

The necessity of Gandhian ethics for better future

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Abstract

In this paper, it has been highlighted that the Gandhian philosophy of ethics has special significance to protect our better future and to save humanity today from intolerance and disintegration and to save the world which is full of tension and conflicts because of troublesome tendencies. Instead of technological advancement the spirit of morality can save us from the pawn of intolerance and distrust. Our conviction is that there is no alternative to the ideal of ethics and non-violence that is the ideal of love as a means to overcome the social evils like violence and terrorism. In this way, the importance of ethics has become extremely urgent and imperative now. In this context that the present paper seeks to discuss the necessity of Gandhian ethical approach is most important for the betterment of human society.

Assessing the maternal health benefit schemes-a study on Bankura district, West Bengal

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Abstract

Reduction of mortality of women is an area of concern for not only South Asian countries like India but for most of the nations globally. The International Conference on Population and Development in 1994 had stressed on the immediate task of reducing the maternal mortality and hence improving the health conditions of mothers to-be and their newborns as well by the year 2015. Indian states suffer from high levels of disparity as far as maternal health is concerned measured by the parameters like those beneficiaries covered under government sponsored immunization programmes ,with better encouragement of institutional deliveries and alike. For West Bengal the matter is yet serious because as a whole the state has been categorised 'high performing' as far as institutional deliveries and Maternal Mortality Rates are concerned but one of its backward districts; Bankura suffers from huge gap in the target achievement form maternal benefit schemes than actually happens. A geographically rich area containing huge potentials for agro-forestry, suffers from less than adequate number of hospitals and less awareness of the benefit schemes may be due to illiteracy and position of women in their domestic atmosphere. This paper identifies some out of many such problem 'areas' of Bankura district in order to plan better for the beneficiaries who are residing in the remote backward regions of the country.

Elderly in joint family: a sociological exegesis of intergenerational connectivity in urban India

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Abstract

The increasing of elderly population and living household arrangement of the aged people is challenge for contemporary society of the present as well as for the future. It is further problematic by the fact of greater density of population and scarcity of living space accompanied by the mushrooming of old age homes in urban areas. In an overarching post-industrial and individuating social relationships, family as the primary institution of social organization is perceived by social scientists to be detraditional. Such an emergent social reality not only questions the structural integration of the family but also the functionality of the family relationships. In the backdrop of ever increasing elderly population and their integration in social system, this paper is an attempt to synthesize the theoretical and empirical propositions on the intergenerational relationships in urban families with special reference to the inclusion of the elderly in urban society.

Jeopardize of human rights in Indo-Bangladesh enclaves: the acknowledgement of a mistake

S P. Rathor

Abstract

Democratization is highly established concept in the world. Democracy refers to the concrete opinion 'of the people, for the people, by the people'. People of a democratic country have been successful in persuasion of their rights. Human rights become one of the prior conditions of civilized society. Fundamental rights given by the constitution and the proper facilitation of the fundamental rights are the base of human rights. Citizens of democratic countries enjoy human rights expectedly. But, unexpectedly, we find that people of the enclaves of India & Bangladesh enjoy no rights. The enclave dwellers do not have the right to education, to vote, to get proper treatment, to get food security, to move freely or more to be a perfect citizen's liberty. In brief, they are treated as an identity less human being. Let us have a look on it.

Tourism industry of North Bengal - From geographical point of view a steps toward planning and development

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Abstract

The term Tourism has been emerged as a major industry since World War II. This tourism industry is developed around a region of unique characteristics of natural, social, cultural, ethnic resource diversity and so on. North Bengal comprises of six districts namely Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri, Coochbehar, Uttar Dinajpur, Dakshin Dinajpur, and Malda. Each of the above districts has unique characteristics in respect of natural, social, cultural, ethnic resources. The natural beauty of Darjeeling mountain, reserve forest of Terai and Dooars, heritage site of Malda and the folk culture of forest surrounded rural area in North Bengal are attracting tourists (both domestic and international) from all over the world. The Darjeeling hills are well known as Queen of Hills. The Darjeeling Tea and Darjeeling Himalayan Railway (DHR) are regarded as the heritage of Darjeeling Hills. The unique ethnic community of Totopara of Jalpaiguri district, Coochbehar Rajbari and Heritage site of Malda (Goura) district has a major interest of tourist worldwide. This industry emerged as an important segment of daily life of the people, strengthening their economy and also generates supplementary income for local in rural as well as urban areas. But today lack of proper management the tourism industry of North Bengal has been suffered a lot. This paper is an attempt to focus the present problem and planning to rejuvenate development of Tourism industry of the study area.

Convergence or Divergence of Gender Gap in Labor Force Participation: A Study of Indian States

Shivraj Meena

Abstract

The aim of this study is to investigate the status of labor force participation both male and female at all India level and the state level, estimate the gender gap over the study period (2000-01 to 2009-10) and regional variation in female labor force participation rate (FLFPR) and gender gap. The gender dimension in labor participation of each fifteen states is examined on the basis of divergence between male and female labor participation rate. Sigma and beta absolute convergence measures are used to determine the nature of change in the degree of regional inequality in FLFPR and gender gap show regional divergence. This substantiate the need of enhanced efforts by the government to frame policy and programmes so as to foster participation of women in labor force and focus on the laggard states of the country which are extremely low on FLFPR.

Challenges of Growing Urban Population and Environmental Degradation in India

Monu Kumar

Abstract

Population issues in the present day world are considered vital because most of us believe that the development in an area was intimately related with its population growth. Of the 1210 million people in India 377 million are living in urban areas. The rapid growth of urbanization in India is accompanied by a change in the urban structure. The large cities are increasing their share in the total population. According to Census 2011 there were 53 cities with more than 1 million populations, against 35 in 2001. Population of these 53 cities was 166.5 million, which was about 44.1 percent of total urban population. Urban living poses environmental hazards, which affect the current population through immediate, local impacts on health and safety. Due to large-scale migration from rural areas and fast increasing urban population, environmental degradation has been occurring very rapidly and causing many problems like disposal of solid wastes, land shortage for housing, worsening water quality, sanitation, drainage, excessive air and noise pollution. The present study concentrates on some of the important environmental problems caused by rapid urbanization process in India. Therefore, there is an urgent need to tackle the urban environment problem in a appropriate manner giving attention to the need for improving urban strategies.

Causes and effects of rural-Urban migration in Darjeeling: A case study

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Abstract

Rural-urban migration has become a general trend in recent days as more people drift into the urban centres from the rural areas; it is against this backdrop that this paper examined the causes and effects of rural-urban migration in Darjeeling district with particular reference to Darjeeling town. A survey was carried out amongst 200 respondents drawn from within Darjeeling and the results indicates that the major causes of rural urban migration are; search for better education, employment, and business opportunities. Others are identified as poverty, unemployment, famine, and inadequate social amenities in the rural areas. While some of the effects of rural-urban migration are; the increase in numbers, density, fertility, literacy, pressure on urban housing and the environment, high rate of population growth, etc. This paper emphasize on the rural-urban migration within West Bengal with socio-economic aspects. It is recommended that the Government should strive to provide social amenities and facilities in the rural areas and also provide jobs for the citizens in the rural areas. In addition to this Vocational training centres should be established in the rural centres for training of the productive youths for self employment.

River linking and flood management of Mahananda river basin in West Bengal

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Abstract

Being under the regime of monsoon wind and a peninsular country India is one of the most flood prone nation in the world. As per the Geological Survey of India (GSI), the major flood prone areas of India cover almost 12.5% area of the country. In all flood plains, one single Department must be designated as the Department to maintain sufficient hydraulic data. It is only this data which would enable a demarcation of the chronically flood affected areas and the nature and the change in such areas over time. In all the blocks affected by floods, the exercise to refine the identification of chronically flood affected areas requiring amelioration may be done within the next two years so that a realistic and satisfactory ameliorative programme can be introduced. Crop damage is one of the worst damages caused in floods. An appropriate cropping strategy and other steps have therefore to be adopted in these areas. The obvious pathways would be to popularize suitable flood escaping or flood tolerant cropping system or intensive crop production with irrigation in the flood free months there. Regarding the damage caused to houses, property and infrastructure, strengthening of house structure, raising the level of whole villages or providing ring bunds around villages have been considered as possible alternatives. Each of these alternatives has positive and negative aspects; yet the fact remains that something has got to be done to provide protection to the human settlement. The present author would also like to emphasize the importance of pre-disaster preparedness measures since they can change a major disaster into a minor one and mitigate the suffering of those likely to be affected. There are wide gaps in the hydrological data. No regular information has been maintained about the behaviour of the rivers. The river beds of some of the rivers are reported to have gone up due to reduced velocity of the flood and consequent imprisoned siltation within the channel.