

THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PUBLIC POLICY RESEARCH, PEDAGOGY, AND PRACTICE HELD ON MARCH 15, 2023

The International Conference on Public Policy Research, Pedagogy, and Practice held on March 15, 2023, at the University of Delhi was a comprehensive and collaborative initiative organized jointly by the Delhi School of Public Policy and Governance (DSPPG), the Institution of Eminence (IOE-DU), and the Department of Political Science at Motilal Nehru College. The event aimed to provide a platform for scholars, policymakers, and practitioners to engage in discussions, share insights, and explore innovative approaches to addressing contemporary challenges in public policy.

The conference began with a vibrant inaugural session from 9:30 am to 10:00 am, chaired by Radhika Kumar and Tanvir Aeijaz. The session commenced with an introduction to the conference theme and the outline of the day's sessions. Esteemed guests Sudarshan Ramaswamy, founding Dean of the Jindal School of Government and Public Policy, and Mukul Asher, Senior Associate at the Lee Quan Yew School of Public Policy, Singapore, delivered addresses, setting the stage for the discussions ahead.

Session I, from 10:00 am to 11:45 am, was chaired by Sudarshan Ramaswamy and focused on Policy Futures. The session featured insightful presentations, including a recorded address by Cat Zuzarte Tully from the School of International Futures (SOIF), UK, on Policy Knowledge in the Global South. Additionally, Vishal Narain from MDI discussed the relevance of Making Commons not so Uncommon in Urban Settings, while Bidisha Banerji from Amity Institute of Public Policy explored Communication and Public Policy.

Following a brief tea break, Session II commenced from 12:00 pm to 1:30 pm, chaired by Tanvir Aeijaz, focusing on Institutions and Policy Processes. This session saw presentations by Ashwani Kumar from TISS, who discussed the interactions and interrelationships between institutions and policy processes. Arkaja Singh from the Centre for Policy Research examined Public Policy and State Capacity, while Ajay Gudavarthy from JNU shared insights on Public Policy Priorities in India from below.

After a networking lunch break from 1:30 pm to 2:30 pm, Session III unfolded from 2:30 pm to 4:00 pm, chaired by Radhika Kumar. This session explored various policy aspects, with presentations by Manisha Priyam from NIEPA discussing Boundaries and the Aspect of Public Policy in Education, Narender Kumar from JNU examining The Policy of Reservations, and A. Venkat Raman from FMS, University of Delhi, sharing insights on Health Policy in India.

The Conference also attracted a diverse audience from prestigious institutions like O.P. Jindal University, Amity University, and the University of Delhi. Attendees included professors, administrators, research scholars, and policymakers from various disciplines and geographical locations. This diverse mix of participants enriched the discussions and fostered collaborative approaches to addressing contemporary challenges in public policy.

The conference concluded with a valedictory session from 4:00 pm to 4:30 pm, featuring a keynote address by Alasdair Roberts, Professor of Public Policy at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, delivered online. The session provided a reflective closure to the day's discussions, emphasizing the significance of collaborative efforts in advancing the field of public policy research and practice.

Overall, the conference offered a rich exchange of ideas, facilitated networking opportunities, and contributed to the collective understanding of pressing issues in public policy, reinforcing the importance of academic-industry partnerships in driving meaningful change.