

International Seminar

On

‘Challenges to Indian Polity: Concepts and Issues’

Organized by:

Department of Political Science

University of Gour Banga

July 20 & 21, 2017

Venue:

Department of Political Science

(ICT Hall-306, Humanities Building)

University of Gour Banga

N.H. 34, Malda West Bengal,

India 732103.

Dear Sir/ Madam,

I am pleased to inform you that the Department of Political Science, University of Gour Banga, is going to organize an International Seminar on “Challenges to Indian Polity: Concept and Issues” which is scheduled to be held on **20th & 21st July, 2017.**

On behalf of the Seminar Organizing Committee, I cordially invite you to participate in the said seminar and share your views on the subject.

With warm regards,

Siddhartha Sankar Manna

Convener

Seminar Organizing Committee,

Coordinator

Department of Political Science

UGB, Malda, West Bengal,

India, Pin-732103.

Seminar Concept Note

India has been considered as the largest democratic nation in the world. It is full of diversities – linguistic, cultural, religious and ethnic. For more than sixty-five years we have witnessed the conduction of successful elections, peaceful changes of government at the Centre and in the States, people exercising freedom of expression, realisation of decentralisations, establishment of Local self-government. India has also been developing and changing economically and socially. At the same time we listen complaints about prevalent inequalities, injustice or non-fulfilment of expectations of certain sections of the society. In this connection these people do not feel themselves participative in the democratic process.

The work of promoting the welfare of masses which was pursued and introduced stands in sharp contrast to the way in which the spirit of Democracy has been hampered in China, Indonesia, Pakistan and elsewhere give an impression that democracy has found a supportive soil in India. There were enormous regional disparities, widespread poverty, illiteracy, unemployment, and shortage of almost all public welfare means. Citizens had enormous expectations from independence. As mentioned above, India has changed a lot. Yet, there are various challenges that the country faces in terms of fulfilment of expectations of various sections of society. The challenges come both from prevailing domestic and international conditions as well as lack of adequate prerequisites for a smooth functioning of democracy. In this context the aims and objectives of this seminar are

- a. Highlighting the changing contour of Indian Polity.
- b. Explaining the roles of citizens in making an efficient and successful polity
- c. Understanding the meaning of democracy as a form of governance;
- d. Analysing the process of development of democracy in India;
- e. Identifying major problems and challenges being faced by Indian polity;
- f. Finding out India's role in International arena;

SUB THEMES:

1. Nation Building process in India.
2. Identity Politics: Class, Caste, Gender, Ethnicity and Religion.
3. Social Welfare and Social Justice.
4. Role of Mass Media
5. Ethics and Politics.
6. Corruption.
7. Secularism
8. Communalism.
9. Civil Movement.
10. Administrative Culture.
11. Local Self Government and Governance.
12. Role of Panchayati Raj.
13. Populist Politics.
14. Crony Capitalism.
15. Rehabilitation and Resettlement.
16. Party system in India.
17. Globalization and its Effects.
18. Human Rights and Security.
19. Reservation Politics.
20. Poverty and Unemployment.
21. Social Marginality.
22. India and its Neighbours
23. Role of State and Non-State Actors.
24. Youth and Social Unrest.
25. Issue based Politics.
26. Politics of Violence and Violence in Politics.
27. Geo-Politics and Nation State Development.
28. Refugees and Migration.
29. Geo-Politics and Human Development.
30. Border issues and Geo-Politics.
31. Geo-Politics, Regional Planning and Development.

Resource Persons:

Professor Aslam Khan, Department of Political Science and International Studies, Bahir Dar University, Bahir Dar, Ethiopia, South Africa.

Professor Sanjeev Kr. Sharma, Department of Political Science, Choudhury Charan Singh University, Meerut, Uttar Pradesh, India and General Secretary, Indian Political Science Association.

Professor Gautam Kumar Basu, Vice-Chancellor, Maharaja Bir Bikram University, Tripura, Department of International Relations, Jadavpur University, Kolkata.

Professor Manas Chakraborty, EMERITUS PROFESSOR (UGC), Department of Political Science, University of North Bengal, P.O. North Bengal University, DT. Darjeeling, West Bengal, India.

Dr. Ajith Balasooriya, Department of International relations, University of Colombo, Colombo, Sri Lanka.

Dr. Lakmini Gamage, Department of History, University of Ruhuna. Colombo, Sri Lanka.

Mr. Jyanta Ghosal, Editor-in-Chief, New Delhi Bureau, Ananda Bazaar Patrika, New Delhi.

Professor Pawan Kumar Sharma, Head, Department of Political Science, Atal Behari Bajpayee Hindi University, Bhopal, Madhyapradesh, India.

Professor Raj Kumar Kothari, Department of Political Science with Rural Administration, Vidyasagar University, Midnapore, West Bengal, India.

Professor Rabindranath Bhattacharya, Department of Political Science, Burdwan University, Burdwan, West Bengal, India.

Professor Bishnu Charan Choudhury, Former Professor, Department of Political Science, Berhampur University, Odisha, India.

Professor Bramhananda Satapathy, Professor, Department of Political Science, Utkal University, Vani Vihar, Bhubaneswar, Odisha, India.

Professor Arun Kanti Jana, Department of Political Science, University of North Bengal, P.O. North Bengal University, DT. Darjeeling West Bengal, India.

Seminar Organizing Committee:

Professor Gopalchandra Misra, *Vice Chancellor*, University of Gour Banga, Chief Patron of the Seminar.

Sri Siddhartha Sankar Manna, Assistant Professor & Coordinator, Department of Political Science, University of Gour Banga, Malda.

Dr. Jitendra Sahoo, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Gour Banga, Malda.

Dr. Badal Sarkar, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Gour Banga, Malda.

Dr. Papri Chakraborty, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Gour Banga, Malda.

Sri Ayan Das, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Gour Banga, Malda.

CALL FOR PAPERS:

Interested participants are requested to send an abstract within 350 words to ugbpoliticalscience@gmail.com by **25.05.2017**. Acceptance of abstracts will be communicated to the participants by **27.05.2017**.

Full papers, not exceeding 3000 words are to be submitted by **15th June, 2017**. Full papers with abstracts and short bio-notes of the author(s) should be mailed as a single MS word attachment, font

size 12 in Times New Roman with 1.5 (APA style) line spacing. Selected papers will be published in a Book with ISBN.

Registration Fees:

Teachers □ 700/

Research Scholar 400/

On both the seminar days, lunch, refreshment and tea will be provided to the participants.

- No TA/DA & other allowances will be provided to the participants for attending the seminar.
- The Seminar Organizing Committee is unable to provide accommodation to the outstation participants. However, assistance will be provided to find adequate hotel accommodation on prior request.
- In case of presentation made by joint authors, each of them should get registered separately.

How to reach Malda and the University:

Malda is a district town located at the heart of West Bengal and is well connected to the entire India through rail and bus services. The nearest rail station is Malda Town (IRCTC code: MLDT) and N.H. 34 connects it to the northern and the southern parts of Bengal. By road Malda is 326 kilometres away from Kolkata and 253 kilometres away from Siliguri. The University is situated on N.H. 34 near Rabindra Bhavan. The Central Bus Terminus of Malda is adjacent to the University campus. City Buses, Auto/ Toto Rickshaws and Rickshaws on solo and sharing basis are available at reasonable rates throughout the day from the Railway station.