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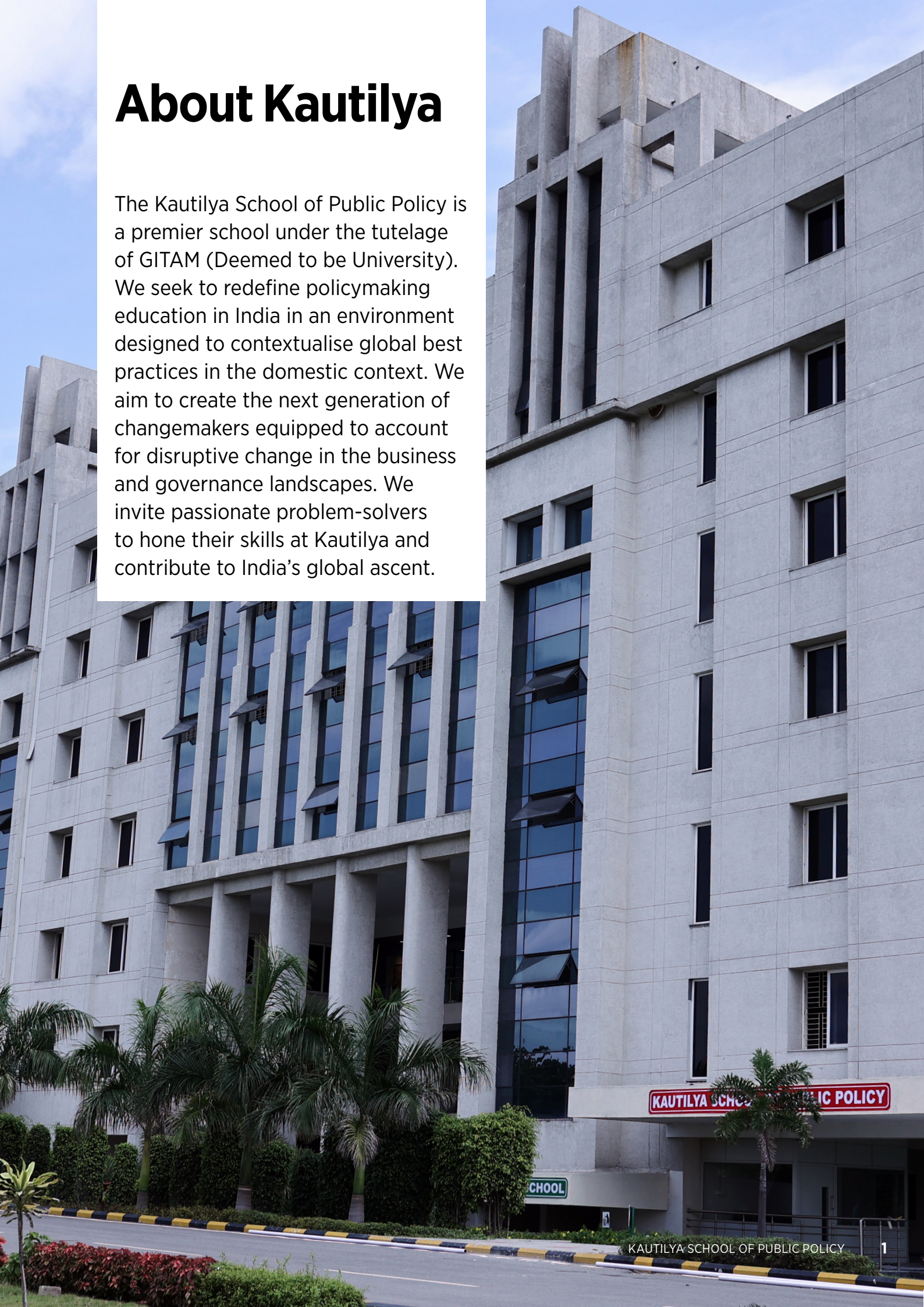
# PhD in Public Policy

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# About Kautilya

The Kautilya School of Public Policy is a premier school under the tutelage of GITAM (Deemed to be University). We seek to redefine policymaking education in India in an environment designed to contextualise global best practices in the domestic context. We aim to create the next generation of changemakers equipped to account for disruptive change in the business and governance landscapes. We invite passionate problem-solvers to hone their skills at Kautilya and contribute to India's global ascent.



# About GITAM

GITAM offers industry's best 120+ undergraduate, postgraduate and research programs with a combination of 600+ majors and minors at 04 campuses situated in Bangalore, Hyderabad, and Vishakhapatnam spread across 400 acres.

**1800+**  
TEACHING STAFF

**1200+**  
FACULTY WITH  
DOCTORAL DEGREES

**27k+**  
STUDENTS

**100k+**  
ALUMNI ACROSS  
105 COUNTRIES

**21k+**  
PUBLICATIONS

**300+**  
PATENTS

**07**  
NBA ACCREDITED PROGRAMS

**300+**  
RESEARCH PROJECTS



## GITAM ACCREDITATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS



NAAC 'A ++' Grade  
in 2023



शिक्षा मंत्रालय  
MINISTRY OF  
EDUCATION

UGC Recognized as Category-'I'  
Deemed to be University



88 Rank University in NIRF 2025  
Other Ranks Engg.: #101-150.  
Pharmacy: #48, Law: #37



World University Rankings 2025: #751-800  
(World), #240 (Asia), #125 (Southern Asia)  
QS Sustainability Rankings 2025: #1161-1180  
(World), #384 (Overall), #46 (Asia)



#1501+ (World), #601+ (Asia)  
88 (Young Universities)



[Learn More  
About GITAM](#)

# Founders



## M. Sri Bharat

Founder, Kautilya School of Public Policy;  
President of GITAM; Member of Parliament,  
18th Lok Sabha



## Mr. Prateek Kanwal

Co-Founder,  
Kautilya School of Public Policy

## DEAN



## Syed Akbaruiddin

Dean, Kautilya School of Public Policy;  
Former Permanent Representative of  
India to the UN



**Dr. Montek Singh Ahluwalia**, *Former Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission of India* in a guest lecture on “India’s Economic Development: Critical Challenges Ahead”

# Advisory Board



## Ms. Priyanka Chaturvedi

Member of Parliament,  
Rajya Sabha



## Mr. Dilip Cherian

Political Campaign Advisor and  
Communications Consultant



## Mr. Udaibir Saran Das

Former International Civil Servant  
with International Monetary Fund



## Dr. M. V. Rajeev Gowda

Former Member of Parliament;  
Chairman, Congress Research  
Department



## Dr. Menaka Guruswamy

Senior Advocate,  
Supreme Court of India



## Amb. Navtej Singh Sarna

Former Indian Ambassador  
to the US and Israel



## Mr. R. Subramanyam

Former Education Secretary to the  
Government of India



## Ms. Rama Vedashree

Former CEO of Data Security  
Council of India

# PhD in Public Policy

The doctoral program at the Kautilya School of Public Policy nurtures scholars committed to rigorous theoretical and applied research that tackles complex policy challenges. It emphasizes impact-driven research with real-world applications while advancing public policy theory. Our students bridge theory and practice, creating meaningful contributions to research and policymaking in fast-evolving policy landscapes.

## Program Structure

The PhD program is structured into two phases :

1. **Coursework Phase:** Scholars complete a set of core and elective courses designed to provide a strong research foundation.
2. **Thesis Research Phase:** Scholars develop and defend a research proposal, conduct original research, and complete a doctoral dissertation.

## DURATION

- **Minimum:** 3 years
- **Maximum:** 6 years (with extensions available under special conditions)

\*Scholarship support available for up to 4 years

## SCHOLARSHIP

- **Year 1 and 2:** ₹ 50,000 per month
- **Year 3 and 4:** ₹ 55,000 per month

## CURRICULUM

PhD scholars must complete the following courses:

- Statistics for Public Policy
- Foundations of Academic Writing
- Research Methodology: Navigating the Field
- Foundations of Public Policy
- Area-Specific Courses (3 courses)
- Research and Publication Ethics (UGC mandatory course)





## Research and Publications

To qualify for the PhD, scholars must:

1. Publish at least one paper in a Scopus/Web of Science indexed journal
2. Present at least two papers in peer-reviewed conferences (one national and one international)
3. Meet the plagiarism and AI content guidelines (below 20%)

## TEACHING AND RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIPS

Scholars will assist faculty members with teaching and research responsibilities for up to 6 hours per week.

## THESIS SUBMISSION AND EVALUATION

- Scholars will work under a Thesis Advisory Committee (TAC).
- Regular progress reports must be submitted.
- A pre-thesis defense is conducted before final submission.
- The thesis will be evaluated by two external examiners before the final viva-voce defense.

## AWARD OF PhD


Upon successful completion of coursework, research, and defense, scholars will be awarded a Doctor of Philosophy in Public Policy.

# Admissions



## Eligibility Criteria

1. Master's degree in following policy-relevant discipline with at least 55% marks (or equivalent grade).
  - Public Policy
  - Political Science
  - Economics
  - Law
  - Sociology
  - Development Studies
  - any other related area
2. M.Phil. graduates with 55% marks are also eligible.
3. Relaxation of 5% marks for SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer)/EWS/differently-abled candidates.
4. NET-qualified candidates will be given preference.

 [Research  
FAQ's](#)

## Admission Process

### STEP 1: APPLICATION SUBMISSION

Candidates must submit a detailed application, including:

1. Personal and academic details
2. A 2,500-word research proposal, covering:
  - Problem Statement
  - Literature Review
  - Research Methodology
  - Expected Contributions

### STEP 2: SHORTLISTING

Applicants who have not qualified the NET examination are required to appear for the entrance test conducted by GITAM (deemed to be) University for admission to the Ph.D. program.

### STEP 3: INTERVIEW

Shortlisted applicants will appear before a selection panel for an in-depth discussion on their research proposal and academic potential.

### STEP 4: FINAL SELECTION

Candidates who clear the interview will receive an admission offer. They must complete the enrollment formalities within the stipulated timeline.

 [APPLY  
NOW](#)



**GANDHI INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY & MANAGEMENT**  
(Deemed to be University U/S 3 of UGC Act, 1956)  
Accredited by NAAC with A++ Grade

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