

ISSN 0976-5484

# SOCIAL WORK JOURNAL

## (BI-ANNUAL)

Volume 10

Number 2

July 2019-June 2020

Note : Due to Covid-19 both the issue are clubbed

### SPECIAL ISSUE

### Issues and Challenges in contemporary Social work

- **Editorial** - *Gopalji Mishra & Ajit Kumar Jena*
- **Wellbeing of Youth and Coping during the Covid19 Pandemic** - *C. Devendran*
- **Construction Work, Workers and Welfare Board: A Study in Delhi** - *Rohit Bharti and Prof. Sanjai Bhatt*
- **Armed Conflict in Manipur and its effect on women** - *Prof. Gopalji Mishra & Lojita Khaidem*
- **Gandhian Philosophy on Peace and Development: Relevance for Social Work Education and Practice** - *Dr. Tarun Bikash Sukai*
- **Ecological and Pandemic Crises: A Cause of Structured Violence against Women** - *Deepika Singh*
- **Climate Change: Livelihood implications and Role of Social Workers** - *Rajiv Jena*
- **Crisis in Brewing Economy in Urban Tribal Community of Manipur** - *Gangmei Akhuan Rongmei and MC Arunkumar*
- **Single Motherhood: A Structural Perspective** - *Dr. Wandaia Syngkon*
- **Behind the Shadows of Public Adulation: The Private Lives of Meitei Women** - *Leenabai Kshetrimayum, Ratna Huirem and Kathiresan L.*
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- **Health Care Facilities and Utilization of Services in Primary Health Centres of Manipur** - *Mr. Nula Bethel Anal & Dr. G. Albin Joseph*
- **The Unspoken Reality of Child Marriage in Durrung Tea Plantations: Social Work Intervention** - *Barsha Kalit*



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[www.aus.ac.in](http://www.aus.ac.in)

ISSN 0976-5484

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**(Peer Reviewed Journal)**

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Published by

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[www.aus.ac.in](http://www.aus.ac.in)

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## **Ecological and Pandemic Crises: A Cause of Structured Violence against Women**

**Deepika Singh**

It is widely known that women especially rural women share very intimate relationship with environment. Besides, it is also evident that women in most societies play a significant role in managing the diversity of the ecosystem, since they are responsible for sustaining the livelihood of the family. Women play a key role in fixing of land use pattern and its management. They supply inputs from the forests as fodder for the cattle as well as manures to the soil as forest by-product. Biodiversity occupies very significant and prominent position in women's life. As it is very evident that rural women's life is very much dependent upon environment for their basic needs as food, medicine and firewood. Deterioration of the environment has caused hardship for the rural community, particularly for women from the lower economic strata. Increased industrialisation has caused tremendous amount of deforestation which has subsequently made women's life more difficult as it has led to increase in time and distance involved in grazing and collection of fuel and food. This has adversely affected the health of women. In grappling with the crisis of ecology and of culture, women face one very important question of great depth and magnitude: the problem of survival and identity. It is observed that women are more deeply affected by the ecological crisis. It is because of the fact that their working day has been drastically lengthened by scarcity of water, fuel and fodder, and their traditional skills and occupations have been adversely affected by new technologies in agriculture, artisanal work and marketing, while new opportunities have not been sufficiently developed. Environmental resources are critical to poor women's productive and reproductive lives. This paper intends to focus on cause of ecological and pandemic crises and women's particularly rural women's vulnerability leading to gender violence. For the purposes of this paper the definition of violence as given by the World Health Organisation is appropriate to mention:

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