

University of Ladakh, Kargil Campus

Department of Sociology

Press Release
Kargil, 03 December 2022

The sociology Department (Kargil Campus-UOL) organized an online lecture on "Political Economy and Cultural Economy in Post-Industrial Urban Society: Perspectives and Empirical Reality" in the conference hall, Kargil Campus University of Ladakh. Dr. Mahmudul Hasan Laskar, Department of Sociology, University of Science and Technology, Meghalaya, spoke as our guest speaker. This lecture was attended enthusiastically by all fourth and second-semester students from the sociology department. The guest speaker was briefly introduced by Dr. Pirzada Athar Hussain before the online lecture began. In his remarks, he emphasized the guest speaker's academic expertise and scholarship. As the coordinator for the sociology department, Dr. Jaffar Ali Khan gave a formal welcome address and stressed the importance of organizing virtual lectures. Dr. Jaffar Ali Khan also thanked Dr. Mahmudul Hasan Laskar for sparing time for this lecture. While delivering the lecture, Dr. Mahmudul Hasan Laskar rationalized the importance of urban sociology as an applied branch of sociology for deciphering social problems in modern everyday life. He discussed contextualizing post-industrial society from the sources of the Marxian idea of Industrial society and the Frankfurt school's idea of post-industrial society or advanced Industrial Society. The lecture was made more engaging by providing examples of how the digitization of the economy and digital communication has become a fundamental part of human survival. The necessity and benefits of acquiring technical skills and job opportunities related to the interaction between humans and artificial intelligence were discussed. The lecture was further extended by emphasizing an understanding of class and social space in urban society from the theoretical explanation provided by 'Bourdieu'. He clarified that social space and cultural capital in the urban society of India are manifested as follows: Residence Pattern, Educational Attainment, and Urban Way of Life. Similarly, consumption culture (Baudrillard's Consumer society) was explained through exact examples that manifest happiness and the so called equality of consumption. In the conclusion, it was argued that the rural-urban disparity has been growing with the advancement of urban society in India. Urban society in India is yet to attain inclusive advancement. The lecture was followed by an extensive question and answer session in which many questions related to Urban importance, upliftment tools for the urban economy and its sustainability, and elimination of political hegemony in the urban world were asked by the students. The lecture was concluded with formal words of thanks by Dr. Narinder Singh. He expressed thanks to the guest speaker and briefly highlighted the importance of the lecture. His words expressed thanks to Chief-patron, Prof. S.K. Mehta honorable Vice Chancellor of the University of Ladakh for his continuous support. He also extended gratitude and esteem to the Patron Madam Kaneez Fatima Rector, of the Kargil Campus University of Ladakh for her enthusiastic support. She provided us with the potential to conduct this program successfully.