

## **Disability Justice: Looking Beyond Ableist Frames**

A two-day international conference on *Disability justice: Looking Beyond Ableist Frames*, organized by the Institute of Development Studies Kolkata (IDSK) and partially funded by Indian Council of Social Science Research, Eastern Regional Centre (CU), was held on 12-13 November 2024. Dr. Nandini Ghosh of IDSK was the coordinator of the conference. The two-day conference witnessed the participation of over 50 scholars of disability studies engaging with the core theme of the conference. There were 2 plenary sessions, a keynote and valedictory session, along with 10 parallel sessions and a round table. The deliberations highlighted every day issues of justice encountered by disabled people and their families, ranging from structural concerns like health, education and employment to questions of literary representation and angsts around sexuality and care. The disability justice model necessitates a movement out of ableist frameworks which tend to fixate on ability expectations and their consequences, and towards exploring the potential of disability communities, the creative possibilities they offer, and their contributions to the flourishing of societies. It calls for dismantling common stereotypes of disabled people as tragic victims, villains, innocent angels, and/or supercrips, and instead garnering greater respect for people with disability/ies and their perspectives in the framing of societies. This conference was able to build a bridge between ideologies and representations and mundane concerns lodged within everyday realities and experiences of disabled people.