

ONE-DAY NATIONAL SEMINAR

ON

WOMEN, LABOUR AND EMPOWERMENT IN THE CONTEXT OF GLOBALISATION



DATE: 24-02-2025



organised by

**WOMEN'S STUDIES CENTRE
VIDYA BHAVANA
VISVA-BHARATI**

(FIRST CIRCULAR)

CONCEPT NOTE

Women's work has been one of the most contentious topics in development discourse across the world. The undervaluing of work, concentration in low-paid, less-secured and less skilled informal sector jobs, gender segregation of occupations, invisibility of home-based workers are some of the major issues that underpin women's work. The globalizing processes in India have further accentuated these problems. The economic logic that drives globalization has proved to be particularly disadvantageous for those with fewer resources and restricted mobilities, especially women. For instance, flexibilisation of production, sub-contracting and outsourcing of jobs, informalisation of work, rising insecurities in the labour market have particularly weakened the bargaining power of the women. Economic restructuring affects women's labour through the erosion of government support from social sector spending and increasing co-optation of the women in community activities. Almost about two decades after the liberalization of the Indian economy, it is an opportune moment to delve into the emerging contours of women's labour.

How is the economic downturn affecting women's work? What are the new opportunities that are emerging for women in both rural and urban areas? Are these new job opportunities able to breakthrough the already established gender-based inequalities of work in the labour market? What are the women's own perceptions about the labour they contribute towards the maintenance of the community? What are the implications of the existing labour opportunities for the women themselves? Given the fact that notwithstanding the nature of work they do, the conditions in which they work and the remunerations they receive, women's participation in paid work has come to be conflated with their empowerment in the policy discourses, do the women consider themselves to be empowered or otherwise? These are some of the important questions that will be engaged with in the proposed seminar.



SUB- THEMES

A.Women and labour market outcomes in a globalizing world

- 1.Rural labour markets and women's work
- 2.Emerging opportunities in urban markets and women's work
- 3.Women in Science Technology and Management sectors
- 4.Women's work in the continuum of productive, reproductive and community roles
- 5.Home-based work at the global-local interface, global supply chains and production networks
- 6.International migration of care workers
- 7.Flexible paid work arrangements and women; the 'work-from-home'
- 8.Women and entrepreneurship

B.Women's labour rights and social protection

- 1.Safety for women and legislative protection at workplaces
- 2.Women's labour rights in an eroding regime for human rights
- 3.Labour codes

C.Employment, Social outcomes of women's employment

- 1.Occupational health, conditions of work
- 2.Education, skill development, employment and empowerment
- 3.Women's employment and empowerment

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Abstracts are invited on the focal theme, but not limited to, the sub-themes mentioned above from students, research scholars, faculty members, scientists, and professionals in Gender Studies, Economics, Geography, Social Studies, Sociology, Social Works, Rural and Urban Studies and Allied Disciplines. The abstracts should be submitted in MS Word file through Google form link.

ABSTRACTS SUBMISSION

- Abstracts must be submitted in English
- Authors should indicate their preferred theme.
- Abstracts should clearly outline the objectives, methods, results, and significance of the study.
- Number of words: 300 words excluding title, authors, and affiliations. Keywords: 4-6 words.
- Font: Times New Roman; Font size: 12 points; Single line spacing.
- Plain text should be used without any special characters. Graphics will not be accepted. No references should be included.

Note:

Selected abstracts will be invited for oral presentation and full paper submission.

Submitted papers will be peer-reviewed and screened for plagiarism before final acceptance.

Selected papers will be published in reputed journals and/or an edited volume by a reputed publisher.

Abstract Submission Link:

<https://forms.gle/6pVD24GFLUthGCRE8>

REGISTRATION FEES

Categories	OFFLINE MODE (without accomodation)
Faculty/ Delegates	1000/-
Research Scholars	750/-
P G Students	500/-

MODE OF PAYMENT

1. Step 1: Please type <https://www.onlinesbi.sbi/sbicollect/icollecthome.htm>
2. Select Category – “Educational Institutions”
3. Select “**VISVA BHARATI UNIVERSITY**”
4. Select Payment Category “Misc Receipt”
5. Fill up all details in CAPITAL and Select Purpose of Deposit “Other”
6. Type at Remarks in CAPITAL “**WOMEN STUDIES SEMINAR 2025**”
7. Take print out of payment receipt and send us

Registration Form

<https://forms.gle/CTmgVxXi4ajmv5Cw9>

Note:

1. Registration Fee is non-refundable.
2. The fee includes Seminar kit, Certificate of presenter/participant, lunch & refreshment on the day of the seminar. Registration **does not include accommodation**.
3. First, have to pay the registration fee and then go to the above-mentioned registration form link to fill up the details.

THE HOST UNIVERSITY

Visva-Bharti at Santiniketan, located in a rural setting in Birbhum district, West Bengal, was founded by Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore in 1901 as a residential school, "Brahmacharya Asrama." This Asrama Vidyalaya became "Visva-Bharati" on December 23, 1921. In 1951, it was declared a Central University of National Importance by an Act of Parliament of India. On September 17, 2023, UNESCO declared Visva-Bharati as the first World Living Heritage Campus. Details about Visva-Bharati are available at <https://visvabharati.ac.in/>. The weather in February is expected to remain moderate, and the temperature ranges between 19 degrees Celsius and 32 degrees Celsius.

THE HOST DEPARTMENT

The Women’s Studies Centre at Visva-Bharati focuses on interdisciplinary work on women and gender questions: women’s status in developing countries and development issues related to women, the gender dimension of development, divisions of labour, self-presentation, public and private spheres, access to institutions and the organisation of family life. The primary aim of the Centre is to explore the gendered nature of social processes focusing on development questions. The research and teaching at the Centre combine theory and practice with an interdisciplinary and transnational scope. The Centre aims at contributing to theoretical, methodological and pedagogical debates within the study of power dynamics embedded in gender relations in the context of development. In particular, the objectives of the Centre can be broadly classified under two major themes: academic and applied. The Centre offers a regular PhD programme as well as Multidisciplinary, and Minor courses at the Undergraduate Level. In addition, the Centre also organises public lectures, research seminars and workshops. The Centre is also involved in different kinds of extension programmes in the rural areas for women in collaboration with other organizations.

HOW TO REACH

Santiniketan is situated at a distance of around 160 km from Kolkata. One can reach by road, rail or air. The nearest airports are Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose International Airport (Kolkata Airport, CCU) and Kazi Nazrul Islam Airport (Durgapur Airport, RDP). From here, Santiniketan is connected by road and rail. Bolpur-Santiniketan is the railway station for Santiniketan. It is two and a half to three hours by train from Howrah, Sealdah, and Kolkata Stations and one hour from Bardhaman Station. Regular bus services are available to and from Kolkata, Durgapur and Asansol.

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

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Hon'ble Vice Chancellor (Offg.)
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IMPORTANT DATES

Abstract Submission Opens	16th-30th January, 2025
Last Date for Abstract Submission	30th January, 2025
Notification for Acceptance of Abstracts	5th February, 2025
Registration Opens	6th- 15th February, 2025
Last Date for Registration	15th February, 2025
Last Date for Submission of Full Paper	20th February, 2025
Seminar Date	24th February, 2025

ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE

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Women's Studies Centre

Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan

