## STATE OF DEMOCRACY IN INDIA

C.L. Sharma

The article is am unabashedly candid assessment of the present functioning of democracy in India. In encapsulates the significant historical events in the emergence of India as a nation. It recognizes the supreme sacrifices of the founding fathers and pays tribute to their sagacity for choosing the parliamentary democracy as the form of governance for India. Regrettably, their successors have failed to emulate their noble conduct. They are inebriated with lust of power, are driven by insatiable greed, and are frantically in pursuit of personal aggrandizement. Their behavior is deplorable and reprehensible. They have unleashed the centrifugal forces that have generated divisive, disintegrative tendencies in the society. The unscrupulous politicians, in collusion with the ravenous bureaucrats, have ravaged the country, and have earned for India the ignominy of being one of the most corrupt nations in the world. Further, the article points out a few redeeming features of the Indian polity, and offers some suggestions for the transformation of the decrepit, atrophic Indian democracy into an effective, vibrant instrument of governance. Hopefully, these suggestions would receive dispassionate scrutiny.

## STATE OF DISCIPLINE

Sonu Trivedi

Beginning from the greek city states of the evolution and growth of a Westphalian state centric model, political science has witnessed tremendous restructuring in its subject matter. Of late, we see a systemic change in the scope of political science. Some of the theorists believe that politics is a thing of the past and that it is not likely to be recovered, because our capacity to choose differently has been taken away from us. Others believe that politics can and must be recovered and point the way in this direction. In light of this, the present article focuses on the great debate on decline of political theory and its resurgence in the discipline of political science. The paper concludes by saying that political theory, even in its classical form, has neither demised nor so declined, nor is it ever possible in times to come. In recent past some writings have breathed a new life into the discipline. It has survived some of the fiercest attacks, and build up an impressive tradition of inquiry that is hospitable to new experimental material and disciplinary alliances.

### STATE, DEVELOPMENT AND THE RISE OF GRASS-ROOT MOVEMENTS

Siba Prasad Panda

The development model adopted by Independent India has often witnessed conflicts over competing claims to the environment. These claims are not merely to grab a greater share of the environment but also evolve different ways of using the nature. The competing claims, which are created by this model, have given rise not only to environmental problems but also to environmental movements. One such movement is witnessed, during the last few years, in Baliapal in eastern India. This paper is an attempt to examine the main motive behind the model of development adopted by the state of Orissa and the consequent rise of a grassroots environmental as well as social movement known as the Baliapal Movement. It analyses the context to the movement, the issues raised, the actors involved and the response of the state. It also focuses on the so called theory of development, which are perceived as threat by people at local, national and international level.

### CITIZENSHIP AND SOCIAL MOVEMENTS : ISSUES BEYOND LIBERAL DEMOCRACY

Ajay Gudavarthy

The liberal idea of citizenship is inherently incompatible with the aspirations for substantive democratization and preservation of co-operative practices for solidarity, emerging from the contemporary identity politics and social movements. It is imperative in the process of democratization to undermine, and not reconcile, the project of citizenship as against the radical political articulations.

### DECENTRALIZATION DILEMMA : MEASURING THE DEGREE AND EVALUATING THE OUTCOMES

Chanchal Kumar Sharma

Though decentralization for past one and half decade or so has become the most favoured policy priority among the policy makers yet the countries around the world differ dramatically in the degree of decentralization that is accommodated. While diversity in degree of decentralization across the world is a fact yet there is no consensus in the empirical literature over the questions like 'which country is more decentralized? This is because decentralization is defined and measured differently in different studies. In fact, a true assessment of the degree of decentralization in a country can be made only if a comprehensive approach is adopted and rather than trying to simplify the syndrome of characteristics into the single dimension of autonomy, interrelationships of various dimensions of decentralization are taken into account. Thus it is to be realized that there is no simple one dimensional, quantifiable index of degree of decentralization in a given country. As there is wide diversity in the studies on degree of decentralization so is the case with the literature on outcomes to it. Outcome varies not only because decentralization can appear in various forms and combinations across countries

but also because different instruments may have very different effects in different circumstances, thus arriving at the precise definition of decentralization and associating it with particular outcomes is neither possible nor desirable for the simple reason that generalization of any kind can create pitfalls that can obscure rather that clarify the facts. What is more important is the need for a strictly contextual yet comprehensive approach while going beyond the blunt measures like expenditure decentralization and taking politics and institutional arrangements of the specific case under investigation also into account.

GLOBALIZATION AND ITS IMPACT ON INDIAN SOCIETY

Y. Gurappa Naidu

Indian society is drastically changing after globalization and urbanization has brought a lot of changes in the Indian culture. Economic polices have a direct impact in shaping the structural framework of economy. Economic polices formulated and executed by the government, have also played an important role in determination of levels of income, savings, investments and employment in the society. It will be mistake to assume that India can evaluate an effective machinism for economic reforms and it will be difficult for India to adopt with global changes without dealing with domestic problems like control of terrorism, providing employment to rural educated people, and work for the rural poor, empowering women and marginalized people and providing reasonable price and market facilities for the farmers. Global changes are operating on many new areas of conflict and cooperation for India and we can achieve a new level of integration of Indian economy with world markets on the basis of protection of our own national interest

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CHANGING OF NATIONALISM IN THE ERA OF GLOBALIZATION – A PERSPECTIVE

Archana Upadhyaya

The essential nature of world politics in a globalized world has been much debated for quite sometime now. Globalization has emerged as one of the most powerful and persuasive image in today's world. Globalization as a promise or a threat, is invoked daily justify actions and to rationalize policy. Globalization or the trend of growing worldwide interconnectedness in presently accompanied by several coinciding and clashing notions of change. Different forms of difference have come to the foreground, for instance in relation to identity politics, gender, minorities rights, indigenous peoples, and ethnic and religious movements. The notion of nationalism too has remained untouched. The present paper attempts to understand the linkages between intensified globalization and the dislocation of the nations around the world in the wake of the end of the Cold War- the resultant psychosocial displacement being manifested in forms of national identification, imaginations and notions of strength.

### GLOBALIZATION OF NATIONAL POLICY MAKING : AN INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVE

R.K. Sapru

Developing countries are particularly vulnerable to global event and action and have come to depend heavily on the international community for financial and technical assistance. Consequently, national policies are interlocked with global issues. Public policy now takes place in a world system as well as national political systems. The international environment has an added role to play in fluencing the national policies. The global socio-economic framework interacts with the political processes and policies pursued by government of nation states. The success of nation states in policy performance will diverge not with standing the convergence of the global policy concerns.

### REINVIGORATING PANCHAYATI RAJ INSTITUTIONS IN INDIA

Deepika Gupta

The conviction that centralized government cannot achieve growth and development without people's participation and initiative led to the enactment of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act and the subsequent Panchayat Raj Acts in the various states. The new Panchayat raj system was considered to be a model of self-rule. However, the working of Panchayats in the past decade proved to be abusive of the desired objectives. One of the reasons for this phenomenon has been structural weakness. The creation of three-tier structure for panchayat raj system in no sense establishes peoples' rule as was witnessed in Madhya Pradesh. Raising this issue, an attempt is made to analyse the structural aspects of panchayat raj in Madhya Pradesh. This paper tries to understand the process and the emerging form of Panchayat Raj Institutions (PRIs) at the lowest level of the system i.e. village panchayat level only. It also raises the vital question as to which should be the prime structure in the whole set up of the panchayat raj system to give effect to the ideals of implementing panchayat raj- Gramsabha- Gram panchayat and its committees or Sarpanch?

### DYNAMICS OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS IN PANCHAYATRAJ SYSTEM: A STUDY OF VILLAGE SECRETARIAT IN ANDHRA PRADESH

D. Ravinder

With the onset of World Bank led reforms process under the regime of Chief Minister Chadrababu Naidu in Andhra Pradesh "Good Governance" has become catchy word. It is in this name that a number of reform process were introduced in the state. One such important reform process at the grass roots level has been the introduction of "Village Secretariat" system. This system instead of bringing good governance has become a  one of contention between hitherto existing departments, panchayatraj and revenue, and also  between the elected representatives and

government official, i.e. between Sarpanch and the newly created position of "Village Secretary". Thus the process of good governance at the grass root level unlashed new conflicts. The present paper makes an attempt to analyse the dynamics of these new reforms at the grass roots in Andhra Pradesh.

### NATIONAL INTEGRATION AND DYNAMICS OF COALITION AND FEDERALISM IN INDIA

Kavita Navlani

There is no broad consensus in social science today, which is indicating a paradigmatic shift in the theorization of such concepts as nation, nationalism, culture, identity and national integration'.... It is unjust and inappropriate to view such concepts as 'nation, nationalism, culture, identity and national integration etc, without a due consideration to the multiple identity components of a plural society within which they all exist.... Integration as same would argue, is not to blind to diversity. But should take differences into account and represent the idea that persons have to be integrated into the political community not only as individuals, but also as members of a cultural group..

### ELECTORAL DYNAMICS AND VOTING BEHAVIOUR – A CASE STUDY OF KERALA

Manas Chakraborty
Rebecca Vinita Tamang

The present paper tries to explore the functioning of electoral system in Kerala. Besides understanding the consistency of voting pattern, the paper undertakes to locate the various aspects of electoral politics in the state.

### HUMAN RIGHTS AND GLOBAL CONTEXT AND CONTEMPORARY CHALLENGES

Nilanjana Jain

The concepts of Human rights is an integral and necessary component of a democracy. Actually the concept of Human Rights evolved from the doctrine of Natural Rights which itself preceded the rise of liberal democracy. In the present day global context human Rights are being abused by western states demanding observance of Human Rights in bi-literal relations where it suits their national interests, and openly attacked, threatened and menaced by religious fundamentalist and by militant terrorist groups . Liberal democracy which is the haven of Human Rights also holds maximum protection and minimum risks to the life. Liberty and property of the criminal including the terrorists. The judicial process in a constitutional Republic is strangely the best friend of the criminal and the terrorist. To eliminate terrorism it will be necessary to withdraw the protection of Judicial process and Human Rights from the terrorists. These measures are necessary to save democracy from its internal foes and to upload Human Rights.

### AKALI POLITICS SINCE AMRITSAR DECLARATION : A SYNOPTIC VIEW

Janmeet Singh

The article analyses the working of Akali politics since Amritsar Declaration (Political charter adopted by Akali Dal Amritsar on the day of its formation, i.e. May 1994) till the Lok Sabha elections of 2004 in Punjab. The aim is to find the reasons behind the persisting factionalism in Akali politics during this period. The hypothesis that Ideological cleavages within Akalis have been source of factionalism of Akali politics has been tested. But this hypothesis has been proved invalid after the empirical analysis of political developments of Akali politics. Furthermore, this has been also proved that Akali leaders used the facade of ideology to hide their struggle for individual political interests and the real nasis of these changing factional alignments in Akali Dal politics and splits and mergers in Akali Dal parties can be found in Akali Dal tender's urge for power.

### EMERGING NEW TRENDS OF TERRORISM : CHALLENGES BEFORE THE UNITED NATIONS

Shashi Shukla

Terrorism is an age old phenomenon but has acquired new dimensions in view of technological and societal changes. The nature, targets and rhetoric of international terrorism have changed dramatically since the end of the cold war and the emergence of globalization. Terrorism is no longer a domestic phenomenon but global in scope and reach. The harm caused by international terrorist movement has been described as 'transnational harm' that poses a serious challenge to national and international security. It has affected the international relations in two significant ways. One, it has eradicated the distinction between state and individual. Two, it has also ended the distinction between external and internal security.