

INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND POLITICS (SIRP)

Introduction to SIRP

Established in 1983 as one of the first statutory post-graduate teaching and research departments of Mahatma Gandhi University, the SIRP will be completing the 40th Year of its academic journey in 2023. The School had emerged as the first institution in South India to offer a post-graduate degree in Politics and International Relations and Politics and Human Rights, and the first university in India to offer a post-graduate degree in Public Policy and Governance. The SIRP promotes teaching and research in wide-ranging areas, including public policy, urban studies, social inclusion, migration and diaspora studies, gender studies and human rights. A significant feature of the SIRP academic life is international students who come from different parts of the world. The SIRP has collaboration and student/faculty exchanges with institutions outside India. It has tie-ups /MoU with many foreign institutions. There are seats reserved exclusively for foreign students for MA, MPhil and PhD programmes. The faculty members have teaching and research experience from reputed universities in India and abroad. The SIRP has time-bound innovative and interdisciplinary academic programmes. It also publishes peer-reviewed international journals such as the Indian Journal of Politics and International Relations and the South Asian Journal of Diplomacy. The SIRP has established K.P.S. Menon Chair for Diplomatic Studies with many eminent scholars and diplomats having served since 2009. The SIRP has also set up many Centres of Area Studies, besides having the UGC-funded Institute of Contemporary Chinese Studies as its collaborative academic centre. Inadequate infrastructure and shortage of faculty are the major constraints of the SIRP to emerge as a reputed international centre in Kerala.

2. Present Director of the School: Dr. C. Vinodan

3. Details of Faculty

- Dr. M V Bijulal

- Dr. Lirar Pulikkalakath
- Dr. Mathew A Varghese
- Dr. Mary Sentrala
- Dr. Jojin John
- Dr. Aparna Eswaran

4. Academic Programmes

Three Streams of Masters Programmes at the School of International Relations and Politics

- **Masters stream (MA) in Politics and International Relations** goes through courses that range from the traditional, interdisciplinary, emergent as well as innovative, in order to equip students to teach and research in the frontier areas of Political Science and International Relations. The programme seeks to develop a high level of understanding of contemporary political and social issues in their national and international contexts. But it also moves beyond ideas of the national and international into other coordinates like regional, global or urban for example. It also aims to develop analytical skills in students that can be applied in a wide range of careers. Studies in Politics and International Relations are a vital part of an education for life and work in the contemporary world and combine well with other humanities and social science disciplines. The MA programme has been envisaged to introduce students to the broad fields of theoretical as well as empirical questions encompassed by Political Science and International Relations. It examines the ideas on which modern societies are based and, through an examination of several countries and issues, evaluates the different systems, processes and social/political forces in operation in the world today. The discipline looks at the national, international, regional or global political systems and the manner in which they have evolved, with attention given to a range of contemporary issues, as specific courses with objectives framed by foci like security, political economy, political ecology, human geography, ideology, human rights, political philosophy, justice, governance, globalisation, technology, media and communication military and political alliances. The programme currently underway in the School of International Relations and Politics has been designed with the aim of not replicating traditional courses but invigorating the

interactive realm of Political Science and International Relations keeping in mind the epistemological unity of the interactive mode and the emerging interdisciplinary concerns and frontier areas of social sciences. The school has also kept in perspective the developments that have been taking place in the global political, ecological, economic, cultural and strategic landscape. The programme has been periodically monitored, reviewed and redesigned in such a way as to strengthen the frontier areas of Political Science.

- **Masters stream (MA) in Politics and Human Rights (HR)** stream has become a critical domain of politics and international relations (IR) for more than half a century. The concept and concerns of HR have, however, been expanding during the last three hundred years incorporating a wide range of subjects and rights, which transcend political, ideological and cultural differences/peculiarities of the countries as well as the peoples across the world. The post-war international system has further witnessed the emergence of a world HR culture with liberty, emancipation, education and universalism as integral components of that culture. The field of HR studies with its characteristic inter-related disciplinary concerns of politics, development, civil society, gender, environment, law, justice etc., and encompassing a wide spectrum of national, international and non-governmental/non-state actors, has brought forth a worldwide web of disciplinary concerns such as Political Science, Development studies, Gender studies, Environmental studies, Ethnic studies, Subaltern studies, Conflict Resolution and Peace Studies, Disarmament studies etc. This is certainly a vast and expanding domain of social and political research particularly in the context of the changes currently underway in the global matrix of trade and political economy. The academic programme attempts to grapple with this vast corpus of knowledge and ground-level realities of HR, through the specific courses and their objectives, while focusing on the global and national concerns of HR, peace, order, equality, justice, etc. The programme of MA (Politics and Human Rights) is so designed as to facilitate and encourage both theoretical and empirical studies, thereby setting a background for students to have a greater interest in HR. The objective here is to generate a deep and critical awareness among the students about the HR question in its national and international dimensions.

- **Masters stream (MA) in Politics (Public Policy and Governance)** is mainly to equip students to take up a wide range of positions including teaching and research in the frontier areas of Political Science, Public Policy and International Relations. The scope of public policy has expanded during the last five decades as a result of the intervention of the state in the realm of society and economy across many nations. The locus of public policy then shifted to the role of governments, international institutions and non-governmental organizations over decades. However, global dynamics have changed considerably since the 1990s. Some even suggested that the nation-state's ability to determine effective national policy has withered with the growth of economic globalisation. The global stage rendered nations less potent as policy-making instruments. The principal task of public policy was then only to maintain the competitiveness of the nation, promote its export industries, and make its resources attractive to investors. Many nations operated under the auspices of the Structural Adjustment Programmes of key global institutions such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank. The emergence of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) further stimulated thinking on new arenas of governance. Further, cultural animosities have collided with the sheer turbulence of globalisation. Terrorism and militarism have become primary global issues. Indeed, globalisation and the sheer pace of social change present a formidable demand on practitioners and students of public policy as the world entered the 21st century. The MA programme is envisaged to introduce students to the broad fields of theoretical as well as empirical questions encompassed by Political Science, Public Policy and International Relations. The students should identify, explain, and apply key concepts and terms underlying Public Policy and Governance, grasping public policy and Governance as unfolding dynamics in an interdisciplinary mode; the student should demonstrate a grasp of the global environment in both Public Policy and Governance. Students should address questions such as: What is public policy? How broad is its scope? How does public policy involve and impact us? Does the public policy-making process work effectively? How is the public policy agenda set? Who and what has been ignored? What is power? Who has it and who does not? How is public policy formulated? What institutions and actors make policy? What are the limits of rational analysis? How is policy ultimately authorized?

How is public policy implemented? How big and intrusive are government bureaucracies? How can the administration of programmes be improved? Who pays for public policy? What is the public policy budget? How are taxes raised and lowered and for whom? What was the recent tax reduction all about? What fiscal tools are used to steer national and global economies? How do we assess the effects of public policy? How is it working? How do we know? Who are the winners and the losers? In sum, the postgraduate programme in Public Policy and Governance provides ample opportunities for academic as well as policy initiatives within an interdisciplinary mode.

6. PhD programme - Number of research students

- PhD. in Politics and International Relations - 24 students

7. Number of classrooms/seminar hall/lab

- Class rooms:4
- Seminar Hall: 2
- Net Lab: 1
- Research Scholars Common Room: 1

8. Library details-books/journal details

- 8000 books
- 6 journal subscription

Introduction to the IDP of the School of International Relations and Politics

SIRP in its long-term vision to aid in the intellectual transformation of future citizen-leaders proposes to advance organically with two interrelated components. SIRP is putting forward an academic proposal on innovative frames of research and pedagogy on global issues. The most important facet of this proposal is the envisioning of a sustained and creative development of **Specialised Research Centres** such as **the Centre for Public Policy and Governance; Centre for Migration Studies; Centre for the Indian Diaspora Studies; Centre for Global South Studies; Centre for Urban Studies; Centre for Gender Justice and Human Rights; Centre for Indo-Pacific Affairs**. In tandem with the development of specialised research centres, we are planning to offer a **Four-year Integrated Masters Programme in Global Studies** that reflects the transformative growth of the specialised centres. SIRP also proposes to conduct an annual **Global Summer school** which aims to catalyse the dissemination of the unique Kerala perspective on global issues. The proposal also envisages the establishment of an **academic publishing wing** along with a revitalization of existing journals. Finally, the school seeks to strengthen its **global outreach efforts** with a series of extension activities with a strong consultative emphasis and engaging in academic solidarity enhancing MoUs with other institutions of repute.

To see this to fruition requires special technical and infrastructural development. Keeping this in mind we have a separate proposal for infrastructure and spatial development.

Budget Summary

Project Proposals		Budget (INR)	Remarks
I- Innovative Frames of Research and Pedagogy on Global Issues			
<u>IA</u>	Development of Specialised Research Centres in the School		
	<u>1</u>	Centre for Public Policy and Governance (CPPG)	10,16,70000
	<u>2</u>	Centre for Migration Studies	5,94,80,000
	<u>3</u>	Centre For Indian Diaspora Studies (CIDS)	3,05,00,000
	<u>4</u>	Centre for Global South Studies (CGST)	10,24,35,000
	<u>5</u>	Centre for Urban Studies (CUS)	8,66,10,000

	<u>6</u>	Centre for Gender Justice and Human Rights (CGHR)	7,77,81,000	
	<u>7</u>	Centre for Indo-Pacific Affairs (CIPA)	6,75,70,000	
<u>IB</u>	Globally Competitive Outcome-based Courses			
	<u>1</u>	4-year Integrated Master Programme in Global Studies	3,37,00,000	
	<u>2</u>	Global Summer School	50,00,000	
<u>IC</u>	Publication Wing		40,00,000	
<u>ID</u>	Global Outreach and Extention Activities		1,00,00,000	
II - Spatial and Infrastructure Development			5,15,40,000	
_Total			63,02,86,000	

DETAILED PROJECT PROPOSAL (ACADEMIC)

I- Innovative Frames of Research and Pedagogy on Global Issues

The School of International Relations and Politics (SIRP) sought to provide quality higher academic and research engagement with distinctive realms of political sciences and international relations as well as innovative interdisciplinary engagement, from its beginnings. There have been systematic revisions and proactive engagements to cater to an open and cooperative learning environment. In fact, it is a pioneering postgraduate and research environment in the South Asian region to simultaneously engage with politics, international relations, human rights, public policy and governance

I A- DEVELOPMENT OF SPECIALIZED RESEARCH CENTRES IN THE SCHOOL

The School proposes to augment the teaching and research facilities through a variety of programmes in the following specialized research centres:

1. Centre for Public Policy and Governance
(Proposed by Dr. C Vinodan)
2. Centre for Migration Studies (New)
(Proposed By Dr Bijulal M V)
3. Centre for the Indian Diaspora Studies
(Proposed by Dr. Lirar Pulikkalakath)
4. Centre for Global South Studies (New)
(Proposed by Dr. Lirar Pulikkalakath)
5. Centre for Urban Studies
(Proposed by Dr. Mathew A Varghese)
6. Centre for Gender Justice and Human Rights (New)

(Proposed by Dr. Aparna Eswaran)

7. Centre for Indo-Pacific Affairs (CIPA)

(Proposed by Dr. Jojin John)

The objectives of such centres are to diversify the academic programmes; to introduce innovative research programme and outreach activities; and to promote institutional collaboration with universities from India and abroad that shall facilitate academic mobility to create an international multi-cultural and intellectual milieu that may set the stage for generating intellectual talents and resources capable of examining matters related to Indian Diaspora, India's foreign policy, international affairs, human rights, urban studies and public policy and governance. Although India has made great strides in technological transformation and economic growth, India is yet to develop adequate expertise and resources that shall provide meaningful insights and feedback on matters related to public policy and governance, among others. The facilities that exist in the country in this regard are limited to a few schools and centres that are mostly confined to some states. The SIRP is expected to fill this gap.

1. Centre for Public Policy and Governance (CPPG)

The School of International Relations and Politics already has a UGC-funded Masters programme in Public Policy and Governance from the academic year 2010-11. The UGC initially funded for the programme under the Innovative Teaching and research scheme for five years (2010-2016). After 2016 SIRP is continuing the 2 year MA programme with the support of Guest lectures. From the experience of teaching and research in this vast emerging area, it is realised the need to widen the scope and activities of the study. Further, the fact that public policies are framed in a larger context of national and international power and contestation demand more rigorous analysis. The proposed Centre would be focusing on such areas. The scope of public policy has expanded considerably as a result of the intervention of the state in the realm of society and economy at the national as well as local level. It is well acknowledged that global, national and local forces and interests play a major role in the framing of public policy and issues of governance. However, the global dynamics has changed considerably in the era of neo-liberal policies which have been underway since the 1990s. Some even suggested that the nation-state's ability to determine effective national policy has withered with the growth of economic globalisation. The global stage rendered nations less potent as policy-making instruments.

The School has a strong interdisciplinary research background and eminent faculty. The creation of a new centre would definitely enable us to widen the scope and ambit of the core area

of study. The proposed centre intends to focus primarily on areas of public policy and governance. Clearly, there is an absence of such a specific centre in a state like Kerala. The policy decisions made at the local and national level impacts the lives of people in a significant way. And, therefore, such policymaking processes and its impact need to be studied in a systematic manner. The centre would be focusing on such issues. The Centre also intends to study local level problems and issues and would provide this knowledge to relevant policy-making bodies. The Centre would also function as a platform for the coming together of academic experts, policymakers, practitioners and elected representatives for the exchange of ideas. We intend to organize national and international conferences, workshops and seminars in this regard. We also plan to bring out a biannual Journal from the Centre.

Objectives:

- Bringing innovation and excellence in teaching and research in the areas of Public Policy and Governance
- Providing solutions to local, regional, and global problems by training of the required human resources
- Generating possible employment opportunities in the area
- Serve Government and other agencies which are possible users
- Provide necessary inputs in addressing problems in ecological, environmental, development-related aspects
- Societal education, research and teaching of the subject of Public Policy and Governance

A Centre of this kind would guide and catalyze research and teaching in the areas of Public policy and governance. It would also function as a platform for the exchange of ideas and issues in the relevant area. The Centre would also create experts in the field of public policy and governance.

PROGRAMMES AND ACTIVITIES OF THE CENTRE DURING THE NEXT FIVE YEARS

A. ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES

- 4 year UG/PG. Integrated Programme in Public Administration and Policy Studies(as per research degree proposed in the NEP 2020):
- Semester Abroad Study Programme whereby students from Mahatma Gandhi University will spend one semester abroad and will specialize in course modules related to policy studies and policy making.
- Ph.D. Programme in Public Policy and Governance

Research: The centre will focus on policy related/ impact assessment studies in the following core areas for the next four years:

Ø **Climate Change and Disaster Management**

Ø **Internationalisation of Higher Education and Inclusive Higher Education Governance**

Ø **Impact of Pandemic on Livelihood Security/Health security**

Ø **Decentralisation and Local Environmental Governance**

The objective of the research programme is to provide policy input/ alternative policy suggestions to policy makers and institutions in Kerala/India.

B. OUTREACH AND ALLIED PROGRAMMES

1. Chairs

· *A Chair on Public Policy and Governance*

2. International/National Conference/Workshops

3. International Summer School/FDP

4. Databank on Public policy studies

Faculty and Research positions required under IDP Plan:

Associate Professor	-	1 Nos
Assistant Professor	-	4 Nos.
Research Associate	-	2 Nos.

Detailed Budget

Category	Amount (INR)	Remarks
Fixed Infrastructure (Non-Recurring Expense)		

1	Digital infrastructure development-smart class room/Computers/Laptops/Documentation Equipment's/ Printers/ Projectors etc.	30,00,000	
	Total (A)	30,00,000	
Annual (Recurring Expense)- Each of the Five Years is subject to Increments Beyond			
1	Salaries or Remunerations		
	Personnel requirements: · Faculty	65,00,000	· Faculty recruitment: Associate Professors-1 Assistant Professors- 4
	Research Staff Research Associate/Post-Doctoral Fellow	6,00,000	50,000X 12
	Research Assistant - (2)	6,00,000	25,000X12 2 Nos
	Office Assistant	2,40,000	20,000X12

	Chair Professor/ Professor/Scholar in Residence	Visiting	1,000,000	
2	International/National Seminars/ Workshops/ Webinars	conference/	10,00,000	
3	Faculty Development Summer School	Programme/	10,00,000	
4	Website/Publication and Newsletter		5,00,000	
5	Books/Journal Subscription		10,00,000	
6	Collaborative research/ student exchange	MoUs/faculty,	20,00,000	
7	Public – private and Students internship/	University –	10,00,000	Internship and attachment with private Organizations, Public Organizations and Institutions, Media, NGO's and Industry Organization

8	<p>Research in the four identified areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ø Climate Change and Disaster Management Ø Internationalisation of Higher Education and Inclusive Higher Education Governance Ø Impact of Pandemic on Livelihood Security/Health security Ø Decentralisation and Local Environmental Governance 	2000000	Field visit/FDPs/accommodation/travel/ honorarium for resource persons/ data analysis etc..
9	<p>Enhancing of student intake capacity</p> <p>Integrated undergraduate/postgraduate programmes(4 year research degree)</p> <p>Curriculum Development programme</p>	500000	<p>30 students shall be admitted for Integrated Four Year UG/PG Programme with 10 students each for three areas of specialization.</p> <p>Workshops, review meetings, literature survey for curriculum development.</p>
	Overhead/ Contingency	17,94,000	10 %
	Annual (Recurring Expense) Total (B)	1,97,34000	
	TOTAL FOR FIVE INITIAL YEARS (C= 5*B)	9,86,70000	

Total (A+C)	10,16,70000/ -	
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Expected outcome

- The teaching and research programmes envisaged during the IDP period shall generate a pool of young scholars who will be capable of undertaking genuine research on Public policy and governance issues.
- The new integrated UG/PG programme will considerably enhance students intake in the areas of public policy and governance.
- The proposed internship initiative will equip the students and researchers with the capacity to address future challenges and offer new insights in the realm of public policy making in India/ Kerala.
- Collaborative research programmes, essentially modelled in the framework of Learning from Each other shall provide valuable insights and feedback to all stakeholders of both institutions.
- Outreach programmes shall provide the forum for dialogue on the vital issues and concerns, challenges and opportunities for all stakeholders.
- Academic mobility (students, research scholars and members of faculty), both inward and outward, shall make the teaching and research meaningful and mutually beneficial.
- The Database will provide genuine and important information on the emerging issues at the global / national and local level..

Method of implementation

The activities and programmes of the Centre for Public Policy and Governance (CPPG) shall be implemented within a definite time frame. The CPPG shall have an Advisory Committee with the Vice-Chancellor as the Patron and Pro- Vice- Chancellor as the Chief Executive Officer. Prof.(Dr.).C.Vinodan, Professor, School of International Relations and Politics(SIRP) will serve as the Coordinator/ Director of the Project. The Members of the Committee shall be drawn from among various academic departments in the university as well as the Faculty members of the SIRP. Two external experts and two members of the syndicate will be nominated by the Vice-Chancellor. There shall also be a panel of experts/consultants drawn from reputed institutions from India and abroad to advice the academic activities of the centre. The collaborative teaching, research and outreach programmes shall be implemented smoothly through MoU with various Centres/Institutions in India and abroad.

2. Centre for Migration Studies

Background

This proposal elaborates larger initiatives for innovative research, policy interventions, advocacy and direct linkages in the proposed areas listed below, in collaboration with agencies of the state, official and civil transnational agencies, academic community, media and local self-government institutions. A sustainable action platform for promoting rights based and inclusive policy-based research and praxis-oriented interventions to generate immediate and effective realization of Human Rights Guarantees of internal and international migrants related to the state of Kerala is the broad thematic area. Accommodating transnational innovations to the field of policy making is the major strategy and updated socio- cultural history documentation of Migrant labour situation is also given emphasis. A post graduate diploma course in migration policy management is the immediate academic initiative suggested here. Wide ranging academic actions through workshops and lecture series in migration and social economic and cultural dynamics of mobilities as part of the migration cell is the conceptual and organisational mainstay of the academic programme.

An estimated 30 million people are involved in the international migration from Kerala mainly to the GCC countries. Major share of them are presently undergoing various deprivations related to wage, employment benefits, and tenure of employment intensified their plight leading many of them to sad survival crisis. On a different note. A paradox that roughly 25 million migrant workers from different part of India are part of Kerala society since few decades is an intriguing aspect. It could be seen that the prospects of migrants of interstate category is showing relatively better trends of wage benefit availability of opportunity and social security mechanisms. In a way, Kerala is witnessing a paradox followed by the crisis of labor remittances and its impact on development together with larger participation of non-Keralite work force in various sectors of employment at a time when unemployment rates in Kerala are showing signs of increase of unemployment and stagnation due to policies of domestic labor and exceptional situation brought in by Covid pandemic.

This idea of Centre for Migration Studies in the School of International Relations and Politics, Mahatma Gandhi University emerges after very long and intense academic and civil society consultations in the past 10 years. Various aspects of migration related to agricultural labors in the last century in Kerala society, regional and internal migration of to the women plantation labor through interstate migration are some of the areas where the basic work is already done, which would come supportive to the academic and field-based requirements for studies in Migration. All such inputs are already included in the Course - Migration, Citizenship and Governance, conducted by the School of International relations and Politics in the PG Program.

In the field of public policy innovations the school has been noted. The award of research grant of Rs.46,0000 by the SERB/ DBT to study the access to healthcare of the inter-state migrant workers is a recognition that the school has received in the recent past is in this regard.

Significance

Progressive realization of migrants' human rights at work places has reached a landmark Global Compact on Migration (GCM) in which a hundred and fifty-two countries agreed to sign, accepting the strategic goals associated to reducing human rights violations and promoting human rights protection in the field of human rights. The GCM is indicating to direct application of such universal moral agreement. Once such larger visionary aspects get accommodated into public life, legal mechanism and procedures in administration, it is sure to bring a lot of progressive changes in the life worlds of migrant workers both internal and international. In the case of India especially in the context of large-scale return of international migrants due to job losses in the last decade and the increase in figures due to Covid related economic crisis, the working-class groups have become increasingly vulnerable as well as invisible.

The Centre is planned as a national academic platform on influencing policy decisions. A round informal communications with experts from various parts of the world is ongoing since February 2019. Larger objective of the Centre, one of the major outcomes, is to generate updated academic and policy related literature concerning all the areas of work mentioned above.

The focal areas for the activities will be interventions in the policy domain in Kerala, especially with the vision of partaking in the process of policy reforms. At the second level, studies on policies of other states and the central government will be addressed.

The contemporary times are very significant in terms of its immediate impact on the survival possibilities of many families to begin with. Also, the significant loss to the GDP (around 30-35% of GDP of Kerala comes from remittances, which is showing steady decline) is to be specially addressed. This is a two-sided problem which needs to be effectively resolved with an approach of finding common solutions at the moment.

Rationale

The major gaps in academic process related migrant labour rights is the shortcomings in addressing various unattended but significant instances of change in different parts of India and abroad, which have proved to be rights sensitive. Patterns of changes in legal and policy mechanisms in home and abroad are significant in this connection. Many recent policies initiated by the government of Kerala are excellent examples of promoting the transnational agreements on human rights standards at a sub-regional level. A detailed study and broad-based consultation on the framing, implementation and social impact of the policies are highly warranted, especially using human rights fact-finding methods. This would help develop a process model for India, and other communities in the global south, where internal migration rates are quite high.

Thrust Areas

1. Research studies on promote adoption of inclusive migration policies both internal and international with special reference to international labour rights instruments
2. Human rights auditing of important labour laws and codes and legal proceedings related to national and international sphere.
3. Developing international collaboration with specialized agencies and institutions to understand inclusive process on labor human rights on different parts of the world.
4. Anthropological and ethnographic research leading to documentation and publication of histories of migration in the last 100 years in Kerala.

5. Focused studies on issues related to migration of women, transgender and stateless people.
6. Address the global phenomenon of rising student migrants

Vision:

- Promoting rights-based approaches to migration governance in Indian context, with relevant inputs from transnational sphere.
- Facilitating praxis oriented interactive space for global action, partnering academia, civil society and the media on the issues of labour rights.
- Continued reviewing of public policies regarding migration and spreading awareness among the multitude population of migrants.
- Promoting global collaborations for critical labour history documentation through academic collaborations with international universities.
- Continued dialogues with the collaborators for finding and application of gross data in the public policy measures of the state.
- Develop into a larger academic hub and research centre in the international sphere

Mission

The Centre is intended to focus on the subject of urgent importance related to migration. It also tries to bring out individual experiences of internal and external migration. The context in which this Centre is taking its final shape is from a decade-long collaboration with various individuals and organizations. The Centre will work to promote the key concepts related to human rights protection and improvement of migrant workers' condition and the workplace and those sovereign areas to which their lives are attached. The Centre will use the potential of the transdisciplinary scholarship in various social sciences departments of the university. The contemporary process of migrant labour rights agenda at the transnational level is clearly indicating to the increasing area of non-hegemonic and multi-institutional system of dialogue. The 23 points of GCM is the most relevant aspect of the centre. The centre focuses on the objectives of legal identity, decent work, vulnerabilities, basic services, remittances and financial inclusion and international cooperation and global partnership. The centre also aims to bring out alternative ideas of livelihood for return migrants, including their rehabilitation and investments.

Strategy:

- Collecting microdata to find the different corridors of migration and make analyses based on geographical areas, duration and intention of migration.
- Developing critical field research inventories for promoting inclusive and rights-based policies at the local, national and international spaces.
- Developing academic programmes in collaboration with global partners.
- Conducting policy-oriented interventions based on in-depth research studies, at both on internal and international level.
- Conducting Social Lab Experiments and Interventions, Consultative workshops, and seminars
- Running an Academic Course on Migration Studies and the regarding Public Policy evolutions

Activities

- Promoting global interdisciplinary research collaborations to study international mobility/labour migration and regular policy interventions..
- Research and Advocacy interventions in question related to social and economic exchange of inter-state and international workers.
- A one-year post-graduate diploma course in Migration Governance. On successful operation the course, after two years it may be upgraded to a post graduate degree programme with placement facilities.
- Advocacy involving experts previously worked with organisations like International Labor Organization and with the director of International Labor Organization to ensure decent work support for South and West Asia
- Establishing a mobile service providing facility (health, social security, labour rights) for outreach programme of the centre to directly address the problems of the workers.
- Promoting exchanges of cultural materials on the historical and social aspects of migration, through screenings, exhibitions, seminar courses and other possible international collaborations.

Structure

Permanent member/s of the faculty, adjunct professors and scholars, invited experts will form the academic core. It is considered to include two full-time research associates and two full-time project assistants; documentation assistant and an office/computer assistant are also part of the team. It is also planned to include one visiting faculty, and a panel of experts.

Financial Budget Estimate

Item& Particulars	Amount	Remarks
Non-Recurring Expenses		
Built space for edit suit, library and digital archiving unit, conference hall and smart classroom,	1,60,00,000	
Equipment purchase (computers, printer, projector Video camera and other equipment for documentation etc.)	25,00,000	
Furnishing& furniture	20,00,000	
Mobile unit (purchase of vehicle and accessories)	40,00000	
Total (A)	245,00,000	

Recurring Expenses (for a year)		
Salary		
Research Associate, 2 nos X12 months	7,20,000	30000X 12X2
Project Assistant, 2 nos X12 months	4,80,000	20000X12X2
Documentation Assistant, 1 noX12 months	3,00,000	25,000X12X1
Administrative Assistant,1 no X12 months	2,40,000	20,000X12X1
Computer Assistant, 1 noX12 months	2,40,000	20,000X12X1
Office Assistant	1,80,000	15x12x1
Conferences/Workshops/Lectures (Post Covid)	4,00,000	
Publication of Journal Monograph/Occasional Paper/ Working Paper	4,00,000	

Purchase of Books/Journals	8,00,000	
Research Studies (first five years)	8,00,000	Annual
Documentation/ Digitization/ Field Research interventions and promotion of social confidence building between migrant people and local populationsand promotion of studies in migration from undergraduate level	5,00,000	
Visiting Fellowships/Scholars in Residence (annual)	6,00,000	
Academic Exchange Programmes	5,00,000	
Curriculum Development	2,00,000	
Total	63,60,000	
Contingency (0t total Recurring Expenses)	6,36,000	10%
TOTAL FOR FIVE INITIAL YEARS (B)	34980000	

Grand Total A+B	5,94,80,000	
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3. Centre For Indian Diaspora Studies (CIDS)

Academic vision

Population movement across countries and continents has been an integral part of studies and research on international relations. Human resource mobility is an essential feature in the era of globalisation which has integrated world markets, networks, and technologies. They contribute to the increasing movement of various groups such as labourers, students, professionals, and families for multiple purposes. Here the important phenomenon is that the migrants of today are the Diaspora of tomorrow - and those of yesteryears, that of today. In Post-independence India, overseas Indians have served as a bridge of friendship and cooperation between India and host countries. Many factors and actors have contributed to the changing dynamics of human mobility throughout history. Recently, the COVID-19 pandemic has brought about unprecedented challenges to human mobility with its attendant consequences for the lives of migrants across the world. The CIDS deserves particular importance in this context. It is one of the interdisciplinary Centres of Area Studies and Innovative Research set up by the School of International relations and Politics (SIRP), Mahatma Gandhi University, in 2008, as part of the expansion programme of the School.

The CIDS, SIRP intends to focus on the following objectives:

1. To study the history of migrations from India over the centuries.
2. To examine the patterns of migration and the factors necessitating them.
3. To prepare a database on people of Indian origin abroad.

4. To encourage the preparation of recorded experiences by migrants and migrant groups.
5. To examine the potential of the Diaspora to contribute to India's economic well-being and political influence.
6. To provide input to governments in framing policies concerning the Diaspora.

Phases of Development (with an immediate focus for the next five years)

1. Organise seminars and conferences on Diaspora in general and the Indian Diaspora in particular for students, teachers, and the general public at regional, state, and national levels.
2. Conduct studies on different aspects of the Indian Diaspora, particularly the Malayali Diaspora.
3. Conduct workshops on different themes related to population movement, particularly for scholars specialising in international migration and for students of social science in general.

Further Long term Goals (for the next 20 years)

1. Develop a Master's programme in International Migration and Diaspora Studies.
2. Preparation of a database and annual report on people of Indian origin abroad, particularly that of (Non-Resident Keralites (NRKs) abroad.
3. Provide intensive two-week certificate courses annually in collaboration with institutions and centres specialised in migration studies in India and abroad.
4. Publish a journal on Indian Diaspora.

Financial Budget Estimate

	Category	Amount	Remarks
Fixed Infrastructure (Non-Recurring Expense)			

1	Laptops/ Cameras for documentation/ Projectors	10,00,000	
2	Round table conference hall	10, 00, 000	
	Total	(20, 00, 000)	
Annual (Recurring Expense)- Each of the Five Years subject to Increments Beyond			
	Salaries or Remunerations		
1	Curriculum workshops and course designs	5,00,000	
2	Research Associate	6,00,000	50,000X 12
3	Research Officer	4,80,000	40,000X12
4	Teaching assistant	4,20,000	35,000X12
5	Field work	20,00,000	
6	Journal Publication	1, 50, 00, 00	

7	Migration repository	20, 00, 000	
8	Annual migration Report	10, 00, 000/ year	
9	Technical Coordinator	4,20,000	35,000X12
10	Computer Assistant/ Data Manager	3,60,000	30,000X12
11	Office Assistant	2,40,000	20,000X12
12	Resource talks and Workshops	10,00,000	
13	Publishing work and Working papers	10,00,000	
14	Books/Journal Subscription	30,00,000	
15	Project Design and Initiatives/ Fieldwork	30,00,000	
16	Digital Documentation/ Software	15,00,000	

17	Resident Resource personnel/ Visiting Faculty Honorarium	15,00,000	
18	Total	1, 90, 00, 000	
19	Overhead/ Contingency	1, 90, 00, 00	
20	TOTAL FOR FIVE INITIAL YEARS	20900000 X 5 = 2, 85 00 000	
21	Total (recurring + non recurring)	3, 05, 00, 000	

5. Centre for Global South Studies (CGST)

Academic Vision

Global South refers to the economically disadvantaged part of the world and also as a post-cold war alternative to the concepts “Third World” and “developing countries”. The term is generally used for the decolonised nations situated south of the old colonial powers. This part of the globe has been transitioning due to rapid political, social, economic, and cultural changes and progress. The Centre for Global South Studies (CGSS) in the School of International relations and Politics (SIRP), Mahatma Gandhi University, wants to research the causes and consequences of the vital socio-political and economic transformations happening in the global south. The proposed interdisciplinary centre seeks to establish as a research and policy-making institute to discuss new ideas and issues across the global south, particularly those matters that can influence contemporary world affairs.

The CGSS intends to focus on the following objectives:

1. To examine the theoretical and historical debates on the evolution and establishment of the Global South.
2. To set up an academic platform for discussing and debating issues affecting the global south.
3. To create a network of students, researchers, and policymakers from Asia, Africa, and Latin America to collaborate on various academic events.
4. Study the historical importance, geopolitics, and international relations of the global south.
5. To critically analyse the factors and actors determining the global south in world affairs.
6. To serve the nation by providing inputs to governments in framing policies concerning the global south.

Phases of Development (with immediate focus for the next five years)

1. Organise various academic events on socio-economic, geopolitical, and international relations of the global south in general and Asia in particular.
2. Conduct studies on different aspects of the global south with particular emphasis on India.
3. Conduct workshops (online and offline) on different themes related to issues in the global south, targeting students and scholars from Latin America, Asia, and Africa.

Further Long term Goals (for the next 20 years)

1. Conduct a two-week certificate course annually in collaboration with national and international institutions and centres specialised in global south studies.
2. Introduce a Master's programme in Global South Studies
3. Collect academic works related to global south studies and establish a library block in SIRP.
4. Publish a journal on global south studies.

Financial Budget Estimate

	Category	Amount	Remarks
Fixed Infrastructure (Non-Recurring Expense)			
1	Laptops/ Cameras for documentation	10,00,000	
2	Digital classroom	15, 00, 000	
	Total	(25, 00, 000)	
Annual (Recurring Expense)- Each of the Five Years subject to Increments Beyond			
	Salaries or Remunerations		
1	Curriculum workshops and course designs	5,00,000	
2	Research Associate	6,00,000	50,000X 12
3	Research Officer	4,80,000	40,000X12
4	Teaching assistant	4,20,000	35,000X12

5	Visit to international academic and research institutions	20,00,000	
6	Journal Publication	1, 50, 00, 00	
7	Conferences/ colloquiums	20, 00, 000	
8	Resident Resource personnel/ Visiting Faculty Honorarium	15,00,000	
9	Technical Coordinator	4,20,000	35,000X12
10	Computer Assistant/ Data Manager	3,60,000	30,000X12
11	Office Assistant	2,40,000	20,000X12
12	Resource talks and Workshops	10,00,000	
13	Publishing work and Working papers	10,00,000	
14	Books/Journal Subscription	30,00,000	

15	Project Design and Initiatives/ Fieldwork	30,00,000	
16	Digital Documentation/ Software	15,00,000	
17	Total	1,81,70,000	
18	Overhead/ Contingency	18,17,000	
19	TOTAL FOR FIVE INITIAL YEARS	199870000 X 5 = 9,99,35,000	
20	Total (recurring + non recurring)	10,24,35,000	

5. Centre for Urban Studies (CUS): Plan for the next five years and beyond

The Centre for Urban Studies, currently working from the School of International Relations and Politics, in the coming five years plans to become a more autonomous, nodal point and interdisciplinary matrix for critical enquiries and field research that dwell upon the most visible and everyday associations with the city and ecosystemic relations. Both these realms are also broadly connected both because similar forces play a determining role and also because of the urban ecological concern with the relation between living organisms and their surroundings in the context of urbanisation. The work will go beyond into the genealogies, production, practices

and relationships that constitute urbanisms and ecological processes in the Indian sub-continent, but with broad comparative components in a global context, which eventually get into a synergy with the Global political paradigms the school will eventually develop into. The contemporary rationale comes from the scenario of new urban spaces in the making in unique ways in Kerala as well as the west coast with characteristic urban regional histories and development, as well as the increasingly emphasis places on the ecology as the inevitable component of any broad vision of wellbeing. It also follows the realizations along these lines laid open during urban reconfigurations, complexities involved in natural calamities like the flood and the unprecedented predicament of the pandemic. The centre in due course, through carefully structured workshops, academic MoUs and nuanced perspectives on spatiality, seeks to structure pedagogical frames for political/social geography programmes with emphasis on urban frames.

The Context and the Need: There has been a reconfiguration of the meaning and nature of spaces in the context of social relations produced by global urban processes and transformations with local implications. States are influenced by policies made beyond borders. Consequently, one has to understand how regions get remapped. Post 90s, states have adopted extensive financial ‘reforms’ that have centralized policies that favour neo-liberal capital. Thus, there is increased pressure on regions (individual state orders within the Indian system or regional formations otherwise) to conform to norms that contravene the orderings of an earlier phase. The present norms, have unleashed new sets of conflicts over territory, ecology, and resources. The centre has to flourish, on recognition that urban processes and ecological relationships, if engaged with, bring out the historical antecedents, contemporary reconfigurations, and emergent patterns, of developmentalist trajectories, within the subcontinent as well as elsewhere. New epistemes of thought, following on the futuristic visions of the school could emerge, with adequate resource support, that envisions, urban processes, social geographies and spatiality from the regional contexts of Kerala.

Importance: The contemporary context we live through throws open uniquely stark situations where life as well as governance get stretched to their maximum with the kinds of urban pollution, new smart cities, wreckage generated by what is generally perceived as natural disasters or calls for total re-organisations as with a pandemic social ecology. The resource enrichment, bureaucratic support from the university, coupled with functional autonomy will have the possibility to take distinct trajectories in comparison with departments and schools at the university. But at the same time, it works in synergy with emerging school structure and networks them to ones elsewhere. That is how the Centre can become an autonomous nodal point of research activities as well as a practice-oriented space that works closely with planning, developmental and ecological bodies.

Transdisciplinary and Social Relevance: The activities at this research cum advisory space will have a transdisciplinary character in keeping with the new pedagogic methods. In fact, much support is needed to facilitate and incorporate, personnel from fields like social sciences, planning, architecture, ecology as well as biodiversity research, the centre adds transdisciplinary, interdisciplinary and ethnographic dimensions.

Logistics: In order to function autonomously research-wise but in synergy with university schools and bodies, it is necessary to have a small number of staff or researchers. The personnel could be project specific to start with but eventually, with consultancies and modules offered in fields like design, urban processes and political geography, there needs to be a faculty inclined to the broad themes and with research emphasis or background. At least a few amongst the faculty have to be available continuously, on a long run, when the centre runs pedagogic programmes as well as for the continuance as well as everyday activities. Scholars can reside as resource personnel and PhD research in relevant areas could eventually be registered through the centre. For all this we seek the support of state in terms of bureaucratic interventions and technical facilitation. For an academically smooth functioning the centre should be able to access existing resource bases like the journals and repositories as well as connect itself with publishing houses elsewhere as and when works come. ICT enabled spaces can develop on the possibility of visiting scholarship and resource help. The centre can work in synergy with the ICSSR, possible UGC supports, small scale project funds, as well as MoUs (international and within the nation) in order to develop on the possibilities.

Working Plan- Five years and ahead: In the immediate five years, with the needed support, the upgraded centre will start providing foundational inputs by ways of interventions, lab works, hands on assignments as well as academic training and scholarly production pertaining to:

1. Genealogy of cities and ecologies
2. Social character of Ecosystemic processes
3. The possibilities and limits of cities as global and local ethnographic sites
4. The past, present and future of Urban Spaces and political geographies
5. City in relation to other cities (inter-urban processes)

The interdisciplinary engagements as well as the activities of extension planned through a fully functional Political Ecology lab can run with eventual supports wherever it finds synergy with

urban bodies and city vision programmes. Key memorandums of academic and research understandings come in here.

The lab (Urban Studies and Political Ecology) that is imagined to function as an active part of the centre promotes practice oriented work that will address needs like lack of data and the ways of presenting such data, through multimedia documentations and mapping. There could be more technical collaborations on the upcoming improvisations and conceptual additions to the geographical information systems. The synergic development of the centre and the lab could eventually transform into consultative and multidisciplinary node at the University for planning and action. The knowledge gained through such experience adds on to the small course works with specific modules and eventually programmes in years ahead.

Further Steps: With the infrastructure and competence, and continuing resource support in the following years, the centre could develop as a more autonomous ‘convergence centre’. This develops on the expertise in fields like consultancy. It can frame and structure the idea further to address the need for:

1. Competent resource personnel to handle workshops, courses and the themes therein
2. The planning and budgeting as well as an engagement with broader themes as well as supportive bodies.
3. Plans for extension through inter-institutional collaborations and Memorandums of Understandings (MoUs).

Preliminary Budget: The preliminary requests for state support come by different heads like remunerating the essential faculty, occasional resource, field trips and logistics as well as the running of workshops especially in the context of the space working as a ‘convergence centre’ for academic, planning, and developmental bodies. Support in the context of setting up a lab as well as training centre; in the form of seed money would be helpful in order to focus the work further. Eventually once the centre gets routinised, with essential infrastructure it envisages taking up academic programmes or non-academic consultancy. A tentative working budget outlay along these broad outlines is attached herewith.

Budget Estimate:

	Category	Amount	Remarks
Fixed Infrastructure (Non-Recurring Expense)			
1	Planning, Design and Urban Labs	40,00,000	
2	Laptops/ Cameras for documentation/ Projectors/ GPS	20,00,000	
3	Digitally equipped Class	5,00,000	
4	Software for Mappings	10,00,000	
5	Reference and Library automation	20, 00,000	
	Total	(95,00,000)	
Annual (Recurring Expense)- Each of the Five Years subject to Increments Beyond			

1	Salaries or Remunerations		
	Research Associate	6,00,000	50,000X 12
	Research Officer	4,80,000	40,000X12
	Teaching assistant	4,20,000	35,000X12
	Technical Coordinator/ GPS Expert	4,20,000	35,000X12
	Computer Assistant/ Data Manager	3,60,000	30,000X12
	Office Assistant	2,40,000	20,000X12
2	Resource talks and Workshops	10,00,000	
3	Publishing work and Working papers	10,00,000	
4	Books/Journal Subscription	30,00,000	
5	Project Design and Initiatives/ Fieldwork	30,00,000	

6	Digital Documentation/ Software	15,00,000	
7	Resident Resource personnel/ Visiting Faculty Honorarium	15,00,000	
8	Curriculum workshops and course designs	5,00,000	
9	Overhead/ Contingency	14,02,000	10 %
	Total	(1,54,22,000)	
	TOTAL FOR FIVE INITIAL YEARS	7,71,10,000	
	Total (Non-Recurring + Recurring Expenses)	<u>86,610,000</u>	

Expected Outcome:

- Enquiries of contemporary urbanisms, will be followed up with the kinds of challenges they pose and the concomitant, problem solving arguments to redesign the city for the coming times.
- There will be extensive documentation of the ecologies as well as urbanising spaces in the context of upcoming urban plans and smart city projects.
- New ecologies and anthropocene situations are seen to be continuously constituted and reconstructed in the interests of diverse orderings of political and social control. Mapping

such transformations exposes the changing social and political orderings underlying urban formation and forces of transformation as well as design.

- This connects with contemporary typologies of political geographies in the making especially in urban and technocratic contexts or in contexts of ecological negotiations.
- Modules will equip personnel both from the academia as well as planning and developmental bodies for whom courses will be structured in gaining nuanced understandings of the phenomena.
- The urban ecology labs will be a major tool.
- The work of this centre could become a resource pool in the designing and planning of upcoming urban spaces.
- The centre will come out with a repository of publication-ready books, policy documents, articles, autonomously run pedagogic programmes, as well as audio-video records of a diachronic and synchronic understanding of urbanisms from the subcontinent.

6. Centre for Gender Justice and Human Rights (CGHR)

Academic Vision

The aim of the Centre for Gender Justice and Human Rights is to facilitate rigorous research using gender analysis while promoting awareness of the relevance of gender as a category of analysis in historical, economic, political, cultural, social, and scientific contexts. The centre aims to revitalize debates on the ontological and epistemological dimensions of the field of human rights and politics by engaging in careful ethical scrutiny of global issues from a gendered perspective. It aims in this endeavour to generate new interdisciplinary knowledge about women and gender relations, to work towards generating solutions to gender inequalities through research and documentation, and to facilitate a politics of accountability through the process of examining and reflecting on attitudes of societal stereotypes.

The centre intends to engage in developing theoretical paradigms with special attention given to multiple axes of oppression and marginalities that resists easy definitions. Gender Justice will be explored from multiple and overlapping perspectives drawn from feminist thought and praxis giving attention to how power and patriarchy operates in specific contexts. In this regard, the Centre aims to provide the students with new conceptual frameworks and methodological approaches through development of niche courses as well as engagement with changemakers. The Centre also hopes to provide experiential learning and hands-on experience in understanding and analysis of issues and concerns of gender intersecting with state policies and social institutions. The Centre also envisages a creation of a Kerala-specific space with a cosmopolitan approach that will endeavour in dissemination of feminist vocabulary and ideas at the local level through action research projects and translation projects.

Phases of Development (with an immediate focus for the next five years)

- Inauguration of the Centre’s activities with a year long series of international research seminars and public lectures culminating in a symposia of academicians and gender activists to discuss the various issues of contemporary significance in the field of gender justice and human rights.
- Focus on developing long term Action Research Projects at the local level.
- Syllabi formation brainstorming session at the end of the second year.
- Introduction of a PG diploma course in Gender Studies after the second year.
- Conduct and facilitate short term research programs and gender awareness building consultancy efforts.
- Serve as knowledge partner for conducting training and capacity building programmes
- Open the centre for PhD level research in the fifth year which will seek to develop interdisciplinary research which analyses the role of gender (politis, performance, embodiment, histories, constructions, deviations, solidarities) in issues of both global and local significance.

Further Long term Goals (for the next 20 years)

- Developing a Scholar-in-residence program
- Organising an yearly young researchers colloquy highlighting emerging research on gender and human rights
- Establish a Research Conclave on Feminism and Technology
- Institute an award for on-ground work in gender and human rights for practitioners and a citation award for exemplary student research in the area of gender studies.
- Solidarity Synod for Feminists in South Asia

Financial Budget Estimate

	Category	Amount	Remarks
Fixed Infrastructure (Non-Recurring Expense)			
1	Laptops/ Cameras for documentation/ Projectors	20,00,000	

2	Digital Infrastructure	5,00,000	
3	Translation Lab	10,00,000	
4	Reference and Library Section	20, 00,000	
	Total	(55,00,000)	
Annual (Recurring Expense)- Each of the Five Years subject to Increments Beyond			
1	Salaries or Remunerations		
	Research Associate	6,00,000	50,000X 12
	Research Officer	4,80,000	40,000X12
	Teaching assistant	4,20,000	35,000X12
	Translation Expert/Field Work Coordinator	4,20,000	35,000X12
	Computer Assistant/ Data Manager	3,60,000	30,000X12

	Office Assistant	2,40,000	20,000X12
2	Resource talks and Workshops	10,00,000	
3	Publishing Journal	10,00,000	
4	Books/Journal Subscription	30,00,000	
5	Action Research Projects and Fieldwork	30,00,000	
6	Digital Documentation/ Software	15,00,000	
7	Gender Expert Advisors' and Visiting Scholars' Honorarium	15,00,000	
8	Curriculum workshops and course symposia	5,00,000	
9	Gender Auditing Collaborations	5,00,000	
9	Overhead/ Contingency	14,14,200	10 %
	Total	1,55,56,200	

TOTAL FOR FIVE INITIAL YEARS	7,77,81,000	
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Technical and Executional Challenges

The Centre focuses on intersectional research and the main challenge will be in ensuring proper representation of research scholarship coming from different marginal locations and ethical access to research subjects that ensures knowledge production that can be beneficial to the marginalised communities. The new centre will require specialised administrative assistance in developing a continually growing repository of academic and digital resources. The Centre will require bureaucratic ease in its collaborations with gender experts at the national and international levels. Local dissemination of research outputs will require an engagement with contextual epistemic communities and collaboration with language experts in developing an accessible vocabulary that conveys the intricacies of various gendered dimensions of justice and human rights without sounding complicated, yet not losing the texture of the complexity involved. Faculty and research support that reflects both theoretical engagements, as well as experiential knowledge in praxis, is crucial and the university will have to devise recruitment policies that will enable this fine balance.

Expected Key Outcomes

- Development of curricula with the core commitment of promotion of equitable and participatory research focusing on social justice drawing upon a broad range of disciplinary approaches to the study of women and gender.
- Introduction of Master’s and doctoral programmes in Gender Studies and facilitate research and outreach projects which aim to promote gender sensitivity, equality and justice.
- Transforming the centre over twenty years into a centre of excellence as well as a research hub for alternative research on global issues with a specific focus on gender.
- Translation series of feminist texts into Malayalam and key Kerala focal research in Malayalam into English.
- Publishing a peer-reviewed Journal of Gender Justice and Human Rights

7. Centre for Indo-Pacific Affairs (CIPA)

A new area studies research programme at SIRP ‘the Centre for Indo-Pacific Affairs’ (CIPA) has been proposed in view of the new geopolitical relativities of our time. The evolution of the ‘Indo-Pacific’ concept over the last decade as a regional construct integrating the Indian and Pacific Oceans, manifests a new regional imagination in maritime Asia on account of the shift of the global centre of economic gravity to Asia and a change in the regional balance of power. The emergence of the Indo-Pacific has significant implications for the future of India. Kerala in particular has a huge stake in the development of the Indo-Pacific regional order, given its unique maritime location historically and geographically. Hence it's all the more important to be aware of the developments in the Indo-Pacific and articulate Kerala centric narrative. CIPA is envisioned to become the hub of academic and policy research activities on the Indo-Pacific in Kerala and a coordination point for national and international exchange on Indo-Pacific affairs.

Keeping in mind the emerging importance of the Indo-Pacific, the CIPA seeks to contribute to building a knowledge base on Indo-Pacific and national/international collaboration through the following activities.

1. Research

The CIPA seeks to support research on Indo-Pacific publishing pieces that explore historical, social, political and economic studies of the region and disseminate their findings through public events. The thrust area for research at CIPA would be the following:

- A. Locating Kerala in Global Maritime History
- B. Mapping the Evolution of Indo-Pacific: Vision and Strategies
- C. Maritime Security
- D. Economic and Connectivity Cooperation

2. National/International Exchanges

The CIPA aims to serve as a nexus of academic reflection and national/international dialogue. In collaboration with its Indo-Pacific partners, it aims to host a number of national and international delegations. CIPA will facilitate the visiting Delegations with an opportunity to meet with Kerala/Indian academics, officials and entrepreneurs. At the same time, CIPA will organize

Kerala/Indian delegation visits to different academic centers of Indo-Pacific to help familiarize the national/international research community.

3. Visiting Fellow Program

The CIPA will maintain a visiting fellow program to host both young and established scholars across India and abroad. During their stay in MG University, students will benefit from the visiting scholars' expertise, while the visiting scholars will benefit from taking part in the CIPA activities and completing at least one paper for dissemination in CIPA's publication.

4. Conferences & Webinars

CIPA will arrange an annual academic conference focusing on Indo-Pacific affairs. In the future, it is aimed to make the annual academic conference into a premiere international dialogue 'Kerala Maritime Conference' in collaboration with partners.

Throughout the year, the CIPA will arrange webinars to disseminate specialized knowledge to the public and generate discussions between various stakeholders in the Indo-Pacific. The webinars will be posted on CIPA's webpage as well as through other social media platforms.

5. Newsletter

The CIPA will publish a tri-monthly newsletter, the "Indo-Pacific Digest". The newsletter focuses on developments in the Indo-Pacific with special emphasis on a Kerala perspective.

Financial Budget Estimate

	Category	Amount (INR)	Remarks
Fixed Infrastructure (Non-Recurring Expense)			
1	Office Computers/Laptops/ Documentation Equipments/ Printers/ Projectors	30,00,000	

	Total (A)	30,00,000	
Annual (Recurring Expense)- Each of the Five Years is subject to Increments Beyond			
1	Salaries or Remunerations		
	Research Associate	6,00,000	50,000X 12
	Research Officer	4,80,000	40,000X12
	Research Assistant	4,20,000	35,000X12
	Office Assistant	2,40,000	20,000X12
	Visiting Professor/Scholar in Residence	1,000,000	2 *500000 (Visiting Professor/Scholar in Residence in a year. One in each semester)

2	Annual Conference	20,00,000	
3	Seminars/ Workshops/ Webinars	15,00,000	
4	Publication and Newsletter	5,00,000	
5	Books/Journal Subscription	10,00,000	
6	International Exchange	30,00,000	
7	Expert Advisors'/ Visiting Scholars'/Resource Person/ Industrial Experts Honorarium	10,00,000	
9	Overhead/ Contingency	11,74,000	10 %
	Annual (Recurring Expense) Total (B)	1,29,14,000	
	TOTAL FOR FIVE INITIAL YEARS (C= 5*B)	6,45,70,000	

	Total (A+C)	6,75,70,000/-	
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I B- New Innovative Courses and Global Summer School

The school is looking forward to further critical engagements with pedagogy, interdisciplinarity, and contemporaneity as well as building new learning ecologies. Along with the development of centres of research and extension, proposed with this aim along with a proposal of ‘innovative courses’ which can be envisaged as working in synergy with the research engagements of the faculty. The conceptualization of the new centres and its innovative programmes follow new methodologies and thinking in pedagogy, assessment, and evaluations; international learning environments are referred to as well as our existing linkages, both national and international, are enhanced.

1. Four-year Integrated Masters Programme in Global Studies

- Interdisciplinary program that concentrates on the intersection of global politics, economics, urban studies, human rights, gender studies, public policy and culture with emphasis on both theory and praxis.
- Envisioned as an umbrella programme with sub-branches that embraces the unique pedagogical and epistemological emphasis of the different specialised research centres.
- Flexibility to tailor the course experience to the student’s unique interests and particular goals.
- Developing and refining a Kerala-specific cosmopolitan discourse on key emerging global issues.
- A Kerala model for Contemporary Political Theory that borrows from the eclectic local social movements and its contributions and evolve it as a coherent intellectual response from the Global South.
- Cultivating and formulating new epistemes that emphasise local modernities to illuminate the global.

Financial Budget Estimate

<u>Personnel requirements</u>		
<u>Faculty</u>	<u>65,00,000</u>	<u>Faculty recruitment: 1 Associate Professors-1 Assistant Professors- 4</u>
<u>Office Assistant</u>	<u>2,40,000</u>	<u>20,000X12</u>
<u>Total (A)</u>	<u>67,40,000</u>	
<u>For Five years (5* A)</u>	<u>3,37,00,000</u>	

2. Innovative Outcome based Electives

The idea of introducing these courses, which our masters’ students can choose from a basket, is also to go beyond the stakeholder entrepreneurial models, to a model in which the school gains more agency in developing more socially responsible, and academically significant “innovation ecosystems”. So it is not limited to engagement and entrepreneurial actions in an existing system, but also about pedagogical designs for critical enquiry within contemporaneity.

Our postgraduate students thereby will also get exposed to another ‘outcome-based’ environment, wherein they can in effect design outputs in multimodal and multifocal ways. A course is no more limited to the standard modular orders and evaluations, but stretches learning

to social laboratories with academic motifs. We envisage practical hands-on workshops, that encourage explorative research that bring out presentations, write-ups, video productions, media labs, as well as possible small internships in concerned realms. The methods and outcome will be determined by the subject matter of the course and distinct foci, than a mere straight-jacketed evaluation. The innovative courses, through the study of social, political, and economic events, go into theories and techniques for the analysis of specific societal issues. This, with interdisciplinary methodologies works into cross-cultural perspectives on the social-ecological conditions. The exposure to the methods and engagements with newer outputs and evaluations helps the scholar become better-informed participants in today's sophisticated socio-political orders. Through the innovative courses we also keep a space of interaction open with similar academic ventures and work in synergy with other schools within the university as well as institutions and research spaces outside.

3. Global Summer School

- Annual Summer School for Graduate students from across the globe
- Special entry for students from India and Kerala to facilitate their interaction and exposure to global thinkers and institutions
- Syllabi dissemination of our particular SIRP conceptual and methodological views on various global issues
- A dialogue hub for alternative reimagining global issues and solutions

Proposed Budget: **50,00,000 INR**

I C. Establishment of an Academic Publishing Wing and Renewal of existing Journals

- Scopus Index for the Indian Journal of Politics and International Relations
- UGC Care List Indexing for South Asian Journal of Diplomacy
- Book Series
- Working Paper Series for Early Career Researchers
- Develop PhD research thesis of students into published books

Proposed Budget : **40,00,000 INR**

I D. Global Outreach and Extention Activities

- Brain-Gain Programme focusing on Diplomats and Academicians working on diplomatic history.
- Development of the school as a knowledge partner for official governance structures. This needs proactive state-level bureaucratic action and synergy.
- Development of social science advisory bodies to policy organs, both governmental and non-governmental. At the governmental level, the school will work synergically with officially recognised and accredited channels.
- Strengthening the consultative role of the School by providing intensive and sharply-focussed classes on strategic thinking and diplomatic negotiations for policy practitioners as well as future diplomats.

Proposed Budget: 1,00,00,000 INR

II. Project Proposal for Spatial and Infrastructure Development

	Category	Area	Rate per sq.ft.	Total Amounts (INR)
Fixed Infrastructure (Non-Recurring Expense)				
1	a. Faculty Rooms (6x 600 sq.ft)	3600 sq ft	2300	82,80,000
	b. Furniture and Interiors			9,00,000
2	a. Library Space	3000 sq ft	2150	6450000
	b. Storage and Furniture			

				10,00,000
3	a. Seminar Hall b. Furniture and Interiors	2000 sq ft	2000	40,00,000 6,00,000
4	a. Independent Space for Centres (6 nos) b. Interior and Furniture	3000 sq ft	2300	69,00,000 30,00,000
5	Visiting Faculty and Scholar's Guest Suite Furniture and Interiors	1200 sq ft	2300	27,60,000 6,00,000
6	Meeting Space/ Lounge/Cafe Furniture and Interiors	2000 sq ft	2300	46,00,000 8,00,000
7	Social Research Labs/Researcher's Cubicles Furniture and Lab Facilities	1800 sq ft (300 sq. ft x6)	2300	4140000 8,00,000
8	Revamping the space for existing Chairs and Director's Office			960000

9	Open air Amphitheatre			1900000
10	Toilet and Washroom Facility			1250000
11	Covered Car Parking			1500000
12	Outdoor Games Court			300000
13	Paved Pathway and Landscape			800000
	Total			5,15,40,000
