



Department of Cooperation The Gandhigram Rural Institute

(Deemed to be University)

Ministry of Education (Shiksha Mantralaya), Govt. of India
Gandhigram-624302, Tamil Nadu



Organising



ज्ञान-विज्ञान विमुक्तये

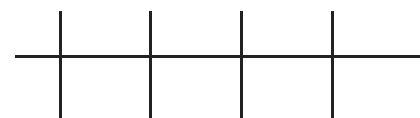
UGC Sponsored National Conference on Cooperatives for Inclusive and Sustainable Growth – Challenges and Prospects (NCCISG-2025)



25 & 26 | FEB | 2025

 Silver Jubilee Hall, GRI

COOP



About GRI

Gandhigram Rural Institute (GRI), founded by two dedicated disciples and contemporaries of Mahatma Gandhi, Dr.G.Ramachandran and Dr.T.S.Soundaram Ramachandran, has as its foundation Mahatma Gandhi's revolutionary philosophy of NaiTalim, which effectively bridges the cognitive and practical dimensions, and focuses on the holistic development of learners, with an emphasis on skill development through value-based education, rooted in indigenous cultures and traditions. Since its establishment in 1956, GRI has been unstintingly contributing to higher education and has successfully pioneered rural higher education. The Institute which is administered by the Ministry of Education, Government of India and fully funded through UGC, New Delhi has developed academic programs in rural development, rural economics and extension education, rural oriented sciences, cooperation, development administration, rural sociology, English, Tamil and Indian languages. The institute runs B.Tech. in civil engineering M.Tech. renewable energy. The institute also offers B.Sc Agriculture program. The three dimensional approach of education namely teaching, research and extension has become a highly celebrated model, earning global and nationwide appreciation. Started in a small way the Institute has evolved into a reasonably large and expansive educational complex comprising of 8 schools, 19 departments and 9 Centres offering a whopping 61 academic programs, ranging from certificate courses, to Graduate programmes to Doctoral and Post-Doctoral Programmes. At present the Institute has around 4000 students, including Ph.D. Scholars, and 178 teaching and 243 non-teaching staff. The curricular model developed at GRI organically integrating teaching, research and extension has earned the Institute, the status of Deemed University in 1976 by UGC, the five-star status by NAAC in 2002, 'A' Grade during the re-accreditation in 2010 by NAAC and 'A' Grade in its third cycle of reaccreditation in the year 2016.

About Department of Cooperation

The Department of Cooperation was established in 1956 along with GRI, one of the oldest Departments in Gandhigram Rural Institute. It is the first of its kind in offering Cooperation as an academic discipline at the University level in India with the basic objective of developing manpower with updated knowledge and skill in managing, facilitating, organizing, and revitalizing cooperatives. The thrust areas of teaching, research and extension includes cooperative governance and empowerment, cooperative law and administration, rural finance and cooperative banking, agro-processing and marketing cooperatives, consumer cooperatives and consumer protection, new generation cooperatives, cooperative education, training and extension.

The Department is offering UG and PG Programmes, viz., B.Com. (Hons.) Cooperation and M.Com (Cooperative Management) respectively. The Department introduced Doctoral Programme in the year 1985 onwards. The Faculty members of the Department are mentoring UGC, ICSSR funded Post-Doctoral Fellows (PDF) and have also undertaken sponsored research projects with financial assistance from University Grants Commission (UGC), ICSSR, NDCD, Coconut Development Board, Tamil Nadu Planning Commission. The Faculty members are involved in the monitoring and evaluation of Rural Development Programmes and Special Schemes of the Ministry of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj and Ministry of Water & Sanitation, Government of India with its strong academic and field based research capabilities.

The Department has seven faculty members who have over the years developed expertise in the subjects of Cooperation and Cooperative Management.

About the Conference

Cooperatives is the third economy which contributes to the Indian economy next to Government and private concern. Through the cooperative organizations, many rural and urban people get uplifted by the services. – Empowering marginalized communities through collective ownership and decision-making, Providing access to financial services, markets, and resources, Promoting social and economic inclusion, Supporting small-scale farmers and artisans through collective marketing and value addition, Encouraging sustainable practices and environmental conservation, Building resilience through community-based initiatives, Enhancing financial literacy and education, Fostering community-led development and self-reliance.

Hence, cooperatives are well-placed to contribute to sustainable development's triple bottom line of economic, social and environmental objectives plus the governance agenda, because they are enterprises that endeavour to meet the economic progress of members while satisfying their socio-cultural interests and protecting the environment. They offer an alternative model for enterprise, with contributions to sustainable development well beyond job creation. Cooperatives can contribute to India's inclusive and sustainable growth by bridging socio-economic gaps and promoting equitable development. Based on the contribution made by the cooperatives, UN declared the year 2025 International year of Cooperatives (IYC 2025), Under the theme "Cooperatives Build a Better World," this conference will explore how cooperatives can be pivotal in fostering resilience, sustainability, and equitable growth, contributing to a global movement towards a more inclusive and sustainable future. With this backdrop, it is proposed to hold a two-day conference on Cooperatives for Inclusive and Sustainable Growth – Challenges and Prospects. It is of paramount importance to discuss and deliberate on the major theme.

In this background, this conference will provide an effective platform for the Academicians, Practitioners, officials, cooperators, Research Scholars to share their findings, ideas, and it also provides an opportunity to young researchers and students to get informed about the role played by cooperatives organization in attaining inclusive and sustainable growth.

Objectives

- To showcase the contributions of cooperatives of different types in attaining inclusive and sustainable growth;
- To trace the challenges before cooperatives in achieving the inclusive growth; and
- To identify the factors in achieving the sustainable growth of cooperatives.

Sub-themes of the Conference

- Cooperatives and Digital initiatives– Platform cooperatives
- Contributions of cooperatives in achieving SDGs
- Role of cooperatives in financial inclusion– Digital financial Services
- Role of agricultural cooperatives in ensuring food security
- Role of cooperatives in promoting cooperative education
- Role of cooperatives in promoting gender equality
- Role of cooperatives on women empowerment
- Cooperatives and its role on creating/providing rural and urban employment
- Innovation and best practices of cooperatives and its contribution for serve economic development of the community
- Role of cooperatives in promoting equitable and equal society/community

These thematic topics are NOT exclusive and shall be re-defined based on the received submissions from the participants

Organising Committee



Chief Patron
Dr.N.Panchanatham
Vice-Chancellor
GRI

Patron
Dr.L.Rathakrishnan
Registrar i/c, GRI



Organising Secretary
Dr.K.Dhevan
Associate Professor of Cooperation, GRI

Co-organising Secretaries



Dr.C.Pitchai
Professor of Cooperation, GRI

Dr.B.Baskar
Asst. Prof. of Cooperation, GRI



Organising Members

- Dr.B.Tamilmani**, HoD of Cooperation & Dean SoMS
Dr.K.Ravichandran, Senior Prof & Finance Officer i/c
Dr.S.Manivel, Senior Prof. & Dean Students' Welfare
Dr.M.Ragubalan, Teaching Assistant

Important Dates

*Last date for Abstract and full paper submission: **20.02.2025***

*Date of Conference: **25-26.02.2025***

No Registration Fee for this Conference

Paper Submission Guidelines for Authors

Authors are requested to submit their papers in an A4-format MS Word (2007/2010) in Times New Roman with a font of 14 pt for the title and 12 pt with line spacing must be 1.5 for the rest of the content on or before February 20, 2025. Email.id for paper submission [**dhevank@gmail.com**](mailto:dhevank@gmail.com)

Accommodation will be provided cost to cost basis (sharing rooms)

For further details contact

Dr.K.Dhevan, Organising Secretary, Contact: 9994463734

Dr.C.Pitchai, Co-organising Secretary, Contact:9442053969

Dr.B.Baskar, Co-organising Secretary, Contact: 9942698983

**The Accepted papers
will be published in
book with
ISBN number**