



Damdama College (affiliated to Gauhati University)
Kulhati, Kamrup, Assam- 781104, India
Website: <https://damdamacollege.edu.in/>

National Webinar On

Migration in India amidst Covid-19 Pandemic: Implications, Challenges and Future Preparedness

Date: July 18, 2020 (Saturday)

Time: 11 am onward

Abstract Submission Last Date: July 11, 2020

Concept Note

As the Covid 19 pandemic rages across continents, forcing most countries to go into the defensive over what many medical experts feel is a great disaster to health, tourism, economic and academic benchmarks of nations, India and many other countries of South Asia sense a different risk. This is the faceless underbelly of the republic—the migrant laborers, who had managed to survive somehow in the grueling demands of a ‘market economy’ working on a daily basis to feed themselves and those they had left at home. The Pandemic tested their ever gritty spirits leaving them hopeless and helpless, even as governments promised help and NGO’s, celebrities and political parties organized funds and rations to feed them. Many chose to return even when the government ordered complete shutdown of essential services including trains and buses. Images of people run over by buses and other faster moving vehicles flooded news-channels. There were a head butting of people on religious lines, and communities were suspected for the spread the ‘virus.’ Containment zones and quarantine centers helped governments monitor movements of ‘suspicious nationals’ and some were even beaten by the police, herded like cattle and locked in toilets and bathrooms as preventive measures. So, what would these workers do when they come back to the villages? Or will they return to the cities for work? The pandemic has seriously limited the choices of a migrant worker who are now doubly marked first as ‘cultural outsiders’ and then as ever present biological threats. Using Walter Benjamin’s concept of ‘history’ one can argue that the present crisis facing the workers have connections to his social past—the fracture of his lived spaces, histories and livelihoods. It is also important to consider here the notions of ‘home’ and the space of belonging for this population.

The government’s monetary policy of flushing banks with fresh capital was seen as an attempt by many to get over the economic ‘shock’ and contain what many businesses felt necessary to stabilize markets. But, is this preemptory measure too little too small and only take care of the already well to do people with industries? Or does India now need a comprehensive disaster management policy that would include workers from the informal sector who now have no jobs, no social security and sparse government help? How can such policies be more gender friendly and provide woman and their children special benefits? There are also suggestions that any policy framework need to involve all stakeholders and function at a regional level. One also needs to consider distribution mechanisms which are a bane of public spending in India. At the same time, the pandemic could also be seen as an opportunity to reorganize workers, maximize their potential by allowing them direct accesses to technical and financial support considering that new lines of a ‘supply chain mechanism,’ has evolved post Covid. But, for India to be a global power of comparative competence, programs of growth and development need to be environmentally sustainable.

Against this backdrop, Damdama College is going to organize a one-day National Webinar on **“Migration in India amidst Covid-19 Pandemic: Implications, Challenges and Future Preparedness”** to explore issues of the migrant laborers crisis from different perspective.

Sub-Themes

- Mapping Afflictions of Migrants Workers in India amidst Covid-19: Policy and Legal Responses towards Mitigation
- Migration Issue in India's War against Covid-19: Social, Economic and Political Implications
- Understanding the Mental Health of Migrants during Covid-19 pandemic in India
- Migration in India during Covid-19 pandemic: A Gender Perspective
- Covid-19 Pandemic Migrants Laborers and its impact on the Rural Economy
- Post Covid-19 Rural Market Scenario: Changes in Supply Chain and Price Distribution
- Household Expenditure Pattern: Trend and Shift Post Covid-19 Pandemic.
- Arrival of the Migrants to their State amidst Covid-19 Pandemic and Management in Quarantine Centre.
- Going back home? Dislocation and Spatial Politics.
- Environment and sustainable futures.
- Any other sub-theme related to main topic.

Who can participate? Researchers, Faculties, Students, Professionals, NGOs, Media, and others. **(all participants will be provided certificates)**

Number of Participants (limited to) - 100 participants

Duration of the Webinar- Maximum of two hours duration or less depending on number of paper presenters.

Important Dates

- Hosting of the Webinar: July 18, 2020 (Saturday) at 11: 00 AM
- Last Date of Abstract Submission: July 11, 2020
- Final Full Paper/Article: Within one week from the date of conclusion of the Webinar. **(Please Note: Original research Papers/Articles received will be published as an Edited Book with ISBN.)**

Guidelines for Webinar Presentation and Sending of Abstract

- Send soft copy of the abstract (in 300 words) of your paper/article before July 11, 2020 only to saurav.sengupta9@gmail.com
- Your paper/article presentation for the webinar should be prepared in Microsoft PowerPoint presentation (PPT) not exceeding five slides
- All paper presenters will be allowed to "screen share" and present their PPTs.
- Please ensure good internet connectivity during your presence at the national webinar.

Guidelines for Submitting Final Full Paper/Article

- Send Soft copy of Papers/Articles only to: saurav.sengupta9@gmail.com
- Length of the paper should not exceed 4000 words including abstract (in 300 words) and for articles within 2500 words including abstract (in 150 words) and five keywords. Papers/articles will be selected after proper blind review.
- It should be neatly typed in English on MS Word, Times New Roman, Font size –12, 1.0 spacing
- For Reference/Bibliography, authors are requested to follow APA style (7th Edition)
- The Papers/Articles should be the original work of the author and a certificate of self declaration is required to be submitted along with paper confirming originality
- Details of each author like full name, designation, name of institutions, Phone No., E-mail ID, etc. should be clearly mentioned in the front page of the paper.

Please register by clicking in the goggle form link or scanning the QR code provided below. The registration for participation in the webinar as a paper presenter or a listener is absolutely free. For any other details or confusion please feel free to mail the convener at: saurav.sengupta9@gmail.com



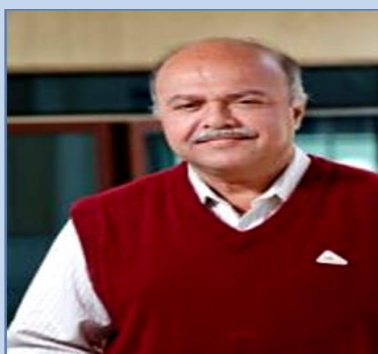
E-Registration Link: <https://forms.gle/5VLwq4b2VawC9vJ88>

(Please fill up the e-registration form carefully. The information provided during registration will be used for issuing certificates)

Honorable Resource Persons



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