



Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University Delhi

Shodhotsav 2025

Research and Development Division

Roundtable on the Role of Social Sciences and Humanities for Viksit Bharat

September 2025

Concept Note

Reimagining Elderly Care: Shaping Inclusive Futures for Viksit Bharat@2047

About the Event

As India progresses toward the vision of Viksit Bharat@2047, ensuring the well-being of its growing elderly population has become a key national priority. Elderly care now goes beyond just medical needs—it encompasses emotional, social, and financial dimensions, requiring inclusive, compassionate, and sustainable systems that empower older adults to age with dignity and independence. With traditional family support systems weakening due to urban migration and lifestyle changes, there is an urgent need to rethink and build practical care models that respond to these evolving challenges.

This roundtable, organized as part of the annual research festival Shodhotsav 2025, offers a dedicated platform for young researchers and scholars in the social sciences and humanities to critically engage with the evolving theme of elderly care. Through interdisciplinary dialogue, the event aims to inspire culturally grounded solutions, inform inclusive policies, and contribute to building a resilient, age-inclusive India aligned with the nation's developmental goals and ethical commitments.

Background and Rationale

India is witnessing a major demographic shift, with the number of elderly people (aged 60 and above) expected to cross 340 million by 2050. This shift brings serious challenges in areas like healthcare, housing, social security, and caregiving. In the past, elder care was naturally supported by joint family systems, offering emotional and social support. But with urban migration, smaller households, and changing lifestyles, these traditional structures are weakening, leaving many elderly individuals at risk of loneliness, neglect, and financial hardship.

As we work toward the vision of Viksit Bharat@2047—a developed, inclusive, and equitable India—the social sciences and humanities play a key role in addressing the complex issues of aging. These fields help us understand the cultural, emotional, ethical, and economic needs of older adults. There is a growing need to design community-based care models, inclusive policies, and sustainable support systems that uphold the dignity and rights of the elderly.

Scope and Objectives

This roundtable seeks to create an inclusive platform for students, young researchers, and scholars in the social sciences and humanities to explore the challenges and opportunities of elderly care in contemporary India. As the nation transitions toward Viksit Bharat@2047, the event emphasizes the development of culturally rooted, community-driven, and forward-looking care models that reflect India's unique demographic and social realities.

The roundtable aims to:

- Facilitate critical dialogue on the socio-cultural, ethical, psychological, and economic aspects of aging and elder care.
- Encourage research that supports inclusive, evidence-based policy interventions for senior citizens.
- Highlight the roles of families, communities, and institutions in supporting the holistic well-being of older adults.
- Explore sustainable care models that integrate traditional wisdom with modern systems and technologies.
- Promote intergenerational engagement and foster respect for the elderly as a societal value.
- Empower young scholars to contribute meaningfully to India's development discourse through research and innovation in elderly care.

Sub-Themes

To foster meaningful discourse and interdisciplinary engagement, the roundtable would invite contributions under the following sub-themes:

- Demographic Shifts and the Changing Landscape of Aging
- Cultural and Ethical Dimensions of Elderly Care
- Policy, Governance, and Legal Frameworks
- Mental Health, Emotional Well-being, and Social Inclusion
- Innovations in Healthcare and Support Systems
- Intergenerational Solidarity and Community-Based Care Models

These sub-themes are intended to inspire research-driven insights, reflective dialogue, and practical strategies that contribute to building a dignified, inclusive, and age-friendly India in alignment with the vision of Viksit Bharat@2047.

Audience: BA, MA, PhD students, and AUD faculty members

Proposed date: September 25

Venue: Karampura campus, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University Delhi

Contact Information: For inquiries regarding registration or general information, please contact the organizing committee at shodhotsav@aud.ac.in.