

## Report on “The Indian Futures Lecture Series: NAMO Bharat Dialogues”

**Venue:** Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, 15 Janpath, New Delhi

**Date:** 6th September 2025

**Time:** 4:00 PM onwards

**Venue Hall:** Nalanda Hall

The *Indian Futures Lecture Series* under the *NAMO Bharat Dialogues* initiative was held at the Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi, on 6th September 2025. The theme for the session was “**India’s Democratic Renaissance**”, focusing on India’s evolving democratic ethos, its global leadership role, and the vision of a *Viksit Bharat* by 2047.

The event commenced with a warm welcome to the distinguished panelists and audience members. Eminent speakers for the evening included **Ambassador Lakshmi Puri**, Former UN Assistant Secretary-General and author of *Swallowing the Sun*; **Shri Sujeet Kumar**, Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha, BJP); **Shri Anant Vijay**, Associate Editor of *Dainik Jagran*; and **Dr. Manish Dabhade**, Founder of *The Indian Futures* and Associate Professor of Diplomacy at CIPOD/SIS, Jawaharlal Nehru University.

Dr. Manish Dabhade, who curated and moderated the discussion, opened the dialogue by reflecting on India’s civilizational journey and its democratic resilience. He emphasized that India’s democratic renaissance represents a synthesis of its ancient values and modern aspirations — an evolution anchored in both continuity and change.

Ambassador Lakshmi Puri offered a global perspective on India’s democratic rise, drawing from her experiences at the United Nations. She highlighted India’s growing moral and strategic influence in global governance, gender equality, and sustainable development, framing India as a “normative power” shaping the future of democracy worldwide.

Shri Sujeet Kumar focused on the transformative governance models and youth participation shaping India’s democratic landscape under contemporary leadership. He underscored the importance of inclusive development, cooperative federalism, and grassroots empowerment as the engines of India’s democratic renewal.

Shri Anant Vijay provided insights from a media and societal lens, emphasizing the role of communication, public opinion, and cultural confidence in strengthening democracy. He remarked that India’s democracy is not merely political but deeply civilizational, sustained by the voices and aspirations of a billion citizens.

The discussion was followed by an interactive session where scholars, students, and participants engaged with the speakers on themes like institutional reforms, global diplomacy, and India’s leadership in the Global South.

The lecture concluded with a vote of thanks, acknowledging the speakers’ profound insights and *The Indian Futures* initiative for fostering dialogue on India’s emerging democratic vision. The session reaffirmed the belief that India’s democratic renaissance is both a national mission and a global contribution toward shaping a just, inclusive, and sustainable world order.

