

ANTYODAYA

Reaching the Last Mile - Strategies for Inclusive Development

National Seminar

(Sponsored by R.K. Foundation Fund, DSW, MDU-Rohtak)

25 MAY 2025



Organised by:

M.D.U Centre for Professional and Allied
Studies, Gurugram (MDU-CPAS)

Organises

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Antyodaya: Reaching the Last Mile – Strategies for Inclusive Development

(Multidisciplinary Seminar)

May 25, 2025



Patron-in-Chief

Prof. Rajbir Singh

Vice-chancellor

Maharshi Dayanand University, Rohtak

Patron

Prof. Pardeep K. Ahlawat

Director

MDU-CPAS, Gurugram

Conveners

Dr. Pratibha Bhardwaj

Associate Professor, Management Sc.

Dr. Kavita Sangwan

Assistant Professor, Economics

Organizing Secretaries

Dr. Sunil Devi Kharb

Assistant Professor, Political Sc

Dr. Sandeep Aggarwal

Assistant Professor, Management Sc

About the University

Maharshi Dayanand University (MDU), Rohtak, established under the Haryana Act No. 25 of 1975, stands as a symbol of academic excellence, innovation, and inclusive growth. Guided by the vision of its namesake, Maharshi Dayanand Saraswati, a pioneer in social reform and education, the University is committed to promoting inter-disciplinary higher education and research with a focus on environmental sustainability, life sciences, and societal well-being. MDU, spread over 622 acres of lush green, eco-friendly campus, hosts 10 faculties and 42 teaching departments, offering 161 programs ranging from traditional to emerging domains. The University has been accredited with an 'A+' grade by NAAC in its third cycle, reflecting its pursuit of quality. Ranked among the top 35 state public universities in India by NIRF 2024, MDU continues to climb academic and research benchmarks with integrity and determination.

MDU is renowned for its state-of-the-art infrastructure that fosters academic excellence, research innovation, and holistic student development. Anchored by the Swami Vivekananda Library—an expansive repository of print and digital knowledge—the university provides advanced laboratories, a central instrumentation facility, and a high-capacity computer centre with robust digital connectivity and secure IT infrastructure. The campus is further enriched by world-class sports amenities including a gymnasium, stadiums, indoor halls, and a swimming pool, nurturing athletes of national and international acclaim. MDU's commitment to student welfare is reflected in its wide spectrum of scholarships, career counselling, placement support, and comfortable residential facilities across 20 hostels. With a strong emphasis on inclusivity, safety, and digital innovation, the University offers a vibrant, future-ready environment where learning thrives beyond the classroom.

Research at MDU is dynamic, impactful, and ethically grounded, supported by national and international collaborations. With a strong alumni base in politics, business, academia, and civil services, MDU continues to empower future leaders. Anchored in its mission to serve society and nation-building, MDU is not just a university—it is a transformative journey of excellence, equity, and innovation.

A significant extension of MDU's academic outreach is its satellite institute — MDU Centre for Professional & Allied Studies (MDU-CPAS), Gurugram. This center offers industry-driven Law and Management programs that align with modern pedagogical practices and industry requirements. Additionally, MDU has approximately 263 affiliated colleges spread across seven districts of Haryana, covering disciplines such as engineering, technology, management, and general education. This vast network demonstrates the University's academic leadership in the state.

About MDU-CPAS, Gurugram

Maharshi Dayanand University – Centre for Professional and Allied Studies (MDU-CPAS), Gurugram, is a distinguished off-campus extension of MDU, Rohtak, envisioned to provide quality-driven, accessible, and industry-aligned education in emerging professional domains. Originally established by the Government of Haryana in 2000 under the name 'National Law College', the institute was restructured and rechristened as MDU-CPAS in 2017 to reflect its broader academic mandate. It operates as a University Teaching Department directly maintained by MDU, Rohtak.

Strategically located in Sector 40, Gurugram, just opposite the Police Station and a short 2 km drive from National Highway-8 and HUDA City Centre Metro Station, MDU-CPAS is nestled within 5.4 acres of serene and green landscape in the heart of India's premier cyber city. Its modern architectural design, well-maintained two-storey academic blocks, ample parking space, and a vibrant sports ground provide an inspiring learning environment.

MDU-CPAS is committed to offering affordable, high-quality professional education tailored to the dynamic needs of industry and society. The institute offers a range of programs in the disciplines of Law and Management through regular, evening, and weekend modes, ensuring flexibility for diverse learners. The academic portfolio includes a 4-year BBA (Hons.), a 2-year MBA, a 2-year Executive MBA (Evening), integrated 5-year BA.LLB (Hons.), a 3-year LLB (Hons.), and a 2-year LL.M offered in both morning and evening batches. The centre also runs evening diploma programs in Cyber Law, Labour Law and Social Welfare, Digital Marketing, and Business Analytics, catering to evolving market demands. Additionally, certificate courses in French and German languages are offered to promote multilingual competencies and global readiness among students.

As a progressive and student-centric academic hub, MDU-CPAS is steadily emerging as a premier destination for learners aspiring for professional excellence in the National Capital Region.

About National Seminar

In the spirit of India's commitment to inclusive growth and equitable development, the concept of *Antyodaya*, the upliftment of the last person in the social and economic ladder, serves as a moral and policy imperative. Rooted in Gandhian and Deendayal Upadhyaya's philosophies, *Antyodaya* envisions a just society where every individual, especially the most marginalized, has access to opportunity, dignity, and development. This principle resonates deeply with contemporary global frameworks, particularly the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which emphasize "leaving no one behind" as a core strategy for achieving sustainable and equitable progress.

In pursuit of this transformative vision, *MDU-CPAS*, in association with *R.K. Fund and the Dean Students' Welfare, MDU Rohtak*, is organizing a National Seminar on *Antyodaya and Inclusive Development*. The seminar aims to create a collaborative platform for academicians, scholars, policy-makers, development professionals, and grassroots practitioners to engage in constructive dialogue and share innovative strategies that contribute to reaching the unreached.

This intellectual gathering will focus on critical themes such as poverty alleviation, governance reforms, inclusive economic growth, community participation, and empowerment of underserved populations. The seminar seeks to promote discourse on participatory and bottom-up models of development, harnessing the collective wisdom of stakeholders to chart pathways for sustainable change.

We extend a heartfelt invitation to scholars, community leaders, policy experts, and institutions to participate in this initiative and contribute to the collective endeavor of nation-building. Together, let us reaffirm our commitment to the ideals of *Antyodaya* and work toward achieving the *SDGs* by ensuring that no individual or community is left behind in India's forward march.

Let this seminar be a step forward in translating vision into action, dialogue into impact, and inclusion into institutional culture.

Objectives of the Seminar

- To sensitize researchers, policymakers and solution providers towards the inclusive development of society.
- To deliberate on the role of government policies and governance structures in ensuring inclusive development and social justice.
- To discuss strategies for enhancing grassroots participation of business and social institutions, self-help initiatives in fostering the inclusive growth.
- To discuss the integration of technology, entrepreneurship, and skill development in fostering economic self-reliance among marginalized populations.
- To critically examine the Antyodaya-inspired development initiatives.
- To provide a platform for academicians, policymakers, practitioners, and researchers to exchange ideas, foster collaborations, and propose actionable policy recommendations.

Seminar Themes:

- Affordable Healthcare Policies Underprivileged Communities
- Affordable Housing and Basic Needs for the Underprivileged
- Agricultural Innovations for Small Farmers and Rural Empowerment
- AI & Data Analytics in Welfare Schemes for the Needy
- Antyodaya and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- Antyodaya in Indian Policy: From Gandhi to Modi
- Antyodaya through Universal Education and Literacy
- Blockchain & FinTech for Financial Inclusion of the Poor
- Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and the Antyodaya Vision
- Decentralization and Panchayati Raj: Strengthening Local Governance for Antyodaya
- Digital Inclusion and E-Governance for Social Equity
- Digital India: Bridging the Digital Divide
- Economics of inclusive and sustainable growth
- Electoral Reforms for Social Justice and Empowerment of the Poor
- Empowering Marginalized Communities through Skill Development
- Entrepreneurship for Social Good: Business Models for Last-Mile Development
- Fair Trade, Sustainable Business, and Ethical Commerce
- Food Security, PDS, and Nutritional Policies for the Needy
- Health for All: Addressing Rural and Urban Healthcare Disparities
- Impact of MGNREGA and Other Employment Schemes on Rural Livelihoods
- Judicial Activism and Public Interest Litigation (PIL) in Antyodaya
- Labour Laws and Social Security for the Underprivileged
- Legal and Policy framework in ensuring Equity
- Legal Rights of Marginalized Communities
- Microfinance, Financial Inclusion, and the Role of Banks
- Public Welfare Schemes and Their Role in Antyodaya
- Renewable Energy and Rural Electrification
- Role of NEP 2020 in Achieving Educational Equity
- Role of NGOs in Last-Mile Delivery of Welfare
- Role of Political Parties in Social Welfare and Grassroots Development
- Role of Science & Technology in Uplifting the Marginalized
- Sarvodaya and Antyodaya
- Self-Help Groups (SHGs) and Women's Empowerment
- Strategies for reaching the last milestone
- The Role of MSMEs in Rural Employment and Economic Upliftment
- The Role of Spirituality in Social Service
- Traditional Knowledge and Sustainable Livelihood
- Technology for Inclusive Development
- Vocational Training and Skill Development for the Underprivileged

The above list of the seminar topic themes is self-illustrative. Quality submission in empirical or theoretical aspects on the related themes in conformity with the overall theme of the national seminar are invited.

GUIDELINES FOR THE SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACT AND FULL PAPER:

The abstract should not exceed 300 words and should include: Title Background, Methodology, Findings/Results The contributor(s) should provide their name/s, affiliation, mailing address, Email and Phone number along with the abstract. The full paper should be in standard format (Font: Times New Roman, 12 fontsize, 1.5-line spacing) and normally be of about 2500 words in length. Author(s) name (s) and affiliation should be shown on the separate sheet along with the title of the paper. Contributors are required to submit their abstract and papers at <https://forms.gle/n3DSTqFSRgF1bbQG8>

Registration Fee: There is **no registration fee**. However, it is compulsory for the registered participants to attend the seminar and present the paper for certificate.

Note: No TA/DA will be paid for participating in the seminar.

Important Dates:

*Submission of Extended Abstract/Full Paper: 22 May 2025

Address: MDU Centre for Professional & Allied Studies, Sector 40, Gurugram, 122001

Contact: +91-8178632752, +91-9999549990, +91-9468123422

Organising Committee:

Faculty, MDU-CPAS, Gurugram

