



# ASIAN DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH INSTITUTE



# LOOKING BACK



Established in 1991, ADRI is now one of the most active social science research centres in Bihar. The name of the Institute attempts to reflect upon the long and integral relation Bihar has had with the rest of Asia. From the spread of Buddhism to the South, South-East and East Asia to the arrival of Sufism and other versions of Islam from the West Asia to Bihar, the state has been at the centre of major exchange of ideas. It is against this background that

ADRI seeks to place itself in the context of Bihar in particular, and Asia in general. The genesis of ADRI can be traced to an economic and political milieu during the eighties, when a number of state-funded social science institutions were struggling to survive, following the weakening of the state itself. Together with the widening of development deficits and the emergence of neo-liberal regime, there was a growing demand for research support to various

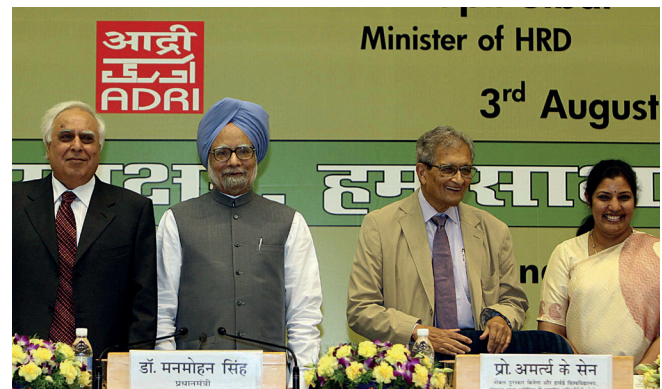
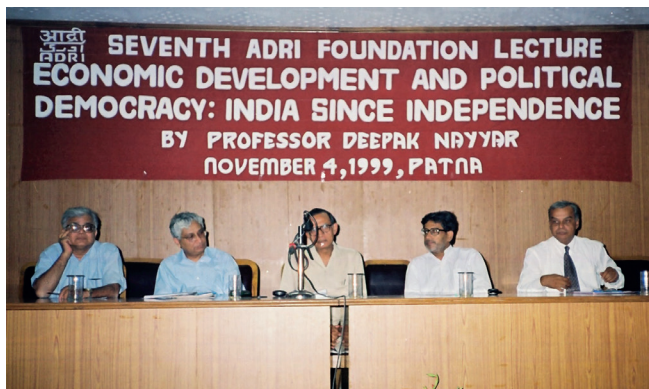




development agencies – national and international, and governmental and non-governmental. All these have prompted experiments for alternative organisational frameworks for academic institutions, and the establishment of ADRI was one such attempt. It is indeed satisfying that, passing through a number of tribulations during the last quarter of a century, the Institute has finally acquired an academic recognition from both scholars and institutions across the country. The academic agenda of ADRI

is informed by a holistic view of social sciences and its scholars attempt to understand social, economic and political dynamics within the cultural context. ADRI's objective is not only to bring development issues to the fore, but also to seek integration of 'generation of ideas' with 'implementation of ideas'. The Institute feels proud to acknowledge that its academic agenda includes responses to demands from individuals, state and other institutions.

# JOURNEY SO FAR





Influenced by the experiences of the existing social science research institutes, ADRI was initially conceived as a single unit research body, which would have both a research agenda of its own and a supplementary agenda that responds to the research needs of development agencies, sponsoring those need-based studies. The Institute indeed functioned along that framework during the initial years; but gradually that framework had to be altered when some development agencies, instead of sponsoring a research study, decided to sponsor a specialised centre to provide constant research support to its functioning. The Institute, thus, now hosts 7 such centres, each with a specific agenda, but working in tandem to realise the overall objectives of ADRI.

At the core of these specialised centres lies the ADRI Institute, which has been functioning since 1991. Starting with a few sponsored studies in the early nineties, this Institute gradually grew to be

a major social science research centre in Bihar, a peripheral region of India. The Institute has set for itself a research agenda that is geared towards the felt needs of several development agencies, including the state. Some of the major areas of research have been the imperatives of a knowledge society, working of the forces of liberalisation and globalisation, and the issue of good governance and civil society. Another area of specialisation of the Institute has been the evaluation studies of socio-economic programmes, sponsored by various development agencies. The Institute has also been engaged in creating and continuously updating a databank for researchers and development agencies across the country. Presently, apart from its base in Patna, ADRI Institute has also a regional centre in Ranchi. The Ranchi centre was established in 1995, even before the creation of the state of Jharkhand out of the erstwhile state of Bihar.



## Centre for Economic Policy and Public Finance



One of the specialised centres at ADRI is the Centre for Economic Policy and Public Finance (CEPPF). Right from its early years, ADRI has been providing significant professional support to the Government of Bihar on issues of development strategy or public finance. For two years, the Government of Bihar had outsourced to the

Institute the responsibility of preparing the Annual Economic Survey for the state. It was, however, later realised that instead of periodically outsourcing such responsibilities to the Institute, it is desirable to establish a dedicated centre at ADRI, which could not only regularly prepare the Annual Economic Survey but also undertake other research studies, related to the economic policy and public finance of the state. The objective of the CEPPF is to provide research support to the state government for evolving a framework of improved management of public finance. Such research includes studies on resource mobilisation, quality of state government spending, management of deficits and debt, framework of centre-state financial relations, and policies for economic and social development. To collect academic wisdom relating to developmental challenges, the Centre regularly organises seminars and workshops on various issues.



## Envision a **Data Analytics** Oriented Policy Making



Advanced Analytics Unit for Public Finance (AAUPF) has been recently established at Centre for Economic Policy and Public Finance (CEPPF), with support from Department of Finance, Government of Bihar to build technological frameworks and analytics platforms on public finance and socio economic indicators of Bihar. This initiative is one of its kind in the country where the prime focus is to develop advanced technological solutions to digitally analyse the public finance data and facilitate precision in policy making through rigorous data analysis.

This new unit would digitize the Annual Economic Survey of Bihar, making it accessible to all stakeholders through web based platforms.

Through in-depth analysis and underlying correlations of various components of economic survey, the platforms would provide crucial insights and trends of different socio-economic indicators. The likely impact of this initiative would be manifold where, it would help in better policy formulation and create efficiency in allocation of public resources. This unit also focuses on preparation of protocols for data governance of economic survey data so as to improve overall quality of data collected across different departments. It would enable better policy research and academic studies on different subject areas of Bihar.



## Centre for Health Policy



The Centre for Health Policy (CHP) at ADRI has been established in 2017 with support from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to strengthen the health sector in Bihar with a multi-dimensional and multi-disciplinary approach. Its aim is to engage in rigorous analysis of the health system and inform policy makers to fine-tune interventions for even stronger outcomes. It builds on the larger technical and implementation work that is ongoing through several partners in Bihar for several years. Primarily, CHP acts as a knowledge hub to support such ongoing work. It will follow an interdisciplinary approach, because health outcomes, depend on other development policies including

education, urbanization, disaster risk reduction, gender equality and women's empowerment, livelihoods, sustainable agriculture and the environment. These inter-linkages are crucial for a holistic health policy. CHP will uncover these inter-linkages. CHP anticipates the challenges of the future, through statistical projections of important demographic variables related to health, both directly and indirectly, and suggests policies which may be implemented today to cope with those challenges. It engages in research which is needs-driven, i.e., required by the state government, as also other stakeholders, to fill any existing evidence gaps. At the same time, it also brings to the table new recommendations by conducting primary surveys as needed, carefully analysing local data, and drawing on global best practices, which the concerned stakeholders may consider implementing.





# International Growth Centre



The International Growth Centre (IGC) is based at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) and has a partnership with the University of Oxford, with support from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF). In 2009, IGC sponsored one of its units at ADRI, impressed by its academic achievements. Presently, IGC-Bihar is engaged with government, research institutes, and other institutions in Bihar to build a strong, sustainable ecosystem of research, monitoring, and evaluation (M&E) in the state and create the necessary local institutional capacity. The IGC believes that local solutions are at the heart of the most effective policies; therefore, improving the quality and quantity of evidence available to inform policy-making and programme design is crucial for ensuring policymakers and practitioners look towards evidence and evaluation when

designing and implementing both policies and programmes. The IGC programme in Bihar had started as a response to the invitation of the Government of Bihar to the IGC to help it plan and sustain its growth process, and draws on a global network of researchers. Collectively, they produce high-quality evidence-based policy papers for the State government and simultaneously nurture local talent and institutions to build sustained capacity.





## Centre for Environment, Energy and Climate Change



The Centre for Environment, Energy and Climate Change (CEECC) is a mandated think tank and ENVIS (Environment Information System) Resource Partner on 'Water Management and Climate Change', sponsored by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), Government of India. The Centre primarily works in the research agenda of environmental resource management through an interdisciplinary module and has a pan-Indian approach. Though CEECC is the most recent of all the Centres at ADRI, it brings about

an enriched transitional and transformational experience of catering research. The Centre has already worked in a number of projects sponsored by international organizations like the Department for International Development, UK (DFID), Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre (ADPC), International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) among others. The core competency of the Centre is its on-board researchers who have been working in the area of environmental anthropology, environmental resource management, water and its diversified effects. They work, identify and cater to research agendas on many forefronts ranging from policy-level support to implementation, leading to capacity-building frameworks. The Centre is also working with the ENVIS Secretariat to emerge as the Asian hub for the MoEFCC.



# State Resource Centre



A State Resource Centre (SRC) for adult education in Bihar was established at ADRI at the request of the National Literacy Mission (NLM). Later, the NLM again requested ADRI to organise an SRC in Ranchi for the newly-created state of Jharkhand. Both these SRCs have the same objective of providing techno-pedagogical support to the adult literacy campaign

in their respective states through production of teaching-learning materials, development of training manuals, training of senior literacy functionaries, undertaking environment-building programmes, and a few other related activities. Extending their original mandate, the two SRCs also undertake evaluation studies of literacy-related programmes.





## Jan Shikshan Sansthan



The Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS) in Patna is yet another specialised centre, sponsored by the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Government of India, at ADRI. Conceptualised essentially as a vocational training institution, the agenda of the JSS may not be academic but its proper functioning lends substantial support to the adult literacy campaigns, supported by the SRC. The major points of emphasis for JSS are: self-employment rather than employment; integration of inputs in communication skills, inter-and intra-personal relations, information gathering and dissemination, time-management, and achievement orientation of the course recipient.



**The ADRI Society** and the 7 Centres together have conducted a number of sponsored studies and the list of sponsors include Government of India, Government of Bihar, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, World Bank, DFID, IDRC, UNDP, IFAD, UNICEF, CARE, Aga Khan Foundation and European Science Foundation. ADRI has also joined hands with various universities and academic institutions worldwide for collaborative research studies. These include London School of Economics, Institute of Development Economics (Japan), Georgia State

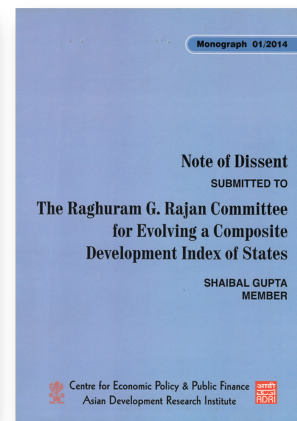
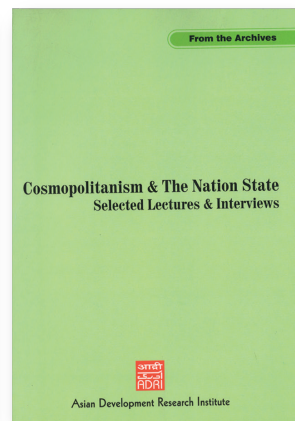
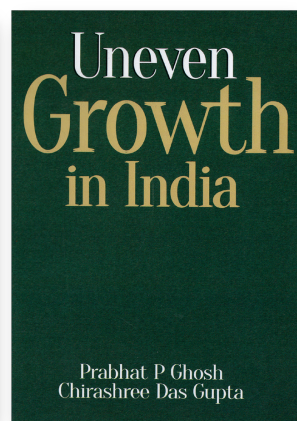
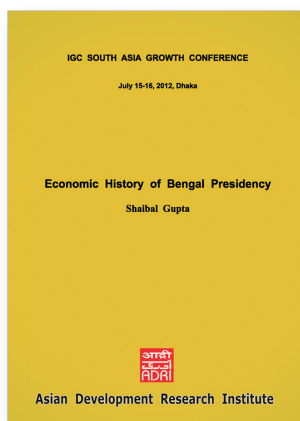
University, VU University of Amsterdam, International Institute of Asian Studies (The Netherlands), National University of Singapore (NUS), Dhaka University, Pratichi (India) Trust and Ranchi University. The locale of the research studies of ADRI is generally Bihar, but it has also researched some important social and economic issues in Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, West Bengal and Odisha, and even outside India – Bangladesh, Surinam and Mauritius.



# RESEARCH OUTPUT

Principally, the issue of development and an interdisciplinary openness has informed the research agenda of ADRI. A number of research studies that the Institute has conducted, either self-sponsored or through some development agency, can be broadly divided into three categories — Analytical, Advocatory and Evaluative. Under Analytical studies, the Institute has covered diverse fields such as human development, regional economies, civil society organisations, public finance, water resources, youth, communalism, refugees and minority issues amongst others. In particular, the Institute has been preparing the Annual Economy Survey for the Government of Bihar for last several years. Among the Advocacy studies, one must mention the document pleading the case for the ‘Special Category Status for Bihar’, a valuable material for

the politico-economic debate. Another important effort in this category was the large scale survey on ‘Socio-economic and Educational Status of Muslims in Bihar’, drawing attention to a serious social challenge in Bihar. Finally, there were evaluating studies, mostly of the welfare programmes of the central or state government. Some of these studies had also involved methodological innovations as required by the nature of the evaluated programme. The projects undertaken by the units of ADRI cut across a range of initiatives: Education, Health, Finance, Rural Development, Social Welfare, Water Resources, Disaster Management. Since ADRI has been extensively associated with the adult literacy campaign in Bihar, its academic output also includes literacy primers, training manuals and other related materials.





Monograph 01/2011

Subaltern Resurgence  
A Reconnaissance of Panchayat Election in Bihar  
Shaibal Gupta

Asian Development Research Institute



Report on Financing Framework for  
State Action Plan on  
Climate Change

Bihar SAPFIN  
September, 2017

Monograph 01/2011

Elementary Education in Bihar  
Progress and Challenges

From the Archives

PRABHAT P. GHOSH

Monograph 01/2010

Report on the  
Bihar PRI Finance Study

Lecture

Idea of the Hindi Heartland  
29th G B Pant Memorial Lecture

Shaibal Gupta

Background of PRIs in Bihar  
Prabhat P. Ghosh

Monograph 02/2008

Current Agrarian Situation in Bihar  
(Submitted to the Bihar Land Reforms Commission)

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THIRTEENTH FINANCE COMMISSION  
(2010-2015)  
Memoranda by the Government of Bihar and  
Political Parties & Professional Organisations  
& Brief Recommendations for the State

Monograph 01/2008

Mapping and Assessment of Civil  
Society Organisations in Bihar  
and Uttar Pradesh

Monograph 02/2007

Poverty and Social Assessment  
A District-wise Study of Bihar  
Prabhat P. Ghosh

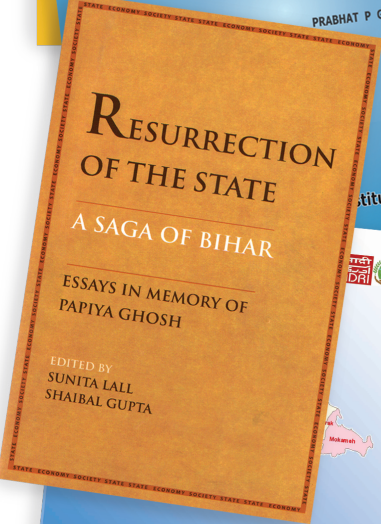
PRABHAT P. GHOSH

Administrative Lessons from  
National Literacy Mission  
Some Examples from Bihar  
Dr. Shaibal Gupta

Monograph 03/2003

FOURTEENTH FINANCE COMMISSION  
(2015-2020)

Memoranda by the Government of Bihar and  
Political Parties & Professional Organisations  
& Brief Recommendations for the State



RESURRECTION  
OF THE STATE

A SAGA OF BIHAR

ESSAYS IN MEMORY OF  
PAPIYA GHOSH

EDITED BY  
SUNITA LALL  
SHAIBAL GUPTA

ADVOCACY PAPER

TWELFTH FINANCE COMMISSION  
(2005-2010)

Memoranda by the Government of Bihar and  
Political Parties & Professional Organisations  
& Brief Recommendations for the State

From the Archives

Bihar Land Reform Commission Report  
& Departmental Implementation Report  
(Submitted to the Government of Bihar)

Report on Block Level Vulnerability of Agriculture & Allied  
Sectors of District Supaul, Bihar, India!



ASSESSMENT OF AIR QUALITY OF PATNA CITY AT  
DIFFERENT MICRO-ENVIRONMENT

FEBRUARY 2018

PATNA CLEAN AIR ACTION PLAN

# CELEBRATING SILVER JUBILEE



On completion of its 25 years, ADRI celebrated it by organizing three major International Conferences during the Silver Jubilee Year 2016-17. The first Silver Jubilee International Conference was organised on 'Development and Growth: Experience and Theories' during March 26-30, 2016 and was attended by about 250 participants, including guest speakers, scholars, development administrators. The Conference was also addressed by a number of cabinet ministers of the state government. The deliberations of the Conference greatly enlightened the young scholars

from Bihar, for whom such opportunities to listen to international scholars or interact with them are rather limited. It was, therefore, not surprising that the Conference was covered extensively by the local press. The Inaugural Session was presided over by Lord Meghnad Desai, Emeritus Professor at London School of Economics and the Chairman of the Academic Advisory Committee of ADRI Silver Jubilee International Conferences, and the Inaugural Address was delivered by Shri Nitish Kumar, the Chief Minister. Dr. Shaibal Gupta, Member Secretary, ADRI,





delivered the welcome remarks. The Conference included 7 Silver Jubilee Lectures, delivered by outstanding scholars in their respective fields, and 26 Research Papers by scholars from all over the world. Professor Arvind Panagariya, Vice-Chairman

of NITI Aayog, delivered the Valedictory Address, and the session was chaired by Mr. N K Singh, Member of Parliament.

The second Silver Jubilee International Conference was organised on 'Social Statistics in India' during June 24-27, 2016 in honour of Professor Prabhat P Ghosh, eminent statistician and economist, who has been associated with ADRI since its inception in 1991. The Conference was attended by about 300 participants, including scholars, government functionaries and social activists. India's Vice-President Shri M Hamid Ansari inaugurated the





conference and delivered the Inaugural Address. The Governor of Bihar Shri Ram Nath Kovind was the Guest of Honour and the Chief Minister Shri Nitish Kumar was the Distinguished Guest on the occasion. Professor Anjan Mukherji, Chairman of ADRI and IGC India-Bihar Programme's Country Director, presided over the Inaugural Session. Dr. Shaibal Gupta, Member Secretary, ADRI, delivered the welcome remarks. The Conference comprised a total of 9 Silver Jubilee Lectures and 29 Research

Papers. The Valedictory Address-cum-Silver Jubilee Lecture was given by Professor Pronab Sen, Former Chief Statistician of India and Country Director, IGC India-Central Programme.

The third and final Silver Jubilee International Conference was organized on 'Bihar and Jharkhand: Shared History to Shared Vision' in memory of Dr. Arvind N Das, eminent social scientist and former Chairman of ADRI, during March 24-28, 2017. The Conference was attended by about 350 participants.



President of India Shri Pranab Mukherjee inaugurated the conference and delivered the Inaugural Address. The Governor of Bihar Shri Ram Nath Kovind was the Guest of Honour and the Chief Minister of Bihar Shri Nitish Kumar was the Distinguished Guest on the occasion. Mr. N K Singh, Former Member of Parliament, presided over the session. Dr. Shaibal Gupta, Member Secretary, ADRI, delivered the welcome remarks. Professor Prabhat P

of Jharkhand Smt. Droupadi Murmu. Shri Saryu Rai, Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Food, Public Distribution & Consumer Affairs, Jharkhand, and Shri Ashok Choudhary, Minister of Education, Bihar, were Distinguished Guests on the occasion. Professor J J Boillot, Economic Advisor at former French Prime Minister's Office, presented the participant remark on the occasion. The Valedictory Address was given by Lord Meghnad Desai, Chairman of the



Ghosh, Director of ADRI, read the citation in memory of Arvind N Das on the occasion. The conference comprised a total of 28 Silver Jubilee Lectures, 2 Special Lectures and 85 Research Papers. The Valedictory Session was presided by the Governor

Academic Advisory Committee of ADRI Silver Jubilee Celebrations 2016-17, wherein he rolled out the "100-Year Vision for Social Science Research on Bihar and Jharkhand", one of the intended outcomes of this conference.

# BEING FUTURISTIC



The journey of ADRI has indeed been satisfying so far, but many goals on its original agenda are yet to be accomplished. For one, the academic focus of ADRI is still rather limited, guided as it is by the users of its research output. But, such demand-driven research, which no doubt has immense justification, should possibly not occupy the entire workspace of a research institution. In future, thus, ADRI would strive for a resource base that allows it to widen its research agenda. Till date, ADRI has been contributing towards creating a knowledge society in Bihar, a disadvantaged region, along with a few other institutions. But, the task is formidable and

it undoubtedly requires the participation of more institutions of same genre, opening the possibility of wide exchange of ideas among those institutions. ADRI would like to work towards the emergence of a favourable institutional ambience where new knowledge-oriented institutions are expected. It is





the human base of a research institution that acts as its most important pillar. In the past, ADRI has been very active in promoting and nurturing young social scientists. But there is still a substantial gap between the demand of social scientists and their availability in Bihar. In future, ADRI would be more active in helping local young social scientists grow, which alone could bridge the gap between the metropolitan and the mofussil in terms of intellectual capital.

# STAFF & FACULTY MEMBERS OF ADRI

## ACADEMIC



Abhishek Prasad



Abinash Mohanty



Anjan Mukherji



Apurva Srishti



Bakshi Amit Kr. Sinha



Barna Ganguli



Chandan Nath Yadav



Dolly Kumari



Govinda Bhattacharjee



Kumar Sankar Das



Manish Kumar Prasad



Neeraj Kumar



Niladri Shekhar Dhar



Nilay Singh



Prabhat P Ghosh



Prangya Pramita Gupta



Raj Kishore Shahi



Rajiv K. Karan



Ravi Ranjan Sinha



Sanchita Mahapatra



Sandeep Kumar



Saswata Ghosh



Shaibal Gupta



Shashwat Gautam



Soumya Manjunath



Sudip K. Pandey



Sunita Lall



Syed Shakir Ali



Vikash Ranjan Keshri



Vivek Tejaswi

## ACADEMIC SUPPORT / ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF



Ajit Krishna



Anjani K Verma



Arjun Kumar Yadav



Bhay Bhanjan Mahto



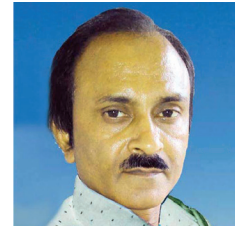
Bibhas Dutta



Dil Afroz Ansari



Dileep Kumar



Harendra Kumar



Indrajit Goswami



Manju Sharan



Manoj K. Sahu



Md. Ibrahim



Mukesh K. Jaiswal



Mukesh Kumar



Nandkishor Mahto



Niranjn K. Jamuar





Pankaj Kumar



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Punam Tirkey



Rahbar Ali



Rajesh Kumar Singh



Rajeshwar Sharma



Ramachandra Singh



Saifuddin Ahmed



Sanjay Kr. Mishra



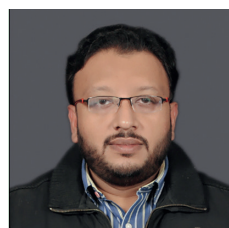
Sanjit Kumar



Shivnath Pd. Yadav



Sudhir K. Singh



Suraj Shankar



Suryakant Kumar



Umesh Pd. Yadav



Vijay Kr. Bimal

## SUPPORT STAFF



Binod Kumar Yadav



Dipak Kumar



Md. Ferozuddin



Ganesh Ram



Kuldeep Kumar Keshri



Manoj Kumar



Munna Kumar



Puran Ekka



Rahul Ranjan



Sabina Murmu



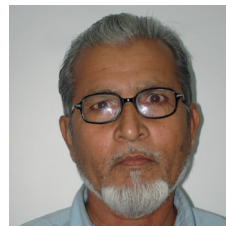
Santosh Ram



Sitaram Paswan



Tarak Nath Keshri



Md. Yusuf Khan



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**PATNA OFFICE**

**Asian Development Research Institute (ADRI)**

BSIDC Colony, Off-Boring-Patliputra Road

Patna - 800013, Bihar

Tel: + 91 612 2575649, Fax: +91 612 2577102

E-mail: [adripatna@adriindia.org](mailto:adripatna@adriindia.org)

[www.adriindia.org](http://www.adriindia.org)

**RANCHI OFFICE**

**Asian Development Research Institute (ADRI)**

House no. 219/C, Road No. - 2

Ashok Nagar, Ranchi - 834002, Jharkhand

Tel: + 91 651 2245084, Fax: +91 651 2241509

E-mail: [adriranchi@adriindia.org](mailto:adriranchi@adriindia.org)

[www.adriindia.org](http://www.adriindia.org)

