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Davangere University

Shivangotri, Davangere- 577007, Karnataka, India

A Two-Day National Seminar
on

“CIVIL SOCIETY AND GOOD GOVERNANCE IN INDIA”

12th & 13th March 2026.

ORGANISED BY

Department of Studies and Research in Political Science

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ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY

Davangere University is one of the youngest state universities in Karnataka. It falls under the territorial jurisdiction of Davangere and Chitradurga districts and is headquartered at the Shivagangothri Campus, Davangere. Geographically, Davangere University is situated in central Karnataka. The University was established on 18 August 2009 after being carved out of Kuvempu University, with the primary objective of extending higher education to the socio-economically backward sections of the region. The area is characterized by a substantial population of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and Other Backward Classes, necessitating focused efforts to promote higher education among these communities, a role in which Davangere University has made a significant contribution.

At present, the University has 124 affiliated colleges, including one Constituent College and one Autonomous College. It offers a wide range of undergraduate and postgraduate programs across diverse disciplines, catering to the educational needs of more than 60,000 students.

ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT

The Department of Studies in Political Science at Davangere University was established in 2010 with the aspiration of disseminating the discipline by attracting students from across the state and the nation, thereby transforming their understanding of political thought, ideas, and philosophy. Since its inception, the Department has been deeply involved in achieving its stated vision and mission and has served this purpose to a significant extent.

The Department of Political Science plays a pivotal role in enriching students Education through teaching, research, and the encouragement of extension activities. At present, the Department has six full-time teaching faculty with strong academic expertise in diverse areas of specialization,

including Indian Polity, Constitutional Studies and Human Rights, Public Administration, Geopolitics, Comparative Politics, International Relations, Political Theory,

Foreign Policy, and advanced areas of the Humanities and Social Sciences. Through its academic engagement, the Department of Political Science at Davangere University has consistently served the interests of the discipline in response to contemporary and global transformations.

The Department actively guides Ph.D. scholars and remains committed to academic excellence through the organization of seminars, workshops, student-centric academic research, and extension activities.

ABOUT SEMINAR

The National Seminar on Civil Society and Good Governance in India seeks to examine the evolving role of civil society in strengthening democratic governance in the context of rapid digital transformation. Civil society, as a vital sphere between the individual and the state, provides a platform for collective action, civic engagement, and the articulation of diverse social interests. It includes non-governmental organizations, community-based groups, social movements, professional associations, student unions, media institutions, and activist networks that contribute to participatory democracy and social accountability.

In contemporary India, the principles of good governance—transparency, accountability, participation, rule of law, equity, inclusiveness, responsiveness, efficiency, and effectiveness—are increasingly linked with the active involvement of civil society. With the expansion of e-governance initiatives and digital platforms, new avenues for citizen engagement have emerged, enabling greater public participation in policy formulation and implementation. Digital participation, social media activism, and technology-driven transparency mechanisms have significantly transformed the relationship between the state

and citizens.

At the same time, emerging challenges such as cyber security threats, data protection concerns, digital rights, misinformation, and regulatory constraints require careful academic deliberation. Civil society plays a critical watchdog role in addressing these concerns while promoting ethical governance and protecting democratic values. It also contributes to community development initiatives, including sustainable practices, waste management, youth engagement, women's empowerment, and inclusive social development.

This seminar aims to provide an academic forum for scholars, researchers, policymakers, civil society practitioners, and students to critically analyse the opportunities and challenges faced by civil society in promoting good governance. By fostering informed dialogue and interdisciplinary engagement, the seminar seeks to strengthen democratic institutions and encourage innovative approaches to participatory governance in India.

OBJECTIVES

- To examine the role of civil society in promoting transparency, accountability, and participatory governance.
- To analyze the impact of digital technologies and e-governance on democratic institutions and citizen engagement.
- To discuss contemporary challenges such as cyber security, data protection, misinformation, and legal issues affecting civil society.
- To explore innovative community initiatives and inclusive strategies for strengthening good governance in India.

THEMES & SUB-THEMES

The Role of Civil Society in E-Governance

- » Digital Participation and Citizen Engagement
- » Civil Society as a Watchdog in Digital Governance
- » Promoting Transparency Through Technology
- » Impact of Social Media and Digital Activism

Strengthening Democratic Institutions

- » Democratic institutions and Decision making
- » Public Participation, Women Participation and Empowerment
- » Social Groups; Cultural Ethnic and Linguistic Groups

Cyber Security and Cyber Policies

- » Data Protection and Privacy
- » Cyber Laws and Digital Rights
- » Misinformation and Governance Challenges

Waste Management and Value of Service in Digital India

- » Community Role in Waste Management
- » Civil Society Initiatives for Sustainability
- » Urban Waste Governance and Citizen Participation

Challenges and Opportunities of Civil Society in Good Governance

- » Autonomy and Independence of Civil Society
- » Legal and Operational Challenges
- » Youth Participation and Democratic Engagement

Any Other Topics Related to Core Theme



Prof. B.D. Kumbar

Hon'ble Vice Chancellor

Davangere University.

MESSAGE

It gives me immense pleasure to learn that the Department of Studies and Research in Political Science is organizing a Two-Day National Seminar on “Civil Society and Good Governance in India.” On behalf of Davangere University, I extend a warm welcome to all the distinguished academicians, researchers, and students participating in this important intellectual discourse.

In the contemporary global landscape, the concept of Good Governance has evolved from a purely state-centric approach to a more inclusive and participatory model. Although Davangere University is a relatively young institution, it has consistently strived to serve as a catalyst for socio-economic transformation in Central Karnataka.

Civil society serves as the conscience of a nation. It represents a vibrant space where citizens engage, question, and contribute to the developmental narrative. In India, the world's largest democracy, the role of non-governmental organizations (NGOs), community-based groups, and digital activists has become increasingly significant. These actors ensure that governance is not merely a top-down administrative process but is transparent, accountable, and responsive to the needs of the people.

The seminar's focus on sub-themes such as E-Governance, Cyber Security, and Sustainability is both

relevant and timely. As we navigate the digital age, citizens' growing digital participation is reshaping our understanding of governance, the rule of law, and social equity. I am confident that the deliberations over the next two days will yield valuable insights into how civil society can further strengthen democratic institutions and promote good governance.

I congratulate the Department of Political Science for selecting such a pertinent and contemporary theme. I extend my best wishes to the Organizing Committee, the Seminar Chairman, and all the participants for a highly productive and successful seminar. May this academic gathering inspire meaningful dialogue and contribute to building a more robust, inclusive, and democratic India



Prof. B.D. Kumbar

Date: 12-03-2026



Dr. ASHOKKUMAR V. PALED

Professor & Chairman

Department of Studies and Research in Political Science

CHIEF EDITOR'S NOTE

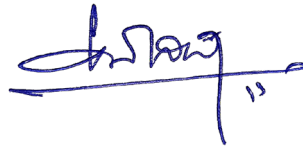
I take this opportunity to present this special volume of research papers compiled from the Two-Day National Seminar on “Civil Society and Good Governance in India,” organized by the Department of Studies and Research in Political Science, Davangere University. The seminar brought together eminent scholars, academicians, researchers, and students to deliberate on the evolving role of civil society in strengthening democratic institutions and promoting accountable governance in India.

The deliberations during the seminar highlighted the growing significance of participatory governance, transparency, inclusiveness, and citizen engagement in the contemporary political landscape. The theme assumes even greater relevance in the context of rapid socio-economic transformations, digital expansion, and the increasing interface between state and non-state actors in policy formulation and implementation.

The research papers included in this volume are not merely academic exercises; rather, they represent thoughtful inquiries and critical reflections on civil society, governance practices, public accountability, social movements, civic participation, and the deepening of democracy. This publication aims to contribute meaningfully to the discipline of Political Science and to encourage young scholars to engage in rigorous, constructive, and policy-oriented research.

I extend my sincere gratitude to the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, the Registrar, the Organizing Committee, faculty members, research scholars, and all contributors whose dedicated efforts have made this publication possible. Their academic commitment has significantly enriched the quality and relevance of this volume.

May this collection serve as a valuable academic resource and inspire further research on strengthening civil society and advancing good governance in India.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ashokkumar V. Paled', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Dr. Ashokkumar V. Paled

Professor & Chairman

Department of Studies
and Research in Political Science

Date: 12-03-2026

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Department of Political Science, Davangere University, has been actively engaged in promoting academic excellence, research, and critical inquiry in the field of social sciences. Since its establishment, the department has been committed to fostering intellectual growth, democratic values, and inclusive education among students and scholars.

The department has consistently organized seminars, workshops, and academic interactions to encourage meaningful dialogue on contemporary political and social issues. Through dedicated faculty, research scholars, and student participation, the department continues to contribute significantly to academic development and public discourse.

I extend my sincere gratitude to the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Prof. B. D. Kumbar, and the Registrar, Sri S. B. Ganti, KAS (Super Time Scale), Davangere University, for their constant encouragement, guidance, and administrative support in organizing this seminar. Their visionary leadership and commitment to academic excellence have been instrumental in the successful conduct of this academic event.

I express my special thanks to Dr. S. S. Patagundi, Former Professor of Political Science, Karnatak University, Dharwad, for their continuous guidance, valuable suggestions, and unwavering support in organizing this seminar.

I thank all the paper presenters for making this seminar a grand success by their active participation.

I acknowledge the tireless efforts of the organizing committee, faculty members, non-teaching staff, technical team, and volunteers whose dedication and perseverance ensured the smooth conduct of this seminar.

I am thankful to all the sponsors, supporters, press

reporters and well-wishers without whom this event would not be a successful one, My special thanks to Publisher “Aksharsurya” Peer review multilingual journal.

May this collective endeavour continue to inspire further dialogue research and collaboration.

Chairman

Department of Studies and Research in
political science
Davangere University, Shivangotri,
Davangere

Date: 12-03-2026

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