

"Strengthening Socio-Economic Security for a Resilient India: Challenges and Policy Framework"

India, the world's most populous nation and a rapidly growing economy, possesses a significant demographic advantage with approximately 65% of its population under 35 years of age. Recent NSSO surveys indicate a decline in nominal poverty to below 5%, reflecting sustained economic growth. However, deep-rooted inequalities persist. The female labor force participation stands at a low 29.4% (World Bank, 2022), compounded by high urban (6.7%) and youth (10%) unemployment rates. According to UNDP report 2023, 14.96% of the population remains trapped in multidimensional poverty, with an additional 18.7% vulnerable to falling into this category. Furthermore, Climate change poses a significant threat, projected to reduce India's GDP by 2.5% annually by 2050 (McKinsey Global Institute, 2020), potentially exacerbating existing vulnerabilities. The contamination of over 75% of surface water sources as per NITI Aayog, 2023, adds another layer of complexity. With the revised fiscal deficit target for 2024-25 set at 4.8% of GDP (Ministry of Finance, 2024), prudent fiscal management is crucial. These interconnected challenges underscore the urgent need for a robust and adaptable socio-economic security framework. This framework must strategically balance continued economic growth with equity and environmental sustainability to ensure a prosperous and inclusive future for all Indians.

To achieve this, the conference focuses on four critical themes: Ecological Sustainability, Fostering Livelihood Security, Fiscal and Financial Stability, and the Indian Knowledge System and Economics. Ecological sustainability is crucial as environmental degradation threatens food security, livelihoods, and economic stability. The transition to green energy, sustainable agriculture, and climate finance are essential pathways for faster resilience. Livelihood security remains a pressing concern, with huge gainful employment challenges, gender disparities, and inadequate social safety nets limiting inclusive growth. Fiscal and financial stability is key to long-term resilience, requiring efficient resource allocation, fiscal decentralization, and enhanced financial inclusion. Finally, integrating India's rich Indian Knowledge System (IKS) with contemporary economic frameworks can offer innovative, sustainable solutions rooted in indigenous wisdom. This conference aims to facilitate rigorous academic discussions, generate policy-relevant insights, and foster interdisciplinary collaborations to develop actionable solutions that strengthen India's socio-economic security. By addressing these interrelated themes, it seeks to contribute to a policy framework that ensures equitable development, economic stability, and environmental resilience, laying the foundation for a self-reliant and prosperous India.

Themes of the Conference

Theme I. Ecological Sustainability

- A. Water and Soil Health
- B. Energy transition and Green Economy
- C. Agricultural Prosperity and Natural Farming
- D. Pathway for Climate Change
- E. Food and Nutritional Security

Theme II. Fostering Livelihood Security

- A. Employment and Income Equality in Rural and Urban India
- B. Education and Skill Development
- C. Health and Sanitation
- D. Gender Equality and Equity
- E. Self Help Groups and Livelihood

Theme III. Fiscal and Financial Stability

- A. Fiscal Federalism
- B. Fiscal Consolidation
- C. Micro Finance
- D. Rural Finance and Rural Entrepreneurship
- E. Global Climate Finance

Theme IV. Indian Knowledge System and Economy

- A. Education and Skill Development
- B. Agriculture
- C. Manufacturing
- D. Commerce and Trade
- E. Holistic Health

Special Theme

Theme V. Sustainable Development of Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand

- A. Farm and Non-Farm Start-Ups and MSMEs
- B. Migration and Regional Disparity
- C. Service Sector led growth
- D. Tourism Development
- E. Science, Technology and Strategic Knowledge for Climate Change

Instructions to Paper Contributors:

Scholars are invited to contribute papers on the above themes/sub-themes of the Conference and submit the same to email: upueasconference@gmail.com. The authors should adhere to the following for both abstract and the full-length paper guidelines.

Length	Abstract 250-300 words Full Paper 3000 words
Margin	2.5 cm / 1 inch
Font	Times New Roman , 12 point
Spacing	1.5
Title Page	Title, Author(s), Affiliation(s), Contact Details
Key Words	4-5 words
Reference	APA style

All papers must adhere to strict academic integrity standards. Authors are solely responsible for ensuring their work is original and properly cites all sources. Plagiarism will result in immediate disqualification and rejection of the paper. Late submissions will not be considered. Upon successful peer review, papers may be published in The Double Blind Peer Reviewed Refereed UPUEA Economic Journal. Selected papers may be published in a book with ISBN number after rigorous peer review.

Important Dates

Abstract Submission last date	10.04.2025
Acceptance of Abstract	12.04.2025
Full Paper Submission	25.04.2025

Note:

1. All the communication regarding abstract and paper submission may be done through email: upueasconference@gmail.com
 2. Papers/Abstracts in PDF file will not be considered.
- Email: upueasconference@gmail.com**



21st Annual National Conference
of
Uttar Pradesh-Uttarakhand Economic Association (UPUEA)

(Under the auspices of the UPUEA Society for the Promotion of Economics in Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand)
On

"Strengthening Socio-Economic Security for a Resilient India: Challenges and Policy Framework"

Date: 27-29, June 2025

Conference Themes to Paper Contributors:

- Theme I : Ecological Sustainability**
- Theme II : Fostering Livelihood Security**
- Theme III : Fiscal And Financial Stability**
- Theme IV : Indian Knowledge System and Economy**
- Special Theme**
- Theme V : Sustainable Development of Uttar Pradesh & Uttarakhand**



Jointly Organized By
SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT STUDIES AND COMMERCE
& SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCE
UTTARAKHAND OPEN UNIVERSITY
Haldwani, Nainital, Uttarakhand (India)

Invitation

The Uttarakhand Open University, Haldwani (Uttarakhand), is proud to host the prestigious 21st Annual National Conference of Uttar Pradesh-Uttarakhand Economic Association (UPUEA) from 09 – 11, June 2025. This momentous event invites esteemed members of the Upuea community and the wider academic world to engage with the critical theme: **“Strengthening Socio-Economic Security for a Resilient India: Challenges and Policy Framework”** We are honored to have **Prof. Prashant Kumar Ghosh**, a distinguished Indian economist, as the 21st Conference President.

For further details and registration information, please visit the Upuea website: <https://theupuea.org/>. This is an unparalleled opportunity to contribute to the architecting of India's economic destiny. By participating in this vital discourse, the participants can influence the strategies and policies that will shape the nation's prosperity and global standing.

About UPUEA

The Uttar Pradesh-Uttarakhand Economic Association-UPUEA is a premier society of Economists for promotion of Economics. The UPUEA was established in 2005 as a leading professional association of over 2700 academicians, policy makers and research scholars who are dedicated to advancing the field of economics in both the states. The UPUEA organizes annual conferences to provide a forum for discussing the contemporary economic issues of India, with a special emphasis on the challenges and opportunities faced by Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand. It also offers evidence-based policy recommendations to address these issues. Furthermore, it fosters original research in the area of regional economic issues, with a specific focus on enhancing the capabilities of young teachers and research scholars in the discipline of economics. The UPUEA publishes a peer reviewed bilingual Economic Journal that showcases the research on the development of Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand. The UPUEA also supports and facilitates the sponsorship of research projects undertaken by its members on disciplinary and inter-disciplinary economic issues, with an aim to contribute to the knowledge base that can facilitate the development of economically underdeveloped regions. Additionally, it encourages its members to organize seminars, symposia, workshops and training courses for their professional development in Economics.

Dignitaries of UPUEA



Prof. A. K. Singh
Chief Patron
Former Director, GIDS
Lucknow, U.P.



Prof. D.K. Nauriyal
Patron
Former Vice-Chancellor
Kumaun University
Nainital, U.K.



Prof. P.K. Pandey
Patron
Former Dean and Head
MGKVP, Varanasi, U.P.



Prof. Ravi S. Srivastava
Association President Emeritus
Director, IHD, New Delhi



Prof. Ashok Mittal
President, UPUEA
Former Vice-Chancellor
Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University, Agra, U.P.



Prof. NMP Verma
Executive President, UPUEA
Former Senior Professor/Vice-Chancellor
BBAU, Lucknow



Prof. P.K. Ghosh
Conference President
Former Head
Department of Economics
Allahabad Central University, Prayagraj, U.P.



Prof. Dushyant Kumar
Treasurer, Upuea
Principal, Upadhi Mahavidyalaya
Pilloheet, U.P.



Prof. Vinod Kumar Srivastava
General Secretary, Upuea
Former Head
Department of Economics and Rural Development
Dr. Rammanohar Lohia Avadh University, Ayodhya, U.P.

About Haldwani

Haldwani, also known as "Gateway to Kumaon," is one of the largest and most significant cities in Uttarakhand, India. Due to its strategic location, at the foothills of the Himalayas, it makes it a key link between the plains and the hilly terrain of Uttarakhand. Haldwani is located at an elevation of approximately 424 meters (1,391 feet) above sea level, also making it a transition zone between the Terai region and the hills. The name "Haldwani" is derived from "Haldu" (Adina cordifolia), a type of tree that was once abundant in the region. The area has a rich history, dating back to ancient times when it was a dense forest inhabited by various tribal communities. During the British colonial period, Haldwani gained prominence as a key trade and administrative center. The British established a railway station in 1882, further enhancing its connectivity and economic significance. Haldwani is one of the fastest-growing cities in Uttarakhand, driven by trade, commerce, and real estate. The city hosts one of the largest wholesale markets in the region, catering to traders from across Kumaon and neighbouring areas. Agriculture, timber, and transport-related businesses have also flourished due to the city's proximity to the Terai belt and hill regions. The city is well-connected by road and rail, serving as a gateway for tourists and goods traveling to the hilly districts of Almora, Bageshwar, and Pithoragarh. In the last couple of years, the city Haldwani has also emerged as an educational hub in Uttarakhand. It houses several prominent universities, medical college, schools, colleges, and educational centers, attracting students from surrounding areas.

Because of its location, summer in Haldwani is hot and the maximum temperature ranges from 37°C-42°C, however the night is very pleasant. Owing to its position at the foothills of the Kumaon region in the Himalayas, the area's temperature can fall significantly during winter season. The winter season is from October to February and brings cheers to all. The monsoon season of Haldwani is from July to September and is very beautiful.

About the University

Recognizing higher education as vital in today's knowledge-driven world, Uttarakhand Open University (UOU) champions accessible learning through Open and Distance Learning (ODL), as advocated by the National Knowledge Commission. Established in 2005, UOU's mission is to empower individuals through innovative education, leveraging technology and engaging methods to foster "Independent Learning." The university's commitment to quality is evident in its 'B++' NAAC accreditation and its extensive network of Study Centers, ensuring widespread access to superior higher education across Uttarakhand.

Chief Patron



Prof. Om Prakash Singh Negi
Vice Chancellor
Uttarakhand Open University, Haldwani

Administrative Heads



Shri Khemraj Bhatt
Registrar
Uttarakhand Open University, Haldwani



Shri Surya Pratap Singh
Finance Controller
Uttarakhand Open University, Haldwani

Institutional Academic Committee



Chairman
Prof. Girija Pande
Director, School of Social Sciences
Uttarakhand Open University
Haldwani



Convener
Prof. Manjari Agarwal
Programme Coordinator (Management)
Uttarakhand Open University
Haldwani



Organizing Secretary
Prof. Gagan Singh
HoD (Commerce)
Uttarakhand Open University
Haldwani



Program Co-Ordinator
Dr. Shalini Chaudhary
Head, Department of Economics
Uttarakhand Open University
Haldwani

Associated Organizing Committee (UPUEA)



Conference Facilitator
Dr. Shree Kumar Lal
Department of Economics
SRI P.C. College, Deoria
Uttarakhand, Uttarakhand



Conference Co-Facilitator
Dr. Nandan Singh Bhat
Department of Economics
D.S.B. Campus, Kumaun University
Nainital, Uttarakhand



Co-Ordinator Conference
Dr. Sarita Dwivedi
Dr. Rammanohar Lohia Avadh University
Ayodhya, U.P.

About the School of Management Studies & Commerce

The School of Management & Commerce offers a wide range of programmes with an aim to achieve excellence in management education with a multidisciplinary, multi-sectoral and developmental perspective. The school follows a system of programme-wise registration in its management and commerce programmes. In the management programmes semester system is followed i.e: July to December and January to June.

The Department of Commerce offers Master Degree, Bachelor Degree, Certificate Course and Bachelor Preparatory Programme. The basic objectives of these programmes are:

- To make the students conversant with the latest knowledge in the field of Commerce,
- To develop teaching and research talent to create academic expertise suiting to contemporary needs of the society.

The Department of Management Studies offers Master's as well as Bachelor's degree programmes in Business Administration. The focus of the management programmes is on the quality of management education by giving adequate attention to application of knowledge, self-awareness among students, development of problem solving, and decision-making skills.

About The School of Social Sciences

The School of Social Sciences is a dynamic academic institution dedicated to the study and exploration of various subjects. It offers a diverse range of programs designed to equip students with the knowledge, skills, and analytical tools necessary to understand and address the dynamic problems in modern world. The school provides various disciplines such as Economics, Political Science, Public Administration, Social Work, History, Psychology and other related fields. Each of these areas delves into specific aspects of society, offering students a comprehensive understanding of the forces that shape the world around them.

Best Paper Award

Prof. Sharda Prasad Memorial best paper award will be conferred to a young Researcher Scholar/Assistant Professor below 40 years of age, for its original contribution on the theme of the conference. A 3-member sitting committee will be formed to judge the same. It is an initiative to promote young researchers who shall be adding positively in the area of research through their food for thought and undying endeavour. The award will be conferred by the Prof. Sharda Prasad Memorial Trust, Lucknow, which is an institutional member of UPUEA.

Who Can Participate?

- All life members, annual members, institutional members of UPUEA.
- Teachers, researchers, academicians and policy makers who have deep interest in economics and related areas.
- Young research scholars from Economics & allied disciplines.

Registration Fee:

Sr. No.	Category of Participants	Without Accommodation	With Accommodation
1	Academicians	2500/-	3500/-
2	Per accompanying Members	-	3000/-
3	Research Scholars/Students	1000/-	2000/-

How to Register?

Registration is mandatory for all participants including the office bearers of UPUEA. Last date for registration is 10th May 2025. After this due date, no request shall be considered for registration and the participation in the Conference.

Registration can be accomplished through the QR Code/ following link

<https://forms.gle/pzuqjcNRXCz6dzhh8>



To Register
Scan the QR

How to Pay Registration Fee?

The registration fee and other donations/financial support for the Conference can be paid through Demand Draft/NEFT/RTGS/Phone Pay/Google Pay in the following account:

Name of Account : UPUEA ANNUAL CONFERENCE
Account No : 44009964583
Bank Name : STATE BANK OF INDIA
IFSC Code : SBIN0016731
Branch Address : Sainik School Branch Sarojini Nagar, Lucknow

A copy of the payment along with the registration form should be sent to the Local Organising Secretary in the following Email: upuea21@uou.ac.in