

Vulnerability, Impact and Resilience of Pandemic (Covid 19)

Overview:

The University of Delhi, established in the year 1922, is a premier university of India and enjoys both national and international acclaim. The University has maintained highest academic standards and pioneered some of the best practices in higher education in the country. The University is completing 100 years on 30 April, 2022 and a year-long Centenary Celebrations have been planned. The Centenary Celebrations shall showcase the University's century old legacy in various hues and colours. As part of the Centenary Celebrations, the University is organizing a three-day Centenary International Conference on the theme "Impact of the Pandemic and Resilience".

The Covid-19 pandemic has emerged as one of the most serious human, economic and social crisis. It has disproportionately affected almost all the sectors of the society. As per the WHO database, over 450 million people have been infected and more than 6 million people have died of the pandemic, globally. Since 2020, lockdowns have been imposed in almost all the countries across the globe to break the transmission chains and combat infectivity and death from the pandemic. The pandemic exposed the vulnerability of different sections of the society especially the migrant labour; the poor and women and children. It has in turn imposed adverse effects in the economy, jobs, hospitality, agriculture, social, educational, health and many other sectors. There have been physiological and psychological offshoots of the outbreak among the population. Multiple quantitative studies from various countries have reported increased rates of depression, anxiety, sleep disturbances, post-traumatic stress and adjustment problems across the population, due to the pandemic. In line with a recent report released by the UN Secretary General on "responding to the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19" continuing health response, suppressing transmission and saving lives have been given utmost priority. Hence, there is a requirement of understanding and action aimed at mitigating the impact of the pandemic on livelihoods of people and their material well-being, in the aftermath of the immediate health emergency.

Conversely, in almost all the countries including India, the medical facilities have been ramped up. New findings related to health care and digital innovations have significantly been enhanced. One indicative example is the development of indigenous covid-19 vaccine in the country. Further, creation of appropriate facilities for storage and transport of the vaccine

and inoculation of more than 110 million doses of the vaccine within a short span of time. Another example is the transformation of the education system onto online mode. In this line, it is important to assess the impact of the pandemic and resilience.

This theme has been chosen as the theme of the Centenary International Conference, keeping in minds the need to assess the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and the combating mechanisms adopted by various stakeholders. It shall also focus on the resilience shown by the humanity and institutions and the lessons that emerged out of it.

Objectives of the conference:

- Assess the impacts of COVID-19 pandemic on different fronts such as law and order, economy, health care sector, mental state and wellbeing of the population, education and research, biodiversity and climate change etc.
- To gauge opportunities, inclusive innovations and technological reforms mediated by the pandemic.
- Understanding policy lessons and ideas and innovations for constructing resilient, inclusive, and sustainable economy.

Schematics of Technical sessions:

The three-day conference, organized and hosted by the University of Delhi, will feature the inauguration session, followed by plenary sessions, thematic sessions, poster sessions, oral presentation sessions and the valedictory sessions. Speakers and attendees will include Internationally acclaimed researchers/professors, leaders and entrepreneurs.

The thematic sessions will include (and not limited to):

- Transformation in education and educational systems mediated by the pandemic.
- Impact of the pandemic on health care status, research and development and resilience.
- Impact of the pandemic on environment, climate change, biodiversity and ecosystems.
- Impact of the pandemic on economy, trade, commerce and make in India initiatives.
- Impact of the pandemic in emerging technologies, innovation and sustainable development.
- Impact of the pandemic in management, financial and business strategies.
- Impact of the pandemic on social, behavioural, psychological aspects and Livelihood.

- Impact of the pandemic on mental health and well-Being, work-life balance of the population.
- Law and order situation and policies in the country amidst the pandemic.
- Digital transformation, artificial intelligence augmentation during the pandemic.
- Media and journalism during the pandemic and the aftermath.

Expected outcome of the conference:

- The conference will lead to actionable suggestions and follow-up actions for the relevant stakeholders in conceptualizing the impact analysis and resilience of the pandemic.
- The conference will help in establishment of inter-institutional partnership and updating knowledge among the young stars in the relevant field.
- The conference papers will be produced in print form as proceedings in a peer-reviewed journal of repute.