

## Report

### DYUTI 2021 – National Conference

## RESPONSE TO THE COVID 19 PANDEMIC: SOCIAL WORK ENGAGEMENTS & CHALLENGES



**RCSS**  
RAJAGIRI COLLEGE OF  
SOCIAL SCIENCES  
(AUTONOMOUS)

**Department of Social Work**  
Rajagiri College of Social Sciences (Autonomous), Kerala

*Presents*

# DYUTI 2021

Online National Conference

**RESPONSE TO THE COVID 19  
PANDEMIC:  
SOCIAL WORK ENGAGEMENTS AND  
CHALLENGES**

 **zoom**  
Meeting ID: 873 4036 7012  
Password: rcss

## Speakers



**Liz Forsyth**  
Global Lead  
Human and Social Services  
KPMG



**Dr. Sekhar L. Kuriakose**  
Member Secretary, Kerala State  
Disaster Management Authority



**Dr. Jose Antony**  
Professor SSUS, Kalady  
The President, ASSK



**Mr. N. K. Singh**  
Deputy Secretary (General)  
Indian Red Cross Society  
National Head Quarters, New Delhi



**Anjaleth Pandiri**  
The Executive Director  
Child Line India Foundation



**Mr. Anshu Gupta**  
Founder Director, GOONJ



**Mr. Joe John George**  
Project Officer  
KSDMA

**25, 26  
February**  
2 pm - 6 pm

### ACADEMIC PARTNERS



Kerala State Disaster  
Management Authority



Association of Schools of  
Social Work in Kerala



Indian Red Cross Society  
National Headquarters  
New Delhi



CHILD  
LINE  
INDIA  
FOUNDATION



GOONJ  
FOUNDER DIRECTOR  
ANSHU GUPTA

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## **Introduction**

Rajagiri School of Social Work started in the year 1955 was one of the pioneering institutions in south India, establishing programmes and setting standards in the field of social work education. The college has been ranked with the highest ratings in all the cycles by NAAC. The college has been conferred with Autonomous status by University Grants Commission in 2014.

Rajagiri, with its vision of becoming a center of excellence in learning, has been regularly providing an annual forum for deliberations on vital issues of development from a 'rights perspective'. This series of deliberations which started in 1998 Is named DYUTI, meaning 'spark of life'. A total of 20 DYUTI national and international conferences have been organized so far. This 21 edition of DYUTI is on '**Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic: Social Work Engagements and Challenges**'.

## **About DYUTI**

Developmental Yearning for a United and Transformed India

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## **DYUTI-2021 PROGRAMME SCHEDULE**

### **RESPONSE TO THE COVID 19 PANDEMIC: SOCIAL WORK ENGAGEMENTS & CHALLENGES**

## **Day 1**

**25/02/2021, Thursday**

### **Inaugural Session (25/02/2021- 1:55 PM)**

- |                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| Rajagiri Anthem      | : (Pre-recorded)  |
| Welcome              | : Dr. Fr. Joseph M.K., Associate Professor & Head of the Department, School of Social Work (5 mins) |
| Presidential address | : Dr. Binoy Joseph, Principal, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences<br>(6 mins)                      |
| Inauguration         | : Dr. Fr. Saju M.D, Vice Principal & Associate Director (6 mins)                                    |
| Key note Address     | : Liz Forsyth, Global Lead: Human and Social Services, KPMG<br>(30 mins)                            |

Felicitation : Dr. Mary Venus Joseph, (IQAC Coordinator & Dean Research)  
(5 mins)

Vote of thanks : Dr. Giji George (Assistant Professor & Faculty Coordinator, DYUTI)  
(4 mins)

**Plenary 1:** Response to COVID19 as a Disaster (Time: 3:00-3:20 pm)

**Resource person:** Dr. Sekhar L. Kuriakose, Member Secretary, Kerala State Disaster Management Authority

**Plenary 2:** NGOs responding to COVID -19 from the perspectives of Child Care (Time: 3:20-3: 40 pm)

**Resource person:** Dr. Anjaiah Pandiri, The Executive Director, Child Line India foundation

## **Day 2**

**26/02/2021, Friday**

**Plenary session 3:** Social Work academia and research during COVID 19 (Time: 2:10-2:2:30 pm)

**Resource person:** Dr. Jose Antony, Professor SSUS, Kalady & The President, ASSK

**Plenary session 4:** Inclusive Social Work Practices during COVID 19 (Time: 2:30-2:50 pm)

**Resource person:** Mr. Joe John George, Project Officer, Kerala State Disaster Management Authority

**Plenary session: 5:** COVID 19 crisis and Beyond: Need for Sustainable Public Policies (Time: 4:20- 4:40 pm)

**Resource Person:** Mr. Anshu Gupta, Founder Director, GOONJ

**Plenary: 6 –** Responding to Pandemic: The Ways Forward from a Health Care Perspective

**Resource Person:** Mr. NK Singh, the Deputy Secretary (general), Indian Red Cross Society

## Activity Report

### Inaugural Session

The 21<sup>st</sup> edition of DYUTI 2021 was on the theme *Response to Covid 19 Pandemic: Social Work Engagements and Challenges*. The inaugural session commenced with the Rajagiri Anthem on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2021 at 2.00 PM via zoom platform. The welcome address was given by Dr Fr. Joseph M.K, Associate professor and Head of the Department, School of Social Work. Father briefed about the theme of DYUTI and welcomed everyone with warm regards to the conference.

The welcome speech was followed by the presidential address by Dr. Binoy Joseph, Principal, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences. He spoke about the 21<sup>st</sup> edition of DYUTI and the responses of social workers towards the pandemic. He enlightened the participants on the importance of individual and community-based management and psychosocial support during COVID 19 and explained the activities undertaken by the department of social work during the global pandemic.

Dr. Fr Saju M.D, Vice Principal and Associate Director, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences delivered the inaugural address. He started his speech by appreciating the department for selecting the theme *Response to Covid 19 Pandemic; Social Work Engagements and Challenges* and acknowledged the organisers. He spoke on six issues identified through need assessment which includes loss of income, debt, concerns regarding employment, anxiety regarding health, spread of virus and fear of unemployment. Researching on these issues, a model called REaCH was put forward. The model focuses on Proactive Engagement and Crisis Intervention, Problem Solving Oriented Support and Assertive Linkage with Community Recourses. An intervention called Telephone Befriending: Staying Connected with candidates was introduced during the pandemic. The intervention received appreciation from National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj. With these words he inaugurated DYUTI 2021.

Following the inauguration, Liz Forsyth, Global Lead: Human and Social Services, KPMG, delivered the key note address. She spoke on the Social Service Sector during and after Covid-19 and the role of KPMG in promoting opportunities for change. She gave an insight on the sectoral challenges during pre-covid time which includes increasing demand for services for citizens, funding not in pace with demand, and slow pace of change across the sector. Then she explained about the sectoral challenges that have emerged during Covid – 19. The major challenges are service disruption, demand, ecosystems and rapid transformation. Adding to this, she also discussed the post covid – 19 scenarios: new themes for providers, that is, citizen centricity, workforce transformation, digital acceleration, financial pressure, operational transformation and policy and regulatory reform. She instilled a sense of hope in the gathering by discussing the opportunities we can discover during the unprecedented scale of change. She focused on what best practice human and social service organizations may look like in the future which consists of insight driven strategies and actions, innovative services, experience centricity by design, seamless interactions, responsive operations, aligned and empowered workforce, digitally enabled technology architecture and integrated partner and alliance ecosystem. She concluded the session with a question to the social workers – “What will this mean for social workers?” To deliver on the best practice model of service delivery, social workers must be empowered to innovate within an aligned performance management and skills development system.

The keynote address was followed by felicitation by Dr Mary Venus Joseph, IQAC coordinator and Dean of Research, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences. She addressed the gathering by appreciating Ms. Liz Forsyth for her insights on opportunities for change during the pandemic and the organizers of DYUTI 2021. She spoke on the unique experiences that the social work students of Rajagiri College of Social Sciences imbibe from social sensitization camps and DYUTI series. She emphasized on the future implications of this year's theme and how it will contribute to the social work education. She mentioned about the very first DYUTI on the theme Medical Social Work and its impact on the society. She concluded her felicitation by wishing everyone a successful DYUTI 2021.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks proposed by Dr. Gigy George, Assistant Professor, RCSS and Faculty Coordinator DYUTI 2021 to all the dignitaries, organizers, faculty colleagues, participants and all the students.





## Plenary Session 1

The first Plenary Session was from 03:10 PM to 03:50 PM. Ms. Anuradha Vidyasankar, Head, South Regional Resources Centre of CHILDLINE India Foundation handled the plenary session.

The topic of the session was “Responses to COVID-19 Pandemic: Social Work Engagements and Challenges”. She emphasized on the Social Work’s perspective that shapes the NGO across the world. Various activities and challenges of CHILDLINE and NGO associated with CHILDLINE were discussed. She, then, emphasized on the impacts of COVID-19 on children who were confined by four walls without internet, adequate digital devices for education, and stress on the problems of parents who work in health centres and children whose' parents came in contact with the virus. The NGOs also ensured that children were not abused.



Responses of various NGOs, were also shown during the presentation, as risks increased during COVID- 19. They also reported on the missing of street children, who were supposed to be on the street. The socio-ecological impact affecting children was also discussed. Then, she introduced CHILDLINE 1098 Service and stressed on the milestones of CHILDLINE.

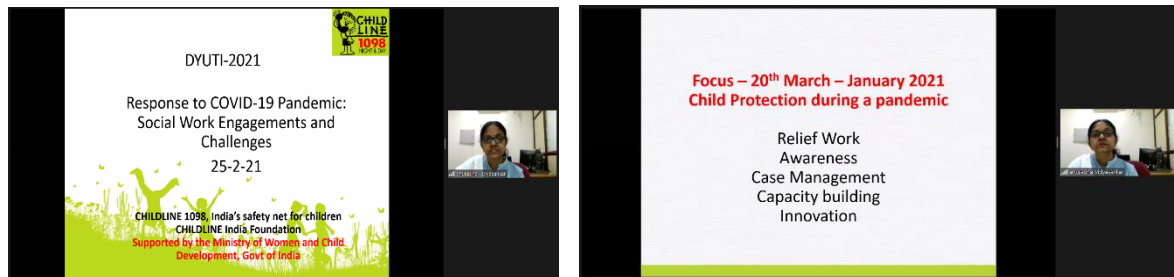
An outreach model called Unique Tele, which provides telephone service was mentioned. The staff were active during lockdown. The CHILDLINE answered on average 14,000 calls and 1050 interventions daily between 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020- 31<sup>st</sup> January 2021. Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra were the major five states that reported interventions to CHILDLINE.

The identified core child protection issues were child sexual abuse, child labour and beggary and child marriage. Specific work was carried out by various NGO under CHILDLINE services like Relief Work, Awareness, Case Management, Capacity Building and Innovation.

The 1098 emergency services in times of COVID-19 were highlighted. They reached out during COVID by creating a website to register cases, website resource corner for material on COVID-19 and dealing with children, E-letter on work on the ground and a campaign launched to cheer teams. They engaged with children during the Pandemic with recreational activities and also linked children of COVID affected parents to resources and services. They rescued many children from abuses and ensured their safe recovery in a safe environment.



One of the major challenges faced by CHILDLINE was that despite their efforts and constant work, they were not considered as frontline workers. Ethical challenges faced by social workers during COVID-19 with relevance to CHILDLINE and the challenges faced by staffs in taking up the interventions were also highlighted which includes inadequate resources, transportation, food; lack of regular testing for the team, and lack of immediate emergency support for family of affected staff. The session wound up at 03.50 with a vote of thanks.



## Parallel Sessions

Parallel sessions were conducted in 4 breakout rooms via Zoom.

### Parallel Session 1

Two themes were covered in the first parallel session. The first theme was *Social Work Practice during COVID-19* and the second theme was *Social Work Academia during the COVID-19*. The session chair was Dr. Suni Rose, Assistant Professor, Department of Social Work, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences. The parallel session began by 3:40 pm and came to a close by 5:50 pm.

The first presenter was Ms Raveena Adam and co-authors of the paper were Dr. Victor Paul and Dr. Sheeja, Associate Professors of Christ Deemed to be University Bangalore. They presented a paper on “*Exploitation of Women Survivor of Human Trafficking during the Covid-19 Pandemic in Karnataka.*” which comes under the theme 1. Ms. Raveena talked about the prevalence of human trafficking in Karnataka. The session covered the exploitation and plight of women survivors of human trafficking during COVID-19 pandemic. In her presentation, she investigated the situation of women survivors of human trafficking in Karnataka State and elicited the various dimensions of their exploitation during pandemic. The study adopted a qualitative design using focus group discussions (FGDs) and in-depth interviews conducted among 30 multi-stakeholders including professional social workers of the Anti-Human Trafficking Unit in the state. The results, proved that the COVID-19 crisis has a potentially far-reaching negative impact on exploited women and their families.

The second presentation was by Dr Shari Tess Mathew, Assistant Professor of St. Joseph's College (Autonomous), Bangalore. Her topic was “*Covid-19 Pandemic Implications of Geriatric Social Work.*” which comes under the theme 1. Her presentation focused on the various psychosocial issues faced by the elderly population during this Covid-19 pandemic and the implications of social work interventions for the same. Her research described the significance of geriatric social work interventions during pandemic. According to the results, the pandemic has highlighted the need for innovative social work interventions to address the psycho-social issues, specifically in the area of geriatric care. The response to the 2020

pandemic can help the social workers to assess and update the interventions, skills, and values to respond to the pandemic crisis, which can be utilized in preparedness of similar crisis in future. Once the crisis has passed, we can evaluate our responses and identify those effective strategies which can become a part of our regular training and practice.

The third presenter Dr. Lekha Bhat and the co-author Sigamani Panneer, Professors of Central University Tamil Nadu presented on the topic “*Pandemics, Climate Change and Growing Inequality: The Emerging Paradigm Shift in Helping Profession.*” which comes under theme 1. Her study was on pandemics, climate change and growing inequality and the associated economic and social crisis leaving a great impact on human lives, understanding dynamics and interconnectivity of health, society, economy and development, role of helping professions, survival and professional strategies for human service organizations and helping professions. Various reports about climate change linked pandemics with zoonotic diseases and COVID 19 is a zoonotic disease and more such diseases are predicted in future. Her presentation suggested some initial directions for helping professions to address inequalities efficiently and promote green development, health and well-being amongst societies.

The fourth presenter was Baiju P. Vareed, Assistant Professor from School of Social Work, Mac Ewan University. His topic was “*Know Thyself: On locating power in Social Work Relationships.*” which comes under theme 1. Social workers need a clear understanding of one’s social location and subsequent power dynamics in their relationship with the clients. He started by discussing the community’s social location and position. He talked about how every community confers a certain set of roles, positions, power or powerlessness and privilege. The presentation dealt with the need for self-reflection which is inevitable for social workers in identifying and managing power in relationship with the clients, especially during pandemic and vulnerable periods.

The fifth presenter was Joyshree Mondal, Ph.D Scholar of Rajagiri College of Social Sciences. Her topic was “*Inquiry into The Scope of Social Work Practice.*” which comes under the theme 1. Migrant Workers are at high risk during this pandemic. Migrant workers are those bearing the brunt of the crisis, due to crowded living conditions, harsh lockdown and containment measures, very limited access to health care, poor working conditions and exploitative labour system. The scope of social work practices address the challenges faced by migrants during times of crisis consists of a wide range of services, including advocacy, support with social isolation, mental health and information, assistance with unemployment, financial difficulties, and disruption of schooling. Her presentation highlighted few case studies of migrants during Covid 19 and inquired how multifaceted social work practices which have a person-in-environment approach is essential for pandemic responses to meet the needs and challenges of migrants.

The sixth presentation was done by Minimol James, Postgraduate Student of Tata Institute of Social Sciences. Her topic was “*Exploring Social Work Education in the Time of a Pandemic: Social Work Academia in India.*” which comes under the theme 2. She talked about the social work education in India which has been affected due to the pandemic. The social work practice and its core components like fieldwork have been put on hold. She discussed how online courses decreased the student’s achievement and progression in education. A qualitative phenomenological study was conducted among 8 public and private social work institutes in India that indicates academic and non-academic challenges of social work education during COVID-19 pandemic. The presentation highlighted how the health pandemic has affected the social work curriculum. The various alternatives and models used by institutions to continue the academics without any disruption were also discussed.



The seventh presentation was done by Athira V.H, PHD scholar in Pondicherry University the presented on the topic "*Combating the COVID-19 Pandemic in Tribal Setting: A Situational Analysis of Attapadi, Kerala*", which comes under the theme 2. She started with an introduction of the tribal heartland of Kerala – Attapadi. She mentioned about the control measures which were adopted by the government. The presentation was a situational analysis on the response of NGOs and stakeholders in addressing the COVID-19 pandemic in the Attappadi development block. A qualitative enquiry through in depth interviews of key informants (n=22) was conducted.

The eighth presentation was given by Haritha K Prahlad, on the topic "*A study on Emotional Connectedness and Social Media Exposure among the College Students during COVID-19*" which came under theme 2. Social media entered the communication landscape in recent years. Social media usage is one of the most popular online activities. Researchers have recognized the impacts of social media on people's behaviours and attitudes related to health. Yet, while social media provide virtual platforms in which users share information, exchange social support, and influence one another, these social media interactions can lead to desirable or undesirable consequences. Her study explores the emotional connectedness and mental health issues faced by young adults due to the exposure to social media during Covid-19. The presentation aimed to describe the prevalence and distribution of three major mental disorders-anxiety, depression and stress among young adults in Ernakulam District, and examine their associations with social media exposure by rapid assessment during COVID-19 outbreak.

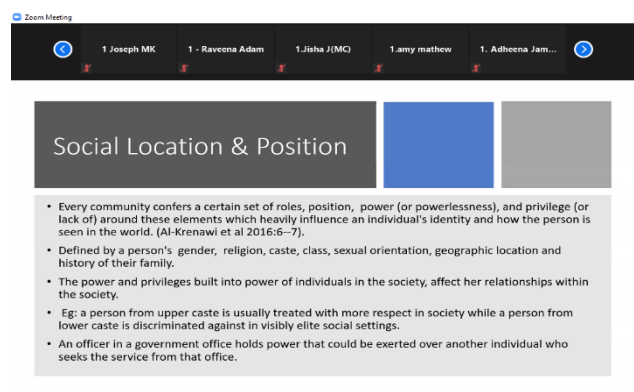
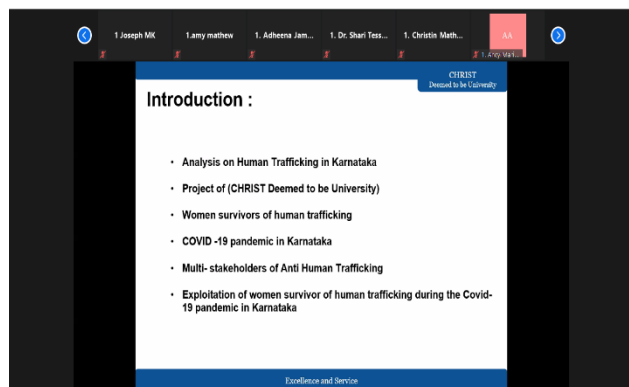
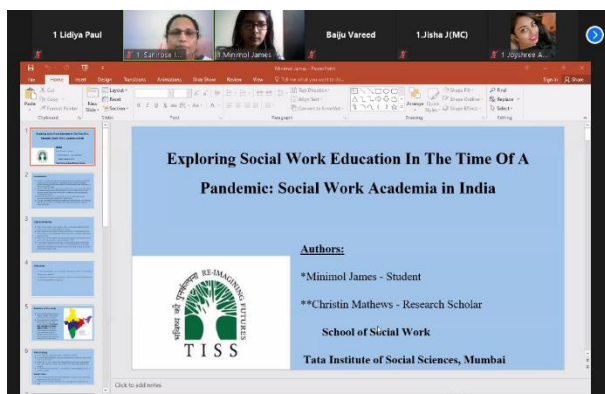
The ninth presentation was done by Christeena Johnson and co-author Delna Binson, MSW students of Rajagiri College of Social Sciences. The topic for their presentation was "*Stress and Quality of Sleep among College Students during COVID-19*" under theme 2. COVID 19 has brought an unparalleled toll on humanity. The world has turned upside down and everything has become online, which is the new normal. The shift has brought tremendous changes in the lives of people, especially the young generation. Young people tend to be emotionally unstable or vulnerable. The study was focused on the perceived stress, well-being and sleep quality among college students during COVID 19. The major findings from the study were that the general wellbeing of the population was found to be poor, perceived sleep quality and perceived stress were moderate, well-being and perceived sleep quality of the population were positively correlated and, sleep trouble and wellbeing were negatively correlated.

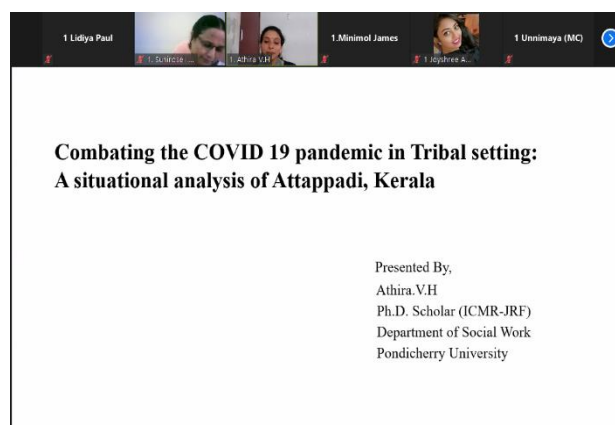
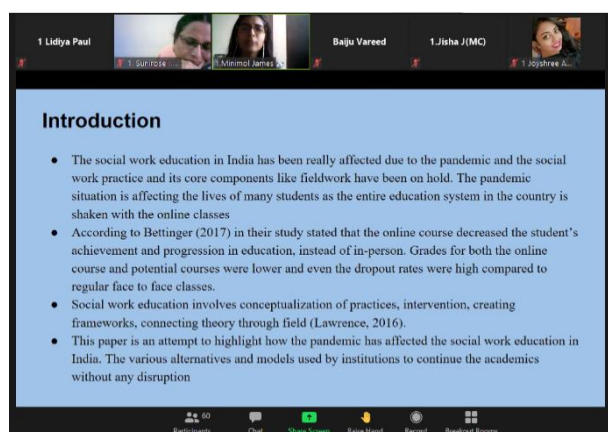
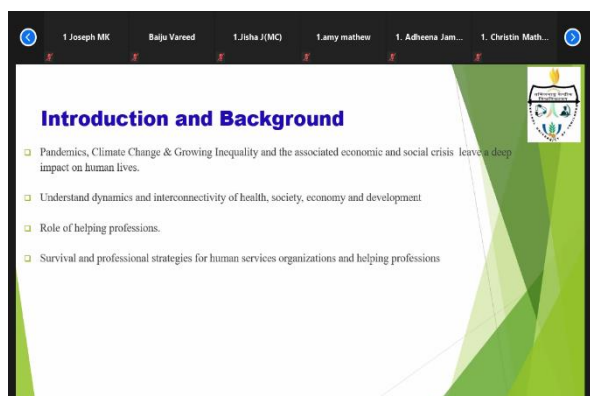
The tenth presentation was done by Siya Varghese, Student of Rajagiri College of Social Sciences on the topic "*Pandemic Induced Online Education and Mental Stress among Children*" under theme 2. The COVID-19 pandemic resulted in the sudden closure of schools and educational institutions across the world, maintaining social distancing as a preventive and precautionary measure against COVID- 19. In the wake of this emergency situation, educational institutes around the globe have shifted their operations to online learning changing the mode of teaching from a conventional standard system to an online framework. In the wake of a sudden paradigm shift in the education sector, this study was undertaken by the researcher on mental stress due to virtual learning and its associated risks and effects on children. According to the DASS-21 scale, only (4%) of children were affected with depression, (2 %) with severe stress levels and (6.7%) were assessed with extremely severe anxiety levels. Brief Resilience Coping Scale revealed (56.7%) of the children with low resilience coping who had difficulty to withstand the sudden changes.

The final presentation was done by Sneha Joseph and Nongmaithem Jerina, MSW Students, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences. The topic was "*Pandemic and Public Health: Role of Social Workers*" under theme 2. The COVID-19 pandemic in India has highlighted the need to focus on public health and the inequalities in healthcare. Many scientists have warned of more

pandemics that are likely to happen in the near future. Healthcare in India suffers from shortage of required health professionals in the field and this has constituted a major concern in the sector. Social workers play a crucial role in extending support to local communities at such times, advocating for the rights and helping people who are in need of care and protection, mobilizing for resources and providing adequate and relevant information. This study discussed the growing scope of social workers in the public health system with special focus on the COVID-19 scenario and the challenges that arise in the field.

Parallel session 1 concluded with an engaging discussion and vote of thanks.





## Parallel session 2

The theme for the second breakout room was '*Field Engagement Initiatives and Programmes*' which was chaired by Dr. Nycil Romis Thomas, Assistant Professor, Department of Social Work, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences (Autonomous). The time duration for the presentations was 3.40 PM to 6.15 PM.

The presentations began with an address by the session chair Dr. Nycil Romis Thomas. There were eleven presentations in total by presenters with excellent academic and professional expertise. The presenters included students, research scholars, academicians and senior teachers.

The first presentation was put forward by Dr. Anitha. A, Assistant Professor of Social Work, Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit, Regional Campus Payyanur who presented on the topic, '*Community Engagement Intervention with Children during Covid-19 Lockdown*'. The study dealt with a 10-day community engagement intervention model which mainly focused on delivering children with activities and programmes that aimed to address the overall skill development, creativity, reading habits, critical thinking, decision making and also to inculcate in children the love and respect for nature, their culture, traditional practices and value the concepts of environmental protection, biodiversity and recycling. This model could be practiced in post-covid scenario to help and support children.

The second presenter was Assuciana Irene Noronha, MSW Student from Don Bosco College, Panjim, Goa and she presented on the topic – "*Social Work Intervention in Assessment of local*

*Institutes- A Field Work Practicum*". The presentation was about the social work intervention and assessment that was done in the field with stakeholders of local self-government, primary health centre and schools during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Her study mainly focused on the assessment of local level institutes in perception of local stakeholders about delivering the service during the pandemic in Saligao Village of Bardez Block in North Goa. The study revealed that panchayat plays a greater role in solving the problems in the community. This study become very useful for the Goa government to analyse and improve the public facilities and by regarding the attitude of the public towards the facilities that are provided by the government.

Dr Pankaj Kamal Shankar Kumbhar, Assistant Professor from Don Bosco College, Department of Social Work, Panaji-Goa, was the third presenter whose topic was '*Field Work Practicum: A Fundamental Base of Social Work Education*'. The study analysed the effectiveness and importance of fieldwork practicum in social work even during Covid 19 situation. The key areas discussed in the presentation were about the fieldwork practice during the pandemic and the fieldwork competence among social work students.

The fourth presenter was Mr. Suraj S. K, BSW student, St. Joseph College and the Co-author of the presentation was Mr.Akshay D Mandlik. The topic was "*In the times of Crises Social Work Department Initiative for COVID-19 Relief Work*". The paper explained the role of the Social Work department and volunteerism during the pandemic period. They organized numerous activities for the individuals, community and society. It showcases the operationalization of the concept of POSDCORB as part of team management. The presentation gives detailed information about all the activities that they have undertaken and elaborates on the planning session till the last of the activity. They added the values of social work in the activities and importance of social work volunteerism. The study was done in collaboration with State agencies, NGOs, Police.

The fifth presentation was done by Ms. Ancy Paul, MSW Student and Rajagiri College of Social Sciences (Autonomous). The topic for the presentation was '*A Study on the Academic and Community Engagements by Social Work Students during COVID- 19*' and mainly focused on online learning, fieldwork practice and volunteerism of social work students during COVID 19. The session also gave insights into various campaigns and awareness programmes conducted by social work students during COVID 19.

The sixth presenter was Ms.Raichel Mariya Siby and Sharilakshmi H MSW students, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences and the topic was– "*Impact of COVID-19 on Social Work Practice: Engagements and Learning with Children*". The study was to understand the virtual engagements with children by the social workers during COVID-19 and the challenges faced by the social workers during virtual engagement. They worked in two organizations engaged with children from which they got different exposure and they also engaged in the field with the community. From these activities they observed the attitude of the community towards social workers.

The seventh presentation was delivered by Ms. Blessy Thoma and Ms. Ruchira Shaju, MSW Students, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences. The topic of the study was '*Reflections from Field Work Practice during COVID-19*' which was a reflective study that focused on analysing the functioning of various Human Service Organisations, community in terms of its geographical, social, economic and political systems and needs. The study discussed the challenges for fieldwork and the ways out.

The eighth presenter was Ms. Emma Ann Abraham and Mr. Janson Varghese, MSW students. The presentation was on the topic "*Field practicum in Social Work Education in the Midst of*

*Global Pandemic*”. The main aim of the study was to integrate theories and practices of social work out of the classroom. The researchers were involved in the online engagements, “Know your Neighbourhood Programme” and home visits. The study discussed geographical, social, economic, cultural and political systems and they evaluated two theories in the study.

Ms. Theresa E Saju was the next presenter, Social Work Student from Rajagiri College of Social Sciences (Autonomous) presented on the topic ‘*Social Engagement of Youth During the Lockdown: Covid19 Scenario*’. The study discussed social and physical engagement and online support and activities.

The tenth presenter for the day was Ms. Ann Maria Maijo and Nithin Tomy, MSW students. The topic was “*Voluntarism amidst Pandemic: A Critical Reflection of Field Engagement during COVID-19 Pandemic*”. It was a reflective paper based on the field work engagement and volunteerism. The researchers worked with various organisations like Sanjeevani-Life Beyond Cancer Lakshya Jeevan Jagrity – Chalo pade, Childline Kochi and were engaged in Social case work through virtual media platform, Social group work through virtual media platform. They initiated a lot of programs in each area and they faced a lot of challenges during the period of field work. The findings proved that the students faced difficulty in volunteering and carrying out field work during COVID-19.

The final presentation for the day was delivered by Ms. Anusree S, MSW Student, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences on the topic ‘*A Study on the Resilience and Quality of Life of Elderly during the COVID-19 Scenario*’. The study discussed the unprecedented fear and uncertainty, especially among older adults and the quality of life of the elderly during lockdown.

After the presentations got over the breakout room was open for discussion and an evaluation by the session chair. The session chair gave her reflections as to how the presenters were effective in conveying ideas on the theme, ‘*Field Engagement Initiatives and Programmes*’. The discussions were a great learning and insight for all the presenters, committee members and well as participants who attended the conference. The parallel session concluded by 5:45 PM.

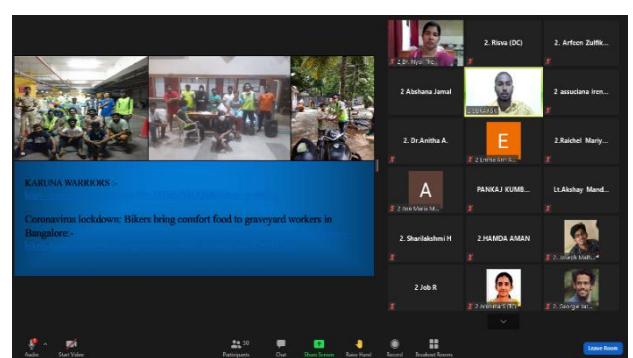
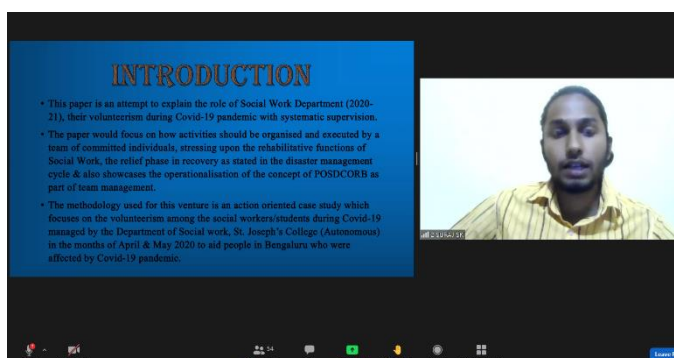
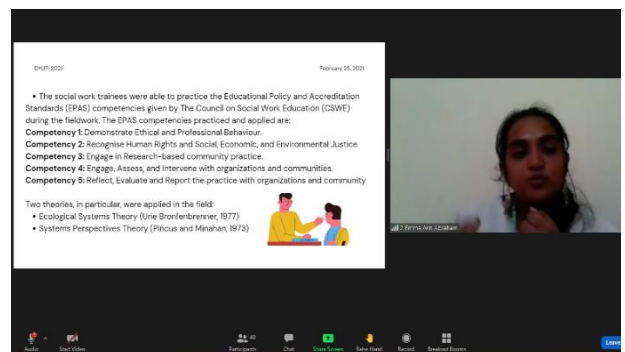
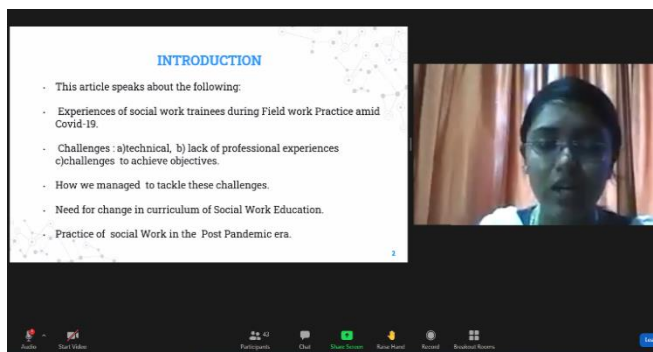
**BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY**

- \* The COVID-19 has resulted in schools shut all across the world. Education has changed dramatically with the distinctive rise of e-learning, whereby teaching is undertaken remotely and on digital platforms. It has effected the social work education, in terms of academic and community engagement of the students in the field. It is essential that there is a need to be creative in addressing the challenges.
- \* An article in New Delhi Times says that, uncertainty (epidemics and pandemic situation) has become the new order in the society. So there is a need to do away with conventional practice in social work and to redesign and restructure the fieldwork paradigm as an alternative model during such global pandemic, in order to promote the students active participation in fieldwork learning.

**RESULTS**

**QUALITY OF LIFE**

- WHOQOL-BREF scale for assessing quality of life
- Quality of life comprised of four domains which are the physical health, psychological health, social relationship and environmental health.
- Physical health- Moderate
- Psychological health- Moderate
- Social Relationship- Low
- Environmental health- Low



### Parallel session 3

Parallel session 3 was on the theme, “Social Work Research Responses during COVID 19”. Dr. Anil John (Assistant Professor, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences (Autonomous) was the session chair. The presentations commenced by 3:55 PM. There was a total of 7 presentations.

The first paper was presented by Dr. Satish Kumar (Assistant Professor, Faculty of Social Work, The Maharajaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara) which was co-authored by Yagika Goel (MSW Student, IV Semester, Faculty of Social Work, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara). Title of the paper was “*Social Work Practice during Covid-19: Engagement Initiatives and Challenges*”. Covid-19 pandemic has raised significant challenges for the higher education particularly in the field of Social Work Education and Practice. The study found that the field work practicum and concurrent field work in many organisations was converted into block placement. Many students got a wide range of opportunities due to this. The challenges were the heavy work load or assignment because of which their working hours were extended beyond the actual time line. E-learning has its



limitations for a professional curriculum such as social work. Social work programs must find alternative and creative ways for students to interact with the field.

The second paper was presented by Gaurav Gaur (Assistant Professor, Centre for Social Work, Punjab University, Chandigarh) and was co-authored by Garima Sharma, Research Scholar, Department of Community Education and Disability Studies, Punjab University, Chandigarh). The title of the paper was “*Animal Welfare during Covid-19 Lockdown: An Amalgamation of Online and Offline Modes of Volunteerism*”. The study highlights the plight of nearly 150 dogs in Punjab University during the Covid 19 pandemic and mentions the initiatives taken to protect the dogs. Online fundraising campaigns were conducted and people volunteered to feed the dogs. The study explains about numerous ingenuities that could be practiced in the field of animal care.

The third presentation titled “*Challenge Faced by Migrant Workers for Access the Welfare Schemes of Maharashtra Building and Other Construction Workers Card*” was presented by Rajendra Ambudas Shendage and was co-authored by Dr.Sr.Lizy P.J, Associate Professor Rajagiri College of social sciences (Autonomous) and Sagar Jayram Pakale. The lockdown and the COVID 19 have impacted the daily wage workers and migrant workers badly. The study was conducted through a survey among the construction workers of Pune. 99.6% respondents were unaware about the MahaBOCW card (Maharashtra Building and Other Construction Workers Card) and 70% didn't have enough documents for applying BOCW card. Many respondents didn't know how to apply or where to apply the card. Practice of social work methods, counselling of social security, advocacy, social work research, helping with resettlement, information dissemination and case management with referrals to social service agencies are some activities that can be done by social workers to support migrant labours.

The next presentation was done by Anu Mohan (Assistant Professor, Department of Social Work, Mar Sleeva College of Arts and Science, Murickassery) and the co-author of the paper was Anna P B (Assistant Professor, Department of Social Work, Mar Sleeva College of Arts and Science, Murickassery). The title of the paper was, “*Placements beyond Pandemic: Emerging Dimensions in Virtual Social Work Response*”. The pandemic has marked a new beginning in widening the horizons of social work field practicum beyond the borders. The rapid shift from the conventional methods of field placements to virtual trainings and learning across the globe enabled the social work practitioners to gain mastery over emerging trends in service delivery. The crisis demanded social work endeavours at global level to effectively respond to the psycho social needs of people across the globe. The study was conducted among 46 social work students who have done virtual field engagement. Apart from academic curriculum a massive opening of MOOC courses was found among the students. The satisfaction regarding the field practicum was fairly high even though it was done through virtual modes.

The fifth presentation was titled “*Managing the Work-Home Interface during the Pandemic Covid 19 at IT sector*”. The paper was presented by Ann Treasa (Student, BSW, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences). The novel Coronavirus changed everything overnight, the lockdown was enforced, and social distancing became the new norm. With the lockdown in place, more than 3 billion people, excluding the essential workers like defences and healthcare officials, have been pushed to work from home. The work from home culture has both positive and negative effect. There is a lack of communication between the superiors and the subordinates. Family and children can sometimes be an interruption to the work. About 30%

of respondents had severe level of anxiety. Around 60% were able to manage both family and career. Nearly 50% faced network issues.

The sixth presenter was A.Sowmya (2nd Year Student MSW-HRDM, Department of Sociology and Social Work, Christ Deemed to be University, Bangalore). The title of the paper was, "*A Study on the Level of Motivation Among Multi-Generational Cohort Employees Working in the Private Sector During Pandemic*". In today's world, the work environment is made up of several generations. It is a challenging task for leaders to bring together their cohort to achieve a common goal. A study was conducted to understand the level of motivation among multi-generational cohort employees working in the private sector. The significant factors influencing motivation levels are dependence, organizational orientation, working group relations, psychological work incentives, material incentives, and job situations.

The final presentation was given by *Abhirami Laxman* (Student, BSW, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences (Autonomous)). The title of the paper was, "*Parental Adujustments and Perceptions on Online Education During Covid-19*". Children are the future of the country and giving them good education is a must for all the parents. In the light of recent events, we can say that education system or the mode of teaching has undergone a tremendous change with the introduction of lockdown in the country. This has not just affected the children but also the parents. From the study the researcher was able to find out that majority of the parents disliked the idea of online classes and are not satisfied with the kind of attention and assessment that their child receives and accepting the changed system was a little hard for them. They are apprehensive that the new system can alter their child's behaviour.

After the completion of all the papers, there was question-answer session. Dr. Anil John interacted with presenters and they cleared the doubts and questions. The program was drew to a close by 17.30.



- T test revealed that ,there is a no significant difference in effectiveness of virtual social work response among male and female respondents since  $t(44) = .125, p = .901, p > 0.05$ .
- There is no significant effect of duration of placement on its effectiveness since  $p > .05$  level for the four condition  $[F(3) = .744, p = .532]$ .



## RESEARCH METHODS

### RESEARCH QUESTIONS

- 1.What is the level disparity of motivation among multi generations cohort's employee?
- 2.What are the principal factors for motivation at a different level?
- 3.Which generation feels encouraged at the highest and lowest level?

### STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Based on various research on this subject, three generations are now operating in today's world. To better understand the motivational level situation and factors that influence like dependence, organizational orientation, working group relations, psychological work incentives, material incentives, and job situation. More specifically, in-depth research was conducted to better understand how the motivational rate differs from generation to generation.

### OBJECTIVES

- To study the level of motivation among different generational cohorts' employees
- To study the relation between Dependence, Working Group Relations Organizational orientation, Job situation, Material incentives, and Psychological Work Incentives level among the employees.

### HYPOTHESIS

- H1 – There is a correlation between intrinsic and extrinsic motivations among generational group employed

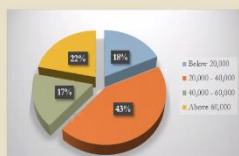


Figure 2. Salary of the respondents

Majority of the respondents (43%) have monthly salary between 20,000 – 40,000.

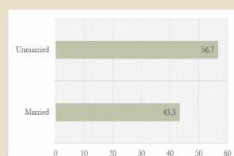


Figure 3. Marital status of the Respondents

Majority of the 120 respondents (56.7%) are unmarried when we look the marital status.



#### Parallel Session 4

The paper presentations under the theme '*Psychosocial Responses by the Social Workers*' started in 4<sup>th</sup> parallel session by 3:55 pm. The session chair was Dr. Kiran Thampi, Assistant Professor, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences (Autonomous). There were 9 presentations under the theme.

The first presenter was Sangeetha Antony, Assistant Professor Department of Social Work, Bharathiar University, Coimbatore. Her topic was "*A Study on Dispositional Mindfulness Awareness and Physical Activity among Older Adults with Special Reference to Federal City Apartment Owners in Angamaly, Kerala*". During the current pandemic situation many older adults are forced to limit themselves indoors. The dispositional mindfulness is being consciously aware of the thoughts and feelings of the current moment. Dispositional mindfulness awareness is a non-judging awareness of one's thought and action. The research work tries to find the relationship between dispositional mindfulness and physical activity among older adults.

The second presenter Agna Mary Tom, Research Assistant, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences (Autonomous) presented on the topic "*Experiences of Young Adults with Psychosocial Co-morbidities during Covid 19*". Substance abuse especially among youth has been a global threat for years. Covid 19 has created a difficult time for everyone and the persons with substance abuse had unique challenges and among the people with identified co-morbid factors survived a hard hit due to lack of continued care, respected mobility and interrupted treatment. This study necessitates for a combined psychosocial intervention decide for young adults with psychosocial morbidities and their interconnected system who support during psychosocial care.

The third study on "*Ensuring the Continuum of Care during the Lockdown Period of the Covid 19*" was presented by Vasundhara Nair, PhD Scholar and Associate Professor, NIMHAMS. Corona virus pandemic brought an un-predictable change across the globe with WHO declaring it as a global pandemic. Clinical social workers work in the hospital setting with the clients and their families providing psychosocial interventions in response to their specific illness, emotional concerns and care management. Researcher presented different ways of care in clinical settings during the pandemic situation. She discussed about the challenges in terms of adopting social case work over telephone, therapist rotation due to the fear of contracting condition, closure of the care facility for the unknown patients and the patients who recover long term care were felt as well.

The fourth paper on the topic "*Spiritual Healing Methods in Social Work Practice*" was by Stan Lobo, PhD Scholar, Martin Luther Christian University, Shillong. He presented some thoughtful insights on the crisis of identity we faced during Covid 19. He highlighted the multitude of roles and challenges that social worker has to undergo through his or her professional life. This paper put forth the view that man cannot leave by bread alone but also needs spiritual solutions to his problem, which this pandemic has clearly brought out through its appearances in people's life.

The next presenter was Neha Rose Vincent, Third year BSW Student Rajagiri College of Social Sciences (Autonomous). Her research topic was "*Stress, Anxiety, Wellbeing among Police Officials during Covid 19 in Kottayam District*". Police is always in the front line while responding to a social problem. Covid -19 being the most pressing problem faced in the current

scenario, covid-19 policing is hypothesized to serve as significant stressor for officers and compound the general and organisational stress associated with the occupation. The purpose of the study was to find out job-related issues and safety measures undertaken by police officials.


Sixth presenter was Snehal Sara Abraham, BSW Student of Rajagiri College of Social Sciences (Autonomous). Her study was on “*The Mental Health of Medical Personnel’s Working with Covid 19 Patients*”. The Covid 19 pandemic put healthcare professionals in a challenging situation, especially those working in hospitals - caring for patients with suspected or confirmed Covid 19. The study was undertaken by the researcher to gain an in depth understanding about the mental health issues faced by the medical personal during this pandemic and to assess the coping strategies and the working patterns.

The seventh presenter was Poornima Sunder, she is a member of Mehac Foundation. Her research topic was “*The Reimagining Community Mental Health Care Services during Covid 19: A Need based, Flexible, Patient Centric Community Response Model*”. Mehac Foundation is an NGO committed to implementing a model of long-term mental health care to improve quality of life of mentally ill patients and their care givers by strengthening existing system in the community and the enhancing community participation. The aim of the study is to present a flexible need based psychosocial response by the NGO with a focus on minimising the impact of Covid 19 on vulnerable communities while adhering to timely regulations issued by the government.

The last presenter was Kochurani, Student, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences (Autonomous) and her study was on “*Work Life- Balance of Parents of Mentally Challenged Children during Covid 19 Pandemic*”. The study was undertaken by the researcher to gain and in-depth understanding about work-life balance of parents of mentally challenged children during pandemic situation. The study proves that majority of the respondents have low psychological well-being. The study shows that work-life balance is a central issue affecting wellbeing as family and work are the most important elements of a persons life.

An open question answer session followed the presentations. The session chair Dr. Kiran Thampi, Assisstant Professor, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences (Autonomous) appreciated the presenters and talked about the presentations. The parallel session came to a close by 5:45 PM.

You are viewing 4. Nisha & Arshita's screen



## Experiences of young addicts with psychosocial co-morbidities during COVID- 19

IMPRESS/P4087/2019-2021/ICSSR  
Prepared by,  
Ms. Agna Mary Tom and Dr. Rajeev SP  
Rajagiri college of Social Sciences (Autonomous)

4. Nisha & Arshita

You are viewing 4. Nisha & Arshita's screen

## PSYCHOLOGICAL ISSUES, SUPPORT & WELLBEING AMONG POLICE PERSONNEL DURING COVID-19 IN KOTTAYAM DISTRICT

Author: Neha Rose Vincent  
BSW IIIrd year, Rajagiri College of Social Science, Kalamassery  
Co-author: Dr. Nyeil Romis Thomas  
Assistant Professor, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences, Kalamassery

4. Nisha & Arshita

You are viewing 4. Nisha & Arshita's screen

### How did we cope?

Need Identification	Approach	Delivered through
Patients	Maintaining continuity of care	Psychiatrists
Caregivers	Psychological support for vulnerable subgroups	Psychologists
Existing Literature	Strategies to address social dimension of the pandemic	Social workers
Health workers	Team wellbeing and skill building	Nurse
Team members		Medical officers
Trained volunteers		Health workers
Partners		Trained volunteers

Leveraging technology and aligning with government regulations.

4 Poornima Sunder

You are viewing 4. Nisha & Arshita's screen

## DISCUSSIONS

- The current study reveals that around 65.7% of respondents do regular exercise but it is not optimal level of physical activity.
- The exercise they are doing is considered as under active regular activities according to the Rapid Assessment of Physical Activity scale.
- Physical activity is associated with improved overall health which is also a key component of healthy ageing.
- Physical activity is associated in those people who survive to older ages, otherwise conceptualised as healthy ageing. (Hamer ,M, et al ,2014).
- Increased physical activity enables older adults to age gracefully and successfully.

4 Poornima Sunder

You are viewing 4. Nisha & Arshita's screen

- Another important reason for such psychological impact is the infection rate among medical staff. The sudden reversal of role from health care workers to a patient might lead to helplessness, adjustment issues, stigma, fear of discrimination in the medical staff.
- The research design used was a descriptive research design.
- The universe of the research was medical personnel from India and also from abroad. The unit was defined as medical personnel who is nurse, medical doctor and a non-medical health worker.
- 110 samples were taken from India and from abroad through snow ball sampling. The researcher had collected the samples using the contacts.
- The data was collected for the research using a google form.
- Four scales used in the research were DASS-21 (Depression, Anxiety, Stress scale), WHO Wellbeing scale, BRCS (Brief Resilient Coping Scale) and MSPSS (Multidimensional Scale of Perceived Social Support).
- The data was collected for the research by online methods, by sending the questionnaire to the respondents through e-mail and via WhatsApp.
- The primary data was collected from the 110 respondents in a time period of 3 months. The secondary data was collected through different journals, articles, books and internet.

4. Nisha & Arshita

You are viewing 4. Nisha & Arshita's screen

- Majority of the respondents (74%) can manage stress from work.
- More than half of the parents (59.6%) agree that due to house responsibilities they find difficulty in attending social/ community activities.
- Less than half of the respondents (41%) find difficulty to manage child issues.

4. Kochurani K.M

SHOW TASKBAR DISPLAY SETTINGS END SLIDE SHOW

0:01:20 4:35 PM

## Covid -19 & Spirituality

- Identify got questioned : Man is bigger than property / wealth / designations
- God as a concept got questioned: does God exist ?

These questions may have arisen for millions of people too

Slide 4 of 20

No Notes.



## DYUTI DAY 2

The second day of DYUTI 2021 on the theme “Response to the Covid-19 Pandemic: Social Work Engagements and Challenges” began on 26<sup>th</sup> February 2021 with the Rajagiri Anthem at 2:00 pm. Dr. Rajeev SP, Assistant Professor and DYUTI Faculty Coordinator, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences delivered the welcome address. After the welcome speech, Sr. Bincy Maria, Assistant Professor, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences gave the Recap of DYUTI Day 1 giving a gist of the Inaugural Ceremony, Plenary Session and Parallel Sessions from the previous day.



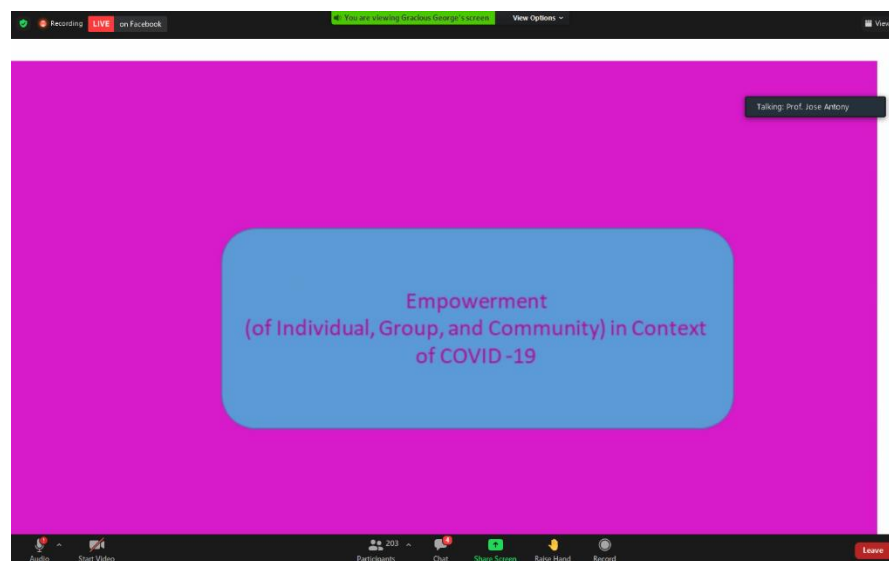
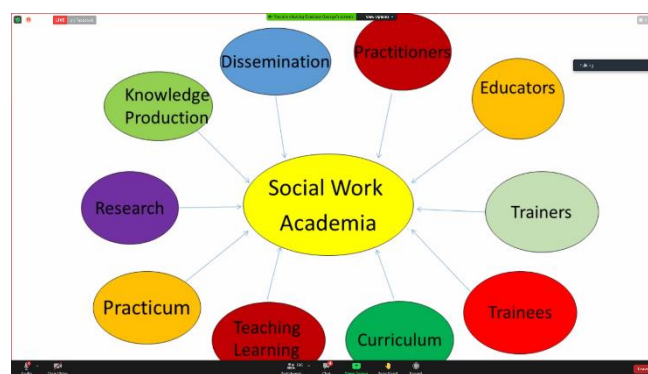
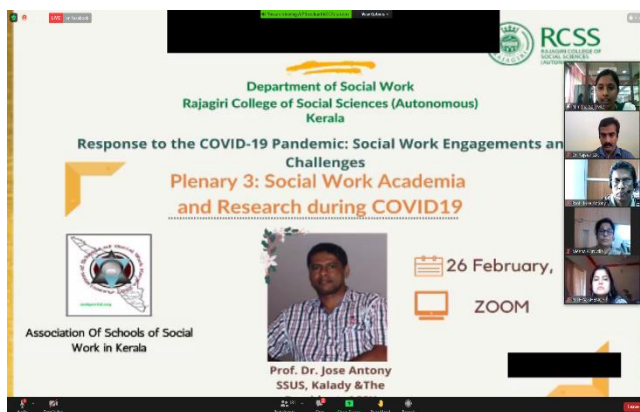
## Plenary 1

The first plenary session began at 2:18 pm with Dr Jose Antony appreciating Rajagiri College of Social Sciences and mentioning that he is a proud alumnus of the college. He began his speech by talking about the different challenges faced by practitioners of social work and then proceeded to talk about the approach that social workers can take and the need to be involved in an historical situation like the COVID-19.

In his speech he emphasised upon “What is social work academia?” which was answered through the context of subheadings: like- practitioners, educators: those work in the domain of education, Trainers: those involved in capacity building at various levels – outside of social work schools/institutions, Trainees: social work students at various levels (Diploma, BSW, MSW, PhD, etc), Curriculum: the pedagogy, teaching and learning process and Practicum: fieldwork, research, knowledge generation:

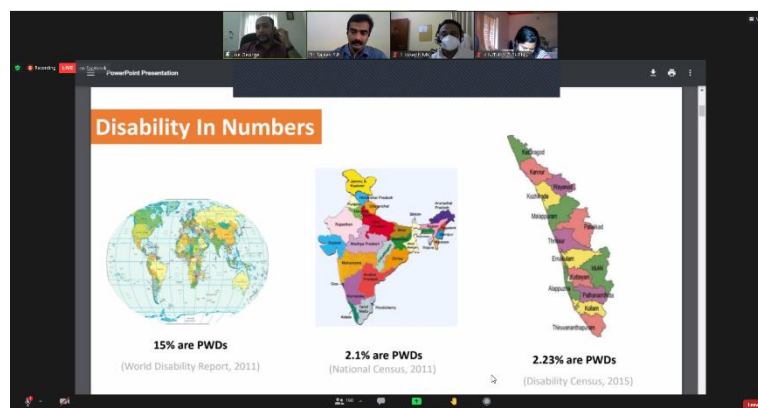
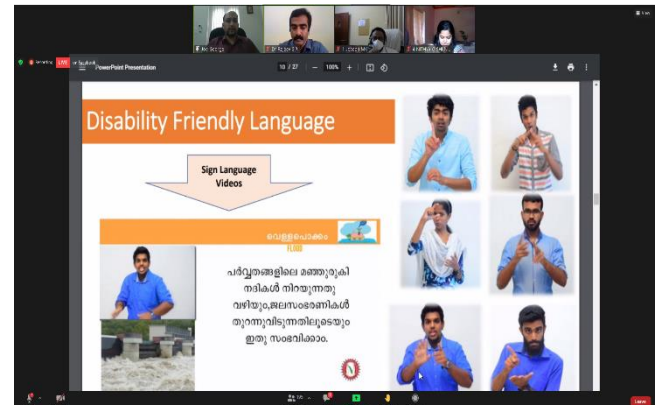
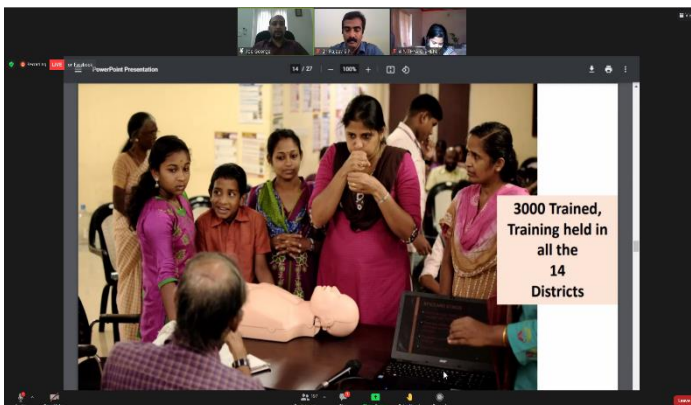
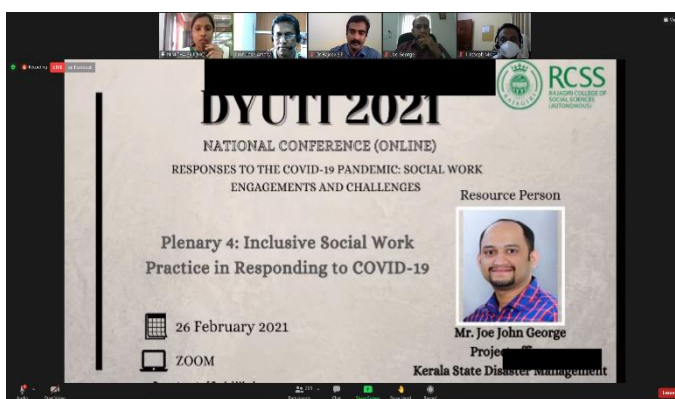
He then continued to talk about the arrival of new terminologies as a result of the manifestation of COVID-19 which was not earlier common, e.g.: COVID-19, social distancing, lockdown, break the chain, sanitization etc. Dr. Jose Antony also emphasised upon the domains where social workers can make input, such as: COVID-19, economy, social and psychological living, livelihood and employment, family life, children, women, and youth, health care, education etc.

Towards the end of the speech, he emphasised on the need for method based, strength-based, evidence based, participation and context-based approached and about how social workers need to develop need strategies, programs to work with people at micro, macro, levels. The need to collaborate with people from various disciplines: politicians, men in uniform, groups, individual and community context.



## Plenary session 2

The resource person for the second plenary session was Joe John George, State Project Officer, Kerala. The topic of the session was *“Inclusive Social Work Practice in Responding to COVID19”*. He mentioned the initiatives done by the Kerala State Disaster Management Authority under the project; *‘Strengthening of Emergency Response capabilities with Emphasis on Person with Disabilities, towards a safer state for differently abled’*. The 24/7 helpline for the deaf which was an initiative that arose from the joint efforts of the Kerala State Disaster Management Authority and the National Institute of Speech and Hearing was highlighted during his speech. He also talked about the challenges faced by the visually impaired communities that were addressed by the KSDMA and the relaxation given to those working in the government sector. The session also highlighted the need for social workers to include the vulnerable populations like the disabled persons and make sure their rights, needs and voices are not ignored at such crucial times.



## Parallel Sessions

Parallel sessions were conducted in 4 breakout rooms via Zoom.

### **Parallel Session 1**

The program kick started at 3.13 pm after the plenary sessions. The theme of the first parallel session was, “*Social workers in Health Care Setting*”. Dr. Anish K.R., Assistant Professor, Department of Social Work, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences was the session chair. There was a total of eight presentations on the given topic.

The paper presentation commenced by 3:16 pm. The first paper was presented by Ms. Anithamol Babu (Assistant professor, BCM College). Title of the paper was “*Burnout, Secondary trauma and Compassion Satisfaction among Healthcare Professionals*”. When epidemics spread, the adverse psychological reactions among healthcare professionals are ‘higher’ than normal situations. The increased workload, mental and physical exhaustion, inadequate personal protection equipment kits, nosocomial transmission, and the need to make ethically difficult decisions on the rationing of care may have dramatic effects on the mental health of healthcare professionals. The study aims to document the experiences of healthcare professionals during the Covid-19 pandemic from the perspectives of satisfaction and impotence of the need mentioned in the ERG theory as well as the achievement motivational theory.

The second presenter was Ms. Sherin Jacob (Independent). The title of the presentation was “*Mental health and well – being of Covid 19 Volunteers An Unprecedented Event, World Governments, Economies and Health Systems were Stretched beyond their Capacities while containing the Pandemic*”. India faced a massive challenge in containing the virus considering its population, unhygienic living conditions and ill-equipped health infrastructure. Despite such challenges, the Government leveraged its existing skilled workforce, deployed health professionals and para professionals across the country to confront the pandemic. Non-profits, working professionals, home makers, religious bodies, education institutions and student bodies like NCC, NSS supported government efforts and influenced people in multiple ways. Constant exposure, difficult working circumstances and risk of contracting and spreading the virus took a toll on their mental health and well-being. Experiencing fear, stigma and witnessing pandemic induced poverty created anxiety on various dimensions. The paper aims at understanding the impact of volunteering during COVID-19 on volunteers’ mental health and well-being.

The third presenter was Miss. Ginu George, Ph.D Scholar Rajagiri College of Social Sciences. The title of the paper was “*Impact of Covid 19 on the psycho social functioning of patients with chronic kidney disease*”. COVID 19 poses severe threat to persons having serious health complications. Patients undergoing dialysis are especially in a life-threatening situation, patient and caregiver would be in extreme distress with the fear of getting infected from the frequent exposure. Nephrology social worker plays an important role in the multidisciplinary team as the patient with renal dysfunction undergoes multiple psycho social distress and there is a great need for mental health services for the patient and the caregiver. It is very important to understand the social worker’s perception about the psycho social impact of the pandemic on the renal patients, the challenges they are experiencing while dealing with the issues and the strategies taken to overcome the challenges. The paper highlighted three main themes. The first was social worker’s perception on the impact of COVID 19 on the patients with chronic Kidney disease. The second theme was related to changes in the system and service delivery. The third theme was the emerging role of social worker and the challenges experienced during this

period. The presenter stressed on the need for appropriate measures to be taken from the part of the government in terms of specific schemes and strategies to handle the treatment expenses of the patient.

The fourth presentation was presented by Miss. Sreemol Sunil, Ph.D Scholar, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences. The title of the paper was "*The War with Covid 19: Vaccine Hesitancy and Role of Social Workers*". Long-term control of the COVID-19 pandemic hinges in part on the development and uptake of a preventive vaccine and high immunization uptake is critical for protecting people but barriers to immunization are complex. The World Health Organization (WHO) describes vaccine hesitation as the reluctance or refusal to vaccinate despite the availability of vaccines that threatens to reverse progress made in tackling vaccine-preventable diseases. The presentation analysed the reasons for vaccine hesitancy and the role of professional social workers in dealing with vaccine hesitancy. Social workers can play a major role in identifying providers who are vaccine-hesitant, to understand the causes of their hesitations, and to develop tailored strategies to address this. Exploring the aspects of vaccine hesitancy and professional social workers contribution at purge vaccine hesitancy will definitely help our policymakers to undertake appropriate measures to improve vaccine acceptance, coverage, and reach desired national targets.

The fifth presentation was by Dr. Prasad Reddy. The title of the paper was "*Experiences from a Tertiary Care Centre on Psychosocial Help Desk during Covid 19*". The objective of this paper was to strengthen the psychosocial care of the caregivers. Three screenings consisting of yes or no questions were attached with ODP work up life. Psychosocial care booklets were provided for caregivers and persons with mental illnesses. More than 350 caregivers received the psycho social counselling services. The individuals shared various experiences and challenges faced during the study. Many guidelines and explanations were given and later on the people understood the situation. As conclusion, the presenter highlighted how Covid 19 increased the levels of anxiety, depression and stress and that setting up these kinds of clinics will be very helpful.

The sixth presentation by Miss. Uthara Harikumar, MSW Student Christ University. The title of the paper was "*Inclusion of Persons with disabilities: A study on Non-governmental Organizations*". Many people with disabilities are confined to the informal economy in developed countries where they do not have a chance to gain a better life or contribute to the incomes of their families. The paper highlighted that how in India disability is not seen as a disease but as a culture, that stigmatises any person who does not culturally fit into what is considered as "normal." This also extends to the job market and our places of employment. Employing people with disabilities is still considered to be a charitable act or a necessary corporate social responsibility. The study was conducted in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu and the main objective of the study was to understand if the practice of inclusion is undertaken in an appropriate manner in Non-Governmental Organisations. The result of the study gave a clear picture about the challenges faced by people with disabilities and the level of inclusion practiced in organisations, including the support mechanisms in the Lives of The Persons with Disabilities.

The seventh presentation was presented by Miss. Jain Jossy, BSW student, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences. The title of the paper was "*Mental Health Issues and Social Rejection faced by Doctors and Nurses during the Breakout of Covid 19 Pandemic*". Doctors and nurses are toiling countless number of hours since the global outbreak of COVID19 which had been declared as a global pandemic. Healthcare systems across developed and developing countries are being put to the last word test and are under tremendous pressure to limit the spread of COVID 19 and majority of this responsibility is being shouldered by frontline health care



workers like doctors and nurses effortlessly putting their lives on the line in order to do so. The pandemic has created stress within the general population, but healthcare workers who were already at high risk of stress, burnout and suicide before the COVID-19 pandemic began were experiencing even more stress. Two standardized scales were used for data collection. The study suggested that only one percent respondents faced extremely severe level of depression because of treating the COVID-19 patients and 3.8 percent respondent's depression level was severe. Anxiety and stress were not common among the respondents but few doctors and nurses faced severe anxiety and stress. Respondents faced physical problems due to the use of Personal Protective Equipment. Social rejection was not common among the respondents but there were elements of social rejection.

The eight presentation began by 16:19 and was presented by Miss. Lidiya Paul, BSW student, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences. The title of the paper was "*Preventive and Protective Behaviours among the Adults during the Covid 19 Pandemic*". The COVID-19 had infected so many people worldwide and the World Health Organization (WHO) declared Coronavirus a pandemic due to wide scale of the outbreak. Due to the high spread of the virus, the preventive and protective measures were gradually adopted by the public such as sanitizing, wearing masks and social distancing which made them experience an unprecedented shift in the way of life due to Covid-19. In this Study, the researcher emphasizes the severity of Covid-19 and the social implications of the pandemic related behaviours which may be important to study. This research examines how prosocial and virus-mitigating responses such as social distancing, or the non-hoarding of food and household supplies, and good hand hygiene are being maintained and followed by the adults. Also, the researcher took a close look on identifying the tendency of the adults to accept or move towards this new practice of following the preventive measures. The study has thus brought to light the relevance of using the preventive and protective measures against Covid-19. It was found that only 15 percent of the respondents didn't follow the preventive measures while majority of the respondents (76%) showed that they are highly able to accept the new normal.

After the completion of all the papers in the breakout room, the question-answer session began by Dr. Anish K.R, who interacted with presenters and cleared the doubts and questions. He appreciated all of the presenters for wonderful presentations.



**The experiences of healthcare professionals during COVID-19 pandemic: From the perspective of need satisfaction and powerlessness**

Presented by: Anishamol Babu (Christ University)  
Guided by: Dr. K. Hemalatha (Christ University)

- Li et al. (2020) and Ornel et al. (2020) reported that the mental health implications for health workers involved fatigue. Fatigue during epidemics can be persistent.
- Adriaenssens et al. (2015), Hunsaker et al. (2015), Kaurel et al. (2018) and Kumar et al. (2018) divided the factors influencing into individual factors and work-related factors such as age, gender, religion, education level, job experience, working time etc.
- Shigenaga et al. (2019), Kim et al. (2020) and Xiang et al. (2020) found that work overload and the symptoms related to burnout make health professionals especially vulnerable to psychological suffering which increased the chance of developing psychiatric disorders (Malta et al. 2020).
- On the one hand, healthcare professionals in emergency services may be used to feeling physical fatigue and mental weariness. Due to the fear, insecurity and uncertainty caused by a pandemic, these well-known factors could now impact human relationships results poor quality of life.

**Research Gap**

- Majority of the studies reviewed are covered the risks of providing care during and after the outbreak in epidemics. Healthcare services included social workers...
- Besides, there are only few studies from Kerala which studies the mental health of healthcare professionals (doctors and nurses). No studies from Kerala covered the current scenario among healthcare professionals of diverse professions.

**CONCLUSION**

- This study indicates that the COVID-19 pandemic leads to depression, anxiety and stress among frontline health care workers like doctors and nurses.
- Nurses and doctors were often required to work more long hours.
- The lack of awareness and knowledge about the COVID-19 pandemic had heightened anxiety and fear among the public. This led to physical and mental attacks towards doctors and nurses.
- Number of these incidents were reduced by the positive role played by the social media platforms and government agencies. They provided proper awareness and education regarding the pandemic.

**The experiences of healthcare professionals during COVID-19 pandemic: From the perspective of need satisfaction and powerlessness**

Presented by: Anishamol Babu (Christ University)  
Guided by: Dr. K. Hemalatha (Christ University)

- The Figure 04 represents the frequency of following the protective behaviors against Covid-19 such as going out in public, avoiding touching the eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands in work settings or while travelling and about spending time with friends, extended family members in person.
- It can be noted that there are only a few percent of the respondents (9.83) who didn't go out during the past 7 days. While 43.9 percent of them go out at least multiple times a day, the same percentage was noted to be spending their time with the other outsiders in person increasing the chances of spreading the disease. Only 8.1 percent of them were found to be spending time with the outsiders daily whereas 48 percent of the respondents avoided touching their face multiple times.

**COVID-19 Prevention: In Public**

Frequency	Count	Percentage
Never	10	9.83%
At least once	44	43.9%
Multiple times	44	43.9%
Total	98	100%

**Doctors and nurses are facing emotional and mental distress.**

Global outbreak of COVID-19 (caused by the SARS CoV-2 and also known as the novel coronavirus) which had been declared as a global pandemic.

Healthcare systems across developed and developing countries are being put to the last word test and are under tremendous pressure to limit the spread of COVID 19 and majority of this responsibility is being shouldered by frontline health care workers like doctors and nurses effortlessly putting their lives on the line in order to do so.

In addition to battling endless hours, draining shifts, staff shortages and deficient supplies, most of them were isolated from their families, affecting them emotionally and physically. Anxiety, depression, denial, insomnia and anger within the face of this pandemic will take a toll on the health service delivery adding to the increasing morbidity and unhealthiness.

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## Parallel Session 2

The presentations started at 3:00 after the plenary session. The theme for the session was *“Responses of NGOs and other Stakeholders”*. There were 8 presentations on the topic. Dr. Nycil Romis Thomas, Assistant Professor, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences was the session chair. She welcomed all the paper presenters and other participants and gave a brief idea about the theme as well as the rules and regulations.

The paper presentations started by 3:15 PM. The first presentation was by Thresiamma Mathew, Director and Founder of Archana Women’s Foundation on the topic *“Disrupted Yet Resurgent”*. The paper highlighted AWC, which is a committed and pioneering group of social activists who had successfully carved out a unique social space. Due to Covid 19, social distancing became the new universal mantra and led to the confinement of the entire family to homes for over 50 days in a stretch. The presenter mentioned the initiatives taken by AWC during the lockdown period. CAGs were engaged in tailoring and produced protective kits like masks, PPE Kits. They have supplied 6,55,000 face masks. They created awareness among the people through WhatsApp, Facebook, Google Meet, Zoom Conferencing etc. They also started a venture called *“Karshikarchana”* along with the government for ensuring food security. *“Jeeva”* was another initiative for healthy drink.

The second presentation was done by Binson P Augustine, Ph.D Scholar, Rajagiri College Of Social Sciences on the topic *“Issues and Challenges of Non Profit Sector during COVID 19 Pandemic : A Case Study with Special Reference to Psychosocial Rehabilitation Centres in Kerala.”* This qualitative case study intended to portrait the negative impact of the Covid-19 with special reference to seven psycho-social rehabilitation centers in Idukki District, Kerala. Here in this study, the researcher assessed the effect of COVID 19 on Non- Profit Organizations using direct interviews with the NGO management, professional staff, supporting staff, and volunteers. The qualitative responses obtained showed the severity of the challenges that the Non- Profit Sector has been undergoing in the Covid-19 era. Budgetary impact, Funding sources, and obligations, Limited resources, Difficulties in human resources management, Cancellations and Postponement of governmental and nongovernmental interventions, Difficulties in implementing the Covid-19 guidelines among a vulnerable population particularly in a mentally ill population, Social and Psychological problems are few among the challenges projected during the direct interviews.

The third paper was on the title *“Social Adjustment and Health Condition of Elderly People Living in Old Age Homes”*. The paper was presented by Ruban L, Ph.D Scholar, Madras School of Social Work. Old age is a stage marked by physical weakness, psychological issues, loneliness and isolation. Social integration is a major issue that haunts the elderly. With a high prevalence, and an increasing number of older persons, social isolation will have an impact on the health, well-being, and quality of life of numerous older adults now and in the foreseeable future. Social integration means a dynamic and principled process where all members participate in dialogue to achieve and maintain peaceful social relations. India like many other developing countries in the world is witnessing the rapid aging of its population. Urbanization, modernization and globalization have led to change in the economic structure, the erosion of societal values, weakening of social values, and social institutions such as the joint family. The presenter highlighted that how this study can be helpful to educate the young generation about the negative impact of the institutionalization of the elderly.

The fourth paper was presented by Harshita, MSW Student, St. Claret College, Bengaluru on the title *“Distress of Humans during Lockdown: Response of NGOs, Challenges Encouraged and Lessons Learnt”*. Through the paper, the authors deciphered the whole process

of engaging with the migrants, through their personal experience and the various materialistic and legal recourse that were adopted to ensure a safe journey for the migrants. Locking down a country with a population of 1.38 billion, it was expeditiously expected of the authorities to be considerate to the 90 per cent of population belonging to unorganised sector, who are half the contributors of the national product. During the lockdown, distress migration was the evident scenario, which is majorly caused by the vulnerability of the existing livelihood. Migrants in India, be it domestic workers, daily wage construction labourers, and other countless places of their work, longing to unite with their loved ones, were abandoned on the roads, on foot, as all modes of transport were halted. The paper also highlighted on how in such arduous times, friends of these walking men, women and children were the communities and groups of concerned and responsible citizens. NGOs and other people stirred their skillsets and capacities to provide relief on ground.

The third presentation was then followed by Ms Meena Kuruvila, Project Director of Rajagiri Outreach, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences. Her research was titled “*Response to the Covid-19 Pandemic*”. The main focus of the study was on the issues faced by migrant workers. Rajagiri College of Social Sciences with the help of Kerala State AIDS Control Society planned to intervene to help the labourers. The major activates were the following, awareness campaigns, food and health kits, fitness certificates and psycho-social support for around 14000 migrants, through Suraksha Migrant Project. Kits were distributed among the migrant workers, needy families, tribal hamlets, HIV affected families, auto-rickshaw, and the families of fishermen. The distribution happened across Cochin Corporation in 5 municipalities and 15 Panchayats of Ernakulum district. Usage technology into social work practice for proving emotional and psychosocial support through helpline numbers. Despite obstacles, the social workers found new methods to the social practice. The researcher concluded her presentation with a slide show on the pictures taken during the support services that were provided.

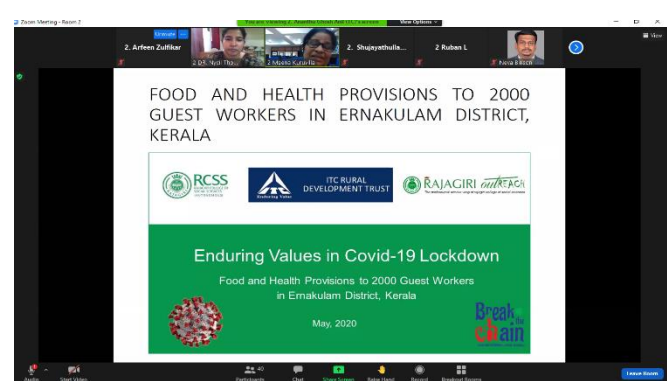
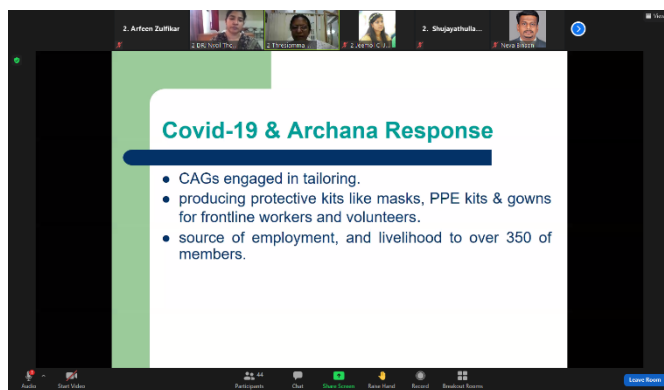
The sixth presentation started by Ms Rachel Sara Sunil, Student of Rajagiri College of Social Sciences presented her research titled “*Challenges of Entrepreneurs during Pandemic*”. The study was conducted on small scale entrepreneurs located within Kerala. The paper focused on how small-scale industries which plays an important role in the economy in reducing unemployment faced challenges during lockdown which caused a zero or reduced cash flow into these small/medium scale businesses. This caused a lot of stress among the entrepreneurs as some businesses were shut down wholly or partially. Which directly impacted their income, causing issues for supporting their families.

The seventh presentation was presented by Ms. Akhila K.V., a Student, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences. Her research topic was titled “*Problems Faced by Visually Impaired during Covid-19 Pandemic*”. With almost 253 million people living in this world with visual impairment, the Covid-19 Pandemic has impacted their lives, as most people have no means of visual support to understand the ongoing pandemic. The section of people completely relies on audio aids, sign languages or lip-reading to communicate. With social distancing rather than physical distancing being promoted, their needs and fears have gone unnoticed. The main objectives of this research were to study the problems faced by them for the completion of routine tasks, social distancing, well-being and mental health were also being emphasized in the study.

The last presenter of the session was Ms Anjana Manoj, Student, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences. The research was titled “*Mental Health Condition of the Caregivers of Palliative Care during Covid-19 Pandemic*”. A family member taking over the duty of caregiving of a

sick family member is considered as his/her duty. However, as the caregiving to the patient is necessary so is the well-being of the caregiver. The pandemic has affected all aspects of our daily lives. And with which the stress, resilience and wellbeing of the caregivers are put to test with an added burden of having to face the changes that have come through due to the pandemic. The study suggests that the needed changes be adopted to help provide better mental health care facilities for the caregivers and to improve their wellbeing through social work interventions.

After the presentations were concluded the breakout room was open for a free discussion and an evaluation of the presentations by session chair Dr Nycil Romis Thomas.



### Parallel Session 3

There were two themes in parallel session three- *“COVID 19 Crisis and Beyond: Challenges for Sustainable Public Policies”* and *Volunteerism Among Social Workers/ Students during Covid-19”*. The session was chaired by Dr. Giji (Assistant Professor, Dept. of Social Work, RCSS). There were 8 paper presentations.

The first paper was presented by Rupika R. Nair, Student, St. Joseph College Autonomous, Bengaluru on the topic *“When the World Shuts’, Profession Works- A Profession for Crisis Management”*. The paper emphasised on the importance of social work practises during the pandemic. The presenter highlighted the importance of field work in social work, calling it *“one of the prominent foundations of the discipline”*. The major highlights of the paper were the department’s activities in the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan project, the roles played by the students and faculty during block field work, their experiences and thoughts on working on the ground in rural settings during the pandemic.

The second presenter Anna Mariya Joy, MSW Student of Rajagiri College of Social Sciences presented on the topic *“A Study on the Perceived Job Insecurity and Occupational Stress among the Worker of Cochin International Airport during Covid-19”*. She highlighted the challenges faced by the airports staff during the pandemic including huge job loss and occupational stress. She highlighted the different reasons for occupational stress among the workers in Cochin airport like change in work environment especially during the pandemic, the fear of being affected by the pandemic, workers stress.

The third presentation was carried out by Nilima KM, Student MSW-HRDM, Depart. of Sociology and Social Work, Christ, deemed to be University, Bangalore on the topic *“A study on Green Human Resource Management and Talent Attraction”*. The paper focused on the need for Green Human Resource Management which is a sustainable source of employer branding and achieving organizational competitiveness aimed at attracting and retaining the best talent. The study found that the young graduates who participated in the research preferred green training more than other green activities and they preferred organizations which has environmental based objectives likes organization’s contribution made towards environmental management and protection.

The fourth presentation *“Social Connectedness, Anxiety and Coping Strategies in Widowed Elderly during COVID-19 Lockdown”* was presented by Minu Mary William, MSW student of Rajagiri College of Social Sciences. The paper explained the social connectedness and anxiety in widowed elderly during the Covid-19 pandemic. The results of the study highlighted that 41% of the elderly feel very low social connectedness and 14% experience a significant level of anxiety due to the lockdown. Interventions like tele counselling, familiarizing the elderly with social media platforms, arranging social engagement activities for them through online platforms could be adopted in policy formation and the arena of mental health to improve the well-being of widowed elderly during pandemics.

The fifth paper presentation on *“Enhancing Employability Skills among Youth. To Create a Resilient India.”* was by Diana Thankachan, Senior Programme Manager, ASAP Community

Skills Park. The paper deals with employment opportunities for millions of youths, making youth unemployment a significant problem to be solved. Skill training programmes under National Skill Development Corporation is one among the notable initiatives by the government. The COVID-19 pandemic and implementation of lockdown has resulted in loss of employment in all sectors. The impact was severe in case of self-employed people. The paper deals with the new normal situation which requires skill enhancement in a higher degree and provision of most suitable opportunities.

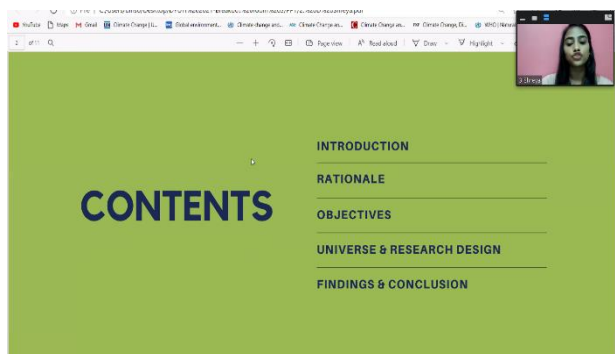
The sixth presentation was on the topics “*Problem Faced by Skilled Workers during Covid-19 Pandemic*”. The paper was presented by Eirene Durom, BSW student, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences. Blue collar workers are the most affected during covid-19 pandemic, as they are daily wage workers. The study was meant to evaluate the mental health and well-being of skilled labourers during the crucial lockdown period. It was reported that many of them lost their job and faced financial crises. Majority of them belong to the Below Poverty Line and do not have a permanent job. Even though they are skilled workers they are struggling to meet their daily needs and in lockdown all their efforts went in vain.

The Seventh Presentation was titled “*Mental Health of The Asha Workers During the Pandemic: Are they Experts on Handling covid-19 Stress?*”. The paper was presented by Pooja Krishna, BSW Student, Rajagiri Sollege of Social Sciences. An Accredited Social Health Activist is a community health worker introduced by the government of India under ministry of health and family welfare, as a part of National Rural Health Mission in 2005. During Covid pandemic due to the over workload these trained female activists faced many challenges. Study assesses the level of coping stress, anxiety, well-being and depression of Asha workers. It was found that they were able to cope with the situation and sudden change apart from the huge workload. They could control their emotions and mental health and were able to maintain a healthy work environment.

The eighth Presentation was by D. Sreya, Undergraduate Student, Stella Maria College on the topic “*Sustainable Public Policy Exercise and Student Community*”. Student initiatives are thought provoking and innovative. The knowledge acquired by them helps to impart various innovative ideas for the development of the nation. A sustainable policy formulation is well appreciated as it enables the whole community to stick on to the principles and at the same time to share their creative and effective ideas. In the study it was reported that the majority of the students showed immense interest to carry out the sustainable public policy formulation and to execute them. The students showed enthusiasm and came up with so many creative thoughts essential for the implementation of the policy.

After the completion of the presentations Dr. Giji George appreciated all the presenters and interacted with them.





ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS)  
BENGALURU - 560027

**TITLE**

**WHEN THE WORLD SHUTS', PROFESSION WORKS**  
**A PROFESSION FOR CRISIS MANAGEMENT**

**AUTHORS**

Ms. Roopika R Nair  
II MSW

Lt. Akshay D Mandlik  
Head, Department of Social Work

- 2 old age pension
- 1 Pan Card
- 1 Housing Loan
- Teaching Human Rights to children
- Importance of Health and Hygiene
- Career Guidance
- Documentary Screening
- Mobile app education
- Role Play
- Safety Measures

**GAPURA**

**CONCLUSION**

When there is crisis situation, no social worker can choose to be ignorant, there is risk, it is difficult things are uncertain. This is where our training is very important to overcome these chain of challenges. The theories, models and methods that we learn in our classrooms are not merely a piece of parchment, it's a guide to function and overcome problems that stand in the way of development. In this profession, even as a curriculum both student and faculty has roles that go beyond the call of duty. We must break those barriers of questioning our own ability and the extent of our profession, towards everything that can be done to support our communities. After all it is not about the easiness of a route but rather the possibility.

**A STUDY ON GREEN HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND TALENT ATTRACTION**

NEELIMA K M

**SOCIAL CONNECTEDNESS AND ANXIETY AMONG WIDOWED ELDERLY DURING COVID 19 PANDEMIC**

Presented by : MINU MARY WILLIAM

CURRICULUM FRAME FOR EDUCATION OF SOCIAL WORK PROFESSION	
<b>Core Domain</b> Philosophy Values & Ethics Interventions: Strategy and Method Awareness for Professional and Personal Growth Social Work Research	<b>Supportive Domain</b> Society – Structure and Contemporary problems Organisations – Government & Voluntary Field Instructions for Social Work Development and Different Approaches to Development Education and Training
<b>Interdisciplinary Domain</b> Sociology Humanities Management Health and Mental Health Relevant theories, concepts and Practises from other Disciplines	<b>Elective Content</b> Knowledge and Information of Problems Arrangements for Core Needs satisfaction and enhancing life situations to meet goals Practise based Research Policy and Gaps therein

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#### Parallel Session 4

The fourth parallel session was chaired by Fr. Shinto Joseph, CMI, Assistant Professor, Department of Social Work, RCSS. The theme was “*Psychosocial Responses by the Social Workers.*” The session began with the address given by the session chair Fr. Shinto Joseph.

The first presentation was by Dilsana Ummer, BSW student of Rajagiri College of Social Sciences on the topic, “*Covid-19 Impact and Responses of Women.*” The study focused on the emotional, social and financial issues faced by women during Covid-19 pandemic and to assess the cope and well-being and to find out the productive time utilized by women. Majority of the respondents were able to find time for hobbies and developed new habits like farming, craft and workout, some could spend time on social media. While some respondents looked after their mental health through meditation and yoga, more than half of the respondents could only find some time for their leisure activity during lockdown. Thus, it is clear that respondents were able to productively use those days of covid-19 by staying at home.

Ms. Amala.D, MSW student of Rajagiri College of Social Sciences, was the second presenter. The topic presented was “*Social Connectedness and General Well-Being of Single Migrant Labourers in Kerala During Covid-19.*” The study mentioned that male migrant labourers were more affected than female migrants. There is a lack of connectedness observed among them which can be intervened by education and contact through social media. It also studies the social connectedness among single migrant labourers, their general well-being and their relationship between connectedness and well-being.

The third presentation was by Jose John, MSW Student of Rajagiri College of Social Sciences, His topic was “*Sustainable Agriculture Practices amidst Pandemic: a Study on the Generic Attitude of People towards Organic Farming in Kerala*”. The study quoted that India is considered to be the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest producer of vegetables after China. Pinarayi Vijayan put forth the idea and supported to start organic farming among people. Accordingly, it is observed in the study that mental health among people improved by 81% and provided sustainable growth. Vegetables for cooking were produced in the home itself. The government supported it well. Thus, household agriculture practice was accepted widespread.

The fourth presentation was by Jestin Mathew, BSW Student of Rajagiri College of Social Sciences. The topic he spoke on was, “*Impact and Role of Social Media on Adolescence During Covid-19*”. The age group the study focused on was 13-18 years. Covid-19 majorly modified adolescent’s daily routine. It increased anxiety, depression and decreased relationship skills among adolescents. Family bond also lessened. It was observed in the study that adolescents who use social media get into problems and issues wherein 16.4% were under levels of stress and anxiety. The intervention put forth by him was to make sure that teachers and parents check what children do in social media and limit by setting boundaries.

The fifth presenter was Jeffy Mary Thomas, BSW Student of Rajagiri College of Social Sciences. The topic of the presentation was “*Psychosocial Challenges Faced by People Engaged in MGNREGA.*” The study focused on the challenges faced by people in this scheme, mainly the transportation problems and reverse quarantine. The study understood the well-being of people working in this scheme and how people accepted the change. The study was done in the Chirakadavu and Vazhoor panchayat of Kottayam district. The age group who worked during this pandemic too, was 41-60 years while only a minor group of 61-70 years

worked in this scheme. Thus, quarantine adversely affected the age group of above 60 years and during this pandemic around 4 lakh MGNREGA workers were without a job.

The sixth was by Cherian Paul, BSW Student, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences and on the topic, “*E-Learning: A New Reality for Plus Two Students.*” The topic mainly focused on the mental health of students and the progress of online classes. The target group of the research were higher secondary students and the method used was snowball sampling method. The presentation gave detailed information about the research results which stated that the majority of the respondents found it difficult to cope with online classes and most of them resulted in having anxiety and stress.

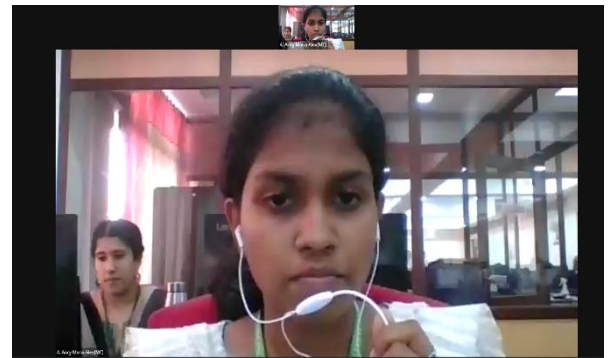
The seventh presentation was done by Nishana Shareef BSW Student, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences on “*A Study on Problems Faced by School Teachers While Using Online Teaching Platform.*” The presentation focused on how teachers were affected due to the shift from offline to online teaching. The presentation explained how the lack of knowledge of teachers in the new technology and network issues really put a stress on them as it was time consuming and stressful. The data was collected using google forms and around 118 responses were collected. The results stated that the majority of teachers prefer offline class as it helps them to have better communication with the students and makes it more interesting to teach.

The final presentation was presented by Liya T Saji, BSW Student of Rajagiri College of Social Sciences on the topic, “*Impact of Mental Disturbances, Social Support, Coping Strategies Faced by Early Adolescents During COVID-19.*” The presentation focused on the effect of COVID-19 among adolescents and the psychological problems they faced and how they coped up with it. A sample of 113 respondents were collected. From the responses it was studied that more than half of the respondents spend most of their time online and it really affected their health. In conclusion it was said that students need to be encouraged to spend more time outdoors or otherwise offline and parents need to look after their own mental health, coping strategies, and model positive psychological attitude.

After all the presentations, the breakout room was open for discussions. The session chair appreciated all the presenters for their efforts and concluded with a note that intervention models need to be prepared by all the social workers in the near future

### BACKGROUND

- According to the World Economic Forum there is an estimate of 139 million migrants in the country. The International Labour Organization (ILO) forecasted that about 400 million workers would be poverty stricken due to Pandemic and lock down.
- The commencement of the lock down generated widespread panic among migrant across India.
- The migrant workers from India during the COVID- 19 have faced multiple adversities.
- The factories and workplaces shut down due to the lockdown forced in the country, millions of migrant workers had to deal with the loss of income, food shortages and uncertainty about their families and future.
- The COVID 19 has given rise to a series of negative cognitive responses and emotions in the population at risk.
- Lockdown and social distancing are necessary measure to prevent the virus spread but it also lead to



### Engagement & outreach - April 2020 to Jan 2021

Open Houses conducted	4144
Children engaged with in OH	88590

outreach	adults reached
218956	3940157
children reached - 2564019	

### Sustainable Agricultural Practices amidst Pandemic; a Study on the Generic Attitude of People towards Organic Farming in Kerala.

JOSE JOHN  
JOSEPH MATHEW

Figure represents the mental well being of people engaged in MGNREGA during covid-19. The figure shows that majority of the respondent's level of depression (36.5%) anxiety (44.2%) and stress (52.9%) are normal

Response	Depression	Anxiety	Stress
extremely severe	1	1	1
severe	1	1	1
moderate	1	1	1
mild	1	1	1
normal	112	142	147

### Impact And Role Of Social Media On Adolescence During Covid 19

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### **Plenary Session 3**

The third plenary session of day started at 4:30 pm after the paper presentations. The session was presented by Founder Director of GOONJ, Mr. Anshu Gupta on the topic *COVID-19: CRISIS AND BEYOND NEED FOR SUSTAINABLE PUBLIC POLICIES*. He majorly discussed on the necessity for having best policies for the people of India, especially rural India. He talked about disasters and its effects on society. Natural disasters like flood, landslides etc made a tremendous effect in the social system. But the consequences Covid - 19 made are the worst among all. It altered the social fabric completely. People had to deal with a situation where there was no food to eat, no jobs, no buses to travel etc. He said that without understanding the society, we can't make policies for the society. He detailed, in India, forced migration is more visibly seen in rural India where people have to forcefully move to other place to find a living. Uttarakhand witnessed this forceful migration on a higher level. In reality, they don't want to leave the village but the social situation urges them to leave their village. In order to formulate the policies, we need to understand our social fabric and human values. We simply can't refer workforce as labourers. They're skilled and their hard work make our lives easier. We should stop having double standards. He stated poverty is an ongoing disaster and we miserably failed in understanding that. India's majority of population lives in rural community, so he said we need to focus more on rural poverty. Also, he pointed out his own idea of slums being a feature of rural locality, not urban. He said while framing policies, priority should be given to the rural people. ASHA (Accredited Social Health Activist) workers have the basic understanding regarding health of a community but in reality, they're paid lesser than household workers. The time has arrived to take care of ignored people. He reaffirmed we all are good and our intentions are pure but we need to rethink. When lockdown announced, even the fanciest airport in the world was closed but these bus stops in these local areas gave shelter to those ignored people who lost their jobs. He cited an example of us buying a burger through online sites like zomato, swiggy etc. That burger is made by a human and delivered by another human. So we should give emphasis more on human beings than machines. As social beings, we need to speak to people, understand them and then make policies for them. According to him, in the race of development, what we found are wrong solutions. So we need to accept our failure and learn from it. After he ended his session, Gigi Ma'am proposed vote of thanks to him for his insightful words.

### **Valedictory Function**

The 21<sup>st</sup> edition of DYUTI 2021 on the theme “Response to COVID-19 Pandemic; Social Work Engagement and Challenges” officially came to an end with the Valedictory Function which was held on 26<sup>th</sup> of February 2021. The function started by 4.55pm through the zoom platform and Dr. Rajeev S. P, Assistant Professor and DYUTI Faculty coordinator, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences summed up the event. He spoke about how the National Conference DYUTI helped us to know about how the social workers responded and extended their services in this Pandemic period and he said that the vision DYUTI 2021 must go forward. He talked about the increasing need of service requirements in the post COVID era and the challenges that come along with it. The need for efficient policy development ensuring welfare of the people while promoting business was highlighted in the event. He mentioned the need to plan our action, activities and redefine our process and work, offering our support to the needy and vulnerable which was addressed through the DYUTI 2021. He then extended his appreciation to people who had put in their time and efforts towards the success of the event.

Later Ms. Abshana Jamal, Assistant Professor, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences introduced the concept of upcoming DYUTI 2022. The International DYUTI for the next year is based on the theme “Health Promotion; Global Perspective and Practices. The major objective of DYUTI 2022 deliberates on the health promotion through addressing the social determinants of health, facilitating discussion on cross cultural policy related advancement and initiate evidence informed policy changes, enhance knowledge on effective practice models and the effectiveness of health promotion strategies, and to develop collaboration between various health related agencies, practitioners and academic institution to establish consortiums to do research and develop evidence based models of health promotion. The sub themes of the upcoming DYUTI 2022 were also announced during the session.

A 2-minute promo video on the International DYUTI 2022 was released during the function.

The program officially came to an end with Vote of thanks proposed by Sajin Sebastian, Student Coordinator DYUTI 2021. He thanked all the dignitaries, organisers, faculties, committee members, participants and students who made this event successful.

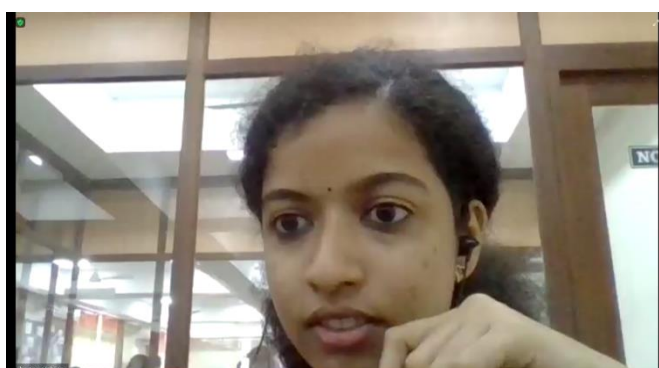
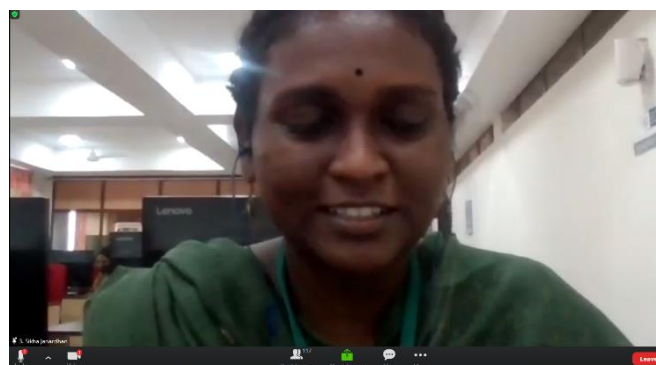


### **Evaluation Report**

The evaluation session for DYUTI 2021 was conducted right after the official program was over. The welcome address was given by Sikha Janardhanan, Student coordinator of DYUTI 2021. Following that, all committee leaders took turns to share their experiences and work done through the conference. They also expressed their gratitude to all those who helped them and worked behind the scene to make the program a success.



Dr. Fr. Joseph M.K, Head of the Department of Social Work, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences shared his thoughts on the academic reflections and papers that were presented through the conference. Dr. Rajeev S.P, Assistant Professor at Rajagiri College of Social Sciences took time to appreciate the efforts of the students in being able to conduct the conference online and congratulated everyone for the success of the program. Sajin K. Sebastian, Student coordinator shared his experience on DYUTI 2021 and proposed the vote of thanks.



## COMMITTEE REPORT

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DYUTI 2021 National Conference 2021 had a total number of five committees with committee leaders representing three batches - BSW 3<sup>rd</sup> year, MSW 1<sup>st</sup> year and MSW 2<sup>nd</sup> year. The committee leaders were guided and monitored by their respective faculty coordinators. The six committees were Programme Committee, Technical Committee, Publicity Committee, Finance Committee and Documentation Committee. Apart from this, the whole orchestration of the committees was looked into by the student and faculty coordinators of DYUTI 2021 that resulted in the best conference experience for all.

### ***Programme Committee:***

The Program Committee consisted of 30 members under the guidance of the faculty coordinators of the Conference, Dr. Giji George and Dr. Rajeev S.P. The committee was headed by Ms Christeena Johnson (MSW 2<sup>nd</sup> year), Antony Jaison (MSW 1<sup>st</sup> year) and Ms Hamda Amanulla (BSW 3<sup>rd</sup> year). The main works of the committee included scheduling programs for the countdown, collecting abstracts, consolidating the participant list, preparing the program schedule and collection of the presentations. The program schedule was charted as per the need of the conference which included setting of the parallel sessions, emcees for the event and circulation of the details to all the beneficiaries and participants.

### ***Technical Committee:***

Under the guidance of faculty coordinators Dr. Anish K R and Dr. Anil John, the technical committee members carried out their activities which mainly included division of members in different parallel sessions, conduction of meetings for technical members and emcees from different committees in order to make sure that everything was set perfect and duties were assigned accordingly. The leaders of Technical committee were Ms. Minnu Mathew (MSW 2<sup>nd</sup> year), Mr. Jobin P Joseph (MSW 1<sup>st</sup> year) and Mr. Jebi Benedict (BSW 3<sup>rd</sup> year) who gave the students different demo sessions on zoom platform and explained its techniques. The technical committee coordinated all the technical aspects during two days of the conference.

### ***Publicity Committee:***

Publicity Committee was mainly in charge of reaching out to the public and giving all the information about DYUTI 2021 National Conference. The three representatives from MSW 2<sup>nd</sup> year, MSW 1<sup>st</sup> year and BSW 3<sup>rd</sup> year were Ms. Rose Mariya Devassy, Mr. Felix Paulose and Ms. Neha Rose Vincent. As part of DYUTI 2021 countdown, the committee prepared posters which were shared in various social media handles and official website of DYUTI. It

was also projected in College on LCD's every day by 10:00 am. They also prepared a detailed bio-data of plenary sessions and key note address which were posted in DYUTI website.

Brochure and backdrop making was another major task undertaken by Publicity Committee. Additional to posters, they made countdown video of DYUTI which was shared by all the faculty members and students.

### ***Finance Committee:***

As part of DYUTI 2021, the Finance committee leaders were given instructions by the committee supervisor Fr. Shinto Joseph. Committee meeting was held for budget allocation for different Committees. Programme committee was allotted with required amount of fund for the completion of activities. An account was opened at Rajagiri facility centre for the requirements of each committee. Tea and snacks were provided at the end of the day of DYUTI 2021 for teachers and committee members.

### ***Documentation Committee:***

Documentation Committee had the responsibility of documenting all the events of DYUTI 2021. The student coordinators from MSW 2nd year, MSW 1st year and BSW 3rd year were Jose John, Athira Ramachandran and Risva Salavudeen. Under the guidance of faculty coordinator Dr Sr Suni Rose, they documented all the meetings, activities of different committees and prepared Abstract book before DYUTI. They divided the members in different parallel sessions, assigned students for reporting each session, made a google drive to upload all documents and took screenshots and pictures of the events and activities. The recap session was completely prepared by documentation committee. Preparation of proceedings book and event reports are other major activities under documentation committee.