You are cordially invited to the Seventh
Professor Asha A. Bhende Memorial Lecture

On
Talking Empowerment, Talking Gender; Revisiting the Familiar

By
Professor Saraswati Raju
(Former Professor, Jawaharlal Nehru University)

Date : 23 March, 2018 (Friday)
Time : 4.00 PM
Venue : Third Floor, Library Building
IIPS, Deonar, Mumbai-88

Dr. L. Ladusingh
(Offg. Director and Senior Professor)

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Dr. Asha Atmaram Bhende had an excellent academic career. She had Master degrees from the University of Bombay (1956) and from the University of California, Berkely (1962). In 1976, she received Doctorate in Sociology from the Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS). She joined IIPS in 1963 and served the Institute in various capacities. In 1988, she retired as a Professor and Head of the Department of Population Policies and Programmes. She was considered as one of the best teachers of IIPS. Her book “Principles of Population Studies” (co-authored with Prof. Tara Kanitkar) is well acclaimed by demographers and students. She worked as a consultant to ILO, UNFPA, Rockefeller Foundation, FRHS and National Association for the Blind. She was a Visiting Fellow at the East West Center, Hawaii in 1985. As a chairperson of the Ashish Gram Rachana Trust of the Institute of Health Management, Pachod (Maharashtra), she was active till her last breath in directing the programmes of the trust aimed at holistic development and the upliftment of marginalized groups. On her 80th birthday, her book on her life titled - "Majhya Jagaat Me" (In my own world, am I) - was published. Besides being an academician, Dr. Asha Bhende was a well acclaimed actress and a model. She passed away on 28th May 2010 at the age of 82. Prof. Bhende was a rare combination of artistic talent and academic brilliance.

Formerly a Professor in Social Geography at the Centre for the Study of Regional Development (CSRD) in Jawaharlal Nehru University in New Delhi, Saraswati Raju's teaching and research interests are in issues related to Gendered Marginalities in Social Development, particularly in Education and Skills and Labour Markets. Gender and Space, Child Sex Ratios are other areas of concern. Prof. Raju has published nationally and internationally on these matters. She has been at the forefront in introducing gender studies in Indian geography. She has been on the editorial boards of Annals of Association of American Geographers, Antipode and Progress in Human Geography, amongst others; her co-authored publication of the Atlas on Women and Men in India has been a landmark in this direction. Her co-edited books include Colonial and Post-Colonial Geographies of India (2011 Sage), Doing Gender, Doing Geography: Emerging Research in India (2011, Routledge), Gendered Geographies: Space and Place in South Asia (2011, Oxford University Press) and the recently published Women Workers in Urban India (2016, Cambridge University Press).

She is one of the founding members for the International Geographic Union (IGU) Commission on Gender and Geography and has received many visiting awards and fellowships in her long and illustrious career. She is a recipient of Janet Monk Service Award (2010) given by the Women Specialty Group of Association of American Geographers for exemplary contribution to the study of gender/feminist concerns in geography. This is the first ever award outside the Anglo-Saxon world. She has also been awarded the 2012's Distinguished Service Award for Asian Geography, instituted by the Asian Geography Specialty Group, Association of American Geographers. USA. The award honours 'outstanding scholars in the field of Asian geography who have demonstrated exceptional scholarship as well as service to the specialty group'.