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No. DU/VC/2023/286  
21<sup>st</sup> August 2023

### MESSAGE

I congratulate the Department of Social Work for taking the initiative of publishing the *Indian Journal of Social Work Education and Practice* as a step towards fostering a culture of academic excellence and encouraging innovative research in the field of social work.

The journal serves as a platform for the exchange of knowledge, ideas, and experiences in social work education and practice. It brings together scholars, practitioners, and students to contribute to the discourse on social issues, welfare, and progressive social work practices.

I am sure that the journal will make immense contribution in disseminating research, sharing best practices, and stimulating intellectual discourse in the field of social work.

I commend the editorial team for their dedication and hard work in curating an insightful journal that showcases the latest research, current trends, and emerging practices in social work education. The diverse range of articles and perspectives presented provide a valuable resource for professionals in the field.

Through the academic rigor and practical relevance showcased in this journal, social work students, educators, and practitioners shall gain valuable insights that can contribute to their professional growth and development.

I believe that the field of social work plays a crucial role in addressing the challenges faced by our society. Through effective education and practice, we can strive for social justice, equality, inclusive development and reach to the farthest corner.

I would like to extend my appreciation to the editor and his team for continued commitment and dedication towards promoting social work education and practice through this journal. I look forward to witnessing the growth and impact of the journal in the years to come.

  
Yogesh Singh  
21/8/23

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## Editorial Note

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The April 2025 issue of the *Indian Journal of Social Work Education and Practice (IJSWEP)* (Vol. 2, Issue 2) foregrounds the transformative role of social work in addressing intersecting vulnerabilities within India's rapidly evolving socio-economic landscape. This issue presents six rigorously peer-reviewed contributions that collectively advance scholarly discourse and practice-oriented insights.

Hemraj P. Jangir and Ramesh B. critically interrogate caste as a structural determinant of identity and oppression, situating social work practice within the enduring realities of stratification and exclusion. Their analysis underscores the imperative for practitioners to engage reflexively with systemic inequities. Dr Rambabu Botcha, Ms Ridashisha Kharbani, and Dr Vishal Mishra examine contemporary civil society movements for Dalit and tribal empowerment, highlighting the transformative potential of grassroots mobilisation in expanding the horizons of social justice. Dr Shweta Ramesh Jare's case study on primary education in Nasik District, Maharashtra, identifies persistent quality concerns and structural gaps, offering evidence-based insights for policy reform and community engagement in educational development. Ms R. Nithyakalyani's contribution on the living and working conditions of Sivakasi fire workers provides a socio-economic perspective on labour precarity, occupational hazards, and resilience, reaffirming the ethical responsibility of social work to advocate for humane and sustainable labour practices. Abdul Quadir, Dr Sanjay Onkar Ingole, Azmina Aktar, and Raza Parvez analyse the socio-economic advancement of rural women entrepreneurs in Kamrup, Assam, demonstrating how entrepreneurial initiatives disrupt traditional trends and foster agency, empowerment, and community development.

Additionally, Dr. Vijay Sansare's article, *Pre-Marital Counselling: A Preventive Tool for Preparedness of Marital Life*, underscores the importance of proactive psychosocial interventions in strengthening marital relationships. By situating counselling as a preventive measure, the study highlights how social work can contribute to healthier family structures and long-term relational stability.

Together, these articles reaffirm the discipline's commitment to equity, empowerment, and transformation. They invite readers to critically engage with structures of marginalisation while envisioning pathways toward inclusive progress. The editorial team commends the authors for their

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scholarly contributions and extends gratitude to the reviewers for ensuring the academic rigor of this issue. It is our hope that this volume will serve as a valuable resource for educators, practitioners, and policymakers committed to advancing social justice in India.

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*Indian Journal of Social Work Education and Practice*

Prof. Sanjoy Roy

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