

Centre for Study of Social Exclusion & Inclusive Policy,
University of Jammu

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The Centre for Study of Social Exclusion & Inclusive Policy was established by the UGC in 2008 at the University of Jammu, Jammu under the XI Five Year Plan for the Study of socially excluded social groups such as dalits, tribals, gujjars & bakerwals, religious minorities, women, people of pahari areas & other disadvantageous groups.

The Centre is actively involved in creating social awareness programmes among the socially excluded groups regarding the inclusive policy of the Government through lectures, social interactions, publications and research projects.

Objectives of the Centre (CSSEIP) are:

- a. Conceptualizing discrimination, exclusion and inclusion based on caste/ethnicity and religion.
- b. Developing an understanding of the nature and dynamics of discrimination and exclusion.
- c. Conceptualizing and problematizing discrimination, exclusion and inclusion.
- d. Developing an understanding of discrimination at the empirical level.
- e. Formulating policies for protecting the rights of these groups and eradicating the problem of exclusion and discrimination.

The functions of the Centre (CSSEIP) are:

- a. The Centre has offered open choice courses in III & IV Semester at P.G. level.
- b. Collecting information on social exclusion and building up a database.
- c. Carrying out detailed analyses based on the socio-economic data generated by government agencies.
- d. Organizing conferences, seminars and symposia on the theme of Social Exclusion at regular intervals.
- e. Publishing the research finding on the studies conducted.
- f. Organizing extension lectures on the subject by eminent scholars.
- g. Reaching out to scholars, especially young scholars, of other universities and colleges through inviting visiting faculty.
- h. Establishing links with Civil Society/Organizations engaged in combating Social Exclusion.

In the past major activities undertaken by the Centre (CSSEIP) were:

- a. A lecture was delivered by an eminent sociologist, Prof. Paramjit Singh Judge, G.N.D.U., Amritsar on the conceptual framework of the Social Exclusion and Inclusive policy in January 2013.
- b. A lecture was delivered by Dr. J.R.Thapa on Social Exclusion and Mental Health Problems in October, 2013.
- c. A lecture was delivered by Dr. Mohita Bhatia on ‘Tracing the Origin and Expansion of the Concept of Social Exclusion’ on March 19, 2014.

In 2014 the Centre organized a National Seminar on ‘The Concept of Social Exclusion and Inclusion in Indian History’ on March 26-28. It was attended by the Faculty members of the University of Jammu, Punjab University Chandigarh, Panjabi University Patiala, G.N.D.U. Amritsar and University of Kashmir and Research Scholars of the University of Jammu. 33 Research papers were presented by the delegates. During the Seminar, a panel discussion was organized on the Gender issues in Indian Society with special reference to Jammu and Kashmir.

At present the Centre has started lecture series in which Prof. Loveleen Mohan from Kurukshetra University, Haryana delivered lecture on “Vignettes from the East and North – East: Assuagement through Assertion”. The next lecture was delivered by Prof. Shyam Narayan Lal on “Situating Chandals and Doms in the Early Medieval Social Order of Kashmir.”

The Centre under Integrated Child Protection Scheme, Jammu organized a Nutrition and Body Mass Measurement Camp at Bal Ashram and Nari Niketan in R.S. Pura on 9th May 2018. In all, 40 inmates of Bal Ashram and 20 inmates of Nari Niketan in the age group of 3 to 20 years were examined for Blood Pressure, Aneamia, BMI and Nutritional deficiency. Awareness interactive sessions on the importance of balanced meal, hygiene, daily workout, importance of indoor and outdoor games were conducted whereas nutritious refreshment and sanitary napkins were also distributed among the women inmates. This Camp was in addition to series of data collection on human development parameters among socially excluded masses from the shelter homes and slums in and around urban areas of Jammu. The data have also been collected from Urban slums in a process to create data bank on Health and Nutrition, Blood Sugar, HB, BP and to generate general awareness regarding health and hygiene.

A study on ‘Horizontal Mobility and Displacement in the Local Society: Impacting the Post Modern Transformation in Samba and Kathua districts’ has been initiated. A monograph on the ‘Positioning of Doms and Underprivileged Sections in Jammu and Kashmir’ and a study on ‘Socio-economic Conditions and Societal Behaviour: Experiences of Widows’ are also undertaken by the Centre.

The Centre has been awarded a research project on “Seasonal Migration and Human Development: A Study of Bakerwals in Jammu and Kashmir”, with total grant of 8 Lakhs by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India.

The Centre organized a two day National Seminar on the theme “Social Exclusion and Marginal Communities: Challenges of Deprivation and Discrimination in Northern India” on 25th -26th May, 2018. The sub themes of the seminar were:

- Conceptualizing discrimination, exclusion & inclusion based on caste, ethnicity & religion
- Religious minorities and deprivation
- Dalit discourse and discrimination
- Social exclusion and women
- Poverty, inequality & marginal communities
- Social exclusion and marginal Communities- Gujjars, Bakerwals, Gadies, Sippies, Indigenous and Tribal communities of northern India-case studies
- Poverty and social exclusion in states of India
- Government policies for marginal communities and role of inclusive policies and any other topic associated with the theme.

The key note speaker in the Seminar was Prof. Paramjit Singh Judge, Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar and the guest of honour was Prof. Balwinder Singh Tiwana, Punjabi University Patiala.

In all 116 presentations were made in eleven technical sessions and besides one session devoted to Dogri poetry, exclusively on the theme of the seminar i.e. Social Exclusion, was organized in which eminent dogri poets Swami Antar Neerav, Kamaljit Choudhary, Krishan Sharma, Vijaya Thakur and Usha Kiran enthralled the audience with their creative presentations and observations on the Marginalized and deprived sections of the Society.

The Centre is having more than 400 books on specific topics covering different aspects of social exclusion. The students and scholars are encouraged to consult these reference books in the Centre’s library.