

the community and sensitizing them for disaster management which reduces the Loss Prevention and Disaster Free India. The faculty members are doing pioneering works by producing reading materials and reference books on Defence and Strategic Studies and have participated in the outreach programmes on national and international security. Faculty members have contributed a plethora of literature for the discipline and are engaged in bringing out 3 journals and a research website [www.isds.co.in](http://www.isds.co.in). The department has organized 9 Refresher courses, 9 seminars and 3 short-term courses to date.

The department has always maintained close linkage with other research institutions and national and international centers / institutions of Strategic Studies. By now it occupies the frontline position amongst the main centers of Defence and Strategic Studies in the country. The Department of Defence and Strategic Studies signed three Memorandum of Understandings (MoU) with Vivekanand International Foundation (VIF), New Delhi on October 16, 2012, Centre for Land Warfare Studies (CLAWS), New Delhi on February 02, 2016 and with State Disaster Management Authority (SDMA), Uttar Pradesh, Lucknow on June 14, 2021.

As a part of its mission, the department is committed to encouraging new ways of thinking and expanding the traditional and non-traditional contours of security analysis. It is engaged in exploring the most pressing issues of India's internal and external security dimensions and contributes via creative and innovative thinking to national security policymaking.

#### ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY

Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gorakhpur University, established in 1957, is a premier higher education institution in Uttar Pradesh, earning an A++ accreditation from NAAC. Its motto, "Let the noble thoughts come to us from all directions," underscores its commitment to diverse perspectives. Named after the political philosopher Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya and located in Gorakhpur, the university draws from the rich heritage of figures like Lord (Gautam) Buddha and Mahayogi Guru Sri Gorakshnath. Spanning 190.96 acres, the university comprises eight faculties and forty departments, serving Eastern Uttar Pradesh, Western Bihar, and Nepal. It features advanced research facilities, distinguished faculties, and a vibrant campus, fostering holistic education for over 12,000 students, with a majority being women. The university is acclaimed for its research, teaching excellence, and comprehensive student support, including an automated Central Library, ICT-enabled classrooms, and state-of-the-art laboratories. It aims to blend ethical and scientific education, contributing significantly to regional development, as reflected in its NAAC A++ accreditation.

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**National Seminar**

on

**India's Neighbourhood First Policy :  
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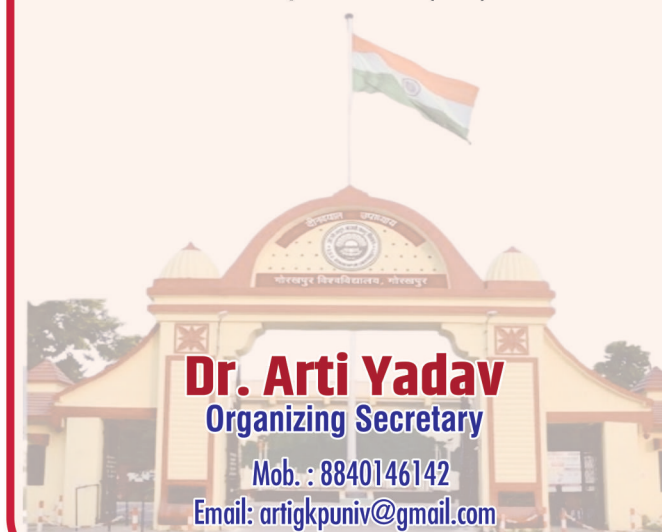


**Organized by**

**Department of Defence & Strategic Studies**

**D.D.U. Gorakhpur University**

Gorakhpur-273009 (U.P.)





## About the Seminar

India's Neighbourhood First Policy (NFP) is a strategic initiative aimed at fostering stronger ties with its immediate neighbours, primarily within South Asia. This policy emphasizes economic cooperation, cultural exchange, and enhanced connectivity. However, it faces numerous challenges that hinder its effectiveness and implementation. Launched in 2008 and revitalized under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government, the NFP aims to establish India as a regional leader by promoting stability and prosperity in neighbouring countries such as Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka. The policy is built on five core principles: Samman (Respect), Samvad (Dialogue), Shanti (Peace), Samridhi (Prosperity), and Sanskriti (Culture).

There are several challenges despite its ambitious goals, India's NFP faces several challenges:

- Long-standing disputes with countries like Pakistan and China complicate diplomatic relations.
- Engaging with various political regimes across neighbouring countries requires a nuanced approach to Diplomacy.
- The influence of China in South Asia poses a strategic challenge for India, necessitating proactive engagement with its neighbours to counterbalance this influence.
- Strained Bilateral Relations.
- Cross-Border Terrorism and Security Concerns.
- Domestic Political Influences.
- Infrastructure Deficits.
- Chinese Influence.



The geopolitical dynamics in South Asia are influenced by various external powers, including the United States' Indo-Pacific strategy and China's assertive policies. This competition complicates India's efforts to establish a cohesive neighbourhood policy. The future of India's Neighbourhood First Policy hinges on its ability to adapt to changing geopolitical dynamics while maintaining a focus on cooperative development. By prioritizing strategic partnerships and enhancing connectivity within the region, India can work towards achieving a more integrated South Asia that is resilient against external pressures and internal conflicts. This approach not only aims for immediate benefits but also seeks to establish long-term stability and prosperity for all involved nations.

To overcome these challenges, India must adopt a more nuanced approach that includes enhancing bilateral dialogues, investing in infrastructure development, and addressing security concerns through cooperative mechanisms. Strengthening people-to-people ties and fostering regional organizations can also help mitigate tensions and build trust among neighbouring countries.

## Sub themes

1. Geopolitical Dynamics in South Asia.
2. Changing world order and its impact on South Asia.
3. India's Strategic Challenges in complex security landscape.
4. India's Neighbourhood First Policy.
5. Bilateral issues and security dimensions in South Asia.
6. External Powers, their stakes and maneuvering in South Asia.
7. Cultural and soft power diplomacy to strengthen regional cooperation and stability.
8. Potential of economic and energy co-operations in South Asia.

## Research Papers Submission

Research Papers are invited in English, (typed with single space in times new roman in 12 pt. font size) and Hindi (typed with single space in kruti dev 10 in 14 pt. font size) word limit to 2500 to 3000 words.

E-mail id: seminarssddu2025@gmail.com

Last date for Research Paper Submission :- May 15, 2025

## SCAN QR FOR REGISTRATION



## Registration fee

For Faculties	: INR 1000
For Research Scholars	: INR 700
For Students	: INR 500

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## Venue

Maha Yogi Shree Guru Goraksha Nath Shodh Pith,  
D.D.U. Gorakhpur University, Gorakhpur

## Boarding & Lodging

Rooms are available in the University Guest House on first come first serve basis for stay during the seminar. apart from this, accommodation facility is also available in hotels as per tariff. Prior information is required from the participants in this regards.

## About the Department

The Department of Defence and Strategic Studies at this University came in to being in the academic session 1957-58 for the teaching of Military Science courses at the undergraduate level. With the passage of time, enormous changes were made in the courses to keep pace with phenomenal developments in the country and abroad.

The postgraduate teaching in Defence & Strategic Studies was started by the department in 1974. The Ph.D. program was started in 1976. 125 Research Scholar have been awarded Ph.D. degree from this department till date.

DoDSS is running a P.G.Diploma programme in Disaster and National Security Management. The main objective of the course is to train students in the fundamental and applied aspects of Natural Hazards and Disaster Studies. It also aims at making the students to specialize in advanced areas to understand the concept, theory, model and scientific explanation of consequences and mitigation process of any unfortunate incidents like disaster and calamities. The mission of the programme is to spread the in-depth awareness among