

Report on the ICSSR sponsored Two Day National Seminar on Social Safety Net through Food Security in India

Presented by Dr.L.Ganesan
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The ICSSR sponsored Two Day National Seminar on 'Social Safety Net through Food Safety in India' during 15th& 16th March 2017 organised by the Department of Economics, Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli held in BUTP Seminar Hall, Bharathidasan University. During the first day on 15th March, 2017 the inaugural function started by 10.00 am with invocation song and theme song of the university. The Honourable Vice Chancellor of Bharathidasan University Dr.Lt.Cl.V.M. Muthukumar presided over the function by lighting the kuthuvilakku with other dignitaries. The Convenor cum Organising Secretary of the National Seminar Dr.L.Ganesan welcomed the dignitaries& delegates and introduced the theme of the seminar. **Honourable Vice Chancellor** of the Bharathidasan University Dr.V.M.Muthukumar delivered presidential address and released the Seminar proceedings. In his speech, he mentioned that the topic of this seminar is highly relevant today, this is the appropriate time to discuss this kind of social issue particularly to protect the vulnerable group and underprivileged through food security in India. He also appreciated the seminar got wide attraction among the young scholars and delegates by responding more than 100 research papers. He firmly believe that the deliberations of this seminar would be useful for the policy making for both central as well as the state governments. The **NAAC Committee Member**Dr.S.Rajendran, Professor in Economics, Gandhi gram Rural Institute, the central deemed university and the **Syndicate Member of the University**Dr.GobinathGanapathi felicitated the theme of the national seminar on the occasion of the inaugural session of this seminar. The **Former Director** of Madras Institute of Development Studies (**MIDS**), Chennai Dr. S.Neelakantan delivered keynote address. The **Former Director of Food Security** and the **Project Manager** of Leveraging Agriculture and for Nutrition in South Asia(**LANSA**) of **MSSRF, Chennai** delivered inaugural address. The inaugural session was end with the vote

of thanks proposed by the faculty member Dr.N.Prasanna followed by the session break for tea.

The First Plenary Session was started sharply by 11.15 am after tea break. The first plenary session was chaired by the former Director of MIDS Dr.S.Neelakantan. In his speech, he delivered some valuable points in the title of 'Hope and Doubt about Social Safety Net in India. Dr.R.V.Bhavani former Director of Food Security and Project Manager of Leveraging Agriculture for Nutrition in South Asia(LANSA) ofMSSRF,Chennai has delivered lecture on the title of 'Food and Nutrition Security and Social Safety Net in India'. The NAAC Member Dr. S. Rajendran delivered speech on the title of 'Underpinning of Sustainable Agriculture Development for Food Security'. During the first plenary session there was many doubts, clarifications and queries were raised by the delegates and researchers to the panellists. Most of the questions were posed to Dr.S.Neelakantan regarding the present scenario of food security and its implementation for social safety net. The way in which the answer given by Dr.S.Neelakantan was satisfied and appreciated by all the participants. The first plenary session was end by 01.25 pm and the session was break for first day lunch.

After lunch, the technical session was commenced sharply by 02.30 pm. There was two parallel session went on during the first day. Technical session I entitled as 'Social Safety Net Issues and Challenges' was chaired by Dr. P. Stantly Joseph Maicheal Raj, Associate Professor and Head of the Department of Economics from ST. Joseph's college Tiruchirappalli and the rapporteur for this session is Dr.M.Chitra from the School of Economics, Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai.

The second parallel session entitled as 'Food Security Issues and Challenges' was chaired by Dr.S.Ganesan, Faculty member from the Department of Economics, Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli and Dr.G.Irudharaj, Associate Professor from the Department of Economics, ST. Joseph's College, Tiruchirappalli is the rapporteur of this session. There was more number of research papers were presented by delegates from all over the country. Both the session the chairperson were given sufficient time for interaction by raising many questions. The delegates

were actively participated by clarifying doubts and questions. The paper presenters also very keen on their clarifying doubts with the support of the concern session chairperson. With this active interactive session along with the tea break the entire first day seminar activities were end at 5.10 pm.

Second Day Seminar on 16.03.2017

The Second day second plenary session was started with the delivering of welcome address by the convenor cum organising secretary of the seminar Dr.L.Ganesan. The Second Plenary session was chaired by Dr.S.Nehru, Professor and Head, Department of Economics, Gandhi gram Rural Institute deemed central university, Dindigul and the rapporteur of this session is Dr.R.Rajendran Associate Professor, Department of Economics, Periyar EVR College, Tiruchirappalli. In this plenary session, there were three panellist presented their papers. Dr.S.Nehru, the chair person briefly stated about the significance about the social safety net through food security and its relevancy in today's context. Dr.S.Theenathayalan, Head of the Department of Economics, Madura College, Madurai delivered speech on 'Strategic Priorities for Promoting Food Security through Safety Nets' followed by Dr.B.Mathavan, Professor of Economics, Annamalai University, Chidambaram presented his speech with title of 'Social Risk Management and Food Based Social Safety Net Programmes'. The final panellist Dr.J.Sacratees, Head of the Department of Economics, Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Thirunelveli delivered lecture on 'Social Security for Elderly in Thoothukudi District of Tamil Nadu'. After having wide discussion on the above presented three panel presentation, Dr.S.Nehru, the chair person narrated the entire presentation and assisted to clarify the doubts and questions raised by the researchers, delegates and participants. Finally the second plenary session was end by 01.30 pm and the session discontinued for second day lunch break.

After lunch the technical session III was started sharply by 2.10 pm on the title of the session is 'Nutrition and Climate Change on Food Security' at the venue of Seminar Hall,

Department of Educational Technology (IFloor), UGC-HRC Building. Dr.B.Mathavan, Professor of Economics from Annamalai University Chairperson of the session and Dr.M.Suvakkin Department of Economics, ST. Joseph College, Trichy rapporteur of this session. There was twenty two papers presented by the delegates and research scholars, mostly focussing on nutrition and food security. Then the technical session was end by 4.15 pm which followed by the tea break.

The valedictory function was started by 4.35pm. **Dr.J.A.ArulChellakumar, Director, College and Curriculum Development Cell** and Professor of Economics, Department of Economics, Bharathidasan University welcomed the gatherings. Dr.R.Rajendran Associate Professor from E. V.R.Periyar College, Trichirappally presented the consolidated rapporteur report. **Dr. S.Iyyampillai Senior Professor of Economics** presided over the function and delivered presidential address. **Shri.K.Murali, Additional General Manager, CSR Administration, BHEL**, Trichy delivered Chief Guest address. Dr. **S. Ramasamy** Professor of Economics and **Director of Rural Development** from Gandhigram Rural Institute - Deemed Central University, Gandhigram delivered valedictory address. The **Syndicate Member of Bharathidasan University Dr.R.Mangaleswaran** felicitate the way of organising seminar and its theme. The Chief Guest Mr.K.Murali and Dr.S.Ramasamy distributed the certificates to the paper presenters and the participants. Finally the seminar convenor Dr.L.Ganesan proposed vote of thanks to all the contributors who are responsible for successful completion of this national seminar. The Seminar convenor Dr. L.Ganesan delighted that the seminar is highly successful one as the dignitaries were participated as One Vice Chancellor, Four Directors, AGM Corporate Social Responsibility BHEL, One NAAC Member, Five University HoDs, Two University Syndicate Members and delegates from various Universities and Colleges. The valedictory function was end at 6.10 pm. with the National Anthem