FROM THE DESK OF EDITOR IN CHIEF

RAJEEV KUMAR

We are delighted to release Volume-II, Issue-II of our Quarterly Newsletter 'The Voyage', which includes a wide coverage and series of columns on professional social work, our multifarious diverse activities, global happenings, learning, networking opportunities for professionals, partnership building, expert comments, views from practitioners. We have also created a 'know your member's section' to introduce our esteemed members. We anticipate that the second issue of our newsletter will receive wider appreciation from the members.

EXPERT'S SPEAK

Dr. Ketna Atul Matkar, Founder, Cipher Environmental Services LLP, Thane, Mumbai.

APSWDP has created a mark as a team of experts, working professionally with a system-driven approach. Their inclusive and positive attitude, collaborative working, vision, and flawless execution is the hallmark of their work quality and work ethic. The selection of topics showcases its approach towards the incorporation of SDGs as a mission. This forward-looking approach makes them a trailblazer organization, that stands out from others working in the field. Wishing good luck and success in the future endeavours.

Mrs. Nita Ganguly, Educator, Author, Climate Reality Leader & Mentor, The Climate Reality Project, India.

I record my sincere appreciation to the team APSWDP for conducting several virtual conclaves on various meaningful and strong social issues that I have enjoyed participating in, both as an attendee as well as a guest speaker. I have personally experienced advance planning done by the team, lining up all the pieces, looking into every minor detail, and putting a lot of effort into “curating” the experience in a way that helps bring out the value of the content. Team APSWDP, you truly live up to the acronym, as you are a committed Association of Professional Social Workers & motivated Development Practitioners.
No Poverty, is aimed to end poverty in all its forms everywhere by 2030. Baseline projections suggest that six percent of the global population would still be living in extreme poverty in 2030, missing the target of ending poverty.

The question may arise, what is poverty or why does it matter? Poverty is a multidimensional concept. Poverty is a state or condition in which a person lacks the resources for a person’s basic needs.

Absolute poverty measures and compare income against the amount needed to meet basic personal needs, such as food, clothing, and shelter. Relative poverty measures when a person cannot meet a minimum level of living standards, compared to others in the same time and place. Therefore, relative poverty varies from one country to another, or from one society to another.

Poverty is measured by defining a poverty line. It is a conventional approach to measuring poverty, to specify a minimum expenditure (or income) required to purchase a basket of goods and services necessary to satisfy basic human needs. Similarly, the Global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) is an international measure of multidimensional poverty covering 107 developing countries.

Globally, the number of people living in extreme poverty declined from 36 per cent in 1990 to 10 per cent in 2015. But the pace of change is slowing due to the COVID-19 crisis and this would be the first time that poverty has increased globally in thirty years, since 1990. Almost 10 per cent of the world’s population still live in extreme poverty today. The poverty in rural areas is three times higher than in urban areas, the worldwide poverty rate being 17.2 per cent.

India is 62nd among 107 countries with an MPI score of 0.123 and 27.91% headcount ratio, based on the NFHS 4 (2015/16) data and Global MPI 2020. India has been conducting various poverty alleviation programs. These programs can be grouped under Employment programmes and skill-building, Food and shelter, and Access to credit. To name a few programs under these heads are National Urban Livelihood Mission (NULM), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MNREGA) 2005, Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana and Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP).

SOCIAL WORK INTERVENTION

There is increasing recognition of the primary role of social work in promoting social development especially in alleviating poverty. The major role of professional social work to promote Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), are community development, which involves
CONCLUSION

For almost 25 years, extreme poverty was steadily declining. Now, for the first time in a generation, the quest to end poverty has suffered its worst setback. Global extreme poverty is expected to rise for the first time in over 20 years. The COVID-19 pandemic will have both immediate and long-term economic consequences for people across the globe. Strong social protection systems are essential for mitigating the effects and preventing many people from falling into poverty. Many governments and non-governmental organizations try to reduce poverty by providing basic needs to people who are unable to earn a sufficient income. Strategies of increasing income to make basic needs more affordable typically include welfare and providing financial services.

Improving human development outcomes for the poor and effective implementation of welfare policies will go a long way in eradicating poverty in the country and moving towards meeting the target of SDG -1.

REFERENCES


*Dr. Priyanka Khanna Kaushik* is a professional Social Worker and development practitioner based in Punjab. She is Ph.D. in Social Work and presently a Post Doctoral Fellow, ICSSR at Department of Social Work, Punjabi University, Patiala.
SOCIAL WORK PROFESSION - THOUGHT

“Social work is professional service based on the knowledge of human relations and skills in relationships and concerned with intrapersonal and inter-personal adjustments resulting from unmet individual, group or community needs”. - Mirza R. Ahmad (1969).

HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE OF SOCIAL WORK - PURNIMA BHARDWAJ, M.S.W

Social Work Profession emphasis on “Helping the people to make them help themselves.” Social Work earlier began with the charity to welfare, welfare to development, and development to empowerment. The history of social work was largely shaped by European influences. Colonial influences helped define the nature of well-being and prescribed responses for inequities that emerged in the distribution of social resources. The history of social work education continues to evolve as a response to the social and cultural perspectives on common problems in human development. Social workers have taken up the challenge of not only addressing the immediate suffering of those whom they serve, but also critiquing and working to improve economic, political, and social circumstances defining both individual and collective well-being. Social workers are part of the overarching social welfare structures that help maintain a stable society through the promotion of social order.

The history of social work and social welfare in the America, including an exposition of influences arising Before the Common Era (BCE). In the UK, the Elizabethan Poor Laws acknowledged the need for caring for the vulnerable and indigent and legalized a framework for governmental service delivery. Janes Adam.

Social Work in Asia has been transformed from a charity-based tradition to an autonomous profession today. From the countries of Europe i.e., the UK, Netherlands as well as Germany, and from the USA, social work as a professional discipline has spread over the globe. Apart from the above-cited pioneering countries, many countries of the Europe, South America, Australia, Asia, and Africa have now been able to recognize social work as an autonomous profession to bring positive changes in society.

In India, the Social work profession began very late and its progress has been neither rapid nor smooth. The first training in for social workers started in 1936 with the establishment of Sir Dorabji Tata Graduate School of Social Work, 1936 in Bombay, now Mumbai. It was the only institute that gave social work education till independence. Social work today is inseparable from social policy, legislation, and Societal values. Both political values and professional ones effect social worker’s practice with individual’s Political beliefs influence our views about the state meeting welfare needs and who – and who does not – deserves welfare. Thus ‘Social work’ still is a contested concept.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Virtual Commemoration of World Habitat Day 2021 on 4th October 2021 in partnership with Chitkara University, Punjab.
- Virtual Conclave on 24 HOURS OF REALITY: LET’S GET REAL, on 29th OCTOBER, 2021 in partnership with The Climate Reality Project-India.

INVITATION IN 5TH NCTOH, PGIMER

APSWDP was invited to participate in the 5th Virtual National Conference on Tobacco Or Health (NCTOH) for sharing the association’s vision on Tobacco Control on 25th September 2021. Mr. Hitesh Kumar Gulati, Hon. Director-General, APSWDP shared the vision, activities and future plan during the conference.
Virtual Dialogue on "Harnessing Technology Innovations For Sustainable Development" - Aligned with SDG 9 - Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure; SDG 11 - Sustainable Cities and Communities; and SDG 17 - Partnerships for the Goals, a Virtual Dialogue on Harnessing Technology Innovations For Sustainable Development was organized by the APSWDP in partnership with Signicent Technologies on 3rd July 2021. The dialogue was inaugurated by Chief Guest Mr. J. K. Sharma, Chief Project Officer- Technology Business, IIT, Ropar and Co-chaired by Guest of Honor Dr. P. K. Singla, Associate Professor, NITTTR, Chandigarh.

The dialogue was moderated by Mr. Hitesh Kumar Gulati, Hon. Director-General, APSWDP, and expert sessions were taken by Mr. Ravish Kumar, Manager, IBD, and Ms. Deepshi Madaan, Team Lead, Life Science, Signicent. The key objective of the virtual dialogue was to develop continuous support for leading a discussion, identifying alternatives, and implementing the technology solutions by involving unheard voices of youth in creating a sustainable and peaceful world. The dialogue was attended by 86 participants including aspiring teachers, academicians, and researchers from the university.

Virtual Women Conclave on “Climate Change Adaptation: Changing Lifestyle and Modifying Behavior” - From farming to technology, corporate to the social sector, climate change and defense services, women are locally and globally working on sustainable development in outstanding capacities as role models and impacting all facets of life. The world is witnessing a significant transformation in realizing the role and influence of a woman in changing the lifestyle and modifying behavior for conservation of the environment and sustainable solutions. "Women & Environment share a deep connection". Women as Nature/ Environment are called "Creators of Life", associated with seasons & responsible for the continuity of lifecycle, with this background, APSWDP conceived a Virtual Conclave on Climate Change Adaptation: Changing Lifestyle and Modifying Behavior and was organized by the association in partnership with Women’s Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (WICCI), Chandigarh; Chitkara University, Punjab and The Climate Reality Project India on 10th July 2021 (Saturday). The conclave was inaugurated by Ms. C.S. Rama Lakshmi, First Women Officer Indian Forest Service (IFS), Andhra Cadre, and was moderated by Dr. Vani Parwez, Co-Convener Outreach Synergist, Chitkara College of Education, Chitkara University.

The conclave was conceived with an aim to develop an understanding that Nature is our best friend and let us cherish this friendship through case studies of women role models; raising awareness and edifying people about global warming, its devastating effects and share solutions to stop global warming; and exploring ways of synergizing with faith, connectedness and civic engagement in taking continuous action and progressive decisions on Climate Change Solutions and Sustainable Development Goals. In the conclave, expert talks were delivered by Dr. Ketna Atul Matkar, Founder & Managing Director Cipher Environmental Solutions LLP, Ms. Jas. K. Shan, Dancer, Life Coach, Movement & Energy Therapist, and Ms. Nita Ganguly, Climate Leader-Mentor & National Coordinator - Waste Management, TCRP-India.

The focus of the women conclave was on Women as the Torchbearer for bringing in influencing the behavior and lifestyle of the individual, family, and society at large, that promotes community cohesion for working in the areas of Climate Change. The conclave was attended by 200 participants including aspiring women leaders, academicians, climate presenters, environmental activists, researchers, corporates, and government officers.
APSWDP PROGRAM & EVENTS

**International Conclave On Climate Change Mitigation And Adaptation (ICCCMA 2021)** - Aligned with SDG 13 - Climate Action and UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021 - 2030, Virtual Center of Excellence for Social Welfare Administration, (VCoE-SWA) conceived a virtual International Conclave on Climate Change Mitigation And Adaptation (ICCCMA 2021) under the patronage of Mr. N.P.S. Randhawa, IAS, Chief Executive Officer, PEDA in partnership with Punjab Energy Development Agency (PEDA), The Climate Reality Project-India, Asia Climate Change Education Center (ACCEC), Jeju, South Korea, and Chandigarh University, Punjab, India on 4th September 2021 under the aegis of APSWDP.

ICCCMA -2021 was aimed at initiating a global conversation for addressing the issues, challenges, and local solutions for Climate Change, Mitigation, and Adaptation under the ambit of SDG -13. The conclave was inaugurated by Chief Guest Dr. Mushtaq Ahmed Memon, Regional Coordinator for Resource Efficiency, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Asia Pacific Regional Office, Bangkok, Thailand and Co-chaired by Guest of Honor Dr. Dai-Yeon Jeong Director, Asia Climate Change Education Center (ACCEC), Jeju South Korea. The International Conclave was comprised of various sessions including Panel Discussions on Issues, Challenges, and Solutions on Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation and Technical workshops on The Role of Civil Society Organizations in Responding to Climate Change. The key global speakers who shared their key sessions and deliberations in the ICCCMMA-2021 were Mr. Aditya Pundir Country Head, India, and South Asia The Climate Reality Project-India, Mr. Michael Gasser, Co-Founder and Secretary Social Impact Startup E[Co]work, Switzerland & India, Dr. Anshu Kumar Cold Chain Specialist UNICEF, Bhutan Ex-Technical Advisor, Montreal Protocol Unit, Er. M. P. Singh Director, PEDA, Government of Punjab, India, Mr. Xabier Arruza Manager Bilbao Urban & Cities, Founder of Basmvium, Bilbao, Spain, Dr. Muthusami Kumaran, Associate Professor University of Florida, USA, and Dr. António Domingos Abreu, Manager, UNESCO Chair BSSD, University of Coimbra, Portugal. The conclave was attended by more than 408 participants from all across the globe.

Launch of "SAMTA NAYAY KENDRA" First Legal Aid Clinic for Transgender by District Legal Services Authority (DSL A) at APSWDP Community Targeted Intervention Project Office, Chandigarh - Justice Jaswant Singh, Punjab and Haryana High Court-cum-Executive Chairman, State Legal Services Authority, UT, Chandigarh inaugurated SAMTA NYAY KENDRA, First Exclusive Legal Aid Clinic for Transgenders in North India under the aegis of District Legal Services Authority, Chandigarh (DSL A), Chandigarh State AIDS Control Society (CSACS) at APSWDP Office in the presence of Mr. Gurbir Singh, District and Session Judge-cum-Chairman, District Legal Services Authority (DSL A), Mr. Puneesh Jindia, Member Secretary, State Legal Services Authority (SLSA), Chandigarh, Mr. Ashok Kumar Mann, Learned CJM-cum-Secretary, District Legal Services Authority (DSL A), Mr. Sandeep Mittal, Deputy Director-TI, CSACS and Ms. Rekha Trivedi Secretary-General, APSWDP cum Project Director CTI HRG Project on 19th Sept 2021.

Justice Jaswant Singh said that after the landmark decision by the Hon’ble Supreme Court in the case of National Legal Services Authority v. Union of India AIR 2014 SC 1863, whereby the Apex court declared transgender people the ‘third gender’. He further stressed on sensitization of all stakeholders including the judiciary about the specific needs of this community. He further informed that through the clinic persons from the Transgender Community will be provided Legal Aid Services, Legal Awareness Training, Linkages, and capacity building services.

Launch of "SAMTA NAYAY KENDRA" First Legal Aid Clinic for Transgender by District Legal Services Authority (DSL A) at APSWDP Community Targeted Intervention Project Office, Chandigarh - Justice Jaswant Singh, Punjab and Haryana High Court-cum-Executive Chairman, State Legal Services Authority, UT, Chandigarh inaugurated SAMTA NYAY KENDRA, First Exclusive Legal Aid Clinic for Transgenders in North India under the aegis of District Legal Services Authority, Chandigarh (DSL A), Chandigarh State AIDS Control Society (CSACS) at APSWDP Office in the presence of Mr. Gurbir Singh, District and Session Judge-cum-Chairman, District Legal Services Authority (DSL A), Mr. Puneesh Jindia, Member Secretary, State Legal Services Authority (SLSA), Chandigarh, Mr. Ashok Kumar Mann, Learned CJM-cum-Secretary, District Legal Services Authority (DSL A), Mr. Sandeep Mittal, Deputy Director-TI, CSACS and Ms. Rekha Trivedi Secretary-General, APSWDP cum Project Director CTI HRG Project on 19th Sept 2021.
CSR SUPPORT TO APSWDP RUN DIC TGS BY PNB

Punjab National Bank (PNB), Circle Office, Chandigarh extended their support under Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) for upgrading Drop-In Centre (DIC) for High-Risk Groups (HRGs) including Transgenders established under Community Target Intervention HIV/AIDS Project funded by Chandigarh AIDS Control Society (CSACS) by providing Water Dispenser, LED Screen and Water Purifier on the occasion of the launch of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav planned by PNB on 20th July, 2021 by Mr. CH. S. Mallikaarjua Rao, Chief Managing Director and Executive Director, PNB at NITTTR, Chandigarh.

UNDESA PUBLISHED APSWDP WRITTEN STATEMENTS IN 2021 ECOSOC HIGH-LEVEL SEGMENT

United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) has published a Written Statement submitted by APSWDP in Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) High-Level Segment held from 13 to 16 July 2021, which focused primarily on COVID-19 and its impact on the implementation of the Decade of Action for Sustainable Development and the sustainable, inclusive and resilient recovery that can put us back on track to build a better world as envisioned in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

**Know Your Members**

**HIRATAN DEY**
**ACADEMICIAN**
Mr. Hiratan Dey is an academician by profession and possesses a Masters Degree in Social Work and Past Graduate Diploma in Human Rights. His areas of expertise are in Women Empowerment, Youth Development, Rural Development, Human Rights and Social Justice. He has worked in reputed social organizations including Hope Kolkata Foundation and Society Against Violence in Education (SAVE) in the past. Presently, he is serving in the Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda Educational and Research Institute, Belur Math, Howrah, West Bengal.

**SANGEETHA SIVADASINI**
**SOCIAL ACTIVIST**
Ms. Sangeetha Sivadasini is a development professional and a die-hard volunteer in diverse development domains including women & child development and disasters relief operations. She is a Master in Business Administration (MBA) from Bharathiar University, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu. She is founder and has established two schools in North East regions. She is also associated with International Inner Wheel club in the capacity of International Service Organizer. In addition, she is also a Climate Reality Leader under The Climate Reality Project, India and certified in Environment Protection & Sustainability.

**VINAY KUMAR**
**DEVELOPMENT PRACTITIONER**
Mr. Vinay Kumar is a development practitioner by profession and possesses a Masters Degree in Social Work (Counselling) from Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), New Delhi. His areas of expertise are in Community Development, Rural Development, Women & Youth Development, Resource Mapping and Mobilization. Presently, he is working in HelpAge India in the capacity of Connect Officer (Elderline Punjab).

**PURNIMA BHARDWAJ**
**DEVELOPMENT PRACTITIONER**
Ms. Purnima Bhardwaj is a development professional with more than 5 years of experience in Women Development and Capacity Building & Training. She holds Masters in Social Work from Centre of Social Work, Panjab University, Chandigarh. She has extensively worked in a project titled “Special Cell for Women in collaboration with National Commission for Women and Punjab Police” of TISS, Mumbai. She is currently working as a coordinator cum counsellor for Sanjhi Women Help Desk, Punjab Police.
Weblink-imposed by the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic. Of inter-professional dialogue and of the diversity of interests that are at stake during a crisis such as the one that we are living through. Dialogue invites social work researchers, educators, and practitioners to reflect on social work’s role as a catalyst for change.

Professions. Enriching Solidarity In Unruly Times” Virtual Event, OCTOBER 28TH – 29TH, 2021 - Social Work International Conference (SWIC) 2021, 5th Edition, “Social Work Diversity: A Dialogue Among Professions. The crisis created by the COVID-19 pandemic has widened socio-economic gaps and led to increased vulnerability and marginalization of social groups, most of which were already traditionally/historically socially disadvantaged populations. In the context of increased economic and social polarization, generated by individualistic capitalism, in which solidarity seems to be rather intra-class than inter-class, it is necessary to rethink the paradigm of solidarity in “unruly times”. Social work, through its diversity and capacity for dialogue with a multitude of other professions, can contribute to and decisively enrich the landscape of social solidarity in times of crisis. The virtual dialogue invites social work researchers, educators, and practitioners to reflect on social work’s role as a catalyst of inter-professional dialogue and of the diversity of interests that are at stake during a crisis such as the one imposed by the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic.


UN DESA SDG Good Practices - In the five years since the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) was adopted in 2015, many governments, UN entities, international, regional organizations, and stakeholders have gained in-depth knowledge and expertise and taken innovative steps towards implementing this ambitious global framework. Many inspiring breakthroughs and success stories are showing results and impacts all over the world, and several good practices can be replicated and scaled up to address existing gaps and constraints. Bringing this global expertise to scale will be critical to support recovery efforts from the COVID-19 pandemic and to accelerate progress towards the Decade of Action to deliver the SDGs. UN DESA has documented SDG Good Practices, Success Stories, and Lessons Learned, conducted from 2020 – March 2021. For details login, https://sdgs.un.org/partnerships/good-practice

GLOBAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Virtual Training Workshop Accelerating Multi-stakeholder Partnerships for the SDGs, 28 October, 3 & 4 November 2021 at 15:00 (KST) - The aim of this workshop is to provide space for knowledge sharing and peer learning experience along with expert insights on multi-stakeholder partnership cases in different contexts. The program will also guide you through the partnership formation process from defining to designing partnerships along with key characteristics of effective partnership platforms in practice. The key objective of this workshop is to analyze stakeholder engagement platforms in practice to gain professional insights for better designing and implementing a multi-stakeholder partnership towards sustainable, resilient, and inclusive societies.

Last Date- 19 October 2021. Weblink - http://www.cifaljeju.org

8th India CSR Summit, 7-9 December 2021 - The India CSR Summit, hosted by CSRBOX and NGOBOX, is the largest CSR forum in India bringing together companies, CSR foundations, government agencies, non-profits, social businesses, and advisory firms to network, collaborate and scale-up initiatives in the development and impact sector. The forum focuses on scope for engaging businesses in development agenda, identification, and deliberation of thematic interventions and modalities, leveraging existing community institutions and social fabric, different models of collaborations and engagement, a few successful interventions by companies and non-profits and scaling up, and the way forward for time-based action-plan.

Last Date- 25 October 2021 (Early Bird)

Social Work International Conference (SWIC) 2021, 5th Edition, “Social Work Diversity: A Dialogue Among Professions. Enriching Solidarity In Unruly Times” Virtual Event, OCTOBER 28TH – 29TH, 2021 - The crisis created by the COVID-19 pandemic has widened socio-economic gaps and led to increased vulnerability and marginalization of social groups, most of which were already traditionally/historically socially disadvantaged populations. In the context of increased economic and social polarization, generated by individualistic capitalism, in which solidarity seems to be rather intra-class than inter-class, it is necessary to rethink the paradigm of solidarity in “unruly times”. Social work, through its diversity and capacity for dialogue with a multitude of other professions, can contribute to and decisively enrich the landscape of social solidarity in times of crisis. The virtual dialogue invites social work researchers, educators, and practitioners to reflect on social work’s role as a catalyst of inter-professional dialogue and of the diversity of interests that are at stake during a crisis such as the one imposed by the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic.

Weblink- https://swicub.com