

National Seminar on '*Gandhian Way of Nation-Building*' (20-22 May, 2019).

Concept Note:

Nation-building is a process of promoting 'we'-feeling based togetherness among citizens of a given nation-state. It is contingent upon the foundational specificities of a given nation-state as articulated in its constitution. It is a multi-layered phenomenon where ideology, history, culture, polity, economy, territory, demography and ecology play important roles. It is achieved through institutionalizing a set of national ideals, values and goals. Every society has a few conducive factors as well as a variety of internal and external challenges in this context. Therefore, there are great diversities of ways of nation-building in the modern world-system. The Gandhian way of nation-building is a communitarian approach with twin thrusts – a) character-building of men and women in the society, and b) socio-cultural, economic and political reforms based on togetherness of truth, non-violence, spirituality, selfless service, Swadeshi and Satyagraha.

This was a national seminar to organize a meaningful interface between practitioners and analysts of the Gandhian way of nation-building for:

1. Comprehensive understanding of its strengths, impact and limitations, and
2. Exploring the way forward in the context of the opportunities and challenges before the 21st century India about nation-building deficits.

A National Seminar on '*Gandhian Way of Nation-Building*' was organized at IAS from 20-22 May, 2019. Professor Anand Kumar, Senior Fellow, NMML, Delhi was the convener of this seminar. Welcome address was delivered by Professor M Paranjape, Director IAS (over Skype) and by Colonel Vijay Kumar Tiwari, Secretary, IAS. Inaugural address was delivered by Shri Samir Banerjee (Gandhian thinker and author,

Bengaluru). Professor Anand Kumar, Convener of the seminar delivered the vote of thanks.

Participants:

- Professor Gita Dharampal, Gandhi Research Foundation, Join Hills, Jalgaon
- Professor Chandrakala Padia, Department of Political Science, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi
- Dr. Shubhneet Kaushik, Department of History, Satish Chandra College, Ballia
- Dr. George Mathew, Chairman, Institute of Social Sciences, New Delhi
- Dr. Ravi Chopra, Founder, People's Science Institute, Dehradun
- Dr. Azizur Rahman Azami, Sociologist, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh
- Mr. Shahid Jamal, Research Scholar, Ansari Road, Daryaganj, New Delhi
- Dr. Abha Chauhan Khimta, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla
- Dr. Manoj Kumar Rai, Mahatama Gandhi Antrarshtriya, Hindi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Wardha, Maharashtra
- Professor Amrendra Narayan Yadav, VC, B.R. Ambedkar Bihar University, Muzaffarpur, Bihar
- Dr. Ravinder Singh Rathor, Rathor Nivas, Khalini, Shimla
- Professor Ram Chandra Pradhan, Institute of Gandhian Studies, Wardha, Maharashtra
- Dr. Sanjeev Kumar, Zakir Husain Delhi College, Jawaharlal Nehru Marg, New Delhi
- Dr. Promod Kumar, Department of Hindi, L.S. College, Muzaffarpur, B.R.A. Bihar University, Bihar
- Shri Surendra Kumar, National secretary, Association of Voluntary Agencies for Rural Development, Muzaffarpur
- Dr. Jayeeta Ray, Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata
- Shri Biplov Kumar, Department of History, Sikkim University, Gangtok, Sikkim
- Shri Jasvir Singh, Former Fellow, IIAS, Shimla

- Dr. A.K. Arun, President, Akhil Bharatiya Prakritik Chikitsa Parishad, Editor, Yuva Samvad, New Delhi
- Dr. Rajesh Kumar, Ram Lal Anand College, Delhi University, Delhi
- Dr. Sopan Shinde, Maharashtra National Law University, Warda Road, Nagpur
- Dr. Alok Tandon, 03, Ashraj Tola, Hardoi, UP
- Dr. Akbar Chawdhary, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh
- Mr. Bipul Kumar, 211, A.N. Sinha Institute of Social Studies, Patna
- Shri Ovais Sultan Khan, Future Council, Delhi