

**Inclusive Development and Well-being: Lessons from  
Indian Knowledge System (IKS-*Bhāratīya Jñāna Paramparā*) for  
*Viksit Bhārat @ 2047***

[ IDW-LIKS '26 ]

Organized by

Department of Geography, Vidya Bhavana, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan, Birbhum, West Bengal

In collaboration with

IQAC, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan  
Birbhum, West Bengal

IKS Cell, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan  
Birbhum, West Bengal

Department of Yogic Art & Science, Vinaya Bhavana, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan, Birbhum, West Bengal

12<sup>h</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> February, 2026

Day 01 – 12.02.2026		
Venue: Padma Bhavana, Visva-Bharati		
08:30–09:30	Registration	
08:30–09:30	Breakfast	
09:30–10:15	Inaugural Session	Lighting of Lamp & Welcome Song
		Opening Remarks
		Concept Note
		Welcome Address
		Special Address
		Inaugural Address
		Address by the IKS Division, Ministry of Education, Government of India
		Closing Remarks
		Vote of Thanks

<b>Day 01 – 12.02.2026</b>			
<b>Venue: Padma Bhavana, Visva-Bharati</b>			
10:15–11:15	Keynote Lecture	<i>“The Ancient Indian Egalitarian System Creating A Super Knowledge Society: A Brief Overview”</i>	<p><b>Speaker: Prof. K.N. Prudhvi Raju</b>, Professor (Retd.), Department of Geography, Banaras Hindu University, Uttar Pradesh</p> <p><b>Chairperson: Prof. Ranjan Basu</b>, Professor (Retd.), Department of Geography, Calcutta University, West Bengal</p>
11:15–11:30	<i>Tea Break</i>		
11:30–13:00	Plenary Session I	<p><b>Theme I:</b> “Indian Knowledge System and Sacred Geography”</p> <p><b>Theme II:</b> “Indian Knowledge System, Environment and Climate Change”</p>	<p><b>Speaker: Prof. Rana P. B. Singh</b>, Professor (Retd.), Department of Geography, Banaras Hindu University, Uttar Pradesh</p> <p><b>Speaker: Prof. V. P. Sati</b>, Professor, Department of Geography and Resource Management, Mizoram Central University, Mizoram</p> <p><b>Chairperson: Prof. Premangshu Chakraborty</b>, Professor, Department of Geography, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan</p>
13:00–14:00	<i>Lunch Break</i>		
14:00–15:30	Plenary Session II	<p><b>Theme III:</b> “Indian Knowledge System in Science and Technology”</p> <p><b>Theme IV:</b> “Indian Knowledge System, Education, Research and Development”</p>	<p><b>Speaker: Sri Shivakumar G. V.</b>, Director – INDICA Kautilya Centre (IKS for Policy, Governance &amp; Leadership)</p> <p><b>Speaker: Prof. Mona Khare</b>, Professor, Department of Educational Finance, NIEPA, New Delhi</p> <p><b>Chairperson: Prof. K.N.P. Raju</b>, Professor (Retd.), Department of Geography, Banaras Hindu University, Uttar Pradesh</p>
15:30–15:45	<i>Tea Break</i>		
<b>TECHNICAL SESSION – I</b>			
<i>“Indian Knowledge System, Environment and Development”</i>			
15.45–17:15	<p><b>Chairperson: Prof. V. P. Sati</b>, Professor, Department of Geography and Resource Management, Mizoram Central University</p> <p><b>Co-Chairperson: Dr. Srinivasan Balachandran</b>, Associate Professor, Department of Environmental Studies, Siksha Bhavana, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan</p>		
15:45-16:00	Integrating Indigenous Knowledge System with modern scientific techniques as a resilience of flash flood: A study of foothills in the Eastern Himalayan Region – <i>Bipasha Chakraborty &amp; Rajnish Kumar</i>		

<b>Day 01 – 12.02.2026</b>	
<b>Venue: Padma Bhavana, Visva-Bharati</b>	
16:00-16:15	Flood Resilience Through the Indian Knowledge System: A Geospatial Study on the Mising (Miri) Tribe of Dhemaji District, Assam – <i>Dhruba Jyoti Mudoj &amp; Dr. Sumit Kumar</i>
16:15-16:30	Understanding Forest Environment and Man- Forest Interface from the Perspective of Indian Knowledge Systems with special emphasis on Sustainable Forest Resource Utilization and Well-being of Forest – <i>Prakash Ray</i>
16:30-16:45	IKS for The Implementation of Regenerative Development: A Study in The Tourism Sector – <i>Musarrat Jahan &amp; Prof. Premangshu Chakraborty</i>
16.45-17:00	Socio-Economic Dynamics of Tourism and Stone Quarrying in Birbhum District: An Indian Knowledge System Perspective on Sustainable Regional Development – <i>Sayandeep Das</i>
17:00-17:15	Decolonizing UN SDGs: Mapping Indian Indigenous Wisdom to Global Goals – <i>Dr. Senjuti Nandy &amp; Rosy Meher</i>
<b>TECHNICAL SESSION – II</b>	
<i>“Indian Knowledge System, Education, Research and Development”</i>	
&	
<i>“Indian Knowledge System, Population, Health and Well-Being”</i>	
<b>Chairperson:</b> Prof. Mona Khare, Professor, Department of Educational Finance, NIEPA, New Delhi	
<b>Co-Chairperson:</b> Dr. Bhaswati Das, Associate Professor, CSRD, SSS, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi	
15:45-17:15	
15:45-16:00	Indian Knowledge System, Education, Research and Development – Through the Lens of NEP 2020 – <i>Debasish Sarkar</i>
16:00-16:15	Rethinking the Indian Storytelling Tradition: Towards A Truth-Based Taxonomic Approach – <i>Dr. Kapil Kumar Bhattacharyya</i>
16:15-16:30	Traditional Games of India and Their Role in the Assessment of Fundamental Motor Skills in Children – <i>Mst Sima Khatun</i>
16:30-16:45	Indian Knowledge Systems as Lived Pedagogy: Santiniketan’s Model of Experiential Learning – <i>Prosanto Kumar Saha &amp; Dr. Chitralekha Maiti</i>
16.45-17:00	Integrating IKS in NEP: Emphasizing IKS as a Living, Adaptive, Pluralistic Knowledge Ecosystem in the Twenty-first Century – <i>Payal Verma</i>
17:00-17:15	Spatial Appraisal of Human Trafficking in Selected Blocks of South 24 Parganas, West Bengal: A Solution Based Approach through Indian Knowledge System – <i>Esha Bhattacharyya, Rajanya Debnath &amp; Dr. Supratim Karmakar</i>
17:15–17:30	<i>Tea Break</i>

Day 01 – 12.02.2026			
Venue: Padma Bhavana, Visva-Bharati			
17:30–19:00	Panel Discussion I	<i>“Indian Knowledge System and Tagore’s Perception”</i>	<p><b>Panelists:</b> Prof. Debasis Bandopadhyay, Director, Rabindra Bhavana, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan</p> <p>Prof. Amit Hazra, Director of Studies, Educational Innovations &amp; Rural Reconstruction, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan</p> <p>Smt. Bodhirupa Sinha, Principal, Patha Bhavana, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan</p> <p>Prof. Ranjan Basu, Professor (Retd.), Department of Geography, Calcutta University</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Prof. Amrit Sen, Department of English, Bhasha Bhavana, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan</p>
20:00–21:00	Dinner at Padma Bhavana		

Day 02 – 13.02.2026			
Venue: Yoga Village, Department of Yogic Art & Science, Vinaya Bhavana, Visva-Bharati			
08:00–09:00	Yoga Session	Special Session on Mental & Physical Well Being	<p><b>Instructors:</b> Ms. Parichiti Saha, Assistant Professor &amp; Mr. Rupesh Kumar, Assistant Professor Department of Yogic Art &amp; Science, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan</p>
09:00–10:00	Breakfast		
10:00–12:15	Plenary Session III	<b>Theme V:</b> “Indian Knowledge System, Population, Health and Wellbeing”	<p><b>Speaker: Prof. Ritendra Sharma</b>, Professor, Centre for Indic Studies, Indus University, Ahmedabad, Gujarat</p> <p><b>Speaker: Dr. Kashinath Metri</b>, Associate Professor, Department of Yogic Art &amp; Science, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan, West Bengal</p> <p><b>Speaker: Dr. Siddhartha Chowdhury</b>, Institute of Space &amp; Atmospheric Sciences, Department of Physics &amp; Engineering Physics, University of Saskatchewan, Canada</p> <p><b>Chairperson:</b> Prof. Samiran Mondal, Professor &amp; Head, Department of Yogic Art &amp; Science, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan, West Bengal</p>

<b>Day 02 – 13.02.2026</b>		
<b>Venue: Yoga Village, Department of Yogic Art &amp; Science, Vinaya Bhavana, Visva-Bharati</b>		
12:15–12:30	<i>Tea Break</i>	
12:30–14:00	Plenary Session IV	<p><b>Theme VI:</b> “Indian Knowledge System, Agriculture and Rural Economy”</p> <p><b>Speaker:</b> Prof. Saumya Chakrabarti, Professor, Department of Economics &amp; Political Science, Vidya Bhavana, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan, West Bengal</p> <p><b>Theme VII:</b> “Indian Knowledge System and Traditional Artisan Skills”</p> <p><b>Speaker:</b> Sri Ashutosh Jani, Social Entrepreneur &amp; IKS Activist, Ahmedabad, Gujarat</p> <p><b>Chairperson:</b> Prof. N.C. Jana, Professor, Department of Geography, The University of Burdwan, West Bengal</p>
14:00–14:45	<i>Lunch Break</i>	
14:45–16:15	<p><b>TECHNICAL SESSION – III</b></p> <p>“Indian Knowledge System and Science and Technology”</p> <p>&amp;</p> <p>“Indian Knowledge System and Sacred Geography”</p>	
	<p><b>Chairperson:</b> Prof. Rana P. B. Singh, Professor (Retd.), Department of Geography, Banaras Hindu University, Uttar Pradesh</p> <p><b>Co-Chairperson:</b> Dr. Amit Chatterjee, Associate Professor, Department of Geography, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan, West Bengal</p>	
14:45-15:15	<b>Distinguished Lecture</b>	Vedic and Modern Systems of Geo-Chronology: Revisiting Thompson’s Analysis – Prof. Manjari Bhattacharji, Professor & Head, Department of Geography, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan & Dr. V.A.V. Raman, Associate Professor, Department of Geography, Shaheed Bhagat Singh College, University of Delhi, New Delhi
15:15-15:30	Rhythm of Cosmic Time White Dwarf Cooling and Galactic Evolution – Disha Chatterjee & Dr. Mohammed Younus	
15:30-15:45	Indian Knowledge System and Traditional Practices of Forest Protection in Sundarban Biosphere Reserve, West Bengal – Susmita Chandra & Dr. Sudipta Sarkar	
15:45-16:00	Integrating the History of Urbanization in Birbhum District with the Hindu <i>Shaktipeethas</i> : An Outlook from Indian Knowledge System – Dr. Bhaswati Mondal	
16:00–16:15	Nabadwip as a Centre of IKS in Eastern India: A Study on Its Role in Intellectual Development of Medieval Bengal -- Dr. Saswati Das	
14:45–16:15	<p><b>TECHNICAL SESSION – IV</b></p> <p>“Indian Knowledge System, Population, Health and Well-being”</p>	
	<p><b>Chairperson:</b> Prof. Ritendra Sharma, Professor, Centre for Indic Studies, Indus University, Ahmedabad, Gujarat</p> <p><b>Co-Chairperson:</b> Dr. Kashinath Metri, Associate Professor, Department of Yogic Art &amp; Science, Vinaya Bhavana, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan, West Bengal</p>	

<b>Day 02 – 13.02.2026</b>		
<b>Venue: Yoga Village, Department of Yogic Art &amp; Science, Vinaya Bhavana, Visva-Bharati</b>		
14:45–15:15	<b>Distinguished Lecture</b>	Journey of India Towards Medical Pluralism Since 19 <sup>th</sup> Century – <i>Dr. Bhaswati Das, Associate Professor, CSRD, SSS, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi</i>
15:15–15:30	Does Kinship Availability Influence Food Security among the Elderly in India? Revisiting the Role of the Indian Approach of Family Systems – <i>Dr. Sanjit Sarkar</i>	
15:30–15:45	Communicating Health Across Generations: Linkage between Ancient Bharatiya Health Treatise and Health Practices among tribals of Samakhunta, Odisha – <i>Tinku Dhali</i>	
15:45–16:00	Biopower and the Capitalist Construct: De-linking India's Population Health from the Western Biomedical Hegemony -- <i>Samaun Mondal &amp; Dr. Bhaswati Das</i>	
16:00–16:15	A Comparative Statistical Evaluation on Ethnobotanical Uses of Pteridophytes in Rarh Region of West Bengal – <i>Dr. Soma Sukul</i>	
16:15–20:00	<i>Local Sightseeing</i>	
20:00–21:00	<i>Dinner at Padma Bhavana</i>	

<b>Day 03 – 14.02.2026</b>		
<b>Venue: Padma Bhavana, Visva-Bharati</b>		
08:00–09:00	<i>Cultural Programme celebrating 125 Years of Patha Bhavana – “The Gurukul Ashram” at Amra-Kunja (delegates &amp; participants only)</i>	
09:00–10:00	<i>Breakfast</i>	
10:00–11:15	<b>TECHNICAL SESSION – V</b> “Indian Knowledge System Agriculture and Rural Economy” & “Indian Knowledge System and Traditional Artisan Skills”	
	<b>Chairperson:</b> Prof. Saumya Chakrabarti, Professor, Department of Economics & Political Science, Vidya Bhavana, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan, West Bengal <b>Co-Chairperson:</b> Dr. V.A.V. Raman, Associate Professor, Department of Geography, Shaheed Bhagat Singh College, University of Delhi	
10:00-10:15	Role of Indian Knowledge Systems for Promoting Climate Smart Agriculture – <i>Arpita Bhandary</i>	
10:15-10:30	A Systematic Evaluation of Crop Suitability in Association with the Indian Knowledge System for Sustainable Agricultural Practices to Enhance Wellbeing in the South Western Part of Birbhum District Using Analytical Hierarchy Process (AHP) – <i>Dr. Koyel Mukherjee</i>	
10:30-10:45	Overview of Small-Scale Industries in Kalimpong Town: Historical Trajectories and Contemporary Issues – <i>Dr. Bhawana Khati</i>	
10:45-11:00	Unpacking The Economic Challenges and Trade Prospects of Himalayan Cheese: A Case Study of Darjeeling Region – <i>Nunam Subba &amp; Dr. Sumit Kumar</i>	

**Day 03 – 14.02.2026**

**Venue: Padma Bhavana, Visva-Bharati**

11:00-11:15	Inclusive Development and Well-being of Female Informal Workers: A Geospatial Study of Bolpur–Sriniketan in the Light of Rabindranath Tagore’s Philosophy – <i>Swagata Mondal &amp; Dr. Sudipto Kumar Goswami</i>		
<b>TECHNICAL SESSION – VI</b> <i>“Indian Knowledge System and Traditional Artisan Skills”</i>			
10:00–11:15	<b>Chairperson:</b> Prof. N. C. Jana, Professor, Department of Geography, The University of Burdwan, West Bengal <b>Co-Chairperson:</b> Dr. Chitralkha Maiti, Associate Professor, Department of Education, Vinaya Bhavana, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan, West Bengal		
10:00-10:15	Indigenous Craft and Craftsmen: A Study of Dariyapur Dokra, West Bengal, India – <i>Abhismita Sarkar &amp; Dr. Dhiraj Barman</i>		
10:15-10:30	Mithila Painting and Baumol Cost Disease: An Analysis – <i>Awadhesh Kumar</i>		
10:30-10:45	The Idol Making Industry of Ghurni and Kumartuli: A Comparative Study – <i>Brishti Kundu &amp; Dr. Bhawana Khati</i>		
10:45-11:00	Traces of The Indian Knowledge System in Historic Urban Landscape: A Study on The Traditional Artisan Neighbourhood of Krishnanagar City, West Bengal – <i>Puja Sarkar &amp; Prof. Premangshu Chakraborty</i>		
11:00-11:15	Dokra Art and Artisans: An Exploration of Traditional Knowledge Transmission and Gender Inclusiveness in West Bengal – <i>Sudipta Das &amp; Chitradeep Das</i>		
11:15–11:30	<i>Tea Break</i>		
11:30–13:00	Panel Discussion II	<i>Indian Knowledge System for Viksit Bharat @ 2047</i>	<p><b>Panelists:</b> Prof. K. N. Prudhvi Raju, Professor (Retd.), Department of Geography, Banaras Hindu University, Uttar Pradesh Prof. Rana P.B. Singh, Professor (Retd.), Department of Geography, Banaras Hindu University, Uttar Pradesh Prof. N. C. Jana, Professor, Department of Geography, The University of Burdwan, West Bengal Prof. Biplob Loho Chowdhury, Professor, Centre for Journalism &amp; Mass Communication, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Dr. Atig Ghosh, Assistant Professor, Department of History &amp; PRO &amp; Chairperson, Tangible Heritage Committee, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan</p>
13:00–14.00	Valedictory Session	Valedictory Speech	<p><b>Speaker:</b> <b>Dr. Nimai Chand Saha</b>, Librarian &amp; Overall Convener, University Steering Committee for IKS, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan</p> <p><b>Chairperson:</b> Prof. Md. Sirajul Islam, Professor (Retd.), Department of Philosophy &amp; Comparative Religion, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan</p>
		Distribution of Certificates	

**Day 03 – 14.02.2026**

***Venue: Padma Bhavana, Visva-Bharati***

13:00–14:00	Valedictory Session	Vote of Thanks	Dr. Sumit Kumar, Assistant Professor, Department of Geography, Visva-Bharati & Treasurer of IDW-LIKS '26
14:00–15:00	<i>Lunch Break</i>		
15:00–17:00	<b><i>Heritage Walk - Visit to the Core Heritage Area of Santiniketan</i></b>		
19:00-20:00	<i>Dinner</i>		