

CALL FOR PAPERS

Two Day National Seminar
on
‘Integrating Agricultural Workers into Sustainable Development Goals’
(March 14-15, 2019)

Concept Note

Agricultural workers in India constitute a huge workforce. Policies have been directed at providing wages and work for them. However, as socio-economic changes gained faster pace, environmental and agricultural contexts undergoing rapid transformation, this workforce is crying for attention.

Despite neo-liberal policies aiming to reduce this workforce and rural-urban migration, agricultural work continues to be the mainstay for lakhs of families, who are mostly dalits. Government policies are fixated on wages, and there is no adequate discussion of this important workforce. Even the focus on agricultural wages is limited to field labour. Statistics on agricultural workers is also not expansive and has not gone beyond the conventional parameters of information. For example, it is difficult to know as to how many agricultural workers have become tractor drivers and have taken up activities that go beyond field labour. Skill as a factor in wages is also ignored. Skill building is completely absent in policies and development plans related to agricultural workers. Disaggregated data across the range of agricultural operation has huge gaps and challenges.

With India signing the international commitment to achieve Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), agricultural workers, a significant number in Indian population data need attention. Indian national commitment to SDGs has to include this workforce, if India has to progress towards SDGs. Crisis in agronomy and rural India is intertwined with the lives of agricultural workers. For this reason, space for agricultural workers needs to be created in Indian SDG-linked transformation plans.

Against this backdrop, Dr. Ambedkar Chair in Social Justice, Indian Institute of Public Administration is organizing a two day National Seminar on ‘Integrating Agricultural Workers into Sustainable Development Goals’ on March 14-15, 2019. The National Seminar will provide a platform for discussing various issues pertaining to agricultural workers, beyond wages, including equity, equality, participation, rights and justice, in the context of a scenario which is trying to conserve ecology, protect environment and build sustainability into socio-economic transformations. The outcome of the seminar is expected to provide fresh scholarly discussion and policy insights which may feed into NITI Aayog and other governmental institutional activities related to SDGs. The National Seminar is open to academicians, scholars, researchers, decision makers, NGOs, Civil Society, organizations working on agricultural workers, etc.

The key sub-themes of the National Seminar may include but not limited to:

1. Neo-liberal policies and their impact on agricultural workers
2. Agricultural workers and their transformative role in agriculture
3. Future policy vision for agricultural workers
4. Risks and opportunities for agricultural workers in rural agronomy
5. Integrating agricultural workers into SDGs

Important Dates

Last date for submission of abstracts	:	February 05, 2019
Last date for intimation of selected abstracts	:	February 15, 2019
Last date for submission of full paper	:	February 28, 2019
Seminar Date	:	March 14-15, 2019

Registration and Logistics

There is no Registration Fee for the Seminar. However, it is mandatory for all the paper presenters and participants to register online by sending an email (dr.ambedkarchairiipa@gmail.com) before February 05, 2019 positively. Accommodation for outstation paper presenters will be provided. Please note that the Seminar will not extend any travel assistance. However, a limited financial travel support (3 tier AC train fare) may be extended to few participants based on merit of the full paper.

Abstract Submission Guidelines

An abstract not exceeding 300 words to be sent in Microsoft Word, Times New Roman, 12 Font with 1.5 line spacing to dr.ambedkarchairiipa@gmail.com by due date (February 05, 2019). The abstract must contain:

1. Title of the paper: Times New Roman, 14 Font, Bold.
2. Sub-theme: Must indicate the sub-theme of the concept note under which the paper falls.
3. Author Details: Name with title (Prof./ Dr./ Mr./ Ms.), Designation, Affiliation (Institution), Full correspondence Address, Email ID and Mobile Number.
4. Abstract: Must contain rationale, objective, data & methods, expected findings, central argument.

Abstract will be peer-reviewed by a screening committee of acclaimed academicians and practitioners. Their decision will be final and binding.

Publication

Best selected papers will be published in an edited book by a reputed publisher. Therefore, the effort should be to submit quality papers to be included in the publication.

Seminar Coordinator

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