



**NATIONAL SEMINAR
ON
TRANSGENDERS IN INDIA:
PROBLEMS, PROSPECTS AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS
16- 17TH MARCH, 2017**



Sponsored by
Indian Council of Social Science Research,
New Delhi



Organised by
Khejuri College,
Purba Medinipur, West Bengal

Dear Colleagues,

It gives us immense pleasure to inform you that a National Seminar on Transgenders in India: Problems, Prospects and Future Directions, sponsored by ICSSR, New Delhi, is being organised by Khejuri College, Post: Baratala, Purba Medinipur, West Bengal, on 16th-17th March, 2017.

Transgenders in India have existed for centuries. Yet, the onset of colonial modernity with its assertion of Enlightenment categories has created new challenges for India's transgender communities. This has led to ambivalence about the number of transgenders in India – estimates vary from 50,000 (India Today, 1982), 500,000 (The Tribune, 1983) to 314,818 (from the 1984-86 survey of *Sarva Bharatiya Hijra Kalyan Sabha*).

The transgenders in India have been one of the marginalized sections of society. Transgender people perceive that they have been excluded from effectively participating in social and cultural life, economy, politics and decision-making processes. A primary reason of the exclusion is perceived to be the lack of recognition of the gender status of *hijras* and other transgender people. As a consequence transgender people face extreme discrimination in every field of life like health, education, culture, employment and social acceptability. Often deprived of information and medical support, they fall prey to AIDS and other fatal diseases. The transgender community has been treated, until recently, as a legal non-entity in violation of Article 14, 15, 16 and 21 of the Constitution of India and has been deprived of Fundamental Rights.

Of late, in order to bring the transgender people to the main stream of development and to provide them social recognition, the state of India has taken certain positive measures. The Supreme Court of India, in a landmark judgement on 15th April, 2014, has recognized the transgenders as the “third gender”. The apex court asked the central government to treat transgenders as socially and economically backward community, entitled to reservations in educational and professional fields. The apex body also directed the central and state governments to devise social welfare schemes for third gender community and run a public awareness campaign to erase social stigma. The recent years have witnessed the establishment of Transgender Welfare Boards in West Bengal and some other states.

Although legal recognition has been granted to transgenders, social challenges and discrimination have not eroded away. The present seminar intends:

- to offer a broad platform to academicians, researchers, social activists, biologists, policy makers, civil society members, media personnel and transgenders themselves in order to discuss the critical issues which concern the transgenders of India at present.
- to bring out the heterogeneous diversity of the term “transgender” as a marker of social identity, both historical and contemporary
- to analyze problems which transgenders face in various arenas
- to identify present possibilities, in respect of the Supreme Court judgement
- to outline future directions and policy proposals for the welfare of transgenders

Sub-Themes of the Seminar

The various sub-themes of the seminar are enlisted as follows:

- Social Exclusion, Violence and Discrimination against the transgenders.
- Marginalisation of Transgenders.
- Physiological issues and discussions about Gender Reassignment Surgery.
- Social and Economic Problems of Transgenders in Indian Society.
- Cultural traditions and Representations of Transgenders
- Literary traditions of Transgenders communities/ identities in India.
- Transgender and Arts.
- Transgender and Sports.
- Transgenders and Demographic status.
- Transgenders and Politics.
- Prostitution, Trafficking and Begging.
- Initiatives taken by Government/ Non-Governmental Organisations in India.
- Policy Formation and Implementations.

About the College

Khejuri College had been established in 1999, propelled by the need for an institution of higher learning in the area. The philanthropic contributions of local residents and educationists enabled the construction of the college. The College is well- connected by road and railway. While travelling by road, the visitors should first arrive at Heria, which is situated on the Digha-Kolkata Highway and then travel along the Heria-Boga road for about 14 Kilometres by bus, trekker or other widely available conveyance. To travel by rail, the visitors should get down at Mecheda station and then travel by bus to the College.

Submission of Abstracts

An abstract of about 200-300 words including the title, author(s), and address typed in MS Word in single spacing should be submitted by 15th February, 2017. The full paper within 2500 words should be submitted by 28th February, 2017.

- Title : MS Word in Times New Roman (Size 16 Points) in single spacing
- Affiliation : MS Word in Times New Roman (Size 12 Points)
- Authors : MS Word in Times New Roman (Size 14 Points)
- Abstract : MS Word in Times New Roman (Size 12 Points)

The abstract should include the name, designation & institution of the author and title of the paper. The abstract should include a brief note about: Statement of problem, Methodology, Analysis and Findings. Paper presentation in the seminar will be permitted only when the participant has registered for the seminar and has submitted the full paper. No abstract will be taken into consideration for pre-seminar publication without registration fee. The abstract and full paper may be submitted in soft copy as well as hard copy through e-mail at subrata.socio1973@gmail.com / rangeetsen@gmail.com.

Oral Presentation

- Ten Minutes will be given to each speaker
- Presentation to be prepared in MS Power Point and has to be brought on a USB memory stick
- LCD projector facility will be provided for making presentations

Registration

Registration would be held on spot during the seminar. The Registration Fees would be as follows:

Category of the Participant	Registration Fees
▪ Faculty Members/ Scholars/ Others	Rs. 600
▪ Students	Rs.200

Important Dates of the Seminar:	Venue:
▪ Last Date for Submission of Abstract: 15 th February, 2017	Khejuri College Auditorium
▪ Last Date for Submission of Full Paper: 28 th February, 2017	

Seminar Patron:

Dr. Asim Kumar Manna
Principal, Khejuri College

Chief Organising Secretary:

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