



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
ON

Empowering the Marginalised– Inclusive Pathways to Sustainable Futures

(Hybrid Mode)

21st January 2026



**PG DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK
NAIPUNNYA INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT
AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (NIMIT)
(AUTONOMOUS)**

(Affiliated to the University of Calicut, Accredited by NAAC with A++, ISO 9001-2015 Certified)

Pongam, Koratty East, Thrissur District, Kerala State, India, Pincode - 680 308

Empowering the Marginalised – Inclusive Pathways to Sustainable Futures

Keynote Speaker:



Dr. M. Hilaria Soundari

Professor, Centre for
Applied Research
Gandhigram Rural Institute,
Tamil Nadu, India

About the Speaker:

Dr. M. Hilaria Soundari is an eminent academician and researcher with over 19 years of teaching experience and 24 years of research experience in the field of Social Work. She serves as a Professor in the Centre for Applied Research at the Gandhigram Rural Institute, Tamil Nadu. Her areas of specialization include Development Research, Gender Issues, and Social Work Practice. Dr. Soundari has made significant contributions to the academic and practitioner world through her extensive research, guidance, and publications.

Overview of the Theme:

Social work stands as a cornerstone in ensuring equity, justice, and sustainability for individuals and communities pushed to the margins of society. The sub-theme “Empowering the Marginalised – Inclusive Pathways to Sustainable Futures” highlights the importance of participatory, rights-based, and community-led interventions for sustainable human development. Inclusive imagination calls us to rethink development beyond traditional frameworks and to embrace pathways that uplift vulnerable populations. Through narrative, dialogue, policy, and collective action, social workers empower communities to reclaim agency, assert rights, and build resilience.

This theme emphasizes the role of research, innovation, and ethical practice in shaping equitable futures. It encourages scholars and practitioners to explore models of community empowerment, social protection, participatory development, and inclusive governance, contributing towards a sustainable and socially just world.

Functional Areas:

1. Rights-Based Approaches in Social Work
2. Community Participation and Grassroots Development
3. Gender, Social Justice, and Empowerment
4. Indigenous Communities and Inclusive Development
5. Rural and Urban Marginalisation Studies
6. Migration, Displacement, and Social Protection
7. Disability Inclusion and Accessibility
8. Environmental Justice and Sustainable Livelihoods
9. Mental Health, Well-being, and Social Support Systems
10. Economic Empowerment and Livelihood Interventions
11. Policy Advocacy, Governance, and Social Accountability

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Guidelines for Submission of Research Papers

- Non-structured abstract, not exceeding 250 words.
- 4-6 Keywords
- References should be formatted in APA Style; all references mentioned in the Reference list should be cited in the text, and vice versa.
- Authors must indicate the respective functional area / sub-theme in which their papers could be considered.
- The research paper should include the title, author's name, mailing address, telephone number and e-mail address.
- The paper should be based on original work not yet published, not exceeding 5000 words or 13 pages.
- All papers should be in English or the respective language for research in other languages. Research papers should be in MS Word format with Times New Roman font style, 12 font size and 1.5 line spacing. For research in other languages, respective language fonts can be used.
- If paper has more than one author, each author must register separately. The corresponding author shall send the paper.
- For presentation, send abstract to **conference@naipunnya.ac.in** and register using the link once you receive the acceptance letter

Registration Fee

Participation only (all categories): Rs. 200/- per participant
Participation and Paper presentation

- Students: Rs.250/- per author
- Research Scholars: Rs.500/- per author
- Academicians: Rs.750/- per author
- Corporate and Foreign delegates: Rs. 1000/- per author

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All the papers presented in the conference will be published in theme wise proceedings as an edited volume with ISBN number.

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Important Dates

Deadline for abstract submission: **December 31, 2025**

Deadline for full paper submission: **January 10, 2026**

Notification of acceptance of full paper: **January 15, 2026**

CONFERENCE DAY: January 21, 2026

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