

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
TOWARDS A PROSPEROUS JHARKHAND
Vision and Strategies for Inclusive Growth and Development

11-13 DECEMBER 2025, RANCHI

Organised by

Institute for Human Development
Eastern Regional Centre (IHD-ERC), Ranchi

in association with

Shri Krishna Institute of Public Administration (SKIPA)
Government of Jharkhand

1. ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

As the state of Jharkhand is celebrating the 25th anniversary of its formation, it is a milestone moment this year to reflect on its development trajectory and envision future aspirations. On this occasion, we are pleased to announce an International Conference “Towards a Prosperous Jharkhand: Vision and Strategies for Inclusive Growth and Development” during 11-13 December 2025 in Ranchi, which is organised by the Institute for Human Development – Eastern Regional Centre (IHD-ERC), Ranchi in collaboration with the Shri Krishna Institute of Public Administration (SKIPA), Government of Jharkhand.

Jharkhand @25

Despite its abundant natural resources, cultural richness, and resilient communities, Jharkhand continues to grapple with persistent challenges such as poverty, social exclusion, and the underutilisation of its demographic and ecological wealth.

In recent years, the Government of Jharkhand has demonstrated a strong commitment to fostering inclusive and sustainable development. Landmark initiatives such as the Maiyya Samman Yojana cash transfer scheme for women aiming to promote social protection and human development, on the one hand, and climate-resilient strategies in mining, forestry, and agriculture, on the other, signify a progressive transformation. Improvements in governance and infrastructure also signal a positive ecosystem for business investment and economic growth.

The 25th anniversary provides a unique opportunity to take stock of development and harness collective insights from academia, policymakers, development practitioners, and civil society to co-create a strategic roadmap that positions Jharkhand as a model state for inclusive growth, equity, and innovation.

To carry out this endeavour, this International Conference focussed on the vision and strategies for inclusive growth and development of the state has been envisioned.

The conference will serve as a dynamic platform for various stakeholders to evaluate Jharkhand's progress and develop forward-looking strategies for the state's sustainable and inclusive development.

The format of the Conference is structured to deliberate comprehensively on various themes of development, which features:


- Keynote lectures
- Thematic plenary sessions
- Parallel panel discussions
- Policy roundtables

2. CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES

This International Conference adopts a twofold objective of (i) evaluating the status and challenges in human and economic development of Jharkhand and ii) deliberating on the vision and devising strategies for a flourishing future by the state. Specifically, the Conference aims to:

- Assess Jharkhand's socio-economic and institutional development over the past 25 years
- Identify challenges and emerging opportunities for equitable, inclusive, and climate-resilient growth
- Foster interdisciplinary dialogue and stakeholder collaboration for integrated development
- Generate a set of actionable policy recommendations aligned with Jharkhand's development priorities
- Build a network of researchers, practitioners, and policymakers for sustained engagement in the state's development

3. CONFERENCE THEMES

- Accelerating Economic Growth and Human Development
 - Diversifying Agriculture and Enhancing Income from Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFP)
 - Improving Education Quality, Expanding Digital Learning, and Access to Higher Education
 - Promoting Inclusive Urbanisation and Modern Infrastructure
 - Reducing Regional and Social Inequities
 - Harnessing the Demographic Dividend through Quality Employment
 - Strengthening Health Systems
 - Enhancing Food Security and Nutrition, Especially for Women and Children
 - Strengthening Livelihoods and Social Protection Programmes
 - Enriching the Cultural and Literary Heritage of Local and Tribal Communities
 - Empowering Tribal Communities as Active Partners in Development
 - Addressing Climate Change and Promoting Green and Resilient Development
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- Mobilising and Managing Resources for Inclusive and Sustainable Growth
- Strengthening Social Programmes and Ensuring Participatory Development

Each theme will be led by a Working Group comprising domain experts and senior government officials to ensure contextual relevance and actionable outputs.

4. CALL FOR PAPERS AND CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Researchers, professionals, and experts from around the world working on issues related to Jharkhand are invited to contribute papers for the upcoming Conference. While selected scholars and experts will be invited as resource persons, a broader group of researchers, academics, and stakeholders are encouraged to contribute and participate through this Call for Papers.

Submission Guidelines

- **Extended Abstract:** 300–500 words
- **Content:** Must include
 - ♦ Research objectives
 - ♦ Methodology
 - ♦ Key findings
 - ♦ Policy recommendations
- **Submission Mode:** Online via the Conference Portal [Jharkhand@25Conference / ihdindia.org](mailto:Jharkhand@25Conference@ihdindia.org)
- **Last Date for Abstract Submission:** 17 October 2025
- **Full Paper Submission:** 25 November 2025 (for accepted abstracts)
- **Plagiarism:** Authors must ensure that submissions are original and plagiarism-free.

Conference Registration

All delegates, both paper contributors and general participants are requested to register through the Conference Portal.

- **Accommodation:** Delegates from outside Ranchi are encouraged to stay at the SKIPA Conference Venue, which offers excellent infrastructure and facilities.
- **Registration Fee:** Kept nominal to encourage local stakeholders' participation.
- **Participation Contribution:** Detailed fee structure is provided in the table below.

Conference Participation Contribution

Participation Category	With Accommodation*		Without Accommodation**	
	General	Students***	General	Students***
India (INR)	4000	2500	2000	1000
Outside India (\$)	100	60	50	25

*The contribution includes accommodation (up to three nights), meals during the conference days and a conference kit with all the Conference materials.

** The contribution includes meals during the conference days and a conference kit

*** Including Ph.D Scholars

Travel and Funding Support

Due to resource constraints, delegates are requested to arrange funding from their own institutions. However, the travel costs of invited resource persons and some select delegates whose papers are selected will be covered by the organisers, in case they are unable to manage the costs on their own.

Conference Venue

Shri Krishna Institute of Public Administration (SKIPA)
Mears Road, Ranchi-834001

Stay Arrangements

Accommodation for conference participants will be arranged at the SKIPA guest houses as well as in other nearby guest houses and hotels.

Conference Duration

The Conference will begin at 9:30 am on 11 December 2025 and conclude by 1.30 pm on 13 December 2025. Participants are advised to reach Ranchi a day prior to the Conference and schedule their departure after 3 pm of 13 December 2025. A complimentary excursion for local sight seeing will be organised for delegates from outside Jharkhand.

DATES TO REMEMBER

CONFERENCE Dates
11-13 December 2025

**Last Date of Registration for
participants from outside Ranchi**
25 November 2025

**Last Date for
Abstract Submission**
17 October 2025

**Last Date of Registration
for participants from Ranchi**
05 December 2025

**Communication about
Acceptance of Abstracts**
21 October 2025

**Last Date for
Submission of Papers**
25 November 2025

5. EXPECTED OUTPUTS

The Conference is designed to produce a range of substantive and policy-relevant outputs that will contribute meaningfully to Jharkhand's development discourse and planning.

- A comprehensive Conference Report will synthesise the key deliberations, insights, and recommendations emerging from the sessions.
- Several Policy Briefs in English and Hindi will present focused strategies and actionable recommendations for key themes.
- An Edited Volume incorporating revised papers presented in the Conference by leading experts, will document Jharkhand's development journey, highlight ongoing challenges, and propose future pathways.
- Beyond documentation, the Conference will foster the creation of a multi-stakeholder knowledge and policy network, comprising researchers, policymakers, civil society leaders, and development practitioners committed to Jharkhand's inclusive and sustainable growth.

6. PARTICIPANTS AND ORGANISERS

The Conference will host around 250 participants, including scholars, policymakers, industry representatives, development professionals, and civil society members. To enrich the deliberations, over 60 distinguished experts from both India and abroad will be invited to contribute. Moreover, a widely disseminated Call for Papers will invite submissions from academic and practitioner communities, with selected works considered for publication in an edited volume.

Organising Institutions

The Institute for Human Development (IHD), an ICSSR Recognised Social Science Research Institution, has a strong track record in research on livelihoods, employment, gender, health, education and other human development domains across India. IHD has an Eastern Regional Centre located at Ranchi with focus on tribal and Jharkhand development issues and has extensively worked in the state as well as other states of the region like Bihar and Odisha (www.ihdindia.org).

The Shri Krishna Institute of Public Administration (SKIPA) is Jharkhand's apex government training institute located in central part of Ranchi (www.lms.skipa.co.in).

CONFERENCE ORGANISING TEAM

Conference Coordinators

Shri Rakesh Ranjan, IPS (Retd.)

Senior Fellow, IHD (Former Adviser and Senior Consultant, NITI Aayog)

Shri Kumar Rana

Director, IHD Eastern Regional Centre, Ranchi

Dr. Bhim Reddy

Senior Fellow, IHD and
Lead, IHD-UNICEF Behavioural Insights Unit - Jharkhand

Joint Coordinator

Dr. Devika Modi, Faculty, IHD, Ranchi

Associate Coordinators

Dr. Ashwani Kumar, Faculty, IHD-ERC, Ranchi

Ms. Christina Kujur, Faculty, IHD-ERC, Ranchi

Communications Director

Ms. Priyanka Tyagi, Chief Executive Officer, IHD

Management and Communication Team at IHD

Ms. Chaity Puja Sarkar, Mr. Arjun Dubey, Mr. Aakash Sinha
Mr. Amit Kumar, Mr. Adarsh Kumal

Conference Directors

Professor Alakh N Sharma

Director, Institute for Human Development, New Delhi

Dr. Manish Ranjan, IAS

Director General, Shri Krishna Institute of Public Administration (SKIPPA), Ranchi

Dr. Shreeranjana, IAS (Retd.)

Joint Director, IHD, New Delhi

Conference Secretariat

IHD-Eastern Regional Centre
C-1, Patel Park, Harmu Housing Colony, Ranchi-834012
Email: ihd.ranchi@ihdindia.org; Phone: 9430753968



Shri Krishna Institute of Public Administration
Mears Road, Ranchi University, Morabadi,
Ranchi, Jharkhand-834008



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