



6th Annual National Conference

Rashtriya Samaj Vigyan Parishad (RSVP)

*“Holistic Development in Indian Tradition :
Perspectives from the Social Sciences”*

*“समाज - विज्ञान की दृष्टि से
भारतीय परंपरा में समग्र विकास”*

In collaboration with

**Atal Bihari Vajpayee Vishwavidyalaya
Bilaspur (Chhattisgarh)**

25th – 27th, February 2024



ABOUT RASHTRIYA SAMAJ VIGYAN PARISHAD (RSVP)

Rashtriya Samaj Vigyan Parishad (RSVP) founded in 2008, duly registered in New Delhi under the Societies Registration Act 1860, is a national scholarly association devoted to the cause of understanding and Indigenization of the social sciences in consonance with classical Indian thought and philosophy. After a thorough introspection by more than 100 Indian Social Scientists in Rambhau Mahalagi Prabodhini, Mumbai in 2008, it was observed that despite several decades of Independence from colonial rule, 'intellectual servitude' still permeates the academic sphere of our country. Whether it is economics or sociology, history or politics, the predominance of Eurocentric premises, assumptions and philosophical postulates have led to a large-scale imitation in teaching and research, which often are irrelevant to Indian socio-cultural realities. Unfortunately, despite India's rich tradition of indigenous knowledge, the concepts of social sciences and the ideas related to various disciplines apparently exhibit a total disconnect with it. Indian values, philosophy and culture are scarcely reflected in the subjects of social sciences and consequently social sciences have not succeeded in fostering a spirit of national pride. Therefore, it was resolved to create Rashtriya Samaj Vigyan Parishad (RSVP) in order to address these issues through a proper reorientation of social sciences which could cater to the structural dynamics and functional subtleties of Indian society in particular and the world at large. Ever since, Rashtriya Samaj Vigyan Parishad (RSVP) has been engaging seriously in augmenting the reversal of the analytical gaze, which hitherto has been from the West to the East and normally privileges the former. In its attempt to strengthen the indigenization base of social sciences in India, Rashtriya Samaj Vigyan Parishad (RSVP) has been organizing conferences, seminars, workshops, symposia for intellectual enrichment across the country. Rashtriya Samaj Vigyan Parishad (RSVP) engages in nurturing collection, interpretation, analysis and dissemination of social science resources and also promotes scholarship to galvanize the nation building process. Linking social science knowledge effectively to public policies and local needs in order to improve the quality of life, is also its major purported aim. RSVP has already organized its annual conferences at Kanpur (2012), Bhopal (2014), Patna (2018), Tumkur (2019) and New Delhi (2022). The 6th annual conference is being held under the auspices of Atal Bihari Vajpayee University, Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh during **February, 25th to 27th, 2024.**



ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

Since time immemorial, Bharatvarsh has produced, promoted, and practiced sociocultural values that have been inclusive, dynamic, nurturing and in harmony with nature. Indian social thought, since the earliest times, stated in no uncertain terms the primordial importance of creating a harmonious future that is more livable and qualitatively superior than the present prevailing system. It has explained at length the importance of the environment in the attainment of *samagra vikas*, which we find in ancient Indian texts such as Vedas, Upanishads and Dharmashastras which were rearticulated during the Indian renaissance. The Vedas, Upanishads and Dharmashastras are not merely religious and philosophical treatises but are also sociological, political and economic texts. The last three decades can be broadly termed as the era of environmentalism. Environmental crisis is one of the basic hurdles in achieving *samagra vikas* (holistic development). Humans have exploited nature to the extent that their own existence and that of all other species is at stake. The present environmental crisis is primarily the result of modern Western epistemological tradition of the scientific revolution which is reductionist in nature and is rooted in false ontological and epistemological assumptions, which believe in uniformity and perceive all systems as comprising the same basic constituents and all basic processes as mechanical. This reductionist worldview is individual centric, capital-centric and transactional in nature, and has overlooked the social and ecological cost of destroying the diversity of all life forms.

The present conference aims at projecting how, in contradistinction to this reductionist view, the Indian tradition always emphasizes interdependence and integrity as the basis for creating a worldview that nurtures rather than destroys nature's sustainable system. To this effect, the conference intends to discuss, debate and present a comparative analysis of the concept of *vikas* in Western and Indian traditions.

SUB-THEMES & TECHNICAL SESSIONS

T1: Historical Background of the Concept of *Vikas* in the Western Tradition and its Critique:

This technical session aims at highlighting the differences between the Western and Indian Approaches: how the Western capitalist model of development promotes hedonism, consumption and individualism leading to a consumerist society; and how the Indian approach in stark contrast to the Western Approach believes in self-restraint, conservation and collectivism ensuring equal access of resources to one and all.

T2: Significance of 'Pancha-bhootas' in Samagra Vikas:

This technical session aims at focusing on significance of the concept of 'Pancha-bhootas' in Indian social science and philosophy. These five basic elements are: earth, water, fire, air and space or ether. (इमानि पञ्चमहाभूतानि पृथिवी, वायुः आकाशः आपज्योतीषि। Aitareya Upanishad 3.3), and represent the physical and energetic qualities of the human body and of the physical world. The session also aims at projecting how in spite of the fact that the UN Environmental Protection Act 1986 defines environment consisting of water, air and land and the inter-relationship between them, the Vedas, Upanishads, Smritis and Puranas etc. illustrate the Indian view which is very different as it provides divinity to nature and addresses its various forms as deities to be worshipped, protected and preserved.





T3: Re-exploring the Significance of Yajna in Attaining 'Samagra Vikas':

This session aims at highlighting the importance of Yajna as the great saviour of environment and as the 'havel (nucleus) of the whole world'; अयं यज्ञो विश्वस्य भुवनस्य नाभि, Yajurveda 13.62; अयं यज्ञो भुवनस्य नाभि। Rigveda, 1.164.35).

T4: Economic Aspects of 'Samagra Vikas':

This session aims at exploring how nature in Western thought has always been projected in the service of humans, thus creating an adversarial relationship between the two where everything is subordinated to the comfort of human beings, whereas in Indian thought, nature is always in a harmonious relationship with humans and is revered in the form of God and Goddesses. The session would focus on the creative energies of human beings leading to inner fulfilment for the whole community and emphasize that holistic development always depends on the carrying capacity of ecological systems.

T5: Gender Equality and *Samagra Vikas*:

This fifth technical session aims at discussing development in terms of eco-feminism, and how capitalist patriarchy or 'modern' civilization is based on a cosmology and anthropology that structurally dichotomizes reality, and puts the two parts in hierarchical opposition to each other; the one always considered superior, thriving, and progressing at the expenses of the other. The session also aims at highlighting how the Indian perspective propounds cosmology and anthropology which recognizes that life in nature (which includes human beings) is maintained by means of co-operation, mutual care and love which enables the preservation of the diversity of all life forms, including their cultural expressions.

T6: Traditional Festivities, Folk Observances and Practices in Relation to Nature and Ecosystem:

This session aims at discussing how nature became part and parcel of people's lives and livelihood and is manifested through their cultural traditions, religions, beliefs and practices and worldview. The traditional communities such as hunters, gatherers, agriculturalists, and herders often have a profound understanding of their environment and its ecology, forming a sustainable basis for the conservation and for sustainable use of global biodiversity. Similarly various practices of the indigenous communities also provide ample scope for examining the nature of environmental conservation, implicit or manifest.

Thus, the conference aims at highlighting how Indian social science believes in creating a holistic, all-life embracing cosmology and anthropology different from the Western paradigm of development which has resulted in the destruction of cultural as well as biological diversity, to a homogenization of cultures and life forms according to the demands of profit-oriented industries. The Indian worldview rejects the homogenizing process resulting from the world market and capitalist production processes. In the Indian view, the preservation of the earth's diversity of life forms and of human societies' cultures is a precondition for the maintenance of life on this planet. In the true spirit of 'acceptance after examination', these ideas in the present context of Social Sciences in India need to be debated to find their relevance, possibility of application and recognition by the academia. This National Conference intends to discuss, debate and critique these thoughts through presentations, and deliberations on papers by invited academics from different disciplines.

**** Note :** Beside the above, one online session will be organised for those participants who are unable to attend the conference physically due to any reason.



Sirpur





SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- ❖ Please fill the Abstract Submission Form for uploading the abstract.
- ❖ Citation and references should comply with the APA style of referencing. Abstract should be within 250 words.
- ❖ Participants must send their paper in either English or Hindi.
- ❖ Pre-registration to the programme is through online mode only. Registration is mandatory for both participants and attendees.
- ❖ Certificates of participation will be issued to all the registered participants and attendees.
- ❖ In the case of multiple authors, certificates will be issued only to the registered author(s).
- ❖ If an author submits two papers, both the papers must be registered separately.
- ❖ Hospitality and modest accommodation will be provided to those who register on first come, first served basis from 24th February 2024 afternoon to 27th February 2024 forenoon.
- ❖ AC three tier to and fro travel fare will be reimbursed to the authors of accepted papers.
- ❖ Eligibility : The programme is open to all interested participants. All faculty members (regular/temporary/ad-hoc/guest), research scholars from higher education and independent scholars are also welcome to participate in the conference.

Important dates:

Submission of abstract : January 25th, 2024

Submission of full paper : February 15th, 2024

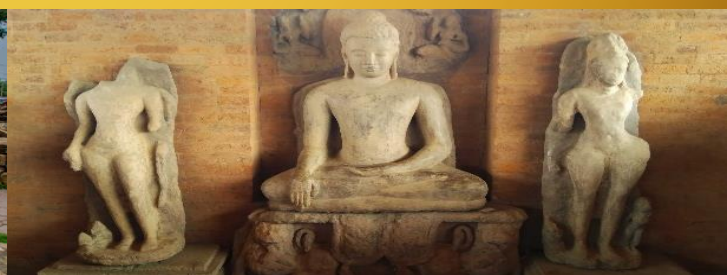
Abstract Submission link : <https://forms.gle/xhdn9rvc35PSg4hu6>



Abstract Submission QR

Please use the following email for submission of full papers and any queries:

E-Mail ID: vc@bilaspuruniversity.ac.in and daptardarv@gmail.com



Barnawapara

Achanakmar Wildlife Sanctuary

REGISTRATION DETAILS

- Interested participants are requested to follow the steps mentioned below in order to register for the Conference.
- Participants are required to pay the registration fee of INR 2,000 (for Faculty and Independent Scholars) and INR 1,000 (Students and Research Scholars)
- NEFT/IMPS/UPI to the following account: (for registration)

Name - Registrar Atal Bihari Vajpayee Vishwavidyalaya

Account No. - 423802010053112

IFSC - UBIN0542385

Branch - Bilaspur

- NOTE: Registration Fee is Non-Refundable
- Participants are required to fill the registration form using the link below (Please ensure that you have payment proof before filling up registration form).
- Registration link: <https://forms.gle/dxnXgUF3ShrGgK3U8>



Registration QR

- Rashtriya Samaj Vigyan Parishad (RSVP) membership fees:

Annual membership - Rs 1000

Lifetime membership - Rs 3000

Bank details for membership:

Name of the Bank - UCO Bank

A/c No. - 18200110065662

Name of the Branch - IIPA New Delhi

IFS Code –UCBA0001820

RSVP Website: <http://www.rsvpbharat.org/>

Membership form link : <https://www.rsvpbharat.org/RSVPmembership.docx>

*For any queries related to membership, please contact:

Prof. Govind Sharma +91-9829290670, dragsir@yahoo.co.in



Atal Bihari Vajpayee Vishwavidyalaya Bilaspur, (C.G.)



ABOUT ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE VISHWAVIDYALAYA (ABVV)

Atal Bihari Vajpayee University was established in 2012 after Guru Ghasi Das University became a central University. Past few years have evidenced its iconic achievements of the university. The university is accredited with 12B and 2 (f) status from UGC. Being a member of Association of Indian Universities, it has been recognized as Academic and Administrative development Centre under which the University is catering multidimensional training programs. The University is recognized as a Bilaspur Chapter of Chhattisgarh by Indian Science Congress Association for dissemination of science and technology through workshops, seminars and conferences in the state University. Under the guidance of Prof. A.D.N. Bajpai, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, the university is gaining fame not only at state and National levels but also globally. The University has gained distinct recognition in inculcating innovation in daily practices. The most popular practice being use of Kulhads instead of cups, use Chhattisgarhi Language as official Language in documents for promotion of state language. The university is trying to cater the requirements of state by introducing region specific skill-based courses in the curriculum. University also embraces its infrastructure which is well designed for especially abled students, techno-friendly classrooms, rich laboratories WI-FI enabled campus and enriched library. The university is keeping pace with the global advancements and has developed Centre of Excellence for Artificial Intelligence a state of art in Chhattisgarh. The University has bagged awards and recognitions at state and national levels on accords of eminent social activities by NSS. The University has also provided amicable environment for sports and has organized National events under aegis of Association of Indian Universities. The jurisdiction of Atal Bihari Vajpayee Vishwavidyalaya is extended to 04 districts namely Bilaspur, Mungeli, Korba, Gaurela-Pendra-Marwahi in which 125 colleges are affiliated, including both government and private colleges. The University consists of 5 departments viz. Computer science & application; Commerce & Financial Studies; Microbiology & bioinformatics; Food Processing & Technology; Hotel Management & Hospitality catering to post-graduate studies and research. The University is also known for its excellence in Yoga performances.

Places of Tourists Interests: Mahamaya Devi Mandir (Ratanpur), Pataleshwar Mandir and Dindeshwari Mata Mandir (Malhar), Devrani-Jethani Mandir (Talagaon), Kanan Pendari Zoo (Sakri), Achanakmar Wildlife Sanctuary (Mungeli).

How to reach Bilaspur :

- **By Flight :** The nearest airport from Bilaspur is Bilasa Devikewat Airport (Chakarbhatta) Bilaspur which is located at a distance of 12 km from Bilaspur city. Swami Vivekananda Airport Raipur which is located in Raipur, 130 km away from Bilaspur. It is well connected to major cities.
- **By Train :** Bilaspur is well connected to various major cities. Railway Station(s): Bilaspur Junction (BSP) and Uslapur (USL).
- **By Roadways:** Bilaspur city is well connected with National Highways to various major cities of the country.

CONFERENCE TEAMS

PATRONS

- **Hon'ble Biswabhusan Harichandan H.E.** The Governor of Chhattisgarh and The Chancellor of Atal Bihari Vajpayee Vishwavidyalaya, Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh.
- **Hon'ble Shri Vishnu Deo Sai**, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh.
- **Professor P.V. Krishna Bhat**, Chancellor, Central University of Odisha, Koraput
- **Professor Rajkumar Bhatia**, Former Professor of Economics, University of Delhi, Delhi.
- **Professor Shantishree Dhulipudi Pandit**, Vice-Chancellor, JNU, New Delhi.
- **Professor Shri Prakash Mani Tripathi**, Vice-Chancellor, IGNTU, Amarkantak.
- **Professor Sushma Yadav**, former Vice-Chancellor, Bhagat Phool Singh Mahila Vishwavidyalaya, Sonapat, Haryana, Pro Vice Chancellor, Central University Haryana, Member UGC, New Delhi.

STEERING COMMITTEE

Chairperson: **Professor Chandrakala Padia**, Former Vice-Chancellor, Maharaja Ganga Singh Vishwavidyalaya, Bikaner and Chairperson, Institute of Advanced Studies, Shimla.

Co-chairs: **Professor V N Bhatt**, Eminent Professor of Sociology, USA
Professor Sheila Rai, Secretary General, Rashtriya Samaj Vigyan Parishad (RSVP), Member ICSSR, New Delhi

Members: **Professor Amarjiva Lochan**, Professor, Department of History, Delhi University, Delhi
Professor Govind Sharma, Professor, Government Arts College, Kota
Professor Ramesh Salian, Professor, Department of Economics JNU, Delhi
Professor Om Upadhyaya, Director, ICHR, New Delhi.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMME COMMITTEE

Chairperson: **Professor Vaidehi Daptardar**, Former Principal and Professor of Economics, Mumbai.

Co-chair : **Professor Sanjay Satyarthi**, Principal Central College Daman, Daman & Diu

Members: **Dr. Sanjay Yadav**, Professor Political science, IGNTU, Amarkantak.
Dr. Pravesh Kumar, Department of Political Science, JNU, Delhi
Dr. Preeti Sharma, Department of Political Science, Central University, Gandhinagar.
Dr. Satish Agrawal, Assistant Professor, Political science, MSLU, Udaipur
Dr. Balwan Gautam Professor, Political Science, Delhi University, Delhi

ORGANISING COMMITTEE

Chairperson: **Professor A.D.N. Bajpai**, Vice-Chancellor, Atal Bihari Vajpayee Vishwavidyalaya, Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh.

Co-chair: **Professor Sheila Rai**, Secretary General, Rashtriya Samaj Vigyan Parishad (RSVP), Member ICSSR, New Delhi.

Convener: **Professor H. S. Hota**, Professor, Computer Science & Application Department, ABVV, Bilaspur.

Co-Conveners: **Professor P. K. Pandey**, Additional Director Regional Office Higher Education Chhattisgarh.
Shri Shailendra Dubey, Registrar, Atal Bihari Vajpayee Vishwavidyalaya, Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh.
Smt. Neha Rathia, Deputy Registrar, Atal Bihari Vajpayee Vishwavidyalaya, Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh.

Members: **Professor R Prasad**, Former Vice-Chancellor, Sant Gahira Guru University, Sarguja
Professor S.L. Nirala, Principal, JP Verma PG. College, Bilaspur.
Professor N.K. Koshti, Professor of Business economics, APSU, Rewa, MP.
Professor Tarun Dhar Diwan, Exam Controller, ABVV, Bilaspur
Professor P. K. Mishra, Dean Social Science, GGU, Bilaspur
Professor K. K. Sharma, Associate Professor, GGU, Bilaspur
Dr. Sanjay Singh, Principal C.M. Dubey College, Bilaspur
Dr. Deep Shikha Shukla, Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, ABVV, Bilaspur.
Mr. Aakash Kumar Soni, Assistant Professor, Economics, University of Delhi, Delhi
Ms. Sarika Singh, Assistant Professor, History, University of Delhi, Delhi.
Dr. Rahil Ahmed Senior Fellow ICSSR, New Delhi

CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT

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