# Two Days National Seminar

On

"Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: Architect of National Unity and Modern India"

August 21 - 22, 2025

In collaboration with

Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR),

New Delhi

Seminar Scheme

"Rashtriya Ekta (National Unity) Seminar"

# Organised by

Center for Study of Social Inclusion (CSSI)
Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics

Deccan Gymkhana, 846, Shivajinagar, Deccan, Pune-411004 Maharashtra, India

website: www.gipe.ac.in





# About the Institute

About Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics Founded in 1930 by the Servants of India Society (SIS) with an endowment of Rao Bahadur R. R. Kale - the Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics (GIPE) - is one of the oldest and premier institutions of Economics in the country.

Under the leadership of Prof D R Gadgil, its first director, the institute set up the highest standards of research, training, and teaching in the field of Economics. The institute always left its impact through theoretical and practical research outcomes.

Followed by the legacy and exemplary work in the field of Economics, UGC granted the Institute status of a deemed-to-be university. In addition, it also has three advanced research centres funded by various ministries of the central government of India. These centres include the Agro Economic Research Centre, Population Research Centre, and Centre for the study of Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy.

Given the strong research base the institute offers Ph.D. in Economics and allied subjects like agricultural economics, population studies, sociology and so on. Along with this, the institute offers post-graduation degree in six specialisations and a Bachelor's degree in Economics. It is supplemented by a one-year Certificate Program in Econometrics and Data Science.

The alumni of the institute are employed across sectors like academia, research institutions, international agencies, government and non-governmental organizations, financial institutions, banking, and many more.

# About the Center

Established under the University Grants Commission XI Plan, the Centre for the Study of Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy (CSSE&IP) at the Gokhale Institute of Politics And Economics (GIPE) is a multi-disciplinary centre that conducts research and teaching in the areas of social exclusion, studies on discrimination, and inclusive policy. The key objective of the Centre is to conceptualise and problematise discrimination, exclusion and inclusion based on caste, ethnicity and religion.

The Centre focuses on developing an understanding of the nature and dynamics of social exclusion and discrimination, at the theoretical and empirical levels. The Centre also focuses on collaborative research and activities with non-governmental organisations working for marginalised sections of society. One of the important objectives of the Centre is to disseminate knowledge and sensitise the public at large on patterns of discrimination and exclusion through public lectures and interactions.

# **Research Centers**

Agro Economic Research Centre Population Centre for Behavioral Economics

Centerfor Excellence in Entrepreneurship

and Development

Centre for Sustainable Development Input-Output Research Association Centre for Health Policy and Systems

### **Academic Programs**

Ph.D. M.Sc. (Economics) M.A.(Economics)

M.Sc. (Financial Economics)

B.Sc. (Economics)

M.Sc. (Agri Business Economics)

M.Sc. (International Business Economics &

Finance)

M.Sc. (Population Studies and Health Economics PG Certificate in Econometric Application and

Data Science (EADS)

One-Year Post-Graduate Diploma in Financial

**Economics** 

# Concept Note

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, India's "Iron Man," stands as a towering figure in the nation's history, renowned for his unparalleled contributions to national unity and the shaping of modern India. As Independent India's first Home Minister and Deputy Prime Minister, Patel's legacy is etched in his deft unification of over 562 princely states into the Indian Union, laying the foundation for a cohesive national identity. His pragmatic political philosophy, rooted in Gandhian ideals, anti-colonial resistance, and a commitment to social reform, played a critical role in India's independence and post-independence nation-building. This National Seminar, approved under ICSSR's Rashtriya Ekta (National Unity) Seminars initiative to commemorate Patel's 150th birth anniversary by revisiting his monumental contributions and exploring their relevance to contemporary India within the framework of Vision Viksit Bharat 2 047.

The seminar will delve into Patel's multifaceted legacy-his leadership in the Kheda and Bardoli Satyagrahas, his advocacy for farmers' and women's rights, and his diplomatic acumen in negotiating with princely states amidst the tumult of partition. By fostering scholarly engagement, this event aims to contemporize Patel's vision, offering insights into how his ideas can address 21st-century challenges such as governance, social justice, and national security.

# **Objectives**

The seminar is designed to:

- 1. Re-examine Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel 's contributions to India's anti-colonial struggle and national integration.
- 2. Analyze his political philosophy and its implications for modem governance and inclusive development.
- 3. Explore the relevance of Patel's commitment to social justice, gender equality, and farmers' rights in today's context.
- 4. Stimulate academic discourse on Patel's role in shaping India's national polity and institutions, with a focus on Vision Viksit Bharat 2047. Propose research-based insights and policy recommendations inspired by Patel's legacy for a united and progressive India.

### **Proposed Sub-themes:**

Rashtriya Ekta Seminars themes, the seminar will focus on the following key areas, tailored to the title "Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: Architect of National Unity and Modern India".

# 1. Sardar Patel, his life and legacy

Exploring Patel 's personal journey, leadership qualities, and lasting impact on India's sociopolitical fabric.

### 2. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, National Integration and the Unification of Bharat

- ❖ Patel 's diplomatic and strategic efforts in integrating princely states post-independence.
- Lessons from his approach for addressing regional disparities and fostering national unity today.
- 3. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and Institutions of Effective Governance and Administration in Modern India
  - His role in strengthening civil services (i.e. IAS, IPS) and administrative frameworks.
  - \* Relevance of his governance model for contemporary India's bureaucratic efficiency.
- 4. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's Commitment to Social Justice, Gender Equality, and Farmers' Rights
  - Insights from his leadership in agrarian movements like Bardoli Satyagraha.



- ❖ Application of his principles to current issues of equity and rural development.
- 5. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's Contributions to National Security and Nationalism
  - Strategies for internal stability and their implications for modem security challenges.
  - ❖ Patel 's vision of nationalism in the context of a diverse India.
- 6. The Legacy of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel in Negotiating the Vision and Challenges of Twenty-First Century Bharat
  - Contextualizing Patel's pragmatism and nation-building ethos for Vision Viksit Bharat 2047.
  - ❖ Addressing contemporary challenges like federalism, inclusivity, and economic self-reliance.
- 7. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Gandhi, and Gandhian Satyagraha
  - ❖ Patel's alignment with Gandhian ideals and their impact on his leadership style.
  - Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Gandhi, and Gandhian Satyagraha

The conference is not limited to the themes listed above; submissions exploring Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's ideas and thoughts, particularly those relevant to contemporary contexts, are also welcome."

# About the Conference

The Institute is organizing a two-day National Conference on **21-22 August, 2025** on "Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: Architect of National Unity and Modern India"

#### Venue of Conference:

Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Pune

#### Logistics

In view of limited guest house facilities on campus, arrangements will be made outside GIPE campus for participants of the conference .

# Registration Fee:

**Rs.500** per person (GST exempted) for students **Rs.1000** per person (including GST) for others

# **Travel Grant:**

Limited travel support is available (up to 3rd AC railway fare), subject to the availability of funds.

#### **Chief Patron:**

Dr. Shankar Das, Vice-Chancellor, GIPE, Pune

# **Organizing Committee:**

**Dr. Sunil Bhosale**( Seminar Convener) Prof. Anjali Radkar Prof. Kailash Thaware Prof. K.S. Hari Dr. Atreyee Sinha Chkraborti Dr. Rajesh Danane



# Mode of Submission of papers

Authors should submit their full-length research paper in **English and Hindi** (appx. 5000 words) with abstract (appx. 200-250 words) at <a href="https://forms.gle/n58hXgfsj6TdNX7g6">https://forms.gle/n58hXgfsj6TdNX7g6</a>
Selected presented papers will be published in ICSSR, New Delhi Book Publication.

# **Important Dates**

The last date for submission of full-length paper: 30th July 2025

Notification of the selected papers: 1st August 2025

In case of any query please write to <a href="mailto:sunil.bhosale@gipe.ac.in">sunil.bhosale@gipe.ac.in</a>

### **Contact**

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