Comparative Contexts of Discrimination: Social Exclusion and Equal Opportunity Policies in Asia
International Seminar
6-8 May 2009, Gulmohar Hall, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi, India

Programme

6 May, 2009 (Wednesday)

4.30-6.00 pm Inauguration

Chair: Sukhadeo Thorat, Chairman, University Grants Commission

Introduction to the Seminar: Surinder S. Jodhka, Director, Indian Institute of Dalit Studies

Inaugural Address: Somnath Chatterjee, Hon’ble Speaker, Lok Sabha

Keynote Address: Ajay Chhibber, Asst. Secretary General and Regional Director, UNDP Asia and the Pacific

Vote of Thanks: Sobin George, Fellow & Programme Coordinator, IIDS

Tea:

7 May, 2009 (Thursday)

8.30 to 9.30am Registration

9.30-10.30 Plenary

Chair: Ravi Srivastava, Professor, Centre for the Study of Regional Development, JNU

Speaker: Vani K. Barooah, Professor of Applied Economics, University of Ulster, Northern Ireland

Discussion

10.30 to 10.45 Tea Break

10.45-1.30 Session I. Presentations from South East Asia & South Asia (15-20 minutes each)

Chair: Ghanshyam Shah, Former Professor, Centre of Social Medicine and Community Health, School of Social Sciences, JNU
1. Ethnicity, Religion and Culture Based Exclusion and Discrimination in Aotearoa/New Zealand - Antje Linkenbach, Lecturer in Anthropology, University of Canterbury

2. The Indigenous Communities of Mindanao: Their Quest for Ancestral Domain and Self-Determination - Erlinda M. Burton, Professor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Research Institute for Mindanao Culture, Philippines and Chona Echave, Research Associate, Research Institute for Mindanao Culture

3. Burakumin in Japan: Study of their Origin, Problems and Solutions - Nidhi Sadana, Fellow, Indian Institute of Dalit Studies

1.30-2.15 Lunch

2.15-4.00 Session 1. Continued

Chair: Patricia Johnston, Professor and Head of School of Indigenous Graduate Studies, Whakatane, New Zealand

4. Ethnicity, Religion and Culture Based Exclusion and Discrimination in East and South East Asia: A Study of Malaysia - S. N. Malakar, Professor, Centre for West Asian & African Studies, JNU

5. Ethnicity, Religion and Culture Based Exclusion and Discrimination in China - Fengwei Liu, College of Economics and Management, Zhengzhou University of Light Industry, Zhengzhou

6. Caste-based Discrimination in South Asia: A Study of Bangladesh - Iftekhar Uddin Chowdhury, Professor of Sociology, University of Chittagong

4.00-4.10: Tea Break

4.10-530 Session I. Continued

Chair: R.S. Deshpande, Professor & Head, ADRT Unit, Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore

7. Caste-based Discrimination in Nepal - Krishna B. Bhattachan, Professor of Sociology, University of Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu Nepal and Tej B. Sunar, NNDSWO, Nepal


Discussion

8 May, 2009 (Friday)

9.30 to 11.30am Session II. International Experience of Equal Opportunity Policies

Chair: Deirdre Boyd, Country Head, UNDP India

1. Theoretical Perspective- Lesson from Theory for Equal Opportunities - Sukhadeo Thorat, Chairman, University Grants Commission

2. Diversity, Discrimination or Difference: Case Study Aotearoa/New Zealand - Patricia Johnston, Professor and Head of School of Indigenous Graduate Studies, Whakatane, New Zealand

3. Exploring Patterns and Practices of Discrimination: Some Reflections– Aryma, Lecturer, Delhi University


Discussion

12.00-1.30 Session III. Problems of Multiple Groups in India

Chair: Arthur van Diesen, Senior Social Development Advisor, DFID, India

5. Labour Market Discrimination: Experiences from Indian Rural and Urban Labour Market- Sukhadeo Thorat, Chairman, University Grants Commission

6. Caste Based Discrimination: Socio-Psychological Perspectives - Rasmita Das Swain, Associate Professor, National University of Educational Planning and Administration, New Delhi and Gobind C. Pal, Fellow, IIDS, New Delhi

7. Dalits in Business - Surinder S. Jodhka, Director, Indian Institute of Dalit Studies

1.30-2.15 Lunch

2.15-5.30 Session III. Continued

Chair: Surinder S. Jodhka, Director, Indian Institute of Dalit Studies

8. Dalits in the Muslim and Christian Communities - Satish Deshpande, Professor of Sociology, Delhi School of Economics

9. Social Exclusion and Discrimination of Dalit Christians - Joseph Marianus Kujur, Head of the Department, Tribal and Dali Unit, Indian Social Institute, New Delhi

4.15-4.30 Tea

5.45-6.45 Valedictory

Chair: Martin Macwan, Chairman, Indian Institute of Dalit Studies

1 Indian State and the Changing Nature of Inclusive Policies - Abhijit Sen, Member, Planning Commission, Government of India

2 Civil Society Organisations and Inclusive Policies - Belinda Bennet, South Asia Representative, Christian Aid and Sandeep Chachra, Policy and Partnership Director for Action Aid India

Concluding Remarks and Vote of Thanks: Surinder S. Jodhka, Director, Indian Institute of Dalit Studies