Nourishing your every need
I am glad to know that the Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics is celebrating its platinum jubilee.

The Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics is justly famous for its important contributions to the study of the social, economic and political problems of our country. The services of its faculty members, students and staff have earned the Institute high place of honour in the academic world. Its standards of research and education have been well acknowledged in India and abroad. My interactions with the faculty and students of the Institute have been memorable and rewarding. I recall its path-breaking study on poverty in India, which raised understanding of the scourge of poverty in its varied dimensions. The need of the hour is for the Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics to come forward with ideas and concepts to address the problems of our people. This will only be fitting in the context of our efforts to create a caring and inclusive society.

On the occasion of the Platinum Jubilee of the Institute, I have great pleasure in extending my greetings and good wishes to the students, teachers and the staff for the success of the celebrations.

(Manmohan Singh)
New Delhi

November 22, 2004
Seventy-Five years in the life of an Academic Institution is a significant landmark. Not many non-governmental research and teaching institutions get to survive this long. The Gokhale Institute has not only survived but has thrived over the years. The great institution builder D.R. Gadgil laid a solid foundation on which next generations of directors such as V.M. Dandekar, P.N. Mathur, N. Rath, K.S. Srikant, D.C. Wadhwa, and V.S. Chitre could build on with relative ease. I take this opportunity to thank them and their colleagues for their great contributions to this institution. Occasions such as jubilees, particularly a platinum jubilee or a centenary, always inspire nostalgia. We are proud of our history and the achievements of our older generations. But this is also a good occasion to look ahead and resolve to take our Institute to unprecedented heights. In the era of globalisation it is not good enough to be a premier institution in the country, we must strive to be world class in every aspect. Keeping this in mind, we have launched a vigorous modernisation and quality enhancement drive. A very ambitious and thorough revision of the M.A programme is already under way and it is expected that the fresh batch of 2005 will enter a completely new programme. It is well known that our research contributions in the areas of agricultural economics, population, and poverty and development have been second to none. We are, however, working on expanding our research focus to several other areas such as Industry, Environment, Health, Labour, Law and Economics, Money and Finance, Economic History and various aspects of Economic Theory. We are encouraging team research as well as exploring ways of creating sister social science centres at the Institute to develop a wholesome interdisciplinary research agenda. Modernisation of our infrastructure is also already under way. Quality research is not possible without a good library. The library of the Institute, which was established by the great Gopal Krishna Gokhale in 1905, is celebrating its centenary. It is one of the best social science libraries in the country and the jewel in our crown. However, in the past few years it has been facing a serious resource crunch due to rapid rise in the prices of international books and journals. We are working on ways to raise funds for books and journals and modernisation of the library. We cannot only rely on governments and the UGC alone to achieve all this. A fruitful partnership with enlightened business community is essential to a successful implementation of our vision. My preliminary interactions with leaders of businesses in our community have been very encouraging and I am not only hopeful but also confident that we should achieve what we have set out to achieve in a short period of time.

I congratulate Dr. Kajale and Dr. Mukherjee, the editors of the Jubilee Souvenir, for a job well done. They had to work under severe constraints, particularly time constraint. I also take this opportunity to thank all my colleagues who have given me their wholehearted support not only for the success of the Jubilee celebrations but also for our shared vision of the future.

Pune
February 1, 2005

Ajit Sinha
Director
The Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics is completing 75 years of its existence. This is indeed a special occasion in the long life span of an Institute that began its career in the pre-independence days and is now striving to reach new heights in this era of globalisation. The Institute since its inception carried out research in various areas of practical significance and thus made important contributions to the society. It is felt on this occasion of Platinum Jubilee that this is the right moment for us to make a journey into the history of the Institute, remember the personalities to whom we owe the glorious past, to understand nature and extent of the scholarly work carried out in the Institute from time to time, to know about the people, the environment and the infrastructure in the Institute. The Souvenir, we feel is an appropriate way to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee.

In its long career, many people came to be associated with the Institute in various capacities and enriched the Institute in their own way. Some of them have contributed articles to the Souvenir. The articles relating to the history of the Institute and the reminiscences of the contributors about the Institute and the Library are indeed interesting and take us back into the history of 75 years of the Institute. The other articles encompass various subject areas. They reflect upon the diversity of the fields wherein our contributors have their distinguished career. We also have informative articles about our statistical section and our journal ‘Artha Vijnana’ written by our current staff.

In the process of editing the Souvenir, we received cooperation from many. We are most grateful to Prof. Ajit Sinha, Director, for the cooperation extended and for the guidance provided by him in bringing out the Souvenir. We are equally thankful to Dr. Sangeeta Shroff, Officiating Registrar for the motivation provided for completing the Souvenir work. We thank all the contributors for their articles. All of them readily accepted our invitation to write a piece for the Souvenir. Their contribution is a gesture of affection towards the Institute. We also thank our advertisers and donors who are our well wishers. Our thanks are also due to Shri. Karnik and his staff for printing the Souvenir in a short period of time. Mr. Mane of Udyan provided us the campus photographs. Our sincere thanks to him. We would like to thank Mrs. M. S. Marathe and Mrs. K. V. Kulkarni for providing neat computer assistance. Their sincerity and patience till the last moment helped in finishing the work in time. Finally we take this opportunity to thank all faculty members and the administrative staff for their timely cooperation and support in this effort.

Jayanti Kajale Smriti Mukherjee
Editors
Our Institute

Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics (GIPE) is perhaps the oldest research and teaching institution in economics in India. Established in 1930, it still remains a leading centre for learning. GIPE was founded with an endowment offered to the Servants of India Society by Rao Bahadur Kale. GIPE, under the guidance of its first Director D.R. Gadgil, emerged as a major ‘think-tank’ on policy issues soon after India’s independence. Scholars who have worked in this Institute include some of the leading names in Indian economic studies.

GIPE is located in Deccan Gymkhana, a beautiful green part of central Pune. The history of GIPE is linked with the history of the nationalist movement in India. The Institute is located in the premises of the Servants of India Society, established in 1906 by the great Indian nationalist leader Gopal Krishna Gokhale (1866-1915), whom M.K. Gandhi regarded as his political guru. Gokhale’s bungalow still stands in the precincts of the society. So does a massive banyan tree under which Gokhale and Gandhi used to sit down and converse.

The Institute conducts research on economic development and policy in India. It offers a Master of Arts (M.A.) programme in Economics that is considered among the best in the country. GIPE has also offered from the start, a Ph.D. programme in Economics. To date, the Institute has presented doctoral degrees to nearly 200 students. In 1993, the University Grants Commission declared GIPE a ‘deemed-university’. In recognition of the quality of teaching and research undertaken, the National Assessment and Accreditation Council awarded GIPE A+ grade in 2003.

GIPE is noted for empirical research, particularly field-based research in agricultural economics, poverty, and population studies. Some of the products of this Institute, such as Poverty in India, by V.M. Dandekar and Nilakantha Rath, are classics in their field. GIPE has always been catholic about preferred fields of research, and has tried to maintain balance between faculty trained in theory and faculty trained in field-based research. Combination of teaching and research is one of the unique features of GIPE. It sees research as a vital contribution to the teachers’ capacity to teach better, and bring in more depth to what they teach.

The library of the Institute, founded in 1905, is one of the foremost among specialised libraries in India in the fields of economics and other social sciences. It is the depository library for all United Nations publications, as well as, publications of other leading international development and financial organisations. In 2005, the library completes its centenary. The library originally belonged to the Servants of India Society. Now renamed the Dhananjaya Rao Gadgil Library, is not only one of the largest social science libraries in India, but also contains an exceptionally rich collection of rare historical materials that draws South Asia researchers from all over the world. Today, the library collection includes 260,000 books, and 473 journals including almost all the leading English-language journals in Economics.

Since 1959, the Institute has been bringing out a peer reviewed quarterly journal in English, Artha Vijñana (Economic Science), which is regarded as one of the best academic journals in India. In its 45-year history, the journal has published articles on a wide range of subjects oriented to problems of economic growth and development in the Indian context.

Since 1937, the Institute has been holding the prestigious Kale Memorial Lecture. In its nearly 70-year history, Kale Memorial Speakers have included such influential thinkers and publicists of their time as B. R. Ambedkar, P. C. Mahalanobis, V. K. R. V. Rao, D. R. Gadgil, M. N. Srinivas, Manmohan Singh, Andre Bateille, Sukhamaoy Chakravarty and Jagdish Bhagwati.
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Our Research Staff

Professors

Ajit Sinha (Director)
Ph.D.: State University of New York, Buffalo
Areas of interest: History of Economic Theory
Sraffian Economics, Technical Change

Arup Maharatna
Ph.D.: London School of Economics
Areas of interest: Population and Development
Famine Demography

Tirthankar Roy
Ph.D.: Jawaharlal Nehru University
Areas of interest: Economic History, Economic Development

Readers

Sanjeevanee Mulay
Ph.D.: University of Pune, Pune
Areas of interest: Population Studies, Health Economics

K. G. Kshirsagar
Ph.D.: University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore
Areas of interest: Agricultural Economics

Bibhuti Mohanty
Ph.D.: Sambalpur University
Areas of interest: Rural Sociology

Smriti Mukherjee
Ph.D.: Jadavpur University
Areas of interest: International Trade, International Finance

A. Narayanamoorthy
Ph.D.: Bharathidasan University
Areas of interest: Agricultural Economics

Siddhartha Mitra
Ph.D.: University of Maryland
Areas of interest: Development Economics
Environmental Economics
Agricultural Economics

Lecturers

R. Nagarajan
Ph.D.: Bharathiar University
Areas of interest: Population and Development

Deepak Shah
Ph.D.: National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal
Areas of interest: Rural Development

Sangeeta Shroff (Officiating Registrar)
Ph.D.: Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics
Areas of interest: Agricultural Economics, Gender Studies

Shrikant S. Kalamkar
Ph.D.: Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth
Areas of interest: Agricultural Economics, Resource Economics

Kailas Thaware
Ph.D. Nagpur University
Areas of interest: Co-operatives and Forestry

Seema Gawade
M. Phil.: Shivaji University, Kolhapur
Area of Interest: Statistical Economics
Environmental Economics

Jayanti Kajale
Ph.D.: Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics
Areas of interest: Agricultural Economics
Labour Economics, Economics of Development

Rupayan Pal
Ph.D.: IGIDR, Mumbai (on going)
Areas of interest: Microeconomics, Industrial Organisation, Economics of Contracts,
Econometric Applications, Labour Economics

Research Associates

Purna Chandra Padhan
Ph.D.: Central University, Hyderabad
Areas of interest: Econometrics, Mathematical Economics,
Monetary Economics

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