

**Nomination Invited for**

**Kailash Choudhary Memorial Lifetime Achievement Award**

Nominations are invited for the 1st Kailash Choudhary Memorial Lifetime Achievement Award from individual Indian citizens having outstanding academic/field contribution and/or in theory development in the field of Adult Education, Continuing Education and Lifelong Learning. The award constituted by IAEA will carry a citation, plaque and a cash prize of Rs.51,000/-. Eligible individual may apply for this award latest by June 20, 2026 addressed to the General

R.N.I. No. 53577 /1991  
Published on March 24, 2026

Secretary, IAEA and the application should be sent to the Director, IAEA through e-mail: directoriaea@gmail.com and a hard copy with all relevant documents/credentials to IAEA House, 17-B, Indraprastha Estate, New Delhi – 110 002. The application may consist of detailed bio-data, documents and pictures showcasing his/her contributions and recommendations from well-known individuals/institutions known to the applicant.

– Suresh Khandelwal,  
General Secretary

**Nehru and Tagore Literacy Awards for the year 2024, 2025 & 2026**

The Indian Adult Education Association invites nominations for Nehru and Tagore Literacy Awards for the outstanding work done in promoting literacy, adult education, continuing education and lifelong education.

**Nehru Literacy Award** instituted in 1968 is given to institutions/individuals in recognition of the services rendered and meritorious work done for the promotion of literacy and adult education in the country. **Tagore Literacy Award** instituted in 1987 is given to those institutions/individuals who have given significant contributions for the promotion of literacy, adult and lifelong education, creating awareness and improving the social and economic status of women in the country.

The institutions / individuals nominated for Awards should have at least ten years of outstanding work in the field of literacy, adult education, continuing education and lifelong education and the assessment will be made on the new initiatives taken

and the extent to which the work done can be a model for replication by others. The awardees will be selected on merit from the names nominated by reputed individuals, institutions and Life and Institutional members of IAEA.

**The last date for receipt of nominations for both the Awards is October 31, 2026.**

Nominations may be sent in a sealed envelope addressed to Shri Suresh Khandelwal, General Secretary, Indian Adult Education Association, 17-B, Indraprastha Estate, New Delhi-110002 with all details about the institution or individual recommended, outstanding work done, award(s) received, if any, and specific recommendation for nominating the institution or individual. One can nominate more than one institution or individual but each one should be in a separate envelope.

**Please note that the decision of the Selection Committee is final.**

**Nehru and Tagore Literacy Awards**

Model Nomination Form

1. Name of the Institution/Individual recommended	
2. Complete postal address with pincode, telephone (office, residence), mobile number	
3. Outstanding work done by the Institution/Individual recommended (pl. give as much details as possible. If needed, a separate sheet can be attached alongwith the nomination).	
4. The name of the person who recommends the institution/individual with designation, serving institution and complete postal address with telephone/mobile number	
5. Specific recommendation clearly indicating the reason for suggesting the name of institution/individual for the award	
6. Any other information the recommending person wish to give	

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Name and complete address \_\_\_\_\_

Printed & Published by Suresh Khandelwal on behalf of Indian Adult Education Association, 17-B, Indraprastha Estate, New Delhi - 110 002 and Printed at M/s. Graphic World, 1686, Kucha Dakhni Rai, Darya Ganj, New Delhi – 110 002. [Tel: 011-43489048], E-mail: directoriaea@gmail.com, Website: iaea-india.com  
Editor: Suresh Khandelwal



Vol. 35 No. 1 Rs. 2.5 per copy January-March 2026 Total Pages 24

**Indian Adult Education Association**

**Eminent Educationist, Philanthropist and Social Reformer Prof. (Dr.) Achyuta Samanta Inaugurated 66th AIAEC**



The 66th All India Adult Education Conference, with an overarching theme of 'Fostering Adult and Lifelong Learning for All' began with the ceremonial Inaugural Function held in the KIIT Auditorium, Campus 5, Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology, Bhubaneswar, Odisha on January 21, 2026 at 10:30 a.m. The function was inaugurated by the Chief Guest Prof. (Dr.) Achyuta Samanta, Founder, KISS & KIIT, Bhubaneswar and a globally recognized educationist, philanthropist and social reformer.

practitioners, researchers, policymakers and grassroots workers to deliberate on strengthening adult and lifelong learning for all. More than 210 delegates representing 15 States (Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Odisha, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal) and 2 UTs (Chandigarh & Delhi) participated in the conference. All the delegates got themselves registered at the registration desk managed by a team of member of staff of IAEA.



**Inaugural Proceedings**



Organised jointly by the Indian Adult Education Association, New Delhi and the Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences, Deemed to be University, Bhubaneswar the conference aimed to bring together academicians,

The inaugural session commenced with the presentation of a conference video, followed by the lighting of the ceremonial lamp by Prof. (Dr.) Achyuta Samanta, Prof. Saranjeet Singh, Vice Chancellor, KISS & KIIT; Prof. L. Raja, President, Shri Suresh Khandelwal,

General Secretary and Prof. Rajesh, Director In-charge, IAEA. A welcome song was presented by students, who also felicitated the dignitaries on the dais, setting a culturally rich and respectful tone for the conference.

### Welcome Address



The welcome address was delivered by Prof. L. Raja who reflected on the influence of individuals and institutions that shaped his life journey and acknowledged the exemplary contributions of Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS), Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT), and Kalinga Institute of Medical Sciences (KIMS), highlighting their transformative role in promoting inclusive education for diverse learners. Referring to Mahatma Gandhi's words, "My life is my message," he observed that in the case of Prof. (Dr.) Achyuta Samanta – the founder of KISS, KIIT and KIMS, "My work is my message" truly reflects his lifelong commitment to education and humanitarian service. Prof. Raja expressed hope that such extraordinary work would receive the highest global recognition. He appreciated the commitment of Shri Suresh Khandelwal, acknowledged the contributions of state leaders, grassroots workers and research scholars. Moreover, he emphasized collective learning, sharing of best practices and exchange of ideas. Describing lifelong learning as a continuous process from womb to tomb he recalled that the Indian Adult Education Association, since its establishment in 1939, has played a significant role in bridging the working gap between government agencies, non-governmental organizations, practitioners and academic institutions. Prof. Raja concluded by urging all stakeholders to work together towards the national vision of Viksit Bharat 2047.

### Introduction of the Chief Guest

Prof. Rajesh, Director In-Charge, IAEA and Senior Professor, University of Delhi, New Delhi formally introduced the Chief Guest, Professor (Dr.) Achyuta Samanta reiterating his realization and philosophical quote that "Education is the third eye of a child." He described Prof. (Dr.) Achyuta Samanta as a distinguished humanitarian who overcame immense personal hardship, including the loss of his father at an early age, to establish globally acclaimed institutions with very limited resources. He highlighted the pioneering work of the Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences, which provides free education, food, accommodation, healthcare and skill development to nearly eighty thousand indigenous learners. He also referred to the founder's contributions to holistic human development, his role as a former Member of Parliament, the establishment of an international research centre in his name in the United States of America, and the global outreach of the Art of Giving movement.



### IAEA Felicitation for Prof. (Dr.) Achyuta Samanta

All the dignitaries on dais including Prof. L. Raja, Shri Suresh Khandelwal and Prof. Rajesh felicitated Prof. (Dr.) Achyuta Samanta for his pivotal contributions to the cause of fostering adult and lifelong education in the region. The leaders of IAEA felicitated him by offering a shawl, shreefal and a citation highlighting his inspirational life, journey and the outstanding work done by him.



### Address by the Chief Guest



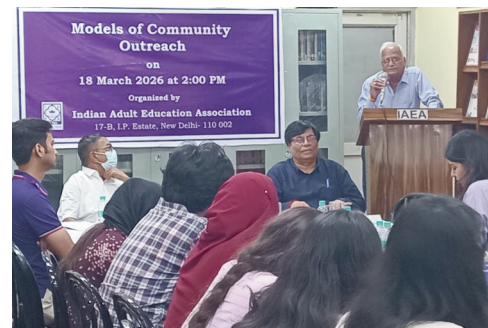
Prof. (Dr.) Achyuta Samanta, the Chief Guest acknowledged the presence of Prof. Saranjeet Singh, Prof. L. Raja, Shri Suresh Khandelwal, Prof. Rajesh and Dr. B. P. Mohanty and other dignitaries, including the leadership of the host institutions. He expressed gratitude to the leadership of the Indian Adult Education Association for organizing the conference and acknowledged the efforts of Dr. Manoj Behera. He shared that the Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences functions as a residential home for around eighty thousand tribal children. He described an innovative literacy initiative wherein students, during summer vacations, are encouraged to impart literacy to at least ten individuals, including adults, with the outcomes documented and reviewed by teachers. He emphasized that the institution integrates school education, skill education, and value-based learning, thereby contributing meaningfully to adult and lifelong education. Sharing a personal philosophy, he stated that poverty creates illiteracy and literacy eradicates poverty, and described simplicity and humility as his greatest strengths derived from life experiences.

### Books Released



The inaugural session witnessed the release of a few important publications, including "Life for Lifelong

## Community Outreach Training Programme



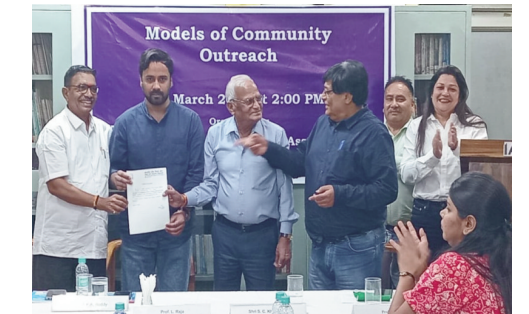
The Indian Adult Education Association organised a "Community Outreach Training Programme under Unnat Bharat Abhiyan" on 18 March 2026 at K. C. Choudhary Memorial Hall, IAEA, New Delhi from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM which was attended by more than 40 students and scholars coming from different universities of Delhi including DU, IPU and JMI. The programme brought together educators, students, and development practitioners to discuss innovative approaches to community outreach and grassroots engagement. The session began with a welcome address by Prof. L. Raja, President, IAEA, who emphasised the importance of lifelong learning and community participation in advancing inclusive education in line with the objectives of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. This was followed by an address by Prof. P. Adinarayana Reddy, Vice

President, IAEA, who highlighted the significance of institutional outreach in connecting academic knowledge with societal needs. Prof. Rajesh, Director In-charge, IAEA, introduced the objectives of the programme and underscored the role of universities and voluntary organisations in promoting community-based educational initiatives.



The programme featured presentations on various models of community outreach. Participants were introduced to the Shiksha for Adults Model initiative of the Shiv Nadar Foundation, which focuses on ICT-based adult literacy programmes for underserved communities presented by Shri Bhuvan Chadra and Shri Anuj Goswami. Ms. Shiva Singh presented the Plan India intervention model, highlighting its gender-transformative approach aimed at addressing inequalities and empowering girls and young women. The session also included

an interactive discussion focusing on practical strategies for community engagement and outreach interventions. Concluding remarks were given by Smt. Nishat Farooq, EC Member and Dr. V. Mohankumar, former Director, IAEA.



The programme concluded with a vote of thanks by Shri Suresh Khandelwal, General Secretary, IAEA, followed by certificate distribution and high tea. Shri Khandelwal emphasized that all such endeavors of the Association should be focused on elevating the quality of life of people at the grassroots level. The programme was moderated by Shri Vivek Kumar Chahar, Research Scholar, University of Delhi while technical support was facilitated by Shri Kripal Singh Mehra, Programme Associate, IAEA. The event provided a valuable platform for knowledge sharing and encouraged participants to actively engage in community-based initiatives for social development. A number of queries were raised by the participants which were addressed by the resource persons. At the beginning a "One minute silence for World Peace" was also observed by the participants.

## Release of a Coffee Table Publication

A coffee table publications depicting the socio-academic journey of Dr. Ch Hemanta Rao, a life member of IAEA and President, Bharat Janata Samiti was released by Prof. L. Raja, President; Shri Suresh Khandelwal, General Secretary and Prof. Rajesh Director In-charge of IAEA at IAEA Headquarters. Dr. Rao is well known for his social and academic endeavours specifically in Andman and Nicobar Islands.



## Books donated to IAEA Library by Dr. Varsha Das



Dr. Varsha Das, eminent adult educationist, noted Gandhian and former Director of National Book Trust and National Gandhi Museum visited IAEA Headquarters on March 10, 2026 to meet Prof. Rajesh, Director In-charge and other officials of IAEA. She donated around 35 valuable books including a few magazines for IAEA Library. Interacting with Prof. Rajesh she said although scholars are heavily banking upon online resources now-a-days but the flavor of reading hard copies of books cannot be replaced by any means. She requested all others academicians associated with IAEA to donate books so that the Library here can regain its previous glory.

## Visitors



**Ms. Shiva Singh**, Project Coordinator, Plan India, Gurgaon working on Adolescent Health, Mental Health, Reproductive Child Health among school going children in Delhi through collective intervention of voluntary organizations visited IAEA on February 19, 2026. She had a very fruitful discussion with Prof. Rajesh, Director In-charge, IAEA joined by the officials of the Association.



**Dr. Letginlen Doungel** visited IAEA on March 18, 2026 and handed over copy of his recently completed Doctoral Thesis on "Role of Voluntary Organisations in the Promotion of Adult Education and Lifelong Learning – A Case Study of Indian Adult Education Association (IAEA)" to Prof. L. Raja, President and Shri Suresh Khandelwal, General Secretary, IAEA. Prof. P.A. Reddy, Vice President, Prof. Rajesh, Director In-charge, Smt. Nishat Farooq, EC Member and Smt. Neha Gupta, Librarian-cum-Documentation officer, IAEA were also present on the occasion.



**Dr. A. Mathew**, a Life Member of IAEA and former ICSSR Senior Fellow at NIEPA handed over a copy of his recently published book entitled "Caste- Communal Politics, Nexus in Higher Education Policy" to Shri Suresh Khandelwal, General Secretary, IAEA on March 19, 2026.



**Dr. Pradip Kumar Parida**, Associate Professor, School of International Studies, JNU visited IAEA to meet Prof. S.Y. Shah, Patron, IAEA on February 26, 2026. He discussed many emerging issues on the day.

Learning", edited by Prof. L. Raja, Shri Suresh Khandelwal, Prof. Rajesh and Shri B. Sanjoy; "Adult Education Strategies for Sustainability", edited by Prof. L. Raja, Prof. Rajesh, and Shri Suresh Khandelwal; "The Lodhas" authored by Dr. Ratnakar Mohapatra and "Hills Kharias of India: Continuities, Changes and the Sacred Groves" authored by Dr. Manoj Kumar Behera.

## Address by the Guest of Honour

The guest of honour address was delivered by Prof. Saranjit Singh, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences, Deemed to be University and Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology, Deemed to be University, Bhubaneswar. He appreciated the visionary leadership of Professor (Dr.) Achyuta Samanta and conveyed gratitude to the Indian Adult Education Association for organizing the conference. He acknowledged the contributions of Prof. L. Raja, Shri Suresh Khandelwal, Prof. Rajesh and Dr. B. P. Mohanty and welcomed participants from the host institutions. He emphasized that education is dynamic and evolving, making lifelong learning essential for improving gross enrolment ratios and achieving Viksit Bharat by 2047. He highlighted the growing importance of vocational education, skill development, and indigenous entrepreneurship, particularly at the Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences and emphasized that collaboration with the Indian Adult Education Association can further strengthen employability-oriented curricula and entrepreneurship initiatives aligned with national programmes such as Startup India.



## Vote of Thanks in Inaugural Session

The vote of thanks in the inaugural session was delivered by Shri Suresh Khandelwal, General Secretary, Indian Adult Education Association (IAEA), New Delhi. He expressed sincere gratitude to all dignitaries and participants and thanked the Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences for hosting the 66th All India Education Conference. He also acknowledged the guidance and support of Professor S. Y. Shah, Patron, Indian Adult Education Association, Professor N. K. Ambasht, Visitor, International Institute of Adult and Lifelong Education, Dr. Manoj Behera, and other senior members whose leadership has strengthened the Association. The inaugural session concluded with the National Anthem, followed by a group photograph, marking a meaningful and inspiring beginning to the conference.



## Thematic Introduction and Appreciation of the books Released



The session on "Thematic Introduction and Appreciation of the Books Released" was focused on scholarly reflection, thematic positioning, and critical appreciation of the publications released during the inaugural programme. The session began with the release of the IAEA's publication "Directory of Adult and Lifelong Learning in Higher Education Institutions – 2026" by the dignitaries on the dais including Prof. N.K. Ambasht, Prof. L. Raja, Prof. P.A Reddy, Shri Suresh Khandelwal and Prof. Rajesh. This was followed by the welcome of Prof. N. K. Ambasht, former Chairman, NIOS and one of the most senior Life Members of IAEA by Prof. L. Raja, President and Shri Suresh Khandelwal, General Secretary, IAEA.



Thereafter, Prof. Raja gave a brief note on the book entitled "Life for Lifelong Learning". In his speech Prof. L. Raja highlighted the conceptual foundations of lifelong learning, its humanistic orientation, and its relevance in addressing social transformation, equity, and continuous capacity building across the life span. This was followed by the Editor's Note on "Adult Education Strategies for Sustainability" delivered by Prof. Rajesh, Director In-charge, IAEA. He elaborated on the strategic frameworks, policy perspectives, and sustainable development dimensions embedded in adult education practices, linking them to national and global development agendas. The book "Life for Lifelong Learning" was formally appreciated by Shri Mrinal Pant, Joint Secretary and both the Associate Secretaries Dr. D. Uma Devi and Shri Rajendra Joshi. The speakers commended the book for its interdisciplinary approach, theoretical depth, and practical relevance to lifelong learning initiatives in diverse socio-cultural contexts.

Subsequently, the book "Adult Education Strategies for Sustainability" was appreciated by Prof. M. C. Reddepa Reddy, former Director, Department of Adult Education, SV University, Tirupati and a recipient of Nehru Literacy Award. He underscored the book's contribution to policy discourse, community-based learning models, and sustainable adult education practices. He also presented a copy of the book "Prof. VLN



Reddy: An Illustrious Educationist” to the dignitaries on dais. The session also included a brief introduction to the “Directory of Adult and Lifelong Learning in Higher Education Institutions – 2026” by Prof. Rajesh, who emphasized its significance as a comprehensive reference document for institutions, policymakers, researchers, and practitioners working in the domain of adult and continuing education.

The session was concluded with a Vote of Thanks proposed by Prof. P. Adinarayana Reddy, Vice President, Indian Adult Education Association and Former Director & Head, Department of Adult and Continuing Education, Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati. He expressed gratitude to the chairperson, editors, reviewers, contributors, and participants for making the session intellectually enriching and meaningful. The session successfully deepened the academic engagement with adult and lifelong learning literature and reinforced the importance of scholarly publications in shaping informed educational practice and policy.



The release of the three publications by IAEA received a huge appreciation from the Members of EC, Council and staff.

### Parallel Academic Sessions

The 66th AIAEC was a step forward to emphasize the need of “Fostering Adult and Lifelong Learning for All” which was also the theme of the conference. To have a detailed discussion among the stakeholders on various aspects, the theme was further divided into 15 sub-themes on which around 100 scholarly papers were submitted by scholars and faculties from universities across the country. These papers were presented in the 15 parallel sessions held as part of the conference each of which was chaired and co-chaired by senior academicians and functionaries of IAEA. All the sessions were meticulously reported by scholars identified as rapporteurs.

### Parallel Session -1

**Sub-Theme: NEP 2020: Conceptual Framework for Adult and Lifelong Learning for All & Full Employment**

**Chair: Prof. V. Reghu,**

Vice President, IAEA & Former Controller of Examinations Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNID) Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu

**Co-chair: Shri V. Ummer Koya,** EC Member, IAEA & Director, Jan Shikshan Sansthan, Mallapuram, Kerala

**Rapporteur: Dr. Lien Doungel,** Research Scholar, DCEE,



University of Delhi, Delhi

The papers presented in this session were:

1. “Fostering Lifelong Learners: NEP 2020 and the New Paradigm of Continuous Education” by Dr. N. Arunachalam & Abinaya. S.
2. “Empowering the Elderly through Technology: Effectiveness of an E-Learning Module for Smartphone Skill Enhancement” by Prof. Avani Maniar, Dr. Krutika Bhate & Shri Nitin Kashyap
3. “Role of Adult / Lifelong Learning in Career Development of Students and Non-Student Youth” by Prof. M.C. Reddeppa Reddy
4. “NEP-2020 & Lifelong Learning (Adult Education)” by Dr. Dilip S. Patil

### Parallel Session – 2

**Sub-Theme: Adult and Lifelong Learning for All for Full Employment: Role of Academic Institutions**

**Chair: Prof. Navnath Bhagchand Tupe,**

Professor, Department of Lifelong Learning & Extension, Savitribai Phule Pune University (SPPU), Pune

**Co-chair: Shri Mrinal Pant,** Joint Secretary, Indian Adult Education Association, New Delhi

**Rapporteur: Ms. Anjali Rathore,** Research Scholar, DCEE, University of Delhi



The papers presented in this session were:

1. “The Ethos of Lifelong Learning as a Foundation for Empowering Youth in India” by R. Hariharan & Dr. M. Kanaga
2. “Life Skills and Soft Skills for Students in Higher Education: A Pathway to Holistic Development and Employability” by Ms. Varsha. B & Dr. M. Kanaga
3. “Roles of Colleges and Universities in Promoting the Graduate Employability” by Prof. M.C. Reddeppa Reddy
4. “Adult and Lifelong Learning for All: The Role of Higher Education Institutes” by Dr. Lata Das
5. “SMART-L20 (Lifelong Learning-Oriented) Model for Teacher Education” by Ms. Jovita Nathan & Dr. Priya Singh
6. “Role of Teacher Education Institutions in Advancing Adult and Lifelong Learning for All” by Dr. Rasmita Tripathy & Dr. Kanan Kumar Patro

### Parallel Session – 3

**Sub-Theme: Decoding Multidisciplinary Approach for Adult and Lifelong Learning for Sustainable Development**

**Chair: Dr. Asha Verma,**

Associate Secretary, IAEA & Assistant Professor, Gujarat National Law University, Gandhinagar, Gujarat

**Co-chair: Dr. Manoj Kumar Behera,** EC Co-opted Member, IAEA & Associate Professor, KISS, Deemed to be

University, Bhubaneswar



## IAEA Skill Centre - Leadership Development Workshop for Community Women



A “Leadership Development Workshop for Community Women” was organized on March 17, 2026 by the IAEA Skill Centre at Anna Nagar which was participated by more than 150 girls and women from both Anna Nagar and Sanjay Colony. The “Group Sing-a-Song and Dance Competition” too witnessed enthusiastic participation which was continuously appreciated and applauded by the audience with clapping. The participants of the competition were not only blessed by Prof. L. Raja, President; Prof. Adinarayana Reddy, Vice President; Shri Suresh Khandelwal, General Secretary and Prof. Rajesh, Director In-charge of IAEA but appreciated with beautiful gifts.



Introducing the programme Prof. Rajesh underlined the aspirations of young girls of the community who are willing to fly high and said that such programmes are devised to provide stage to the participants and hone their leadership ability. Prof. Adinarayana Reddy advised the participants to share their feelings and expectations so that programmes can be designed to assist them. Prof. Raja said that people here are blessed with social cohesiveness which is one of the unique abilities of any



developing society. He said it really like witnessing a mini-Bharat here. If assisted properly with appropriate interventions, students here can surely realize their dreams. He also sang a song “Galat Mat Kadam Uthao Soch Kar Chalo” with the participants which was enjoyed by all. Shri Suresh Khandelwal appreciated all the learners of IAEA Skill Centre and their trainer Ms. Kajal for creating awareness and motivating community people to come forward and participate in the programme. He assured them that IAEA will always stand by them for empowering them and their wards in whichever way possible. Shri Khandelwal also announced the beginning of a programme for senior citizens care under K. C. Choudhary Memorial Fellowship and a computer application course for the community students.



Seven leading women activists, who have played important role in fulfilling the educational and health need of the society, including - Smt. Bina Maurya, Smt. Vandana, Smt. Meena, Smt. Anjana, Smt. Aaray, Smt. Kavita and Smt. Rakhi were also felicitated by the Association. All of them were offered an angvastram and a gift by the dignitaries.

The Vote of thanks was given by Ms. Kajal while the programme was coordinated by Shri B. Sanjoy, Research Officer, IAEA. All the members of staff of IAEA took special initiatives to make community people aware and encourage their neighbors to form groups and participate in the programme. Dr. Viresh Pachisia, K.C. Choudhary Memorial Fellow informed the participants about IAEA’s latest initiatives for providing care to senior citizens in the locality. The programme was concluded with the rendering of the National Anthem.



चर्चा का शुभारंभ अतिथियों ने माँ शारदा के चित्र पर माल्यार्पण कर किया। अतिथियों का स्वागत एवं आयोजन परिचय भारतीय प्रौढ़ शिक्षा संघ के उपनिदेशक श्री राजेश चौधरी ने किया। आभार श्री उमेश खण्डेलवाल ने माना व सफल संचालन श्री राजेश पाटीदार ने किया। साथ ही आमंत्रित

अतिथियों का स्वागत तिलक लगाकर मोती माला से किया गया। कार्यक्रम का समापन राष्ट्रगान एवं सहभोज के साथ हुआ।

इस अवसर पर श्री मृणाल पंत, श्री राधेश्याम बियाणी, श्री योगेश मूंदड़ा, श्री रामलाल प्रजापति, श्री करुणा लोहारिया, श्रीमती निर्मला यादव, सुश्री

गीता लखनवी, डॉ. आकांक्षा रितेश, श्री कमलेश मिश्रा, श्री अशीष वर्धवाल, श्री मनीष गुप्ता, श्री शाकीर खान, श्री दिनेश जादम, सुश्री पूर्णिमा सेठ सहित महु शहर के वरिष्ठ नागरिकगण उपस्थित थे।

– राजेश चौधरी  
उप-निदेशक, भा.प्रौ.शि.सं.

## महासचिव द्वारा जानेमाने समाजसेवी आर. सी. जाल की प्रतिमा का अनावरण



दिनांक 25 मार्च 2026 को मध्य प्रदेश के महु शहर में आयोजित एक भव्य समारोह में स्व. आर. सी. जाल ट्रस्ट, महु द्वारा शहर के प्रथम विधायक, उद्योगपति, समाजसेवी एवं दानशील स्व. श्री आर. सी. जाल की टाउन हाल के पास गेरीसन ग्राउण्ड के सामने स्थापित प्रतिमा का अनावरण किया गया।

इस अनावरण कार्यक्रम के मुख्य अतिथि श्री विकास कुमार, मुख्य अधिशासी अभियंता, छावनी परिषद, महु एवं विशेष अतिथि श्री सुरेश खण्डेलवाल, महासचिव, भारतीय प्रौढ़ शिक्षा संघ, नई दिल्ली, अतिथि श्री योगेश यादव, पूर्व उपाध्यक्ष, छावनी परिषद, महु थे। कार्यक्रम की अध्यक्षता श्री सत्यनारायण पटेल, अध्यक्ष श्री किशनभाई पटेल शैक्षणिक एवं पारमार्थिक ट्रस्ट, महु ने की। कार्यक्रम के प्रारंभ में अतिथियों का स्वागत स्व. आर. सी. जाल ट्रस्ट के ट्रस्टी श्री दिनेश सेठ एवं सुश्री पूर्णिमा सेठ ने की। तत्पश्चात अतिथियों द्वारा स्व. आर. सी. जाल साहब की प्रतिमा का अनावरण एवं प्रतिमा पर माल्यार्पण किया। प्रतिमा का अनावरण एवं माल्यार्पण के उपरांत उपस्थित गणमान्य श्रोताओं को श्री विकास कुमार, श्री योगेश यादव, श्री सत्यनारायण पटेल एवं श्री सुरेश खण्डेलवाल ने संबोधित किया।

इस अवसर पर श्री खण्डेलवाल ने कहा कि मैंने जाल साहब के साथ कार्य किया है, वे काफी सरल व दानशील व्यक्ति थे। हमारे क्षेत्र में नर्मदा पाइप लाइन लाने हेतु किए गए आंदोलन में भी आपका बहुमूल्य सहयोग रहा। श्री पटेल ने श्री जाल द्वारा विविध अस्पतालों एवं स्वयंसेवी संस्थाओं को दिए गए



अनुदान एवं सहयोग को याद किया। उन्होंने बताया कि महु डिग्री कॉलेज एवं टाउनहॉल का निर्माण श्री जाल के कारण ही संभव हो सका।

कार्यक्रम का संचालन श्री योगेश मूंदड़ा एवं आभार सुश्री पूर्णिमा सेठ द्वारा किया गया। इस अवसर पर श्री राधेश्याम बियाणी, श्री अब्दुल हमीद कुरैशी, श्री रामलाल प्रजापति, श्री हंसराज वर्मा, श्री मनीष जायसवाल, श्री विजय सोडानी, श्री शक्ति सिंह गोयल, श्री विष्णु मालवीय, श्री कमल मूंदड़ा, डॉ. हातिम अली हैदरी, श्री मृणाल पंत, श्री पूनीत शर्मा, श्री सतीश अग्रवाल, श्री हरिशंकर कोलाय, श्री मनीष अग्रवाल, श्री सुनील कौशल, सुश्री सिंधिया जेम्स, सुश्री जूलियट ऑकारा, सुश्री डाली सेठ, सुश्री हेमलता पाटीदार, सुश्री उमा आचार्य सहित महु के कई गणमान्य नागरिक एवं समाजसेवी उपस्थित थे।



**Inaugurating 'Ahinsha Kirti Stambh' at Mhow, from L to R: Prof. Shobha Jain, Shri Vimal Chand Jain (President, IAEA State Branch), Shri Vikas Kumar (CEO, Cantonment Board, Mhow), Shri Suresh Khandelwal (General Secretary, IAEA, New Delhi), Shri Satish Agarwal (Office Superintendent, Cantonment Board, Mhow) and Shri Sunil Jain (Engineer and Social Worker).**

**Rapporteur: Ms. Gaurisha Srivastava**, Research Scholar, DCEE, University of Delhi

The papers presented in this session were:

1. "Lifelong Learning as a Vital Resource for the Sustainability of Digital Bharat" by G. Kirubakaran & Dr. N. Arunachalam
2. "Integrating Human Resource Development into Lifelong Learning for Sustainable Development in Future India" by Ms. Uma Maheshwari & Dr. N. Arunachalam
3. "Adult Education Under NEP 2020: Empowering Tribal Youth through Lifelong Learning as a Catalyst for Cultural Sustainability and Employment" by Sukul Marndi & Nirashi Bindhani
4. "From Skill Development to Sustainable Citizenship: A Multidisciplinary Perspective on Lifelong Learning in India" by Gaurisha Srivastava
5. "Game-Based Learning through the Lens of NEP 2020: Teacher Attitudes and Lifelong Learning: A Research Framework" by Ms. Komal Gagare & Dr. Priya Singh

### Parallel Session – 4



**Sub-Theme: Role of Community Organizations for Upgrading Adult and Lifelong Learning**

**Chair: Prof. (Dr.) Ramachandra G. Pawar**, Director, Dept. of Lifelong Learning and Extension, Shivaji University, Kolhapur, Maharashtra

**Co-chair: Dr. Chyanika Uniyal**, Member EC, IAEA & Associate Professor, Department of History, Shyama Prasad Mukherji College, University of Delhi, Delhi

**Rapporteur: Shri Ajay Kumar Kumawat**, Research Scholar, DCEE, University of Delhi

The papers presented in this session were:

1. "Opportunities and Challenges of Community Organization for Promoting Lifelong Learning in Contemporary India" by Palanikumar K & Dr. N. Arunachalam
2. "The Mission of Community Organizations in Enhancing Adult and Lifelong Learning in Modern India" by R. Isha Preethi & Dr. M. Baladevi
3. "Inclusivity in Action: A Chronicle of a Community-Based Adult Literacy Initiative in Uttar Pradesh" by Shri Anuj Goswami & Swati Mohana Krishnan
4. "Empowering Senior Citizens: A Community-Based Thematic Educational Drive for Elderly" by Dr. Sarika Patel
5. "Role of Continuing Education in Lifelong Learning" by Dr. Anjali D. Patil
6. "Parenting in the Feed: How Social Media Supports Adult Education" by Ms. Padmabati Hembram & Dr. Swapnashri Patnaik



### Parallel Session – 5

**Sub-Theme: ULLAS & Adult and Lifelong Learning for All**

**Chair: Dr. D. Uma Devi**, Associate Secretary, IAEA & Associate Professor, Centre for Women's Studies, Sri Padmavati Mahila Visvavidyalayam, Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh

**Co-chair: Dr. Rashmi Kumari**, Assistant Professor, Department of Environmental Studies, Bharati College, University of Delhi, Delhi

**Rapporteur: Dr. Nitish Anand**, EC Member, IAEA & Assistant Professor (Guest Faculty) & Research Associate, University of Delhi, Delhi

The papers presented in this session were:

1. "ULLAS & Adult and Lifelong Learning for All" by Dr. Saurabh Misra
2. "Strengthening Adult and Lifelong Learning Through ULLAS: A National Framework for Inclusive and Sustainable Learning for All" by Asha Alajangi & Vemala Kiran
3. "Role of Adult and Lifelong Learning in the Implementation of ULLAS" by Prof. (Dr.) Ramchandra Govind Pawar
4. "Alleviating Under Employment Through Lifelong Learning" by Dr. M. Baladevi & Gokila AL
5. "Trilingual Formula in School Education: A Critical Analysis" by Dr. Navnath Tupe & Ms. Millie Pereira
6. "Continuing Education for Better Improvement: A Special Focus on the State of Tamil Nadu" by Dr. S. V. A. Prakash & Dr. A. Senthilkumar

### Parallel Session – 6

**Sub-Theme: Harnessing RPL for Adult and Lifelong Learning for Full Employment**

**Chair: Prof. P. Adinarayana Reddy**, Vice President, IAEA &

Former Professor, SV University, Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh  
**Co-chair: Shri Sudhakar Man Singh**, Member EC, IAEA & Administrative Officer, India Literacy Board, Literacy House, Lucknow

**Rapporteur: Ms. R. Lakshmi**, Research Scholar, Department of Lifelong Learning, Alagappa University, Karaikudi, Tamil Nadu

The papers presented in this session were:

1. "Inclusion of Life Skills for Employability in India" by Dr. M. Kanaga & R. Mathuravani
2. "Decision-Making Skills in Lifelong Learning: Strategies and Methods for Students in Higher Education" by M. Nithiyasree & Prof. N. Arunachalam

3. "AI-Enabled Lifelong Learning Framework: Extending ICT Adoption Models to Generative AI" Dr. Neha Kumari & Prof. Rajesh Kumar

### Parallel Session – 7

**Sub-Theme: Promotion of Adult and Lifelong Learning by the Government**

**Chair: Dr. Prabhakar Chavan,** Director, Department of Lifelong Learning & Extension, SNDT Women's University, Mumbai

**Co-chair: Dr. Ashish Barthwal,** Principal, Asian Institute of Professional Studies, Indore and Life Member, IAEA

**Rapporteur: Dr. M. Kanaga,** Teaching Assistant, Department of Lifelong Learning, Alagappa University, Kraikudi, Tamil Nadu

The papers presented in this session were:

1. "Transforming Lives: The National Endeavour in Fostering Lifelong Education" by M. Veeraragavansri, Prof. Dr. N. Arunachalam and Dr. M. Baladevi
2. "Reimagining Skills for a Lifelong Learning World" by Ms. Parinita Batra & Prof. Rajesh
3. "Role of Adult Learning in Strengthening Local Governance: A Study of Koraput District, Odisha" by Haribandhu Bagria & Prafullo Sabar
4. "Self-Help Groups as Catalysts of Adult Learning - A Critical Analysis of Government Programmes in Odisha" by Binati Pidikaka
5. "Empowerment of Tribal Women and Adult Education: A Review of Government Initiatives" by Dr. Rudra Narayan Mohanty

### Parallel Session – 8

**Sub-Theme: Women Empowerment and Lifelong Learning**

**Chair: Prof. B. P. Sahu,** Head, CDE, North Eastern Hill University, Shillong, Meghalaya

**Co-chair: Dr. G. N. Kamble,** Member EC, IAEA & Former Professor, Department of Lifelong Learning and Extension, Shivaji University, Kolhapur, Maharashtra

**Rapporteur: Ms. Al. Gokila,** Research Scholar, Department of Lifelong Learning, Alagappa University, Kraikudi, Tamil Nadu

The papers presented in this session were:

1. "Women Empowerment and Lifelong Learning in Chandigarh — An Analysis Based on Secondary Data" by Dr. Dazy Zarabi
2. "Women's Education in Lifelong Learning Is the Cornerstone of Female Empowerment" by Dr. M. Baladevi & Prof. N. Arunachalam
3. "Women's Empowerment through Lifelong Learning: Perspectives and Provisions under NEP 2020" by Dr. K. Venkatesan



4. "Lifelong Learning and Skill Development: A Pathway to Women's Empowerment in Rural India" by Dr. M. Kanaga & Dr. N. Arunachalam
5. "The Role of Skill and Vocational Training in Women Empowerment Under Lifelong Learning" by Ms. Sangita Kothari
6. "Lifelong Learning as a Pathway to Women's Psychological Empowerment" by Dr. Bharti Joshi & Ms. Tanuja Khan

### Parallel Session – 9



**Sub-Theme: Opportunities and Challenges for Lifelong Learning**

**Chair: Prof. Bharti Joshi,** Department of Lifelong Learning, Devi Ahilya University, Indore, Madhya Pradesh

**Co-chair: Dr. Ajay Kumar,** Co-opted Member, EC, IAEA & Associate Professor, Centre for Adult, Continuing Education, JNU, New Delhi

**Rapporteur: Shri G. Kirubakaran,** Research Scholar, Department of Lifelong Learning, Alagappa University, Karaikudi, Tamil Nadu

The papers presented in this session were:

1. "Empowering Learners in Developing India: The Hybrid Perspective of Potentials and Obstacles in Lifelong Education" by Subashri N. & Dr. N. Arunachalam
2. "Role of Education in Women Empowerment: A Study of Economic, Social, and Political Transformation in Kandhamal District, Odisha" by Mr. Brajabandhu Mallick, Mr. Gundhar Majhi, Ms. Pinki Khadia & Dr. Ajaya Kumar Nanda
3. "Transition of Adult and Continuing Education into Lifelong Learning in Developing India" by Sasikumar A & Dr. M. Kanaga
4. "National Education Policy 2020 & the Agenda for Inclusion of Gender Diverse Students in Higher Education Institutions in Delhi & NCR" by Dr. Geeta Mishra & Prof. Rajesh Kumar
5. "The Impact of Cosmic Energy on Personality Development among University Students in Meghalaya: A Mixed-Method Investigation" by Dr. Subrata Sen
6. "A Study of Retired Professors' Experiencing Epistemic Engagement through Reading Non-Fiction Literature" by Dr. Navnath Tupe & Ms. Millie Pereira

### Parallel Session – 10

**Sub-Theme: Reviving Sacred Groves through Participatory Adult Learning and Local Governance**



successful and dignified lives. Shri Sivaramakrishnan appreciated the teamwork and the functioning of the literacy Centre, which successfully fulfilled the Union Bank's objective of serving the community.

The event, well covered by the local media, was also attended by Shri Balamurugan, Ward Councillor, Peraiyur, and Shri Chinnaraj. The programme was coordinated by Dr. V. Chinna Murugan of SSCD Trust, Peraiyur. The Adult Literacy Programme at Peraiyur stands as a model initiative demonstrating how collaborative efforts between financial institutions and educational organizations can significantly contribute to reducing illiteracy and empowering women through practical and experiential learning. The programme was concluded with the National Anthem.

### Kollam, Kerala



The formal Certificate Distribution in Kollam, Kerala was held on March 23, 2026 at the Kollam Panchayat Office, Chadayamangalam, Kollam. The programme commenced with the welcome address delivered by Shri Harish Kumar, Secretary of the Indian Adult Education Association, Kerala State Branch. Along with all the 30 beneficiaries the programme was participated by the officials of IAEA and Union Bank of India, Kollam including Prof. L. Raja, President and Dr. V. Reghu, Vice President, IAEA, New Delhi; Shri J. Subramaniam, Deputy Regional

Head, Smt. Kala, Assistant Manager and Shri Chambi, Assistant Manager, Union Bank of India, Kollam; Smt. Nirmala Raichal Roy, District Coordinator and Shri B. Sanjeev, Assistant Coordinator, District Literacy Mission, Kerala.

Addressing the learners Dr. V. Reghu emphasized the significance of lifelong learning and highlighted how the Sakshar Bharat Literacy Programme has contributed to achieving this goal.

Prof. L. Raja in his concluding remarks underscored the success of the programme in promoting digital and legal literacy. He noted how this initiative encouraged active community participation and engagement. Shri J. Subramaniam appreciated the collaborative efforts involved in the programme and stated how effectively it has fulfilled the objectives put-forth of UBI. Smt. Kala highlighted the dedication and commitment demonstrated by both the learners and instructors throughout the programme.

Shri Chambi expressed his happiness over the success of the scheme. aimed at benefiting women and children. The vote of thanks was proposed by Shri B. Sanjeev. Entire programme was coordinated by Dr. R. S. Haris, a Council Member of IAEA.

## वरिष्ठ नागरिक विचार-विमर्श कार्यक्रम



भारतीय प्रौढ़ शिक्षा संघ के आंचलिक कार्यालय महु द्वारा वरिष्ठ नागरिक विचार विमर्श कार्यक्रम का आयोजन दिनांक 28 फरवरी 2026 को प्रातः 11:00 बजे स्थानीय चोपड़ा वाटिका, महु में किया गया। इसमें विद्वान अतिथियों द्वारा विभिन्न विषयों पर चर्चा की गयी। कार्यक्रम में वरिष्ठ पत्रकार एवं खेल समीक्षक श्री ओमप्रकाश ढोली का भी सम्मान अतिथियों द्वारा किया गया। कार्यक्रम के मुख्य अतिथि भारतीय प्रौढ़ शिक्षा संघ के महासचिव

श्री सुरेश खण्डेलवाल थे। कार्यक्रम की अध्यक्षता भारतीय प्रौढ़ शिक्षा संघ, मध्य प्रदेश शाखा के अध्यक्ष श्री विमलचंद जैन ने की।

विचार विमर्श में विशेषज्ञ वक्ता डॉ. अमित सोनी ने 'स्वास्थ्य', डॉ. अजरा फर्नीचरवाला ने 'आहार', श्रीमती ओमवती देशमुख ने 'रहन-सहन व योग' एवं अभिभावक श्री मनीष जायसवाल ने 'विधि परामर्श' विषय पर सारगर्भित व उपयोगी जानकारी प्रदान की।

कार्यक्रम में श्री सुरेश खण्डेलवाल व श्री विमलचंद जैन ने भी अपना उदबोधन दिया। श्री ओमप्रकाश ढोली ने अपने प्रत्युत्तर में कहा कि आज भारतीय प्रौढ़ शिक्षा संघ ने वरिष्ठ नागरिकों के लिए अलग-अलग विषयों पर कार्यक्रम आयोजित किया है, वह समाज के लिए बहुत आवश्यक व उपयोगी है एवं आगे भी इस तरह के आयोजन होते रहना चाहिए। मेरा जो सम्मान किया उसके लिए मैं संघ का आभारी हूँ।

# Union Sakshar six-month Functional Literacy Programme

## Certificate Distribution Ceremony

### Angul, Odisha

The Union Sakshar six-month Functional Literacy Programme sponsored by Union Bank of India and coordinated by Indian Adult Education Association, New Delhi was concluded with the Certificate Distribution Ceremony held at Bajirut Chhatrabas, Angul, Odisha.



The programme began with a prayer song, followed by cultural performances by the learners where participants showcased songs, dances, and digital learning outcomes acquired during the course. Learners expressed their happiness and confidence, stating that the programme had helped them understand basic banking procedures, including opening bank accounts and accessing government welfare benefits. Participants also shared that the programme helped them to improve communication with their children and enhanced their understanding of learning through digital technology such as television, radio and mobile phones. Several learners expressed their intention to pursue education further through the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS), reflecting a growing interest in continuing education.



The ceremony was presided over by Prof. L. Raja, President, Indian Adult



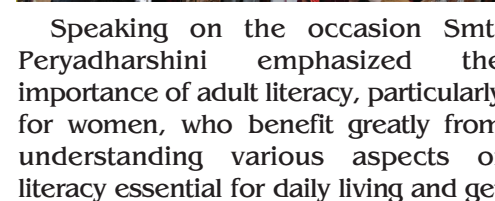
Education Association, New Delhi while Shri Antaryami Baral, President of Bajirut Chhatrabas, Angul, and Smt. Krishna Mohanty, Chairperson, Odisha State Gandhi Smarak Nidhi graced the event as distinguished guests. Dr. Kalpana Raja, an adult educationist from Tamil Nadu, along with social activists Ms. Lippy and Mrs. Pittu, were also present on the occasion. Speaking on the occasion Prof. L. Raja appreciated the service-oriented approach, commitment and efforts made by Shri Suriyanarayan Nath, the Programme Coordinator which brought positive impact on the learners. The ceremony was concluded with the singing of the National Anthem and the vote of thank given by Shri Chandan Naik.

### Peraiyur, Tamil Nadu



The Certificate Distribution Ceremony at Peraiyur was presided over by the Chief Guest Smt. Peryadharshini E. Varusai Muhamed, Vice-Chairman of Peraiyur Town Panchayat. Other dignitaries who addressed the ceremony included Ms. Anjali Das, Assistant Manager, Union Bank of India, Madurai Regional Office; Shri Sivaramakrishnan, Deputy Manager, Union Bank of India, Peraiyur

and Prof. L. Raja, President, Indian Adult Education Association, New Delhi. Altogether 30 women learners received their certificates of accomplishment with great enthusiasm and pride.



Speaking on the occasion Smt. Peryadharshini emphasized the importance of adult literacy, particularly for women, who benefit greatly from understanding various aspects of literacy essential for daily living and get enabled to apply their knowledge in real-life situations. Referring to the achievements of learners who are now able to read and write Tamil, open and operate bank account and ATM card independently, Smt. Anjali Das appreciated the achievements of the learners of the centre. She also congratulated the local teacher, Smt. Sugapriya, for putting her dedicated efforts and said that the real credit goes to the Union Bank of India and IAEA. Prof. L. Raja said that education has the power to transform one's life and emphasized that poverty can be eliminated only through education, which empowers individuals to lead a

**Chair:** Dr. Geeta Mishra, Co-opted Council Member, IAEA & Associate Professor, DCEE, University of Delhi, Delhi  
**Co-chair:** Shri Y. S. Chauhan, Advocate & Life Member of Indian Adult Education Association, New Delhi  
**Rapporteur:** Shri Baiengskhem S. Lyngdoh, Research Scholar, DACE, NEHU, Shillong, Meghalaya

The papers presented in this session were:

1. "Adult Education: Fostering and Conserving Sacred Groves at the Grassroots Level" by Dullabha Bhatra
2. "Sacred Groves as Sites of Eco- Religious Learning: A Case Study of the Gond Community in Jharsuguda District of Odisha" by Ms. Anjali Bhoi
3. "Traditional Institution and Sacred Grove Conservation: A Study of Tribal Governance System" by Keshab Majhi
4. "Education Beyond Age: Opportunities and Challenges in Adult and Lifelong Learning" by Bhabani Sankar Behera & Deepanjali Mishra
5. "Women Empowerment and Lifelong Learning Among Saora Community in Odisha State: A Case Study on Gajapati District" by Dauda Gamango & Dr. Jhilli Mahapatra
6. "Tribal Language, Literature, and Adult Learning for Cultural Continuity: A Socio-Psychological Perspective" by Dr. Sasmita Pattanaik & Ms. Sandhya Majhi
7. "Hope, Fear and Eco-anxiety of the Emotional Psychology of Transformative Adult Learning for Sustainability – A Study of Mayurbhanj District of Odisha" by Dr. Kalpalata Behera
8. "Inclusive Growth of Education Among the Bonda PVTG Girls of Odisha" by Dr. Madhusmita Sahoo

### Parallel Session - 11

**Sub-Theme: Gender Justice and Literacy Programme for Tribal Women**

**Chair:** Dr. S.V.A. Prakash, Co-opted Member, EC, IAEA & Assistant Professor, School of Continuing Education, Tamil Nadu Open University, Tamil Nadu  
**Co-chair:** Dr. A Senhilkumar, Assistant Professor, School of Continuing Education, Tamil Nadu Open University, Tamil Nadu

**Rapporteur:** Ms. Uma Maheshwari, Department of Lifelong Learning, Alagappa University, Alagappa Puram, Karaikudi, Tamil Nadu

The papers presented in this session were:

1. "Empowering Women with Lifelong Learning for Gender Equity" by Dr. V. Jagadeeswari
2. "The Role of Lifelong Learning in Enhancing Empowerment of Tribal Women through Adult Education in Odisha" by Ms. Latamani Disari and Dr. Hisi Soren
3. "Gender Justice and Literacy Programme for Tribal Women" by Prof. (Dr.) Raj Kumar Nayak and Mr. Hurendra Parida
4. "Future Prospects of Gender Justice through Education



in Tribal Communities: A Study of Balasore District of Odisha" by Dr. Geetanjali Patra

5. "Contemporary Education and Challenges and Issues of Adult Education of Tribal Women in Odisha" by Guddi Saktananda, Saswati Jena and Diptishree

### Parallel Session - 12



**Sub-Theme: Tribal Language, Literature and Adult Learning for Cultural Continuity**

**Chair:** Prof. Dazy Zarabi, Professor, Department of Community Education and Disability Studies, Panjab University, Chandigarh

**Co-chair:** Shri Mihir Kumar Bose, Coordinator, Adult Nonformal Education, Loksiksha Parishad, Narendrapur, West Bengal

**Rapporteur:** Shri M. Subbamanian, Department of Lifelong Learning, Alagappa University, Karaikudi, Tamil Nadu

The papers presented in this session were:

1. Inclusive Education for Adult Learners: Expanding Lifelong Learning Opportunities for the Kandha Tribe in Rayagada District, Odisha by Mr. Jagulu Dakapraska
2. "Reimagining Tribal Education in Rayagada through NEP 2020: Opportunities and Barriers in Secondary, Adult, and Lifelong Learning" by Anil Tadingi & Dr. Manoj Kumar Behera
3. "Challenges and Opportunities in Tribal Education: A Special Reference to the Tribals of Mayurbhanj District, Odisha" by Raunde Hembram
4. "Kui Folklore as a Medium of Adult Learning: Transmission of Moral and Social Values in Tribal Communities of Odisha" by Lalita Kanhar and Dr. Ratnaprava Parija
5. 'Kadambini' To Protect Tribal Culture by Golak Kanhar
6. "Study of Tribal Language and Adult Learning for Cultural Continuity of the Lodha Tribe of Mayurbhanj District in Odisha" by Dr. Ratnakar Mohapatra
7. "The Significance of Tribal Language Literature and Adult Learning for Cultural Continuity" by Dr. Dhanu Murmu

### Parallel Session - 13



**Sub-Theme: Promoting and Preserving Marginal Literature: An Adult Learning Initiative**

**Chair:** Dr. Nitish Anand, EC Member, IAEA & Assistant

Professor (Guest Faculty) & Research Associate, University of Delhi, Delhi

**Co-chair: Shri R. C. Yadav**, Council Member, IAEA & Administrative Officer, Literacy House, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh

**Rapporteur: Ms. R. Mathuravani**, Human Resource Development, Department of Lifelong Learning, Alagappa University, Tamil Nadu

The papers presented in this session were:

1. "Adult Education and Tribal Identity: Cultural Practices among the Koya Community in Malkangiri District, Odisha" by Rina Madi
2. "The Role of Lifelong Learning in Promoting Socio-Economic Empowerment among Women Artisans in North Bengal, India" by Dr. Sidhartha Sankar Laha & Mr. Gopal Saha
3. "Empowering Rural Women through Adult Education in Organic Farming: Opportunities and Barriers" by Ms. Jane. L. Lyngdoh & Dr. Jacinta. I. Rapthap
4. "Empowered to Learn, Equipped to Lead: Lifelong Education for Rural Women" by A. Narasinga Kalai, Dr. M. Baladevi & Dr. N. Arunachalam
5. "Gender Empowerment and Social Inclusion: Pathways to Integral Development in India" by Dr. A. Senthilkumar & Dr. S.V.A. Prakash
6. "Understanding the Digital Divide: Barriers to Financial Literacy in the Elderly Population" by Ms. Ankita Singh (Online)

### Parallel Session – 14



**Sub-Theme: Preservation of Tribal Heritage through Adult Education**

**Chair: Prof. Rajesh**, Director In-charge, IAEA & Sr. Professor, DCEE, University of Delhi & Prof. N. K. Ambasht, Former Chairman, NIOS

**Co-chair: Dr. Jagadeeswari V.**, Department of Women Studies, Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati

**Rapporteur: Ms. M. Nithiyasree**, Department of Lifelong Learning, Alagappa University, Tamil Nadu

The papers presented in this session were:

1. "Bridging the Skill Gap: An Assessment of Student Readiness for the Labour Market in West Jaintia Hills, Meghalaya" by Prof B. P. Sahu, & Shri B.S. Lyngdoh
2. "Economic Consequences of Unemployment of Youth in East Khasi Hills District of Meghalaya" by Prof B. P. Sahu and Shri Andreas Rynjah
3. "Lifelong Education for Tribal Communities in Tamil Nadu" by Shri M. Subramanian & Dr. N. Arunachalam
4. "Preservation of Tribal Heritage through Adult Education: An Indian Context with Case Studies of the Kuki Tribes in Manipur" by Letginlen DOUNGEL & Lhingneingah Kipgen
5. "Classrooms without Walls: Utilising Local History and

'Unsung Heroes' as a Framework for Adult Heritage Education" by Dr. Kamal Prasad Mohanty

6. "Adult Education and Mass Literacy: Technological Imperatives for a Competitive India" by Dr. Ajay Kumar, JNU, New Delhi

### Parallel Session – 15



**Sub-Theme: Heritage Ecologies among Indian Indigenous Communities**

**Chair: Dr. Dilip S. Patil**, Former Director and Professor, Dept. of Lifelong Learning & Extension, University of Mumbai, Maharashtra

**Co-chair: Prof. J. M. Panara**, NSS Programme Coordinator, Sourashtra University, Rajkot, Gujarat

**Rapporteur: Dr. Subrata Sen**, Guest Faculty, Department of Education, NEHU, Shillong Campus

The papers presented in this session were:

1. "Indian Heritage in New Education Policy: A Boon to Future India" by R. Lakshmi & Dr. M. Baladevi
2. "Folk Traditions as Pathways for Preserving Indigenous Knowledge and Skills Among Tribal Communities" by Shivani Mehta & Prof. (Dr). Avani Mania
3. "Heritage Ecologies: Indigenous Environmental Knowledge and Sustainable Practices in Indian Communities" by Shri Manoj Kumar Sabar
4. "Traditional Ghotul System and Contemporary Adult Educational Challenges: An Anthropological Study of Gond Dropout Students in Balangir District, Odisha" by Rajkumar Dharua & Dr. Pragyan Mohanty
5. "Mindful Learning in Heritage Ecologies: Adult and Lifelong Education as a Pathway to Stress Resilience Among Tribal Youths in Odisha" by Shri Anil Kumar Pradhan, Shri Sumati Kisku and Dr. Nilamani Maharana
6. "Adult Education as a Tool for Revitalizing Indigenous Knowledge Systems" by Dr. Sishir Kumar Tripathy
7. "Role of SHGs and FPOs Under Odisha Millets Mission in Promoting Financial Literacy Among Millet-Growing Tribal Women of Kalahandi: Implications for Livelihood Security" by Dr. Nitish Anand, Prof. Rajesh and Prof. Kumar Ashutosh
8. "Adult Education as a Pathway to Gender Justice among Tribal Women in India: Perspectives from NEP 2020" by Ms. Aisurya Dash & Dr. Deepanjali Mishra

### Presentation of Group Reports and Discussion

Presided over by Prof. L. Raja, this session was focused on consolidating the ideas, opinion and view-points emerged during the discussions held in all the 15 parallel academic sessions reflecting upon major aspects of the



the audience to dance in their tune. The Street Play enacted by the beneficiaries which was intended to aware people against the adverse impact of child marriage on education and other developmental aspect of women also received the attention of

all. A competition entitled "कहो अपनी बात (Speak Your Mind) was also organized in which the participants were encouraged to share their own opinion about women development and the challenges being faced by

them. It was really appreciable that a number of women and girls came forward and shared their opinion without hesitation. Each of them was handed over a gift by Prof. Rajesh and others present on the dais. In his concluding remarks Prof. Rajesh appreciated the performances and active participation of all. He said that our kids are having huge dreams to realize in their life and it is we the parents and activists of IAEA need to support them to fulfil it.

## Sarvodaya Day Seminar & Centenary Celebration of Padma Bhushan Smt. Krishnammal Jagannathan at Gandhigram, Tamil Nadu



A two-day event commemorating Centenary Celebration of one of India's foremost Gandhian social reformers and Padma Bhushan awardee Krishnammal Jagannathan was held at Gandhigram, Tamil Nadu on February 12-13, 2026 which was participated by global thought leaders, gandhian scholars, scientists, activists, educationists, grassroots workers, and international delegates in a powerful reaffirmation of Sarvodaya ideals - upliftment of all. Day one was focused on Peace March & Global Dialogue on Health and Nutrition while the second day was for the Sarvodaya Day Seminar centered on the theme "Women as Vanguard of Social Transformation".

The Peace March Symbolizing Constructive Action was joined by distinguished participants including Dr. Soumya Swaminathan, Chairperson, M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation; Former Chief Scientist,

World Health Organization; Prof. N. Panchanatham, Vice Chancellor, Gandhigram Rural Institute, Tamil Nadu; Dr. Vinu Aram, President, Shanti Ashram, Coimbatore

and Prof. L. Raja, President, Indian Adult Education Association, New Delhi along with many Sarvodaya leaders, Buddhist monks, international scholars, students, and grassroots workers. The Peace March was followed by a compelling keynote address delivered by Dr. Soumya Swaminathan at the 5th Global Classroom for Building Communities, jointly organized by Shanti Ashram, Gandhigram Rural Institute, PSG Centre for Research and Bioethics and Gandhian Constructive Workers' Home. In her address Dr. Soumya Swaminathan highlighted the urgent concerns over nutritional deficiencies among children in India, need for evidence-based policy interventions, integrated action between policymakers and grassroots institutions and promotion of innovative, community-



driven health solutions and underscored the moral and scientific responsibility of institutions to ensure equitable health and nutrition access. The day concluded with conferring the Shri Jagannathan Annachi Award to five transformative leaders – four women and one male – for their outstanding contributions to social reform and grassroots empowerment. They are Dr. Jill Carr-Harris, Dr. Soumya Swaminathan, Ms. Jeyabarathy, Smt. Arna Roy and Shri V. P. Danayutham.

The key speakers in the seminar included Shri P. V. Rajagopal, renowned peace activist and Ms. Aruna Roy, eminent social reformer. Their addresses emphasized women's leadership in shaping equitable, sustainable societies. This was followed by Focused Thematic Group Discussions on three major themes: Women, Community Development & Social Transformation; Women, Education & Social Transformation and Women, Health & Well-being & Social Transformation. Prof. L. Raja, President, IAEA speaking in the Panel for Consolidated Presentation highlighted the transformative power of women's education, citing the life and work of Smt. Krishnammal Jagannathan as a living example of education-driven social change. The panel was also addressed by Dr. Kezavunu Aram, Shri Vasimalai, Dhan Foundation; Mr. J. M. Balamurugan, IAS and Prof. G. Palanidurai (Retd), GRI.

## MoU Signed Between IAEA and Bhaskaracharya College of Applied Sciences, DU



A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed on March 19, 2026 between Indian Adult Education Association, New Delhi and Bhaskaracharya College of Applied Sciences (University of Delhi) for the purpose of promoting academic exchange programmes both at national and international level, joint research and training, and the development of professional competencies. Present on the occasion were Prof. Avneesh Mittal, representing Bhaskaracharya College of Applied Sciences, while the Indian Adult Education Association was represented by Prof. L. Raja, President; Shri Suresh Khandelwal, General Secretary and Prof. Rajesh, Director In-charge.

Presiding over the event, which was held at the University of Delhi's Vice Regal Lodge, the Dean of Colleges, Prof. Balram Pani, stated that this MoU would

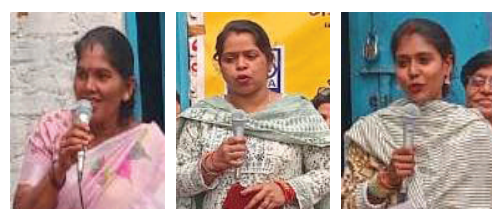


further expand international opportunities for the students and faculty of Bhaskaracharya College of Applied Sciences, thereby enhancing global connectivity and employment prospects. On the occasion Prof. Rajesh informed that an implementation team from both the institutions would work on this MoU under the patronage of the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Delhi, Prof. Yogesh Singh to realize the vision of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 with special emphasis on multidisciplinary education, lifelong learning, skill development, and employability. Underscoring the experience of the collaborative initiatives between Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg (Germany), the Indian Adult Education Association, and the Department of Adult, Continuing Education and Extension at the University of Delhi which helped scholars from both sides to have valuable international experiences Prof. Rajesh noted that such efforts will pave the path further for internationalization of higher education through global partnerships as promulgated in National Education Policy 2020.

## IAEA Skill Centre - International Women Day Celebration



The women and girls of Anna Nagar and Sanjay Colony associated with IAEA Skill Centre organized a grand cultural function to celebrate International Women Day 2026 at a community place inside the locality which was participated by around 100 girls and women.



The programme was addressed by Prof. Rajesh, Director In-charge, IAEA who was joined on dais by some leading women activists in the locality including Smt. Bina Mourya, Representative of ASHI, a voluntary organization, Smt. Vandana, a leading functionary of Anganwadi, Smt. Meena, Health Worker at AHSA Dispensary, Smt. Aaray, a Local

Women Leader and Ms. Kajal, the Trainer at Skill Centre. These women activists also shared their opinion on the occasion asking the families to motivate women for opting delivery in hospitals instead of home, getting their babies vaccinated as per schedule prescribed by the government and encouraging girls too to continue their education and acquire skills for economic wellbeing. Members of staff of IAEA including Shri B. Sanjoy, Smt. Neha Gupta, Shri Kripal Singh Mehra, Shri Jai Bhagwan, Shri Vinay Chhetri, Shri Surender, Shri Ravi and Shri Kishore took special initiative to make the programme a success.

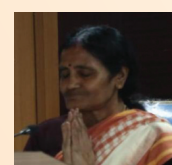
Students, learners and beneficiaries of IAEA Skill Centre were joined by enthusiastic people to perform various cultural activities such as Gidda and other sing and dance performances which compelled

central theme of the conference. The session began with the introduction of the Guest of Honour Prof. N. Arunachalam, Professor & Head, Department of Lifelong Learning, Alagappa University, Karaikudi, Tamil Nadu by Dr. Asha Verma, Associate Secretary, IAEA. Thereafter, each rapporteur presented a brief report which was supplemented by the Chair and Co-Chair of the respective session wherever required.



Speaking on the occasion Prof. N. Arunachalam appreciated the efforts made by IAEA to motivate and mobilize scholars to come forward to present their scholarly paper before experts in the field of adult and lifelong learning. Referring to the maiden presentation by most of the scholars he said that the opportunity provided by IAEA is certainly going to boost their confidence and encourage them to participate further in such academic ventures. Underscoring the submission of more than 100 papers for the conference as a overwhelming response Prof. Arunachalam congratulated all the chairs and co-chairs and said that this collective and qualitative effort will give a new boost to teaching and learning in the field of adult and lifelong education in the country. Prof. Raja assured the academic fraternity to extend all the possible support wherever needed. Recalling the commendable role played by Prof. Arunachalam for motivating his students to take part in the conference, he also congratulated the members of faculty and staff of KISS for extending extensive support and cooperation. The session was coordinated by Shri B. Sanjoy, Research Officer, IAEA and reported by Ms. Parinita Batra, Scholar, DCEE, University of Delhi.

### Valedictory Session



The valedictory session of 66th All India Adult Education Conference was held in the Seminar Hall, Campus-6 of KIIT on January 23, 2026 which began with the rendering of Saraswati Vandana by Dr. Kalpana Raja, a well-known adult education functionary.

Delivering the welcome address Prof. Rajesh underlined the importance of All India Adult Education Conferences in



shaping the course of academic dialogue in the country since 1938. It was the first All India Adult Education Conference held at University of Delhi in 1938 when contemporary stalwarts and educationists came together to discuss the educational future of the country which led to the foundation of the Association itself. Since then every conference comes with subtle declaration highlighting the current educational perspective, challenges and demands which has been well utilized and recognized by the policy makers. He expressed his satisfaction on the way the academic proceedings in the conference could be conducted successfully.



Dr. Asha Verma, Associate Secretary, IAEA introduced the dignitaries on the dais including Prof. N. K. Ambasht, Prof. L. Raja, Shri Suresh Khandelwal, Prof. Rajesh and Shri Mrinal Pant.

Prof. N. K. Ambasht, Chief Guest in the Valedictory Session said that in the era of AI enhancing knowledge base is no more dependent primely on classroom teaching. It has posed serious challenge before traditional mode of teaching and learning in the domain of higher education. The only hope lies with imbibing lifelong learning as a common practice for people irrespective of their age and geographical location. Referring to the debate and discussions held during the conference he said that the future role of lifelong learning as the only solution for sustainable development has been well recognized.

A committee was formed under the Chairmanship of Prof. N. K. Ambasht, Visitor, IIALE with members including Prof. Rajesh, Director In-charge, Prof. V. Reghu, Vice President, Shri Mrinal Pant, Joint Secretary, Prof. Asha Verma, Associate Secretary, Dr. D. Uma Devi, Associate Secretary, Dr. Nitish Anand, Member EC, IAEA to solicit the opinion of the delegates and prepare the draft of Odisha Declaration. The Committee was facilitated by Shri B. Sanjoy, Research Officer, IAEA.

The Odisha Declaration read by Shri Mrinal Pant, Joint Secretary, IAEA was adopted unanimously by the delegates. The Declaration says:

*We, the participants of 66th All India Adult Education Conference representing universities, NGOs, civil society organizations, Adult Education functionaries, researchers from different states and UTs of India, assembled at the Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS) – Deemed to be University, Bhubaneswar, Odisha, from January 21 to 23, 2026, hereby reaffirm our unwavering commitment to promoting adult education and lifelong learning as a*

fundamental pillar in shaping India's educational landscape and realizing the collective vision of Viksit Bharat (Developed India) by 2047. Recognizing national aspiration and the emerging needs of individuals and communities, we collectively resolve to:

**1. Strengthening Adult and Lifelong Learning Movement in India**

Encourage academic institutions, public and private, to constitute a study to find out how the change of nomenclature from "Adult Education" to "Education for All" has impacted the decades-long struggle/movement to develop Adult Education as a distinct discipline of teaching and learning within the framework of higher education. And motivate all the stakeholders to come together and take necessary steps to strengthen Adult Education and Lifelong Learning movement forward.

**2. Ensure Lifelong Learning for All for Achieving Cent Percent Job Readiness/Employability and better standard of living**

Make lifelong learning initiatives an integral part of every educational establishment and training institution, specifically secondary education, higher education, and community-based institutions/organizations, to build a strong foundation for continuous personal and professional growth and achieving cent percent job-readiness.

**3. Address Societal Needs through Lifelong Learning and Promotion of One Earth One Health for Sustainability**

Develop practical strategies to promote lifelong learning as a tool to address societal needs and promotion of One Earth One Health, ensuring access to educational opportunities and realisation of the goal of sustainable development for all.

**4. Adopt and Promote AI-Based Technology for Learning**

Adopt and promote the use of technology for Understanding the Lifelong Learning for All in Society (ULLAS) and Recognition of Lifelong Learning (RPL) to enhance digital accessibility, efficiency, and personalisation of lifelong learning programmes infusing Artificial Intelligence (AI) for research, innovation, and learning.

**5. Strengthen Public-Private Partnerships**

Work collaboratively with Civil Society, NGOs, educational institutions, and other stakeholders to implement inclusive and impactful lifelong learning programmes that influence diverse segments of society, specifically women and other disadvantaged sections.

**6. Promote Adult and Lifelong Learning as Means of Protecting Regional and Tribal Languages, Tribal Heritage, Indian Knowledge System and other Indian Indigenous Communities**

Incorporate lifelong learning programmes to foster individual and societal well-being, specifically as a means of protecting tribal languages, tribal heritage, Indian Knowledge System and Indian indigenous communities.

**7. Leveraging from New Trends in NEP 2020 and Focusing on Multidisciplinary Professional and Social Development**

In the light of emerging trends in NEP 2020 (5+3+3+4 structure, academic bank of credits, and multiple entry and exit points), support initiatives that promote multidisciplinary professional skill development and address social inequalities through targeted lifelong learning opportunities.

**8. Advocate to Establish New Centres/Departments of Lifelong Learning and Extension for Promoting Lifelong Learning as a Way of Life**

Renewal and empowerment of existing Centres/Departments in all Universities, Colleges including NSS/NCC/students clubs/social clubs and other youth clubs in the higher education institutions. Encouraging all the citizens to take part in Lifelong Learning activities for harnessing the best of their ability and accelerate the National Development.

**Our Call to Action**

We commit to turning these resolutions into actionable programmes and projects in partnership with key stakeholders. By doing so, we aim to create a more equitable and dynamic educational ecosystem that supports lifelong learning for all and fosters the path of employment for all in the country.

Together, let us take forward the mission of adult and lifelong learning to empower individuals, transform communities, and accomplish the goal of national development.

Thereafter, Dr. Manoj Kumar Behera, Associate Professor, KISS, Deemed to be University, Bhubaneswar and Secretary, Odisha Chapter, IAEA who played a key role in organizing the 66th All India Adult Education Conference at KISS was felicitated with a Shawl and a Bouquet by Prof. L. Raja and Shri Suresh Khandelwal. Dr. Manoj Kumar Behera thankfully accepted the felicitation on behalf of his entire team and said that it was the blessing of Prof. Achyut Samanta sir which encouraged him and his entire team to provide best possible assistance for the conference. He was thankful to the team of IAEA specifically Prof. Raja, Shri Khandelwal and Prof. Rajesh for their guidance.



**From Prof. (Dr.) Achyuta Samanta's Blog**

**IAEA Team visited Adult Education Centre at Jasola**



A team of IAEA including Prof. Rajesh, Director In-charge; Shri B. Sanjoy, Research Officer and Shri Vinay Chhetri, Sr. Assistant, IAEA visited the Adult Education Centre at Jasola run jointly by IAEA and the Pocket Full of Sunshine and interacted with some

learners. Madam Tasneema Zaidi, Managing Head of PFO was also present on the occasion. The team interacted with some of the beneficiaries and asked them about their preparation for the equivalency examinations. It was found that a couple of elderly who were getting ready for class VIII standard examinations were quite excited for having an opportunity to continue their education at this stage of their life.

**Holi Get-together**



Members of staff of IAEA along with Prof. Rajesh, Director In-charge celebrated Holi on March 2, 2026 at IAEA Office.

**IAEA NEWSLETTER Form IV**

1.	Place of Publication	Indian Adult Education Association, 17-B, Indraprastha Estate, New Delhi – 110 002
2.	Periodicity of Publication	Quarterly
3.	Printer's name Nationality Address	Suresh Khandelwal Indian 17-B, Indraprastha Estate, New Delhi – 110 002
4.	Publisher's name Nationality Address	Suresh Khandelwal Indian 17-B, Indraprastha Estate, New Delhi – 110 002
5.	Editor's name Nationality Address	Suresh Khandelwal Indian 17-B, Indraprastha Estate, New Delhi – 110 002
6.	Name and address of individuals who own the newspaper and partners or shareholders, holding more than one percent of the total capital	Indian Adult Education Association 17-B, Indraprastha Estate New Delhi – 110 002

I, Suresh Khandelwal, hereby declare that the particulars given above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Sd/-  
Suresh Khandelwal  
Publisher  
Dated: 23-3-2026

**Meeting on Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace**



The first meeting of the "The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace

(Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal), Act, 2013" was held on 18.2.2026 at 3.00 p.m. at DGPM, Indirect Taxes & Customs, I.P. Estate, New Delhi-110002. The meeting was chaired by Mrs. Indu Bhardwaj, Joint Director and Presiding Officer. The other members present were Mrs. Neha Gupta (IAEA), Mr. Ravindra Singh, Mrs. Ishita Harit, and Mrs. Ritu Sharma.

In the meeting, the members discussed their duties and the process for handling complaints related to workplace harassment. It was decided that all complaints will be handled fairly, confidentially, and within the given time limit. The Committee also planned to conduct awareness programmes to ensure a safe and respectful work environment for everyone.

employment opportunities. He presented NISD's comprehensive approach toward awareness generation, skill development, counselling, and holistic empowerment of senior citizens.

In her address, Prof. Archana Kaushik stressed that productive and active ageing is not a luxury but a necessity, warning that lack of preparedness for demographic ageing could have devastating consequences. She further underscored that no nation can progress unless older adults are placed at the centre of development discourse. Concluding her address, she called for strengthening community bonds, social coherence, and India's indigenous ethos of collective responsibility and togetherness.

Among others who participated included Prof. N. K. Ambasht, Smt. Nishat Farooq, Dr. Varsha Das, Shri K.K. Sethi, Dr. A. Mathew, Mrs. Ameli Mathew, Dr. Chyanika Uniyal, Dr. Nitish

Anand, Dr. Biresh Pachisia, Dr. Anita Marwaha, Shri Harendra Singh, Dr. Rajkumari Meena, and more than 15 senior citizens from Anna Nagar, a slum adopted by IAEA.

On this occasion the General Secretary handed over certificates to Prof. Rajesh (Chair), Dr. Chaynika Uniyal (Chair), Ms. Anjali Rathore (Rapporteur) and Ms. Gaurisha Srivastava (Rapporteur) for the role played in the 66th All India Adult Education Conference held at KISS, Bhubaneswar.

All the members of staff of IAEA and the learners of IAEA Skill Centre contributed their best to make the programme successful. The programme was coordinated by Shri B. Sanjoy, Research Officer and Ms. Poonam Rajput, Research Scholar, DU.

The programme was concluded with the vote of thanks delivered by Shri Suresh Khandelwal, General Secretary, IAEA who thanked all the speakers and the participants and requested them to join upcoming programmes as well. He emphasized the importance of



organizing similar technical consultations on a regular basis. Shri Khandelwal also met all the senior citizens who came from Anna Nagar and expressed his willingness to work further for their welfare. He also responded positively to the queries raised by the elderly who wanted themselves and their children to acquire such skills which will provide them opportunities for their economic empowerment and social wellbeing.



## IAEA Skill Centre - Certificate Distribution Ceremony



Since last couple of years IAEA has adopted two slum areas viz. Anna Nagar and Sanjay Colony, located in vicinity of its Headquarters at Indraprastha Estate, ITO, New Delhi. Multiple interventions such as organizing awareness campaigns, health and hygiene drive, read and write competitions for school going students and health check-up and eye camps for women and elderly are being made on regular basis to enhance the quality of life of the residents of this locality. Out of all these interventions IAEA Skill Centre has emerged as an effective medium for imparting much sought for Cutting & Tailoring skills to the women and girls in the area. Learners of its 1st batch most of whom were quite hesitant to come to the centre at the beginning have now acquired basic training and are able to design and stitch regular wears for both men and women independently.

A Certificate Distribution Ceremony was organized on



February 9, 2026 at Conference Hall, IAEA Headquarters in which successful learners were blessed and felicitated with

certificates by Shri Suresh Khandelwal, General Secretary; Prof. Rajesh, Director In-charge and Smt. Nishat Farooq, EC Member, IAEA. The programme began with lightening the ceremonial lamp by the dignitaries which was followed by rendering Saraswati Vandana by a group of learners of the centre including Ms. Deepshikha, Ms. Mantasa, Ms. Megha and Ms. Chanchal. Thereafter, both Shri Suresh Khandelwal and Prof. Rajesh addressed the students who were also accompanied by their family members. Speaking on the occasion Prof. Rajesh said that the skill training is going to be an instrument of change in the life of the learners as well as their families. Shri Khandelwal extended his blessings to all the learners and asked them to grow as an ambassador of change for their community. He assured full cooperation in this journey of community development and accepted their request to open a computer learning centre for them as well. A couple of learners and their parents also shared their experience throughout the programme and thanked IAEA, its officials along with their teacher Ms. Kajal for imparting skills. The programme was conducted by Shri B. Sanjoy, Research Officer. All the members of the staff of IAEA contributed their best to make the programme a success.



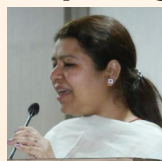
The dignitaries on the dais also handed over Certificate of Appreciation to all the faculty members, staff and volunteers of KISS who played important role in the conference. All of them were welcomed and encouraged with a huge applause by the delegates.



Citing the example of a few delegates Prof. L. Raja in his Presidential Address said that the real success of All India Adult Education Conferences lies with those who make all efforts and meet expenses at their own to ensure their presence in the Conference regularly irrespective of the distance to be travelled and availability of other logistical support. He said that efforts should be made to tune our family eco-system to encourage everybody to adopt the path of lifelong learning for improving quality of life as well as contributing the best to realize the goal of Viksit Bharat. He thanked Shri Suresh Khandelwal, General Secretary and Prof. Rajesh, Director In-charge for leading the affairs of Association from the front.



The successful conduct of 66th AIAEC at KISS was a matter of satisfaction and glory for both IAEA and KISS as each and every delegate expressed their satisfaction over both the adequacy and quality of facilities made available to them as well as the meticulous planning for entire academic proceedings held during the conference. In his remarks Shri Rajendra Joshi, Associate Secretary, IAEA said that all the delegates should come forward to maintain the height of quality achieved during this conference. Dr. Geeta Mishra, Council Member, IAEA said that such successes are realized only when each stakeholder plays its role to the best of his/her satisfaction.



The vote of thanks in the Vaedictory Session was delivered by Shri Suresh Khandelwal, General Secretary, IAEA who extended his whole hearted thanks to Prof. (Dr.) Achyuta Samanta and his team of academicians, member of staff and students for attributing utmost priority to AIAEC, one of the central activities in the field of adult and lifelong education in the country. It was truly inspiring that overcoming all the odds Prof. Samanta, an apostle of simplicity could manage time and made himself available for not only inaugurating the conference but providing guidance whenever and wherever required. Shri Khandelwal thanked Prof. Ambasht, Prof. L. Raja, Prof. Rajesh and all the members of Executive Committee and Council of IAEA for their support and cooperation. He thanked each and every delegate including faculty members, field functionaries and students coming from different universities and NGOs including Chairs, Co-Chairs and Rapporteurs for making the proceedings a great success.

Shri Khandelwal also congratulated all the members of the staff of IAEA including Shri M.L. Sharma, Shri B. Sanjoy, Shri Kripal Singh Mehra, Shri Vinay Chhetri, Shri Jai Bhagwan, Shri Surendra and Shri Ravi who worked 24x7 to make the conference a great success along with Ms. Neha, Shri Kishore and Shri Bittoo who extended support from the Head Office. Shri Khandelwal concluded his remarks with the request to all the delegates and stakeholders of adult and lifelong learning come forward and join their hands to realize the actionable points emerged in the Odisha Declaration. Let the positive energy emanating from the conference reverberate our minds throughout the year and keep us fit & fine and remain engaged with the activities of lifelong learning. The proceedings of the conference were coordinated by Shri B. Sanjoy, Research Officer, IAEA.

The 66th AIAEC was concluded with rendering the National Anthem.



## Inauguration of K.C. Choudhary Memorial Hall



Shri Suresh Khandelwal, the General Secretary, IAEA on February 12, 2026 dedicated the Main Conference Hall of IAEA to the cherished memory of late Shri K. C. Choudhary. He along with Prof. S. Y. Shah, Patron and Prof. Rajesh, Director In-charge inaugurated the hall henceforth to be referred as the K. C. Choudhary Memorial Hall. The event was joined by a host of eminent personalities associated with IAEA and the field of adult and lifelong

learning which included – Prof. N. K. Ambasht, Dr. H.C. Sridhar Ranga Reddy, Deputy Director, National Institute of Social Defence, M/o Social Justice, GOI; Prof. Vinod Kumar, AIIMS; Prof. Dr. Sunil Sharma, MD; Shri K.P. Mandilwar, Retired Director, Indian Oil Corporation; Dr. Mridula Seth; Prof. Archana Kaushik, Department of Social Work, DU; Smt. Nishat Farooq; Dr. Varsha Das; Shri K.K. Sethi, Dr. A. Mathew and many others.

# Meetings

## Executive Committee



The 169th meeting of the Executive Committee of Indian Adult Education Association was held on January 22, 2026 at 4.30 P.M. at Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences – Deemed to be University, Bhubaneswar, Odisha. Presided over by Prof. L. Raja, President the meeting was attended by 16 members. After the welcome address delivered by Shri Suresh Khandelwal, General Secretary members discussed all the agenda items scheduled for the meeting and took decisions including confirmation of the minutes of previous EC meeting held on August 4, 2025 (Online) at 11:00 A.M. The Committee reviewed the programmes and activities conducted by the Association during the period August – December 2025 and expressed its satisfaction and acknowledged the significant progress and achievements made. The Committee also considered and reviewed the estimated budget of the Association for the year 2026-27 and approved it. The Committee approved the Life memberships for 36 individuals and Institutional membership for 3 applicants. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

## Council



The meeting of the Council of Indian Adult Education Association was held at Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences,

Bhubaneswar, Odisha on January 22, 2026 at 5:30 P.M. Attended by 36 Council Members the meeting was presided over by Prof. L. Raja, President, IAEA. The meeting began with the welcome address by Shri Suresh Khandelwal followed by introduction of new members. The Council confirmed the minutes of last



meeting of the Council held on December 14, 2023 at Amrita Vishwavidyapeetham, Ettimadai Campus, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu and approved the Plan of Action of the Association for the year 2026-27.

## General Body



The meeting of the General Body of Indian Adult Education Association was held at Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences – Deemed to be University, Bhubaneswar, Odisha on January 22, 2026 at 6:00 P.M. Presided over by Prof. L. Raja the meeting was attended by 71 Members. Shri Suresh Khandelwal, General Secretary welcomed the members. Thereafter, the GB confirmed the minutes of the last meeting of the General Body held on January 9, 2025 at Manmohini Van Campus, Prajapita Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya, Abu Road, Rajasthan and adopted the Annual Report of the Association for the year 2024. The GB also adopted and

approved the Audited Statement of Accounts of the Association for the year 2024-25.

## Cultural evening



A cultural evening was also organized by the students and scholars of KIITs Fine Arts Department, young artists and a few delegates which was overwhelmingly enjoyed and appreciated by the delegates. The performance by a group of children really encouraged the delegates to dance in their tune as many joined them to encourage their performance. Prof. Rajesh on behalf of the Association proposed the vote of thanks to all the students-cum-artists. Entire inaugural session and the cultural evening was beautifully coordinated by Dr. Jysamita Kaunar, Ms. Apoorva Pattnaik and Ms. Annaya Dash. Along with the cultural programme a campus tour for the delegates was also arranged to get them acquainted with the social endeavor of Kalinga Group of Institutions. As the conference coincided with Saraswati Pooja which is celebrated on a large scale in the state of Odisha and occupies a very important place in the cultural flavor of KISS and KIIT representatives of IAEA were also invited by Dr. Prashanta Kumer Routray, Registrar, KISS to visit pooja pandal and share the auspicious prasad.

# Brainstorming Session on “Productive Ageing: Challenges and Opportunities Faced by Older Adults”



While the Finance Minister Dr. Nirmala Sitaraman was responding on Budgetary Allocations for Senior Citizens in the Rajya Sabha on February 12, 2026 coincidentally IAEA too was organizing a special programme for discussing the issues before senior citizens and strengthening the welfare ecosystem for them. The brainstorming session organized on “Productive Ageing: Challenges and Opportunities Faced by Older Adults” by IAEA was intended towards devising a programme of action for the Association which will be addressing some of the vital issues faced by senior citizens.

Held in the newly inaugurated K.C. Choudhary Memorial Hall the programme was participated by a host of eminent academicians associated with IAEA who are now senior citizens and eager to join hands to assist fellow senior citizens to make their journey smooth, productive and relishing. The programme was began with the welcome address delivered by Prof. Rajesh, Director In-charge, IAEA followed by a brief note on some of the important activities carried out by IAEA for the welfare of Senior Citizens by Prof. S. Y. Shah, Patron, IAEA. While elaborating the concept of “Happy Ageing” as a developmental and social priority, Prof. Rajesh emphasized the importance of collaborative efforts between academic institutions, community organizations, and social groups to strengthen elderly support systems.

Prof. S. Y. Shah shared his extensive institutional experience in addressing issues concerning senior citizens. He reflected on the challenges faced in



establishing residential facilities and explained the transition toward more sustainable, community-based models of support. Introducing some of the well-known initiatives such as “Friends of Senior Citizens,” he underlined the importance of intergenerational bonding, academic partnerships, research dissemination, and collective responsibility in promoting productive and healthy ageing.

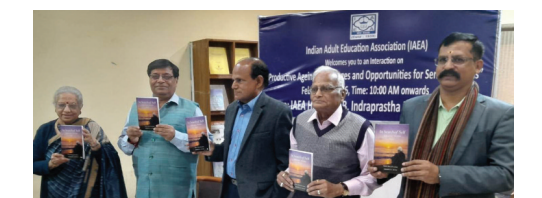
Thereafter, Prof. Vinod Kumar, former Professor of Medicine and Geriatrics at AIIMS, Delhi sensitized the audience with the challenges and opportunities in the present landscape of programme and activities for the senior citizens in the country. He underscored the importance of understanding socio-cultural dimensions of ageing, including health concerns, demographic shifts, and educational access. Referring to the National Policy on Older Persons (1999) and subsequent developments, he emphasized the need for targeted and inclusive interventions, particularly for marginalized elderly populations. He also focused on empowerment strategies such as financial inclusion, collective action models, government programmes, and re-employment opportunities and highlighted initiatives like SACRED (Senior Able Citizens for Re-Employment in Dignity), which facilitate dignified post-retirement livelihood opportunities.

Among the others who shared their opinion included Shri K.P. Mandliwar, former Director, Indian Oil Corporation;

Dr. Sunil Sharma, MD, Indian Spinal and Injury Centre, Delhi and Prof. Archana Kaushik, Delhi School of Social Welfare, University of Delhi. Shri K. P. Mandilwar sharing his personal experience of participating in GMOHA engagement programmes illustrated how community participation and active engagement can revitalize life in later years and reinforce the spirit of meaningful and joyful ageing.

Prof. (Dr.) Sunil Sharma focused on practical strategies for maintaining health among senior citizens. Referring to WHO guidelines, he emphasized four pillars of healthy living - Regular physical exercise, Balanced nutrition, Adequate sleep and Mental fitness. He further highlighted mindful dietary practices, including seasonal fruits, vegetables, salads, complex carbohydrates such as millets, portion control, and disciplined eating habits and advised maintaining a consistent sleep schedule and avoiding caffeine and heavy meals before bedtime.

A book entitled “In Search of Self – A Journey Within” authored by Dr. Mridula Seth, former Technical Advisor, UNFPA was released by the dignitaries on dais including Prof. S.Y. Shah, Shri Suresh Khandelwal, Prof. Rajesh and Dr. H.C. Sridhar Reddy, Deputy Director, NISD, M/o Social Justice and Empowerment, GOI. Speaking on the occasion Dr. Reddy



highlighted structured training programmes aligned with the National Education Policy (NEP), including certificate courses in geriatric care and caregiving designed to create