

ANNUAL REPORT

2023-24



Indian Institute of Dalit Studies
New Delhi

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From the Desk of the Director



The **Indian Institute of Dalit Studies (IIDS)**, as a policy think tank and an **ICSSR-recognised research institute**, has a mandate to contribute to the development of an inclusive society through well-planned research and evidence-based policy inputs. The Institute undertakes research on the challenges faced by various marginalised groups and identifies factors influencing inclusive development, with **inter-group inequality across development sectors** serving as an overarching theme across its research areas. Over the years, the scope of the Institute's work has expanded to encompass research, policy advocacy, capacity building, and academic activities, including its PhD programme.

The year **2023–24** was a significant milestone for IIDS, marking the completion of **twenty years** of its engagement in academic research and policy advocacy since its establishment in **January 2003**. During this journey, the Institute encountered several challenges, particularly during **2021–22**. However, with the sustained efforts of its faculty and staff and the continued support of well-wishers, IIDS successfully overcame these challenges and completed its twentieth year. To commemorate this milestone, the Institute organised a **two-day conference in April 2023** to reflect on the impact of its work on academia, policymakers, civil society organisations, funding agencies, and NGOs. Simultaneously, the Institute continued its ongoing research activities and initiated new projects during the year. During the reporting period, the Institute completed **five major research projects** and submitted their final reports, while **eight PhD scholars** successfully submitted their theses. Three new research projects were also initiated. Despite challenges arising from pending field studies in previous years, IIDS faculty members contributed scholarly publications in edited volumes and academic journals and remained actively engaged in academic and capacity-building programs.

The Institute's efforts in disseminating research findings and strengthening research capacity were evident through the organisation of a national conference, project-based workshops, a dialogue series on democracy, webinars, a research methodology workshop, and the Ambedkar Summer School. A key highlight of the year was two Dr B. R. Ambedkar Memorial Lectures, delivered by Prof. Laurence R. Simon, Professor, Brandeis University, USA, on April 16, 2023, and Prof. Umesh Bagade, Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathawada University, Aurangabad, on 1st December, 2023.

The Institute remains committed to contributing to society through focused research, policy engagement, and related academic activities in the years ahead. I am pleased to present this **Annual Report** and extend my warm wishes.

G. C. Pal

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INTRODUCTION

Indian Institute of Dalit Studies (IIDS) is an ICSSR recognised research institute. It was founded in January 2003 by academicians and civil society activists to understand problems of marginalised groups of Indian society, identify reasons for their marginalisation, and suggest policies for amelioration. Since its inception, the Institute has carried out extensive research on development concerns of the marginalised groups and has widely published its research work. Recognising its contribution in the field of exclusion and marginalisation, the Economic and Social Research Council, UK, bestowed on the Institute the recognition of 'Centre with Potential for Excellence', and has been recognised as 'The Emerging Centre for Social Science Research' from the South Asia Research Hub, Department for International Development (DFID), UK. The Institute has also been chosen among fifty institutes as a policy research institute by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Canada under the Think Tank Initiative.

VISION

To develop socially inclusive character in the society, economy, politics, governance and development

OBJECTIVES

1. To undertake research on the problems of marginalised groups, namely, Dalits, tribals, religious minorities, women from excluded groups, denotified nomadic and semi-nomadic tribes, physically challenged and other vulnerable groups in social, economic, and political spheres.
2. To undertake research on the nature and forms of discrimination and social exclusion faced by the marginalised groups.
3. To undertake research to develop an understanding of the consequences of social exclusion and discrimination; economic growth and poverty, education, health, political participation; and well-being of the marginalised social groups.
4. To undertake research on policies to overcome discrimination and social exclusion,
5. particularly 'exclusion and discrimination-induced deprivation' and its consequences.
6. To provide research-based knowledge support to policy-making bodies to develop inclusive policies; and to international development and funding agencies to enable them shape their approach and funding policies towards problems of excluded groups.
7. To provide knowledge-support to civil society organisations at the grassroots, state and national levels to strengthen their policy advocacy.
8. To enhance the capacity of research institutions/centres, as well as individual researchers in institutes and universities.
9. To act as a resource centre for students and to extend knowledge through setting up of branches/outreach centre.

AREAS OF RESEARCH

The issues of social exclusion and discrimination, along with its consequences on economic and social development of excluded groups have generally found lesser space in the mainstream social science discourse. At the same time, there has been a growing demand among the social groups for group-specific policies. Lack of understanding on these issues has constrained the capacity of government and civil society organisations to develop appropriate policies for socially excluded groups. The primary focus of IIDS, therefore, is to develop a scientific knowledge-base on the issues of social exclusion and discrimination through intensive research that is interdisciplinary in nature. It undertakes research on thematic areas like the problems of marginalised groups, issues of social exclusion and discrimination and its consequences, human development, poverty, issues of governance, policies for inclusive development and other development concerns of various marginalised groups.

RESEARCH UNITS

IIDS has seven research units set up on the basis of thematic areas and social groups.

1. Economic and Social Status Studies

The Economic and Social Status Studies Unit undertakes research on the economic and social problems of marginalised and discriminated groups, mainly Scheduled Castes (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST), nomadic and denotified tribes, socially and educationally Other Backward Classes, and women within these minorities, the differently-abled and similar groups. This unit includes a number of themes, which include poverty, employment, health, education, housing, political participation and many others related to the lives of these groups.

2. Social Exclusion and Discrimination Studies

The Social Exclusion and Discrimination Studies Unit undertakes studies on the nature and forms of social exclusion and discrimination in multiple spheres: exclusion and discrimination associated with the institution of caste and untouchability, ethnic and religious identities, and other forms of group identities. The spheres mainly include discrimination in market and non-market institutions. The market institutions cover labour, factor inputs and products, land markets as well as wage labour, regular salaried, farmers, and private entrepreneurs engaged in production and business. The non-market institutions mainly include government institutions and agencies engaged in education (schools and higher education institutions), primary health centres, public distribution systems and urban housing. The other main themes are discrimination in social/cultural spheres, in political institutions, atrocities and violence.

3. Gender and Social Exclusion Studies

The Gender and Social Exclusion Studies Unit focuses on the interface between gender/patriarchy and caste, ethnicity, religion and other groups identities; and its implications in access to livelihood opportunities, education, health and political participation. Contextualising gender and caste intersectionality is the core theme of this unit.

4. Collective Action and Governance Studies

The research on Collective Action includes collective efforts by marginalised groups through civil rights movement, NGO movement, women's movement, leadership in various spheres by marginalised and discriminated groups, and movements in literature and visual arts. The studies on governance include the working of political institutions with respect to the participation of marginalised groups in panchayats, the Parliament, bureaucracy and similar institutions of governance.

5. Urban Studies

The Urban Studied unit undertakes research on the inter-linkages between urbanisation and social exclusion. The major focus of the unit to explore the nature and forms of discrimination and social exclusion experienced by marginalised social groups in various spheres in urban areas such as housing, access to urban labour market, discrimination against migrant population based on caste, religion and ethnicity etc. The unit has undertaken various research studies such as discrimination in the rental housing market, housing shortage for marginalised social groups in urban areas, discrimination against informal sector workers etc. The major theme of the unit also focuses on understanding the multi-dimensional urban exclusion and rising social group inequality in urban areas and its consequences on marginalised and vulnerable social groups.

6. Social Policy Studies

The Social Policy Studies Unit undertakes studies on policy for inclusive development with its main focus on various policies, general and group-specific affirmative actions, reservation and other group-specific policies. This also includes the evaluation of government programmes and schemes related to livelihoods, poverty, social protection, economic empowerment, human development and human rights, special component plans, atrocity and anti-untouchability Acts. The policy research covers policies of Central and State governments, international organisations like World Bank, FAO, ILO, UNDP, UNESCO, DFID, other funding agencies and NGOs.

7. Dalit Literature and Arts

The Dalit Literature and Arts Unit undertakes studies on literature and visual arts, which include literature and arts by marginalised and discriminated groups; promotes research and publishes literature of marginalised groups. It also translates Dalit literature written in various regional languages into Hindi for wider dissemination.

ORGANISATION STRUCTURE

April 2023- March 2024

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Former Chairman, UGC and ICSSR
New Delhi

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Vinod Kumar Mishra

Special invitee
Assistant Professor
IIDS

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RESEARCH PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS

COMPLETED RESEARCH PROJECTS, 2023-24

Indian Institute of Dalit Studies initiated following research studies during 2023-24:

Impact of Lockdown on Informal Workers in India: A Study of Vulnerability, Social Security and Lessons for Policy Reforms *(Report submitted to the Ford Foundation)*

Report I: Status of Informal Workers in India

The first volume examines the status of non-farm informal workers in India using macro-level secondary data from the NSSO, PLFS (2018–19), and Census 2011. It analyses the magnitude, socio-demographic profile, employment conditions, wages, consumption patterns, social security coverage, and migration trends of informal workers across states and regions. The findings reveal that informal employment dominates the non-farm sector, with significant over-representation of marginalized groups such as SCs and OBCs, limited job security, widespread absence of written contracts, declining access to social security benefits, and substantial wage disparities across social groups and sectors. The analysis highlights persistent structural vulnerabilities and declining worker protections, providing the empirical basis for further investigation into the post-pandemic situation.

Report II: Impact of COVID-19-Induced Lockdown on Non-Farm Informal Workers

The second volume is based on a primary survey conducted in six states between February and August 2022 to capture the post-COVID-19 experiences of non-farm informal workers and small enterprise owners. Using a mixed-method approach, the study documents widespread job loss, income reduction, increased informality, indebtedness, return migration, and disruptions in education and nutrition among workers, alongside severe operational challenges faced by micro and small enterprises. While government relief measures offered partial support, the lockdown exposed deep gaps in job security, social protection, and enterprise resilience. The findings underscore the need for comprehensive reforms that ensure universal social security for informal workers, strengthen employment conditions, and support micro and small enterprises to build resilience against future economic shocks.

Atrocities Committed Against Scheduled Castes in Haryana: Causes and Remedial Measures

(The Report Submitted To: Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes Department, Government of Haryana Chandigarh)

The study finds that caste-based atrocities against Scheduled Castes in Haryana remain alarmingly high and exceed the national average, with a sharp rise in serious crimes such as sexual violence against SC women. The findings reveal significant gaps in the justice delivery system, including under-registration of cases, delays and dilution during investigation, low conviction rates, prolonged trials, and frequent compromises that undermine the intent of the PoA Act. Victims often lack awareness of their legal entitlements and face delays, bureaucratic hurdles, and inadequate compensation, leading to financial stress, psychological trauma, and continued social vulnerability. In response, the study recommends strengthening the implementation of the PoA Act through closer monitoring of atrocity-prone districts, establishment of more exclusive and fast-track courts, and improved accountability of officials. It also emphasizes the need to enhance victim support through simplified and decentralized access to relief, legal aid, and counseling, alongside community-level interventions and socio-economic empowerment measures to address the structural roots of caste-based violence and promote long-term social transformation.

Violence against Ethnic Minorities in Urban India: An Exploration from Socio-Psychological Perspectives (Submitted to ICSSR)

The dynamic of urbanization possess has created social conditions for many who migrate to megacities from different parts of the country. Many live under stressful life due to constant threat from 'extreme others'; rooted primarily in the group identity and persisting prejudices. With the heterogonous character of social life, there has been an emerging social security concerns in the form of differential treatment and prejudicial attitudes against certain migrant ethnic minorities. As a result, many do not have access to 'equal life spaces' in the cities. The recent occurrences of violence against people from northeast regions of the country and immigrants from African countries in metro-cities and disharmony in various parts of the country have brought these vulnerable groups into the discourse of public debate. The challenges of social security, acculturative stress and keeping social distance have increased both in scope and complexity. The key question is 'how these vulnerable groups cope with such adverse social environment in urban space?' The present research aims to explore the antecedents and consequents of increased violence against the ethnic minorities in urban areas from socio-psychological perspectives. The study would explore prejudicial attitudes, differential treatment and violence largely from the 'outgroup' and 'ingroup' frameworks; and ascertain their coping strategies.

This study fulfills the Institute's objectives by examining discrimination, social exclusion, and violence faced by ethnic minorities in urban India. By analysing prejudicial attitudes, identity-based exclusion, and coping strategies through socio-psychological frameworks, it deepens understanding of exclusion-induced insecurity and well-being, and generates evidence to inform inclusive policies.

“Measurement, Awareness Raising, and Policy Engagement (MAP16) project for accelerated action against Child Labour and Forced Labour”-

The study aims to provide a comprehensive assessment of the magnitude, characteristics, and conditions of working children in India in the age group of 5–17 years, using nationally representative data. It draws on multiple rounds of NSSO surveys, including the Employment and Unemployment Surveys (2004–05, 2011–12), Periodic Labour Force Surveys (2017–18 to 2020–21), and the Time Use Survey (2019).

The study adopts a clear conceptual framework aligned with national legislation and SDG reporting, examining both economic and non-economic activities undertaken by children, including unpaid household work that affects education and well-being. The methodology combines descriptive analysis, sectoral and occupational profiling, time-use analysis, and econometric techniques to identify the determinants of child labour across socio-economic groups. The outputs include estimates of child labour by state, gender, residence, and socio-religious groups, analysis of hazardous and non-hazardous work, and policy-relevant recommendations aimed at achieving SDG Target 8.7 on the elimination of child labour. The work plan also specifies clear timelines for drafts, presentations, and submission of the final report, underscoring IIDS's role in producing rigorous, policy-oriented research on vulnerable children.

The Study on Political Economy of Higher Education: Implications for Equity and Quality

The study examines the forms of privatization of higher education in India. It examined the changing nature of higher education in India, the trajectory of policy changes and increasing, the phenomenon of privatization of higher education, its forms and patterns in India. In doing so, it begins from the analysis of inequality in higher education, factors causing its, conceptual discussion of education privatization followed by the impact of privatisation on access of different groups, and case studies of some select states.

ONGOING RESEARCH PROJECTS- 2023-24

IIDS has undertaken various research projects during 2023-24. A list of the on-going research projects is given below:

Gender norms, labour supply and poverty reduction in comparative context

(Collaboration with University of Manchester)

The significant fall in the labour force participation of rural women between 2004 and 2011 has been an issue that has generated considerable academic interest. In this paper, we look at thirty years of comparable NSS data from 1983 to 2011 of rural women's participation in the labour force using a variety of definitions of female labour force participation that capture both market and non-market work. We find a long-term slow decline in the participation of rural women in wage work and self-employment, especially among Dalit and Adivasi women in poor agricultural labourer households. The more recent sharp decline in female labour force participation (FLP) in 2004-2011 has occurred both in market and non-market work, and across most categories of economically active women. Our analysis highlights the somewhat contradictory behaviour of rural FLP across different definitions and time periods, and across different correlates of female labour force participation, and suggests that more complex factors are at work than has usually been discussed in the project. Similar projects were undertaken in UK, Germany, India, and Bangladesh for comparative analyses.

Creating Data Base for the Formulation of State Education Policy, Karnataka -a) School education & b) Higher Education (Donor- Ministry of Higher Education, Government of Karnataka, Duration-1 year)

The project was initiated in November 2023 with a total budget allocation of Rs.19.5 lakh for the creation of a comprehensive database on education infrastructure. The IIDS project team applied its subject expertise to develop GIS-based school mapping undertake secondary data analysis using NSSO (2017-18) and the All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE), and collect relevant data from state government departments to map and analyse the existing educational infrastructure. The study systematically examined the number and geographical distribution of educational institutions, student enrolment patterns, dropout and retention rates, transitions to higher education, subject choices and medium of instruction preferences, as well as funding structures. The project adopted a broad scope, encompassing school and higher education, skill training, and professional courses including engineering, medical, agriculture, management, and allied disciplines. The findings were presented in two volumes, and the database generated through this study formed the empirical foundation for drafting the Karnataka State Education Policy (KSEP).

Ambedkar in Retrospect: -Philosophy and Policies for Socially Inclusive India (RLS Project)

The study "Ambedkar in Retrospect: Ideology and Policies for a Socially Inclusive

India” highlights B.R. Ambedkar’s lifelong intellectual and political engagement with issues of caste, untouchability, and social exclusion, tracing how his thought evolved from an early focus on caste inequalities to broader concerns about minorities, women, tribes, economic planning, and constitutional reform. Dr Ambedkar examined the origins and evolution of the caste system, showing how religious texts legitimized graded inequality and structural discrimination against Shudras and untouchables, reducing them to conditions worse than slavery, while simultaneously granting special privileges to higher castes, particularly Brahmins. Ambedkar argued that caste was not just a social hierarchy but a system of economic exploitation and political domination, sustained through religious sanction, legal codes, and state enforcement. His vision of a socially inclusive India emphasized equality, social justice, federalism, secularism, and democratic development, and the report underscores how his ideas remain relevant for addressing persisting inequalities and strengthening democracy today.

PUBLICATIONS

IIDS regularly publishes its research output in the form of books, working papers, discussion papers, and research articles in journals and books. During 2021–22, the Institute published various article in national and international Journals and edited books. The research faculty is currently working on two books and several working papers. Details of the publications are given below.

PAPERS IN EDITED BOOKS/PROCEEDINGS

- Acharya, S.S., Mukherjee, M., Singh, S. (2023). Casting Gender in Violence against Dalit Women: Perpetrators’ Impunity and Constitutional Responsibility of the State. In: Pachauri, S., Verma, R.K. (eds) *Transforming Unequal Gender Relations in India and Beyond. Sustainable Development Goals Series.* Springer, Singapore. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-99-4086-8_13.
- Education for Sustainable Development: Enabling the Underprivileged. In C. Degaonkar and A. Ravichander (Eds.), *Global Perspectives on Localising Sustainable Development Goals-Mapping the progress towards 2030* (Eds), Bengaluru: Public Affairs Centre, 2024.

PAPERS IN JOURNALS

- Mishra, V. K., & Khan, K. (2023). Determinants of Discrimination in Access to Housing for Marginalised Social Groups in India. *Journal of Social Inclusion Studies*, 9(1), 7-26. <https://doi.org/10.1177/23944811231169194> (Original work published 2023)

OTHER ACADEMIC CONTRIBUTION

- Dr Mala Mukherjee Developed online study material or E-Gyan Kosh for Indira Gandhi National open University (IGNOU) on Population and Settlement Geography- (2023)
 - a) Unit-13 Structure and Morphology of Rural Settlements
 - b) Unit-14 Structure and Morphology of Urban Settlement
 - c) Unit-15 Settlement Hierarchy Online source: <https://egyankosh.ac.in/handle/123456789/100623>

IIDS JOURNALS

Dalit Asmita

Dalit Asmita, a quarterly journal (in Hindi), aims to promote literary work on Dalits and their struggle for identity, emancipation, and development. It features short stories, poems and articles, and provides an academic platform for discussions on Dalit empowerment. Four issues have been published during 2023-2024.

Journal of Social Inclusion Studies

Journal of Social Inclusion Studies is a peer-reviewed interdisciplinary academic journal. It aims to promote informed debate and contributes to current knowledge and understanding on the nature, forms, and consequences of social exclusion and discrimination faced by marginalised groups and affirmative policies for the development of these groups. During the year 2023-24, IIDS published two issues of Journal. The Journal of Social Inclusion Studies is currently being published in collaboration with Sage Publication, India.

POLICY ENGAGEMENT AND RESEARCH COMMUNICATION

Dissemination of research findings is an important activity to influence the policy for socially marginalised and excluded groups. The Institute disseminates its policy-oriented research through engagement in policy debates, conferences, seminars, workshops, roundtables, and publication of research papers in journals. The details of these are given in following sections:

CONFERENCES, SEMINARS, WORKSHOPS AND LECTURES

Conference on the occasion of 20 years journey of Indian institute of Dalit Studies- IIDS's Research Contribution on Inter-group Inequality: Its Causes, Consequences and Remedies, 16th and 17th April, 2023, venue- JNU, New Delhi

The Indian Institute of Dalit Studies (IIDS) completed twenty years of its establishment on January 23, 2023. Founded in 2003 by a group of academicians and civil society activists, the Institute has consistently worked towards understanding the structural problems faced by marginalised and excluded groups in Indian society, identifying the causes of their marginalisation, and contributing to policy discourses for their social and economic inclusion. Over the past two decades, IIDS has undertaken extensive research on development concerns of Dalits, Adivasis, minorities, women, and informal workers, and has widely disseminated its findings through publications, policy briefs, and academic engagements. To commemorate its twenty-year journey, IIDS organised a two-day national conference titled “Contributions in Making Research and Policy Inclusive for Excluded Groups – 20 Year Journey of Indian Institute of Dalit Studies” on April 16–17, 2023, at Auditorium-I, Convention Centre, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. The conference served as a platform to reflect on the Institute’s research contributions and policy engagement while also providing an opportunity to share the preliminary findings of the Ford Foundation–supported study, *“Impact of Lockdown on Informal Workers in India: A Study of Vulnerability, Social Security and Lessons for Policy Reforms.”*

The two-day conference featured a series of thematic sessions and roundtable discussions reflecting on IIDS’s twenty-year contribution to research, policy, and advocacy for marginalised groups. The inaugural session highlighted the Institute’s journey, key research milestones, and dissemination efforts, followed by discussions on the impact of IIDS research on academia, universities, policy processes, and funding agencies. Several sessions examined how IIDS’s work has shaped scholarly research, doctoral studies, and evidence-based policymaking over the last two decades. A major highlight of the conference was the 15th B.R. Ambedkar Memorial Lecture, which addressed contemporary anti-caste discourses in global contexts by Prof. Simon Laurence, USA. The conference concluded with a dedicated session and panel discussion on the impact of the COVID-19 lockdown on informal workers in India, where preliminary findings of the Ford Foundation–supported study were presented and deliberated by Dr Mala Mukherjee and Dr Khalid Khan.



Indian Institute of Dalit Studies, New Delhi
Invites you to the

**Conference on the Occasion of
20 Years Journey of
Indian Institute of Dalit Studies**

Theme

**IIDS's Research Contribution
on**

**Inter-group Inequality- Its Causes,
Consequences and Remedies**

Venue

**Committee Hall, Convention Centre
JNU, New Delhi**

Date

April-16-17, 2023

The flyer of the Conference



Sharing preliminary findings of the project “Impact of Lockdown on Informal Workers in India: A Study of Vulnerability, Social Security and Lessons for Policy Reforms.” 17th April, 2023



Displaying IIDS previous works in Twenty Years Celebration Conference, 16-17th April, 2023

Ambedkar Summer School: 2023

Ambedkar Summer School 2022 was organised by the Indian Institute of Dalit Studies (IIDS) in collaboration with Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung (RLS), South Asia, as a six-day residential programme from May 21 to 26, 2023, at Naukuchiatal, Uttarakhand. The theme of the Summer School was '**Public Policy and Marginalised Social Groups: Current Status and Emerging Challenges**'.

The participants for Ambedkar Summer School were selected through open call for applications and nearly 26 participants from diverse socio-religious and geographical backgrounds were selected for this residential week-long workshop.

The programme brought together scholars, policymakers, activists, and young researchers to engage in critical discussions on public policy frameworks and their implications for marginalised communities in India. The sessions covered a wide range including historical evolution of affirmative policies in India, its limitations, gender-intersectionality issues, policies for the disables or Divyanga to social media representation of the marginalized communities. There was a workshop on research and academic writing by Prof Nupur Samuel Professor, Centre for Writing Studies, O P Jindal Global University, Sonipat. Other resource persons were Prof. S. Jodhka, JNU, Dr. Amit Thorat, JNU, Prof N. V. Varghese, Former VC, NIEPA, Prof Ivy Hansdak, Professor, Jamia Milia Islamia, Prof Satish Deshpande Delhi University, Prof Mary E John, Former director & Professor, CWDS, Prof Vimal Thorat, National Convenor NCDHR, Prof Vimal Thorat, National Convenor NCDHR, Ms Sugandha Khandekar, AIDMAM, Prof Aseem Prakash, TISS Hyderabad, and Dr Adnan Farooqui Professor, Jamia Milia Islamia. Apart from the academicians lawyers and policymakers also contributed in this programme. Researchers also presented their papers. Alongside of this serious discussion, a documentary movie 'Where knowledge is free' was shown. Cultural programme and dinner were also organized.



Group Photo of the Participants and organizers from the Ambedkar Summer School, 2023



Distribution of Certificates, Ambedkar Summer School, 2023



Sessions going on: Ambedkar Summer School, 2023



Participants outside the venue, Ambedkar Summer School, 2023

Inaugural Conference on Intergroup Inequality in Indian Society: Magnitude, Nature, Sources, Policies and the Movement, 7th-9th June, 2023, ISEC, Bengaluru, India

The Indian Institute of Dalit Studies (IIDS), jointly with the Association of Academics for Social Justice (AASJ), Delhi, and the Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC), Bengaluru, organised an Inaugural Conference on “Intergroup Inequality in Indian Society: Magnitude, Nature, Sources, Policies and the Movement” on 7–9 June 2023 at ISEC, Bengaluru. The conference provided an interdisciplinary platform to examine structural inequalities affecting Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, religious minorities and other marginalised groups. Panels covered critical themes such as income and poverty inequality, education, health and housing disparities, access to civil rights and citizenship, constitutional safeguards, gender and caste discrimination, psychological dimensions of

inequality, representation in literature and visual arts, and the role of media. A special panel focused on Karnataka, highlighting human development issues of marginalised communities in the state. The conference reinforced IIDS's institutional objectives by fostering rigorous academic dialogue, strengthening policy-relevant research, and promoting social justice-oriented scholarship on caste, exclusion and inequality in India.



Photos of the Inaugural Conference on Intergroup Inequality in Indian Society, ISEC, Bengaluru, 2023

Dialogue on Dr Ambedkar's Vision on Education for Marginalised Groups and its Relevance for Current Policies on August 7, 2023 at

The dialogue discussed the vision of Dr Ambedkar on the education for marginalised social groups in India. The dialogue also discussed about the critical analysis of education policies especially New Education Policy and Its impact on the educational status of marginalised social groups. The privatization and commercialisation of higher education would have adverse consequences on minority social groups in India. The dialogue sustained and continued the discussion on current education status of marginalised social groups and the educational policies.

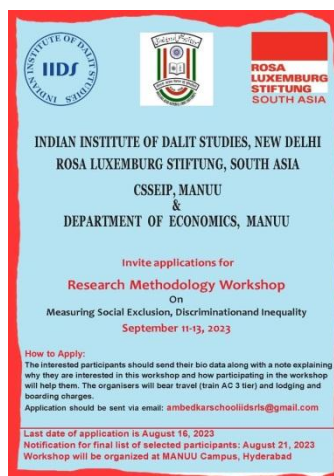
Nagpur Dialogue on 'Inter-group Inequality in Indian Society' in Bengaluru on August 23-25, 2023

The dialogue continued the discussion on inter-group inequality initiated during the national conference on inter-group inequality on April 16-17, 2023. The three-day dialogue brought

together scholars and academicians from different disciplines and different institutions from all over the country. The discussions and debates during the different parallel and plenary sessions enabled the participants share the idea and knowledge with each other. Few academic articles are also being prepared based on the presentation made during the dialogue

Research Methodology Workshop: September 11-13, 2023 at MANUU Campus
Three day research methodology workshop on Theme: Measuring Social Exclusion, Discrimination and Inequality, September 11-13, 2023 at MANUU Campus

The Indian Institute of Dalit Studies (IIDS), in collaboration with Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung, South Asia, the Al Beruni Centre for the Study of Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy, and the Department of Economics, Maulana Azad National Urdu University (MANUU), organised a three-day Research Methodology Workshop on “Measuring Social Exclusion, Discrimination and Inequality” from 11–13 September 2023. The workshop aimed to strengthen conceptual clarity and methodological skills among young researchers and scholars working on issues of caste, gender, tribal and minority exclusion. Nearly 30 participants from different institutions in India were selected for open call for applications. Nearly 12 sessions in the workshop covered different aspects of social exclusion and research methodology. The workshop had comprehensive discussion and hand-on practices on research methods and techniques for the measurement for social exclusion and discrimination. It also provided opportunity to develop the capacity of young research scholars through reading/writing, dialogue and discussion on the problems and challenges experienced by socially excluded groups and suggest inclusive policies. After completion of the workshop, the participants formed academic groups and sharing the knowledge and ideas. The workshop helped the participants to develop capacity to undertake research on inequality, poverty and social exclusion and suggest policies to ameliorate this.



National Conference on Political Economy of Higher Education in India: Issues Related to Equity and Quality

December 1, 2023, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi

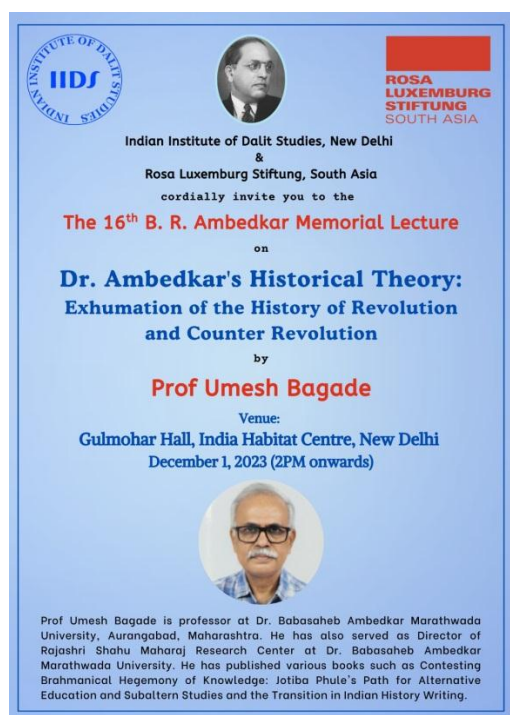
The study attempted to develop a trajectory of the shifting political economy, both global and India, and its impact on the various dimensions of higher education with a focus on the underprivileged groups in India. It also highlights the uniqueness and resemblance of such shifts in India vis-à-vis global trends.

Ambedkar Memorial Lecture 2023:

15th B.R Ambedkar Memorial Lecture 2023 on ‘Ambedkarite Buddhism and the Anti-Caste Movement in American Higher Education’, 16th April, 2023, Speaker: Prof Laurence R Simon, Professor, Brandeis University, Boston, USA



16th B.R Ambedkar Memorial Lecture 2023 on “Dr Ambedkar’s Historical Theory: Exhumation of the History of Revolution and Counter Revolution, by Prof. Umesh Bagade, Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad, Maharashtra



List of Special Lecture, Webinars

Indian Institute of Dalit Studies organised webinars on various contemporary themes during 2022-23. Below are the details of webinar organised during 2023-24:

1. Special Lecture- Ambedkar, Dewey, and the Evolution of Pragmatism in India by Prof Scott R Stroud, Professor at Texas University, USA on April 24, 2023 at JNU Campus
2. Webinar on “Caste in Everyday Life” (October 17, 2023):
IIDS organised a webinar on *Caste in Everyday Life: Experience and Affect in Indian Society*, a book edited by Dr. Dhaneshwar Bhoi, Assistant Professor, London School of Science and Technology, UK, and Prof. Hugo Gorringer, University of Edinburgh, UK. The webinar was structured as a book discussion, during which the editors presented and discussed the key arguments and empirical findings of the volume, highlighting how caste operates in everyday social interactions, lived experiences, and affective dimensions of Indian society.
1. Organised panel discussion on the book entitled Scheduled Castes in the Indian Labour Market: Employment Discrimination and its Impact on Poverty. The book has been published in 2023- November 8, 2023
3. Webinar on Reading Minorities in India: Forms and Perspectives on December 9, 2023
4. Webinar on Classroom as a site for Caste Discrimination on December 13, 2023, by Dr Yashpal Jogdand, Associate Professor, IIT.
5. Webinar on Caste and Gender-intersectionalities on December 22, 2023, Prof. S. Sujatha, Satvahana University, Telangana
6. Webinar on December 27, 2023 on Caste Pride: Battle for Equality on December 27, 2023 by Mr Manoj Mitta
7. Breaking Barriers: Celebrating Women’s Leadership, March 8, 2024 by Beena Pallical, Sushma Barali, and Sumbul Farah


Book Discussion





IIDS, New Delhi & RLS, South Asia
Cordially invite you to the Online Lecture
On
**Caste and Gender Intersectionalities:
Issues and challenges**
December 22, 2023 (12:00 pm to 1:30 pm IST)
For registration, please visit
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84367717021?pwd=lu0DyCpftrtbi5ZwnmavhKkLZ3lobz.1>
Meeting ID: 843 6771 7021
Passcode: 371214
Speaker

Prof. S. Sujatha
Professor & Head
Department Social Sciences
Satvahana University, Telangana State
India

IIDS, New Delhi & RLS, South Asia
Cordially invite you to the Book Discussion
On
Caste Pride: Battles for Equality in Hindu India
December 27, 2023 (11:00 am to 12:30 pm IST)
For registration, please visit
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84716474064?pwd=tPhq9YMN85WMZ5HVbwboGknebDYEL4.1>
Meeting ID: 847 1647 4064
Passcode: 923009
Speaker/Author of the Book

Mr. Manoj Mitta
Senior Journalist, New Delhi

PhD Submission of Students

1. Mr. Md. Tabrez Alam (Enrolment No. IGNTU-IIDA 1640101), Department of Social Work, presented his Ph.D. Viva-Voce on *“Residential Segregation in Urban Landscape: Emerging Patterns of Housing among Muslims in Bokaro City”* on 29 May 2023 under the supervision of Dr. Nagalingam M, with Dr. Vinod Kumar Mishra (IIDS, New Delhi) and Prof. Aslam Mohmood as Co-Supervisors.
2. Ms. Nisha Ramchandra Khandekar (Enrolment No. IGNTU-IIDS 1640104), Department of Business Management, presented her Ph.D. Viva-Voce on *“Culture, Livelihood and Art: A Study of Design, Form and Thematic Essence of Warli Tribal Art”* on 25 August 2023 under the supervision of Prof. Ajay Wagh, Department of Business Management, FCM, with Prof. G. C. Pal, Indian Institute of Dalit Studies, New Delhi, as Co-Supervisor.
3. Mr. Shtrughan Prasad (Enrolment No. IGNTU-IIDS 17401006), Department of Geography, presented his Ph.D. Viva-Voce on *“Morbidity among Tribe in Madhya Pradesh: A Study of Determinants of Health Services Utilization”* on 02 June 2023 under the supervision of Dr. Rambooshan Tiwari, Department of Geography, Indira Gandhi National Tribal University (IGNTU), Amarkantak, with Dr. Rajesh Raushan, IIDS, New Delhi, and Prof. M. H. Qureshi, former Professor of Geography, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, as Co-Supervisors.
4. Mr. Sandeep Umap (Enrolment No. IGNTU-IIDS 17401005), Department of Economics, presented his Ph.D. Viva-Voce on *“Caste Discrimination in Private Sector Labour Market: A Study of Regular Salaried Employees in Urban Maharashtra”* on 09 August 2023 under the supervision of Prof. Niti Jain, with Prof. S. K. Thorat and Dr. Khalid Khan as Co-Supervisors.
5. Mr. Hemraj Prasad Jangir (Enrolment No. IGNTU-IIDS17401001), Department of Social Work, presented his Ph.D. Viva-Voce on *“Nat Community in Rajasthan: A Study of Sedentarisation, Stigma and Social Exclusion”* on 03 October 2023 under the supervision of Dr. Ramesh B., Indira Gandhi National Tribal University (IGNTU), with Dr. G. C. Pal, Indian Institute of Dalit Studies (IIDS), New Delhi, as Co-Supervisor.
6. Mohammad Owais Saleem, (Registration no: IGNTU-IIDS 1640106), was awarded PhD from the department of Sociology, IGNTU, on *“School Education among Muslims in Uttar Pradesh: A Comparative Study of Madrasas and Muslim Private Schools”*, under the supervision of Dr Jayant Kumar Behera, IGNTU, and co-supervision of Dr Khalid Khan, IIDS, on 11th October, 2023.
7. Mr. Sidheshwar Birua, (Registration No.: IGNTU-IIDS17401007), was awarded PhD, ON *“Obstetric Care among Ho Tribe in Jharkhand: A Study of Status, Access and Utilization”* on 17TH October 2023. His supervisors were Dr. Chandramauli, Associate Professor, Department of Geography, Indira Gandhi

National Tribal University, Amarkantak, M.P. and co-supervision of Dr. Vinod Kumar Mishra, IIDS, New Delhi, and Prof. Aslam Mahmood, JNU, New Delhi.

8. Mr. Sachin Ramesh Lokhande (Registration No. IGNTU-IIDS17401003), Department of Geography, pursued his Ph.D. on “Social and Academic Experience of Studies in Higher Education Campuses: A Case Study of Kolhapur District, Maharashtra, India” on 17TH October 2023, under the supervision of Dr. Richa Chaturvedi, Associate Professor, Department of Geography, Indira Gandhi National Tribal University (IGNTU), Amarkantak, M.P., with Dr. Khalid Khan, IIDS, New Delhi, as Co-Supervisor.

LIBRARY & DATA BASE

IIDS LIBRARY

IIDS library is an exclusive research and reference library with over 3000 books, government documents and publications. The library has also substantial collection of statistical publications and survey reports such as National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO), National Family Health Survey (NFHS), Population Census, Economic Census and Economic Survey and others. The library has a collection of about 800 reports on various subjects including a comprehensive collection on Dalits and Dr. B.R. Ambedkar. Large number of working papers and discussion papers of other organisations and institutions are also available. The library is widely accessed by academicians, researchers and activists from India and abroad. The functions of the library are fully automated using library management software (KOHA). Bibliographical details of library collections are accessible through Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC) within the LAN.

DATA SUPPORT

IIDS has created a Data Unit and Documentation Centre with the capacity to process and analyse large data sets, both primary and secondary data, from NSSO, NFHS, etc., to facilitate research. Besides this, data is also available on various aspects related to marginalised communities in India. We have developed a detailed all-India and state-level database for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes and other religious groups. This data has been widely used by academicians, students, government agencies, bilateral agencies, national and international NGOs, activists, and others.

WEBSITE

The IIDS website is one of the major channels of dissemination of the Institute's research output. Abstracts of books, working papers and details of research programmes are available and accessible on the website. All working papers are uploaded regularly. They can be downloaded free of cost. Our functional website can be accessed at: <http://www.dalitstudies.org.in>.

PARTNERSHIPS

IIDS has been collaborating with a large number of institutions, organisations, universities, development agencies and NGOs through various programmes, as follows:

GOVERNMENT

- Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India
- Ministry of Human Resource and Development, Government of India
- Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India
- Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India
- Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Government of India
- Planning Commission of India, Government of India
- Government of Gujarat
- Government of Maharashtra
- Government of Karnataka
- Government of Haryana

NATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

- Baba Saheb Ambedkar Research and Training Institute
- Gujarat Institute of Development Research
- Indian Institute of Public Administration
- Institute for Social and Economic Change
- Institute of Development and Communication, Chandigarh
- Institute of Human Development
- National Institute of Rural Development
- National Law School of India University, Bangalore
- Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA)
- Society of Elimination of Rural Poverty
- Yashwant Rao Chavan Academy of Development Administration

- National Institute for Rural Development and Panchayati Raj

INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

- Action Aid
- Cord Aid
- Food and Agriculture Organisation
- Ford Foundation
- Global Development Network
- International Dalit Solidarity Network
- International Development Research Centre, Canada
- International Food Policy Research Institute
- International Labour Organization
- Department for International Development, UK
- Overseas Development Institute, UK
- Oxfam India
- Princeton University, USA
- Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung, South Asia
- UNICEF
- United Nations Development Programme
- University of Birmingham, UK
- University of Bath, UK

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

**TO
THE TRUSTEES OF
INDIAN INSTITUTE OF DALIT STUDIES
REGISTRATION NO.: E / 15896 / AHMEDABAD**

OPINION:

We have audited the financial statements of **INDIAN INSTITUTE OF DALIT STUDIES** (the entity), which comprise the Balance Sheet as at March 31, 2025, the Profit and Loss Account, the Statement of Receipt and Payment for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements of the entity are prepared, in all material respects, in conformity with the accounting principles generally accepted in India and gives a true and fair views.

BASIS OF OPINION:

We conducted our audit in accordance with Standards on Auditing (SAs). Our responsibilities under those Standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the entity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements, and we have fulfilled our other responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

RESPONSIBILITY OF THE MANAGEMENT:

Management is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of The Bombay Public Trust, Act, 1950 (as applicable to Gujarat State) ("the Act") and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the entity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the entity's financial reporting process.

AUDITORS' RESPONSIBILITY:

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with SAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

- (i) Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. In conducting our audit, we have taken into account the provisions of the Act, the accounting and auditing standards and matters which are required to be included in the audit report under the

provisions of the Act and the Rules made thereunder to be verified. We conducted our audit of the financial statements in accordance with the Standards on Auditing. Those Standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

- (ii) An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and the disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal financial control relevant to the organisation's preparation of the financial statements that give a true and fair view in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and the reasonableness of the accounting estimates made by the Trustees, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- (iii) We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion on the financial statements.

REPORT ON OTHER LEGAL AND REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS:

As required by Rule 19 of the Rules framed under the Act, we report that:

- 1) The accounts are maintained regularly and in accordance with the provision of the Act and the Rules.
- 2) The Receipts and disbursements are properly and correctly shown in the Account.
- 3) The cash Balance and vouchers are in the custody of the manager or Trustee on the date of audit and are in agreement with the accounts.
- 4) Books, Deeds, Accounts, vouchers and other documents and records required by us were produced before us.
- 5) The inventory, certified by the Trustees of the moveable properties of the Trust has been maintained.
- 6) The manager / Trustee appeared before us and furnished the necessary information required by us.
- 7) The Property of Funds of the Trust were not applied for any object or purpose other than the objects or purpose of the Trust.
- 8) The amounts outstanding for more than one year are Rs. NIL and the amounts written off are Rs. NIL
- 9) No tenders were invited for repairs or construction as the expenditure involved did not exceed Rs.5000/-
- 10) No money of public Trust has been invested contrary to the provisions of section 35
- 11) No alienation of immovable property has been made contrary to the provisions of section 36 of the Act.



For R K Sharda & Associates

Chartered Accountants

Firm Registration No.006226N

Ravinder K Sharda

Proprietor

Membership No.084847

UDIN: 25084847BMJRCW2061

Place : New Delhi

Date : 19/09/2025

NAME OF THE PUBLIC TRUST : INDIAN INSTITUTE OF DALIT STUDIES

REGISTRATION NO : E/15896/AHMEDABAD, DATE OF REGISTRATION : 20TH JANUARY 2003

ADDRESS OF TRUST OFFICE: 2, RUCHIT APARTMENTS, B/H.DHARNIDHAR DERASAR, VASNA, AHMEDABAD, PIN:380007, PHONE NO.+91-79-26630872

BALANCE SHEET AS ON 31ST MARCH 2025

BANK ACCOUNT NO. OF TRUST FOR TRANSACTION OF FOREIGN CONTRIBUTION : 40029035580; F.C.R.A. NO.:231660773, DATE:10TH MARCH 2007.
BANK ADDRESS : STATE BANK OF INDIA, NEW DELHI MAIN BRANCH, FCRA DEVISION, 11 PARLIAMENT STREET, NEW DELHI, PIN-110001

PARTICULARS	ANNEXURE	FCRA	INDIAN	TOTAL
FUNDS AND LIABILITIES				
TRUST FUNDS OR CORPUS	I	1,66,48,376	1,63,841	1,68,12,217
OTHER EARMARK FUND	II	44,53,927	1,62,15,279	2,06,69,206
UNUTILISED GRANT	III	1,608	4,66,572	4,68,180
TOTAL		2,11,03,911	1,68,45,692	3,79,49,603
ASSETS AND PROPERTIES				
UNUTILISED GRANT (RECEIVABLE)	III	-	12,27,954	12,27,954
NET FIXED ASSETS	IV	32,97,899	1,63,841	34,61,740
INVESTMENTS	V	1,73,71,148	1,44,58,515	3,18,29,663
CURRENT ASSETS	VI	4,34,864	9,95,382	14,30,246
TOTAL		2,11,03,911	1,68,45,692	3,79,49,603

NOTES FORMING PART OF ACCOUNTS - XIV

AS PER OUR AUDITED REPORT OF EVEN DATE

For Indian Institute of Dalit Studies


Dr. Amit Thorat
Trustee
Indian Institute of Dalit Studies
Place: New Delhi
Date:19/09/2025

For R K Sharda & Associates
Chartered Accountants
Firm Regd No. 006226N


Ravinder K Sharda
Proprietor
Membership No.084847
Place : New Delhi
Date:19/09/2025
UDIN: 25084847BMJR

CW2061

NAME OF THE PUBLIC TRUST : INDIAN INSTITUTE OF DALIT STUDIES

REGISTRATION NO : E/15896/AHMEDABAD, DATE OF REGISTRATION : 20TH JANUARY 2003

ADDRESS OF TRUST OFFICE: 2, RUCHIT APARTMENTS, B/H.DHARNIDHAR DERASAR, VASNA, AHMEDABAD, PIN:380007, PHONE NO.+91-79-26630872

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE PERIOD 1ST APRIL 2024 TO 31ST MARCH 2025

BANK ACCOUNT NO. OF TRUST FOR TRANSACTION OF FOREIGN CONTRIBUTION : 40029035580, F.C.R.A. NO.:231660773, DATE:10TH MARCH 2007.

BANK ADDRESS : STATE BANK OF INDIA, NEW DELHI MAIN BRANCH, FCRA DEVISION, 11 PARLIAMENT STREET, NEW DELHI, PIN-110001

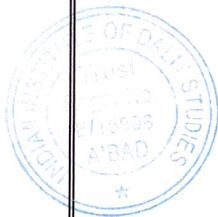
PARTICULARS	ANNEXURE	FCRA	INDIAN	TOTAL
INCOME				
GRANT & DONATION INCOME	VII	830	10,32,395	10,33,225
OTHER INCOME	VIII	-	6,56,497	6,56,497
INTEREST INCOME	IX	11,98,748	10,16,240	22,14,988
TOTAL		11,99,578	27,05,132	39,04,710
EXPENDITURE				
EXPENDITURE ON OBJECTS OF THE TRUST	X	-	24,23,733	24,23,733
OFFICE RENT	XI	-	27,200	27,200
CHARITY COMMISSIONER CONTRIBUTION	XII	-	46,897	46,897
ESTABLISHMENT EXPENSES	XIII	841	9,42,892	9,43,733
DEPRECIATION	IV	4,20,706	40,415	4,61,121
EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE	XIV	7,78,031	(7,76,005)	2,026
TOTAL		11,99,578	27,05,132	39,04,710

NOTES FORMING PART OF ACCOUNTS - XIV

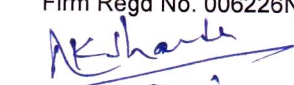
AS PER OUR AUDITED REPORT OF EVEN DATE

For Indian Institute of Dalit Studies


Dr. Amit Thorat
Trustee
Indian Institute of Dalit Studies
Place: New Delhi
Date:19/09/2025



For R K Sharda & Associates
Chartered Accountants
Firm Regd No. 006226N


Ravinder K Sharda
Proprietor
Membership No.084847
Place : New Delhi
Date:19/09/2025
UDIN: 25084847BMJRCW
2061