



**18th**  
**ALL INDIA**  
**PEOPLES SCIENCE**  
**CONGRESS**

**27-30 DECEMBER 2024**

Venue

**West Bengal University of Animal and Fishery Sciences,  
Belgachia, Kolkata**



**All India Peoples Science Network**



Day 1

27th December

15:00 – 19:00

## Inaugural Session

*(incl. Cultural Programme)*

Venue: Hall 1, Community Hall

Themes :

**S & T for Self Reliance and  
Democratic Climate Resilient Development**

Chair

**Satyajit Rath** *President, AIPSN*

Moderator

**Pradeep Mohapatra** *Secretary, Organising Committee*

Welcome Address

**President** *Organising Committee 18th AIPSC*

**Satyajit Rath, President AIPSN**

**Asha Mishra General Secretary, AIPSN**

Cultural Program:

Speakers

**Prabir Purkayastha** *Founder Newsclick*

**Partha Pratim Mazumdar** *Ex ISI, Kolkata and Visiting Prof IISER, Kolkata*

**Paromita Chakravarti** *Professor, Jadavpur University*

**Sohail Hashmi,** *Cultural Activist & Historian*

**D. Raghunandan,** *DSF and Ex-President AIPSN*

Vote of Thanks

**Satyajit Chakraborty**

Closing Song

19:00 onwards cultural program



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**Day 2**

**28th December**

**Day 2- Session 1: 9:30-11:30am**

**Sub-plenary 1:**

**S&T Self-reliance and Emerging Technologies**

Venue: Community Hall

**Chair**

**S. Chatterjee** *AIPSN*

**D.Raghunandan**  
*AIPSN*

**Status and Perspective for the PSM**

**Sudipta De**  
*Jadavpur University*

**Education and Research**

**Sushil Khanna**  
*Professor (retired) IIM, Calcutta*

**Status of Public Sector Industries**

**P.V. Unikrishnan**  
*Government of Kerala*

**Emerging technology: Knowledge Economy**

**Dinesh Abrol**  
*DSF*

**Public investment and R&D in India**

**R.K. Singh**  
*BGVS, Jharkhand*

**Summary of presentations**

**Sub-plenary 2:**

**Gender, Social Justice & Youth**

Venue: VCI Auditorium, 3rd Floor

**Chair**

**Mohana**

**Moderator**

**Komal Srivastava: Introduction, Journey and perspective of Samata**

**Archana Prasad**  
*Prof JNU*

**The struggles for Social Justice: Prospects and Challenges in the Current context**

**Thomas Franco**

**Women Credit and debt Trap: Govt Policy and privatisation of Banks and what is our counter to it?**

**Sumitra Chandel**

**Laws for the protection of women and their implementation**

**Prajwal Shastri**

**Women and Science**

**Biplab Ghosh**

**Challenges of the youth**

**Concluding Remarks by the Chair**



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### Sub-plenary 3:

## Media and Communication

Venue: VCI Seminar Room Ground Floor

### Moderator

Kavita Kabeer

Prabir Purkayastha

Challenges before the Science Movement  
in the internet age

Dr. Medusa

Using satire and humour in combating  
hate and misinformation

Q and A from the audience

10:00-18:00:

Share your Ideas and Stalls & Exhibition of Arts and Painting

Venue: VCI

11:30-12:00

Tea Break

Day 2- Session 2: 9:30-11:30am

### Sub-plenary 4:

## Climate Change: Impacts, challenges, resilience

Venue: Community Hall

### Chair

N.R. Bandyopadhyay *FOSET*

### Moderator

D. Raghunandan *DSF*

Introducing AIPSN Campaign on Extreme Heat and Other Issues

Anumita Roy Chowdhury <i>DDG, Centre for Science &amp; Environment</i>	Heat waves and Cities
Prabir Purkayastha <i>DSF, Knowledge Commons, Newsclick:</i>	Energy Transition to prevent disastrous climate change
Brijesh V.K. <i>Univ of Calicut, Kerala</i>	Micro-scale Landslide, Early Warning systems: case study of Wayanad
Tapan Mishra <i>PBVM</i>	Forests, Bio-diversity



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### Sub-plenary 5:

## Cultural Diversity & Discrimination

Venue: VCI Auditorium, 3rd Floor

### Topic

Cultural challenges at present times

### Chair

Naresh Prerna

### Panelists

**Sohail Hashmi** *Cultural activist and Historian*

**Manoj Kulkarni** *Writer and Painter*

**Gagandeep** *Theatre director and Drama artist*

14:00-15:00 PM

Lunch

**Day 2- Parallel Workshops: 15:00-18:00**

## Parallel workshop on Media and Communications

Venue: Room no 9

### Flow of the workshop

discussion based, Q and A.

### Dialogue initiators

Srinivas, Vinayak, Birju, Dinesh, Naresh Prerna, Prabhat Kumar, Arun, Kavita and participants from states.

### Moderator

S Krishnaswamy

## Parallel Workshop: Gender, Social Justice & Youth

### Workshop 1

Experience sharing on Samata and Social Justice . What are the Challenges?

Venue: Room no 3

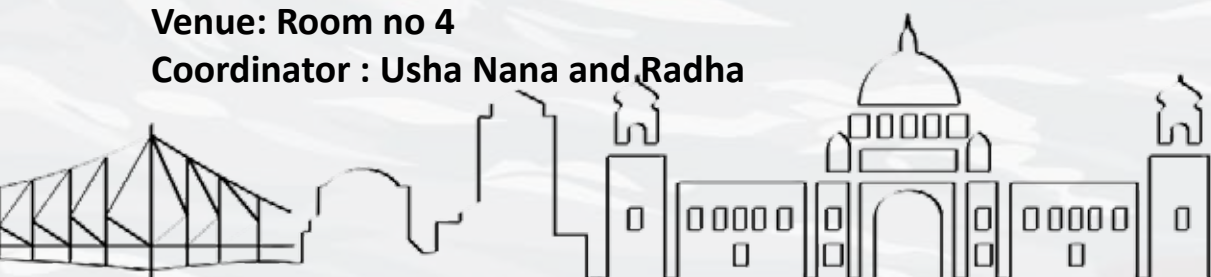
Coordinator : Pushpa and Manisha

### Workshop 2

States to present on Health, Education , Scientific Temper, Violence against women; Livelihood Malar, Hunar.

Venue: Room no 4

Coordinator : Usha Nana and Radha



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### Workshop 3

Youth Challenges and sharing of Experience

Venue: Room no 5

Coordinator : Biplab Ghosh

## Parallel Workshop: S&T Self-reliance and Emerging Technologies

### Workshop 1

Knowledge Economy

Venue: Room no 6

Coordinator : P.V. Unnikrishnan (Government of Kerala).

Panelists :

**Ajith Padmanabhan** (*Ongil, Entrepreneur*)

**Biju Parameswaran** (*Government of Kerala*)

**Vimal Ravi** (*Government of Kerala*)

**Prakash Mathew Jacob** (*Consultant to the Government of Kerala*)

### Workshop 2

Artificial Intelligence

Venue 1: Room no 7

Coordinator : Nandini Mukherjee (Jadavpur University).

Panelists:

**Ranjith Radhakrishnan** (*Bangalore Science Collective*)

**Soumik Chatterjee** (*Ongil*)

### Workshop 3

S&T, Public Institutions and Public Sector

Venue 1: Room no 8

Coordinator : Thomas Franco.

Panelists: Mrityunjay Mohanty and others (TBC)

\* Rapporteur (05:00PM-06:00PM):

Venue: Room no 6

Coordinator: Dinesh Abrol.

The proceedings of all three workshops will be summarised in a joint meeting.



<b>Parallel workshops: Climate Change</b>		
<b>Workshop 1</b> 3pm – 6pm Venue: Room no 10	<b>Heat Waves: Campaign planning, resource materials, State proposals</b>	Chair: T.P. Raghunath ( <i>Pondi SF</i> ) Moderator: D. Raghunandan ( <i>DSF</i> ) <b>Campaign Plan, Resources, activities, outcomes</b> Presentations: Indranil ( <i>DSF/JSA, Convenor, Health Desk</i> ) <b>Vulnerabilities, health systems, interventions PSM</b> <b>Member Organizations:</b> proposals for state-level campaign activities Discussions and Next Steps for Campaign
<b>Workshop 2</b> 3pm – 6pm	<b>Landslides, Urban and other Issues</b>	Chair: T. Gangadharan, KSSP
Venue: Room no 11	<b>Part 1 (60mins)</b> Landslides, Extreme Rainfall, Development in Hill regions	Moderator: O.P.Bhuraita ( <i>Him GVS</i> ) Overview, Issues and Approach Presentations: (10 mins or depending on numbers) TBC (to be confirmed) Discussions and Way forward
	<b>Part 2 (60 mins)</b> Urban Issues	Moderator: Souvanic Roy ( <i>FOSET, IEST Shibpur</i> ) Presentations: Anumita Roychowdhury ( <i>CSE</i> ): Air Pollution D. Raghunandan ( <i>DSF</i> ): Urban flooding, Waste Others (TBC) Discussions and Way forward
	<b>Part 3 (60 mins)</b> Other issues	Moderator: Najibuddin Ahmed ( <i>Assam Co-ord Comm</i> ) Presentations: (10 mins or depending on numbers) Sourav Chakravorty ( <i>PBVM</i> ): Sundarbans Blorin Mohanty (Odisha BGVS): Rural Governance Others (TBC) Overall Summation and Action Plan: O.P.Bhuraita

## Media and Culture

Venue: Hall 3, Room 1,2

Cultural Diversity & Discrimination

1. Sharing of the cultural works in the states
2. Need for new experiments and learning skills
3. Need for social media and cultural works

18:00-20:00

Cultural Events

21:00 onwards:

Dinner followed by screening of documentaries



**Day 3**

**29th December**

**Day 3- Session 1: 9:30-11:30am**

**Sub-plenary 6:**

**Public Health**

**Topic: Challenges to Health Rights in rapidly privatising health system**

**Venue: Community Hall**

**Chair**

**Satyawan Pundir HPGVS**

<b>Biswajit Dhar</b> <i>Professor (retired), Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi</i>	<b>Patent Barriers and Rising prices of Medicine</b>
<b>Dipa Sinha</b> <i>Ex-Faculty, Ambedkar University, Delhi, Right to Food Campaign</i>	<b>Equity, Social Determinants and Health Rights</b>
<b>Utpal Banerje</b> <i>Secretary, AHSD</i>	<b>West Bengal: Current Crisis of Health System and Peoples' Resistance</b>
<b>Richa Chintan</b> <i>Co-convenor, JSA</i>	<b>25 Years of JSA: Campaign on Health Rights</b>
<b>Dhananjay Kakade, Director SATHI, Pune</b>	<b>Health Communications in the rapidly digitising health system</b>

**Sub-plenary 7:**

**Agriculture Food Security & Development**

**Venue: VCI Seminar Room Ground Floor**

**Chair**

**Dinesh Abrol, Agenda setting and Opening statement**

**Session coordinators**

**P.K. Das, Shanunu Jha and Angshuman Sarma**

**Suman Sahai, Gene Campaign,**

**N Raghuram, Global Nitrogen Initiative**

**A Prema, Kerala Agricultural University**

**Biplab Ghosh, AIPSN**

**Discussants: O.P Bhuraita, S.R. Azad, Thomas Franco**





11:30-12:00

Tea Break

Day 3- Session 2: 12:00 -14:00

**Sub-plenary 8:**

**Scientific Temper & Science Communication**

Topic: Ancient Indian Scientific Traditions

Venue: VCI Auditorium, 3rd Floor

Chair

**S. Krishnaswamy**

Session coordinator

**Arunabha Misra** *Desk Convenor, AIPSN*

<b>Dr. Asish Lahiri</b> <i>Pavlov Institute</i>	<b>Materialistic outlooks in ancient India</b>
<b>Prof. Somak Ray Choudhary</b> <i>Vice Chancellor, Asoka University</i>	<b>Mathematical astronomical traditions of our country</b>
<b>Dr. Gauri Haval</b> <i>Formerly Head, Department of Zoology, AGC, Pune</i>	<b>Biological &amp; medicinal Science in ancient India.</b>

**Sub-plenary 9:**

**Education and NEP**

Topic: Four Years of NEP 2020

Venue: Community Hall

12-12-10: Coordinator - Geeta Mahashabde

12.10-12.20: Presided by- Prof. Rajamanikkam

<b>Dr.C. Ramakrishnan</b>	<b>NEP and Its implications in School Education</b>
<b>Prof. Anita Rampal</b>	<b>Implications in Academic Aspects of School Education</b>
<b>Kamla Menon</b>	<b>Pre-Schooling</b>
<b>Dr.Kasheenath Chatterjee</b>	<b>Literacy and Lifelong Education</b>
<b>Prof.Salim Shah</b>	<b>NEP and its implications in Higher Education</b>



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Ms. Ishita	<b>Implications on Academic aspects including the academic structure and content</b>
Dr.C.Padmanabhan	<b>National Testing Agency and the hidden agenda</b>
Consolidation:	

14:00-15:00 PM Lunch

**Day 2- Parallel Workshops: 15:00-18:00**

## Public Health

15:00 to 16:30	<b>Parallel Workshop 1:</b> <b>West Bengal Health Scenario</b> <b>Venue: Room no 6</b> <u>Convenor:</u> <b>Fuad Halim</b> <u>Resource persons:</u> <b>Anup Ray,</b> <i>former Principal,</i> <i>Calcutta Medical College;</i> <b>Shyamal Mitra,</b> <i>Ex Deputy Director, Finance, GoWB</i>	<b>Parallel Workshop 2:</b> <b>Challenges in Access to Medicines</b> <b>Venue : Room no 7</b> <b>Convenor:</b> <b>Gargeya Thalakapally;</b> <u>Resource persons:</u> <b>MR Santhosh,</b> <i>TISS Guwahati.</i> <b>Shantanu Tripathy,</b> <i>Professor and Principal,</i> <i>JGIMS, Kolkata</i> <b>Jyotsna Singh, PSI</b>	<b>Parallel Workshop 3:</b> <b>Emerging challenges of Government Funded Health Insurance Schemes</b> <b>Venue: Room no 8</b> <b>Moderator:</b> <b>Dipa Sinha</b> <u>Resource persons:</u> <b>Anandita Sharma,</b> <i>JGU Nirmalya Das, AHSD</i> <b>Richa Chintan, JSA</b>
16:30-18:00	<b>Parallel workshop 4:</b> <b>Experience Sharing from States:</b> <b>Venue: Room no 6</b> <u>Convenor:</u> <b>Satyawan Pundir&amp; Mubarak Saini;</b> <b>Sharing from JVV AP; and others</b>	<b>Converging Workshop 5:</b> <b>Communications Strategies for Health Rights Campaign</b> <b>Venue 2: Room no 7</b> <u>Convenor:</u> <b>Satnam, JSA, Co-convenor</b> <u>Resource Persons:</u> <b>Dhananjay Kakde, Director SATHI</b> <b>Meenuka Mathew, JGU</b>	



## Scientific Temper & Science Communication

<p><b>Workshop 1:</b> Kolkata declaration vis a vis promotion of scientific temper by adopting newer arenas of science communication. <b>Venue: hall 3</b> <b>Session coordinator:</b> <b>Aniket Sule</b>, <i>Professor, HBCSE, Mumbai</i> <b>Discussion initiator:</b> <b>Prof. B N Reddy</b>, <i>JVV-AP</i></p>	<p><b>Workshop 2:</b> Women in Science under present Indian perspective <b>Venue: room 1</b> <b>Session Coordinator:</b> <b>Ravinder KumarBanyal</b>, <i>Professor of IIAP, Bangalore</i> <b>Discussion Initiator:</b> <b>Nidhi Singh</b>, <i>Chattisgarh Vigyan Sabha.</i></p>
<p><b>Speakers:</b> <b>Anuj Sinha</b>, <i>Ex director, NCSTC</i> <b>Vivek Monteiro</b>, <i>Navnirmiti, Pune</i> <b>Nandini Mukherjee</b>, <i>Professor, JU, Kolkata.</i></p>	<p><b>Speakers:</b> <b>Dr. Prajwal Shastri</b>, <i>Professor(Retd), IIAP, Bangalore</i> <b>Dr. Anindita Bhadra</b>, <i>Associate professor, IISER, Kolkata.</i> <b>S. Krisnaswamy</b>, <i>Professor (Retd), MKU, TN</i></p>

## Agriculture

<b>Parallel Workshops (15:00-16:00)</b>	
<b>Workshop I: Agro-ecology</b> <b>Venue: Room no 2</b>	<b>Angshuman Sarma and Subhash Sharma Coordination team</b>
<b>Workshop II: Livestock and Fisheries</b> <b>Venue: Room no 3</b>	<b>Pradip. K Das, Coordination team</b>
<b>Workshop III: Agriculture and Climate Change,</b> <b>Venue: Room no 4</b>	<b>Shantunu Jha, Coordination team</b>
<b>Breakout Sessions (16.00-17.00)</b>	
<b>1) Rural livelihoods, corporate control of R&amp;D and markets, credit and policy alternatives</b>	<b>Subhash Sharma, Joginder Walia and Thomas Franco</b>
<b>2) Rejuvenation of common pool resources and labour for agricultural development, rural technology, employment and livelihoods revitalization</b>	<b>V Gopinath, Biplob Ghosh, Vijay Patel, S R Azad and Dinesh Abrol</b>



3) FPOs, cooperatives and digital sovereignty and empowerment	A Prema, Rijish, O P Bhuratia, Dhar-am Singh and Raseena
4) Climate resilience and interventions in varied agro-ecosystems	Shantunu Jha, Saonbanerjee, Subrata dutta, N Raghuram and Suman Sahai
<b>Concluding Session (17.00-18.00 hrs)</b> <b>For the planning of 2025-27 agenda of AIPSN for agriculture, food sovereignty and rural livelihoods (Biplob Ghosh and Dinesh Abrol &amp; Coordinators), Regional Coordinators, Agriculture desk members, thematic coordinators, Workshop Coordination Team and State Level Representatives</b> <b>Venue: Room no 2</b>	

## Education and NEP

### Workshop 1

### School Education

Venue: Room no 9

3.00pm - 4.30pm	<b>Experience sharing: Including Field level experiences and Emerging voices of resistance.</b> <u>Coordinator</u> <b>Blorine Mohanthy,</b> <u>Coordinating team</u> <b>Dr. Biplav Ghosh, PP Babu, Sewta Rath, Subrahmani</b> <b>KSSP, Navnirmiti, TNSF, Noth East, Experiences of Community learning centres</b>
4.30pm - 6.00pm	<b>Way forward: Includes scope of alternate policy, PSM position regarding National Textbook, Evaluation, Work integrated curriculum etc -</b> <b>Coordinator</b> <b>Dr. Biplav Ghosh,</b> <u>Coordinating team</u> <b>P.V. Divakaran, BSPS Urba</b> <u>Experts</u> <b>Prof. Anita Rampal, Vivek Montario, Meerabai</b>



## Workshop 2

Venue : Room no 10

<b>3.00pm - 4.30pm</b>	<b>Lifelong Education</b> <u>Coordinator</u> Bhim Sigh, <u>Coordinating Team</u> Muralidhar, Santhosh, Muddgal, Bhola Ram (Jharkand) Himachal Pradesh, West Bengal, Odisha, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Assam, Maharashtra, Uttarakhand, Utter Pradesh, Bihar, Haryana, Tripura <u>Expert</u> Komal Shrivastav, Dr. Omprakash Buraita, Anup Sarkar <b>Pre-Schooling</b> 4.50 pm to 6.00pm <u>Coordinator</u> T.A. Prasanth Babu KSSP, MP BGVS, BGVS Karnataka, BGVS Odisha <u>Experts</u> Meera Bai, Kamla Menon
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## Work Shop 3

### Higher Education

Venue: Room no 11

<b>3.00pm - 4.30pm</b>	<b>Emerging voices of Resistance, Experience sharing</b> <u>Moderator</u> Prof. Pramod Gouri <b>Presentation by state PSMs in the presence of the Experts:</b> Prof. Salim Shah, Ms.Ishita, Dr.C.Padmanabhan, Dr. Koya Venkateswara Rao 4.30-6.00pm <b>Way forward: Moderator Dr. Ratheesh Krishnan</b> <b>Panel of Experts Dr.N.Mani, Shyamal Chakraborti, Dr.S.Krishnaswami</b>
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18:00-20:00

Cultural Events

21:00 onwards:

Dinner followed by screening of documentaries



**Day 4**

**30th December**

**Day 3: 9:30-11:30am**

## Special Session on Development of West Bengal

Venue: Community Hall Chair: Prof. Souvonik Roy.

Speakers	Topic
<b>Prof. Achin Chakraborty</b> <i>Professor, Institute of Development Studies Kolkata</i>	<b>Economy - agriculture &amp; industry</b>
<b>Prof. Sivaji Chakravorti</b> <i>Professor Deptt of Electrical Engineering, Jadavpur University &amp; President, West Bengal Academy of Science &amp; Technology</i>	<b>Science &amp; Technology</b>
<b>Kumar Rana</b> <i>Scholar &amp; Social Activist</i>	<b>Education</b>
<b>Samudra Sengupta</b> <i>CMOH, 24 Parganas (North), Govt of West Bengal</i>	<b>Health</b>

**11:30-12:00**

**Tea Break**

**12:00-12.45PM**

**Adopt Resolutions; Community Hall**

**Valedictory Session: 12:45-14:00**

**Venue: Community Hall**

**Chair**

**Komal Srivastava & S Krishnaswami**

**Speakers**

**Ram Ramaswamy**, *Former VC, Hyderabad University and Prof. Dynamic Lab, IIT Delhi*

**Malini Bhatavharya**, *Former MP, Lok Sabha*

**R Ramanujam**, *Scientist, Ex IMSc; TNSF*

**ND Jayaprakash**, *Co-convenor Bhopal Gas Peedith Sangharsh Sahayog Samiti; Jt-Secretary, DSF;*

## Closing

**Announcement of the New Executive Committee**

**Remarks by the General Secretary, AIPSN**

**Presidential Remarks Closing Song**

**Vote of thanks: 18th AIPSC Organising Committee**



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