



BERHAMPUR UNIVERSITY

BHANJA BIHAR, BERHAMPUR, ODISHA

32nd Annual Conference of Gabeshana Chakra-2025 on

Climate Change in Odisha: Impacts, Responses, and Future Pathways



Date: 18th & 19th
January 2025



Organised by
P.G. Department of Political Science, Berhampur University
In collaboration with
Gabeshana Chakra, Odisha

www.buodisha.edu.in
www.gabeshanachakra.org

TO REGISTER

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CONCEPT NOTE OF THE SEMINAR

Climate change has emerged as the greatest threat to human well-being and survival in recent times. It disrupts economies, social systems and human security. As environmental degradation intensifies it impacts access to food, water, shelter, and natural resources. This phenomenon exacerbates poverty, deepens inequality, and impedes economic growth in developing countries like India. This poses an unconscionable risk to the rights of people on the frontlines of climate change. This situation is consequent to the States disregarding the Paris Agreement or excluding poor and marginalized people from climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts, which violates their human rights obligations, notably those enumerated by the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

Odisha, a state widely known for its geographical diversity and rich cultural heritage, is increasingly becoming severely impacted by climate change. The state's unique geographical features-spanning a long coastline, dense forests, and arid regions-render it particularly vulnerable to the varied manifestations of climate change. As global climate patterns continue to shift, Odisha faces heightened risks from natural disasters such as cyclones, floods, and droughts, which have profound implications for its natural ecosystems, socio-economic structures, health and the livelihoods of its people. The impact is very much visible on the coast and in Adivasi areas. People have not stood silently but moved to protect the environment. Amongst these Gandhamardhan, Niyamagiri, Kashipur and anti-POSCO are some of the movements which have led environment protection movements. These challenges have come to be recognized necessitate an urgent, multi-disciplinary exploration of both the impacts of climate change and the strategies needed to mitigate and adapt to these changes.

The seminar is expected to yield several key outcomes, including a comprehensive understanding of the specific impacts of climate change on Odisha's natural ecosystems, socio-economic structures, and livelihoods; identification of effective adaptation and mitigation strategies tailored to the unique challenges faced by the state; and enhanced collaboration between academia, government, civil society, and local communities to address climate change in a holistic and inclusive manner. Policy recommendations and action plans that can inform the Odisha Climate Change Action Plan and other state-level initiatives will also be developed.

SUB-THEMES OF THE SEMINAR

The seminar will be organized around several key sub-themes:

1. Trends in global debates on climate change and their implications for Odisha.
2. The distinct nature of Climate Change in Odisha and its diverse impacts on the socio-economic condition of people in the state.
3. Women and climate change.
4. Impact of Climate change and its impact on livelihoods of people in Odisha, Alternative perspectives and grassroots approaches to address climate change and Adaptation Strategies,
5. Institutional Framework and policy intervention to address Climate Change in Odisha, Odisha Climate change Action Plan, Climate finance and budgeting, Climate-smart infrastructure; Climate-smart technologies.
6. Climate justice, public policy, climate change conflict, compensation, and Judicial Activism
7. Role of Local Bodies in Addressing Climate Change.
8. Climate Change and Environment Movement in Odisha.



IMPORTANT DATES

- Last date for Submission of abstract: **25th December 2024**
- Acceptance of Abstracts for presentation: **30th December 2024**
- Submission of Full Paper: **10th January 2025**

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- Abstracts should be no more than 300 words.
- Submissions should include the title of the paper, author(s) name(s), affiliation(s), and contact details.
- The full paper should be within 4000 to 5000 words typed in MS Word with Times New Roman 12 font size, 1.5-line spacing and alignment left.

ABOUT BERHAMPUR UNIVERSITY

Berhampur University was established on 2nd January 1967 by the Odisha Act 21 of 1966 as an affiliating University. The seven districts originally under the territorial jurisdiction of the University are Ganjam, Gajapati, Kandhamal, Koraput, Rayagada, Nowrangpur and Malkangiri with over 180 affiliated colleges. Lingaraj Law College, Berhampur is the only constituent college of the University. After the amalgamation of Khallikote University, Berhampur University has experienced a great synergy and strengthened itself through creation of 04 (four) new Departments namely Environmental Studies, Library and Information Science, Biotechnology and, Tourism & Travel Studies. The University is currently functioning with 24 (Twenty-four) regular P.G. Departments. These teaching Departments offer various courses in the streams of Science, Humanities and Business Studies at the Post-Graduate level and carry out Ph.D. & D.Litt. programmes. Besides, the University offers three Post-Graduate Courses on self-financing mode in subjects, such as, Pharmacy, Women's Studies and Finance. The University also offers B.Ed. course on self-financing mode.

The University has fulfilled the aspirations of the largely agrarian, tribal and business oriented people around and beyond and catered to their higher education needs well for about six decades. The University has a plan to expand into new courses on climate change and food security, astronomy, public policy and governance, tribal studies, traditional arts and handicrafts etc. Our tuition fees are one of the lowest, and female students make up more than 50% of total students. We have most of the requisite infrastructure in place, and are progressing confidently with our vision and goals to be a university of eminence and substance.

ABOUT DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

The Department of Political Science came into being during the academic session 1968-69 with only 16 students on its rolls. During the last 54 years the Department has not only grown in its size but also expanded in its academic activities and research output. The Department has produced so far, 4 D.Litts., 68 Ph.Ds. and about 250 M.Phils. Besides, about 550 dissertations have been produced by the M.A. students under the supervision and guidance of the teachers of the Department. The Department has successfully organised the All-India Political Science Conference as well as many National Conferences/Seminars and Workshops. Moreover, the Department has conducted many UGC-Funded Refresher Courses in Political Science. The Department received financial assistance from the UGC under its Special Assistance Programme (DRS). The Department follows Semester pattern of examination. In the recent U.G.C-sponsored National Seminar on Indo-US Relations in 21st Century the top-notch U.S diplomat Mr. William H. Avery had graced the function and delivered the Key-note address. Besides, Professor Charles Borges of Maryland University, U.S. A in his visit to the department had interacted with the students and staff on the theme "Indo-Canadian Relations; A Paradigm Shift". In the recent U.G.C-sponsored National Seminar on Indo-US Relations in 21st Century the top-notch U.S diplomat Mr. William H. Avery had graced the function and delivered the Key-note address. Besides, Professor Charles Borges of Maryland University, U.S.A in his visit to the department had interacted with the students and staff on the theme "Indo-Canadian Relations; A Paradigm Shift"

ABOUT GABESHANA CHAKRA

Gabeshana Chakra is an academic initiative of scholars and social workers interested in the study of Odisha from multiple vantage points, in inter-disciplinary and comparative perspectives keeping in view people's aspirations for equitable, just, secular, democratic and sustainable social transformation. Its annual conferences held in different parts of Odisha bring together researchers and activists to deliberate on specific themes based on their investigation and field experiences. It leads to publication of papers, policy proposals and books in Odia and English.

Started in 1994 at Utkal University Campus in Vani Vihar, Bhubaneswar, Gabeshana Chakra has held conferences in Berhampur, Khariar, Baripada, Rayagada, Paradip, Rourkela, Keonjhar, Bhawani Patna, Rourkela, Angul, Cuttack and other towns of the State. The Silver Jubilee conference at Nabakrushna Choudhury Centre for Development Studies, Bhubaneswar in 2018 was a high point where a young generation of trained researchers took active part and gave the initiative a new momentum. It launched its research wing, Development Research Institute (DRI) in 2010 to systematically engage in academic projects. The DRI regularly conducts seminars, undertakes research projects and publishes occasional papers, monographs and a journal.

REGISTRATION MODALITIES

- All Candidates are required to register through Google Form.
- Registration fee: Rs. 500/- for Faculty Members, Professionals, Research Scholars and Students.
- Payment may be made to **Account No -450502010006900**, A/C Name- Gabeshana Chakra (Union Bank, Chandrasekharpur Branch, Bhubaneswar, Khurda IFSC Code: UBIN0545058)
- Registration link- Click Here (<https://forms.gle/U6iMewwA3p7PT8hV8>)
- Abstract and full papers can be sent to gabeshanachakra.conference2025@gmail.com
- No TA/DA shall be provided to the participants for attending the conference.

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

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Organising Secretary of the Conference

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Account Details

Account Name	: -	Gabeshana Chakra
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