



Department of Political Science and Public Administration
Central University of Jharkhand, India

In Collaboration with

India Centre for Inclusive Growth and Sustainable Development
University of Southampton, United Kingdom

Organizes

TWO DAY INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

ON

Tribal Upliftment in Jharkhand: Integrating Policy, Culture, and Sustainable Development for Viksit Bharat 2047

16TH-17TH MARCH, 2026



ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Dr. Rajashree Padhi, Asst. Prof, DPSPA

Dr. Shashank D. Kulkarni, Asst. Prof, DPSPA

Dr. Preeti Singh Asst. Prof, DPSPA

**VENUE: CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF JHARKHAND, MANATU,
RANCHI 835222**



PATRON

Prof. Kshiti Bhusan Das
Hon'ble Vice Chancellor
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CONFERENCE CONVENERS



Prof. Prakash Chand Kandpal
ICCR Chair of Indian Studies
India Centre for Inclusive Growth
and Sustainable Development
University of Southampton, UK



Prof. Sabu S. Padmadas
Professor of Demography and Global Health
Executive Director
India Centre for Inclusive Growth and
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University of Southampton, UK

KNOWLEDGE PARTNER

Prof. Sigamani S. Paner, Chairperson, Centre for the Study of Law and Governance, JNU

Prof. Heeraman Tiwari, Professor & Dean, Atal Bihari Vajpayee School of Management and Entrepreneurship, JNU

Prof. Arvind Kumar, Professor Atal Bihari Vajpayee School of Management and Entrepreneurship, JNU

KEY RESOURCE PERSONS

Professor Jeremie Gilbert, Professor in Social and Ecological Justice, Southampton Law School, UK

Prof. Sushma Yadav, Former Vice Chancellor, Bhagat Phool Singh Mahila Vishwavidyalaya, Sonipat, Haryana,

Dr Bindu Shah, Associate Professor of Sociology, School of Economic, Social and Political Sciences,

Dr Julie Vullnetari, Associate Professor of Geography, School of Geography and Environmental Sciences

Padmshree Ashok Bhagat, Secretary, Bikash Bharti, Bishnupur (Gumala)

Prof. Bidyut Chakraborty, Former Vice Chancellor, Visva-Bharati University,

Dr. Aparup Das, Scientist G, Former Director, ICMR-National Institute of Research in Tribal Health, Jabalpur,

Professor Craig Hutton, Professor of Sustainability and Executive Director, Sustainability and Resilience Institute

Prof. A. K. Das, Professor, Centre for Indian Knowledge Systems, IIT Guwahati

Prof. Bishnu Mohan Das, Professor, North-Eastern Hill University (NEHU), Department of Anthropology

Prof. Krishnakumar Ramachandran, Director, GRD College of Science, Coimbatore

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

The vision of Viksit Bharat 2047 envisages India as a developed, inclusive, and self-reliant nation by the centenary of Independence. Central to this vision is the upliftment of marginalised and historically excluded communities, particularly tribal populations who are integral to India's cultural heritage, ecological sustainability, and socio-economic resilience. Jharkhand, home to one of the largest concentrations of tribal communities in India, presents a striking paradox: rich natural resources coexist with persistent poverty, low human development indicators, health disparities, and fragile livelihoods. Despite multiple policy interventions, development outcomes remain uneven due to fragmented implementation, limited community participation, and insufficient integration of indigenous knowledge systems.

This International Conference seeks to provide a global, interdisciplinary, and policy-oriented platform to examine tribal upliftment in Jharkhand through the interconnected dimensions of policy, culture, health, education, livelihoods, forest rights, and sustainable development. The conference foregrounds tribal communities as active agents of development, rather than passive beneficiaries, and promotes culturally grounded, participatory, and evidence-based approaches aligned with national priorities and the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

IMPORTANT DATES

Activity	Date
Last Date for Submission of Abstract (250-300 words)	10 Feb 2026
Intimation of Abstract Acceptance	15 Feb 2026
Registration and Confirmation of Participation	18 Feb 2026
Submission of Full Paper (along with revised abstract)	1 Mar 2026
Final Acceptance of Full Papers	7 Mar 2026
Conference Dates	16-17 March 2026

REGISTRATION & TRAVEL INFORMATION

- Please note that TA/DA will not be provided to participants or paper presenters.
- Participants are requested to make their own travel arrangements.
- However, prior intimation will enable the Organising Committee to assist in identifying suitable accommodation, subject to availability.

- Candidates who wish to participate can register using the registration link provided below. The blank registration form can be downloaded from the link for downloading the registration form. After filling up the form, upload the same through the registration link to complete the process. Before starting to register in the Registration Link, please ensure that you have a copy of a paper (if a paper presenter) and a screenshot or proof of payment ready.

- REGISTRATION FORM :- <https://tinyurl.com/2vsww3xw>
- REGISTRATION LINK :- <https://forms.gle/WFnN3dw1kQApjtv38>

MODE OF PAYMENT: BANK TRANSFER / UPI / INTERNET BANKING

Account Name: INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DPSPA

Account No.: 7277000100023665

Name of the Bank: Punjab National Bank

Branch: CUJ, Manatu

IFSC Code: PUNB0727700

MICR Code: 834024020

Contact for Information :-

EMAIL :- dpspaconference@gmail.com

Call/Whatsapp :- +91 7004644722 / +91 7033170180

REGISTRATION FEE

Category	Participation Only	Paper Presentation
In-house Participants (Central University of Jharkhand)	₹300/-	₹600/-
Outstation Participants (Other than Central University of Jharkhand)	₹500/-	₹1,000/-
Foreign Participants	30 USD	40 USD

WHO SHOULD PARTICIPATE

- Academicians and researchers*
- Policymakers and government officials*
- Development practitioners and NGOs*
- Tribal scholars and community leaders*
- Doctoral and post-doctoral researchers*
- International experts on indigenous studies and sustainability*



ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING

INVITATION FOR PAPER

Papers are invited on the indicated themes. Prospective paper presenters are requested to adhere to the paper submission guidelines.

GUIDELINES FOR PAPER SUBMISSION:

- Originality:** The papers must be original, unpublished, and not under consideration for publication elsewhere.
- Format:** Papers should be written in English only, in MS Word (.doc/.docx) using Times New Roman, 12 pt, 1.15 line spacing. The length of the paper should be between 2,000–5,000 words, including the abstract but excluding references. All references should follow APA 7th edition format.
- Abstract:** Each paper must be accompanied by an abstract of 250–300 words, highlighting the objectives, methodology, major findings, and implications of the study. The abstract should also include 3–6 keywords.
- Author Details:** A maximum of three authors is allowed per paper. All authors are required to register for the seminar separately.
- Cover Page:** The cover page must include the title of the paper, name(s) of the author(s), designation, institutional affiliation, email ID, and contact number. The presenting author's name should be underlined.
- Presentation:** Selected papers must be presented during the seminar using PowerPoint, within a presentation time of 8–10 minutes.
- Plagiarism Alert:** Papers must not be plagiarised. Authors are required to submit a self-declaration of originality of the papers, and when required
- Publication:** High-quality papers selected by the review committee will be published in an ISBN book volume or a peer-reviewed journal. The decision of the review committee regarding publication will be final.

CALL FOR PAPERS

- The Conference invites original and unpublished contributions from academicians, researchers, policymakers, development practitioners, civil society members, and doctoral scholars.
- Submissions may adopt empirical, theoretical, comparative, or practice-oriented approaches, and should clearly demonstrate academic rigor, interdisciplinary insight, and policy relevance, particularly in the context of tribal development and sustainable futures.
- Based on peer review and thematic relevance, selected papers will be considered for publication in an edited volume or a peer-reviewed journal.

INDICATIVE SUB-THEMES

The following sub-themes are indicative and not exhaustive. Contributors are encouraged to submit papers broadly aligned with the conference theme, including related, emerging, and interdisciplinary areas that engage with issues of tribal upliftment, policy, culture, governance, and sustainable development.

Submissions may address, but are not limited to, the following areas:

- Demographic dynamics and social mobility among tribal communities
- Tribal socio-economic status: challenges and development imperatives
- Indigenous knowledge systems, traditional medicine, and healing practices
- Tribal health disparities and culturally attuned healthcare interventions
- Forest Rights Act (FRA), Community Forest Resources (CFR), and livelihoods
- PESA and local self-governance in tribal regions
- Cultural heritage, oral traditions, folk arts, and identity
- Indigenous disaster resilience and climate knowledge
- Impact of modernisation on tribal culture and livelihoods
- Gender, tribal women, and community leadership
- Education, language, and Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS)
- Climate change, biodiversity conservation, and sustainability
- Comparative perspectives on tribal development (India and globally)

OBJECTIVES OF THE CONFERENCE

- To critically examine governance frameworks and public policies impacting tribal development in Jharkhand
- To integrate indigenous knowledge systems with national and state-level development strategies
- To analyse socio-economic, demographic, health, and educational challenges of tribal and PVTG communities
- To explore culturally sensitive and participatory models of sustainable development
- To align tribal upliftment strategies with Viksit Bharat 2047 and the UN SDGs.
- To generate evidence-based policy recommendations and development frameworks

CONCEPT NOTE

As India advances the Viksit Bharat @2047 agenda, the inclusion of tribal communities is not charity, but a strategy for sustainable development. Jharkhand, home to 26% tribal population (Census 2011), has a paradox of resource wealth coexisting with persistent poverty, low literacy (~59%), and health disparities. This paradox demands a new paradigm: development with tribal leadership, not over it. As the title of the proposed international conference envisages, tribal communities are active architects and not passive beneficiaries. Their sustainable lifestyles, ecological knowledge, indigenous practices and cultural assets are national strengths to be documented, scaled, and leveraged for inclusive and sustainable social and economic development. Tribal communities are the original custodians of India's forests, rivers, and ancient wisdom. Their traditional practices, shifting cultivation, herbal medicine, and forest-based livelihoods, demonstrate a deep interlinkage with sustainable development. In the context of Viksit Bharat, it is imperative to:

- Establish "Tribal Knowledge Centres" in every block where elders teach ethno-botany, shifting cultivation, and languages; digitise oral histories via AI-enabled multilingual archives.
- Launch women-led forest product cooperatives with direct e-market linkage (e.g., lac, mahua, tendu); target ₹500 crore export potential by 2030.
- Scale "Tribal Fitness & Herbal Wellness Centres"; integrate Santhali yoga, Baiga herbal protocols into Ayushman Bharat; pilot Tribal TB Mukt Panchayat 2.0.
- Set up District-Level Tribal Art Hubs; train 10,000 youth annually in Warli, Sohrai, Jadopatia; link to GI-tagged handicraft exports.
- Launch "Adivasi Awaz" community radio in 5 tribal languages; broadcast weather, market prices, and FRA rights updates.

Recognise tribes as "Forest Rights Guardians" under FRA 2006; incentivize Community Forest Resource (CFR) management with carbon credits

The vision of Viksit Bharat 2047 cannot be realised without the active participation and empowerment of tribal communities. As custodians of India's rich natural resources and traditional knowledge, tribal populations play a vital and irreplaceable role in the nation's social, cultural, ecological, and economic development. Recognising, respecting, and partnering with their contributions is a strategic imperative for sustainable and equitable growth. This conference provides a platform for national and international academicians, policymakers, and community leaders to discuss, debate, and devise actionable strategies. It aligns tribal upliftment with UN SDGs, with a specific focus on:

- SDG 1 (No Poverty): CFR-based NTFP value chains
- SDG 2 (Zero Hunger): Seed banks of 50+ indigenous crops
- SDG 3 (Health): 100 mobile herbal clinics
- SDG 4 (Education): 500 EMR Schools with tribal language medium
- SDG 5 (Gender): 70% women in forest cooperatives
- SDG 13 (Climate Action)
- SDG 15 (Life on Land): 1 lakh hectares under CFR management

EXPECTED OUTCOMES OF THE CONFERENCE

Expected outcomes of the conference includes:-

- (i) evidence-based policy recommendations and framework,
- (ii) identification of key domains and indicators for tribal-centric development, addressing critical issues underlying environmental protection and climate change,
- (iii) cross-sectoral collaboration models; and
- (iv) reviewing issues pertaining to tribal in Jharkhand compared to other parts of India and elsewhere in the world. More specifically, the conference will produce the following deliverables:

- A Policy Brief for Jharkhand's Tribal Sub-Plan 2.0.
- Scoping the feasibility of a Jharkhand Tribal Development Index (JTDI) Dashboard (open-source, real-time).
- Areas for multi-sectoral MoUs for pilot projects (2026-28).
- A Global Declaration on Tribal-Led Sustainability.
- Bring out a socio-economic and cultural profile in detail among the tribal populations of Jharkhand.
- Identification of structural and policy-level challenges to tribal upliftment.
- Evidence-based policy recommendations on participatory and culturally sensitive approaches.
- A conceptual model integrating Viksit Bharat 2047 principles with tribal development indicators.

International conference on the theme: "Tribal Upliftment in Jharkhand: Integrating Policy, Culture, and Sustainable Development under Viksit Bharat 2047", thus, targets to provide a platform to national and international academicians, policymakers, community leaders and scholars to discuss, debate and devise actionable strategies for attaining integrated growth and sustainable development to realise the Sustainable Development Goals as enunciated internationally. The conference aims to align issues related to tribal upliftment through development strategies with the UN SDGs, focusing on areas such as poverty eradication, security, health and well-being, quality education and gender equality; cleaner energies, decent work and economic growth; innovations, industries and infrastructure, reducing inequalities, responsible consumption and production; biodiversity conservation, peace, justice and stronger institutions; and partnerships for achieving these goals.



OUR DEPARTMENT

The Department of Political Science and Public Administration (DPSPA) was established within the School of Social Sciences (SSS) in the year 2020. DPSPA started functioning with Two-Year MA Degree Program in Public Administration in the same year. The Department has also commenced "Five-Year Integrated BA-MA Degree Program" as per the National Education Policy (NEP-2020) from 2022. DPSPA endeavours to provide employment-oriented education and skill to students in its different programs. The Course Curriculum for both the programs have been crafted to promote, conduct and disseminate interdisciplinary learning contemporary key areas, such as Political Theory, Indian Political Process, Constitutionalism, Democracy and Decentralisation of Power, Institutionalism, Public Policy, Governance, Human Rights, International Politics, and Gender are to name a few of the areas. The courses are an amalgamation of theories and applied knowledge and skill which are oriented to enhance the employability of students. With its strong interdisciplinary emphasis in the structure and design of its syllabus, the department envisioned to prepare youth as valuable asset, both for society and the nation. The Department within a very short span of its evolution has started attracting students from different parts of the states and Union Territories, across the country.

Department also offers Doctoral programs both in Political Science and Public Administration. The teachers of the Department too are oriented towards imparting interdisciplinary knowledge and skill to prepare students with competitive edge, in the job market. DPSPA endeavour to further commence certificate, diploma, and degree programs which are socially and economically relevant to strengthen Indian polity and society. Department also aspires to contribute in its process of teaching-learning towards making the governance of the country increasingly better.

The Department has strong academic potentials in terms of faculty who are academically oriented, professionally committed, and highly motivated to research and deliver in the larger interests of preparing 21st century social capital. The Department has many outreach plans for future like to collaborate with institutions of national and international repute with proven expertise in different walks of knowledge creation and dissemination.

OUR UNIVERSITY

The Central University of Jharkhand, established on 1st March 2009 under the Central Universities Act, envisions for becoming a flagship institution rooted in Bharatiya culture and spiritual legacy while fostering scientific and rational thinking for a better world. Its mission is to provide accessible and quality education, nurture responsible citizens with holistic growth, and promote impactful research with entrepreneurial excellence. The university presently has 9 Schools and 25 Departments offering Integrated UG-PG, PG, and Ph.D. programmes across diverse disciplines. Spread over 505 acres on the outskirts of Ranchi, CUJ provides a vibrant multilingual and multi-ethnic environment that enriches multicultural learning and research.

HOW TO REACH CUJ

Ranchi city is well connected by air, rail, and road. The Birsa Munda Airport (27 KM) operates regular flights to major Indian cities, while Ranchi Junction(20 KM) and Hatia Junction (25 KM) are two major railway stations linking the city to major cities of India. Road connectivity is also strong through national highways and bus services. The Central University of Jharkhand (CUJ), located at Cheri Manatu about 25 km from Ranchi, can be conveniently reached by booking a cab or using a local autorickshaw from the railway stations or the airport.

