

National Research Conference for PhD Scholars

On

Contemporary Social Problems and Contribution of Social Science Research in India

June 29-30, 2015

Organized by



Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Contemporary Studies,
University of Mumbai

About the Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Contemporary Studies:

The Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India through the University Grants Commission, New Delhi established the Rajiv Gandhi Chair in Contemporary Studies in the University of Mumbai in the year 2006. The Chair has now evolved into an autonomous inter-disciplinary social science research centre of University of Mumbai. The Centre works within the broad theme of Globalization, Democracy and Development. The areas of interest are primarily on the theme of Panchayati Raj and Local Governance, Impact of Technology on Society, Secularism & Nation Building along with other areas of work such as Tribal Development, Social Justice, Livelihood and Food Security, Women's Empowerment, Eco-System and Sustainable Development, Nuclear Disarmament and Peace Studies, Protection of Child Rights. The Centre is headed by Dr. Chandrakant Puri, Chair Professor, Rajiv Gandhi Centre.

Conference Context

In 2015, we will be completing the silver jubilee of big-bang economic reforms initiated in 1991. At the end of these 25 eventful years, India, now globally recognized for its innovations in the areas of space technology and software, continues to battle with a host of sociocultural rigidities and orthodoxies. The nation, which now hosts one of the largest pools of connected individuals, is yet to resolve long-standing contradictions in the space of human development and inclusive growth. Witnessing radical shifts in the culture of consumption, expression and entrepreneurship, the nation now actively seeks solutions towards leveraging its demography to transform its socioeconomic destiny.

A large number of PhD scholars across the nation are conducting original research capturing evolving facets of these phenomena and their implications on India's social, cultural, political and economic fabric. Their research stands to provide new insights and bring forth new research methods which can be applied to evolve a deeper and better

understanding of these emerging realities and their implications. Academics, policymakers, practitioners, pressure groups, businesses and people at large stand to benefit immensely from such in-depth research.

The Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Contemporary Studies (RGCCS), which is an inter-disciplinary social science research centre of University of Mumbai wishes to create a platform for such PhD scholars to share their research with peers, experts, academicians and senior researchers and other stakeholders. It is in this context, that the RGCCS is hosting its first National Research Conference for PhD Scholars on 'Contemporary Problems and Contribution of Social Science Research in India'.

Objective of the Conference

1. To understand the contribution of social science research in appreciating social phenomena, social problems and response of various stakeholders in resolving the same.
2. To scientifically analyze impact of public policy response to evolving social phenomena.
3. To build better understanding of evolving research methods being applied to study social phenomena and impact of public policy responses.
4. To deliberate on means and methods of strengthening social science research in shaping public policy.

Conference Highlights

1. Around 50 (Fifty) papers to be presented across five sessions spread over two days.
2. Sessions to be chaired by the senior academicians/researchers.
3. Plenary sessions to be addressed by distinguished academics, researchers, practitioners and policymakers.
4. Excellent networking opportunities.
5. Publication opportunities.
6. Platforms for stakeholder connect.

Call for papers

We only invite empirical research papers focused at achieving the objectives of this Conference described above to be presented in technical sessions. While we seek active participation of senior academics, practitioners, senior researchers and other stakeholders at this two-day interaction, the Conference is only seeking submissions of research papers from PhD scholars with valid affiliations to social science departments of UGC-recognized universities. The research paper must be an original piece of work based on rigorous analysis. The author must discuss the research methodology deployed towards the analysis conducted. Importantly, the researcher must highlight unique insights being unravelled by the research on the social phenomena being analysed.

Guideline for Abstract Submission

Abstracts, including footnotes, must be of one page (Approx 400 words or less). The review committee reserves the right to accept, reject or edit abstracts, if necessary, for clarity, grammar, style, and length. Abstract titles must be limited to ten words or less. Keep footnotes to a minimum; if needed, they should pertain only to published works, such as journal articles, studies, etc. Kindly mention clearly the title of the paper, name of the author, institutional affiliation, name of the institution and address for correspondence, email and cell number.

Conference Fee Structure

Delegates registering for the Conference will be charged a lump sum registration fee of Rs.1000 (Rupees One thousand only). The fees will cover conference kit, luncheons for 2 days, the gala dinner on the first day and tea/coffee served during breaks.

The Abstracts Book will be a part of the conference kit.

Mode of Payment

Registration fees must be paid in the form of a demand draft drawn in favour of **'Finance and Accounts Officer, University of Mumbai'**, payable at Mumbai. Demand draft must be drawn from a recognized nationalized bank. Name and address of the participant should be written at the back of the demand draft.

Publication opportunity

The Conference Organizing Committee is in discussion with publishers to print a volume of best papers presented at this Conference. RGCCS will establish a peer review committee towards shortlisting the papers to be published in this proposed compendium.

We plan to release this publication at the inaugural plenary of this Conference.



Conference Thematic Areas

Papers can be submitted in any inter-disciplinary and multi-disciplinary areas related to the conference theme.

Conference Certificates

Conference certificates will be awarded by the RGCCS to only those PhD scholars and academics who will attend the conference for the entire two days.

Travel and Accommodation

Participants will need to fund their travel and accommodation. The Conference Organizing Committee will help participants identify venues for affordable accommodation. Participants can book their own accommodation directly.

Important Dates

Initiation of Conference registration	March 30 th 2015
Last date of receiving abstracts	May 30 th 2015
Notification of acceptance of abstracts	June 05 th 2015
Last date of paper submission	June 20 th 2015
Intimation of acceptance of paper	June 25 th 2015
Last date for registration for the conference	June 25 th 2015
Conference dates	June 29 th and June 30 th 2015

Venue

**Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Contemporary Studies,
University of Mumbai**

For further Information:

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University of Mumbai
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REGISTRATION FORM

01. Name: _____

02. Designation: _____

03. Subject Specialization: _____

04. Organization: _____

05. Address for Correspondence: _____

06. E-mail: _____

07. Telephone No.: (O) _____ Mobile No. : _____

08. Reason for Participation at the conference: _____

09. What are your expectations from this conference: _____

10. Registration details: Enclosing a demand draft of Rs. 2000 in favour of
'Finance and Accounts Officer, University of Mumbai' payable at Mumbai. : Yes___No

Signature

Date: