



## Speaker



**Dr. Nandini Azad**  
*Board of Governors*  
*Indian Cooperative Network for Women (ICNW)*

- Dr. Nandini Azad has three decades of proven track record at grassroots, senior international and national level positions with National Governments/UN agencies/civil society on gender, poverty and development issues.
  - **Experience:** Nandini is the Chairperson of the Independent Commission for People's Rights and Development (ICPRD), a national advocacy coalition engaging over 900 NGOs in 21 states of India. She has succeeded in establishing networks for poor, tribal women, (around 12,000) creating social entrepreneurs at the local levels, financial literacy creating new instruments in tribal people's languages in Jharkhand. She has been instrumental in developing a new model of youth forums, combating gender based violence reaching nearly 1,00,000 stakeholders in Karnataka/Rajasthan. A well-known expert with banks, she prepared the Asian Development Bank's draft 5-year Gender Strategy for India. Nandini has worked extensively internationally on gender and poverty issues on women, poverty and on food security in the Maldives, Nepal, Cambodia, and India.
  - **Awards:** As an "eminent international gender expert", Nandini won a commendation from the Foreign Minister of Cambodia. (1994) developing the draft Beijing Status of Women Report for the Government of Cambodia, after the war.
- **Education:** She holds a PhD on organizing poor women into credit groups for women's cooperatives (based on her work with the Working Women's Forum) from Syracuse University.