

CALL FOR PAPERS

Distinguished scholars from around the world are poised to share their profound insights at the forthcoming National Seminar. The seminar will be organized in physical mode; however, for registered participants unable to attend in person, they can attend virtually and present their papers via Google Meet in special virtual sessions. A Google Meet link will be provided, ensuring their virtual participation.

The Organizing Committee of the National Seminar extends a cordial invitation to esteemed academicians, research scholars, students, and learned faculty members to contribute their original research papers for presentation. We invite you to submit an abstract, approximately 300 words in length, and a full paper, not exceeding 5000 words, in MS Word format. For English submissions, adhere to Times New Roman Font, Size 12; for Hindi submissions, utilize Kurti Dev 010 Font, Size 14. Please forward your submissions to politicalsciencemgcu@gmail.com on or before the stipulated deadline. Subsequently, we kindly request all interested delegates to complete the registration process within the stipulated timeline.

We are delighted to share that participants who submit an abstract and present their paper will be awarded a Certificate of Participation and Presentation at the successful conclusion of the Seminar. Additionally, outstanding full-length papers sent to the provided email address will be featured in an ISBN-edited book and incorporated into the Seminar's proceedings report. Your valuable contributions will play a pivotal role in shaping the discourse and facilitating the dissemination of knowledge at this esteemed event.

REGISTRATION

REGISTRATION FEE DETAILS

| | |
|----------------------------------|----------|
| Academicians and other delegates | Rs.800/- |
| Student /Research Scholar | Rs.500/- |

The registration fee should be paid through NEFT/RTGS/UPI in favour of 'Mahatma Gandhi Central University', as per details given below:

Name : Mahatma Gandhi Central University
A/c No. : 3604439101
Bank : Central Bank of India
Branch : Luthana, Purvi Champaran (Bihar)
IFSC Code : CBIN0280030



Registration Link:

<https://bit.ly/Seminar-One-Nation-One-Election>



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Dr Narendra Singh
Assistant Professor
Deptt. of Political Sci., MGCU



Organising Secretary

Dr Narendra Kumar Arya
Associate Professor
Deptt. of Political Sci., MGCU

KEY DATES :

Abstract Submission - 19th September 2023
Full Paper Submission - 21st September 2023
Last Date of Registration - 25th September 2023

ORGANISING COMMITTEE

Dr Pankaj Kumar Singh
Assistant Prof., Deptt. of Political Sci., MGCU
Dr Om Prakash Gupta
Assistant Prof., Deptt. of Political Sci., MGCU
Dr Prerana Bhaduli
Assistant Prof., Deptt. of Political Sci., MGCU

For more information, please contact us at:
☎ +91-9917777999 & +91-9155957527
✉ politicalsciencemgcu@gmail.com



महात्मा गाँधी केन्द्रीय विश्वविद्यालय
MAHATMA GANDHI CENTRAL UNIVERSITY



**Two Days
National Seminar**

**ONE NATION ONE ELECTION:
PROSPECTS AND CHALLENGES**

एक राष्ट्र एक चुनाव : संभावनाएं एवं चुनौतियाँ

2nd & 3rd October 2023



Sponsored by :

Indian Council of Social Science Research, New Delhi

Organised by :

Department of Political Science
Mahatma Gandhi Central University
Motihari, District - East Champaran, Bihar - 845 401

ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY

Mahatma Gandhi Central University, Bihar (MGCUB) is a Central University established under an Act of Parliament in 2016. The University is situated at Motihari, Bihar, the district headquarters of East Champaran and the 'Karma Bhoomi' of Mahatma Gandhi. The University is committed for promoting and imparting higher education and research in various fields of study. MGCUB aims to provide quality education to students from diverse backgrounds and foster an environment of academic excellence and innovation. The University offers undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral programs in various disciplines such as science, humanities, social sciences, management, and education, among others. In total, the university runs 04 Undergraduate; 22 Postgraduate; and 20 Ph.D. Programmes of Study 20 teaching Department within 07 Schools.

MGCUB is dedicated to promote research and innovation and encourages its faculty and students to engage in cutting-edge research in their respective fields of study. The University also strives to create a conducive atmosphere for the holistic development of its students and provides them with various opportunities to participate in co-curricular and extracurricular activities. The University is also committed for promoting social and environmental sustainability and encourages its faculty and students to contribute to society through their research, innovation, and community engagement activities.

ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT

The Department of Political Science at Mahatma Gandhi Central University, Bihar is a vibrant and dynamic academic unit that is committed for promoting critical thinking, scholarly excellence, and intellectual curiosity among its students and faculty members.

The department offers postgraduate, and doctoral programmes in Political Science, and Public Administration, with a focus on contemporary issues and challenges faced by India and the world. The department's faculty members are renowned scholars in their respective fields of study, with diverse research interests and expertise in areas such as democratic theory, political economy, governance and public policy, and international relations, among others.

The department provides a supportive and stimulating academic environment to its students and encourages them to develop their analytical, research, and leadership skills. The department has been organizing seminars, conferences, and workshops on various themes related to political science and

international relations, providing a platform for students and faculty to engage in academic discourse and intellectual exchange.

The department is committed to foster a culture of research and innovation among its faculty and students, with a particular focus on promoting interdisciplinary research and collaborations. The department's faculty members and scholars have published their research in various national and international journals, books, and edited volumes, and have received numerous awards and recognition for their scholarly contributions.

ABOUT THE THEME OF SEMINAR

The idea of holding 'One Nation One Election' has been under discussion in India for several years, with proponents arguing that synchronizing national, state, and local elections will lead to better governance and development. This proposal has gained momentum in recent years, with the present government advocating for its implementation. However, the proposal is not without its challenges, with critics arguing that it may be difficult to implement and could undermine the federal structure of India's democracy.

It is not that India is new to the concept of simultaneous holding of elections. From 1952, when Independent India had its first elections, till 1967, the General Elections and State Assembly Elections were held simultaneously. However, after 1967 due to several exigencies, the elections for state assemblies began to be held at different intervals than that of the General Elections. In a huge country like India having elections every now and then have its own problems. Elections are a very costly exercise- according to official figures, the exchequer had to bear a cost of Rs 3870 crore in conducting the 2014 General Elections. Holding of state assembly elections requires a similar amount of money from the exchequer. Then political parties need to spend large amounts of accounted and unaccounted money in running their campaigns every time elections are conducted. Though the cost incurred by individual candidates would not differ much by simultaneous elections, however, the recurring cost on the exchequer and the political parties could be reduced.

Holding elections at different intervals has led to several problems in India. The frequent elections are time-consuming, expensive, and disruptive to governance and development. The political polarization that results from frequent elections has led to an increase in political violence and tensions between different political parties and their supporters. Conducting elections at different intervals is expensive, with the costs of security, transport, and other logistics adding up. Frequent

elections also lead to a wastage of resources, which could be better utilized for development purposes.

The current government has been pushing for a 'One Nation One Election' as a solution to these problems. The idea of synchronizing elections at the national, state, and local levels has been discussed in India since the early 1990s. In 2016, the Niti Aayog suggested that this proposal could be implemented by 2022, and the Law Commission of India also recommended the same in 2018. In 2019, the Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi, reiterated his support for the 'One Nation One Election.' However, there is still no consensus on the feasibility and desirability of this proposal.

The seminar aims to explore the feasibility and desirability of synchronizing elections at the national, state, and local levels in India. The seminar will bring together scholars, policymakers, and civil society representatives to discuss the historical context, contemporary problems, and potential impact of this proposal. The seminar will generate insights on how to move forward with this proposal and identify the key challenges that need to be addressed for its successful implementation in India.

SUB-THEMES

The Seminar would have following Sub-themes:

- ★ Conceptual framework of One Nation- One Election in a Federal State.
- ★ One Election in a federal Country: Global Experiences.
- ★ Historical context of simultaneous elections in India.
- ★ Constitutional Aspects and Challenges for implementing One Nation One Election.
- ★ Impact of synchronized elections on the political landscape of India.
- ★ Governance and Administrative Challenges in implementing One Nation One Election.
- ★ Role of Election Commission.
- ★ Impact on Party System and Future of Regional Parties.
- ★ Future of Coalition Governments in light of synchronized elections.
- ★ Possibilities and Challenges of Electoral Reforms in light of synchronized elections.
- ★ Implications of synchronized elections on federalism and state autonomy as well as on Centre-State relations.
- ★ Regional Aspiration Vs National Identity.
- ★ Innovation in Electioneering: Citizen's Participation, Campaigning and Other Technological Advancements.
- ★ Role of technology in conducting synchronized elections.