



CHRONICLE

Quarterly Newsletter

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FROM THE EDITOR

The activities that have taken place at CDS and outside with the involvement of the members of CDS during the months of October, November and December as reported by the concerned members

of CDS are presented here. Suggestions for improvement of this piece of newsletter are welcome.

C. Gasper

SEMINARS

Missing Labour Force or ‘De-feminization’ of Labour Force in India?

Vinoj Abraham

Centre for Development Studies

9 November

The recent fluctuations in labour participation in India as reported as the ‘missing labour force in India’, have occurred mainly due to women labour force’s temporary entry into and exit from the labour market in recent years. This may be associated with the economic distress and recovery. However, a long term view exposes a classical structural change in female labour participation on account of women gradually disappearing from the labour force during the last quarter of the century. Further, it confines to unpaid household domestic work, especially with the rise of economic well being. Apparently, the sexual division of household labour along with social stigma attached to paid labour has precipitated ‘de-feminization’. At the same time withdrawal of women from the labour market in the recent period, even with high levels of education, seem to signal discouraged worker effect probably attributable to gender discrimination in the labour market and gendered progression in education. Underlying these changes are the various dimensions of gendered relations of power that seem to be resurging with rising household income levels and the quest for its control.

Out of the Shadows? The Dynamics of Change in the Informal Manufacturing Sector in Post-Reforms India

Kunal Sen

Professor, Development Economics and Policy
University of Manchester, UK

16 November

Productivity and Efficiency Impacts of Zero Tillage in Haryana

Prakashan Challattan Veettil
Centre for Development Studies

14 December

Conservation agriculture (CA) is being developed for the cereal production systems of South Asia to address the multifaceted problems of decelerating agricultural productivity, resource scarcity, climate change and negative environmental externalities generated by the conventional production system. This study analyses the impact of one of the prominent CA technologies, namely zero tillage (ZT) wheat, where we quantify productivity and efficiency using stochastic non-smooth envelopment of data approach. *The economics of ZT adoption reveals a significant gain with respect to input use and consequently on the cost of cultivation and profitability.* The results of productivity analysis show yield gain of 7 to 8 per cent due to

adoption of ZT wheat over conventional wheat. Early sown ZT plots are found associated with a substantial efficiency gain (16 per cent) compared to the late sown CT wheat ones. The

scale of cultivation and remoteness of the village are found determining factors of efficiency gain apart from ZT technology adoption.

CONFERENCES / WORKSHOPS

Two day Workshop on Aging and Well-Being

20-21 October

A two-day workshop on 'Aging and Well-being' was organised to discuss the emerging issues due to rising elderly population in India and the implications. Researchers engaged in the related areas of the study were invited to contribute to the workshop. The papers presented in the workshop covered a wide range of issues concerning the topic of the workshop. Some of the participants had come from the reputed institutions like TISS,

Mumbai, IEG New Delhi, IIT, Gandhinagar, PHFI, New Delhi, GIDR, Ahmedabad and Central University of Kerala. The discussions centred on the issues of health and living arrangements, nutrition and economic contribution as well as dependence among Indian elderly. The workshop was co-ordinated by Dr. U.S. Mishra and Prof. S. Irudaya Rajan. The contributions will be compiled into an edited volume on 'Aging in India: Needs and Vulnerabilities'.

U.S. Mishra

TRAINING PROGRAMMES

Ninth Short Term Training On Methods and Approaches to Research on Migration Issues

15-19 October

Co-ordinator: S. Irudaya Rajan

The International Migration unit at CDS which was set up by the Ministry of Indian Overseas Affairs as part of its plan to train young scholars engaged in research on migration had organised a five day short-term training programme on the methods and approaches for the study of



migration issues. Professor K. C. Sunny, Head, Department of Law, University of Kerala inaugurated the workshop. Professor K. C. Zachariah gave a special address. The training programme was attended by thirty-two participants from different parts of India and abroad. This includes students from York University and University of Victoria in Canada. Some of the resource persons hail from the Centre; and others from the universities and research centres in India. A wide range of issues relating to migration, development, remittances,



gender issues and migration diaspora were discussed during the training programme. Experts like Dr. George Joseph, IFS, former Ambassador to Qatar and Bahrain, Mr. Noyal Thomas, IFS, NORKA-ROOTS, Government of Kerala had also contributed to the training. All participants have felt that the lectures and discussions during the training had enriched their knowledge and understanding of migration issues. They have also expressed that they have had an exposure to ground realities by the field visit to MFI and NORKA-ROOTS.

Pinak Sarkar
PhD Scholar

**Executive Training Programme on
Commodity Futures for Commodity
Board Officials**

(organised by NRPPD at CDS, Trivandrum)

5-7 December

Co-ordinator: K.J. Joseph



Futures market is increasingly considered as a means of efficient price discovery of the respective commodities and ensuring stability in prices. As of now, in India 113 commodities are permitted for trading in the commodity futures market. Of these, about 50 commodities are actively traded. The volume of trade through six national and 17 regional exchanges has grown from Rs. 66000 crores in 2002-03 to Rs.181 lakh crores in 2011-12. In the case of plantation crops, except tea, all the other crops like natural rubber, tea, coffee, black pepper and cardamom are traded through futures market.

In this context NRPPD at CDS, as part of its capacity building initiatives has organised an executive training programme on commodity futures for the officials of commodity boards. The programme aimed at providing an understanding of the relevance of commodity futures in the current context, its functioning and the operational aspects including



the regulatory role of state and the institutional arrangements needed to enable the growers to take advantage of commodity futures. In addition to the co-ordinator, the instructors included Shri Paul Joseph, former Principal Economic Advisor, Planning Commission, Dr. M. Mathisekharan, Member FMC, Professor A. Damodaran, IIM, Bangalore and Shri Anil Mishra, Managing Director, National Multi Commodity Exchange.

K.J. Joseph

Reflections of a K.N. Raj Fellow

In order to perpetuate the memory of Professor K.N. Raj, the Centre has instituted a Fellowship Programme for College and University teachers to, essentially, improve the quality of teaching of Economics. The fellowships are based on an

endowment instituted by the Government of Kerala. Ten such fellowships are being offered annually, beginning with 2012, to: (i) prepare teaching resources; and (ii) enable teachers to complete a piece of research. During 2012, 10 fellowships have been recommended. Eight candidates have already availed themselves of the fellowship. Two candidates are in the process of using the fellowship. One of the awardees is Dr. Jomon Mathew, an Assistant Professor of Economics, University College, Thiruvananthapuram. He has been in CDS during December 2012 to prepare the teaching resource relating to Indian economy. Here are his reflections on the time spent at CDS as a K.N. Raj fellow:

I have prepared a teaching resource on '*Balance of Payments in India*' during my fellowship. CDS has given me all necessary facilities to use the fellowship very well. I feel extremely happy to be a K.N. Raj Fellow. I have used the fellowship in the most effective way. It has helped me to learn some of the recent works of Amartya Sen, Jeffrey Sachs, Kaushik Basu and Paul Krugman. The elegant academic climate at CDS has motivated me to be more serious in my teaching and research. The scholars at CDS are approachable and helpful.

CDS FOUNDATION DAY



Centre for Development Studies observes the Foundation Day on the 19th of October every year. To commemorate the founders of the Centre, a special lecture has been instituted on this day. This year, Dr. Satish Deshpande,

Professor of Sociology, University of Delhi has delivered a special lecture on 'Social Science in a Post-national World: Towards a Contemporary Politics of Location' at the auditorium at 5.00 p.m. on the same day.

FACULTY'S INVOLVEMENT

Faculty's Global Involvement

- **K.J. Joseph** delivered the plenary address on 'Harnessing ICT for Hastening Africa's Catching up Lessons from India,' in the *International Conference (IC 2012) on Sustainable Development through Science & Technology: Lesson from Emerging Economies*, organised by Adama Science and Technology University (ASTU), Adama, Ethiopia during September 6-8, 2012.

He also served as a member of the PhD award Committee and the Advisory Committee of 10th *Globelics International Conference* held in Hangzhou during November 9-11, 2012. He was a discussant at the panel on *Inclusive Innovation and Social Development* and at a parallel session on *Inclusive Innovation Systems and Competence Building*. He also presented a paper on 'Spaces of Exclusion in the Institutional Architecture for Innovation: Case of Plantation Agriculture in India'.

- **Sunil Mani** was a Visiting Research Professor at Bocconi University, Milan, Italy during October through December 2012. During the time, along with Professor Franco Malerba, he taught the Masters' students a compulsory course on 'Microeconomics of Technical Change'. Further, he initiated a new research project on 'knowledge-based entrepreneurship in India's medical devices industry' in partnership with Professor Franco Malerba and Professor Pamela Adams (Franklin College, Lugano, Switzerland).

He participated in the third meeting of the International Advisory Steering Committee of Centre for Science, Technology and Innovation Indicators (CeSTII), Human Sciences Research Council, Cape Town, South Africa on November 26 and 27, 2012.

He presented a seminar on 'TRIPS Compliance of National Patent Regimes and Domestic Innovative Activity, the Indian Experience,' at Bocconi University, Milan, Italy on November 29, 2012.

He gave a lecture on 'Innovations in China and India,' at Franklin College, Lugano, Switzerland on November 30, 2012.

Conducted a workshop on 'India, a Growing Knowledge-based Economy?' at Think! The Innovation Knowledge Foundation, Milan, Italy on December 3, 2012.

Faculty's Domestic Involvement

- **K.J. Joseph** contributed a background paper for the Information Economy Report 2012 of UNCTAD and presented the report before the press, UN Office, New Delhi, November 27, 2012.

Chaired a session at the seminar on 'Non Tariff Barriers' organised by the Textile committee on September 16, 2012, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi.

Made a presentation on 'WTO and Kerala Economy' in the *Seminar of Regional Implications of WTO* organised by IMG and the WTO Centre in IIFT, September 17, 2012.

Delivered the valedictory address on 'Innovation and Development in India: Changing Paradigms and Trajectories' at the International Conference on Developments and Innovation in Emerging Economies, organised by Centre for Development Economics and Innovation, Punjabi University Patiala, November 16-18, 2012.

STUDENTS' ACHIEVEMENTS

Anirban Kundu was awarded the prestigious D.K. Desai Prize of the Indian Society of Agricultural Economics for the best paper in 2011. His paper is titled as 'Farm-Non Farm Linkage in India: A Structuralist Perspective'. He shared the award with Saumya Chakrabarti and Alok Kumar Nandi. The announcement of the Prize Award was made at

Varanasi on November 19, 2012.

Bibhunandini Das presented a paper titled 'Information and Communication Technologies and Knowledge Dissemination in Agriculture: An Analysis on Farmers' Income' in *10th GLOBELICS Conference* held in Hangzhou, China during November 9-11, 2012.

LIBRARY NEWS

During the past quarter, 14 borrowing memberships and 236 reference memberships have been granted. The library collection has increased by 261 books, 39 working papers and 10 CD-ROMs. The library catalogue [OPAC]

is available online. The service is available at link: <http://cdslib.cds.ac.in:8080/opac/>. The online information service web-site <http://lib.cds.ac.in> has been populated with 516 new posts, and has received 13995 visits.

A new notice board has been put at the entrance of the K. N. Raj Library for displaying a copy of the title page of publications of CDS members. All the members of CDS community are requested to forward a copy of their publications upon their release to the library for display in the notice board and for preservation in the CDS Information Repository.

The M.LISc students doing the 3rd Semester at the Department of Library and Information Science, Kannur University visited the library on 20th of November, 2012. The students were given an orientation about the library. This included a power point presentation, live demonstration and visit to the library to meet the staff and to get familiarised with the library activities and services.

The participants of the NRPPD Training Programme on Commodity Futures for Commodity Board Officials during 5th to 8th December, 2012 were given a briefing about the library collections and the services on the first day of the programme. This included a power point presentation, live demonstration and visit to the library to familiarise themselves with the library services.

V. Sriram

BOOK REVIEW

K. N. Raj Library has launched book review sessions from this academic year onwards. Two Book Review Sessions have taken place in this quarter.

The first Book Review Session has taken place in the CDS auditorium in the afternoon of 4th October, 2012. Ms. P. Kavitha, former M.Phil student of CDS has reviewed the book on 'Indian

Multinationals in the World Economy: Implications for Development' written by Jaya Prakash Pradhan.

The second Book Review Session was held on 27th November. Mr Rahul V. Kumar, PhD Scholar at the Centre, has reviewed the book on 'Churning the Earth: The Making of Global India' written by Aseem Shrivastava and Ashish Kothari.

Churning the Earth is a narrative of India's tryst with the new phase of globalisation, which in the words of the authors has become a way of life with perpetual quest for control and dominance by the elite. This way has led to both intended and unintended consequences. While the intended consequences (in terms of growth) have been favourable for those who have held control, the unintended consequences have trickled down to the wider population. This has had its impact not only on their day to day sustainability but also with significant repercussions on the ecology. The book suggests an alternative development strategy called Radical Ecological Democracy (RED), a model that emerges from their observation of a large number of individual initiatives that has been taking place across India, in response to the unbridled nature of globalisation.

Thanks for the service

Smt. Usha Devi, the gentle and humane Deputy Librarian has retired from the Library service on 30th November, 2012. It is no exaggeration to say that the staff and students of CDS over the years have very largely benefited out of her very sincere and dedicated service in CDS library for 36 years since 1976. We wish her a happy and peaceful life at home.

Governing Body of CDS meets

The annual meeting of the Governing Body of the Centre was held in the afternoon of 3rd October 2012. The Chairman, Dr. Bimal Jalan addressed the CDS community at 7.30 pm. He then distributed the merit certificates and the cash awards instituted under the Staff Welfare Fund to five children of the employees of the Centre for their scholastic performance in the public examinations. The dinner was served at 8.00 pm.

Registrar

CAMPUS NEWS

Freshers' Party

The first thing that any fresher who joins an institution would look for is the news about the Freshers' party. Our eyeballs were wandering in the mail box each day so that we could get even the slightest idea of the date of the Freshers' party. Our waiting for it was a bit long.



This year, the Freshers' party was held for M.A and M.Phil freshers together in the CDS auditorium on 12th October. It witnessed a huge turnout of fun loving people. The party was organised by our seniors. It started with a warm welcome by their representative. The theme given to the party was 'Filmldom'. It became a colourful occasion as all freshers were dressed up like the film stars. There was no need for a formal introduction as the freshers were already familiarised with the CDS community very well.

The newcomers numbering twenty-four were divided into three groups. Each group was asked to give a programme based on the theme of the party. All the new students performed without any hesitation.

The M.A guys were very active. They gave a fabulous musical drama narrating the history of Indian cinema. The M.Phil students performed a melodious song from the movie 'Jodha Akbar'. Both performances were electrifying. Then it was time for real fun. Our seniors introduced some tricky games that would help to 'break the ice' among the students. Again, the students were divided into several groups. All groups participated



in all games very actively. After this, we had a superb dinner with the members of the faculty, non-teaching staff and their families. No sooner did the dinner get over, than the musical party started. It was time to get rid of all inhibitions and dance freely. Initially not many were inclined to step up and join the dancing. But eventually all were persuaded by the spirit of dancing. Everybody participated in dancing in whatever way they could. Some were jumping here and there, from one corner to the other of the auditorium. Some in the process of dancing happened to stamp upon the other's feet, or tear the decoration in the auditorium. All were so immersed with the spirit of dancing that none could imagine the fast movement of time. When everything came to an end, it was twelve past in the night. A joyful evening indeed!

It is always good to start work on a high and happy note. What better event than Freshers' party can accomplish this? Parties like this definitely help to build up the bond among the students that lasts for years.

Akhil C.S
M.Phil (2012)

Diwali Celebrations

Diwali was celebrated with much fervour on the 13th of November. *Diyas* were lit atop and around the men's hostel and the canteen where the CDS community joined in the evening to fire

crackers and set *Narakasura*, the demon on fire. In the spirit of Diwali, sweets prepared by the student community were distributed over dinner.

Thomas Mathew
MA (first year) 2012

Spic Macay Programme

The CDS was happy to once again host a Spic Macay Programme on 29th November 2012.

This time the performer was the leading classical Dancer Smt. Rama Vaidyanathan who performed Bharatnatyam Dance. She was accompanied by the artists Sri. K. Sivakumar on Nattuvangam, Sri. Ganesh Prabhu on Vocal, Sri. Arunkumar on Mridangam and Sri. Viju Anand on the Violin.



The students, faculty and the CDS community attended this programme which was held in the CDS auditorium.

Thanks for the service

Shri. Velappan Nair, the Campus Supervisor has been in service at the Centre for more than 34 years. He has retired on the 30th November, 2012. He has been very kind, very sincere and dutiful. We wish him a happy and peaceful life at home.

PUBLICATIONS

Book

Zachariah, K.C. and S. Irudaya Rajan. 2012. *Kerala's Gulf Connection, 1998-2011: Economic and Social Impact of Migration*, Orient BlackSwan, New Delhi.

Articles

Mani, Sunil. 2013. 'Evolution of the Sectoral System of Innovation of India's Aeronautical Industry,' *International Journal of Technology and Globalisation*, Vol. 7, Nos: 1 and 2, pp. 92-117.

Sarkar, Pinak. 2012. 'Verifying the Statement of Gordon Scott 1954, "the fishermen remains poor", in the Context of Coastal Fishery in

India,' *International Journal of Scientific and Engineering Research*, December, Volume 3, ISSN 2229-5518.

Other Publications

Mani, Sunil (2013), 'Technological Development in India,' *Mathrubhumi Year Book Plus 2013*, pp. 69-98.

Working Papers

Silvia Masiero. 2012. 'Transforming State-Citizen Relations in Food Security Schemes: The Computerised Ration Card Management System in Kerala,' *CDS Working Paper No. 451*, December.

BOOK TALK



The Gulf or the Middle East has been the proverbial land of milk and honey for the average Malayalee. Generations have grown up hearing fabulous tales of the 'Gulf Malayalee', a creature who is now firmly ensconced in popular consciousness through movies and works of fiction. While popular imagination has endowed an almost mythical quality to the land, the truth behind the hardships that every migrant undergoes has rarely been documented.

Kerala's Gulf Connection, 1998-2011 situates the phenomenon of migration from Kerala to the Gulf in its economic and social contexts. Based on migration surveys carried out by the

authors, the volume is a comparative study of the surveys carried out in 1998, 2003 and 2008. It looks at the changes that the migration has brought about in the lives of the families or the families left behind by the migrants. It shows how the changes affect all aspects of life — from the types of house they live in to ownership of household gadgets and vehicles and the fuel used for cooking. The book also draws attention to the social implications of migration on gulf wives and its impact on them as they remain in Kerala managing home and hearth while the husbands live and work in the Gulf.

This book also carries a two-part epilogue. The first one analyses the panel data from the

surveys in 1998 and 2008. The second one evaluates the results from the most recent survey conducted in 2011 that throws light on migration during the global financial crisis of 2008 and its aftermath on employees in the Middle East.

The volume will be useful to students and scholars of migration studies. It will also be of interest to policy makers and bureaucrats.

K.C. Zachariah is Honorary Professor at the Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum, Kerala and S. Irudaya Rajan is Chair Professor, Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs (MOIA) Research Unit on International Migration at the Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum.

CDS COMMUNITY WELCOMES

Kaustav Banerjee joins CDS as Assistant Professor on 9th October, 2012. He has research interest in the area of Agrarian Systems and Development Policy.

Prakashan Chellattan Veettil joins CDS as Assistant Professor on 1st November, 2012. He has research interests in the area of Productivity and Efficiency in

Agriculture, Technology Adoption, Water pricing and management institutions, Gender and Group Farming and Non-market Valuation.

Sunandan Gosh joins CDS as Assistant Professor on 28th November, 2012. He has research interests in the area of International Economics.

Wish you all the best

Dr. Anup Kumar Bhandari, Assistant Professor has resigned from the Centre on 20th December 2012 to take up employment elsewhere. We wish him all the best in his new endeavour.

POLICY POINTERS

Transforming State-Citizen Relations in Food Security Schemes: The Computerised Ration Card Management System in Kerala

CDS Working Paper No. 451, December 2012

Silvia Masiero

In this paper we look at the application of ICTs to the improvement of state-citizen relations in a developing country context. Our argument is that to maximise responsiveness of the government, ICTs need to target the structural problems in state-citizen relations, from which unresponsiveness of the state to citizens is generated.

Failure, as portrayed here, arises from the fact that ICTs, rather than being used for tackling the causes of issues in government responsiveness, tend to be conceived and utilised primarily as a means for acquiring political consensus. This argument is illustrated through a case study of computerisation of the ration card procedure in the southern Indian state of Kerala, where a typical problem of state unresponsiveness – mirrored by a burgeoning amount of unattended ration card applications – is matched by a typical e-government solution, i.e. digitalisation of the process of document release. Our case study reveals that, while the structural problems of the process of ration card delivery in Kerala lie within two crucial nodes, namely poverty status determination and

verification of applications, the digital solution devised by the government addresses predominantly the front-end, politically appealing node constituted by citizen application for a ration card. This strategy which leaves untouched the crucial nodes of state unresponsiveness, turns out in citizen dissatisfaction on the long run. Implications are both theoretical, as a cause for failure is identified and deconstructed in the domain of ICT4D, and practical, as an orientation to structural problems is recommended for policymakers that engage in ICT-based government reform.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS OF CDS

Books	Working Papers
<p>Population Transitions: Studies in Demographic Variety N. Krishnaji, CDS Monograph Series, 2010, pp 86, Paperback, Rs. 90, US\$10</p>	<p>Transforming State-Citizen Relations in Food Security Schemes: The Computerised Ration Card Management System in Kerala Silvia Masiero W.P. 451, December, 2012</p>
<p>‘Kulasthreeyum’ ‘Chanthappennum’ Undaayathengane? (Malayalam) History/GenderStudies J.Devika, Centre for Development Studies, 2010, pp.252, Paperback, Rs. 200</p>	<p>Inflexion in Kerala's Gulf Connection: Report on Kerala Migration Survey 2011, K.C. Zachariah and S. Irudaya Rajan W.P. 450, September, 2012</p>
<p>Tales of Rice : Kuttanad, Southwest India K.T. Rammohan C.D.S. Monograph Series, 2006, pp. 100, Paperback Rs. 150/\$18</p>	<p>Recent Developments in Kerala State Finances. Tapas K. Sen W.P. 449, July, 2012</p>
<p>Water Resources of Kerala: Issues and Case Studies. K.N. Nair & Srikumar Chattopabhyay CDS, 2005, pp. 125, Paperback Rs. 160/ \$18</p>	<p>Liberalisation of Technical Education in Kerala: Has a Significant Increase in Enrolment Translated into increase in Supply of Engineers? Sunil Mani W.P. 448 March, 2012</p>
<p>Biodiversity, Sustainable Development and Economic Analysis J. Hans B. Opschoor CDS, 2004, Rs. 100/\$11</p>	<p>Modeling Optimal Time-Differential Pricing of Electricity Under Uncertainty Revisiting the Welfare Foundations Vijayamohan Pillai N W.P. 447 March, 2012</p>
<p>Plight of the Power Sector in India: Inefficiency, Reform and Political Economy K.P. Kannan and N. Vijayamohan Pillai CDS, 2002, Rs. 400/\$40</p>	<p>The Pricing Problem of Public Transport in Kerala D. Narayana, W.P. 446, September, 2011</p>
<p>Kerala’s Gulf Connection: CDS Studies on International Labour Migration from Kerala State in India K.C. Zachariah, K. P. Kannan, S. Irudaya Rajan (eds) CDS, 2002, pp 232, Hardcover, Rs. 250/\$25</p>	<p>Emigration of Women Domestic Workers from Kerala: Gender, State Policy and the Politics of Movement Praveena Kodoth and V.J. Varghese, W.P. 445, September, 2011</p>



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