalized in the form of model town planning laws over a period of time and lead to more participatory and accommodating frameworks.

Disparities among Poor - Non-Poor, Caste and Ethnic Groups, Religious Groups and Livelihood Categories

Arjun Kumar

The need for access to basic amenities—drinking water, sanitation, electricity, and drainage—to ensure a decent quality of life has been internationally and nationally recognised and acted upon in the form MDGs and various policies and programs in India. Deprivation and disparities in access to basic amenities have been highlighted in this paper using data from Census of India, 2001 and 2011 and National Sample Survey's Housing Conditions Rounds unit records data 1993 and 2008/09. Despite improvement over

time, many households in rural India still face severe deprivations of basic amenities and hence a low standard of living. Households belonging to weaker sections of society such as Poor, Wage Labourers, Scheduled Tribe and Scheduled Caste were found to be most deprived, and disparities among these groups were observed to be increasing. Findings suggest the need for immediate attention towards basic amenities within inclusive group specific provisions in rural India to raise the overall quality of life and well-being.

Tamil Nadu : An Economic Analysis of Poverty Alleviation

V. Arockia Amuthan

Government of India has framed Central level schemes such as Mahathma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, Indira Awaas Yojana, Swarna Jeyanthi Gram Swarazgar Yojana, Prathan Madhri Gram Sadak Yojana, Backward Regions Grant Fund, National Rural Health Mission, etc., and State level schemes like Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalrachi Thittam, Nammakku Naame Thittam, Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy Maternity Benefit Scheme, Various School Free Schemes, Amma Free Housing Scheme, etc., As a result, the planning exercise remains a distant goal.

Major objectives are;

- i. To evaluate the performance of poverty alleviation programme in India.
- ii. To analyse impact of poverty alleviation scheme on socio-

economic empowerment in the rural Tamil Nadu.

- iii. To examine relationship between budgetary allocation for rural development and total budgetary expenditure in state and central governments.
- iv. to case study of impact of various welfare schemes in Meignanapuram Village Panchayat in Tamil Nadu

It examines how far the programmes have helped in raising the income levels of living of the rural poor. This research work use both primary and secondary data. Primary data collected from 110 peoples in Meignanapuram village panchayat were from the survey conducted by the researcher using interview schedules relating to the socio-economic background, brief details of benefit from various government schemes and other aspects relating to implementation of welfare programmes

in rural area of Tamil Nadu. Secondary data collected from Budgetary documents, Economic Survey, Economic Appraisal of Tamil Nadu, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Reports, 12th Five Year Plan Documents and Tamil Nadu Development Report.

Youth Participation in Gramsabha - Issues, Challenges and Way forward: A study in context of Kalahandi, Odisha.

Asis Kumar Thakur & Sailendra Raj

Gram Sabha is one of the integral and central features of the 73rd Amendment and it is also seen as a means to ensure direct democracy in rural areas. The main objective of introducing Grama Sabha is to have decentralized planning and evaluation with peoples participation at the grass root level. While the hopes raised through the amendment are high, the real picture at the grass roots level is different and mixed. It has been also noted from time to time that people's participation in the Gram Sabha is not satisfactory and youth participation is not at all.

Kalahandi district comes under the most back ward region of the state of Odisha surrounding with the extreme naxal affected districts. Young people

here have less access to information and awareness on everything that affects their lives and livelihood opportunities compared to the other part of the state resulting slow growth.

Though there is an outrage for youth participation and their involvement in every stages of developmental processes; our societal norms and values, nexus between the vested interest people, absence of youth friendly atmosphere etc. keep them away from mainstreaming and active participation.

The paper makes an attempt to evaluate various angels of youth participation in Gram sabha, issues and challenges and tries to offer suggestive measures towards strengthening Gram sabha ensuring active youth participation.

Relevance of Gandhian Thought on Swaraj, Rural Development and Social Inclusion

Bibekananda Nayak

The Gandhian philosophical thoughts for rural development was to make every village a republic, complete by it and yet maintaining neighborly relations with adjoining villages. This holistic view of development covers all aspects of development plans. His vision of Gram swaraj is embedded in the directive principles, five year plans and social justice .

The objective of gandhian 'good governance' is to focus on bringing about a more equitable distribution of income and wealth for promoting social justice and efficiency of production and decision-making at different levels.

The goal of community development programme was to bring about development by introducing changes in the social, economic, political and psychological structure of the rural masses and make them to participate in the community development programme with a notion of

community by themselves. The approach of community development was characterized as programme of 'aided self-help'.

The social inclusion could be possible through practicing the fundamental duties, rights and legislative energetic, social management, political campaigning, judicial enforcement and administrative techniques. The Social transformation of the caste based society could be possible through the destruction of social evils ,cattiest mind set and planned struggles, carried on with legal discipline and spiritual sagacity, fighting for a fresh order of hope, a new system of values, innovative ideas, Human dignity, equality and liberty. The planned processes of State and societal action must be framed on humanistic approach. He presented the Directive Principles as giving us the substance of a socialistic State.

Gandhi's Gram Swaraj : The Blue Print for a Humanistic Social Order

Prof. Chandrakala Padia

Gandhi is being remembered throughout the world as an apostle of peace and non violence. He is being celebrated for his techniques of *Satyagraha* and other forms of non violent resistance. Yet little work has been done to evaluate his concept of Gram Swaraj and its relevance for developing nations. The dominant models of the development coming from the West have resulted in marginalization of the already marginalized, exclusion of the already excluded, and dehumanization of the already dehumanized.

It was Gandhi, who provided us with a unique model of Gram Swaraj, which aims at bringing self-reliant, need oriented, and environmentally sound economy; and also at the fullest realization of human potential. This model of Gram Swaraj is based on his critique of three-pronged malaise of modern day economy :

- a) Replacement of traditional labour-intensive activities by modern capital-intensive activities;
- b) Replacement of the limited exchange systems of traditional village clusters by widespread market exchange systems of the capitalist type;
- c) The replacement of the dispersed rural habitation pattern by concentrated urban patterns of concentrated living.

Gandhi was of the firm opinion that the above three malaise have led to various forms of dislocation, displacement and misery. He insisted that neither modernisation nor urbanisation, nor the extension of capitalistic modes of production contribute in any way to the welfare of people. We must revitalize the labour-intensive occupations of the traditional sectors. An inclusive society calls for a decentralized economy based on three basic principals : (a) a need-

based living, rather than a living of unlimited affluence; (b) a life devoted to resource saving and controlled consumption rather than indiscriminate exploitation of resources; (c) a commitment to nurture and protect

nature rather than an attitude to exploit nature.

Against this background, the present paper aims at analyzing Gandhi's concept of Gram Swaraj and its relevance in the contemporary times.

Climate Change, Emerging Ground Water Market and Challenges of Small and Marginal Farmers : Observations from Tamil Nadu

Dr. R. Rajendran & K. Chitra Vel Sankari

Groundwater accounts for more than 60 per cent of the total agricultural water use and more than 80 per cent of drinking water requirements of the world. Ground water plays important role in the society, because it is used as alternative and supplementary for ever slackening and uncertain surface water. At the same time climatic change has tremendous impact on groundwater resources and consequently on agriculture and also drinking water uses (TNAU, 2013).

As a result of climatic change, many areas are facing severe surface water uncertainties. Thus farmers heavily depend on ground water resources for their crop needs as a coping strategy. In the developing countries, possession of various production resources by the farming community is not uniform. It varies widely among different farm size groups. Water is an important and basic

input next to the land. Ground water access and utilization is also not uniform among the farm groups. This is common and serious problem in India.

The study tries to investigate nature of water market, difficulties of small and marginal farmers in participating and accessing ground water market, provide suggestions to regulate exploitative ground water market.

The study was conducted in the select villages of *Cauvery* delta, which spreads in the three districts viz. *Thanjavur*, *Nagapattinam* and *Thiruvarur*. Specific objectives of the study are: to understand the water utilization pattern among farm groups; to examine changes in the ground water extraction in the study villages during the last two decades; to analyse how the pattern of ground water extraction differs among social and land-size groups in the region; examine the nature and extent

of water market; and to provide suggestions for regulation of water market.

Study has used both primary and secondary data. Primary data collected among 448 farm households, which are through multi-stage random sampling method. Secondary data are collected

from the sources like Departments of Public Works, Meteorology, Agriculture and Economics and Statistics. Results of the study may be helpful in regulating the ground water market as well as regulating ground water status of the region and similar to that. And also helps to protect the interest of farmers of marginalized groups.

People's Participation in Grass-Root Level Projects : A Critical View of Current Theory and Practice

Dr. Dasarathi Bhuiyan

The paper attempts to address two research questions,— ‘To what extent the local people are involved in the decision making process for poverty eradication through development projects?’ and ‘What are the factors/barriers that influence on and/ affect the participatory process in development projects?’

It was realized that an active involvement of the communities in the developmental process would certainly have positive results. *First*, A sense of participation would make people aware of their rights.

Secondly, the centrally controlled national planning has been unable to provide for equitable distribution of the benefits of economic growth among regions and groups within developing countries.

Thirdly, when there is closer contact between government officials and the

local population, better information can be obtained. And with better information, more realistic and effective plans for projects and programmes can be formulated.

Fourthly, the PRIs are well-organised local institutions located close to the people. It can be said that the nearer the organisation is to the people, the more is the effectiveness of the organisation to tackle the problems.

Both primary and secondary data has been used for analysis.

It is observed that maximum progress depends on maximum participation, a situation in which all members of the society have a stake in that progress and contribute to it. This participation has to be achieved by devising suitable structures, encouraging new leadership and politicisation of the mask.

Political affiliation and participation: An analysis in the Context of Rural West Bengal

Dr. Debabrata Samanta

The process of participatory development is regarded as a complementary development approach worldwide. It is argued that through participatory process of development, people take active and influential part in shaping decisions that affect their lives and through this process stakeholders influence and share control over development initiatives, and the decisions and resources affecting them.

On this backdrop, the study tries to raise a pertinent question regarding the effectiveness of this approach of the participatory development by citing that the process of participatory development gets diluted due to capture of the participatory spaces by social and political elites.

Through a household level survey in East Midnapore district of West Bengal, the study identifies two distinct participatory decision-making spaces namely 'invited space' and 'popular space' and examines the characteristics of the households participating in these spaces.

The study ascertains that political affiliation plays a significant role in household participation especially in those spaces where participation is restricted by membership or nomination. This gives an indication that certain democratic spaces are captured by political elites, raise possibilities of preventing free and fair decision-making in the distribution of resources in rural areas.

Paradigm Changes in Capacity Building : A study of Hooghly District; West Bengal

Debakanya Samanta

West Bengal has adopted decentralized governance system before independence.

With the adoption of three tier system the ambit of rural self governance system got a dynamic implication. Capacity building of functionaries related to decentralized governance is critical for effective functioning and improved service delivery. Capacity building process involves capacity transfer from central to the local level is key to the success of decentralized governance.

In last few years there is a paradigm shift in the capacity building approach of functionaries of rural local governance in West Bengal.

The present paper critically analyses the new approach of capacity building familiar as mobile training. The present paper argued for this new approach to bridge the gap in capacity building. Through the data, collected from district level the present study explores the process of mobile training in the context of Hooghly district and found it in a short span of time this alternative approach has emerged as support system for Gram Panchayats as well as has been able to bring more uncovered and hard to cover functionaries of Gram Panchayats under the umbrella of capacity building to enhance their performances.

Post-independence Good Governance in India: A Case Study of Women in PRIs in Jharkhand

Dipti Paridhi Kindo

Mahatma Gandhi promoted the concept of 'Welfare State' which was relying upon the basic ideology of good governance, which meant a state where the requirements of down-trodden and welfare of a common man through indigenous industries would become a characteristic feature. During the past six decades, India has quite evidently worked towards establishing good governance and aims at expansion of social and economic opportunities, removal of poverty and efficient delivery of services at grassroots.

In this study, the researcher will attempt to critically examine the implementation stages of Good Governance in India which took place after independence. It will also analyze the obstacles coming for the enhanced implementation of Good-governance.

The paper would also present a case study of functioning of PRI system in

Jharkhand where the first-ever three-tier Panchayat elections held in the midst of remarkable enthusiasm and participation of the grassroots with fifty per cent of the seats reserved for women and elections witnessed 58 per cent seats won by women but they are unable to perform their duties and utilize their powers.

The PRA technique will be used for conducting the study with the major stakeholders by FGDs and case study in the sample area of Jharkhand.

In most of the flagship schemes, Gram Sabha plays an important role for its implementation. Gram Sabha is one of the accountability of Gram Panchayat as well which facilitate these schemes to work in **Bottom-up approach** by empowering the rural people. Most of the Panchayat members are unaware about their rights so they neither identify any discrimination or

erroneous actions against them nor they can raise their voice.

Hence, the study will reveal the major challenges which are hampering the

process of implementation of Good Governance and further recommendations will be given for increasing efficiency.

Poverty alleviation through Antyodaya Anna Yojana : A Critique

Bharati Patil

Poverty eradication is the biggest challenge in India. Since independence various committees were constituted to measure poverty. Similarly efforts were made to alleviate poverty. Among these the Anthyodaya Anna Yojana is the most important scheme. The Scheme is based on Mahatma Gandhi's concept of 'Antyodaya', the concept which he evolved, influenced by John Ruskin's book unto this last.

Since this particular scheme has almost completed 14 years, the researchers has analyzed the scheme on three grounds; 1) To what extend the scheme was successfully implemented? 2) Has this scheme succeeded in eradicating poverty? 3) Is this scheme really based on Gandhian philosophy.

An empirical research has been conducted, by the research to answer

the first two queries & an analysis of the scheme is made by the researcher to assess the scheme on the ground of Gandhian Philosophy.

We have chosen Sangli district of Maharashtra to conduct empirical research. Sangli district has varied types of talukas; some are very prosperous, while some are drought prone. An in depth study is made by the researcher of the scheme as implemented in these different types of talukas. With the help of interviews & questionnaires the researcher has tried to collected the data from the shopkeepers, officers & the beneficiaries. On the basis of analysis of data the researcher has tried to analyze first two questions. In order to analyze the third question the researcher has used the framework of Gandhian Economy as against the capitalist economy.

Knowledge and Adoption of Health and Nutritional Practices by Rural Women

Dr.Huchhe Gowda

There is a significant relationship between housing conditions and health. An adequate and safe water supply, disposal of excreta and solid wastes drainage of surface water, facilities for personal and domestic hygiene and sanitary food preparation, control of indoor air pollution, safe handling of things and suitable precautions where the home serves as a work place.

Proper medical services at proper time are also needed to maintain health. Moreover, the health problems are rampant in rural areas, not merely because of lack of medical facilities but because of general poverty, lack of balanced and nutritious diet to large proportion of rural population and moreover lack of knowledge with regard to health and hygiene. The advances in medical sciences have the treatment of many diseases (like six killer diseases) possible and simple. And

yet the benefits of modern medicines have not reached the vast majority of people in poverty groups and rural areas, especially women. But it is the women who are the prime producers of the necessities of the life, women on whom the society depends so heavily for economic support and family health care.

Present study was conducted in Belgaum district of Karnataka state. The district and taluks were purposively selected because they were having highest number of Primary Health Centers (P.H.C). Since the study was related to health and nutritional practices, villages having Primary Health Centers (P.H.C) were considered for the study. Majority (49.34%) of the respondents had medium level of knowledge. Whereas, 19.33 percent and 31.33 percent of the respondents had low and high level of knowledge,

respectively about health and nutritional practices. Majority (63.37%) had partially adopted the health and nutritional practices, whereas, 36.63% of the respondents were fully adopted the health and nutritional practices. This might be due to a lesser amount of social participation, less exposure to mass media, less participation in extension activities. Knowledge and Adoption showed a significant relationship with education, caste, land holding, yearly income, and sources of information, social participation and extension participation had positive and significant relationship with the knowledge level of the rural women about health and nutritional practice. Therefore, health of the community needs higher attention while considering the development of a region or a country.

Decentralised Governance and Devolution of Funds - An Analysis of Two States

*Dr. M.Gopinath Reddy &
Bishnu Prasad Mohapatra*

State level experiences show that power devolution agenda has not taken up sincerely in different states which includes the agenda of fiscal devolution and tax decentralisation. The institutionalisation of the State Finance Commissions (SFCs) and recommendations of the SFCs are not taken up seriously which has also affected the fiscal devolution agenda. However, the trends in devolution of funds, functions and functionaries have provided some positive results despite huge mismatches among the different indicators of devolution.

Based on the above mentioned assumptions, the present paper critically reviews the status of fiscal devolution to the PRIs in the State of Andhra Pradesh and Odisha. The research paper has tried to focus on the four broad aspects of Decentralised Governance and Fiscal Devolution such

as (i) Evolution of Local Governments and Devolution of powers in Andhra Pradesh and Odisha, (ii) Panchayats and status of Fiscal Devolutions in the two states, (iii) Process of allocation of the funds under the CSP particularly under the flagship programmes to the Panchayats, (iv) Current Trends and Patterns of Fiscal Devolutions in the context of the recommendations of the State Finance Commissions, and (v) Issues, Challenges and Policy Prescriptions.

Based on the secondary data and field experiences, the paper has tried to understand the evolution of fiscal decentralisation in both the states since the post-73rd Constitutional Amendment Act period to the current era of devolution. Particularly, in the context of the enactment of 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act (CAA) in 1992 and institutionalisation of the

State Finance Commissions, both the States have taken the fiscal devolution agenda seriously. However, in the case of Andhra Pradesh, tax decentralisation and own revenue of PRIs is seems to be in improved stage in comparison with Odisha.

The paper concludes that “both the states need to strengthen the own revenue of Panchayats based on the recommendations of the Finance Commissions of the respective State”. Devolution of funds to the Panchayats from the State Plan fund should be realistic in nature.

Service Delivery- Performance Measurement of Basic Civic Services of Municipal Council Hoshiarpur, Punjab

Hardeep Singh

Urban local bodies/municipalities play an important role in the planning and development of urban areas. An indepth research on the performance of Municipal bodies with regard to the provision of basic services and citizen's satisfaction likely to reveal fresh insights. Performance measurement is the process by which businesses, governments and other organizations establish criteria for determining the quality, efficiency and effectiveness of their activities, based on organizational goals. Performance measurement is very significant in measuring the performance of government at every level, more importantly at the local level as it significantly contributes in better decision making, upholding accountability and responsibility.

The scenario of increasing urbanization and the failure of urban bodies to keep pace with the administration of the present day urban areas make the study significant. There are number of reasons for this gap between service requirements in urban areas and delivery of services. These need to be studied as also the need to study performance of urban local bodies. The study is in the context that urban governance has to be reviewed and understood in terms of satisfaction of the citizens and the financial and other constraints faced by the urban local bodies to enable it to meet the emerging challenges of urbanization.

A Study of State Level Tax Reforms in Uttar Pradesh; Since 1991

Harinam Singh

India has a tax structure with a three-tier federal structure. The taxes are levied by all the three tiers of the Government of India which are Central taxes or Union Government taxes, State taxes or State Government taxes, and Local taxes or Urban/ Rural local bodies' taxes.

Uttar Pradesh is the most populated state of India, which is having 16% of country's population and is a poor and backward state of India. The outstanding feature of UP's finances was the mounting fiscal imbalance at the beginning of the decade of nineties. In 1990-91, the revenue deficit was about 2% of the Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) which, after improving to 1.00% of GSDP in 1991-92, went on worsening unabatedly and

peaked to 5.31% in 1998-99. Further, the share of revenue deficit in fiscal deficit, which is indicative of the quality of fiscal deficit, had also sharply deteriorated. In 1990-91, 40% of fiscal deficit was claimed by revenue deficit.

Based on the secondary data, this study highlights the trends in state's own tax revenue as percent of SDP and the trends in state's share in central tax devolution. This paper also reveals the degree of tax buoyancy, elasticity and the economic effects of the growth of the state's economy on own tax revenues of the government of Uttar Pradesh. This paper finds out the potential of various state taxes in the changed scenario under the influence of economic reforms. This study will help in tax policy framing for future.

Decentralised Governance and Rethinking Gandhian Peace: Women as Change Agents

Dr. Ivy Dhar

India has modelled its decentralised governance on the method of inclusiveness yet national and local life remains segmented along class, caste, and religious lines, fractured by economic perils and suffers the bruises of deep-seated patriarchal norms to the extent that it has often uprooted harmony. In the recent years and historically, conflict and violence has shown many faces and we still have no redeeming solution for its victims, mostly women, whose living may get reduced to ashes, face humiliation and mistrust, displacing their livelihood, losing land and produce, assets, dignity, rights and family.

This paper aims to reflect on the co-existence of India's thriving notion of decentralized governance along with its disempowered self to tackle conflict in society spaces. Arguing that democracy and peace are the central threads that

can anchor governance, it narrows down to untwine the complexities of such principles in society riddled with conflict. It shall make a theoretical investigation of Gandhian idea of peace from the perspective of local self-governance, which still remains understudied. Gandhi recognized largely as international icon of peace and national integration but his most avid contribution has been towards working peace from below.

This paper studies gender and peace through the engagement of grassroots efforts; shall focus on existing narratives of women peace corps, their approaches to participatory governance and analyse the implications and efficacy of such action group. It shall rely on secondary sources taking the route of theory to practice by understanding peace and governance at broader level to discussing interventions by reading

texts of Mahila Shanti Sena. We can extrapolate while critically looking at modern liberal ideas of peace that it can probably reduce violence as quickly as possible but cannot promote broad social, political and moral change, a type of interventions that can rest on Gandhian thoughts.

Rethinking on Gandhian ideas, peace cannot be achieved through short-term amelioration rather it has to be synonymous with social change and grassroots movement centering around women and aiming transformations that challenges, both, direct and structural violence.

Good Governance through Democratic Decentralisation: A Case Study of Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project, Fatehgarh Sahib, Punjab

Dr. Jaswinder Kaur & Namit Kumar

Access to safe water and sanitation services is fundamental for life, health, empowerment and prosperity. Both are essential to adequate standard of living and fulfillment of right to health, and many other rights. Sanitation is furthermore intrinsic to human dignity. Though the national figures are impressive, still the country has a long way to go.

Punjab government has taken the path of democratic decentralisation to provide citizens minimum basic services. The State Government initiated Punjab Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project to cover all villages with 100 percent water supply with higher service standards. Village Manhera Jattan, District Fatehgarh Sahib has become a symbol of progress due to its round the clock metered water supply.

Objective of the paper include,

- to analyse the working of this project and find out its implications.
- to understand the functioning of grassroots level institution for making the project a success.
- to assess the mechanism used in providing transparency and peoples participation in project implementation.

The proposed research work is largely qualitative in nature. A case study of village Manhera Jattan in district Fatehgarh Sahib, Punjab was chosen as it was awarded with first District Level award (2011-12) for being a best performing Gram Panchayat Water and Sanitation Committee in the district by the Government of Punjab.

Both primary and secondary data will be used. The secondary data will be collected from various newspapers,

academic journals, related books, newsletter of the concerned department and internet. For primary data, interviews will be conducted for state and local level officials. A household level

survey of the beneficiaries including 100 households among which five are elected members (Panchayat). The data thus collected will be analysed and presented in different sections.

Fiscal Decentralisation to PRIs: Some Issues before 14th Finance Commission

Jawed Alam Khan

The major objective of the paper is look at the state of fiscal decentralization to PRIs and their capacities in terms of planning, public budgeting, revenue mobilization and implementations of development programmes. The paper tries to seek the attention of 14th Finance Commission to play a major role in strengthening the capacity of services delivery by augmenting the financial resources of PRIs.

For the completion of the paper, data and information were collected from both primary and secondary sources. The paper broadly tries to assess the devolution of finances to PRIs, the role Central Finance Commissions (CFCs) and State Finance Commissions (SFCs) in terms of augmenting the finances of PRIs and reform measures in the 13th Finance Commission for PRIs. It has also captured the key issues and demand to be put before the 14th FC

with regard to augmenting the finances of PRIs.

From the analysis it is found that the control over expenditure and resource raising capacity is essential for the PRIs to be a successful local self-government institution which has not happened so far due to poor implementation of the 73rd AA. Thus, the paper broadly concludes that there is a need for restructuring the fiscal assignment to PRIs in a more equitable and efficient manner to achieve socially inclusive development of rural areas.

It would be significant if the 14th FC could focus on improving functioning of the PRIs in terms of enhanced capacity for better service delivery and executing the plans for economic development and social justice. It is suggested that PRIs should be given adequate funds to meet out expenses of staff, infrastructure facilities at all three

tiers in terms of office infrastructure (Panchayat Bhawan, furniture, computers, and electricity) and transportation facility. The elected representatives of PRIs are being paid a meager amount in terms of TA/DA/honorarium.

At present, the CFC grant is being provided to local bodies only for operation and maintenance of water and sanitation, not for education and health. There is a restriction on PRIs by the States that the grant should not be

applied to establishment cost. It is suggested that the restrictions on the use of the Finance Commission grant by the rural local bodies should be relaxed, enabling the PRIs to hire the required core staff for improving the service delivery, accounts and data bank. In sum, given the persistence of deep-rooted problems in the domain of fund devolution and staff shortage at the lower levels, especially in the rural local bodies, in most States is a specific challenge for the 14th FC that needs urgent attention.

Aged Tribal Women and Health – A Case of Gujarat

Prof. J.C.Patel

Gujarat is multi-cultural, social and linguistic state. The tribal habitat in Gujarat covers 12 districts and there are 28 tribal groups. Namely Bhil, Talavia, Chaudhari, Dhodia, Gamit, Kunkana, Nayka, Kolgha, Varli etc. The district of Surat and Dahod have the maximum number of tribal population.

The percentage of scheduled tribe households having available toilet facility in Gujarat is only 10.66% so women are suffering due to lack of toilet facilities.

Health is both an important factor in the achievement of status as well as an indicator of social status, particularly for women, whose health is conditioned to a great extent by social attitudes. The health status of women includes their mental and social condition as affected by prevailing norms and attitudes of society in addition to their biological

and physiological problems. Societies delineate women's roles partly according to their biological function and partly from prevailing attitudes regarding their physical attitudes regarding their physical and mental capacity.

Observations of the study include,

1. The percentage of males getting medical treatment are higher than females.
2. The cultural that particularly affect women's health are the attitudes of marriage, age of marriage, the value attached to fertility etc.
3. More than 60% of persons started that in their families males eat first due to poverty.
4. Iron deficiency is found during pregnancy.

5. Frequency of pregnancies causes protein malnutrition of the mothers
 6. 30 percent women are found by disease of anemia.
 7. There are not enough medical facilities available in this area e.g. Primary Health care center, hospital etc.
 8. Among them found some disease like Leprosy, Paralysis, tuberculosis, malaria, skin disease, worms, malnutrition, night blindness scabies etc. due to bad water and imbalanced diet.
- Health is the basic need of human life so it should be improved in this region.

Gender Disparity in Rural Society: A Sociological Study in Puggu Village Gumla, Jharkhand

Jisu Ketan Pattanaik

Gender disparity is, in fact, not one affliction but a multitude of problems. All too often, women and girls are discriminated against in health, education and jobs with a range of detrimental repercussions for their freedom.

Against this background, the present study is designed to discuss following objectives:

- a) Explore gender disparity in terms of preference of male child in the family,
- b) Find out extent of women's participation in household decision making process,
- c) Examine gender disparity in the field of education and
- d) Identify causes of low participation of women in local governance process in the village.

An empirical study was conducted in remote rural-tribal village of Puggu

Village in Gumla district of Jharkhand and women constitute the universe of the study. The study adopted stratified random sampling method and based on exploratory and descriptive research design. Both quantitative and qualitative research tools were used for obtaining information's from rural women on various dimensions of gender disparity and women empowerment.

The findings of the study reveal that around 65% of the respondents have their first issue as a girl child but they continued to have babies until they have a son. Hence, there is a strong inclination towards son preference in the rural society and male members in the family consider being an asset than females. It was found in the study that gender discrimination in education has an impact not only on the women who are denied education by limiting their options, but also on future generations of their daughters.

Swaraj in Exile : An Experiment in 'Community Governance' in the Tibetan Settlements in Bailakuppe, Karnataka

Joanna P. Coelho

This paper attempts to elucidate how Mahatma Gandhi's ideas on gram swaraj has been the basis around which Tibetan refugees in India have organised themselves. The arrival of thousands of Tibetan refugees in India began with the escape of the XIV Dalai Lama, Tenzin Gyatso to India in March 1959.

Modelled along Gandhiji's views on gram swaraj, these settlements were self-sufficient with schools, monasteries and livelihood avenues for the Tibetan refugees. The aim behind relocating the refugees into these exclusive settlements was a prevention of assimilation to the country of refuge and a preservation of their Tibetan identity and culture, so that not only the current generation, but also the succeeding generations would be prepared to take on the responsibility for the Tibetan struggle.

The paper, focusses on one of the oldest Tibetan settlements in India, located at

Bailakuppe in Karnataka. The paper tries to address the following objectives:

1. To understand the community's efforts at practising direct democracy in exile
2. To delineate the various organisations that help the settlements in sustaining gram swaraj.

An exhaustive fieldwork in the two settlements in Bailakuppe. We have also conducted in depth interviews with members of various organisations in order to understand how the principles of gram swaraj are replicated in the refugee settlements.

The Tibetan cause has always been deeply influenced by Mahatma Gandhi. While the non-violent aspect of the struggle is the more visible aspect of its Gandhian connection, this paper tries to show that Gandhiji's inspiration permeates the very fabric of Tibetan life

in exile- the governance and sustenance of its refugee settlements. It is not only the Mahatma's ideas on Satyagraha that have become the guiding principle of the Tibetan movement, his concept of gram swaraj is the bedrock on which the Tibetan community in exile has organised itself.

Relative Deprivation and Social Welfare measures

P D Joshi

This paper identifies the statistical dimension of factors responsible for rising relative deprivation at the state and all India level separately for rural and urban sectors by decomposing the changes in relative deprivation in to growth and distribution components employing an analytical model of Sen and Pal (2013) to profound policy implications. Data used in this paper are from Survey reports on Consumption

expenditure for the years 2004-05, 2009-10 and 2011-12 released by National Sample Survey Office, Government of India. As poverty indices are partial and provide sense of negative welfare, social welfare measures in quantitative terms advocated by Sen (1973), Kakwani (1980, 81), Chaube (2005) and their elasticities have been computed for Sectoral, Spatial and Inter temporal Analysis.

Does Fiscal Decentralization Result in Faster Local Economic Development?

Julie Tripathy & Damodar Tripathy

Economic policy papers usually show a very rosy picture about the positive direction of change in local economic development through fiscal decentralisation. Basing upon the theory, there has been a spate of changes in administrative and budgetary setup in India specifically in the area of decentralized planning starting from Panchayat and being consolidated at district level.

Within the Indian planning system, instructions, guidelines, and manuals coming from the Planning Commission and the line ministries of the central government to the state planning organisations (departments, planning boards and state planning commissions), the interaction of the TSA and the decentralized planning structure at district level is one of the key elements of preparation of a realistic plan.

The objectives of this paper are:

- i) To understand the link between fiscal decentralization and local economic development and the manner in which both interact to the development process under decentralized district plan.
- ii) To critically examine the planning process and the results and
- iii) Identify process constraints that may lead to sub-optimal solutions while mapping performance and make doable recommendations.

Secondary data from planning process available in the District Plans for Ganjam, Sambalpur and Deogarh of Odisha state including the Perspective Plans that the authors helped the district administration as Technical Support Institutions (TSA) to prepare and primary data subsequently collected by authors from these districts for other development studies along with state level information forms the base.

Gandian Views on Swaraj : Way for Inclusion in the State of Administration

Kaprey Yadagiri.

Good governance is the foundation of participatory development. Social inclusion, through Panchayati Raj Institutions, Local Urban Bodies, labor centric decentralized participatory planning, compulsory education laws, work site facilities, employment generation for poor.

Objectives of the study are,

1. How the Gandhian principles are much relevance in the era of information technology to deliver better governance?
2. What are the Perceptions of Gandhi on major roles of an individual citizen and state for making fruitful governance in the state of administration?

The major contribution of this study will be to integrate the Gandhian principles relevance, affection on the present context of good governance. And its main aims to understand the Gandhi philosophy on state of

administration for the development of people.

Governance means the process by which decisions are implemented (or not implemented). Good governance ensures that political, social and economic priorities are based on broad consensus in society and the voices of the poorest and the most vulnerable are heard in decision making over the allocation of development resources.

The institutions designed for its implementation that is, the Legislature, the Executive and the Judiciary must demonstrate their Integration and work towards bridging the gap between the two. The quality of democracy along with commitment and caliber of public servants both in executive and judiciary would determine the outcome of country's performance in all key areas with strong nature commitment and openness With carrying great noble cherish ideas of Gandhi.

Dropout Problem Among Tribal Girl Students - A Case Study

Dr. Krishna Chandra Pradhan

The tribals are the indigenous people of India who are generally called 'Adivasis' which literally means original settlers. Under the Constitution of India certain tribes have been specified as Scheduled Tribes (ST) and they are given special treatment or facilities or privileges envisaged under the Constitution. Scheduled Tribes form one of the most backward sections of our country. Though there has been a gradual increase in their literacy rates since independence, the present position is far from satisfactory. (Mohanty, P.K.2003)

Education is one of the important agents of social change. Most of the tribal communities are educationally very backward. Success of a nation is determined by the quality of its citizens. Nation is not built by bricks and

mortars but by the quality of men. It does not require any evidence to say that society and its development of are positively correlated to the development of education. Education plays prime role in economic and social development. It is crucial for building human capability and for opening opportunities. The most significant factor that determines the quality of people is Education. Unfortunately a large bulk of Indian population is still semiliterate or illiterate. Various researchers have established the fact that a major part of this semi-literate or illiterate population is formed by the drop-outs. In this backdrop the present paper is a humble attempt to study the factors responsible for the massive dropout and to offer possible remedial measures to overcome the problem.

Impact of People's Participation in the Participatory Planning Process in West Bengal

Kunal Bandyopadhyay

The major objectives of this paper is to find out

- Whether effective people's participation can bring about changes in the decentralised planning process in Gram Panchayats.
- How far people's participation is essential in the local decision making in a state like West Bengal

West Bengal has a long tradition of implementing decentralised planning process through three tier PRIs. Since last two decades, it has taken a different dimension altogether. There was a growing realisation in the Government that for Panchayats to emerge as units of local self government, there would have to be more devolution of fund, functions and functionaries with improvement in their own resources and building up of their capacities.

For the purpose of this study GPs were selected from 2 districts purposively. The GPs were selected on the basis of relative backwardness and other necessary socio-economic indicators. GPs were selected where SRD and ISGP projects were implemented consecutively and also where it was not implemented simultaneously. Elected Representatives, common villagers were selected as respondents randomly. Around 40 Gram Sansads were visited for this purpose. For the collection of data structured questionnaire was used as tools. Personal interview for in-depth qualitative data, FGD and case studies were also used.

The present study examined how far these steps were successful in creating meaningful participation in decision making at the local level. The findings shows that the role of citizens in the development projects is limited.

Nevertheless, the study argues that citizen involvement has a number of positive effects on governance; not only do people consequently feel more responsible for public matters; it increases public engagement, encourages people to listen to a diversity of opinions, and contributes to a higher degree of legitimacy of decisions. One negative effect is that not all relevant groups and interests are represented.

Youth Participation in Community Governance : A Study of Vidisha Madhya Pradesh

Manmohan Singh Thakur

Given the youth comprises half of the total population of India, it is critical that youth are represented & can participate in politics at all levels. Youth participation and engagement on issues related to politics, democracy, accountability and governance will help create an able generation of future leaders of the country. As the number of government schemes and direct payouts to beneficiaries increase, it is important to ensure that the citizenry is active and engaged in order to prevent leakages.

Furthermore, existing programmes such as those run by MoPR are focused on youth who are already elected

leaders or in some way associated with politics, rather than on bringing more youth into political systems. Civil society groups are working hard, often through partnerships with government, to bridge these gaps. However, without a coordinated push and clear youth focus, these programmes are unlikely to be sufficient to help bring youth into the folds of politics and promote civic engagement at all levels of governance. The study was conducted in Vidisha District of Madhya Pradesh, with the objective to learn and analyze youth participation in local governance at various levels and suggest for better improvement.

Housing to the Poor in Srinagar: Emerging Issues and Alternatives

Manoj Kumar Teotia

The major objective of the paper is to look in the issues and alternatives in urban poverty alleviation through housing to the urban poor in Srinagar. The paper is an effort to analyse the implementation of urban poverty alleviation through housing the urban poor.

The paper relies on secondary data as well primary data collected to know the perception of the people.

The deteriorating housing and urban infrastructure seems to be largely due to inadequate public sector investment, unabated migration and disturbed law & order. There has been a quantum increase in the housing stock but housing situation continuous to be poor. The problem of housing is very critical for urban poor and majority of slum dwellers. In Srinagar City about 40% of the population lives in slums and

colonies (SCDP 2006), out of which 19% constitute the people living below poverty line. The problem seems to have continued despite some local initiatives under BSUP, JNNURM. The projects under BSUP in Srinagar for housing to the urban poor have been delayed in-ordinarily. All the projects have been revised and there has been cost over runs as also highlighted by the Third Party Monitoring Agency. The visits to three BSUP sites show that housing project at Sumar Bugh is most critical case in terms of poor site, distant location, exclusion of the poor from mainstream and putting people in an area with environmentally sensitive area where there are many brick kilns and stone crushers. The health and education facilities are absent. There is no water. The displacement has also affected employment scenario of the people. The Sumar Bugh project is the

live example of social and economic exclusion of the urban poor from mainstream urban settlements.

Urban poverty alleviation in Srinagar seems to be ineffective particularly through housing and basic services under JNNURM. The location of housing projects should be within the city limits and close to the old

habitations and work places of the poor slum dwellers. The poor need to be integrated in the society and not segregated further. There is need to rethink the implementing of housing programmes for the urban poor as the same do not seem to make dent in the multidimensional problem of urban poverty.

Shrinking Spaces – Housing the Urban Poor in a Global City

Marina Joseph & Mohan Chavan

In a city where nearly sixty percent of the population live in slums which are on nine percent of the land - laws, polices, schemes and projects ought to accommodate them. Yet, slum evictions and displacement seems to be the most rampant method of dealing with the housing challenge. This paper traces this shift through housing schemes and policies and ensuing development projects in the light of a clear attempt to gentrify and ghettoize the city.

Through case studies and analysis of housing schemes this paper aims to i) analyze 'participation' and 'decentralization' within housing schemes and policies ii) provide an overview of the socio-economic effects of mass re-housing iii) put forth the housing challenge in the context of current socio political changes.

In Mumbai, varied projects and schemes bring within them different

cut off dates (markers of legality) – single communities are often affected under various projects thus dividing communities in their struggle. In the case of resettlement, single communities are relocated to various far flung locations. This paper argues that decentralization-participation-privatization implemented by the State-NGO-CBO-builder nexus does not contribute to poverty reduction and has far reaching socio economic and political implications. Given the current political climate, it also assesses what lies ahead in terms of housing of the urban poor in a global city like Mumbai. This paper discusses the need for a comprehensive housing policy and inclusive urban planning that addresses improvement in human development indicators, poverty alleviation and security of tenure through landownership.

Onus of PRIs in Addressing the Crises of Environmental Sanitation and Public Health

Mohamed Rafeek KP

The paper aims to delineate the magnitude of lack of environmental sanitation and public health care in India in comparison with other nations and to depict the role panchayati raj institutions (PRIs) in maintaining the well being of rural society; with pointing out to the significance of Gandhian dream of Gram Swaraj and decentralization.

Using qualitative method of research this paper provides an idea about the predominant role that the PRIs have to play in upbringing a better society. The study also adopts tables, charts and diagrams to analyze the data adequately. It is pertinent that if the programmes for rural sanitation and health care are with the panchayats there would be transparency coupled with accessibility, approach, overseeing and administering facilities so essential for a minimum need to be effectively tackled at local

levels in a user-friendly culture. It is exactly for this reason that the eleventh schedule so elaborately assigns Health and Sanitation to the panchayats. A major change in the governance structure that is 'democratic decentralization' since the enactment of the 73rd Amendment to the Constitution can transform the rural life.

Mahathma Gandhi had a dream of clean India. Once He said, "I want a clean India first, Independence later". Sanitation in India is not only cleanliness; it will also put an end to the humiliation and miseries of scavengers who carry human excreta on the head. The paper also introduces some innovative methods of better sanitation with an optimistic conclusion that the 73rd amendment has tremendous potential in transforming the rural scene to meet people's aspirations and needs adequately.

The Unfinished Agenda of Gandhi's Grama Swaraj - Present Status in Karnataka

Dr. Mohan Das. K

This paper would like to analyse Gandhi's concept of Gram Swaraj, unsatisfactory working of Panchayati Raj system and factors responsible for it with a special reference to present status of Panchayati Raj in Karnataka with selected few backward taluks which have not performed the objectives of the gram Swaraj and decentralisation.

Objectives:

1. To identify the Gandhian principles in the Grama Sabhas in Karnataka.
2. To analyse the present status of Panchayath Raj Institutions and the process of decentralisation in Karnataka.

The methodology adopted in this paper is normative, and studies made on the Gandhian literature and Gandhian perspective of gram panchayats in other

states of India and policies made on these issues were studied. Current issues on Sarvodaya approach were analysed.

Karnataka is now mid-way through what may be considered third generation reforms in decentralization. The theme now in the state is greater accountability, greater transparency and role clarity. The clear emphasis is on good governance and accountability through decentralization. Several steps, both through legislative and administrative action, have been taken by the State Government in this direction, from building mechanisms for increased participation of the people in decision making, in streamlining the fiscal mechanisms that fuel decentralized local body functioning and administrative mechanisms that enhance the efficiency and capabilities of Panchayat Raj Institutions.

The present system of Panchayat Raj has almost completed 18 years and completion of its third term. With this background this paper aims at the objectives of Gram Swaraj mission and analyses the present status of panchayats in "Most Backward Talukas" of Karnataka. The implementation of Gram Swaraj Project in Karnataka State started from the year 2006-07 which was based on Prof. Nanjundappa committee to address the issues of regional imbalances. Since the submission of this report the government has not taken any significant reforms and changes to be brought in this regard. Hence the this paper looks into the unresolved issues of the decentralisation and the implementations of the gram Swaraj.

Shifting Cultivation, Case Studies of Chamba; Himachal Pradesh

Dr. Mohinder Kumar Slariya

Present paper is based on case studies based on the shifting of agricultural practices in chamba district of Himachal Pradesh has been conducted by the researcher as post-doc research. Chamba district is one of the 12 districts of Himachal Pradesh. Himachal Pradesh spread in an area of 55,780 sq. km with population 6856509 (2011). Despite the rapid reduction in poverty rates in Himachal Pradesh, FAO (2007) has estimated that about 28% of households in the state are below the poverty line, compared to the national average of 36% and poverty rates tend to be higher in distant mountainous areas like Chamba district which is considered being almost twice as poor

as any other district of Himachal Pradesh.

By using narrative interview and administrating interview schedule on 50 respondents in churah research segment, it can be stated emphatically that there is a change in traditional land use pattern and people are shifting from traditional cropping pattern and the shift is changing their whole life and increase livelihood options and they are enjoying their lives and leading more comfortable as compared to earliest. Thus it is a humble attempt to highlight the change by using interview schedule, case studies, GIS and photographic evidences would concentrate on compelling forces.

Scope of MGNREGS to promote Climate Change Mitigation

Moumita Laha & Sushant

In India, climate change has a very adverse affect on people both on rural and urban areas, many climate change adaptation project was introduced to deal with serious issues and affects of climate change. MGNREGA which primarily focuses on guaranteed wage employment and creating community assets has a tremendous scope to directly and indirectly deal with climate change issues.

This paper main objective is to indicate the rural vulnerabilities of the people in terms climate change affect to their primary and secondary livelihood, natural resource degradation, their fuel and fodder scarcity etc. This paper also explores the scope of MGNREGS to combat the issues of Climate Change in India. Trends from last five years indicate that a large number of works was undertaken on water and soil

conservation activities, rejuvenation of natural resources, plantation and now it is also exploring the link with agriculture which is addressing the cause of chronic poverty and other issues such as drought, deforestations, floods, water scarcity, soil erosion etc

This paper critically analysis the contribution of these activities in terms of climate change mitigation and adaptation.

This paper concludes that further link of MGNREGS to agriculture would foster the step and promote climate change adaptation to rural communities. It also concludes that MGNREGS as a guaranteed programme in India can explore more linkages to deal with these issues and further bridge the vulnerabilities against climate change across countries.

Climate Change Adaptation through Community Participation in Indian Sunderbans

Sahana Bose

The present paper focuses on the need of two major adaptation issues in Indian Sunderban Region for sustainable regional development -

- a) community based adaptation and livelihood support.
- b) Climate change adaptation through local governance in saving mangrove forests which involves the sustainable management, conservation and restoration of mangrove ecosystems.

Empirical analysis of the data was made to know about the people's perception of climate change, community participation rate with government agencies and government's response for implementing adaptation strategies

to climate change and the need for more research in policy making. Official documents, secondary data, project reports from various research institutes and government agencies are also consulted for writing this paper.

There have been significant failures in development planning and strategies on the part of local and national governments, compromising the capacity of locals to adapt effectively. In absence of planning and institutional support, people have little choice but to adapt on their own. There is an increase in water level during high tide. Intrusion of saline water into the agricultural land results in loss of yield and creates risk to the farmers- loss of agricultural land and making them migrate in search of new land.

Management of CPR through Community Governance in India

Moumita Laha

Common Property Resources (CPR) plays a very significant role in the life of rural poor communities and too much extent their livelihoods are also associated with it. Data revealed that around one fourth of the poor people income directly and indirectly comes from CPR. village pastures, community forests, waste lands, common threshing grounds, waste dumping places, watershed drainages, village ponds, tanks, rivers/rivulets riverbeds, etc can be treated as CPR and a wide variety of essential items are gathered by rural households from the village commons and forests, for personal use and sale like food, fuel, fodder, fibre, small timber, manure, bamboo, leafs, medicinal herbs, oils, materials for house building and handicrafts, resin, gum, honey, spices, and so on.

The objective of this paper is to indicate how poor communities are interlinked

with the common resources and how Community Based Institution (CBI) can play a positive role to govern CPR. The methodologies of this paper are case studies of community governance of CPR management across countries and secondary review. The paper proposes urgent need for community based institutions to develop their own bye laws, monitoring mechanism, regeneration plan for degraded resources, sustainable plan to use of resource through community mechanism etc. It also highlights the need for capacity building programmes, effective and transparent decision making, developing perspective plan for effective community governance. Thus these excluded communities would be empowered and best utilize their resource through proper governance in a sustainable manner.

Gandhi's Gram Swaraj, Local Government in North-East India

Mukesh Kumar Shrivastava

The paper is divided into four parts. The first part revisits the idea of Gram Swaraj envisaged by Mahatma Gandhi. The second part sets out to trace the constitutional origin of the concept of Panchayati raj. In part third, the paper critically examines the pattern and institution of local self- government in the North-eastern States. The examination of the system and institution reveals that the seven sisters' states and Sikkim are marked by the dominance of traditional tribal culture, particularly in the hilly tracts which constitute around 78 percent of the total area of the region. The hilly tracts, except Arunachal Pradesh, which opted for Panchayati raj system in spite of the existence of the traditional councils, are still governed by the indigenous village and community based self-governed institutions with statutory (local and

national types) and non- statutory endorsement. The states of Tripura, Manipur and Nagaland have already legitimated the village council for governing the village matters. The other states viz. Mizoram, Meghalaya and autonomous council's areas of Assam are also in course of preparation of the same law. The plains of the states of Assam, Manipur, Tripura and whole state of Sikkim except two villages, however, follow the national panchayati raj system.

Finally, the paper concludes with the observation that Gandhiji's Gram Swaraj is undoubtedly a significant framework for empowering the village and its habitants to decide their own providence and to ground the State into the republic of villages endowed with fullest powers.

Poverty Eradication Study of Central Government Policy, Plans and Programs

S. Muruganathan

Poverty is more of social marginalization of an individual and household, group of community or society rather than inadequacy of income to fulfill the fundamental. Infact, inadequacy income is almost one the factors for marginalization but not the single factor. The goal of poverty alleviation programmes should aim merely increasing the income level of individual and household or group but mainstreaming marginalized in the development process of the country. Even any country cannot claimeconomic growth when sections of the people are marginalized to the fringe of the society.

The Quick economic growth process should access to services like education and healthservices to everyone, especially the marginalized people. In India, even now in spite of all

thedevelopment during the past for five decades, 34.3% of the population was getting less than\$ 1 (PPP) a day. This percentage of population was considered to be poor on an internationalcriterion suggested by World Development Report(WDR).

At the macro-level, there is a need to co-ordinate a myriad of poverty alleviation programmes of the central government and the State governments. Government should provide better medical facilities, drinking water facilities and education so that people living below poverty line can improve their lives and that Poverty alleviation programmes should also address the issue of poverty from broader social and economic perspectives. Hence this paper is an attempt to study and analysis the nationalpolicies, plans and programs for poverty eradication in India.

Poverty Eradication and Pension Schemes - The Issue of Accessibility

Narwade Sunil Sheshrao

The present paper is an attempt to study functioning of the National old age and widow pension scheme in Arda village of Marathwada, Maharashtra. India has the second largest population of older (60+) persons in the world. National social Assistance programme (NSAP) was launched on August 15, 1995. The basic aim of this programme is to provide social assistance benefit to the rural poor in case of old age, death of primary breadwinner and for poor women during maternity.

Research and evaluation studies on the old age pension scheme have been limited in India, especial given the important of the scheme. Puja Dutta (2010) using data of National household survey and surveys on social pension utilization in Karnataka and Rajasthan states reveals that social pension scheme work reasonably well.

The objective of the present study is to evaluate the performance of the Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension

Scheme (IGNWPS) and Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS). The present study is carried out in Arda village of Jalna district of Marathwada region of Maharashtra.

The study found that for the most of the old age people (70 per cent) pension is main source of the income. 65 per cent of the pensioners spend their pension money on food items. Pensioners also prefer their pensions delivery through banks, but untimely delivery of pensions make it difficult for them to collect. It is necessary to make pensions available on time and communicate the dates of pension delivery to people. To avoid overcrowding different days should be allotted for people from different villages to collect pensions. Also it is essential to increase the branches of nationalized banks in rural areas, so that people have to travel less distance to collect their pensions.

A Study of Livelihood and Educational Status of Sanitation Workers, Ahmedabad, Gujarat

Neepa Gandhi

Dalits are a mixed population, consisting of numerous social groups from all over India. There are many different names proposed for defining this group of people, including Panchamas (“fifth Varna”), and Asprushya (“untouchables”). The proportion of Dalit population was 24.4 % of India’s total population. The Dalit population is broadly distributed across Indian states and districts.

There are approximately 3.6 million members of Scheduled Castes in Gujarat, which represents 7.1% of the state’s total population. Dalits engaged in manual scavenging constitute more than half a million population in India. In spite of a strong provision like the “The Employment of Manual Scavenging and Construction of Dry Latrines (Prohibition) Act, 1993”, which prohibits manual scavenging, the practice is widespread in India and the task of eradicating it has not been easy.

In the city of Ahmedabad there are two types of sewerage workers: manhole workers and municipality road sweepers. While maintenance of the manhole is usually managed by men alone, both men and women from the Valmiki community are engaged as municipal sweepers and cleaners of public toilets and roadside open latrines. This article specifically looks at some of the problems faced by the Dalit manhole and sanitation workers in Ahmedabad, one of the oldest cities in India.

This research paper specifically looks the livelihood and educational status of sanitation workers (Dalits) in Ahmedabad, one of the oldest cities in India. This study was conducted in Naranpura & Sabarmati 2 zone of the AMC (Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation). A total 70 sanitation workers were interviewed and through them we sought to understand the condition of their family as well their educational status.

Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC): Its Provision of Political Representation

Nironjon Islary

Bodoland Territorial Council is Jurisdiction extends over 3082 villages and has legislative powers over 40 subjects.

It is an Autonomous self governing body within the State of Assam and provides constitutional protection under Sixth Schedule to the Autonomous Body. The council works to fulfill economic, educational and linguistic aspirations and the preservation of land-rights, socio-cultural and ethnic identity of the Bodos; and speed up the infrastructure development in BTC.

Taking advantage of allowing land rights it emerged that Bangladeshi migrants easily sneak in the area, illegally procure relevant documents like ration cards to become Indian nationality.

Taking advantage of the provisions in the BTC Act, such migrants are freely procuring land in the BTAD, which only adds to the woes of indigenous Bodos. Both sides are demanding the review / revocation of BTC act because on one hand, Bodos feel their rights are not protected and on the other hand, Non-Bodos feel that Bodos are getting way too many benefits. With creation of council, village development council is inducted replacing panchayati raj institution in BTC, each village represents a member of the village council and work for the all round development. This paper seeks to find out the constitutional overlaps, lacks of provision and power of the accord, majority and minority political representation syndrome in the council assembly.

Gandhi's Education and Suraj

Patel Nirav. H

Gandhi's education inspires all, and provides proper opportunity for development to all human values should be preserved. Society needs a revolution of thought. The seeds of knowledge be sprouted in children is the aim and objective of Gandhi's education and development.

The individual should realize his limitations, and is motivated to follow self-discipline and self-control and experience his own soul; this is the highest objective of education.

Knowledge obtained through education, wisdom, deep thinking, creativity etc., should be applied in practical life. This is the essence of real education. It should be applied with confidence and fearlessness. It should

be able to establish the dignity of labour.

Gandhi explains the definition of *Nai-Talim* is such a way as one who has obtained *Nai-Talim* should be one who will not be flattered if he sits on the throne and at the same time he will not be ashamed of carrying a broom and work with it. Both the positions are equal for him. He equally values both these work. *Gramodaya* and his education are two sides of one coin. Finally good education system will create the suraj (good governance) in the society. The main objective of the paper was to know the role of Education in bringing Good Governance and economical upliftment in the society and the paper is based on the secondary data from books, articles, we sources

An Appraisal of MGNREGS : Ajara Block, Kolhapur Maharashtra

Sandip Tukaram Patil &

Dr. Savitsmita Vilasrao Chawan

Ajara is a hilly region situated in the Sahyadri mountain ranges with agriculture as the main occupation of the people and nearly 8 per cent of the households living below poverty line. 'Ajara' is the face of present rural India reflecting poor socio-economic conditions.

Objectives of the study are,

1. To evaluate the effectiveness of National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme in rural development of the study region
2. To study will impact of the scheme on the rural community and on the environment
3. To study as to what extent the scheme adopted has helped the beneficiaries.

The secondary data Will collected from various reference books, research journals, news papers, websites and

magazines. The data from government publications decadal data (2011) Will collect from the district census hand book of Kolhapur district.

The interview and questionnaire method Will used for collecting primary information related to the research study.

Ajara tehsil is recognized as rural area. After the study of selected area, is seen that, this area is rural and the occupation of nearly 90 % people is agriculture. To some extent people also keep animals. The whole life of people in this area is depending on farming. No other source of income is available here people work in other farm and earn money. In this way they earn their bread and butter. In this adverse condition Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme run by central government and state government has been proved blessing for people in this area.

Exploring Women Empowerment through Entrepreneurship

Pradeep Kumar

The present paper which is based on secondary data is an attempt to establish that there is strong and positive relationship between women entrepreneurship and their empowerment and thereby socio-economic growth and development of a country specially India. This study also tries to capture the existing prejudices that prevent women from participation in the areas which were predominantly dominated by men. Through entrepreneurship the women who cradles can rule the world to bring equity, equality and equilibrium. This paper tries to establish that women empowerment through entrepreneurship can be beneficial for women related issues.

Indian women today are rubbing shoulders with their male counterparts

in almost every sphere of life like sports, politics, administrative services, academia and armed forces. However their participation or representation in industry specially as independent entrepreneurs is not large and can be counted on fingers. Women entrepreneurship is the ability of developing, organizing and managing a business enterprise along with risks in order to make profit.

Women entrepreneurship is going to take India to the next level. They can change the financial lives of millions. Through women entrepreneurship we can address the issue of diversity, inclusion and all women related issues. We all aspire to change the world. They can be the agent of change. They can innovate and improve the socio-economic condition of people of India.

“Emancipation of Indian women: A Gandhian approach to analyze ontological construction of biased identity”

Prashant kumar

This paper draws attention to the phenomenon of development in women in India through *change in their psyche, that follows opposition to socio-culturally created bias-identity of Indian women* and their efforts to achieve an unbiased global identity the *Gandhian* concept of *Swaraj* where she is portrayed as an object of pity, an emotional instrument of fulfilling the desires of men.

The fundamental inequalities and restrictions involved in their upbringing, and an endless monotony of male dominance and preference create a *psychological consensus* of being treated as an object of psychological suffering and oppression in the minds of women. This kind of suppression starts with the miniature level, such as, family and goes with every phenomena related to women actions.

Democratic decentralization can help women not only to protect them physically and mentally, but also to

evoke them rethink over their ontological construction and recognize her subjectivity, that is, *Swaraj*. Notwithstanding the contemporary subjugation (domestic violence, sexual violence and so on), there are consequent forms of opposition (women security bill) in India, as victimization becomes public knowledge making all other women conscious as well who might not have felt subjugated due to having their internalized (lack of reflection as against to *swaraj*) the bias image. This ‘*conscientization*’ enables women to get *Swaraj* against their stereotyped identity and put themselves forward as active participatory subjects (recognizing *swaraj*) of the community. Despite the presence of political rights that enable participation in all fields, Indian women still suffer from a lack of ‘*self*’ and a rational way of determining their unbiased identity, because of not proper functioning of democratic decentralization.

Inclusive Social Development Through Human Development : A Study of Gujarat

Pratham Parekh

Gujarat since 'Gandhian era', has made exemplary progress in terms of the growth and expansion of economy along with the socio cultural problems associated with it. In last decade, rapid economic development of the State has resulted in significant increase in the income of the citizen of the State.

This paper tries to investigate various efforts made by Government of Gujarat with the application of an innovative approach of scheme convergence and mission mode to ensure inclusive human development for all classes of State citizenry. The degree of human development may not achieved to its fullest but the relative progress for achieving inclusive social development through painstaking policy framing and considerate implementation is needed to be studied.

The study critically inquires various schemes and its achievement as a unit of analysis. It attempts to draw out the pattern of State policy framing for effective inclusiveness for human development. It also provide case study of ATVT(Apno Taluko Vibrant Taluka), claiming it as mixture of Gandhian thoughts and belief of contemporary political leadership in that thoughts, about maintaining "soul of village" and providing village populace equal opportunities and resources as urban population. Further, this study also includes open ended interviews with the State Government.

Finalization of study provides linkages of inclusive human development with social development and alignment of Gujarat Government's objectives to the Gandhian principles of policy framing.

State Supported Participatory Development: A paradox or a new hybrid

Pratichi Majumdar

One of the key features of a Gandhian model of development is community participation. The concept of participation emerged and was initially theorised in opposition to the state-led model of development. However, today, it has entered the mainstream development discourse.

In India, recognising the Gandhian framework participation highlights, the state is making policies to enable and support participatory development - such as the promotion of Hiware Bazar as the model village by Maharashtra government, the '*manavurumana pranalika*' (Our Village, Our Plan) project by the Telengana government, the Bharat Nirmaan Volunteer programme by the Ministry of Rural Development, the importance of the Gram Sabha in MGNREGA, etc.

This paper will attempt to look at these complexities in relationship between

state and participatory development. It tries to see if indeed state supported participatory development is indeed a paradox. It seeks to see this phenomenon as a new avatar of Gandhian participatory principles. I will look at available material about state programme and policies encouraging participation and attempt to locate them within wider social science discourse on participation. Rather, it has to be seen as a new hybrid model that has characteristics of both. It is not simply a local-level development practice, but one where the outside - comprising of the State and other organisations - actively support to bring about an indigenous development. In such an examination, the attempt would be to provide a balanced and holistic understanding of state supported participation that helps evaluate the role of state and Gandhian principles in community participation.

Representation of Women in Panchayati Raj : A Study on Balangir, Odisha

Priyambada Hota

This paper aims at examining the role, nature and extent of participation of women representatives in PRIs (Panchayati Raj Institutions) of Balangir district in Odisha.

Objectives includes

The objectives of this study are as follows:

1. It examines the Panchayati Raj Laws amended from time to time in Odisha.
2. It reveals the political awareness of women representatives of PRIs.
3. It examines the nature of participation of women representatives in different sphere of activities of PRIs ranging from decision making to voting.
4. It reveals the constraints encountered by the women representatives of PRIs during the performance of their duties.

In order to reveal the true representation of women in PRIs empirical method is

adopted for this study. The primary sources are collected through personal interviews to women members of PRIs. The secondary sources include the relevant literature relating PRIs Act and from various journals, reports, documents and other published literature.

Empirical evidences of this study reveal that the political awareness of women representatives like knowledge on democracy, 73rd Constitutional Amendment is very low. Notwithstanding there seemed the appearance of a large number of women in PRIs due to constitutional obligation. Most of the women members show their reluctance to Panchayat activities as they encounter hostile attitude of their male counterpart and Panchayat officials. Moreover they feel insecure amidst male dominated society that impedes them to participate in panchayats affairs.

Indigenous Institution and Environmental Protection; Manipur

Puthem Jugeshor Singh

The objectives of the paper is be focused on overall Climates in north eastern states of India. It tries to study the patterns of environmental preservation and protection through the indigenous institution

The study has been carried out using the qualitative methods that are exploratory in nature. It is based on interviews of important persons like the village as an in-depth interview method and tools of data collection. This study would be an empirical analysis based on primary sources as well as available secondary sources.

The cultural practices and occupation of the villagers are almost under the controlled of the institution of Loishang.

Environmental protection is largely controlled by this institution in village. Conservation of environment is strictly under the customary laws of the Loishang. All the natural resources of village communities are controlled through institution. The Chakpa villages like Andro, forest is known as Nongmaiching which is rich in natural resources is preserved by the villagers. Uyok Kanba.

The study reveals that environmental protection and indigenous institutions interrelated. Indigenous institutions have taken the pivotal role in village administration than the modern governance; environment protection and resource management in the north-eastern states of India.

Efforts of Poverty Alleviation & Role of MNREGA : A Case Study from Bihar

Dr. Rajiv Kumar Sinha , Dipak Das & Sourav Kumar Akansha Shipra

MNREGA

As the scheme has entered in its adulthood (crossing more than 8 years of its birth), there is a need to evaluate its impact on: Rural poor, local economic development, working and performance of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs).

In the above backdrop, the paper seeks to examine the following objectives (i) To compare wage differentials between 'MNREGA' and 'other wage employment activities', (ii) Effect on the Pattern of Migration from rural to urban areas, (iii) Examine the role of PRIs & people's participation in execution of NREGA; and (iv) Suggest observation- based Action Points.

The paper will be based on both secondary and primary data. One village

each from nearby periphery of around 5KMs from the district headquarters and other from a farthest location of 20KMs. or more, have been selected from the North, East, South, West and centrally located districts of Bihar. From each selected village, primary survey has been carried out on 20 participants in NREGA, and 10 non- participants working as 'wage employed'. Thus, the total sample size is [5 Districts × 2 villages × 30 respondents (20 participants + 10 non – participants) = 300 HHs].

Only adding new components in MNREGA will not be enough. Rural people and 'Job Card Holders' need to be made fully aware of all provisions of the Act.

‘Traditional Governments among the SC Communities : A Study of Phamneiba Sekmai Loi Village, Manipur’

Rakesh S. Khwairakpam

The paper will explore the background and functioning of the Phamneiba of Sekmai Loi village.

A qualitative method was adopted for the study. In-depth unstructured interview, focus group discussions and oral history were the multiple tools of data collection.

The key finding is that Phamneiba is the oldest traditional institution which has existed since the pre historic period. Phamneiba enjoy a prominent position in the socio-religious ceremonies and social gatherings. The Lai Haraoba Festival (blessing of gods) cannot be celebrated without the presence of Phamneiba. The members of the Phamneiba are directly elected by the people and nature of the government is democratic.

After the introduction of the three tier institutions under the Indian Political

System, the Phamneiba system is now undergoing a change. They don't have the power to record private homestead, agricultural land and the collection of taxes. They are not the formal and legalise authority to decide and award punishment in minor and major cases of the village. They have been deprived and derecognised by the government institutions. But still, in most cases, they continue to exercise their influence. However, there are no changes in socio-religious ceremonies and social gathering, management of community reserved and unreserved forests and agricultural land. They still receive peoples' reverence and allegiance. The people still prefer their Phamneiba instead of the non- traditional government. The villagers hardly refer the cases to the government institution, except those involving adultery and murder.

Poverty Reduction Strategies and its Failure in India: Implications for Gandhian Plan

Dr. Ramya Ranjna Patel

Objectives:

- 1-To study, why Gandhian plan was appropriate for rapid poverty reduction in comparison to other plans.
- 2-To study the political economy of neglect of Gandhian Plan.

The study is a mixed one both quantitative and qualitative in nature. The work is primarily based on secondary data from various Government sources like Economic Survey of India, NSSO, NCEUS and NFHS. The study is analytical in nature and based on various theoretical and empirical literatures, analysis of text and observations. The study is an attempt of intellectual analysis of studying ethics and related obligations or duties, particularly of the state machinery towards its citizen for whom the state is formed.

Poverty still remains the most crucial issue, India facing today even after more than sixty 65 years of independence. It does not mean, India did nothing to reduce poverty. From time to time the Government frames, announce, and implement policies to reduce poverty and achieve inclusive growth. However, it is far from expectations. It is in this context this paper answers, whether right policies are adopted or if they are implemented properly?

1. Gandhian idea or plan was based on development of rural areas with the development of agriculture, rural industrialisation, handicrafts and cottage industries. It is of vital importance to improve the economic activities and engage the poor in gainful employment opportunities. It was in the failure of this policy there is rural distress, poverty, unemployment and farmers suicide in India.

2. The Gandhian plan was neglected because of the dominance of sections of people believing in the importance of urban industrial sector. It is because urban class contains most of the articulateness, organization, and power. So the urban classes have been able to win most of the rounds of struggle with the countryside.

It happened because the leaders and the policy makers stand apart from the poor with a wide gap in economic and social.

A notable characteristic of that class is very limited concern for the welfare of the rest and even less concern for the long-term development and sustainability of society as a whole.

Renewable Energy Development in Punjab: An Assessment of Government Schemes

Ravneet Kaur & Govindgeet Singh.

Development of mankind is highly dependent on energy. Every type of energy generation and utilization process initiated by mankind affects the climate. Emissions from fossil fuels drive a range of global and regional environmental issues in the form of global warming and health issues. If India has to achieve the targeted growth, it would need appropriate input of energy without degrading or ruining the environment. So it is the need of hour to consider other form of energy resources which has advantageous features over conventional sources.

The main objective of study is to explain the Punjab Government strategies and policies in installation of devices related

to these two energies and their current status and future potential is also highlighted.

This paper gives presentation of data about the availability of renewable energy (RE) resources, current status of their installations in the state, on-going activities, development projects, major achievements of Punjab Energy Development Agency (State Designated Agency of Punjab State). This paper also assesses specific policy interventions for overcoming the barriers and to increase exploitation of renewable resources for the future. At the end some suggestions are given for effective planning and deployment options of RE resources in future.

Gandhian Mode of Protest: Movements of Disables in India

Renoj N.K.

Objectives and Analysis

For centuries, people with disability have been an oppressed and repressed group. People with disability have been isolated, incarcerated, observed, written about, operated on, instructed, implanted, regulated, treated, institutionalised and controlled to a degree probably unequal to that experienced by any other minority and marginalized group. India is home to 60 million disabled people of them about 48% are visually impaired, 28 % are movement impaired, 14 % are mentally disabled and 10% have hearing and speech disability. These are the findings of "People with disabilities in India: From commitments to outcome" a report prepared by the World Bank in collaboration with the ministry of social justice and empowerment. In this context I would like to analyse the recognition and representation of the disable movement in India and how the disable

community apply the Gandhian mode of protest in their struggles for their rights. It also examines how far this community succeeded in achieving their basic rights.

Methodology

Qualitative studies will firstly include the literature review on the subject however limited is. Also a content analysis on the newspaper articles, magazines and online sources on the subject will be undertaken. There will be also a quantitative dimension to the study.

Conclusion

This is an exploratory study since no major work is done in this area. Social science research on disability in itself is very limited. Thus I believe that a study if initiated can be a valuable contribution to the academic social science research on Gandhism and disable movement in India.

Gram Swaraj and India's North East : Revisiting Democratic Decentralization with Reference to Manipur.

Dr. Ch. Rupachandra

People centric governance nowadays becomes an inseparable part for the successful working of democratic decentralization. The unabated political instability in India's north east region where there inhabit more than 220 ethnic groups, speaking more than 325 languages had clearly indicates the absence of democracy and good governance. It is undisputed fact that in a successful democracy, there is possibility of lesser violence. Here if we go to the extent of the basic principles of Gandhian concept of 'Gram Swaraj' with the working of democratic decentralization basically in the region, it would be in misnomer.

Methodology: In this situation, the notion of economic development and national integration are the two faces of a same coin become juxtapose. The

random grows of political violence became most horrible situation in the state like Manipur and other part of the region. It reflects the lack of deepening democracy and governance as the key parameter for the successful working for democratic decentralization. Various accords, agreements and many others were made between the warring groups and development initiatives were taken up without creating a conducive to transform into peaceful atmosphere.

Analysis: In the present context of the working of democratic decentralisation in Manipur, there is a response crisis thereby led to micro-level exclusive politics. If we go to the Gandhian concept of 'Gram Swaraj', there arises the structural flaws in the working of democratic decentralisation based on representative democracy.

Solid Waste Management : A Critical Review of PPP Model; Lucknow, UP

Salil Srivastava

At present solid waste management is a matter of concern in India. Since the time of Indian independence until 2000, Solid Waste Management (SWM) was not on the priority list in India. This is one of the greatest reasons that this matter has become a issue of concern over the years. With the increased urbanization and population pressure there is a need to develop a proper solid waste management system in different cities in India. Solid waste management system centers around the control of production, storage, collection, transportation, processing and disposal of solid waste in a way which shall abide with the best practices of public health, environmental conservation, maintaining clean spaces and cities.

This paper is based on the field survey done between 2011 to 2014. The findings of field survey shall be

substantiated by secondary literature. The paper takes into account the legal issues in relation with the waste management system including the 74th amendment under the Constitution of India, judicial decisions by various courts across India, solid waste management and handling rules 2000. A comparative study of various solid waste management models shall also be made which has been functioning in India.

Keeping Gandhian views into consideration, a comparison of Gandhian Model of development is also being made. This paper concludes that why and how the Community Based Decentralised Integrated sustainable (CBDIS) solid waste management Model is a better choice over PPP Model in Indian Context.

Social Audit; A Tool For Accountability : A study of MGNREGS

Sandeep Inampudi

MGNREGS is a centrally sponsored scheme. The Ministry of Rural Development (MORD) is the nodal agency for implementation of the scheme at the central level. An integral part of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act pertains to the role of ' Social Audit' as a means of continuous public vigilance for ensuring public accountability and transparency in the implementation of projects, laws and policies.

Social audit is an independent evaluation of the performance of an organization as it relates to the attainment of its social goals. It is an instrument of social accountability of an

organization. In this context, social audits have emerged over the last few years as an excellent tool which gives an opportunity for the poor to directly engage with the service providers and provide continuous feedback on the implementation of large government programmes.

It also provides government with an opportunity to take corrective action and thus improve the level of service delivery. In this context, this paper is trying to analyse the status of public service delivery in the pre-social audit experience, explain the significance of social audits, its implementation in MGNREGS programme.

Strengthening the Grassroots Democracy: Reflections from Reality

Sanghamitra Choudhury

Unique part of the 73rd, 74th CAA is the composition and functioning of Gram Sabha which is specifically designed to incorporate the entire people enlisted in the electoral roll of Gram Panchayat. While mentioning the third generation of Panchayati Raj one must give emphasis on the Gram Sabha i.e. village assembly where people can assemble, discuss and assess regarding the functioning of gram Panchayat. Gram Sabha must be considered as the organ of local accountability and grass root democracy.

Government of West Bengal also has enacted the Panchayat Acts from time to time (1956, 1972, 1977 and 1992) with a view to establish local units of rural self governance. State legislature

has amended West Bengal Panchayat Act (1992) in 1993 to cope with the provisions of 73rd Amendment Act passed in the Union Parliament in 1992. This Act is directed towards the reconstruction and development of self-sufficient autonomous village units, establishment of State Finance commission to make sure the share of resources to be allocated to the Panchayat institutions reservation of seats for the women etc.

This study intends to find that whether the Panchayati Raj Institutions have really become an effective part of governance participated by the local communities or not. It also tries to focus on the functioning of Gram Sabha in the few areas of Tufanganj Subdivision.

Addressing Sanitation Issues Through Community Participation

Sanjay Kumar Swain

In India nearly 40% of children below five years are stunted. The Government of India has several schemes for constructing toilets in the homes, namely Nirmal Bharat Abhijan. Under these schemes, the Government offers a subsidy for part of the construction, while the rest has to be borne by the households.

The M. S. Swaminathan Research Foundation undertook the Community Hunger Fighter initiative, which is an action education model for addressing food insecurity in 18 villages in Koraput district of Odisha. Koraput, 65% of which is dominated by tribal communities, is considered an agricultural hot spot for hunger and under nutrition and is one of the most backward districts in India.

Five representatives from each village, consisting of males and females and belonging to different caste/ tribes were

selected by the community for undergoing a capacity building programme on food security issues.

The Village action plan was forwarded to the sanitation Department for necessary action. The Department planned to undertake these villages under total sanitation program through community participation. So far four villages have been supplied with drinking water facility through installing solar powered piped water supply under Swajal Dhara schemes and work has been started on sanitation in seven villages to make 100% sanitation village under Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan.

The experience reiterates that by generating awareness and instigating action, local communities can overcome social and cultural barriers and effectively utilize the Panchayats for improving sanitary conditions in their village.

Decentralisation : An Assessment of MGNREGS, UP

Shadab Hashmi

The study is undertaken in three steps. The first step involves review of literature and identification of issues and concerns which determine the overall performance of the programme. The second step involves collection of primary data from a random sample of household from selected areas of the relatively backward district of Uttar Pradesh. The third step involves the data and field experiences gathered from the second steps are utilized to produce statistical table to analyse the causal factors affecting the determinants of employment-days created.

The study concluded that there are serious administrative laps in implementing the scheme, no worksite facility, no unemployment allowance is provided to workers. In many instances, no sign boards were installed at the

worksites which display the information about the work which being undertaken , entries are not made in the muster rolls at the work sites (many workers accepted that they never seen muster rolls), contractors are used in many places. Even introduction of transparency mechanism unable curb the corruption; the intermediaries were succeeded in siphoning off funds through fudging muster rolls where fictitious entries of workers were made who never worked under MGNREGA.

The lack of engagement of beneficiaries who are continuously deprived and discouraged from questioning the authority and holding implementing agency accountable is one of the main reasons for implementation failure and rampant corruption in the scheme.

Horticulture : Its Impact on Poverty Alleviation; Pulwama; J& K

Shahnaaz Ahmad Rather

The paper is a comparative study of horticultural and non-horticultural households (Agriculture households) from various socio-economic groups. It was found the fluctuating trends in area, production and exports from the state due to prevalence of various factors. Peace and conflict and increase in domestic demand due to increase in tourist inflow to the state are important to mention.

There was women empowerment due to financial independence by the employment opportunities particularly in horticulture belts. The horticultural households were having more improved housing infrastructure in terms of availability of bathroom facilities, ownership of land, nature of toilet facilities and physical assets than non-horticulture households.

From the angle of investment capabilities, horticultural households'

have upper hand. Horticultural households were having more expenditure on grocery items and other consumption items than non-horticultural households therefore enjoying more nutritional status and food security.

The educational and health services of the horticulture households were better than the agriculture households in terms of the expenditure on the education and the nature of the educational services to their children. The horticulture households have consumed more physical assets than Agriculture households. The non-horticulture households were producing mostly for self-consumption while the horticulture households were producing for the market to get economic returns. Therefore horticulture cultivation enhances the income levels and living standard of the huge labour force in the state.

Poverty and Access to Basic Services in Mumbai

Shilpi Syal

The paper discusses the approach adopted by “Basic Service Facilitation Centre” to fight back the issues of poverty and access to basic services.

Experience in a metro, such as, Mumbai has been that ownership, especially of the poor, to the city is low. There exists a low sense of worth and a feeling of no one to hear and positively respond to their needs. This again poses a challenge to ensuring participation of the poorest in governance decision making.

Entitlement refers to the complex ways in which individuals or households command resources which vary between people over time in response to shocks and long term trends. Social

exclusion is seen as a state of ill-being and disablement or disempowerment, inability which individuals and groups experience.

People were mobilized to demand services from the government and to effectively advocate them as an approach to reduce poverty. The result has been an increased awareness of the schemes, capacity to undertake efforts in demanding and negotiating with the government, create effective documents which would result in a better understanding of the slum reality and urban poverty and effective monitoring by involving a wide variety of actor’s including urban poor.

Community Managed Model : Securing Land Rights for the Poor – Experiences from Odisha, India

Sibabrata Choudhury & Seema Gupta

Post-independence both the Central and State Governments in India have promulgated number of land reform laws with focus on redistribution of land and providing “land to the tiller”.

Though the state government has given land to the landless under different programs, many were not included primarily because of staffing deficiencies and other program deficiencies.

This paper highlights the key features of a people-centric land governance model that has been instrumental in securing land rights for the poor. The paper seeks to trace the origin and evolution of the innovative approach that has managed to tide over the problem of manpower shortage by training and utilizing local human

resource in allocation of land to the landless in scores of villages under the scheme. It will also share experiences of the model in which the government partners with civil society, jointly carving out distinct roles and responsibilities for each player in the rather complicated area of land allocation.

The primary objective of the CRP model was to ensure land to the landless by supporting the Revenue Department. Instead of waiting for the government to find them, the CRPs empower the landless poor to seek rightful title to land. Thus CRPs are able to break the bureaucratic barriers by bridging the gap between villagers and burdensome, lengthy government procedures. The program reaches the landless poor in a way that government programs have previously failed.

Re-imagining Swaraj: An Essay on Counter-subversive Politics

Soham Shiva

The present paper attempts to engage with the Gandhian notion of “Swaraj”, in terms of both its scope and its political potency as an interlocutor to contemporary political contestations in India. Within this framework, the notion of “Swaraj” is understood to be both a means and an end of political praxis.

The paper will attempt to explore the possibility of contemporary potency of “Swaraj” as both a method and *telos* of politics, especially in the absence of an overarching subject of opposition, which the British Raj symbolized, and exploring avenues of orienting political practice against subtler forms of coercion, which may not possess the explicit subversion as was manifested in colonialism. This provides both a challenge and an opportunity for a

Gandhian critique of structural violence, particularly in its socio-economic manifestations.

As a case in point, I will argue that the opposition by Mahan Sangharsh Samiti, against corporate mining by Essar in the Mahan forests in the Singrauli district of Madhya Pradesh, is an enunciation of the contemporary appropriation of “Swaraj” as a mode of political resistance against Neo-liberalism, in the way that it is concretised in economic policies.

It is hoped that an analysis of the political of such movements and the theoretical groundwork within which they are situated, will contribute to a more sensitive understanding of the Gandhian vision of “Swaraj” as a dynamic political possibility.

Political Participation of Women: A Study on Andaman and Nicobar Islands

S.S.Sreekumar

Decentralisation has to be viewed as a theory of development which requires variety of institutions for empowering and uplifting the marginalised and the poor. It is expected to work for building up of an administrative space at the cutting edge level where the felt needs of the poor could be ventilated.

Gender equality and equity are emerging as major challenges in the global development debate. Social scientists and development activists are giving increasing emphasis to these fields in their agenda for research and development. It may be difficult to strengthen democratic politics without effective *participation of women*, as they constitute almost fifty percent of population.

Objectives includes

1) To study the extent to which women in the rural area of the island territory

have been oriented towards political participation;

2) to examine the impact of mandatory reservation for women in PRIs on political participation of women in the islands; and

3) to suggest measures for improving the level of political participation of women in rural areas of the island territory.

The Study reveals that 40 per cent women in rural area are actively showing interest to “attend to political and governmental matters”.

The study observes that after their election to PRIs many women demanded literacy skills and also felt education of their daughters. The study also gives suggestions, recommendations for further research and relevant policy implications for “gender responsive governance” and “political empowerment of women”

Tribal's Victory in Prohibiting Mining, Niyamgiri hills, Kalahandi, Odisha

Surjya Narayan Tripathy

Notwithstanding tribal development experience of more than six decades, tribes still continue to remain in the grip of underdevelopment, indebtedness and misery. Ecological degradation, erratic rainfall and a high risk of drought in the area have resulted in food insecurity, increasing out-migration and periodic deaths from starvation of tribes.

But since independence, the large scale direct and indirect displacement of the tribal poor, in the name of development has contributed to creating a huge army of disaggreate casual workers.

In the above-backdrop, the objective of this paper is to analyze with the help of secondary source of data and focus group appraisal, the intricate implications and the outcome of severe pressure exerted from mining development for bauxite deposits and

alumina processing, by the British Vedanta Group, in collaboration with State of Orissa, Orissa Mining Corporation (OMC) and also, Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) on the villagers of Niyamgiri hills.

The Supreme Court ruled out the Vedanta Group's bauxite mining project and ordered the gram sabha to examine the mining proposals, juxtaposing them with the community, individual as well as cultural and religious claims by the tribals and forest dwellers, including their rights of worship over the Niyamgiri hills.

The villagers living in Rayagada and Kalahandi districts unanimously passed resolution held in twelve gram sabhas; vehemently resisting bauxite mining in Niyamgiri claiming that they worshipped the whole of it as their revered God Niyamraja.

Thus, this paper sums up the victory of Niyamgiri villagers in the frame of democratic institutions of 'Panchayati Raj' guaranteed under India's Constitution; and more abundantly spelt out in the Panchayat Extension to Scheduled Areas (PESA) Act 1996, and the Forest Rights Act.

Municipal Financial Management in Jaipur City

V. Devadas

Cities in India are confronted with twin problems of coping with ever increasing demand for urban infrastructure services as a result of growing population and economic activities, and the problem of insufficient financial, technical and managerial capacities. While infrastructure issues at macro level are significantly addressed, there is little understanding about financing of urban infrastructure.

The financial structure of local governments affects the quantity and quality of urban infrastructure and services. The factors such as available sources of revenue, effectiveness and efficiency of expenditure planning, extent of privatization in the provision of urban services, debt-carrying capacity, and extent of dependence on intergovernmental transfers;

determines the state of municipal finance.

Having this knowledge in mind the structure, status and sources of municipal finance in Jaipur city are examined and presented in this paper.

The functions, income sources and expenditure pattern of Jaipur Municipal Corporation are analyzed in detail, and its financial performance is evaluated and presented in this investigation. The research reveals that Jaipur Municipal Corporation has explored only few revenue sources at its disposal, is heavily dependent on intergovernmental transfers to carry out its functions, is plagued by high establishment expenditure, and has underutilized the available debt instruments. In sum, it has poor financial management.

Water, Sanitation and Menstrual Hygiene Management : A Study from Telangana State

Venu Madhav.M.

This paper examines the level of awareness on Water, Sanitation and Menstrual Hygiene Management based on a study conducted in Rangareddy and Nalgonda Districts. The study population constituted of local communities in the area. In this regard, purposive and simple random sampling procedures were employed.

The study design was a cross-sectional survey utilizing observation, key informant interviews, analysis of secondary data and semi-structure interviews as main methods of data collection. An interview schedule was used as the main instrument of data collection during the study.

Both qualitative and quantitative techniques of data analysis were

employed. From the study findings, awareness of Water, Sanitation and Menstrual Hygiene Management is very low, many of areas have accessibility of piped water supply and sanitation facilities are high but the utilization of water and sanitation facilities are less. In many households are not practicing Menstrual Hygiene due their culture, beliefs.

As such, it was recommended that the local communities should be encouraged to take initiatives in policy making activities like attending Gram Sabha meetings etc. and also Behavior Change Campaign (Kalajatas, Street plays etc.) should conduct by the PRIs to break the silence regarding the Menstrual Hygiene Management.

Good Governance through ICT: Opportunities and Issues

V S Beniwal

In the age of digital era, it is not easy to envisage making transactions without the help of internet-based ICTs.

In other words, ICT and E-governance has revolutionised the whole paradigm of governance. Government, today, is expected to be transparent in its dealings, accountable for its activities and faster in its responses. This has made the use of ICT imperative in any agenda drawn towards achieving good governance.

This study aims to examine how e-Government facilitates and promotes good governance. Further, the study

strives to identify major challenges that underline e-governance advancement in India. Information for this research is obtained mainly from secondary sources such as academic journals, books, reports, government's database and records etc. The findings reveal that scores of challenges are out there that encumber the journey of digital governance in India. These include political indifference, bureaucratic inertia, socio-cultural problems, digital divide (lack of access and lack of knowledge), poor infrastructure, inadequate finances, privacy/security.

Gandhi, Democracy and Local Government

Vimal Nayan Pandey

Gandhi was thinking of a new social order for independent India as he alleged that it would be unusable to get liberate from the British without removing centralized and exploitative system of governance. Despite having faith in democracy, Gandhi was not comfomity with western system of democratic governance based on the rule of the majority because it is imperfect in its care for the interests of all. For example, the capitalist democratic governance favours the few who own capital, whereas the social democratic governance favours the majority but is still limited in its attempt.

Gandhi supported the democratic governance which ensures 'good of all' (*Sarvodaya*) in order to serve the interests of all. For Gandhi, life is sacred and so he advocated reverence for the life of all living creatures as well as other essentials which is necessary for it,

which includes the care of the earth, of animals, forests, rivers and land. However, the *Sarvodaya* can only be achieved through *Suraj* (good governance) by means of *Swaraj* (self-governance).

For Gandhi, *Swaraj* is concern with social transformation by promoting peoples participation and decentralization of power to local bodies. Thus, the *Swaraj* includes political, social, economic, moral, ethical.

In fact, the commencement of the panchayati raj system was inspired from Gandhiji's firm belief that independence must begin at the grass-root level, and thus panchayati raj is nothing but a means to *Swaraj*. The main objective is to analyse the efficacy and significance of local government in core business governance at local level in India.

The methodology employed is a combination of analytical and

descriptive method. In fact, the study suggests that wherever panchayats is functioning as institutions of governance they have helped in transforming rural society, economy and polity. A true promise of panchayats lies in sticking to the core business of governance and the role cast upon them for local development and social justice.

Gandhian - Thought on Women Development"

Dr. Waghmare Shyamsundar

Mahatma Gandhi's thoughts about women development are so important thus while thinking about rural development are cannot neglect this

To Gandhiji " Women is neither man's plaything, nor his competitor, struggling tube like him. What she needed most was education, the recognition of her birthright to be free and equal, to steer her own destiny side by side with man. He argues, fundamentally men and women are one, their problems must be same in essence. The soul in both is same. Both live the same life, have the same feeling. They are complementary to each other and can't live without each others active help. But somehow from ages past man has dominated woman so she has

developed an inferiority complex. But the seers among men have recognized her equal status.

Although we have such constitutional imperatives and legal mechanism, heinous and brutal injustice upon women is growing rapidly. Present study is an effort to focus briefly on thought of Mahatma Gandhi about women development, various constitution measures to abolish the women problems and at the same time the present study would try to give remedies to the today's women problems. It is necessary to think about women development by constitutional way and Mahatma Gandhi's thoughts about women development relevant to modern age