

/Report: Two Days National Seminar

CRISES AS CATALYSTS: LITERARY AND DEVELOPMENTAL INTERVENTIONS

The Happy Thinking Laboratory & Counselling and Guidance Cell, in collaboration with the Department of English and Modern European Languages, University of Lucknow, successfully organized a Two-Day National Seminar on the theme “Crises as Catalysts: Literary and Developmental Interventions” on 27–28 April 2026 at the Happy Thinking Laboratory, ONGC 3rd Floor, University of Lucknow.

The poster features a colorful background with overlapping geometric shapes in shades of orange, green, and purple. At the top, there are three logos: the University of Lucknow emblem, the Happy Thinking Laboratory logo, and the CC (Counselling and Guidance Cell) logo. The text is centered and reads: "Happy Thinking Laboratory & Counselling and Guidance Cell in Collaboration with Department of English and Modern European Languages, University of Lucknow Organizes A Two-Day National Seminar On Crises as Catalysts: Literary and Developmental Interventions 27 - 28 April, 2026 Time: 11 A.M. Venue: Happy Thinking Laboratory, ONGC 3rd Floor, UoL". Below this, the Chief Patron is identified as Prof. Jai Prakash Saini, Honourable Vice Chancellor, UoL, with a portrait. To the left, the Chief Guest & Keynote Address is Shri Alok Ranjan, Chairman - Policy Think Tank, Former Chief Secretary, Uttar Pradesh, with a portrait. To the right, the Guest of Honour & Plenary Speaker is Prof. Arvind Mohan, Dean, Faculty of Arts, UoL, Distinguished Economist, with a portrait. At the bottom, five portraits of the convenors and organizing secretary are shown: Prof. Matrayi Priyadarshini (Convenor), Prof. Vaishali Saxena (Convenor), Prof. Nazneen Khan (Convenor), Prof. R.P. Singh (Co-Convenor), and Dr. Tanuka Chatterjee (Organizing Secretary). There are also small decorative icons: a person on a stack of books, a clock, and a group of people.

Happy Thinking Laboratory & Counselling and Guidance Cell in Collaboration with Department of English and Modern European Languages, University of Lucknow Organizes

A Two-Day National Seminar

On

Crises as Catalysts: Literary and Developmental Interventions

27 - 28 April, 2026

Time: 11 A.M.

Venue: Happy Thinking Laboratory, ONGC 3rd Floor, UoL

Chief Patron


Prof. Jai Prakash Saini
Honourable Vice Chancellor, UoL

Chief Guest & Keynote Address


Shri Alok Ranjan
Chairman - Policy Think Tank
Former Chief Secretary, Uttar Pradesh

Guest of Honour & Plenary Speaker


Prof. Arvind Mohan
Dean, Faculty of Arts, UoL
Distinguished Economist

Prof. Matrayi Priyadarshini
Convenor

Prof. Vaishali Saxena
Convenor

Prof. Nazneen Khan
Convenor

Prof. R.P. Singh
Co-Convenor

Dr. Tanuka Chatterjee
Organizing Secretary

The event was organized under the esteemed patronage of *Prof. Jai Prakash Saini*, Honourable Vice Chancellor, University of Lucknow, who served as the Chief Patron of the seminar. The programme was further honoured by the presence of *Shri Alok Ranjan*,

Chairman – Policy Think Tank and Former Chief Secretary, Uttar Pradesh, as the Chief Guest and Keynote Speaker. *Prof. Arvind Mohan*, Dean, Faculty of Arts, University of Lucknow, and distinguished socialist & economist, graced the occasion as the Guest of Honour and Plenary Speaker



.The seminar aimed to provide an interdisciplinary platform for academicians, researchers, students, psychologists, literary scholars, and policymakers to discuss the transformative role of crises in literature, society, mental health, and human development. The programme encouraged meaningful dialogue on how challenging situations can lead to intellectual growth, emotional resilience, and social transformation.

Day One: 27 April 2026 (Offline Mode)



The inaugural session began with the traditional welcome of guests followed by the ceremonial lamp lighting, symbolizing the pursuit of knowledge and enlightenment. The organizers warmly welcomed all participants and emphasized the contemporary relevance of the seminar theme, “Crises as Catalysts: Literary and Developmental Interventions.” The

speakers highlighted the importance of interdisciplinary dialogue in understanding and addressing social, psychological, and developmental challenges in modern society.

This was followed by the welcome of dignitaries and participants. The Concept Note was delivered by Prof. Vaishali Saxena, during which the guest speakers were felicitated with bouquets and mementos. Subsequently, the concept note was presented, outlining the objectives and thematic framework of the seminar.



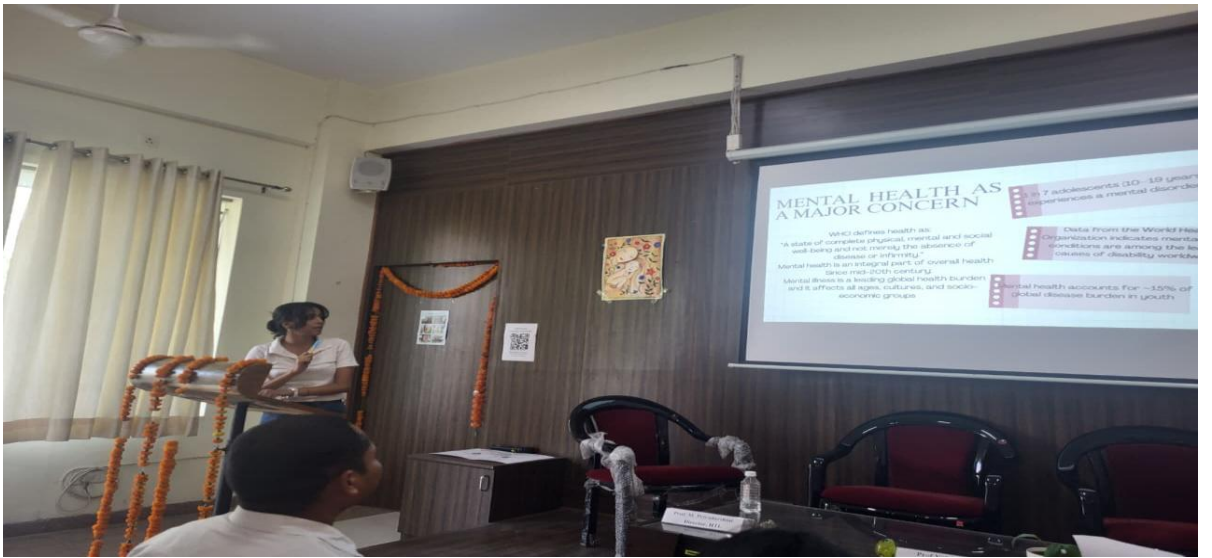
In his keynote address, Shri Alok Ranjan emphasized the significance of intellectual resilience, responsive public policy, and the role of education in dealing with societal crises. He elaborated on how literature and social sciences help in understanding human suffering, social transformation, and the process of rebuilding communities during difficult times. His address provided valuable insights into the connection between governance, social responsibility, and human development. After a tea break, the Plenary Session was conducted, followed by an interactive question-and-answer session, enabling meaningful academic exchange among scholars and participants.













SOUVENIR

National Seminar
on

"CRISES AS CATALYSTS: LITERARY AND
DEVELOPMENTAL INTERVENTIONS"

27-28 April, 2026



HAPPY THINKING LABORATORY & COUNSELLING AND
GUIDANCE CELL IN COLLABORATION WITH
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH AND MODERN EUROPEAN
LANGUAGES, UNIVERSITY OF LUCKNOW



**Counseling & Guidance Cell and
Happy Thinking Laboratory
Organise**

Uplift Yourself

(Self Assessment Survey)

Patron



Prof. Jai Prakash Saini
Hon'ble Vice Chancellor
University of Lucknow

Co- Patron



Prof. Amita Kanaujiya
University of Lucknow

Convener

Prof. Vaishali Saxena, Director, CGC

Prof. M. Priyadarshini, Director, HTL

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Prof. Arvind Mohan delivered an insightful plenary lecture focusing on developmental challenges and the importance of interdisciplinary interventions in strengthening society during periods of uncertainty and crisis. He stressed the need for collaborative academic efforts and innovative approaches to address emerging developmental concerns effectively. **Day Two: 28 April 2026 (Online Mode)**

The second day of the seminar was conducted in online mode and featured Six technical sessions dedicated to paper presentations. Researchers from across the country participated virtually, presenting papers that reflected contemporary issues, theoretical perspectives, and empirical studies aligned with the seminar theme. The online sessions facilitated inclusive academic participation and cross-regional scholarly interaction.

Parallel Session	Chairperson	Moderator	Major Themes Discussed
1.	Dr. Tanuka Chatterjee	Mr. Animesh Giri	Mental health, gender, digital intimacy, translation studies, psycho-spiritual resilience
2.	Dr. Ayesha Anwar Warsi	Ms. Tithi Banerjee	Trauma studies, yoga and therapy, transgender identity, global conflicts, emotional resilience
3.	Dr. Anurag Kumar	Ms. Swati Das	Translation, rural development, democracy, climate crisis, AI-mediated education

Parallel Session	Chairperson	Moderator	Major Themes Discussed
	Srivastava		
4.	Prof. Nazneen Khan	Ms. Sameen Husain	War trauma, science fiction, AI and virality, SDGs, crisis management
5.	Dr. Anupama Srivastava	Ms. Aisha Zaheer	Climate awareness, digital governance, indigenous studies, psychological well-being, burnout
6.	Dr. Shazia Khatoon	Mr. Pranjal Kumar Singh	Urban crisis, war literature, environmental degradation, linguistic rights, ecofeminism

A lunch break was provided as per the scheduled programme, following which the certificate distribution ceremony was held to acknowledge and appreciate the contributions of paper presenters, session chairs, and participants. The seminar then concluded with the Valedictory Session, during which the overall proceedings and key outcomes of the seminar were formally summarized. The Valedictory Session featured a brief address by Prof. M. Priyadarshini, Director HTL, who shared her insightful reflections on the academic deliberations and the significance of the seminar's theme.





The seminar concluded with a formal Vote of Thanks delivered by Prof. Vaishali Saxena, Convenor of the seminar. She expressed sincere gratitude to the Chief Patron, Chief Guest, Guest of Honour, distinguished speakers, chairpersons, moderators, participants, faculty members, research scholars, volunteers, and organizing committee members for their valuable presence, support, and contributions toward the successful conduct of the seminar. She also appreciated the enthusiastic participation of scholars from different institutions across the country and acknowledged the collective efforts that made the event intellectually enriching and successful.

The two-day national seminar successfully achieved its academic objectives by fostering interdisciplinary dialogue and encouraging critical engagement with narratives of transformation in society, literature, and governance. The seminar provided a vibrant platform for scholars, researchers, and academicians to share ideas, exchange perspectives, and strengthen academic collaboration.

ATTENDANCE

27/April/26

Crises as Catalysts: Literary and Developmental Interventions.

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