



**National Conference
on
Reimagining Space and Societies:
Integrating Social, Environmental, and
Indigenous Knowledge for Sustainable Development
and attaining Viksit Bharat 2047**

**Organised by
Department of Geography**

**Sponsored By
Indian Council of Social Science Research
Ministry of Education**



Hybrid (Offline & Online)



November 19-20, 2026



**Central University of Punjab
Bathinda, Punjab, India**

Background and Rationale

The 21st century presents multifaceted challenges related to population dynamics, migration, environmental degradation, urban expansion, and cultural transitions. These issues are deeply interconnected, demanding an integrated approach that combines social geography, environmental studies, and indigenous knowledge systems.

India, with its vast demographic diversity and rich cultural traditions, offers unique insights into sustainable development practices rooted in local wisdom and modern science. The proposed conference aims to bring together scholars, researchers, policymakers, and practitioners to engage in critical discussions and knowledge sharing across disciplines, fostering holistic growth and sustainable societal transformation.

Objectives of the Conference

- To explore the evolving dynamics of **social and human geography** in the context of demographic shifts and migration.
- To analyse the **human-environment relationship** and its implications for climate change and sustainability.
- To highlight the role of **Indian Knowledge Systems** in promoting indigenous innovation and sustainable living.
- To examine the changing **rural and urban landscapes** and their socio-economic and environmental dimensions.
- To promote **interdisciplinary dialogue** for policy formulation, capacity building, and pedagogical development.

Expected Outcomes

- Generation of an interdisciplinary framework for addressing socio-environmental challenges.
- Publication of a **conference proceeding or edited volume** with selected peer-reviewed papers.
- Development of a **policy brief** on integrating indigenous and scientific approaches in planning and governance.
- Strengthening academic and institutional collaborations for future research and capacity-building initiatives.

Thematic Areas

I. Social and Human Geography

- a. Demography and Population Dynamics
- b. Migration: Causes, Patterns, and Implications
- c. Human Resources and Holistic Growth
- d. Regional Geography and Spatial Inequality
- e. Rural and Urban Landscapes in Transition

II. Environmental Studies

- a. Human–Environment Relationship
- b. Climate Change: Regional Impacts and Adaptation Strategies
- c. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the Indian Context
- d. Renewable Energy Resources and Sustainability

III. Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS)

- a. Indian Textual and Oral Traditions: Relevance in Modern Times
- b. Indigenous Innovation, Technology, and Development
- c. Development of Pedagogical Materials and Curriculum Based on Indian Intellectual Texts

IV. Rural and Urban Studies

- a. Rural Economy and Livelihoods
- b. Rural Society: Continuity and Change
- c. Rural–Urban Migration and Its Socio-Economic Consequences
- d. Rural Culture and Its Signifiers
- e. Urban Planning, Policy, and Governance
- f. Urbanisation and the Urban Environment

Call For Abstract And Paper

Papers are invited for presentation at the National Conference on each sub-theme. **The conference will be conducted in hybrid mode, allowing participants to present their papers either in person or online.** Participants are requested to send the abstracts (less than 300 words) to the Email: cupconference2026@gmail.com by 25 October, 2026. Authors should submit their abstracts on A-4 size paper, clearly typed in single space with 12 font size in Times New Roman style. The abstract should be original and should not have been published previously. The abstract should include the title, names and addresses of all authors, along with the Email address of the corresponding author. A soft copy of the full paper, including abstract, introduction, materials and methods, results and discussion, conclusion, and references, should reach the no later than the 13 November 2026. Spot registration will also be available at the venue.

Guidelines for the submission of the full paper-

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1gguS0y6WNMqiDhcfgV9uDnpVCEFDxHUp/view?usp=sharing>

IMPORTANT DATES	
Last date of Abstract & Registration Form submission	25 st October, 2026
Acceptance of Abstract intimation	30 st October, 2026
Submission of full paper	13 th November, 2026
Date of the Conference	19 th -20 th November, 2026

Registration

Participants may register in advance by making online payment of the applicable registration fee on the link <https://rzp.io/rzp/lg3hG3Fa>. Receipts for the registration fee and accommodation, as applicable, will be issued at the time of registration. Accompanying persons must also register. The registration fee includes the participant kit, entry to all technical sessions, meals/refreshments and participant certificate charges. **Spot registration** will also be available at the venue. There is no provision for refunding the registration fee.

REGISTRATION FEE	
Category	Total Fee (INR)
Participants within the University (Faculty / Research Scholars / Students)	₹300/-
External Participants (Faculty / Research Scholars / Students)	₹300 /-
Note: Shared accommodation will be provided only to outstation-registered candidates on first-come, first-served basis.	



<https://rzp.io/rzp/lg3hG3Fa>

Qr code for conference fee payment



<https://forms.gle/kHpeLoBG7WJEnkBn6>

Qr Code for conference
registration

About Central University Of Punjab

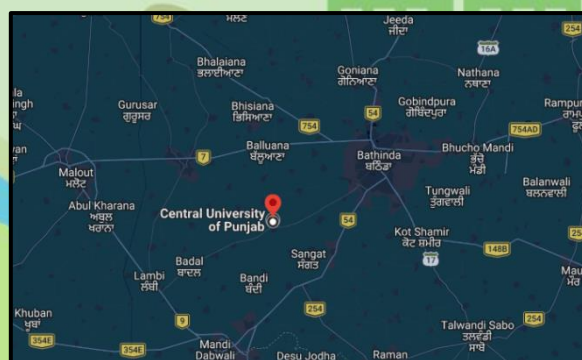
The Central University of Punjab, has been established in 2009 along with other new Central Universities by an Act of Parliament (No 25, of 2009). Central University has completed a remarkable journey of 17 years. University is accredited 'A+' grade in 2023 in second accreditation cycle by NAAC and has secured 95th, 87th and 84th, 81st, 100th and 83rd rank in the year 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024 respectively in the University category of NIRF. It is credited with highest per capita research funding. The university has a mission of providing a wide range of instructional and research facilities across integrated and cross-disciplines, promote innovation in teaching, learning and research, and cross-pollinate new ideas, new technologies and new world-views. It aims to create an ignited workforce responsive to regional, national and global needs in tune with the requirements of academia, industry and business. The university is resorting to e-governance through Samarth Project. The staff members have been trained in twenty-one administrative modules for reducing the response time and bringing transparency in the decision making process and also to ensure participatory model of governance.

The university started in a three-room Camp Office provided by the state administration in March 2009. Making a modest but speedy start, the university accepted on rent, a dilapidated campus of 37 acres of an abandoned co-operative spinning mill on Mansa Road, Bathinda. University is now expanded in the 500 acre of land in Ghudda village. The campus is environment-friendly and energy-efficient and its Master Plan has provisionally been certified with a five-star rating by GRIHA Council and TERI. It has 31 departments and 11 schools in Sciences, Technology, Education, Humanities, Social Sciences and Law disciplines. It offers Ph.D., PG and UG programmes in these disciplines. It started with the first batch of 10 students in 4 programmes in August 2009 and currently the University has 1595 masters, 366 doctoral and 21 international students. CBCS was introduced in 2015, a learning outcome-based curriculum in 2018 and graduate attributes based curriculum will be adopted from the academic session 2021. The curriculum focuses on research, skill development and entrepreneurship.

How To Reach Venue

The university is well connected by road and is situated about 21 km from Bathinda Junction Railway Station and nearly 22 km from the Bathinda Bus Stand. Bathinda Junction is a major railway hub offering direct rail connectivity with Delhi, Chandigarh, and other major cities across the country through regular express, superfast, and Shatabdi trains. The climate in Bathinda during the second half of November remains pleasant to mildly cool with the onset of winter, with temperatures ranging approximately from 12°C to 26°C.

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/tjG5vVhqK3oS8mveZ>



Target Participants

- Academicians and researchers from Geography, Environmental Studies, Sociology, Anthropology, and Urban Planning.
- Policy makers and development practitioners.
- Representatives from government agencies, NGOs, and think tanks.
- Students and research scholars interested in social-environmental interactions and sustainable development.

Proposed Format

- Inaugural and Valedictory Sessions
- Plenary and Technical Sessions (based on the above themes)
- Panel Discussions and Roundtables
- Poster Presentations and Interactive Workshops
- Cultural Session showcasing traditional practices and local innovations

Contact Information

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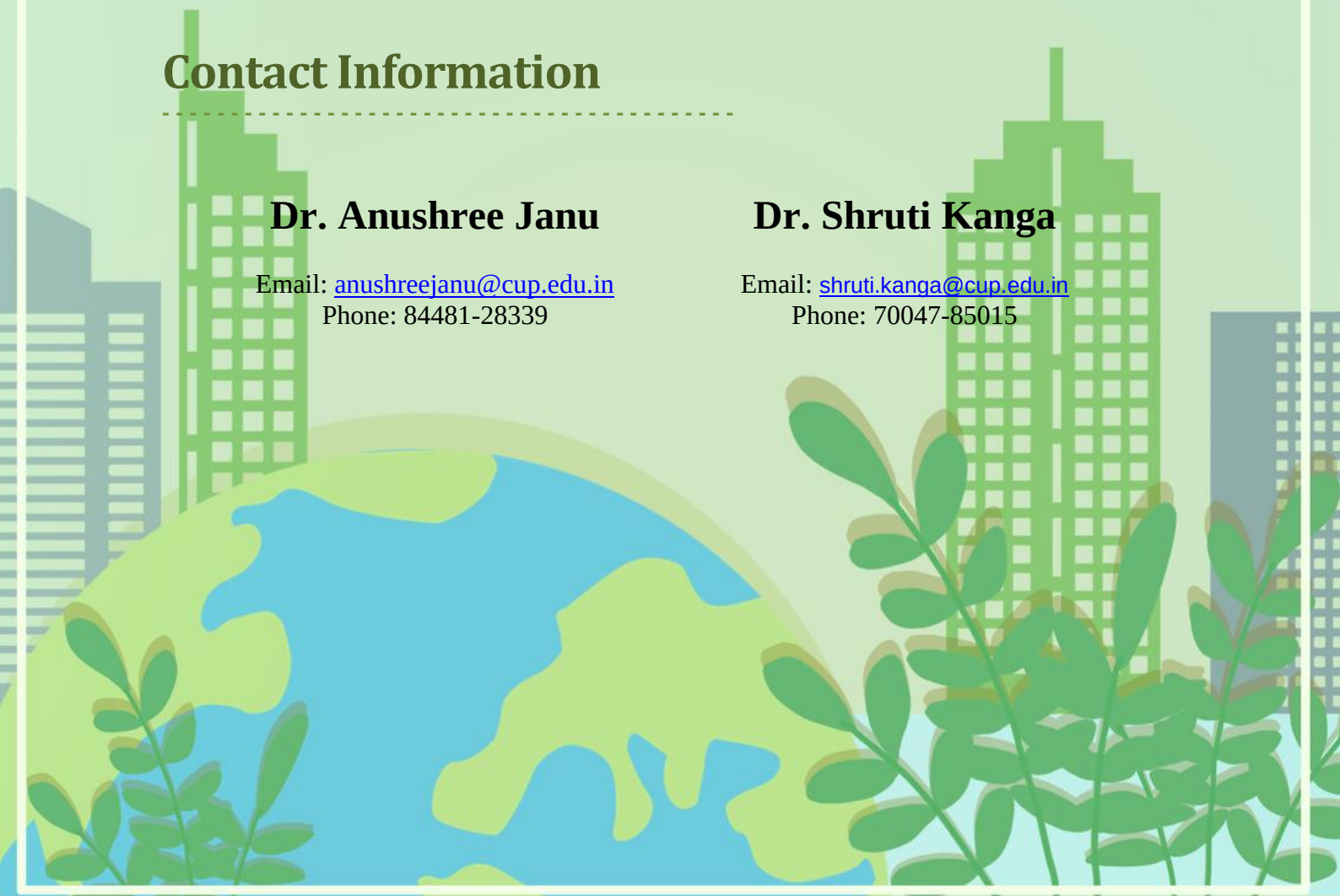
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Patron

Prof. Ramakrishna Wusirika (Acting Vice Chancellor, Central University of Punjab)

Convener

Dr. Anushree Janu, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Geography

Co-Convener

Prof. Shruti Kanga, Dept. of Geography

Organizing Committee, Programme Drafting and Invitation

Prof. Rajan Bhandari, Department of Geography

Dr. L.T.S Guite, Associate Professor, Department of Geography

Dr. Pritam Chand, Assistant Professor, Department of Geography

Dr. Sk Mustak, Assistant Professor, Department of Geography

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