

Annual Report

2019-20



Institute of Policy Studies and Advocacy

New Delhi



Institute of Policy Studies and Advocacy (IPSA)

Integrating Research with Grassroots Development and Social Justice

Annual Report 2019-20

Institute of Policy Studies and Advocacy (IPSA) presents its 4th Annual Report. It covers the period from April 2019 to March 2020. The session has been splendid for the IPSA as it not only got national recognition while working with some eminent organizations but also happened to work with UNRC. This year, it organized its second academic event in association with the central university Jamia Millia Islamia. There is also diversification of its activities in such academic fields as research, training, publication, internships, etc.

1. National Symposium on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

A national symposium was organized by IPSA on 'Sustainable Development Goals: Prospects and Challenges' in association with the Department of Economics, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi. It was held on April 20, 2019 at the campus of the university.

Experts from NITI Aayog, Oxfam, National Foundation for India, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Jamia Millia Islamia, Ambedkar University, Delhi, Centre for Budget and Governance Accountability, Public Health Foundation of India, Giri Institute of Development Studies Lucknow, ICRIER, BARC Jaipur, AARDO and other institutions addressed the symposium. More than 100 research scholars, development workers, media persons and youth leaders participated in the symposium, from different places though mainly from New Delhi. The Certificate of Participation was given to the participants.



Distinguished Fellow at Research and Information System for Developing Countries, Professor Amitabh Kundu felt the need for a deeper understanding of the asymmetrical development in India and mentioned about the existence of multi-dimensional deprivation as regards poverty, health and education and of certain pockets and communities. He also pointed out in his presentation that the educational and health disparities are far more serious in India than the economic ones and they in turn comprise a vicious cycle of long-term marginalization and deprivation of certain communities.

Ambitabh Behar, the CEO of Oxfam India, remarked that the SDG targets may require a proactive political leadership for their due and timely achievement. He said India still needed a monitoring framework, voluntary periodic reporting on the progress and holistic consideration of the targets rather than working on some selective ones.

At the end of the inaugural session, a study report of Institute of Policy Studies and Advocacy “Sustainable Development Goals: Issues and Challenges of Implementation in Uttar Pradesh” and a CD of E-Journal of the Department “Eco-insight” prepared by the students of Department of Economics, JMI was also released.



Among others who spoke included Professor Halima Sadia Rizvi, Head Department of Economics, Jamia Millia Islamia; Professor Santosh Mehrotra, JNU; Radhika Madhur, Senior Program Officer SDGs, National Foundation for India; Ajay Jha, Director Pairvi; Dr Protiva Kundu, Senior Research Officer, CBGA; Dr Nesar Ahmad, Director Budget Analysis Rajasthan Centre; Dr Ali Mehdi, Project Lead, ICRIER; Kaushik Ganguly, Senior Program Manager, Public Health Foundation of India; Dr Somik Chowdhury, Ambedkar University; Triranjana Radhakrishnan, Oxfam India; Annie Namla, Wada Na Todo Abhiyan; Dr Manjur Ali, Giri Institute of Development Studies; Dr Asheref Illiyan, Department of Economics, Jamia Millia Islamia, Dr Jawed Alam Khan, Advisor IPSA and Abdul Rashid Agwan, President IPSA contributed their views during different sessions.

In the valedictory session, certificates were distributed to the participants after the address of Dr Manoj Nardeo Singh, Assistant Secretary-General Secretary, African-Asian Rural Development Organisation.

2. VNR India 2020 on SDGs and the Religious Minorities

IPSA remained active in generating awareness regarding SDGs among faith-based organizations and activists in India and it also participated in the critical assessment of the Voluntary National Review 2020 to be submitted on behalf of the Government of India in the High-Level Political Forum of UN on SDGs (HLPF) next year.

In the wake, the large demographic population of more than 250 million people belonging to religious minorities of the country has been included in the process of VNR 2020 under the principle 'Leave No One Behind' (LNOB) of the SDGs. Consequently, in a national consultation sponsored by UN RC, such national platforms as Wada Na Todo Abhiyan (WNTA), Indian Social Institute (ISI), Institute of Policy Studies and Advocacy (IPSA), Confederation of Voluntary Associations (COVA) and OFFER converged, along with many CSOs working for the development of religious minorities, to have a thorough discussion on the issues concerning this one-fifth population of the country, on the parameters of SDGs.

This consultation was held on 22 January 2020 at Indian Social Institute, New Delhi and joined by more than 50 representatives of all statutory minorities except Jains. Besides, 10 regional consultations were also held in Delhi (2), Lucknow, Patna, Kolkata (2), Jaipur, Indore, Nagpur and Hyderabad to have a better understanding regarding issues at the regional level. About 20% women participants joined at the national level program whereas they constituted 28% of the regional discussants. The recommendations of the National Consultation of Religious Minorities on SDGs were presented to the UN RC and forwarded to NITI Aayog and other stakeholders by the WNTA.

IPSA played a vital role in organizing the regional consultations and also the National Consultation. Its president, Dr Abdul Rashid Agwan, helped the process as consultant.

3. Studies on Urban Poor

Youth for Unity and Voluntary Action (YUVA), a Mumbai-based non-governmental organization, and Institute of Policy Studies and Advocacy (IPSA) have agreed to collaborate on awareness and advocacy regarding the urban poor in India. Consequently, analytical studies have been taken up for understanding provisioning in the municipal budgets for the urban poor. Two studies have been approved under the scheme; i.e., ‘Public Provisioning for the Urban Poor: An Analysis of Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation Budgets (2014-17)’ and ‘Public Provisioning for the Urban Poor: An Analysis of Guwahati Municipal Corporation Budgets (2015-17)’. A team of Dr. Abdul Rashid Agwan, Jawed Alam Khan, Brishti Banerjee, Marina Joseph and Doel Jaikishen have worked on it. Draft reports were submitted by the team in September 2019 for review and improvement.

4. Capacity Building Workshops on Municipal Budgets

A training workshop was organized on ‘Analysis of Municipal Budget and Governance’ by YUVA-Mumbai Chapter in association with IPSA. The workshop was held at YUVA Centre, Navi Mumbai on April 26, 2019. Jawed Alam Khan, Advisor IPSA, was the leading resource person in the event.

5. Training Manual on SCP and TSP Budgets

IPSA has prepared a ‘Training Manual on Understanding Budgets for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes’ on behalf of Dalit Bahujan Resource Centre (DBRC), Gudur for training and reference of activists working for the development and welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. IPSA prepared the Manual as another contribution of IPSA for the weaker sections.

6. Study on Implementation of SCSP and TSP in Andhra Pradesh

IPSA has prepared document ‘A Study on Implementation of SCSP and TSP in Andhra Pradesh for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes’ in collaboration of Dalit Bahujan Resource Centre (DBRC), Gudur. The study report will help activists

for doing advocacy with AP government for better implementation of SCSP and TSP. It will work for the development and welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

7. National Consultation of CSOs

Oxfam India held its 'National CSO Coalition' in the first week of December 2019 at Vishva Yuva Kendra, New Delhi. In this coalition, delegates from 15 states of the country joined for mapping the issues and for paving a way forward for the formation of a collective voice and create a national platform bringing the specific issues of concern to the fore as well as encourage cross-learning among the individual states and also within each other of various excellent models of success. The thematic areas of the coalition included gender, economic empowerment, health and nutrition. A team of IPSA also joined the event including Dr Abdul Rashid Agwan, Dr Jawed Alam Khan, Dr Manjur Ali, Gaurav Kumar Singh, Iram Siddiqui, Imran Khan and Ashfaq Ahmad.

8. SDG Goals and Minorities Workshop

IPSA and Afkar India Foundation, Kandhla (UP) jointly organized a workshop on 'SDG Goals and Minorities', on June 28, 2019 at Kandhla, Muzaffarnagar in Uttar Pradesh. Around 50 participants attended the workshop. It was spearheaded by Dr Jawed Alam Khan. In the workshop, participants were provided with knowledge on the functioning of PM Jan Vikas Karyakram/Multi Sectoral Development Programme as well as PM New 15 Point Programme for Welfare of Minorities. A detailed discussion was also made on challenges in the process of implementation of these two programs and also suggestions were given to improve the implementation processes.

9. Training Workshop on SCP and TSP Budgets of AP

IPSA has organized a training workshop in association with Dalit Bahujan Resource Centre (DBRC), Gudur on 'Tracking SCP and TSP Budget in Andhra Pradesh'. It was held at Guntur on 4-5 April, 2019 and spearheaded by the Advisor of IPSA Jawed Alam Khan.



సబ్‌ప్లాన్ నిధుల వినియోగంపై విశ్లేషణ

గుంటూరు విద్య: మేర్, ప్రభాతవార్త:
ఎస్సీ, ఎస్టీ సబ్‌ప్లాన్ నిధుల వినియోగంపై
డిబిఆర్‌సి (దళిత బహుజన రీసోర్స్ సెంటర్)
ఆధ్వర్యంలో విశ్లేషణ జరవనున్నట్లు రాష్ట్ర కార్యదర్శి



అల్లడి దేవకుమార్ తెలిపారు. స్థానికంగా కని, ఆదివారాల్లో జరిగిన బడ్జెట్ పర్క్యూషన్ పై దేవకుమార్ ప్రధాన వక్తగా మాట్లాడారు. దళిత గిరిజనుల అభివృద్ధి కోసం కేంద్ర రాష్ట్ర ప్రభుత్వాలు కేటాయించి పెడుతున్న నిధులను సక్రమంగా ఆయా పర్గాలకు అందే విధంగా ప్రభుత్వం కృషి చేయాలని ఆయన సూచించారు. కేంద్ర ఆర్థిక సంఘం ద్వారా వంచాయితీలకు వచ్చే నిధులను ఎస్సీ, ఎస్టీల వాడల్లో అభివృద్ధికి ఖర్చు చేయాలన్నారు. సబ్‌ప్లాన్ చట్టం అమల్లోకి వచ్చి 2019 నాటికి ఐదు సంవత్సరాలయిందని, డిబిఆర్‌సి ఆధ్వర్యంలో ఒక బృందాన్ని ఏర్పాటు చేసినట్లు తెలిపారు. ఇన్‌స్ట్రూట్ ఆఫ్ పాల్స్ స్టడీస్ అధ్వర్యం ప్రతినిధి జావేద్ ఆలం ఖాన్ మాట్లాడుతూ ఎస్సీ, ఎస్టీల నిధుల వినియోగంలో నిర్దిష్టమైన కార్యచరణను రూపొందించు కోవాలన్నారు. ఈ పర్క్యూషన్‌లో రాష్ట్ర వ్యాప్తంగా ఉన్న డిబిఆర్‌సి ప్రతినిధులు పాల్గొన్నారు. ఈ కార్యక్రమంలో జాన్‌కెనడీ, రమాదేవి, వైఎస్‌సి మూర్తి, గోశాల జాన్సీ రాణి, దార్ల కోటేశ్వరరావు, ఇస్సాకు, రఘుపతి తదితర ప్రతినిధులు పాల్గొన్నారు. జిల్లా కో-ఆర్డినేటర్ మల్లెల చిన్నప్ప, రాష్ట్ర నాయకుల చుక్కా అనీల్‌కుమార్, వెలిపర్ల దుర్గా ప్రాసాద తదితరులు పర్యవేక్షించారు.

10. Internship to Students

IPSA approached Jamia Millia Islamia to work with this central university in providing internship to its desirous students. Consequently, three Post Graduate

students from the Department of Economics of the university in June 2019, who were given the assignment to study the ground reality, analyze the situation and interact with beneficiaries on the impact of centrally sponsored minority scholarships. Interns Iqra Adeel, Deepak Kumar and Arshad Ayyub joined the assignment and worked on the theme 'Assessing Policy and Priorities for Development of Minorities in Delhi and Uttar Pradesh' from 20 May to 20 July 2019. Due certificates of their participation in the internship were given at the completion of the period.

11. AIEM Conference

Dr Abdul Rashid Agwan participated on behalf of IPSA in the Annual Conference of All India Educational Movement held at Kolkata on 13-15 March 2020. He contributed in the event as a resource person and gave a presentation on "Global Developments in Education", which was highly appreciated.

12. Symposium on Constructive Literature

IPSA and a Delhi-based platform of social activists named Volunteers of Change organized a discussion on 'Adab aur Hamare Masail' (Literature and Our Issues) on 14 June, 2019 at Jamia Nagar, New Delhi.





The purpose of this discussion was to sensitize writers and poets to highlight issues of common people in their compositions. Around 50 participants attended the workshop. Dr Mehmud Ahmad, the retired professor of the Department of Urdu, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi and a renowned Urdu critique was the chief guest and Mr Shahid Khan, an NRI and convener of Caravan-e-Urdu Kuwait, was the guest of honor.

13. Training on Childhood Care and Education

Vigyan Foundation, Lucknow has organized a workshop in October 2020 on 'Budgetary Priorities for Early Childhood Care and Education: An Analysis of Uttar Pradesh'. Dr Jawed Alam Khan participated on behalf of IPSA as a resource person for training the workers associated with the Foundation. It was a jointly organized event of IPSA and the Foundation.

14. Assistance in a Baseline Survey

Action Aid India has undertaken an intervention program for the marginalized communities such as Dalits, Adivasis, Muslims and Nomads in four states namely, Bihar, Haryana, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. The organization sought the assistance of IPSA in the finalization of its baseline survey report of the identified

districts. Accordingly, Dr Abdul Rashid Agwan, Dr Jawed Alam Khan and Dr Manjur Ali remained helpful in the process.

15. Contribution in the Governance Review 2019-20

A section of Indian CSOs has been bringing out annual Governance Review (GR) since 2005. The GR is based on policy asks, implementation of the desired schemes and pointing out gaps as regards development of marginalized sections.

It is a matter of pleasure for the IPSA that two of its associates have been requested by WNTA to contribute their papers for the GR 2020. Accordingly, Dr Abdul Rashid Agwan contributed his paper on 'Governance and Muslims: A Year of Unparalleled Repressions' and Dr Jawed Alam Khan on 'Budget: Need to Revive Private Consumption Demand'. It is hoped that the Governance Review 2020 will be published by May 2020.

16. Leadership Development Essay Competition

IPSA has generated a discussion among some active social workers regarding orientation for youth to take up a constructive leadership for community development. This led to finalization of Leadership Development Essay Writing Competition to be held on the occasion of National Education Day falling on 11 November 2019 the birth anniversary of the first Education Minister of India, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad. Associates of Anjuman Bihar agreed to provide donations for the scheme.

The competition was held to give prizes of Rs 15000, Rs 10000 and Rs 5000 for the three top winners in Urdu, Hindi and English languages and 10 consolation prizes to other runner ups. There were three categories of awards also namely, General, Youth and Video Presentation.

About one hundred participants joined it. Professor Jawed Ahmad, Dr Mohammad Mumshad, Mr Shibli Arsalan and Mrs Nuzhat Bano, vetted different entries and provided scores on the basis of given criteria. Due to some unavoidable circumstances, the results of the competition could be announced with some delay, in February 2020.