

### **DIRECTOR'S DESK**

The Institute of Social and Cultural Studies (ISCS) aims to manifest the emerging role of Eastern India as a leading power connecting South Asia through trade, culture, connectivity, science and innovation through this Bi-Monthly. Once again this edition tries to feature how the Trilateral IMT highway crisscrosses and connects India-Myanmar-Thailand facilitating an improved trade relations and regional integration. Also aligning with India's Look East Policy, is part of the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) and is poised to be one of the longest highway projects in India. It thereby offers a new dimension to trade and travel in the region especially in context to changing political landscape in certain territories of South Asia.

As climate change vulnerability profiles are developed projecting concerns with respect to agriculture and sustainability therefore a vital write up constitutes ideas to combat the evolving climatic trends. Through wielding constructive mechanisms like—Identifying vulnerable agriculture sectors, identifying appropriate adaptation interventions, and mainstreaming adaptation in development programmes. In continuity to that the Odia article towards the rearmost part of the Bi-Monthly facilitates ideas how the transcending and approach of science and technology in almost every sector of Eastern India is enabling the state to leverage growth for itself as well as for the country.

As we all know that Institute for the last three years over its exclusive chapter on Purvodaya has been communicating on vital aspects of the region, among which this Bi-Monthly remains the prime most. But this is the first time the Institute is coming up with a yet diverse initiative through organizing a Purvodaya Literary Festival, February 27, 28 and March 1, 2025 at Kolkata.

Your participation and encouragement through this initiative would enable us to decode on rich cultural diversities and literary legacies of Purvodaya in a much enlarged and versatile format.

- Arindam Mukherjee, Director, ISCS, India



## MAJOR EXTREME WEATHER EVENTS: IMPACTS AND REMEDIES IN EASTERN INDIA

Dr. Nabansu Chattopadhyay\*

 $Eastern\,India\,is\,a\,hot spot\,for\,the\,fallout\,of\,the\,climate$ crisis with majority of the population depending on nature-based livelihoods for sustenance in agriculture, forests, livestock-related and allied occupations. As temperature, rainfall and other weather patterns become erratic, dependent communities are exposed to vulnerabilities especially in the coastal areas with increased risks of water management in agriculture and failure of traditional coping mechanisms. The importance of sustainable management of water in a changing climate cannot be over-emphasized. Depleting water resources, besides land degradation and desertification; loss of biodiversity and negative impacts of weather variabilities on crop production are direct manifestations of climate change in the agriculture production system. In such a

critical scenario, conservation, and sustainable management of natural resources, including water, warrants priority action in the policy agenda. West Bengal and Odisha are extremely vulnerable to the impact of climate events. Every year, it faces extreme weather events in the form of heavy rainfall causing extensive flooding, droughts, unseasonal rainfall, cold wave, heat wave, hailstorms etc. which take lives, destroy homes and agricultural yields and result in huge revenue losses. Among the extreme events, the eastern part of the country is facing three major issues related to the heavy rainfall, flooding, cyclone causing soil erosion, salinity intrusion in the coastal belt and encroaching of river to the land areas i.e. river erosion.

Many other alterations to the planet's climate have resulted from global warming. Heavy rainfall and extreme events are of major importance in the context of climate change. Extreme events are typically rare events of short duration and limited observational data of sufficient temporal resolution is available to capture them. High

temporal resolution rainfall measurements are useful for urban drainage models, climate change modelling. cropping pattern and crop production.



livestock, fishery, and poultry.



As the per Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) projections and deliberation in the Conference of the Parties (COP), extreme weather events will become more frequent and intense in future The extensive coastal belts of West Bengal and Odisha are exposed to cyclonic storms, which originate in Bay of Bengal every year and are accompanied with very heavy to extremely heavy rain, gales, and storm surges on landfall, causing loss of human lives and property. Sea Surface Temperature (SST) of the tropical Indian Ocean has risen 10C on average during 1951-2015

Severe Cyclonic Storm (Dana) affected both Odisha & West Bengal
Agriculture in eastern India is immensely affected
by the soil erosion caused by the heavy rainfall and
high wind during cyclone period. Displacement
of soil from its original place is called soil erosion.
The exposure of the earth's surface to rainfall is a
key factor controlling soil erosion. Rainfall, rapidly
flowing water as in the case of streams and rivers,
wind or even mass movement of land, like landslides
or avalanches can cause erosion. Rainfall alone causes
more than 50% of soil erosion world over. Erosion
takes away the nutrient rich topsoil from the erosion
site, and in the long run, leads to desertification. Due

markedly higher than the global average SST warming

of 0.7 0C over the same period. Future projections

suggest a likely increase in the number of extremely

severe cyclone in response to Indian Ocean warming

while changes in frequency remain uncertain. During

twenty first century, SST in the tropical Ocean is

projected to continue rise. It may not be possible

to prevent the occurrence of these natural disasters,

but the resultant disastrous effects can be minimized

considerably through proper planning and effective

preparation. There has been a paradigm shift in

cyclone warning services due to the modernisation

programme and other initiatives taken by the India

Meteorological Department (IMD) and Ministry

of Earth Sciences (MoES) through installation of Doppler Weather Radar, use of satellite observations

and advanced Numerical Weather Products. At

present, IMD issues cyclone forecast accurately well

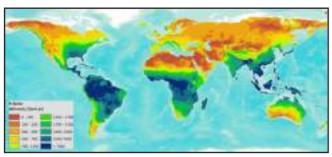
in advance and landfall forecast is issued 5-7 days

in advance. This results in substantial reduction of

human life, save agricultural production including

to erosion, soil gets deposited as sediments in water bodies like lakes and rivers, choking them and leading to eutrophication and excessive richness of nutrients. This excess of nutrition in the water causes unabated growth of vegetation and algae, resulting in reduced dissolved oxygen in the water body. Erosion causes a lot of ecological damage too, and impact economies dependent on local resources. Landsides are type of soil erosion that transports soil in a short time and in very large volumes. Causative factors include rainfall, soil, slope, vegetation and even human.

Erosivity is the tendency of rainfall to cause soil erosion. Quantification soil erosion due to rainfall is calculated based on erosivity factor which is based on rainfall duration, magnitude, and intensity. This is essential for assessing the magnitude of soil erosion by water, calculating the risk of floods and preventing natural disasters. Quantifying the damage caused by rainfall on the soil helps in understanding the magnitude of the damage and mitigating it. 'Rainfall erosivity map of the world depicts the whole of eastern India in 'green' (moderate risk) category but threat from climate change could escalate it to 'blue' (high risk) if the government and policy makers refuse to learn from or act on the telltale signs already on view. While the soil erosion is identified as the most serious cause of soil degradation, state level, here eastern India, pattern of rainfall erosivity remain poorly quantified and estimates have large uncertainty. This hampers implementation of effective soil degradation mitigation and restoration strategies.



Global Rainfall Erosivity map

All the states in eastern part of the country are a major producer of a wide range of agricultural products. Because of soil erosion, however, the agriculture sector is facing a threat in the coming years. One way to conserve what is left of the soil is to increase the time of concentration of runoff, or reduce the velocity of runoff, thus allowing for more water to sink into the soil. Building terraces and bunds makes this possible. On a larger scale, dams and retention reservoirs could also be planned. Biological measures include planting vegetative strips, protective bushland, and afforestation. Certain agronomic methods like contour ploughing and mixed cropping could also help. Soil conservation efforts in eastern India can also benefit from the erosivity map, The Ministry of Agriculture in India undertakes multiple soil and water conservation projects. With a view to better monitor rainfall, installation of automatic rainfall measurement gauges is planned. With more such systematic measure, perhaps soil erosion could be largely reduced.

In addition to soil erosion, river bank erosion is another cause of concern in this region. River bank erosion occurs when water wears away at the banks of a river or stream. Among others, continuous heavy rainfall ultimately flood like situation cause riverbank erosion. Not only does river bank erosion impact the area where the erosion is happening but it can also affect life down the river. Erosion sends extra sediment downstream, which can change the river's course and disrupt shipping channels. As far as the river bank erosion control is concerned, it includes everything from temporary and biodegradable materials to permanent solutions. Major initiatives are required from the state and central government to make permanent solutions to prevent the river bank erosion so that the fertile soil washed away from the land.



River bank erosion

During flash floods, eroding soil from the hill gets deposited in the agricultural land, resulting in crop loss. Stone bunds and Loose Boulder Structures (LBS) in the gullies were constructed as outlets for the runoff water without affecting the soil. This will conserve rainfall cum runoff and obstruct flash flood and erosion of top soil from ridge area to the valley where there are paddy fields. The runoff will be caught by the Continuous Contour Trenches (CCT). The crop fields downstream will have sufficient irrigation through percolation. This is a long-term benefit subject to maintenance of the CCT.

Besides, coastal aquifers as vital fresh groundwater resources are subjected to coastal flooding due to storm surge and sea-level rise (SLR). Increasing the seawater intrusion volume (SWIV) from both seaward boundary and landsurface can be expected in coastal aquifers because of coastal flooding. It is a problem due to use of tube wells for water supply in the Ganges Delta causing serious arsenic poisoning. Arsenic contaminated water contains arsenous acid (H3AsO3) and arsenic acid (H3AsO4) or their derivatives. Arsenic contaminating ground water causes serious health problems in West Bengal, from 1980's. Awareness generation and motivation of the people for testing their drinking water sources for arsenic are also important to prevent further exposure of arsenic to these people.

Massive withdrawal of groundwater resources due to population growth and rapid industrialization

has led to seawater intrusion into the coastal aquifers across the eastern India. The problem is an emerging challenge as the coastal areas of the total eastern India population. Impacts of the seawater intrusion on the health of the local community, economic and sociocultural developments in the coastal areas have led to a wide variety of research being conducted elsewhere.

To preserve groundwater resource in the coastal zone, it is necessary to manage the threat of seawater ingress. Management strategies generally be placed into following three categories with the goal of preserving groundwater resources for current and future use.

- 1. Scientific Monitoring, Assessment and Modelling
  - 2. Behavioural and Institutional Approach
  - 3. Engineering Measures

Different experiments/projects are being taken up in the fields of genetics, plant physiology, plant breeding, germplasm documentation, physiological characterization and molecular breeding through germplasm collection, conservation, evaluation, and documentation for salt tolerance varieties in rice, wheat, mustard, chickpea, soybean, and vegetables in the salt affected coastal areas of eastern India.



Salt tolerant Rice variety

<sup>\*</sup> President, International Society for Agricultural Meteorology (INSAM)



# ISOLATION TO INTEGRATION: REVITALISING INDIA'S EAST WITH THE IMT HIGHWAY

Soumya Bhowmick\*

#### Introduction

India's eastern and northeastern regions are uniquely positioned to benefit from enhanced connectivity with Southeast Asia. Eastern India, including states like West Bengal, Odisha, Bihar, and Jharkhand, is endowed with industrial and agricultural potential. Meanwhile, the Northeast, comprising eight states, serves as a strategic gateway to Southeast Asian markets. The India—Myanmar—Thailand Trilateral Highway (IMT-TH), a 1,360-kilometre road network linking India to Thailand via Myanmar, represents a pivotal step toward integrating these regions into broader economic and geopolitical frameworks. Despite its transformative potential, the project faces persistent challenges delaying its completion.

The IMT-TH also holds immense promise for India's long-term development aspirations, directly aligning with the Viksit Bharat 2047 vision, which aims to position India

as a developed nation by its centenary of independence. The highway is expected to unlock new avenues for trade, investment, and industrial growth by facilitating seamless connectivity between India's eastern and northeastern states and Southeast Asia. This integration will help bridge regional economic disparities, enhancing the socio-economic landscape of historically underserved areas. The project is also critical to India's efforts to foster inclusive development, as it will create employment opportunities, empower local businesses, and stimulate rural and urban development. Moreover, by boosting infrastructure and connectivity, the IMT-TH supports India's ambition to become a global economic hub, fostering resilience and sustainability in line with the broader Viksit Bharat 2047 agenda.

Furthermore, the IMT-TH directly contributes to achieving multiple UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), reinforcing its broader developmental impact. In addition to SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth)—by creating jobs in construction, logistics, and ancillary industries and improving market access for small and medium enterprises (SMEs)—it also supports SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure) through the establishment of resilient and modern infrastructure that fosters industrial growth, technological innovation, and regional economic integration.

The highway also advances SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities) by addressing regional disparities, integrating economically marginalised communities, and ensuring that development benefits are equitably distributed across India's eastern and northeastern regions. Additionally, it aligns with SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) by promoting sustainable urbanisation along its route, enhancing connectivity in border areas, and facilitating the growth of inclusive and resilient communities. These interconnected contributions make the IMT-TH a cornerstone for India's sustainable development, linking local and regional aspirations with global objectives.

### Economic Potential for Eastern and Northeastern India

The IMT-TH offers Eastern India a chance to expand its industrial and trade reach to Southeast Asia. Ports such as Kolkata, Haldia, and Paradip are well-situated to become critical nodes for goods transported along this corridor. Industrial hubs in Odisha and Jharkhand, rich in mineral resources and manufacturing capabilities, can leverage this connectivity to boost exports and attract foreign investment.

Historically hindered by economic isolation, the Northeast promises a gateway to international markets. Products like Assam's tea and Meghalaya's horticultural produce could reach larger markets, improving local livelihoods. The enhanced connectivity is also expected to invigorate tourism, attracting visitors from Myanmar and Thailand to the region's natural and cultural attractions. Beyond economic benefits, the highway fosters cultural integration, strengthening India's soft power in Southeast Asia.

Although the IMT-TH holds great promise, it has encountered significant delays. Initially set for completion in 2015, the project is now slated for 2027. The reasons include political instability in Myanmar, infrastructural hurdles, and bureaucratic inefficiencies. Myanmar's political situation has been a primary obstacle. The 2021 military coup disrupted governance and construction activities along the highway's route. Ongoing ethnic conflicts involving the junta, the National Unity Government, and armed groups have created unsafe working conditions, further stalling progress.

Infrastructure deficiencies also pose challenges, especially in Myanmar. The Tamu-Kyigone-Kalewa road requires critical upgrades, including replacing 69 outdated bridges. Delays in constructing the Yar Gyi section due to challenging terrain and slow engineering progress further exacerbate the situation. In India's Northeast, rugged landscapes and ethnic tensions, such as clashes between the Kuki and Meitei communities in Manipur, add complexity to the project's execution.

#### Regional Dynamics and Bangladesh's Role

The success of the IMT-TH is intrinsically linked to broader regional dynamics, particularly India's relationship with Bangladesh. While Bangladesh is not directly part of the highway, its geographical location is crucial to India's connectivity strategy. Recent political changes in Bangladesh, including the resignation of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and the interim government led by Nobel laureate Muhammad Yunus, have disrupted transit routes and trade flows, increasing logistical inefficiencies.

Under Hasina's leadership, Bangladesh was a key development partner for India, receiving substantial funding for projects like the Akhaura–Agartala cross-border rail link and the Khulna–Mongla Port rail line, inaugurated in 2023. However, the interim government has signalled a reassessment of these agreements, potentially delaying or altering joint initiatives. Projects such as the Mongla Port Upgradation and the Bangladesh–Bhutan–India–Nepal (BBIN) initiative may face setbacks due to policy changes or administrative delays. These disruptions risk impeding India's access to its northeastern states, which rely heavily on transit through Bangladesh. Additionally, the interim government's outreach to international partners, such as the United States, for economic support suggests a possible realignment of alliances, affecting India–Bangladesh cooperation.

#### **Countering Regional Competition**

China's expanding influence in South Asia, mainly through strategic investments in Bangladesh, adds another layer of complexity. Projects like the Padma Multipurpose Bridge and the Dhaka–Chattogram Expressway, supported by Chinese funding, have significantly enhanced Bangladesh's connectivity and trade infrastructure.

India must strengthen its diplomatic engagement with Bangladesh and accelerate infrastructure initiatives to counterbalance China's growing footprint. Integrating eastern ports like Kolkata and Haldia into regional trade networks is essential. Investments in port infrastructure and streamlined customs processes can position India as a competitive alternative to Chinesebacked routes. Simultaneously, expediting the IMT-TH and related projects will reinforce India's role in regional connectivity, ensuring that its initiatives remain attractive and beneficial to neighbouring countries.

#### Unlocking the Highway's Potential

Overcoming the challenges facing the IMT-TH requires a comprehensive and multifaceted approach. Diplomatic engagement with Myanmar is critical to creating a stable construction environment and addressing workers' safety concerns. India can provide technical and financial assistance to expedite infrastructural upgrades on key highway sections. Strengthening border infrastructure is equally vital. Modern integrated checkposts with streamlined customs procedures can reduce delays and facilitate smoother trade flows.

The IMT-TH should also be aligned with broader regional frameworks like the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) and the Asian Highway Network. Integrating the highway with these initiatives will amplify its impact, promoting trade and investment across South and Southeast Asia. Addressing disruptions arising from Bangladesh's political instability is another priority. Strengthening bilateral ties and pursuing joint infrastructure projects can mitigate risks and reduce dependence on Chinese investments. Developing a seamless multi-modal trade system that links eastern and northeastern India to global markets through maritime and land networks will enhance connectivity.

#### Conclusion

The India–Myanmar–Thailand Trilateral Highway is more than just a road; it is a transformative project embodying India's vision for regional integration and economic revitalisation. For Eastern and Northeastern India, it offers unprecedented opportunities to overcome economic isolation, boost exports, and foster cultural ties with Southeast Asia.

While the project faces significant challenges, including political instability, infrastructural deficiencies, and regional competition, the potential benefits far outweigh the obstacles. By adopting a strategic approach involving diplomacy, infrastructural investments, and regional cooperation, India can ensure the successful completion of the IMT-TH. This highway is a testament to India's commitment to regional connectivity, sustainable development, and its pivotal role in shaping Southeast Asia's economic landscape.



Vikinedia

<sup>\*</sup> Fellow and Lead, World Economies and Sustainability, CNED, ORF

#### ଓଡିଶାରେ ବିଜ୍ଞାନ ଓ ପ୍ରଯୁକ୍ତି ବିଦ୍ୟାର ବିକାଶ

ଲକ୍ଷୀ ନାରାୟଣ ମଲିକ

ପ୍ରାଚୀନ ବୈଦିକ ବିଜ୍ଞାନ ହେଉ କିୟା ଆଧୁନିକ ପ୍ରଯୁକ୍ତି ବିଦ୍ୟା, ବିଶ୍ୱସ୍ତରରେ ଭାରତର ଅବଦାନ ପ୍ରମାଣସିଦ୍ଧ । ଗଣିତ, ଜ୍ୟୋତିବିଜ୍ଞାନ ଏବଂ ଆୟୁର୍ବିଜ୍ଞାନରେ ଭାରତର ଅନବଦ୍ୟ ଅବଦାନ ସହସ୍ର ବର୍ଷ ପୁରୁଣା । ଭାରତରୁ ସୁଷ୍ଟ 'ଶୂନ' ଓ 'ଦଶମିକ' ପ୍ରଣାଳୀର ଧାରଣା ଉନ୍ନତ ଗାଣିତିକ ଏବଂ ବୀଜଗଣିତର ଆଧାର ଶିଳା କୁହାଯାଇପାରେ । ପ୍ରାଚୀନ ଭାରତୀୟ ଗଣିତଜ୍ଞ ଆର୍ଯ୍ୟଭଟ୍ଟଙ୍କ ଦ୍ୱାରା ଉଭାବିତ ସୂତ୍ର ଦ୍ରିକୋଣମିତି ଓ ଜ୍ୟୋତିବିଜ୍ଞାନ ପାଇଁ ଆଲୋକବର୍ତ୍ତକା କହିଲେ ଅତ୍ୟୁକ୍ତି ହେବ ନାହିଁ ।

ସବୁଳ ବିପ୍ଲବ ସମୟରେ ଆଧୁନିକ କୃଷି ବିଜ୍ଞାନର ବିକାଶଠାରୁ ଆରୟ କରି ଏସିଆ-ପ୍ରଶାନ୍ତ ମହାସାଗରର ସର୍ବବୃହତ ଉପଗ୍ରହ ଯୋଗାଯୋଗ ପ୍ରଣାଳୀ, ବିଶ୍ୱବ୍ୟାପୀ ସୁଲଭ ତଥା ପ୍ରଭାବଶାଳୀ ଔଷଧ ଓ ଟିକା ଯୋଗାଣ, ସ୍ୱଦେଶୀ ପ୍ରତିରକ୍ଷା ପ୍ରଣାଳୀର ବିକାଶ, ମହାକାଶ ଅଭିଯାନ, ବିଶ୍ୱ ଆଇଟି ଶିଳ୍ପରେ ଗୁରୁଦ୍ୱପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ ଅବଦାନ ରହିଛି । ବିଗତ କିଛି ଦଶନ୍ଧି ମଧ୍ୟରେ ଆଣବିକ ଶକ୍ତି କ୍ଷେତ୍ରରେ ଗବେଷଣା ଓ ବିକାଶ ଦିଗରେ ଭାରତର ସଫଳତା ଉଲ୍ଲେଖନୀୟ । ମହାକାଶ ବିଜ୍ଞାନ ହେଉ ବା ଭେଷଳ ବିଜ୍ଞାନ, ଭାରତର ବିଭିନ୍ନ ସଫଳତା ବିଶ୍ୱବ୍ୟାପୀ ସୁନାମ ଅର୍ଜନ କରିଛି । ବିଶେଷକରି ୨୦୨୧ ପରଠାରୁ ଭାରତ ନିଜର ବୈଜ୍ଞାନିକ ଦକ୍ଷତା ବୃଦ୍ଧି, ଗବେଷଣା ଓ ଅନୁସନ୍ଧାନ ପ୍ରତିଷ୍ଠାନ ଭିଭିଭୂମିର ବିକାଶ, କୈବ ବିଜ୍ଞାନ, ଅକ୍ଷୟ ଶକ୍ତି, ଭେଷକ ବିଜ୍ଞାନ, ବିଜ୍ଞାନଭିଭିକ କୃଷି ଓ ଶିଳ୍ପ ପ୍ରତିଷ୍ଠା ଉପରେ ଅଧିକ ଧ୍ୟାନ କେହିତ କରିଛି ।

ଜୈବବିଜ୍ଞାନରେ ଭାରତ ଡାକ୍ତରୀ ଅନୁସନ୍ଧାନ, ଔଷଧ ଏବଂ କେନୋମିକ୍ସରେ ଅଗ୍ରଗତି କରୁଛି । ଦେଶ ଅକ୍ଷୟ ଶକ୍ତି ପ୍ରକଳ୍ପ ବିକାଶରେ ବିପୁଳ ପୁଞ୍ଜି ବିନିଯୋଗ କରୁଛି । ପରିବେଶ ପରିବର୍ତ୍ତନ ଆହ୍ୱାନର ସମାଧାନ ପାଇଁ ନିରନ୍ତର ପଦକ୍ଷେପମାନ ଗ୍ରହଣ କରୁଛି । ସବୁଳ ଶକ୍ତିର ସ୍ଥାୟୀ ବିକାଶ ଦିଗରେ ଭାରତ ଉଲ୍ଲେଖନୀୟ ଅଗ୍ରଗତି କରୁଛି । ସୌର ଏବଂ ପବନ ଶକ୍ତି ଉପରେ ଅଧିକ ଗବେଷଣା କରି ବିଶ୍ୱର ସର୍ବବୃହତ ଅକ୍ଷୟ ଶକ୍ତି କ୍ଷମତାସମ୍ପନ୍ନ ରାଷ୍ଟ୍ର ହେବାର ଲକ୍ଷ୍ୟ ରଖିଛି । ଭାରତର ଔଷଧ ଶିଳ୍ପ ହେଉଛି ଏପରି ଏକ ଶକ୍ତିକେନ୍ଦ୍ର ଯାହା କରୋନା ମହାମାରୀ ସମୟରେ ସାରା ବିଶ୍ୱକୁ ବିଭିନ୍ନ ଅତ୍ୟାବଶ୍ୟକ ଔଷଧ ଓ ଟିକା ଯୋଗାଇ ମାନବିକତାର ଶ୍ରେଷ୍ଠ ପରିଚୟ ଦେଇଛି । ବିଶେଷକରି କୋଭାକ୍ସିନ୍ ପାଇଁ ବିଶ୍ୱ ଟିକା ଉତ୍ପାଦନରେ ଭାରତ ଏକ ପ୍ରମୁଖ

ଦେଶ ହୋଇଥିଲା । ଆଣବିକ ପ୍ରଯୁକ୍ତିବିଦ୍ୟାରେ ଭାରତର ଅଗ୍ରଗତି ଦେଶ ପାଇଁ ଗୌରବର ଆଉ ଏକ ଉହ । ୧୯୭୪ରେ ଭାରତ ପ୍ରଥମ ସଫଳ ପରମାଣୁ ପରୀକ୍ଷଣ କରି ପରମାଣୁ ଶକ୍ତିସମ୍ପନ୍ନ ରାଷ୍ଟ୍ର ଆଖ୍ୟା ଅର୍ଜନ କରିବା ପରେ ଭାରତର ସ୍ୱଦେଶୀ ଆଣବିକ ଶକ୍ତି କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ଶାନ୍ତିପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ ଉପାୟରେ ମାନବସେବା ପାଇଁ ସମର୍ପିତ । କେନେଟିକ୍ସ ସାଇନ୍ସ ଓ କୃଷିର ଉନ୍ନତି କ୍ଷେତ୍ରରେ ମଧ୍ୟ ଭାରତର ସଫଳତା ବେଶ୍ ଉଲ୍ଲେଖନୀୟ । ଏହି ବିଦ୍ୟା ହାସଲ କରି ଫସଲର ଜେନୋମ କ୍ରୋମ୍, ଉଚ୍ଚ ଉତ୍ପାଦନକାରୀ ଏବଂ ରୋଗ ପ୍ରତିରୋଧକ କିସମର ବିକାଶ କରି ଦେଶର ଖାଦ୍ୟ ସୁରକ୍ଷା ଓ କୃଷକଙ୍କ ସମୂଦ୍ଧିରେ ବେଶ ସହାୟକ ହୋଇଛି ।

୨୦୨୨ ପରବର୍ତ୍ତୀ ସମୟରେ ଭାରତ ସର୍ବୋଚ୍ଚ ବୈଷୟିକ ଧାରା ମଧ୍ୟରେ କୃତ୍ରିମ ବୁଦ୍ଧିମତ୍ତା (ଆର୍ଟଫିସିଆଲ୍ ଇଞ୍ଜିଲିକେନ୍ସ)ର ବ୍ୟବହାର, ବୈଦ୍ୟୁତିକ ଯାନ ପ୍ରତି ପ୍ରବୃତ୍ତି, ତଥ୍ୟ ସୁରକ୍ଷା ଆଦିକୁ ବିଶେଷ ପ୍ରାଧାନ୍ୟ ଦେଇଆସିଛି । ଭାରତୀୟ ବୈଷୟିକ ପ୍ରତିଭା ଡାଟା ସାଇନ୍ସ ବା ତଥ୍ୟ ବିଜ୍ଞାନ(ଡି-ଏସ୍) ଓ କୃତ୍ରିମ ବୁଦ୍ଧିମତ୍ତା (ଏ-ଆଇ)ରେ ଖୁବ୍ ଶୀଘ୍ର ବିଶ୍ୱର ଅଗ୍ରଣୀ ସ୍ଥାନ ଦଖଲ କରିବ । ଭାରତର ସୂଚନା ପ୍ରଯୁକ୍ତି ବିଦ୍ୟା କୌଶଳ ବିଶ୍ୱର ବିଭିନ୍ନ ବିକଶିତ ଓ ବିକାଶଶୀଳ ଦେଶର ଅର୍ଥନୀତି ଓ ବିଜ୍ଞାନରେ ଉଲ୍ଲେଖନୀୟ ଅବଦାନ ଯୋଗାଇ ଆସୁଛି ।

ଦେଶରେ ବିଜ୍ଞାନ, ପ୍ରଯୁକ୍ତି ଓ ଉଦ୍ଭାବନ (ଏସଟିଆଇ)କୁ ପୋହାହିତ କରିବା ପାଇଁ ବିଜ୍ଞାନ ଓ ପ୍ରଯୁକ୍ତି ବିଦ୍ୟା ବିଭାଗ ପକ୍ଷରୁ ୩ଟି କେନ୍ଦ୍ରୀୟ କ୍ଷେତ୍ର ପ୍ରମୁଖ ଯୋଜନା କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକାରୀ କରାଯାଉଛି । ସେଗୁଡ଼ିକ ହେଲା: (୧) ବିଜ୍ଞାନ ଓ ପ୍ରଯୁକ୍ତିବିଦ୍ୟା ସଂସ୍ଥାଗତ ଓ ମାନବ ଦକ୍ଷତା ବିକାଶ, (୨) ଗବେଷଣା ଓ ବିକାଶ ଏବଂ (୩) ଉଦ୍ଭାବନ, ପ୍ରଯୁକ୍ତି ବିଦ୍ୟା ବିକାଶ ଓ ଏହାର କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକାରିତା । କେନ୍ଦ୍ର ସରକାରଙ୍କ ସମନ୍ଦିତ ଯୋଜନା 'ବିଜ୍ଞାନ ଧାରା'ରେ ଏହି ଡିନୋଟି ଯୋଜନାକୁ ମିଶ୍ରଣ କରାଯାଇଛିଛ 'ବିଜ୍ଞାନ ଧାରା' ଯୋଜନାର ମୁଖ୍ୟ ଉଦ୍ଦେଶ୍ୟ ହେଉଛି ଦେଶରେ ବିଜ୍ଞାନ, ପୁଯୁକ୍ତି ଏବଂ ଉଭାବନ ଇକୋସିଷ୍ଟମକୁ ସୁଦୃଢ଼ କରିବା ଦିଗରେ ବିଜ୍ଞାନ ଓ ପ୍ରଯୁକ୍ତି ବିଦ୍ୟା ବିକାଶକୁ ପ୍ରୋହାହିତ କରିବା । ଏହି ଯୋଜନା କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକାରୀ ହେଲେ ଶିକ୍ଷାନୁଷ୍ଠାନଗୁଡ଼ିକରେ ସମ୍ପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ ଭାବେ ସୁସଜିତ ଗବେଷଣା ଓ ବିକାଶ ପରୀକ୍ଷାଗାରକୁ ପ୍ରୋସାହିତ କରାଯାଇ ଦେଶର ବିଜ୍ଞାନ ଓ ବିକାଶ ଭିଭିଭୂମି ସୁଦୃଢ଼ କରାଯିବ । ଏହି ଯୋଜନାରେ ଅନ୍ତର୍ଜାତୀୟ ସୁବିଧା ସହିତ ମୌଳିକ ଗବେଷଣା, ଦୀର୍ଘସ୍ଥାୟୀ ଶକ୍ତି, ଜଳ ଇତ୍ୟାଦି କ୍ଷେତ୍ରରେ ଗବେଷଣା ଏବଂ ଅନ୍ତର୍ଜାତୀୟ ଦ୍ୱିପାକ୍ଷିକ ଏବଂ ବହୁପାକ୍ଷିକ ସହଯୋଗ ମାଧ୍ୟମରେ ସହଯୋଗୀ ଗବେଷଣାକୁ ପ୍ରୋହ୍ସାହିତ କରିବାକୁ ପ୍ରୟାସ କରାଯାଇଛି । ଏହି ଯୋଜନା ବିଦ୍ୟାଳୟ ସ୍ତରରୁ ଆରୟ କରି ଉଚ୍ଚଶିକ୍ଷା ପର୍ଯ୍ୟନ୍ତ ସମସ୍ତ ସ୍ତରରେ ଉଦ୍ଭାବନକୁ ପ୍ରୋହ୍ସାହିତ କରିବା ଦିଗରେ ସରକାରଙ୍କ ପ୍ରୟାସକୁ ସୁଡ଼ୃଡ଼ କରିବ । ଏଥ୍ସହିତ ଲକ୍ଷ୍ୟ ଆଧାରିତ ହସ୍ତକ୍ଷେପ ମାଧ୍ୟମରେ ଶିଳ୍ପ ଓ ଷ୍ଟାର୍ଟଅପ୍ ପାଇଁ ଶିକ୍ଷାନ୍ୟୁଷ୍ଠାନ, ସରକାର ଏବଂ ଶିଳ୍ପଗୁଡ଼ିକ ମଧ୍ୟରେ ସହଯୋଗ ବୃଦ୍ଧି ପାଇଁ ଗୁରୁତ୍ୱପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ ସହାୟତା ପ୍ରଦାନ କରାଯିବ ।

ବିଜ୍ଞାନ ଏବଂ ପ୍ରଯୁକ୍ତିବିଦ୍ୟା ବିଭାଗ ପୂର୍ବ ଭାରତର ରାଜ୍ୟଗୁଡ଼ିକର ବିକାଶରେ ଏକ ଗୁରୁତ୍ୱପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ ଭୂମିକା ଗ୍ରହଣ କରିଥାଏ । ଓଡ଼ିଶାରେ ଏହି ବିଭାଗର ବିଭିନ୍ନ ବିଜ୍ଞାନ ସୟନ୍ଧିତ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟମାନଙ୍କର ଉପଯୋଗ ନିମିଭ ବିଭିନ୍ନ ସଂସ୍ଥା ଯଥା ଓଡ଼ିଶା ନବୀକରଣଯୋଗ୍ୟ ଶକ୍ତି ବିକାଶ ସଂସ୍ଥା, (ଓ.ଆର.ଇ.ଡି.ଏ.), ଓଡ଼ିଶା ଅନ୍ତରୀକ୍ଷ ପ୍ରୟୋଗ କେନ୍ଦ୍ର (ଓ.ଆର.ଏସ.ଏସି.), ବିଜ୍ଞାନ ଓ ପ୍ରଯୁକ୍ତି ବିଦ୍ୟାର ଓଡ଼ିଶା ରାଜ୍ୟ କାଉନ୍ସିଲ (ଓ.ଏସ୍.ସି.ଓ.ଏସ୍.ଟି), ଓଡ଼ିଶା ବିଜ୍ଞାନ ଏକାଡେମୀ, ପଠାଣି ସାମତ୍ର ପାନେଟୋରିୟମ୍ (ପି.ଏସ.ପି.), ଗଣିତ ପ୍ରତିଷ୍ଠାନ ଏବଂ ବାୟୋଟେକ୍ଲୋଲୋଜି ସହିତ ରାଜ୍ୟ ବିଜ୍ଞାନ ଏବଂ ପ୍ରଯୁକ୍ତିବିଦ୍ୟା ପରିଷଦ ଏବଂ ଇନଷ୍ଟିଚ୍ୟୁଟ୍ ଅଫ୍ ମ୍ୟାଟେରିଆଲ୍ ସାଇନ୍ସ (ଆଇ.ଏମ.ଏସ.) ପ୍ରଭୃତି ଗଠନ କରାଯାଇଛି । ରାଜ୍ୟରେ ଲୋକଙ୍କ ଉନ୍ନତି ପାଇଁ ପ୍ରଯୁକ୍ତି ବିଦ୍ୟାର ବ୍ୟବହାର କରି ବୈଜ୍ଞାନିକ ସ୍ୱଭାବ ଏବଂ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକଳାପକୁ ଉହାହିତ କରିବା ଲକ୍ଷ୍ୟରେ ବହୁ ସୁଚିତିତ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ଗ୍ରହଣ କରାଯାଇଛି ।

ବିଜ୍ଞାନ ଏବଂ ପ୍ରଯୁକ୍ତିବିଦ୍ୟା ବିଭାଗର ଦୃଷ୍ଟିକୋଣ ହେଉଛି ରାଜ୍ୟବାସୀଙ୍କୁ ବିଜ୍ଞାନରେ ନିୟୋଜିତ କରିବା, ବିଜ୍ଞାନ ଶିକ୍ଷା, ଅନୁସନ୍ଧାନ, ନବସ୍ଢନ ଏବଂ ଯୋଗାଯୋଗ ଏବଂ ଶିଳ୍ପକୁ ଅନୁଶୀଳନ କରିବା ଏବଂ ସମୂଦ୍ଧ କରିବା, ଛାତ୍ରମାନଙ୍କ ବିଜ୍ଞାନ ଏବଂ ପ୍ରଯୁକ୍ତିବିଦ୍ୟାକୁ ପ୍ରୋହାହିତ କରିବା ଏବଂ ରାଜ୍ୟର ବୈଜ୍ଞାନିକ ଦକ୍ଷତାକୁ ଦୃଢ କରିବା, ବୈଜ୍ଞାନିକ ମନୋଭାବ ଏବଂ ସ୍ୱଭାବର ବିକାଶ ଏବଂ ଲୋକଙ୍କ ମଧ୍ୟରେ ଏକ ସାଧାରଣ ସଚେତନତା ସୃଷ୍ଟି ପାଇବା ଏବଂ ବଞ୍ଚାଇବା ଉଦ୍ଦେଶ୍ୟରେ ବିଜ୍ଞାନ ଏବଂ ବୈଷୟିକ ଜ୍ଞାନର ଅଭିବୃଦ୍ଧି ଏବଂ ଶିଳ୍ପ ଏବଂ ମାନବ କଲ୍ୟାଣରେ ସେମାନଙ୍କର ପ୍ରୟୋଗକୁ ଚିତ୍ରଣ କରିବା, ବିଜ୍ଞାନ ଶିକ୍ଷା, ଯୋଗାଯୋଗ ଏବଂ ପ୍ରଯୁକ୍ତିବିଦ୍ୟା ସ୍ଥାନାନ୍ତରକୁ ଉସାହିତ କରିବା, ମୌଳିକ ଏବଂ ଆପାୁଏଡ୍ ସାଇନ୍ କ୍ଷେତ୍ରରେ ପ୍ରୟୋଗଭିଭିକ ଅନୁସଦ୍ଧାନକୁ ଭହାହିତ କରିବା, ବାୟୋଟେକ୍ନୋଲୋଜି ଶିକ୍ଷା, ଅନୁସଦ୍ଧାନ, ଷ୍ଟାର୍ଟ ଅପ୍, ଦକ୍ଷତା ଏବଂ ଉଦ୍ୟୋଗ ବିକାଶକୁ ପ୍ରୋହାହିତ ଏବଂ ଉହାହିତ କରିବା ଏବଂ ବାୟୋଟେକ୍-ଇଣ୍ଡଷ୍ଟି, ପାର୍କ ଏବଂ କୃଷ୍ଟରରେ ବିନିଯୋଗକୁ

ଭସାହିତ କରିବା । ଆହୁରି ମଧ୍ୟ ନୂତନ ଏବଂ ଅକ୍ଷୟ ଶକ୍ତି ଭସଗୁଡ଼ିକର ବ୍ୟବହାରକୁ ପ୍ରୋସାହିତ କରିବା ତଥା ବିକାଶ ଯୋଜନା ଏବଂ ନିଷ୍ପଭି ନେବାରେ ପ୍ଥାନ ଏବଂ ସୂଚନା ପ୍ରଯୁକ୍ତିର ସମନ୍ଦିତ ବ୍ୟବହାରକୁ ପ୍ରୋସାହିତ କରିବା ।

୧୯୮୫ରେ ଓଡ଼ିଶା କମ୍ପ୍ୟୁଟର ଆବେଦନ କେନ୍ଦ୍ର (ଓକାକ) ପଞ୍ଜିକୃତ ହେବା ପରେ ବିଭାଗରେ କମ୍ପ୍ୟୁଟରୀକରଣ ସହିତ ଜଡ଼ିତ ଥିଲା, କମ୍ପ୍ୟୁଟର ଶିକ୍ଷା/ତାଲିମ ପ୍ରଦାନ ଏବଂ ହାର୍ଡ୍ୱେୟାର ଏବଂ ସଫ୍ଟେୟାର କ୍ୟରେ ସରକାରୀ ବିଭାଗକୁ ସାହାଯ୍ୟ କରୁଥିଲା I ୨୦୦୦ ମସିହା ପରବର୍ଭୀ ଅବଧ୍ରେ, ଟେକ୍ନୋଲୋଜିର ଆଗମନ, ଆଇଟି / ଆଇ.ଟି.ଇ.ଏସ. ସେବା ବୃଦ୍ଧି, ଓଡ଼ିଶାରେ ଆଇ.ଟି. ଇଣ୍ୟସ୍ପିର ଅଭିବୃଦ୍ଧି, ସଫ୍ଟଓ୍ଟେୟାର ରପ୍ତାନି, ଭାରତ ସରକାରଙ୍କ ଦ୍ୱାରା ପାୟୋଜିତ ଇ-ଶାସନ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ଓ ଇ-ସେବା ଇତ୍ୟାଦି ଯୋଗୁଁ ଓକାକ'ର ଭୂମିକାରେ ଏକ ବଡ଼ ପରିବର୍ତ୍ତନ ହୋଇଥିଲା I ଓକାକ'ର କାର୍ଯ୍ୟଗୁଡ଼ିକ ଧୀରେ ଧୀରେ ତାଲିମ ଏବଂ କ୍ରୟ ଠାରୁ ଆରୟ କରି ଇ-ସରକାରୀ ପ୍ରକଳ୍ପର କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକାରିତା, ଦକ୍ଷତା ବିକାଶ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ମର କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକାରିତା, ସୃତନ୍ତ୍ର ଉଦ୍ଦେଶ୍ୟ ଯାନ ପରିଚାଳନା, ଶିଳ୍ପ ସୁବିଧା ଏବଂ ଆଇ.ଟି. ପ୍ରୋହାହନ ଇତ୍ୟାଦି ପର୍ଯ୍ୟନ୍ତ ବୃଦ୍ଧି ପାଇଛି I ନୋଡାଲ୍ ଏଜେନ୍ସି ଭାବରେ ଆଇ.ଟି./ ଆଇ.ଟି.ଇ.ଏସ./ଇ.ଏସ.ଡି.ଏମ. କ୍ଷେତ୍ରରେ ନିର୍ଦ୍ଦିଷ୍ଟ ସୀମା ପର୍ଯ୍ୟନ୍ତ ବିନିଯୋଗ ପାଇଁ ଏକକ ୱିଶ୍ତୋ କ୍ଲିୟରାନ୍ସର ଦାୟିତ୍ୱ ରହିଛି । ଓଡ଼ିଶା ଆଜି ବିକାଶ ପଥରେ ଅଗ୍ରଗତି କରି ବିଜ୍ଞାନ ଓ ବୈଷୟିକ ଶକ୍ତିର ପ୍ରୟୋଗରେ ଏକ ଜ୍ଞାନ ଅର୍ଥନୀତି (ନଲେଜ ଇକୋନୋମି) ଦିଗରେ ଅଗ୍ରସର ହେଉଛି ।

ରାଜ୍ୟ ସରକାର ଓଡିଶାରେ ବିଜ୍ଞାନ, ପ୍ରଯୁକ୍ତି ବିଦ୍ୟା, ଇଞ୍ଜିନିୟରିଂ ଓ ଗଣିତ ଶିକ୍ଷାରେ ଅଧିକରୁ ଅଧିକ ଛାତ୍ରଛାତ୍ରୀମାନଙ୍କୁ ଆକୃଷ୍ଟ କରିବା ପାଇଁ ପଦକ୍ଷେପ ନେଉଛନ୍ତି । ବିଜ୍ଞାନ ଶିକ୍ଷା ଦିଗରେ ରାଜ୍ୟ ସରକାରଙ୍କ ପଦକ୍ଷେପ ଦ୍ୱାରା ସମାଜରେ ବୈଜ୍ଞାନିକ ମନୋଭାବ ବୃଦ୍ଧି ପାଇବ । ରାଜ୍ୟର ବିଭିନ୍ନ ସ୍ଥାନରେ ତର୍କସଙ୍ଗତ ଚିନ୍ତାଧାରା ବୃଦ୍ଧି ପାଇବ । ରାଜ୍ୟର ବିଭିନ୍ନ ସ୍ଥାନରେ ପ୍ଲାନେଟାରିଅମ୍ ଓ ଜିଲ୍ଲାଗୁଡ଼ିକରେ ବିଜ୍ଞାନ କେନ୍ଦ୍ର ପ୍ରତିଷ୍ଠା କରାଯାଉଛି । ରାଜ୍ୟରେ ବର୍ତ୍ତମାନ ଭୁବନେଶ୍ୱର ଏବଂ ବୁର୍ଲାଠାରେ ଦୁଇଟି ପ୍ଲାନେଟାରିଅମ୍ ଅଛି । ଏହା ସହିତ ଗଞ୍ଜାମ, ରାୟଗଡ଼ା, ମୟୁରଭଞ୍ଜ, ସୁନ୍ଦରଗଡ଼, ବଲାଙ୍ଗର ଓ କେନ୍ଦୁଝର ଠାରେ ଆଉ ୬ଟି ପ୍ଲାନେଟାରିଅମ୍ କରିବା ପାଇଁ ରାଜ୍ୟ ସରକାର ନିଷ୍ପଭି ନେଇଛନ୍ତି । ୩୦ଟି ଜିଲ୍ଲାରେ ମଧ୍ୟ ୩୦ଟି ଜିଲ୍ଲା ବିଜ୍ଞାନ କେନ୍ଦ୍ର ସ୍ଥାପନ କରାଯିବ ।

ଶିଳ୍ପ, କୃଷି ଏବଂ ଚିକିହା କ୍ଷେତ୍ରରେ ବୈପ୍ଲବିକ ପରିବର୍ତ୍ତନ ଆଣିବାର ସୟାବନାମୟ ମାଧ୍ୟମ ବାୟୋଟେକ୍କୋଲୋଜିର ବହୁଳ ଉପଯୋଗ କରି ଏକ ସାମାଜିକ ଓ ଅର୍ଥନୈତିକ ଅଭିବୃଦ୍ଧି ଆଣିବା ପାଇଁ ରାଜ୍ୟ ସରକାର ବହୁ ଦୃଷ୍ଟାନ୍ତମୂକକ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ହାତକୁ ନେଇଛନ୍ତି । ବିଜ୍ଞାନର ଲୋକପ୍ରିୟତା ପାଇଁ ଓଡ଼ିଶା ବିଜ୍ଞାନ ଏକାଡେମୀ ହାରା ପ୍ରଦର୍ଶନୀ, ଆଲୋଚନାଚକ୍ର, କର୍ମଶାଳା, ଭ୍ରମଣ ଯୋଜନା, ମ୍ୟାଗାଜିନ ଓ ପିରିଓଡ଼ିକାଲ ପ୍ରକାଶନ, ବୈଜ୍ଞାନିକ, ଗବେଷକ ଓ ଲେଖକମାନକୁ ପୁରଷ୍ଟତ କରିବା ଆଦି ବହୁମୁଖୀ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ଅନୁଷ୍ଟିତ ହେଉଛି । ମଣିଷ ସଭ୍ୟତାର ବିଳାଶରେ ବିଜ୍ଞାନ ଓ ବୈଷୟିକ ଜ୍ଞାନର ଗୁରୁହପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ ଭୂମିକା ରହିଛି । ବିଜ୍ଞାନ ବିନା ଆଜି ଜୀବନଯାପନ କରିବା ସନ୍ତବ ଚୁହେଁ । ଯଦି ଆଜି ମଣିଷ ସଭ୍ୟତାର ଶିଖରରେ ପହଞ୍ଚିପାରିଛି, ତେବେ ଏହା ହେଉଛି ବିଜ୍ଞାନର ଅବଦାନ । ବିଜ୍ଞାନ ଓ ବିକାଶ ଗୋଟିଏ ମୁଦ୍ରାର ଚୁଇ ପାର୍ଶ୍ୱ । ବିକାଶର ଏହି ପ୍ରକ୍ତିୟାକୁ ଜାରି ରଖିବା ପାଇଁ ଛାତ୍ରଛାତ୍ରୀ ଓ ସାଧାରଣ ଲୋକଙ୍କ ଭିତରେ ବୈଜ୍ଞାନିକ ମନୋବୃତ୍ତି, ଅନୁସହିତ୍ର ମନୋଭାବ ଏବଂ ଯୁକ୍ତିଯୁକ୍ତ ଚିର୍ଗାଧାରା ରହିବା କରୁରୀ ।

> ଅବସରପ୍ରାପ୍ତ ଅଧିଷାସୀ ନିର୍ଦ୍ଦେଶକ (ଲଳିଷ୍ଟିକ), ଭାରତୀୟ ଜଣାତ ପାଧିକରଣ (ସେଲ)



School teacher teaching the students with the help of a laptop at the rural school of Taldi in West Bengal

#### **REPORT**

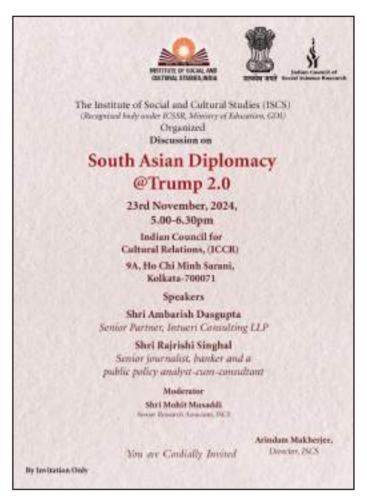
## Discussion on South Asian Diplomacy @ Trump 2.0

23rd November, 2024, ICCR, Kolkata

The Institute of Social and Cultural Studies that organizes various discourses and round tables to decipher the contemporary issues on 23rd of November, 2023 organized a discussion session to understand the country that leading the hegemony of globalization decides its course of action as an aftermath of its newly appointed government. Thus the "South Asian Diplomacy @Trump 2.0" charter outlines its policy mechanism to mainstream diverse economic development, cut short the problems of migrations and unemployment.

The discussion started with the felicitation of the Distinguished Speakers followed by the Welcome Address by the Director of the Institute Shri Arindam Mukherjee. The Moderator of the event Mohit Musaddi – Senior Research Associate of ISCS did set the stage for discussion manifesting how the back of Trump's 2.0 as per India's Foreign Minister S. Jaishankar would be beneficial for defining a comprehensive ordeal for supply chain to address the demand and supply inadequacies. Secondly it would oversee digital security prospects, geo-political reshaping and addressing the immigration concerns.

The First Distinguished Speaker Shri Ambarish Dasgupta- Senior Partner, Intueri Consulting Firm who is an expert in analysing the financial sector and has dealt with trade reforms- brought to centre stage that the Trump's 2.0 will help to streamline the trade and supply chain ethics in South Asia. He would pursue better relations and through extended trade across ASEAN and South Asia would develop a bilateral semantics which would also address the geo-political issues,



Chinese provocation and claiming of authority to a certain extent. His diplomatic techniques would help to harp on devising a much formalized technical and diplomatic system. At the same time on reforming the economy he tries to develop logistical hubs, manufacturing units and focuses on the marketing aspects of the global value chain.

The next Distinguished Speaker Shri Rajrishi Singhal- Senior journalist, banker and a public policy analyst-cum-consultant characterised the political nature of Trump based on his previous tenure. He said

that Trump's reversal would help to bring down the walls between the executors and legislators perceived by traditional bureaucratic structure. From the South Asian perspective, Trump's reclaim would support economic strategy reversals along with some noticeable inductions in foreign policy and geo-political strategies. The discussion also elicited a very interesting question and answer session among the speakers and audience composed of young scholars, students of political Science, civil society actors and public policy practitioners. The event marked its conclusion with a vote of Thanks by the ISCS official.

















Editor in Chief: Arindam Mukherjee

Published by, Director, ISCS,India, 48/2, Dr. Suresh Sarkar Road, Kolkata-700 014 E-mail: iscskol@gmail.com, Website: www.iscskolkata.com; Pre-Press works: ADSONATA, (M): 9874522778