



# SRI GURU NANAK DEV KHALSA COLLEGE

(UNIVERSITY OF DELHI)  
DEV NAGAR, NEW DELHI-110 005

Ref. No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: 15/11/2016

## UGC SPONSORED NATIONAL SEMINAR

### **The Idea of Inclusive Development in India: Towards an Egalitarian Society and Nation**

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE  
SRI GURU NANAK DEV KHALSA COLLEGE  
(UNIVERSITY OF DELHI)  
DEV NAGAR, NEW DELHI - 110005

12 & 13<sup>th</sup> Jan.2017

Registration: 8.30 am to 9.00 am

**Dr.Gopinath Pillai, Associate Professor**  
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**ALL ARE CORDIALLY INVITED**

**(Dr.Gopinath Pillai)**  
**Associate Professor**

**(Dr.Manmohan Kaur)**  
**Principal**

## CONCEPT NOTE

The Indian Constitution is based on the philosophy of evolving an egalitarian society free from fear and bias based on promoting individual freedom. This is the essence of democracy. The idea of inclusive development acts as a catalyst towards the goal of an egalitarian society.

The India story since independence has seen growing inequalities in relative and absolute terms resulting in the emergence of two faces of India - 'Shining India', which is competing on the international scenario drawing maximum benefits from the forces of globalization and technological advancement. In contrast the other face being a 'suffering India', which is deprived and poor, isolated from the fruits of development. These two faces represent a ray of hope and symbol of despair. Bringing together these two faces of India will be a formidable challenge. Inclusive development is the only path through which we can face this challenge.

After 1947, Indian citizens got an opportunity to rewrite their luck and destiny. They made efforts to reshape their conditions and redirected their route of development. Unfortunately our efforts at development have not proved sustainable. We are far from achieving the idea of India where socio-political and economic justice prevails.

Inclusive development advances the notion of equitable opportunities and benefits for all members of society, in a manner which ensures that all stakeholders meaningfully and effectively participate in the decision-making process. True democracy is identified by the level of people's participation in the decision making process. It is a layered and multidimensional concept having social, cultural, political and economic aspects, that are most often interwoven and overlapping. Inclusive development further implies that all phases of the development cycle - design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation - are permeated by the assurance of non-discrimination and accessibility.

In a country like India, such an approach calls for - first and foremost - acknowledging and addressing the issue of exclusion of historically and systemically deprived communities: Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Women, Linguistic and Religious Minorities, persons stigmatized for health reasons and other marginalized groups. Conceptualizing and contextualizing exclusion should therefore be the stepping stones to any endeavour of visualising Inclusive development.

The effects of such exclusion are the raising levels of inequality around the world. Development cannot effectively reduce poverty unless all groups contribute to the creation of opportunities, share the benefits of development and participate in decision-making. The goal of inclusive development is to achieve an inclusive society that accommodates differences and values diversity.

In recognition of the problems of various marginalized sections of the country, the Indian government has consistently developed policies for their economic, social and political empowerment. 'Positive interventions', 'affirmative measures', and accompanying policy processes were initiated for an encompassing empowerment of these social groups. Though

these policies have brought some positive change, however, the process of transformation has been slow and inadequate to minimize the disabilities of the past and in reducing the gaps between them and the rest of the Indian society. Certain social groups continue to suffer from a high degree of poverty, and social and economic deprivation. Therefore, policy processes need to exhibit a radical shift in their focus to improve the ownership of income earning capital assets, agricultural assets, employment, human resource and health situation. Appropriate remedies need to be incorporated against discrimination to ensure equal participation of the marginalized communities in the private and the public sectors for inclusive development.

The most productive outcome of this engagement would be to arrive at a core set of policy actions for various stake holders to promote development that is genuinely inclusive. The key intent of this seminar would be to generate debates and discussions in a non-partisan and plural manner, looking forward to an egalitarian society and nation.

**Sub-Themes for the seminar include (but are not limited to) the following:**

1. The idea of inclusion: Unity in diversity
2. Plural Society and its Politics
3. Social Justice: Empowering the marginalized
4. Economic inclusion
5. Political exclusion and participation
6. Public policy alternatives towards inclusion
7. Bridging the Rural – Urban divide
8. Globalization: A case for inclusion

*Note:- Participants are free to develop themes other than the abovementioned, but relevant to the topic.*

**DATES FOR SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS AND PAPERS:**

- An abstract of not more than 300 words should be submitted mentioning the title of the paper, full name(s), affiliation(s), e-mail addresses and phone number(s) of the author(s).
- Abstracts and full papers are to be submitted electronically (softcopy).
- Full papers are to be submitted within 3000 words:

Last date of abstract submission : 29.11.2016

Acceptance Notification : 01.12.2016

Last date of full paper submission : 15.12.2016

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