Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini (RMP) is a Mumbai based institute, established in 1982 as a unique Training and Research Academy (www.rmponweb.org). RMP is a premier institute that provides training and orientation to socio-political activists as well as it is a centre for overall public-awakening activities and research projects. It was initiated as a memorial of Late Rambhau Mhalgi. RMP was accorded the status of ‘NGO in Special Consultative Status’ by United Nations in the year 2006.

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BACKGROUND

Indian democracy has evolved over centuries. Globally, India has earned the recognition of being a cradle of spiritual democracy. Good Governance is a necessary requirement for a sustainable democracy to deliver development and welfare to its citizens. International developmental organisations like UN, World Bank, Asian Development Bank etc. have defined Good Governance in different ways but they all broadly agree on the following eight points being the key components of good governance:

- Accountability both political and bureaucratic,
- Participation of various stakeholders in the decision-making process,
- Rule of law,
- Transparency and freedom of information,
- Responsiveness,
- Equitability and inclusiveness,
- Effectivity and efficiency in administration,
- Robust grievance redressal mechanisms.

In Indian developmental narrative Good Governance is not a new phrase, however in popular public and political discourse, its prominence has grown only in the last few years. While on the one hand, governments are increasingly ensuring transparency by adopting technology and promoting public-participation & enhancing responsiveness using social media; on the other hand, the phenomenon of citizens considering Governance parameters for assessing and thereby selecting or rejecting elected governments, is also rapidly on a rise.

Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini, since 1982 is dedicated to the cause of a delivering democracy. RMP has been striving to achieve the same by focusing on leadership development and capacity building of elected representatives, social-political volunteers and by conducting extensive public education programmes on important issues of national concern. In pursuance of this objective, Good Governance is high priority. RMP thus this year has decided to hold its annual National Convention on ‘Good Governance’, ‘Sushasan Sangam’. This 2-day convention is being held at RMP’s Knowledge Excellence Centre in Thane (Near Mumbai) on 20-21 January 2019.

In Governance what is good and what is bad? What is right and what is wrong?
Mahatma Gandhi has given a talisman, which answers the above question. He had said “I will give you a talisman. Whenever you are in doubt, or when the self becomes too much with you, apply the following test. Recall the face of the poorest and the weakest man whom you may have seen, and ask yourself if the step you contemplate is going to be of any use to him. Will he gain anything by it? Will it restore him to a control over his own life and destiny? In other words, will it lead to swaraj for the hungry and spiritually starving millions? Then you will find your doubts and yourself melting away.”
OBJECTIVES

• To provide a platform to the practitioners - government officials, NGOs, civil society organizations and individuals to present their experiences, best practices and successful good governance projects.

• To develop a repository of knowledge-pool of case studies, policy initiatives, success stories, in order to establish a network for mutual learning.

• To understand and share the theoretical framework and parameters developed in the field of Good Governance and its various dimensions.

SUB THEMES

What governments ought to do while they progress on the path of delivering Good Governance, is beautifully captured by authors Osborne and Gaebler in their book “Reinventing Government”. Based on their work, RMP has decided to keep following as also the Convention sub-themes :-

1. Steering rather than rowing, Catalytic Government
2. Empowering rather than serving, Community owned government
3. Injecting competition into service delivery, Competitive Government
4. Funding the outcomes not inputs, Result Orientated Government
5. Meeting the needs of the customer and not bureaucracy, Customer driven government
6. Prevention better than cure, Anticipatory Government
7. From hierarchy to participation and team work, Decentralized government
8. Leveraging the change through Market, Market oriented government

Lao Tzu, a great Chinese sage used to say in context to Good Governance

"If there is a king and people get their things done and don’t know that they have a king it is the best type of government. If there is a king and if people get their things done and if they know that there is a king it is a good government. If there is a king and things don’t get done even if complains are made to him then, it is the worst type of government.". The aim of good governance should be to make people partners in the development process so that they don’t feel that they are subjects but they feel that they are citizens.
HOW TO PARTICIPATE
Participate as a Delegate/ Paper Presenter/ Exhibitor/ Sponsor
Visit www.rmponweb.org

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TIME LINE
PAPER PRESENTATION TIMELINE
ANNOUNCEMENT: CALL FOR PAPERS
Dec 3rd 2018
LAST DATE FOR ABSTRACT SUBMISSION
Dec 25th 2018
ANNOUNCEMENT SELECTED ABSTRACTS
Dec 30th 2018
LAST DATE FOR SUBMITTING FULL PAPERS
Jan 7th 2019

Paper Presentation : During National Convention on 20-21 Jan 2019

REGISTRATION TIME LINE
REGISTRATION OPENS
Dec 3rd 2018
REGISTRATION CLOSE
Jan 3rd 2019

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