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## EDITORIAL

Dear Readers,

We are pleased to share with you the current issue of Social Work Journal published by the Department of Social Work, Assam University, Silchar. This issue is comprising of total 12 articles highlights several issues of contemporary relevance to the social development such as HIV/AIDS, Role of social workers in mitigating the problems of persons with HIV positive, disaster management, NREGS, NRLM, right to education, prevalence of cancer, contextualizing social work education in North East India. A brief introduction to the twelve articles is detailed below:

The paper on '*Use of Substances and Risk Behavior in Relation to HIV/AIDS in Mizoram*' Dr. Kalpana Sarathy, Dr. Lalnilawma and Dr. Zoengpari " is an outcome of a Communication Needs Assessment study conducted in Mizoram through the initiative and sponsorship of the Mizoram State AIDS Control Society. The results of the study revealed the risk behaviour of the respondents with regard to HIV/AIDS.

Ms. Grace Laltlinzo in her paper '*Exploring the Experiences of HIV Positive Pregnant Women: A study of Churachandpur District, Manipur*' explore the experiences of HIV positive pregnant women in Churachandpur district, Manipur and also aimed to generate the knowledge applied by health service providers in planning policies and practices to improve treatment and care of women infected by HIV/AIDS.

Kamei Beeju in her paper '*The level of awareness about HIV/AIDS between student and non student youth in Imphal: The role of social worker in the helping process*' states that both young men and women are vulnerable group due to lack of access to accurate Knowledge on HIV/AIDS and the



women are more vulnerable for having lesser power to exercise control over their sexual lives. This paper focuses on empirical study on awareness level among the youth covering both male and female and student and non-student in Imphal and explore the scope of professional social worker on that issue.

Mr. Lalzo S. Thangjom in his paper on '*Political Commitment and Role of Professional Social Workers in HIV and AIDS Mitigation in Manipur*' explores the roles of various actors including that of the professional social workers in curbing the impending disaster. It also focuses on digging out what lies beneath by employing a method of political discourse analysis involving politicians, leaders, functionaries of NGOs and beneficiaries of government schemes and sanctions.

Mr. Neelam Prasad Yadav and Gangabhushan M. Molankal in their paper '*Incident Response System*' - *A New Lexicon of Disaster Management*' brings forward the emerging concepts of disaster management systems in general and Incident Response System in particular. The IRS system has been borrowed from west and implemented with little modification in India on pilot basis suiting to Indian situation. The paper advocates for the need for a coordinated effort and interface between the civil society organizations, government personnel and people to internalize community based disaster management. Capacity building of people will go a long way in effectively implementing the same.

Dr. M. Tineshowri Devi in her paper '*A Study of National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) and Its Implementation in Hatitilla Community of Cachar District, Assam*' attempts to study and understand the implementation of NREGS and the role of the local village committee under NREGS. It further explains the awareness level and the problems of village people who are availing the services of NREGS.

Mr. Abhimanyu Datta in his paper on '*National Rural Livelihood Mission – An approach towards Rural Development*' highlights the functions of NRLM in 42 blocks of Assam state with an aim to reduce rural poverty. The paper further discusses the importance of joint venture of different professionals like Social Workers, Veterinary doctors, scholars from agricultural science, etc. keeping in consideration of better opportunities and scope for better rural livelihood promotion and rural poverty eradication within the time frame.

Dr. Dhriti Ray Chaki in her paper '*Right to Education Act and Strategies to Overcome School Dropouts: A Case Study in Kolkata*' highlights Investment in education is most important and a powerful instrument to develop human capital and an economically prosperous society. This paper has tried to analyze the reasons of drop-out and strategies to be adopted for reducing the drop-out rate in Kolkata.

In a paper of Dr. Shukhdeba Sharma Hanjabam '*Contextualizing Social Work Education: Illustration from India's North East*' focused on Social Work education that the course contents of the programme both at the university level as well as at the college level have little space for the regional issues. The initiatives and the importance of contextualizing social work education are addressed in his paper.

Mr. G. Albin Joseph in his paper '*Practicing Realities among Professional Social Workers in Tamil Nadu*' discusses the momentum of Social Work Profession in India which needs to have its holdings as complete Profession. The paper further helps in understanding the importance of social work education in maintaining a standardized Professional Social Work. Ms. Rini Bhattacharjya in her paper '*Knowledge and Misconceptions about Menstruation and Associated Factors: A Study of Gynaecological Patients*'



highlights the various aspects related to the menstrual behaviour of the women of reproductive age and other factors which may have consequences on their gynaecological morbidity. This paper emphasizes the importance of health education among women to fight with the problems of gynaecological morbidity.

Mrs. Debrani Chandrani's paper 'Prevalence of Cancer in Cachar District: An Overview' is significant contribution in the context of increasing menace of tobacco related cancer in North East region. The paper brought forward the various influencing factors leading to tobacco related cancer and advocated for the need of concerted efforts from both government, non-government organizations and social work institutions to eliminate the factors leading to cancer in general and tobacco related cancer in particular.

We are sincerely thankful to Assam University for providing incessant encouragement and support in sustaining the publication of Social Work Journal.

We also would like to acknowledge with sense of gratitude to all the paper contributors, referees, members of the advisory board and editorial board who have made our task by being responsible in preparing the papers, editing and sequencing. We look forward to the continuity of this academic exercise in strengthening the social work literature.

**Editor in Chief**

**Dr. B.S. Gunjal**

**Joint Editor**

**Dr. M. Gangabhushan**



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