(30th – 31st March 2026)

DINS-2026 Special Session on

"Societal Data Analytics for Strategic Foresight and National Preparedness"

Aims and scope of the session:

This special session aims to advance data-driven approaches for strategic foresight and national preparedness by examining societal, demographic, and population-scale data within complex socio-cultural contexts such as India. The scope includes statistical and computational analyses of social dynamics, mobility, cohesion, narratives, and early-warning indicators, as well as applied case studies and decision-support frameworks relevant to resilience planning and policy formulation. Interdisciplinary contributions that bridge data science, the social sciences, governance, and national security perspectives are strongly encouraged, with an emphasis on empirical insights that inform long-term societal risk assessment and preparedness strategies.

Topics of interest:

The special session track will cover a wide range of topics related to societal data analytics for strategic foresight and national preparedness, but not limited to:

1. Population dynamics, census analysis, and demographic transitions
2. Human mobility, migration, and urbanization patterns
3. Social cohesion, trust, and community resilience metrics
4. Narrative analysis, information diffusion, and public perception studies
5. Early-warning indicators for social stress, unrest, or instability
6. Disaster risk assessment, preparedness, and societal resilience
7. Societal sensing using surveys, participatory data, and public datasets
8. Long-term societal trend analysis for policy and strategic planning
9. Data-driven frameworks for national preparedness and resilience

Special session organizers:

1. **Dr. Sibun Parida**
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Dr. Sibun Parida is an Assistant Professor in Computer Application & Information Technology at St. Xavier's University, Kolkata. He holds a Ph.D. in Computer Science and Engineering from the University of Calcutta, with doctoral research conducted at the Bose Institute, Kolkata, focusing on data-driven modelling using comparative genomics. With over 12 years of teaching and research experience, Dr. Parida has worked extensively in artificial intelligence, machine learning, and large-scale data analytics applied to complex real-world problems. He has contributed to DBT- and SERB-funded research projects, published SCI-indexed papers, and received a Best Paper Award. His expertise spans algorithmic modelling, computational intelligence, and analytical frameworks relevant to national security, strategic foresight, and societal resilience, and he actively participates in international peer review and conference leadership activities.