

Concept Note for Panel Discussion on Dr. B. R. Ambedkar's Vision on Constitution and Democracy

Date: 18th April 2024

Time: 11 Am to 1 PM Seminar Hall, ISEC, Bengaluru

Dr. B R Ambedkar's contributions towards framing India's Constitution and promoting democracy is unwavering. The constitution envisions in the preamble that core constitutional values that embody include India is a Sovereign Socialist Secular Democratic Republic which is committed to Justice, Equality and Liberty for the people. However, in practice of the India constitution through democratic government, these values have been grossly unattained or undermined reflecting deviation in theory (constitutional provisions) and practice (democratic government policies). In this milieu and on the occasion of 133rd Birth Anniversary of Dr B R Ambedkar, a panel discussion is organised to delve into the profound insights of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar towards the constitution and democracy. He viewed democracy is not merely as a political system but as a social organization. For him, it was a means to achieve social justice, equality, and empowerment. His vision extended beyond the ballot box; he sought to transform society itself. In this backdrop, through a comprehensive analysis of his vision, the panellists will explore the relevance of his far sightedness in contemporary society. The panel would delve into:

- Dr. Ambedkar's perspective on democracy as a social organization.
- The three pillars of democracy outlined by Dr. Ambedkar: Political, Economic, and Social and their implications for social equality.
- Conditions necessary for fostering a healthy democratic society.
- Dr. Ambedkar's legacy and its impact on constitutional morality and social justice in India.

Composition of the Panel of Experts:

- Chair: Prof. Sukhadeo Thorat, Chairperson, ISEC.
- Legal Scholar: DR. SUDHIR KRISHNASWAMY. Vice-Chancellor, NSLU.
- Economics Scholar: Prof. Krishna Raj, ISEC.
- Political Analyst: Prof. V Anilkumar, ISEC.
- Social Activist: Prof. Kancha Ilaiah shepherd
- Student: Mr. Sandeep Chopra, Senior Doctoral Fellow, Delhi University

Welcome Address by

• Dr. D Rajasekhar, Director – ISEC

Vote of Thanks by

• Thiruppathi P, Ph. D. Scholar & SACC Member– ISEC.