

UGC-DRS Supported International Seminar

On “Civil Society and State: An Interface”

Organized by Department of Political Science, Utkal University

on 25th March, 2017

Concept Note

The turn of millennium is characterised by several new symbols of hopes and progress. One of such symbol is ‘civil society’. The idea of civil society is both appealing and significant. It began to enter into discussions of society and politics in the west from the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries where it figures though not very systematically, in the writings of Lock and Rousseau. Prior to it, it was in jurisprudence, where civil law has been distinguished from canon law, civil suits from criminal suits. The concept of civil society embraces an entire range of assumptions, values, institutions, such as political, social and civil rights, the rule of law, representative institutions, a public sphere and above all plurality of associations, which are indispensable as the preconditions for democracy. It is one of the inter-related components i.e., (a) State; (b) Citizenship and (c) Mediating Institutions (civil society).

The main objective of this seminar is to underline the role of mediating institutions, i.e. civil society that can be effectively achieved only by situating them within the framework of state and citizenship. So the idea of civil society can be given shape and substance only in the kind of state we have at present. Every society has its own internal arrangements: its group, classes and communities; its associations, organizations and institutions; and its networks of interpersonal relation, linking the different parts each other and to the whole.

In this context seminar will focus on the following sub-themes as follows:

1. Civil Society: A Conceptual Analysis
2. Traditions of understanding of civil society.
3. Civil Society and State
4. Civil Society and Governance
5. Civil Society and Political Participation
6. Civil Society and Policy-making
7. Civil Society and Protest Movements

Submission Deadlines

1. Abstract (300 words) - 20th March, 2017
2. The soft copy of the **Full Paper** (3000-3500 words with 5 key words with short abstract) in MS Word (Times New Roman, font size 12) should reach by 24th March, 2017.
(Only full papers will be published in Seminar proceedings with ISSN No.)

(Send your papers to following email addresses)

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N:B- No TA & DA for participation.

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