



Together for a Sustainable and Responsible Future

2ND NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Sponsored by Higher Education
And

Chhattisgarh Council of Science & Technology

Jointly Organized By

CHHATTISGARH SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

And

LATE BINDESHWARI BAGHEL GOVT. COLLEGE

KUMHARI, DURG (C.G.)

On

*Globalization and Emerging Environmental Crisis:
The Role of Civil Society*

(30- 31 January 2026)

MOMENTS AND MILESTONES – CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

In Loving Memory of
Late Professor
G.P. Sharma



Eminent Sociologist of Chhattisgarh

(15.10.1943 — 21.08.2025)

INAUGURAL SESSION



Inaugural Session

The inaugural session of the Two Days National Conference on “Globalisation and Emerging Environmental Crisis: The Role of Civil Society” was conducted with great enthusiasm and academic significance. The session set the intellectual tone of the conference by emphasizing the urgent need for collective action toward environmental sustainability in the context of globalization.

The Chief Guest, Dr. Santosh Kumar Dewangan (I.A.S.), Commissioner, Higher Education, Chhattisgarh, delivered the inaugural address highlighting the critical role of family, society, and educational institutions in environmental conservation. He emphasized that environmental protection begins at the grassroots level, particularly within families where values, habits, and environmental ethics are cultivated. He noted that responsible consumption, waste reduction, and ecological awareness should be nurtured from an early age through family practices and societal participation. He further stressed that civil society organizations, academic institutions, and community initiatives play a vital role in complementing governmental environmental policies and ensuring sustainable development.

Dr. (Smt.) Sonita Satsangi, Patron of the Conference and Principal of Late Bindeshwari Baghel Government College, Kumhari, welcomed the distinguished guests, speakers, and participants. In her address, she emphasized the responsibility of academic institutions in fostering environmental awareness, research orientation, and socially responsible education. She highlighted that higher education institutions must actively promote environmental sensitivity among students and encourage research addressing emerging ecological challenges.

Dr. Preeti Sharma, President of the Chhattisgarh Sociological Association and Convener of the Conference, elaborated on the significance of the conference theme. She emphasized that globalization has brought rapid socio-economic changes but has also intensified environmental pressures. She stressed the need for sociological perspectives in understanding environmental crises and highlighted the importance of civil society participation, community engagement, and interdisciplinary research in achieving sustainable development.

Dr. L. S. Gajpal, Secretary of the Chhattisgarh Sociological Association and Co-Convener of the Conference, outlined the objectives of the conference and highlighted the importance of academic collaboration in addressing environmental issues. He emphasized that collective academic efforts, research dissemination, and policy-oriented dialogue are essential for developing sustainable environmental strategies. He also acknowledged the contributions of organizers, scholars, and participants in making the conference possible.

The inaugural session successfully established the thematic framework of the conference by highlighting the interconnected roles of family, society, academia, and civil society in environmental conservation. It underscored the importance of integrating environmental awareness into education, research, and community engagement to address emerging environmental challenges effectively.

DAY - 1 - 30/01/2026



Detailed Highlights of Eminent Speakers' Lectures

Dr. K. Subramaniyan (Retired IFS; Former DG, CGCOST)

Dr. K. Subramaniyan delivered an insightful lecture emphasizing the critical importance of conducting comprehensive Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Social Impact Assessment (SIA) prior to establishing industrial plants, infrastructure projects, or developmental initiatives. In the context of globalization, he noted that rapid industrial expansion and economic development often overlook ecological sustainability and social consequences, leading to long-term environmental degradation and community displacement.

He stressed that responsible development requires a balanced approach where economic progress is aligned with environmental protection and social welfare. According to him, integrating scientific environmental assessment with sociological understanding can help policymakers anticipate potential risks, mitigate environmental damage, and ensure inclusive development. His lecture strongly reinforced the role of civil society, researchers, and policymakers in advocating for environmentally responsible industrial practices.

Prof. Manish K. Verma (Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar Central University, Lucknow)

Prof. Manish K. Verma addressed the global environmental crisis as a pressing contemporary challenge intensified by globalization. He described environmental degradation as a collective global issue that transcends national boundaries and requires coordinated action at local, national, and global levels.

He particularly emphasized the role of civil society organizations, grassroots movements, academic institutions, and informed citizens in environmental preservation. He highlighted that while government policies are essential, public participation, awareness campaigns, and community-led initiatives are equally crucial for sustainable environmental governance. His lecture inspired participants to view environmental protection not merely as a policy issue but as a shared social responsibility requiring collective commitment.

DAY - 1 - 30/01/2026



Technical Sessions and Proceedings

The Two Days National Conference was structured into an inaugural session, four technical sessions, a memorial lecture session, paper presentations, interactive discussions, and a valedictory session. The sessions were systematically aligned with the central theme “*Globalisation and Emerging Environmental Crisis: The Role of Civil Society*”, ensuring focused academic deliberations on environmental sustainability, globalization impacts, policy frameworks, and civil society interventions.

The conference emphasized not only academic discussion but also practical environmental awareness, policy sensitivity, and global civil society engagement, thereby fulfilling broader objectives of environmental preservation and sustainable development.

Technical Session I

Subtheme: Globalization, Development Policies, and Environmental Governance

This session examined the environmental implications of globalization-driven development, including industrialization, infrastructure expansion, and technological advancement. Speakers emphasized the importance of environmental and social impact assessments before establishing industrial projects to prevent ecological damage and social displacement.

Examples from global civil society initiatives such as the Greenpeace environmental advocacy movement, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) sustainability initiatives, and international climate action campaigns were discussed to illustrate how organized civil society efforts influence environmental policy and responsible development practices.

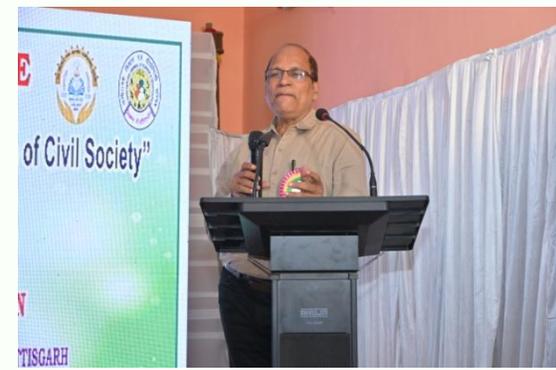
Key Outcomes

- Increased policy awareness regarding environmental impact assessments
- Greater understanding of responsible industrial development
- Enhanced academic engagement with global environmental governance frameworks
- Strengthened linkage between academic research and environmental policy advocacy

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Technical Session II

Subtheme: Climate Change, Environmental Degradation, and Sustainable Development Practices

This session focused on pressing environmental challenges such as climate change, biodiversity loss, pollution, and ecological imbalance in the era of globalization. Research papers highlighted sustainable practices, renewable energy adoption, conservation strategies, and climate resilience approaches.

Global examples such as the Paris Climate Agreement initiatives, Fridays for Future youth climate movement, and community-based environmental sustainability projects were discussed to demonstrate how collective global action contributes to environmental preservation.

Key Outcomes

- Enhanced awareness of climate change mitigation strategies
- Promotion of sustainable lifestyle and research practices
- Encouragement of interdisciplinary environmental research
- Increased understanding of global environmental cooperation mechanisms

Technical Session III

Subtheme: Civil Society Engagement, Community Participation, and Environmental Awareness

This session highlighted the central role of civil society organizations, NGOs, grassroots movements, and community initiatives in environmental protection. Discussions illustrated how public awareness campaigns, local conservation efforts, and community activism contribute to sustainable environmental management.

Examples included international civil society initiatives such as WWF biodiversity conservation programs, community forest management models, and grassroots environmental movements advocating ecological justice. These discussions reinforced the importance of citizen participation alongside governmental policy initiatives.

Key Outcomes

- Strengthened understanding of civil society's role in environmental governance
- Encouragement of community-based environmental initiatives
- Improved dialogue between academia and civil society organizations
- Promotion of participatory environmental decision-making

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Technical Session IV

Subtheme: Research Outcomes, Policy Recommendations, and Future Environmental Strategies

This session focused on synthesizing research findings, identifying policy implications, and exploring future directions for environmental research and civil society engagement. Participants discussed actionable recommendations for sustainable development, environmental education, and policy advocacy.

The session emphasized the importance of translating academic research into policy frameworks, community awareness programs, and sustainable development strategies.

Key Outcomes

- Development of policy-relevant academic recommendations
- Encouragement of future interdisciplinary research collaborations
- Strengthened academic networking at national level
- Promotion of sustainable environmental governance initiatives

Participation Details

The conference recorded participation of over 150 delegates from various academic institutions, research organizations, and civil society groups across India, reflecting significant national-level academic engagement. Among the participants, 78 faculty members, including senior academicians and retired professors, contributed their expertise through scholarly discussions, mentoring interactions, and knowledge sharing, thereby strengthening academic quality and intellectual depth of the conference.

Approximately 40 research scholars and students actively participated through paper presentations, discussions, and interactive sessions. Their engagement contributed to research capacity building, academic exposure, and enhanced understanding of environmental sustainability issues, particularly in relation to globalization and civil society interventions.

The inclusion of members of civil society, environmental practitioners, and socially engaged individuals added a practical dimension to academic discussions. This facilitated the exchange of ground-level experiences, community-based environmental practices, and policy perspectives, thereby bridging the gap between academic research and real-world environmental challenges.

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Memorial Lecture Session (Late Prof. G.P. Sharma Memorial Lecture)

Subtheme: Cultural Traditions, Indigenous Knowledge, and Environmental Ethics

This session emphasized the importance of cultural values, indigenous knowledge systems, and traditional ecological practices in environmental conservation. Speakers highlighted how local traditions, community ethics, and cultural sustainability practices can complement modern environmental policies.

Discussions demonstrated how indigenous ecological knowledge worldwide—such as sustainable forest management practices and traditional water conservation systems—continues to contribute to environmental preservation.

Key Outcomes

- Recognition of traditional ecological wisdom in sustainability discourse
- Promotion of culturally sensitive environmental policies
- Integration of sociological insights into environmental research
- Strengthening academic awareness of indigenous sustainability practices

Special Mention

The conference was enriched by the special participation and guidance of eminent sociology professors from Chhattisgarh, including Dr. Manju Jha, Dr. Sadhana Khare, Dr. Manisha Mahapatra, Dr. N. Kujur, Dr. Ashwini Mahajan, Dr. Amarnath Sharma, and Dr. Hemlata Borkar, Dr. Sunita Agrawal, Dr. Manisha Shukla. Their academic insights and encouragement greatly contributed to the success of the event. The conference also received valuable direct and indirect support from Dr. Shraddha Girolkar, Dr. Pushpa Tiwari, and Dr. Preeti Mishra, whose cooperation and goodwill were sincerely appreciated.

DAY - 2 - 31/01/2026



Detailed Highlights of Eminent Speakers' Lectures

Prof. M. L. Naik (Pt. Ravishankar Shukla University, Raipur)

Prof. M. L. Naik's lecture explored the relationship between human evolution, technological advancement, and environmental degradation. He discussed how the progression of human civilization—from early subsistence economies to industrialized global societies—has significantly altered natural ecosystems.

In the context of globalization, he pointed out that increased consumption patterns, urbanization, industrialization, and technological dependence have accelerated environmental stress. However, he also emphasized that human intelligence and innovation can be harnessed positively to promote sustainable development, environmental restoration, and responsible resource management. His lecture encouraged critical reflection on human lifestyles and the need for environmentally conscious behavioral change.

Prof. Mahesh Shukla (T.R.S. College, Rewa)

Prof. Mahesh Shukla focused on the cultural and sociological dimensions of environmental preservation. He highlighted how traditional cultural practices, indigenous knowledge systems, and local customs historically promoted ecological balance, sustainable resource use, and environmental respect.

- In the era of globalization, he cautioned that rapid modernization often leads to the erosion of traditional ecological wisdom. He emphasized that integrating cultural values, community traditions, and indigenous environmental ethics into modern development strategies can significantly contribute to environmental sustainability. His lecture underscored the importance of cultural sensitivity, community participation, and sociological understanding in addressing environmental challenges.

Prof. Dhruv Dixit (Keshervani. College, Jabalpur)

- Dr. Dhruv Dixit, in his lecture at the two-day national conference, emphasized the vital role of sociology in environmental conservation. He highlighted that environmental protection depends on social awareness, cultural values, and community participation. He concluded by stressing collaborative efforts between sociologists, policymakers, and society to promote sustainable development.

VALEDICTORY SESSION



VALEDICTORY SESSION



Outcomes and Achievements

The Two Days National Conference on “*Globalisation and Emerging Environmental Crisis: The Role of Civil Society*” generated substantial academic, social, environmental, and policy-relevant outcomes. The deliberations contributed meaningfully toward strengthening awareness, research engagement, and policy discourse aligned with global sustainable development priorities and national environmental governance frameworks.

Alignment with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The conference outcomes particularly supported the following SDGs:

- SDG 4 – Quality Education: Promoted environmental literacy, interdisciplinary research, and academic capacity building among students, scholars, and faculty members.
- SDG 11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities: Encouraged dialogue on sustainable urban development, community participation, and environmentally responsible planning.
- SDG 12 – Responsible Consumption and Production: Highlighted sustainable lifestyle practices, ecological responsibility, and resource conservation.
- SDG 13 – Climate Action: Facilitated awareness regarding climate change mitigation, adaptation strategies, and policy responsiveness.
- SDG 15 – Life on Land: Emphasized biodiversity conservation, ecological balance, and sustainable land-use practices.
- SDG 17 – Partnerships for the Goals: Strengthened collaboration between academia, civil society, policymakers, and environmental stakeholders.

Academic and Social Outcomes

The conference enhanced understanding of the socio-environmental implications of globalization by bringing together more than 150 delegates, including faculty members, research scholars, students, civil society representatives, and environmental practitioners. Discussions encouraged critical engagement with environmental sustainability issues, strengthening both academic scholarship and civic awareness.

This academic engagement is expected to contribute to:

- Environmentally informed teaching and research practices
- Development of socially responsible academic leadership
- Increased public awareness regarding environmental sustainability

Environmental Impact and Awareness Outcomes

The conference emphasized environmentally responsible development and sustainable societal practices. Academic discussions encouraged:

- Integration of environmental sustainability into academic curricula and research agendas
- Promotion of community-based environmental conservation initiatives
- Increased awareness of ecological responsibility among youth and academic communities
- Dissemination of sustainable development perspectives at institutional and community levels

Such outcomes contribute indirectly but significantly to environmental preservation through education, awareness, and policy-oriented research.



Policy-Relevant Recommendations for Government Bodies

Based on the deliberations, the conference generated broad policy-oriented suggestions that may support government agencies in environmental governance and sustainable development initiatives.

Recommendations for Rajya Niti Aayog

- Integration of sociological and community perspectives into environmental policy planning
- Promotion of participatory development models involving civil society organizations
- Support for interdisciplinary environmental research for evidence-based policymaking

Recommendations for Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC)

- Strengthening collaboration between academic institutions and environmental agencies
- Promotion of community-based environmental awareness and conservation programs
- Encouragement of academic research contributing to environmental policy formulation
- Expansion of environmental education initiatives at institutional and societal levels

Recommendations for Department of Higher Education

- Incorporation of environmental sustainability and climate awareness modules across disciplines
- Support for academic conferences, research projects, and training programs on environmental sustainability
- Encouragement of university–community partnerships to promote environmental awareness
- Capacity building among students and scholars in environmental research and civic responsibility

Overall Policy and Developmental Impact

The conference successfully contributed to:

- Strengthening academic discourse aligned with national environmental priorities
- Supporting SDG-oriented academic research and awareness initiatives
- Enhancing collaboration between academia, civil society, and policy institutions
- Promoting environmentally responsible societal practices through education and awareness
- Generating policy-relevant academic insights for sustainable development planning

Overall, the conference fulfilled its intended academic objectives while contributing to broader environmental governance goals, sustainable development discourse, and socially responsible policy engagement.

Conclusion

The Two Days National Conference on “*Globalisation and Emerging Environmental Crisis: The Role of Civil Society*” successfully achieved its academic, social, and environmental objectives by creating a meaningful platform for dialogue, research exchange, and policy-oriented discussion. The conference brought together academicians, researchers, students, civil society representatives, and environmental practitioners to critically examine the complex relationship between globalization and emerging environmental challenges.

The deliberations highlighted the importance of integrating sociological perspectives, community participation, cultural values, and policy interventions in addressing environmental crises. The conference emphasized that sustainable environmental governance requires coordinated efforts from families, educational institutions, civil society organizations, policymakers, and academic researchers.

The academic interactions, presentation of research papers, technical sessions, and expert lectures contributed significantly to enhancing environmental awareness, strengthening research capacity, and promoting interdisciplinary collaboration. These outcomes align with broader national priorities and global sustainable development goals, particularly those related to environmental sustainability, responsible development, quality education, and community participation.

Furthermore, the conference generated constructive policy insights relevant to institutions such as the Rajya Niti Aayog, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, and Department of Higher Education. These insights may support environmentally responsible policymaking, academic engagement in sustainability initiatives, and increased collaboration between academia and civil society.

Overall, the conference served as a valuable academic and social initiative contributing to environmental awareness, research advancement, policy dialogue, and sustainable development discourse. The organizers sincerely acknowledge the support of all stakeholders, funding agencies, resource persons, and participants whose cooperation made this academic endeavor successful and impactful.



