

Pagdandi

The Path Unfolding



Newsletter of the MA in Rural Management Program
School of Humanities and Social Sciences
Shiv Nadar Institution of Eminence (deemed to be a university)

Vol. 1, No. 2 (Monsoon 2025)

उत्तिष्ठत जाग्रत प्राप्य वरान्निबोधत।
क्षुरस्य धारा निशिता दुरत्यया
दुर्गं पथस्तत्कवयो वदन्ति॥
Katha Upanishad, Verse 1.3.14

Arise, mindful and alert, learn from those who have been there
For, sharp as a razors edge, hard to traverse, difficult is that path,
say the poets, who have seen.

Pagdandi is a Hindi word that literally means a winding village mud path. In spiritual terms it connotes for us-the razor's edge, a road less travelled, walking on which we undertake the challenging journey of breaking with the mainstream and forging something transformative, something so much more beautiful, inclusive and lasting.

Teaching to Transform: MA-RM Wins at the Festival of Pedagogies 2025



Dr. Mihir Shah receiving the award (on behalf of the entire Rural Management team) for Winner, Festival of Pedagogies, from Vice Chancellor (Dr. Ananya Mukherjee) and Dean of Academics (Dr. Partha Chatterjee)

The Monsoon 2025 semester began on a high note for the MA in Rural Management (MA-RM) program when we were declared one of the winners at the Festival of Pedagogies 2025, a university-wide celebration of innovative, creative, and impactful teaching practices.

- Representing the program, Dr. Mihir Shah presented “Teaching to Transform: A Pedagogy of Hope”, a powerful and inspiring framework that reimagines the classroom as a deeply dialogic space grounded in real-world engagement. His presentation showcased how RM’s pedagogy transcends academic instruction, emphasises the importance of community and shared experiential learning, while building hope, joy and spirituality in the learning process, based on an understanding that transformation necessarily needs to be internal, so that it can also be social.
- The entry was selected by a distinguished jury that included the Vice Chancellor and the Dean of Research & Partnerships, recognizing a teaching philosophy that does not merely speak about change, but actively practices it.
- What sets the MA-RM program apart is its commitment to field-based, immersive learning, where students work directly with rural communities, design solutions with people rather than for them, and are guided by enduring values of equity, dignity, and possibility. This recognition reflects the collective effort of faculty, mentors, students, and partner communities who continue to shape a learning ecosystem dedicated to meaningful social transformation.

Welcoming the Third Cohort: Selection & Induction of the MA-RM Batch 2025-27



Third batch students of MA-RM (2025-27) with Mr. Gagan Sethi (centre, standing)- Visiting Faculty-MARM, SNloE and Director-JANVIKAS, and other core faculty.

Based on the learnings from the selection process of the first two batches, we selected our third batch of students through an even more rigorous and intensive selection process, with a written test, personal interviews and group discussion, conducted by a selection committee of 15 members, comprising 5 panels, each comprising 3 faculty and Advisory Group members. Of the 346 applications received, we called 219 applicants for this final round of selection to the university campus. Of these, we selected 38 students for the 2025-27 batch from 12 States, 26 of whom are women, 11 each are from Dalit and Adivasi communities and 5 are Muslims.

The induction of the third batch occurred over a period of two days from 16 August 2025 to 17 August 2025. The induction program saw the welcome address by Prof. Mihir Shah, Chair, MA-RM Program along with introduction by students and faculty. Students were also made aware of the Program's and the University's various relevant policies and procedures with a comprehensive session on Sexual Harassment.

Category	Number Interviewed	Number Selected	% Selected
Adivasi	71	11	15
Dalit	50	11	22
OBC	63	9	14
MUSLIM	15	5	33
General	20	2	10
Total	219	38	18

Gender	Number Interviewed	Number Selected	% Selected
FEMALE	103	26	25
MALE	116	12	10
Total	219	38	17

	States	Number Interviewed	Number Selected	% Selected
1	ASSAM	7	0	0
2	BIHAR	19	2	11
3	CHHATTISGARH	10	5	50
4	DELHI	1	0	0
5	HARYANA	1	1	100
6	JAMMU AND KASHMIR	1	1	100
7	JHARKHAND	17	3	18
8	KARNATAKA	2	0	0
9	KERALA	1	1	100
10	MADHYA PRADESH	39	6	32
11	MAHARASHTRA	79	10	13
12	ODISHA	4	0	0
13	RAJASTHAN	2	2	100
14	TELANGANA	6	2	33
15	UTTAR PRADESH	7	2	29
16	UTTARAKHAND	1	0	0
17	WEST BENGAL	22	3	14
	Total	219	38	17

Walking with the Earth: Learning from Lives, Landscapes and Living Systems



Our students with head gardener Hemraj ji (extreme left), Dr. Khan (third from left) and Dr. Ramanujam (extreme right) upon the completion of the walk.

On 23rd August 2025, like at the beginning of every new year, the Program conducted the 'Walking with Earth, Lives and Environments' walk that was led by Dr. Venkat Ramanujam and Dr. Ajmal Khan. The walk involved students getting acquainted with and being immersed in the rich biodiversity of the campus. The students were told about the history of the planet—its genesis and different scientific theories surrounding it along with the history of emergence of life on the planet. Students were also taken around the Biodiversity Park inside the campus. Students were encouraged to identify various flora and fauna in the campus as both Dr. Ramanujam and Dr. Khan explained their history and significance, along with explaining the larger importance of saving the environment. Students came back enriched from the experience and connected to their lived environment in more embodied and emotional ways.

Learning the Field: First Encounters in Dharpa Village, Bulandshahar, Uttar Pradesh



Third Batch students interacting with community members during their visit to Dharpa village

On 5th September 2025, as part of their Reflective Practice course, students were taken to the nearby Dharpa village in Bulandshahar district. The visit was guided by Mr. Shashi Bhushan, visiting faculty of the program as part of his lectures on understanding fundamentals of community engagement. Students were divided into groups and directed to collect basic demographic information about the village and families. The visit was largely to teach students ethics and skills of engaging with communities, the how's of approaching people, building rapport, among others, through first-hand experience of conducting preliminary community visits. Students were also taught how to sharpen their observation skills along with unpacking their understanding of various axes of power such as caste, gender, class, religion, among others which they were being taught in other courses. The visit also enabled students to identify challenges and come up with ways on how to navigate them. The groups then presented and discussed their findings and methodological reflections in class the next day.

The Man Who Fed India: A Conversation with Priyamvada Jayakumar



Ms. Priyamvada Jayakumar (right) in conversation with Prof. Raina during the book talk

On 10th September 2025, students attended the book discussion by Ms. Priyamvada Jayakumar on her recently published biographical book on Dr. M.S. Swaminathan titled, "The Man Who Fed India". The session was moderated by Prof. Rajeswari Raina of IRGS Department and visiting faculty of MA-RM Program. Our students took an active part in the discussion by asking questions and including comments, particularly surrounding Dr. Swaminathan's role in the Green Revolution. The session ended with Ms. Jayakumar sharing insights of Dr. Swaminathan as a feminist, a father and a husband, a bureaucrat and a policymaker. The author also distributed signed copies of her book.

The Heart of the Curriculum

Successful Completion of the Field Education Semester 2025 for MA in Rural Management (Batch 2024-26)

The second batch of the MA in Rural Management (2024-26) has successfully completed its Third Semester Field Education Program, an intensive and transformative learning journey conducted between August and November 2025 across multiple regions of India. This semester represents the core of the MA-RM curriculum. Students engaged in solution-centred Field Education with leading development practitioners, moving far beyond conventional fieldwork to understand how institutions, communities and ecosystems interact in real development contexts to build together solutions to some of India's most "wicked" problems.

The Four Field Courses

Violence Against Women & Girls (August 2025)

Community-led approaches to gender justice with ANANDI and KMVS, focusing on feminist law, survivor-centred practice and women's collectives.

Sustainable Agro-ecological Transitions (September 2025)

Hands-on agroecology with Deccan Development Society and Centre for Sustainable Agriculture, learning soil health, seed sovereignty, water conservation and climate resilience.

Women's Institutions & Participatory Water Management-I (October-November 2025)

Institution-building and ecological planning with Samaj Pragati Sahayog (SPS), learning about building SHGs and livelihoods, securing entitlements and practicing watershed development.

Participatory Water Management-II (November 2025)

Village-based learning of drinking water and sanitation with Gram Vikas, Odisha, grounded in the Water Secure Gram Panchayat approach.



One of the student groups with their hosts in a village in Dahod District during their field education course on violence against women. The village stay was organized by ANANDI.



Students engage in hands-on learning to prepare agroecological bio-inputs using cow dung during their Field Education course, guided by facilitator Bhairava Kumar (extreme right) at CSA and DDS, at the KVK in Zaheerabad, Telangana



Our students display hand-stitched bags they crafted while learning from local Adivasi women at the Kumbaya Centre, as part of their Field Education course on Women's led institutions at SPS, Bagli (Madhya Pradesh)



Our second batch students helping with the construction of an individual toilet-cum-bathroom in Tuburuda Village, Gajapati District during their field education course with Gram Vikas, Odisha

Conversations around Care-Rethinking Menstrual Health & Dignity

A full day workshop by Raashi Raghunath (Ex Member-Team Goonj) & Neha Rose Toppo (Alumna, MA Rural Management)



Ms. Neha Toppo explaining the use of menstrual cups to our students

We organized a thoughtfully designed workshop facilitated by Raashi Raghunath and Neha Rose Toppo. The sessions created a reflective and safe space for students to engage with menstruation not merely as a biological process, but as a deeply social, cultural, environmental, and political concern. The aim of the workshop was threefold: to unpack beliefs around menstrual stigma, notions of impurity, and gender inequality; to build scientific understanding of menstrual health; and to explore sustainable and affordable methods of menstrual management.

Through active discussions, interactive activities, and careful listening, participants reflected on lived experiences across families and cultures, questioning long-held norms and misconceptions surrounding menstruation. A central component of the series focused on menstrual health management, introducing students to various methods of period care, including menstrual cups, period panties, and tampons, and examining their financial, ecological, and health implications. Special emphasis was placed on menstrual cups, with

detailed guidance on their use, benefits, and challenges, along with open conversations addressing fears, bodily autonomy, and concerns around adoption of sustainable practices.

The workshops were conducted in smaller groups to ensure comfort and meaningful participation, with sessions structured to include both mixed-gender conversations on stigma and allyship, as well as women-only spaces that allowed for deeper engagement with personal experiences. A follow-up session was also planned to support continued reflection, address questions, and track progress in adopting healthier and more sustainable practices.

Through these layered conversations, the initiative foregrounded menstrual health as a critical issue of dignity, equity, sustainability, and public health, leaving participants better informed, more confident, and deeply engaged with the subject. Menstrual cups were distributed by the program to encourage its usage among our female students.

Building Just Digital Futures

Talk on Ensuring Inclusion and Accuracy in Agri Stacks by Dr. Kiran Kumar Vissa (Prominent Social Activist working on grassroot farmer issues with the Rythu Swarajya Vedika)

We organized an engaging guest lecture on 18th November 2025 by Dr. Kiran Kumar Vissa on the theme "Ensuring Inclusion and Accuracy in Agri Stack." The session addressed one of the most pressing challenges in India's digital transformation of agriculture, building data systems that are both technologically robust and socially inclusive.

Dr. Vissa examined the promise of the Agri Stack initiative in strengthening service delivery, farm-level decision-making, and governance through digitization. At the same time, he highlighted critical concerns around data accuracy, representation, and exclusion, particularly in the context of small and marginal farmers, women farmers, tenant cultivators, and landless agricultural workers. He emphasized that digital infrastructures, if not carefully designed, risk reinforcing existing inequalities rather than resolving them.

The talk invited students to reflect on the political, institutional, and ethical dimensions of agricultural data systems, foregrounding the need for transparent governance, community participation, and accountability in the design of digital platforms. The session concluded with a rich interaction with our students, who discussed the implications of Agri Stack for rural livelihoods, policy design, and grassroots implementation.

Rethinking Development: The Case for Socially Necessary Green Transitions

A Talk by Dr. Rohit Azad (Assistant Professor at the Centre for Economic Studies and Planning, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi)



Dr. Rohit Azad during his talk

We recently hosted a thought-provoking talk by Dr. Rohit Azad, on the theme “Socially Necessary Green Development in India” on the 13th of November 2025. The session brought together critical questions of inequality, climate change, development, and the political economy of energy transitions.

Dr. Azad’s lecture unpacked the complex and often counter-intuitive relationship between inequality and climate change in the Indian context. While it is commonly assumed that redistributing income in favour of the poor would automatically lead to lower emissions, he introduced the idea of a “carbon inequality paradox”, demonstrating how rising incomes at the lower end can, under current development models, actually increase per-capita emissions. This, he argued, does not imply a trade-off between equality and environmental sustainability. Rather, it highlights the urgent necessity of a green energy transition as the foundation of any genuinely egalitarian development strategy.

The talk was followed by a rich and engaging interaction with our students, who raised questions around development planning, employment transitions, political feasibility, and the implications of green policies for rural and agrarian economies. Dr. Azad responded by situating these concerns within broader macroeconomic and political structures, encouraging students to think beyond narrow technical solutions and engage with the deeper political economy of climate action.

Conference on Co-operatives, Development and Higher Education

10 December 2025, Jacaranda Hall, India Habitat Centre, Delhi NCR
Hosted by: Shiv Nadar University, Delhi-NCR



Our MA-RM students (Sanjay-extreme left, Prakriti and Kiran- second last and last from the right in the front row) with the esteemed faculty from SNioE, including Prof. Daryl Reed and Dr. Sudarshan Naidu, along with Vice Chancellor-SNioE Dr. Ananya Mukherjee and other members from the SNioE team

The Conference on “Co-operatives, Development & Higher Education”, was an inspiring and intellectually vibrant gathering that brought together leaders from academia, government, foundations, NGOs, and cooperative bodies to reflect on the future of collaborative development in India.

The overarching purpose of the conference was to promote greater cooperation between co-operatives and self-help groups, institutions of higher education, NGOs, and Foundations, particularly within the agricultural and handicraft sectors in rural India. Key goals included identifying pathways to support these organisations in adopting more sustainable production practices, expanding market access, engaging in value-added activities, and strengthening inter-institutional collaboration. A central cross-cutting theme was the documentation of impact in relation to the Sustainable Development Goals, reinforcing the global relevance of locally grounded development efforts.

The MA in Rural Management program was prominently represented at the conference. Prof. Mihir Shah, Distinguished Professor and Chairperson, delivered a powerful address in the session on “Higher Education Roles-Education, Consultation, Research & Procurement,” where he spoke about the transformative potential of rural management education in strengthening India’s cooperative ecosystem. He emphasized the evolving role of universities as genuine knowledge partners for grassroots institutions, capable of supporting cooperatives not only through education but also through research, advisory services, and long-term institutional partnerships.

Students from the MA in Rural Management (Batch 2025-27) were actively engaged throughout the day, posing sharp and thoughtful questions that reflected their deep commitment to rural development, cooperative governance, and meaningful collaboration across sectors. Their participation highlighted how academic learning, when grounded in real-world challenges, can nurture a new generation of development professionals. For students, the conference was more than an academic event. It reaffirmed that Rural Management is not merely a field of study, but a sensibility- one rooted in empathy, long-term engagement, and a deep commitment to working alongside communities. The reflections, dialogues, and insights from the conference will continue to shape their academic journeys and professional aspirations in the years ahead.

Faculty Contributions and Highlights (Monsoon 2025)

Dr. Mihir Shah



Dr. Mihir Shah delivered an insightful talk during the conference on "Co-operatives, Development and Higher Education"



Dr. Mihir Shah delivering the inaugural masterclass by I.D.E.A.S for the M.Sc. in Development Studies program hosted by the Jindal Global University

Rethinking the Foundations of Development: IDEAS Masterclass Series, O.P. Jindal Global University | 7 August 2025

On 7 August 2025, Dr. Mihir Shah was invited as a guest speaker for the inaugural Masterclass Series of IDEAS, O.P. Jindal Global University, organized as part of the launch of its new MSc in Development Practice programme.

Drawing on his extensive work at the intersection of water, environment, governance, and public policy, Dr. Shah urged students and faculty to critically rethink dominant development paradigms. His masterclass bridged conceptual frameworks with lived policy experience, sparking rich discussion on the ethical, institutional, and ecological foundations of development practice. The IDEAS team noted that his contribution significantly enriched the learning experience and closely aligned with the program's commitment to interdisciplinary dialogue.

Water, Climate Resilience, and Community Well-being: High-Level Dialogue, Embassy of Sweden, New Delhi | 17 September 2025



Dr. Mihir Shah delivering his talk at the Swedish Embassy, New Delhi

In September 2025, Dr. Mihir Shah was invited by Jan Thesleff, Ambassador of Sweden to India, to deliver the opening remarks at a high-level dialogue on "Water for Resilience: Sustainable Access, Climate Action & Community Well-being." The dialogue was co-organized by the Embassy of Sweden and UNICEF India and held at the Embassy of Sweden in New Delhi on 17 September 2025.

The dialogue brought together government representatives, corporate leaders, and development partners to examine how sustainable water use—particularly through CSR and community engagement can strengthen climate resilience and improve outcomes for children and communities. Dr. Shah framed water as a central axis of community well-being, inter-generational equity, and climate adaptation, situating the discussion firmly within the challenges of the Anthropocene.

Reframing Water Governance in the Anthropocene: International Webinar **8 October 2025**



Dr. Shah gave a talk on “Water Challenges in the Anthropocene: Lessons from India” on 8 October 2025 as part of The Last Drop – Water Researchers Speaker Series, jointly organized by Just Waters, the University of Manitoba – Centre for Human Rights Research, and partners working on the UN Sustainable Development Goals, with a focus on SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation.

In his address, Dr. Shah argued that much of the world, including India, remains trapped in mid-20th-century command-and-control approaches to river systems and extractive groundwater use, shaped by narrow engineering and hydrogeological frameworks. Calling for a trans-disciplinary rethinking of water as a common pool resource, he

emphasized the interconnectedness of hydrology, ecology, institutions, livelihoods, and social equity. Drawing on decades of grassroots engagement and national policy experience, he shared lessons from both failures and innovations in community-led water governance and participatory institutions.

Rethinking Local Economic Development: NCG/BCG Meeting **30 October 2025**

On 30 October 2025, Dr. Mihir Shah, also Former Member of the Planning Commission of India, played a central role in the NCG/BCG Meeting, contributing to the high-level panel discussion on “Local Economic Development-Strategy & Scoping.”

He argued for a fundamental shift in how local economic development is conceptualized and practiced, stressing that development must move beyond infrastructure-led growth towards people-centered, institutionally rooted, and ecologically sustainable models. Emphasizing the importance of decentralized governance, Dr. Shah highlighted the need for robust knowledge systems, long-term policy coherence, and meaningful partnerships between academia, civil society, and public institutions. His intervention was widely regarded as one of the intellectual anchors of the meeting, helping frame local economic development as an integrated process linking governance, livelihoods, environment, and social equity.

Dr. Bhargabi Das (Assistant Professor, Rural Management)



Dr. Bhargabi Das, made major scholarly and public contributions in 2025. Her article, "Erosion of land and citizenship: A case of chars of Assam, India," was published in Sociological Bulletin (Vol. 74, No. 4, pp. 370-383).

On 12 November 2025, she participated in the international webinar "Varieties of Academic Precarity Across (and Beyond) Europe," organized by EASA's Anthropology of Labour Network, alongside leading global scholars. She also featured in a podcast for the Erasmus+ UNITE project with Dr. Ana Ivasiuc, examining decolonizing academia in Indian and Irish contexts. The full interview will appear in SEXTANT: Masculinities, Sexualities and Decolonialities in 2026.

Dr. Sandali Thakur (Associate Professor, Rural Management)



Dr. Thakur participated in the SIXTH Pre-Budget Consultation of the Feminist Policy Collective, "Reimagining Resource Justice for rights and gender equality in the current crossroads", on the 21st-22nd of November 2025 at New Delhi. On the 27th of November 2025, Dr. Thakur was invited to the launch of the "Centre for Inclusive WASH". The platform is conceived as an open access resource for mainstreaming inclusion in WASH through sharing of knowledge, resources, training and services, and exchanges to strengthen the technical capacities of WASH partners.

Dr. Sandali Thakur, also served on the organizing committee and co-hosted the public lecture "From Akharha to Videography: Changing Contours of Musical Performance in Punjab," organized by the Indian Sociological Society, delivered by Prof. Paramjit Judge.

In December 2025, she represented the MA Rural Management program at the CREA's REConference 2025 in Kathmandu (8-10 December), a global feminist forum on justice, inclusion, technology, art, and collective care. Reflecting on the conference and Dr. Thakur's discussion about the Rural Management Program, Alok Vaid-Menon remarked: "The future of India and the world lies in the hands of the students of the MA in Rural Management Program-what an honour it is to be in service of that re-imagination."

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Dr. Ajmal Khan (Assistant Professor, Rural Management)

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Dr. Khan with participants from his panel at DSA Annual Meeting 2025 at University of Bath

Dr. Ajmal Khan played a prominent role in global climate discourse throughout 2025. In June, he co-organized the panel “Justice in Crisis: Climate and Ecological Crisis and Justice” and presented his paper on ethical geoengineering at the Development Studies Association Annual Meeting 2025, University of Bath, UK. On 27 November, he delivered the SPARK Seminar lecture at Bennett University on climate justice in India, foregrounding caste, Adivasi struggles, and historical inequities.

In November, he participated as an observer at the UN COP30 meeting (Belém, Brazil – virtual) representing the American Anthropological Association’s Climate Specialty Group and served as an expert peer reviewer for the IPCC Special Report on Climate Change and Cities.

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Dr. Venkat Ramanujam Ramani (Assistant Professor, Rural Management)

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Dr. Venkat Ramanujam (left; seated in the centre) with the participants of the workshop entitled Power, positionality, and practice: qualitative research methods in conservation at SCCS-Bng 2025

Dr. Ramanujam was invited to hold a joint workshop entitled Power, Positionality, and Practice:

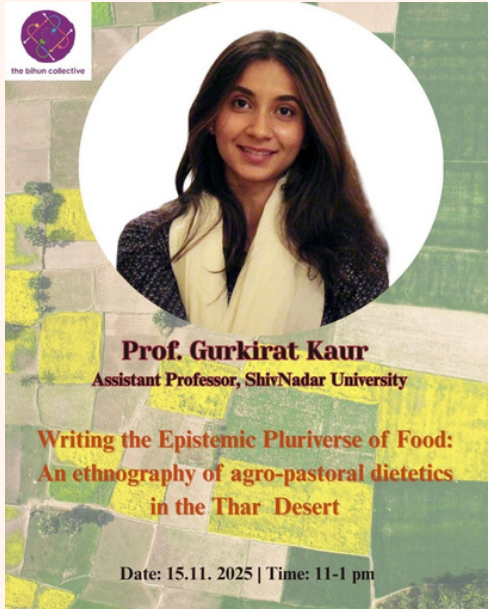
Qualitative Research Methods in Conservation at the 16th edition of the Student Conference on Conservation Science, Bengaluru (SCCS-Bng) held between 22nd and 25th September 2025. This is a highly popular conference workshop for students, practitioners, and early career researchers in conservation that Dr. Ramanujam has been invited to offer at the SCCS-Bng conference every year together

with Dr. Budhaditya Das, Assistant Professor in Human Ecology, Dr. B. R. Ambedkar University, Delhi. The workshop came in for much appreciation from the participants.

Power, positionality and practice: qualitative research methods in conservation at SCCS-Bng 2025

Dr. Ramanujam is part of the Coexistence Consortium housed at the University of Transdisciplinary Health TDU, Bengaluru), Dr. Ramanujam mentored Ramlal Kale and Vasant Bethekar, two Korku Adivasi youth who completed the Coexistence Fellowship (2023-25) in November 2025. Their study of Korku indigenous knowledge in Melghat, Maharashtra examined biodiversity coexistence and Community Forest Resource management under the Forest Rights Act (2006), offering vital insights for Adivasi communities across Central and Peninsular India.

• • • • • **Dr. Gurkirat Kaur (Assistant Professor, Rural Management)** • • • • •



Dr. Gurkirat Kaur, delivered a talk at the Sociology Seminar Series lecture in October 2025, titled “Beyond Calories and Micronutrients: Advancing Alternative Theories of Nutrition from the Global South.” Drawing on her continuing ethnographic and historical research in northwestern Rajasthan, she argued for a pluriversal approach to nutrition, showing how alternative food knowledges are often translated into bioscientific idioms as they enter policy and markets, muting their original conceptual frameworks.

On 15 November 2025, Dr. Kaur delivered an invited online session for the Bihun Collective’s Academic Writing Workshop on Food, titled “Everyday Practices and Meanings of Food in India.” The workshop brought together early-career researchers, doctoral scholars,

and faculty from across institutions. Her session was designed as an extended scholarly conversation, combining conceptual reflections from her own research with practical guidance on research design, methodological writing, and framing arguments in food studies. Participants engaged deeply through discussion, questions, and curated readings that Dr. Kaur shared for continued learning.

Looking Ahead



Our second batch MA-RM (2024-2026) students with faculty during their return to the university campus after the completion of their field education semester

As the Monsoon term closes, the MA in Rural Management program moves into a pivotal phase of its academic journey. Spring 2026 will open with an intensive cycle of learning across forests, agriculture, water, health, climate, education, civil society, and institutional management, deepening students' engagement with the social, ecological, and political foundations of rural transformation. At the same time, the second batch (2024-26) is now in the field, immersed in their final internships across diverse rural geographies, consolidating classroom learning through lived practice and preparing for the upcoming placement season. These months mark a period of profound transition, as students refine their professional commitments while carrying forward the questions, relationships, and responsibilities shaped through their fieldwork. Together, the program enters a moment of quiet intensity-of study, practice, reflection, and resolve, as students continue learning how to understand rural India, and also how to walk alongside it with care, clarity, and purpose.

Many thanks to Piyuli Ghosh of BRLF for her labour of love in designing this newsletter.