

## UGC Sponsored National Seminar

On

*EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE AND RURAL REGENERATION;  
AN APPRAISAL*

3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> December, 2015

Organised by

**Tufanganj Mahavidyalaya**

**Tufanganj Newtown:: Tufanganj:: Cooch Behar**

*In collaboration with  
University BT & Evening College  
Cooch Behar*

### *ABOUT THE SEMINAR*

Public works programme has recently emerged as the effective intervention in addressing unemployment, poverty as well as building infrastructure. Compared to similar programme in many other countries, MGNREGA in India is the largest and comprehensive in terms of coverage and statutory ordination. This robust employment guarantee programme is expected to reduce poverty, reverse inequality and to resuscitate rural economy as by improving infrastructure and agricultural productivity.

Few studies have evaluated the impact of MGNREGA in terms of its outreach and efficacy in ensuring the manual employment to the deserving and willing sections, redistribution of income, consumption pattern, migration etc. Though significant inroads in rural livelihood are unambiguous, the outcome and impact of the

programme are unclear in general and contested in particular. Few worrisome trends relate to patchy spread and depth across states, poor performance in poverty ridden geographical regions, dearth of and delay in fund availability, lack of commitment and capacity of the implementing agencies, particularly Gram panchayats.

As the test of pudding lies in its eating, it is imperative to ascertain whether MGNREGA is a palliative to keep rural distress under control or whether it is poised to regenerate the rural economy. Given the unevenness in implementation and ambivalence in outcome, the seminar intends to academically and objectively explore the following aspects and dimensions of MGNREGA.

This seminar will try to locate the progress of MGNREGA through the lens of the following **thrust areas**.

1. *Public Employment Programme: the concept and global practices*
2. *Evolution of the Employment Act: pressure, politics and culmination*
3. *Aggregate outreach in Indian States*
4. *Participation of and impact on rural marginalised groups including women*
5. *Inroads in social justice, food security, depravity and poverty*
6. *MGNREGA and labour market dynamics, land-use pattern and distress migration*
7. *Changing facets of rural economy including rural livelihood*
8. *Regeneration of natural resource management and durable asset creation*
9. *Process of transparency and accountability mechanism*
10. *The road ahead: reflection and recommendations*

## DATELINE

- *Date of Seminar:* **3rd & 4th December, 2015**
- *Last date of submission of Abstract:* **7th September, 2015**
- *Intimation of acceptance of Abstract:* **14th September, 2015**
- *Last date of submission of Full Paper:* **17th October, 2015**

## GUIDELINES FOR CONTRIBUTORS

- Abstract of the proposed Full Paper must be within 300-500 words and in standard format. Softcopy of the Abstract typed in MS Word with 12 size font and 1.5 line spacing should be sent within the last date to email ID; [seminartfgm@gmail.com](mailto:seminartfgm@gmail.com).
- The Abstract should i) specific the Sub-theme being taken up and ii) should contain a brief resume of the author(s), email ID and contact number
- Submission of Full Paper will be compulsory for every paper contributor. The Full Paper (with reference style in APA format) should not exceed 5000 words excluding table/graph/diagram, if any, and should accompany the declaration that the paper is the original works and has not been submitted to or has been published elsewhere. The Full Paper should be submitted in soft (mail ID- [seminartfgm@gmail.com](mailto:seminartfgm@gmail.com)) and hard copy (to Organising Secretary).
- Both abstract and full paper should follow English form of spelling and style.
- Selected Full length Papers will be published either i) in *Journal of Rural and Community Affairs* (Journal with ISSN Number) or ii) in edited Book

## REGISTRATION FEE

There will be no registration fee for the paper contributor(s).

## LOGISTICS

- No TA & DA will generally be provided. However, those can be claimed from UGC.
- Accommodation for outstation participants may be arranged if required and if intimated at least one month in advance.

## HOW TO REACH SEMINAR VENUE

Tufanganj, one Sub-division of Cooch Behar district, is located at North-eastern part of West Bengal, just at the threshold of Bengal-Assam border. The locale is well connected, if not directly, by rail and bus services. The nearest Railway Station is New Cooch Behar (NCB) and new Alipurduar/Alipurduar Junction. All trains and Buses going to Assam/Guwahati have their designated stoppage at Cooch Behar. From the Railway stations Tufanganj can be reached by bus/hired taxi. Buses (both public and private) to Tufanganj or Cooch Behar are readily available from Siliguri, Malda and Kolkata etc.

## ORGANISING COMMITTEE

### *President:*

Dr. D. Chatterjee , Principal, Tufanganj Mahavidyalaya

### *Secretary:*

Dr. Sidhartha Sankar Laha, Assistant Professor of Economics

### *Joint Secretary:*

Dr. Amal Mandal, Associate Professor of Political Science

### *Joint Secretary:*

Dr. Chanchal Kr. Mandal , Associate Professor of Commerce

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Amardip Roy,

Dinobandhu Sarkar

*For further information, please contact:*

- Dr. Sidhartha Sankar Laha, Assistant Professor of Economics, Tufanganj Mahavidyalaya, Cell No. +919434208480 , Email: sidharthasankar09@gmail.com

Website: [www.tufanganjmahavidyalaya.org](http://www.tufanganjmahavidyalaya.org) // [www.tufanganjmahavidyalaya.in](http://www.tufanganjmahavidyalaya.in)

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