Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs
Research Unit on International Migration

ACTIVITY REPORT

2006 - 2011

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MINISTRY OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS
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MIGRATION

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MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The global journal of Migration and Development will be published from Routledge London in 2012.

BOOKS


Rikil Chyrmang. 2010. Education and Migration from the North-easteren Region in India, VDM Verlag Dr. Müller Publishers, Germany.

S Irudaya Rajan and Marie Percot. 2011. (eds) Dynamics of Indian Emigration: Historical and Current Perspectives. Routledge, New Delhi,


S Irudaya Rajan (ed). Dynamics of Migration and Remittances in South Asia In the context of Global Crisis. Centre for Development Studies and the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs.


ARTICLES

Marie Percot and S Irudaya Rajan. 2007. Female Emigration from India: Case Study of Nurses. Economic and Political Weekly, Volume 42, No.4.


CDS WORKING PAPERS


Ms. Aafhe Marije Heringa, Utrecht University, the Netherlands
Effects of International Migration on the Spatial Mobility of Women from Different Cultural Groups in Kerala - October 3, 2007 to March 8, 2008.
Supervisor: S Irudaya Rajan

Ms Ashley J McClelland, Department of Anthropology, University of Guelph, Canada
Globalization and Work: An Exploration of Labour Migration and Consumption in the context of Economic Liberalization – May 15-October 31-2007

Ms Anette Ekelund, Department of International Environment and Development Studies, Norwegian University
The Impact of Labour Migration on Children’s Development in Kerala –September-December 2008

Dr Margaret Walton Roberts, Associate Professor, Wilfred Laurier University, Canada
Female Temporary Migration from Kerala to Bahrain and UAE: Socio-cultural Impacts in the Sending and Receiving Region – September 17, 2008-July 17, 2009
N Sabira
Gulf Migration and the Educational Mobility of Muslim Women in Malappuram District
Supervisors: S Irudaya Rajan and Chinnappan Gasper

Jyoti Parimal Sarkar
Cross-Border Migration in Developing Countries: A Case of Bangladeshi Migration to India
Supervisors: S Irudaya Rajan and P R Gopinathan Nair

Prabhat Kumar
Linkage between Internal Migration and Regional Development: A Case of India
Supervisors: U S Mishra and S Irudaya Rajan

Rikkil Chyrmang
Education and Migration from the North-eastern Region in India
Supervisors: S Irudaya Rajan and Chinnappan Gasper

C Valatheeswaran
Livelihood Strategies of Sri Lankan Refugees in Tamil Nadu
Supervisors: S Irudaya Rajan and A V Jose

Raju John
Capabilities, Labour Market Experiences and Inequality Among Kerala Migrants
Supervisors: S Irudaya Rajan and Vinoj Abraham

Soumi Roy Chowdhury
Examining the GATS and SAFTA agreement on Indian health sector
Supervisors: S Irudaya Rajan and K N Harilal

Pinak Sarkar
An Economic Analysis of Education Related Migration in Indian States
Supervisors: S Irudaya Rajan and Chinnappan Gasper
PH.D IN APPLIED ECONOMICS
JAWAHARLAL NEHRU UNIVERSITY, NEW DELHI

Remya Prabha, G.
Internal Migration of Women in India: A Study of Migrant Women Workers
Supervisor: S Irudaya Rajan

Mythri Prasad
Mobility, Migrancy and Globalisation: City Spaces in Kerala
Supervisors: K N Harilal and Praveena Kodoth

Sreerupa
Transnational Linkages and Organization of Care Work for the Aged: Experiences from Central Travancore, Kerala
Supervisor: S Irudaya Rajan

Neethi P
Globalization Lived Locally: Looking at Kerala’s Labour Market through a Spatial Theoretical Framework
Supervisors: K N Harilal and J Devika

Vijay Korra
Distress Migration from Rural to Urban Areas in India: Case Study of Andhra Pradesh
Supervisors: S Irudaya Rajan and U S Mishra

Rikkil Chyrmang
Migration, Conflict and Development in the North-Eastern Region of India: An Empirical Investigation in Assam and Meghalaya
Supervisors: S Irudaya Rajan and K N Nair

Sumeetha M
Replacement Migration: A Study of Informal Sector in Kerala
Supervisors: S Irudaya Rajan and K N Harilal
OPEN SEMINARS AT CDS

Managing Migration in the Philippines: Lessons for India
S. Irudaya Rajan and U.S. Mishra
20 April, 2007

Remittance, Private Consumption, Investment and Economic Growth in India
Hrushikesh Mallick.
20 April 2007

Economic Implications of Skilled Migration from India
Sunil Mani
9 August 2007

Immobility in Mobility: Kerala’s Migration Situation, 2007
K.C. Zachariah and S. Irudaya Rajan
17 September, 2007

Necessity Breaks the Rule: Effects of International Migration on the Daily Spatial Mobility of Women in Kerala
Aafke Hereinga, Utrecht University, The Netherlands
21 February, 2008

Land, Labour and Migrations: Understanding Kerala’s Economic Modernity
V.J Varghese
November, 28, 2008

Social Legitimaecy, Symbolic Gender Politics and Global Migration Circuits: Twenty-first Century Transitions in Kerala Nurse Migration
Margaret Walton Roberts, International Migration Research Centre, Wilfrid Laurier University
January 22, 2009

A Decade of Kerala’s Gulf Connection: Migration Monitoring Study, 2008’
K.C. Zachariah and S. Irudaya Rajan
13 August, 2009

Impact of Global Recession on Migration and Remittances in Kerala: New Evidences From the Return Migration Survey 2009
K.C. Zachariah and S. Irudaya Rajan
1 December, 2009

The Financial Crisis in the Gulf and its Impact on South Asian Migrant Workers
S. Irudaya Rajan and D. Narayana
21 December, 2009
**RESEARCH PROJECTS**

Demographic Transition and Economic Development in Kerala: The Role of Emigration  
S. Irudaya Rajan and K.S. James (Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore)

*Sponsor:* Global Development Network (GDN) through South Asian Network of Economic Institutes (SANEI)

There has been considerable interest in the literature on the possible relationship between demographic transition and economic development. This interest emanated mainly from the experience of East Asian countries, where the economic transformation is attributed to the demographic regime—population momentum towards working ages. As a result, it is universally accepted that the increase in working age population will lead to rapid economic growth of countries. However, the mechanisms by which this relationship operates in the context of developing countries are scarcely understood. With the high prevalence of unemployment rates among the youth in many of the developing countries, it is difficult for the policy makers to assess the likely impact of "demographic window" of opportunities on the economy. In this context, the present study is expected to assess the "demographic impact" on the economy of India with particular reference to the state of Kerala where there is a rapid increase in the growth of adult population due to significant past declines in fertility and mortality.

**Pilot Study on Replacement Migration in Kerala**  
S. Irudaya Rajan and K.C. Zachariah

*Sponsor:* Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India

There is no accepted definition of a replacement migrant. One purpose of this study would be to come with an operational definition of a replacement migrant (RM). A tentative definition is as follows: Replacement migrants are temporary workers who come to Kerala from other states in India to take up work especially in construction, non-agricultural production and service sectors. They are called replacement migrants as they are thought to be replacing Kerala workers who emigrated to the Gulf countries and to other parts of the globe.

The phenomenon of replacement migration is relatively new phenomenon in Kerala and it has a history, which does not go back to much beyond 1980. The phenomenon started as a direct consequence of Gulf migration. But since then, other factors have come into play. At present, they are replacing not only Gulf emigrant workers but also population deficits caused by the rapid fertility decline in Kerala which begun since the late 1960s. In recent years, replacement migrants account for a significant proportion of workers in several sectors, especially among casual labourers in the construction sector. Being a new phenomenon in Kerala, not much is known about their numbers, demographic composition, state of origin, sector of employment, conditions of work, living arrangements, etc. The proposed study is a pioneering effort to gather such information.
Preparation of Pre-Emigration training Materials

Sponsor: Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India

The Unit has prepared training materials for pre-departure training to prospective emigrants. Materials are prepared for six countries (Bahrain, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA), Kuwait, Oman, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Qatar) in the Middle East and three countries (Hong Kong, Malaysia and Singapore) in South East Asia. The contents of the materials broadly covered description of the destination country, also its political system, economy and society. They have also section on the conditions of living in the destination, rules, religious observations, traffic rules, legal system, penal code and labor laws.

Kerala Migration Survey 2007
K C Zachariah and S Irudaya Rajan

Sponsor: Department of Non-Resident Keralite Affairs, Government of Kerala

Since 1998, the Centre for Development Study has conducted two major studies on migration in Kerala. The first one, conducted in 1998, was a comprehensive study of, not only measurement of migration but also analysis of the consequences of migration on demographic transition, status of women, children and elderly persons in the migrants household, magnitude and utilization patterns of remittances as well as their socio-economic impact on households and the community and labour market. The second CDS study was conducted in 2003. Its objectives were limited to measurement of migration and remittances.

As with the existing surveys, the sample size for the current survey is 10,000 households selected from 200 sample panchayat/municipal wards (150 from rural panchayats and 50 municipal wards). From each of the 200 localities, 50 households were selected at random from the list of households kept at the panchayat/municipal office. If by any chance, the household does not exist or not occupied by a family, it was replaced by a neighbouring one so that the total number of household would remain at 50 for each locality. Panchayats/Municipal wards are selected at random proportional to the number of households in it.

International migration has remained absolutely stationary during 2003-07. Mobility has become, so to say, immobile. The number of emigrants had been 18.4 lakh in 2003; it was 18.5 lakh in 2007. The number of return emigrants had been 8.9 lakh in 2003; it was 8.9 lakh in 2007 also. The number of non-resident Keralites had been 27.3 lakh in 2003; it was 27.4 lakh in 2007 also. Migration rates, however, experienced some significant decline. The emigration rate declined from 26.7 per 100 households in 2003 to 24.5 per 100 households in 2007. The corresponding decline in return emigration rate has been from 13.0 per 100 households to 11.7 per 100 households. The rate of non-resident Keralites (NRKs) per 100 households declined from 39.7 to 36.2.

International migrants have sent about Rs 24,525 crores as remittances to Kerala in 2006-07. This amount represents a modest but consistent acceleration compared to the corresponding figures in 1998 and 2003. Remittances in 2006-07 were about 20
percent of the state’s NSDP. Thus, remittances have not kept pace with the growth of NSDP; in 2003 remittances had formed 22 percent of NSDP. Earlier in 1998, they had accounted for 26 percent.

The most unexpected result of the KMS 2007 has been in the area of employment and unemployment. The study has indicated that a complete turn-around has taken place in the employment scenario in Kerala. Employment has increased by 350,000 persons. The fact that the increase was mostly in the private sector (679,000) and in the self-employment sector (413,000) is a very significant development that portends a continuation of the trend that began in recent years. In the private sector, employment has more than doubled during 2003-07 (116 percent) and in the self-employment sectors; the increase has been by 19 percent.

Goa Migration Study 2008
S. Irudaya Rajan, K.C. Zachariah, K.N. Nair, Sabu Aliyar and Délio Mendonça

Sponsors: Department of Non-Resident Indian Affairs, Government of Goa and Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India

The Goa Migration Study (GMS) has canvassed four specially designed modules among 6000 sample households in 60 localities selected at random from both rural and urban areas of eleven talukas of the two districts of Goa using a Stratified Multistage Random Sampling Method, to collect the qualitative data on emigration to and from the state and to analyse its pattern and impact on the Goan society and economy.

According to the GMS, 12 per cent of households in Goa had an emigrant currently living abroad. Among the two districts of Goa, South Goa district accounts for 66 per cent of emigrant households whereas North Goa districts accounts for 34 per cent of surveyed households. Among the 11 talukas in the state, Salcete Taluka in South Goa accounts for 51 per cent of emigrant households, followed by Bardez taluka and Tiswadi taluka of North Goa with 15 per cent of emigrant households each. The emigration rate is estimated as 22.8 persons per 100 households in South Goa and only 10.7 persons per 100 households in North Goa. The estimated number of emigrants in Goa is about 56,000 persons, Of whom 20 per cent are females. Among the religious groups, 74 per cent of emigrants are Christians. Emigration from Goa is highly concentrated with respect to origin, both geographically and culturally.

The GMS has found Goan diaspora in 43 countries of the world. The actual number of countries could be much larger. Fifty six per cent of Goan emigrants currently live in the Gulf region. Another 13 per cent are in Europe, 11 per cent in South and South East Asia, and10 per cent are in North America. One unique feature of Goan emigrants is that about 7 per cent of them are working aboard ships. Sixty-two per cent of the emigrants leave Goa at the prime working ages of 20-39. Similarly, 58 per cent of the emigrants have a minimum of secondary level of education compared to 28 per cent among the general population. Among the emigrants, females are better educated than the males. Thirty six per cent of the female emigrants are graduates compared to just 26 per cent among the male emigrants.
International migration is expensive. The average cost of migration incurred by a Goan emigrant was Rs. 62,000 – the amount actually varies from a minimum of Rs.120 to a maximum of Rs.7 lakhs. The highest amount is paid to the recruitment agencies, i.e., Rs. 28,000 or 45.7 per cent of the total cost. Next in importance is the air-ticket, which costs on an average Rs. 18,000 which is 28.5 per cent of the total cost. Incidentally, about 6 per cent of emigrants in Goa were cheated by recruitment agencies and other brokers prior to emigration and the amounts they were cheated of ranged from a minimum of Rs. 2000 to a maximum of Rs. 2.4 lakhs. The most important source of funding for migration comes from parents (46 per cent), followed by personal savings (38 per cent), other family members (32 per cent) and friends and relatives (41 per cent).

According to the methodology developed by the CDS, the total remittances to Goa are estimated at Rs. 800 crore in 2008. However, Goan households received Rs. 313 crore as household remittances during the same period. Remittances are equivalent to 6.3 per cent of the State Domestic Product or 33 per cent of the revenue receipt or 6 per cent of the Government expenditure. Most households, i.e., 82 per cent, used the remittances for daily subsistence. Nearly a third of the households used it for educational purposes. More than a quarter of the households deposited it in banks. One-fifth of remittances were used for building houses and purchasing land. Like emigration, remittances are also highly concentrated: 36 per cent received in Salcete Taluka and 72 per cent received by Christian families.

The people of Goa invest large sums of money on the education of their children and on health. Migrant households spent largely on educating their children in private unaided and self-financing educational institutions and by visiting the private and super specialty hospitals in Goa. Emigration has indeed caused increased consumption of modern consumer durables and raised the standard of living of Goan households. The GMS shows that the migrant households enjoy a higher level of consumption compared to the non-migrant households. Similarly, the average level of savings and investment of the migrant households is higher than that of the non-migrant households.
Background Document for National Policy on International Migration

Sponsor: Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs (MOIA), GoI, New Delhi

With the request from the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, the Research Unit on International Migration (RUIM) prepared a background document for the forthcoming ‘National Policy on International Migration’ in its effort to assist the Government of India to have an informed policy document. In fact, one of the mandates of RUIM set up by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs (MOIA) at CDS has been to assist the Government in the preparation of its National Migration Policy. After a series of discussions and consultations at various levels, a group of researchers from CDS under the coordination of S. Irudaya Rajan and S. Krishna Kumar produced the background document. The document discusses the aspects and patterns of labour mobility in a globalising world, opportunities and challenges offered by the cotemporary global demography to a country like India that runs with excess human capital and changing notions of migration, from brain drain to brain circulation and exchange. The dynamics and patterns of emigration from India, past and present, are given a due consideration in the document, apart from the connections between migration and employment and India’s demographic opportunity. The legislative and administrative framework of the present system of emigration management, issues and concerns and aspects of illegal migration are also elaborated in the document in an attempt to visualise the policy for the future. The developmental dimension of migration from India is also elaborated by paying attention to remittances and investment. The document also underscores the necessity of having a national policy on migration that gives adequate attention to the gender issues involved.

Transnationalisation, Migration and Transformation: Multi-Level Analysis of Migrant Transnationalism (TRANS-NET)
S. Irudaya Rajan and V.J. Varghese
Sponsor: European Commission

TRANS-NET is a three-year research project funded by the European Commission under its Seventh Framework Programme. The project has identified four border-crossing relationships as areas for intense academic research: Estonia/Finland, India/UK, Morocco/France, and Turkey/Germany. The focus lies on the transnational networks and political, economic, and socio-cultural activities and the making of multi-layered transnational spaces. Moreover, the issue of transnational empowering is of central importance. The involvement of CDS is in the research pertaining to the transnational relation between India and the United Kingdom through migration of different kinds in the modern times. Department of Anthropology, University of Sussex is involved from the side of the UK in the project as the immediate collaborator to the Centre. The layers of transnationalism are traced through a cumulative analysis at macro, meso and micro levels by focusing on the domains of politics, socio-cultural dynamics, economic transnationalism and educational linkages. The location of research in India would be either Punjab or Gujarat, as large
numbers of Indians from those areas emigrate to the UK. The University of Tampere, Finland coordinates the project.

**Kerala Migration Survey 2008**  
K C Zachariah and S Irudaya Rajan

Sponsor: Department of Non-Resident Keralite Affairs, Government of Kerala and Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India

A decade ago, the Centre for Development Studies started migration research based on large-scale field surveys covering the whole of Kerala State as a one-time study. However, it soon developed itself as an ongoing project called Migration Monitoring Study, Kerala (MMS). This report gives the results of the latest of these studies (fourth in the series) carried out during August-December, 2008. It provides the latest hard data on emigration, return emigration and remittances to Kerala.

This study, reminiscent of the preceding ones, has brought out some unexpected goings-on in the migration trend in Kerala.

The first of these unexpected events is the large increase in emigration and return emigration since 2003. The common belief was that emigration from Kerala would decline as a result of the global recession in the Gulf countries and other principal destination countries of Kerala emigrants. Yet, the facts contradict that belief. The number of emigrants from Kerala has increased from 13.6 lakhs in 1998 to 18.4 lakhs in 2003 and to 21.9 lakhs in 2008. Simultaneously, the number of return emigrants has increased from 7.4 lakhs in 1998 to 8.9 lakhs in 2003 and to 11.6 lakhs in 2003. As a result, the number of non-resident Keralites has increased from 21.0 lakhs in 1998 to 27.3 lakhs in 2003 and to 33.5 lakhs in 2008.

While external migration has increased, internal migration has declined. The number of out-migrants from Kerala has declined from 11.2 lakhs in 2003 to 9.14 lakhs in 2008. The number of return out-migrants has declined from 9.9 lakhs in 2003 to 6.9 lakhs in 2008. The traditional tendency of Kerala youths to migrate to Mumbai, Bangalore, Chennai, Delhi, Calcutta etc for employment is giving way to emigration to Dubai, Kuwait, and other cities across the globe.

The Muslim community continues to retain its pre-eminent position in emigration from Kerala. More than 40 percent of the emigrants from Kerala are Muslims in 2008. Comparable figures are 37.7 percent for Hindus and 21.2 percent for Christians. Nevertheless, the increase in emigration during 2003-08 was much larger among the Hindus than among the other communities. The increase was 44.1 percent among the Hindus, but 12.0 percent among the Muslims and only 1.1 percent among the Christians. Thus, the Hindus of Kerala are catching up with Muslims in external migration. Until now, their dominance was in internal migration.

Emigration is expensive. On an average, the cost is Rs 57,000 per head. Much (54 percent) of it is for getting a visa. Ticket is another expensive item (23 percent). Emigrants dip into resources of the family, personal savings and savings of friends in order to emigrate. A few sell or pledge their land or house to raise resources. Others pledge their ornaments. Nobody get either Government or bank assistance for this
purpose.

If the increase in the number of emigrants from 18.4 lakhs in 2003 to 21.9 lakhs in 2008 was a surprise, the increase in remittance from 18.4 thousand crores in 2003 to 43.3 thousand crores in 2008 should be mind-boggling. Emigration increased by 19 percent during 2003-08, whereas remittances increased by 135 percent! This happened at a time when global financial crisis should normally have depressed remittances. But in the case of Kerala (and India as a whole), the global crisis has partly contributed to the acceleration in remittances.

Impact of the Global Recession on Migration and Remittances in Kerala: New Evidences from the Return Migration Survey (RMS) 2009
K C Zachariah and S Irudaya Rajan

Sponsor: Department of Non-Resident Keralite Affairs, Government of Kerala and Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India

The Research Unit on International Migration at the Centre for Development Studies undertook this study on the request of Department of Non-Resident Keralite Affairs (NORKA), Government of Kerala. NORKA envisaged that the broad objective of the study should be an assessment of the impact of global recession on the emigrants from Kerala.

Its specific objectives are to provide answers to the following questions:

- How many of Kerala emigrants lost their jobs abroad because of the global recession?
- How many of them returned home due to recession-related factors?
- What are the social and economic impacts of such job losses on the emigrants, their families and the Kerala economy?
- How their subsequent return to Kerala impacted them, their families and the Kerala economy?
- What measures can be adopted to minimise the adverse impact of the recession on the socio-economic situation in the state?
- What measures can be adopted to rehabilitate the emigrants who have returned as a direct consequence of global recession, particularly those in low-wage jobs?

These questions are answered in this study by a comparison of two data panels where information about employment, remittances and other characteristics have been gathered. The first data panel of emigrants and return emigrants for 2008 (before the recession) has been compared with corresponding information for 2009 (eight months into the recession). The difference between the two sets of data is attributed to recession. The sample for the panel study consists of about 4000 emigrants and 2000 return emigrants identified as such in the fourth Kerala Migration Survey \[KMS hereafter\] 2008 which was also funded by the NORKA.

Our estimate of the increase in unemployment during the recession period (the period between the 2008 KMS and 2009 Return Emigration Survey \[RMS hereafter\]) is 37,000 This number (37,000) is the difference between the number of emigrants (in
2008) who were unemployed in 2009 (about 59,000) and the number unemployed among them in 2008 just before the onset of the recession (22,000). Our estimate of gross “job loss” is 54,000. This number is the number of emigrants who were employed in 2008, but became unemployed during the recession period. It reflects the actual job loss during recession. Net loss of employment is 22,000. While 54,000 employed emigrants of 2008 lost their jobs during recession months, 32,000 unemployed emigrants in 2008 became employed. Thus, while the gross loss of employment is 54,000, net job loss is only 22,000.

The hardship to emigrants and their families caused by the downward movement of employed emigrants to jobs with lower salaries was not among the questions raised by NORKA. Such employment transitions were as important as unemployment in causing hardship to the emigrants and their families. As this question was not raised by the NORKA, no specific data was collected to assess its magnitude in this study. However, with the data available in our survey, using household remittance as a measure, some quantification of the distress caused by such employment transitions has been made possible.

About 58 per cent of the emigrants remained in the same sector of employment in 2009 as in 2008, while the remaining 42 per cent were seen to have shifted to another sector of employment. These figures give a broad measure of the extent of transitions in employment that took place during the recession period.

This study estimated that a total of 173,000 Kerala emigrants returned home during the months between October 2008 and June 2009 (the recession months). They returned due to a number of reasons, not all of which were recession related. How many returned due to recession-related reasons? Our conclusion is that most of the return emigration in 2009 was not recession-related. On the other hand, a little more than a fifth (21.4 per cent) of the emigrants reported that they returned home because they lost their jobs due to the financial crisis. This worked out to be about 37,000 emigrants who returned home owing to the economic recession. Another 3.3 per cent (5,700) stated that they were compulsorily repatriated, taking the total number of emigrants who returned home due to recession to 43,000 and the total proportion to 24.7 per cent. Another 11.5 per cent of the emigrants reported that they returned home because their contract had expired and was not renewed. If they were also added to emigrants who returned home owing to the economic recession, the percentage would increase to 36.2 or about 63,000 emigrants. Thus, the number of emigrants who returned to Kerala because of recession could be as low as 21.4 per cent or as high as 36.2 per cent of the total emigrants. Translated into numbers, these percentages implied that the number of return emigrants attributable to the global recession would at most be 63,000 or as low as 37,000.

This study does not include a broad analysis of the socioeconomic impact of the recession on Kerala society. Its objective is limited to the economic impact of job loss. Most of the economic impact (and even some of social-psychological impact) on the returnees, their families and the state was experienced through remittances which the household received from its members abroad. Our analysis of the socio-economic impact of the recession uses household cash remittances as its main tool.
At the state level, our estimate of household cash remittances does not show a decrease during the recession period. On the other hand, the total cash remittances received by the 3,045 households in the sample point to a modest increase of 7 per cent. This is quite an unexpected result. One would think that the flow of remittances during the recession would decrease and not increase. The increase could, however, be partly explained by the fact that the remittances in 2009 were for a 12-month period which included some non-recession months. Secondly, the recession could, in some cases, actually increase remittances, as some of the emigrants were returning home permanently, bringing with them all their accumulated wealth gathered during prosperous times. As a result, some households could exhibit large increases in remittances and others could suffer large decreases. That this is indeed the case is shown by the analysis below.

Forty-four per cent of the households had received more remittances in 2009 than they did in 2008; twenty-five per cent received the same amounts and 31 per cent received smaller cash remittances in 2009 than they did in 2008. Among the households that received smaller remittances in 2009, 29 per cent received less than 25 per cent of what they received in 2008, 44 per cent received less than 50 per cent of what they received in 2008, and 69 per cent received less than 75 per cent of what they received in 2008. About 90,000 households that received remittances in 2008 (6.4 per cent of the households) did not receive any remittances at all in 2009. If at all there is going to be any rehabilitation, households that did not receive any remittances in 2009 deserve rehabilitation most.

The Financial Crisis in the Gulf and its Impact on South Asian Migrant Workers
S Irudaya Rajan and D Narayana

Sponsor: Asian Development Bank, South Asian Network of Economic Institutes and Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India

The financial crisis that originated in the United States of America impacted the Gulf Cooperation Council countries with a time lag. The falling oil prices, contracting trade, and declining private investment flows have adversely affected the GDP growth in turn affecting the flow of migrant labour and remittances. In this context this study seeks to:

- Assess the impact of the recession on key industries in the GCC economies;
- Assess the repatriation of expatriate labourers;
- Assess the flow of emigrant labourers and fall in remittances;
- Assess the impact of loss of employment on the emigrant households’ in the country of origin; and
- Identify the measures undertaken by various stakeholders to mitigate the adverse effects.

The study has taken a two pronged approach to the subject. At the outset the impact of the global crisis on the GCC economies has been analyzed in terms of the sectors of the economy affected, and the changes in GDP growth and employment of expatriate labourers. Survey of migrants in the destination countries has been carried out to assess the loss of employment and earnings and their coping strategies followed by surveys in the countries of origin in South Asia of emigrants, and return migrants. Study teams visited the six GCC countries and Malaysia to interview labourers as well
The global crisis has affected the GCC economies through falling oil prices, depressed property and equity prices, low investor confidence, and reversal of capital flows. As the GDP growth in GCC economies spawns large population growth, especially large influx of migrant labourers from South Asia, recession affects the flow of migrants and remittances.

The rising oil prices since 2002 saw large scale FDI flow into the GCC economies, rising investment rates and higher GDP growth rates by boosting investment in telecom, banking, power and real estate. Private investment flow played an important role in the emergence of West Asia as the world’s largest market in project finance surpassing Western Europe and North America. The rapid growth of the GCC economies in the 2000s saw increasing concentration of employment in manufacturing, construction and trade attracting a large influx of expatriate unskilled and semi skilled labourers. One estimate put the composition of Indian expatriates in UAE as 50% unskilled workers, 25% semi-skilled and 25% skilled professionals. The large influx of unskilled and semi-skilled workers has led to higher rent inflation on top of unprecedented food inflation attributed to global rise in food prices in the late 2000s. Over a quarter of the population in the GCC countries was spending above 20% of the disposable income on food. While the response of the governments raising the wages might have protected the public sector employees, vast segments of workers in manufacturing, construction and trade suffered real income losses.

The precipitous fall of oil prices and the large losses suffered by the Sovereign Wealth Funds of the GCC countries have dried the FDI inflow and credit flow into the Gulf; worse, the banking sector is facing a severe crisis with few international banks willing to lend to projects in GCC Countries. The world export demand is not expected to pick up and trade discriminatory measures are increasing as protectionism is spreading in the face of crisis. Added to the adverse economic environment are the not too transparent bank dealings in the Gulf, poor contract enforcement and discriminatory property ownership regimes. The silver lining is the quick rebound of oil prices- current prices surpass the January 2008 levels- and the improvement in the ‘doing business environment’ in the Gulf countries.

The construction boom in the GCC countries has come to a halt with 20 to 30% cancellations, the bulk of which is in Dubai and trade volumes have declined. The phenomenal growth in employment of the past five or six years has come to a halt and about 40% of the workers have been affected. Expatriate workers did not leave in large numbers, but salary cuts were widespread; stoppage of increments, benefits and perks was also reported.

As regards the impact of the crisis on the South Asian migrant workers, the databases are poor and the numbers are hard to come by. The numbers mentioned by Indian ministers ranged between 50,000 and 500,000. An estimate of return migrants to Kerala arrived at by the Centre for Development Studies, based on a revisit of the emigrants and return emigrants of their 2008 Migration Survey, is around 61,000 for Kerala. Applying the methodology of the Kerala Resurvey to South Asia as a whole the return emigrants from the Gulf are estimated to be 264,000. These estimates are far lower than the official predictions because migrants would somehow struggle to
stay back and earn to repay the debt incurred to pay for the cost of migration. Hence, the loss of employment does not lead to an immediate return as they would be hunting for various alternatives in which social support networks also play a part. Thus, the number returning would be lower than those losing jobs, the difference being those in search of employment in the destination countries. For Kerala the numbers who lost jobs but continuing to stay in Gulf and those returning are estimated to be 39,000 and 61,000 respectively; and for South Asia the corresponding numbers are 170,000 and 264,000 respectively.

Despite the crisis and job loss the demand for expatriate workers continues in the Gulf as is evident from the outflows of migrant workers from South Asia. Except for a 35% fall in numbers from India, the flows in 2009 are comparable to those in 2008. But the direction of flow has changed; UAE is attracting less number of labourers whereas hardly any change is observed for Saudi Arabia.

Migrant workers send home remittances which boost the economy. India being one of the world’s top remittance recipients at $52 billion (and China at $49 billion) in 2008, the crisis worried policy makers that remittance flows might decline. But estimates show that remittances had, in fact, increased by 3 to 25 percent in 2009 in the South Asian countries. Micro level data on remittances from households with an emigrant currently in Gulf confirm the macro findings: about 94 percent of the households reported receiving regular remittances and about 30 percent receiving gifts during the crisis period. No change has been observed in the use of remittances by those households in 2008-09 compared to normal times. But the survey showed that 13% of the emigrants reported loss of job, half of whom found another job, and a quarter staying illegally in the Gulf. The work conditions have also changed due to the crisis: 25% of the emigrants reported redundancies, 16% reported postponement of contracts, 20% reduction of wages, 17% heavier workloads, and 8% forced to take annual leave and proceed home.

The survey among return emigrants in South Asia who have lost their jobs showed that 73% of them remained unemployed one month after return but the proportion declined to 42% at the time of survey. Among the employed 37% managed to find regular employment, 40% casual and 8% contract work. The return emigrants who were unemployed survived on past savings, borrowing, and support from family members. And few have sold assets to meet expenses.

The governments of the countries of origin and destination have taken few steps to mitigate the hardships faced by the workers losing jobs. The Government of Nepal has announced a plan to meet the cost of migration of those who lost jobs and returned. The Government of the Indian state of Kerala has announced a rehabilitation package for the Gulf returnees. Some GCC countries have slightly relaxed the visa conditions allowing those thrown out of jobs to stay for longer periods facilitating search for employment. The sponsorship condition has also been relaxed in some cases. Some of these reforms in the GCC countries, however, have been in the making for some time now in the face of severe criticism of the work and life conditions of the expatriate workers and are not directly related to the crisis.
Impact of Migration on Children Left Behind: The Kerala Experience
S Irudaya Rajan and Aparna Nair
Sponsor: Rockefeller Foundation, New York

This foray into a relatively unexplored research area offered a rich store of data which granted us the opportunity to collect general socioeconomic, demographic and health data on children in the state of Kerala in addition to capturing a detailed snapshot of the multitudinous impacts on parental migration on children ‘left behind’ in Kerala, and the adaptations utilized by respondents to manage the continued familial separations and parental absences wrought by migration.

This study was based on primary surveys and interviews undertaken across the southwestern state of Kerala. Data was gathered from respondents aged between 12 and 18 years at the time of the survey in two primary sites—the household (7100 participants) and the boarding school (1500 participants). Respondents were distinguished according to the migrant status of parents (i.e. whether they came from transnational and non-transnational households) and by the gender of the migrant parent (i.e children from mother-away households, father-away households and households where both parents had migrated). The material impacts of parental migration on children were immediately evident from our research—certain possessions reported by children of migrant parents were far less common among children of non-migrant parents. For instance, children of migrant parents were more likely to possess highly expensive goods such as personal computers, laptops and mobile phones. Parental migration therefore does possess the potential to result in material transformations in the lives of ‘children’ left behind.

The changes wrought by parental migration on a child’s educational status and attainments relative to children from non-migrant households were also evident, but far more heterogeneous. Respondents from migrant households possessed slightly higher degrees of educational mobility than their counterparts from non-migrant households. For instance, children of migrant parents had a greater likelihood to have higher enrollment rates; and were also more likely to enroll in ‘regular’, English-language schools which taught the ISC/ICSE and CBSE syllabi (which carry a greater value in applications for higher education). In addition to patterns of enrollment, children from migrant households also had greater access to extra-school tuition and coaching classes than CnMH; but this appears to be a direct result of the potential improvements in the household’s financial status, since children from wealthier households were more likely to be enrolled in such supplemental class, across the board. The change in the household’s economic status wrought by migration thus possesses potential implications for the future of children from migrant households by changing their enrollment patterns and choices. However the impact of parental migration on respondents’ academic performance was more ambiguous—this linkage appears to be much stronger among female respondents than male respondents. The former consistently performed better than counterparts in both non-migrant households and male CMH as well. On the other hand, our results suggest that parental migration may well be counterproductive for the academic performance of male respondents. However, in boarding schools, the data unanimously indicates that parental migration had negative impacts on respondents’ academic performance. Thus children from migrant households who nonetheless live with a family member/guardian during the period of migration actually appear to be better off than
respondents with migrant parents who resided in boarding schools. The presence of family members/guardians at home who routinely and regularly provided support and guidance may well be the underlying reason for this pattern.

Anthropometric measures of survey participants indicate that parental migration did influence the growth and physical development of children. Respondents from migrant households were generally taller and heavier, on average, than CnMH of comparable ages. However, when we considered BMI-for-age, the data reflects general population trends rather than the specific impacts of parental migration. There is a general tendency towards the increasing prevalence of overweight and ‘at-risk-of-overweight’ among children aged between 15 and 18 years. The prevalence of underweight children and normal weight children also declined in this particular cohort. These trends are noticeable in respondents from non-migrant households, as well as children from migrant households although parental migration may exacerbate this existing trend to some extent. Nutritional habits of respondents, however, do appear to have been influenced by parental migration—as stated earlier, parental migration has the potential to improve household purchasing power and therefore expand the basket of foods available to respondents; while at the same time parental migration can result in potential changes in eating habits through the impact of parental absences on the social environment of eating and child feeding practices. The frequencies of consumption of expensive foods, such as milk, eggs, fish, chicken and meat, appear to be higher among respondents with migrant parents compared to others with non-migrant parents. Similarly the frequency of consumption of ‘health’ drinks such as Horlicks, Complan, Ovaltine, Boost and Bournvita (all of which have aggressive advertisement campaigns targeted primarily at parents of young children in India) was also higher among children of migrant parents. A slight difference was also noticed in the frequency of consumption of sugary carbonated soft drinks and fast foods when we compared the habits of CMH and CnMH.

Parental migration also influenced the patterns of healthcare utilization—including the type of medical care sought (this result was more marked among boarding school respondents than household respondents) and the site where care was sought. Respondents from non-migrant households were more likely to access/seek care at public healthcare facilities than respondents from migrant households, and parental migration also increased the chances that households would seek care through private consultations with medical practitioners (which would be far more expensive than care in the public sector). Patterns of reported morbidity indicate some impact of parental migration on the prevalence of psychosomatic conditions—particularly abdominal pains, frequent headaches, fatigue, fluctuations in weight and sleeplessness. This result, as in other instances, was much more distinguishable among boarding school respondents than household respondents, underlining the role of environment in children’s adaptation to continued parental absence and familial separation.

Numerous pressures acted on respondents with migrant parents, as they managed parental expectations regarding their education, prolonged parental absences and separations from migrant parents and in the case of the residential school respondents, displacement to an environment that does not appear to be optimal to their well-being. Commonly reported responses to and consequences of parental migration were loneliness, unhappiness and increased maturity. Almost universally, respondents also
reported missing their parents after their migration. The prevalence of such negative responses was, again, higher among boarding school respondents, although boarding schools also appear to have a positive impact on respondent’s maturity and confidence levels. The high incidence of psychosomatic conditions among children with migrant parents in boarding schools underlines the complicated psychological impacts of parental migration on children; as does the relatively high prevalence of ‘caseness’—or the likelihood of diagnosable psychiatric conditions/disorders. The prevalence of psychosomatic disorders and caseness was definitely lower among CMH resident in households compared to those in boarding schools—suggesting that the environment contributed to the extent and success of adaptation to the ‘stressors’ emerging from parental migration.

Our study also highlights how important a strategy migration has become in the worldview of children growing up in Kerala—despite experiencing the negative effects of parental migration, the majority of respondents reported that they would like to migrate in the future (particularly in the household sample). Their caveat, however, was that they would try to migrate with their children, rather than leave them behind (again, boarding school respondents felt much more strongly about this compared to household respondents). Despite the numerous emotional and psychological ‘costs’ of parental migration, in general the event was considered as having positive connotations by children across Kerala. But when asked about their perceptions of the migration of each of their parents—separately—a significant percentage of children with two migrant parents felt that maternal migration was an event with negative connotations, compared to paternal migration, which was perceived as a more positive event than maternal migration. Female respondents were more vigorous in stating their negative perceptions of the event of maternal and paternal migration, compared to male respondents.

The one conclusion that emerged from this study was that it was counterproductive for researchers to consider parental migration in Kerala as having unanimously or simplistically positive or negative influences on the lives and experiences of children ‘left behind’ by their migrant parents. In fact, our results reiterate and underline the importance of considering migration in a nuanced light. The small numbers of interviews we conducted also highlighted the limits of surveys and quantitative research—through these interviews we were offered much more detailed, personal and individual perceptions of, responses to and adaptations to parental migration. The next stage of our research should therefore entail detailed qualitative research to draw out narratives of parental migration from the perspective of children ‘left behind’ in Kerala which can only augment the findings of this survey.

**Beyond the Existing Structures: Revamping Overseas Recruitment System in India**
S. Irudaya Rajan, V.J. Varghese and M.S. Jayakumar

**Sponsor:** International Labour Organization, Bangkok and Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs (MOIA), Government of New Delhi

This study was conducted with an overt aim of informing the impending National Policy on emigration by critically analysing the labour recruitment for overseas employment from India. The attempt had been to assess the efficiency/deficiency of
the existing institution for governing labour emigration from the country, with special reference to the overseas recruitment system. Apart from the information from surveys conducted for the purpose, this study is informed richly by reports in the contemporary media in India and the Middle East and by in-depth case studies. The study recommended comprehensive institutional change through considered interventions at multiple levels to effectively counter illegalities of varied nature and ensure ethical practices in India’s overseas recruitment sector. It called upon the Government to establish an Indian Migration Management Authority (IMMA) for looking after all aspects of emigration and expatriate life with a simultaneous focus on dynamics at home as well as in the receiving countries. It proposed ending the existing discriminatory regulative regime which involves tremendous social and transaction costs and recommended for a new one with an equal opportunity framework, but with adequate safeguards for the emigrants. It underscored the need of incentivising the legal emigration channels and disincentivising the illegal, for which social protection mechanisms should necessarily be put in place. The study also foregrounded the necessity of enabling Indian emigrant workers to deal effectively with the frauds and deception in the recruitment process and also to fetch themselves a better deal in the overseas labour market.
India Migration Report 2010
S. Irudaya Rajan
Sponsor: Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India

The first India Migration Report prepared by the Research Unit on International Migration set up by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India at the Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, is organised in twelve chapters with four broad themes: migration, remittances, gender and policy issues.

The opening chapter reviews the historical trends in international migration, and is followed by two chapters that deal on workers’ remittances. The first chapter assesses the impact of remittances on consumption, investment and growth whereas the next two chapters elucidate the implications of rupee appreciation on remittances and its negative consequences on poor migrants’ earnings. The results of the just concluded Kerala Migration Survey funded by the Department of Non-Resident Keralities Affairs, Government of Kerala are the focus of chapter four which talks about the level of maturity that emigration has attained in Kerala which led the country in terms of both emigrants and remittances. Chapter five documents the cross-border migration in developing countries with focus on the Bangladeshi migration into India, a much-debated topic in the Indian context.

Gender issues in migration are rarely discussed in any fora due to lack of availability of the required data. The first paper on this theme unravels the migration of nurses, which covers a long time horizon in the past, followed by the recent phenomenon of unskilled female migration for household work from India to the Gulf countries. The first paper focuses on housemaids is based on the research conducted among intending and return emigrants, whereas that on conditions of workers in the destination countries is based on anthropological fieldwork done in the United Arab Emirates. In migration research, the status of women left behind consequent on the absence of males in the household is as important an issue as that of women who emigrate. Is women’s mobility affected by the men’s absence? The answer is provided using the sociological approach by talking to women whose husbands are away.

The cost of migration and the role played by unscrupulous recruitment agents are serious concerns for both the Government and several international agencies working on migration. The Emigration Act 1983 provides guidelines for organising recruitment business in India. Do we have to revamp the recruitment system? Results are reported based on fieldwork done in eight cities of India in which offices of Protector of Emigrants are located..

Migrant-sending countries often cite the Philippines as an example to emulate for managing migration which is effected by means of strong policies both in the country of origin and active participation in countries of destination. What lessons can India learn from the experience of the Philippines? These are some of the themes the India Migration Report 2010.
India Migration Report 2011
S. Irudaya Rajan
Sponsor: Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India

As India prepares to count its citizens for the 2011 Census with a proposal for a National Population Register and a Unique Identity Card for every Indian citizen, the debate on internal migration and cross-border international migration is highly appropriate. India Migration Report 2011 focuses on the implications of internal migration, livelihood strategies, recruitment processes, and development and policy concerns in critically reviewing the existing institutional framework.

The articles provide a district-level analysis of the various facets of migration with a focus on employment networks, gender dimensions, and migration–development linkages, with concrete policy suggestions to improve living and working conditions of vulnerable migrant workers who are a lifeline to the growth of the Indian economy.

Living and Working Conditions of Indian Emigrants in Saudi Arabia
S. Irudaya Rajan and B.A. Prakash (University of Kerala)
Sponsor: Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India

Since the mid 1970’s, a large number of Indian workers migrated to the West Asian countries for employment. Compared to earlier migration from India, the migration to Gulf countries was different. Labour was recruited for work in Gulf on strictly limited contract terms and was expected to return home at the end of the contract period. The Report on High Level Committee has estimated the total Indian migrants in the Gulf countries like Bahrain, Kuwait, Libya, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, UAE and others as 30 lakh in 1999. According to the Committee, Saudi Arabia had the largest number of Indian migrants (12 lakh) in the Gulf region. Migration to the West Asian countries is crucial because India is receiving a large amount of workers remittances every year.

The objectives of the study are as follows: (a) To examine the changes in labour demand for emigrant workers and assess the future demand for different categories of workers in Saudi Arabia; (b) To study the changes in emigration and labour policies of Saudi Arabia and their impact on Indian emigrant workers; (c) To examine the process of recruitment, wages, terms and conditions of work, non-wage benefits, labour disputes and their settlement relating of Indian emigrant workers; (d) To map out the current problems faced by Indian emigrants relating to work contract, payment of wages, labour disputes, stay, accommodation, transport, air transport to India, bringing spouses, education of children, sending remittances, investment of savings or pension schemes, engaging in self employment, and investment in business and (e) to suggest recommendations relating to the above aspects. The study would also suggest measures required for improving the welfare of Indian emigrants and to promote labour migration to Saudi Arabia.
Kerala Migration Survey 2010
K C Zachariah and S Irudaya Rajan

Sponsors: Department of Non-Resident Keralite Affairs, Government of Kerala and Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India

The Centre for Development Studies conducts periodic surveys to monitor the status of emigration from the state of Kerala. Reports on surveys undertaken in 1998, 2003 and 2007, 2008, 2009 have already been published. Its next report, Kerala Migration Survey 2010 will be based on the migration survey carried out during August-December 2010. This survey report will be based on the data collected from a sample of 15,000 households selected at random from all the 63 Taluks in Kerala, financial supported by the Department of Non-Resident Keralite Affairs, Government of Kerala.

Punjab Migration Survey 2010

Sponsors: Centre for Research in Rural and Industrial Development, Chandigarh and International Demographic Institute, France

Gujarat Migration Survey 2011

Sponsors: Non-Resident Gujarati Foundation, Government of Gujarat and Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India

Pre-departure Orientation Training Manuals

Sponsor: International Organization of Migration, Bangladesh

India Migration Report 2012
S Irudaya Rajan

Sponsor: Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India
Managing Migration in the Philippines: Lessons for India
S. Irudaya Rajan and Udaya S. Mishra

Sponsor: Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India

Few countries have as many of their citizens living abroad as the Republic of the Philippines, or depend so greatly on migration for their economic vitality. According to the government, more than 7.3 million Filipinos, or eight percent of the country's population, currently reside abroad. From 1990 to 2001, official recorded remittances alone averaged 20.3 percent of the country's export earnings and 5.2 percent of GNP, providing a lifeline for many families in a poor country that saw little economic growth for several years.

With such impressive figures, the study emphasises the role that migration plays in the Filipino national culture and public policy. For more than 25 years, export of temporary labor has been an explicit response to double-digit unemployment rates. The government has developed a sophisticated policy regime to promote and regulate labour emigration. Migrants, and migration, are valued. What are the good practices followed to ensure the orderly migration in the Philippines? We prepared a report based on our visit to the Philippines and discussions held with the Philippines Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) authorities, Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA) and other governmental and non-governmental organizations.

International Migration From India in the Last Two Centuries
S. Irudaya Rajan and Prabhat Kumar

Sponsor: Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India

Movement of persons across national boundaries in South Asia has been a long-standing phenomenon. The imperial needs for labour had necessitated during the nineteenth and the early twentieth centuries substantial migration of labour from India to the plantation colonies in the West Indies, Ceylon, Southeast Asia, Mauritius, Fiji and South Africa. The bulk of these migrants went as indentured labourers. Kingsley Davis estimated that about 30 million Indians had emigrated between 1834 and 1947. This scale of movement was as large as the European migration to the Americas during the 19th century. It declined with the ending of the indenture system in 1921. However, significant free migration did continue between India and Ceylon, Africa and Southeast Asia even thereafter. Most of this migration was of unskilled labour.

Information technology revolution of the recent years has ensured demand for Indians as 'knowledge workers' throughout the world. Migration has brought rich dividends to India in the form of remittances. In a country of India’s size, the emergence of a situation of scarcity of labour in the domestic market with the necessary skills seems a remote possibility. Ensuring a safety standard for protecting the vulnerable, unskilled and semi-skilled migrants appears to be an area of concern. A good database on migrants from India is very much the need of the hour. Finally it may be concluded that migration, as a tool for development for both the individuals and the society,
appears to be a viable option, if managed in a proper manner.

**Status Note on Indian Domestic Workers (House Maids) in Gulf Countries**

S. Irudaya Rajan and Sunitha Sukendran

Sponsor: Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India

The Gulf region has experienced drastic economic and social change over the past half a century. The increased petroleum production created a massive demand for both skilled and unskilled labour in that region. In the early stages of oil boom, the demand for labour in the construction sector was met mostly by male workers either from neighboring Middle Eastern countries or from low wage Asian countries.

Eventually, as construction projects continue to “onstream” and living standards rose, opportunities for employment in the service sector became available and opened the doors for female labour in the Middle Eastern market. Pressures of filial poverty compelled women to leave their homes, parents, husbands and children and work as domestic servants in the Middle East. Women from different socio-economic and religious backgrounds migrated to Gulf in search of better job opportunities. The act of migration breaks the established rules of religion, culture, space and gender. By the early 1980s, completion of major infrastructural projects in the Middle East and emphasis by the local governments on training their own nationals led to a decline in demand for imported skilled and manual labour. At the same time, the emergence of a middle class there created a new demand for unskilled labour, especially in the domestic sector. This transition in the demand for labour from the public space to the private space meant a transition from male to female labour, resulting in the feminisation of expatriate labour in the Middle East.

Millions of women and girls around the world turn to domestic work as one of the few options available to them in order to provide for themselves and their families. Instead of guaranteeing their ability to work with dignity free of violence, governments have systematically denied them key labour protection extended to other workers. Domestic workers, often making extraordinary sacrifices to support their families, are among the most exploited and abused workers in the world. This is the document prepared at the request of MOIA based on the existing studies on the subject and based on discussions with various stakeholders such as travel agents, return housemaids, lawyers and non-voluntary organizations. The report also suggests measures to be undertaken to avoid exploitation and human trafficking.
Revamping the Overseas Recruitment System: Kerala Case Study
S. Irudaya Rajan and M.S. Jayakumar

Sponsor: Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India

The state of Kerala is known for its legacy of emigration to various parts of the world. However, it is the requirement of foreign labour force in the oil-producing countries of the Persian Gulf that has triggered a massive flow of migrant workers from the state, a flow which is unprecedented in history. This flow of human resources has benefited both the sending and the receiving states. One major category of beneficiaries is the facilitators of this migratory flow i.e. recruiting agents. The process in its ideal form is cordial and beneficial to all stakeholders. It is private intermediaries rather than state-run recruitment agencies that largely organize labour migration. This practice has promoted the rapid expansion and the relative efficiency of migration flows but it has also led to serious problems of fraud and abuse.

The risks which are associated with labour migration include trafficking and forced labour, recruitment malpractices (such as fraudulent job offers and exorbitant placement fees), debt-bondage, sexual and physical harassment, employment in hazardous jobs, under-, or non-payment of wages and discrimination. Female migrant workers who on an average come to about 47 percent of all migrant workers in Asia, often experience double discrimination, first as women and then as migrants.

Unscrupulous recruiting agents, most often on their own and sometimes with the connivance of equally unscrupulous employers and even officials, engage in cheating prospective emigrants. Many intending emigrant have suffered heavy losses at the hands of unscrupulous recruiting agents. The situation gets more serious when enforcement and monitoring agencies collude with recruiting agents in their nefarious activities. This study is based on the case studies and group discussions conducted among the Keralities who had been cheated by travel agents, in and around Thiruvananthapuram and Ernakulum cities. A few policy suggestions are made such as the formulation of a migration commission, compulsory attestation of contracts, imposition of heavy penalty for malpractices, ramification of public sector recruitment agents and compulsory pre-departure training as in the case of the Philippines.

Economic and Social Dynamics of Migration in Kerala, 1998-2003: Analysis of Panel Data
K.C Zachariah and S Irudaya Rajan

Sponsor: Department of Non-Resident Keralite Affairs, Government of Kerala

Panel studies based on the same set of sample households or individuals at two points of time 5 or 10 years apart are time-consuming and are relatively rare in social science research. Such method, however, was used in the Kerala Migration Survey (KMS) conducted at the Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram in 2003. About 125 of 200 panchayats surveyed in KMS were the same as those surveyed in Kerala Migration Study (KMS) in 1998. About 5 thousand of the 10 thousand households of KMS in 2003 were the same as those selected in KMS in 1998. About 14 thousand individuals in the 2003 sample households were the same as those enumerated in 1998. Thus, KMS 2003 provided comparable panel data for about 125
Panchayats, about 5 thousand households and about 14 thousand individuals at an interval of 5 years. Analysis of these panel data on several aspects is the objectives of this paper.

The analysis of panel data validated the trend in migration, remittances, employment and unemployment patterns, consumption habits, etc, shown by the KMS 1998 and KMS 2003 (using the full set of 10,000 households). The trends shown by the full set of data were more or less the same as those shown by the panel data. Thus the panel analysis showed that sampling errors were within the acceptable limits in both these studies.

A special feature of the panel analysis was that it could provide quantitative measures of shifts in employment pattern of the labour force during 1998-2003. An equally important result of the panel analysis is the information it provided on the process of employment of those unemployed in 1998 and the background information on the economic activity of the unemployed in 2003. Thus the panel analysis provides valuable information on the transition of the unemployed before becoming employed and the transition after becoming unemployed. A one time survey cannot give such information.

International Migration Policy in India
P R Gopinathan Nair
Sponsor: Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India

The Emigration Policy covered all citizens of India who emigrate for taking up employment, undergoing studies or training or conducting tours, visits or pilgrimage. Emigration could be short-term or long-term. The authorities who administer, supervise, monitor and regulate emigration under the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs were specified in the proposal which included (1) Central Manpower Export Regulation Council, (2) Protector-General of Emigrants and Protectors of Emigrants, (3) Officers in charge of emigration Check-posts, (4) Recruitment Agencies and (5) Labour Attaches in the Indian Embassies in the countries of destination. The functions of the central Manpower Export Regulation Council were clearly spelt out in the draft. The procedure for setting up Emigration check-posts and appointing Recruiting Agents was spelt out. Proposals for upward revision of the deposits to be made by Recruiting Agents, from the existing rates, which were fixed about a quarter of a century ago, were also made. Similarly, revised rates for service charges to be collected from emigrants by Recruiting Agents were also proposed.

Concrete suggestions were made also for reforming the Recruiting Agency system, which has come in for adverse criticism on several counts. The proposal for appointment of Labour Attaches in Indian Embassies abroad in countries in which Indian expatriates work and their duties and responsibilities and powers were enumerated in some detail in the draft policy statement. The proposal concluded with identifying the areas which should attract the immediate attention of the MOIA such as the creation of an appropriate information system, managing and directing migration flows from India, creation of Welfare funds for Migrants, granting of loans to emigrants to meet costs of emigration and making maximum use of emigrants’ potential to contribute to the development process in India. More specifically the proposal suggested entry into bilateral agreements with the countries of overseas
employment of India, holding Round Table meetings for exchange of views and establishment of study committees on Foreign Labour. (the document is available with the unit)

Migration and Growth: Exploring Kerala’s Performance
K. Pushpangadan

Becker’s theory of allocation of time by households incorporating migration explains the service-led growth starting from 1970s in Kerala. The migration has two effects on the allocation of time: one is the income effect from remittances and the other the substitution effect due to the relative indirect cost of intensive commodities. The net effect is increase in demand for durable goods particularly with higher productivity of consumption time. This explains why the rural households in Kerala have the highest number of two wheelers and mobile phones in the country despite lower levels per capita income. The increased demand for durable goods is met either from local production or trade. Historically the traders in the region had not become entrepreneurs unlike in other regions probably due to weak incentives and the institutional set up. As a result, any additional demand for consumer durables increases the trade-related activities including transport, banking and telecommunications. This linkage provides the service-led growth of the regional economy. Cross-district analysis of the impact of migration supports the backward bending rural labour supply curve. The vector auto-regression (VAR) growth analysis of the conventional three sectors (primary, secondary and tertiary) provides empirical support for service-led growth, which is exogenously determined.

Outside and Inside the Nation: Narratives of Malabar Migration and the Making of a Productive Citizen
V.J. Varghese

This paper read a set of narratives on Malabar migration, fictional and non-fictional by migrants and the advocates of migrations as a supreme development model, to see how the migrant imagination defined themselves and the very historical process they were partaking. It presumes that the migration and resultant changes on the agrarian landscape of Kerala was coincidental with a cultural project of winning the discursive terrain in favour of the transformation. The migrant narratives have to necessarily engage with other competing narratives to establish and retain its primacy and legitimacy. The narratives hinge unequivocally on the positive link between the migrants and the nation by construing a citizenship around hard work, production and wealth creation. The paper is unfolded in two sections: the first section will briefly discuss the making of a migration centric development discourse in Kerala and then see present rationalities deployed to make migrations a natural choice for survival, wealth creation and mobility by reading a few migrant narratives, most of which appeared in contemporary media. The narratives hinge unequivocally on the positive link between the migrants and the nation by construing a citizenship around hard work, production and wealth creation. The second section of the paper read a set of four novels written by the migrants during 1960s and 1970s (Dukha Bhoomi, Achamma, Churam and Chulli), on the massive flow of people from Travancore to Malabar for land and agriculture and the changes it brought into the landscape of Malabar, in which the authors themselves were participants. The migrant self-descriptions at a time when their belongingness to Malabar was increasingly
questioned were truly political, though they had to take the fight out of the text, as evident from the anti-eviction movements. A sense of the time is also an imperative in this regard as early waves of the migration was taking place at a time when political citizenship and modern social subjects were in the making in India. The narratives of migration locate the historical experience outside the meta-narrative of nation and renaissance, but strive to claim a different citizenship through the value of hard work. This is yet another powerful discourse of claiming ‘nationhood’ in the same space and time, arguably without casting a shadow on the ‘meta’ formation. Nonetheless, the postscripts’ of migrant imagination project the migrant subject as ‘truly’ political, partaking in the national movement for independence and agitations for responsible government.

A Market Place for Migrants: Mobility, Settlement and Social Protection in Kerala
Mythri Prasad Aleyamma

This paper focuses on a Sunday Bengali Market for migrant workers in Perumbavoor, a small town situated close to the city of Kochi in Kerala, South India, to interrogate the concept of social protection. The market, which sprang up in response to the specific needs of migrant workers, serves also as a ‘meeting point’ of workers. Such markets, by acting as a point of contact, facilitate a network of migrant workers, contractors, traders, and trade unions. The Sunday market is a place where workers seek leisure, make friends, send money home through agents, and settle disputes. The migrant workers who visit the market are mainly from North and North Eastern states of India namely West Bengal, Orissa and Assam and to a lesser extent from Jharkhand and Bihar and from the neighbouring country Nepal. The central concerns of the paper could be summarised in terms of the following questions: What are the connections between community formation and social protection? Is a dichotomous understanding of social protection as formal and informal analytically useful? What, if any, are the contradictions between migrant mobility and concepts of social protection, or, do concepts of social protection carry a sedentary bias within them? In this paper I use the Sunday market in two ways: firstly as an important social institution in its own right, and secondly as a vehicle to explore these questions concerning migrant labour and social protection.

Emigration of Female Domestic Workers from Kerala: Gender, State Policy and the Politics of Movement
Praveena Kodoth and V.J. Varghese

Government of India’s restrictions on the emigration of women in ‘unskilled’ categories such as domestic work is framed as measures intended to protect women from exploitation. Protectionism towards specific categories of emigrant women workers draws upon a social framework that constitutes marriage as the principal axis of women’s identity. As such it is expected to protect women, and mobility outside it (by single women or without the husband) is seen as potentially transgressive. Protectionism is implicated in the approach adopted by an influential segment of scholarship on international migration from Kerala, (Regulation of emigration is under the jurisdiction of the Central Government or the Indian State hence reference generally to the state is to the Indian state. Kerala as a state / province within the Indian union, may influence interventions by the Indian Government in this regard but
cannot frame rules. In this paper we are concerned with the social context in Kerala and the Indian regulatory context.) and it also serves a gendered conception of sovereignty, which overlooks exploitation within the country. In this context, it may seem surprising that state intervention has been ineffective in restricting the movement of women domestic workers and further that it has served to encourage them to access emigration through the use of informal / illegal processes. There is sufficient ground to suggest that it is the pecuniary interests of intermediaries, including recruiting agents and government officials that underpins the use of informal / illegal processes of emigration and renders them more effective than formal processes established by the state. Thus, the government officials are implicated in shaping a form of ‘controlled informality’ in the emigration process. But what prompts the state to espouse protectionism on the one hand and facilitate a permissive polity on the other? We argue that it is the gender politics of movement that not only fosters protectionism by the state and its legitimization by migration scholars but also facilitates ‘controlled informality’ in the emigration process by stigmatizing paid domestic work and forcing poor women to seek informal / illegal channels of emigration.

Governmentality, Social Stigma and Quasi Citizenship: Gender Negotiations of Indian Housemaids to the Middle East
V.J. Varghese and S. Irudaya Rajan

This paper is an attempt to unravel the precincts set by institutions on the citizenship of the unskilled Indian women migrants (housemaids) to the oil rich Middle East & Southeast Asia and the subtle manners in which these women negotiate with and straddle over such limiting structures in an attempt to find a niche for themselves. The paper will focus on the institution of emigration governance in India, which is palpably configured in conformity with the prevalent patriarchal norms. The resolute protectionist interventions that result in disabling women in their mobility options has primarily set female body as the focus governmentality. The category of women emigrants as housemaids represents an outlier within the category of women emigrants in particular and low skilled emigrants in general. The paper then proceeds to elaborate on how the women negotiate with the parallel economy of illegal migration to where they are ‘pushed’ to and tactfully oscillate between the domains of illegality and legality. The second section of the paper will be an analysis of rich and nuanced personal narratives of Keralite women housemaids returned from the Middle East and South East Asia. These women renditions underscore primacy of the women’s agency on the one hand and it’s embedded nature on the other at multiple levels.
Migration and Development Linkages in the Context of the Global Financial Crisis  
S. Irudaya Rajan and B A Prakash

The paper examines the impact of the global economic crisis on temporary contract workers of both South Asian and South East Asian origin working in the Middle East, in particular in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries. The GCC countries, for quite a long time, engaged in the theory of demographic imbalance through which they had plans to regulate the expatriates through vigorous immigration and labour policies. In this context, this paper addresses the shifts in policies and strategies to be adopted in the countries of origin to protect the interests of temporary workers, thus converting the crisis into opportunity.

The global financial and economic crisis, which is being experienced throughout the world at present, is considered to be one of the worst global economic crises since the Great Depression of the 1930s. According to the International Labor Organization (ILO), 50 million people are likely to lose their jobs as a result of the current crisis. One of the regions facing the serious consequences of the crisis is that of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries which accommodate a large concentration of temporary migrant contract workers. The ILO has estimated that 10 per cent of the unskilled workers from the GCC countries will return home in 2009. The return of a large number of migrant workers and the decline of labour flows to the GCC countries will create serious economic problems and adjustments among migrant workers in the countries of destination and migrant households in the labour exporting countries in both South and South East Asia. South Asian and South East Asian countries account for 60 per cent of temporary workers in the Gulf.

The migrant workers in GCC countries are basically vulnerable because they are temporary contract workers who are at the mercy of the employers and not protected by any civil or labour laws relating to wages, working conditions and other monetary and non-monetary benefits or protection from the harassment of the employers, in particular housemaids working in the households. Non-compliance with the provisions of the labour contract by the employers in Gulf countries is a common phenomenon. The Gulf countries have not implemented any minimum living wage legislation for the expatriate workers. Non-payment of salaries and denial of non-wage benefits are common. Workers are forced to work more than eight hours. The unskilled and semi-skilled workers are accommodated in crowded labour camps in small rooms without proper facilities and in recent years, the Gulf countries witnessed strikes and lockouts by the workers from South Asia. Female domestic workers like housemaids are ill-treated, harassed, sexually exploited and forced to work long hours as they are not protected by any existing labour laws. Prohibiting poor migrants from bringing along their families and harassing workers by confiscation of passports by the employer are the common practices. The labour courts are generally inaccessible to the ordinary migrants. Besides this, the GCC countries have been following a deliberate policy of reducing the size of the migrant labour force through a number of measures. In this context, a large fall in the demand for the migrant workers due to the global crisis will make the vulnerable workers more vulnerable.

In this context, both the labour sending and receiving countries should seriously think of addressing the following issues:
Cost of migration: The recruiting agencies in both labour sending and receiving countries and the employers of the labour receiving countries should take necessary steps to curtail the unhealthy practice of recruiting agents collecting large sums of money from the emigrants before their leaving the country of origin. This is the right time for countries to discuss the zero cost of migration

Labour-receiving countries should work on model labour contracts for various categories of workers, specifying the wages, working hours, food and accommodation and non-wage benefits such as paid holiday, health insurance and return air tickets.

It is the right time for the labour sending countries both in South Asia and South East Asia to work in close coordination to arrive at the minimum wages for workers and take bold decisions not to send any workers from the region until the implementation of model labour contracts and minimum living wages.

Labour receiving counties should introduce special labour laws to protect the female workers from harassment, ill-treatment and sexual exploitation and create labour grievance mechanisms to help the workers to live with dignity.

Capacity building, skill development programmes and pre-departure training should be made compulsory for prospective emigrants in the countries of origin which should work on designing a migrant welfare fund in collaboration with emigrants and employers in the countries of destination.

Broadening Exchanges and Changing Institutions: Multiple sites of Economic Transnationalism
S. Irudaya Rajan and V J Varghese

Transnationalism is seen as something that runs against the state and driven primarily by the participating people and non-governmental agents, and the role of the state in formalizing transnational spaces has not been given adequate attention. Our paper, drawing from the Indian-Punjabi experience, argues that transnationalism has become a compelling economic imperative manufacturing institutional change in the national, regional and local levels with an active involvement of the state. The paper seeks to question the dominant understanding of transnationalism as beyond and despite the state and as something that is weakening the nation state. The institutional changes at the national level are bolstered by a new discourse of ‘state nationalism’ that is increasingly open to the Overseas Indians, wherein nation is imagined and formalized beyond its territorial confines. It is argued that at a time when states are increasingly relying on “development” for its self-legitimization, the rationality behind the transnationalisation of the nation is primarily national and a state-centric bio-politics is fundamental to it. We argue that the Indian state entice transnational resources through two rhetorics; one, overseas Indians are called upon to contribute to the development of their home country and secondly, they are called upon to gain from the ongoing development of their home country. As identities are intersecting, the ‘national’ is bound to be coeval with the ‘regional’ and ‘local’ resulting in claims at the sub-national and local levels for
transnational resources on the one hand and affinities/belongings on the other. By the powerful invocation of sentimental an emotional affinity of the Punjabis with their motherland the sub-national discourse has reinforced a Punjabi cultural identity beyond the territorial confines of the sub-nation. Overseas Punjabi’s transnational habitus and ‘bifocality’ is effectively garnered by the village level too by a set of new and diverse institutions. The institutional transformations in terms of alterations in administrative frameworks at all the three levels also reiterate the significance of the ‘national’, ‘regional’ and ‘local’ in an increasingly transnational world.

**Migration and Urban Poverty in India: Some Preliminary Observations**  
William Joe, Priyajit Samaiyar & U. S. Mishra

Migration is mostly a choice - except in compelling circumstances of conflict and insecurity - and therefore needs to be examined in terms of its economic (poverty) outcomes. In this paper we deal with migration decisions to urban areas backed by economic rationale and offer an understanding of economic gain accruing to individuals from migration. The analysis is based on the 55th round survey data on Employment - Unemployment Survey 1999-2000 (EUS) provided by the National Sample Survey Organization. We undertake a comprehensive analysis of the socio-economic profile of the migrant households in urban India and explore the dynamics of poverty among interstate as well as intrastate migrants to urban destinations. Further, we evaluate the impact of migration on the economic status of migrants by analysing the characteristic of ‘duration since migration’. Considering migration as a transition, this exercise makes a broad comparison of change in economic status of migrants at the destination as against the origin. The analysis reveals that migrants disadvantaged in terms of caste, education and residence earn poorer returns to migration. While returns to migration have proved to be positive with increased duration at the destination, the characteristic endowment like education and social group identity seem to make a further difference.

**Short Duration Migration In India: An Appraisal From Census 2001**  
Vijay Korra

Short duration migration has played crucial role in enabling rural people to cope with the consequences of agrarian distress and devastated rural economic conditions. It has always been a phenomenon guided by the specific needs of the time. Studies on short duration or seasonal migration are area/region and context specific and as a consequence, have no broad associated characteristics on macro level hence; this attempts to distinguish short duration and permanent migrations. The study applies the widely recognised demographic technique of Parity Progression Ratio to measure the magnitude of short duration migrants. The study came out with the major findings such as short duration migrants are largely concentrated in rural areas and basically migrated in search of work/employment towards urban and other prosperous rural areas. Short duration migration is more common in the case of male migrants and permanent migration is seen more among female migrants. Migrants character-wise, short duration migrants are primarily illiterate, less qualified, either older age or below 14 years of age. Thus, short duration migrants are impelled to migrate for work/employment whereas permanent migrants are for betterment and better-off in terms of their characteristics. The predominant streams are urban to rural and rural to rural, and they are found to migrate to other districts and states for work/employment in both rural and urban areas. The study also finds significant differences between
short duration and permanent migrants in terms of reasons for migration, duration of migration, and characteristics such as gender, age, education and economic activity patterns.

**Impact of Seasonal Labour Migration on Assets Structure: A Case Study of a Village Economy in Andhra Pradesh**

Vijay Korra

Migration is a complex phenomenon closely related to economic and social factors. In India, the exodus from the rural areas is an important issue that is gaining significance day by day because of the complexity of the labour migration process and the fast changing socio-economic conditions of migrant labour. On the one hand, the migration of rural population is mainly motivated by pull factors such as better employment opportunities, good educational and health facilities, improved living conditions and higher wages at destinations. On the other hand, it impelled by push/distress factors at home such as lack of employment, low wage rates, agricultural failure, debt, drought and other natural calamities. Seasonal or circular migration is different in terms of its nature and characteristics from other types of migration. Seasonal migration could be distress-driven in nature. It could occur because of a weak resource base as the agricultural area is small, less fertile and dependent largely on rainfall. In this context, this study focuses on exploring the migration flow in the study village. Secondly, it examines the impact of seasonal labour migration on asset/resource structures and institutional alteration in the village. In order to fulfill these objectives, the study collected data from a primary level survey conducted in 2006 from Akkaram village in Achampet Mandal of Mahabubnagar District of Andhra Pradesh, India. It enumerated all the households in the village. The paper is divided into four sections including the introduction. The second section discusses different types of migration and their significance in the study village. The third section deals with the impact of migration on assets/resources and institutional changes in the village. The last section is the summary and conclusion. The study reveals that migration could not change the asset structure and institutions, which are by and large stagnant in the village. The study also shows that the institutional structure and resource holding does not get much altered when the nature of migration is seasonal/circular.

**Nature and Characteristics of Seasonal Labour Migration: A Case Study in Mahabubnagar District of Andhra Pradesh**

Vijay Korra

In India, migration from rural areas is an important issue that is gaining more significance year after year. Moreover, the extent, nature, characteristics and pattern of migration have been evolving over time. In fact, the growing part of the migration taking place is seasonal and cyclical in nature. Seasonal or short duration migration is certainly not a new phenomenon in India. However, the magnitude of rural labour circulation is of recent origin, and a direct consequence of structural changes in the economy. Seasonal or circular migration could be largely distress driven and stimulated by the partial or complete collapse of rural employment generation, economic difficulties of cultivation and absence of alternative employment opportunities in underdeveloped regions of the country. In reality, it has become an integral part of livelihood strategies pursued by a large number of poor people living
in agriculturally underdeveloped areas. In this context, the present paper focuses on examining the nature and characteristics of seasonal migrant households. It also aims on to evaluate the form of migration, and finally analyses the migrants’ wages, work conditions and the expenditure pattern of earnings from migration. The study analysis is based on a primary level survey conducted in mid 2006 in Mahabubnagar district of Andhra Pradesh, India. The study reveals that migration from the village is essentially seasonal and cyclical in nature, and differs for both rural and urban migrants. Indeed, it is taking place mainly for survival and repayment of debts.

Agrarian Scenario of Mahabubnagar District in Andhra Pradesh: A Macro Analysis
Vijay Korra

In recent years it is clear that Andhra Pradesh agriculture has witnessed great change in agriculture. Large number of rural population depended directly or indirectly on agriculture activities for their livelihood and agriculture has considered one of the major economic and employment source. Though, contribution of agriculture to gross state domestic product is low but still it provides employment to nearly 60 per cent of the work force. The large number of peasants across the state has shifted away from traditional rain-fed cereal crops to non-food cash crops. Farmers who have been opting for high value crops like cotton faces serious problem such as high cost of cultivation and lack of market information thus faces high risks. Farmers are highly prone to less profit from agriculture products or faces crop failure/losses. It is in this context the present study mainly tries to examine the agrarian scenario/conditions in the case of Mahabubnagar district with reference to Andhra Pradesh. Secondly the study aims to focus on how agrarian distress leads in farmer’s suicides and exodus seasonal migration from drought prone Mahabubnagar district. The analysis mainly depends on data collected from Andhra Pradesh Statistical Abstract since 1955-56 to 2005-06. The study reveals that rainfall in the district is drastically declined since 1955-56 to 2004-05. There is a systematic decline of net sown area, net irrigated land and gradual increase of current and other fallow land for the period of 1955-56 to 2004-05. Similarly, the cropping pattern in the district shows the drastic decline of area under cultivation of traditional crops. At the same time cash and market oriented crops such as cotton and paddy crops area of cultivation is gradually increased over the period of time.
Migration as a Transnational Enterprise: Migrations from Eastern Punjab and the Question of Social Liciteness
V.J. Varghese and S. Irudaya Rajan

This paper looks at the ‘illegal’ migrations from Punjab and foregrounds the fundamental incompatibilities between the rationality of governments and the people; alongside the contradictions of the ongoing capitalist globalisation with regard human mobility across national borders. The paper unfold itself through the life stories of two migrants to UK from a village in Punjab and proceeds to issues of social liciteness underlying unauthorized flows of people, innovative ways of networking, mutually mismatched legalities, idea of ‘illegal’ and its praxis and untold human sufferings. The networks facilitating ‘illegal’ movements are mostly seen coterminous with the underworld, crime networks and terrorist outfits, though the ‘micro-practices’ of the people provide space for its sustenance. Such networks that operate in close conjunction with the transnational rishtidari networks and transnational space is reconfigured with local connections as much as global. The transnational social capital, a resource organised along the caste lines, is embedded and local. The social liciteness is not free from discontents either as revealed by the social stigma on return migrants and the success of an unauthorized migrant is gauged invariably in terms of his ability to get authorised in the destination. The paper underscores the necessity of looking beyond the statist categorizations and vocabularies in understanding micro-practices of the people, which would arguably open spaces for refashioning the state better.

Punjab in a Transnational World- Project Report of Trans-net
V.J. Vargheshe and S. Irudaya Rajan

The TRANS-NET project on diverse forms of exchanges between Punjab and UK through Punjabi migrants and transnational citizens is at an advanced stage and the works of putting the research findings together is underway. Punjab-UK, one of the long standing migration corridors in the world, has been reinforced ever since it’s beginning in the colonial time through different forms and channels of human flows. The ethnographical research conducted in the Doaba region of Punjab clearly establish the fact that Punjab lives in a transnational time and space. The networks that facilitate migration and sustain relationships too are diverse ranging from kinship networks to religious, political, economic and educational networks. However, the research also point to dwindling affinities with home, as second and third generation migrants feel increasingly at odds with the ‘place of origin’. Though transnationalism is seen as despite and beyond the state, the Indian/Punjabi context reveal the active involvement of the state in formalizing the transnational space. Transnationalism as seen in the Punjabi case is not free from its ambivalence either, ranging from issues related to caste and gender to the larger social imaginary on migration. The imageries of such tensions are also captured in cultural products like Punjabi cinema and popular music, industries that depend significantly on transnational resources for its capital and market.
From Kerala to Kerala Via The Gulf: Emigration Experiences of Return Emigrants
K.C. Zachariah and S Irudaya Rajan

This paper about return emigrants in Kerala is based on information on return emigrants collected by the Centre for Development Studies (CDS) through several of its recent large-scale household surveys. The term ‘return emigrants’ is used here to mean Kerala-born persons, who have lived outside India for a minimum of 12 months or worked/studied outside for shorter periods.

In recent years, return emigrants have become a demographically, politically and economically significant component of Kerala’s population.

At present
- one out of every 29 persons in Kerala
- one out of every 22 adult population of Kerala (15+)
- one out of every 19 working age population of Kerala (15-59 years)
- one out of every 9 working age male population of Kerala are return emigrants.

At present, there are roughly over 1.3 million return emigrants in the state. Two years ago, KMS [Kerala Migrant Survey] 2008 estimated that there were about 1.157 million return emigrants Ten years earlier, KMS 1998 enumerated 7.4 lakhs return emigrants. The number of return emigrants is expected to increase to about 1.6 million by 2015.

Indian Migration to Malaysia: The Past, Present and Issues of Concern
S Irudaya Rajan and Aparna Nair

Indian migration to Malaysia has a long history, dating back to colonial-era migrations of indentured labour from India to Malaysia to work on the developing infrastructure of the country and in its booming plantation sectors. Over the course of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries, Indians have become a part of the ethnic composition of the Malaysia. Although the total numbers of migrants entering Malaysia from India in recent years have reduced significantly, there are still about 150,000 legal Indian emigrants resident in the country; with an equally significant number of illegal migrants. Different stakeholders provided varying estimates of the actual stocks of illegal migration from India to Malaysia, suggesting that it is important for future research to attempt better estimates of illegal migration from India in Malaysia.

Important points raised in our fieldwork included the lack of an official infrastructure in either India or Malaysia to assist and educate prospective migrants and/or migrants in distress or need. Frequently raised in all of our interviews was concern over corruption in India and Malaysia (in Malaysia, the recruitment of foreign workers is reported to have the second highest levels of corruption). Different stakeholders also raised their concern that there was an urgent need to regulate and police migration agents functioning in India. Trafficking of women into Malaysia from India is also an issue of concern, with stakeholders reporting that illegal female migrants are being trafficked into prostitution and almost slavery like conditions of domestic work.
Sri Lankan Tamil Refugees in India: Rehabilitation Mechanisms, Livelihood Strategies, And Lasting Solutions

C Valatheeswaran and S Irudaya Rajan

Most Sri Lankan Tamil refugees in India have been residing in camps in the State of Tamil Nadu for more than two decades under 24/7 police surveillance, following the assassination of the Indian prime minister. This article attempts to examine the trends in the Sri Lankan refugee inflows to India and outflows back to Sri Lanka through official channels over the last three decades, and the government-sponsored responses and mechanisms for their welfare and rehabilitation. In addition, it examines the livelihood options and strategies of the camp refugees based on a primary survey among 100 households and 12 in-depth case studies in the selected refugee camps in Tamil Nadu. The study documents that they do have access to relief assistance from the State Government on humanitarian grounds. Their livelihood strategies include gainful employment activities outside the camp, reliance on social networks both in India and abroad, short-duration or seasonal migration, and investment in human resources such as children’s education. This study opines that integrating the Tamil refugees into local society could be a durable solution for their future, especially for those who married Indian citizens and who wish to remain in India.

Global Financial Crisis and Return of South Asian Gulf Migrants: Patterns and Determinants of their integration to local labour markets

Vinoj Abraham and S Irudaya Rajan

The global financial crisis had affected the stock and flow of international migration from the developing world to the developed world in myriad ways, of which one of the most conspicuous aspects was the loss of their source of livelihood and return of thousands of migrant workers to their home country. Often the rehabilitation and reintegration of these workers is marked by forced choices of employment. This paper was an attempt to understand their process of reintegration in five south Asian countries.

Analysis of the patterns shows that there was a process of self selection of return emigrations (REMs) based on age and education, wherein the younger and less educated were over represented in the sample. The households of these REMs were large and depended very heavily on remittances as their main source of livelihood. There was a clear decline in the household’s per capita income following the crisis.

On return, the employment status of REMs were in general worse off than in their host country with high share of casualisation, self employment and unemployment in the crisis year, while formal regular employment share declined drastically; their average monthly earnings declined by average 46 percent and got employed in industries with poorer employment conditions. REMs from Sri Lanka and Nepal, who had better employment conditions in their host economies seem to be getting integrated to their home economies either at better conditions of work and industries, or chose to remain unemployed. While India and Pakistan REMs, who had worked at relatively inferior conditions of work in the gulf, had to find employment relatively faster than REMs in other countries. They in turn, got absorbed in industries which
have inferior conditions of work.

The analysis of the determinants of being employed suggests that those who found employment on return was in fact driven by economic compulsions to reduce their job search period and cost. Hence, we find that REMs with lower education, greater household dependence, and poorer assets were the ones who took up employment, while REMs with higher levels of education, larger assets at household, lower level of household dependence and work experience in specific industries tended to remain unemployed. The direction and magnitude of the determinants of employment tend to suggest a process of forced or constrained choice of employment for REMs rather than getting involved in job search to maximize their potential gains. And the constraints mainly was their low level of skills, weakly diversified income sources for their households and low level of household income. For the policy makers it is important to note that, in effect it is the REMs with an employment, at the time of the survey, that are worse than those unemployed. Therefore, it may be important to target remedial measures on improving the earnings capacity of the REMs along with a stronger social security net that would enhance their ability to withhold their labour when it is needed to.

**Governance and Management of International Migration in India**

S Irudaya Rajan and T.L..S.Bhaskar

Migration across India, in terms of both emigration and immigration, is taking place notwithstanding multiple hurdles and contributes to human unfreedom in terms of exploitation and discrimination of the vulnerable. Yet, India continues to be one of the largest sources of emigrants and also receives record remittances, with significant amount from GCC and North America regions. Of several challenges, governance and management of both emigration and immigration in India has been a daunting task, especially to the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs (MOIA) and Bureau of Immigration (BoI) respectively. This paper elaborates in detail, supported by data, several initiatives by the government, both existing and that in pipeline, in managing the migration phenomenon. This apart, the paper also provides the reader an extensive history of Indian migration.

With over 25 million Indians overseas, including both People of Indian Origin (PIOs) and the Non Resident Indians (NRIs), the Indian diaspora claims to be one of the largest diasporas- next to the Chinese. Indian presence in the Gulf and North America is very prominent, and is followed by their numbers in Europe and South Asian. Data estimates also indicate there are a little over 5.2 million immigrants in the country with Bangladesh – India border considered as one of the most active cross-border corridors for immigration into India. Moreover, it is estimated that India has more than 20 million irregular migrants.

Protection, aid and advice to the emigrants have been the fundamental principles of India’s enactment of Emigration Acts of 1922, 1983 and consequently the Emigration (Amendment) Rules of 2009. The paper also outlines various laws that govern immigration in India and specifies the restrictions laid for immigrants from specified origins. The institution of the Protector of Emigrants (PoE) was entrusted with the
power of protecting the emigrants through monitoring recruiting agents (RAs), their functioning, recruitment practices, permits, issuing emigration clearances, ensuring employer’s adherence to terms of contract and amicable settlement of disputes. There are nearly 1985 registered recruiting agents in India spread across 8 PoE jurisdictions and their functioning along with the role of middlemen has been an issue of intervention with raising concerns over both recruitment and treatment of workers, despite having secured valid documents such as a Specimen Contract (SC), Demand Letter (DL) and Power of Attorney (PoA).

The MOIA in particular has introduced several provisions for the safety and well being of Indian workers abroad. The paper explains in detail about programs such as Skill Upgradation and Pre-Departure Orientation, The Overseas Workers Resource Centre (OWRC), Indian Workers Resource Centre (IWRC), Migration Resource Centre (MRC), Overseas Indian Centres (OIC), Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF), Pravasi Bharatiya Bhima Yojana (PBBY), India Development Foundation of Overseas Indians (IDF), apart from the Ministry’s Joint Working Groups (JWG) that have been instituted towards ensuring proper implementation of the MoUs signed to find amicable solutions to labour problems, thereby protecting the welfare of labourers, Social Security Agreements (SSAs), Labour Mobility Partnerships (LMPs) and Indian Council of Overseas Employment (ICOE) which has been central in studying emerging labour markets. The paper critically examines both the acts and the programs in detail and highlights the role played state manpower corporations and other collaborators.

Post-High Level Committee (HLC) report, the government turned proactive and was instrumental in establishing an exclusive ministry to oversee emigration. The Ministry now emphasises the need for transforming the migration into an efficient, orderly and humane process with ever growing concerns over mobility of labour in the context of enhanced security concerns, and above all properly manage the migration. Its initiative, the e-Migrate, will soon be implemented in all Indian Missions. The paper concludes stressing the importance and need for initiatives that focus on securing bilateral and multilateral cooperation for removing barriers to labor mobility, ensure their protection, safeguard workers’ rights, encourage and facilitate proper and legal recruitment, and impart and disseminate information on issues surrounding safe and legal migration, for effective migration management in India.
The Returnee Professionals in Bangalore: Exploring reasons for the return and re-settlement issues

S Irudaya Rajan and T.L..S.Bhaskar

The Project primarily involved a pilot survey of 50 returnee professionals from abroad to Bangalore, with a twin objective of knowing: the reasons for the return and post-return resettlement issues – both at work place and otherwise. The exploratory project also highlights issues that have come up during the researchers’ analysis of the data, and put forward certain emerging trends in the whole phenomenon of return to homeland, which hitherto was mostly understood in the context of global economic downturn and India Shining scenarios.

About 50 returnee professionals from various disciplines have been interviewed in person in Bangalore with a view to hear their stories of return and know their perspectives towards this trend of coming back. Various issues such as factors leading to deciding to come back and the key associated triggers in the process, the planning involved, and the reasons for preferring Bangalore are explored along with returnees’ idea of establishing their own ventures. In the process, the study also has attempted to see if respondents’ family structure has any definite role to play in their decision to return. Circumstances such as ageing parents in India, growing up children abroad, the socio cultural differences in the host society and incomplete assimilation etc have been explored from the returnees’ perspective.

Resettlement issues, both at work place and otherwise, play an invaluable role in returnees’ efforts to re-settle in India. At times, they can deter and postpone the idea of return. Most returnees shared their stories of advanced planning prior to their return to India. Well established social networks with their families and friends in India, and sustained over a long period, have turned out to be instrumental and useful during the returnees’ resettlement in India. It is altogether a different story with respect to resettling in their professions at work place. Returnees are often considered and expected to bring along certain qualities that make them unique and sought after. Do the returnees feel the same? What are the strategies they employ to adjust and resettle at work place? What are the advantages to the companies that prefer to recruit only returnees? Questions such as these and other related are addressed in sections on resettlement.

The entire process of emigration and return is monitored by the government. Most professionals do not have to go through any government agencies as in most cases, their overseas travel is processed either by their parent companies in India or registered companies from abroad by securing them valid travel documents. However, the professionals, whether they continue to live on the Indian Passport or acquired citizenship of the host land, cannot by pass the government institutions completely. They do depend on the Indian government’s institutions for several things. It can range from things such as applying for PIO or OCI card, approaching FRRO, to establishing their ventures in India after their return. What are the various instances where the returnees in fact have to approach the government institutions? What are their experiences and suggestions to improve the quality of service? What do the returnees feel about what the government can do to ease their resettlement? The experiences of the returnees with government machinery are documented in the third
and final section of the Project. Based on several observations and subsequent inferences, the project concludes by outlining emerging trends in the reverse flow of professionals and thereby identifies patterns for further research.

**Dreaming Mobility and Buying Vulnerability: Overseas Recruitment Practices and its Discontents in India**
V.J. Varghese, S. Irudaya Rajan and M.S. Jayakumar

The increasing number of emigrants for work from India not only resulted in increased inward remittances but also produced a robust sector of overseas recruitment practices in India. The involvement of multiple players, intense social urge for emigration and the enticement of money, have greatly complicated the system, despoiled its practices and nurtured a great deal of informality. The cases of government officials forming nexus with the corrupt players in the recruitment sector are on the rise than ever before offering a formidable challenge to the government and its regulative mechanism. In such an alarming context, this book explores the structure, dynamics and practices of the overseas recruitment system in India in order to bring out its inadequacies. It traces the evolution of the current institution from the colonial times and foregrounds its discriminatory rationalities engendering enormous social cost. It tracks the difference between emigration through social network and through recruiting agents and look at the difference of cost and risk involved. By focusing on the unskilled and semi-skilled emigrants from India, this book endeavours to capture the discrepancy between the legal/policy structures and the prevailing practices of overseas recruitment. Drawing inputs from major stakeholders like intending emigrants, return emigrants, emigrant households, recruiting agents, Protector of Emigrants, foreign employers, Indian Missions and workers at the in select destination countries, it examines the transaction costs of the present institution, identify its major deficits and make recommendations for an alternative institutional framework as a way out that can effectively counter the many and varied illegitimate and dishonest activities which have sprung up in the field of emigration and ensure ethical practices in India’s overseas recruitment sector. Making a pioneer attempt to study the overseas recruitment system in India, this book offers a critique of the existing institution of emigration governance in an attempt to look beyond the regulative structures put in place by the Emigration Act of 1983.
Report On Internal Migration Based On 2001 Census  
Sponsor: Registrar General of India, Ministry Of Home Affairs, Government Of India

This occasional paper is intended to provide a comprehensive account of the migration situation in India as revealed by the census of 2001. This work is divided into ten chapters that address varied aspects of migration including its linkage with regional development. The highlights of this report relate to description on mobility, migration streams, characteristics of migrants, reasons for migration as well as inter-state and intra-state migration in India. While detailing with these aspects of internal migration, many emerging patterns and differentials are stated with regard to reasons, characteristics as well as streams of migration along the lines of age and sex attributes. This exercise includes analysis of internal migrants to India as well as migration to million plus cities in India. In addition, a preliminary attempt is made towards recognizing the broad determinants of inter-state migration in terms of push and pull factors. This report will serve as a ready reference for understanding different facets and aspects of internal migration in India.
Inauguration of Research Unit on International Migration
12 June, 2006

Anyone visiting Kerala in the present cannot be but struck by the visible impact of Kerala's 'Gulf connection'. Some eighteen lakh Malayalees, most of them men, work in the Gulf countries, and the remittances received by the households in Kerala from the Gulf region form about 22 to 25 per cent of the Net State Domestic Product of the State. The impact of the inflow of wealth from the Gulf has made its mark in virtually every sphere of Malayalee life, and has altered the socio-economic profile of the state beyond recognition, across all socio-economic groups. No wonder, then, that international migration now throws up a host of issues that call for intense social scientific research, and with a varied bag of methodological tools. Besides, migration within the country also is a significant process, which has had passed through the periods of growth, stagnation and decline with diverse socio-economic impacts in Kerala and several other states in India. Migration studies, therefore, constitute an important item on the agenda of research at CDS.

CDS has conducted several studies on the micro and macro aspects of international migration from Kerala during the past three decades. The Ministry of Indian Overseas Affairs, Government of India decided to set up a Research Unit on International Migration at CDS in recognition of these efforts, which have already gained recognition in national and international academic circles. It was formally inaugurated by Shri Vayalar Ravi, Hon'ble Minister for Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India at the CDS on 12 June 2006. K.N Nair, Director, welcomed the audience, and S. Irudaya Rajan, Chair Professor of the Research Unit on International Migration briefly introduced the audience to the work of scholars at CDS on migration to the Gulf over the past few decades.

In his inaugural address, the Minister referred to the rampant malpractices in emigration, especially of unskilled workers, women and other vulnerable groups, perpetrated by the numerous unlicensed recruitment agencies in India, and the dire consequences the victims have to suffer in their destinations.

In the seminar that followed, Shri S. Krishnakumar, former Secretary, Ministry of Indian Overseas Affairs, Government of India, presided. He dwelt on the evolving profiles of the emigration streams from the different states of India and the prospects of the emerging foreign destinations, particularly in South Asian Countries. He also spoke of the changes that have come about in the skill composition and the educational qualifications of emigrants subsequent to the electronic and IT revolution that has been raging in the Western world. Shri Jiji Thomson, Secretary, NORKA, and Dr.Ranbir Singh, Director, Emigration and Policy, Government of India also spoke.
ILO Workshop on Protecting the Rights of Migrant Workers and Networking Tripartite and Social Patterns in Kerala
26-27 October, 2006

The inaugural session of this two-day workshop hosted by CDS was chaired by V. Krishnakumar, former Chief Secretary, Government of Kerala. Prof. N.R. Madhava Menon, Chairman, CDS, inaugurated the session. There were six technical sessions and a panel discussion.

The trends and characteristics of migration from India and Kerala were examined in the first session. Systematic analysis of the effects of migration was recommended, so also, the need to consider the links between increasing migration and growing internal inequalities in the sending regions. Another issue discussed was the creation of national and international instruments for effective management of labour migration and protection of migrants’ rights. It was suggested that efforts should be made to make the process of migration simple and transparent, by institutionalizing the process.

Welfare and social protection for workers and their families in Kerala was another focal point of discussion. The need to make participation of migrants in the social security process statutory and involving the return migrants in the process was emphasised. Gender issues that came up included providing safety nets to the migrating women and addressing issues faced by women who fail in their efforts to migrate. It was also recommended that institutional mechanisms should be strengthened to ensure that recruitment practices are firmly under state control, and that they should be supplemented with awareness programmes. There should also be efforts to ratify and implement ILO conventions on the rights of migrant workers.

In general, the effort made in the workshop was towards the identification of specific interventions that may serve as inputs for policy-making agencies.

Indo-French Workshop on Dynamics of International Migration
14-15 November, 2006, held at Paris
Sponsors: Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India and Migrinter

Workshop on Migration Surveys in Kerala
January 11-12, 2007

Short-Term Training on Research on Migration Issues (First and Second round)
5-9 February
26-30 March, 2007

This programme was designed and offered by the Research Unit on International Migration set up at CDS by the Ministry of Indian Overseas Affairs, Government of India. This programme aimed at enhancing the research capacities of young researchers working on migration issues from diverse disciplinary backgrounds. It also sought to widen the scope and focus of migration research from its narrow demographic character to its manifold dimensions having a bearing on socioeconomic dynamics at large. Researchers were introduced to emerging issues in, and consequences of, internal and international migration. They were also familiarised
with the methods and tools of conducting surveys and assessing the magnitudes, characteristics, flows and implications of migration, based on different types and sources of data. Forty young researchers from all over the country participated in the one-week training conducted two times this year.

**International Conference on Networking for Promoting the Rights on Migrant Workers in Gulf Countries**  
(CDS and American Solidarity Centre)  
4-5 December, 2007

The Research Unit on International Migration along with The American Centre for International Labour Solidarity (Solidarity Centre) organised a two-day international conference on ‘Networking for Promoting the Rights of Migrant Workers in the Gulf Countries,’ at CDS on 4 and 5 December 2007. The conference was organised in the background of extensive reports of exploitation and harassment of migrant workers from South Asia, and it brought together representatives from NGOs, national and state-level trade unions, academia and research organisations, recruitment agencies, and the media. It was a result of a strong feeling that it is important to foster and strengthen partnerships between and among various stakeholders in South Asia and the Gulf region to arrive at appropriate answers to the problems of the migrant labourers. The two-day intensive and fruitful deliberations highlighted conditions and experiences of migrant workers in the Middle East, discussed the possibilities of new policies, legislations and international mechanisms for protecting and promoting the rights of migrant workers and their families and of evolving a plan of action to promote effective networking.

The six sessions were attended by delegates from Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bahrain, the United States of America and the United Arab Emirates along with those from India. The themes discussed were: a) Migration to the Gulf – Country Situations, b) Living Conditions of the Workers in the Gulf Countries and Labour and Human Rights Concerns of the Migrant Workers and their Families, c) Feminization of Migration: The Gender Dimensions, d) Frameworks for Protecting and Promoting Worker’s Rights: Legislations and Policies, e) Managing Migration in the Philippines: Lessons for India and, f) The Way Forward – Conference Declaration and Action Plan for the future. Many migrant workers narrated traumatic stories of harassment and oppression they had to undergo. Participants also watched select episodes of ‘Pravasi Lokam’, a programme on the plight of Malayalee migrant workers abroad, telecast by the Malayalam channel *Kairali*.

The conference’s recommendations included developing a forum by labour-sending countries to voice their concerns in a united way to bargain effectively with receiving countries, using established platforms like the SAARC. Several recommendations, aimed at protecting workers’ labour rights, human rights, safeguards against extreme vulnerability, and respect for gender rights and welfare, were also made.

**Discussion on International Migration Policy for India**  
2 June, 2008

A meeting of the Migration Policy Group (MPG), constituted by the Research Unit on International Migrations and as mandated by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs (MOIA), was held on Monday 2 June 2008, at CDS to discuss in detail the policy note
prepared by S. Krishna Kumar, the Chairman of MPG. The meeting was chaired by K. N. Nair, the Director of CDS, and was attended by K. Mohandas, IAS, the Secretary, MOIA and Ranbir Singh, IAS, Director Emigration Policy, MOIA.

Methods and Approaches in Research on Migration Issues
1-5 December, 2008

The Research Unit on International Migration (RUIM) conducted a short-term training programme on ‘Methods and Approaches in Research on Migration Issues’ at CDS. This is the third of its kind being organised by the RUIM, and aims at capacity-building in migration research. It was supported by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs (MOIA), Government of India, New Delhi.

The programme was attended by 18 young scholars from various disciplinary backgrounds from across the country. The programme exposed the participants to diverse issues in migration research such as global trends in international migration, historical dimensions of migration from India, emigration and India’s foreign policy, India’s new migration policy, economic implications of high-skilled migration, migration and health, measuring migration with census and NSSO data, remittances and its developmental implications, mental health and migration, gender dimensions of migration, Kerala migration surveys, migration and development, migration in a trade theoretic perspective, migration and employment and issues of emigration to the Gulf. The panel of experts included Mr. T.P. Sreenivasan, Former Ambassador; Mr. S. Krishnakumar, Former Secretary to MOIA; Dr. K. Ajith Kumar, Dr. P. Girija, Dr. K. Srinivasan, Mr. T.P. Jayaprakash, Dr. Mohammed and Prof. B.A. Prakash, apart from members of the CDS faculty. Ms. Sheela Thomas, Secretary, NORKA, delivered the valedictory address.

Discussion on Global Financial Crisis and Indian Workers in the Gulf
3 February, 2009

The global financial crisis has severely affected the Indian expatriate workers in the Gulf. There are arguments that the decline in oil price that has come with the global recession will sharply stall the development process within the GCC Arab countries. The developers, investors, or the migrant workers are not equipped to face stagnation in the Gulf economy. Keeping this concern at the centre, the Research Unit on International Migration (RUIM), Centre for Development Studies had organized a round table discussion on the issue.

The Secretary of the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs (MOIA), New Delhi Mr. Mohandas, IAS, stated that the Government of India was closely monitoring the potential problems thrown open by the global meltdown on the Indian workers who are in the Gulf region. He opined that however the government was handicapped by the shortage of information about the crisis and its effect on gulf migrants, except for the fact that there was a sudden decline by around 24 per cent in the number of emigration clearances granted during the last quarter of 2008.

Prof. K C Zachariah took the view that the increase in return migration was not the creation of the crisis alone. He observed that the return migration flow will be more from Gulf countries to Kerala because of the ‘Aging of emigrants’. After the age of 50 or 60 years people would like to come back, not because of any other reason, but they
want to be at home in Kerala. Prof. Zachariah added that people are still moving from Kerala to Gulf as they used to be.

“The bookings for the next couple of months do not indicate a mass return from Gulf. A slight fall has been reported in Dubai-bound passengers, due to crisis in the construction Industry,” said Mr. Munaff, Station Manager, Air India. Dr K K George, Chairman Centre for Socio-economic and Environmental Studies, Cochin said that, in the medium terms there need not be a panicky situation in the Gulf because the Gulf countries have large foreign exchange reserves.

Prof. Alwin Prakash, Chairman, Institutes for Economic Studies, Trivandrum, Mr. Mathur K Nanjunda, General Manager, Planning and Development, State Bank of Travancore, and Mr. S M Najeeb, General Manager, NORKA-ROOTS, Government of Kerala, and Mr. B Vivek, President, Recruiting Agents Association of Kerala also participated in the discussions. Prof. S. Irudaya Rajan, RUIM, coordinated the discussion.

Workshop on Transnationalisation, Migration and Transformation: Migrations from Punjab to UK

6 April, 2009

The Research Unit on International Migration, CDS, in collaboration with the Centre for Research in Rural and Industrial Development (CRRID), organised a one-day workshop at the Centre for Research in Rural and Industrial Development (CRRID), Chandigarh, to announce the launch of its “Trans-nationalisation, Migration and Transformation: Multi-Level Analysis of Migrant Trans-nationalism” (TRANS-NET) research project in Punjab.

The workshop was aimed at initiating discussions on the research project to strengthen its methodological and field orientations. Dr. S.K. Mangal, Member of the CRRID Governing Body, inaugurated the workshop. Professor Aswini Kumar Nanda, Director, Population Research Centre, CRRID, made the opening presentation on the history and dynamics of migration from Punjab.

S. Irudaya Rajan, CDS, introduced the research project. He said its thrust was on investigating how migrants’ activities across national borders emerge, function and change, and how they are related to the processes of governance in an increasingly complex and interconnected world. He also explained the research strategy, which will take into account views from both the home and host countries, with research teams working simultaneously in India and the UK.

V.J. Varghese, CDS, spoke on the research agenda of the TRANS-NET project, especially how it intends to closely investigate structural factors related to transnational migrations and their implications on the everyday life of people in Punjab. He also detailed the political, socio-cultural, economic and educational domains of transnationalism that will be covered by the study at the micro, meso and macro levels.

Mr. Swarn S. Kahlon, Mr. Ashwini Luthra, Professor Swaranjit Mehta, Professor B.L. Abbi and Ambassador P.S. Sahai also spoke in the workshop, which was attended by
more than 50 participants from the academic community, government, non-governmental organisations and the press.

**Research Unit on International Migration (RUIM) Study on Goa Migration**  
2 June, 2009

A function to release the Goa Migration Study, 2008 as well as a discussion with the press was held at the Goa Government Secretariat Press Hall on 2 June 2009. The study was prepared by the Research Unit on International Migration (RUIM) of the CDS, in collaboration with the department of the Commissioner for NRI Affairs, Goa.

The programme was presided over by Mr. Eduardo Faleiro, NRI Commissioner, Government of Goa. He officially released the report by handing over a copy to Professor K. Narayanan Nair, Director, Centre for Development Studies.

Mr. Faleiro, a former Union external affairs minister, was very appreciative of the work done by the CDS study team. He observed that Goa was the second state (the first being Kerala) to have conducted such a comprehensive migration study. The study, based on 6,000 representative samples and household surveys conducted in all the 11 taluks of the state, will be analysed and discussed at a conference of experts on the subject, both at the national and state levels.

**Effects of the Global Financial Crisis in GCC Countries and its Impact on South and South-east Asian Migrant Workers**  
(Jointly organised by CDS-IPSR-UNIFEM-ILO)  
21–22 July, 2009

The global economic crisis has now spread to almost all the countries in the world, including the Gulf economies, where a sizeable expatriate workforce from Kerala and India is employed. Though the recession is expected to adversely affect migrant workers, there has been no discussion or study on the magnitude, direction, spillover and spread of the crisis. This two-day consultative meeting brought together stakeholders from countries in South and South-east Asia to discuss key issues related to the effects of the crisis. Nine sessions were held, in which 17 technical papers were presented. They were attended by more than 150 delegates, including participants from South Asian, South-east Asian and Gulf countries.

The speakers allayed fears about the possible ill effects of the crisis on countries in South and South-east Asia. Although the growth in gross domestic product (GDP) of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries is projected to slow down, the fundamentals of these economies remain healthy enough to survive the shock. However, it was observed that the plight of women migrants has worsened, and that this required immediate attention.
Short-Term Training on Methods and Approaches in Research on Migration Issues
15-20 March, 2010

This short-term programme was meant to introduce researchers to the major trends and methods in migration research. Intensive discussions in class with leading practitioners in the field were combined with field visits and informal interaction to accentuate participants’ interest and generate active debate. This year, the programme attracted participants from many parts of India, mostly doctoral students investigating migration-related subjects. The faculty included members of the CDS as well as scholars from other institutions and senior bureaucrats. The programme began with an inaugural session presided over by K. N. Nair, Director, CDS.

In the following days, it covered a range of issues, which spanned the historical to the contemporary, and included several key aspects such as physical and mental health, policy shifts, and implications for gender and development. Adequate importance was also accorded to acquainting the scholars with the methodological aspects of migration research. A highlight was their introduction to the Kerala Migration Survey, which familiarised them with the work of demographer and migration research expert Professor. K. C. Zachariah.

The participants expressed satisfaction with the exposure they had had to ongoing research and the themes highlighted in the major discussions. They also appreciated the opportunity offered to compare and contrast the different kinds of expertise in the field—from that of the quantitative orientation of scholars to the practical orientation of bureaucrats focused on policy change.

International Conference on Migrations, Mobility and Multiple Affiliations: Punjabis in a Transnational World
(Partly funded by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs and the European Commission’s TRANSNET Project undertaken by the CDS)
22-23 March, 2010

The conference, organised by the Research Unit on International Migration at the CDS, was aimed at examining the changing and multifaceted dimensions of Punjabi migrant transnationalism and its complex social, economic, political and cultural ramifications.

It brought together scholars from various parts of the world working on new and riveting aspects of Punjabi life in a transnational world. Unravelling the concept of a Punjabi diaspora and its complex linkages with the homeland, the economic and philanthropic facets of this connection and its developmental consequences figured in a major way in the discussions.

It was evident from a few presentations that “narrow transnationalism” had a role in creating new inequalities and sustaining old hierarchies. The “cultural production of the educated person” under different “educational regimes” of transnationality, the internationalisation of nursing education as a strategy for social mobility, and the feminisation of skilled independent migration impelled a couple of presentations. The fragmented notion of home in the transnational space and the centrality of women in
making a “home” possible, apart from intergenerational tension and the complex ways of Punjabi cultural reproduction were important threads in a few others.

The role of ethnic and kinship networks in the immigration and integration process and Sikh migration to unconventional locations such as countries in Latin America also figured in the presentations. The other side of migration in the form of untold human suffering, invisibility and marginality, the legal-illegal dichotomy, and an invalidating discourse of social licitness has significantly complicated the celebrated paradigm of transnationalism. Efforts are under way to bring out the papers presented at the conference in an edited volume.

International Conference on Migration and Remittances in South Asia (India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka) in the Context of Global Crisis
(Funded by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India)
24 March, 2010

The seminar was partly an outcome of a major project on “Financial Crisis and Its Impact on South Asian Workers” done at the CDS, which was funded by the Asian Development Bank; Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India; and the Department of Non-Resident Keralite Affairs, Government of Kerala. CDS Director K. N. Nair welcomed the participants. Papers on the effects of the global crisis on five countries in South Asia were presented and discussed. S. Irudaya Rajan and K. C. Zachariah, CDS, presented the paper on India, and Nasir Iqbal and Saima Nawaz, Pakistan Institute of Development Economics, Islamabad, put forth the view from Pakistan. The situation in Bangladesh was elucidated by Anwara Begum, Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies. Ganesh Gurung, Nepal Institute of Development Studies, Katmandu, assessed the fallout in Nepal, while Myrtle Perera, Marga Institute, Colombo, presented a paper evaluating it in Sri Lanka.

5th International Project Meeting of ‘Transnationalisation, Migration and Transformation: Multi-Level Analysis of Migrant Transnationalism’ (TRANS-NET) Project
(CDS in collaboration with the European Commission)
25-28 March, 2010

The CDS hosted the 5th International Project Meeting of the TRANS-NET Project. Project partners from Finland, Estonia, France, Morocco, Germany, Turkey and the UK participated in the meeting. Ms. Giulia Amaducci, the Scientific Project Officer of the European Commission, the funding agency, was also present. A major part of the meeting was set apart for intense deliberations on the preliminary results of the research and issues related to the first publications from the project. The meeting also decided on the broader contours of country-specific reports and cross-country comparative reports. It decided to hold the next project meeting at the University of Sussex during early December this year.
Short-Term Training on Methods and Approaches to Research on Migration Issues
(Financed by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India)
21-25 March, 2011

This is the sixth training program organized by the Centre for Development Studies with the financial support from the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India during March 21-25, 2011. Thirty students, most of them working on linkages between migration and development, participated in the training from several universities and research institutions in India such as Jawaharlal Nehru University, Banaras Hindu University, Manipur University, Indian Institute of Management, Indian Institute of Technology, International Institute for Population Sciences and Gujarat Institute of Development Research.

As like earlier program, the one-week training covered various facets of migration issues, migration data and governance, India’s foreign policy, gender dimensions, historical perspectives, the linkage between migration and health, trade, poverty, inequality and diasporas and development. In addition, The students are also exposed the migration research undertaken during the last decade at the CDS and the ongoing research projects and M.Phil and Ph.D dissertations of migration issues.

Three-fourth of the lectures was handled by the CDS faculty members and the remaining modules were taken by the following guest faculty – T P Sreenivasan, Sreelekha Nair, K Srinivasan, Ajith Kumar, R B Bhagat, Amita Shah and Arjan de Haan.

International Labour Migration from India State Level Perspectives
(Financed by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India)
28-29 March, 2011

The latest labour migration flow data released by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs indicated that there are new states such as Uttar Pradesh and Bihar emerging as gainers and some of the historically predominant states such as Kerala and Tamil Nadu as loser in the arena of international migration. To explore this issue further, the Centre for Development Studies organized a consultative meeting during 28-29 March 2011 with the financial support from the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India.

About 40 researchers participated in the workshop with eight state level presentations by experts – Kerala, Goa, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar and Maharashtra – from several research institutions - Gujarat Institute of Development Research, Ahmedabad, International Institute for Population Sciences, Mumbai, Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore and Centre for Research in Rural and Industrial Development, Chandigarh. The two day seminar was inaugurated by Professor Pulapre Balakrishan, Director, CDS and the inaugural address was by Mr Krishna Kumar, former Secretary, Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government India.
Capacity Building Workshop for safe and legal Migration
4 May 2010
(CDS in collaboration with International Organization of Migration)

India is an important country of origin, transit and destination for migrant workers. Overseas Indian Workers are estimated at over 5 million, with a net outflow of an average 700,000 workers per year for the past three years. The majority of migrants flow is mainly towards Gulf countries and Malaysia. However, the trend shows a periodic increase in migration flows towards USA, Canada, Australia and European Union Member States.

Interviews conducted during a recent grassroot level information campaign by IOM in the Jalandhar district of State of Punjab re established the existence of middlemen involved in facilitating irregular migration at the very village level. There is an apt unawareness amongst people as to the right channels of migration, working and living conditions in the countries of destination and a very strong desire, social/peer pressure to immigrate to a developed country. This ultimately gives unscrupulous agents/middlemen opportunities to lure people into false promises and place them at risk of irregular channels of migration. Thus the need of the time is to look upon the ways and means to develop awareness and knowledge in the potential emigrants from India on the right and safe channels of migration.

IOM in India is working in close collaboration with the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs (MOIA). IOM, in coordinated efforts with MOIA, is working to facilitate legal, organized and humane migration. IOM in its effort to promote safe and legal migration and combat irregular migration from India focused mostly on the institutional and human resource capacity building. IOM has established two Migrant Resource Centers (MRCs), in Cochin and Hyderabad, and is working closely with other State Governments in India to replicate MRCs and linking them in a network, as an institution for information dissemination and grievance redressal centre.

In this context, the workshop focussed on the need of Pre-departure orientation for the migrant workers both on content and delivery and awareness generation emphasizing the need of grass root out reach through the NGOs.
S Irudaya Rajan visited the Department of Land Economy, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom, to conduct a Ph.D viva for Meera Balarajan on the thesis, Transnational Indians, Migration and Relationships” on August 7, 2006.

S Irudaya Rajan organized the Indo-French workshop on Indian Emigration at Laboratoire d’Anthropologie Urbaine, Paris, collaboration with the Institut National d’Etudes Demographiques (INED), Migrinter, Poitier University, the Maison des sciences de l’Homme of Paris and the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India, during 14-15 November 2006 and presented a paper along with Zachariah on Dynamics of Kerala Migration.

U S Mishra and S Irudaya Rajan visited Manila, Philippines during 18-23 February 2007 to prepare a paper on “Managing Migration in the Philippines: Lessons for India” funded under the Research Unit on International Migration of the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India.

S Irudaya Rajan participated in the Brainstorming Meeting on 14th April 2007 at Department of Education, University of Tampere, Finland, in connection with the proposal preparation for the 7th Framework Programme on Migration to be submitted to European Commission.


S Irudaya Rajan participated in the International Conference on International Migration, Multi-local Livelihoods and Human Security, held at the Institute of Social Studies, Hague, Netherlands, during 30-31 August 2007 and presented a paper on remittances and its impact on Kerala Economy and Society.


V.J. Varghese and S. Irudaya Rajan participated in the ‘Transnationalisation, Migration and Transformation’ (TRANS-NET) project meeting and took part in the deliberations to finalise the research project at the University of Tampere, Finland during 28-29 March, 2008.

S. Irudaya Rajan visited the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar and delivered a lecture on ‘Kerala Emigrants in Qatar’ on 5th February 2008. He also visited the Indian Embassy, Qatar, in connection with the ILO-MOIA project on governance of labour migration during 6-8 February, 2008 and the Indian Embassy in Bahrain in connection with the ILO-MOIA project during 15-20 March, 2008.

S. Irudaya Rajan participated in the Commission of Experts Meeting organised by the Ministry of Labour, United Arab Emirates at Abu Dhabi on 20th April 2008. He also participated in the meeting of the Project Management Team of the Pilot projects to demonstrate best practices in the Administration of the Temporary Contractual
Employment Cycle at Abu Dhabi, organised by the Ministry of Labour, United Arab Emirates on 21st April 2008.


**Praveena Kodoth** attended as Civil Society Representative and presented a paper on the “Role of Civil Society in Implementing International Instruments in India” at the Regional Dialogue on Implementation of International Instruments on Protecting Rights of Migrants organized by the International Organization for Migration and UNIFEM, in Dhaka during August 18-20, 2008.

**S. Irudaya Rajan** participated in the International Conference on European Governance of Migration: The Political Management of Mobility, Economy and Security, organised by the European Commission, British Council, Canadian Embassy, United States Embassy, Robert Bosch Stiftung and Heinrich Boll Foundation, held at Berlin, Germany, on September 17-18, 2008 and spoke in the Round Table 3 on ‘Migration and Development: Potentials and Shortcomings,’ as a lead speaker and participated in the Round Table 5 on ‘Protecting the Vulnerable: Refugees, Asylum & Resettlement and Undocumented Workers in the European Union.’

**Mythri Prasad**, Doctoral student, presented a paper titled ‘A Market for Migrants: Sunday Bengali Markets in Kerala’ at a conference on Migration and Social Protection: Exploring Issues of Portability and Access organised by the University of Sussex and Development Research Centre on Migration, Poverty and Globalisation in Brighton, UK during 5-6 November 2008. She presented another paper titled ‘Becoming a City: Kochi in Transformation’ at a seminar organized by the South Asia Study Group of University of Sussex. She also delivered a lecture to the students of BA course in Migration Studies at the university on ‘Labour Subcontracting and Roadwork’.

**V.J. Varghese** presented a paper entitled ‘Towards a New Migration Policy: India’s New Regime of Transnationalism’ in the international conference on Managing Transnational Migration: Comparing Transnational Migration Policies and Patterns in the World, organised by the Institute of Political Science and Governance, Tallinn University, Tallinn, Estonia on 6 November, 2008. He also participated in the second project meeting on ‘Transnationalisation, Migration and Transformation’ (TRANS-NET), Tallinn, 7-8 November, 2008 and made a project presentation jointly produced with S. Irudaya Rajan, on ‘The Current State of Art on Transnationalism: the Indian Case

**S. Irudaya Rajan** attended the Migration Policy Institute (MPI, USA)-Hellenic Migration Policy Institute Workshop on Diasporas and Development, held at Acropolis Palace Diwani Hotel, Athens, Greece, during 14-15 November, 2008 and discussed the Role of Indian Diasporas in Development.
S. Irudaya Rajan participated in the technical workshop on Labour Migration, Growth and Development: Exploring the Linkage, organised by the International Labour Organisation, International Training Centre of the ILO (ITCILO) and Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Office during 11-12 December, 2008 at Turin, Italy, and lead a discussion on ‘Migration, Human Rights and Development.’

S. Irudaya Rajan participated in the ‘Task Force on International Migration Second Meeting’ organised by the Initiative for Policy Dialogue at Columbia University during January 15-16, 2009, at UNAM, Mexico, and presented a paper on Gulf Migration from India.

S. Irudaya Rajan attended the first meeting of the Migration Information System in Asia (MISA) Project organised by the International Labour Organisation Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific and Scalabrini Migration Center at Manila, Philippines during January 20-23, 2009.

J Devika delivered a key note address on “Migrations, Mobility and Development-Rhetoric: Another Feminist Dilemma at the Conference on Women and Migration in South Asia: Social and Health Consequences, organized by the University of Sri Jayawardenapura, Colombo, during February 9-11, 2009.

S. Irudaya Rajan participated in the Regional Consultative Meeting on Labour Migration from South Asia organised by the Refugee and Migratory Movements Research Unit (RMMRU) of the University of Dhaka at Dhaka, Bangladesh on February 15, 2009.

S. Irudaya Rajan participated in the South Asia Migration Resource Network (SAMReN) Third Residential Training Workshop on ‘Migration, Globalisation, Security and Development’ organised by the Refugee and Migratory Movements Research Unit (RMMRU) of the University of Dhaka and the Development Research Centre on Migration, Globalisation and Poverty based at Sussex University, UK on March 9, 2009 in the Godavari Village Resort, Kathmandu, Nepal.


S. Irudaya Rajan participated in the International Conference on Migration, Remittances and Development Nexus in South Asia organized by the Institute for Policy Studies and Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, held at Taj Samudra Hotel, Colombo, during 4-5 May 2009 and presented a paper on Migration, Remittances and Development Nexus in India.

V.J. Varghese participated in the 3rd Gendering Asia Network Conference on Gender, Mobility and Citizenship, organised by the University of Helsinki and Nordic Institute of Asian Studies, during 28-30 May 2009, at Helsinki and presented a paper “Governmentality, Social Stigma and Quasi-Citizenship: Gender Negotiations of Indian Housemaids to the Middle East” (with Professor S. Irudaya Rajan). He also attended a project consultation at the University of Tampere, Finland, on 1 June 2009.
He discussed the progress of the research project “Transnationalisation, Migration and Transformation: Multi-Level Analysis of Migrant Transnationalism” and the possibilities of furthering collaboration with Finnish researchers.

S Irudaya Rajan participated in the Regional Consultative Process on Labour Migration in South Asia organized by the South Asia Centre for Policy Studies (SACEPS), Kathmandu, Nepal, on 26 July 2009 and presented a paper on labour migration process in India.


K C Zachariah, D Narayana, Vinoj Abraham and S Irudaya Rajan visited United Arab Emirates for field work in connection with the Asian Development Project on the Financial Crisis in the Gulf and Its Impact on South Asian Migrant workers during 3-6 October 2009.

V J Varghese and S Irudaya Rajan presented their paper ‘Broadening Exchanges and Changing Institutions: Multiple sites of Economic Transnationalism in India,’ in the 3rd Project Meeting of Transnationalisation, Migration and Transformation: Multi-Level Analysis of Migrant Transnationalism (TRANS-NET) at the Koc University, Istanbul, Turkey, held during 9th to 11th October 2009. They also took part in the project discussions of TRANS-NET and presented their ongoing work on Punjabi Transnationalism.

S Irudaya Rajan participated in the international workshop for preparing the DFID Research Program Consortium on Migration and Development, organized by the University of Sussex, United Kingdom, during October 20-22 2009.

Sunil Mani presented a paper on “Economic Implications of High Skilled Migration from India” at the Department of Economics, University of Stellenbosch, South Africa, October 21, 2009.

S Irudaya Rajan attended the fourth meeting of RETA 6417 – Supporting Network of Research Institutes and Think Tanks in South Asia organized by the Asian Development Bank, held at Singapore during 26-27 October 2009 and presented a draft report “Financial Crisis in the Gulf and Its Impact on South Asian Migrant workers”.

65
S Irudaya Rajan participated in the Global Forum of Migration and Development during 1-3 November 2009 funded by the Alexander S Onassis Public Benefit Foundation, MacArthur Foundation, Open Society Institute and Western Union Foundation and contributed a paper for the round table session on "Migration and Development Linkages Re-examined in the context of the Global Economic Crisis”.

U S Mishra, Hrushikesh Mallick and S Irudaya Rajan visited Qatar for field work in connection with the Asian Development Project on the Financial Crisis in the Gulf and Its Impact on South Asian Migrant workers during 14-17 November 2009.


D Narayana and S Irudaya Rajan attended the fifth meeting of RETA 6417 – Supporting Network of Research Institutes and Think Tanks in South Asia organized by the Asian Development Bank, held at Dhaka, Bangladesh, during 3-4 December 2009 and presented a draft report the Financial Crisis in the Gulf and Its Impact on South Asian Migrant workers.

Praveena Kodoth and V J Varghese presented a paper on “Emigration of Female Domestic Workers from Kerala: Gender, State Policy and the Politics of Movement” at the Workshop on Transnational Flows and Permissive Politics of Asia, Xiamen University and University of Amsterdam, Xiamen, during 12-14 January, 2010.

Paveena Kodoth presented a paper on Marriage and Migration in India” at the Policy dialogue on the research programme Illegal but licit: Transnational Flows and Permissive Politics of Asia organized by the Institute for Social and Environmental Transition, Nepal Research Programme “Illegal but licit” research programme, University of Amsterdam and Xiamen University at Hotel Greenwitch, Khatmandu, during March 29-30, 2010.

S. Irudaya Rajan participated in the conference on Assessing the Impact of the Global Economic Crisis on International Migration in Asia organized by the Scalabrini Migration Centre and International Labour organizations, held at Discovery Suites, Manila, Philippines during 6-7 May 2010 and spoke on the Impact of Global Crisis on Kerala Emigrants and Remittances.


V. J. Varghese participated in an international conference on ‘Globalising South Asia’ held at the University of Helsinki, Finland, during 27-29 May 2010. He presented the paper ‘Migration as a Transnational Enterprise: Emigrations from Eastern Punjab and Socially Licit Rationalities,’ a collaborative work with S. Irudaya Rajan.

V.J. Varghese joined the School of Global Studies, University of Sussex, UK on a Visiting Fellowship on 3 November 2010. He has been awarded with a fellowship by the Economic and Social Research Council, UK, under its ESRC-ICSSR India-UK Scholar Exchange Programme, to undertake the visit in order to work further on Punjabi transnationalism and its ambivalences and to make a series of presentations.

S. Irudaya Rajan visited the University of Sussex, United Kingdom, in connection with the preparation of the India-UK report for the 6th project meeting of the Transnationalism, Migration and Transformation: Muti-level analysis of Migrant Transnationalism funded by the European Commission, during 5-7 November 2010.

S. Irudaya Rajan participated in the International Conference on Institutionalizing Regional Approaches to Migration Management in South Asia organized by the Institute of Policy Studies, Colombo, held at Taj Samudra Hotel, Colombo on 19th November and acted as a panelist.

V J Varghese and S. Irudaya Rajan participated in the 6th project meeting of the Transnationalism, Migration and Transformation: Muti-level analysis of Migrant Transnationalism funded by the European Commission held at Sussex University, United Kingdom, during 2-3 December 2010. V.J. Varghese presented the paper ‘Punjab-UK Migration, Transnationalism and Ambivalence’ along with Kaveri Harriss in the conference.

S. Irudaya Rajan participated in the International Seminar on Regional Economy Integration, Climate Change and Food Security Agenda for the Decade 2011-2020 organized by the South Asia Watch on Trade, Economics and Environment (SAWTEE) and South Asia Centre for Policy Studies, held at Hyatt Regency, Khandmudu, during 17-19 December and lead discussion on Global Crisis, Migration, Remittances in South Asia.

V J Varghese presented the paper ‘Ruptures of Nostalgia: Migration, Marriage and the Punjabi Transnational Public,’ at the Open Symposium on Transnational Relations in the Contemporary World, at the University of Tampere, Finland on 31 January 2011. A paper ‘From the Pristine to the Peccant: Agricultural Expansion, Migration and the Production of New Subjects in South India, 1920-70,’ was presented at Centre for Migration and Diaspora Studies Seminar Series, at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London, on 26 January 2011. He also presented the following papers : a) ‘Modernity in Translation: Land Labour and Migrations in Kerala, South India, 1900-70, at CWEH Seminar Series, at the Centre for World Environmental History, University of Sussex on 28 January 2011; b) ‘Moving Across Borders: Migrations from Eastern Punjab and its Social Licitness,’ at Seminar Programme, at the School of Social Sciences, University of Northumbria, Newcastle, UK, 19 January 2011, and c) ‘He Selected Me: Migration, Marriage and Desertion of Wives in Indian Punjab,’ at CSAS Seminar Series, the Centre of South Asian Studies, University of Edinburgh, UK on 13 January 2011.
S. Irudaya Rajan was Key Note speaker of the 5th Non-Resident Nepal Regional Conference held at Crown Plaza, Dubai, held during January 14-16, 2011 and spoke on “Safe Migration from Nepal: Problems and Issues”.


S. Irudaya Rajan participated as a key resource person in the Asia-EU Dialogue on Labour Migration organized by the International Organization for Migration, held at Hotel Radisson Blu Royal at Brussels during 8-9 February 2011 and spoke on Facilitating Labour Migration from Asia to Europe.

S. Irudaya Rajan participated in the Regional Workshop on Research Programme Consortium (RPC) on Migrating out of Poverty organized by the Refugee and Migratory Movements Research Unit at Hotel Sheraton, Bangladesh, during 12-13 February 2011, to discuss the research agenda of the RPC – drivers, impacts and policy on migration.

S. Irudaya Rajan participated as a Key note speaker at the John E Sawyer Seminar on the Comparative Study of Cultures and spoke on Migration and Development: The Indian Experience at Stanford University, United States of America on February 25, 2011, sponsored by the Andrew W Mellon Foundation, the Morrison Institute for Population and Resource Studies, the Centre for South Asian Studies, the Centre for East Asian Studies, Department of Anthropology and Michelle R Clayman Institute for Gender Research.

S Irudaya Rajan delivered a lecture on Governance of International Labour Migration from India on April 20, 2011 at World Bank Migration and Remittances Unit, World Bank, Washington.

S Irudaya Rajan delivered a key note address in the international seminar on Assessing the Complexities of South Asian Migration organized by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, International Migration Research Centre and University of Waterloo, held at Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, during 19-21 May 2011 and spoke on Assessing the Complexities of South Asian Migration to the Gulf in the Context of Global Financial Crisis.

S Irudaya Rajan participated in the Technical Workshop on Cross-border Mobility and Remittances in South Asia organized by the World Bank and held at Hotel Hilton, Colombo, during 12-13 June and spoke on Emerging Emigration Trends in India.

CONFERENCES ATTENDED – NATIONAL

K C Zachariah and S Irudaya Rajan participated in the National Conference on Macro Economic Policy, Agricultural Development and Rural Institutions (in honor of Professor A Vaidyanathan), held at the Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore, during 9-10 April 2006 and presented a paper on “Dynamics of Internal Migration Affecting Kerala”

S Irudaya Rajan attended a joint consultation to institute new series of awards for the Overseas Indian workers by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, New Delhi on 19th October 2006.


S Irudaya Rajan participated in the Regional Workshop on Seasonal Migrant Labour and Livelihood: Perspectives ad Policies in South India held at the Centre for Economic and Social Studies, Hyderabad, organized by the Institute for Human Development, New Delhi and gramin Vikash Trust, Noida, on 13 February 2007 and presented a paper on “Migrant workers and livelihood issues: The Kerala Experience”.

S Irudaya Rajan visited Gujarat Institute of Development Research, Ahmedabad, on March 2, 2007, to discuss the proposed, Gujarat Migration Survey.

S Irudaya Rajan participated in the National Seminar on the Indian Economy: Historical Roots and Contemporary Development Experience, held at the Centre for Development Studies, during 31 March-1 April 2007 and presented a paper on “International Migration from India in the last two centuries”.

B A Prakash and S Irudaya Rajan visited the Ministry of Indian Overseas Affairs, Government of India, New Delhi, during 9-10 May 2007 to discuss the modalities for conducting the study on Working and Living Conditions of Indian Emigration in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

K N Nair and S Irudaya Rajan visited the Ministry of Indian Overseas Affairs, Government of India, New Delhi, to discuss the proposed research agenda of the Unit on 5th June 2007.
S Irudaya Rajan participated in the national workshop on “Protecting and Promoting the Rights of the Migrant Workers in the Gulf Countries” organized by the Solidarity Centre, Washington, USA, International Labour Organization, New Delhi and International Management Institute (IMI), during 11-12 July 2007 at IMI, New Delhi and presented two papers; one on Trends of Migration from South India to Gulf and the other on Managing Migration in the Philippines: Lessons for India.

S Irudaya Rajan participated in the National Seminar on Women and Migration organized by the National Commission for Women and Centre for Women’s Development Studies, held at the India International Centre, New Delhi during 19-20 September 2007, and presented a paper on Gender Dimensions in International Migration from Kerala.

M S Jayakumar and S Irudaya Rajan visited the Office of the Protector of Emigrants at Chennai on October 29 2007 to discuss the project on recruitment agencies sponsored by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, New Delhi and International Labour Organization, New Delhi.

V J Varghese and S Irudaya Rajan visited the Office of the Protector of Emigrants at Hyderabad on October 30 2007 to discuss the project on recruitment agencies sponsored by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, New Delhi and International Labour Organization, New Delhi.

S Irudaya Rajan presented a theme paper on Migration and Development on 5th November 2007 at S.N.College, Chempazhanty, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, 695 011.

V J Varghese, M S Jayakumar and S Irudaya Rajan, visited the Office of the Protector of Emigrants at Mumbai on November 7 2007 to discuss the project on recruitment agencies sponsored by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, New Delhi and International Labour Organization, New Delhi.

V J Varghese and S Irudaya Rajan visited the Office of the Protector of Emigrants at Delhi on November 15 2007 to discuss the project on recruitment agencies sponsored by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, New Delhi and International Labour Organization, New Delhi.

M S Jayakumar and S Irudaya Rajan visited the Office of the Protector of Emigrants at Calcutta on November 16 2007 to discuss the project on recruitment agencies sponsored by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, New Delhi and International Labour Organization, New Delhi.

V J Varghese and S Irudaya Rajan visited the Office of the Protector of Emigrants at Chandigarh on November 19 2007 to discuss the project on recruitment agencies sponsored by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, New Delhi and International Labour Organization, New Delhi.

K C Zachariah, U S Mishra, Sunitha Sukendran and S Irudaya Rajan participated at the International Conference on Networking For Promoting The Rights Of The Migrant Workers In Gulf Countries at Centre for Development Studies,
S Irudaya Rajan delivered a Key note address on “Impact of Migration” organized by the Department of Economics, Holy Cross College, Nagerkoil, on 17th December 2007.

S Irudaya Rajan participated in the Seminar on Kerala Migrant Labour and Their Problems organized by the Kerala Institute of Labour and Employment, on 18th December 2007 at the Government Guest House, Thiruvananthapuram, and initiated a discussion on Migration, Remittances and Employment.

S Irudaya Rajan delivered a Key note address on “Problems of Migration” at the seminar on “Migration: True and Correct Way” organized by the National Migrant Organization at Press Club, on 19th December 2007.

S Krishna Kumar and S Irudaya Rajan attended a meeting organized by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs to discuss the Migration Policy on 20th December 2007 at Akbar Bhavan, New Delhi.

K C Zachariah and S Irudaya Rajan participated in the meeting of Keraleeya Pravasi Sangamon 2008 organized by the Department of Non-Resident Keralite Affairs, during 2-3 January 2008 at Gokulam Convention Centre, Cochin, and acted as a panel speaker on Rehabilitation of non-Resident Keralites.


S Irudaya Rajan delivered a Key note address on International Migration from India at the National Conference on Globalisation: Prospects and Problems organized at the Sourashtra College, Madurai, on 25th February 2008.


S Irudaya Rajan visited the office of the Commissioner for Non-Resident Indian Affairs, Government of Goa on March 14 2008 to discuss the Migration Monitoring Study for Goa.

S Irudaya Rajan participated in the international conference on Population, Health and Human Resources in India’s Development organized by the Institute of Economic Growth during 24-25 March 2008 and presented a paper on “International Migration from Kerala”

Trivandrum on 4-5 December 2007 with the financial support from Solidarity Center, Washington, USA and made three presentations: Migration to the Gulf, Problems of Housemaids in the Gulf countries.
S Irudaya Rajan participated in the Global Civil Society Year Book meeting organised by the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, in collaboration Centre for the Study Global Governance, London School of Economics, held at Mumbai, during May 1-3, 2008 and presented a paper on ‘International Migration from Kerala’.


S Irudaya Rajan visited the Institute of Social and Economic Change, Bangalore, during July 15-16, 2008 in connection with the preparation of the proposal on the Karnataka Migration Survey.

S Irudaya Rajan visited the Administrative Research Institute, Bangalore, on July 22, 2008, October 1, 2008 and November 6-8 2008 to participate in the First, Second and Fourth National Migration Policy Drafting group Meeting.

S Irudaya Rajan participated in the Initial Consultation of Migration and Human Development as a part of the Human Development Report 2009 organised by the United Nations Development Program on September 11, 2008 at the UN Conference Hall, New Delhi and initiated a discussion on Labour Migration to the Gulf.

S Irudaya Rajan visited the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India, New Delhi, on October 21, 2008 to participate in the Third National Migration Policy Drafting Group Meeting.

S Irudaya Rajan participated as a resource person for the Southern Regional Consultation on the Development of Safe Mobility Framework for Migrants at Conference Hall in the Brothers of Holy Cross, Chennai, organised by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), New Delhi, and Arunodhay Migrant Initiatives on December 17, 2008 and initiated a discussion on Overview of Migration in India.

S Irudaya Rajan Participated in the Pravasi Bharatiya Nivas 2009 organised by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India in collaboration with the Government of Tamil Nadu held at Chennai during January 7-9, 2009.

VJ Varghese presented a paper entitled ‘Reclaiming the Region to History: Renditions of Malabar Migration and Modernizing Space’ in the UGC National Seminar on Revisions of History: Region, Literature, Culture, organised by the Department of English, Maharaja Sayajirao University Baroda, 20-21 March 2009 at the M.S. University of Baroda.


V J Varghese and S Irudaya Rajan organized the policy informing workshop as part of the “Transnationalisation, Migration and Transformation: Multi-Level
Analysis of Migrant Transnationalism” (TRANS-NET) research project at Centre for Research in Rural and Industrial Development (CRRID) Chandigarh on 6th April 2009.

S Irudaya Rajan participated in the Regional Consultation on Gender and Migration: Negotiating Rights A Women’s Movement Perspective organized by the Centre for Women’s Development Studies, held at Hyderabad during 25-27 June 2009 and initiated a discussion on Data on Migration: Issues and Analysis.

V J Varghese provided one session on Gender and Migration: Some Reflections from the Indian Experience” at the training programme on International Instruments and National Policies on Migration organized by the Migrant Forum India (MFI) at Kovalam, during 13-14 July, 2009.

S Irudaya Rajan participated in the seminar on Global Economic Downturn and Labour Migration” organized by the Kerala Institute of Labour and Employment, held at Government guest house, Thiruvananthapuram, on 18 December 2009 and presented a paper on :Global Economic Downturn and Return Migration to Kerala”.

S Irudaya Rajan attended the meeting on “Remittances” organized by the Reserve Bank of India, held at Mumbai, on 28th August 2009.

S Irudaya Rajan participated in the seminar on Global Economic Downturn and Labour Migration” organized by the Kerala Institute of Labour and Employment, held at Government guest house, Thiruvananthapuram, on 18 December 2009 and presented a paper on :Global Economic Downturn and Return Migration to Kerala”.

S Irudaya Rajan participated in the Seminar on NRI Investment in the New Era organized by the NRI Welfare Foundation, held at Mascot Hotel on 8th January 2010 and made a presentation on “NRK Remittances to Kerala”.


S Irudaya Rajan participated as Resource Panel Member in the Non-Resident Keralites Global Meet 2010 on the debate “Non-Resident Keralites: Problems and Possible Solutions” organized by the Overseas Indian Cultural Congress and Kerala Pradesh Congress Committee held at Rajiv Gandhi Auditorium, Indira Bhavan, on 29th January 2010.

S Irudaya Rajan participated in the National Seminar on Women, Migration and Mental Health: New Challenges, held at Fatima National College, Kollam on 9-10 February 2010 and spoke on Impact of Migration on Women and Children Left Behind.

S Irudaya Rajan delivered a Key note address at the workshop on “Indian Workers Overseas: Issues and Response of State and Civil Society” organized by the Department of Sociology of the Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Tirunelveli, Vaan Mukil, Tirunelveli and Arunodhaya Migrant Initiatives, Chennai, held at Tirunelveli on February 19, 2010.

V. J. Varghese and S. Irudaya Rajan presented their paper ‘Migration as a Transnational Enterprise: Emigrations from Eastern Punjab and the Question of Social
Licitness,’ in an international conference on ‘Migrations, Mobility and Multiple Affiliations: Punjabis in a Transnational World,’ at the CDS during 22-23 March 2010.


S. Irudaya Rajan visited Centre for Research in Rural and Industrial Development, Chandigarh, during May 14-15, 2010 to discuss the ongoing Punjab Migration Study and European Union’s TRANSNET Project.

S. Irudaya Rajan participated in the meeting on Migration and Remittances in South Asia organized by the World Bank at New Delhi on 4th June 2010 and spoke at length on the Kerala Migration Surveys conducted by the Research Unit on International Migration.

S. Irudaya Rajan participated in the Selection Committee Meeting of the Chief Executive Officer on June 11, 2010 at the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India, New Delhi.

S. Irudaya Rajan participated in the International Seminar on Global Relationships in Indian Perspectives organized by the Indian Council for Social Science Research, New Delhi and Netherlands, held at Institute for Social and Economic Change during June 22-23, 2010 and presented a paper on “Impact of Non-Resident Keralites’ Remittances on Kerala Economy and Society”

S. Irudaya Rajan participated in the training program organized by the NORKA on 5th August 2010, at the Institute of Management in Government and delivered a talk on “International Migration Scenario in Kerala”.

S. Irudaya Rajan visited Centre for Research in Rural and Industrial Development, Chandigarh, during August 9-11, 2010 to discuss the ongoing Punjab Migration Study and European Union’s TRANSNET Project.

S. Irudaya Rajan participated in the third consultative meeting of with state governments on Migration Management organized by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India, held at India Habitat Centre, during 28-29 October 2010 and spoke on “Migration Management in India”

S. Irudaya Rajan participated as invited speaker in the International Symposium on “Demography and Migration in Asia” organized by the Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies (MAKAIAS), at Calcutta on February 17, 2011 and spoke on “Indian Migrants in West Asia”.

74

S. Irudaya Rajan delivered a key note address in the seminar on Challenges of Migration Today: Issues of the low and semi skilled workers from Kerala to the Gulf Region organized by the Migrant Forum Asia, held at Hotel Chaitram, Thiruvananthapura, on 17th May 2011 and spoke on Issues and Concerns for the unskilled workers from Kerala to the Gulf.

PROFESSIONAL INVOLVEMENT OUTSIDE CENTRE

S. Irudaya Rajan, Member, Committee to draft National Migration Policy, Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India.

S. Irudaya Rajan appointed as a Member for the Council for Promotion of Overseas Employment of the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India.

S. Irudaya Rajan, Member, Expert Committee on Formulation of Welfare Fund for Non-Resident Keralites, Department of Non-Resident Keralite Affairs, Government of Kerala.

S. Irudaya Rajan, Member, Scientific Working Group on India-European Union Migration Mobility set up by the European Commission, Brussels and Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India.

S. Irudaya Rajan, Commissioner, South Asian Migration Commission of the South Asia Centre for Policy Studies, Khatmandu, Nepal