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Dr. G.Uma is Assistant Professor in the School of Gender and Development Studies, Indira Gandhi National Open University. Her primary focus areas are Grassroots Governance, Gender and Development with focus on agriculture, Public Policy and Social Capital. She is part of the Programme Development team of Master Programme in Gender and Development Studies in IGNOU. She has contributed to the design and development of Courses in the Master Programme in Gender and Development Studies. She is also Programme Co-Coordinator for the Post Graduate Diploma Programme ‘Gender, Agriculture and Sustainable Development’ and Bachelor Development Programme (BDP) Elective Course ‘Gender Sensitization: Culture, Society and Change’. Currently she is working for M.A (Gender and Development Studies), PG Diploma Programme (Gender, Agriculture and Sustainable Development) and BDP Course (Gender Sensitization: Culture, Society and Change).

She holds PhD degree in Gender and Governance from the Department of Political Science and Development Administration, Gandhigram Rural Institute (Deemed University), Gandhigram and M.A Political Science from Madras Christian College, Chennai. Her PhD thesis focuses on grass roots governance and critical mass theory. Her research outcome serves to redefine the policy at the micro level, ensures the stakeholders to recognize the significance of federating women leaders at the grassroots level to realize the affirmative action given through reservation at the Panchayat level in India and provides better delivery of services.

Central European University has awarded Dr.Uma a fellowship to complete the course on “Fiscal Decentralization and Local Financial Management”. She served as Albert Global Guest Researcher in the Centre for Modern Indian Studies, Faculty of Economics and Social Science from September 2014 to December 2014 and November 2012 to December, 2012. Her research assistance was sponsored by DAAD.

She has 10 years of work experience in the field of governance and development with gender perspective which includes six years of teaching experience in the Central and State Universities. Since the completion of her post-graduation, she has been associated with the research activities in the areas of local self-governance, social capital and development issues with gender perspective.

Publications

Books

Networking of Elected Women Representatives at Grassroots (Concept Publishing Company, New Delhi, 2009) (Co-authored)

Planning at Grassroots Government's Participation in people's plan (Concept Publishing Company, New Delhi, 2009) (Co-authored)

Change Makers at Grassroots Local Governance in Action (Concept Publishing Company, New Delhi, 2008) (Co-authored)

Chapters in Books

“NGO Initiatives: Non- Governmental Organisations Initiatives” in Pilz, M. (Ed). *India Preparation for the World of Work*. (Springer VS, 2016) pp 211-229.

“Total Sanitation: Lessons from a Gram Panchayat in Tamil Nadu” in Siva Ram, P, R Ramesh and Y Gangi Reddy. (Eds). *Rural Sanitation in India Achievements, Trends and Challenges* (National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Hyderabad, 2016) pp 61-68.

“Decentralization, Development and Environmental protection: An Analysis of elected women representative's network” in Singh Ravi S. (Ed). *Resource Use, Development and Environment Interfaces and Implications* (YS Books International, New Delhi). 2015 pp 377-395

“Impact of Gendered Political Institutions on Human Development” in Palanithurai, G. (Ed) *Elected Women Representatives and Empowerment* (Concept Publishing Company Limited, New Delhi, 2012) (Co-authored) pp. 24-39.

“Building Women Leadership at Grassroots in Tamil Nadu” in Palanithurai, G. (Ed) *Dynamics of New Panchayati Raj System in India* (Concept Publishing Company Limited, New Delhi, 2008) (Co-authored) pp. 156-174.

Refereed Journals

“Skill development in the informal sector in India: The case of street food vendors” *International Review of Education – Journal of Lifelong Learning*. ISSN 0020-8566. DOI 10.1007/s 11159- 015-9485-x. 16 May. 2015. (Co-authored).

“Analyzing Needs for Open and Distance Learning Programme in Gender, Agriculture and Sustainable Development” *Indian Journal of Open Learning*, ISSN. 0971-2690. 2013. 22(3). 199-212. (Co-authored).

“Renewable Energy Diffusion in Asia: Can it happen without government support?” *Energy Policy*. 2013. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.enpol.2013.03.040>. (Co-authored).

“Status of Women in Governance in Tamil Nadu” *ICFAI Journal of Governance and Public policy*, Vol.5 Nos.1&2 March & June, 2010. Pp.59-84.

Outreach

“Networking Women in Panchayat” *Geography and You*. Vol. 14, Issue 82, January-February, 2014.

“English Medium Education in Government Schools” *Puthiya Thalaimurai Tamil Weekly*, 4. Issue 36. 30 May, 2013. (Tamil)

Disaster Preparedness and Management Trainer's Manual (Rajiv Gandhi Chair for Panchayati Raj Studies, Gandhigram Rural University and Action Aid International India, Chennai. 2009) ISBN: 978-81-907270-6-8 (Co-authored)

Prepared and anchored 25 episodes of “Ullatchi Tharum Nallatchi” programme which was broadcast by All India Radio, Madurai from 7.25 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. on every Monday for 25 weeks (2004-2005). This is a programme on Good Governance at Grassroots (Tamil).

Assisted the Doordharshan Kendra (“Podhigai”) in documenting the success stories of Gram Panchayat Women Leaders and SHGs. This programme was telecast for 15 weeks from 22nd July, 2005 every Friday from 8.15. a.m to 8.45 a.m.

Guided in preparing one page supplementary on ‘Panchayat Malar’ focusing on the various items of Panchayati Raj System with short stories of elected representatives. This was published by the *Dinamalar* – a regional Tamil daily for 54 weeks (2003-2004).

Associated with Rajiv Gandhi Chair for Panchayati Raj Studies in preparing training modules, promoting model Panchayats and facilitating micro level planning (since 2002).

Reports

District Human Development Report Dindigul District (District Administration, Dindigul & State Planning Commission, Tamil Nadu in association with Rajiv Gandhi Chair for Panchayati Raj Studies, Gandhigram Rural University, 2009) (Co-authored)

District Human Development Report Nagapattinam District (District Administration, Dindigul & State Planning Commission, Tamil Nadu in association with Rajiv Gandhi Chair for Panchayati Raj Studies, Gandhigram Rural University, 2009) (Co-authored)

Panchayats in Disaster Preparedness and Management (Concept Publishing Company, New Delhi and Action Aid International India, Chennai, 2009) (Co- authored)

Course Material

WID-WAD-GAD Part II. MGS-001. Block 2. Unit 7 (School of Gender and Development Studies, Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi. 2011) ISBN-978-81-266-5456-7. (Co-authored)

Gender Planning and Policy Making. MGS-001. Block 3. Unit 10 (School of Gender and Development Studies, Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi.2011) ISBN-978-81-266-5457-4. (Co-authored)

Rural- Urban Divide .MGS-002. Block 3. Unit 12 (School of Gender and Development Studies, Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi.2011) ISBN: 978-81-26-5710-0. (Co-authored)

Review, Feedback and Future Directions. MGS-004. Block 3 (School of Gender and Development Studies, Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi) ISBN: 978-93-86100-10-8. (Co-authored)

Auditing Leadership Practices and Policies. MGSE- 007. Block 4. (School of Gender and Development Studies, Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi. 2016)

Supporting Women Entrepreneur. MGSE-010. Block 2. Unit 7 (School of Gender and Development Studies, Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi) ISBN: 978-93-86100-10-8. (Co-authored)

Successful Women Entrepreneur – Case study. MGSE-010. Block 3. Unit 11 (School of Gender and Development Studies, Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi.2016) ISBN: 978-93-86100-11-5. (Co-authored)

Development and Violence. MWG-009 (School of Gender and Development Studies, Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi)

Conceptualizing a Research Project. MWG-005 (School of Gender and Development Studies, Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi)

Fiscal Decentralization: A Global Overview. MEDS-043. Block 4. Unit 1 (Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi. 2013) ISBN: 978-81-266- 6509-9

Political and Economic participation of women MGPE- 012. M.A Gandhian Studies (Co-authored)