

CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

Annual Report 2007-08



CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

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The Centre for Development Studies (CDS) was registered as a Society in September 1970 under the Travancore-Cochin Literary, Scientific and Charitable Societies Act. The main objective of the Centre is to promote research and teaching in the disciplines relevant to development.

Over the years, the Centre has established a tradition of interdisciplinary research in areas including agricultural economics, industrial economics, labour economics, social and economic history, economics of health and nutrition, population studies, women's studies, statistics and econometrics.

The teaching programmes of the Centre include an M. Phil Programme in Applied Economics affiliated to the Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), a Ph.D Programme affiliated to JNU and the Kerala University, a Diploma Programme on Universalising Socio-Economic Security for the Poor and short term training programmes for researchers.

The M.Phil Programme is designed to theory and Indian economic problems, research in applied economics. Methods cum-institutional analysis are

The Diploma Programme on the Poor' is a collaborative effort of the Hague and the Self Employed Women's is offered to mid-career professionals and protection in developing and and for those working on strategies for pro-poor growth and strengthening the asset base and capabilities of the poor.



provide a broad understanding of economic as well as training in analytical skills for of qualitative, theoretical and historical-emphasised.

'Universalising Socio-Economic Security for Centre, Institute of Social Studies, The Association, Ahmedabad. The Programme and practitioners involved in social provision transitional societies, for policy researchers employment generation, poverty alleviation,

The Centre has a core academic staff engaged in teaching and research. These activities lead to a range of research publications, lectures, workshops and seminars, as well as M. Phil and Ph.D dissertations on problems related to development. Some of these publications are brought out under the Centre's own publication programme. The faculty also involve themselves in collaborative research and teaching with other academic institutions, as well as serve as members on various advisory and governing bodies.



The Centre for Development Studies gratefully acknowledges the support received from:

- Government of Kerala
- Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR)
- University Grants Commission (UGC)
- Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU)
- University of Kerala
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
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OVERVIEW

INTRODUCTION

This is the thirty-seventh Annual Report of the Centre for Development Studies. The tradition of the Centre has been to carry out research on a diverse set of development issues, many of them having contemporary relevance in the region, nation and also in the international context. How to cope with the global changes that the economy and society encounter has been the basic concern of our research. The strength of our research has been diversity of approaches, paradigms and methodologies. In the light of the tradition and the spirit of the Vision Document along with the broad issues prioritised in the Medium Term Plan for 2005-15, the CDS faculty has been actively engaged mainly in empirical research of contemporary and historical relevance informed by sound theoretical foundations. However, any institution faces ups and downs in its growth path and the Centre is no exception. It is but satisfying to note that the faculty has regained strength and commitment and has started to devote itself with more vigour on research, teaching and other academic activities and strive to take the Centre onto the upward phase of growth. This is evident from the overview of the completed and ongoing research of the Centre during the current year 2007-08 provided in this section of the Annual Report. The overview is presented in five sections dealing with (a) faculty research, (b) sponsored research, (c) teaching and training programmes, and (d) dissemination. Besides the overviews, the Annual Report has sections giving details (including abstracts) of research studies and other academic activities completed or are in progress during the year under review. While the overview and other detailed account given in the Report show encouraging portents, there are warning signals of the challenges that lie ahead to sustain the tempo of progress and explore new areas of work and sources of funds to keep CDS as a centre of excellence in research, teaching, and other academic activities in development.



A. Faculty Research

The research work in the Centre is located at many levels viz., faculty members, students and visitors. As the core stands on the faculty, the focus of the overview is on highlighting the nature and content of research output of the Faculty initiated earlier but completed now and studies taken afresh during the current year. The overview of faculty research is presented here by classifying them into following sub-areas viz., (1) Rural development dynamics, (2) Decentralisation, (3) Environmental Issues, (4) Gender and Development (5) Technology and Innovation, (6) Industry, (7) Labour, (8) Health, Human Development and Social security, (9) International Migration, and (10) Public Finance and Macroeconomics.

1. Rural Development Dynamics

An important line of research work in the area of rural development dynamics has been to understand the recent turn-around in rural employment growth in India. It is argued that such an employment growth is probably a response to the crisis that has been gripping the agricultural sector. Under conditions of distress, a part of the normally non-working population is seen to enter the labour market to supplement the household income. As a complement to this study, another piece of research work has examined the factors and processes underlying agrarian distress in Kerala through a case study of five villages. It is shown that the decline in crop yield coupled with sharp fall in prices, creates severe distress in all sections of agricultural population. The households tend to cope with these distresses by reducing household expenditure, diversifying household income and searching jobs in other places. In order to evaluate these linkages on a larger scale, case studies of villages in different agro-climatic regions in several States have been planned. The approach would be to select study areas based on a State-level analysis of agricultural performance and other socio-economic indicators in recent years. Within the selected States, village-level studies will be conducted to identify the dynamics in the land, labour and credit markets

under the current economic regime. The development of new processes and institutions in these different spheres of exchange relation and its impact on the production activities and rural livelihoods will be the basic objective of the study.

Other studies under the category of rural development include an attempt to measure sustainability of rural water supply by considering institutional, financial and environmental factors. A study of 180 demand-driven schemes from one district of Kerala indicates that sustainability of the schemes depends mainly on source and quality of water supply whereas finance, institution and hygiene influence sustainability in other parts. In general, female education and their participation seem to enhance the sustainability of rural water supply schemes.

2. Decentralisation

The Centre maintains a Research Unit on Local Self Governments. Most of the studies carried out by this unit have been in an action-research mode. The following initiatives have been taken up during the year.

- a. An initiative to carry out action research on the governance in District Panchayat and the departments working under it and a few Grama Panchayats (GPs) in Kasargode district.
- b. Continuation of the assistance provided to plan projects in selected GP in Kasargode district.
- c. Action research on the use of innovative farmers to spread productivity-enhancing practices in agriculture.
- d. Facilitating the model of a watershed development project in a selected GP in Kasargode district.
- e. A training on project appraisal, monitoring and evaluation for college lecturers, officials and selected elected representatives of local self governments in Kerala.
- f. Preparation and dissemination of policy notes on issues relevant to decentralization.



Three Policy Notes have been prepared on decentralisation in Kerala. The first note analyses the implementation of housing schemes for the poor through the Panchayats in Kasargod District. The second analyses the desirability of a World Bank loan for strengthening local self governments of Kerala under two scenarios viz., (1) the case in which the loan supplements the resources of local self governments and (2) the case in which the state government directly or indirectly substitutes a part of the resources that it has committed to give to the local self governments with the proposed loan. The third note draws an outline of a more realistic conceptual foundation for decentralization by using the concept of 'local market failure' in deciding the activities of local self-governments, treating *grama sabhas* and beneficiary committees as mechanisms to exercise citizens' rights in emergency situations, enhancing local resource mobilization, and instituting incentive systems so that local resource allocation becomes more autonomous and efficient.

3. Environmental Issues

A study in this area, has linked decentralised environmental expenditures in per capita terms and environmental quality indicators for the forestry sector. The econometric exercise entailed in the study has revealed a positive functional relationship between the variables and also the effectiveness of economic growth variables in creating Kuznet's U effect on environmental quality. The panel estimates, however, show that fiscal policy has a stronger impact on environmental quality than economic growth.

An evaluation of the socio-economic impact of the Neendakara fishing harbour (prepared for the Harbour Engineering Department, Government of Kerala) is yet another important piece of work in this area. The economic analysis shows that the rate of return of the project is around 14 per cent as on 2005-06. The evaluation has also compared revenues through user charges and expenditures after discounting and accounting for inflation. Then also financial return of the harbour is found attractive. The survey carried out among the inhabitants in connection with the

study shows that about 65 percent of the people have seen demonstrated benefits from harbour facilities. In general, the people perceive the harbour as beneficial. However, most inhabitants have expressed desire to improve facilities in the harbour, especially with regard to hygiene and cleanliness.

4. Gender Issues

The major themes selected for research under this area are governance, employment, and marriage/family. In all these areas the focus has been on the question of power relations, by taking up initiatives that purport to empower women and examining closely the rigidities of projects/programs/norms, and how women, make sense of the frameworks they are drawn into.

As for the work on governance, the basic question posed is as to how governance is gendered and thereby politics is defined in ways that are far from overt and go against claims, often made, regarding women's successful entry into politics. An important aspect, that received attention is the gendering of space in the context of the entry of women into 'politics' at the local self-government level. The studies investigate the women's perception of these new spaces and the problems these spaces present for the entry and continued association of women. Also significant is a study that moves away from the state to an independent women's initiative for employment. The study has examined the issues of politics, citizenship and women's agency in the context of the mobilization of women for employment by Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA).

As regards the question of women's employment, three kinds of approaches have been considered. One is the impact of knowledge-industries on women's employment within the *Kudumbasree* programme in Kerala. Through a survey of *Kudumbasree* supported micro enterprises engaged in IT, it is revealed that poor women have entered the lowest levels of IT enabled jobs and that they need considerably more training and organizational support to move up in the work career. The need for greater attention to the demand side is also emphasized. The second approach to employment examines critically the discursive construction of recent



efforts to expand the domain of women's paid work through mobilizing women into self-help groups as a straightforward extension of women's access to the public sphere. It questions the claim that the greatly increased presence of women in the realms of politics and work signify greater autonomy. The third approach shows how the agrarian reform programmes influence the nature and pattern of women's work and employment mediated importantly by conservative gender norms.

The engagement of research with marriage/family draws on empirical evidence from the Indian context and discusses conceptual and theoretical issues. The specifics examined are policy issues regarding family, dowry, matchmaking and the idea and celebration of weddings. There is also some work that contextualises specific strands of women's writing in Malayalam in terms of the early twentieth century community reforms and debates on sex worker activism and identity in contemporary Kerala.

5. Technology and Innovation

Technology-Innovation has emerged as a vibrant research area of interest of faculty and students at the Centre. A beginning was made in the past towards explorations into intricate policy questions related to external acquisition (trade) and domestic generation of technology. During the current year to the work on this traditional mode has continued to illustrate, a study using firm-level panel data of the Indian manufacturing sector and improved estimation method had substantiated the proposition that trade-openness promotes technological progress. Another study investigated the effect of trade liberalisation on firm's Research and Development (R&D) investment and revealed that exports in general encourages investment in technological innovations while R&D promoting effect of capital goods and disembodied technology import is not wide-spread. The year under review is also marked by a significant contribution to public policies for technological progress by carrying out empirical research into some hitherto unexplored issues like effectiveness of Tax incentives for R&D. An econometric analysis in terms of elasticity of R&D

with reference to tax foregone of a specific tax scheme, which has been in operation since 2001, has revealed the elasticity less than unity and thereby has indicated the ineffectiveness of the specific tax instrument. This, it is argued, was essentially due to the fact that the subsidy covered only about 6 to 7 percent of the R&D expenditure of the tax-incentive receiving firms. Another important policy inference is also drawn in the study: tax subsidies or research grants for financing innovations would be really effective only if the country has a minimum number of scientists and engineers.

This has taken the faculty's research interest to study the process of enlarging the supply-flow of engineers and scientists. Based on data compiled in the National Technical Manpower Systems and modification of the conventional methodology of compiling student enrolment, a study estimated the supply-flow in terms of the out-turn from engineering colleges for 1991 through 2000 cohorts of students enrolling for undergraduate engineering courses in the State of Kerala and has shown a significant decline in the flow. As the 'deterioration' is seen to have started during the late 1990s, the study ventured to dismiss the popular notion of association of the 'deterioration' with the emergence of self-financing colleges as premature. An evaluation of the operation of Technical Evaluation Quality Improvement Programme, which is an implicit recognition at the policy level of the 'deterioration' trend in the State, uncovered a number of shortcomings including the bunching of a large amount of spending on the last six months of the programme and the neglect of spending on aspects dealing directly with qualitative improvements. On the overall performance, the scores received by the participating Kerala colleges were far below the national average. These and other interesting findings of CDS study on the process of supply-flow of scientists and engineers have implications for public policy reforms on technical education in the State.

While there is continued interest on unexplored or less-understood dimensions of the old issues like technology-trade (primarily, import), domestic technology generation through R&D, fiscal incentives and broad macro policies



relevant to technological progress, the faculty has also shown keen interest for diversification in tune with the changing trend at the global level. In particular, research attention is moving away from technology *per se* to innovation in its broad sense. For, a country's ability to innovate is a key driver of its economic growth. The nature of innovation has also its implications on societal change. However, innovations are not to be seen as taking place within firms and laboratories or research institutes working in isolation; they emerge from the working of a network of institutions, government and business enterprises as a system. Therefore the latest trend in the Centre has been to concentrate on conceptualising and carrying out empirical research in the framework of innovation systems such as National System of Innovation and Sectoral System of Innovations. Although, some faculty members have initiated empirical studies on the university-industry interaction, and the role of foreign R&D centres in the National System of Innovations, serious efforts are yet wanting to formulate empirical-oriented studies and implement the national or sectoral innovation systems frameworks within the specific context of developing countries.

6. Industry

Industry is a subject area that had generated much research interest of the faculty and students in the past. Over time, however, the interest has been waning, though, some members continue to graze in such fields as entry-barriers, market structure, competitiveness and productivity in the changed environment of the market-oriented liberalisation and globalisation in India since 1991. A notable feature of faculty research has been the persistency of interest of some members in continuing research towards exploring the dynamics of industrial competition in the Indian manufacturing industries in terms of the mobility of firms, persistence profit rates, trade performance etc. Encouragingly, in dealing with these old issues, there have been attempts to introduce methodological improvements and derive the bearings of the empirical findings on the competition policy in the Indian context.

There have also been some attempts at carrying out industry-specific studies but generally confined to knowledge-based industries and issues relating to standards, technological capability and trade performance. The strong interest of the faculty in studying the Information & Communication Technology (ICT) industry is worth highlighting. Although the policy environment for industrial investment and operation has undergone fundamental changes with the introduction of market-oriented liberalisation and reforms since 1991, there are a number of macro policy issues emerging from 'market-failures' as well as micro-level issues of business behaviour that have not received due attention in faculty research.

7. Labour

Labour is another area of research importance in the context of market-oriented reforms in India but it has remained dormant in the Centre's research work. With the addition of some scholars specialising in Labour Economics on the faculty, some serious empirical research in this area has now been initiated at the Centre. The specific topics of research carried out during the current year include (a) Growth and Inequality of Wages, and (b) Employees Attrition in the Software industry in India. Some interesting inferences with policy implications have been derived from the findings of these studies based on secondary data.

8. Population, Health, Human Development and Social Security

Issues under the theme on population, health and human development have always found prominent research focus since the pioneering CDS-UN (1973) study on Poverty, Unemployment and Development Policy. During the past one year, research under this theme broadly includes studies on understanding the nexus between poverty, nutrition and mortality; issues dealing with measurement and methodology in health research; understanding the human development issues at the micro level; and the quality of school and technical education.



Poverty, malnutrition and mortality are inexorably intertwined and hinder human development and economic growth. A major research effort during the year is the exploration of the theoretical understandings of the above nexus by using empirical evidence at both macro and micro levels covering three regions — Asia, Pacific and Africa. The significant findings of this study is that failure to survive, or not surviving well, is strongly influenced by exposure to poverty and the resultant lack of access to social, economic and cultural resources. Another study examined the emerging trends in mortality and malnutrition in South Asia and their association with poverty and hunger. This study, while reviewing the evidence and pathways noted that infectious diseases, malnutrition and neonatal disorders combine to play a critical role in endowing South Asia with high death rates during infancy and childhood.

The research dealing with issues on child and maternal health continued to attract attention at CDS. A temporal comparison of the data from the National Family Health Surveys 1998-99 and 2005-06, has suggested that levels of malnutrition, especially iron-deficiency anaemia, remain quite high among women in India. Another study attempted to understand the association between caste background of women and utilisation of maternal health care services in rural India. The study found that caste based differentials in utilisation of maternal care services is mainly due to differences in the educational level of women rather than differences in their economic status.

Studies in the area of health carried out during the year have also explored the characteristics of private hospitals, health care payments and health financing. Healthcare payments being unpredictable have the potential to jeopardize the living standards of any household. One study noted that public policy favouring increased private sector participation in medical education coupled with opening of super specialty hospitals has led to a situation where small hospitals are losing their significance in Kerala. Another study while analysing the implications of health care payments towards poverty and inequality across the different States suggested that about ten percent of the households

in rural as well as urban India spend around 15 per cent of the total consumption expenditure on health care. The study also revealed differential poverty impact across States and severity of the impact being more in rural areas as compared with urban areas.

The critical examination of the issues in the prevailing measurement and methodology in health research has been a continued research focus at CDS. During the current year, a study examined the effect of response-biases relating to the capacity of households to participate in health interview survey and self-proxy reporting of information about illness on overall reporting of morbidity in National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) surveys. As calorie based under nourishment measure ignores the distribution of the deprived and the privileged, an attempt has been made at adjusting the levels of under nourishment in accordance with the twin distribution of the deprived as well as the privileged. As an illustration, a study of such an adjustment to calorie based nutrition levels across Indian states has been carried out. Another study revised the WHO's index of fairness in financial contribution (FFC) by addressing one of its major limitation regarding 'progressivity' insensitiveness. In the revised index, an element of progressivity in place of the equal burden principle has been adopted in measuring FFC. An empirical illustration of the index is presented using the data on India's outpatient health care expenditure. As the gap between self reported health and observed health status is being debated in health research in recent years, a study has attempted to understand this issue in the context of Kerala. The study highlighted that it is the poverty status and availability of financial resources that determine the potential to report as ill and avail health care services.

As for research relating to Human Development, preparation of District Human Development Report for Kottayam and Wayanad, and Panchayat Human Development Reports for one grama panchayat each selected from these two districts is in progress. The aim is to consolidate the momentum gained in the preparation of Kerala Human Development Report at the instance of the Kerala State Planning Board towards building institutional capacity by strengthening the



statistical systems in the State for better collection and reporting of district and local level indicators of human development. The focus will be on understanding the issues affecting the livelihood at the household and community level such as land ownership, cropping patterns, ownership of assets other than land, consumption pattern, living conditions and various activities as a means of living including animal husbandry. Kottathara Panchayat from Wayanad district and Madapally Panchayat from Kottayam have been selected for the preparation of Panchayat Human Development Reports.

Studies on education initiated during the year have primarily focused on the quality of school and technical education in Kerala. Studies on school education dealt with evaluating the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme in all the districts in Kerala and Lakshadweep. The study would evaluate the teaching, learning and evaluation processes of education at the elementary level in addition to curricular, co-curricular activities of students and their impact on their achievement. Another study has examined the determinants of achievement in the Public Examination at the end of the Tenth Class in Kerala and uncovered variations in the students' achievement across different categories of schools, social groups and districts.

Social security along with other development issues of poverty, and vulnerability has been one of the core research interests of the Centre. The State of Kerala, with its distinctive development pattern, has since remained a unique touchstone for State intervention intended to address poverty, social security and human development concerns. A comparative plan has thus evolved with coordinates of different development experiences, those in the lap of public action (as in Kerala) *versus* those in its void (as in Orissa). Such a comparative plan has recently stood to anchor a major study at the Centre for analysing the actual local dynamics both in terms of household/individual initiatives to cope with the inadequacies and adversities that they face in their daily life and in terms of the enabling environment that facilitates to fructify those initiatives. It is worth noting that this comparative plan has

since extended to encompass an India-China environment for a similar study.

Coupled with the empirical exercises, there have also been complementary attempts to enrich conceptualization and theoretical foundation of social security. In contrast to the conventional definition of social security in terms of collective care arrangements to meet contingencies that captures only the adversity dimension, a comprehensive concept has been put up in terms of collective remedies against both adversity and deficiency. The former makes no sense in the absence of the latter dimension in the context of developing countries. With the modified approach in conceptualisation, it has become possible to situate social security in its rightful human right and human development perspective within the reference frame of dialectics of public action.

9. International Migration

Analysis of diverse issues on international migration in an inter-disciplinary approach has been a remarkable feature of our research activity. That trend has continued during the year under review. The establishment of the Research Unit on International Migration (RUIM) at the Centre funded by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs (MOIA) has given a boost to research interventions in this area. The focus has been on generating information on emigration, and assessing the (1) impact on households and individuals left behind like women, elderly and children; (2) feminization of migration; (3) replacement migration; and (4) disentangling multiple ways and levels through which transnational spaces are created. Policy oriented research to support both the Central and State governments, directly and indirectly, in areas of revamping the existing administrative structures and in formulating a National Migration Policy too remains a major research preoccupation.

A noteworthy feature of research in this area has been continuous monitoring of migration scenario of Kerala. The Migration Monitoring Study of 2007 based on 10,000 households in Kerala is a well-accepted and used source of data, which gives data on international migration from



Kerala. with special attention given to such aspects as volume of migration, social configuration, remittances, educational and economic profiles and impact on education, employment and health. The monitoring of migration is becoming a continuous process with the embarking of the 'Annual Migration Survey 2008.' Interestingly, this effort is taken beyond Kerala as is evident from the ongoing 'Goa Migration Monitoring Study 2008.' It is the plan of the CDS to embark on similar migration monitoring exercises in coordination with research organisations in the States of Punjab, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu in the near future.

The phenomenon of skilled migration from India and its economic implications is another emerging research area at the Centre. Besides, the RUIIM has set up a Migration Policy Group (MPG) with the objective of helping the MOIA in formulating the national migration policy. Its significance arises from the growing perception that the existing overseas recruitment system and 'regime of protection' based on the principle of 'protection by exception' continue to be discriminatory in praxis against the vulnerable. The system of regulation in place seems to be disabling and not enabling in nature and hence, needs to be refurbished. The MPG is having extensive consultations with stakeholders and experts to give the final shape to a policy document, which *inter alia* may recommend the establishment of a Migration Management Authority with comprehensive responsibilities at home and the migrants' destinations, and help the MOIA in formulating the national migration policy.

Apart from its own research, the Centre is also engaged in capacity building for promoting and improving research on international migration by conducting short-term training programme for young researchers. The RUIIM has brought out pre-departure training manuals for six countries in the Middle East (Bahrain, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Oman, UAE and Qatar) for making the emigrant labourers from India acquainted with the life, culture and laws of the country to which they are emigrating. Efforts to bring them out in regional languages are also in progress.

10. Public Finance and Macroeconomics

Research in the areas of Public Finance and Macroeconomics had carved out an inedible place for the Centre earlier. However, research interest in the area had faded out in the recent past. With the induction of some young faculty members with specialisation in the area, research interest has regained, and the Centre initiated some interesting studies. To illustrate, a study completed during the current year examined the validity of Keynesian contra-cyclical variation in fiscal policy to the macroeconomic activity in India. On using the test of co-integration, the study has found a long run stable relationship between fiscal policy stance and macroeconomic activity. Another study on fiscal situation of Indian States has shown that improvement in fiscal balance has been associated with increasing disparities in development spending across states in India. There are also studies examining the behaviour of exchange rates during the post-reform period with the focus placed on the dominant influence of foreign institutional investment on rupee-dollar exchange rate. There is also an ongoing study to analyse the regional dimension of inflation with a view to enquire if variations in prices are determined by regional supply and demand factors including variations in State interventions through public distribution system or local taxes.

B. Sponsored Research Programmes

A good part of the research work reported in the preceding pages has been conducted with external financial support. Notable among them are the research on Local Self Governments supported by the Government of Kerala, and research on International Migration supported by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs. There are also two endowment units set up by the Reserve Bank of India and the Planning Commission. Recently, the Government of India has approved the CDS proposal to set up a Research Programme on the Plantation Development and it will be initiated during the financial year 2008-09. Several International Agencies like IDRC, ILO, UNCTAD and UNDP, have also supported research projects at CDS. It is worth noting that these research programmes and projects have been initiated on



the basis of research interest shown by the faculty and not driven by the interests of the external agencies.

C. Teaching and Training

The Centre is also well known for its teaching and training in Applied Economics at the post-graduate level. As an approved Centre of the Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) for M.Phil programme in Applied Economics, CDS has some unique features. Admission to its M.Phil Programme is open to postgraduates in any social science or life science and graduates in engineering and technology. Diversity is a source of its strength: Its student community consists of scholars hailing from both India and abroad, and having academic background in different disciplines but all interested in acquiring knowledge and analytical skills to understand the dynamics of development. These attributes cultivated from the very beginning in CDS continue to remain intact. During the reporting year, twelve students of the 2005-07 batch submitted their dissertation and were awarded the degree, and twelve students of the 2006-08 batch have successfully completed their course work and are now in the process of preparing their dissertation studies. These studies cover wider developmental issues both in theory and applications. Some of the students who completed M.Phil are pursuing research for Ph.D at CDS or elsewhere in India and abroad and others have found placements in reputed academic/public institutions or in journalism.

As in the past, an important component of CDS activity is supervision of dissertations of Ph.D. scholars registered under JNU and University of Kerala. During the year only one student submitted his Ph.D. dissertation to JNU. The low submission rate is a matter of concern. To improve the situation efforts are being made inter alia to restructure the programme. The feasibility of integrating M.Phil and Ph.D programmes is also under scrutiny.

Designing and conducting short-term courses on themes related to development constitute the core of the training activity at CDS. The Centre continued to collaborate with the Institute of Social Studies, The Hague and SEWA,

Ahmedabad in running the three-month diploma programme in Universalisation of Social Security Scheme in Developing Countries. There were eight participants from Uganda, Kenya, Peru, and the Philippines, besides India in the course conducted during the current year. Another short-term programme on Using Internet for Applied Development Research started last year for imparting training to college teachers and researchers was also conducted this year. There were 15 participants from across the country representing a range of disciplines and profession. Another training programme, 'Teaching Innovations Programme in Economics (TIPE),' for exposing college teachers/researchers to the latest developments in theory and practice of development economics attracted over twenty participants from various colleges of Kerala. The Centre also conducted a short-term training programme in Econometrics for college teachers of Kerala sponsored by the Indian Econometrics Society during the reporting year. The Research Unit on Local Self Government (RULSG) initiated a training programme on 'Appraisal, Monitoring and Evaluation of Projects of LSGIs' with a view to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of local governments by making well trained persons available at local level for planning and appraisal of public projects. So far seventy two professionals have been trained in three batches. The response from various groups to this training programme has been very encouraging. Training programmes are emerging as an important component of the Centre's academic activity.

D. Dissemination

Dissemination of research output and other activities carried out in CDS has been done by means of (a) publication of working papers, articles in professional journals, books and monographs, and writing in popular magazines in Malayalam; (b) seminars and workshops; (c) CDS Chronicle; and (d) CDS website. During the year under review, faculty published 9 books by leading national and international publishers, 14 papers in reviewed national journals, 13 in international journals, 41 papers in edited volumes, 22 papers (non-reviewed) and 16



working papers. Compared to the previous year there has been improvement in the record of publication by the faculty. The CDS chronicle is being published on a quarterly basis. The web site has been redesigned and gives all the relevant information about CDS including publication, working papers and teaching and training programmes. There were 6 seminars and conferences during the year, and 24 open seminars, - - 12 by internal faculty and 12 by visitors. Faculty participated in 58 national and 97 international conferences during the year.

E. Infrastructure and Finance

The growth in the faculty and the academic activities has naturally put strain on the physical infrastructure and financial position of the Centre. The pressure on existing facilities has been so heavy that it became necessary to plan and execute construction of new buildings and carry out other civil works. These consisted of a new four-storied library building and extension of the Guest House. Besides, it became urgent to modernise the library through digitalisation in tune with the changes taking place in other research institutions. The progress in restructuring and renovating the existing infrastructure and building up new facilities initiated a couple of years ago has been satisfactory during the current year.

The civil construction work of the new Library building and the extension of the Guest House are now nearly complete. In view of the priority accorded to Library and Guest House buildings, the civil construction work of the new kitchen did not take off. The construction of a shamiana with tile roofing to accommodate about 120 guests is complete. A scheme for rainwater harvesting has also been designed and the scheme is being implemented along with the civil work of Library and Guest House buildings. The Centre of Science and Technology for Rural Development (COSTFORD), the institution whom the contract is awarded for civil construction and other related work on turn-key basis, has been asked to finalise the design and plans for two additional hostel blocks of 18 rooms each – one to be constructed during the financial year 2008-09. The two hostels are to

accommodate the increasing number of students, research affiliates and visiting researchers from India and abroad.

The Library modernisation has gained momentum during the reporting year. Over 90% of the books and journals have been bar coded and the Library has shifted its operations in an automated platform. The Centre successfully maintains and provides an uninterrupted round-the-clock campus wide computing network services. Plans were finalised to upgrade the computing facilities and implement a centralized repository system and wireless internet.

As for the financial position, there has been marginal improvement in Centre's financial position with the success in setting up externally funded research units and the surplus earned from research programmes sponsored by national and international agencies. With stringent cost saving measures and internal budgetary controls, the Centre has been able to maintain the overall expenditure during the year 2007-08 equal to the level of 2006-07. The major expenditure was on pay and allowances (40%); the expenditure on pay and allowances for academic staff had shown a marginal increase, but for the general administration staff, the expenditure had decreased during 2007-08. There has not been any significant increase in expenditure in other account heads. Recognising the importance of building up the Corpus to a reasonable level capable of supporting the budgetary deficits, efforts are made to ensure best possible growth of the Corpus Funds by investing the endowment funds in high-yielding and risk-free investments. It is worth to note that the excess of expenditure over income during the reporting year amounted to Rs.25 lakhs and this was met out of the CDS Endowment.

Concluding Observations

Research and other academic activities of CDS continued to remain vibrant during the year 2007-08. There has been a notable improvement in the number of research studies, the diversity of subjects covered, the methodological and analytical rigour of analysis and the dissemination of research output. There have been efforts to reorient the research



agenda and improve the quality of research and training programmes. Some of the tendencies noted in the preceding year, especially (i) to study problems of development by teams of researchers from diverse disciplines; (ii) comparative studies between Kerala and other States, and India with other developing countries; and (iii) focus of research into a variety of areas of contemporary relevance including human development issues, innovation systems, knowledge-based industries, international migration, decentralization and gender gained considerable importance in research agenda. All these are a reflection of the faculty to position itself to the emerging socio-economic realities of India's economy and society. However there are a number of areas of research that needs focused attention in the research agenda of CDS. These include research on agriculture and rural economy, environment and natural resource management, banking, finance and macro-economic issues. These were areas of research in which CDS has done considerable amount of work in its initial decades of development.

Strengthening and consolidating the research in the current areas of concern and initiating research in new subjects depends very much on the faculty strength and their diversity of interests. A number of steps have been taken to recruit younger faculty taking into account, the teaching and research gaps. The efforts have been partially successful and needs to be pursued further. An important challenge in this context is to create and strengthen an institutional framework and incentive system to attract younger faculty and retain them with the Centre. Other modes of getting

the services of faculty from other institutions also needs to be pursued.

Another area of challenge is to improve the quality of the teaching and training programmes. Though, CDS has been attracting students for its M.Phil programme from all over the country, the quality of the students who join the programme in recent years has been below our expectations. In this context, one idea that has come up is to start a Masters Programme in Economics and then to develop an integrated MA-PhD programme. The possibility of starting such a programme has been examined by the faculty, but may take sometime to reach a definite conclusion. Apart from the scope for offering such a programme, the availability of faculty and the infrastructure requirement also will have to be taken into account. In the meanwhile, efforts have been made to formulate and integrated M.Phil-Ph.D programme, with the objective of enabling students to complete their dissertation with in a period of four years.

A number of steps have been taken to improve the infrastructure facilities including Library, Computer Systems, Guest House and Hostels etc. Steps have been taken to diversify the source of funding through various sponsored programmes, economising expenditure and non-filling up of retirement vacancies in the supporting staff. But with the increase in expenditures due to the pay revision of the supporting staff and the likely burden of the revision of the salary of the faculty may put considerable strain on the financial position of the Centre. We will be able to face this situation only on getting considerable enhancement of the grant from the ICSSR and the State Government

(a) STUDIES ON INDIAN ECONOMY

Completed Studies

The Other side of the Story, Industrial Standards and Technological Capability Building at the Industry Level, A Study based on Indian Automotive Industry

Sunil Mani and M. Parameswaran

Industrial standards can either encourage or hamper innovative efforts at the firm level. The paper empirically examines this aspect at level of the Indian automotive industry. Two indicators of innovative effort are employed, namely, investments in Research and Development (R&D) and Total Factor Productivity Growth (TFPG). Both the indicators show an upward movement during the period since the late 1990s. This also happens to be the phase when the industry began to embrace a variety of products, quality and safety standards. Therefore, it appears that the innovation promotion efforts of standards are more prominent in this specific case.

On the Measurement on Sustainability of Rural Water Supply in India: A Supervaluationist Degree Theory Approach

K. Pushpangadan and G. Murugan

The paper proposes an empirical methodology for understanding the nature and behaviour of Sustainable Development as a vague and multidimensional concept through a case study of participatory and demand determined Rural Drinking Water Supply systems in India. It combines, for the first time, two of the most influential models – ‘Supervaluationism’ and



'Degree Theory'- on the measurement of 'Vagueness,' for timely public intervention in reversing the process of Unsustainability. The analysis clearly brings out the role of institutional, financial and environmental factors that should be part of public policy for ensuring sustainability of potable water supply.

Persistence of Profit Rates

K. Pushpangadan and N. Shanta

This is an attempt to measure the dynamics of competition in Indian industry in the Schumpeterian perspective by analysing profit rates. Stigler made one of the earliest attempts to examine the relationship between competition and rates of return. Recent literature, however, has been critical of this model because of its static view of competition and stresses the need for and relevance of a dynamic approach in a fast-changing world of innovation, technical change, etc. To understand competition, the dynamic view focuses on analysing the persistence of profit rates rather than considering only convergence of profit rates as in the static model. This study empirically verifies the dynamic view of competition using firm level data covering 497 firms in 14 industries in the Indian manufacturing sector for the period 1988-89 to 2000-01. To measure dynamic competition, the methodology pioneered by Mueller (based on auto-profit equation) and commonly used in persistence of profit rates studies, is employed. We have followed CubbinGeroski for measuring the strength of competition.

Understanding the Dynamics of Industrial Competition in Indian Manufacturing Industries

K. Pushpangadan and N. Shanta

Using a multi-dimensional approach, the study attempts to understand the dynamics of competition in the Indian manufacturing sector during the post-liberalisation period 1988-89 to 2000-01. A book is being published out of the study and the theme of the book is the measurement and assessment of the state of competition and its nature

using different methodological approaches. In contrast to earlier studies which use static and unidimensional measures and which treat competition as a state of affairs, this study treats competition as a process, and uses multiple and dynamic measures for the analysis as these are more appropriate to understand competition in a fast-changing world. The dynamics of competition have been assessed in terms of the mobility of firms, share cutting, and testing for the persistence of profits and its outcome evaluated in terms of international trade performance. The entire analysis of the book is based on a balanced sample of 497 firms covering 14 major industries obtained from the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy's (CMIE) electronic database prowess. Thus, in both methodological and substantive terms, the study tries to fill important gaps in the literature.

The book is divided into six chapters: an introductory chapter, four core chapters, and a final chapter with the summary, conclusions and policy implications. Chapter 1, the introductory chapter, provides the analytical framework of the study and the motivation for it. Chapter 2 assesses competition in terms of the mobility of firms and is titled 'Mobility Analysis: A New Approach.' According to Baldwin, mobility measures of the dynamics of competition provide a direct measure of the intensity of competition, and much of what happens during the competitive process will be manifested by changes in relative firm position. Besides the mobility or turnover measure can throw light on important dimensions of competition, which cannot be captured by the structural indices such as the concentration ratios used in earlier studies. Again, the traditional index suffers from certain limitations and this measure is not free from controversies. The thrust of Chapter 2 is therefore to devise an improved mobility (turnover) index, which overcomes the limitations of the traditional turnover index through an order preserving transformation of the data, and to apply it for measuring industrial competition. Using the new index, the stability of size ranks is tested and the changes in the degree of mobility analysed. The change in size distributions of industries and their inter- and intra-class mobility is also



studied. The impact of mobility on the size structure is also examined using the moments of the size distributions. Finally, the relationship between the dynamic index of competition and the direction of mobility of firms among manufacturing industries is tested. On the methodological side, the study clearly establishes the superiority of the new turnover index over the old turnover measure. More importantly, it establishes that the new turnover index also reflects share changes.

Although the new turnover index developed in the previous chapter does take care of the criticisms against rank shift analysis, it does not capture the pattern of (market) share cutting. This is another dimension reflecting the nature and intensity of competition. According to Grossack (1965), in addition to understanding whether large firms of some 'initial' year have been able to maintain their market shares up to some 'terminal' year, it is also necessary to know to whom large firms have lost their shares. In this context, he develops a model which integrates static and dynamic measures of concentration. Hence to get more insights on the nature of competition, the Grossack model is tested for Indian data in Chapter 3 which is titled 'Share Shift Analysis: An Integrated Approach..' The model helps to gain valuable insights on the vigour of competition in different manufacturing industries in India, such as, for instance, whether large firms are losing the share of their markets to other large firms or to small firms or to both large and small firms, etc., each reflecting different intensities of competition. This issue has hitherto not been addressed in the Indian context. The study highlights the importance of the methodology for an accurate assessment of competition.

While the concern of Chapters 2 and 3 is with the manifestation of the competitive processes at work as reflected in the changes in the industrial structure, in Chapter 4, we move to the analysis of the actual processes at work as reflected in the behaviour of profit rates. Titled 'Persistence of Profit Rates: ARIMA Approach,' Chapter 4 is an empirical verification of the dynamic version of competition in the Schumpeterian perspective. In a period

of liberalisation and globalisation, that is, in a fast changing world of innovations, technical change, etc., this appears an appropriate framework for understanding competition. As against a mere convergence of profit rates in the static model, in the dynamic view, the focus is on understanding the persistence of profit rates. More specifically, the study seeks to test the Schumpeterian thesis by empirically verifying the proposition as to whether the competitive process erodes excess profits and how quickly this happens. The persistence of profit rates is analysed using Mueller's methodology (1990) based on auto profit equations and the strength of competition is measured. Most importantly, the competitive rate of profit in the manufacturing sector is estimated.

Chapter 5, titled 'Domestic Competition and Trade Performance,' examines the causality connection between domestic competition and international trade performance, the ultimate test of economic performance or competitiveness of the domestic economy. The whole analysis is set within the framework of trade liberalisation in the context of a developing country. According to White (1974), the causality runs from the domestic market structure to trade flows. A firm with market power will face different incentives and will behave differently with respect to these trade flows than would a group of competitors. Based on these theoretical foundations, we test the relationship between different measures of competition and trade outcomes, stressing the role of competitive advantage in determining trade outcomes. It may be emphasised that we use dynamic and multidimensional indices measures of competition while most studies use static and unidimensional measures.

Chapter 6 comprises the summary, conclusions and policy implications of the study. Drawing together the findings on competition using the different methodological approaches, this chapter draws conclusions on the state of competition prevailing in the different industries and in the manufacturing sector as a whole. It also underlines the implications of the findings for competition policy and makes a few suggestions for future research.



Construction Sector Activities and Economic Growth in India

Hrushikesh Mallick and Mantu Kumar Mahalik
(M.Phil scholar, CDS)

On empirically examining the importance of the construction sector in propelling economic growth rate in India, the study finds that, in the presence of the dominant influence of capital stock, the impact of the construction sector gets blurred or neutralised. Once capital stock is dropped from the model, the construction sector emerges as a significant determinant of economic growth, while other financial variables such as interest rate and non-food bank credit, including the financial liberalisation dummy, do not play significant roles in economic growth. However, from an investigation of the impact of the construction sector on economic growth through the channel of employment, it is seen that the construction sector might be impacting the growth rate by increasing employment and thereby increasing the economy's aggregate output.

An Assessment of Social Divide in Maternal Health Care Use in Rural India

T.R. Dilip and U.S. Mishra

The study attempts to understand the complexity of the association between the caste background of a woman and utilisation of health care services in rural India. Caste-based differentials in utilisation of maternal care services are examined to assess whether they arise due to deprivation of income or education or due to cultural factors. In terms of the factors contributing to caste-based deprivation in the utilisation of maternal care services, the gross effect of the educational level of woman is found to be more pronounced than that of her economic status. However, the effect of the three variables is distinct across the various components of maternal care services examined. This case-focused analysis also demonstrates how the utilisation of antenatal care services promotes the preference for institutional deliveries, while the utilisation of antenatal care services and institutional facility for delivery jointly promote the acceptance for post-natal care services in rural India.

National Sample Survey Data on Morbidity: Impact of Certain Response Bias

T.R. Dilip and U.S. Mishra

The study illustrates the effect of response biases on overall reporting of morbidity in NSS surveys in relation to the capacity of households to participate in health interview surveys and self-proxy reporting of information on illnesses in the survey. Inter-state variations indicate bias, as the capacity of households to participate in the survey is not very systematic, though the response bias due to proxy reporting is systematic, with reported morbidity being higher in self-reported cases as compared to proxy-reported cases. Results indicate the need to apply statistical control for biases due to capacity to participate in survey and proxy reporting, while comparing sickness intensity across various sub groups of population.

International Trade, R&D Spillovers and Productivity: Evidence from Indian Manufacturing Industry

M. Parameswaran

This study examines the effect of trade facilitated Research and Development (R&D) spillovers on the productivity of manufacturing firms in India. Though developing countries are considered to be the major beneficiaries of trade-facilitated R&D spillovers, there is a lack of detailed empirical investigations in their context. The study also considers intersectoral variation in the effect on productivity and the importance of firms' investment in R&D, technology imports and plant and machinery in enhancing the productivity effect. Using firm level panel data and an improved estimation method, the study shows that R&D spillovers have significant effect on productivity and that the productivity effect is greater in technology-intensive industries. The study also shows that firms' investment in plant and machinery enhances the productivity effect of R&D spillovers. The study thus provides detailed micro-level evidence on the argument that trade openness promotes technological progress in developing countries.



Understanding India's Growth: Further Observations

Pulapre Balakrishnan and M. Parameswaran

In this short study, the researchers consider a longer GDP time series in 1999-2000 prices. They also provide further evidence on the fact that acceleration of growth in the past quarter century has been driven by service.

Trade Liberalisation and R&D Investment: Evidence from Manufacturing Firms in India

M. Parameswaran

This study investigates the effect of trade liberalisation on firms' R&D investment. It examines the impact of import competition, export and import of capital goods and disembodied technology on R&D investment. The theoretical predictions on the impact of liberal trade policy regime through these channels are ambiguous and shown to be contingent on many industry and firm specific details. This makes an empirical analysis more significant. The study shows that export, in general, encourages investment in innovation, while the R&D promoting effect of capital goods and disembodied technology import is not widespread. On the impact of import competition, the study finds that it depends on the domestic market structure. The study stresses the need for policies complementary to trade liberalisation for creating favourable domestic conditions, so that industry can adjust itself to the liberal trade policy regime by improving technological standards.

Growth and Inequality of Wages in India: Recent Trends and Patterns

Vinoj Abraham

Analysis of NSS unit level data shows that wage growth had declined between 1993-94 and 2004-05 for both regular employees and casual workers. The decline in growth rate of wages has been particularly severe for regular workers such that there was an absolute decline in wage rate during the period 1999-2004. Regional trends show that slow

down of wage growth is spreading epidemically to all parts of the country. Wage Inequality does not seem to be accentuating between educational categories, but it is widening within educational categories. Moreover, Wage Inequality seems to be widening between the service and other sectors, while wage inequality between the manufacturing and agriculture sectors is declining. Also, within-sector inequality is increasing in the service sector while it is declining in the manufacturing and agriculture sectors. These patterns in wage growth and disparity may be central in explaining the observed rise of self-employment trends and the worsening of income inequality. They also throw light on probable changes in distribution of the value added.

Employee Attrition in Indian Software Industry: Patterns and Proximate Factors

Vinoj Abraham

In the wake of high inter-firm rivalry and poaching of workers in the software industry, this study seeks to understand the patterns of employee attrition and their determinants. The study, based on a survey, reports a high degree of worker attrition. An ordered logit approach to analysing the quitting behaviour of workers in the software industry shows that while skill upgradation and informal learning are important factors that affect their decision to stay or quit, their educational background is not. In general, higher salary prevents the worker from moving to another firm, but only up to a certain level.

Labour Regulation and its Impact: A Review of Studies and Documents: Labour Regulation in Indian Industry - Series 3

T.S. Papola (Institute of Studies in Industrial Development), G.S. Mehta (Giri Institute of Development Studies) and Vinoj Abraham

On the whole, the studies reviewed conclude that the coverage of the regulatory measures dealing with different aspects of employment – wages, social security, conditions of work, job security and dispute settlement



– is limited. Legal provisions regulating most of these aspects apply only to the small segment of workers in relatively larger establishments, and even in these, there are ‘gateways’ to exclude workers from the purview of these laws. When the provisions are applicable on a wider scale, irrespective of the size of establishments, the effectiveness of implementation is low resulting in denial of the benefits of regulation to a large part of the workforce. At the same time, industries display some discomfort in complying with some of the regulations which they consider excessive and rigid, and adversely affecting investment, growth and employment. More often, their problem is in dealing with the implementation machinery that provides scope for harassment, delays and corruption.

Is Fiscal Policy contracyclical in India: An Empirical Analysis

Lekha Chakraborty and Pinaki Chakraborty

The study empirically examines the validity of the Keynesian philosophy of contra-cyclical variation in fiscal policy in relation to macroeconomic activity in India. The macroeconomic activity is proxied by ‘output gap,’ a concept defined to estimate the index of economic activity. Applying Johansen’s Full Information Maximum Likelihood test of co-integration, it is found that there exists a long-run, stable relationship between fiscal policy stance and macroeconomic activity. Further, the causality detection in asymmetric vector autoregression model reveals that there exists feedback mechanism between fiscal policy stance and output gap, which reinforces the Keynesian theory that fiscal stance is contracyclical in nature. The policy implication of these results points to the fallacy of *rule-based fiscal policy* to contain fiscal deficit, based on the neo-classical assumption that fiscal deficit has detrimental effects through financial crowding out. The results reinforce the role of fiscal deficit not as an evil but as an instrument of short-run demand management, and also underline the significance of *pump priming*.

Towards making comparison of Dichotomous Measures Robust: A case of calorie under-nourishment

Udaya S. Mishra, William Joe and R.N. Mishra (Doctoral Scholar)

Calorie-based undernourishment is often assessed by qualifying a specific calorie intake around which there remains a distribution of the deprived and the privileged. In such measurements, such distributions are entirely ignored. This is an attempt at adjusting the levels of undernourishment in accordance with the twin distributions of the deprived as well as the privileged. Such adjustments make comparisons robust and represent true levels that account for the intensity of the phenomenon. An illustration of such an adjustment to calorie-based nutrition levels across Indian states is carried out here for two points of time, wherein there is alteration in ranks as well as differentials between the States re-positioned. This exposition no doubt sets a prelude to correcting dichotomous measures of a similar kind for distributional dichotomy prior to interpretation and comparison.

Understanding fairness in Health Spending in India: Observations from Health Payments for in-patient care

Shalini Rudra, T.R. Dilip and Udaya S. Mishra

Rising costs of health care along with shrinking public provisions have led to disproportionate health spending by households. As a result, the health sector is largely financed by out-of-pocket expenditures. An understanding of fairness in India’s health system across its different States is attempted by examining the health payments made on account of in-patient care in terms of the *Fairness in Financial Contribution (FFC)* Index. This exercise identifies States with varying levels of fairness in health financing and examining if they are in line with the responsiveness of the system towards the prevailing scenario of capacity to pay among the households.



IT Industry in India: Past Performance and Challenges Ahead

K.J. Joseph

It is generally held that there is hardly any parallel in India to the performance of IT industry led by IT software and services. While the Indian strategy in the early years aimed at developing the IT hardware base, her success at best has been modest. But in case of IT software, the observed rate of growth in exports, output and employment has been highly impressive. Started with focus on the low end of the value chain, the software sector has been able to move up the value chain and establish credibility in the world market. The industry, however, faces a number of challenges. This study, apart from analysing the recent growth performance, highlights certain challenges emanating inter alia from high regional concentration in exports, intense competition for skilled manpower between the IT sector and others, and slow pace of IT diffusion into the other sectors of the economy.

Science, Technology and Innovation Policies in India: Achievements and Limits

K.J. Joseph and Dinesh Abrol, (NISTADS, New Delhi)

Against the backdrop of the prime role attributed by India towards the development of science and technology as an instrument of socio-economic transformation, the study made an attempt at highlighting various policy measures and institutional interventions undertaken over the years to achieve this goal. The study deals with the changing focus of policies and strategies and their implications on the innovation performance both at the macro and micro level. Drawing from the available evidence, the study argues that the policy during the first phase has been successful in accomplishing the objective of technological self-reliance and reduced external dependence. While the achievements in terms of growth in output and productivity has been much below the potential, the restrictive phase has been effective in laying the foundations for future developments that enabled the industrial sector to withstand competition from the global market in the globalisation phase. When it comes

to the performance during the second phase also, the study presents a mixed bag and raises certain concerns.

Sectoral Innovation System in Developing Countries: The Case of ICT in India

K.J. Joseph

The ongoing process of globalisation and the accompanying changes in the development strategies being undertaken by the developing countries at the instance of multilateral organisations appears to have had profound changes in the environment in which innovation systems in these countries operate at the national and sectoral level. Thus viewed, while much could be learned from earlier catch-up episodes, the new international environment sets serious limits in harnessing some of the widely practiced strategies — infant industry protection, subsidies, reverse engineering and imitation and others. True, there are new opportunities thrown open by the new international division of labour and spread of new technologies like ICT. Addressing challenges and exploiting new opportunities, however, is contingent on the existing institutional arrangements for learning, innovation and competence building at the national level, that in turn influence the building blocks of the sectoral innovation systems.

Migration, Remittances and Employment: Short-term Trends and Long-Term Implications

K.C. Zachariah and S. Irudaya Rajan

The study shows the results of the most recent (2007) round of the Migration Monitoring Studies (MMS) being conducted by the Research Unit on International Migration at the Centre. The Unit conducts periodic sample surveys on migration covering the entire State. The MMS 2007, conducted during April-September 2007, was the third in this series. The first one, called 'Kerala Migration Study (KMS),' was conducted in 1998. The second one was conducted five years later in 2003. It was known as 'South Asia Migration Study (SMS)' as it attempted to compare the situation in Sri Lanka, one of the countries in South Asia, which has a large volume of emigrants. Being the third



in the series, the study covers not only the results of the study in 2007, but also attempts a comparison of the latest information with that from the previous studies. The study is funded by the Department of Non-Resident Keralite Affairs, Government of Kerala.

The most unexpected result of the MMS 2007 is in the area of employment and unemployment. The study indicated that a complete turnaround 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 per cent) and in the self-employment sector; the increase has been by 19 per cent.

Remittance and Private Consumption: A Case of India

Hrushikesh Mallick

The study attempts to examine the impact of remittances on private consumption in India for the period from 1966-67 to 2003-04. Examining the impact of remittance on private consumption in a general type of consumption model, the study, through the application of time series models, finds that remittance, debt and money supply (net of bank demand deposits) along with income, consistently and positively influence private consumption in both the time series applications considered here (irrespective of which definition of government debt is followed in the study). This suggests that government debt is perceived as wealth component for the private sector and the effect of remittance is not different from income. When public debt increases, people think that their wealth is also increasing and as a result they tend to spend more on consumption, ignoring its implications in terms of the future tax burden that they have to incur. The money in circulation with the public has wealth effects and a positive impact on consumption. The remittances, as expected in a developing economy like India, have a significant influence on private consumption.

Therefore, the study suggests that government policy should be designed towards inducing the private sector to allocate more investment to level up the rate of growth of the economy.

Social Security Initiatives in Orissa: A Critical Appraisal

N. Vijayamohanan Pillai

This study is part of a large study on the Social Protection in Rural India and China. Unlike in the context of Kerala, it was the unfavourable dynamics of the historical conjunction of ecological, economic, social, and institutional conditions in Orissa that have contributed to the high level of insecurity there. The State remains poor, despite its rich potential, and has a high level of income poverty, inadequate employment opportunities in lean seasons, a large Tribal population living in remote areas with poor connectivity, along with another large section of excluded Scheduled Caste population, and with periodic recurrence of drought and floods that give rise to a situation of chronic and endemic insecurity. The study attempts to explain the nature extent and different characteristics of these programmes in our theoretical framework of comprehensive social security (SS) in terms of what we call, basic and contingency social security.

Budget Rules, Fiscal Consolidation and Government Spending: Implications for Federal Transfers

Pinaki Chakraborty

The study examines the nature of fiscal consolidation during the era of rule-based fiscal control in states and its implications for federal transfers. The analysis reveals that improvement in fiscal balance has been associated with increasing disparities in developmental spending across States. The econometric estimates in panel data also show that FRA did not have any positive and significant impact on development spending when controlled for revenue effect of Value Added Tax (VAT) and increased central devolution. The result seems robust, as this has been corroborated by



the exploratory data analysis even when off-budget CSS spending is added to the per capita development spending of the states. When we compared social and economic services, the disparity in spending is seen to be sharper in the social sector vis-à-vis economic services. Given this widening disparities in spending, the study emphasises the need for equalisation grants and estimates the resource requirement for complete equalisation of specific services based on the partial equalisation of scheme of transfer proposed by the 12th Finance Commission.

Women's Malnutrition in India: A Fact Sheet on Magnitudes, Trends and Distribution

Sunny Jose and K. Navaneetham

The study analyses the levels of women's malnutrition at present as well as the extent of decline during the past seven years in India. The analysis, based on the National Family Health Survey data, 2005-06 and 1998-99, suggests that levels of malnutrition, especially iron-deficiency anaemia, remain quite high among women in India. While social disadvantage tends to go with a higher incidence of malnutrition among women, even more does economic disadvantage. There has been no significant improvement in women's nutrition during the past seven years, a period of relatively higher growth and reasonable reduction in poverty. Instead, what we find is an increase in malnutrition, especially anaemia. Poor women from almost all social groups are at the receiving end of increasing malnutrition. The higher and increasing malnutrition among women has serious implications for human development and raises a number of important issues.

Ongoing Studies

Historical Roots of Contemporary Development Experience

D. Narayana, Raman Mahadevan and K. Narayanan Nair

The political significance of the event notwithstanding, 1857 was also, in an economic sense, a very significant benchmark year. Apart from the formal ushering in of direct British rule

monitored closely from London, it also marked a new phase in the process of 'colonial development' and 'colonial modernisation'. The structuring of a colonial economy was a protracted and uneven process characterised by the gradual integration of large parts of greater India into the international commodity market through trade and investment. The story of the commercialisation of the Indian economy is fairly well documented and the story line hardly bears any repetition. The foundations of an 'imperfect' modern colonial economy had been firmly laid by 1947.

Unfortunately, research in economic history in India usually stops at 1947. As a rule, though with some rare exceptions, historians are quite wary of moving their gaze beyond 1947. There is a compelling need to redraw the boundaries of the discipline and to look more closely at developments in post-colonial India against the backdrop of the colonial economic structure.

This, in a sense, provides the *raison d'être* for both organising the seminar and subsequently to publish select papers presented into a composite edited volume. The central grid or the overarching thematic framework of the proposed volume is to capture the long-term dynamics of growth and development across sectors over a period spanning over 60 to 70 years, i.e., from the late colonial period to the present. It is being envisaged as a volume that would consciously strive to capture the influence of the colonial economic structures and processes in shaping the trajectory of growth and development in the post-independence period. However, it will also go beyond to capture the discontinuities. A notable and distinctive feature of this volume is its sensitivity to the regional dimension of growth and development. In short, it is also an exercise to break free from the exclusively macro-centric accounts of the Indian economy. In contrast to some recent studies, which tend to de-politicise economic change and see no major structural break between the colonial and the post-colonial, our study does underscore the importance of structural break in influencing the direction of the development process. This volume should be a benchmark study of sorts in the nascent area of contemporary economic history.



Merger Waves in India: In Pursuit of an Appropriate Regulatory Regime

P.L. Beena

The principal objective of the study is to characterise the nature of Mergers and Acquisitions (M&As) and highlight some theoretical and empirical observations on M&A activity in the Indian corporate sector. An attempt has also been made to analyse the motives behind and the consequences of the M&A process in the Indian corporate sector during 1990-2005. The study selected 566 firms out of 2397 M&As, which account for 24 per cent of the total number of M&As. Many of the financial and production-based performance indicators of the acquiring firms do not show significant improvement vis-à-vis the non-acquiring firms in the corporate sector as a whole during the afore-mentioned period. Overall, the study does not provide any validity of the better performance of the acquiring firms during their post-merger period. Thus, it is argued that enhancing size in terms of corporate control and market share could be the motivations for the M&A phenomenon in the Indian corporate sector. This result matches those of many studies available in the literature (Mueller 1980; Mantravadi and Reddy 2007; Beena 2001; Beena 2004). The study also stressed the need for regulatory measures to deal with competition issues and corporate governance.

Examining the Behaviour of Exchange Rate Under a Partial Capital Mobility Regime

Hrushikesh Mallick

The study attempts to examine rupee-dollar exchange rate (Rs/\$) behaviour in the presence of increasing and ample capital inflows during the post-reform period in India. For this, the study uses monthly data (1994:4 to 2007:8) and estimates the model in a time series framework in order to assess the relative significance of capital inflows, (given the interest rate, inflation rate, growth rate differentials and

other factors like forward exchange rate/expected exchange rates), in influencing the rupee-dollar exchange rate behavior. The study finds that foreign institutional investment has a dominant influence on the rupee-dollar exchange rate.

Modelling Private Consumption and Investment: An Economic Analysis of Domestic Debt of the Central Government in India

Hrushikesh Mallick

Among the major issues that an increasing government debt poses problems, the study first theoretically addresses sustainability of public debt/fiscal policy issue in general and then empirically examines the issue with reference to the Indian context in particular. The study addresses the questions as to whether the trend of government domestic debt in India is sustainable and what the criteria/conditions are for assessing sustainability.

Another major issue addressed in the study relates to the macroeconomic implications of government debt in general, and it tries to investigate its relevance in the Indian context with a special emphasis on the impact of Central Government domestic debt on private consumption and investment, as all these have bearings on economic growth and stability. It is also seen that the expenditure and debts of the States and Union Territories (UT) Governments are increasing over time. Thus, the role of these cannot be ignored in macroeconomic policy-making. The study goes on to redefine aggregate public expenditure and debt so as to take into account State and UT Government expenditure and debt (net) along with that of the Centre, in order to investigate the impact of debt at a more aggregate level under a time series modelling approach.

Domestic Competition and Trade Performance in Indian Manufacturing Industry

K. Pushpangadan and N. Shanta

The Schumpeterian process through innovation, imitation, etc., creates market imperfections *via* increasing returns to scale. Helpman and Krugman, in their new trade theory,



emphasise that it is the increasing returns and imperfect competition that dictate trade outcomes. In other words, competitive advantage is emphasised as a major factor that determines trade outcomes rather than comparative advantage. The major prediction of this new trade theory is that domestic market structure is an important determinant of trade performance. Based on these theoretical foundations, the relationship between different measures of competition indicative of domestic market structure and trade outcomes is tested.

The research paper begins with an assessment of domestic rivalry in fourteen industrial groups using three different methods of measuring domestic competition; provides an overview of the trade performance and moves on to test the relationship between the domestic market structure and foreign trade.

Assessing competition in terms of three different indicators, namely, the mobility index, the static and dynamic index and the persistence of profit index, it was seen that by each of the three indicators, 50% of the manufacturing sector was competitive. However, it was also found that an industry can be competitive in terms of one criterion, but need not necessarily be competitive in terms of others. To identify the most competitive and least competitive industries by all three criteria, Borda ranking was used. The first three ranks are treated as the most competitive industries, and those with the last three, as the least competitive. By this criterion, there were only three industries (21%), which were competitive, that is, metal products, drugs and pharmaceuticals and electronics. Cotton textiles and non-electrical machinery, synthetic textiles and transport equipment were found to be the least competitive.

An analysis of the trade performance based on the ratios calculated for the beginning triennium 1991-92 and ending triennium 2000-01, for the fourteen industries revealed that for all industries, on an average, there was an increase in export intensity, import penetration and trade involvement and a decrease in the net trade performance ratios. Our analysis shows that although we are still net importers, the

Net Trade Performance (NTP) index has increased over time from -40% to -13% suggesting that either our exports increased or imports declined. The study shows that both export and import intensity have increased, but the former more than the latter. Hence, the increase in the net trade performance index is due to the faster growth of exports.

To test whether domestic competition measured in terms of different indices and trade performances are related, two relationships were tested: (1) the relationship between domestic competition and net export growth, and (2) the relationship between domestic competition and net import growth. Based on the correlation between the three indicators of competition developed earlier and the availability of data, two indicators were selected for the regression analysis Ijiri Simon Index (ISI) and Persistence of Profit Rates Index (PPI). These relationships were tested for all industries with respect to these two indicators of competition and with and without interaction term. Growth in net exports/net imports between the initial and terminal year is regressed on these two measures of competition. It is important to note that while most studies use one single or unidimensional index to measure competition, this study uses multidimensional indices. Again, they are dynamic measures as against static measures. We would like to emphasise that our specification does not include the standard variables that influence trade performance such as factor endowments, R &D expenditure, product differentiation/advertising intensity and economies of scale among others, as employed in the previous studies. In all these studies, several latent and immeasurable variables such as (potential threat of entry) are, however, excluded. The omission of the above-mentioned measurable variables in the specification is taken care of in another way. By using an autoregression specification, all the above measurable as well as latent variables are implicitly captured in the model. It is important to note that this is because the factors affecting the PP index (speed of adjustment) are identified in the literature as almost the same variables used in the earlier specifications, such as economies of scale, levels of concentration, large capital requirements



and advertising expenditures. Thus our model specification is more inclusive than the previous models, since it captures both measurable and latent variables.

The analysis showed that net export growth is related to the PP index and the IS index at the 5% and 10% level respectively. But when an interaction term was introduced the results were stronger. The explanatory power of the equation had doubled and the speed of adjustment emerged as the important factor influencing export growth. Thus the analysis clearly showed that higher the domestic competition, higher the rate of growth of exports.

As for the relationship between competition and net import growth the analysis showed that both the speed of adjustment and ISI were related at 5% and 1% level respectively. However, when the interaction term was introduced, only ISI was important. There was no improvement in the explanatory power and the interaction term was also not significant. Thus it was evident from the analysis that while there was a sustained relationship between competition measured in terms of ISI and import growth, in the case of speed of adjustment, it was not very consistent.

Now the question is whether increased imports have led to a disciplining of the market in terms of a reduction in cost. In other words, is the hypothesis of imports as market disciplining valid? This is verified by tracing the trend in total cost per unit value of output (average cost) for net importing industries. From the estimated trend equation of average cost it was clearly seen that there was no decline in cost. Thus the hypothesis of imports as market disciplining does not seem valid for the importing firms. An analysis of the input structure through input output tables for the two time points, 1989-90 and 1998, shows that the import intensity of intermediate inputs has increased in the manufacturing sector from 12.8% to 24% over the period. Since this has not been reflected in any cost reduction, increased use of imported intermediates must be for quality improvement. Competition in the post-liberalisation period thus seems to have been based on quality difference acquired through

imports of intermediates. This could be a probable explanation for the positive relation observed between speed of adjustment and net import growth. More detailed analysis relating to the nature of imports and trends in R&D is however necessary to throw more light on this. This is currently outside the scope of this study.

The study clearly shows that domestic competition affects trade performance, and the causality runs from market structure to trade performance. In the case of net export growth, there is a strong relationship between the speed of adjustment of profit rates and export growth. In the case of imports, although related to competition, there is no evidence on the hypothesis of imports as market disciplining. This is suggestive of competition based on quality differences.

Advancing Knowledge-intensive Entrepreneurship and Innovation for Economic Growth: Case of India

Sunil Mani

The recent growth performance of India's economy has attracted a fair amount of attention from various constituencies. The country, which has been variously described as a great under-achiever of sorts, is now being regarded as a knowledge powerhouse well on the way to become an important player in the international technological arena. There is now considerable interest among researchers and policy-makers to understand the real factors behind this spectacular economic achievement of the country. Although there is now a fair amount of consensus on the fact that this growth performance can be largely traced to the process of economic liberalisation set into motion since 1991, it is also equally agreed that India's private corporate sector has responded to the signals provided by the State in a very admirable way.

For instance, both the savings and investments of the private corporate sector have really shown significant increases in the period since 2003-04. The sector has become very dynamic and is in the forefront of enabling the globalisation of India's economy. There are two indicators of globalisation: (i) there has been a significant improvement in the average



export intensity of an Indian private sector firm: it increased from about 8 per cent in 1991 to about 25 per cent in 2007; and (ii) Indian firms have made a number of acquisitions abroad and as result, the ratio of FDI from India to India now stands at around 0.61. Significant Indian investments have flowed into metals, industrial goods, automotive components, beverages, cosmetics, mobile communications, software and financial services. Some Indian companies have now emerged as important international players in their respective fields of operation. While cases from IT software and pharmaceutical field are very well known, what is less known are companies like Bharat Forge, the largest forged and machine auto component manufacturer in the world and Suzlon, fifth leading wind turbine supplier in the world, with over 7.7 per cent of global market share in 2006. In short, the private corporate sector which did not have a good record during the license-permit Raj phase is now emerging as a strong innovation-based powerhouse. While there are many factors contributing to this upsurge, the key to this success can be traced to successful technology-based entrepreneurship. This entrepreneurship has been nurtured to a certain extent by the emergence of a number of institutional mechanisms, the most important of which is venture capital. Although the absolute level of venture capital investments in India is low, it has been growing at a rate of 90 per cent over the last few years and at this rate of growth, the industry is set to match Europe by 2009 or 2010. Notwithstanding these phenomenal increases in venture capital funding, most Indian companies still finance their growth and expansion through internal resources. A second contributing factor is the availability of technically trained personnel including those trained abroad and willing to return to their homeland to start technical ventures. Apart from the few famous cases of firms, whole industries such as Information Technology, Biotechnology and Aerospace industries have been jump started by the emergence of this knowledge-based entrepreneurship.

In the context, the purpose of this study is to understand the growth of knowledge-based entrepreneurship in the

country. Further, it identifies the main constraints to this process so that public policy can be applied to correct them.

The study will focus on four sets of issues. The first issue is the growing innovative performance of the industry in terms of a number of conventional and new indicators. The second is to focus on the growth of knowledge-based entrepreneurship in the country by employing a variety of indicators. The macro indicators will be supplemented by ten case studies ranging from the auto parts industry to financial services, telecom software and the renewable energy industry. The third issue to be focused on is the constraints to this process: first, the availability of external risk capital and second, the quality of technically trained manpower. The fourth issue is about distilling the policy conclusions emanating from the study.

Financing of Industrial Innovations in India, How Effective are Tax Incentives for R&D?

Sunil Mani

The Government in India is on a major innovation drive like many governments across the developing world, especially that of China. This drive could be found in several policy measures enunciated over the past ten years or so and especially in the Science and Technology Policy of 2003, wherein it is stated that the government targets the expenditure on Science and Technology to be about 2 per cent of GDP, and that this is to be largely contributed by the industry through significant increases in industrial R&D. Industrial R&D, therefore, may have to be incentivised through the provision of a variety of fiscal incentives such as tax incentives. This thinking again reflects the worldwide move towards using non-interventionist, but market-friendly forms of increasing investments in industrial R&D, and within this scheme of things, tax incentives form an important instrument. In India, even as early as 2001, the existing tax treatment of R&D had undergone some upward revisions, but was targeted more specifically at eight high and medium technology based industries. Although a few studies are available on the financing of industrial innovation, with rare exceptions, most of these have been descriptive, merely



cataloguing the various schemes available for encouraging investments in industrial R&D. However, no analytical studies on the effectiveness of these incentives in the specific Indian context are available. This is significant as recent estimates by the Ministry of Finance show that the amount of corporate tax foregone consequent to the tax treatment of R&D has been increasing at a rate of 2.4 per cent per annum over the last four fiscal years until 2007-08: in 2004-05 about Rs. 23180 million of corporate tax revenue had been foregone as a result of the operation of this scheme, but this is expected to come down marginally to about Rs. 20240 million in 2007-08. In this context, the purpose of the present study is to analyse the effectiveness of a specific tax scheme that has been in operation since 2001. In very specific terms, this is accomplished by computing the elasticity of industrial R&D expenditure in India in response to a unit reduction in the cost of performing R&D. Such estimates of elasticity of R&D will be very helpful in judging whether the tax incentive for R&D is effective in stimulating proportionate investments in R&D.

The study is structured into four sections. Section 1 analyses India's innovative performance by employing a number of both conventional and new indicators. The second section surveys the various financial instruments that are available for the financing of innovation. The third section measures the effectiveness of tax incentives for financing R&D expenditures. The fourth and final section sums up the main findings of the study and identifies the policy conclusions that emanate from this exercise.

Manufacturing Productivity Growth in the Post-reform Period

M. Parameswaran

The study aims to analyse the productivity growth of the manufacturing firms during the post-reform period. Due to the cyclical movements in industrial growth during the post-reform period, the estimation framework incorporates imperfect competition and short-run equilibrium features.

Agrarian Distress and Rural Employment in India

Vinoj Abraham

The 61st round of NSS shows that there is a turnaround in employment growth in rural India after a phase of jobless growth. Paradoxically, this employment growth occurred during a period of widespread distress in the agricultural sector that includes low productivity, price instability and stagnation leading to widespread indebtedness. Under the typical neoclassical tradition, this trend would have predicted further contraction of employment in the rural economy. However, further probing reveals that employment growth in the rural areas is probably a response to the crisis that is gripping the sector. When income levels fall below sustenance under conditions of distress, then that part of the normally non-working population is forced to enter the labour market to supplement the household income. The decline of agricultural sector has also probably created forced sectoral and regional mobility of the normally working population with the normally non-working population complementing them.

Rural Non-Farm Sector Employment in India: Distress Driven or Growth Driven

Vinoj Abraham

The purpose of this study is to draw some broad conclusions on the pattern of the employment in the Rural Non-farm Sector (RNFS), and look at what determines employment in RNFS in India, –whether they are factors related to agrarian distress or growth factors? The study begins with an overview of the employment-unemployment scenario in the rural economy and then analyses the trends in rural non-farm employment in comparison to farm employment. A comparison of farm *versus* non-farm employment that occurs in regions that are affected by agricultural distress in comparison to non-affected regions, and the determinants of non-farm employment, both in distressed and non-distressed areas is taken up.



Information Technology Investment in Indian Manufacturing Sector: Trends, Patterns and Determinants

Vinoj Abraham and K.J. Joseph

In this study, unlike the regular diffusion studies which focus on adoption patterns, we focus on the determinants of investment in Information Technology (IT). Investment in IT depends on a set of price and non-price factors both on the demand and supply side. Investment in IT being a derived demand, the performance of the output market is of crucial importance. Since IT has substitution and complementary effects on other factors of production, their relative price and availability are also of great importance. In a static analysis, IT investment would also depend on a set of institutional factors, which are taken to be given. The inter-industry variations in IT investment is explained using variations in skill intensity, relative price movement of IT capital, degree of vertical integration, total factor productivity index of the industry, labour market rigidity, capital labour intensity, market concentration, and the average size of the firm in the industry.

Healthcare Payments in India: Its Catastrophic and Inequity Implications

Udaya S. Mishra and William Joe (Doctoral Scholar, CDS)

Healthcare payments, being unpredictable, have the potential to jeopardise the living standards of any household. In the absence of adequate healthcare financing options, it can have serious consequences on socio-economic welfare in terms of increasing poverty and widening inequality across regions. On this premise, this study analyses the implications of healthcare payments on poverty and inequality across the different States of India. The findings suggest that about ten per cent of the households in rural as well as urban India spend to the tune of 15 per cent of the total consumption expenditure on healthcare. This again varies across provinces ranging between 1 to 20 per cent with varying level of concentration across expenditure classes, indicating a desirable pattern of the rich spending more on healthcare than the poor. Further, the same phenomenon

is investigated in terms of its intensity moderating the difference between the States as regards the average gap of catastrophic expenditure against a normative benchmark (proportion) of total expenditure made on account of health. The poverty impact assessed according to a comparison between the pre and post-health care payment scenario reveals a differential poverty impact across States, with the severity of this impact being more in rural areas as compared with urban areas. Finally, the rest of progressivity in health care payment is affirmed in the Indian context with a few exceptions in states like Haryana and Kerala. The redistributive index also indicates a positive role of health care payment in reducing inequality with the same exception, but we argue that such patterns arise largely due to lack of healthcare facilities, especially in rural areas and the inability of the poorer sections to spend on health.

Assessing Fairness in Financing Outpatient Care in India: Revisiting the WHO Framework

William Joe, Udaya S. Mishra and K. Navaneetham

The study revises WHO's index of Fairness in Financial Contribution (FFC) by addressing one of its major limitations regarding progressivity insensitiveness. In the revised index, we introduce an element of progressivity in place of the equal burden principle adopted in measuring FFC. An empirical illustration of the index is presented using the data on India's outpatient health care expenditure. We find that the estimated values of the modified index remain sensitive to catastrophic outcomes and provide valuable insight about the performance of the health system. Further, the index is found to be significantly associated with the major indicators of health outcome as well as statistics on health care facilities.

Southern System of Innovation

K.J. Joseph

The concept of the National Innovation System has emerged of late as a widely accepted approach towards understanding the process of learning innovation and



competence building. However, it is based almost entirely on the development experience of advanced countries wherein the concept has been used to describe, analyse and compare relatively strong and diversified systems that deal mainly with discontinuous innovations of the Schumpeterian type backed by well developed institutional and infrastructure support. In developing countries, not only the institutional context but also the nature of innovations is significantly at variance with that of the developed countries. In this context, the proposed study is an attempt at evolving a conceptual framework of a Southern Innovation System to analyse the process of innovation and the underlying factors in developing countries in contrast to developed countries.

Addressing Challenges of Globalization by India's Small Scale Sector: The Role of Information Communication Technology

K.J. Joseph and Vinoy Abraham

Going by the available evidence, the small scale industries in India account for more than 40 per cent of the manufacturing value added, contributes significantly to employment generation and has higher export intensity as compared to the large scale sector. At the same time, there is also empirical evidence indicating that after globalization, the small-scale sector has been exposed to international competition more than ever before. However, small-scale units have low investment capacity, and hence one of the main problems faced by the sector is poor capital labour ratio, and as a consequence, low levels of productivity. Low capital intensity would also mean lower scales of production, higher unit cost of output and poor international competitiveness. No wonder, the incidence of industrial sickness under globalization has also been unprecedented. While the cost of traditional capital continues to rise, the cost of information technology capital is known to be continuously declining, along with increasing capacity. In most developed economies, IT capital is being used as a substitute for labour and other types of capital due to its declining costs and its potential to contribute towards efficiency

enhancement. But there are also studies to show that for IT investment to bear fruit, size of the firms also matter. Given this background, this study, by making use of the firm level data obtained from the recent census of small-scale industries, undertakes an analysis of the impact of IT investment on productivity and competitiveness in the SSI sector of India.

Structures of Regulation: Governance of Emigration in India from a Long Time Historical Perspective

V.J. Varghese

The study aims to unravel various systems of regulation in place on emigration for employment from India from the early 19th century to the present. It presumes that the regulative structures over time have always been vindicated interestingly by the logic of protection — protection of the emigrants from exploitation and cheating — in an attempt to rationalise discrimination. The passport regime and the emigration regulations of the colonial times were guided by multiple structures of discrimination in which race, education, loyalty, social and economic position and peculiar labour skills, played defining roles of citizenship. The passport, or the earlier document of protection issued by the British Crown to the emigrants, was a privilege open only to a few; and through the passport regime, the colonial government successfully prevented 'coloured immigrants' from India from entering white-settler colonies. The emigration regime during the period of indentured labour under Protector of Emigrants too was used as a regulative and disciplining mechanism in the guise of protection. The colonial notion of protection through ensuring documentary uprightness of the emigrant in his/her country of origin and the notion of protection through restrictive norms remains unchanged, with mere cosmetic alterations set in tune with the times. The study traces the continuities and ruptures from the past to the present and attempts to understand different protective regimes in the domain of emigration in their historical contexts by foregrounding the



question as to how they have been disabling throughout than enabling.

State of Competition in Indian Manufacturing Sector: A Multidimensional Approach

K. Pushpangadan and N. Shanta

This is an attempt to study the state of competition in the Indian manufacturing sector using mainly three indices. The study is based on CMIE data about 14 industries including 497 firms.

Patterns and Determinants of Maternal Nutrition in India: Evidence from NFHS-3

K. Navaneetham

The levels of malnutrition among women in India continue to be quite high, but the levels among women from disadvantaged social and economic groups are much higher. We have shown in our earlier studies that the period of higher growth and onset of a reasonable reduction in poverty did not seem to improve women's nutrition significantly in India. Instead, we find an increase in malnutrition, especially anaemia. In this study, we investigate the patterns and determinant of maternal nutrition in India using the data from National Family Health Survey-III. To be specific, the aim of the study is to examine how the state level macroeconomic factors influence the relationship between socio-economic position and maternal nutrition in India.

(b) INDIAN ECONOMY IN A COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE

Completed Studies

Innovation Surveys in Developing Countries: What Can We Learn from it for Public Innovation Policies?

Sunil Mani

Measuring innovation output has been an important preoccupation in the literature. Owing to considerable

disenchantment with the conventional indicators of measuring innovation, it is now measured using a variety of new indicators, the most prominent of which is the innovation survey. Although it was developed in the context of European countries, the concept of an innovation survey is fast diffusing to developing countries as well. Innovation surveys provide a variety of indicators that is more comprehensive to measure the health of the National System of Innovation of a country. However, in both the developed and developing country contexts, the output of these surveys has hardly been used to design innovation policy instruments. The study analyses this problem and suggests some solutions from the perspective of improving the quality of decision-making with respect to impacting on the process of generation of innovation and diffusion in developing countries.

Economic Implications of Skilled Migration from India

Sunil Mani

It is now more or less established that the skill content of migration in the world has increased in the 1990s and beyond, compared to the earlier period. The trends from India mirror the world situation: high-skilled migration as a percentage of all migration increased from 2.6 per cent in 1990 to 4.2 per cent in 2000. Traditionally, the migration of skilled personnel from the developing south to the developed north is referred to as 'brain-drain'. However, recent experience has shown that high-skilled migrants who leave the country very often return, for shorter periods at least, and so the more appropriate term of "brain circulation" is sometimes used to characterise this phenomenon. With the increased integration of India's economy with rest of the world and with the boom in IT exports, movement of high skilled Indians to jobs and assignments abroad is an inevitable consequence. Traditionally, high skilled migration from India was through the education route: students go abroad for higher studies and stay back in those countries by taking up employment. While this continues to be the dominant route for migration (as indicated by the growing education-related travel in



the current account of India's BoP tables), this traditional route has been supplemented by a new route, namely; high skilled persons trained in India taking up employment abroad. The movement of high skilled personnel from India abroad along these two routes will have both positive and negative implications, though in the past we have tended to highlight only the negative aspects or implications of this phenomenon. However, our recent experience of increased remittances to the country has shown that while some skills may be temporarily lost, the high skilled migrants are now the dominant reason for the increase in remittances in the current account of our BoP. Further, there are evidences from both the IT and life sciences industry that the Indians abroad are an important source of knowledge and indeed capital for the growth of these two industries in our domestic economy. The study analyses four separate implications of this phenomena, namely: (a) Fiscal implications; (b) Core human resource in Science and Engineering; (c) Private transfers and their impact on the current account deficit; and (d) IT exports from India.

The study concludes by discussing the policy implications arising from the study. In specific terms, it is argued that the imperative before the government would be to encourage the movement of high skilled personnel from India abroad along systematic lines so that the country maximises the beneficial effects of such movements. For this, a few suggestions can be considered, notwithstanding the fact that the decision to move abroad, either for studies or for employment in a democratic country experiencing increased integration is a purely private decision. The first suggestion is that the government, through its missions may obtain information about employment opportunities for high skilled Indians. Second, in return for the information, the Indians who use this information and become successful in finding jobs abroad agree to be a source of information on similar jobs and indeed, market for Indian commodities and services for these missions. Third, they may also, on a case-by-case basis, act as visiting researchers/faculty in the Indian institutes where they have undergone their studies.

Rendering Livelihoods Insecure: Dowry and Female Seclusion under Left Developmental Contexts, West Bengal and Kerala

Praveena Kodoth

Reduction in landlessness and poverty in West Bengal and Kerala have been associated widely with Left government development initiatives, particularly agrarian reforms, achievements in education and health (in Kerala) and reform of local governments (in West Bengal). However, there are suggestions that these achievements have been accompanied by gendered practices with retrogressive implications for women. There is growing evidence that dowry and female seclusion have been consolidated as 'status-ascribing' practices in the context of agrarian reforms and other development initiatives i.e., upward social and economic mobility has been articulated in the form of dowry payments and through the seclusion of women at home. Of course, dowry and female seclusion are not unique to Kerala and West Bengal, but the manner in which they have been consolidated in Left developmental contexts, signals ever more acutely the danger of internalisation of social and economic development within patriarchal frameworks. It also illustrates the problems with agrarian/class movements that defer or refuse to address questions of gender.

The Challenge of Universalisation of Social Security

N. Vijayamohanan Pillai (co-authored with K.P. Kannan)

The study is part of a large study on the Social Protection in Rural India and China. In the study we recap the Kerala and Orissa experiences and examine the why's behind a strategy for universal social security as well as the how's towards attaining that goal through an illustration on the involved cost of financing.

Our study clearly supports an approach to social security, based on a broad definition that includes both promotion and protection, or what we call Basic Social Security (BSS) and Contingent Social Security (CSS). We argue that there is no basis for minimising the role of the state, when it comes to such fundamental issues as livelihood and its security. The contemporary Indian experience is



not devoid of State intervention for poverty alleviation. In fact, what characterises the Indian scenario is a series of schemes and programmes that may be construed as constituting BSS. However, what is conspicuous by its absence is an assurance of such BSS based on an entitlement of the citizens. This calls for a rights-based approach, so that the piecemeal and fragmented schemes and projects are replaced by a guarantee, backed by legislation. In this context, we highlight two recent initiatives in India that recognise social security as an entitlement, viz., National Rural Employment Guarantee (NREG Act of 2005) and the initiatives on social security for the unorganised sector workers in terms of the constitution of a National Commission for Enterprise in the Unorganised Sector (NCEUS). We discuss the fundamental challenge in this regard and assert that enlightened self-interest demands calibrating policies of growth with equity that at least ensures a minimum of protection and promotion for the vast majority of the poor to lead a life of dignity.

Local Dynamics of Social Security – A Tale of Two Village Panchayats: Employment Security

N. Vijayamohanan Pillai

This study is part of a large study on the Social Protection in Rural India and China. It seeks to analyse the actual local dynamics in Kerala and Orissa in terms both of household/individual initiatives to cope with inadequacies and adversities, and of the enabling environment that facilitates the fruition of the initiatives in respect of income security which we proxy through employment security. The analysis is based on an in-depth survey carried out in two village panchayats: Talikkulam in Thrissur District of Kerala and Sason in Sambalpur District of Orissa. We consider employment security in the context of four types of occupation, viz., casual, regular but not permanent, permanent and self-employed. Now juxtaposed against them is the category of the unemployed with full income insecurity, unless otherwise favourably situated. In the study, we examine the (in)security aspects of these five groups.

The discussion is presented in three sections: the first section shows the local background of employment/unemployment (in)security and the next section, the distribution of the estimated security index, and the final one a discussion of the available enabling environment.

Local Dynamics of Social Security – A Tale of Two Village Panchayats: Housing, Education and Health Security

N. Vijayamohanan Pillai

This paper is part of a large study on the Social Protection in Rural India and China and in continuation of the above studies. It seeks to analyse the actual local dynamics in Kerala and Orissa in terms of both household/individual initiatives to cope with the inadequacies and adversities and of the enabling environment that facilitates the fruition of the initiatives in respect of housing, education and health security. The analysis is based on an in-depth survey carried out in two village panchayats: Talikkulam in Thrissur District of Kerala and Sason in Sambalpur District of Orissa. In respect of each of the security dimensions (housing, education and health), we present the local background of the concerned (in)security and the distribution of the estimated security index, followed by a discussion of the available enabling environment (except in the dimension of housing). It should be noted that education and health *per se* presuppose adequate infrastructure availability and the study provides a detailed assessment of it in these two dimensions.

Local Dynamics of Social Security – A Tale of Two Village Panchayats: Gender, Old Age and Contingency Security

N. Vijayamohanan Pillai

This paper is part of a large study on the Social Protection in Rural India and China and in continuation of the above studies. It seeks to analyse the actual local dynamics in Kerala and Orissa in terms of both household/individual initiatives to cope with the inadequacies and adversities



and of the enabling environment that facilitates to fructify the initiatives in respect of income security which we proxy through employment security. The analysis is based on an in-depth survey carried out in two village panchayats: Talikkulam in Thrissur District of Kerala and Sason in Sambalpur District of Orissa. In respect of each of the security dimensions (gender, old age and contingency), we present the local background of the concerned (in)security and the distribution of the estimated security index, followed by a discussion of the available enabling environment.

Social Security in Rural India and China: A Study on the Local Dynamics

N. Vijayamohanan Pillai (co-authored with K.P. Kannan)

This is a study jointly conducted with Prof Zhang Xiaoshan and his group of researchers at the Rural Development Institute of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences in Beijing to examine the micro dynamics of social security experiences through an intensive and in-depth case study in the States of Kerala and Orissa in India and in the provinces of Jiangsu and Gansu in China, on the common coping strategies, both long and short run, of the rural households in the face of insecurity, the inevitable situations of deficiency and adversity. The selection of the States/Provinces was to anchor the study to a plane of comparison: Kerala and Jiangsu as well-performing and Orissa and Gansu as ill-/less-performing in respect of social development in general and coverage of social security in particular. The regions selected for the case study are: Thalikulam village *panchayat* in Thrissur District of Kerala, and Sason *gram panchayat* in Sambalpur District of Orissa in India and Poling Village and Xiazhin Village in Jiangsu City County of Jiangsu Province and Hongxian Village and Xigwan Village in Weiyuan County of Gansu Province in China.

The SS considerations are analysed at two levels of initiatives: (i) at the individual household (HH) as well as personal level through an HH survey, and (ii) at the institutional level, constituting the enabling environment for the HH and the individual, through an institutional survey. This, in fact, uniquely differentiates our study from a host of others. The

different dimensions of security considered at the individual/HH level are: (i) employment security, (ii) food security, (iii) housing security, (iv) health security, (v) education security, (vi) female security, (vii) old age security, and (viii) contingent security.

Poverty, Nutrition and Mortality: A Comparative Perspective (Edited Book)

K. Navaneetham, A. Dharmalingam (Monash University, Australia) and G. Caselli (University of Rome, Italy)

Poverty, hunger, malnutrition and high mortality rates are regressive social phenomena that continue to plague developing countries. This is despite the substantial growth in income and food grain production in these countries and recent breakthroughs in medical technologies. The manifestation and intensity of these phenomena varies between regions and between countries within regions. Poverty, hunger, malnutrition and mortality are so inexorably intertwined that they reinforce each other and hinder human development and economic growth. Changes in the levels and patterns of mortality can lead to poverty, and conversely poverty and hunger can lead to changes in levels and patterns of nutrition and mortality. Are there lessons to be drawn from the experiences of continents and countries where poverty and hunger are strongly related to the changes in mortality levels and patterns? The book explores the understanding of the inter-linkages between poverty, nutrition and morbidity/mortality by using empirical evidence at both macro and micro levels from three regions: Asia, the Pacific and Africa. The volume is divided into five parts. The first part explores the theoretical understanding of the inter-linkages between poverty, nutrition and mortality by using empirical evidence. The second part illustrates the understanding of the linkages from a macro perspective. Part III deals with the contribution of micro level studies to the understanding of poverty, nutrition and mortality nexus. Part IV looks at the determinants of child mortality and child malnutrition in different social settings. The last part provides the synthesis of the issues and suggests several policy considerations to achieve the millennium development goals.



Poverty, Malnutrition and Mortality in South Asia: A Review of Evidence and Pathways

Sunny Jose, (Gujarat Institute of Development Research, Ahmedabad) A. Dharmalingam (Monash University, Australia) and K. Navaneetham

This study examines the emerging trends in mortality and malnutrition in South Asia and their association with poverty and hunger. Infectious diseases, malnutrition and neonatal disorders combine to play a critical role in endowing the region with high death rates during infancy and childhood. At the same time, the adult population of the South Asian region is also witnessing an increase in disabilities and deaths from disease, both communicable and non-communicable. The relatively high levels of child malnutrition, the prevalence of infectious diseases and the associated loss of lives are closely related to poverty and to deprived social and physical environment. The poor and malnourished children are bound to become victims of poverty and hunger, through their reduced educational, physiological and human capital development. Thus, poverty reduction is not only important in its own right, but it is also central to the reduction of child mortality and malnutrition and hence, the huge economic and social costs arising therefrom. It has emerged that gender inequality plays a critical role in leading to and reinforcing the burden of death and disability in the region. The neglect of maternal nutrition causes a high incidence of low birth weight babies, which in turn causes poor child nutrition, vulnerability to infection and child mortality. This study concludes that addressing maternal malnutrition is central to arresting and reversing the burden that looms large in the South Asian region.

Mortality, Poverty and Hunger Nexus: A Synthesis and Policy Implications

Ian Pool, (University of Waikato, New Zealand) A. Dharmalingam (Monash University, Australia) and K. Navaneetham

The central aim of development is to improve the well-being of populations. Growth in per capita income and increases

in productivity and production are among the means by which this may be achieved, but so too are a wide range of other factors in other sectors: education, social welfare, culture and health. The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) of the international community, and the United Nations family of agencies identifies what the minimum requirements, are if the well-being of the world's populations are to improve, or at least if inequities are to be reduced. If the path to development is slow, or blocked, or inequitable in the way its rewards and its failures are distributed, then this will be manifested by increases in, or the growth of differential levels for three factors, what we have called here a 'trptych' that paints a picture of societal exclusion: Mortality, Poverty and Hunger. Much of the focus in the MDGs is towards these factors directly, or working indirectly through others. In this study, we explore the themes such as: (a) the interconnectedness between mortality, poverty and hunger; (b) the need to recognise the cardinal roles of demographic phenomena as determinants and consequences of mortality, which is itself a demographic factor but one that also has other demographic attributes (e.g., age- and gender-specificity of risk) and; (c) the need to recognise the diversity of situations in which mortality, poverty and hunger occur.

Ongoing Studies

Inflation in India: An Inter-State Comparison

P. Mohanan Pillai, N. Shanta and K. Pushpangadan

Inflation in India is understood as a purely national phenomenon and therefore its regional dimension has not attracted the attention of researchers and policy-makers. This may be because State level prices are determined presumably by national level demand and supply factors and therefore, national level inflation is taken as a proxy for state level inflation. However, casual observations reveal that it is not so in reality and that there exist State level variations. Such variation in the rate of inflation is determined by regional demand and supply factors. To illustrate, States with a better public distribution system may register relatively slow rise in food prices. Similarly, the variations in local taxes, transport infrastructure bottlenecks may play a decisive



role in the formation of regional prices. In this context it is interesting to look at the behaviour of prices at the regional level (State level) in India.

In this study we endeavour to provide a broader view of inflation. The major issues discussed are as to what extent the inflation at the national and regional levels shows turns and fluctuations in the context of different measures of inflation, which *inter alia* include their co-movements and divergences, etc. This will help us to decipher long-term movements in relative prices such as Consumer Price Index (CPI) industrial workers, CPI agricultural workers, CPI non-manual workers, etc. In short, we provide: (i) A broad overview of aggregate inflation during the pre- and post-liberalisation phase; (ii) The state-wise behavioural patterns of components such as, CPI industrial Workers, CPI agricultural workers, and CPI urban non-manual workers; and (iii) Relative movements of prices and its variability across the states and also an attempt to locate the structural factors for the movements.

The Local Dynamics of Social Security: Comparing Rural India and China

N. Vijayamohanan Pillai

The present study is part of a larger collaborative project of the Centre for Development Studies and the Rural Development Institute of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences in Beijing to examine the micro dynamics of social security experiences through an intensive and in-depth case study in rural India and China. The different dimensions of security considered in the study at the individual/household level are: i) employment security; ii) food security; iii) housing security; iv) health security; v) education security, vi) female security; vii) old age security; and viii) contingent security (natural calamities, accidents, indebtedness and public security). Hence, the study would have different papers on these different aspects on a comparative plane between India and China.

What Matters in Bridging Digital Divide? Trade Liberalization or Human Resource Development: The Experience of CIBS (China, India, Brazil and South Africa)

K.J. Joseph and Vinoj Abraham

Unprecedented growth in the rate of ICT diffusion in developing countries during the recent past (UNCTAD 2004) notwithstanding, the digital world order of today is characterised by sharp divides at the international and intra-national level. While the policy initiatives and institutional interventions undertaken at the instance of national governments and multilateral agencies to address digital divide have no parallels in human history and the strategies often lay emphasis on trade and investment liberalization, there are empirical evidences to indicate that the remarkable ICT success of India owes a great deal to her investment in human capital in general, under that national system of innovation rather than to the liberalized trade regime. To the extent that CIBS vary significantly not only in terms of their performance in ICT production/use and addressing digital divide but also in their approach towards trade/investment and human resource development, the proposed study intends to undertake an analysis of the relative role of trade/investment liberalisation and human resource development in addressing the digital divide. In a context where CIBS are perceived as southern engines of growth, their experience is expected to be of immense relevance for drawing valid policy lessons for other developing countries.

(c) STUDIES ON KERALA

Completed Studies

Distress Debt and Suicides among Agrarian Households: Findings from three Village Studies in Kerala

K.N. Nair and Vineetha Menon

This study examines the factors and process underlying agrarian distress in Kerala by undertaking case studies of



three villages situated in Wayanad and Idukki districts namely, Cherumad, Kappikkunnu and Upputhara. The impact of distress on household livelihoods and indebtedness and how they cope with the situation are examined with entire village and intra-village analysis of data. The process of agrarian distress, which resulted in suicides, was analysed through a few in-depth studies. Decline in crop yields, coupled with sharp fall in their prices, created severe distress in all sections of the agricultural population. Many households coped with these distresses by reducing household expenditure, diversifying their household incomes and searching for jobs in other places. Meanwhile, government interventions in terms of Public Distribution System, health care provision, education and supply of drinking water gave some relief to the affected. However, these measures could not completely prevent the occurrence of suicides among the members of agrarian households. The study shows that in the villages where household incomes are more diversified and social networks much stronger, the distress conditions did not result in suicides. Mitigation of agrarian distress requires not only debt relief but also implementation of long-term strategies with policies to promote price stability, ecological sustainability of agriculture, strengthening of formal rural credit and support networks, and income and employment generation programmes.

Agrarian Distress and Livelihood Strategies: A Study in Pulpalli Panchayat, Wayanad District, Kerala

K.N. Nair, C.P. Vinod and Vineetha Menon

The study examines the household livelihood strategies under agrarian distress in Pulpalli Panchayat of Kerala. It also looks at the relationship between household assets and livelihood strategies. The negotiations of institutions by the marginalised and depressed sections of the society were analysed in detail. Major causes of agrarian distress in the

study area are the ecological degradation and fall in crop income. Land continues to be the most important asset determining livelihood outcomes. The livelihood strategies have been investigated in relation to land, education, housing pattern, investments and credit facilities, and participation in organisational activities. The livelihood strategies adopted by farmers in the wake of agrarian crisis includes diversification of agriculture, share cropping, organic farming, self-help group activities, cattle rearing, migration and exchange of labour. Livelihood strategies varied across socio-economic groups as farmers owning better landholdings diversified cropping patterns while poor households participated in the activities of Self Help groups. Casual agricultural labourers and marginal farmers moved to other places in search of jobs. Mitigation of agrarian distress requires public provision of education, health and other social safety measures.

Livelihood Risks and Coping Strategies: A Case Study in the Agrarian Village of Cherumad, Kerala

K.N. Nair, Antonyto Paul and Vineetha Menon

This study examines the various dimensions of livelihood risk as informed by an in-depth case study of an agrarian village, namely, Cherumad in Kerala. The livelihood risk in Cherumad since the last quarter of the 1990s has been unique and unprecedented in its nature and intensity. The effect of price risk and productivity risk of crops became an income risk to the farming community. For agricultural labour too it was an income risk with double effects of wage risk and employment risk. These risks have resulted in a general fall in the living standards of people. The livelihood dynamics in Cherumad show that improvement in livelihood assets improves livelihood outcomes and *vice versa*. Institutions (both formal and informal) affect access to assets and livelihood outcomes. Across socio-economic groups, livelihood outcomes are determined by the portfolio of livelihood assets, especially land. The households have developed a number of coping strategies in response to distress. These strategies are meant to smooth consumption



and income and rebuilding household livelihood. In this context, the overall emphasis of state intervention should be in strengthening their livelihood assets.

Agrarian Distress and Rural Livelihoods, A Study in Upputhara Panchayat, Idukki District, Kerala

K.N. Nair and R. Ramakumar

This study examines the impact of agrarian distress on the different socio-economic groups, the strategies of livelihood adopted by households and the local institutions in shaping these strategies. The study is based on the data collected from in-depth socio-economic enquiries conducted in Upputhara Panchayat in Idukki District. An important conclusion of the study is that the strategies of livelihood framed in response to a shock could vary across households depending on the extent of their asset ownership. Households in Upputhara achieved diversification of livelihoods in three major ways: diversifying their cropping pattern, diversifying their local occupations and through migration. The study showed that (a) in formulating coping strategies, households benefited from increased access to a number of public institutions created through public action in earlier years; (b) access of households to the different welfare institutions was declining in recent years; and (c) the livelihood systems of people remained extremely vulnerable. Obviously, strengthening the livelihood systems of households would require sustenance of their livelihood assets and income by reversing these State policies and effective functioning of local institutions like the Panchayat.

Study of Impact of the Information and Communication Technology on Women Employment in Kerala

P. Mohanan Pillai and N. Shanta

This study deals with the integration of gender in policies relating to information and communication technology to empower socially excluded poor women as producers of this technology. In this context, the study examines an

interventionist ICT policy undertaken by Kudumbasree (an innovative women based participatory programme) to empower poor women. The central part of the investigation is a survey of Kudumbasree supported micro-enterprises scattered across the State to understand their nature and characteristics, activity pattern and performance parameters. The analysis is divided into two parts. The first part deals with the structure and performance of women-led enterprises and the second deals with issues relating to women, work and welfare.

From the evidence gathered, we could conclude that the ICT initiatives under the umbrella of Kudumbasree have vast potential for empowering poor women. The study clearly establishes that, given the basic literacy of the State, engendering ICT for poor women is feasible, provided the right organisational support is given. Through this programme, poor women have entered the lowest of IT enabled jobs. If this good beginning has to be sustained and poor women have to take advantage of the opportunities offered by the IT revolution, they should be helped to move to the higher levels of activities with more intensive training and organisational support. There is a need for continuous upgradation of skills and capacity building particularly in the context of the fast changing technology associated with the IT sector.

The point that needs to be stressed is that while the agency has concentrated on the supply side, the demand side aspects such as output demand, market research, customer service, etc., have been largely ignored. For best results, supply and demand issues need to be tackled in an integrated manner. The current practice of digitisation of government records through Kudumbasree has its limitations. Work is bound to peter out when the backlog of digitisation work is completed. The solution to this lies in the expanded role of the agency. The units have to diversify the customer base with government acting as a facilitator. The government could set up a flexible independent apex body, or alternatively, an alliance of units to strengthen their bargaining power. To conclude, although we cannot expect that, with their given



levels of education, the women would move to very high levels of work like software development, it is possible to ensure continuous income and employment through job contracts of a different kind – work of a continuous nature which is well within their educational capabilities like electronic publishing, customer call centres, record management, etc., rather than programme specific employment. ICT is certainly a promising sector for the empowerment of poor women and for them to become partners in development.

Procedural changes required for making Local Self Government's role effective in Rural Housing in Kerala

V. Santhakumar (with inputs from G. Gopikuttan, Praveena Kodoth, T.P. Sreedharan, and C. Sasikumar)

This study analyses the implementation of housing schemes for the poor through Panchayats in Kasargod District of Kerala. It brings to light the severity of the housing problem in this part of the state. As Panchayats have been spending substantial resources on housing during the past decade, such a finding was unexpected. There is also a general feeling among policy-makers in Kerala that housing is not a major problem anymore, i.e., that only a small section of the population would need support for housing. This study indicates that such an assumption may not be realistic in many parts of north Kerala. Moreover, the study highlights severe procedural constraints in the effective implementation of housing schemes through Local Self Governments. It may be underlined that mere provision of fixed subsidy is far from adequate to solve the problem of housing in rural Kerala.

Is it Desirable to take a World Bank loan for Strengthening Local Self Governments in Kerala?

V. Santhakumar and Pinaki Chakraborty

This study analyses the desirability of a loan from the World Bank for strengthening local governments (LSGs) of

Kerala under two scenarios. First, is the case where the loan supplements the resources of the LSGs in addition to the funds they are entitled to from the state government in the Eleventh Plan. In this scenario, the spending ability and effectiveness of the LSGs are the important issues of concern. The paper identifies certain areas where additional resources may be required for the LSGs. The second case is where the State government directly or indirectly substitutes a part of the resources that it has committed to give to the local governments with the proposed loan. The cost of borrowing of the state government is the prime concern and in this context, there are significant advantages in taking a loan from the Bank. The study also considers a similar loan provided by the Bank to the state of Karnataka to strengthen its local self governments and the conditions it came with, and deliberates on the appropriateness of such conditions in the context of Kerala.

Rethinking the Conceptual Foundations of Kerala's Decentralisation in the Light of the Experience of the Past Decade

V. Santhakumar

Though the decade-long decentralisation policy in Kerala has made remarkable achievements in terms of consistent devolution of financial resources and improvement in the implementation of poverty eradication schemes, there are many glaring limitations. They include the tendency to take up many unviable projects, lack of proper monitoring and evaluation, inadequate functioning of *grama sabahs* and beneficiary committees, continuing lethargy in service delivery, very slow progress in computerisation, etc. In this context, this study makes an outline of a more realistic conceptual foundation for decentralisation. It calls for using the concept of 'local market failure' in deciding the activities of LSG, treating *grama sabhas* and beneficiary committees as mechanisms to exercise citizens' rights in extreme or emergency situations, enhancing local resource mobilisation, and instituting incentive systems so that local resource allocation becomes both autonomous and efficient.



Mobility towards Work and Politics for Women in Kerala State, India: A view from the Histories of Gender and Space

J. Devika and Binitha V. Thampi (Project Associate, CDS)

Women belonging to communities that benefited from the high tide of reformism in early 20th century Kerala – the new elite – began to move out of their homes to spaces of paid work, and to the emergent public sphere and politics. In this study, we try to reflect further upon such mobility by examining the discursive gendering of the spaces between which women moved and the strategies of negotiation available to them. In the latter sections, we question the widespread popular belief that two recent efforts in Kerala – to induct women into local governance and to mobilise poor women in self-help groups – imply the extension of women’s access to politics and the public. Through participant observation in Panchayats and in-depth interviews with successful women Panchayat Presidents, we have attempted to investigate how the new spaces of local governance and income generation are perceived and work effectively as gendered spaces. This hopes to critique of recent writing on political decentralization in Kerala, which assumes barely-interrupted continuity between the ‘Kerala Model’ of social development forged through the mid-20th century and the 1990s – which assumes that the spaces opened up for women within modernity remain unchanged over time, and takes the presence of large numbers of women within these spaces as evidence for greater autonomy for women.

‘All Widows aren’t like Sonia Gandhi:’ Welfare, Politics and the Formation of Widows’ Associations in Kerala

J. Devika and A.K. Rajasri (Independent Researcher and Activist)

The study focuses on a recent phenomenon in Kerala’s political field: a bid for public identity by widowed women

through the formation of associations. The context of the research is the ongoing agrarian distress in Wayanad, Kerala. The attempt is to analyse this phenomenon in the immediate context of the crisis in Wayanad and in the long-term context of the transformations in politics and welfare in Kerala. It is observed that members of these associations sought to address the State by placing themselves in the long-accepted governmental category, the ‘widow,’ and tried to increase benefits, remedy gender biases in the distribution of welfare and ensure regular receipt of benefits. However, their self-identification as public subjects went beyond that of welfare recipients; indeed, they often tried to appropriate the language of active worker-citizenship familiar in Kerala in the earlier phase of Left hegemony. While they actively seek aid and support from powerful political parties, they also seek to work ‘independently,’ and persistently claim that they have ‘no politics.’

Marooned in Social Development? Public Health, Democracy and Sickle Cell Anaemia in Wayanad District, Kerala

J. Devika and A.K. Rajasri (Independent Researcher and Activist)

This study focuses on a small civil social group campaigning for health rights in Wayanad, Kerala – the Sickle-cell Anaemia Patients’ Association (SCAPA). While Sickle-cell has been widely recognised as ‘tribal disease,’ in Wayanad it is also rampant among the Wayanadan Chettys, an ‘Other Backward Class’ group of small cultivators. This group is too small to build community organisations with which to exert pressure on the government for social development; yet it has taken advantage to some extent of the expansion of public services in Kerala in the 20th century. However, in the present context of the agricultural crisis in Wayanad the members of this group have experienced a sharp decline in incomes and are unable to exert any influence on political parties and local bodies in Wayanad. As a result, the Chettys are beset with a deep sense of dismay, of being ‘marooned in social development:’ poignantly, the Chettys’ social



development now appears a 'burden' that increases the load of sickle-cell anaemia patients unable to access care due to their declining incomes. The SCAPA activism provides a fruitful beginning in unravelling the tangled strands of the public health scenario in Kerala, which involves economic change/crises, community strength, specific perceptions and experience of sickness, and invention of ways of addressing the State. Finally, it allows us to reflect on the possibilities of renewing public health care in Kerala through democratic interventions — as distinct from those which rely upon the devolution of powers of the state to lower and more local levels of governance.

'A Tactful Union': Domestic Workers' Unionism, Politics and Citizenship in Kerala

J. Devika and P.R. Nisha (Project Assistant)

Given the astounding increase in the number of domestic workers among women entering the labour market in India, it is imperative to study closely efforts to organise domestic workers. We try to take a close look at one such initiative by Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA) Kerala, which has its roots in the 1980s, in the emergent feminist initiatives of that decade. SEWA provides an instance of feminist trade unionism as different from the male-centric dominant styles, which are slowly growing redundant with the decline of organised sector labour. In contrast, models such as SEWA offer hope in the age of feminised and flexible labour. We also hope to reflect upon the agency of the SEWA domestic worker in contemporary Kerala through the analysis of workers' narratives, and the specific strategies they deploy through the SEWA's unionisation in the changing context of the demand for domestic labour here.

Translator's Introduction: Nalini Jameela Writes her Story

J. Devika

This is an introduction in three sections, drawing upon my earlier work on autobiographical writings by women in Kerala. It places the book in the context of the local debate on sex worker

activism in Kerala, and the furore that ensued when Jameela published her autobiography and then chose to rewrite it. The last section dwells upon the challenges to the translator, separated widely from the author socially and economically.

Gender, Caste and Matchmaking in Kerala: A Rationale for Dowry

Praveena Kodoth

The matrilineal castes of northern Kerala consider dowry demeaning and resort to it only in 'exceptional' circumstances. In local discourse, dowry was transacted when women were considered 'old' by the standards of the marriage market, a condition reached usually on account of a deficit of normative femininity. However, dowry came into the open only among poor and socially vulnerable households, as the relatively affluent could mask dowry with hidden compensations. This study explores the ways in which gender mediates matchmaking and generates a residual category of women for whom dowry is openly negotiated. Open negotiation on the margins of the marriage market expose the terms of exchange in 'respectable' society, whose matchmaking strategies reveal the emphasis placed on conjugality and caste in the social construction of women's interests and identity. Upto the early-mid twentieth century, matrilineal women derived their identity from their natal families. The political economy of marriage in Kerala brought a new emphasis on conjugality and on caste, placing new restrictions on women, and produced a rationale for dowry.

Power Development in Kerala: Constraints and Options

N. Vijayamohanan Pillai

This study discusses the constraints and options in Kerala's power sector. Facts corroborate that the system growth in Kerala has never been up to the mark of potential



requirement. The dangerous unaccountability and the culpable negligence in respect of system planning and management, even in the short run, led to subsequent deterioration of the system performance. Inordinate investment inertia reigned not only in installed capacity expansion programmes, but also in firm power capacity programmes, such that the wasteful wide gap between the two persisted, mocking at any sort of system planning. The price paid by Kerala for such failure or absence itself of a perspective planning mechanism has been immense in terms of power shortage for quite a long time. Most distressing is the fact that even during this pinching period of power famine, both the Board and the Government have continued to be negligent, negative and lethargic, and the public at large, indifferent. Our analysis suggests the need for questioning the logics and ethics of the widespread clamour for tariff rate hikes which are supposed to be necessary in order to contain the increasing supply costs and thus save the State Electricity Boards (SEBs) from the crunch, in the background of the continuously accumulating revenue arrears, that in turn, utterly defeats the very purpose of tariff revision. The study clearly points out that what the system requires is only an essence-specific (internal) reform – a reformed work culture under the leadership of an enlightened, committed, professional management and Government, not a disastrous structural reform, as is fetishistically made out now. The study concludes that greater public participation from the civil society and greater information dissemination are still wanting.

Rising enrolments in Technical Education in Kerala, 1991-2006: Where have all the Engineers Gone?

Sunil Mani

There has been tremendous increase in the student intake at engineering degree courses in Kerala. There is a tendency on the part of commentators, both academic and otherwise, to equate the intake with actual supply of engineers. The present study questions this. The correct indicator for measuring the actual annual flow of engineers is the outturn rates. These are computed by taking into account the drop

out rates and the failure rates. Based on data compiled by the National Technical Manpower systems, the outturn rates have been computed for the Kerala engineering colleges for 1991 through 2000 cohorts of students enrolling for undergraduate engineering courses in the State. These outturn rates have actually come down significantly and a branch-wide analysis shows that there has been a significant reduction in the rate of outturn in the more popular branches. This 'deterioration' in engineering education started during the late 1990s, thus involving the established government-run colleges. Therefore, attributing this decline to the arrival of self-financing colleges is, at best, premature. There has been an implicit understanding of the problem in policy circles, especially in the early part of this decade. This led to the State participating in the World Bank-aided TEQIP project. But the spending on the TEQIP programme has been very tardy. There is going to be a bunching of a large amount of spending in the last six months of the programme. In the spending pattern on those aspects dealing directly with qualitative improvements, namely; faculty development and starting of new courses, the actual achievements are far below expected outcomes. In overall performance, the score received by the participating Kerala colleges is far below the national average. Despite the availability of a large amount of data, the quality of oversight of the programme leaves much to be desired. In fact, the project implementation unit has not even developed indicators for measuring the quality of technical education. All the available indicators such as the numbers on intake and outturn are quantitative indicators.

Dynamics of Rural Water Supply in Coastal Kerala: A View from Sustainable Development

K. Pushpangadan and G. Murugan (Doctoral Scholar, CDS)

Dynamics of rural coverage in drinking water supply is examined empirically, within a sustainable development framework for 180 demand-driven schemes from Malappuram, predominantly a coastal district of Kerala State. Methodology for the analysis involved: (i) multidimensional specification of sustainability in terms of attributes relating to source, technology, quality, finance,



institution and hygiene behaviour, and (ii) estimation of the degree of sustainability using models of vagueness. Two methods of 'vagueness,' 'supervaluationism' and 'fuzzy inference system,' were applied to identify systems that are at or below the sustainability line. Results show that sustainability due to source and quality is lower in schemes from non-coastal regions, whereas sustainability in the coastal region is lower in dimensions of finance, institutions and hygiene behaviour. Empirical analysis of 'marginal systems' indicates that gender participation, female education and income have a favourable impact on sustainability of schemes in rural areas.

Kerala's Development Experience: Since 1960

K. Pushpangadan

The regional economic performance for the period 1960-2005 has two phases of growth; one, lop-sided (human development with low income levels) and the other, virtuous growth (both human development and income growth). The lop-sided growth is partly due to the fact that a major portion of public fund was invested in the past for human capital formation. This human capital has enabled the population to migrate on a large scale to Middle East. This is the source of the virtuous cycle of growth. The vector autoregression growth analysis of the conventional three sectors (primary, secondary and tertiary) provides strong empirical support that the virtuous cycle is service-led and exogenously determined. The growth is not sustainable unless we invest in human capital that has a steady external market or generates linkages with the tertiary sector growth. This is the major task facing planners concerned with the sustainable growth of the regional economy.

Changes in Access to Private Health Care Services in Kerala

T. R. Dilip

This is an attempt to understand the characteristics of private hospitals and the equity in accessing their services, using secondary data available for the period 1986-2004. The data indicates that private hospitals did not expand in

numbers but that a strong consolidation by large hospitals has taken place. Public policy favouring increased private sector participation in medical education coupled with opening of super specialty hospitals has led to a situation where small hospitals or nursing homes are losing their significance and a large number of them have been phased out. The regional variation in availability of private hospitals is sizeable. The presence of private hospitals is comparatively limited in the northern districts of Palakkad, Kozhikode, Malappuram and Kasargod.

Annual hospitalisation rates show a rise in demand for hospital facilities across this time period. Rich-poor divide in potential to seek care from private hospitals was highest during 1995-96, but declined marginally in 2004. Though the quantum of utilisation of private hospitals among the poor is similar to the rich, it taxes them severely. Overall economic marginalisation of low social groups has further restricted their access to private hospitals. Analysis also shows that the duration of hospitalisation is lower if treated in a private hospital than in a government hospital and that the charity component in the so-called 'charitable hospitals' is disappearing.

Cost of Basic Services in Kerala, 2007 – Education, Health, Child Birth and Finance

K.C. Zachariah and S. Irudaya Rajan

Pattern and costs of services in four areas (education, health, child birth and finance) affecting most households in Kerala are the focus of this study. How much have Kerala households spent for education of their children, for treatment of common and chronic diseases among their members, and for securing medical services related to pregnancy and childbirth? What is the extent of household indebtedness in Kerala? At what cost do households secure loans for household and personal needs from banks and other financial institutions? These are the major concerns of this study.

The study shows that migration did play a role in household behaviour in Kerala. Nevertheless the effect of migration could not be confined to households with emigrants or return emigrants. There was considerable spill over to non-migrant



households, producing similar effects on non-migrant households also. After 30 years of large-scale exposure to emigration, return emigration and remittances, it is too much to expect that the spill over effect on non-NRK households would be anything but substantial. The impact of emigration on the pattern of use and costs associated the major basic services in Kerala is felt strongly on Non Resident Keralites (NRK) as well as non-NRK households.

Migration and the Re-creation of the Syrian Christian Community

V.J. Varghese

This study looks into migrations for agriculture by Syrian Christian peasants in Kerala and the resultant re-creation of the community. By placing the new economic problematic beckoned by colonialism and a translated appropriation of a colonial development model by the native agency, the study argues that the resultant development discourse, not only altered the native mentalities towards their 'own' nature but also brought in new ethics of labour. The material and discursive contexts allowed the Syrian Christian community to further appropriate the opportunity to engage in a vigorous drive of reclaiming untamed land into agriculture and activity. Specifically, by looking at the fiction generated by the migration from Travancore to Malabar, 1920-70, the study argues that the migration and an underlying development discourse reinvented the Syrian Christian community into a robust agricultural community. In the course of this historical process, the community re-defined itself into the image of a productive citizen. The self-adulation got reified as a social commonsense as different strands of the prevalent discursive terrain went in endorsement.

Ongoing Studies

Unorganised Manufacturing Sector in Kerala

P. Mohanan Pillai and N. Shanta

Though there are a few studies on the organised manufacturing sector of Kerala., the unorganised sector did not receive much attention. The results of the survey of household and unorganised manufacturing sector in the 62

round (2005-06) is now available. This round is the third and the last in the series of three reports being brought out on the data relating to unorganised sector. The latest report provides information on input-output and value added of unorganised manufacturing enterprises at the all-India level and at the level of States. The previous two reports (51st and 56th) contained information on operational characteristics, estimates of employment, assets and borrowings. On the basis of these three surveys and also in the background of the third census report of small-scale industries (2001-02) we construct a picture of the dynamics of transformation of unorganised manufacturing enterprises in Kerala.

Kottathara Human Development Report

D. Narayana (with inputs from various members of the research team)

This is the human development report of a Gram Panchayat (with 17,000 population) in Kerala and is the first of its kind. The second draft is being circulated and the dissemination seminar will be held on 16 June 2008. Revision is underway to finalise the report.

The Kottathara Human Development Report (KoHDR) 2007 sets out to address the following questions: (i) The contours of inequality in poverty, education and health across social groups; (ii) How has the PRIs sought to tackle the socially and gender disadvantaged? and (iii) Why have development efforts fallen short of tackling critical social and economic issues of the socially disadvantaged?

The Kottathara Human Development Report is a follow up of the Kerala Human Development Report 2005 (KHDR) and part of the UNDP project on 'Strengthening State Plans for Human Development'. It seeks to consolidate the momentum gained in the preparation of KHDR and strengthen the State plan processes and dialogue to focus more on human development concerns by building institutional capacity, by strengthening the statistical systems in the States for better collection and reporting of district and local level indicators of human development. In the process, it seeks to identify strategic options for financing human development. It is a modest attempt to document



the achievements, constraints, and potential of the multi-caste, and multi-religious community nestled in the largely rural and agricultural Wayanad. It reflects not only on the unbound energy and vision of the people of this poor community to achieve major gains in the areas of drinking water, sanitation, road connectivity and education, but also brings to the fore the struggles of the deprived lot.

Introduction: The Namboodiris of Kerala

J. Devika

This is an introduction to the autobiographical writings of Devaki Nilayangode that provides an account of the transformation of the Malayala Brahmin community of Kerala over the 20th century. It draws on my earlier research on Namboodiri community reformism and reflects on Nilayangode's writing in the context of earlier women commentators on social change within the community life Lalitambika Antarjanam.

Urban Processes, Politics, and Women's Access to Political Power in Contemporary Kerala

J. Devika and Binitha V. Thampi (Project Associate, CDS)

This is the second in the series of studies from our fieldwork with women in politics and local governance in contemporary Kerala. It focuses on interviews with women heads of urban local bodies, and tries to make sense of their words in the context of the rapidly changing urban scenario in Kerala, in which several urbanising processes are simultaneously at work. The high fragmentation of the political field in the emergent urban setting also prompts us to ask questions about whether the urban scenario can indeed provide a fruitful entry point for women in either politics or governance.

The Idea of a Wedding Among the Matrilineal Castes in Kerala: Sexual Symbolism, Ritual and Expenditure

Praveena Kodoth

The wedding ceremony of the matrilineal castes in the midland region of contemporary northern Kerala shares

important aspects of 'Hindu' wedding ceremonies, but has a rather recent genealogy in community reforms of the early twentieth century and later adaptations. Indeed, the absence of ceremonial and festivity on the occasion that initiated sexual relations as against an elaborate and expensive pre-pubertal rite that seemed 'marriage-like,' but did not establish sexual claims, were underscored in the colonial interpretation of sexual associations among matrilineal 'Hindus' on the west coast as concubinage. As matrilineal institutions sanctioned multiple sexual associations through polyandry, polygamy and/or serial monogamy, 'normalisation' of marriage was premised on the grounds of control over women's sexuality and also as an appropriate ritual framework. Foregrounding this historical context, this study argues that the transformation of the matrilineal wedding was informed by a notion of 'respectability' associated with modern conjugal forms of power and held together by reformist norms of gender and caste. Shared across caste, the symbolism of the contemporary wedding draws upon conservative perspectives of marriage and family, wherein women are the bearers of a conjugal identity that is conceived of as sacred and indissoluble and inscribes their bodies to significant social effect.

Evaluation of Community Health Insurance in Wayanad

Slim Haddad (University of Montreal), D. Narayana (CDS), Marta Feletto (University of Montreal), C.K. Harikrishnadas and T. R. Dilip (CDS)

The aim is to evaluate the outcomes of the Community Based Health Insurance (CBHI) implemented by a self-help group in a Panchayat with support from the Centre for Development Studies and University of Montreal (CDS-UdeM project). This case-control study is expected to develop of an evidence base with respect to the effectiveness of micro-insurances in health. The analysis will focus on following questions on outcomes and coverage of this pilot project:



- (i) *on outcomes:* Are members feeling better protected against the economic consequences of illness? Are barriers to access health care effectively reduced? Are members better protected against exclusion and impoverishment due to illness? Are their needs for credit modified?
- (ii) *on membership and coverage:* Do the CBHI reach its target population? Who is joining and who is not joining SNEHA, and why? Why do some households drop the scheme after one year?

Agrarian Reform and Land Redistribution – Experience of Kerala

P. Sivanandan

Kerala has almost completed land reforms through the implementation of legislature enactments. The major objections were conferment of ownership rights to tenant holders and distribution of ailing surplus and other excess land to landless and land poor households, with priority to schedule communities.

While the first objective was fairly well achieved long ago, the redistribution measures could not claim much to meet the basic needs of the land poor.

The study proposes to assess the landholding situation during the post-reform period and the agrarian crisis that followed in the State.

Land, Labour and Migrations: Understanding Kerala's Economic Modernity

V.J. Varghese

The study attempts to understand the specificities of economic modernity in Travancore, Kerala, as engendered by colonialism and appropriated by a resolute native agency through a process of translation. It looks at the induction of Travancore into the global market economy through a systematic hallowing of the native crown and a considered dictation of policies through the colonial Resident. The British arguably came to South Asia with an ideological animosity towards forests and 'wastelands,' making the State policy

of Travancore congenial and initiating plantations in Travancore through a new enterprise of bringing such 'objectified landscapes' under cultivation and human activity. The colonial planting enterprises exemplified a new channel of economic mobility for the natives, which brought in a new attitude towards their 'own' nature and new ethics of labour. The Syrian Christians, who were displaced from their socio-economic niche with the advent of modernity and the collapse of the native order, made use of the 'opportunities' offered by agricultural capitalism better than others. A new 'social imaginary,' enthusiastic about transforming the 'undomesticated' landscape and recommending migrations to such spaces for domesticating it with agriculture, gradually took shape. Lethargy soon became 'unpatriotic' and hard work received an essential qualification as the conduit to progress and well-being. The study seeks to capture this multilayered process of transformation and seeks to historically situate the large-scale migrations, in search of land and economic mobility in and from Travancore during 1900-70.

Determinants of Sustainable Rural Drinking Water Supply – A Case Study of Kerala

K. Pushpangadan and G. Murugan (Doctoral Scholar, CDS)

The study examines the phenomena of 'falling back' of habitations/villages covered from drinking water to uncovered ones and its regional variations from NSSO survey reports in 1993 and 2002. It also estimates the social cost of 'falling back' for the above period. Since the problem is related to sustainability of drinking water it is analysed within the framework of sustainable development. Review of literature indicates that this can be operationalised only within the framework of multidimensional attributes in an interdisciplinary approach. Systems are classified by the degree of sustainability using a Borda aggregator. The results show that 150 systems out of 710 are strongly sustainable while 149 systems are strongly non-sustainable. The remaining systems belong to margins of sustainability on either side. There exists substantial regional variation in the degree of sustainability among the districts. This finding



has implications for devising public policy for reversing the problem of 'falling back'.

Life Course Approach to Cardiovascular Disease in Kerala

K. Navaneetham

The life course approach in epidemiology is increasingly occupying a major position in health research in recent years both in developed and developing countries. This approach studies the long-term effects on later health or disease risk of physical or social exposures to gestation, childhood, adolescence, young adulthood and later adult life (Kuh et al., 2003; Ben-Sholomo and Kuh, 2002). In other words, it examines how socially patterned health exposures during childhood, adolescence, early adult life influence adult disease risk and socioeconomic position, may account for social inequalities in adult health and mortality (Kuh et al., 2003). The origin of this approach stems from the studies used to explore the fetal origin hypothesis (Barker, 1995). Existing literature indicates that most of the studies using this approach are focused on the developed countries. Studies using this approach are limited in the developing countries. The burden of cardiovascular disease accounts for 10 per cent of total disease burden in India and this is expected to increase in future. The disease is a major cause of death in Kerala. In this study, we have made an attempt to study to what extent the childhood socio-economic position, adult socio-economic condition and life style behavioural pattern over the life course predicts the prevalence of cardiovascular disease among late adults in Kerala. While doing so, we have also made an attempt to study the patterns, health care utilisation and economic impact of cardiovascular disease in Kerala. The data for this study comes from the Kerala Health Survey 2004, which consists of 3,320 households in the three districts, namely Trivandrum, Kannur and Malappuram.

Quality of Achievement in School: An Analysis of SSLC Public Examination (Kerala)

Chinnappan Gasper

There are wide variations in the quality of education attained by students. Though in the school for 10 years or more, about 40 per cent of the students appearing for the public examination by the end of the Tenth Class do not get through. Further, student achievement varies across schools, regions and social groups.

Scholastic achievement in general is determined by very many factors and processes, such as school characteristics, home environment, accumulated social and economic capital of the family and the ability of the individual student. Most of the literature on educational achievement sends out the message that it is the family background characteristics that are most important in one's educational attainment. However, better school environment can compensate for the poor social and economic background of the family.

The present study analyses the data relating to students' achievement in the Public Examination at the end of the Tenth Class in Kerala. It measures the variations in the students' achievement across different categories of schools, social groups and districts. It estimates the statistical relationship between the variation in the students' achievement and various social, economic and institutional characteristics of school education in Kerala.

(d) OTHER STUDIES

Completed Studies

In Quest of the Distributional Properties of Reliability Rate

N. Vijayamohanan Pillai

Reliability, in its broad sense, refers to the probability that a component or system is able to perform its intended function satisfactorily during a specified period of time under normal



operating conditions. It is estimated as the fraction of time the unit/system is available for operation. For practical purposes, the reliability rate is estimated using maximum likelihood estimator (MLE) from sample observations. No study has gone beyond this to analyse the statistical properties of the MLE of R ; the present study attempts such a quest.

Ongoing Studies

Social Security Initiatives in China: A Critical Appraisal

N. Vijayamohan Pillai

The present study is part of a larger collaborative study of Centre for Development Studies and the Rural Development Institute of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences in Beijing to examine the micro dynamics of social security (SS) experiences through an intensive and in-depth case study in rural India and China. The study, from a macro perspective, serves as a prelude to the micro analysis of the local dynamics of SS in its comprehensive sense in our conceptual framework of basic and contingent SS; it discusses, in general, the development on the front of State initiatives in ensuring SS in different dimensions of rural life in China. It is juxtaposed with a comparative picture from rural India.

Philosophy of Economics: A Radical Perspective on its Dialectics

N. Vijayamohan Pillai

“Economics is the only field in which two people can share a Nobel Prize for saying opposing things.” Thus goes a joke, with a tag of truth: ‘Specifically, Myrdal and Hayek shared one.’ And we are all familiar with the following remark by Sir Winston Churchill: “If you put two economists in a room, you get two opinions, unless one of them is Lord Keynes, in which case you get three opinions.” Such pregnant jokes drive home the unpleasant implication of the common state of dissent among economists in everything in economics that surfaces, for example, in terms of the numerous schools of thoughts. This chaos of feuds is said to be characteristic of all social sciences, including economics, in contrast to natural science. It primarily takes us back to the age-old

riddle of finding the identity of economics in science or in art. We argue that science can lend its lights to art, correct its processes, direct its course; at the same time, art, in reciprocity, can impart the true value to scientific truths. Thus there exists a dialectical relationship between the two and that characterises economics. Economics is a dialectics between science and art.

That theories remain empirically unverifiable have lent strength to the unanimous acceptance of the *a prioristic*, deductive approach as the unquestioned methodology of economics since J.S. Mill. On the other hand, the Historical School in Germany argued that theory should emerge by induction from data, rather than being developed purely deductively, through mathematics or logic. This led to one of the most important ‘battle of methods’ in the history of economics. The present study is built upon a dialectical perspective on such ‘*Methodenstreit*.’

Demystifying Economicism

N. Vijayamohan Pillai

History honours the intelligentsia in that they help progress history; history also abhors the intelligentsia in that they make history regress. The former enlightens, but the latter mess it up all. We come across a long chain of the latter in our communists in general and their academic lackeys who are still in the habit of the mere memorising and repetition of formulas, like ‘old Bolsheviks,’ some under the mesmerism of Lenin’s *Two Tasks of Social Democracy* and some, Trotsky’s *Results and Prospects*. This study is expected to demystify the issues at stake.

The ‘Family Approach’ to Policy Making in Post-independence India: Gender, Genealogy and Implication in Development

Praveena Kodoth

During the years of immediately following Independence, the very idea of gender equality was questioned categorically and compromised in the interests of a singular conception of the ‘family’ in the process of enacting two signal codes, the Hindu Code Bill that became law between 1955-56



and the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961. The arguments used to thwart gender equal provisions were grounded on distinct but intersecting terrains: cultural, – that women’s rights would undermine a desirable conception of family, defined by kinship, and developmental – that the desirable conception of family should subserve the interests of development. These legislations furnished the outlines of the ‘family approach’ in policy making, which development interventions were quick to make their own. Foregrounding the genealogy of a family approach to policy-making in the colonial period, which sought to standardise the conceptions of marriage and family, The study proposes to explore its implications for gender norms in terms of significant transformation of marriage/kinship in post-Independent India.

Institutional Change, Patriarchy and the Development Question in India: What Does Dowry Analysis Say?

Praveena Kodoth

The linkages between institutional change, development and gender inequality are no more starkly apparent than in the expansion of dowry across diverse Indian contexts alongside a diffusion of social and economic development. Considerable literature indicates a tendency among people to adopt practices such as dowry in the process of assimilation into development using the proceeds of development initiatives. The study will examine these linkages as they are articulated in the modern history of dowry. I will not enter directly into the question of the expansion of dowry or its underlying rationales, but will instead propose to interrogate the discussion of dowry on select social science domains i.e., neo-classical economics and anthropology, as a way of raising conceptual and methodological problems that present the danger of rendering invisible the gendered nature of institutions and their implications for power relations. Social scientists working within distinct disciplinary frameworks conceptualise and define dowry differently from one another, differ in their understanding of its institutional character and derive vastly different and sometimes even contrary inferences. In this

context, an exercise such as this is important for its ability to track the ‘normalisation’ of gender differentiation within dominant disciplinary frameworks.

Construction of Wealth Quintiles using NFHS 3 Data

T.R. Dilip and U.S. Mishra

This particular exposition is intended to caution NFHS-3 data users to make use of wealth index scores and compute quintiles for the population they wish to stratify according to economic status. Firstly, an analysis of interstate differentials in household level wealth inequalities and sensitivity in measurement of wealth-wise inequalities in health outcome indicators is performed. Results from this analysis are being used for coming up with appropriate wealth quintiles levels for State and national level analysis.

Determining Environmental Quality in a Federal Setting: An Empirical Analysis of Subnational Governments in India

Lekha S. Chakraborty

Against the analytical backdrop of environmental federalism, the study examines the impact of fiscally decentralised public policy stance on environmental quality in India. Unlike many studies which analysed the fiscally decentralised determination of environmental welfare from the *tax-side* through modeling interjurisdictional competition and ‘race to bottom’, this study attempts to look at the link from the *public expenditure side* in a Kuznets’ U specification. The study does not refute the widely explored Kuznets U phenomenon between economic growth and the environmental quality, rather it emphasises that it does substantially through conscious public policies on reforestation and pollution abatement with adequate public expenditure decisions. Using GSLS and fixed effects model of pooled least squares for the late 1990s, the analysis of the link between decentralised environmental expenditure in per capita terms and the environmental quality indicators for the forestry sector revealed that there is a positive functional relationship between the variables. The models



also revealed the effectiveness of economic growth variables in creating the Kuznet's U-effect on environmental quality. However, the panel estimates showed that fiscal policy has a stronger impact on environmental quality than the Kuznets U-impact of economic growth. This result is in confirmation with the trend that fiscal policies on environmental capital formation gets transformed to the end results of better environmental quality indicators, despite the constraints of initial negative impacts of economic growth on ecology.

Fiscal Decentralisation and Human Development: An Econometric Analysis of Health Sector in Mexico

Lekha S. Chakraborty

The study examines the link between fiscal decentralisation and gender sensitive human development in the context of the health sector in Mexico. Using the Fixed Effects Model of pooled least squares for the early 1990s applied to 32 Provinces in Mexico, the analysis revealed a negative relationship between fiscal transfers assigned for the health sector under the unconditional *participaciones (Ramo 28)* transfers and conditional *aportaciones (Ramo 33)* transfers and the human development indicators like infant mortality rate and maternal mortality rate. This result is in confirmation with the trend that fiscal transfers gets transformed to the end results of better human development indicators, despite the constraint that intergovernmental transfers are largely not fiscally equalising in Mexico. This result has policy implications, especially in the context of the recently introduced *Systems of National Health Accounts* in Mexico which revealed that *out-of-pocket expenditure* in Mexico

accounted for 51 per cent of total health expenditure and only 51 per cent of population is covered under medical social security schemes.

Fiscal Marksmanship of Education Expenditure in India: A Test of Rational Expectations

Lekha S. Chakraborty

According to the rational expectation hypothesis, information is scarce, the economic agents generally do not waste information and expectations depend specifically on the structure of the entire system. Fiscal marksmanship, the accuracy of budgetary forecasting, can be one important piece of such information the rational agents must consider in forming expectations. Using Theil's inequality coefficient (U) based on the mean square prediction error, the study estimates the magnitude of errors in the budgetary forecasts of public expenditure on education in India and also decomposes the errors into biasedness, unequal variation and random components to analyse the source of error. However, there is no specific trend in the forecasting errors, which reveals that budgetary estimates of expenditure on education are made not based on adaptive expectations. The proportion of error due to random variation has been significantly higher (which is beyond the control of the forecaster) in the programmes related to infrastructure in elementary education, nutrition programmes for children and externally aided (partial) project on primary education, while the errors due to bias have not been negligible in public expenditure on primary school teacher's training programmes and non-formal education. The coefficients revealed that applicability of rational expectations hypothesis in the fiscal estimates of expenditure on education has limited scope in India.

RESEARCH PROJECTS

(a) STUDIES ON THE INDIAN ECONOMY

Completed Research Project

Social Protection in Rural India (Part I of The Challenge of Social Protection in Rural India and China)

N. Vijayamohanan Pillai and K.P. Kannan

Sponsor: Ford Foundation.

Month of commencement: June 2003

Month of completion: December. 2006

The main objective of this research initiative is to develop an intellectual case for basic Social Security (SS) as an entitlement, more precisely, as a 'right,' to the poor, excluded and vulnerable social groups and pursue the possibility of its universal coverage in India.

The first major operational goal of the project as suggested above is to develop a comprehensive theoretical framework for social security in the human development and rights perspective; this is accomplished in the first chapter of the Report.

Following our conceptual framework and the critical appraisal in that framework of the national and sub-national experiences in SS, we move on to the micro contexts of the SS experiences. This is accomplished through a field study. From each State, a minimum of 500 households were selected from a village *panchayat* (Talikkulam in Thrissur District of Kerala and Sason in



Sambalpur District of Orissa) for intensive and in-depth case study on the common coping strategies, both long- and short-run, of the households in the face of 'insecurity,' inevitable situations of deficiency and adversity, in the course of their everyday life. We analyse the SS considerations at two levels of initiatives: i) at the individual household (HH) as well as personal level through an HH survey, and ii) at the institutional level, constituting the enabling environment for the HH and the individual, through an institutional survey. The different dimensions of security considered at the individual/HH level are: i) employment security, ii) food security, iii) housing security, iv) health security, v) education security, vi) female security, vii) old age security, and viii) contingent security.

Ongoing Research Project

Goa Migration Monitoring Study

K.C. Zachariah, Délio Mendonça, P.R. Gopinathan Nair and U.S. Mishra

Sponsor: Department of Non-Resident Indian Affairs, Government of Goa

Month of commencement: May 2008

Month completion: March 2009

One of the mandates of the Research Unit on International Migration set up by the Ministry of Indian Overseas Affairs, Government of India at the Centre for Development Studies, has been to pursue, promote and disseminate research relating to issues concerning international migration from India. Therefore the Unit is interested to team up with the Government of Goa to conduct a migration research in the state of Goa. The main objective of the proposed Goa Migration Monitoring Study (GMMS) is to collect qualitative data on migration to and from the state of Goa and to analyse its pattern and impact on the social and economic situation. This study is proposed to carry out with a joint collaboration between the Centre for Development Studies (CDS) Thiruvananthapuram and the Government of Goa. A comprehensive survey will be conducted among 6,000 sample households in Goa.

Agrarian Crisis in India

K.N. Nair

Sponsor: The National Centre of Competence in Research (NCCR)

Month of commencement: March 2007

Month completion: March 2008

The objective of the present study is to carry on in-depth studies of the manifestations of the agrarian crisis in different agro-climatic and institutional contexts, with reforms and globalisation as a common framework of reference. To capture the complexity, it is useful to distinguish the two faces of the crisis, viz., 'agrarian crisis' and 'agricultural crisis.' 'Agrarian crisis' could be seen in terms of structural and institutional dimensions involving the ineffective land reform measures, growing marginalisation and failure of institutional support systems due to shift of emphasis from State initiatives to market incentives. Methodologically, deeper analysis of the structural and institutional factors need village and household level studies within the context of macro level policy changes. 'Agricultural crisis' could be differentiated in terms of performance of productivity and levels of production of different crops in different agro-climatic conditions in the pre- and post-reform periods. Methodologically, growth performance could be based on vast amount of time series and cross-section data already generated by large-scale nation-wide surveys. There are also extensive secondary sources of time series data on input availability and costs, output levels and prices, resource degradation, and reach and coverage of various technologies.

Besides macro-level analysis, it is proposed to capture the diversity of the crisis by identifying the extreme outliers like the poorest performing regions and the best performing regions. Besides trends in dominant cereals, focus will be on the crops showing fastest growth in terms of area and in terms of productivity, similar area and productivity trends of crops on the wane, and the impact on the farmers of regions in terms of adjustment.



Industry-University Interactions in India

K.J. Joseph, Vinoj Abraham and M. Parameswaran

Sponsor: International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Canada

Month of commencement: April 2007

Month of completion : April 2009

As part of a global project, covering different countries in Asia, Latin America and Africa, this project will be exploring the issue at hand by taking select industries of five states in India. The data needed for the study will be gathered through the primary survey of industrial units and universities/research laboratories. The research issues that this project intends to answer include: what is the current policy environment and the institutional arrangement for facilitating greater industry-university interface? How effective are they in terms of their declared objectives? What are the different forms and content of the existing university industry interface? How does it vary across different industries with varying scientific base and across different firms of varying size and operating in varying organisational and market structures? Is there any regional pattern in the observed interface between academia and industry? How to account for the inter-university and inter-regional variation in the observed interaction between industry and the academia? Whether the observed trends and patterns in the industry-university interface herald a revolutionary or merely an evolutionary shift in the linkage between the two? Has there been adverse or positive impact on the research capabilities of universities on account of their increased interface with the industry? What are the effects of the interface on productivity, cost-reduction, profit, export, growth and other relevant indicators of performance of firms? What has been the impact on overall regional development?

Strategies and Preparedness for Trade and Globalisation in India

K.J. Joseph

Sponsor: UNCTAD

Month of commencement: July, 2007

Month of completion : June 2009

As a partner of the UNCTAD- GOI-DFID Project on Strategies and Preparedness for Trade and Globalisation in India (SPTGI), various programmes will be undertaken with a view to address idea gaps and confronting capacity deficits being faced under the WTO regime especially by the southern States of India. The proposed activities for the year include, (i) Promoting capacity building and research by providing post-doctoral and doctoral fellowships; (ii) Training Programme/Refresher course for College/University Teachers and Researchers; (iii) International Seminar; (iv) Stakeholder Consultations and Research; (v) Open Seminar/Public Lecture; and (vi) Training Programme on Trade Database like WITS and GTAP.

Two post-doctoral fellows and one doctoral fellow were selected and they have joined the Centre. In addition, a public lecture on WTO and Indian agriculture by Prof. Biswajit Dhar, IIFT New Delhi, was organised as part of the open seminar/public lecture series. A Training Programme on Trade Database like WITS and GTAP was organised which was attended by the faculty and students of the Centre. As part of the programme, we propose to organise a training programme for college lecturers along with a series of public lectures and a national seminar.

Governance of Labour Migration in India

S. Irudaya Rajan, V.J. Varghese and M.S. Jayakumar
(Post Doctoral Fellow)

Sponsor: International Labour Organisation, New Delhi/
Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, New Delhi

Month of commencement: September 2007

Month of completion: December, 2007

The overseas recruitment system in India is seen as entrenched in corruption and exploitation. Apart from a general public perception in support of this, there is an acknowledgement in this direction from the Government of India too. In such a context, the present study attempts to unravel the working of the system along with its complex and multi-layered operations across the country. The study examines the historicity of the recruitment practices, the



legal policy frameworks governing overseas recruitment practices in India, and formal and informal recruitment processes existing in the country. It assesses the nature and the levels of corruption and exploitation in the licensed and unlicensed sectors of recruitment and so on by focusing specifically on the unskilled and semi-skilled categories of overseas labour migration. The study is conducted in eight cities that are locations of Protector of Emigrants (POE) offices and major gateways of emigration from India, in which stakeholders like intending migrants, registered recruitment agents and Protectors of Emigrants were interviewed. The emigrant households and return migrants from Kerala too are covered on a selective sample drawn from the Annual Migration Survey 2007 along with collecting selectively, information from a few emigrants at labour camps, foreign employers, foreign recruitment agents and Indian Missions at UAE, Bahrain and Qatar. The research aims at identifying the loopholes in the present system and suggesting corrective measures to revamp it for the benefit of the emigrants.

(b) INDIAN ECONOMY IN A COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE

Ongoing Research Project

The Challenge of Social Protection in Rural India and China (Part II: Comparison between India and China)

N. Vijayamohan Pillai, K.P. Kannan along with the China Coordinator, Zhang Xiaoshan, Director of RDI, Beijing, and his team.

Sponsor: Ford Foundation

Month of Commencement: January 2004

Month of Completion: September 2008

The main objective of this research programme is to develop an intellectual case for basic social security as an entitlement, more precisely, as a “right”, to the poor, excluded and vulnerable social groups and pursue the possibility of its universal coverage in China and India. In this sense, the proposed research is visualised as a demand-driven, impact-oriented and rights-based approach.

In operational terms, the main objective may be decomposed into the following sub-objectives to convey more clearly the intentions of the proposed collaborative research initiative. They are: (a) To trace the evolution of existing social security schemes and evaluate its social effectiveness; (b) To explore the possibility of modifying some components of the existing social security schemes and/or establishing new forms in such a way that the responsibilities and functions of government apparatuses, local communities, civil society organisations and individuals are clearly defined and the specific needs of those excluded and vulnerable target groups identified and prioritized; (c) To prepare an intellectual case for the provision of basic social security as a matter of public policy in low income countries for long-term development of the economy and society; and (d) To clarify the similarities and dissimilarities between China and India in terms of the historical, political, economic and socio-cultural settings under the current domestic situation and globalisation process internationally and make the comparative study useful for both China and India.

Transnationalisation, Migration and Transformation: Multi-Level Analysis of Migrant Transnationalism (TRANS-NET)

S. Irudaya Rajan and V.J. Varghese

Sponsor: European Commission

Month of Commencement: February 2008

Month of completion: February 2011

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. The Department of Anthropology, University of Sussex is involved in the project as the immediate collaborator to the Centre from UK. 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 these areas emigrate to the UK. The University of Tampere, Finland coordinates the research programme.

Embedding Poor People's Voices in Local Governance: Participation and Political Empowerment in India

D. Narayana

Sponsor: Department for International Development (DFID) and Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC)

Month of commencement: November 2007

Month of completion : November 2009

The central research question of the research programme is: To what extent do participatory initiatives within local governance enhance poor people's opportunities for political empowerment? It looks at three related aspects of empowerment — poor people's political capabilities, their political space, and their substantive citizenship. It is grounded in a comparison of West Bengal and Kerala.

This is a collaborative research programme among the Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Kolkata, University of Sheffield, UK and the Centre.

(c) STUDIES ON KERALA

Completed Research Project

Impact of Information and Communication Technology on Women's Employment in Kerala

P. Mohanan Pillai and N. Shanta

Sponsor: Department of Scientific and Industrial Research

Month of commencement: March, 2006

Month of completion: August, 2007

The study deals with the integration of gender in policies relating to information and communication technology to empower socially excluded poor women as producers of this technology. In this context, the study examines an interventionist ICT policy undertaken by Kudumbasree (an innovative women based participatory programme) to empower poor women. The central part of the investigation is a survey of Kudumbasree supported micro enterprises scattered across the States to understand the nature and characteristics of the enterprises, activity pattern and performance parameters. The analysis is divided into two parts. The first part deals with the structure and performance of women-led enterprises and the second deals with issues relating to women, work and welfare.

From the evidence gathered, we can conclude that the ICT initiatives under the umbrella of Kudumbasree have vast potential for empowering poor women. The study clearly establishes that, given the basic literacy of the State, engendering ICT for poor women is feasible, provided the right organisational support is given. Through this programme, poor women have entered the lowest of IT-enabled jobs. If this good beginning has to be sustained and poor women have to take advantage of the opportunities offered by the IT revolution, they should be helped to move to higher levels of activities with more intensive training and organisational support. There is a need for continuous upgradation of skills and capacity building particularly in the context of fast changing technology associated with the IT sector.

Kottathara Health Survey Report — 2006

Slim Haddad, Narayana D., Jean Frederic Levensque, Marta Feletto and T.R. Dilip

Sponsor: International Development Research Centre, Canada

The present survey is part of the second phase of the IDRC sponsored research project on 'Health care and basic minimum services in Kerala'. As part of this project a baseline



survey (census) covering all households in the Kottathara Panchayat was undertaken during April-June 2003. Health was also one component in this baseline survey, where determinants of reported health outcomes and burden of health care was explored. Here the self-reported health status of the poorer social groups was better than other groups. Even within the scheduled tribes, the poorest and most deprived, namely the Paniyas, (a tribe) reported low level of illness and health care utilisation than the relatively better off tribes like Kurichiyas, Kururama and Kattu Naiikams.

Subsequently, a panel survey was conducted between 1 October 2003 and 31 October 2004, in a sample of 543 households in the Panchayat to provide longitudinal data on household health risk, needs, expenditure and access to health care services. This survey, dealing with health care consumption pattern again revealed that it is the poverty status and availability of financial resources which determine the potential to report as ill and consume health care services. Health care consumption was significantly lower among the poor and most deprived, in terms of access to social services, despite being considered to be in worse health status compared to their relatively wealthier counterparts. This suggested the existence of a paradox of lower reporting of illness and morbidity among the social groups generally thought to be in worse health status. This generated the hypothesis that there exists a gap between reported and observed health status across different subgroups of the population.

The health survey, including an illness and morbidity reporting assessment along a physical examination component, was undertaken in order to document this gap between self-reported and observed health status in the population.

An Evaluation of the Progress of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan in Kerala during the First Half of 2007-08

Chinnappan Gasper

Sponsor: MHRD, New Delhi

Month of commencement: April 2007

Month of completion: September 2007

Some of the findings of the field study in four districts – Alappuzha, Ernakulam, Iddukki & Thrissur are as follows: The present method of evaluating students is continuous and comprehensive as against the traditional method of written examination at the end of the academic year. The DIET, SCERT and SSA work collectively in preparing common question paper for all standards at the district level.

Increasingly larger number of teachers is interest in action research programmes. The topics undertaken for the research very much related to the teaching learning process at the classroom. Every year one or two teachers from an Educational Block get the opportunity to do action research.

Teachers get many opportunities for training and retraining. The focus of training has to be tilted towards training the teachers in making use of the facilities available in the school like, computer, library and laboratory, teaching-learning materials for better teaching in the classrooms.

Some of the programmes like bridge courses, Earn and learn programme, Enrichment programmes, Guidance and counseling programmes, Training girls for riding bicycle, Study tours for girls and Sahavasa camps for SC and STs have attracted and motivated the students towards school education.

An Evaluation of the Progress of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan in Lakhadweep during 2007-08

Chinnappan Gasper

Sponsor : Ministry of Human Resource Development, New Delhi

Month of commencement: April 2007

Month of completion: March 2008

The literacy rate is relatively high (88 per cent) in the Union Territory (UT) according to 2001 census. The entire population in the Union Territory belongs to Scheduled Tribes (STs) and follows Muslim religion. The people of the islands are very similar to the people of Kerala. Mother tongue of most of the people in all except in one island is Malayalam. Mother tongue of people in Minicoy is Mahl.



The rate of growth of population in the Union territory has decreased substantially. The growth rate is about 17 per cent during 1991-2001 as compared to 29 per cent during 1981-1991. The declining rate of growth of population has impact on student population. The sex ratio of population in Lakshadweep has slightly improved from 943 in the previous census to 947 in 2001 census.

The study analyses the overall planning and organisation of SSA in the islands. It discusses the issues in the day-to-day functioning of the scheme in the UT. Though the UT consists of islands, there is good cooperation between the functionaries of SSA and the administrators of education in various islands. They extend full cooperation in capacity building, academic supervision, guidance, action research and monitoring SSA activities. Lakshadweep follows the school curriculum of Kerala. For tenth and Plus Two examinations, Kerala question papers are used. Thus the *State Council Educational Research and Training* (SCERT), Kerala is helping UT in school education. When the DIET is fully established in UT, it can involve more in capacity building, academic supervision, guidance, action research and monitoring of SSA in the UT.

An Evaluation of the Progress of *Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan* in Kerala during the second half of 2007-08

Chinnappan Gasper

Sponsor : Ministry of Human Resource Development, New Delhi

Month of commencement: October 2007

Month of completion: March 2008

Some of the findings of the field study in three districts – Palakkad, Malappuram and Wayanad districts are: There has been a lot of improvement in the school environment with more facilities. But there is scope for further improvement. For instance, large space around the school could be better used by developing flower or vegetable garden. The large space at the school campuses in the case of most of the schools, could also be helpful in

developing sports and games. The collections at the school library are very selective and mostly drawn from the current Malayalam literature for children. The collections range from mini encyclopedia to short stories. Libraries are not being maintained to the expected standard. Almost all UP schools have a good Science Laboratory. Teachers are to be trained and motivated to use the laboratory in the day-to-day teaching and learning.

Major civil works are executed by the Local Self Governments. The school teachers are free from the burden of executing the civil works in their schools. The local community around the school has become more aware of the activities of the school. The interaction between the community and the school has more strengthened. Parent-teacher association (PTA) and Mother-teacher association (MTA) have become very active at the schools. Representatives from the underprivileged communities do actively involve in the school level activities such as the preparation of school educational plans, PTA and MTA meetings and school resource groups.

A Study of roles and capacities of Panchayati Raj Institutions to manage the Grass-root Health System of Kerala

Udaya S. Mishra and T.R. Dilip

Sponsor: ICMR New Delhi

Month of commencement: March 2006

Month of completion : November 2007

This is the Kerala part of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) sponsored multicentric research study on role and capacity of Panchayathi Raj in managing the grassroot-level health system in India. The report is based on a triangular probing of the role of decentralised governance in improving the grassroot-level health system. It is based on the opinion and perception of the Panchayat functionaries, the local level health providers as well as the beneficiaries at the local level. While there are varying views on the central issue of commenting on the impact of decentralised governance, there is definite acceptance of the change by all the three stakeholders. This analysis



presents the findings as inferred from the three different stakeholders in different chapters. However, there are contrasts and contradictions in the views expressed by the independent stakeholders on the issue along with certain causal bearing of their individual attributes and behaviour. Further, there is conflict between the health provider and local government as regards their obligations and responsibilities. These relate to whether local government should only be a regulator or an administrator of grassroots-level health functionaries or whether health functionaries should act on the suggestion or instruction of the Panchayat-level officials.

Annual Kerala Migration Survey — 2007

K.C. Zachariah and S. Irudaya Rajan

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

Month of Commencement: January 2007 – December 2007

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

As with the earlier studies, the annual migration survey 2007 was conducted among 10,000 households selected from 200 sample panchayat/municipal wards (150 from rural panchayats and 50 municipal wards). The first part of the survey results that covered migration estimates, remittances and employment were already published as a CDS working paper and the second part of the survey results are being finalised.

Ongoing Research Projects

Annual Migration Survey-2008

K.C. Zachariah, P.R. Gopinathan Nair, V.J. Varghese, M.S. Jayakumar, Sabu Aliyar

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

Month of commencement: January 2008 – December 2008

One of the recommendations of the 1998 CDS-IDPAD Kerala Migration Study (KMS) was that the Kerala should establish a migration monitoring system to collect data on migration to and from the state and to analyse its impact on the social and economic situation on a regular basis. Now that the Centre, with financial assistance from the Ministry of Indian Overseas Affairs, (MIOA), Government of India, has established a Migration Unit, it is appropriate that this unit take up the task of monitoring of migration in the State on an annual basis. As with the earlier studies, the sample size for the proposed study would be 15,000 households, selected from 300 sample panchayat/municipal wards (231 from rural panchayats and 69 municipal wards).

Socioeconomic Impact of Neendakara Fishing Harbour

V. Santhakumar

Sponsor : Harbour Engineering Department. Government of Kerala

Month of commencement: August 2007

Month of completion : August 2008

The study carries the findings of the socio-economic impact evaluation of the Neendakara fishing harbour. The Neendakara fishing harbour was planned in 1978, started being implemented in 1982, and partially commissioned in 1988. At the planning stage, it was estimated that the project would yield a rate of return of 84 percent. The estimated benefit was mainly from a 15 per cent increase in fish catch due to the provision of harbour facilities. The economic analysis shows that, with the assumption of 15 per cent



increase in fish/crustaceans' catch after the commissioning of the project, the rate of return of the project is around 12 per cent as on 2005-06. This reduction from the expected rate of return is mainly due to the long period of around eight years of construction for partially commissioning the project. However, even this rate of return is a reasonable one for such an infrastructure project. This financial return of the harbour is also attractive. Moreover, since the marginal revenue is much higher than the marginal operating costs for the time being and is likely to be so for the immediate future, financial returns of the project is likely to increase in future. It also shows that further investment to improve the quality of harbour infrastructure would be beneficial both socially and financially, with or without increase in user charges. The survey carried out among the inhabitants in the area show that about 65 per cent have seen demonstrated benefits from harbour facilities, and around 80 per cent perceive the harbour beneficial. However, most inhabitants express the desire to improve the facilities in the harbour, especially with regard to hygiene and cleanliness.

Gendering Governance or Governing Women? Politics, Patriarchy, and Democratic Decentralisation in Kerala

S. Irudaya Rajan and J. Devika

Month of commencement: June 2006

Month of completion: June 2008

This study seeks to understand the processes through which women have been inducted into the public from the mid-1990s onwards in Kerala. Three key events are of central importance these processes: the entry of a sizeable number of women into the newly created institutions of local governance via the 33 per cent reservations; the creation of a State-wide network of self-help groups of poor women, which engages in micro-credit activities and micro-enterprises, as part of the State's anti-poverty drive; and the emergence of many struggles outside these formal institutions, in a space that may be designated the 'oppositional civil society,' in which women are a presence.

The study argues that an exclusive focus on the new panchayati raj institutions as part of the drive towards political decentralization may be inadequate to make sense of the wider processes by which women have been inducted into the public. Our methodology sought to combine anthropological methods with historical analysis, and our major sources include interviews, notes from field observation, material from public discussion, such as newspaper reports etc., official documents, manifestoes of movements, and so on. We (a) took into consideration a long-view of history — of politics, welfare, development, gender, and citizenship in Kerala in the 20th century - and (b) focused on the shifts in women's perceptions of the new opportunities, and on their understandings of politics and public presence.

Broadly, our inquiry into women's opportunities in politics and local governance alerted us to the ongoing bifurcation of local into a certain hypermoralized 'community' wherein women carry out public but highly gendered roles, and the space of local politics which continues to be monopolized by men and informed by deeply masculinist ethos. However, opportunities are emergent for women in the wake of the weakening of the central chain of command of political parties, and the rise of 'common' issues at the local level in the wake of environmental destruction and neoliberal growth. Women organized in the vast network of self-help groups who are the subject of the new responsabilized welfare now enter local governance as deeply and conventionally gendered subjects and are far from local politics. Both the consumer citizenship that these women aspire for, as well as the new forms of political subjectivity that are taking shape among women recipients of welfare pose significant challenges to established political parties. In the oppositional civil society, various struggles continue to burgeon, against the experience of violence, both from State and civil society, almost across all groups studied. While the discourse of minimum entitlements — defined from above — seems to be eroding the political resources of many groups, the human rights discourse is alive and well across all groups is unmistakable, and many groups were keenly interested in reaping the liberal promise of decentralization.



The research team is working towards a book since the report cannot do justice to the sheer diversity and richness of the fieldwork. Articles based on this research have appeared in the Malayalam press and are forthcoming in journals.

Access to Health Care and Basic Minimum Services in Kerala (Phase II) Vulnerability and Health in Wayanad, Kerala

D. Narayana and Slim Haddad along with Jean Frederic Levensque, Kata Mohindra Subrata Mukherjee,

Sponsor: International Development Research Centre, Canada

Month of commencement: March 2006

Month of completion: June 2010

This is the second phase of a research project focussing on access to basic services in the State of Kerala, India. In the first phase, cross-sectional and longitudinal surveys were conducted to document health, living and socio-economic conditions of a rural community in Northern Kerala (16,110 inhabitants). A household baseline survey covering the entire population, a panel survey and a survey of tribal colonies provided rich and detailed information on individuals, households and the context. A Geographical Information System mapping all collective resources was developed and implemented. A participatory process also allowed to support women self-help groups in developing and implementing a Community-based Health Insurance scheme. Objectives of Phase II are: (i) to consolidate scientific assets from Phase I, by exploiting to its fullest and to disseminate to a wide audience the multiple and inter-linked collected databases; (ii) to analyse, through a longitudinal process, the implementation and the outcomes of the Community Based Health Insurance as well as the impacts on health, of women's participation in micro-credit schemes; (iii) to build more evidence on health, health needs and vulnerability,

especially among the Paniya tribes; (iv) to consolidate existing partnership with the local government, network of women's self-help groups and NGOs, with overarching goals of empowering the community.

Preparation of District/Panchayat Level Human Development Reports

K. Navaneetham

Sponsor: Kerala State Planning Board

Month of commencement: June 2007

Month of completion: April 2009

As a follow-up of the Kerala Human Development Report 2005 (KHDR 2005), the Kerala State Planning Board has entrusted the task of preparing Human Development Report for Kottayam and Wayanad Districts, and Panchayat Human Development Reports for one Grama Panchayat each selected from these two districts. Kottathara from Wayanad district and Madapally Panchayats from Kottayam have been selected for the preparation of Panchayat Human Development Report. Keeping the critical concerns raised in the KHDR 2005, the District /Panchayat Human Development Report will focus on the livelihood issues, which comprises of capability, assets (both material and social resources) and activities needed for means of living. This is being addressed in the Sen's framework of capability and functioning to understand the issues at the local level. The report will focus on the key elements in understanding the issues affecting the livelihood at the household and community level such as land ownership, cropping patterns, ownership of assets other than land, consumption pattern, living condition and various activities as a means of living including animal husbandry. Further, the report will focus on how the policies, institutions and processes that are intermediating each other to facilitate in access to assets and in reducing vulnerabilities.

ACADEMIC TRAINING PROGRAMMES

(a) DOCTORAL PROGRAMME IN ECONOMICS

The Doctoral Programme in Economics at CDS offers registration under either the Jawaharlal Nehru University or the University of Kerala. The Programme has a strong orientation towards development studies with a core economics component. The studies cover areas such as agrarian change and transformation, economic history, health, socio-economic security, industry, labour, gender, population studies, environmental economics, macro-economic issues, technology and trade. Launched in 1975, 49 scholars have so far been awarded the PhD Degree: 40 by JNU and 9 by University of Kerala.

Programme management aims to help scholars to complete the theses by the end of fellowship tenure. A mentor group of faculty, with research interests in related areas of the scholar's research topic, oversee the reworking of the study proposal. The study topics are then finalised by the end of the first semester, after a colloquium. The study topics are then approved and supervisors assigned, based on the assessment by the mentor panel on the viability of the study. The registration / fellowship is granted per semester. The progress of studies will be reviewed each semester by a Doctoral Committee chaired by the Supervisor. Further, the confirmation of registration requires a minimum of one reviewed paper, adjunct to the PhD study, to be completed before the fifth semester. A scholar leaving the Programme, should have obtained confirmation of registration to have the option of re-registration to submit the thesis later on. Registration at CDS will cease at the end of six years.

Scholars are provided financial assistance for presenting research outputs at major conferences and seminars in India. Faculty participation in various international research initiatives, do help the scholars with venues of interaction with academia abroad.



Fellowships: While UGC JRF can be availed of at CDS, financial support for Doctoral studies at CDS is mainly through the ICSSR Institutional Doctoral Fellowships with a tenure of three years. The latter's emoluments compares poorly with the 5-year UGC JRF. CDS has taken up the issue with the Council for an early rationalization on tenure as well as emoluments. Teachers from colleges/universities can opt for the two year schme of the ICSSR with salary protection.

Admission ceiling: The programme offers admission to a limited number of scholars, subject to availability of fellowships. Ordinarily only candidates with prior training through MPhil will be considered. Those without an MPhil will be considered only in very exceptional cases if having proven research experience and good publications.

2007 Admission: Twenty five candidates were shortlisted for interview from the 46 applications, based on their score for academic record and the quality of research proposal. The *Admission Committee* included the *Director, Academic Staff College, University of Kerala* as ICSSR's nominee. Six candidates were offered admission: one with UGC's RGNF and 5 with ICSSR Fellowship. All the six have joined the Programme on August 01, 2007.

Progress of current Scholars

There are twenty three scholars currently on active rolls. The recently introduced structured review schemes and the conformation procedure are expected to show positive results in timely completion of PhD studies. It is expected that eight scholars – out of the twenty eight, who have de-registered to take up employment, - will be able to complete their studies in the coming two years.

Prabhakaran Nair, who joined in 2001, submitted his thesis on 'Financial Liberalisation, Capital Structure and Investment: A study of Indian Private Corporate Manufacturing Sector'. The study was supervised by Professors N. Shanta and K. Pushpangadan. Prabhakaran had left the Programme in 2005 to take up a teaching position with the University of Kerala. He is currently a Lecturer with SD College, Alleppey.

The year also saw two scholars of 2004 batch de-registering in June 2007 to take up empuement; Priyajit Samaiyar with CARE International Cambodia, and Sunitha A.S. with TKM Engineering College, Kollam, Kerala.

The studies of scholars on the Rolls as on March 31, 2008 are listed below.

1. *Understanding 'Crises' in a Traditional Industry: The Case of Coir in Kerala*
Indu K., 2002–07, NCCR Swiss Foundation Fellowship
Supervisors: K. Narayanan Nair & Achin Chakraborty
2. *Industrialising a Traditional Knowledge System: Transition in the Case of Indian Traditional Medicine*
Harilal M.S., 2004 –08, ICSSR Fellowship
Supervisor: P. Mohanan Pillai
3. *Competitiveness of Indian Steel Industry*
Subramanian T.K., 2004 –08, ICSSR Fellowship
Supervisor: Sunil Mani
4. *Punjab's Unorganised Industry: A Study in a Comparative Perspective*
Varinder Jain, 2004 –08, ICSSR Fellowship
Supervisors: K.P. Kannan & N. Vijayamohanan Pillai
5. *Higher Education and Employment of Women*
Alice Sebastian, 2005–, ICSSR Fellowship
Supervisors: K. Navaneetham & P.R.G. Nair
6. *Impact of Food Safety Standards on India's Agricultural Export: A Case Study of Shrimp Sector in Kerala*
Jayasekhar S, 2005–, Study leave ICAR
Supervisors: K.N. Harilal & K.J. Joseph
7. *Labour Market Implications of Growth of IT Sector in India:*
Nadhanael G. V., 2005 –, ICSSR Fellowship
Supervisors: K. J. Joseph & K.N. Harilal



8. *Internal Migration in India*
Remya Prabha G., 2005–, ICSSR Fellowship
Supervisors: S. Irudaya Rajan & P.R.G. Nair
9. *Deprivation and Vulnerability in the Later Life in Kerala*
Syam Prasad, 2005–, ICSSR Fellowship
Supervisors: S. Irudaya Rajan & U.S. Mishra
10. *An Enquiry into the Productive and Environmental Efficiency of Indian Mining Industry*
Amarendra Das, 2006–, ICSSR Fellowship
Supervisors: V. Santhakumar & M. Parameswaran
11. *Cross-border Mergers and Acquisitions in India: An Exploratory Study*
Beena S., 2006–, ICSSR Fellowship
Supervisors: P. Mohanan Pillai & P.L. Beena
12. *Schooling Experiences of Dalits and Adivasis in Kerala*
Binu Roshni, 2006–, GoK SC Fellowship
Supervisors: P.R. Gopinathan Nair & J. Devika
13. *Contract Farming in India: An Economic Analysis*
Braja Bandhu Swain, 2006–, ICSSR Fellowship
Supervisors: K.J. Joseph. & V. Santhakumar
14. *Mobility, Migrancy and Globalisation: City–Spaces in Kerala*
Mythri Prasad, 2006–, ICSSR Fellowship
Supervisors: K.N. Harilal & Praveena Kodoth
15. *Health and Long–term Care for the Aged*
Sreerupa, 2006–, ICSSR Fellowship
Supervisors: S. Irudaya Rajan & Praveena Kodoth
16. *Subnational Adjustment Lending: A Study of Recipient States in India*
Suja Jananardhan, 2006–, ICSSR Fellowship
Supervisors: K. Pushpangadan & K.K. Subrahmanian
17. *Changing Work Pattern of Tribal Women in Attappady*
Vijaya K.M. , 2006–, GoK ST Fellowship
Supervisor: V. Santhakumar
18. *Issues in Health Inequality: An Application in Indian Context.*
William Joe, 2006–, UGC JRF
Supervisors: U.S. Mishra & K. Navaneetham
19. *Macro-economic Impact of Financial Liberalization in India.*
Gargi Sanati, 2007–, ICSSR
Supervisors: N. Vijayamohanan Pillai & Lekha Chakraborty
20. *Globalisation and Organised Informal Labour Markets: A Study of Kerala’s Industrial Workers*
Neethi P., 2007–, ICSSR
Supervisors: K.N. Harilal & M. Parameswaran
21. *Crop Diversification, Contractual Arrangements and Globalization: An Empirical Study for Jammu & Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh*
Rajeev Sharma, 2007–, ICSSR
Supervisors: K. Narayanan Nair & Chandan Mukherjee
22. *Shift in Government Role and need of Private loans: The Case of Higher Education Sector in Kerala.*
Saritha S., 2007–, ICSSR
Supervisors:
23. *Impact of Disposal Efficiency and Pendency on the Economic Performance: An Empirical Analysis of the Indian States.*
Siddik R., 2007–, ICSSR
Supervisors:
24. *The Nature and Characteristics of Seasonal Migration: A Study of Mahabubnagar District in Andhra Pradesh*
Vijay Korra, 2007–, UGC RGNF
Supervisors: S. Irudaya Rajan & U.S. Mishra



(b) MPhil PROGRAMME IN ECONOMICS

The CDS has been offering its MPhil Programme in Applied Economics from 1975. The four semester Programme is affiliated to the Jawaharlal Nehru University, and allows students from any discipline with a Master's degree. The focus on applied economics from a plural perspective and adaptation of effective learning tools adds to the uniqueness of the programme. Over the past three decades, the programme has attracted nation-wide attention. Two hundred and ninety five students from the thirty one batches till 2005–07 have been awarded the MPhil Degree. The dissertations of the 2005–07 batch, who were awarded the degree this year, are summarised at the end of this section.

Of the 14 students of the 2006–08 batch, two had discontinued; one due to health reasons and another to take up a teaching position. Twelve dissertation studies are progressing well for submission in June 2008.

For the 2007–09 Programme, the 33rd batch, 170 applications were received. After a review based on their scores for academic record and research proposal, 67 candidates were short-listed for interview. From the 56 who appeared for interview, 17 were offered admission; 13 from the general category, three from reservation categories and a UK national. The programme commenced on July 30, 2007. 10 of the 17 joined the Programme and they have been granted confirmation of admission after satisfactory performance in the *Foundation Courses*. Their field study under the *Research Methodology* course was on a survey on mobile phone usage in Trivandrum District based on a convenient sampling in Trivandrum city. The study examined the consumer behaviour and choices on the mobile phone service providers; its linkage with pricing and facilities.

The teaching assignments were handled by the CDS faculty with inputs from Professor Pulapre Balakrishnan for Module #202: *Macroeconomics* and Dr. Pinaki Chakraborty for 404 *Issues in Public Finance*. The following eminent scholars delivered special lectures

Professor Amit Bhaduri on *Macroeconomics* (August 07)
 Professor Mihir Rakshit on *Indian Macroeconomy* (November 07)
 Professor Amitabh Kundu on *Regional Development* (January 08)
 Sri. Raman Mahadevan on *Indian Economic History* (March 08)
 Professor K.L. Krishna on *Productivity Analysis and Inter-State Disparities in Development in India* (April 08)

A one-week workshop was arranged for the students on *Effective Writing* led by Mrs. Kamini Mahadevan, *consultant editor*, Penguin India, Chennai. (January 08)

JNU Committee of Direction for MPhil/PhD Programmes at CDS: Professors Jayati Ghosh (CESP) and Manoj Pant (CITD) are the new nominees in place of Professors Anjan Mukherjee (CESP) and Amit S. Ray (CITD), who have completed their term of two years. The annual meeting of the Committee was held on November 21, 2007.

DISSERTATIONS OF MPhil PROGRAMME 2005 – 07

Exchange Rate Pass-Through Relationship In India : The Case of an Emerging Market Economy

by Alex Philip

Supervisors: K. Pushpangadan & N. Shanta

Variation in the exchange rate, the most important asset price in an open economy, is a key concern for policy makers. Understanding of the degree of pass-through or the extent to which exchange rate variations are transmitted to destination country prices of traded goods is crucial for ascertaining the extent of international transmission of macroeconomic shocks, the persistence of current account imbalances, and the benefits of international policy coordination. Literature pertaining to exchange rate pass-through for both small and large countries flourished in the last decade, but there were only very few studies in the context of an emerging market economy. This study aims to fill in the gap by examining the exchange rate pass-through relationship in India for a wide range of products, and also attempting to understand the impact of market concentration



on the degree of pass-through. Using multivariate regression analysis for the period 1993-2004, the study first estimates the exchange rate pass-through elasticity for 39 product groups, and then goes on to directly estimate the impact of market concentration on the degree of pass-through using an interaction term as an explanatory variable obtained by multiplying the industry-specific exchange rate with the corresponding Hirfindahl Index of Concentration for 12 product groups. Databases include the Handbook of Statistics, PROWESS database provided by CMIE and the Office of the Economic Advisor.

The study finds that the pass-through relationship is significant for 24 out of 39 product groups. The pass-through elasticity varies across industries, with some product groups violating the theoretical prediction that the degree of pass-through value must lie between zero and one. These results are no longer surprising when India's status as an emerging market economy is considered, as a large domestic demand definitely encourages the foreign firms competing with domestic producers to more than offset the depreciation of the Indian rupee for gaining market share by adjusting their mark-up in their own (foreign) currency. This could lead to an inverse relationship between prices of imports in Indian rupees and the movement of the exchange rate, resulting in a negative value for the pass-through coefficient. Similarly, the 'greater than one' elasticity could materialise given India's 'small country' status and the presence of product specific factors like the supply-determined nature of price for certain commodities. The study also reveals that market concentration is significant in lowering the degree of pass-through in an emergent market economy despite its 'small country' status.

Analysing the contribution of Technical Education to India's Core-HRST (Human Resource in Science and Technology): A Case Study of IIT Madras

by Anant Kamath

Supervisor: Sunil Mani

India's standing in Core-HRST and Research & Development labour force is disparagingly low, in spite of the existence of a

large supply of S&T graduates (or HRST-E) and the presence of high quality educational institutions like the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT). Highly skilled Science and Technology (S&T) -qualified students are migrating to non-S&T disciplines and careers. This phenomenon becomes all the more important in the context of the future of India's innovative capabilities and its aim of becoming a 'knowledge economy,' and can be interpreted as the result of 'institutional discordance' between the technical education system and the other entities in the Innovation System.

Despite the acknowledgment of its existence and the ubiquitous nature of this trend across developing countries, research on technical education establishments is scarce. With the existing institutional discordance as its cornerstone, this dissertation analyses the contribution of the technical education system in building India's Core-HRST stock.

The discordance is studied taking the special case study of one institution – IIT Madras, where graduates have been moving out of the innovation system, with a preference for non-S&T professions. Using qualitative information collected through primary surveys, this study does a ground-level exploration on how and why such preferences have developed, in the context of the implications they could have on the future of our innovation. The survey was undertaken among almost all faculty members and a sample of undergraduate students. Student perceptions with regard to choosing R&D and Core-Engineering as a line of work over more 'attractive' alternatives, the push- and pull-factors in and around their environment that tend to move fellow graduates away from R&D and Core-Engineering related professions, etc., were explored. The survey revealed that an interaction mechanism among economic, non-economic and institutional factors has a tremendous influence over their choice of placement offer at IIT and in the long run their choice of profession.

With the backdrop of institutional discordance within India's innovation system, using the case study of one prominent institution, this study aims at analysing whether technical education in India has really contributed to building India's Core-HRST Stock.



Cross-Border Migration In Developing Countries : A Case of Bangladeshi Migration to India

by Jyoti Parimal Sarkar

Supervisors: S. Irudaya Rajan & P.R. Gopinathan Nair

Since the partition of Bengal in 1947, India has experienced a massive flow of Bangladeshi migrants, especially to the border States of West Bengal, Assam and Tripura, a trend encouraged by the similar geographical, socio-cultural, racial and linguistic linkages. The migration from Bangladesh to India is not a unique phenomenon, as refugees have also come in from other countries such as Sri Lanka, China (Tibet region), Myanmar, Bhutan and Afghanistan. However, in the recent past, the inflow from Bangladesh has received special attention, as it has become a continuous one-way process and because its intensity varies with the changing socio-economic, political or ecological conditions in Bangladesh.

The study seeks to examine the problems of Bangladeshi migration not only from the political and social angles but also from the point of view of its burden on the economic conditions in West Bengal. The study tries to identify the 'push' factors such as riots, wars, religious oppression, etc., as well as the 'pull' factors like government policy, ethnicity, kinship, etc., which have spurred migration from Bangladesh. An attempt is also made to examine the impact of Bangladeshi migration on the socio-economic, cultural and political scenario in West Bengal, the socio-political problems faced by the migrants and the role of the Government in the settlement of immigrants. The nature, pattern, magnitude and dimensions of this cross-border migration are examined in the light of the theories on international migration.

The economic status of the migrants in their present place of residence (PPR) in comparison with that of their last place of residence (LPR) in Bangladesh (i.e., before migration) is analysed on the basis of data collected through field survey on sources of income and levels of income, wage levels, and discriminations, if any, in wage levels against immigrants. Primary data was collected through a limited sample survey

by canvassing an Interview Schedule in four districts of West Bengal. The survey covered 100 households scattered in four districts, viz., Burdwan, Hooghly, Nadia and North 24-Parganas. A few case studies of the migrants have been also been carried out giving information on the main destination of the migrants, their activities and their entry into the job market. Besides, an attempt has been made to find out why and how they migrated. Various hypotheses on migration like Social Network or Kin-Friendship Network, Economic Opportunities, Pull-Push factors; Cumulative Causation, etc., are verified on the basis of primary data. As most of the data collected are qualitative in nature, tabulations are the main statistical tools used for the analysis. While partition, riots, war, famine and religious oppression are the main push factors, it is the 'social network' theory that has been proved to be particularly strong in the case of Bangladeshi migration and settlement in India.

Globalisation And Labour Market Flexibility: A Study of India's Manufacturing Sector

by Neethi P.

Supervisors: K. J. Joseph & Vinoy Abraham

Though globalisation has had a long history, in recent years there has been an unprecedented acceleration in its pace, marked by an increasing international division of labour leading to globally integrated production chains, changing industrial organisation, and investment flows, wherein the key to survival is international competitiveness. In this context, low labour cost and flexibility in labour use, inter alia, has become a key source of competitive advantage for firms. Moreover, location decisions of international investors are increasingly guided by the availability of cheap labour and the scope for informal employment arrangements, leading several countries to attempt to liberalise their labour markets so as to make them more investment and employment-friendly. In this regard India has not been an exception. The present study examines labour market flexibility in the case of contract workers in India's manufacturing sector.



In the context of the steps taken to improve Indian labour market flexibility, this study begins with an examination of the trends and patterns in manufacturing employment under globalisation. Against the backdrop of the finding of jobless growth in a period of creeping labour market reform, the study further analyses the increasing flexibility in India's labour market by taking the incidence of contract labour as a surrogate for informalisation.

The study looks into the regional trends and patterns of employment in general and contractualisation in particular. First, the study shows that there are wide interregional as well as inter-industry variations in contractualisation. Analysis of inter-industry contractualisation patterns at the national level reveals an increasing duality (permanent and non-permanent) in India's organised manufacturing sector. During the last decade, there has been a tenfold increase in the number of contract workers and their share in total workers almost doubled from 13.2 per cent in 1995-96 to 25 per cent in 2003-04. The disaggregated analysis at three-digit level indicates that though the intensity of contractualisation had inter-industry variations, its level has risen in almost all the industries over the years. Within each state, contractualisation is spreading across the industries, rather than being concentrated in some industrial pockets.

The study extends the analysis to explore the determinants of contract work intensity using panel data estimation techniques. The analysis supports the hypothesis that manufacturing sector is resorting to labour cost-reducing strategies, while there is no evidence to support the argument that contract work is a strategy to reduce the labour market rigidity.

An Analysis of Foreign Portfolio Flows in the Context of Capital Account Convertibility in India

by Nirmal Roy V.P.

Supervisors: K.N. Harilal & Hrushikesh Mallick

Until 1991, India's international capital inflows and outflows were restricted by administrative controls or outright prohibition on the purchase of foreign assets by residents, direct investment by foreigners, and private

external borrowing. This inward-looking financial system had hampered the country's financial development. Reforms in the financial sector were initiated as a response to the balance of payments crisis of 1991 and the restrictions on inward capital flows and on currency convertibility for current account transactions were gradually relaxed. Although a complete capital account liberalisation strategy seemed absent, reforms in the investment and exchange rate scenario included permitting foreign direct investment and portfolio investment flows into the equity markets.

This study is set in the backdrop of the debate on capital account convertibility. In 1997, the Tarapore Committee's report detailed a comprehensive roadmap towards capital account convertibility, setting several preconditions for implementation like maintaining a reduced fiscal deficit, moderate inflation and reduction in cash reserve ratio and non-performing assets within three years. The implementation of the recommendations was, however, delayed by the Asian financial crisis. Though these preconditions are still raw, the spectacular growth of reserves and the economy in general, considered by many as crucial for the successful opening up of the capital account, has renewed the debate for full capital convertibility. However, this has to be seen in the Indian context of capital account dominated by the relatively short-term component, the portfolio flows. Preliminary analysis reveals that foreign portfolio flows constitute relatively a larger share among the net capital flows and that they are volatile. Within this component, foreign institutional investment to the equity markets constitutes the lion's share and the majority of investment is from the USA.

For measuring the extent of 'openness' of the Indian economy 'potentially' or 'de jure,' the study calculated an openness index using Quinn's methodology of coding the liberalisation measures pertaining only to the portfolio flows, between zero and one – 'zero' denoting fully closed and 'one' denoting no restrictions. The present value of this index is about 0.870, indicating that our economy has liberalised most of the restrictions against foreign portfolio flows. The



remaining restrictions pertain to the limits and ceilings of the flows.

The study holds it essential to understand the basic motives underlying financial flows before liberalising them, and attempts an empirical analysis to identify whether the foreign portfolio flows to India are motivated by capital gains or income gains. The regression analysis uses net foreign portfolio flows as the dependent variable and the stock price change, exchange rate change of rupee in terms of US dollar and real interest rate differential as the independent variables. Foreign portfolio flows to India are seen to be driven primarily by the capital gains motive and change in stock prices. Before this analysis, econometric methodology confirmed the long-lasting relationship between the variables and causality checks revealed that stock prices cause the net foreign portfolio flows and not vice versa.

Linkage Between Internal Migration And Regional Development: A Case of India

by Prabhat Kumar

Supervisors: U.S. Mishra & S. Irudaya Rajan

The dissertation has the broad objective of enquiring into the nature of inter-State migration in India. The disparities in development are related with inter-State migration in India. A detailed review of relevant literature on regional disparities and internal migration in developing countries is undertaken to arrive at a research question. This has thrown up the question as to whether internal migration and inter-State disparities are related phenomena. Disparity is calculated first in terms of per capita income and then in terms of a development index. A composite development index was calculated based on fourteen socio-economic indicators. Ranking of States according to the volume of migration is followed by ranking based on volume of economic migration (male migration) and an attempt has been made to establish a relationship between ranks based on migration and ranking of the States based on income and their development index. While the conventional indicators of disparities like income are supplemented with ranking based on development index.

Likewise, the migration rates of States are supported with male migration rate and the relationship is then explored with an expectation of obtaining a more favourable result than what has been established with income and migration. The dissertation is an attempt to explore the relationship between internal migration and regional disparities in India. The foremost finding is that both regional disparities and inter-State migration have increased over the period of the study. The pattern of migration in the form of sex ratio and rural-urban ratio are different for the developed States and the backward States. While the Net Migration Rate and Inter-State disparities are found to be related phenomena, the Net Male Migration Rate is more closely associated with the inter-State disparities. At the end it is necessary to make it clear that while these are found to be related phenomena, the cause-effect relationship between them remains to be explored.

Product Market Competition and R&D: A Firm Level Study of Indian Manufacturing Industry

by G. Prabhu Dass

Supervisors: Sunil Mani & M. Parameswaran

Technological progress is considered as the engine of long run economic growth and an important source of competitiveness of firms. Therefore, in the modern world, policy measures encourage investment for generating technological progress. Investment in R&D, particularly by manufacturing firms, is one of the important sources of technological progress. Several studies examine the determinants of firms' R&D investment decisions and among these, the impact of the market structure is a highly debated issue. From our review of theoretical and empirical literature, it is not clear whether or not a competitive market structure promotes R&D investment by firms. However, the recent changes in the policy regime in developing countries, particularly in India, try to increase the competitive pressure on domestic industry in order to speed up technological progress. This study examines the impact of product market



competition on decisions to invest in R&D by firms in the Indian manufacturing industry.

Our analysis shows that while government spending on R&D has come down, there has been a substantial increase in the amount and intensity of private sector R&D spending in the post-reform period. Using the Lerner index, we examined the extent of product market competition. The findings suggest that for majority of the industry groups, competition rose marginally, though a few industries recorded substantial changes in competition over time since 1991, which can be attributed to liberal policies of the Government. For some industries, the degree of market power remains unchanged. Hence, in all, it can be said that the measures introduced to encourage competition have succeeded to some extent.

We used econometric methodology and firm level panel data for the period 1995-2004 for analysing the impact of product market competition on R&D and using a Probit regression, examined the effect of competition on the probability of firms investing in R&D. For capturing the technological opportunity and appropriability conditions, we used the Pavitt Sectoral classification of industries and estimated the R&D determinants for each sector separately, viz., 1) Supplier-dominated 2) Scale-intensive 3) Specialised Suppliers and, 4) Science-based. We found that as the value of the Lerner index increased, the probability of R&D investment also increased; but after a certain level, it decreased in three of the sectors: Supplier-dominated, Scale-intensive and Science-based. There was no significant result for the Specialised Suppliers sector. The inverted U-shaped relationship found between product market competition and R&D is in tandem with the new theoretical argument that too little and too much competition is not conducive to firms' innovation efforts. Therefore, the study finds that the Schumpeterian hypothesis that a monopoly market structure is conducive for innovation is not relevant in the Indian manufacturing sector.

Agricultural Development and Crop Diversification in Jammu and Kashmir : A District Level Study to Understand the Patterns, Processes and Determinants

by Rajeev Sharma

Supervisor: K. Narayanan Nair

The concept of crop diversification conveys different meaning to different people at different levels. Crop diversification means, a shift of resources from farm to non-farm activities, use of resources in a larger mix of diverse and complementary activities within agriculture, and a movement of resources from low value crops to high value crops. The agricultural development in the mountainous regions is circumscribed by mountain specificities, namely; inaccessibility, marginality, fragility, niche and human adaptation mechanism created by unique vertical dimensions that distinguish them from the plains and other eco-systems. So, in the case of Jammu & Kashmir, despite knowledge and techniques of land-use management available at present, there are limited possibilities of raising agricultural output by increasing the area of cultivation without disturbing the ecological balance. Increase in the agricultural output would, therefore, have to be achieved only through intensification and diversification of agriculture and rational land use. A number of studies from India and abroad have shown that the agriculture in the mountains faces serious problems of dwindling crop yields and resource degradation which may be aggravated further if remedial measures are not undertaken immediately. Against this background, the objective of the present study is of three-fold: first, to study the trends in the cropping pattern of different crops in Jammu and Kashmir at the district level; second, to study the patterns and processes of agricultural development and crop diversification in different districts and finally, to examine the determinants of agricultural development and crop diversification and draw important lessons for effective policy framework. These proposed objectives of the study would be undertaken using secondary data and applying appropriate statistical tools for empirical estimation. The significance of



the study lies in drawing important lessons for the welfare of the farmers and for effective policy framework, thereby improving the economy of the State.

Trade Liberalisation, Competitiveness And Export Performance: A study of Machine Tool Industry in India

by Rijesh R.

Supervisors: P. Mohanan Pillai & M. Parameswaran

Though there are divergent arguments on the possible effect of trade liberalisation, particularly in the developing countries, its expected benefits include (1) higher production efficiency due to increased competitive pressure, (2) increase in the scale efficiency due to expansion in markets, (3) technological progress arising from various kinds of learning, and (4) greater export performance due to reduction in incentive distortion. However, it has been pointed out that many of these beneficial effects are contingent on the factors specific to the domestic economy.

The declared objective of the trade liberalisation policy is to increase the efficiency and international competitiveness of the Indian manufacturing industry. The machine tool industry is considered to be a strategic one with the potential to significantly influence the overall health of the capital good industry and also the whole manufacturing industry. The study tries to: (i) examine the trend and composition of machine tool production and trade, (ii) assess the export competitiveness of the machine tool industry in the post-liberalisation period, and (iii) identify the determinants of machine tool export.

The study shows that during the post-liberalisation period, the production of machine tools increased, and that the industry diversified its production structure and introduced advanced CNC machines. However, the growth performance of the capital good industry, a major user of machine tools, has shown a diverging trend since liberalisation. There has been a noticeable upward trend in machine tool export since the late 1990s, which was almost absent in the earlier

period. Further, machine tool export has changed destination towards OECD countries. Although these are significant developments, the composition of machine tool export reveals that India is specialising in low- to medium-technology intensive products. Analysis of export competitiveness using market share movements reveals that the exports have remained uncompetitive throughout 1980-2003, but during the last few years, the disadvantage is declining. In the analysis of the determinants of machine tool export for the period 1980-2005, we considered demand and supply factors were considered. The econometric methodology was adopted and used three-stage least square to accommodate the two-way relationship between price and quantity. The results show that a significant determinant on the demand side is world demand and on the supply side, skilled labour force. Hence, in order to improve and sustain the export market, the industry has to improve its supply capability by upgrading technological competence.

The Economics of Health Care: An Assessment of Health Care Financing by Households

by Shalini Rudra

Supervisors: U.S. Mishra & T.R. Dilip

Health sector reforms have marked a significant policy shift in the development of the health systems in India. The World Bank, a proponent of these reforms, aims at maintaining efficiency despite cutting of the subsidies swathe through the structural adjustment programmes in the developing nations. However, in practice, the positive benefits envisaged through the market-friendly reforms did not materialise and were overshadowed by the increased costs and inequitable distribution of health services.

Health care payments amidst increasing costs, severely constrain an individual's or household's welfare, mainly by squeezing the expenditure share on consumption. These payments become catastrophic when a household, forced by an episode of illness, resorts to distress selling of assets or borrowing. The study is motivated by the worrisome



distribution of health expenditure that households bear in proportion to their financing sources, attempts to understand the dimensions of the problem across different states in India and measures the inequality in making payments to health services among various groups in the population using the data of the Health and Morbidity Survey, National Sample Survey Round 60. This exercise ought to be seen as an assessment of 'equity in health care payments' which has an inbuilt component of 'equity in health care utilisation'. This study uses a measure of Fairness in Financial Contribution, which shares a common concern of protecting households from incurring excessive financial losses due to ill health. In addition, it helps comprehend the vertical and horizontal distribution of the impoverishment due to health payments.

The study finds that the low-income households are constrained to spend twice the share of income for health care compared to high-income households and that the direct out-of-pocket spending is particularly regressive. It also reveals that expenditure on drugs form the largest share of the annual household health expenses with diagnostics being the second largest component. All the Indian States represent almost similar levels of contribution to the health system, proportional to the capacity to pay. At the same time, the states' health systems are irresponsive to the capacity to pay, though the percentage of households incurring catastrophic payments differs in all the States. To conclude, this study argues for health coverage to be extended to all sections of the society, particularly to the poor.

Small Scale Industry in Kerala: An Analysis of Technical Efficiency in the Post Reform Period

by Sreepriya S.

Supervisors: P. Mohanan Pillai & P.L. Beena

The small-scale industries (SSIs) of Kerala contribute a significant share in employment generation, production and number of units in the manufacturing industries when compared to the large-scale sector. This shows the relative

importance of the rapidly growing small-scale sector in Kerala. However, the growth of the SSIs in the State is restricted by the capital and technological constraints. The sustainability of the SSI sector in particular and the industrial sector as a whole depends on its efficient performance. This becomes more important in the context of liberalisation. In this background, the present study attempts to analyse the technical efficiency of the SSIs in the reform period to identify the industry groups that are working efficiently and the factors that are contributing to the growth of those industries. The study tries to compare the structural transformation that took place in Kerala's SSIs in terms of, (i) product pattern, employment, investment, production and export performance with all-India pattern in the pre-and post-reform period; and ii) analyse technical efficiency of the registered and unregistered small-scale industry groups in Kerala in the liberalisation context.

The major data sources used in the study are Census Report of Small-scale Units, 1972-73, 1987-88 and 2002-02 (DCSSI), data of the SSIs registered under the Directorate of Industries and NSSO Report of Unorganised Manufacturing Sector in India (56th Round, 2000-01). The technical efficiency of SSIs across industries have been analysed using the Data Envelopment Analysis (DEA). The factors determining the technical efficiency of industries have been estimated using Tobit regression analysis. The variables such as number of units, fixed investment and output showed growth in the post-reform period, but the employment generation showed a declining trend both at the all-India level and in Kerala. The technical efficiency of 17 major SSIs showed that in the registered sector, the chemicals and chemical products industry was relatively more efficient. In the unorganised sector, communication and equipment, medical, optical instruments, watches and clocks and manufacture of textiles industries were found to be efficient. The Tobit regression analysis showed that variables like subcontracting and size of the firms have a positive effect on the technical efficiency of the unorganised manufacturing enterprises. The variables like inadequacy of raw materials and powercut were found to be negatively significant.



Structure, Competition and Performance of Indian Mutual Funds in The Context of Financial Liberalization

by Sumalatha B.S.

Supervisors: K. Pushpangadan & N. Shanta

The basic purpose of reforms in the Indian financial sector was to enhance the mobilisation of resources by opening up the economy to the rest of the world. This necessitated the existence of financial institutions which could tap the vast potential of domestic savings and channelise them for profitable investments. In this regard, mutual funds can play a crucial role in mobilising small savings and investing them in the capital market, thus establishing a link between the savings and investment markets. With liberalisation, mutual fund structure changed in that it opened for the private participation and expanded in number, schemes and resource mobilisation. In this scenario, the study seeks to analyse the structure, competition and performance of these funds.

The study provides an overview of financial sector reforms and its impact on the changes in the structure and growth of and competition among mutual funds in India in the context of the increasing participation of private and foreign mutual funds. The competition element is analysed using Baumol and Grossack's methodology. The Herfindahl index and rank correlation are used to estimate the competition and the changes in the ranks of market shares of funds respectively. Regarding the nature of competition among large and small firms, the major finding is that the concentration has declined and competition has increased in the mutual fund industry. The sector-wise analysis shows that while competition is moderate among public, private and foreign sectors, within-sectors competition is high in the public and foreign sectors and it has declined in the private sector.

Understanding the performance of mutual funds becomes essential in this context of increasing competition. Selecting few funds and schemes, the study tries to examine performance by analysing the risk and return in the context

of portfolio theory using various performance indicators. The results show that the majority of the schemes come under the category of high return with low risk and that they have return higher than the average return of total schemes, with a risk higher than average risk of total schemes. Performance indicators like the Sharpe ratio and Treynor ratio show that only few schemes outperform compared to the market portfolio. The Jensen measure of risk-adjusted return indicates that the average returns of all the selected schemes are less than the market return. However, scheme risk is low compared to market risk. The capital asset pricing model assumes that schemes with high risk provide high return and schemes with low risk provide low return. In the model, of 16 selected schemes, only three keep this one-to-one correspondence. The estimation of differential return shows that, out of 16 schemes only two schemes provide a return higher than expected. Both these schemes are in the public sector where competition has increased. This shows that increased competition among the funds could not provide better performance of all schemes in terms of return, and out of 16 schemes, only three provide scheme portfolio return higher than market portfolio return. However, where competition is high as in the public sector, the majority of schemes are doing well. In short, high competition among the funds in general is not reflected in the performance of schemes.

(c) SHORT TERM TRAINING PROGRAMMES

Teaching Innovations Programme in Economics (TIPE) for College Teachers in Kerala

The second version of the TIPE was offered during June 11 through July 6. The thoroughly revamped and revised version attracted over twenty participants-lecturers from various colleges in Kerala. The programme is now recognized by the Department of Higher Education, Government of Kerala and the participants are entitled to duty leave for the entire duration of the programme. Like in the first version, there were four modules of five working days each dealing with Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, Econometrics and



Selected topics in the Indian economy. Greater emphasis was placed this year on the pedagogic aspects so that the topics are introduced in an interesting and challenging manner to students of especially undergraduate courses in Economics. The first three modules adopted a text book approach, in which the resource person-in-charge adopted a modern and state-of-the-art textbook and anchored her/his teaching based on that book. The fourth module on the Indian economy focused more on journal articles and primary data sources to analyse the growth performance of India's economy. One of the highlights of this module was introduction of the participants to a very large database on the Indian economy devised by the Reserve Bank of India. The resource persons consisted of a mix of internal faculty and selected invited faculty from well-known research and teaching institutions in the country. They were Sunil Mani (CDS), K. Pushpanagadan (CDS), H. Mallick (CDS), Prof. Soumyen Sikdar (University of Calcutta), Prof. M.H. Suryanarayana (IGIDR), Prof. K.L. Krishna (Delhi School of Economics), and Mr Anil Kumar Sharma (Reserve Bank of India). Dr Jebamalai Vinanchiarachi (Principal Adviser to the Director General of UNIDO) gave a special lecture on new issues for research in industrial development, introducing participants to a variety of data sources on the subject. Dr Vinanchiarachi's biography was itself a source of inspiration to the participants; starting his career as a lecturer in India, he worked his way up to the top in an international organization. Sunil Mani, CDS, co-ordinated the programme assisted by M. Parameswaran, CDS.

Short-term Training Programme in Econometrics for College Teachers of Kerala

The present times are marked by strong advances in the application of statistical and econometric tools in empirical economics for practical policy purposes; training in such methodologies for college teachers is therefore of great importance. However, such training facilities remain hard to come by. In response to this demand, CDS designed a training programme in collaboration with the Indian Econometric Society to help college teachers in Kerala gain familiarity

with various econometric techniques and build up capacity in teaching and research. The residential training programme was conducted at CDS during October 22 – 26, 2007 with 10 selected candidates. The programme was coordinated by N. Vijayamohanan Pillai and Hrushikesh Mallick.

The core faculty group was drawn from the CDS research staff. A wide range of topics were covered: from issues in basic statistics such as sampling, estimation and hypothesis testing; basic econometrics with discussion on OLS assumptions and consequences of their violations; time series analysis; logit regression analysis; the Eviews software package and Stata; applications of multivariate tools and multi-level regression. Participants were also introduced to relevant data sources useful in the context of application of regression and other statistical methods. At the closing session, all the participants rated the programme to be extremely useful and stimulating, and unanimously recommended that it be conducted for periods of two to three weeks in future.

Training Programme on the Appraisal, Monitoring and Evaluation of Projects of Local Self Governments

Research Unit on Local Self Governments initiated a training programme on 'Appraisal, Monitoring and Evaluation of Projects of LSGIs' with a view to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of local governments by making well trained manpower available at local level for planning and appraisal of public projects. The issues covered in the training programme include the need for public projects, ways of assessing financial, economic and social viability, the selection of appropriate institutional mechanisms for the implementation of projects, mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation and the sustainable operation and management of assets created. The target persons included college teachers, officials of urban and rural governments, members of working groups, technical advisory groups and district planning committees, elected representatives and representatives of non governmental organizations. The first programme was inaugurated on November 12, 2007. It



was for a period of 2 weeks for 25 participants. The duration was scaled down to eight days in the subsequent two batches considering the feed-back from the participants of the first training. In total, 72 persons have been trained so far. The response from various groups to the training programme has been very encouraging. But how the expertise acquired by the trained persons would be utilized by the local governments in improving their efficiency remains to be seen. A handbook on the topics covered in the training is being prepared in Malayalam. The details of the next stage of the training are yet to be decided.

CDS-ISS Training Programme

The Centre has been co-hosting this international diploma programme on 'Universalising Socio-economic Security for the Poor' with the Institute of Social Studies, The Hague and Self Employed Women's Assosiation (SEWA), Ahmedabad, since 2004. This three-month Diploma Programme starts in January at the ISS, then moves on to SEWA during February and its last leg is held at CDS.

The segment at CDS involved exposing the participants to Kerala's experience of social security initiatives like various welfare funds and social security arrangements for unorganised sector workers. Besides lectures and interactive sessions with academics from within and outside CDS, activists, elected representatives of local governments and bureaucrats, a few field visits of short and long duration were organised. The programme held at CDS in March was attended by 8 participants - activists, officials, and researchers - from Uganda, Kenya, Peru, and The Philippines, besides India.

Short Duration Programme on Using Internet for Applied Development Research

The fourth version of this annual event was held, as usual, in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Information Technology and Management-Kerala, Technopark, Thiruvananthapuram during March 26-28. There were 15 participants from across the country representing a range

of disciplines and professions. Lectures took the participants through the various stages involved in applied development research and acquainted them with a number of newer tools available on the Internet. Thus the participants were trained in efficient browsing, searching, downloading and collaborating and communicating with other researchers. A separate module on data analysis was also available. The programme continues to keep in touch with its alumni through its blog, <http://uissr.wordpress.com>. J. Muraleedharan Nair and U.S. Mishra (CDS), K.R. Srivathsan (IIITMK) and Sunil Mani (CDS) were the resource persons.

(d) RESEARCH AFFILIATIONS

Ms. Jana Wendler, Talstrasse 27C, D-09117, Chemnitz, Germany has been granted research intership to work on '*Wildlife Conservation and Community Involvement*' for a period of 1 month from April 23, 2007 to May 22, 2007.

Mr. Takeshi Goto, Department of Multi-cultural Societies, Graduate School of International Cultural Studies, Tohoku University, Japan to finish her studies on '*Exploration for Kerala Model of Development: A Case Study of Development Actors and discourses in Kerala*' for a period of 12 months from April 30 to April 29, 2008.

Dr Katherine Lucy Norris, Department of Anthropology, University College London, London, U.K for her research work on '*Anthropology of Concepts of Waste in the Global Textile Market: a material culture study of the Handloom Industry in Kannur, Kerala*' period of 6 months from May 07, 2007 to October 24, 2007.

Ms. Terah S. Sportel, Department of Geography, College of Social and Applied Human Sciences, University of Guelph, Canada for her research work on '*Social Mitigation and the Influence of Liberalization Policies on Coconut Production in Kerala India*' for a period of 11 months from May 15, 2007 to April 12, 2008.

Ms. Ashley J McClelland, Department of Anthropology/Sociology, College of Social and Applied Human Sciences, University of Guelph, Canada for her research work on



'Globalisation and Work: An Exploration of Labour Migration and Consumption in the Context of Economic Liberalisation' for a period of 6 months from May 15, 2007 to October 31, 2007.

Mr. S.W.J. (Bas) van Kesteren, Dutch National and a Student of the Technical University Eindhoven, The Netherlands for his research work on *'Kudumbashree Programme in Kerala'* for a period of 11 weeks from July 16, 2007 to September 26, 2007.

Ms. Sonja Thomas, Department of Women's and Gender Studies, Rutgers University, NJ 08901 to undertake a study on *'Syrian Christian women's dressing practices from the chatta and kunniku to the sari and chudithar'* for one year from August 21, 2007 to August 20, 2008.

Ms. Aafke Marije Heringa, Dutch National and a Student of the Utrecht University, The Netherlands for her research work on *'Effects of International Labour Migration on the Spatial Mobility of Women from different Cultural Groups in Kerala'* for a period of 6 months from October 3, 2007 to March 8, 2008.

Ms. Veronika Anna Sophie Wesselowsky, Student of the University of Kassel-Witzenhausen, Germany for her research work on *'Pricing of Water in Kerala'* for a period of 4 months from December 12, 2007 to March 31, 2008.

Ms. Mandira Kala, University of Massachusetts Boston, United States of America to undertake a study on *'Democratizing Policy Making in India: Role of Participatory and Deliberative Governance Processes in Advancing Human Well Being and Agency'*. The affiliation is for one year from January 1, 2008 to December 31, 2008.

Dr. Joshy Zachariah Easaw, Lecturer, Department of Economics and International Development, University of Bath, Bath BA2 7AY, U.K for his research work on *'Property Rights: the Impact of Economic and Political Inequality'* for a period of 12 months from January 15, 2008 to January 14, 2008.

Dr.B.S. Suran, Deputy General Manager, NABARD, NABARD Regional Office, Ahmedabad to undertake a study on *'Cost allocation in multifunctional NGOs participating in SHG-Bank Linkage programme of NABARD'* for one year January 31, 2008 to January 30, 2008.

ENDOWMENTS

(a) Planning Commission Endowment in Development Economics

The Planning Commission, Government of India had Instituted the Endowment in 1998. The objective of the Unit is to promote research studies on various issues relating to Indian economy. In September 2005, Dr Sunil Mani, Professor, CDS was appointed to the Chair. The Chair has been working on research themes dealing with innovation and technological changes in Indian Industrial establishment in a comparative perspective. The themes are: (a) measurement of innovation; (b) Innovation policy instruments; and (c) Telecommunication industry. A detailed report on the work carried out by the Chair has been reported elsewhere in the Annual Report.

(b) Reserve Bank of India Endowment Unit on Economic Development

The Reserve Bank of India provided a one time corpus of Rs.150 lakh and instituted the Reserve Bank of India endowment in April 2002 at the Centre. Dr D Narayana, Professor, CDS was appointed to the Chair in January, 2006. Dr Narayana initiated a major action research programme on access to health care and inequalities in health in March 2003 and the Chair is now coordinating and conducting the second phase of this research programme launched during 2006-07. The programme focuses on consolidating the work of the first phase, implementation of a community based health insurance scheme in Wayanad, Kerala and possible scaling of the scheme, facilitating local planning and monitoring by building awareness and continuing sensitisation of citizens, elected officials and civil servants and to build evidence on health, vulnerability and impacts of public interventions. The Unit has provisions for post-doctoral fellows and to grant fellowships to doctoral scholars selected for doctoral studies at the Centre.



(c) Research Unit on Local Self Governments

The Research Unit on Local Self Governments, set up by the Government of Kerala is implementing an action research on governance in Kanhangad District Panchayat and the departments working under it and a few Grama Panchayats in Kasargod District of Kerala. The major activities are to provide assistance to plan projects, participatory action research involving innovative farmers to spread productivity-enhancing practices in agriculture; facilitating a model water development programme, preparation and dissemination of policy notes on issues relevant to decentralisation. As part of the capacity building, a series of residential training programmes were organised on project appraisal, monitoring and evaluation for college lecturers, officials and selected elected representatives of local self governments in Kerala. The objective is to empower them to undertake Panchayat-level studies.

(d) Research Unit on International Migration

The Ministry of Indian Overseas Affairs, Government of India had set up Research Unit on International Migration at the Centre in 2006 in recognition of several studies conducted by the Centre on migration which have received national and international recognition in academic and policy circles. The Unit undertook specific studies on revamping the overseas recruitment system, problems of Indian domestic workers in Gulf countries, pilot study on replacement migration, remittances, cross-border migration in developing countries, gender issues on migration and developing a migration policy. The Unit also took steps in training young migration researchers, government officials and prepared the pre-emigration training manuals. Besides M.Phil and Doctoral students from the Centre, an internal student from Utrecht University, The Netherlands was associated with the Unit as an Affiliate.

(e) P.K. Gopalakrishnan Endowment Fund

The late Dr PK Gopalakrishnan was one of the founder members of the Centre. He was a scholar, policy advisor and an institution builder par excellence. He was one of the few outstanding personalities who played an important

role in the establishment of many advanced institutions of research and learning in Kerala during 1970-80. As a Policy Advisor and Secretary to the Government during the Chief Ministership of the late Shri C Achutha Menon, Dr Gopalakrishnan is credited with the formulation of a science and technology policy for the State. To perpetuate the memory of Dr Gopalakrishnan, his family instituted the endowment at the Centre. The income earned from the fund is being used to organise public lectures and grant doctoral fellowships at CDS.

(f) B.G. Kumar Endowment Fund

The Endowment was set up by the family of Dr B.G. Kumar, an young economist who worked with the Centre as Associate Fellow during 1990-93 passed away in early 1993 after a prolonged illness. The endowment was set up by the family to perpetuate his memory. The objective of the endowment is to organise special lectures and provide grant to faculty for seed research. The Centre could not organise any activity under the endowment during the reporting period.

(g) A.D. Neelakantan Endowment Fund

AD Neelakantan was a student of the first batch of the M.Phil Programme during 1975-76. He died in an accident in 1977 and in his memory, an endowment fund was instituted with a modest contribution from his family, students and staff of the Centre. The purpose of the Endowment is to provide token financial support to deserving scholars to undertake research on socio-economic problems. During the reporting period, the Centre could not organise any activity under the endowment.

(h) Joan Robinson Endowment Fund

Prof Joan Robinson spent a few months as Visiting Fellow at the Centre in the mid-seventies. Out of the royalty that she earned from one of her books, she instituted an endowment to support public lectures at the Centre. Prof Robinson passed away and in her memory, so far the Centre had organised six public lectures. During the reporting year, Professor Maria Cristina Marcuzzo of University of Rome, Italy delivered the Joan Memorial Lecture.

The Centre's Publications Programme regularly publishes books, monographs, research reports of the faculty and students. Select M.Phil and Ph.D dissertations are also brought out as occasional papers / monographs.

The findings of the research work at the Centre are initially brought out in the form of Working Papers for limited circulation for discussion among the faculty, administrators, planners and scholars from other institutions and later published in professional journals. As of now, 44 books and 398 Working Papers have been published under the Publications Programme. During this reporting year fifteen working papers were brought out. These papers are sent to institutions all over the country and abroad and can be accessed at the Centre's web site, (www.cds.edu).

The faculty researches are also published by well-known publishers such as Oxford University Press, Daanish Books, Sage Publishers and Orient Longmans. More than 45 books of the faculty researchers have so far been published by these agencies.

Books, journal articles, chapters in books, working papers and other publications brought out by the faculty are listed below.

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(b) JOURNAL ARTICLES

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M. Parameswaran (2007) 'International Trade, R&D Spillovers and Productivity: Evidence from Indian Manufacturing Industry,' *CDS Working Paper Series*, No. 385, June.

K. C. Zachariah, S. Irudaya Rajan (2007) 'Economic and Social Dynamics of Migration in Kerala, 1999-2004 Analysis of Panel Data' *CDS Working Paper Series*, No. 384, May.

Saikat Sinha Roy (2007) 'Demand and Supply Factors in the Determination of India's Disaggregated Manufactured Exports : A Simultaneous Error-Correction Approach,' *CDS Working Paper Series*, No. 383, May.

ORGANISATION OF SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS

a) OPEN SEMINARS

Professor Gopal Kadakodi, Former Director, ISEC, Bangalore, *Climate Change Abatement Options* (July 05, 2007)

Smt. Sheela Thomas IAS, Principal Secretary to Chief Minister & Secretary, NORKA, *Emerging Population Issues*. (World Population Day Celebrations) (July 11, 2007)

Professor Pulapre Balakrishnan, Senior Fellow, Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, New Delhi, *Imagining Economic Progress: Public Policy and Growth in the Nehru Era* (August 31, 2007)

Professor K.C.Zachariah & Prof. S.Irudaya Rajan, *Immobility in Mobility: Kerala's Migration Situation, 2007*(September 27, 2007)

Dr.Buddhadeb Ghosh, ISI, Calcutta, *Horizontal Rift vs. Vertical Mobility: A Study of Rural and Urban Areas of Indian States* (October 8, 2007)

Dr Janaki Abraham, JNU, New Delhi, *Visual Representations of Marriages in North Kerala: Technologies, Rituals and Ideas about Love and Conjugality* (October 17, 2007)

Prof. Maria Cristina Marcuzzo, University of Rome, *History of Economic Thought Through Gender Lenses*. (December 14, 2007)

Prof. Amitabh Kundu, JNU, New Delhi, *Formal Informalization of Labour Market in a Globalizing Economy*. (January 15, 2008)

Prof. Biswajit Dhar, Director, WTO Centre, IIFT, *Agriculture Negotiations under WTO: Implications for India*. (February 15, 2008)



Ms.Aafke Hereinga, Utrecht University, The Netherlands, *Effects of International Migration on the Daily Spatial Mobility of Women in Kerala* (February 21, 2008)

Professor Gavin Mooney, Curtin University of Technology, Perth, Australia, *Rethinking the Values Underspinning Health Economics* (February 29, 2008)

Professor Rajaah Rasiah, University of Malaya, *Industrial Development and Ethnic Based Equity Policies in Malaysia* (March 25, 2008)

(b) SEMINARS BY CDS FACULTY / STUDENTS

Professor S. Irudaya Rajan & Dr U.S.Mishra, *Managing Migration in the Philippines: Lessons for India* (April 20, 2007)

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

Professor K.Pushpangadan & Shri G. Murugan, *Measuring Sustainability in Drinking Water Supply: Application of Fuzzy Inference System* (April 20, 2007)

Professor Sunil Mani, *Economic Implications of Skilled Migration from India* (August 09, 2007)

Professors P.Mohan Pillai and N.Shanta, *ICT, Employment and Poor Women: Some Reflections on Kerala's Experience* (October 19, 2007)

Dr.J.Devika and A.K. Rajashree, *"All Windows Aren't like Sonia Gandhi": Welfare, Politics, and the Formation of Widows' Association in Contemporary Kerala* (October 26, 2007)

Professor. Sunil Mani, *The Rising Enrolments in Technical Education in Kerala : 1991-2005, Where have all the Engineers Gone?* (November 9, 2007)

Dr. T.R. Dilip, *Role of Private Hospitals in Kerala: A Disaggregated Analysis* (November 16, 2007)

Dr. P.L.Beena, *Merger Waves in India: In Pursuit of an Appropriate Regulatory Regime* (November 30, 2007)

Dr.Vinoj Abraham, *Growth and Inequality of Wages in India* (January 4, 2008)

Dr.N.Vijayamohan Pillai, *In Quest of the Distributional Properties of Reliability Rate* (January 18, 2008)

Dr. Hrushikesh Mallick, *Government Spending, Trade Openness and Economic Growth in India: A Time Series Analysis* (November 25 2007)

(c) SPECIAL LECTURE

Professor S. Neelakantan, Former Director, Madras Institute of Development Studies, Chennai, *Classical Political Economy*

Lecture I (July 06, 2007)

Lecture II (July 10, 2007)

Professor Maria Cristina Marcuzzo, University of Rome, *Joan Robinson: A Passionate Quest for Rationality* (December 18, 2007)

(d) PUBLIC LECTURES

Professor Anjan Mukherji, Jawaharlal Nehru University,

Lecture I – *The Relevance of Economic Theory* (June 11, 2007)

Lecture II – *The Foundations of Competitive Markets* (June 14, 2008)

Lecture III – *The Foundations of Competitive Markets* (June 19, 2007)

Lecture IV – *The Foundations of Competitive Markets* (June 21, 2007)

Professor Amit Bhaduri, Emeritus Professor, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, *Riddles of Industrialisation in India* (August 20, 2007)

Professor Mihir Rakshit, Director, Monetary Research Project, ICRA Ltd. Calcutta (Formerly Professor, Indian Statistical Institute, Calcutta), *Inflation in India: Some Theoretical and Policy Issues* (November 20, 2007)



(e) INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Two day International Conference on *Networking for Promoting the Rights of Migrant Workers in the Gulf Countries* Sponsored by the World Health Organization, New Delhi organized with the support of Centre for Development Studies during December 4-5, 2007.

(f) WORKSHOPS

Three day Annual Faculty Review Workshop at CDS during July 2-4, 2007. Professors Narasimha Reddy, K.L.Krishna, Gopal K. Kadekodi, Siddardha, Pulapre Balakrishnan, S.Neelakantan and Leela Visaria.

One day Workshop under the Research Project on Local Self Government was held at CDS during July 9, 2007.

Workshop on *Reflections on Select Issues in Indian Economy* by Japanese Scholars held at Centre for Development Studies on August 18, 2007.

Two day Interim Workshop of the International Research Programme – *Illegal but licit: Transnational flows and Permissive Politics in Asia* funded by WOTRO and organised by the Amsterdam School of Social Research, University of Amsterdam in association with the Centre for Development Studies between January 24-25, 2008 at CDS, Trivandrum.

Two-day Regional Workshop on Local Governments and Decentralized Governance organised by the Commission on

Centre-State Relations, New Delhi at the Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram during March 10-11, 2008.

(g) SHORT TERM TRAINING PROGRAMMES

Teaching Innovations Programme for College Teachers in Economics (TIPE) Version 2.0 held at Centre for Development Studies during June 11 - July 6, 2007.

Training Programme on *Econometrics* sponsored by the Indian Econometric Society organised by and held at Centre for Development Studies during October 22-26, 2007.

Training Programme on *'Appraisal, Monitoring and Evaluation of Projects' of Local Self-Governments* organised by the Centre for Development Studies (CDS) and Kerala Institute of Local Administration (KILA) and held at CDS, Thiruvananthapuram during December 2-8 and February 21-28, 2008.

CDS - ISS Training Programme on *Universalising Socio-economic Security for the Poor*, co-hosted by the Institute of Social Sciences (ISS,) Hague and Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA), Ahmadabad during 3-20 March 2008.

Short duration Programme on *Using Internet for Applied Development Research* in Collaboration with Indian Institute of Information Technology and Management Kerala, Technopark, Trivandrum and CDS during March 26-28, 2008.

PARTICIPATION OF FACULTY IN CONFERENCES / SEMINARS

INTERNATIONAL SEMINARS

K.N. Nair

- Attended the International Conference on Beef Industry, organised by the University of Hanover at the Department of Agriculture, Hanover during, June 24-26, 2007.
- Addressed the Plenary Session at the International Conference on 'Knowledge on the Move,' jointly organised by the Institute of Social Studies and Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Netherlands, held at the Institute of Social Studies, The Hague during February 24-28, 2007.

Sunil Mani

- Gave two lectures on 'Empirical implementation of the National Systems of Innovation Framework' at the 'Research and Statistics' branch of the UNIDO at Vienna on 19 April 2007.
- Presented three papers at the International Workshop on Comparative Study of the National Innovation Systems of BRICS, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 25-27 April, 2007.
- Presented joint paper with Keun Lee at the workshop on Sectoral Systems of Innovation Workshop at University of Bocconi, Milan, Italy, 4-5 May, 2007.
- Gave two lectures at the Globelics Academy 2007 at the Instituto Superior Técnico (IST), Lisbon, Portugal, 7-9 May 2007.



- Presented a paper on innovation surveys in developing countries at the International Conference on 'Micro evidence on innovation in developing countries', United Nations University- MERIT, Maastricht, The Netherlands, 31 May -1 June.
 - Has been nominated Member, Conference Committee, Globelics 2007 at Saratov, Russia. He is also on the UNIDO Expert Group on Innovation, UNIDO Headquarters, Vienna.
 - Made one of the keynote presentations on 'Reducing the distance to technology frontier, the Role of Technology and Innovation Policies', at the Sanjaya Lall Memorial Conference on India-Africa Co-operation on Industry, Trade and Investment, organised by UNIDO-UNCTAD-ITC-Ministry of Industry at New Delhi on September 10, 2007.
 - Chaired a session, was a discussant and presented his own paper (in collaboration with M. Parameswaran) titled 'The other side of the story, Industrial standards and technological capability building at the industry level, A study based on the Indian Automotive Industry,' at the 5th International Globelics Conference at Saratov State Technical University at Saratov, Russia, during September 20-23, 2007.
 - Presented the paper, 'The Growth Performance of India's Telecommunication Services Industry 1991-2006: Can it Lead to the Emergence of a Manufacturing Hub?' at the Atlanta Conference on Science, Technology, and Innovation Policy 2007, at the School of Public Policy, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, USA, during October 19-20, 2007.
 - Presented the key note paper on 'Innovation, Learning and Technological Dynamism of Developing Countries' at the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO), Vienna, Austria during October 24-25, 2007.
 - Presented a lecture on the 'Evolving sectoral system of innovation of the Indian Biofuels Industry' at the German Development Institute, Bonn, on January 16, 2008;
 - Presented a paper on 'Prospects for technological catch-up: India in comparison with China', Asian Drivers of Global Change: Challenges for Europe', German Development Institute, Bonn, Germany, January 17-18, 2008.
 - Presented a lecture on , 'The integration of India's economy with rest of the world, Indicators, facilitating factors and its effects', to the MSc students in International Business and Emerging Markets, The Management School and Economics, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK, January 22 2008.
 - Presented the 2008 San-Ei Gen Lecture, 'India, An Emerging High Tech Giant. But does she have Feet of Clay?', The Management School and Economics, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK, January 24 2008 .
 - Participated at the Netherlands-India Co-operation Meeting organised by the University of Maastricht, The Netherlands, February 13 2008.
 - Presented the paper, 'Explaining Divergent Stories of Catch-up in the Telecommunication Equipment Industry, in Brazil, China, India, and Korea' at *Catch up Workshop at UNU-MERIT*, Maastricht, The Netherlands, February 14-15, 2008.
- K. Pushpangadan**
- Attended a *conference on India's Economic Development since Liberalisation*, organised by the Northern Universities India Forum and presented a paper on 'Kerala's Development Experience: 1960-2005' at Lancaster University, UK, on February 8, 2008.
 - Presented two papers entitled 'Dynamics of Competition in Indian Manufacturing Industries' and



'Persistence of Profit Rates' at a conference held at Liverpool University, on February 11, 2008.

- A paper titled 'On the Measurement of Sustainability of Rural Water Supply in India: A Supervaluationist – Degree Theory Approach' was presented at a conference held at Manchester University, UK on February 12, 2008.
- Presented the paper 'Determinants of Sustainable Rural Drinking Water Supply – A Case Study of Kerala,' at the *International Seminar on Sustainability* conducted jointly by IGNOU and the University of Sussex at IGNOU Campus, Delhi during March 26-30, 2008.

K.J. Joseph

- Made a presentation on 'Science Technology and Innovation Policies in India: Changing Perspectives and Missing links' in the *International Workshop of the BRICS Project "Comparative Study of the National Innovation Systems of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa"* Hotel Glória, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil during 25-27 April, 2007.
- Delivered a lecture on 'Transforming Digital Divide into Digital Dividend: The Role of South-South Cooperation in ICT's' at the Rio Business Council on 24th April 2007.
- Spoke at the plenary on Asia's Innovation System, presented the paper 'Information Technology and Productivity: Evidence from India's Manufacturing Sector' jointly prepared with Vinoj Abraham and chaired a session and discussant at another session at the *Asialics Conference* held at the National University of Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur during 22-24 August 2007.
- Made a plenary presentation at the session on BRICS Innovation System and the session to honour Prof R R Nelson on his contribution to evolutionary economics. And also presented a paper on Sectoral

Innovation System in Developing Countries, chaired a session and discussant of another session at the *5th International Globelics Conference* at Saratov State Technical University at Saratov, Russia, September 20-23, 2007.

- Presented a paper on 'Industrial and Technology Policies in India: Changing Perspectives and Missing Links' and was a discussant of the paper on 'Sectoral Innovation Systems in India' at the *Seminar on Ten years of Local Innovative and Productive Systems*, held at Federal University of Brazil, Rio de Janeiro, 26-28 November 2007.
- Presented a paper 'IT Industry in India: Past Performance and Challenges Ahead,' in an *International Seminar on The New Economy of the United States Possibilities and Anxieties*, organised by the Chiba University, Japan during 15-16 December, 2007.
- Presented a seminar on 'ICT and Asian Development' at the Association of Asian Scholars at Hosei University Japan, on 13th December, 2007.
- Presented a seminar on 'IT Industry in India: Past Performance and New Challenges,' at Lancashire Business School, The University of Central Lancashire, U.K. on 27 February, 2008.
- Made a presentation on 'Innovation in Developing Countries: Do we need a Southern Perspective?,' at the UNESCO High-level Expert Working Group on Technology and Development, Manchester Institute of Innovation Research, University of Manchester during February 27-29 2008.
- Participated in the preparatory meeting of the 'Research Project on Innovation Systems for Inclusive Development: Lessons from Rural China and India,' organised by the National Science Foundation, China and IDRC, Canada, March 24 –26, 2008, Beijing, China.



- Made a plenary presentation on 'Innovation System: A Southern Perspective' at the 5th Asialics Conference organised by IIM Bangalore during 2-4 April 2008.

S. Irudaya Rajan

- Participated in the Brainstorming Meeting on 14th April at Department of Education, University of Tampere, Finland, in connection with the preparation of the proposal for the 7th Framework Programme on Migration to be submitted to European Commission.
- Participated in the Conference on Migration and Development organised by the World Bank, Washington, during May 23-34 and initiated a discussion on Migration and Development: The Kerala Experience.
- Attended the Seminar on Social, Health and Economic Consequences of Population Ageing in the context of Changing Families organised by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific (UNESCAP), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) at United Nations Conference Center, Bangkok from 25-27 July 2007 and presented a paper on Implications of Population Aging with Special Focus on Social Protection for Older Persons in India.
- Participated as a resource person in the course on Designing and Implementing Social Transfer Programmes, organised by the Economic Policy Research Institute, held at Villa Via hotel, Cape Town, South Africa, during 30-31 July 2007.
- 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.
- Visited the Migrinter, Poitiers, France, in connection with the Indo-French program on International Migration during 3-5 September, 2007.
- Participated as a resource person in the course on Designing and Implementing Social Transfer Programmes, organized by the Economic Policy Research Institute, held at Villa Via hotel, Cape Town, South Africa, during 22-24 October 2007.
- Visited the Helpage International, Aech Island, Indonesia, during October 3-5 2007 in connection with their presentation on tsunami impact on elderly in Indonesia organised by the British Red Cross Society and Helpage International.
- Visited the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar and delivered a lecture on Kerala emigrants in Qatar on 5th February 2008.
- Visited the Indian Emassy, Qatar, in connection with the ILO-MOIA project on governance of labour migration during 6-8 February 2008.
- Visited the Indian Embassy in Bahrain in connection with the ILO-MOIA project on governance of labour migration during 15-20 March 2008.
- Participated in the first project meeting on Transnationalisation, Migration and Transformation funded by the European Commission at Department of Education, University of Tampere, Finland, during 28-29 March 2008

Vinoj Abraham

- Presented a paper 'Rural Non-Farm Sector Employment in India: Distress Driven or Growth Driven?' at the *International Conference on Employment Opportunities and Public Employment Policy in Globalising India*, organised by the Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum, during April 3-5, 2008



- Discussant for the theme 'Public Policy & NREGA: State Level Experience' at the *International Conference on Employment Opportunities and Public Employment Policy in Globalising India*, organised by the Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum, during April 3-5, 2008.

Lekha S. Chakraborty

- Presented a paper along with Pinaki Chakraborty titled 'Is Fiscal Policy Contracyclical in India: An Empirical Analysis,' at the *Annual Conference on Development and Change*, Cape Town, South Africa during December 9-11, 2007.
- Presented a paper 'Statistical Invisibility of Non-market Work in India' at the World Bank-CFDA Seminar on 'Towards Mainstreaming Time Use Surveys in National Statistical System in India', held at Goa during May 24 -25, 2007.

Udaya S. Mishra

- Presented a paper 'Gauging Induced Abortion Among Indian Women: An Alternative Approach' at the Seminar on 'Measurement of Abortion Incidence, Abortion-related Morbidity and Mortality' organised by the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP), Scientific Panel on Abortion at Paris during 7-9 November, 2007.

V.J. Varghese

- Participated in the project conference on *Transnationalisation, Migration and Transformation*, and took part in the deliberations to finalise the research project organised and conducted by TRANS-NET, Department of Education, University of Tampere, Finland, during 28-29 March, 2008.

Pinaki Chakraborty

- Participated in the *Conference on Improving Revenue Generation and Social Protection in Developing*

Countries, organised by the School of Development Studies, University of Kwazulu-Natal from February 25-27, 2007 at Durban, South Africa.

- 'Is Fiscal Policy Contracyclical in India: An Empirical Analysis', paper presented (co-authored), at the *Annual Conference on Development and Change* in Cape Town, South Africa, during 9-11 December 2007.
- Presented a paper (co-authored) on 'Consumption Taxation in India: Measuring Tax Incidence' at the *RAWABIT Association's Workshop on Gender and Taxation*, sponsored by the American University and University of Kwazulu Natal, South Africa in Rabat, Morocco from 13-16 December 2007.
- Invited to present a paper 'Tax Incidence' at the Department of Economics and Social affairs (DESA), United Nations, New York, on March 4, 2008.
- Presented a paper 'Tax Incidence in India' at the IRDC, Canada, on March 6, 2008.
- Invited to present a paper 'Consumption Tax Incidence' at the *Globalisation, Gender and Taxation Conference* conducted in Argentina, May 2008.

NATIONAL SEMINARS

K. Pushpangadan

- Presented a paper 'Dynamics of Rural Water Supply in Coastal Kerala: A View from Sustainable Development' at the *National Seminar on Crisis in Drinking water in Coastal India*, at the Center for Development Alternatives, Gandhinagar, Gujarat, during August 9-10, 2007
- Was discussant at the Workshop on *Reflections on Select Issues in Indian Economy by Japanese Scholars*, organised by The Sasakawa Peace Foundation and the CDS, on 17th August 2007.
- Participated in the Seminar and release of the study report on 'Agricultural Crisis and Indebtedness of



- Farmers in Wayanad District', held at The Senate Chamber, University of Kerala, Trivandrum on 21st August 2007.
- Participated in the Seminar on 'Kerala's Economy Since 1956: Development Issues, Policies and Performance,' held at The Senate Chamber, University of Kerala, Trivandrum, on 4th October 2007.
 - Made a presentation on 'Applied Econometrics,' at the *CDS-TIES short-term Training Programme on Econometrics*, conducted at the Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum on 26th October 2007.
 - Special invitee to the *Curriculum Roll-Out Workshop* at Centre for Corporate Governance and Citizenship, IIM Bangalore, on 3rd January, 2008.
 - Participated in the discussion on 'Union Budget 2008,' at the Institute of Management in Kerala, University of Kerala, Trivandrum on 3rd March, 2008.
 - Participated in the seminar and release of the study report on 'Agricultural Crisis and Indebtness of Farmers in Idukki District', at the Senate Chamber, University of Kerala, Trivandrum on 31st March 2008.
- S. Irudaya Rajan**
- Visited the Ministry of Indian Overseas Affairs, Government of India, New Delhi, during 9-10 May to discuss the modalities for conducting the study on Working and Living Conditions of Indian Emigration in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
 - Visited the International Institute for Population Sciences, Mumbai, on 28th May, to chair the Open Ph.D viva.
 - Visited the Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development on 30th May as a member of the Core Committee on Youth Development Index to discuss the proposal on construction of Youth Development Index prepared by the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai.
 - 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.
 - Attended the Technical Advisory Committee meeting for the project, 'Strengthening State Plans for Human Development: District Level Vital Statistics' funded by the United Nations Development Program and the Planning Commission, Government of India, at International Institute for Population Sciences, Deonar, Mumbai, on 20th June, 2007.
 - Participated in the Workshop on Decentralization and Women's Rights in South Asia organized by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), New Delhi office during July 4-5 and presented the interim report of the project 'Gendering Governance or Governing Women? Politics, Patriarchy Democratic Decentralization in Kerala, India, at Indian International Centre, New Delhi.
 - 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.
 - Participated in the National Seminar on Construction of National Transfer Account (NTA) for India organised by the Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC), Bangalore, on 10 August 2007.
 - Participated in the First meeting of the Technical Resource Group (TRG) on Monitoring and Evaluation under National AIDS Control Organization, held at the Committee Room, NACO, New Delhi, on 11th September 2007.
 - Participated in the National Seminar on Women and Migration organised by the National Commission for



- Women and Centre for Women's Development Studies, held at the India International Centre, during 19-20 September at the Conference Hall II, India International Centre, New Delhi and presented a paper on Gender Dimensions in International Migration from Kerala.
- Participated in the International Elderly Day celebrations organised by the Helpage India at India International Centre, on October 1, 2007.
 - Participated in the release of the National Family Health Survey III report organised by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and International Institute for Population Sciences, Mumbai, at Asoka Hotel, during October 11-12, 2007.
 - Visited the Office of the Protector of Emigrants at Chennai on October 29 to discuss the project on recruitment agencies sponsored by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, New Delhi and International Labour Organization, New Delhi.
 - Visited the Office of the Protector of Emigrants at Hyderabad on October 30 to discuss the project on recruitment agencies sponsored by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, New Delhi and International Labour Organization, New Delhi.
 - Presented a theme paper on Migration and Development on 5th November at S.N.College, Chempazhanty, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, 695 011.
 - Visited the Office of the Protector of Emigrants at Mumbai on November 7 to discuss the project on recruitment agencies sponsored by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, New Delhi and International Labour Organisation, New Delhi.
 - Visited the Office of the Protector of Emigrants at Delhi on November 15 to discuss the project on recruitment agencies sponsored by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, New Delhi and International Labour Organisation, New Delhi.
 - Visited the Office of the Protector of Emigrants at Calcutta on November 16 to discuss the project on recruitment agencies sponsored by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, New Delhi and International Labour Organization, New Delhi.
 - Visited the Office of the Protector of Emigrants at Chandigarh on November 19 to discuss the project on recruitment agencies sponsored by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, New Delhi and International Labour Organization, New Delhi.
 - Organised and participated at the International Conference on Networking For Promoting The Rights Of The Migrant Workers In Gulf Countries at Centre for Development Studies, 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 and Managing Migration in the Philippines.
 - Organised the Regional Consultation on Active and Healthy Ageing at Centre for Development Studies, during 6-8 December and made two presentations: Aging Research at CDS and Demographic Trends and Challenges of Population Aging.
 - Participated in the seminar on "Adverse Sex Ratio in Five North Indian States: Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab and Haryana" organized by the Action Aid, IDRC and Centre for Women Development Studies, held at Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), New Delhi, during 13-14 December, 2007.
 - Delivered a Key note address on "Impact of Migration" organised by the Department of Economics, Holy Cross College, Nagercoil, on 17th December 2007.
 - Participated in the Seminar on Kerala Migrant Labour and Their Problems organised by the Kerala Institute of Labour and Employment, on 18th December at the Government Guest House, Thiruvananthapuram,



and initiated a discussion on Migration, Remittances and Employment.

- Delivered a Key note address on 'Problems of Migration' at the seminar on Migration: True and Correct Way, organised by the National Migrant Organisation at Press Club, on 19th December 2007.
- Attended a meeting organised by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs to discuss the Migration Policy on 20th December at Akbar Bhavan, New Delhi.
- Participated in the meeting of Keraleeya Pravasi Sangamon 2008 organised 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.
- Participated as a National Advisory Committee Member in the Planning Meeting for the Longitudinal Aging Study in India (LASI) organised by the International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS), Mumbai and Harvard University, USA, during January 14-15 2008 at IIPS, Mumbai.
- Participated in the National Conference on Senior Citizens as National Resource Opportunities and Challenges organised by the ISCA, UNFPA, Helpage India at India International Centre during 19-20th January 2008 and presented a paper on 'Universalizing Social Security for Elders in India.'
- Attended a workshop on 'Improving Child Sex Ratio: A Step to Counter Missing Women' organised by the Centre for Gender Studies, National Institute of Rural Development, Hyderabad, during 11-13 February and initiated a discussion on 'Alarming fall in Child Sex Ratio in Select Pockets of the Country and Need for Specific Interventions'.
- Participated in the International Conference on 'Universalisation of Social Protection in Asia, organised by the Institute of Social Studies (ISS), The

Hague and Institute for Human Development (IHD), New Delhi during 17-20 February, 2008 at New Delhi and presented a paper on "social security for elderly in Asia".

- Delivered a Key note address at the National Conference on Globalisation: Prospects and Problems organized at the Sourashtra College, Madurai, on 25th February 2008.
- Visited St.Xavier's College, Palayamkottai, Tamil Nadu on 4th March and moderated the discussion on the Union Budget 2008.
- Visited the office of the Commissioner for Non-Resident Indian Affairs, Government of Goa on March 14 to discuss the Migration Monitoring Study for Goa.
- Participated in the international conference on Population, Health and Human Resources in India's Development organised by the Institute of Economic Growth during 24-25 March 2008 and presented a paper on 'International Migration from Kerala'.

P. Sivanandan

- Steering Committee Member and Session Chairperson at the *ICSSR Development Convention*, organised by the Institute of Public Enterprises, Hyderabad during 20-22 February, 2008.

P.L. Beena

- Presented a seminar titled 'Merger Waves in India: In Pursuit of an Appropriate Regulatory Regime' organised by, and conducted at the Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum on November 30, 2007.
- Presented a paper 'Merger Waves in India: In Pursuit of an Appropriate Regulatory Regime' at the conference on *Growth and Macroeconomic Issues and Challenges in India*, organised by IEG, Delhi on February 14-15, 2008.



- Presented a paper titled 'Merger Waves in India: In Pursuit of an Appropriate Regulatory Regime' at the conference on *Economic Structures, Growth and Development*, organised by CESP, New Delhi at Jawaharla Nehru University during January 31 to 2nd February, 2008.
- Presented a paper titled 'Structure and Growth of Indian Industries during Post-Liberalisation Period' at conference on *Neo-Liberal Era of Indian Economy: An Analysis of Fifteen Years of Economic Reforms*, organised by VTM NSS College, Neyyattinkara, Trivandrum, sponsored by the UGC on 28-29 June, 2007.

Hrushikesh Mallick

- Submitted a paper 'Inflation, Growth, Equity and The Budget: 2008-09' at the seminar on *The State of the Economy and The Union Budget: 2008-09*, held at the Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum, on 5th March 2007.
- Presented a paper 'Remittance, Private Consumption, Investment and Economic Growth in India' at the *Seminar on International Migration*, at the Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum on 20 April, 2007
- Presented a paper titled 'Remittance and Private Consumption: A Case of India' at the *44th Annual Conference of The Indian Econometric Society*, organised by The Indian Econometric Society at Hyderabad during 3rd-5th Jan 2008.
- Presented a paper titled 'Construction Sector Activities and Economic Growth in India' (jointly with Mantu Kumar Mahalik) at the *44th Annual Conference of The Indian Econometric Society*, organised by The Indian Econometric Society, Hyderabad during 3rd-5th January 2008.
- Submitted a paper 'Remittance and Private Consumption: A Case of India' at the seminar on *Government Spending, Trade Openness and Economic*

Growth in India: A Time Series Analysis, held at the CDS on 25th January, 2008.

- A paper titled 'Remittance, Private Investment and Economic Growth in India' was presented at the *Seminar on Rethinking on India's Growth Strategy*, organised by Southern ICSSR Institutes at Hyderabad during 20th-22nd February, 2008.

J. Devika

- Presented a paper 'Mobility towards Work and Politics for Women in Kerala State, India: A View from the Histories of Gender and Space' at the *Seminar on Gender and Space*, organised by the Women's Studies Programme, JNU on 2 November, 2007.
- Presented a paper titled ' "All Widows aren't like Sonia Gandhi": Welfare, Politics and the Formation of Widows' Associations in Kerala' at an *Open Seminar* at Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum on 30 October, 2007.
- A paper titled 'Marooned in Social Development? : Public Health, Democracy, and Sickle Cell Anaemia in Wayanad District, Kerala' was presented at an *Open Seminar* organised by the CSMCH, JNU, Delhi on 12 February, 2008.
- Presented a paper 'Politics, Welfare, and Widowhood: Widows' Activism in Kerala' at an *Open Seminar* organised by the School of Social Sciences, JNU, Delhi on 20 February, 2008.
- Presented a paper 'A Tactful Union': Domestic Workers' Unionism, Politics, and Citizenship in Kerala' at an *Open Seminar* organised by CWDS, New Delhi the on 27 February, 2008.

Praveena Kodoth

- Participated in the *Curriculum Development Workshop*, organised by the Centre for Women's Development Studies at the YMCA, New Delhi, during January 11-12, 2008.



- Resource Person for the *Cultural Studies Workshop* on 'Culture and Economic Life,' organised by the Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Kolkata, in Pune, during February 5 – 10, 2008.
- Presented a paper 'Gender, Caste and Matchmaking in Kerala: A Rationale for Dowry' at a *Workshop on The Contemporary Indian Family: Change and Continuity* on 18 and 19 March, 2008 at the Department of Sociology, University of Delhi
- A paper titled 'Institutional Change, Patriarchy and the Development Question in India: What Does Dowry Analysis Say?' was presented at the National Seminar on *Changing Power Equations: A Gender Perspective*, organised by the Department of Christian Studies, University of Madras, Chennai at the Department from 21-22 August 2007.
- Presented a paper 'Equity During Expansion of Private Hospitals in Kerala,' at the *National Seminar on Policy Reforms in Education and Health and the Share of Poor in India*, organised by Department of Economics, Kannur University at Hotel Malabar Residency, Kannur during 12-13th September, 2007.
- Participated in the seminar on Health Financing in India: Taking Stock and Moving Forward organised by the Institute of Health Systems, Hyderabad and held at Taramati Baradari Cultural Complex, Hyderabad, during 30th November to 1st December 2007.
- Presented a paper 'Estimation of Health Expenditure in India' at the *Workshop on Public Health Economics and Third World Concerns in Health Security*, organised by the National Institute of Science Technology and Development Studies (NISTADS) at NISTADS, New Delhi on 18th December, 2007.

N. Vijayamohanan Pillai

- Submitted a paper 'Power Sector in Kerala Since the Sixties'.at the Seminar on '*Kerala's Economy since 1956: Development Issues, Policies and Performance*', organised by Department of Economics, University of Kerala at the Senate Chamber, University of Kerala, Trivandrum on October 4, 2007.
- Presented a paper 'In Quest of the Distributional Properties of Reliability Rate' at an Open Seminar at the CDS on January 18, 2008.
- Was discussant of a paper on 'Measuring Sustainability of Drinking Water Supply: Application of Fuzzy Inference Systems' by K Pushpangadan and G Murugan, presented in an Open Seminar at CDS on April 20, 2007.
- Participated in the National Family Health Survey –3 Data Users Workshop organised by International Institute for Population Science, Mumbai at the Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore, during 3rd – 4th January 2008.
- Attended the seminar on Consultation on Society and Health Research in India, organised by the Public Health Foundation of India, New Delhi on 3rd March 2008.
- Submitted a paper titled 'An assessment of Social Divide in Access to Maternal Care Services in India' (with U.S. Mishra) at the *National Seminar on Policies and Programmes in Health and Family Welfare, fifty years of Indian Experience and Challenges*, organised by the Population Research Centre, University of Kerala, at the Government Guest House, Thycaud, Thiruvananthapuram, during 27-29 March, 2008.

T.R. Dilip

- Discussant at the *Workshop to Discuss Gujarat State Health Accounts*, organised by Gujarat Institute for Development Research (GIDR), Ahmedabad on 4th August 2007.

Vinoj Abraham

- Was awarded the 'Sanjay Thakur Young Labour Economist Award' for the best paper titled 'Growth



and Inequality of Wages in India: Recent Trends and Patterns' presented at the *Indian Society of Labour Economics, 49th Annual Conference*, organised by the Centre for Economic and Social Studies, Hyderabad and IHD, New Delhi and held at CESS, Hyderabad, during December 15th to 17, 2007.

- Presented a paper titled 'Information Technology and Productivity: Evidence from India's Manufacturing Sector' at the seminar on *Globalisation of Chinese and Indian Enterprises*, organised by the IIT Bombay & Forum for Global Knowledge Sharing, at the Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum, during November 2-3, 2007.
- Attended the conference on Moving Towards Gender Sensitization of Trade Policy, organised by UNCTAD, Ministry of Commerce - Government of India, and DFID at Le-Meridien, New Delhi, during 25 - 27, February, 2008.
- Participated in the Workshop on Using Internet for Applied Development Research, organised by the CDS, & IITMK, conducted at the IITMK, Trivandrum, during March 26 to 28, 2008.

Chinnappan Gasper

- Participated in the *Workshop on the Progress of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan in States during 2007-08*, organised by the MHRD, New Delhi at NCERT, New Delhi on 23 February, 2007.
- Presented a paper 'Education and the Poor in India' at the *National Conference on Policy Reforms in Education and Health and the Share of the Poor in India*, organised and conducted by Kannur University, Thalassery on 12 September, 2007.
- Presented a paper 'Education and economic development in India' at the *workshop on Education and the poor in India*, organised and held at the Holy Cross College, Nagercoil, on 16 November, 2007.

Lekha S. Chakraborty

- Was Moderator at the *Symposium on Economic Survey 2008*, held at the CDS on March 2008.
- Discussant to the paper titled 'Government Spending, Trade Openness and Economic Growth in India: A Times Series Analysis' at the seminar by Mallick H held at CDS on January 25, 2008.

Pinaki Chakraborty

- Participated in the high-level consultations of the *Thirteenth Finance Commission* at Chennai, on February 25, 2008.
- Presented a paper 'Disquieting Trends In Indian Fiscal Federalism And The Thirteenth Finance Commission' (co-author Thomas Isaac) at the High level Committee Meeting of Finance Ministers, prelude to Thirteenth Finance Commission Meeting, in Trivandrum.
- 'Budget Rules, Fiscal Consolidation and Government Spending: Implications for Federal Transfers,' presented in a *Conference on Issues before Thirteenth Finance Commission*, NIPEFP, New Delhi.
- Delivered the Inaugural Lecture, 'On Centre State Financial Relations,' at the Kerala State Education Meet, 2007, December, 2007, Alleppy?
- Gave the Plenary lecture on Centre State Financial Relations, at the Kerala Shastra Sahitya Parishad Jubilee Meet, organised by the John Mathai Centre, Thrissur.
- Delivered the Special Lecture on 'Inflation: Trends and Determinants,' at the ICFI Meet, Trivandrum.

V.J. Varghese

- Presented a paper 'Promoting or Proscribing Women's Movement? Overseas Recruitment System in India' at the seminar on *Illegal but Licit: Transnational Flows and Permissive Politics in Asia*, organised by Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum and Amsterdam



School of Social Research and held at the CDS during 24-25 January 2008.

- Submitted a paper 'Land, Labour and Migrations: Understanding Kerala's Economic Modernity' at the conference on *Interrogating Transitions: Culture, Economy and Society*, organised and conducted by The History Association, Centre for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi during 11-13 March, 2008.

K. Navaneetham

- Presented a paper 'Emerging Patterns in Morbidity in Kerala,' at the National Seminar on Expanding Freedom: Towards Social and Economic Transformation in a Globalising.
- Chaired the session on 'Fertility and Family Planning' at the *National Seminar on Policies and*

Programmes in Health and Family Welfare: Fifty Years of Indian Experience and Challenges, organised by Population Research Centre, held at the Government Guest House, Trivandrum, during 26-29, March 2008.

D. Narayana

- Delivered the Keynote address on 'Reorienting Health System towards Research: Need of a Developing Nation,' at the Indian Institute of Health Management Research, at Jaipur on December 8, 2007.
- Presented a paper titled 'Low IMR Reduction and Environment Related Diseases in the High Growth Indian States,' at the *Conference on The Health Transition in India: Public Health, Governance, and the Market*, Institute of Development Studies, Kolkata, during 19-21 February, 2008.

REPRESENTATION IN COMMITTEES/ TASK FORCES/ADVISORY BODIES

Mohanan Pillai

- Member, Plan Committee on Industry, Government of Kerala.

Sunil Mani

- Member, Expert Committee on Innovation Surveys, *Department of Science and Technology*, Government of India
- Member, Editorial Advisory Board, *Research Policy*, (Elsevier Science).
- Member, Editorial Board, *International Journal of Technology and Globalization*, (Inderscience)
- Member, Editorial Advisory Board, *Science, Technology and Society* (Sage Publications)
- Member, Editorial Board, *International Journal of Technology, Learning and Development*, Inderscience
- Instructor, *Globelics Academy*, Lisbon Technical University (2006-), TaSTI, University of Tampere (2008)
- Member, Organizing/Scientific Committee, *Globelics 2008 at Mexico City, Mexico, Globelics 2007 at Saratov, Russia*
- Academic co-ordinator, *Stanford Centre for International Development-Kerala Global Support Network- Asian School of Business Seminar Series on Kerala in the Global Economy*
- Visiting Faculty, *PGP-PMP, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad*



- San-Ei Gen Visiting Faculty at University of Edinburgh Management School, Scotland, UK (January 2008).
- Member, Selection Committee, Centre for Studies in Science Policy, Jawaharlal Nehru University, 2007.
- Member, Expert Group on Innovation, UNIDO, Vienna.

K.J. Joseph

- Member, Globelics Scientific Board.
- Editorial Board Member, International Journal of Technological Learning, Innovation and development, Inderscience Publishers.
- Member of the India-EU Steering Committee on Science and Technology Cooperation, Ministry of Science and Technology Government of India.

P. Sivananadan

- Governing Body Member, Institute of Societal Advancement.
- Member, Expert Committee to study the Experience of Decentralised Planning in Kerala, constituted by the Government of Kerala.
- Member, Research Group to study SCT/TSP Implementation in Kerala, constituted by the State Planning Board, Trivandrum.

K.Navaneetham

- Member of the Expert Committee to review the Social welfare/ Social protection activities of the Government of Kerala.
- Member of the Selection Committee as an outside expert for the selection of Assistant Professors in Population Research Centre, Institute of Social and Economic Change, Bangalore, August 28, 2007.
- Member, Doctoral Committee, Manomaniam Sundaranar University, Tirunelveli.

N.Vijayamohanan Pillai

- Member of the State level Expert Group to vet the survey forms and the sample survey in connection with the project on Total Energy security Mission under the State Planning Board.
- Member of the Task Force on social security for Workers in the Unorganized Sector', constituted under the National Commission for Enterprises in the unorganised sector, constituted by the Government of India.
- Member of the Doctoral committee to review the progress of Ph D Scholar (Mr P Sundara Raj of the Department of Economics, ST Hindu College, Nagercoil) of Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Tirunelveli.

J. Devika

- Currently on the State Monitoring Committee for NREGA in Kerala.
- Have been advising Singamma Sreenivasan Foundation, Bangalore, in their research-capacity building efforts.

K. Pushpangadan

- External Expert at Faculty Selection Board, Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology held at Bangalore on 22 August, 2007.
- Expert Member of Faculty Selection Committee, Indian Institute of Management, Kozhikode on 17 September, 2007 at Kozhikode.

T.R. Dilip

- Member of Expert group formed by Gujarat Institute for Development Research and Government of Gujarat for Preparation of Gujarat State Health Accounts.

Chinnappan Gasper

- Member of the Governing Body of Primary Education Development Society of Kerala.



Lekha S. Chakraborty

- Member, Committee, Ministry Of Finance, Government of India.
- Member in the Expert Committee on Budgetary Classification to Incorporate Gender Segregation, Ministry of Finance, Government of India.

V.J. Varghese

- Member, Executive Committee of the 'Association for Comparative Studies', Changanacherry.
- Member, Editorial Board, Tapasam Journal for Kerala Studies, Quarterly research journal of the 'Association for Comparative Studies'.

D. Narayana

- Co-director, Summer Institute-4, Canadian Coalition for Global Health Research, Canada.

PARTICIPATION IN EXTERNAL TEACHING

N. Vijayamohanan Pillai

- Delivered four Lectures on Quantitative Methods and held discussions with the participants of the Orientation Programme/ Refresher Course in Economics, organised by the UGC – Academic Staff College, University of Kerala, Karyavattom, Thiruvananthapuram on 12 and 13. September. 2007.
- Delivered a talk in Malayalam on 'The Determinants of the Phenomenal Growth of Indian Economy' on All India Radio (Recording on 9 October 2007 and Broadcast on 13 October 2007).
- Co-ordinated a short term residential training programme in Econometrics for College Teachers of Kerala, sponsored by the Indian Econometric Society (TIES) organised by CDS – TIES. at CDS during October 22 – 26, 2007.
- Delivered one Lecture on 'Time Series Analysis' to the Participants of the short term residential training programme in Econometrics for College Teachers of Kerala, at CDS on October 24, 2007.

- Delivered a Lecture titled 'The Use of Constant Prices in the Economic Analysis of Projects' to the Participants of the Training Programme on 'Appraisals, Monitoring and Evaluation of Projects of Local self Governments' organised by CDS and KILA on 13. November. 2007.
- Delivered two Lectures on 'Tools, Techniques and Analysis in Research Methodology' to the Participants of the Two-Day Workshop on 'Research Methodology in Social Sciences' organised by the PG and Research Department of Economics, SN College, Sivagiri, Varkala, Kerala on 15 November 2007.
- Delivered two Lectures on 'Statistical Methods' and held discussions with the Participants of the 21st Refresher Course in Economics, organised by UGC – Academic Staff College, University of Kerala, Karyavattom, Thiruvananthapuram on 12 March, 2008.

Sunil Mani

- Took five lectures on "Markets and market failures" at the Master of Public Health Programme at The Achutha Menon Centre for Health Science Studies (AMCHSS), Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences & Technology (SCTIMST), Trivandrum during October 2007.
- Took 15 lectures at the compulsory course on "Innovation and Technology Policy" at the Post Graduate Programme in Public Management and Policy (PGP-PMP) at the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad, February 20-29, 2008.

K.Pushpangadan

- Gave a lecture on 'Dynamic Competition and Trade Performance' for a Refresher Cat UGC-Academic Staff College, University of Kerala, Karyavattom on 20-03-08.



K Navaneetham

- Delivered a lecture on Kerala's Human Development: Achievements and Challenges to the M.PH student at Achutha Menon Centre for Health Science Studies, June 6, 2007.

T.R. Dilip

- Conducted a session on 'Methods in Estimation of Migration' to Officers in Department of Economics and Statistics in their training programme on Sample Registration System, 4 -8 February 2008.

Lekha S. Chakraborty

- Delivered 3 separate lectures on 'Gender Budgeting at the third Tier: Conceptual and Methodological Issues' for the LSG Training Programme conducted during November 2007, March 2008 and May 2008.

Pinaki Chakraborty

- Taught a Course on "Issues Related to Indian Public Finance", at IGIDR, Mumbai, December., 2007.

D. Narayana

- Gave a lecture on 'Economic Growth vs Human Development in the Indian States,' at the UNDP Young Scholars Programme conducted by the Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research, Mumbai, on June 16, 2007.
- Delivered two lectures on 'Health Insurance' to the Post Graduate students of the Department of Community Medicine, Trivandrum Medical College during September 25-26, 2007.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RENDERED

J. Devika

- Spent February 2008 at the Centre for Social Medicine and Community Health, School of Social Sciences, JNU, as Visiting Fellow. Activities at CSMCH

included two open seminars, one at Centre-level and the other at School-level, a lecture at the Women's Studies' Programme, JNU, and an open seminar at CWDS, New Delhi, besides lectures at CSMCH on the 'social history' of family planning in Kerala, based on my book (with Zubaan) on the same theme.

P. Mohanan Pillai

- Thesis Examiner- Cochin University, Madras University

K. Pushpangadan

- External examiner for evaluation of a Ph.D thesis, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad.
- Evaluation of thesis entitled 'An Evaluation of the Integrated Rural Development Program on Alleviating Poverty in Srilanka and India' by I.H.K.Mahanama, on 31st August 2007, Department of Economics, Mangalore University.
- Referee, *Indian Journal of Agricultural Economics*
- Referee, *Indian Economic Journal*
- Resource Person on the *Training Programme on 'Appraisal, Monitoring and Evaluation of LSG Projects'* at the Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum on 14th November 2007.

K. Navaneetham

- Ph.D Thesis Examiner, International Institute for Population Sciences (Deemed University)
- M.PH Dissertations examiner, Achutha Menon Centre for Health Science Studies, Trivandrum
- Reviewed the Marsden Fund Project Proposal submitted to Royal Society of New Zealand, New Zealand.
- Reviewed the paper submitted for publication in the journal 'Social Science and Medicine'
- Reviewed the paper submitted for publication in the journal 'Population Studies'



- Reviewed the paper submitted for publication in the journal 'Asian Population Studies'

T.R. Dilip

- PhD Thesis examiner for University of Karachi, for a thesis submitted for award of PhD degree in social work titled "Analytical Study of NGO Performance in Poverty Alleviation in Hyderabad Division"
- Peer Reviewer of applications for India Studies Fellowship Programme of the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute, Alberta, Canada in 2007.
- External examiner, for evaluation of dissertations and conduct of viva-voce examination for fourth Semester MSc Demography Course of University of Kerala in 2007.

Chinnappan Gasper

- Participated as the External Resource Person in the appraisal of the State and District Annual Work Plan & Budget of SSA in Kerala for 2007-08 at MHRD, New Delhi during 22 to 29, March, 2008.
- Participated as the External Resource Person in the appraisal of the Annual Work Plan & Budget of SSA in Lakshadweep Union Territory for 2008-09 at MHRD, New Delhi during 30th April – 1st May, 2008.

Lekha S. Chakraborty

- Reviewer of Journal of Developing Areas, Tennessee, New York

- Reviewer, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Project Papers (Two Papers).

Pinaki Chakraborty

- Examiner, Evaluation of M.Phil. Dissertation, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, 2007
- Reviewer, Shastri Indo Canadian Institute (SICI), Fellowship Programme for Canadian Studies, 2007.
- Reviewer, Working paper of Centre for Social Studies, South Gujarat University Campus, Surat., 2007
- Reviewer, Sage Journal, 2008

S. Irudaya Rajan

- Coordinated a research report on Mainstreaming Age-Friendliness for Helpage International and the British Red Cross Society. Indonesia.
- Coordinated the Base Line Report 2004 for the Registrar General of India, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India.

Hrushikesh Mallick

- Served as a Referee to review articles submitted for publication in peer-reviewed journals : Applied Economics (2007) 'Deterministic and Stochastic Trends in the Time Series Models: A Guide for the Applied Economist,' Routledge-Taylor and Francis Group. And Applied Economics (2008) 'Is the response of output to monetary policy asymmetric? Evidence from Inflation-varying asymmetries model?' Routledge-Taylor and Francis Group.

(a) LIBRARY

2007-08 has been a year of hectic activities for the CDS library. Bibliographic records of 2500 old books were added to the Library database. We were also able to complete the retrospective conversion of bibliographic records of all Working Papers and Back volumes of journals. They can now be accessed through the Libsys OPAC. The database of books, journals and electronic forms available in the Library are being updated on a day to day basis. Barcoding of all Working papers and Back volumes of journals and 96% of books have been completed. Records of all Library patrons have also been entered into the Libsys database and Barcoded ID cards were issued to Library members. Barcode based Circulation system has been successfully implemented for the circulation activities. Retrospective conversion of catalogue, technical processing of uncatalogued books, entering the bibliographic and member details in the Libsys database, bar-coding of books, working papers and back volumes were all done by our Library Staff. It was indeed a Herculean task as everything was done in-house as no work was outsourced.

The library continued to serve the members by providing Reference service, Bibliographic services and other Information services. During the above period 504 Reference memberships and 86 Memberships with borrowing facility were granted to new members. An exhibition of selected readings on Social Security including books, working papers, reports etc was arranged in the library as part of CDS/ISS Training Programme. The bibliography on Social Security was also updated for this purpose.



The Library subscribed to 222 journals, 12 newspapers and received 190 journals as gift or on exchange. The entire journal collection has been entered into the Library database. Updating of articles database is also progressing. The CDS library continues to be a depository of IMF publications and the library received 270 publications from IMF during the reporting period. 596 journals and 1144 books were bound during the reporting year. One month Practical training was given to ten Library Science students from Kerala State Library Council. CLISc students from S.D.College, Alappuzha also visited CDS library for observation and training.

Electronic Database Centre

The Electronic Database Centre (EDC) of the CDS library continued to give excellent service to internal as well as external members. The EDC has 140 valuable databases in economics and related Social Sciences. Some of the prestigious databases are indiastat.com, Prowess, Popline, India Trades, Annual Survey of Industries, IMF Databases and National Sample Survey unit level data. The subscription to JSTOR for the year 2008 has been renewed through the ICSSR/NASSDOC consortia. Access to World Integrated Trade Solutions (WITS) database has been activated for the use of students and faculty. CDS library became a member of DELNET (Developing Library Network) and started accessing the services offered by it. CDS library joined the GDNNet document delivery service at the British Library for Development Studies. Also, the Centre activated and accessed the trial offers extended by various Information Service Providers. This section renders personalized services like online data search and retrieval and other Internet information services.

Local Self Government Documentation Centre

A separate Documentation Centre to serve the information needs of the researchers of "Local Self Government" unit has been set up in the CDS library. The Documentation Centre is being strengthened and the Centre has now the following:

1. A separate collection of books (350 titles) relevant to the project discipline. More relevant documents are being added to this collection.
2. An Index of articles on local self government and decentralization appeared in various Social Science Indian Journals has been updated.
3. Statistical data like census data, statistics for planning, economic reviews and other data sets relevant to the project was collected and updated.

(b) COMPUTER CENTRE

The Computer Centre (CC) provides the required technological support to achieve the organisation's objective of knowledge creation/dissemination. In this regard, the CC supports teaching/research activities and different operations of the library/administration. The IT facility undertakes tasks such as programming, daily monitoring/tuning of the desktops installed across the campus and other support services to the faculty, staff and students.

Apart from the aforementioned tasks, the IT wing provides a range of services that include 24x7 Net access (for faculty/staff/students) and e-mail service with web-based and POP access. This year we have augmented the Net bandwidth from 256 kbps to 1 mbps (a four-fold increase).

Our new dynamic/database-driven web site has been launched. Old P3 machines are being replaced with more powerful ones.

As envisaged in our IT services expansion plan, the process to create a centralized storage infrastructure with SAN (Storage Area Network)/NAS (Network Attached Storage)/VPN, has been initiated. This facility will enable the users to access their digital resources from anywhere on the Net. A content management system (CMS) for the faculty- to self-publish teaching materials on-line- is also in the offing. Secured Wi-Fi network, for helping users access the computing services/resources from anywhere on the campus via mobile devices, will also go live soon.



(c) STAFF WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT

The Staff Welfare Fund provides financial support to the employees in the form of loans and grants to employees. Instituted in 1999 with an initial corpus from the CDS endowment, the total amount of loan availed by the employees as on 31st March, 2008 stood at Rs.45.00 lakh. The loans are provided for purchase of land for construction of own house, house construction and renovation, education of children, medical treatment, purchase of house hold items

and vehicles. The Fund also provides grant to last grade employees for medical treatment, marriage of dependent children and financial relief for losses due to natural calamities. During the reporting period, twenty three employees were granted loans. Five employees who have retired from the services of the Centre received a grant of Rs.10,000/- and a memento each from the Welfare Fund. Sixteen children of employees were awarded merit certificates and cash awards for their scholastic performance in public examinations.

COMMITTEES**Committee of Direction**

Professor N.R.Madhava Menon (Chairman)

Professor S.Mahendra Dev (Member)

Shri V. Ramachandran (Member)

Shri Teeka Ram Meena (Member)

Dr K.K. Subrahmanian (Member)

Dr P. Mohanan Pillai (Member)

Dr K.Narayanan Nair (Member Convenor)

Faculty Committee

Dr K.Narayanan Nair (Chairman)

Dr K.N.Raj

Dr K.K. Subrahmanian

Dr Chandan Mukherjee

Dr John Kurien

Dr P.Mohanan Pillai

Dr P.Sivanandan

Dr D.Narayana

Dr K. Pushpangadan

Dr K.J. Joseph

Dr S. Irudaya Rajan

Dr N.Shanta

Dr K.Navaneetham

Dr Sunil Mani (Convenor)

Finance Committee

Professor N.R.Madhava Menon (Chairman)

Shri Teeka Ram Meena

Dr T.C.A Anant

Dr Anjan Mukherji

Dr Alwin Prakash

Dr P. Sivanandan

Dr K.Narayanan Nair (Member Convenor)

Ph.D. Advisory Committee

Dr V. Santhakumar (Chairman)

Dr Sunil Mani

Dr K.J.Joseph

Dr. Udaya S. Mishra

Dr J. Devika

Dr K. Navaneetham (*ex-officio*)



M.Phil Advisory Committee

Dr K. Navaneetham (Chairman)
 Dr N. Vijayamohan Pillai
 Dr D. Narayana
 Dr Sunil Mani
 Dr U.S. Mishra
 Dr Pinaki Chakraborty
 Dr Praveena Kodoth
 Dr V. Santhakumar (*ex-officio*)

JNU Committee of Direction for MPhil/ PhD Programmes

Dr K. Narayanan Nair (Chairman)
 Dr Jayanti Ghosh (*Centre for Economic Studies & Planning, JNU*)
 Dr Manoj Pant (*Centre for International Trade and Development, JNU*)
 Dr Chandan Mukherjee
 Dr S. Irudaya Rajan
 Dr John Kurien
 Dr K.J. Joseph
 Dr K.P. Kannan
 Dr P. Mohanan Pillai
 Dr D. Narayana
 Dr K. Navaneetham
 Dr K. Pushpangadan
 Dr N. Shanta
 Dr P. Sivanandan
 Dr Sunil Mani

Academic Programme Co-ordinators

Ph.D. Programme:

Dr V. Santhakumar (Co-ordinator)

M.Phil. Programme:

Dr K. Navaneetham (Co-ordinator)
 Dr N. Vijayamohan Pillai

Library Committee

Dr. D. Narayana (Chairperson)
 Smt. P. Sathi (Convenor)

Publication Committee

Dr K.Narayanan Nair (Chairperson)
 Shri Tilak Baker (Convenor)

Academic Committee

Dr K. Narayanan Nair (Chairperson)
 Dr P. Sivanandan (Convenor)

CDS Seminars and Invited Lectures

Dr K.J. Joseph (Chairperson)

Staff Welfare Fund

Dr P. Mohanan Pillai (Chairperson)
 Shri. M. Krishnankutty (Convenor)

Computer Committee

Dr K. Narayanan Nair (Chairman)
 Shri J. Muraleedharan Nair (Convenor)

Investment Committee

Dr K. Narayanan Nair (Chairman)
 Dr D. Narayana
 Shri C.G.Pankajakshan (Partner,Varma & Varma)

Committee on Sexual Harassment

Dr Mridul Eapen (Chairperson)

Ethics Committee

Dr K. Mohandas (Director, SCTIMST)
 Shri P.V. Balasubramonian (Lawyer, Trivandrum)
 Prof P.R. Gopinathan Nair (Convenor)



Staff Council

Dr K. Narayanan Nair (Ex-officio Chairman)
Smt K.B. Sreekumari (Convenor)

Hostel Warden

Dr P.L. Beena

Right to Information Act

Shri Tilak Baker (Information Officer)
Smt K.B. Sreekumari (Asst Information Officer)
Dr. K. Narayanan Nair, Director or
Shri Soman Nair, Registrar
(Appellate Information Officer)

LSG Advisory Committee

Professor N.R.Madhava Menon (Chairman)
Professor Prabhat Patnaik (Vice Chairman,
State Planning Board)
Shri. M .Vijayanand, Secretatry, LSG
Shri. V Ramachandran
Dr. P.K. Michael Tharakan
Dr. A. Vaidyanathan
Dr. M.A. Oommen
Dr. K.K. George
Director, KILA
Dr. K.Narayanan Nair
Dr. V. Santhakumar (Convenor)



FACULTY

Professor and Director

Narayanan Nair K.

Ph.D in Economics
(University of Kerala)

Research Interest: Agriculture and Rural Development
Decentralisation and Local Governments

Professors

Kannan K.P.

Ph.D in Development
Studies
(ISS, The Hague)
(On leave)

Research Interest: Development Economics, Poverty and
Human Development and Labour and Development

Chandan Mukherjee

Ph.D in Statistics
(ISI, Calcutta)
(On leave)

Research Interest: Quantitative Methods in Development Studies

Mohanan Pillai P.

Ph.D. in Economics
(University of Gujarat)

Research Interest: Industrial Economics, Development Economics

Pushpangadan K.

Ph.D in Economics
(Massachusetts,USA)

Research Interest: Industrial Economics,
Economics of Water Supply and Sanitation and Econometrics

John Kurien

Ph.D in Social Sciences
(TISS, Bombay)
(on leave)

Research Interest: Natural Resource Management
with special focus on Fisheries

Sivanandan P.

Ph.D in Economics
(University of Kerala)

Research Interest: Agrarian Change, Social and Economic
Inequality, Impact of Development Process,
Decentralised Governance

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Ph.D in Economics
(ISI Calcutta)

Research Interest: Population and Human Development

**Sunil Mani**

Ph.D in Economics
(JNU, New Delhi)

Research Interest: Measurement of Innovation, Innovation Policy Instruments and the Telecommunications Industry

Joseph K.J.

Ph.D in Economics
(JNU, New Delhi)

Research Interest: ICT and Development; Innovation Systems

Irudaya Rajan S.

Ph.D.in Demography
(IIPS, Bombay)

Research Interest: International Migration and Ageing

Navaneetham K.

Ph.D in Demography
(IIPS, Bombay)

Research Interest: Population, Health and Development

Shanta N.

Ph.D in Economics
(University of Kerala)

Research Interest: Industrial Economics, Applied Macro Economics

*Associate Professors***Udaya Shankar Mishra**

Ph.D in Population Studies
(IIPS, Bombay)

Research Interest: Population Policies and Programme Evaluation, Gender and Reproductive Health, Analytical and Measurement Issues in Health

Santhakumar V.

Ph.D in Economics
(IIT, Madras)

Research Interest: Environment and Natural Resources, Governance & Development, Impact Evaluation, Institutional Reforms, Law and Economics

Vijayamohan Pillai, N.

Ph.D in Econometrics-
Economics
(Madras University)

Research Interest: Public Utility (Energy) Economics; Political Economy; Development Economics; and Applied Statistics

Harilal, K.N.

Ph.D in Economics (JNU)
(On deputation)

Research Interests: International Political Economy, Regional Economy of Kerala and Democratic Decentralisation

Lekha Chakraborty

Ph.D in Economics
(JNU, New Delhi)

Research Interest: Public Economics, Public Finance Applies Macroeconomics, Gender, Applied Econometrics

**Pinaki Chakraborty**

Ph.D in Economics
(JNU, New Delhi)

Lecturers

Research Interest: Public Economics, Issues in Indian
Public Finance, Applied Macro Economics

Chinnappan Gasper

Ph.D in Education
Economics
(Pune University)

Research Interest: Economics of Education, Human Development

Praveena Kodoth

Ph.D in Economics
(University of Hyderabad)

Research Interest: Gender Studies

Devika, J

Ph.D in History
(MG University, Kottayam)

Research Interest: History of Malayalee Modernity,
Politics, Gender and Development in Contemporary Kerala
Feminist Research, Social Theory

Beena, P.L

Ph.D in Economics
(JNU, New Delhi)

Research Interest: Industrial Economics,
International Economics and Applied Micro Economics

Parameswaran, M

Ph.D in Economics
(JNU, New Delhi)

Research Interest: International Trade, Economic Growth,
Industrial Economics and Applied Econometrics

Hrushikesh Mallick

Ph.D in Economics
(University of Mysore)

Research Interest: Applied Macro Economics, Monetary
Economics and Public Finance

Vinoj Abraham

Ph.D in Economics
(JNU, New Delhi)

Research Interest: Labour Economics, Industrial Economics
Regional and Urban Economics, Technology and
Innovation and Development Economics

T.R. Dilip

Ph.D in Population Studies
(IIPS, Bombay)

Research Interest: Morbidity Analysis,
Health Financing and Human Development

Varghese V.J

Ph.D in History
(University of Hyderabad)

Research Interest: Migration, History of
Developmentalism and Economic Modernity, Making of Modern Malayalee Self



ADMINISTRATION

Soman Nair	<i>Registrar</i>
A.P.Phil Roy	<i>Administrative Officer</i>
K.M.Celin	<i>Confidential Assistant</i>

Academic Programme Office

T.S.Geetha Devi	<i>Programme Assistant</i>
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Faculty Support Services & Guest House

K.Muraleedharan	<i>Sr. Asst. Administrative Officer</i>
D.Girija	<i>Programme Assistant</i>
M.Krishnankutty	<i>Receptionist-Cum- Office Assistant</i>
M.Mohanan	<i>Guest House Attendant</i>

Publications

Tilak Baker	<i>Publication Officer</i>
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Finance

K.Reghuvara Panicker	<i>Finance Officer</i> (Retired on 31.5.2007)
A.Chandra	<i>Accounts Officer</i>
E.N.Sathy	<i>Accountant</i>
T.N.Anirutdhan	<i>Accountant</i>
K.Radhamoni	<i>Office Assistant</i>
S. Suresh	<i>Jr. Accountant</i>

Director's Office

S.Rajalekshmi	<i>P.A. to Director</i>
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Personnel

N.Suresh Chandran	<i>Sr. Asst. Administrative Officer</i>
K.Lekha	<i>Receptionist</i>

Campus Maintenance

T.Velappan Nair	<i>Campus Supervisor</i>
B.Sambasivan	<i>Campus Attendant</i>
G.Vijayan	<i>Campus Attendant</i>
N.Muraleedharan	<i>Gardener</i>
P. Sivadasan	<i>Messenger</i> (Retired on 31.5.2007)

Transport

V.Surendran	<i>Driver Grade I</i>
E.N.Thankappan	<i>Cleaner</i>

Security

Kadak Bahadur	<i>Watchman</i>
P.R.Gopidas	<i>Watchman</i> (Retired on 31.12.2007)

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J.Muraleedharan Nair	<i>Systems Manager</i>
K.B.Sreekumari	<i>Asst. Administrative Officer</i>

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M. Chidambaram Pillai	<i>Librarian-in-charge</i> (Retired on 31.12.2007)
P.Southamini	<i>Confidential Assistant</i>
R.Krishnankutty	<i>Messenger</i>
K. Ramachandran	<i>Messenger</i> (Retired on 30.6.2007)

Circulation

P.Sathi	<i>Senior Assistant Librarian</i>
G.P.Anitha	<i>Assistant Librarian</i>
R.Sobhana	<i>Office Assistant</i>

Acquisition and Technical

Sosamma Mathew	<i>Senior Assistant Librarian</i>
Ansamma Joseph	<i>Assistant Librarian</i>
K.Vijayamma	<i>Programme Assistant</i>

Periodicals and Binding

V.Ushadevi	<i>Deputy Librarian & Librarian-in-charge</i>
Shobhana Kannan	<i>Assistant Librarian</i> (on leave)
Ameer Ali	<i>Assistant Librarian</i>

Information Products & Services Section

V.K.Anil Kumar	<i>Senior Assistant Librarian</i>
S.Gopakumar	<i>Assistant Librarian</i>

Honorary Fellows / Associate Fellows

Honorary Fellows

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Former Chairman, CDS Governing Body.

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Former Vice-Chairman,
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P.S.George

Former Director & Fellow, CDS.

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Former Fellow, CDS.

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Former Fellow, CDS and Honourable Minister for Finance,
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Mridul Eapen

Former Fellow, CDS and Member, Kerala State Planning
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Damodaran A.D.

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GOVERNING BODY

Professor N.R.Madhava Menon, Former Director, National Judicial Academy, Bhopal.	(Chairman)
Sri Teeka Ram Meena Secretary to the Government of Kerala, Planning & Economic Affairs, Trivandrum	Member
Professor Anjan Mukherji, Centre for Economic Studies and Planning, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.	”
Shri V. Ramachandran Chairman, Centre for Management Development, Trivandrum	”
Professor B.B. Bhattacharya Vice Chancellor, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.	”
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Professor B. Alwin Prakash, Head of the Department of Economics, University of Kerala, Trivandrum.	”
Professor S.Mahendra Dev, Director, Centre for Economic and Social Studies, Hyderabad.	”
Professor K.K.Subrahmanian, Honorary Fellow, CDS, Trivandrum.	”
Professor P.R. Gopinathan Nair, Honorary Fellow, CDS, Trivandrum.	”
Professor P.Mohanan Pillai, Fellow, CDS, Trivandrum.	”
Professor P.Sivanandan, Fellow, CDS, Trivandrum.	”
Professor K.Narayanan Nair, Director, CDS, Trivandrum.	Convenor