

ANNUAL REPORT 2020-21



CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, KERALA

(Under the aegis of Govt. of Kerala & Indian Council of Social Science Research)



Hon'ble Dr. Manmohan Singh, Former Prime Minister of India, launching a book titled *Kerala and the World Economy* to commemorate Fifty Years of CDS on 2 November, 2020.



Dr T M Thomas Isaac, Hon'ble Minister for Finance, Government of Kerala, receiving the first copy of the book *Kerala and the World Economy* released at the function held to commemorate Fifty Years of CDS, on 2 November, 2020.



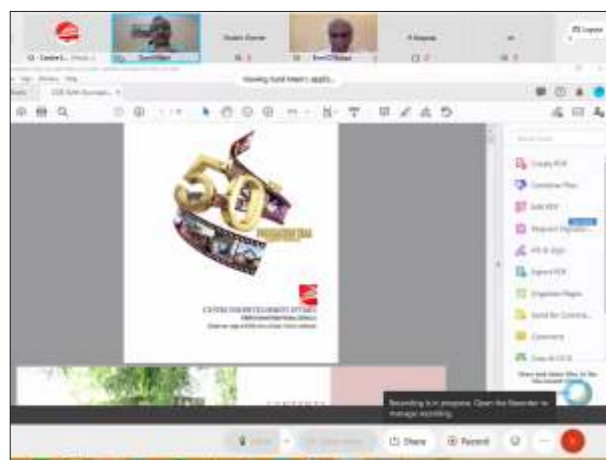
Professor Sonalde Desai, Professor of Sociology, University of Maryland and Professor and Centre Director, NCAER-National Data Innovation Center, New Delhi delivering The 11th BG Kumar Lecture on 5 November, 2020.



Professor Devesh Kapur, Director of Asian Programs, Johns Hopkins University, USA delivering The 10th P. K. Gopalakrishnan Memorial Lecture on 14 December, 2020.



Professor Mihir Shah, Former Member, Planning Commission and Co-founder, Samaj Pragati Sahayog, delivering the KN Raj Memorial Lecture held on 10 March, 2021.



Releasing of the CDS 50th Foundation Year Souvenir by Professor Errol D'Souza, IIM, Ahmedabad, on 22 March, 2021.

CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

Annual Report 2020-21



Centre for Development Studies

(Under the aegis of Govt. of Kerala and Indian Council of Social Science Research)

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(As on 31 March, 2021)

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The Centre gratefully acknowledges support received from:

- Government of Kerala
- Planning Board, Government of Kerala
- Indian Council of Social Science Research
- University Grants Commission
- Jawaharlal Nehru University
- University of Kerala
- Reserve Bank of India
- NITI Aayog, Government of India
- Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India

Several other Central and State Government agencies and institutions have supported the Centre's academic and research activities. We are grateful to them.

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1

OVERVIEW

During the year 2020-21 the Centre for Development Studies celebrated its 50th Foundation Year. The Centre was established as an autonomous social science research institute on 19 October 1970.

It was the leadership and vision of Shri C. AchuthaMenon, Chief Minister of Kerala that led to the creation of several research centres in Kerala in different disciplines related to the development of the State. He was able to persuade legendary development economist Professor K. N. Raj to set up the Centre and provide intellectual leadership. Professor Raj continued to remain the driving force behind all academic activities of CDS for over two decades. CDS was also fortunate to have Laurie Baker, a radically innovative architect, visualise and design its campus and buildings in a distinctive but cost-effective manner. The architectural splendour of CDS campus is the result of this vision and effort of Laurie Baker.

True to its tradition, the 50th Foundation Year celebrations were only in terms of academic activities like organising lectures and seminars on different aspects of India and Kerala's economy and society. Over the last 50 years the centre has shaped itself into a centre of excellence in development studies. The last four decades or so it has produced a large collection of academic research scholars, policy analysts, economic journalists and civil society activists. A noteworthy feature is that the research and teaching has a distinct flavour in terms of being evidence-based and very often in leading academic discourse on a variety of development topics. Several new research series, new category of research scholars, internationalization of teaching and research, new training programmes and automation of administrative functions started during this year are very much underway.

It is also a matter of great satisfaction that the CDS has been able to produce many distinguished alumni who have excelled in their careers. Dedicated faculty members, staff and students and many others have been instrumental in guiding the Centre throughout its glorious 50 years of growth.

Over the past fifty years, CDS has crossed several milestones. During the 1970s, although a large part of academic research conducted at CDS was devoted to issues pertaining to the national economy, it was natural that CDS researchers devoted significant attention to



issues pertaining to the economy and society of Kerala, given CDS's location. The widely acclaimed Kerala model of development was an outcome of academic research conducted at CDS during this time. In the mid-1970s, CDS became an institution affiliated to the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) and started receiving a part of its core funding from this agency. Right from its inception, CDS emphasised on training of young researchers and it launched MPhil and PhD programmes, recognised by Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. It also ran a PhD programme affiliated to the University of Kerala.

Over the past decades, CDS has diversified its research into a large number of areas. Some of the topics that received significant attention in the 1970s and 1980s are no longer in vogue, while new areas of research concern have emerged in the field of development studies. It is also worth mentioning that the Centre received prestigious endowment funds from different government agencies to set up dedicated research units in recent years to focus on specific areas like local government, migration and plantation development. Needless to mention, CDS has been attracting sponsored project research funding from several national and international organisations for carrying out research on various dimensions of development.

Another major milestone for CDS in 2012 was the launch of its MA programme in Applied Economics. This is a unique Master's programme in Economics that aims at providing a rigorous training in theory, tools and methods for applied economic analysis, with a special focus on issues of economic development. The degree is awarded by Jawaharlal Nehru University (New Delhi). The introduction of the MA programme marked a paradigm shift in CDS's academic profile. Faculty members now devote a significant part of their time to teaching courses in this full-fledged programme, over and above their research commitments and research supervision.

Personnel

With a view to attract and retain faculty at CDS, seed money for research support to the tune of 4 lakhs per faculty member for a cycle of five years has been implemented. This year several faculty members availed of this facility.

A reservation policy for faculty recruitments at CDS has also been implemented and will be provided at all the three cadres of teaching positions, namely Assistant Professor, Associate Professor and Professor.

Academic Programmes

The three degree programmes – MA in Applied Economics, Integrated MPhil/PhD in Applied Economics & PhD in Economics are the three pillars of the Centre's academic activities. The MA, MPhil and PhD degrees are awarded by Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU). From 2014-15 onwards, CDS had introduced an integrated MPhil/PhD programme whereby on completion of MPhil with a stipulated result, students would be automatically entitled to get admitted for the PhD Programme. 470 students from the 42 batches till 2017-19 have been awarded the MPhil Degree. The final batch of the Programme (2019-21) commenced on August 01, 2019 and they are now in the process of submitting their dissertations. Following the New Education Policy 2020, CDS has decided to discontinue the programme.



To bring about more international exposure to research students, the PhD Internship Abroad (PIA) programme launched in 2016-17 enables PhD scholars to spend time in research work at an institute of repute in any part of the world. This year due to COVID-19 pandemic, the PIA programme stands suspended till further notice.

Under the Integrated MPhil/PhD programme, 12 candidates were admitted in 2018 for the Integrated MPhil/PhD programme. Five out of the twelve students submitted their MPhil dissertations. They are automatically eligible for admission to PhD programme (Provisional) in 2020, as per JNU regulations. Four students joined the PhD programme; one student discontinued from the programme. Eleven students joined the Direct PhD Programme on January 04, 2021.

In the year 2020-21, 15 scholars were admitted for PhD Programme and 25 students for the MA programme. The total number of students pursuing their doctoral research during the year was 39. This year one PhD degree was awarded and four scholars were awarded Ph.D degree in the last reporting period which is reported this year.

The MA programme is now into the eighth batch. In view of Covid 19, admission process of 2020 MA programme consisted of two stages. In the first stage, candidates were short listed for an online interview on the basis of their weighted-aggregate of marks (in percentage) in Plus two and Bachelor's degree. The shortlisted candidates were called for an online interview and final selection was done solely on the basis of the interview. Of the 861 applications received, 200 candidates were shortlisted for online interview. Finally 23 students from India joined the programme.

The SAARC scholarship for MA students, launched in 2016-17 provides five scholarships to students from SAARC countries that enrol in the MA programme. This year two applications were received for MA Applied Economics Programme, one from Bhutan and the other from Afghanistan. Both of them joined the course. The SAARC Scholarship is made possible by the generous funding of the State government which enables our MA programme to go international.

Research

Research at the Centre extends beyond pure academic research and focuses on policy oriented research that acts as important academic input for informed policy making. This has been a part of CDS's mission right from its inception and this component of research often accounts for a significant share of faculty's research time. Many of these policy research outputs may not necessarily take the form of academic publications. Nevertheless, the Centre is able to record over -192 publications in the year 2020-21.

By agreement among the faculty, the research output of the Centre is presented here under the rubrics Culture and Development; Decentralisation and Governance; Gender and Development; Human Development, Health and Education; Industry and Trade; Innovation and Technology; Labour, Employment and Social Security; Macroeconomic Performance; Migration; Plantation Crops; Politics and Development and Others. The studies are listed individually with abstracts in Chapter II.



Research Projects / sponsored Studies

During the year the faculty remained actively engaged in conducting sponsored research projects. A study on ‘Disciplinary vs. Neoliberal Governmentality? Understanding Agency in the Pallichal Panchayat,’ sponsored under the RULSG research grant is an attempt to make sense of politics and agency of the residents of the Pallichal panchayat who have been sharply polarized, around the issue of intensifying granite mining in the sprawling hill adjoining the panchayat, the Mookkunnimala, was completed under the theme *Decentralization and Governance*

Two projects, ‘Industrialization for Jobs and Growth: A Case Study of Cellular Mobile Phone Manufacturers in India,’ sponsored by Indira Gandhi Institute for Development Research & Ford Foundation tries to understand the mobile manufacturing segment in India. The second project titled ‘Structure, Direction and Export contribution of Cochin SEZ in Kerala,’ sponsored by the Research unit on Kerala and the World Economy aims at locating the participation of leading firms in the global value chains and the nature of the production process. Both the projects were completed under the theme *Industry and Trade*.

A study under the theme, *Plantation Crops* titled ‘The Quality and Productivity of Rubber Board,’ sponsored by the Rubber Board, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India was carried out to analyse the performance of the Rubber Board (RB) during the ten-year period beginning 2010-11. Another study titled ‘An Analysis of the Producer Collectives in Rubber and Coffee Cultivation,’ sponsored by the NRPPD (CDS) does a comparative analysis of two unrelated commercial crops, Coffee and Rubber. The focus is to bring out the differences in collectivization efforts in these two crops.

A study titled ‘Beyond Aesthetic Education: The Malayali Engagement with Humanities,’ sponsored by CIPSH and UNESCO, grouped under *Other Studies* offers some preliminary reflections on the shifts and transformations within the intellectual spheres of the humanities which have shaped Kerala’s cultural ethos in recent decades.

A research project sponsored under the Research Unit, Kerala and the World Economy, Government of Kerala, on ‘Migration, Remittances and Dutch Disease: Evidence from Kerala Economy,’ was completed under the theme *Macroeconomic Performance*. Two studies were carried out under *Migration* this year; one was on ‘Natural Disasters and Household Migration in Kerala,’ sponsored by the World Bank and the other on ‘Migration, Remittances and Dutch Disease: Evidence from Kerala Economy,’ sponsored by the Research Programme on Kerala and World Economy

Ongoing research projects and new projects initiated during the year include two new initiatives under the theme *Innovation and Technology* include a study on ‘Automation and Manufacturing Employment, Case of India’s Automotive Industry, and a study on ‘Innovation performance of India’s Pharmaceutical Industry vs Computer Software Industry-,’ both sponsored by Ford foundation.

Another new initiative under the theme *Politics and Development*, titled ‘A Comparative Assessment of Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) and Community Action using Norms,’ sponsored by ICIMOD, Nepal will investigate the effectiveness of Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) in comparison to other forest restoration measures involving tax/penalty and those that develop community action using norms.



Several projects on *Migration* are ongoing during the year. They include studies sponsored by the UAE Exchange Centre LLC on ‘Should We Provide incentives for Investment Use of Remittances? A Randomized Controlled Experiment for India,’ a study on ‘Return Migrant Survey 2020,’ sponsored by Research Programme on International Migration from Kerala, and a study on ‘The prospects and impact of migration at the local level through a village census,’ sponsored by the Kerala in the World Economy Programme/CDS. A study sponsored by UNICEF, India on ‘Evidence Generation on Child Migration: A State Level Study of Tamil Nadu and Kerala,’ was initiated during the year.

An ongoing research study on ‘Collective Action among Small Tea Growers (STG)’ sponsored by the National Research Programme on Plantation Development (NRPPD) under the theme *Plantation Crops* is underway during this year. Another four ongoing studies sponsored by NRPPD include ‘Performance of Rubber Producer Societies in Rubber;’ ‘An assessment of the impact of Self-help groups on Small Tea growers;’ ‘Performance of Farmer Producer Organisations in Coffee,’ and ‘Feasibility of e-auction in rubber.’

Under the theme *Gender and Development*, a new initiative the proposed study ‘Flexible Work Arrangements and Gendered Outcomes: Impact of COVID-19 in India,’ sponsored by the ICSSR will explore the implications of COVID-19 on flexible work arrangements. That is, how men’s and women’s paid work hours, unpaid work hours and their working arrangements changed during the pandemic and how they are manifesting at present. Second, we will investigate the gendered outcomes of flexible work arrangements.

Outreach

As part of its effort to disseminate research activities, the Centre conducts a number of conferences, seminars, and workshops. Open seminars and webinars are given by faculty and researchers from other institutions and from within the country as well as abroad. This year 29 open seminars/webinars were conducted. In addition to this, 16 seminars were given by the faculty and students. CDS also organised several national seminars, conferences and workshops and academic discussions with distinguished speakers from India and abroad including one Short-term training Programmes. Four annual Public lectures were also organised.

The 50th Foundation Day Lecture on “Economics and Politics of the Unemployment Problem in Indian Democracy” was delivered by Prof. AmitBhaduri-Honorary Fellow, CDS on 19 October, 2020.

The 11th BG Kumar Lecture on “Economic Transformation, Growth of the Middle Class and Family Change in India” was delivered by Professor Sonalde Desai, Professor of Sociology, University of Maryland and Professor and Centre Director, NCAER-National Data Innovation Center, New Delhi on 5 November, 2020.

The 10th P. K. Gopalakrishnan Memorial Lecture on “Why Does the Indian State Both Fail and Succeed?” was delivered by Professor Devesh Kapur, Director of Asian Programs, Johns Hopkins University, USA on 14 December, 2020.

The 50th Foundation Day Lecture on “Economics and Politics of the Unemployment Problem in Indian Democracy” by Prof. AmitBhaduri-Honorary Fellow, CDS on 19 October, 2020



K N Raj Memorial Lecture “Reading KN Raj in the Age of Free Market Fundamentalism” was delivered by Dr Mihir Shah, Distinguished Professor, Shiv Nadar University on 10 March, 2021.

CDS has continued with its tradition of conducting short term training programmes, even though some of the programmes had to be cancelled due to the Covid-19 situation.

The CDS conducted its ‘Teaching Innovations Programme for College Teachers in Economics (TIPE)’ during 15-26 February, 2021. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic the regular capacity building programme for doctoral candidates of SC/ST and other marginalised groups could not be conducted this year. This programme, funded by ICSSR, will engage with participants and provide them with intensive training on specific basic courses that form the core to teaching applied economics with an extra focus on delivering courses specifically through online mode of teaching. This programme is scheduled to start towards the end of July 2021.

The short-term Norwegian Training Programme held for students from the Department of International Development at the Norwegian University of Life Sciences (NULS) was not possible this year due to the pandemic.

The CDS organised 29 seminars/webinars, one national conference, 16 Foundation Day Lectures and 4 Public Lectures. The Centre’s faculty and students have been invited to speak at conferences/seminars/workshops/ roundtables etc., both in India (143) and abroad (24). Many of the faculty have served as members of committees, task force, and advisory bodies at the national and international level.

The Centre’s outreach activities extend beyond conferences, workshops, training etc. The CDS library has always been kept open for researchers, college lecturers, students and members of the public CDS faculty members have been informally interacting with them to provide their academic and intellectual inputs. An opportunity to institutionalise this had emerged in 2010. The then Finance Minister of Kerala Dr. Thomas Isaac, a distinguished Alumni who was a faculty and is presently Honorary Fellow of the Centre, had made available in his budget the sum of Rs. 1 crore to constitute a K.N. Raj Endowment at the Centre. The income from this generous grant is to be used mainly for lecturers and others in Kerala to use the academic resources of the Centre for research and for putting together teaching material. Hence, a training programme, Teaching Innovations Programme for College Teachers in Economics (TIPE), for teachers working in universities and colleges in Kerala was organised during February this year. The Centre also provided research affiliations to researchers from the UK, USA and the Netherlands for a period of study at the Centre.

As part of celebrating the 50th Foundation year, a series of lectures titled 50th Foundation Year Lecture Series were conducted by eminent scholars from international and national universities and institutions from January 2020 to March 2021.

The new category of scholars known as ‘Visiting Professors/ Fellows’ initiated in 2017-18 is continuing this year. Appointments to this category are based on invitation only and represent eminent scholarship in a range of topics that are of importance to Centre’s increasing teaching and research responsibilities.



Furthering Internationalization of both teaching and research the Centre is collaborating with the Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology (IIST), Trivandrum to complement each other's teaching and research activities in humanities and social sciences.

CDS has already signed Memorandum of Agreement with UNU MERIT, Maastricht, The Netherlands, IDE and GRIPS, Tokyo and Norwegian University of Life Sciences.

Training programmes for college teachers in Economics in addition to certificate courses offered by the CDS was carried out during the year.

As per a report on India's social science research prepared by NAASDOC, CDS is ranked number one among the ICSSR institutions in terms of the number of publications during 2016 through 2020 period, with a high rank in terms of citations. Three CDS authors, Professors S.IrudayaRajan, U S Mishra and Sunil Mani, are in the top 10 in terms of the number of publications and H-index, with Prof. IrudayaRajan occupying the first rank.

Infrastructure Development

During the reporting year no major civil works were carried out, however routine maintenance work related to the day-to-day activities was ongoing. With the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic, efforts to sanitize the campus, guest house, hostels, cafeteria, office blocks was done three times during the year. Special arrangements were made in the hostel rooms and Guest house for those who were quarantined. Supplies of medicines and PPE kits were also made available.

Maintenance work including leak proofing and strengthening the ceiling portion of the Gulati Block in consultation with experts from College of Engineering, purchase and installation of 6KVA UPS with batteries in the Server room and Panikar blocks, purchase and installation of an Aquaguard water purifier in Krishnan building were some of the other activities that were carried out.

For the systematic maintenance and upkeep of the campus a nurturing calendar from 2019 January onwards has been introduced. This is to ensure a safe, clean and well maintained campus throughout the year by following the calendar schedule.

Finances

During the year, the Government of Kerala and the Indian Council of Social Science Research have provided Grant-in-Aid to the Centre, whose support is gratefully acknowledged. The Government of Kerala provided a total Grant-in-Aid of Rs.532.27 lakh and the Indian Council of Social Science Research Rs. 285.00 lakh. The Centre earned a total income of Rs.43.72 lakh as rent from residences and guest house, tuition fee, interest from banks, fee from teaching and training programmes and faculty and overhead costs received from sponsored research programmes. During the year, income from the CDS Endowment Fund and Research Endowments amounted to Rs.359.60 lakh and Rs.178.19 lakh, respectively. The Centre's policy has been to manage its activities and operations at the minimum cost possible without compromising on essential needs and the quality of its output. The Investment Committee aimed to achieve best possible growth of the Centre's



funds by investment in high-yielding and risk-free investments. The Annual Accounts are presented in Chapter X.

The Centre gratefully acknowledges support received from the State Planning Board, Government of Kerala, Indian Council of Social Science Research, NITI Aayog, Reserve Bank of India, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Jawaharlal Nehru University, University of Kerala and the University Grants Commission.

Several other Central and State Government agencies and institutions have supported the Centre's academic and research activities. We remain extremely grateful to them.

2

RESEARCH

This chapter provides a brief description of the studies that were done and are in progress during the year 2020-21. As in the previous year, they are grouped into broad thematic groups. However, given the inter-linkages between various themes, it is difficult to avoid some overlapping. A total of 112 studies are presented in this chapter

CULTURE AND DEVELOPMENT

Completed Studies

1. Gendered Childhoods to Gender-Neutral Childhoods? Reflections on the History of Childhood in Kerala

J. Devika

This paper is a preliminary and tentative account of the changing regimes of childhood in Malayali society in a period that spans nearly two centuries, culminating in the present. I argue that instead of stories of linear change, we need more complex analyses of the specific ‘regimes of childhood’ in order to get a better grasp over the contemporary politics of childhood and its intertwining with the politics of gender. In this paper, I identify four such regimes – ‘responsible parenting’, ‘Romantic childhood’, ‘aspirational regime’, and ‘child-governance’ – which have been advanced with different degrees of success and acceptance, and an emergent fifth regime, of securitised childhood. I elaborate on these drawing from a variety of writings from the late 19th century to present-day Malayali society and the wealth of social science research on contemporary Kerala which focuses on children and youth.

Status: To be presented at a seminar at ICAS organized by Janaki Nair and Mary E John. This was postponed due to COVID from March 2020. The paper has been further revised.

2. Categorical Oppression: Performance of Identity in South India

Jayaseelan Raj

What does ‘identity’ really mean for the migrant workforce beyond its function in production relations? How are forms of identity evoked within broader social relations in a mi- grant context? This article explores these questions by looking at how the Tamil Dalit



tea workers in the South Indian state of Kerala experience the stigmatisation of their identity categories in the context of two significant events that occurred in the tea belt—an economic crisis and a conflict between two states over managing a dam. The way ‘migrant’ workers are categorised in their ‘host’ society is discussed here as fundamental to how they experience life both in and out of their workplaces. Extending Philippe Bourgois's notion of conjugated oppression, I argue that when dominant groups stigmatise, evoke and employ certain aspects of the workers' identities to their disadvantage, they are engaging in a phenomenon that I call ‘categorical oppression’.

Status: Published, *The Australian Journal of Anthropology*. Vol. 31 (3): 288-302.

New Initiatives

3. Unearthing Ancestors: Role of Oral History in Reclaiming Indigenous Livelihood in Western Ghats, South India

Abhilash T

Indigenous communities in south India, particularly those who live in the lower elevations of the Western Ghats have been going through an unprecedented level of cultural assimilation by Hindu caste communities. These indigenous communities traditionally worshiped nature and ancestors, mostly the dead, for survival. Many of them were hunter-gatherer communities and followed slash and burn shifting cultivation for centuries for survival carried their gods in the forest-clad hills and forest of Western Ghats. Oral traditions of these communities, especially Mala Araya, go back to three centuries, depicting the distinct nature of their livelihood and cultural practices. The British colonial government included the indigenous population of south India in the cultural category within the more prominent Hindu fold by claiming that these indigenous cultures closely resemble Hindu culture and belief. After independence, indigenous populations constitutionally become Scheduled Tribe (ST) as per the constitution, but religiously, many were categorised and included in the broader Hindu fold. It negated their distinct cultural identity as a heterogeneous group. Lack of a written or ethnographic history forces them to assimilate into the caste Hindu social system, thereby losing their indigenous culture and traditions. Therefore, this research will explore the oral history tracts such as the social memory of Mala Araya community, which has a long history of settled agricultural practices and hunting and gathering. By gathering information on the community's oral tradition by interviewing elders and analyzing colonial documents such as government reports and colonial ethnographic studies, this paper attempts to establish distinct cultural and livelihood practices of the indigenous population in Western Ghat. It is essential to deliberate over the dichotomies of myth viz-a-viz oral history to create a non-literary facticity.

Status: Research Plan for 2021-22.

DECENTRALISATION AND GOVERNANCE

Ongoing Studies

4. Local Governments and the Politics of Post-Disaster Planning: The Case of the Puthenvelikkara Panchayat

J. Devika, Anamika Ajay (National Institute of Advanced Studies, Indian Institute of Science Campus, Bengaluru) and Arathy M.R. (Freelance Journalist)

Scholars evaluating the consequences of decentralisation reforms in Kerala over the years have noted how there is now an increasing separation between political decision making on



issues impacting the local as ‘high politics’ and local governance (Williams, 2004; Devika and Thampi, 2006). That is, the power and autonomy of the LSGIs are limited to the procedures and the everyday aspects of welfare delivery resulting in what can be termed a depoliticization of the LSGIs to some extent. As a result, many decisions related to the use of land and other natural resources that come within the jurisdiction of LSGIs are often taken by the state and central governments. Moreover, it is also important to acknowledge that the proliferation of illegal quarrying and mining in many villages in Kerala cannot occur without the knowledge and co-operation from different tiers of government. Some of the catastrophic outcomes of the unholy partnerships between the bureaucracy, capital, political leadership and the different tiers of governance including the LSGIs were made visible during the deluge in Kerala in 2018 and the numerous forms of local protests against natural resource exploitation in the state.

It is therefore important to investigate the nature of interactions between these actors namely the bureaucracy, political leadership, LSGIs, local elites, state and central governments on issues pertaining to environmental protection and natural resource management. This is especially important to understand the causes of flooding in the region under study as well as to gain deeper insights into the conflicts between the local people on one side and the governance machineries on the other. This work focuses on the panchayat of Puthenvelikkara in Ernakulam district, which took the brunt of the deluge of 2018 and the flash floods of 2019. It seeks to gain deeper insight into the post-disaster response and the longer-term planning undertaken by the LSG as well as the role played by other elements of local government, especially the Kudumbasree. The research questions are:

1. To capture the inequalities in the ways in which disasters and recovery are experienced by the affected communities.
2. To understand the development needs and aspirations of the local people affected by the disaster.
3. To document the policies, measures, actions, protocols that were introduced as a part of the entire process of disaster management- disaster preparedness, early warning, immediate relief, rehabilitation and long-term disaster recovery processes undertaken by different tiers of government and their interactions with the formal disaster management organisations like the District Disaster Management Authority.
4. To understand whose voices among the disaster-affected communities get heard, framed and communicated while designing the short-term and long-term responses to disasters. And to analyse how the experience of floods has influenced the local development plan as well as the local disaster management Plan of the Gram Panchayats in 2019-20 and 2020-21.
5. To understand the impact of disaster management (rescue, relief and rehabilitation activities) on local politics and the nature of interactions between the LSGIs and the higher tiers of governments in the post-disaster context.
6. To understand the interactions between civil society organisations and the LSGI in the context of disaster recovery.
7. To understand the impact of the disaster and disaster recovery processes on inter-community relations.

Status: Final draft expected by July 2021. (To be considered for inclusion in the CDS-RULSG Monograph Series on Ecological Challenges and Local Self-Government Responses in Kerala)



Completed Research Projects

5. Disciplinary vs. Neoliberal Governmentality? Understanding Agency in the Pallichal Panchayat

J. Devika

Sponsor: RULSG grant research

This study is an attempt to make sense of politics and agency of the residents of the Pallichalpanchayat who have been sharply polarized, at least since 2014, around the issue of intensifying granite mining in the sprawling hill adjoining the panchayat, the Mookkunnimala (MM from now). That year, a group of concerned residents of the panchayat formed the Mookkunnimala Samrakshana Samiti (MSS), a civil social organization whose membership cut across political, caste, and community boundaries, and which involved a large number of women in public protests. The formation of the MSS was an oppositional-civil social response against the tightening spatial domination of quarry capital on public spaces in Pallichal, including public roads, and the panchayat itself. As the resource plunder on the hill accelerated, so did the grip of quarry capital on the panchayat, which, during the heydays of the People's Planning Campaign, was considered a place of relatively successful experimentation with local bottoms-up development. This essay consists of three substantial sections followed by a conclusion. The section that follows has to do with the history of spatial change and resource ownership or access in the areas on and around the MM since the nineteenth century, reconstructed mostly from the interviews and triangulated with other sources as far as possible. The subsequent sections examine the nature of the agency of the MSS activists and the residents on or around the MM who have actively supported predatory quarrying there, respectively. The conclusion pulls together the arguments, reflects on the broader question of policy, regarding changing the institutional framework of Kerala's panchayati raj to address questions of socio-economic justice, as well as the question of Partha Chatterjean 'political society' in times of neoliberal governance.

Status: Ready for presentation and the review process to be considered for the RULSG series on Ecological Challenges and Local Self-Government Responses.

GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT

Completed Studies

6. Kerala State, India: Twenty-First Century Puzzles in Sexual and Reproductive Freedoms

J. Devika

This short essay is a commentary piece on potential themes for research about sexual health and reproductive freedoms in Kerala State. It gives a short historical account on the developments in the discourse of sexuality and gender from the 1990s onwards and discusses new political assertions of sexual identity and the claiming of rights by new communities, of sexual and gender minorities.

Status: To appear in the Special Issue on South Asia of the journal *Sexual and Reproductive Health Matters*.



7. Gender, Caste, and Abjected Space: A History of Kerala's 'Slum Women' and their Work

J. Devika

In this article I trace the histories of caste and gender in an underprivileged urban community in a major city in Kerala. This is based on three years of fieldwork and over forty interviews with residents, mostly women residents of the slum. I argue that the new egalitarian politics call for a far closer understanding of abjected space, secularized caste, and naturalized gender as axes that shape inequalities in the world of work, and not just in the family, community, and class. 'Abjected space' refers to the way in which certain spaces are perceived of as containing elements often necessary to the consolidation of the dominant, but are even dangerous, even monstrous, and therefore subjected to constant surveillance and control. 'Secularized caste' refers to the refurbishment of caste power within nationalist and developmentalist models, under which traditional justifications of caste inequality are replaced with "modern" rationales such as hygiene and "culture". By 'naturalized gender' I mean the underpinning of the male-female binary and its attendant spatial coordinates on 'biological foundationalism', i.e., the claim that the binary gender divide represents the "natural foundations" of society which can however, be actualized through social effort.

Status: Published in Mary E John and Meena Gopal (eds), *Women in the Worlds of Labour: Interdisciplinary and Intersectional Perspectives*, Hyderabad: Orient Blackswan, 2021.

8. Women's Labour, Patriarchy, and Feminism in 21st Century Kerala: Reflections on a Glocal Present

J. Devika

This paper focuses on two sites in late 20th-early 21st century Malayali society to examine the transformative effects of global flows on the gender dynamics of each – labour and feminist interventions – to reflect on the shape of, and resistance to, post-liberalisation patriarchy in Kerala. As is well-known, the labour migration to the Persian Gulf from Kerala from the 1970s is a decisive flow that has impacted all aspects of life here. Its impact on the family as a procreative unit has, however, been only probed superficially; I argue that the opening of the global job market, combined with other features of contemporary Malayali society has transformed the very functioning of the nuclear-family unit. In feminist politics, global flows have led to the surfacing of several 'regulative universals', and these flows take place through a variety of channels. The clash now is no longer between the indigenous and the foreign, but between 'glocally-generated' hybrids.

Status: Published in Sujatha V (ed) *Global Capital and Social Difference: Beyond Dialectics and Embeddedness*, New Delhi: Routledge, 2020.

9. Women's Participation in Domestic Activities Leisure, Care Services, and Status Production

Vinoj Abraham

This study aimed to analyse the rising share of women in unpaid domestic activities, as against the declining female labour participation rates in India. This issue has received only scant attention in literature despite its phenomenal size and growth in the last three decades, as analytically this category is considered a residual activity, and most studies have tried to



explain the changes in domestic activities as a fallout of the declining female labour participation rates. This study tried to instate that domestic activity among women is not a residual activity; rather, it is central to women's work life in a patriarchal society. The dis-empowered woman through the process of marginalisation within the society engages in status production for the household, who values status as a desirable good. Evidence provide support to the above argument

Status: Published in the edited volume: *Labouring Women: Issues and Challenges in Contemporary India* edited by Jha, Praveen, Avinash Kumar and Yamini Mishra, Publisher: Orient BlackSwan.

Ongoing Studies

10. Financial Incentives and Fertility Choices: Evidence from India

Tirtha Chatterjee and Ritika Jain

This paper estimates the impact of a maternity cash transfer programme, *Indira Gandhi MatritvaSahyogYojana*, implemented in India since 2011 on fertility choices. Since the scheme restricts benefits to first two births, we ask whether there is an impact on the likelihood of birth in districts where the scheme was implemented. Given the ingrained son preference in the social and cultural construct of India, we also test whether the scheme has affected likelihood of female births. Our results give evidence in support of “stopping rule” and we find that treated households reduce births only when their first two births are sons. Also the likelihood of a female birth is lower for households with first two daughters. We find that the impact is higher among households residing in eastern states of India and those belonging to the poorest and least educated quantile. We further find that post implementation of the scheme mothers and children are less likely to get care for higher order births.

Status: Ongoing (Expected date of completion:2 months)

New Initiatives

11. Gender Inclusive Action Plan for Climate Change, KoipramPanchayat.

J. Devika and Praveena Sanjay (WISE, Pune)

Focusing on a large wetland, *Varaachal*, on the banks of the *Pampa River* in the *Pathanamthitta* district of *Kerala*, this research aims at producing a gender-inclusive action plan for climate change adaptation and resilience for the inhabitants of three extremely flood-prone wards of the *Koiprampanchayat* adjacent to the water body. This research accompanies and complements development action to restore the ecological health of this invaluable water source by organizing sustainable livelihood practices that may serve to protect the health of the *Varaachal* in connection with the *gramapanchayat* and the *KrishiBhavan*. The Gender Action Plan is to be prepared through qualitative field work with women who live around the *Varaachal*. The aims of the gender action plan are: The proposed key objectives of the Gender Action Plan would be based on ‘specific needs assessment’ and ‘impact assessment’ of the Post-Kerala floods on their village and are given below.



- Assess the participation of women in current productive practices and livelihood generation, their inherent knowledge of traditional and sustainable agricultural practices, and promote women-led and women-focused wetland management, sustainable agriculture strategies, and livelihood generation, especially at the household level (through use of flood-resistant seeds, vegetable cultivation, animal farming, etc).
- Assess the implications of such climate-related disasters (floods) on women and ensure equitable participation of men and women in all aspects of decision-making in climate-resilient water management practices (e.g. rainwater harvesting) and climate adaptation.
- Develop and ensure women's equal participation and management in water committees.
- Assess women's (and men's) technology choices, uses and needs, their knowledge on climate impacts and disaster preparedness and ensure equitable participation in the management of climate adaptation knowledge and tools, use of appropriate technologies (eg, renewable energy), a gender-sensitive approach to disaster preparedness, etc., through capacity building and awareness programs.
- Integrate women's health programs with climate-resilient water management practices, if possible.
- Any other objective found suitable and relevant.

Status: To be published by WISE, Pune. (Final draft to be expected by end of May 2021)

12. Flexible Work Arrangements and Gendered Outcomes: Impact of COVID-19 in India

Thiagu Ranganathan and Avina Mendonca (Indian Institute of Management, Nagpur)

Sponsor: ICSSR

In the proposed study, we intend to investigate two main inter-related questions. First, we will explore the implications of COVID-19 on flexible work arrangements. That is, how men's and women's paid work hours, unpaid work hours and their working arrangements changed during the pandemic and how they are manifesting at present. Second, we will investigate the gendered outcomes of flexible work arrangements. That is, the share of unpaid domestic and care work among different genders in a household (characterized by dual earning couples) and its impact on women's paid work. To this end, we hope to investigate the following objectives.

Understand the nature of flexible work arrangements in the COVID-19 era

Investigate the relationship between flexible work arrangements and the gendered division of unpaid care and domestic work.

- Understand the relationship between flexible work arrangements and family dynamics and work-life balance
- Understand the impact of flexible work arrangements on women's career decisions
- Understand the gender difference in accessing and managing flexible work arrangements



- Understanding gendered outcomes of flexible work considering the contextual factors such as nature of occupation, nature of family/household, income class, and educational level
- To investigate the aforementioned research objectives, we will use a mix of quantitative and qualitative methods.

In the quantitative method, we will collect data using an open online survey mainly focusing on time used for paid and unpaid work. The time use survey will be published online and will be available for various respondents to submit the data. The survey will be open to all in India and people visiting the webpage can respond to this survey. To ensure that diverse range of occupations are covered in the sample, we will engage in seeking responses from people with occupations that vary in the propensity to work from home. The targeted efforts will include sending the survey to the working alumni of different IIMs which will provide large share of corporate response. To get responses from tier 2 cities and variety of occupations, we will speak to the firms in Nagpur and coordinate with them to send the surveys to their employers. Finally, we will conduct offline surveys in firms that may not have access to online facilities or employees of such occupations are difficult to reach through online method (e.g., retail shops, parlours, gyms, etc.). Using online survey, we will collect as many responses as possible in a three-month window all over India. In the targeted and offline efforts, we will target obtaining around 300 completed survey responses. We will check for valid responses in the various methods and perform data cleaning and appropriate data validation before using the data for further quantitative analysis. This will help build a dataset that will have information from a large sample of households with employees belonging to diverse occupations.

Status: New Initiative.

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT, HEALTH AND EDUCATION

Completed Studies

13. Education, and Income Homogamy, and Women's Autonomy in India

Thiagu Ranganathan and Avina Mendonca (Indian Institute of Management, Nagpur)

This project will work on two aspects: analysing the trends in age, education, and income heterogamy in India and its relationship with women's autonomy. We will write two papers in this project. The abstract of the two papers are provided below:

Relative Educational Status and Women's Autonomy: Evidence from India

This paper analyses the relation between women's educational status relative to their spouse and their autonomy in India. Using the large-scale nationally representative Indian Human Development Survey (IHDS) conducted in 2011-12, we find that around 20% of the women in the marriages have education more than their spouses. In particular, among all those who married five years before the survey, 31% of women in rural India and 37% of women in urban India were educated more than their spouses. Women with more education than their spouses are younger, with fewer children, married at an older age, had known their husbands before marriage longer, and earn a higher share of the household incomes as compared to those with equal or lesser education than the spouses. We find that relative spousal education, defined as the difference between woman's education and her spouse's education is positively related to decision making autonomy and physical mobility, but it is negatively associated with emotional autonomy. It does not have any



relation with economic and social autonomy. The study also performs a disaggregated analysis of the same for rural and urban samples, cohorts based on years of marriage, and education levels of the women. The findings remain similar across various levels of disaggregation.

Education, Age, and Income Homogamy in India over time

Research pertaining to marriage patterns in India mainly focuses on the changes that have taken place in terms of delayed marriage or increasing age at marriage, the locus of the marriage decision (arranged vs love marriages) and marriage markets. The present paper examines the changes in education homogamy over time using a large representative household survey data in the country. It estimates the changes in the assortative mating across different education groups over time. The paper also explores if these changes have been different for inter-caste marriages and in cases where the marriage has happened between relatives. The paper finally explores the assortative mating across marriages of partners with differential economic status.

Status: Published as CDS working paper 'Relative Educational Status and Women's Autonomy: Evidence from India.' CDS Working Paper 494. A paper titled "Does being educated more than the spouse give women higher autonomy? Findings from India". Under Review and another paper, "How much do the birds of a feather flock together? Changes in educational homogamy over time in India". Under Review.

14. Effect of Testing and Social Distancing Measures on COVID-19 Deaths in India: Role of Pre-Existing Socio-Economic Factors

Ritika Jain and Tirtha Chatterjee

We examine the effect of testing and social distancing measures on the severity of COVID19 across Indian states during the sixty-eight day nationwide lockdown period. We also explore whether pre-existing socio-economic factors such as quality of health care and the ability to practice social distancing influences the effect of these policy measures across states. Using daily level data between April 1 and May 31 for eighteen of the major states, we find that both testing and social distancing have a negative effect on COVID-19 fatalities in India. Further, testing is more helpful in reducing CFR for states with lower per capita health expenditure and weaker medical infrastructure. This highlights how ramping up testing can aid states that have a weak health care system through the detection of infection, contact tracing and isolation. In contrast, social distancing measures are more effective in states that are less populous and have lesser people dwelling in single-room houses. Our results confirm the role of pre-existing institutional factors in shaping the effect of policy actions on health outcomes.

Status: Communicated to journal.

15. Assessment of Living Conditions of Urban Slum Dwellers in India in the New Millennium

Balakrushna Padhi (CEFT, Xavier University), Udaya S. Mishra, and T Triveni (Directorate of Economics & Statistics, Department of Agriculture Cooperation and Farmer's Welfare)

This study analyzes the changes in access to basic services and maps the inter-regional differences in the slums over a period of 5 years in India by using the 2012 NSSO Slum Survey. This study uses the Multidimensional Wellbeing/Deprivation Index (MWD)



towards the assessment of accessibility and availability of basic amenities like education, health, sanitation, electricity, and water facilities. The findings reflect that there is an apparent mutuality among different dimensions of deprivation. This situational inspection of slums has a direct policy imperative for intervention to address the regional imbalance in urban living.

Status: *Urban Research and Practice* (on line)

16. Gauging Class and Caste Differences in Mortality: The Indian Experience

Udaya S. Mishra, Rinju and Basant K Panda (IIPS, Mumbai)

This study is an exposition of class-caste based differences in mortality experience based on an indicator called household prevalence of death. It involves 75,432 death cases collected in National Family Health Survey-4, analysed using Relative Deprivation Index (RDI). We found, the prevalence of death found to be 11.8% in India, which varies across states and social and economic groups. The RDI values depict that the poorer households along with social group identities like schedule tribe and schedule caste households displayed a uniform disadvantage as regarding mortality across many states. The analysis offers evidence on differential experience of mortality across socio-economic identities. The evidence suggests poorer states having a marked disadvantage along with social and economic classes.

Status: *Journal of Death and Dying* (on line)

17. Examining Calorie Undernourishment in India: Is it due Choice or Inadequacy

Udaya S. Mishra, Balakrushna Padhi (CEFT, Xavier University), and Rinju (CDS)

Calorie undernourishment is often associated with poverty but India presents a unique scene of decline in money-metric poverty and rise in calorie deprivation. Existing literature has varied explanation towards this effect. However, neither are the poor entirely calorie compromised nor do all the non-poor qualify calorie compliance. This is an attempt at verifying whether calorie undernourishment is a result of choice of food basket or the inadequacy of food expenditure. An answer to this question is attempted with the exploration of data obtained from the National Sample Survey Organization's Consumption Expenditure of Indian households for the periods 2004–2005 and 2011–2012. Findings reveal that over the last one decade, the average per capita per day calorie intakes have slightly increased from 2040.55 Kcal in 2004–2005 to 2087.33 Kcal in 2011–2012, which has led to the increased share of well-nourished households from 20.21% in the 61st round to 22.78% in the 68th round of survey in rural areas, whereas the similar increase in urban areas is from 36.1% to 40.65%. Calorie undernourishment among the non-poor is observed that calorie undernourishment, if any, among the non-poor is entirely due to choice but the same among the poor has a divide between choice and inadequacy. The urban poor are calorie compromised more due to choice rather than inadequacy as against their rural counterparts. With higher poverty, calorie, non-compliance among the poor is more due to choice when compared with lower magnitude of poverty. These observations form a basis for contesting the common understanding that calorie compromise is entirely driven by inadequacy/incapacity of food expenditure. could be viewed in terms of the food choices made, especially among the poor while setting the minimum threshold of food expenditure to be calorie compliant.

Status: *Nutrition and Health* (on line)



18. Unnatural Deaths in India

Udaya S. Mishra and Basant K Panda (IIPS, Mumbai)

Rising adult mortality is an essential feature of the mortality transition. Vulnerability to disease and infection decreases with age, and adult mortality is more likely to be from unnatural causes such as suicide, homicide and road traffic accidents. This study aimed to assess the patterns of unnatural deaths in India as a whole and for various population subgroups. Data were obtained from the fourth wave of the National Family Health Survey (NFHS-4) conducted in 2015–16 in 29 states and 7 union territories of India. The survey collected information on deaths in households occurring in the 3 years before the survey. Rate of unnatural mortality and years of life lost were calculated separately for males and females as well as for urban and rural populations. Unnatural mortality in India was found to make up 10.3% of total deaths, and was greater among the population aged 10 to 45 years. The unnatural mortality rate in India was 0.67 per 1000 population: 0.84 per 1000 among the male population and 0.49 per 1000 among the female population. A strict positive association was found between the unnatural mortality rate and a state's development level. In addition, a substantial loss of person-years of life due to unnatural mortality was observed. The results serve as a reminder of the need to adopt measures to reduce this avoidable loss of life in India. Prevention strategies should be targeted at the most vulnerable populations to limit young-age fatality, with its resulting loss of productive years of life.

Status: *Journal of Biosocial Sciences*

Ongoing Studies

19. Pathways of Exclusion: Scheduled Tribes and Higher Education in Kerala

Abhilash T

This research explores the pattern of exclusion faced by the scheduled tribe students in higher education in Kerala. The decadal data (2010-2020) on the higher secondary admission status of Scheduled tribe students in the major tribal-dominated district shows that around 30 per cent of eligible students are unable to get admission at the higher secondary level. Districts like Wayanad (28.5), Palakkad (33.6), and Idukki (32.7) were the worse affected in 2020. The issue has taken by the *Aadishakthi Summer School*--a tribal student collective in Kerala--in September 2020 and staged protests in various parts of the state. In 2020, in Wayanad alone, approximately 2442 students appeared for S.S.L.C examination, and in 2009 become eligible for higher studies. However, the available seats were only 529. More than 70 per cent of the students were excluded from higher education from the very beginning. Adivasi students rarely take admissions in science subjects and hardly get admissions in merit quota. The State Government issued an Order in October 2020 to address this issue and provided admission for only 424 students in Wayanad. The data also shows that these additional seats are being taken from the account of Scheduled Castes in the district. The data also shows that the diversion of ST and SC seats in the higher secondary level. Alarming, the number of ST students who are out of school has been increasing over the last four years. This paper will evaluate the forgoing pieces of information in detail and also explore the possible policy options to address the issue.

Status: Ongoing (Expected date of completion: October 2021)



New Initiatives

20. Gauging the improvement in Economic Status of Indian Households: Evidence based on NFHS

Udaya S. Mishra, Basant K Panda (IIPS, Mumbai) and Rinju

Improvement in economic status of people has always been a common contention within the contemporary discourse of inclusive growth and development. This is a simple and modest attempt at gauging the changing economic status of Indian households based on a comprehensive wealth score computed in two rounds of NFHS surveys. Such a change is comprehended based on a median indexed values of quintile markers that conveys the upward/downward change in wealth scores. Such assessment has also been made across residence, caste and religious identities to infer on the differential pattern of such change. Based on this exercise, the rural disparities have widened against a narrowing down of gap in urban areas and besides the Muslims, all other religious groups seem to be narrowing differences between the rich and the poor.

Status: New Initiative

21. Making Comparison of Hospitalization Rates: Should Age and Disease Pattern Matter?

Udaya S. Mishra, Basant K Panda (IIPS, Mumbai) and Suyash Mishra

To estimate the hospitalisation rate accounting for age pattern of morbidity to make it robust for comparison across the states and population subgroups in India. We performed an analysis of data obtained as part of the *National Sample Survey (NSS)*, 2017 to 2018, for all states in India. We computed the hospitalisation rate based on the NSS guidelines and a revised measure adjusting for the age and morbidity pattern of the population. This analysis is intended to exhibit the differential magnitude of the hospitalisation rate based on the methodology used across the states and population subgroups in India. We found the hospitalisation rate in 2017-18 to be 139 per thousand population which is otherwise reported to be 28 per thousand population in India. Similar positive shifts are also observed across the states and population subgroup. Inflated hospitalization rate is primarily because the denominator population is counted with age equivalence of risk of hospitalization in keeping with age specific morbidity pattern. The pattern remained same across the states, place of residence and wealth quintile and for the broad disease categories. This exercise facilitates obtaining a realistic extent of hospitalisation which is far greater than the stated levels revealing the exact burden on health infrastructure in India

Status: New Initiative

22. On Verifying the Genuineness of Rising C-section Deliveries in India

Udaya S. Mishra and Basant K Panda (IIPS, Mumbai)

Given the abnormal rising trend in C-section deliveries during the last one decade in India, one wonders as to whether there is an explicit commercial tendency under play in rationalising the frequent use of this life-saving intervention in the hide of safe maternity. With this background the study is an attempt to verify the genuines of caesarean delivery in Indian states. We used the data from recently published National Family Health Survey-4 data set to understand the genuineness of the caesarean delivery in India. Descriptive statistics, univariate odd, and multivariate regression analysis was used for the analyses. The caesarean section (CS) rate in India has doubled within a decade period with its own share



of regional variation ranging between 5 to 57 percent as well as across population subgroup. The study observes around one-tenth of the total birth and two-fifth of the total caesarean birth were unnecessary, with a widespread variation across the states of India. These unnecessary caesareans were frequent in private health centres which lead to the inference of economic motivations. Despite the fact that C-sections carry potential complications for both mother and baby and have been proven to be riskier than uncomplicated 'normal' births, many women, families and obstetricians in India are adopting this intervention in a rather less worrisome and easy going manner. This study highlights the need to address the rising share of unnecessary caesarean with the necessary regulations and protocols in place.

Status: New Initiative

INDUSTRY AND TRADE

Completed Studies

23. IPR Regime and Antitrust Implications of Mergers and Acquisitions: With a Focus on Software and Pharmaceuticals

Beena PL

Implementation of the IPR regime as part of WTO agreements is expected to boost the technological capabilities of the industry. However, it is quite evident that leading firms, especially in the technology-oriented sectors at the global level, have strengthened their competitive positions by acquiring their potential competitors. Such aggressive growth strategies are adopted by leading firms owned by Indian business groups or multinationals operating in India as well. Out of 119 combination orders cleared by CCI during the period 2011 to 2013, 50 percent of mergers were horizontal. 24 percent of them were conglomerate mergers. And another 21 percent of them were either vertical or horizontal and vertical. While firms in India are trying to consolidate or engage in foreign acquisitions, many of the successful start-ups in India are being either acquired by foreign firms or by their counterparts operating in India. The acquisition of Flipkart by Walmart is the latest case of such acquisitions.

Given this context, the present paper attempts to understand the recent trends and consequences of mergers and acquisitions in the most M&A intensive and technology-intensive sectors such as Drugs & Pharmaceutical and Software and addresses the antitrust issues related to innovation and competition. The paper is divided into four sections. Section 1 would highlight the significance of the study and set an analytical framework in light of the theoretical and empirical literature on the issues regarding merger regulation and competition policy under the new IPR regime. The trends and pattern of mergers and acquisitions is discussed at length in section II. A detailed case study of the impact of such mergers in the Drugs & Pharmaceutical sector and Software is analyzed respectively in section III. It further reflects on the antitrust implications of the startups and small firms that are engaged in M&A deals. The last section sums up the major observations and lists out the policy implications.

Status: *The Antitrust Bulletin*, Volume 66, Issue 2, SAGE, USA, ISSN: 19307969, 0003603X, 2021



24. Outward FDI and Cross-Border M&As: Evidence from Indian Corporate Sector

Beena PL

The financial and international trade liberalisation since 1990s, new FDI policy and many other policy packages initiated by the Government of India including 'Make in India', is expected to tap more foreign savings and better technology and transform the Indian economy into a manufacturing hub. This new policy regime has also encouraged Indian firms to become world champions by allowing them to invest any part of the world by mobilizing financial resources through internal or external borrowings. Consequently, many of the leading firms invested abroad through Greenfield¹ as well as Brownfield²/Cross-Border Mergers and Acquisitions (CBM&As) in order to access modern technology, markets, brands, patents and design, copyrights and trademarks..An attempt has been made in this paper to analyse the recent trends, nature of Outward Foreign Direct Investment from India through Greenfield and Brownfield/Cross-Border Mergers & Acquisitions (CBM&As) and its implications. The paper i) surveys theoretical and empirical literature and highlights some of the hypotheses to be examined. ii) then proceeds to deal with the policy shift towards OFDI, country-wise and sector-wise distribution of OFDI through Greenfield and Brownfield investments. iii) the economic characteristics of sample of such Indian overseas acquiring firms (IOAF) as well as acquiring firms from two specific sectors are analysed by comparing with their counterparts. iv) concludes with the major findings and policy implications.

Status: Accepted for publication with Economic and Political Weekly.

25. India's Economy and Society - Lateral Explorations

Sunil Mani and Chidambaran G.Iyer

India's economy was one of the fastest growing economies in the world until about 2017-18. Thereafter, the economy has been on a downward spiral and the coronavirus pandemic which set in around the beginning of 2020-21 has forced its economy to the negative growth territory for the first time in many years. The crisis has affected different sectors of the economy differently. However, what is important to note is that some of the sectors and notably sectors like agriculture have already been in a crisis of sorts even before the onset of the pandemic. For the economy as a whole, even the high growth phase was not accompanied by a concomitant rise in employment, forcing many commentators to refer to the phase as a jobless growth one. Since 1991, the economy has been liberalised and in the more recent period, the government has been preoccupied with improving the ease of doing business and also in incentivizing the start-up eco system so that many technology-based ventures could be created and nurtured. It has brought in a number of important policy pronouncements in a wide array of topics such as land acquisition, in domestic manufacturing, agricultural marketing, banking, science, technology and innovation and in social sectors such as in health and education. The Indian economy has not only become complex but also is changing so fast, that students and policy makers find it difficult to keep themselves abreast of these changes. To understand these issues as well as commemorate its 50th Foundation Year, CDS organized a conference on India's economy

1 Greenfield FDI involves capital movement that helps establishing new enterprises by buying fixed assets, goods and services and hiring workers in the host country (WIR, 2001).

2 FDI can be in the form of Brownfield if the entry of capital is in the form of merging or acquiring the assets of existing firm which would not create any further capital formation, additional capacity or employment. When a Brownfield CBM&As takes place, it registers as both a sale in the country of a target firm and purchase in the home country of the acquiring firm (WIR,2001).



and society, which focussed on 7 broad aspects of the economy that are rarely discussed together, namely agriculture, industry, innovation and technology, infrastructure, international trade, health and education, labour and employment, and gender issues. The 15 essays contained in this book take the reader through a critical analysis of current issues in these 7 broad aspects, which we believe presents a holistic view of the economy. Each of these essays presents the reader with analysis of the key issues in their domains, the key questions, data sources and references to further reading in the concerned topic. As we march in to the new decade, we believe that a broader perspective of the Indian economy is needed for students as well as for policy makers. It is with this aim in mind that this collection of essays has been edited; it is hoped that this is a small step in that direction, and will prove to be useful for students of Indian economy at the post graduate level, policy makers and even to those in business and industry who want to expand their outlook on the broad external environment within which they operate.

Status: Book – Edited volume

26. ‘Reforming 8 Critical Sectors’ in ‘The Stimulus Package in Five Instalments, Does it make The Economy More Self-Reliant?’

Chidambaran G. Iyer

As part of the economic stimulus package or ‘Atmanirbhar Bharat’, the Finance Minister announced ‘Part-4: New Horizons of Growth’ on 16th May, 2020. This part of the stimulus package focussed on the following areas:

Fast tracking investment efforts; Upgrading industrial infrastructure; Reforms for commercial mining and diversified opportunities in the coal sector; Private investments in mineral sector; Self-reliance and policy measures for defence production; Policies for efficient airspace management for civil aviation airports through PPP and Maintenance Repair and Overhaul (MRO) industry; Electricity tariff policy reform and privatisation of distribution in union territories; Boosting private sector investment in social infrastructure; Boosting private sector participation in space activities; Private sector involvement in application of atomic energy research for benefit of society.

The eight critical sectors that these announcements touched were coal, minerals, defence production, airports and airspace management, power distribution companies, social Infrastructure projects, space sector and nuclear energy. Through part 4 of the economic stimulus the government wants more private sector participation in an ‘Atmanirbhar Bharat’. Part 4 is not aimed at getting the Indian economy back in track after the Covid crisis, instead aims to make the eight critical sectors more efficient. It pushes through long pending sectoral reforms, some of which had been announced earlier. Ideally, these sectoral reforms should have been announced when the economy was on a growth phase. As always, the success of these supply side announcements depends on the detailed policy and its implementation. In times such as now, as a parcel of part 4, the government should have made a demand side push by concentrating on a sector that would not only have increased our domestic output but also given a much-needed push to employment, which, unfortunately, is sorely missing in the flurry of announcements. These reforms indicate that our current policy makers probably subscribe to the long-held belief that India is a supply constrained economy.

Status: Commentary on India’s Economy and Society Series – 15, CDS.



27. 'External Sector' in 'Economic Survey (2020-21) and Union Budget (2021-22)

Chidambaran G. Iyer

This note summarized the view of the external sector as per the Economic Survey (ES) of 2020-21 and then contrasted it with the announcements made for the external sector in Budget 2021-22.

Status: Commentary on India's Economy and Society Series – 19, CDS.

28. The Combined Impact of Trade Wars and 'Make in India' on the Indian Economy

Badri Narayanan G. (University of Washington Seattle), Chidambaran G. Iyer, Rahul Sen (AUT Business School, Auckland, New Zealand) Sangeeta Khorana (Bournemouth University, UK) Sadhana Srivastava (AUT Business School, Auckland, New Zealand)

It is a well-known fact that India's rapid growth in recent decades has taken place in spite of an almost stagnant contribution of an average of 16% in manufacturing sector to its GDP over 2000-2018. In order to address this constraint and develop India as the next global manufacturing hub, focussing on investment, ease of doing business, innovation and skill development, 'Make in India' a flagship program for industrialization, has been launched by the Government of India since 2014. This has two broad types of features - the first is business-friendly to reduce transaction costs and improve doing business in India, through a range of policies that aims to foster innovation, skill and infrastructure development, improving institutional quality and governance and job creation. The second involves protectionism against import competition for domestic manufacturing firms. The combined effect of these two features on the expected success of this programme has been ambiguous, partly because these are not very clearly laid out in one document but instead, they have been captured by a slew of policy measures and announcements over a period of the past four years. Some of them have been proactive while others have been reactive to global policies. The US-China trade war is casting a shadow over the world economy and warning signs of a looming downturn have flashed on financial markets. The reactive policies have been mainly shaped in the last couple of years, in response to the global trade wars being triggered by the US tariff hikes in several commodities, some of them as recent as June 2019. Therefore, we may observe a link between the global trade wars and Make in India, though both of them have their own effects separately on Indian economy.

Since Make in India initiative was conceptualized in an environment where in a global trade war situation was non-existent, it is imperative to analyse whether the overall and sectoral impact of Make in India may have been dented due to the ongoing global trade war, which has hitherto not been addressed in the empirical studies. This assumes significance due to the fact that Make in India program's positive measures may have a favourable effect on the industries and people at large, while its protectionist measures may have an ambiguous effect. In the above backdrop, our study explores the effects of Make in India and the global trade war in a combined way utilizing an applied general equilibrium analysis based on 2017 data. This is a unique attempt on two counts; first, we put together the details relevant for global trade wars and Make in India, which in itself is a fresh attempt; second, this is the first time to capture all these contemporary policies in an economy wide global modelling framework. Our results suggests that the combined impact of both policies, while being beneficial for the Indian economy as a whole, yields negative ramifications for exports, jobs and investment growth. Specific sectors are also unable to increase domestic output even in spite of Make in India, such as Chemical, Rubber and Plastics industries, and those that use it as raw materials.



Status: Asia-Pacific Research and Training Network on Trade, Working Paper No. 203, 2020

29. Economic Growth in India

M. Parameswaran, Pulapre Balakrishnan and Mausumi Das (Delhi School of Economics)

Growth has consistently remained a central topic in economic policy considerations of the government in India. However, there has also been a more scholarly interest in it among social scientists. As a part of the latter tradition, this paper addresses the proper delineation of the phases of growth in India, a matter of some discussion in the literature. Using state-of-the-art statistical methodology it first establishes the trajectory of growth and then provides a theoretical explanation for that history. With data spanning the period 1950-2020, the procedure adopted is also able to assess the impact on economic growth of the policies of the present government. The results are conclusive. First, it is established that growth in India has accelerated continuously since the fifties, implying that dynamism in the economy did not have to wait for the liberalising reforms launched in 1991. Next, the performance of India's economy is compared to growth that has taken place in the rest of the world. It is seen that while India's economy has in recent years shown a dynamism relative to the rest of the world, it has consistently fallen behind its most dynamic regions, notably in East Asia.

Status: Published in *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol.56, No. 11, 2021.

30. Trade Openness and Labour Market Unrest: Evidence from Indian Manufacturing Industry

M. Parameswaran

This paper examines the impact of import competition on industrial disputes in Indian manufacturing. Theoretically, import competition is expected to improve the efficiency of bargaining in the labour market by reducing the incidence of industrial disputes. Impact on two dimensions of disputes, namely number of disputes and number of persons' days lost in disputes, by segregating them into strikes and lockouts are analysed. Import competition is found to be reducing the number and extent of industrial disputes and the impact is quantitatively significant. The paper discusses the implications of the findings.

Status: Published in *Journal of Quantitative Economics*, 2021.

31. Impact of COVID-19 Lockdown on Profitability of Firms: Evidence from India

Ritika Jain and Rajnish Kumar (Independent Researcher)

We examine the effect of COVID-19 induced lockdown on the profitability of listed firms in India. With restrictions on labor mobility, repressed supply and weakened demand condition, we hypothesize that firms lose profitability due to lockdown. We also explore the role of external factors such as lockdown stringency and pace of COVID-19 spread (in areas where the firm operates) as conditioning factors in influencing the effect of lockdown. We use the earliest available financial information of 4062 listed firms for the June 2020 quarter and compare their financial data with previous quarters (2017-2019). Using a difference-in-difference estimation framework and various measures of profitability, we find that the COVID-19 lockdown has reduced profits by around 15% for listed firms in India. We find evidence of firms losing revenues more than expenses, thus



validating our main hypothesis. We also find that the impact is higher for firms operating in states with more stringent lockdown and in states with rapid COVID-19 spread. Finally, the effects of lockdown were more severe for smaller, older and firms that did not belong to any business group affirming the role of external factors and pre-existing firm specific factors in shaping the effect of interventions on firm performance.

Status: Communicated to journal.

32. Technology Licensing Under Product Differentiation

Rajit Biswas, Neelanjan Sen (Madras School of Economics, MSE), SaumyaKaul (MSE)

This paper discusses the licensing of technology between rival firms in a Cournot duopoly with horizontal and vertical product differentiation. The firms produce products of different qualities (high and low) and incur different costs per unit of output produced. It is shown that technology is transferred from the firm that produces the higher quality product to the firm that produces the lower quality product via a fixed-fee if the quality difference (net of cost) and the horizontal differentiation between the two products are relatively low. Technology is transferred through royalty, for any level of quality difference (net of cost), if the horizontal differentiation between the products is relatively low. A similar result is observed for two-part tariff licensing and quota licensing, which is a combination of output quota set by the licensor coupled with a fixed-fee. It is also shown that the optimal form of contract is either two-part tariff licensing or quota licensing. Technology is never licensed from the firm that produces a lower quality product to its rival that produces a higher quality product. However, the cross-licensing of technology is sometimes possible. After licensing welfare always increases.

Status: submitted to *Journal of Economics*, one revision received.

33. A Model of Trade Preference Bias and Public Goods

Rajit Biswas and Kanupriya Sharma (Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, Delhi)

This paper attempts to study the implication of wage-inequality on the provisioning of public good in an economy which produces both tradable differentiated private goods and a non-tradable public good. The paper finds that in the presence of heterogeneous preferences and love for variety on part of consumers, gap between wages for skilled and unskilled workers widens with trade, when skilled and unskilled labor supplies are close to each other in the initial equilibrium. This wage inequality is found to positively affect public good provision. The model is further extended by incorporating preference bias for public good on part of unskilled workers and as a result, both wage inequality and its positive effect on public good provision are found to increase with the preference bias for the public good.

34. Taxes and Unemployment

Rajit Biswas and Vandana TR (Vandana worked on this paper when she was a student at Centre for Development Studies. She is currently a student at Department of Economics, University of California-Irvine)

The present model revisits the issue of unit and ad valorem taxes in a model of monopolistic competition. It is shown that if the assumption of full employment is relaxed, then taxation can increase employment conditionally when the elasticity of substitution among varieties is low.



Moreover, with the same level of initial unemployment, ad valorem tax is better than unit tax in terms of employment, when the targeted tax revenue is relatively high and scale economies are strong.

Status: Forthcoming in *International Journal of Economic Theory*.

35. State Ownership and Dividend Decisions: Economic and Political Determinants

Ritika Jain

This paper integrates the effect of state ownership and political influence on dividend decisions. Dilution of state ownership in state owned enterprises is associated with admittance of private owners, weaker political influence and better corporate governance compliance – consequently, leading to higher dividend payouts. Studying the state owned enterprises (250 firms) in India between 2007 and 2016, we find that dividend possibility and amount is negatively associated with state ownership. We also find that dividends are paid more frequently and in large amounts just ahead of elections. Finally, state ownership has a stronger effect on the impact of election cycle on dividend decisions.

Status: Communicated to journal.

36. Privatisation and the Voluntary Retirement Scheme: The Case of BSNL

Vinoj Abraham and Ritika Jain

The voluntary retirement scheme of public sector enterprises is built on the narrative of overstaffing and inefficiency. With Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited being the latest to announce a massive VRS, this article examines the path that led to this package. It argues that it is one of the instruments through which labour flexibility is ushered in public sector enterprises, which often end in privatisation. It also discusses the crucial role that BSNL could take up by virtually connecting the physically distanced in the resistance against the ongoing pandemic.

Status: Published in *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. 55, Issue No. 40, 03 Oct, 2020.

37. The Case of the ‘missing middle’ in the Indian Manufacturing Sector: A Firm-Level Analysis

Vinoj Abraham and Sunandan Ghosh

This study revisits the ‘missing middle’ phenomenon of the Indian manufacturing sector. Though ‘missing middle’ has been described and analyzed by many studies, a key gap in the literature that we note is that the phenomenon of ‘missing middle’ has been taken as an accepted artifact of the Indian manufacturing sector. We look into the size-structure relation based on the argument that ‘class interval based’ and ‘aggregate level’ analyses of the industrial sector may be misleading. We use the firm level data available for Annual Survey of Industries (ASI) to check for the ‘missing middle’. We look for the trend both at the aggregate and disaggregate levels. We are unable to find a ‘missing middle’, either at the aggregate or disaggregate level, once we drop the classification of data based on apriori class intervals. We find that most firms in India are small firms and there is no evidence of a clustering of firms at higher size categories.



Status: Published in *Journal of Quantitative Economics*: Journal of the Indian Econometric Society, October 2020, DOI: 10.1007/s40953-020-00222-y

Ongoing Studies

38. IPR Regime and Developmental Implications: A Case Study of Patent-Intensive Industries

Beena P L and Siddik Rabiyyath (University of Kerala)

In the neoclassical framework, growth of business is akin to the growth of output and profit, which depends on the quality of the output and that perhaps, is determined by the forces of market. However Ronald Coase asked a basic question that if market forces can facilitate the growth process then why firm exists in the market economy and can we rationalise the function and performance of the firm *vis a vis* the market (Coase 1937). The question is very relevant because, unlike having firm as an equivalent unit of an individual who operates in the market, a real firm is an entity which fails the functioning of the market *per se*. That is, within a firm, the institutional understanding of contracting, property rights and asymmetry of information play a crucial role and rationalises the existence of firm as a unit of production, which indeed different from the functioning of the market as the neoclassical theory suggests. In a nutshell, the existence of the firm in the modern industrial structure, the production and marketing functions of the firms and hence its growth are determined through different institutional framework. Generally such institutional safeguards often missed from the economic analysis of the industry. Moreover, the study of developmental implications of the firms and industries are inextricably linked to the existence of different non market institutions, which are often marked outside the neoclassical frameworks. Given this context, the current paper (Beena and Rabiyyath, 2019) tried to analyse the surge in IPR assets, innovation activities and developmental implications of Indian industries through the lens of Intellectual Property Rights institutions

Status: Ongoing (Presented at the IUCAE, Kerala University, June 2019; Presented also in the XIVth Annual Knowledge Forum conference held during October 11-13, 2019 at IIT, Madras and supported by Tata Trust).

39. FTAs and Economic Integration in South Asia

Beena P L and Meena Chacko (Researcher)

Regional economic integration has been adopted as a strategy for balanced regional development in different regions over the world especially after 1990s. Every region in the world and almost every country in the world, is pursuing some kind of integration arrangement with its own economic, geopolitical and strategic interest in mind. Economic convergences do take place depending upon the extent of cooperation and supplementary measures adopted to assist lagging regions. The S Asian region has been rather slow in responding to the global trend of regionalism and in exploiting the potential of regional economic integration. There are studies on regional integration in S Asian region (Das 2009, Chand, 2011, World Bank, 2018) which highlights the progress and shortfalls in the endeavour. The latest study (World Bank, 2018) points to the need for policy measures to improve the trade barriers such as tariffs, para-tariffs and non-tariff barriers to strengthen regional integration. Given this context, in a study undertaken with MeenaChacko, I examined the role of India in enabling economic cooperation and economic integration in the S Asian region since the 2000s. This has been done by analysing the role of aid and



investments made by India in countries in the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) region. The study examines whether aid and investment from India have been complementary to the trade development and economic integration of this region. The study argue that India's efforts to improve trade and investment activities by strengthening bilateral cooperation, trade financing, lines of credit and aid projects are tending to greater economic integration but there is still room for corrections in terms of removing of barriers and so on as argued by World Bank (2018).

Status: Ongoing (Presented at CDS during July, 2017 and in the UGC sponsored National conference at Government College, Kasaragod).

40. Growth Dynamics of the Handloom Industry: A Case Study of Chendamangalam Handloom Co-operative Society in Kerala

Beena P L and Kavitha P (Doctoral Scholar)

Chendamangalam is a village of Paravur Taluk in the Ernakulam district of Kerala which is located about 30km away from Kochi and it is known for their Geographical Indication (GI) certified handloom products. The cluster consists of five societies with more than 600 weavers. The floods in Kerala 2018 have destroyed most of their looms, yarns and raw material and the industry is now trying very hard to resurrect itself. The purpose of this project is to understand the functioning of the units run by handloom industry located in this cluster which was badly hit by the flood by comparing with the Kerala handloom sector. This is extremely important as these units were providing livelihood to many households. The specific research questions of the study are the following: What are the socio economic back ground of the owners and workers of the units chosen for study at Chendamangalam Handloom Society? What is the alternative source of income of the stakeholders of these units? How are these units placed as compared to their counterparts in the handloom industry in Kerala in terms of size of output, capital and labour? How is this industry mobilizing capital, labour and raw material to run the units and what are the constraints to market access? What is the financial implication of the floods/Corona on the production and livelihood of stakeholders/workers of this industry and state response? What is the future of this industry and check whether this industry can be rejuvenated through any modern innovative strategies?

Status: Ongoing

41. Impact of Policy on Mobile Manufacturing in India

Chidambaran G. Iyer

Mobile production in India started in 2005; however, as expected in literature it is primarily low value assembly that happens in the country. The recently announced policy measure of Production Linked Incentive scheme for mobile manufacturing emphasizes the Indian government's intention to become a major global player in this segment. In this paper, we summarize the mobile manufacturing paths taken by four countries – South Korea, Taiwan, China, and Vietnam – and infer few policy lessons that may be useful for India's journey. Our analysis shows that local procurement is not a given, investment in indigenous standards & technologies by the government, and focus of local mobile firms on downstream activities may help India in its aim of becoming a major mobile manufacturing destination.



Status: Ongoing (Expected date of completion: Dec 2021)

42. Phase Manufacturing Policy for Mobile Manufacturing in India: An Empirical and Theoretical Evaluation

Chidambaran G. Iyer

In this paper we attempt to understand the impact of PMP on manufacture of mobiles in India. Through the macro and micro evidence, we find that mobile manufacturers, though having set up facilities in the country primarily assemble phones. Most of the components are imported with very little local manufacturing. Empirical evidence and theoretical literature available suggest this as the likely outcome. There are two additional reasons for this expected outcome, first is the strategies followed by lead firm wherein they locate the highest value activities in their home countries and set up assembly plants in growing markets just to placate the local government. Other than offering incentives that influence lead firm strategies, the host country has very little control over firm specific strategies. The second reason is the trade policy followed by India, which has reduced tariffs such that firms prefer importing components from their huge manufacturing facilities in South East Asia. For industrial deepening and upgrading India has to first and foremost lay down an industrial vision and then follow it up with significant institution building. Simultaneously, policy at the micro level should encourage major lead firms to co-locate their supply ecosystems in the country; and thereafter encourage local procurement by each of the firms in the supply ecosystems.

Status: Ongoing (Expected date of completion: Oct 2021)

Completed Research Projects

43. Structure, Direction and Export contribution of Cochin SEZ in Kerala

Beena PL

Sponsor: Research unit on ‘Kerala and the World Economy’.

There are only limited attempts to characterise the trade performance of Kerala state and its impact on industrial growth dynamics. Much of the studies dealing with Kerala’s industrial backwardness focused mainly on high wage cost, low productivity, lack of sectoral interlinkages etc (Subrahmanian and Pillai, 1996; Thomas, 2005). The current project aimed at locating the participation of leading firms in the global value chains and the nature of the production process. It is argued that global value chains having end markets in the more advanced countries place more emphasis on standards and tend to have higher requirements in terms of quality and product sophistication. Structural factors such as financial markets, infrastructure, human capital, local industry networks should also be conducive for participation in value chains (UNCTAD, 2013). Therefore it is important to understand whether legal & institutional framework and other structural factors are conducive for participation in Global Value Chains (GVCs). Such exercise will not only have strong implications for improving Kerala’s participation in international trade but it may also throw some light on the nature of industrialisation of the state.

Status: Report submitted in August 2020.



44. Industrialization for Jobs and Growth: A Case Study of Cellular Mobile Phone Manufacturers in India

Chidambaran G. Iyer

Sponsor: Indira Gandhi Institute for Development Research & Ford Foundation

This study tries to understand the mobile manufacturing segment in India. In FY 19, India produced around 29 crore units of mobile phones, which comes to an investment of around Rs 2,780 crores, at 2017 prices. These investment figures turn out to be much lower than those reported in popular press. Original Equipment Manufacturers and Electronic Manufacturing Service firms dominate the Indian manufacturing scene. Analysis of the five-digit ASI data for 2016-17 & 2017-18 makes it apparent that the impetus towards domestic assembly of mobile phones through various policy measures has made a positive impact on the growth of investments in the country. The scale of an average foreign firm seems to be much larger than a domestic firm. Local production or assembly of mobile phones and imports of mobile phones, as expected, are inversely related. Exports from the country are not competitive, as for FY 19, the value of mobile phones exported was just above six per cent of the mobile phones produced in the country. Conformance to policy has pushed many mobile firms to invest further in plant & machinery assets. As a result, the direct employment generated per unit fixed asset decreased in 2017-18. Being a capital-intensive industry, the share of wages, as expected, is low. It is clear from the five-digit 2017-18 ASI data that with over 90 per cent market share foreign firms are dominating the Indian mobile phone market. In 2017-18, value addition for a majority of the firms at the five-digit level was less than ten per cent. For firms producing only mobile phones, a probable trend that can be inferred is that firms having higher value addition are more likely to have lower market share and vice versa. Economies of scope seem to be working in this segment as the average value added by units producing multiple products was higher than that of units that produced only mobile phones. As per our primary survey, electronics import under ITA-1 is another reason for such low value addition in the country. Ratio of imported vis-a-vis indigenous raw materials at the five-digit level clearly prove the reliance of all producers on imported inputs.

If India intends to become a major mobile manufacturing hub, then in addition to existing policies it should encourage global brands to co-locate in India with their supply systems. The study suggests that we also need a parallel policy to improve local capabilities by creating domestic champions in manufacturing and R&D.

Status: Standalone paper, a shorter version of this work has been published as a CDS Working Paper No. 502.

New Initiatives

45. IPR Regime, Mergers & Acquisitions and Antitrust policy, New Edition by Routledge

Beena P.L.

Although the ultimate objective of competition and intellectual property policy should be to raise social welfare by promoting the supply of new and existing products and services at low prices (see Audretsch et.al, 2001; Encaoua and Hollander 2002), many would argue that IPR regime raises rather than reduces barriers (Amann and Cantwell 2012, p.6). It is



further argued in the literature that artificial barriers can be raised or strengthened, if the merger results in a strengthening of product differentiation through legal rights in designs, patents, trademarks and know-how. Given this context, an attempt has been made in this book titled “*IPR regime, Mergers&Acquisitions and Antitrust Policy*” to analyse the trends and pattern of mergers and acquisitions across Indian industries during post-TRIPs regime, its association with the surge in IP assets, market structure and antitrust implications.

Status: Research Plan- 2021-22 (New Initiative (Book under preparation))

46. Indian Economy and Neoliberal Globalisation

Beena P L, Murali Kallummal and Santosh Kumar

The finance capital has evolved as the dominant factor to determine the economic realities across the developing countries accompanied by uneven bargaining structure of the WTO, which decides the terms of trade for the countries during the globalisation period. The finance capital has dictated the economic policies which worked against a majority of low-income economies’ self-interest. Today’s Indian economy results from its economic policies in place during pre and post-economic liberalisation eras. The effects of globalisation have ushered in each segment of the economy, including industry, trade, technology, finance, employment and many more. One of the most important phenomena during the post-economic liberalisation era has been the gradual withdrawal of the state from the economy to achieve economic efficiency. But the efficiency term has been elusive as the market requires specific optimal conditions in which efficiency can be achieved. The current book which comprises fourteen papers makes an attempt to analyse the Indian economy by highlighting the achievement and prevailing problems in the sectors. The book volume is divided across primarily three themes: (a) International trade, finance and banking, 2) Industry, technology and services sectors (3) employment gender and development.

Status: New Initiative (expected publication before December 2022 ;Signed a contract with Routledge, India)

47. Lerner Symetry Theorem and Melitz Model

Rajit Biswas

A model is developed to address the equivalence of tariffs and export taxes with firm heterogeneity. It is shown that the equivalence result may or may not hold depending on the distribution parameters of the productivity of firms. Interesting comparative statics is carried out when large MNCs emerge in the economy.

Status: New Initiative

INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY

Completed Studies

48. The Saga of Indigenous R&D in the High Technology Industry in India: Case of India's Semi High-Speed Train-Train 18

Sunil Mani and Chidambaran G. Iyer

The history of technology development in India is replete with obstacles that indigenous R&D has to face. The recent controversy over tender of Train-18, an indigenously



developed semi high-speed train has once again emphasized this fact. Using the example of one successful and one unsuccessful organization, this paper tries to bring out insights that may help the Train-18 R&D effort to succeed.

Status: Published in the *The India Forum*, 1 May 2020.

49. Effect of Innovation on Corporate Social Responsibility: Does Ownership Matter? Evidence from Indian Manufacturing Firms.

Ritika Jain and Krishnapriya VS (Doctoral Scholar)

Based on the resource-based view that identifies both CSR and innovation as resourceful and competitive advantage-generating activities, the current paper examines the effect of innovation spending on corporate social responsibility (CSR) decisions and how this relationship is affected by state ownership. Using firm-level data on India's manufacturing sector from 2014 to 2016, the study examines the relationship between innovation and CSR spending in the period after the mandatory CSR provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 came into force. An instrumental variable approach is adopted to overcome the problem of endogeneity. To examine if the innovation-CSR spending association is affected by state ownership, the study draws firm-level data on two Indian industry groups from 2011 to 2016 and uses double robustness models. The results suggest that innovation spending affects CSR decisions positively. Additionally, the effect of innovation spending on CSR spending is stronger for private firms.

Status: Published in *Economics of Innovation and New Technology*

50. India's Quest for Technological Self-Reliance: Analysis of Her Record With respect To Patents in the Post TRIPS Phase

Sunil Mani

The planned form of development which India has been following for a long time until 2017 had laid great emphasis on growth with technological self-reliance. This was to be accomplished through a fairly dirigisme policy of state intervening in domestic technology development primarily through a policy of import substitution and through simultaneously setting up a number of institutions tangible and otherwise for supporting this process. However, the economic liberalization ushered in since 1991 has sought to liberalize the economy although in instalments and in an *ad hoc* and unstructured manner. The main manifestation of this increased dependence on foreign sources of technology was in the form of a much freer attitude towards FDI. However quite recently two events seem to have encouraged the country to once again tread an earlier path of technological self-reliance. The two events are firstly, the on-going COVID- 19 pandemic and the protectionist tendencies of a large number of India's major trading partners and secondly the growing tensions with China and the consequent desire to reduce dependence on that country. Both these events have encouraged the country to systematically increase local manufacturing of a whole host of technology-intensive products. The recently announced *Atmanirbhar Bharat* package gives an expression to this renewed emphasis on technological self-reliance. This policy of technological self-reliance is nothing new as this has been followed during the import-substitution era of 1950 through 1991 period. But there are certain important differences between the earlier phase of this policy and policy that has been followed more recently (c2016 onwards). In the earlier phase much emphasis was placed on developing domestic technologies through the establishment of a number of state-owned



undertakings and a string of public laboratories in technology-intensive industries was established to give expression to this policy. Further, entry of MNCs were not encouraged and imports were curtailed by erecting a high tariff wall. In the more recent version of this policy of technological reliance, the restrictions placed on the entry of MNCs and the tariffs on imported were considerably reduced.

However, apart from a deficit in physical infrastructure which the country has been attempting to address, an aspect that is holding back on its quest for technological self-reliance is the fact that the country does not have ownership of a number of crucial Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) and especially in crucial disembodied technologies. Neither is the country's innovation system creating these crucial patents. In the context the purpose of the present paper is to undertake a survey of India's patent creation efforts especially since 2005 when the country's patent regime underwent a radical shift in terms of its scope and coverage (Mani and Nelson, 2013).

India's patent regime underwent a radical change in 2005 when it was made TRIPS compliant. It is now fifteen years after this epoch-making event has occurred. One of the important hypotheses was that a TRIPS compliant patent regime while strengthening the patent regime was also supposed to increase the creation of new inventions and their commercializing reflecting in higher amounts of patenting as incentives for such creations are raised. But has this really happened? Previous research on this theme was conducted only a few years after TRIPS compliance. Now we have data for a much longer period, and so we are in a position to trace the progress which India has made on the patenting front.

The paper is structured as follows. Section 1 will map out the performance of the S&T sector in the country in terms of investments in R&D and scientific publications. Section 2 will analyse the major changes to India's public policy with respect to Intellectual Property (IPR) in general and patenting in particular. Section 3 will analyse the trends in patenting in India both at the aggregate and disaggregated levels and also in India's reliance on technology imports from abroad. Section 4 will analyse five distinct aspects of India's patent regime. Section 5 concludes the study.

The study undertook a detailed survey of the patenting efforts by Indian firms, institutions and individuals especially since the TRIPS compliance of India's patent regime in 2005. The issue has assumed great importance now in view of the renewed emphasis on technological self-reliance by the central government. First the paper undertook a detailed survey of policy changes. Apart from TRIPS compliance, the government announced a new IPR policy in 2016 which sought to reform the Indian Patent Office essentially to cut down pendency and improving the quality of patent examination and improve the patenting culture among various actors of India's National Innovation System. Our detailed analysis showed that pendency has remained more or less the same pre and post TRIPS. But there has been a significant improvement in patent applications and grants. However, majority of the applications and grants are still from MNCs and the share of domestic inventors have remained same or have even reduced. Industry-wise engineering industries account for the largest share and within computer related inventions account for a significant share. Even in pharmaceutical patents, a detailed analysis of 869 patents that were granted between 2005 and 2020, majority has gone to MNCs. As such the patenting culture is yet to permeate domestic firms and institutions. There is also considerable localization of patenting activities in four states and even those only in the major cities. Analysis of the



USPTO data showed that Bangalore alone accounted for majority of the patents granted implying that regional and sectoral systems of innovation are more relevant in India. The paper also considered certain unique features of India's patent regime, namely the existence and trends in pre and post grant opposition and a higher bar placed on the inventiveness criteria for issuance of pharmaceutical patents, issuance of a compulsory license under certain conditions and a policy on working of patents. We also estimated the relative importance of technology imports vis-à-vis its local development. The ensuing analysis showed that India is depending more on licensing of technology from abroad as indicated by the falling ratio of local development of technology to technology imports from abroad. The country's technology trade balance is also becoming worse off over time, all indicating reduced technological self-reliance. This is in sharp contrast to countries such as China which were on the same level as India before TRIPS compliance but has since emerged as a leading technological powerhouse in key high technologies such as that of telecommunications. India is currently engaged in an exercise to design a new Science, Technology and Innovation policy for itself. Hopefully the policy will put in place instruments and institutions that can hasten the country's stated aspiration towards technological self-reliance.

India needs to improve both the quantity and quality of its science and engineering personnel. The density of scientists and engineers per unit of labour force is one of the lowest among even the BRICS countries. So this is the first factor endowment that the country has to put in place if it really wants to tread on the path of technological self-reliance. The just announced National Education Policy 2020 when implemented is expected to achieve this important policy objective. Second, the country has to decide on a small set of high technologies in which it wants to be an important player in the world. In these selected technologies it must mount substantial R&D efforts in a consortium fashion. Third, it must evolve industrial policy instruments (like the Local Industry Upgradation Programme of Singapore) to link affiliates of MNCs operating in the country to local firms. In this way, technology may spillover from MNCs to local companies. Finally, it must have policies to spot promising startups and graduate them to large companies of tomorrow.

Status: Published as a Journal article :

Mani, Sunil (2020), 'India's Patenting Record since TRIPS compliance of her Patent Regime' *Asian Journal of Technology Innovation*,
<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/19761597.2020.1829977>

51. India's Leadership in the Export of Computer Software Services

Sunil Mani along with Tiago Couto Porto (Public Administration and Governance at Getulio Vargas Foundation of São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil) and Keun Lee (Seoul National University)

Countries and its firms are constantly aiming to catch up, or reduce the gap, with the more advanced economies and its leader firms in terms of per capita income or market shares. In fact, not only closing the gap (which may be called a gradual catch-up) but the Industrial leadership has changed in many industries from advanced and developing countries. While some studies focused on the catching-up process of advanced countries (Mowery and Nelson, 1999), others have focused on the countries from the South (Lee and Malerba, 2017). In particular, recent studies have focused on cases with successive changes in leadership, referred to as catch-up cycles. For example, a special issue of Research Policy



analyzed the successive leadership changes in various sectors, such as mobile phone, memory chip, cameras, steel, mid-size jets and wine. Later, Lim et al., (2017) analyzed the successive changes in the shipbuilding industry. All those researchers have been following the same theoretical framework, the Catch-up Cycles Theory, proposed by Lee and Malerba (2017).

Whereas the preceding studies are mostly on manufacturing, this study aims to extend the literature to the case of service sectors, in particular, the Information-Technology (IT) Services, since it experienced similar pattern in the last 40 years. Normally, the literature refers to catch-up as substantially closing the gap in global market shares between firms in the leading and firms in the latecomer countries. This study uses the shares in world export market as a measurement of catch-up and leadership for the IT service sector. In this sector, a catch-up cycle is observed in which leadership have changed from the United States of America to Ireland and subsequently to India. Currently, the IT service is characterized by a “coexistent leadership” in which both India and Ireland share the leadership position since Ireland has recently recovered some of its market shares.

What explains the rise, fall and re-rise of Irish IT service leadership? Why has India been more effective in sustaining its leadership position? The framework proposed by Lee and Malerba (2017) asserts that a catch-up can be understood by considering the connections and relations between Windows of Opportunities (WoO) and the Strategies taken by the incumbents and latecomers. The WoO was first proposed by Perez and Soete (1988) that detected a favourable environment to catch-up by the latecomer during a technological paradigm shift. Yet, Lee and Malerba (2017) extend the notion of WoO by considering other windows of opportunity, such as institutions (including policy intervention by the government and the role of market demand). However, WoO are necessary but not sufficient conditions for a catch-up to take place. In this regard, the framework introduces the concept of “responses”, which refer to the strategies chosen by the different actors of a sectoral system to the opportunities emerged. By following this framework, this study can also be considered to follow a method of appreciative theorizing (Nelson and Winter 1982: 46) which aims to provide ‘casual explanations to observed patterns’ of leadership changes across sectors.

In trying to answer the above-raised questions, we analyse each catch-up cycle involving Ireland and India, respectively, in terms of the common factors, such as initial conditions, several different windows of opportunity, and responses by actors or mostly firms. In particular, we try to contribute to the literature by emphasizing the role of a new factor or window, which is the macroeconomic variables, such as exchange rates and wage rates. While Lee (2019: Ch 5) mention this factor briefly, this factor was not utilized in actual cases in details, especially in the context of different catch-up stories driven by MNCs as in Ireland or by indigenous firms as in India.

While two countries shared the similar initial conditions of the available pool of English speaking workforce in engineering, one of the critical factor for the early rise of Ireland seems to be the factors of historical legacy associated with Irish immigrants to the US and related diaspora and being closer to the major markets of Europe and the US, compared to India. Given this favourable difference in the initial conditions, Ireland went ahead of India to take better and quicker advantage of the same technological window of the paradigm shift from the mainframe to the client-server system since the mid-1980s. Then, in explaining the rise of India since the 2000s replacing Ireland, we pay attention to the



demand window associated with the Y2K problem (year of 2000) and dot-com boom in the late 1990s as well as the macroeconomic window of opportunity associated with wage increases combined with the appreciation of Euro in the early 2000s which affected Ireland badly. Then, the recent re-rise of Ireland is also owing to the changing macro variables such as depreciation of Euro.

The paper consists of seven sections. Following this introduction, Section 2 discusses the theoretical background and framework of analysis called the catch-up cycle. Section 3 describes by data the leadership changes in the IT services, from the US to Ireland and then to India. Section 4 analyses the rise and fall of Ireland, while Section 5 discusses the rise of India as the new leader. Section 6 discusses the re-rise of Ireland since the early 2010s. Finally, Section 7 concludes the paper.

This study analysed the changing leadership in IT service, applying the catch-up cycle framework developed by Lee and Malerba (2017) for a service sector rather than the manufacturing sector. Catch-up cycles have been observed in which leadership had changed from the US to Ireland around the late 1990s (1998 and 1999) and subsequently to India around the mid-2000s (2004 and 2005). Currently, there is now a coexistence of two leaders, such that India and Ireland share the leadership position since Ireland has recently recovered some of its market shares since the mid-2010s.

Each catch-up cycle involving Ireland and India, respectively, has been analysed in terms of the common factors, such as initial conditions, different windows of opportunity, and responses and roles by actors, namely firms and governments. While two countries shared the similar initial conditions of the available pool of English speaking workforce in engineering, one of the critical factor for the early rise of Ireland seems to be the factors of historical legacy associated with Irish immigrants to the US and related diaspora and being closer to the major markets of Europe and the US, compared to India. Further, Ireland seems to have developed at an earlier time a better-qualified workforce than India. Given this favourable difference in the initial conditions, Ireland went ahead of India to take better and quicker advantage of the same technological window of the paradigm shift from the mainframe to the client-server system since the mid-1980s.

Then, in explaining the rise of India since the 2000s replacing Ireland, we pay attention to the demand window associated with the Y2K problem and dot-come boom in the late 1990s as well as the macroeconomic window of opportunity associated with the appreciation of Euro in the early 2000s which affected Ireland negatively. Then, sustaining of Indian leadership can be attributed to its creation of the unique GDM by indigenous firms, compared to the dominance by MNCs in Ireland. In the Irish case, the continued-reliance on MNCs made the sector more sensitive to variables such as wage rate and tax rate, but also to somewhat exogenous macroeconomic variables such as exchange rate and flow of FDI. In the Indian case, government policies co-evolved with the success of the exports of the sector and built a favourable sectoral system of innovation.

The study makes some contribution to the literature on catch-up by latecomers. First, it has elaborated the role of macroeconomic variables as a new ‘window of opportunity (or trouble) variable into the catch-up cycle framework. Among such variables, the role of exchange rates or appreciation/depreciation of currencies is consistent with the story of leadership changes from Japan to Korea in electronics sector due to the sharp appreciation of Japanese Yen since the Plaza Accord in 1985 (Lee 2019: 164). In the meantime, the



roles of wage rates change is interesting in the sense that it is not just exogenous factor but partly endogenous factor driven by the very success of the sectors and countries in economic growth; Ireland experienced the IT workers' wage rate rise owing to its success in IT services. Second, the paper show some interesting contrast between the MNC vs. indigenous firms driven catch-up. The contrast seems to suggest that the continued reliance on MNCs may not be a viable strategy of sustaining leadership as they are relatively more sensitive to changes in cost conditions and macroeconomic variables. Then, maintaining a longer-term leadership position may require developing strong indigenous technological capabilities and companies within the sound sectoral system of innovation.

Status :Published as a journal article:

Porto, T.C., Lee, K. & Mani, S. The US–Ireland–India in the catch-up cycles in IT services: MNCs, indigenous capabilities and the roles of macroeconomic variables. *Eurasian Bus Rev* **11**, 59–82 (2021). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40821-020-00177-3>

New Initiatives

52. Analysing Digital Payment Systems in India through the Lens of Innovation Systems Framework

Chidambaran G. Iyer and Sunil Mani

Policy makers have realized the high-cost cash imposes on the economy. Understandably, the Government is encouraging digital payments as it can considerably reduce the high cost of cash. Point of Sales (PoS) payment systems, payment apps, and the United Payment Interface (UPI) are three such digital technologies that are currently used and promoted in the Indian economy. Increasing use of these three technologies will give impetus to the digital payment ecosystem in the country. Thus, understanding the adoption of these three technologies will help formulate policies that will support their adoption.

In this paper, we try to understand the adoption of these three technologies using the innovation systems framework. In particular, we use the tool of functional & structural analysis of innovation systems to analyse the PoS innovation system, payment apps innovation system, and UPI innovation system. The analysis identifies systemic problems that prevent these innovation systems from displacing the existing system of cash-based transactions. Initial analysis for the PoS innovation system, shows that the Government needs to strengthen market formation, resource mobilization, and creation of legitimacy activities. This will provide much needed support to the PoS innovation system.

Status: New Initiative

53. Entrepreneurship and Innovation Systems: Two Indian Case Studies

Chidambaran G. Iyer

The study intends to trace an entrepreneur's impact in two case studies from the Indian context – a mature technology (oil refining) industry and a sunrise technology (mobile services) industry. We argue that in both these innovation systems entrepreneurial activities played an important role. However, we find that in both the industries – one mature and the other sunrise, the entrepreneur was able to primarily influence only the diffusion but not the choice of technology. In the context of a developing country, we present evidence to



highlight the influence of the entrepreneur on institutions, which helped the entrepreneur make connections that opened up entrepreneurial opportunities.

Status: New Initiative

54. Bivoltine Sericulture in India: An Innovation System Perspective

Chidambaran G. Iyer

Compared to Indian silk yarns, Chinese yarns are lighter and smoother with less winding breakage thus lending itself well to power looms. China is also the leading supplier of raw silk in the world, no wonder power looms prefer Chinese silks to the more durable but less dependable Indian silk. Assuming other things are the same, there is a need to make Indian silk more reliable in terms of availability as well as quality. Improvement in productivity and quality of silk largely depends on genetic potential of silkworm genetic resources. The genetic resources in India have already been fully exploited, as a result there is very little scope for improvement in silk productivity and quality with the locally available genetic resources. Hence, efforts are being made by research institutions to procure better silkworm breeds with desired traits from other sericulture practicing countries like Japan, China, Bulgaria, Uzbekistan and Brazil. This is not an easy task, as such silkworm breeds from other countries are susceptible to infections and high level of heat, both prevalent in the southern silk growing states of the country. The bivoltine sericulture cluster promotion programme is an example of the effort to introduce such better varieties in the country. In this paper, using the innovation systems perspective we understand the bivoltine sericulture cluster promotion programme.

Status: Research Plan for 2021-22

55. The Evolving Space Economy of India

Sunil Mani and T Shijumon (Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology)

The project will touch upon the following four aspects: Estimating the size of space economy of India as well as growth in various components; Quantifying the economic gains from spin offs of space program / investments in India; Estimating the indirect socio-economic impact of space programme of India; and Potential and recent spurt of private participation in space sector of India.

Status: New Initiative.

56. Automation and Manufacturing Employment, Case of India's Automotive Industry

Sunil Mani

India's automotive industry is one of the most automated industry in India's manufacturing establishment. It is also one of the fast growing industries in India accounting for about 9 per cent of organized sector manufacturing employment. However, the increasing diffusion of automation technologies may further reduce the intensity of labour use in the industry. We propose to explore this through a series of case studies of automotive manufacturers.

Status: Expected date of completion: January 31, 2023



57. Innovation performance of India's Pharmaceutical Industry vs Computer Software Industry-

Sunil Mani

Sponsor: University of Tokyo

Studies have shown that India's innovation performance is led by two separate industries, one from manufacturing and other from the services industries. Employing patent data, we analyse the contrasting experience of these two sectors.

Status: Expected date of completion: January 31, 2023

58. The State and Market in R&D and Manufacturing in New Health Technologies, Case of COVID-19 Vaccine Development and Its Diffusion in India and the USA

Sunil Mani

Given the public good characteristics of new technologies and especially those contributing to improved health, there is a strong case for state support for R&D and indeed for converting those research results to commercialise products and processes. The state support to the market is even more vital in developing vaccines for the pandemic COVID-19 which has engulfed the whole world and has shattered the economies of countries and lives of ordinary citizens. The paper analyses how the state and the market have responded to the development of vaccines for this pandemic in two countries, India and the USA. India is chosen as it is one of the leading manufacturers of low-cost vaccines, and the USA is selected as it is the top country where systematic R&D on vaccines is carried out. Once again, the analysis drives home the strong case of state support to the market in the development of crucial technologies and making them affordable so that a large section of the society can afford them. This is because new technologies also have natural monopoly characteristics as well.

Status: New Initiative (Commenced 1May, 2020. Expected date of completion July 31, 2021)

LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL SECURITY

Completed Studies

59. Do Job Reservations Hurt Firm Performance? Evidence from Indian Public Sector Enterprises

Ritika Jain and Vinoj Abraham

This study examines the impact of job reservations on performance of public sector enterprises (PSEs) in India. Using a simple theoretical framework, we hypothesise that reservation benefits firm performance if implemented across all levels of employment hierarchy. We rely on data for all central government owned PSEs from 2014 to 2017 and employ instrument variable estimation strategies to analyse the effect. The results suggest that adhering to reservation norms across firm's organizational hierarchy enhances firm performance since a diverse workforce at every level is associated with a better working environment, larger information flow and harmonious labor relations. The study however observes that the reserved category representation is disproportionately skewed towards the



lower end of the organizational hierarchy in India PSEs. An in-depth analysis of policy documents and committee reports suggest systematic limitations in vacancy notifications, and discriminatory practices within the organization as the main drivers of this skewed representation.

Status: Under review at *Journal of Development Studies*

60. Information and Communication Technology Adoption and the Demand for Female Labour: The Case of Indian Industry.

Ritika Jain

Does the adoption of information and communication technologies (ICTs) lead to better and more inclusive women representation in the workforce? We explore this question for India—a developing economy characterized by strong patriarchal norms and gender-based discrimination in the workforce. Using the World Bank Enterprise Survey of 2014, we examine the effect of computerization, email usage and Internet services on three aspects of female representation—total female representation, representation across the hierarchy of workforce and quality of female representation. Using instrumental variable estimation models, we find that ICT adoption has a positive effect on the total share of women in the workforce. A deeper analysis reveals that the positive effect of ICTs on female employment is limited to the share of females in the highly skilled workforce. In contrast, it does not affect the female share in the low or unskilled workforce. This indicates that ICT adoption has a semi-polarization effect on women. We also find that ICT adoption is associated with better quality females in the workforce. Both rises in demand for skilled people and a women-friendly work environment drive these results. The overall findings establish the effective role of ICTs in enhancing women's representation in the workforce.

Status: *The BE Journal of Economic Analysis & Policy*, 1 (ahead-of-print).

61. Privatisation and the Voluntary Retirement Scheme

Ritika Jain and Vinoj Abraham

The voluntary retirement scheme of public sector enterprises is built on the narrative of overstaffing and inefficiency. With Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited being the latest to announce a massive VRS, this article examines the path that led to this package. It argues that it is one of the instruments through which labour flexibility is ushered in public sector enterprises, which often end in privatisation. It also discusses the crucial role that BSNL could take up by virtually connecting the physically distanced in the resistance against the ongoing pandemic.

Status: Published in *Economic & Political Weekly*, 55(40), 11.

62. Affirmative Action and Jobs in India

Thiagu Ranganathan and Tirtha Chatterjee

This project will explore the impact of affirmative action on jobs in India for the scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, and other backward castes. The project will use impact evaluation methods to analyse the impact of the interventions on employment, who benefitted, and who lost from affirmative action policies in India. We will use the Indian Human



Development Survey (IHDS) data collected in 2011-12 and National Sample Survey (NSS) Data collected in 2017-18 and 2018-19. The preliminary findings of one of the papers can be summarised below:

This paper analyses representation of various social groups in regular jobs provided by the government and the private sector. We find that there is severe under-representation of backward social groups in private sector regular jobs and high representation of unreserved categories in the same. In case of regular jobs in government sector, the unreserved category is highly over-represented. The difference in representation of unreserved category in government sector and private sector regular jobs is not significant indicating that there is potentially no negative effects of reservation on the representation of these groups in government jobs. We also see that there is some improvement in representation of STs and SCs on government sector as compared to private sector. This indicates possibly some positive effects of affirmative action on representation of these groups in government sector regular jobs. The under-representation of OBCs in both private sector and government sector regular jobs is an area of concern. We also find that the under-representation is higher in government sector indicating possible negative effects of affirmative action policies on representation of these groups in government jobs.

Status: Published as CDS Working Paper 'Did Reservation in Higher Education change the prospects for OBCs in getting better jobs? A Study using Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) in India. *CDS Working Paper 500*.

63. Occupational Segregation in the Indian Labour Market: A Socio-religious Perspective

Vinoj Abraham and Kashif Mansoor (Doctoral Scholar)

This paper is an attempt to understand the occupational segregation among socio-religious groups in India. Using Employment and Unemployment Survey 2011–2012, the paper builds index of dissimilarity and Hutchens square root index to measure the segregation. The paper has found that segregation in general is higher in urban areas than in rural areas and among females than males. The highest segregation is, however, recorded between Hindu STs/SCs and Muslim OBC in urban areas, followed by Hindu others and Muslim others. The value of segregation index is the least in the case of Muslim OBC and Muslim others, confirming the almost similar pattern of occupations between them. Regular employment seems to emerge as driver of occupational segregation for males, while both regular employment and self-employment drive segregation among females. On the other hand, rising education levels raise segregation among males of all socio-religious groups. We also found that Muslim-populous states have low segregation, while Muslim-sparse states have high segregation between Hindu and Muslim. The occupations in which Muslims and Hindu STs/SCs are concentrated, have poor indicators of work decency.

Status: Published in *Indian Journal of Labour Economics* 64(1):1-27, DOI:10.1007/s41027-021-00302-4

64. Structural Change and Rural Households in India: An Analysis of the Nature of Transformation in Their Economic Activities

Vinoj Abraham



The rural economy in India has been witnessing a transformation in terms of a shift in the economic activities undertaken by members of the household. This paper looks into this transformation during the period 1993–94 to 2011–12. In order to look at the transformation within households, we take households as the unit of analysis and analyse the changes that occur within households. We use the NSS unit-level data of Employment–Unemployment rounds for the analysis. There is a shift from agriculture sector to non-agriculture sector employment in case of males. For females too, the share in agricultural employment declined but the corresponding rise was in two activities, education and domestic activities. The near stagnancy of employment in manufacturing, transport, storage and communication and financial and other services, both for males and females, point to the lack of diversification of output growth in the rural areas, which in turn signals the lack of interlinkage with the urban sector. It can be seen that the rural households, from being agricultural households with a rudimentary division of labour and limited specialization within the households, there is increasing division of labour both within the household and in the production site. Within the household, the functions of caregiving and social reproduction is increasingly becoming a specialized activity of the women in the household, while male members engage in economic activity. The typical male HoH is now moving away from agriculture to non-agricultural sources of livelihood, and the sons in these households are moving towards acquiring better levels of education, which probably by the next generation would accentuate the process of shift to non-agricultural employment among males. Meanwhile, the concentration of women in the domestic sector may get further enhanced.

Status: Published in volume edited by N K Mishra, *Development Challenges of India After Twenty Five Years of Economic Reforms*, published by Springer, DOI: 10.1007/978-981-15-8265-3_10

New Initiatives

65. Does Vocational Training Lead to Self-employment in India?

Hrushikesh Mallick, Pradeep Kumar Choudhury (Zakir Husain, Centre for Educational Studies, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University) and Amit Kumar (Ph.D. Scholar, Zakir Husain Centre for Educational Studies, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University)

Using the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) data for 2017-18, the study would try to understand what motivates the self-employment of labour forces by considering gender, caste and other socio-economic characteristics in the non-agricultural sector. In this context, the study would specifically focus on examining the role of vocational education and training in raising self-employment in India.

Status: Research Plan 2021-22

66. Effect of Adoption and Use of Information and Communication Technology on the Status and Quality of Female Employment: The Case of India

Ritika Jain and Tirtha Chatterjee

We revisit the problem of declining female labor force participation in India by investigating the role of information and communication (ICT) adoption and use in it. Based on the rapid penetration of ICTs in India in the past few decades, we build two hypothesis related to how adoption and use of ICT effectively aids women in India to reduce the traditional barriers of job search and makes valuable information easily



available. Our first hypothesis posits that ICT adoption and use increases the likelihood of female employment. Secondly, we hypothesise that IC adoption and usage also lead to a better quality of employment, as measured by the education-skill match. We use two rounds of a nationally representative survey, Indian Human Development Survey and employ instrumental variable estimation and sample selection models to estimate the causal and unbiased estimator of ICT adoption and use on both status and quality of female employment. We contrast our analysis by comparing it with male employment and find strong support for both our hypothesis. Further, we find that the effect of ICT measures is less pronounced for married women. We also find that ICT measures increase the chances of entry in the workforce for women who were unemployed and reduce the chances of exit from the workforce for women who were previously employed. We find support for the channels of our hypotheses- ICT adoption and usage makes women better informed and more empowered, which, consequently leads to better employment opportunities.

Status: New Initiative

MACROECONOMIC PERFORMANCE

Completed Studies

67. Public Trust in Governance Institutions and its Socio-Economic Determinants: An Empirical Analysis for India

Hrushikesh Mallick, Balakrushna Padhi (Birla Institute of Technology and Science Pilani, Department of Economics and Finance, Rajasthan) and U.S. Mishra.

Using two rounds of household surveys conducted by India Human Development Survey (IHDS-I-2004-05 & IHDS-II-2011-12) on levels of public trust in various governance institutions, we evaluate variations in levels of public trust among households with their varying socio-economic and cultural attributes across Indian states. At first, by analysing public trust covering six components related to governance institutions, it shows that the improvement is limited to only few governance institutions, while there are reduced trust levels in others. Based on those six sub-components, constructing an overall index measure of public trust across Indian states, we observe that there is a significant overall deficit of trust making only a marginal improvement in the latest survey over the previous survey. By examining the socio-economic-cultural and geographical determinants of public trust in overall governance with an index measure of public trust in two survey periods, we find that regional factors clearly stand out to play a significant role in shaping trust levels rather than class, caste and other socio-economic attributes. This serves towards an inference that a rise in trust in governance goes hand in hand with the development divide among the regions in India.

Status: Submitted to the journal for publication

68. Factors Obstructing India to Become a Major Travel Destination for Foreign Tourism: An Empirical Enquiry

Hrushikesh Mallick and Lekhmi R S (Doctoral Scholar, CDS)

The study attempts to investigate the major determinants of Foreign Tourist Arrivals (FTAs) in India. Utilizing Johansen cointegration test and VECM on the annual data from 1985 to 2017, it uncovers a long-run relationship between FTAs and its determinants. It reveals that real GDP of the destination, average real per capita GDP of source countries, terrorism incidents in source countries and air transport connectivity are the crucial



determinants of attracting foreign tourists into India, while at the same time, it also finds that real exchange rate of Indian Rupee, terrorism incidents and cognizable crimes in India are the other key upsetting factors for foreign tourists to travel to India.

Status: Submitted to the journal for publication

Ongoing Studies

69. Understanding the Determinants of Current Account Performance in Selected South Asian Economies

Hrushikesh Mallick

Considering panel data from 1981-2018, this study attempts to investigate major factors determining Current Account Deficits (CADs) for five South Asian economies (Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Nepal and Sri Lanka) in the Asian Region. Using Pooled Mean Group (PMG) estimation on a basic model of CAD, we observe that in long-run, exchange rate depreciation helps to improve Current Account Balances (CABs), whereas increased real per capita income leads to worsening of CAB. To some extent, while it is possible to strongly suggest that trade openness jeopardises CAD; however, net foreign capital inflows neither seem to pose any threat of deterioration in CAB, nor seem to improve it. While fiscal deficits don't have any effect on CAB, but increased savings have an unfavourable effect on it. Given the trends of liberalisation which is intensifying over time along with sustained rise in per capita incomes of economies, we conclude that unless some sectoral import restrictions are imposed along with ensuring stability of exchange rates (for balancing exports with import needs), these economies are likely to experience further deterioration in their CABs.

Status: Ongoing (Expected date of completion: December 2021)

New Initiatives

70. Are there any Significant Differences in External and Idiosyncratic Shock Spillovers in International Sovereign Bond Markets? A Journey from Normal to Covid-19 Period for Eight Major Selected Economies

Hrushikesh Mallick and Sanjay Rout (Doctoral Scholar)

Using both the static and dynamic (rolling window) frameworks of Diebold and Yilmaz (DY), the study examines the shock spillover of sovereign bond market prices involving short (S), medium (M), and long (L) maturities between US, Japan, Germany, China, India, Russia, Indonesia, and Brazil. By carefully examining the data during 1st January 2013 to 12th November 2020, it discovered that no matter whether pre-covid-19 or covid-19 period, shock spillover of sovereign bond prices is much higher for long and medium maturity bonds relative to short maturity bond. It also clearly establishes that shock spillover increased manifold during covid-19 irrespective of their maturity period of bonds compared to pre-covid-19 period, although the magnitude of shock spillover remains low with short maturity. Thus, we conclude that investors should look for portfolio diversification and better risk management strategies while considering to invest on short-maturity bonds rather than considering bonds of any specific region in their portfolio diversification. Using alternative models, we find our results are quite robust.

Status: New Initiative



MIGRATION

Completed Studies

71. India Migration Report 2020: Kerala Model of Migration Surveys.

S. Irudaya Rajan

The India Migration Report 2020 is the eleventh edition of the annual India Migration Report, which focuses on the importance of information collected by migration surveys. Looking at studies done through data collected through the various migration surveys held in India on a number of socio-economic issues as a consequence of migration, this volume acts as a unique repository of studies and information collected via migration surveys, highlighting the importance of collecting data on this extremely important and dynamic phenomenon. The studies presented in this edition delve on varied topics such as conspicuous consumption of remittances and their utilization, the effect of male migration on left behind women and the attitudes of male migrants within the household to a number of other socio-economic dimensions such as financial inclusion of migrants and return migration strategies as well as migration strategies during times of crises like the Kerala floods of 2018. Through the various chapters, it also highlights the twenty-year experience of the Kerala Migration Survey, which has been conducted by the Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram and has taken place every five years since 1998 and completed eight rounds – the only migration survey in the world to do so. Additionally, it also looks at issues of migration politics and governance as well as return migration strategies of other countries to provide a roadmap for India. It is outlined into twenty five chapters, each looking at various aspects of migration using data collected through various migration surveys.

Status: Book Published by Routledge

72. Development, Environment and Migration: Lessons for Sustainability

S. Irudaya Rajan and Debabrata Baral (Bennett University)

This book brings the discourses around social justice and sustainable development back into focus by looking at India's mining sector and the state's frameworks for economic development. The chapters in this volume analyse mining practices in the mineral-rich areas of eastern India through various case studies and highlight their immense human and environmental costs.

This volume critically analyses selected mining projects in India that have resulted in large-scale displacements, impoverishment and environmental degradation. It identifies the gaps in policy, its implementation, and the lack of safeguards which threaten the socio-economic and ecological ways of life and the livelihoods of the local communities. Based on documents, reports, interviews and field observations, this book engages with the issues surrounding the mining sector, e.g., land acquisition, land use and degradation, the politics of compensation, policies, agitation and social mobilisation, health and agriculture, livelihood and gender. It further provides an assessment of local political economies and offers suggestive frameworks for inclusive growth in this sector. This book is organised into 12 chapters which has been further divided into three parts: Development, Displacement and Dispossession: Macro Perspectives; Development Displacement and Dispossession: Selected case studies; and Emerging Policy gaps.



This book will be of interest to students and researchers exploring the disciplines of development studies, sociology, law and governance, human ecology and economics.

Status: Book Published by Routledge.

73. The Political Economy of Policy on Recruitment of Women Domestic Workers and Nurses to the Middle East

Praveena Kodoth

There have been significant changes in regulation of recruitment of nurses and women domestic workers for overseas employment over the recent past that warrant inquiry from the perspective of the complex interplay of underlying interests. Government orders executed on March 12, 2015 and August 2, 2016, respectively, brought the overseas recruitment of nurses and women domestic workers under the exclusive purview of specified state-run recruitment agencies and prohibited private recruitment for an unspecified initial period of time. The 2015 order on nurses came in the wake of a scandal that exposed large scale irregularities in private recruitment of nurses and corruption that involved the Protector of Emigrants (POE), the official who is tasked with overseeing the operation of recruitment agencies, whereas the 2016 order on MDWs was attributed more generally to the issue of exploitation and harassment. The two government orders had obvious similarities, but they elicited strikingly different responses from state-run and private recruitment agencies. This paper analyses the political economy of regulation of recruitment of nurses and women domestic workers in a comparative perspective by examining the influence of specific interest groups, in particular private recruitment agents, overseas employers and governments, on emigration policy.

Private recruitment agencies were quick to challenge the order on nurses and the government reinstated private recruitment even before the courts ruled in the case, whereas the order on migrant domestic workers (MDW) went uncontested and private recruitment remains prohibited. Two Kerala-based state agencies, Overseas Development and Employment Promotion Council (ODEPC) and Non Resident Keralite Affairs Roots (NORKA) were tasked exclusively with recruitment nurses and they got to work immediately. By contrast, though six state agencies were authorised to recruit MDWs, it was almost two years before first of them, NORKA initiated organised recruitment.

The 2015 order also brought nurses under Emigration Check Required (ECR) category, which in the normal course pertains only to workers with less than a minimum stipulated level of education, at present 10 years. Devised under the Emigration Act, 1983 to protect migrant workers who may be especially vulnerable to exploitation, the ECR category applies to 18 countries known for exploitative work conditions and includes all the Middle Eastern countries. Most MDWs fall under the ECR category owing to their education levels but they have been subject to additional bureaucratic controls intended to discourage mobility. India's emigration policy towards women with low education levels has evolved to be highly paternalist, restricting women's freedoms supposedly in their own interests.

Workers in the ECR category are required to obtain emigration clearance (EC) from the POE, on the basis of verification of their documents, which is a fallible process as bona-fide documents may attest to false information and POEs have been charged with corruption. By placing nurses under the ECR category, the government relied on a mechanism with a questionable record in checking irregularities in recruitment. But the



move also buttressed the POE powers when abuse of that office was a part of the immediate problem as the POE in Kochi was a prime accused in the nurse recruitment scandal.

Status: Submitted for publication

74. Contestations of Citizenship: Migrant Labour, a Benevolent State, and the COVID-19-induced Lockdown in Kerala

Praveena Kodoth

The mass exodus of migrant labour in the wake of the national lockdown in February 2020 exposed more than the central government's lack of planning and sensitivity to the conditions of this labour force; it provided a sudden but spontaneous visibility to the full force of the distress and insecurity of migrant workers. To make sense of this harsh reality, it is necessary to go beyond the relationship between this precarious workforce and the nation-state at a time of crisis and to reckon with the more routine failures of citizenship that metamorphosed into a crisis in the first place. The central government was caught off guard by the swiftness with which migrant workers headed back home indicating a serious lack of awareness and understanding of this workforce. Kerala, however, stood out for the speed with which the government announced a relief package, mobilized volunteers and instituted measures to mitigate distress with an emphasis on workers who depend on daily earnings and migrant labour. With co-ordination at various levels of government and communication through the media, the government showed readiness to address gaps in the design and implementation of relief measures. In several migrant hubs, when workers mobilized in public demanding to go back home, government authorities intervened quickly to diffuse protests.

The state government's response to the humanitarian crisis was marked by a rare degree of concern. However, the government employed a rhetoric of care that along with some hostile public perceptions of migrant workers brought into view the undermining of the citizenship of migrant workers. The government's insistence on addressing migrant workers as 'guest workers', while suggesting that Kerala as the host state was obliged to provide care steered away, inevitably, from a language of citizenship obligations and rights. PratapBhanu Mehta (2020) points out: 'There is something deeply morally odd in using the language of compassion in relation to the state. What we need from the state is not compassion, it is a minimum sense of justice. In fact, the appeals to compassion destructively depoliticise social policy by appealing to sentiment'. Thus, the depiction of protests by migrant workers in everyday conversations as 'ingratitude' fitted well within the state's approach.

Migrant labour are considered indispensable to Kerala's economy. If their exodus forced them into full public view across the country, they were already visible in Kerala i.e., there was recognition of their presence, albeit in specific forms. A form of state-conferred visibility in the form of pioneering welfare schemes offered migrant workers the possibility of at least minimal social protection. But migrant workers laid claim to a more contentious form of visibility. For instance, they have sought to mark their identity and achieve solidarity by coming together in public places like a Sunday market in Perambavoor, a large migrant hub near Ernakulum, and by engaging sporadically in protests (Prasad, 2016). Migrant hubs have theatres screening Hindi, Odiya and Bengali films and churches that hold mass for migrant workers in their languages (Sudhir, 2016) which also merit study as distinctive spaces for marking identity. The state-society complex in Kerala, which includes



the police and other government agencies, mainstream trade unions and the Malayali public have been implicated in curtailing freedoms of expression, assembly and association of migrant workers. For instance, Prasad Aleyamma (2017) points out with reference to Perambavoor that migrant workers are produced as a threat to public order, which serves to legitimize police harassment and to justify demands for surveillance.

I examine contestations of citizenship of migrant workers in Kerala during and before the lockdown as have been apparent in the stoking of suspicion and fear against them in the context of protests or when a crime is committed in a migrant hub. As public perceptions, police actions and underlying social relations produce migrant workers as ‘outsiders’ and expose the fault lines of a benevolent state, I argue that state-conferred visibility in the form of welfare does not guarantee enfranchised citizenship. A sharper contrast emerges in comparison with Non Resident Keralites (NRKs), who are recognized as an important political constituency and are appealed to by the state in a language that grants them a position of power. But NRKs are differentiated and women NRKs at the lowest end of the caste-class order are subject to punitive state power.

Status: Published
Asha Hans, Kalpana Kannabiran, Manoranjan Mohanty in *Migration, workers and fundamental freedoms: Pandemic Vulnerabilities and states of exception in India*, New Delhi: Routledge, March 2021)

75. The Reality behind the *Global Care Chain*: The Case of South Indian Emigrant Domestic Workers

Praveena Kodoth

There has been a considerable volume of research in the past two decades on the migration of domestic workers from the global south to the more affluent countries. This has drawn attention to the growing incorporation of paid housework into global political economy and highlighted power asymmetries between nations. High or rising work participation rates of women and demographic ageing has resulted in a deficit of care providers in the global north and has been attracting migrant workers from the global south. Drawing on Rachel Parrenas’ (2012) research on migrant Filipina domestic workers in the West, Arlie Hochschild formulated the concept of the Global Care Chain (GCC) to show how employers extract surplus value from migrant care workers and how migration depletes care provision at the source. Parrenas observed that migration produces a hierarchical chain of reproductive labour as kin networks of migrant women or low paid labour take over these migrant women’s work in their own homes in the global south. Isaksen, Devi and Hochschild (2008) argue that employers in the global north do not compensate migrant workers fully for their labour because part of the costs of employing them are ‘externalised’, i.e., because the care work previously done by migrant workers in their own homes is now replaced by unpaid work of women from their kinship networks or poorly paid women workers. In other words, these costs are rendered invisible and not fully monetised in effect providing a hidden subsidy to employers in the north.

The term *care* has been used to denote the wide spectrum of tasks that involves the upkeep of the human body as well as the cultivation of health and human capabilities. These include two broad categories of tasks, the more valorised tasks related to nurture and the more frequently outsourced and devalorised, menial tasks of cleaning. In accordance with this hierarchy of tasks in the global north, migrant workers and women of colour are



engaged predominantly in the menial tasks of cleaning. The GCC analysis brought the spotlight on the reinforcement of global inequalities of well being, wealth and power; it has been extended to care workers in diverse settings and to the multiple actors who constitute the chain, i.e., the migration industry and source and destination governments. On the other hand, the GCC analysis has been critiqued for essentializing gender and reifying the notion of women as care workers (Yeates, 2012, Parrenas, 2012, Nadasen, 2017). Another problem with the framework is that as England (2006) observed, ‘what is unique about migration is not doing care work or leaving children behind’. Migration of workers who were once care providers in their own families disrupts care arrangements in the global south, irrespective of their occupation at the destination.

GCC analysis has focussed on migration from countries like the Philippines which have adopted a liberal approach to the migration of domestic workers. India is a major source of migrant domestic workers (MDWs) to parts of the Middle East but has traditionally adopted a protectionist approach to their migration. There is now a rising demand for MDWs in the Middle East spurred by increased work participation rates of women nationals as a result of policies of nationalisation of the workforce that seek to reduce the employment of migrant workers by corporations and the government and by the progress of ageing (Tayah and Assaf, 2018).

The Middle East is also distinct for the Kafala system of sponsorship and recruitment which relegates immigrants to permanently temporary resident status. In addition to this, MDWs are excluded from the purview of labour laws in the Middle East as they work in households. At the source, in India, the embedding of the migration of domestic workers in patriarchal power relations diminishes the value of migrant women’s labour. In broad brush strokes, and drawing on my own research (Kodoth 2020), I sketch out here briefly how India’s migration policy is complicit in accumulation strategies of overseas employers, the recruitment industry and other business interests straddling India and the Middle East.

This paper shows how conditions at the source and destination of Migrant Domestic Workers exhibit a complexity that goes beyond the abstract universal model of the Global Care Chain.

Status: ‘Care work and strategies of accumulation,’ PadminiSwaminathan and Uma Rani eds., *State Capital Nexus: Implications for Labour, Broadsheet on Politics*, Anveshi Research Centre for Women’s Studies, Hyderabad, March 2021

Completed Research Projects

76. Natural Disasters and Household Migration in Kerala

S. Irudaya Rajan

Sponsor: World Bank

The role of migration and remittances in improving household welfare is well recognized in the development literature through its impact on poverty alleviation, improving general living conditions and enabling household-level investments in housing, health, education in addition to facilitating entrepreneurship. However, the role of migration household strategy to cope with natural disasters has been less researched. The limited availability of longitudinal data for households that are exposed to adverse climate events also makes it difficult to differentiate between ex-ante and ex-post migration strategies in household recovery - an important distinction which has not been adequately addressed in the



literature. The objective of the study was to undertake a quasi-experimental study of household recovery in Kerala in the aftermath of a major flood by examining how migration and remittances contribute to resilience and reducing vulnerability and as a coping strategy. This was accomplished by revisiting a set of households that were originally surveyed in early 2018 prior to the floods. The follow-up survey helped to create a panel dataset of households. This study was different from all other migration surveys although the samples are taken from the Kerala Migration Survey 2018. This study aimed to measure the loss of livelihood assets due to the floods. Through this, the vulnerability of all forms of assets – physical, financial, social and human – are determined.

77. Migration, Remittances and Dutch Disease: Evidence from Kerala Economy

M. Parameswaran

Sponsor: Research Programme on International Migration from Kerala

This paper examines the impact of remittances and migration on the structure and growth of Kerala economy using the framework of Dutch disease put forward by Corden (1982). The paper not only provides empirical evidence on the impact of remittances on economic growth, but also gives insights into the intermediate/transmission mechanism of the phenomena. The paper examines the impact of remittances on the growth of tradeable and non-tradeable sectors of the economy, relative price of non-tradeable services, and real wage in agriculture. It shows that remittances have significant positive effect on the growth of non-tradeable services and significant negative effect on tradeable sector. The paper also finds that remittances and migration contributed to increase the relative price of non-tradeable services. Both these effects must have contributed to the expansion of this sector. It is also found that remittances and migration have a positive effect on the real wage of even agricultural workers.

Status: A chapter in Mani, Sunil (ed.) *Kerala and World Economy*, published by Centre for Development Studies, 2020.

Ongoing Research Projects

78. Should We Provide incentives for Investment Use of Remittances? A Randomized Controlled Experiment for India

S. Irudaya Rajan and Bharati Basu (Central Michigan University)

Sponsor: UAE Exchange Centre LLC

It is now well known among policy makers and scholars that about 3.5 percent of world population living in countries other than their countries of birth transfer about \$450 billion to their families and friends back home. Quite a few attempts have been made to find out how these transfers are used at least in some parts of the world (like some countries of Latin America, Africa, South East and East Asia). What is surprising is that there is no analysis about the use of remittance money in the top remittance receiving countries of the world like India and China.

Thus, there is a need for collecting information about the attitude of the remittance receiving households towards investment, about the factors that may have contributed towards this attitude and whether a certain type of incentive would eventually raise the investment level of these households. One way to meet this need is to have randomized



controlled experiment involving remittance receiving households and their remittance sending migrant members.

NRI deposits in Kerala have crossed Rs. 1 lakh crore, soaring by more than 17 percent from Rs. 93,884 crores to Rs 1.1 lakh crore (at the end of 2014-15) in the space of just one year, according to data collected by the State Level Bankers Committee (SLBC). This includes money from all over the world. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) data shows that there was a little over \$115 billion in NRI accounts in India, which is about Rs. 7 lakh crore. Kerala, thus accounts for roughly a sixth of all the money deposited in NRI accounts. Remittances from the Gulf region are still a key growth engine for the state, which has seen agriculture in decline till recently and negligible growth in manufacturing while neighbouring states like Tamil Nadu and Karnataka have surged ahead.

The objective of this experiment is to find out whether it is possible to boost the investment use of remittances by providing some incentives. To accomplish the objective, the experiment focused on the migration corridor between Kerala and the Gulf Area. This is one of the largest migration corridors in the world. As per the Kerala Migration Surveys conducted by the Centre for Development Studies, Kerala, India over the last 15 years (1998-2015), the proportion of Kerala emigrants in the Gulf accounted for about 90 per cent of all migrants from Kerala.

After the first round of surveying in 2016, when 2000 migrant households were surveyed, incentives to 500 households were transferred. The mid-line survey and end-line survey has been completed which was mainly measured the responses and attitudes towards investment of remittances.

Status: Ongoing (Expected date of completion: December 2021)

79. Return Migrant Survey 2020

S. Irudaya Rajan

Sponsor: Research Programme on International Migration from Kerala

The main objective of the study is to find the impact of COVID-19 on return migration to Kerala and its associated challenges. For this, the study focussed on three groups of return emigrants: those who came back as a normal return; those who returned due to distress (job loss, visa expired etc); and those who returned to re-migrate. The primary data was collected from the returnees from five GCC countries, who had come through Vande Bharat mission and private chartered flights to Kerala, since May, 2020. The survey has been completed through telephonic interviews by using the *surveycto* online platform.

Status: Ongoing (Expected date of completion: July 2021)

80. The Prospects and Impact of Migration At The Local Level Through A Village Census

Vinoj Abraham, Praveena Kodoth, Parameswaran M and Ritika Jain

Sponsor: Research Programme on International Migration from Kerala

Overseas labour migration of Keralites and the remittances that have flowed into Kerala as a consequence are now recognised as having had a strong impact on the state's economy and society. The migration of Keralites witnessed an upward swing with the Gulf boom in the 1970s, lined to the several fold increase in oil prices. It is estimated that in 2014 around 24



lakhs Keralites were working abroad, which is around 7 per cent of the state's population and more than two times the workers in the organised sector in Kerala. It is also estimated that remittances the state receives comes to around 20 percent of its Net State Domestic Product (NSDP). The flow of money, goods and ideas as well as the building of social capital are known to have had a transformative effect on the local economy and society especially in areas of large scale migration and to be differentiated in terms of communities (religion and caste), gender and class (education and skill levels of migrants) (Osella and Osella, Kurien, Sivanandan, PRG, Sreerup, 2017, Luke, 2018). At present, Kerala is also witnessing significant changes in migration. It is no longer the largest sending state of migrants and migration from Kerala is no longer growing even as migrants are returning to the state in fairly large numbers. Another characteristic feature of Kerala's economy today is large scale in-migration of labour into the construction and agricultural sectors as well as into semi-skilled (technically trained) occupations from the northern and eastern states.

With more than half a century of migration to the Middle East and more than quarter a century of in-migration of labour from the northern states, this is a good time to do a comprehensive investigation of the impact of migration in terms of its effects at the individual, household and societal levels and also to take stock of the economic and social processes it has set off at the local level. As we are interested in the micro level impact of migration, we propose to take up a comprehensive study of a village in Kerala. We propose to conduct a demographic and economic census in a village with a reasonable diversity in terms of migrant, non-migrant households and productive economic entities including enterprises in the three economic sectors. The census approach would help us to elicit detailed information on the issues that we discussed above. We intend to take Kadakkavoor in Thiruvananthapuram district for this proposed study. Kadakkavoor is a village with 5144 households, and a population of 22632 persons as per Census 2011.

Status: Expected date of completion: The research was to be completed by March 2020, but has to be extended due to the COVID pandemic.

New Initiatives

81. Kerala Transforming: Dynamics of Labour and the Economy (Book)

Beena PL and Thiagu Ranganathan

Sponsor: Research Programme on International Migration from Kerala

Kerala has been historically integrated with the rest of the world in terms of commodity and labour markets. Such integration has further accentuated with the liberalisation of trade and financial policies since the 1990s. While its agricultural markets have been integrated over a long period, it also generates possibly the highest share of remittances coming into India exporting human capital to west Asian countries. Kerala has experienced high levels of international migration since the 1970s. As of 2018, it has around 2.1 million emigrants (Rajan and Zachariah, 2020). Kerala received remittances in the range of \$14-\$15 billion which is around 10% of Kerala's GSDP. Labour migration thus plays a key role in Kerala's employment and the economy. The Covid-19 pandemic is likely to have a huge impact on both these aspects. As of July 2020, about 500,000 emigrants have returned to Kerala and there is a huge impetus to reintegrate these returning migrants into Kerala's economy. It is in this context that this book presents a set of papers that were initially presented at the seminar that engaged with these issues.



This book describes the various aspects of Kerala's economy, its interaction with the world economy, and the impact that Covid-19 has had on different sectors of the Kerala economy. The papers cover a wide range of sectors of Kerala economy and some of them cover issues that arose at the time of the Pandemic. The edited volume consists of 14 papers and divided into three sections primarily focusing on 1) Kerala's Structural Transformation - High-tech or "Stunted"? II). Labour and Migration - Fluid labour or Opportunistic Mobility? and III). External Sector - Trade Surge or Deepening Vulnerabilities?

Status: Proposal is under review with Routledge, India.

82. Evidence Generation on Child Migration: A State Level Study of Tamil Nadu and Kerala

Vinoj Abraham and Praveena Kodoth

Sponsor: UNICEF, India.

Child migrants at the lowest level of economic class are subject to severe deprivations and migrants from rural to urban areas are relatively more disadvantaged in terms of a range of material conditions of life – access to housing, safe cooking fuel and mother's education – according to research based on analysis of macro data. Micro studies provide detailed evidence of exploitation, material deprivations and disenfranchisement of child migrants, which however is difficult to aggregate. We lack macro estimates of child migrants and an interlinked understanding of the types of child migration and the disenfranchisement of child migrants at the national or state levels in India. It is necessary to generate this evidence in order to make a strong case for a definitive policy to address the deprivations and disenfranchisement of child migrants. This study seeks to generate such for Tamil Nadu and Kerala, states that are at the forefront of growth in internal labour migration and pioneers in designing social protection measures for inter-state migrant workers.

Status: New Initiative

AGRICULTURE AND PLANTATION CROPS

Completed Studies

83. The Crisis and the Retirement: Alienation in Kerala's Tea Belt

Jayaseelan Raj

The recent crisis in the tea industry has devastated the livelihood of the Dalit workforce in the South Indian state of Kerala. Retired workers were worst affected, since the plantation companies—under the guise of the crisis—deferred their service payout. This article seeks to understand the severe alienation of the retirees as they struggle to regain lost respect, kinship network, and everyday sociality in the plantations and beyond. I argue that the alienation produced through their dispossession as wage labourers and the discrimination as Tamil-speaking Dalit must be understood as an interrelated process, whereas the source of alienation cannot be reduced to production or categorical relations alone.

Status: Published in *Focaal: Journal of Global and Historical Anthropology*. Vol. 86 (2020): 84-96.



84. Exploring Higher Order Risk Preferences of Farmers in a Water-Scarce Region: Evidence from a Field Experiment in West Bengal, India

Thiagu Ranganathan, Kanchan Joshi (Macquarie University) and Ram Ranjan (Shiv Nadar University, Delhi)

This paper estimates higher order risk preferences of farmers from water scarce region in West Bengal, India. We then examine correlations across risk aversion, prudence and temperance attitudes of farmers, and explore associations of these preferences with household characteristics. Our experimental findings indicate that farmers exhibit risk-seeking behaviour. Farmers are also found to exhibit high levels of prudence and temperance. There is a significant negative correlation between risk aversion and prudence. There is also a significant positive correlation between prudence and temperance of farmers. Individual characteristics such as age, education, and entrepreneurship, are also correlated with various risk preferences. We find that increased stated drought resilience of farmers is positively correlated with prudence. Farmers affected by water scarcity in the Kharif make imprudent choices. Farmers with higher cropping intensities exhibit high levels of prudence and temperance. These findings have important theoretical and policy implications which we discuss in the paper.

Status: *Journal of Quantitative Economics*, 1-28, 2021.

85. Risk and Risk Management in Agriculture

Thiagu Ranganathan

Risks that affect economic activities have been a key area of study in various disciplines of social science. Agriculture is an economic activity that is fraught with varied risks. The role of these risks in agricultural production and its impact on farmers' welfare have been topics of key interest in academic and policy circles. This chapter provides an overview of various issues related to risk and risk management in agriculture, with examples from the Indian context. The prominence of risk is high in agriculture as compared to other economic activities for various reasons. First, agriculture is highly dependent on the vagaries of weather. The production cycle in agriculture is long and this means that agricultural production is vulnerable to weather-based vagaries during this long production cycle. On the marketing front, the interval between production decisions and marketing is typically higher, and the sale prices at the end of the production cycle might not be on the lines that are anticipated during the production. Sometimes, there is a greater difficulty in forming an expectation of prices and adjusting supply in agriculture than in other economic activities. Inputs like seeds, fertilizers and pesticides are also not amenable to storability and availability, and the prices of these inputs also fluctuate at crucial times. Given such prominence of risk and risk management in agriculture, it becomes imperative to discuss this while exploring aspects related to sustainable development. The remaining chapter is structured as follows: Section 1.2 explores the nature and sources of risk in agriculture. Section 1.3 describes the models of decision-making under risk and measurement of farmers' attitudes towards risks. Section 1.4 describes the implications of risk and farmers' risk attitudes on the adoption of new technologies. Section 1.5 summarizes the typical formal and informal risk management strategies of farmers.

Status: Chapter in book in Chakraborty et al. Eds. (2021) *Contemporary Issues in Sustainable Development: The Case of India*, Routledge



86. Agri-commodity Futures and Value Chains

Tirtha Chatterjee, Ragav Raghunathan and Ashok Gulati (ICRIER)

Farmers, especially small and marginal, do not directly trade in agri-futures market in India. Their small size, lack of trust and understanding of futures market and dependence on middlemen are some of the main deterrents. The role of Farmer Producer Organization (FPOs) is crucial in linking farmers to futures market. They can procure commodities, aggregate them and ensure that size and quality standards required for agri-futures trade are met. NCDEX has been trying to bring more FPOs on board since last few years. However, we find that between April 2016 and May 2018 only 0.004 percent of overall agri-futures trade at NCDEX was by FPOs. This reflects the dismal scenario.

The objective of the paper is to identify the bottlenecks in linking farmers to futures and recommend measures to correct those. We find that there are constraints in both, first linking farmers to FPOs and second, FPOs to futures market. Some of these obstacles are low capacity of FPOs, their financial constraints, lack of trust in futures market, strong relationship with traditional middlemen and traders, elaborate and tedious documentation required to trade in the market. All these have to be sorted to scale up farmer participation. Further, Government intervention through schemes like PM-AASHA is likely to have a detrimental impact on the prospect of directly linking farmers to futures markets. This will be specially for those commodities which are procured by the Government. Procurement will shield farmers from price risk and the price risk will be borne by the Government. On the contrary it is also likely that these Government schemes will encourage alternate channels of marketing where Government directly participates in the futures markets making it deep and more liquid. However, emergence of such channels seems like a distant dream.

Some of the steps which have to be taken are- (1) Focus initially on commodities not protected by Government policies, (2) Identify production centres, build delivery centres around them and encourage futures trading in these areas. We identify the areas which have to be focussed first in this paper, (3) Resource Institutions have to be trained and made comfortable with futures trading, (4) Government initiatives like that of Rajasthan (Rajeevika) are required in other regions, (5) Learn from china- focus on futures, state support, customized products and reduce price distortion, (6) Government bodies should be encouraged to directly participate in the futures market and (7) Instruments like forwards and options have to be encouraged.

Status: Chapter in Mishra, A. K., Kumar, A., & Joshi, P. K. (Eds.). (2020). *Transforming Agriculture in South Asia: The Role of Value Chains and Contract Farming*. Routledge.

87. Performance of the Plantation Sector during the COVID-19 Pandemic

Vinoj Abraham and Mitesh Madhavan

This study explores the impact that COVID-19 and its preventive measures would have on the plantation sector, covering four important crops—tea, coffee, rubber and cardamom. The study traces the channels through which the pandemic and the lockdown measures would impact the sector. These channels are the disruptions in seasonal operations, in factor and resource supplies; transport, storage and processing; marketing and sales; and demand conditions. These disruptions get manifested in price, quantity and revenue. These are estimated for the four crops separately. The total unrealised revenue due to the lockdown is



estimated to be ₹38.4364 billion for the lockdown period from 24 March to 31 May 2020. This does not include the losses that are to be incurred due to the demand decline, supply chain disruptions and price fall that is to be manifested in future. This massive economic disaster is bound to have a severe impact on the plantation economy, especially the small growers and the labourers. Urgent measures need to be taken up to arrest the losses and revive the sector. Yet there is very little in the 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' package that would help tide over this economic crisis. Immediate measures aimed at demand rejuvenation, arrest of price fall, restarting of plantation operations and restoring of supply chains is called for. The vantage point of the commodity boards must be exploited to reach out to the stakeholders.

Status: Published in *The Indian Economic Journal*. 2020;68(3):438-456.

doi:10.1177/0019466220988064 and also in National Research Programme on Plantation Development (NRPPD), *Commentary on India's Economy and Society Series* – 16, Centre for Development Studies, July

Completed Research Projects

88. The Quality and Productivity of Rubber Board

Sunil Mani

Sponsor: Rubber Board, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India

The purpose of the study has been to analyse the performance of the Rubber Board (RB) during the ten-year period beginning 2010-11. We sought to do this in terms of an analysis of the performance of the RB and its constituents in three ways.

First, we compared the achievements of the RB against its mandated objectives. Here we found that the Board has been particularly successful and diffusing a variety of new technologies, primarily in developing and introducing new clones of Natural Rubber (NR) which increased its productivity to be one of the highest in the world. However, a fairly continuous downward spiral in NR prices and a concomitant increase in the cost of production has resulted a significant fall in the actually tapped area leading to reduction in productivity. This has in turn adversely affected the efforts towards import substitution in NR during the period. In fact, our argument here is that it beyond the control of the RB as the RB has a very limited role in controlling pricing behaviour. During the period, the RB continued its efforts in improving the marketing of NR through the formation of GPCs and Rubber Producer Societies (RPSs), but does not seem to have met with much success as the quantum of NR traded through these group efforts is still a miniscule one.

Second, we analysed the performance of its research system, namely that of Rubber Research Institute (RRII) in terms of, (a) new technologies developed; (b) its quantity and quality of generation of new knowledge in terms of its record with respect to scientific publications; and (c) in terms of the number of patents granted and applied for. Here while the RRII has been very successful in generating a variety of new technologies and its improved advisories which are much more region specific, it does not seem to have improved its publication or patenting record. This was also the time that it experienced sharp reductions in its scientific manpower which appears to have adversely affected its performance.

Third, we analysed the overall performance of the RB in terms of its income and expenditure. The rise in its income, even in nominal, terms, have been less than, the growth



rate in total expenditure. The RB has tried to become leaner by reducing its staff strength although this reduction has affected its rubber production and research divisions more than its administrative divisions. Nevertheless, it has managed to improve its R&D funding, although with some fluctuations. The RB continue to rely on grants from the central government as far as its income is concerned and its internal revenue generation has actually got reduced during this period in view of lower sales of RSS from its experimental plantations. As a result it had to cut down significantly on capital subsidies which are given to rubber growers which will have a deleterious effect to new and replanting in the years to come. This is likely to affect domestic production of NR in the country increasing the country's reliance on imports when the efforts should be to enhance the country's self-reliance in this vital raw material.

Status: Available as a report.

89. An Analysis of the Producer Collectives in Rubber and Coffee Cultivation

Vinoj Abraham and Mitesh Madhavan

Sponsor: NRPPD, CDS

A key noticeable change in terms of ownership in the plantation sector is the emergence of small growers. The Estate model in plantations, a remnant of the colonial plantation sector, is giving way to the rise of the small growers across crops. Studies do show that labour productivity and yield, across multiple plantation crops, are consistently higher in the small grower segment. Moreover the economic implications in terms of livelihood sources, this small grower model is vital. However, the key operational difficulty faced by small growers is the scale economies associated with marketing of inputs and outputs. Being fragmented with hardly any bargaining power over the purchase of inputs or sale of outputs, and often operating in oligopolistic or oligopsonistic markets, the small growers are left to the mercies of the market intermediaries and players higher up in the value chain. In this context one of the most important interventions initiated at the instance of the government is to organize growers into producer societies, thus enhancing their profitability through economies of scales in operation, increasing their bargaining power in both input and output markets, and sustaining production through learning and innovation.

However across various plantation crops the number of the producer societies, after a few initial years of enthusiasm has gradually declined. In Rubber for instance the number of defunct producer societies are mounting by year, while in coffee sector the producer societies are either virtually defunct or are experiencing political capture. Further, with declining interest of the governments in plantations, probably due to the fall in international competitiveness and ensuing export revenues, or because of the general decline in available state coffers to fund the producer societies, producer societies are gradually receding in prominence. In this context it becomes pertinent to understand as to why are producer societies weakening.

The study does a comparative analysis of two unrelated commercial crops, Coffee and Rubber. The focus is to bring out the differences in collectivization efforts in these two crops, for coffee largely the newly developing Farmer Producer Organisation (FPOs) model and for Rubber the conventional Rubber Producer Societies (RPS) model. From an institutional analysis perspective, using case studies and interviews with stakeholders, the study analyses the problems of cooperation in these two crops. The RPS is a rubber board driven body, its formation and functioning is closely watched by the rubber board. The



board utilizes the RPS as an extension of its own to reach out to the growers. Thus Rubber Board acts as a focal point around which the RPS are formed. This has helped the farmers in establishing a close link with the board. However, as the funds of the board started weaning off, the board's capacity to hold together these RPSs is also weakening now. Unless new mechanisms of invigorating the RPS performance are brought, the RPS system is bound to disintegrate. While for coffee, there have been repeated efforts to collectivise under the Coffee Board with little success. Currently the FPOs that are growing in the sector are not supported by the Board, but through other institutions such as the NABARD. Without support from the coffee board, the focus of the FPOs are not necessarily on coffee. Successful FPOs with capacity to engage with the global markets are able to retain the cooperation and pass on the benefits to the farmers. However many FPOs are specialized organizations of either a formal or informal community. Though collectivities, group operations in input purchase or processing are not common. Generally it is only a sales platform for products. We see that the attrition rates of members as well as FPO failure are common in coffee. The gains of collectivisation seem to elude many in the coffee sector as the incentive structures are yet to align with institutional architecture. For rubber, the existing incentive structure for cooperation seems to be weakening. Market based incentive structures for collectivization seems to have short life.

Status: Published in *Kerala and the World Economy*, edited volume by Sunil Mani

Ongoing Research Projects

90. Collective Action among Small Tea Growers (STG)

Thiagu Ranganathan, Vinoj Abraham, Tirtha Chatterjee

Sponsor: National Research Programme on Plantation Development (NRPPD)

The specific objectives of the study are as follows:

1. Feasibility, viability, and sustainability of SHGs in STGs
2. Profitability of tea production
3. Access to credit
4. Accessibility of training and extension and types of training and extension services and
5. Labour market challenges

1. Feasibility, viability, and sustainability of SHGs in STGs

The study will explore the various business models adopted by different SHGs in the study region. We will analyse the operations (the way accounts are handled, the way inputs are procured, the manner in which output is aggregated, etc.), governance (the way in which they select the governing members, the way meetings are conducted, the frequency of meetings, etc.), and finances (the business model, the revenues in the year, the expenses in the years of operation, etc.) of the various SHGs. These aspects will help us understand the viability of the existing SHGs and address the concerns related to feasibility of forming new SHGs in the study region.

2. Profitability of tea production

The study will explore the revenue, expenditure, profits, and productivity of STGs in the region. We will compare these parameters for STGs organised as SHGs, those organised as cooperatives, and unorganised STGs. We expect the differences in profitability to come from various aspects and we will explore these aspects in detail. We will particularly explore the current and potential role of credit, training and extension, and labour in improving the profitability of tea production by SHGs.



3. Access to credit

SHGs are typically formed to address the issues of financial inclusion. One of the objectives of SHG formation in STGs was also to provide easier access to credit. Our study will perform a comparative analysis of various sources of credit, the rate of interest, and the timely availability of credit among the SHG members, non-members, and other collectives.

4. Accessibility of training and extension and types of training and extension services

One of the important challenges facing tea growers is the lack of training and extension services. The regular training and demonstrations carried out by KrishiVikas Kendra (KVK) earlier run by United Planters' Association of Southern India (Upasi) have been closed in many places³. This means that there is likely to be a need for appropriate training and extension services. This is important more from the cost reduction perspective and also from perspective of producing high quality tea. Our study analyse the current training programmes available to the STGs and look into the nature of training programmes demanded by the STGs. These training requirements might vary for SHGs, non-members, and members of other collectives. Our study will explore these requirements.

5. Labour market challenges

The low wage rates to labourers and the crisis in the sector has meant that labour has moved away from tea sector into other casual labour activities which provide better income for them. This migration of labourers to casual labour like textiles, shops, restaurants, etc., in the plain has meant lack of labour availability and an increase in wages that would make tea production less profitable for the STGs⁴. This is critical as the wage costs account for 65% of total cost of tea production⁵. Our study will explore how the different STGs (those organised as SHGs, unorganised, and those organised as other collectives) are handling the labour market challenges.

Status: Expected date of completion: November, 2021

91. Performance of Rubber Producer Societies in Rubber

Vinoj Abraham and Mithesh Madhavan

Sponsor: NRPPD, CDS

Rubber producer societies, the grass roots level producer organisation that is focussed on collective production and marketing of rubber had been a key player in the growth and spread of rubber production in Kerala. However, the RPSs numbers are dwindling and there are hardly any new RPSs being developed. In the light of this declining level of activity of the RPS, rubber as a commodity has implications as a large share of the rubber is produced and marketed through the RPSs. Moreover, RPS is the first line of contact of the small rubber cultivator for inputs, marketing and information. The disappearance of RPS would have severe implications on the small grower who would be left to the mercies of the monopsonistic market conditions. Given this context this project analyses the performance of the RPSs in Kerala. The study is being conducted through a primary survey across Kerala. The survey covers two primary stakeholders, the growers and the RPS functionaries. The focus of the study would be identify what are the factors that has led to

³<https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/agri-business/small-tea-growers-body-begins-survey-for-trinitea/article26819260.ece>

⁴<https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/agri-business/small-tea-growers-body-begins-survey-for-trinitea/article26819260.ece>

⁵<https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/agri-business/rising-cost-of-production-spoils-the-tea-party/article28762419.ece>



the slowdown of the RPS activities. Further, it would also suggest possibility of revival of the RPSs.

Status: The research was to be completed by March 2020, but has to be extended due to the COVID pandemic

92. An Assessment of the Impact of Self-help Groups on Small Tea Growers

Vinoj Abraham, Thiagu Ranganathan and Tirtha Chatterjee

Sponsors: NRPPD, CDS

Tea growers in India have been facing various challenges in the recent years. The reduction in consumption of tea, stagnant tea prices in the last 7 years, and increasing costs have meant that there has been enormous pressure on profitability of tea growers. The small tea growers (STGs), who account for around 47% of tea production in the country, have also been facing the wrath of this dismal situation along with the tea estates. In this context, various modes of collectivisation of tea growers are likely to reduce vulnerability of the tea growers. Organising the small tea growers in self-help groups (SHGs) was a step in this direction and the tea board has actively played a role in formation of these SHGs since 2013. Given that the SHGs of small tea growers have been in existence for a considerable amount of time, the NRPPD will analyse the impact of the SHGs on profitability of tea production by the small tea growers. Given this background, the current research envisages a study that focuses on feasibility and viability of SHGs and performs a comparative analysis of STGs who are unorganised, organised as collectives (ex. as those through INDCO), and those organised as SHGs. The specific objectives of the study are as follows: Feasibility, viability, and sustainability of SHGs in STGs; Channels through which SHGs influence STGs (input, processing, grading etc); Profitability of tea production; Access to credit; Accessibility of training and extension and types of training and extension services and; Labour market challenges

Status: The research was to be completed by March 2020, but has to be extended due to the COVID pandemic.

93. Performance of Farmer Producer Organisations in Coffee

Vinoj Abraham and Mithesh Madhavan

Sponsor: NRPPD, CDS

Small growers (with land holding below 10 hectares) account for over 95 per cent of operational holdings (Coffee Board of India, 2016-17) and 70 per cent of the production in India. The production process requires specific sets of skills and given the limited scope for mechanisation, it is highly labour intensive. 45% of the total cost of growing coffee is labour, and now due to the higher wages, the production costs have inevitably increased. Lengthy supply chains with superfluous intermediaries that have resulted in lower prices and lack of transparency between buyers and growers are major factors leading to lower prices received by producers. The process of globalization has not only brought far-reaching impacts on the structure and sourcing of production but also on the nature of market opportunities and competitive pressures for producers around the world. Cooperative system was considered as an alternative to direct government intervention but again failed due to political capture of the system. The co-operative movement has been a failure, while, new forms like Self-help groups have been emerging. FPOs, especially farmer producer companies offered an alternative to the cooperative system. Self –Help



Groups (SHGs) have emerged as recent attempt to review the failure of associations by Coffee Board. By 1999-2000, Coffee Board had created 42 regular Self-Help Groups by 1999-2000. Through these groups, the activities like raising of community nursery for production of planting material, procuring and use of farm equipment on a community basis, adoption of effective measures to control pests and diseases, use of new technologies and promoting specialty coffee and creation of infrastructure like drying yards or store houses were encouraged. A wide variety of FPOs exist in the coffee sector such as informal organisations, associations, co-operatives, hybrid structures, and private companies. A cursory look at some coffee FPOs shows that the legal and administrative structures are varied and specific to each place/FPO. Their functionalities are also variable. While some of them concentrate on procuring and marketing, some give subsidised inputs, low interest credit and some act as forums to raise member concerns and increase their welfare. Given the heterogeneity in FPOs in coffee sector this study would try to understand the following aspects.

1. Type of FPOs, their legal structure and administrative structure – profit or non-profit organisations, membership criteria, stakeholders etc
2. Ways to achieve international standards - organic farming, sustainable farming, fair trade practices etc
3. What role do they play in facilitating coffee cultivation – subsidising inputs, marketing, credit, curing and processing coffee, etc
4. Member characteristics and comparison between member and non-member coffee growers

Status: Expected date of completion: The research was to completed by March 2020, but has to be extended due to the COVID pandemic

94. Feasibility of e-auction in Rubber

Vinoj Abraham

Sponsor: NRPPD, CDS

The government of India through its various boards and agencies have been actively pursuing to introduce e-auction in agricultural commodities. The primary goal of introducing e-auction was to enhance better price discovery for the agricultural commodities. As per available information for most agricultural commodities the price realisation of the farmer at the farm gate was only 65 percent of the Free On Board (FOB)⁶ price of the consumer. The remaining 35 % were taken by intermediaries, such as dealers, stockists and aggregators whose profit is the leverage in the market. Between the producer and the final consumer of a commodity there may be different scales of intermediation depending on the size, structure and location of the final consumption market. Intermediaries are known to enter into market relations with the farmers who would be forced to hedge their product at lower prices against loans and advances from the intermediaries. Also intermediaries try to control prices of the non-perishable agricultural goods through hoarding. Also, because of the poor bargaining power of the sellers and lack of information of the premium on quality, often sellers are duped into selling cheap to the intermediaries. Given these issues relating to intermediaries the government had been trying to organise agricultural marketing through regulated markets to reduce the stronghold of intermediaries in the market. Regulated markets were introduced where

6. Price paid by customer net of all transportation, insurance and other charges. FOB price indicates the price of the commodity that includes only the intermediary charges.



commissions were standardised, grading was standardised and weights and measures were standardised. Traders, dealers and commission agents were to have licence issued by the government. However the regulated markets remained by and large unsuccessful due to rent seeking and corruption. Institutional reorganisation to overcome the problems associated with intermediation was failing.

It was here that the e-auction market came in place. In many commodities outcry based auction in the local mandis was common in India. Auction based trading has the advantage that the price is set in a competitive environment. Therefore the seller may get better prices than by depending on one buyer. However local auction is limited to the local markets, while e-auction would allow the buyers and sellers to meet online and trade the commodity. This would imply that the number of buyers for any product would be higher than the local auction market. This would also imply that instead of having a single buyer in the local market at whose mercy the farmer survived, the bargaining power now shifted to the seller, who is now a single seller from whom a large number of buyers are dependent. In such cases, the sellers may end up getting better price than the earlier case. In the plantation sector online trading is practiced in cardamom and e-auctioning is conducted for tea under their respective commodity boards. In view of the National Rubber Policy of India 2019, this study explores the viability of e-auctioning in Natural Rubber (NR).

Status: Expected date of completion: The research was to completed by March 2020, but has to be extended due to the COVID pandemic.

POLITICS AND DEVELOPMENT

Completed Studies

95. Another Wave of Forest and Adivasi Land Alienation? Revenue versus Forest Pattayam and Adivasi Land question in Kerala During Covid 19

Abhilash T and K H Amita Bachan (KFRI)

This paper examine Kerala government's decision to issue revenue land rights for individuals including scheduled caste and scheduled tribes in few districts and a circular issued by the state forest department in order to do away with the myriad of issues associated with the implementation of the Forest Right Act, 2006 (FRA) in the state. Such a blithe decision in the wake of the ongoing Covid 19 pandemic has raised not only suspicion among the community but also triggered arguments and counter arguments between major tribal groups and activists in the state. These documents seem to be a clear violation of FRA and it might help the government and private land mafia to acquire tribal land for large scale commercial use, which will further exacerbate the adivasi land alienation in the state.

Status: Accepted for publication, *Artha Vijnana*, UGC recognised journal published by Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Pune.



96. The Politics of State Level COVID-19 Responses in India

Ritika Jain and Tirtha Chatterjee

With no vaccine available yet, lockdowns and testing are the only responses available with governments and policymakers across the world. These instruments come with their own costs. Stringent lockdowns pose challenges to livelihoods while only testing without any lockdown accentuates health risk. The choice between lives and livelihood becomes all the more pertinent in a developing country like India. In this paper, we ask whether the choice between the two responses is driven by political factors across states in India. We find that state governments that had upcoming elections, that faced close margin victory in the last election, that were non-incumbents and were aligned with the party at the Centre adhered to aggressive testing as a strategy and did not impose strict lockdowns to avert losses in economic activity. Both these policy actions indicate an attempt to avert possible losses in future elections. This finding confirms the strong role of political factors in policy decision.

Status: Communicated to journal (Under review at Economics and Politics)

Research theme: Politics and development

97. Electricity prices and firms' decisions and outcomes: The case of India after a decade of the Electricity Act

Ritika Jain and Amit Nandan (Doctoral Scholar)

This paper examines the impact of electricity tariff on electricity consumption pattern and performance of Indian firms. The question is addressed against the backdrop of the Electricity Act of 2003 which was implemented with varying degrees across different states. The paper uses the 2013–14 World Bank Enterprise Survey data for India and builds three sets of hypotheses- first, high tariffs lead to electricity consumption pattern shifting towards self-generation, a decline in total electricity used, substitution of capital with labour and eventually deterioration in the performance of firms. Second, the negative effect of tariff on the performance of firms is more pronounced in states that haven't implemented the Electricity Act effectively. Third, the effect will be stronger for firms that face relatively higher tariff as compared to other comparable consumer categories. Taking account of the endogeneity between a firm's performance outcomes and location choices, the paper uses appropriate econometric models and finds strong evidence for each of the hypotheses. High tariffs hamper the profitability and productivity of firms only in those states which have not implemented the Electricity Act effectively. Moreover, the above evidence only exists if there are high tariff differences between different consumer groups. Finally, we do not find evidence for performance impairment in large firms.

Status: Published in *Energy Economics*, 91, 104915.

New Initiatives

98. A Comparative Assessment of Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) and Community Action using Norms

Thiagu Ranganathan and S Krithi, (Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Hyderabad)

Sponsor: ICIMOD

Our research will investigate the effectiveness of Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) in comparison to other forest restoration measures involving tax/penalty and those that



develop community action using norms. The study will analyze three dimensions of outcomes related to forest conservation – ecological outcomes, the distributional aspects, and motivational crowding out. Typical impact evaluations of PES have focused largely on ecological outcomes. In addition to achieving the desired ecological outcomes through PES, it is necessary to evaluate other aspects while studying the effectiveness of PES. First, the evaluation needs to measure the distributional outcomes due to PES. Second, we need to analyze if PES as a monetary incentive mechanism crowds out other motivations to restore the forest. Third and most importantly, we need to understand how alternative measures like penalties or community action would have worked along the three dimensions of sustainability, distribution, and motivation crowding out. This study proposes to examine the effectiveness of alternative measures in the Western Ghats of India.

The study will analyze three dimensions of outcomes related to forest conservation – ecological outcomes, the distributional aspects, and motivational crowding out across the policy approaches of PES, state regulation through penalty and taxes, and community management using norms. Given that all three concerns (efficiency, distribution, and motivational crowding out) are important, these policies might do well in one dimension but poorly in others. A mix of these policies may provide better management systems, but for this purpose, a study of the expected outcomes from each is critical.

This study will also provide insight into people's motivations and behaviour that go beyond immediate monetary gains to include perceptions of fairness and their long-term social, political, and economic needs. The success of forest conservation methods depends on including these aspects in the process of policymaking. Moreover, this research can provide a basis for the use of institutional and behavioural economics to better model human behaviour in the allocation of natural resources both across sections and over time.

Central Research Question- The central question is to understand the implications of the use of payment-based allocation mechanisms versus alternative conservation strategies to attain sustainable and equitable resource use systems in forest management in the global South.

This goal will be addressed through the following parts:

1. What are the implications of PES implementation for efficiency, distribution, and crowding out in the case of forest use?
2. How well do alternate measures of the imposition of state regulation via penalties or community action performs on the same three parameters?
3. What are the factors that help determine the choice of conservation policy and the responses to these strategies from affected sections?

OTHER STUDIES

Completed Studies

99. Nonlinear Relationships between Inflation, Output Growth and Uncertainty in India: New Evidence from a Bivariate Threshold Model

Srikanta Kundu, Kusha Banik Chowdhury (Indian Statistical Institute (North-East Centre), Tezpur, Assam) and Kaustav Kanti Sarkar (Reserve Bank of India, Mumbai)

This study examines the relationships between inflation, output growth and their uncertainties for India over the period from 1971 to 2015. The paper extends the existing



empirical literature by employing a regime switching model to understand the dynamics of the above linkages in different inflation and output growth regimes of India. Our estimated results indicate that inflation is a positive determinant of output growth in the low-growth regime. Furthermore, output growth significantly boosts inflation during low-inflation regime. Thus in a situation, when both inflation and output growth are low, moderate inflation is helpful to growth as well as rise in growth feeds back into inflation. On the other hand, during high-inflation regime, nominal uncertainty significantly reduces inflation, thus providing evidence in support of the price ‘stabilization’ motive of the monetary authority.

Status: Published in *Bulletin of Economic Research*
<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/boer.12260>

100. Asymmetries in the Monetary Policy Reaction Function: Evidence from India

Srikanta Kundu and Irfan Ahmad Shah (Doctoral Scholar)

This paper analyzes the reaction function of monetary authority in India from 1997Q1 to 2019Q4 using nonlinear Taylor rule. It has been found that monetary policy reaction function (MPRF) in India is asymmetric and is influenced by the state of the economy, determined by the lagged interest rate. To capture such asymmetry, we have used a set of nonlinear models including smooth transition regression (STR) model, threshold regression (TR) model and Markov-Switching regression (MSR) model along with the instrumental variable estimation technique. The analysis discloses that the behaviour of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is asymmetric, reacts aggressively to output gap in general and particularly during periods of high interest rate. Furthermore, the RBI reacts more to inflation and output gap during low volatile regimes in MSR models compared to high volatile regimes. We also found that there is a high degree of inertia in the policy rates of the RBI. The study concludes that nonlinear models may not only help in understanding the behaviour of the RBI but also prevent from making incorrect and misleading conclusions in Indian context.

Status: Revised version Submitted to Journal

101. Effect of Economic Policy Uncertainty on Stock Market Return and Volatility under Heterogeneous Market Characteristics

Srikanta Kundu and Amartya Paul (Doctoral Scholar)

This study examines the effect of economic policy uncertainty on stock market return and risk for the group of seven countries. We contribute to the existing literature by addressing the question on how stock market return and volatility respond to economic policy uncertainty in differential market conditions viz., bull and bear market. Taking monthly data of G7 countries from 1998 to 2018, we analyse the relationship by using various VAR models for each countries, as well as for all the countries in a panel data framework. Markov switching VAR model has been used to estimate the nature of the relationship in bull and bear markets. Additionally, while linear and regime switching VAR models are used in case of panel data, we consider fixed effects to capture country specific heterogeneity. Our estimation results suggest that an increase in EPU increases the market volatility and reduce return only when the time period is contemporaneous. However, it increases the return for future time period as the investor demands higher return as a uncertainty premium which leads to a decrease in volatility. The estimation of MSVAR



model suggests that the impact of EPU is significant in bear market and it has insignificant impact in the bull market. Further, we extend our analysis to a three regime MSVAR model for separate as well as for panel of countries. The estimation of the three regime model strengthens our claim that we argued on the basis of the two regime MSVAR model.

Status: Revised version submitted to Journal and CDS working Paper

102. An Empirical Analysis of COVID-19 Response: Comparison of US with the G7

Mahua Barari (Missouri State University), Srikanta Kundu, and Saibal Mitra (Missouri State University)

We compare US policy response to COVID-19 with its G7 counterparts between March and September 2020. The G7 countries, while economically and ideologically aligned, have instituted vastly different policies to mitigate the spread of the disease with varying degrees of compliance. To quantify the effect of policy responses on the spread of infections, we estimate beta for each country which is the slope coefficient of daily new cases in each country regressed against world new cases. First, we test for structural breaks in daily data for world new cases using the BaiPerron (1998, 2003a, 2003b) method which endogenously determines break points. We obtain five break dates that allow us to divide the time period into six windows and estimate betas separately for each window. Next, we rank the G7 countries based on their beta values for each window. Our empirical findings suggest that countries that eased their lockdown measures moderately while enforcing nationwide mask mandate and comprehensive contact tracing generally performed better in mitigating the spread of new infections. Furthermore, countries with higher degree of compliance saw improvement in their rankings. US was ranked mostly in the bottom half of the G7 group but not always the worst.

Status: Revised version Submitted to Journal

103. An Empirical Analysis of COVID-19 Response: Comparison of US with the G7

Himangshu Kumar, ManikanthaNataraj (Doctoral Scholars) and Srikanta Kundu

In response to the rapidly spreading COVID-19 pandemic, governments resorted to containment and closure measures to reduce population mobility and ensure social distancing. Initially, India's state governments enacted varying social distancing policies until the Central government overrode states to impose a nationwide lockdown on 24th March. This paper examines the relative impact of state and central level policies on changes in mobility, comparing the periods before and after the national lockdown. A district-level panel dataset is formed, compiling data on social distancing policies and changes in population mobility patterns. Panel regressions reveal that the incremental effect of each social distancing policy varied across states in the pre-24th March period. The national lockdown led to much larger, though varying, reductions in mobility across all states. Overall, states which were able to achieve higher compliance in terms of reducing mobility in the pre-lockdown phase performed better in the national lockdown.

Status: 2nd Revised and Resubmit from a Journal



104. Does Economic Status Matter in the relationship among Democracy, Macroeconomics and Happiness? A Panel Data Analysis

Srikanta Kundu, Ruma Kundu (Sikkim University, Tadong, Gangtok) and Kul Bahadur Chettri (Research Scholar, Department of Economics, Sikkim University)

Employing various panel data analysis including threshold panel model, this paper has examined how economic status determines the relationship among democracy, macroeconomic variables and happiness. Considering panel data of 83 countries over the time period from 2010 to 2016, this study tries to establish that, factors determining subjective well-being affects differently for low and high income countries. This study has found that though per capita GDP has no direct impact on happiness, it establishes the role of other variables to determine happiness. It has been found that democratic quality has a positive and significant impact on happiness only for high income countries. Moreover, inequality has a negative and significant effect on happiness only for low income countries. It is also evident that unemployment has a strict negative impact across all type of countries but the magnitude is higher in low income countries.

Status: Submitted to a journal

105. Risk>Returns Interdependence between REIT and Stocks: A STVAR-BTGARCH-M Model

Srikanta Kundu, Mahamitra Das (Xavier School of Economics, Xavier University Bhubaneswar) and Nityananda Sarkar (Economic Research Unit of the Indian Statistical Institute)

This study examines the diversification benefit of REIT in the mixed-asset portfolio by analyzing the risk-return relationship between REIT and the stock market in two different market conditions - bull and bear in the USA and the UK. Regime-specific risk-returns relationship is captured by a smooth transition bivariate asymmetric GARCH-M model with a dynamic conditional correlation specification. Taking monthly data from January 1990 to December 2019, we find that the direction and magnitude of stock and REIT's effect vary across the market conditions in both countries. The results also suggest that the cross risk-return relationships are asymmetric across bull and bear markets. Further, the own risk-return relationship of REIT is found to be positive in the bull state in the USA and the bear state in case of the UK, while this relationship for the stock is significant only in the UK. Thus, portfolio diversification should be subject to different market conditions prevailing in different countries.

Status: Submitted to Journal.

106. What Determines Child Immunisation? A Study of Socio-Economic Factors in East Sikkim

Ruma Kundu (Sikkim University, Tadong, Gangtok), Srikanta Kundu, and Indraneel Mandal (Institute of Technology and Science, Ghaziabad)

It is necessary to resort to vaccination as a failsafe for ensuring healthy life of the child. However the success of the immunisation drive is conditioned by prevailing conditions. Some of these also determine whether family members opt for full, partial or no immunisation. This paper attempts to identify and estimate the impacts of various socio-economic factors on childhood immunisation coverage in the East district of Sikkim. The



study is based on primary data consisting of 204 respondents collected through household survey. The ordered probit and Heckman probit models have been utilised to estimate the significant change in childhood immunisation coverage. The study found that the birth order of child (BOC), mother's age, the standard of living, caste and religion have a significant impact on childhood immunisation coverage. With regard to the extent of immunisation, the important elements are mother's education, mother's age, gender of the household head and distance from hospital. The government should ensure a well distributed network of health centres so that the problem of last mile connectivity is overcome. Health cards should be available to one and all so that everybody can benefit. The role of the mother needs to be highlighted as well.

Status: Submitted to Journal.

107. State Heterogeneity, Redistributive Policy and Pro-Poor Growth: Evidence from India with a special reference to Education

Srikanta Kundu and Amartya Paul (Doctoral Scholar)

Does redistributive policy drive economic growth towards pro-pooriness? We investigate this by using a set of axiomatic pro-poor growth indices and deprivation measures that are computed using nationally representative sample survey data for India from 1983 to 2011-12. Estimation of linear panel shows that redistributive policies have a positive significant impact on pro-poor growth, and a negative impact on poverty. Results are consistent irrespective of the initial conditions of the state, across income groups and for an alternative measure. An endogenously determined threshold level of education, estimated from a non-linear threshold panel model reveals policy impacts are asymmetric for states that have attained at least such threshold levels.

Status: To be submitted to Journal.

108. Monetary Transmission Mechanism in Asymmetric Framework: Evidence from India

Srikanta Kundu and Irfan Ahmed Shah (Doctoral Scholar)

In this paper, we analyze the effect of monetary policy on output and inflation and transmission channels in Indian context. We further analyse how these transmission channels affect the economy using a structural vector autoregressive method. To analyze the asymmetric effects of monetary policy on output and inflation, we use Jord'a (2005) local projections method. This method is quite novel in its approach and flexible in its application. Using quarterly data from 1996 – 97Q1 to 2019 – 20Q4, we analyse the asymmetric effects due to the sign of the shock, size of the shock and the state of economy. From our analysis we found monetary policy affects both output growth immediately and inflation with a lag. Further, we found asset price and interest rate channels to be more effective compared to exchange rate and lending rate channels. While analyzing the asymmetric effects, we found a significant asymmetry in the effects of monetary shocks mainly due to the sign of the shock and the state of the economy. Moreover, the effects of monetary shocks on real economy are stronger during expansion compared to recession. During recession it is inflation that is mostly affected by the monetary policy. These asymmetric effects of monetary policy are mainly captured through nonlinear models. We conclude by arguing that linear models that ignore asymmetric effects of monetary policy not only undermine the real effects but may also lead to inaccurate and misleading conclusions.

Status: To be submitted to Journal.



Ongoing Studies

109. Bank Capital Structure and Monetary Policy Transmission: Evidence from India

Srikanta Kundu and Shelja Bhatia (Doctoral scholar)

The study examines the role of capital structure of commercial banks for the transmission of monetary policy in the context of India. We use a panel of 36 banks, consisting of 21 public sector banks and 15 private sector banks. The period of analysis is 2004-05 to 2016-17. We use various econometric methods to check the impact of monetary policy shocks on capital structure of banks. It is observed that monetary policy shocks have significant impact on the Tier-I capital of banks through its effect on interest margins and profits. An expansionary policy is found to increase the profitability of Indian banks which expands their stock of Tier-I capital. The evidences thus suggest that bank capital is an important channel to study the transmission mechanism for Indian economy. This finding has important implications in the present context where Indian banking industry is struggling with enormous non-performing assets and consequent high levels of provisioning and capital erosion.

Status: Ongoing (Expected date of completion: September 2021)

Completed Research Projects

110. Beyond Aesthetic Education: The Malayali Engagement with Humanities

J. Devika

Sponsor: CIPSH and UNESCO

This essay offers some preliminary reflections on the shifts and transformations within the intellectual spheres of the humanities which have shaped Kerala's cultural ethos in recent decades. I take the broader view of humanities which has been accepted in Kerala's academia too recently. Broadly speaking, humanities knowledge and practice in the academia and Malayali literary-cultural public expanded in three important ways towards the close of the twentieth century and after. The first of these expansions was to do with the emergence, or strengthening, of a range of thinking that challenged the supremacy of liberal humanism and Stalinist Marxism stemming from new sources of political criticism from oppositional civil social spaces – European Marxism, environmentalism, feminism, the post-Babri Masjid Muslim critique of mainstream Indian liberal nationalism and the leftist national-popular in Kerala, and the burst of feminist and Dalit literary and historical production. The second transformation has to do with the coming of the new humanities disciplines – cultural studies and film studies in particular. This was also the period in which the dominant social science discourse here came to accommodate humanizing methodological and disciplinary pluralism. The third significant development is the renewed presence of the publishing industry in the field. Collectively, these changes have reshaped the understanding of freedom and social justice in Malayali society; they also seem to have undermined the homoaesthetic circle as the major mode of organizing communicative practice. The subsequent sections of the essay will deal with each in turn. This essay relies a great deal on secondary literature as well as five interviews conducted with important voices in the contemporary Malayalam intellectual scene.

Status: Accepted as Chapter in the India/South Asia section of the World Humanities Report, anchored by Prof Bishnu N Mohapatra, KREA University.



New Initiatives

111. Macroeconomic Growth and Role of Economic Policy Uncertainty: The Case of India

Srikanta Kundu and Sandeep Pandey (Doctoral Scholar)

In the Indian macroeconomic debate there has been much focus on the role of monetary and fiscal policy for a very long time. In the recent years great deal of discussion has been on the role of the Inflation targeting policy adopted by RBI in October 2016. The growth rate has been declining from the past 7-8 years; it has been argued that conservative monetary policy of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has hurt the growth prospects of the Indian economy. After experiencing one of the fastest growths for the period 2007-2011, India has then seen a decline in growth. The gross investment in the country has fallen and the future prospects have looked grim. During the period of 2011-12, the period also known as the period of policy paralysis, the growth of GFCF has declined (Economic survey 2018). The reason for a fall in growth can be attributed to high rate of interest. But according to Mohanty (2013), real lending rates have actually declined by about 300 basis points during 2010/11 -2012/13 as compared to 2003/04 to 2007/08. The period before 2012 has seen a major increase in the investment growth in India. A decline of growth post this period can be attributed to poor governance, rising policy uncertainty and supply bottlenecks (Anand and Tulin 2014). The role of Uncertainty, specifically economic and policy uncertainty has been ignored in the popular literature on Indian macro economy. There are few studies in relation to India, but given the significance of the role Uncertainty can play there clearly exists a huge gap.

Looking at the literature of uncertainty and its evolution, we can see two different time period. Before 2009, it was Bernanke (1983) who gave a theoretical understating of the behaviour of the firms in situation of heightened uncertainty. Earlier work that discussed about the investment decision of the firm under the condition of increased uncertainty includes the theoretical contribution by Bernanke (1983) and Dixit and Pindyck (1994), Brennan and Schwartz(1985), McDonald and Siegel (1986) . According to Guiso and Guiso (1999), uncertainty can lead to a fall in capital accumulation by the firms.

In the present time Bloom (2009) stands as a watershed which motivated several studies in the area of uncertainty. The prolonged crisis of the 2008 financial meltdown was the trigger that started the debate about the role that uncertainty play in prolonging these crisis. Bloom (2009), in order to investigate the impact of the second movement shocks, provides a structural framework. Using simulation models, he concluded that during the period of increased uncertainty, firms decide to temporarily pause investment and hiring. This is also known as the real option effect of uncertainty. Gilchrist et al. (2014) talk about the rising cost for a firm with a rise in uncertainty. Baker, Bloom, and Terry (2018) constructed a cross-country panel data. Stock market volatility was used as a proxy for the first and second-moment shock. The study use natural disasters, terrorist attacks, and unexpected political shocks as instruments for their measure of uncertainty. The results show that both first and second-moment shocks are significant in explaining GDP growth where second-moment shocks account of at least half of the variation in growth.

In the literature, the way uncertainty is captured or measured, varies. Bloom (2009), has used implied volatility of the S&P 500 as a measure of uncertainty. Baker et al. (2012), constructed an index to capture economic and policy uncertainty. This index, popularly



known as Economic and Policy Uncertainty index (EPU-Index), is a good instrument to capture policy related uncertainty. Gulen and Lon (2015) used this policy uncertainty measure to see that there is a negative relation between policy uncertainty and firm level capital investment.

These studies, although very crucial, looks at the linear relationship between uncertainty and various economic outcomes. In contrast to this we will be focusing on the non-linear relationships. It is quite natural to expect that the impact of a rise in uncertainty will have a more prominent and persistent impact than a fall in uncertainty.

Status: New initiative (Expected date of completion: September 2021)

112. Performance of $r - (k, d)$ Class Estimator In Terms of Mean Square Error Matrix and Mahalanobis Loss Function under Autocorrelated Error

Srikanta Kundu and Nityananda Sarkar ((Economic Research Unit of the Indian Statistical Institute)

It is well-known in the statistical literature that multicollinearity creates a serious problem in a linear regression model and consequently ordinary least square (OLS) estimator produces large sampling variance and becomes unreliable. Several alternative measures, including restricted least square (RLS), ordinary ridge regression (ORR), principal component regression (PCR) and combinations of these have been suggested by several researchers to address this issue. The performance of the above estimators have been compared by using mean square error matrix, Pitman's closeness criteria and Mahalanobis's distance function and provide certain restrictions under which each estimator will perform well. A set of test statistic have also been introduced to test if a given data set is following the restrictions.

Most of these restrictions and tests have been derived under the assumption of independently and identically distributed residuals. In this work we want to derive the restrictions, under which the estimator will perform well, assuming autocorrelated disturbances. Autocorrelations are very common in real data particularly in case of economic data. Hence, it is very important to study how the presence of autocorrelation are influencing the performance of different estimators as well as whether the pattern of autocorrelation viz., autoregressive (AR), moving average (MA) and autoregressive moving average (ARMA), makes any change in the performance of the above estimators.

The $r - (k, d)$ class estimator proposed by Özkale (2012) is the most general estimator in the literature. In this study we are considering this estimator and verifying the performance compare to the other estimator considering autocorrelated errors. To do this, we are deriving the condition under which it will perform well and will design a test statistic to test whether a given data is following the criteria or not.

Status: New Initiative

3

OUTPUTS OF RESEARCH

(A) PUBLICATIONS

The Centre has a rigorous research dissemination programme. Dissemination of research is carried out through regular publication of books, monographs, and research reports. The working paper series brings out initial findings of faculty research for discussion and review before they are considered for formal publication. The faculty and students are also encouraged to publish books through reputed publishing houses.

The CDS has been ranked first in terms of publications among research institutions of the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR). CDS topped the 2011-2020 list with 430 publications and 1,422 citations.

At present there are a total of 501 working papers and 45 books brought out under the CDS programme. This year nine working papers were published. A total of ten books have been published by the faculty, 70 research articles by faculty and nine by students in professional journals. 26 chapters in edited volumes and 74 other publications in reports, newspapers, magazines etc. have been brought out. The faculty researches are also published by well-reputed publishers like, Routledge, Orient Blackswan, World Scientific, Social Science Press, Springer, Oxford University Press, DC Books etc. The Centre also publishes a Newsletter, *CDS Chronicle*, to reach out its activities to a wider audience.

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

(a) BOOKS

J. Devika

NirantharaPrathipaksham(Selected Essays in Malayalam), Kottayam: DC Books, 2021. [Malayalam]

S. Irudaya Rajan

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Senior Citizens of India Emerging Challenges and Concerns, 2020, Springer Nature, Singapore (with S. Irudaya Rajan)

Books by Honorary Fellows

M.A.Oommen

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(b) JOURNAL ARTICLES

Abhilash Thadathil

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M.A. Oommen

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K.P. Kannan

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R. Nagaraj

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Journal Articles by Students / Post Doctoral Fellows/ Senior Fellows

John Kujur

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V.S.Krishnapriya

- ‘Effect of Innovation on Corporate Social Responsibility: Does Ownership Matter? Evidence from Indian Manufacturing Firms.’ *Economics of Innovation and New Technology*, 1-22, November, 2020.(with Ritika Jain)



Kashif Mansoor

- ‘Occupational Segregation in the Indian Labour Market: A Socio-religious Perspective,’ *Indian Journal of Labour Economics* 64(1):1-27, 2020. DOI:10.1007/s41027-021-00302-4 (withVinoj Abraham)

Sanjay Kumar Rout

- ‘International Macroeconomic Activity And Its Interaction: Evidence From Us, Japan, Germany, China, India And Russia,’ *Global Economy Journal*, Volume: 20, Issue: 02, 2020/6/20, World Scientific Publishing Company (with HrshikeshMallick)
- ‘An Interlinkage of macroeconomic Activities among Advanced and Emerging Economies: An Empirical Analysis,’ *Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences Studies*, Volume: 2 , Issue : 4 , pp. 199-212, 2020/7/31
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- ‘Minimum Age for Girls’ Marriage,’ *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. 55, Issue No.39, 26 September, 2020.: <https://www.epw.in/journal/2020/39/letters/minimum-age-girls%E2%80%99-marriage.html?>
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Suravee Nayak

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(c) CHAPTER(S) IN BOOKS

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- 'Tracing the Changing Economic Status of Kerala Houesholds: The KMS Experience,' Chapter 19, *India Migration Report 2020*, S. IrudayaRajan (Ed), Routledge Publications, New Delhi. (with S. IrudayaRajan)

Vinoj Abraham

- 'An Institutional Analysis of the Producer Collectives in Rubber and Coffee Cultivation' in Sunil Mani (ed.), *Kerala and the World Economy*, Trivandrum: Centre for Development Studies, pp.137-160, 2020. (with MitheshMadhavan)
- 'Structural Change and Rural Households in India: An Analysis of the Nature of Transformation in Their Economic Activities,' in volume edited by N K Mishra, *Development Challenges of India After Twenty Five Years of Economic Reforms*, published by Springer , DOI: 10.1007/978-981-15-8265-3_10
- 'Women's Participation in Domestic Activities Leisure, Care Services, and Status Production,' in the edited volume : *Labouring Women: Issues and Challenges in Contemporary India* edited by Jha, Praveen, Avinash Kumar and Yamini Mishra, Publisher: Orient BlackSwan. 2020.



Chapter (s) in Books by Honorary Fellows

R. Nagaraj

- ‘Reviving Manufacturing and Employment,’ in Sanjaya Baru (ed.), *Beyond Covid’s Shadow: Mapping India’s Economic Resurgence*, Rupa India, January. 2021.

Chapter (s) in Books by Students

C.S. Akhil

- ‘An Analysis of the Reintegration of Return Migrants and State Response in Kerala,’ in Sunil Mani (ed.), *Kerala and the World Economy*, Trivandrum: Centre for Development Studies, pp. 391-417, 2020. (with S. IrudayaRajan and Sabeer VC)

Sabeer V.C.

- ‘An Analysis of the Reintegration of Return Migrants and State Response in Kerala,’ in Sunil Mani (ed.), *Kerala and the World Economy*, Trivandrum: Centre for Development Studies, pp. 391-417, 2020. (with S. IrudayaRajan and C.S. Akhil)

(d) OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Abhilash T

- ‘Scheduled Tribes and School Education: Analysis of a Household Survey in Mayurbhanj District of Odisha,’ *CDS Working Paper Series*, 2020 (with Susama Hansdah)

Beena PL

- ‘What Atma-Nirbar Bharat means for the Indian Industry’ in *Stimulus Package in five Installments: Does it make the economy more Self –Reliant*. Commentary on India’s economy and Society, No.15, 2020.

Devika, J

- Website: <https://swatantryavaadini.in/>

This is an archive of the writings by/about women from the early twentieth century Malayali society, in translation and historical materials of relevance to the history of modern gender in Kerala, all in translation. These include of their writing and speeches from early to mid-20th century, including fiction, critique, memory, speeches, interventions in legislative assemblies, autobiography, memoirs, excerpts from historical work and so on -- and also excerpts from my own work and that of others on the present generation on gender in early modern Kerala, all in English. It has over a hundred translations (148 at present) and it updated every week with new material.



Translations:

- *Between the Lines: Short Stories* by Ashitha, Cinnamon-Teal, 2021.
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Chidambaran G. Iyer

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- 'Reforming 8 Critical Sectors,' in 'The Stimulus Package in Five Instalments: Does it make the Economy more Self-reliant?', (Ed.) Sunil Mani. Commentary on India's Economy and Society Series - 15, 2020, Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram, India.
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S. Irudaya Rajan

- 'India must Frame Policies for Legal, Safe and Orderly Migration,' *TPCI India Business and Trade Newsletter*, 5th Sept 2020.
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- The Indian Express 27 April 2020. <https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/what-is-the-future-of-migration-from-kerala-coronavirus-6380548/>
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- Why We Need Data Of Migrant Workers, Kerala Style, *The Lede*. 19th May 2020. (with Ashwin Kumar). <https://www.thelede.in/write-in/2020/05/19/why-we-need-data-of-migrant-workers-kerala-style>



- The way forward on migrant issues, Frontline. May 22, 2020. (with Bernard D' Sami). <https://frontline.thehindu.com/cover-story/article31516414.ece>
- When dreams return, Kerala Calling, May 2020. <https://kerala.gov.in/documents/10180/e0996bf9-87d8-4fd6-a264-cc8edad214d4>
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Praveena Kodoth

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Sudip Chauduri

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Sunil Mani

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Thiagu Ranganathan

- ‘Did Reservation in Higher Education change the Prospects for OBCs in getting better jobs? A Study using Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) in India,’ *CDS Working Paper 500*. 2020. (with Chatterjee, T.)
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Udaya S. Mishra

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Vinoj Abraham

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- ‘Analysis of the Economic Survey and Budget No.19: Economic Survey (2020-21) and Union Budget (2021-22),’ *Commentary on India’s Economy and Society Series*, Centre for Development Studies. 2021. (with R. Nagaraj, ThiaguRanganathan, Udaya S. Mishra, M. Parameswaran, TirthaChatterjee, Sunil Mani, Ritika Jain, HrushikeshMallick and Chidambaran G. Iyer,

Other Publications by Honorary Fellows /Visiting Professors

M.A. Oommen

- ‘Still no Recognition of the third Tier,’ *The Hindu*, April 12, 2021.
- ‘Fighting Covid at the Village Level,’ (with TP Kunnikanan) *The Hindu, Business Line*, January 12, 2021.
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K.P. Kannan

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R. Nagaraj

- ‘Provide Income Support, Restore Jobs,’ *The Hindu*, May 14, 2020 with Radhicka Kapoor).
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- ‘A Development that will Hardly Put India at Ease,’ *The Hindu*, August 31, 2020.
- ‘Offset Dilution In Defence, A Flawed Policy Turn,’ *The Hindu*, October 21, 2021 (Co-authored with Sunil Mani).
- ‘Questionable Data, Little Room for Exuberance,’ *The Hindu*, December 3, 2020.
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Other Publications by Students

Sanjay Kumar Rout

- "Ninety Days " published in "Story Mirror" 2020. : sm-s.in/6TJProV
(This story has won "**Author of the WEEK**" title and also won "Literary Captain" Title in STORYMIRROR for the year 2020.
- 'The Ants Miffed me,' published in "StoryMirror," 2020.: sm-s.in/xkZe6kd

Susama Hansdah

- 'Scheduled Tribes and School Education: Analysis of a Household Survey in Mayurbhanj District of Odisha,' *CDS Working Paper Series*, 2020 (with Abhilash T)

RULSG Publications

- Sharika Tharanagama and J. Devika. 2020. 'Gender, Caste, Spatiality and Local Development in Kerala: A Dialogue,' *RULSG Lateral Studies Series on Kudumbashree No. 8*. November.
- Liby T. Johnson, Hrishikesh Thakur and Aakriti Gupta. 2020. 'Women Engaging in Market from Positions of Strength: An Exploratory Understanding of Kudumbashree Women's Food Service Enterprises,' *RULSG Lateral Studies Series on Kudumbashree No. 9*. December.
- Lavanya Suresh and M. Suchitra. 2021. 'Suicidal Resistance: Understanding the Opposition against the Western Ghats Conservation in Karunapuram, Idukki, Kerala,' *Ecological Challenges and Local Self-Government Responses No.2. CDS Monograph Series*

Rights-Based Policy in the wake of the Pandemic in Kerala

- Introduction: Rights-Based Policy in the Wake of the Pandemic in Kerala: Prof. J. Devika
- Series 1: The Human-Nature Engagement and Development as Democracy: Dr. T V Sajeev
- Series 2: Rethinking Development Civil Society in Kerala : Prof. J Devika
- Series 3: Failures of citizenship under the lockdown: The case of migrant labour: Prof. Praveena Kodoth
- Series 4: A Rights Based Approach to Development: Kerala's Marine Fishing Communities:- Dr. John Kurien
- Series 5: Kerala's Transgender Policy during the Pandemic- Mr. Vihaan Peethambar
- Series 6: Rights Based Approach to Development. The case of Labour and Employment in Kerala and India: Prof. Vinoj Abraham



(e) WORKING PAPERS

- Chidambaran G. Iyer. 2021. 'Mobile Phone Manufacturing in India: A Study of Few Characteristics,' *CDS Working Paper No.502*, February
- Susama Hansdah & Abhilash T. 2020. 'Scheduled Tribes and School Education: Analysis of a Household Survey in Mayurbhanj District of Odisha,' *CDS Working Paper No.501*, December.
- Tirtha Chatterjee and Thiagu Ranganathan. 2020. 'Did Reservation in Higher Education Change the Prospects for OBCs in Getting Better Jobs? A Study using Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) in India,' *CDS Working Paper No.500*, October.
- Aritri Chakravarty. 2020. 'Information Seeking by Agricultural Households in India: Determinants of Access and Choice of Sources,' *CDS Working Paper No.499*, September.
- Rimon Saha. 2020. 'Patterns and Determinants of State Expenditure on Human Priority Sectors in India,' *CDS Working Paper No.498*, August.
- Upasak Das, Amartya Paul and Mohit Sharma. 2020. 'Using Information and Technology to Improve Efficacy of Welfare Programs: Evidence from a Field Experiment in India,' *CDS Working Paper No.497*, August.
- Sunil Mani. 2020. 'India's Quest for Technological Self-Reliance Analysis of her Record with Respect to Patents in the Post TRIPS Phase,' *CDS Working Paper No.496*, August.
- Sudip Chaudhuri. 2020. 'Evolution of the Pharmaceutical Industry in Bangladesh, 1982 to 2020,' *CDS Working Paper No.495*, July
- Thiagu Ranganathan and Avina Mendonca. 2020. 'Relative Educational Status and Women's Autonomy: Evidence from India,' *CDS Working Paper No.494*, May.

(f) Commentary on India's Economy and Society Series

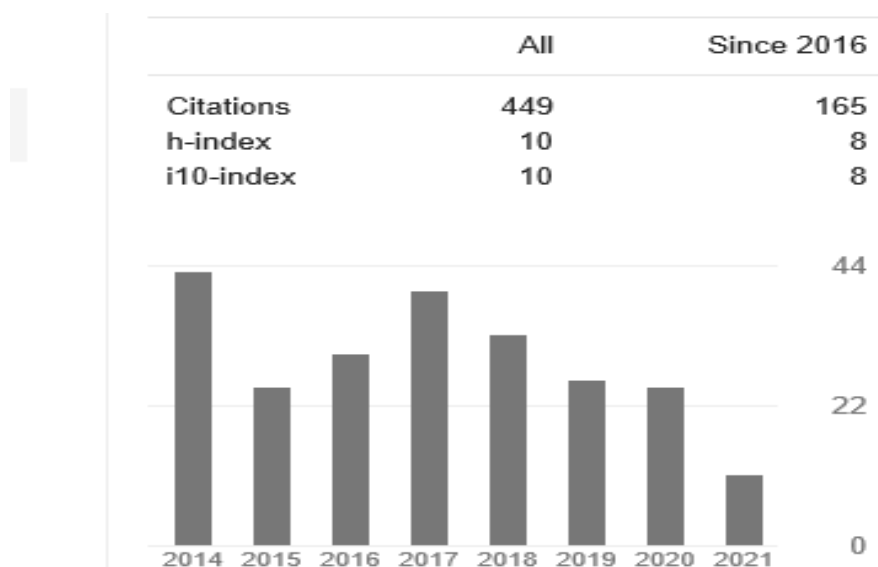
- Sunil Mani. 2020. 'India's Role in Frugal Innovations in Health-related Technology to Deal with COVID-19 Opportunities and Constraints,' *Commentary on India's Economy and Society Series No. 13*.
- Shraddha Jain, Thiagu Ranganathan, Amartya Paul and Ritika Jain. 2020. 'Human Development Report 2019 – A Review,' *Commentary on India's Economy and Society Series No. 14*. June.
- Sunil Mani, Alok Sheel, R. Nagaraj, Sukhpal Singh, P.S. Vijayshankar, S. Irudaya Rajan, P.L. Beena, M. Parameswaran and Chidambaran G. Iyer. 2020. 'The Stimulus Package in Five Installments: Does it Make the Economy more Self-reliant?,' *Commentary on India's Economy and Society Series No. 15*. June.



- Papaiah Koppula, Amit Nandan and Indrajeet Kumar. 2020. 'National Financial Inclusion Strategy (2019-2024) : A Review,' *Commentary on India's Economy and Society Series No. 16*. August.
- Vinoj Abraham and Mitesh Madhavan. 2020. 'The Pandemic and the Plantations: Performance of the Plantations during the Covid19 Pandemic,' *Commentary on India's Economy and Society Series No. 17*. July.
- Aritri Chakravarty, Binod Kumar Behera and Tirtha Chatterjee. 2020. 'Agricultural Farm Acts -2020,' *Commentary on India's Economy and Society Series No. 18*. December.
- R. Nagaraj, Thiagu Ranganathan, Udaya S. Mishra, Vinoj Abraham, M. Parameswaran, Tirtha Chatterjee, Sunil Mani, Ritika Jain, Hrushikesh Mallick and Chidambaran G. Iyer. 2021. *Commentary on India's Economy and Society Series No. 19* February.
- R. Mohan. 2021. 'Report of the 15th Finance Commission 2021-22 to 2025-26: What it means for the States,' *Commentary on India's Economy and Society Series No. 20* March.

(g) GOOGLE SCHOLAR CITATION

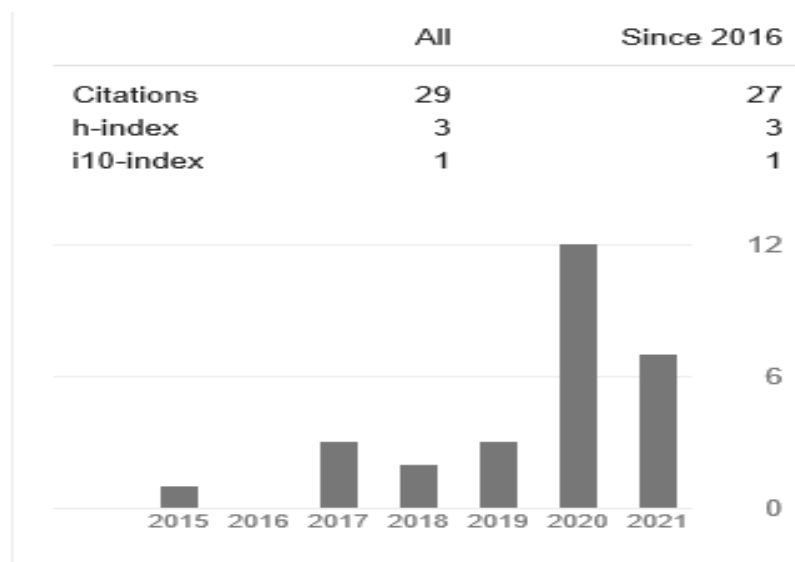
Beena PL



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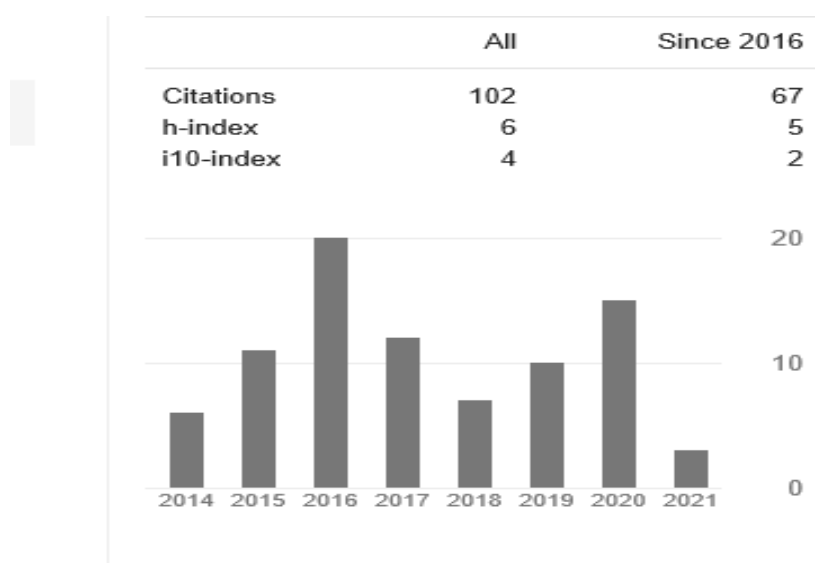


Chandril Bhattacharya



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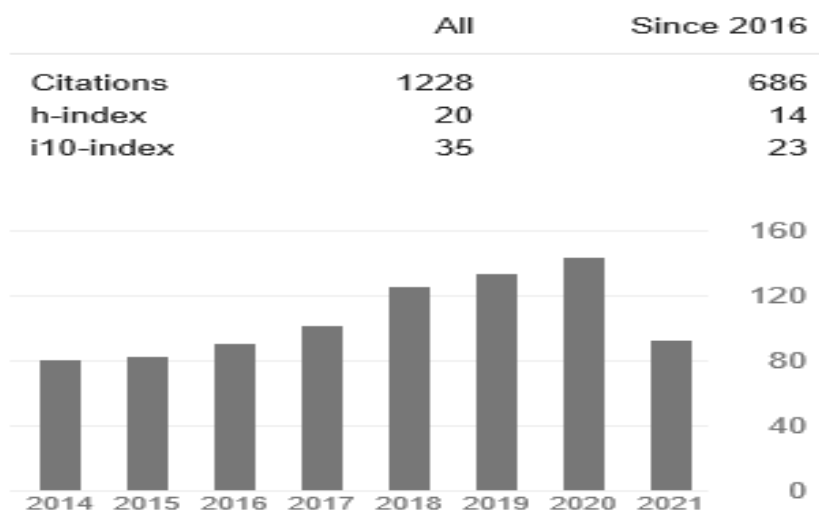
Chidambaran G. Iyer



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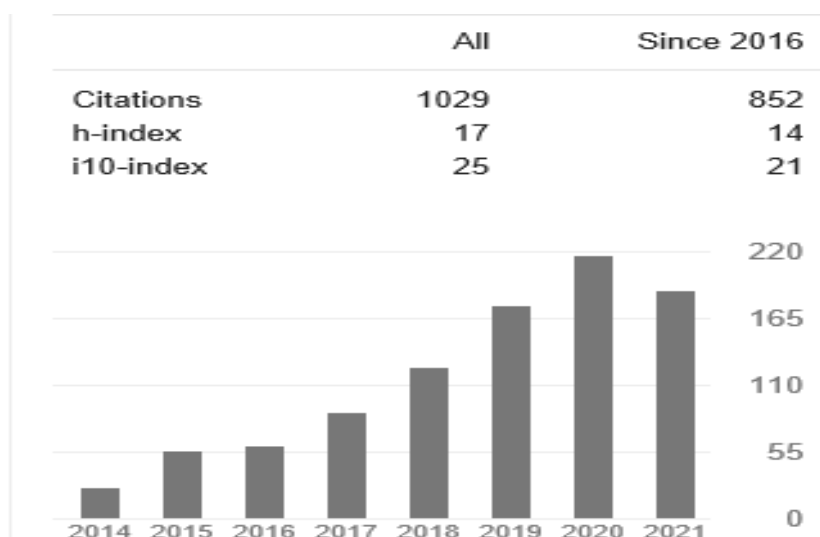
J. Devika



Source:

https://scholar.google.com/citations?hl=en&user=8b1xY5oAAAAJ&view_op=list_works&gmla=AJsN-F7KgrmCZpWpIdMCNRJgG2zyk5URpPkZIXNmIIQKDAWnUVH2KjmGxV8jak4Jf_A0V4SFEN-diSFe3ump5h9b7SFzPhKZSAsZNLZVVKwcgFmdo-Z2_BXTk5ki77PaXIP50Fz9I9Gq

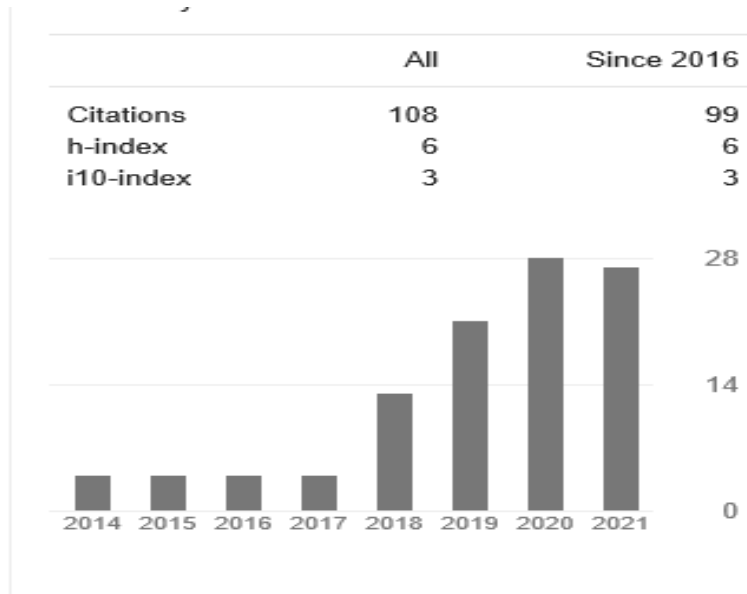
Hrushikesh Mallick



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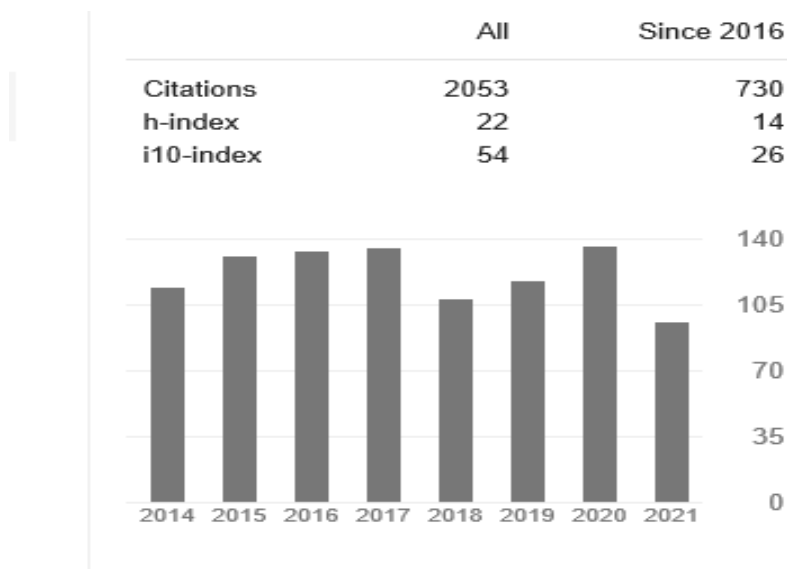


Ritika Jain



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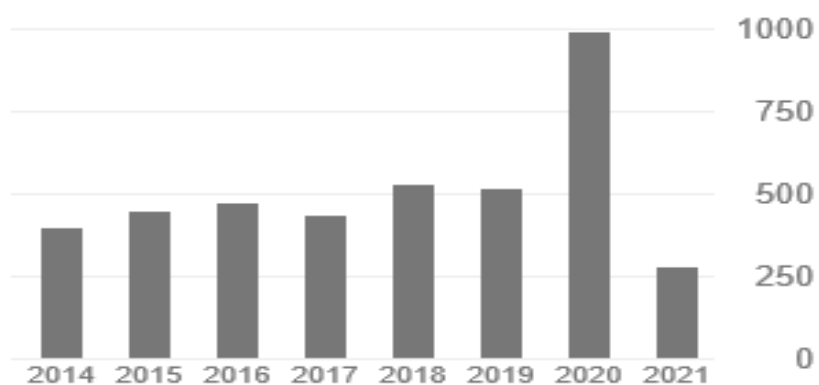


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S. Irudaya Rajan

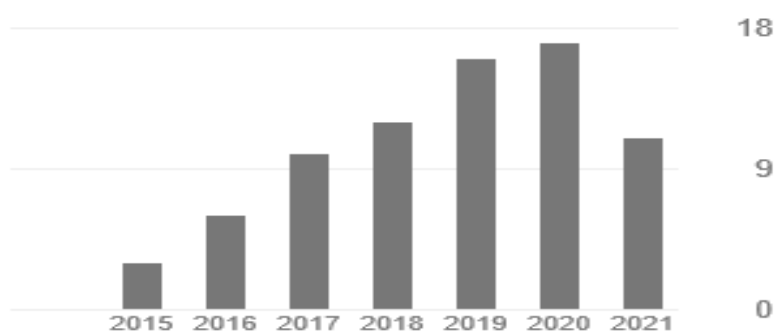
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Srikanta Kundu

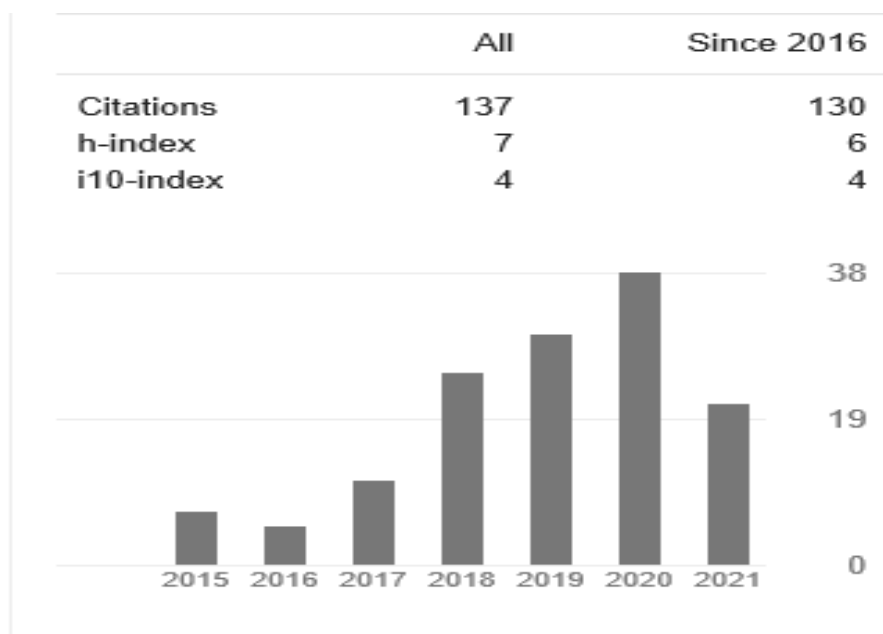
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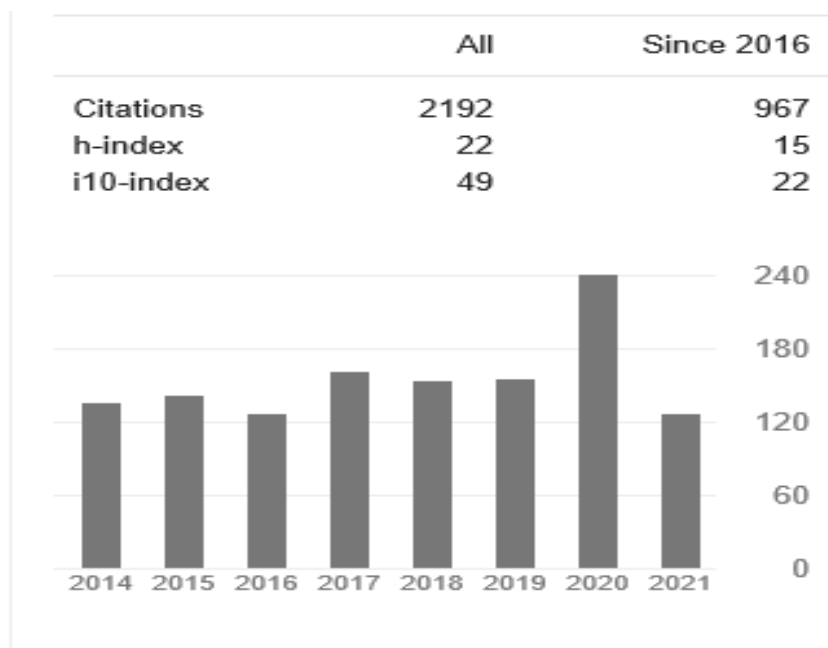


Thiagu Ranganathan



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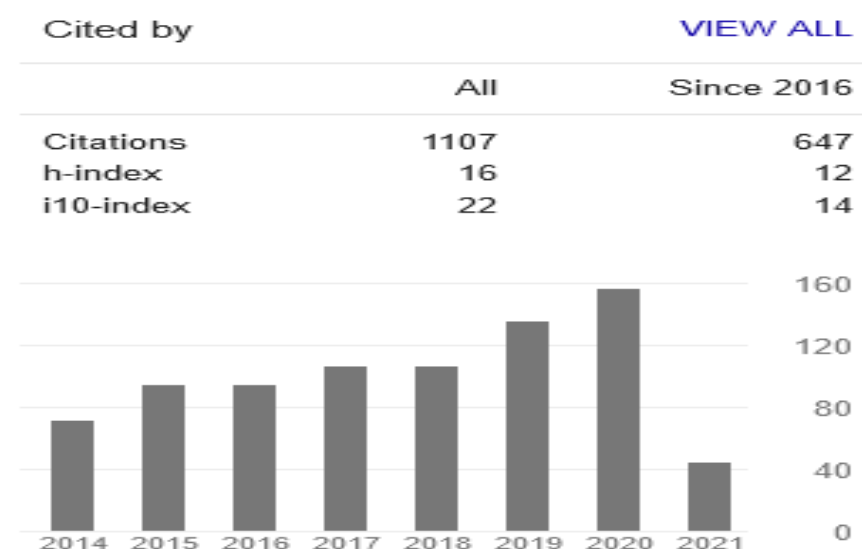
Udaya S. Mishra



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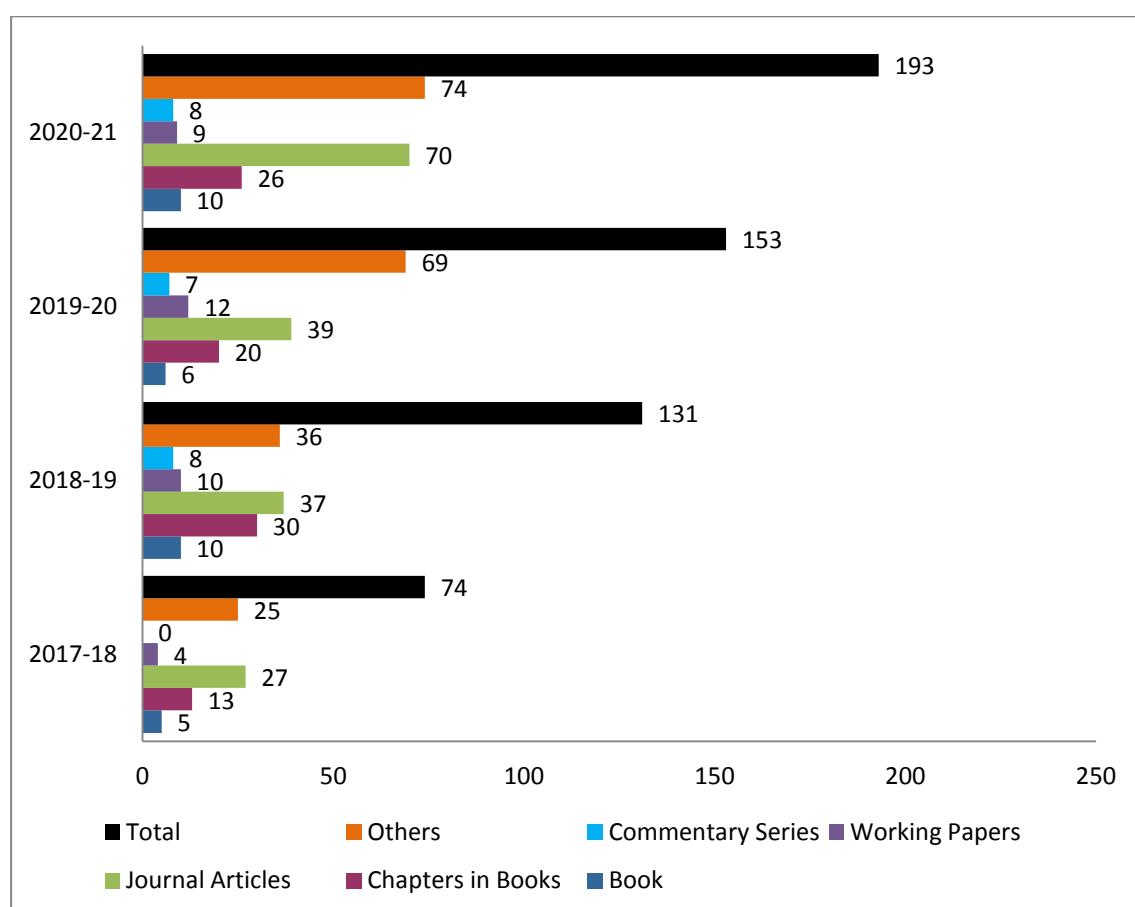


Vinoj Abraham



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Trends in Publications by the CDS faculty from 2017-18 to 2020-21





(B) SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS HELD AT THE CENTRE

As part of its effort to disseminate the research activities, the Centre conducts a number of conferences, seminars, and workshops. Open seminars/ Webinars are given by faculty and researchers from other institutions from within the country as well as abroad. This year 7 open seminars/webinars were conducted. In addition to this, 17 webinars were given by the faculty and students. The CDS also organised national seminars/conferences and workshops in addition to 16 Foundation Day Lectures and 4 Public lectures.

(a) Open Seminars/Webinars

S. Ramanathan and Vasudha Chakravarthy, Development Solutions, Delhi, *Impact of Covid-19 on Availability and Access To Health And Nutrition Services – Insights From A Rapid Study In Five States*. (17 July, 2020)

Biswajit Dhar, Professor, Centre for Economic Studies and Planning, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, *India and China: The Evolution and Status of Economic Inter-Dependence*. (14 August, 2020)

Sushil Khanna, Professor, IIM Kolkata & Gulati Institute of Finance and Taxation, *Trade in Kerala Economy*. (21 August, 2020)

Anant Kamath, Azim Premji University, *The Social Context of Technological Experiences in India*. (26 August, 2020)

Krishnendu Ghosh Dastidar, Professor, CESP, JNU and Visiting Professor, CDS, *Auction Theory: Reflections on the Contributions of Paul R. Milgrom and Robert B. Wilson*. (10 November, 2020)

Alwin Prakash, Former Professor and Head of the Dept. of Economics, Kerala University, *Fiscal Decentralisation in Kerala*. (17 November, 2020)

R. Mohan, Visiting Fellow, CDS, *Discussion on the Report of the 15th Finance Commission*, (12 March, 2021)

(B) SEMINARS / WEBINARS BY CDS FACULTY/STUDENTS

Sunil Mani, Director, CDS, *India's Role in Frugal Innovations in Health-Related Technologies to Deal with COVID-19*. (5 May, 2020)

Shraddha Jain, PhD scholar; Thiagu Ranganathan, Associate Professor and Amartya Paul, PhD scholar, *Human Development Report- 2019*. (20 May, 2020)

Vinoj Abraham, Professor and Mithesh Madhavan, *Performance of the Plantations during the Covid-19 Pandemic*, (12 June, 2020)

Thiagu Ranganathan, Associate Professor and Tirtha Chatterjee, Assistant Professor, *Caste and Regular Jobs in India*. (19 June, 2020)



Papaiah Koppula, Amit Nandan & Indrajeet Kumar, PhD Scholars-CDS, *Discussion on National Strategy for Financial Inclusion*. (24 June, 2020)

Vinoj Abraham, Professor and Manikantha Nataraj, PhD Scholar, *Political Economy of Government Response to COVID-19: A Cross Country Analysis*. (26 June, 2020)

Sudip Chaudhuri, Visiting Professor, CDS, *Making Essential Medicines Affordable: Can Bangladesh do for COVID-19 what India did for AIDS?* (10 July, 2020)

Sunil Mani, Director, *India's Quest for Technological Self-Reliance, An Analysis of Her Patenting Performance in the Post-TRIPS Phase* (31 July, 2020)

Jayaseelan Raj, Assistant Professor, *The Morality of Abandonment and the Production of Plantation Order in India*. (7 August, 2020)

Chidambaran Gurunathan Iyer, Associate Professor, *Entrepreneurship and Innovation Systems: Two Indian Case Studies*. (18 September)

Ritika Jain, Asst. Professor, *Effect of COVID-19 Lockdown on the Profitability of Firms: Evidence from an Emerging Economy*. (25 September, 2020)

Thiagu Ranganathan, Associate Professor and Rounak Sil, PhD Scholar, *Is an Economic Being a "Social Moron"? Using Game Theory to Explore Moral Behaviour*. (9 October, 2020)

P.L. Beena, Associate Professor, *IPR Regime and Antitrust Implications of Mergers & Acquisitions: Evidence from the Indian Corporate Sector*. (9 November, 2020)

Tirtha Chatterjee, Assistant Professor; Aritri Chakravarty, PhD Scholar, and Binod Kumar Behera, PhD Scholar, *Agricultural Farm Laws-2020*. (13 November, 2020)

Chidambaran Gurunathan Iyer, Associate Professor, *Industrialization for Jobs and Growth: A Case Study of Cellular Mobile Phone Manufacturers in India*. (24 November, 2020)

T. Abhilash, Assistant Professor and Susuma Hansdah, PhD Scholar, *Covid-19 and Scheduled Tribes in Kerala: Strategies and Responses*. (18 December, 2020)

Smruti Ranjan Sahoo, PhD Scholar, *Determinants of Export in Boom and Bust: Evidence from the Indian Electronic Industry*, (19 March, 2021)

(C) INTERNATIONAL / NATIONAL CONFERENCES / SEMINARS / WEBINARS/WORKSHOPS / DISCUSSIONS/ LECTURES / EVENTS

Webinar by panellists Professor Alok Sheel, Professor R Nagaraj, Professor Sukhpal Singh, Mr. P. S Vijayshankar, Professor Irudaya Rajan, Dr. M. Parameswaran and Dr. Chidambaran G. Iyer on Economic growth with self-reliance in India. Title: "Does the Stimulus Package In Five Tranches Enhance It?" on 27 May, 2020.

NRPPD Steering Committee Meeting (24 July, 2020)



Webinar on “Managing stress in pandemic days” by Professor Sunita Simon Kurpad, St John's National Academy of Health Sciences, Bangalore on 9 September, 2020. (only for students)

Centre's 74th Governing Body meeting, Finance Committee meeting and Committee of Direction meeting held on 24 September, 2020.

Online Training Programme on EBSCO e-Resources conducted by K.N.Raj Library on 03 October 2020.

Webinar –Panel Discussion on the draft EIA Notification 2020 by panelist - Dr Karen Coelho-MIDS Chennai, Dr T V Sajeew-KFRI, Peechi and Dr Lavanya Suresh-BITS, Hyderabad and Moderator- Prof. J. Devika, CDS on 23 October, 2020.

Book release on “Kerala and the World Economy” by Hon'ble Dr. Manmohan Singh, Former Prime Minister of India and first copy presented to Dr. Thomas Isaac, Hon'ble Minister for Finance-GOK, on 2 November, 2020.

Webinar Panel Discussion on “Ownership Guidelines and Corporate Structure for Indian Private Sector Banks” by Panelists, Prof. TT Ram Mohan, IIM Ahmedabad; Prof R. Nagaraj, Visiting Professor, CDS; Prof Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS, New Delhi and Mr. Narayan Ramachandra, Chairman and Co-founder, Inklude Labs, Bangalore on 12 January, 2021.

Online Training Programme on EBSCO e-Resources conducted by K.N.Raj Library on 29 January 2021.

Webinar on the Annual Discussion on ‘Economic Survey 2020-21 and the Union Budget 2021-22’ on 26 February, 2021.

Fiftieth Foundation Year Lecture Series

During the reporting year the following webinars were held in connection with the fiftieth foundation year celebrations.

Webinar on: Trade in Kerala Economy,” by Prof Sushil Khanna, IIM, Kolkata and GIFT, Trivandrum, on 21 August, 2020.

Webinar on "The Technology Trap: Capital, Labor and Power in the Age of Automation" by Dr. Carl Benedikt Frey, University of Oxford on 10 September, 2020.

Webinar on “From Make in India to Assemble in India to Atmanirbhar Bharat: Contradictions of Trade Policy” by Prof. C. Veeramani, IGIDR-Mumbai on 16 October, 2020.

Webinar on “Locating Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) in a Discourse on Development” by Prof. Amit Shovon Ray, JNU on 20 November, 2020.

Webinar on “Climate and the Economy in India from 1880 to the Present” by Professor Tirthankar Roy, London School of Economics on 27 November, 2020.



Webinar on “The Question of Ethics in RCTs” by Professor Reetika Khera, Associate Professor (Economics), Indian Institute of Technology Delhi on 4 December, 2020.

Webinar on “Talking to Ghosts: Exploring forged employment records in NREGS” by Professor D. Rajasekhar, HAG Professor and Head, Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC), Bengaluru on 11 December, 2020.

Webinar on “Revisiting the Kerala Model of Development and its Virtuous Cycle: Spectacular Successes, Spectacular Failures and Outlook for the Future” by Professor K.P. Kannan, Honorary Fellow, CDS on 8 January, 2021.

Webinar on “Binding the State: State Capacity and the Democratic Deficit in India” by Prof Patrick Heller, Brown University, USA, on 15 January, 2021.

Webinar on “Mainstreaming Financial Inclusion,” by Prof Thankom Arun, Essex University, UK, on 18 January, 2021.

Webinar on “Industrial Clustering: The Indian Context,” by Prof Keshabananda Das, GIDR, Ahmedabad, on 22 January, 2021.

Webinar on “Institutions and the Evolution of Indian agriculture” by Prof Rajaswari Raina, Shiv Nadar University, Noida, on 29 January, 2021.

Webinar on “Contemporary Challenges to Migrant Integration in the EU-UK Context: What do we know so far,” by Dr Shoba Arun, Manchester Metropolitan University, UK, on 12 February, 2021.

Webinar on “The State and markets in the Economic Development of South Korea,” by Prof. Jong Il You, KDI School of Public Policy, Republic of Korea, on 17 February, 2021.

Webinar on “Public Spending for Gender Equality,” by Prof Rohini Somanathan, Delhi School of Economics, on 5 March, 2021.

Webinar on “Should Governments be in the Business of Banking,” by Prof Errol D’Souza, IIM, Ahmedabad, on 22 March, 2021.

(D) PUBLIC LECTURES

The 50th Foundation Day Lecture on “Economics and Politics of the Unemployment Problem in Indian Democracy” was delivered by Prof. Amit Bhaduri, Honorary Fellow, CDS on 19 October, 2020.

The 11th BG Kumar Lecture on “Economic Transformation, Growth of the Middle Class and Family Change in India” was delivered by Professor Sonalde Desai, Professor of Sociology, University of Maryland and Professor and Centre Director, NCAER-National Data Innovation Center, New Delhi on 5 November, 2020.

The 10th P. K. Gopalakrishnan Memorial Lecture on “Why Does the Indian State Both Fail and Succeed?” was delivered by Professor Devesh Kapur, Director of Asian Programs, Johns Hopkins University, USA on 14 December, 2020.



KN Raj Memorial Lecture on 'Reading KN Raj in the Age of Free Market Fundamentalism,' by Professor Mihir Shah, Former Member, Planning Commission and Co-founder Samaj Pragati Sahayog, on 10 March, 2021.

(C) NETWORKING

(a) PARTICIPATION OF FACULTY IN CONFERENCES/ SEMINARS ELSEWHERE

OUTSIDE INDIA

P.L Beena

- Attended seminars organised by Rethinking Development Economics, MIT, Indalics and Globalics

Hrushikesh Mallick

- Presented a paper on 'Determinants of Current Account Performance of Selected South Asian Economies: An Application of PMG Model,' in Bay of Bengal Economic Dialogue 2021: "Post-COVID-19 Challenges in the Bay of Bengal Region" hosted by SANEM at the University of Dhaka, Bangladesh on February, 11, 2021.

S. Irudaya Rajan

- Participated as a lead speaker in the international webinar on COVID-19 and International Labour Migration in the Middle East organised by the Center for Migration and Refugee Studies (CMRS) at The American University in Cairo (AUC) on June 22, 2020.
- Participated in the KNOMAD Chairs meeting on June 22, 2020 organised by the World Bank and discussed the work program for 2020-21 on theme, Internal Migration and Urbanization.
- Participated in the Ph.D defense of Allen Prabhaker Ugargol of University of Groningen, The Netherlands on thesis, 'Ageing and Exchange of Care in Emigrant Households: Case Studies from Kerala and Goa, India,' on June 25, 2020.
- Participated in the Online International Workshop on "Research Methods and Approaches to Migration and Diaspora Studies" organised by the Centre for Diaspora Studies and The Refugee Outreach & Research Network (ROR-n), Vienna, Austria, during 30 June 2020 – 2 July 2020 and spoke on 20th June on Contemporary Methodological Issues in Migration and Diaspora Research.
- Participated as a speaker in the Policy, Legislation and Governance webinar series, Human Mobility across the Urban-Rural Continuum in the time of COVID-19, organised by the United Nations Human Settlement Program (UN-Habitat), Kenya, on July 21, 2020.



- Delivered key note speech titled, 'India's Migrant Crisis: The Elusive Research for a better life,' in the webinar organised by Canada India Research Centre for Learning and Engagement, University of Guelph, Canada, on 22 July, 2020.
- Participated as a panelist in the Migration and Health in South Asia network ideation webinar on Charting Values for International Research Network in times of Crises organised by University of Essex, United Kingdom on July 29, 2020.
- Discussion with School of Political Studies, University of Ottawa, about the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) funded project to CDS on Involuntary Settlement: A Cross-Country Study on Urban Inequality and Poverty August 6, 2020.
- Participated in the working group meeting of the European Union Funded international research network, Women on the Move organised by University of Paris on January 11, 2021.
- Participated in the first advisory meeting of the European Union Funded international research network, Women on the Move organised by University of Paris on January 12, 2021.
- Attended the steering committee meeting of the MiHSA network meeting organised by the chairman, University of Sussex on March 1, 2021.
- Participated in the International online conference on 'Globalization, Covid-19, Economy, Security, International Migration and Governance,' organised by the Graduate Institute, Geneva, Switzerland, and spoke Covid-19 led return migration from the Gulf-India Migration Corridor on March 18, 2021.

Jayaseelan Raj

- Weekly Seminar in Anthropological Theory, Department of Anthropology, The London School of Economics and Political Science, UK. (via online) *Intimate Precarity: Kinship and Labour in India's Tea Plantations*. (March 2021).
- Delivered a Public Lecture on *Categorical Oppression and Migrant Labour in India*, Co-sponsored by the Centre for Place, Culture and Politics, the Centre for Humanities, and the Department of Anthropology, Graduate Centre, City University of New York (CUNY), USA. (via online) in (February 2021).

Praveena Kodoth

- Participated in Webinar panel discussion, *Conversations on working in freedom*, organised by the ILO during the period 18 June to 30 September, 2020. Spoke about spatial concentration of internationally migrant women domestic workers from India.



- Presented 'Civil Society Activism, Local Government Politics and the Mobilisation of Women into a State Wide Network of Microfinance Groups in Kerala,' at the International Webinar on "Cooperatives, Mutual Aid and Solidarity Economies: Experiences from Around the World" 28 to 30 January, 2021, Department of Economics, University of Kerala.

Ritika Jain

- Presented a paper, 'Impact of COVID-19 Lockdown on Profitability of firms in India,' in SEBI-NISM Research Conference on "Behaviour of Securities Markets-Sighting of Black Swan,' during February 25-26, 2021.
- Presented a seminar on 'COVID-19 Deaths in India,' at University of Kent, May 2020 (webinar)

Sunil Mani

- Participated as a member in the project meet on 'IPR System and Technology Catching-up: Comparative Analysis of China, India and Thailand,' University of Tokyo on August 21, October 9, November 13 and December 11, 2020.
- Presented a paper 'India's Quest for Technological Self-Reliance, Analysis of Her Record With respect To Patents in the Post TRIPS Phase', University of Tokyo, July 31, 2020.
- Presented a lecture on 'Innovations in the Indian Pharmaceutical & IT services Industry: The Contrasts,' at the University of Tokyo workshop on March 11, 2021.

Tirtha Chatterjee

- Presented a paper 'Did Reservation in Higher Education Change the Prospects for OBCs in Getting Better Jobs? A Study Using Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) in India,' at 6th International Conference on South Asian Economic Development 2021 (online) on February 27, 2021.

IN INDIA

Abhilash, T

- Presented a webinar on *Ground Down By Policy?: Scheduled Tribes and NEP, 2020, Issues and Way Forward*, Webinar on 'Governance and Livelihoods: Newly Emerging Paradigms March 19, 2021, organised by the UGC Expert Committee on Equity and Inclusion in Higher Education for Vulnerable Groups headed by Prof. Manikrao Salunkhe, Tilak Maharashtra Vidyapeeth, Pune.
- Webinar on Forest Right Act, 2006, organised by Dalit, Adivasi, Women Citizen Right Collective on August 16, 2020,



- Gave a webinar on ‘Covid 19 and Scheduled Tribes in Kerala: Policies and Responses,’ at webinar at CDS on December 16, 2020.
- ‘Trying to be Visible in the Margins: Adivasi Students Struggle in Kerala,’ web-talk on *Adivasi lives matter*, on December 21, 2020.
<https://open.spotify.com/episode/6oxsHayRzTQyJTTHUUHTfG>

Beena P L

- Participated in seminars given by IEG, IGIDR, ISEC, MIDS, JNU, Ashoka University, IHD and RIS.
- Presented a paper titled ‘IPR Regime and Antitrust Implications of Mergers and Acquisitions in Indian Industries,’ at Christ University, November 13, 2020.

Chidambaran G.Iyer

- Participated in the Introductory meeting of the Centre for Technology, Innovation and Economic Research (CTIER) Seminar Series on November 19, 2020.

J. Devika

- Several webinars given in various colleges in Kerala, including SD College, Alappuzha and Union Christian College, Aluva.
- ‘Literature and the Creation of a Gender ‘Archive’, in the International Workshop ‘Sensing the Past: Thematic Departures and ‘Archival’ Searches’, Department of History, SreeSankaracharya University of Sanskrit, Kalady, October 5, 2020.
- ‘Vernacular Feminisms’, organised by the Sociology and Social Work Association, Christ University, Bangalore, March 23, 2021.
- Keynote Address at the International Webinar ‘Vulnerabilities through Gendered Lenses: Lessons from COVID-19’ organised by the Women’s Studies Centre, CUSAT, Kochi, August 6-7, 2020.
- ‘Men for the Sciences, Women for Arts? Thoughts on the Stereotyping of Knowledge’, IIT-Palakkad, September 30, 2020.
- Lecture on ‘Feminist Policy Analysis’, C-TARA, IIT-Bombay on October 22, 2020.
- Panel Discussion on Kudumbashree in the webinar ‘The Covid-19 Pandemic and Local Governments’, organised jointly by GIFT, Thiruvananthapuram, and KILA, Thrissur, chaired by Bina Agarwal, May 17, 2020.
- Panel discussion on ‘Decentralization and Local Governance’ in the International Conference, ‘Kerala Looks Ahead’, organised by the KSPB on February 2, 2021.

S. Irudaya Rajan

- Participated in the Virtual Regional Consultation on ‘Reviewing Laws Related to Inter-State Women Migrant Workers,’ organised by The National Commission for Women, New Delhi on April 25, 2020.



- Participated in the Christian Conference of Asia Webinar on 'The Plight of the Migrant Workers amidst COVID-19' on April 30, 2020.
- Participated in the National Consultation on Methodologies for Measuring State-level Economic Losses in the Context of COVID-19 Pandemic, organised by the State Planning Board, Government of Kerala on May 2, 2020.
- Participated as a panelist in the 'Webinar on Indian Migrants in the Gulf,' organised by the Indian Council for World Affairs and Center for Public Policy Research, on May 14, 2020.
- Participated as a resource person in the Panel discussion on Migrant Workers organised by Indo-German Focal Point, Prevention and Social Security for India, on May 15, 2020.
- Participated in the online panel discussion on 'Covid 19 and the New World of Opportunities,' organised by the Additional Skill Acquisition Programme (ASAP), Department of Higher Education, Government of Kerala on May 20, 2020.
- Participated in the Indian Institute of Health Management University, Jaipur, by Zoom seminar on 'COVID 19 Pandemic: Consequences and Challenges of Reverse Migration of Labourers in India,' on May 26, 2020.
- Participation in the panel discussion on Gulf Migration: During and Aftermath COVID 19, organised by the Global Research Forum on Diaspora and Transnationalism on May 27, 2020.
- Participated as a Lead speaker for the National Webinar on 'Reverse Migration: Challenges and Opportunities in the Context of Covid- 19' organised by the Department of Management Studies, Viswajyothi College of Engineering and Technology, Kerala, on May 29, 2020.
- Participated in the Institute of Grassroots Governance, Tamil Nadu, Webinar Panel Discussion on Internal Migration in India on May 31, 2020.
- Delivered two lectures on 'Migration and Population Statistics in India' for the probationers of Indian Statistical Service (ISS) 41st Batch for their two week Training Programme on "Population & Demography Statistics" organised by National Statistical Systems Training Academy of the Ministry of Statistics and Program Implementation, Government of India, on June 1, 2020.
- Participated as a Lead speaker in the Department of Social Work, Bharathidasan University, Webinar on COVID 19: Challenges and Implications for Senior Citizens Care on June 2, 2020.
- Participated in the Afro-Asian dialogue on 'Access to Justice for the Poor and Vulnerable in the midst of a Pandemic' organised by the Afro-Asian Association for Justice Development and spoke on Justice denied to Indian migrants on June 4, 2020.



- Participated in the series called ‘The Academic Hour’ organised by the Tufts University, United States of America and spoke on migrant worker crisis in India on June 6, 2020.
- Participated in the ‘Stakeholders Dialogues on Migrant Construct Labour: Way Forward and spoke on Labour Vulnerabilities: Issues Exposed by COVID-19,’ organised by the Terwilliger Center for Innovation in Shelter, Habitat for Humanity International on June 8, 2020.
- Participated as a lead researcher in the Webinar discussion on ‘Redefining the Role of Recruitment Agencies Affairs in the Post COVID Scenario,’ organised by the Protector General of Emigrants, Ministry of External, Government of India, on June 9, 2020.
- Delivered Middle East Institute, New Delhi, Online first public lecture on Return Migration from Gulf in the time of COVID-19: Challenges and Opportunities on June 10, 2020.
- Spoke to global stakeholders of Institutional Equity Research, DOLAT Capital Market Private Limited, on ‘Migrant Crisis and Its Impact on Economic Activities in India.’ on June 11, 2020.
- Participated in the Webinar Programme on Rethinking Skilling Amidst COVID-19: Prospects and Challenges organised by the India Centre for Migration of the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, on June 11, 2020.
- Participated in the preparation of India report discussion as a lead researcher on the Mobility Lab Inventory organised by Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology on June 12, 2020.
- Participated as one of the speakers in the panel on inter-state migration organised by LISSTAR (Loyola Institute of Social Science Training and Research), Loyola College (autonomous), Chennai on June 15, 2020.
- Participated in the KNOMAD Chairs meeting on June 17, 2020 organised by the World Bank and presented the work programme for 2020-21 on the theme, ‘Internal Migration and Urbanization.’
- Participated as a lead speaker in the Web Policy talk on Life in the Era of COVID-19: Impact of Lockdown 3.0 on CityMakers organised by the Impact and Policy Research Institute, New Delhi on June 19, 2020.
- Participated in the Virtual Consultation on ‘Research on Women Migrant Workers’ as an expert organised by the The National Commission for Women, New Delhi on June 20, 2020.
- Participated as a panelist in the webinar on Future of Gulf Recruitment in the post Covid scenario organised by Seagull International. Mumbai on June 20, 2020.



- Participated as a panelist in the international webinar on ‘Despondency Amidst the COVID-19 Pandemic and Lockdown: A Telephonic Response Study of Returned Migrant Workers in Hill Districts of Garhwal and Kumaon Regions of Uttarakhand,’ organised by the Impact and Policy Research Institute, New Delhi on June 20, 2020.
- Participated in the webinar meeting to discuss themes for Research project on Inter-State Women Migrant Workers organised by the National Commission for Women, Government of India, on June 22, 2020.
- Participated as the lead speaker on the 2nd RMMRU eSymposium on “Migrant Workers of South Asia: Experiences of Return, Repatriation and Deportation” on June 24, 2020.
- Participated in the E-consultation with experts on “All India Study on ‘Creating value for migrant workers and Industries” organised by the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai on June 27, 2020.
- Delivered Keynote address at an International Webinar on ‘COVID-19 and Reverse Migration in India,’ organised by Department of Economics, A.S. College, Punjab on June 29, 2020.
- Participated as a Panelist in the webinar, Migration a Reality: Solutions and Policies that will Help Promote Safe Migration Amongst Internal Migrants organised by the International Justice Mission, Patna on July 9, 2020.
- Speaker in the webinar lecture on ‘Migration and the State amid the COVID-19 Pandemic’ organised by Centre for Work and Welfare, Impact and Policy Research Institute, New Delhi, on July 11, 2020.
- Main speaker at the webinar on addressing the impacts of Covid 19 in the life and labour of the interstate migrant workers in Kerala, organised by Kerala Interstate Migrants Alliance for Transformation, Kerala on July 17, 2020.
- Participated in the webinar as a Chief Guest on Issues and Challenges of Employment in Reviving the Growth of Indian Economy on 20th July, organised by the Indian Economic Association and Presidency College, Chennai.
- Participated as a resource person in the two day international webinar on ‘Challenges and Opportunities for Migrant Labourers in the Age of COVID-19,’ organised Department of Econometrics, School of Economics and Department of Youth Welfare Studies, School of Youth Empowerment, Madurai-Kamaraj University, Madurai on 22 July, 2020.
- Participated in the first advisory committee meeting of the BDU-Heritage Centre for Gerontology organised by the Department of Social Work, Bharathidasan University, Tamil Nadu on July 27, 2020.



- Participated in the TKM Institute of Management web based talk on ‘Returning Expatriates: Issues and Opportunities,’ on July 27, 2020.
- Participated in the eight advisory board meeting of the India Migration Now through webinar on July 29, 2020.
- Participated in the National level of webinar COVID-19: Migration Challenges and Opportunities as a speaker, organised by the National Institute for Disaster Management (NIDM), Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India and Madras School of Social Work on July 31, 2020 and spoke on COVID-19’s Impact on Migrant Families.
- Participated as a panelist for the webinar on Migrants Policy in India during COVID-19 organised by Ramaiah Public Policy Centre, Bangalore, August 7, 2020.
- Participated as an external advisor with India Smart Cities Fellowship programme awardees organised by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India with the support of the National Institute of Urban Affairs, New Delhi on August 10, 2020.
- Participated as a panelist in the webinar COVID 10 Migration Dialogue on 10th August, 2020, organised by the Catholic Bishops Conference of India office for Labour and Workers India Federation.
- Invited talk on Return Migration and Remigration in the Post COVID-19 at the International E-conference on ‘The Challenges and Rehabilitation Avenues in the Context of COVID-19,’ organised by the Directorate of Distance Education, Department of Economics, Madurai-Kamaraj University on August 13, 2020.
- Participated in the second advisory committee meeting on aging organised by the International Institute for Population Sciences, Mumbai and United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA), New Delhi, and discussed the work in progress of Welfare Schemes and Age Friendly Governance Programs in Kerala on August 20, 2020.
- Participated as one of the lead speakers in the Dvara Research Foundation (Chennai) Round Table on Social Protection for Self Employed Workers on August 25, 2020.
- Participated as one of the lead speakers of the webinar to discuss the Global Compact on Migration Objective 1: Collect and utilize accurate and disaggregated data as a basis for evidence-based policies organised by Migrant Forum in Asia (MFA) together with the Cross Regional Centre for Refugees and Migrants (CCRM), the Global Research Forum on Diaspora and Transnationalism (GRFDT) and the Civil Society Action Committee on September 1, 2020.
- Participated in the plenary session of Migration and Diaspora Engagement during COVID-19: Best practices at the second webinar on Positioning Migration Studies to Understand the short-term and long-term effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic



organised by Centre for Diaspora Studies, Central University of Gujarat with Department of History, Banaras Hindu University, Centre for the Study of Regional Development, Jawaharlal Nehru University, International Institute for Population Sciences, Mumbai and International Geographic Union on September 10, 2020.

- Member of the Panel discussion on Indian Economy: Current Status and the Way organised by the Malabar Christian College, Calicut and Calicut Management Association Ahead on September 11, 2020.
- Discussion with Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India, with their smart city fellows along with Tata Trusts and National Institute of Urban Affairs, Delhi on September 14, 2020.
- Participated in the KNOMAD meeting of Chairs and Experts to discuss the future of migration in the Post-COVID organized by the World Bank on September 21, 2020.
- Acted as a moderator in the Virtual Discussion on recruitment costs and international migration in the context of COVID-19 organised by the India Centre for Migration of the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, on September 24, 2020.
- Participated as a panelist in the Nursing Practice Act in India organised by Ramaiah Institute of Nursing Education and Research and Ramaiah Public Policy Centre, Bangalore on September 25, 2020.
- Participated in the webinar series organised by the Gujarat Institute of Development Research, Ahmedabad, as lead speaker on 'From the Globe back to India: What next for Return Migrants' on September 25, 2020.
- Spoke on 'How to conduct large scale surveys in India,' in an online orientation research program on How to Approach Research in Social Science? Conceptualization and Methodological Intervention organized by PanditDeendayalUdadhyaShekhawati University, Rajasthan, Department of Sociology, Government Arts College, Rajasthan, Department of Geography, Government Lohia College, Rajasthan, held on September 26, 2020.
- Expert discussion with Global Institutional Investors on the Lok Sabha cleared three bills amalgamating laws on social security, occupational safety and industrial relations on September 29, 2020 organised by MotilalOswal Financial Services Limited, Mumbai, India.
- Participated in the Technical Advisory Committee meeting of the project, Protection of Children affected by Seasonal Migration: A Study in Jalna District, Maharashtra, funded by the UNICEF and conducted by the International Institute for Population Sciences, Mumbai, on September 30, 2020.
- Participated as a panelist in the digital conference on Migration and Development: People on the Move, Impact and Way forward and spoke on the future of international migration organized by the Confederation of the Indian Industry on October 9, 2020.



- Plenary speaker at the Virtual Symposium on Society, Economy and Development during Covid-19 Crisis: Lessons for Emerging Economies organised by the Department of Social Work, Bharathiar University, Coimbatore on October 10, 2020 and spoke on Plight of Migrant Workers during the Epidemic.
- Represented as a speaker on behalf of Migrant Forum in Asia on their international online Concert Rally for Debt Cancellation organised by Migrant Forum in Asia (MFA), Philippines, Asian's People Movement on Debt and Development, spoke on cost of migration on October 14, 2020.
- Delivered valedictory address for the International webinar on Migrants and Displaced Persons amid Covid-19: Issues, Challenges and Policy Options organised by Flame University, Pune. Centre for Indian Diaspora Studies, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kerala and Global Research Forum on Diaspora and Transnationalism on October 17, 2020.
- Participated in the International webinar series on Transitions in International Migration Governance: Towards Inclusive and Rights Based Public Policy organised by the Centre for West Asian Studies, School of International Relations and Politics, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kerala, and spoke on When Dreams Return: Need for Public Policy on October 30, 2020.
- Chaired a session on Labour Migration in the Gulf in the International e-conference on Migration, Diasporas and Sustainable Development: Perspectives, Policies, Opportunities and Challenges organised by Global Research Forum on Diaspora and Transnationalism (GRFDT), Migrant Forum in Asia (MFA) and Centre for Research on North America on November 4, 2020.
- Participated in the meeting organised by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment as part of the sub-committee member on Financial Security of Senior Citizens, held at November 11, 2020.
- Participated in the third Technical Advisory Group meeting of the UNFPA project on Integrating Aging Research with Policy and Program in India organized by the International Institute for Population Sciences, Mumbai and presented the work-in-progress of the project, “welfare schemes and age friendly governance in Kerala” on December 10, 2020.
- Lead speaker in the Stakeholders Consultation on Building a Migration Network in India organised by the India Centre for Migration of the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, on December 10, 2020.
- Participated in the working group meeting of the European Union Funded international research network, Women on the Move organised by University of Paris on January 11, 2021.



- Participated in the first advisory meeting of the European Union Funded international research network, Women on the Move organised by University of Paris on January 12, 2021.
- Lead speaker in the Master's talk organised by the Department of Architecture, College of Engineering, Trivandrum on 14 January 14, 2020 and spoke on Covid-led Migrant crisis.
- Participated in the first World Demographic and Ageing Forum of the Global Longevity Council as a council member to discuss the future course of action on aging issues on January 15, 2020.
- Invited for discussion with the Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan on 21st January 21, 2021 to speak on the issue of return migrants and elderly in the context of Covid-19.
- Chaired the Technical Advisory Committee meeting of the project, Inter-State Migrant Workers in Kerala: A Study on their work and Life, conducted by the Kerala Institute of Labour and Employment, Government of Kerala, January 22, 2021.
- Participated in the international webinar series on women and development organised by the Centre for Women's Studies, Central University of Kerala in collaboration with E Sreedharan Centre for Life Skills Education on 28th January 28, 2021 on the topic of Issues of elderly women in India.
- Key speaker in the 59th online lecture organised by the Calcutta Comparatists 1919 and spoke on COVID led migration crisis on January 31, 2021.
- Presented a paper on 'The Pilot Survey of Covid-19 Return Migrants in Kerala' at the Seminar on Kerala and the World Economy organised by the Centre for Development Studies, Kerala, on February 4, 2021.
- Participated in the Think20 Task Force on 10 on Migration as a contributor for the policy brief meeting organised by the International Institute of Foreign Affairs on 9 February 9, 2021.
- Lead speaker in the discussion on Decoding India's Internal Migration organised by the Indian Express and Omidyar Network India on February 12, 2021.
- Participated in the second World Demographic and Ageing Forum of the Global Longevity Council as a council member to discuss the future course of action on aging issues on February 18, 2021.
- Participated as a resource person in the International webinar on Perceived Anxiety, Social Support and Coping Strategies of Elderly During Covid-19 Pandemic, organised by the Department of Sociology, University of Kerala on February 22, 2021 and spoke on Elderly Issues in Kerala.



- Delivered the Key note address at the International webinar on the theme of ‘Impact of Covid-19 on the health and life style of people worldwide,’ organised by the Department of Demography, University of Kerala on February 25, 2021 at the Senate Chamber.
- Participated in the KNOMAD Chairs meeting on February 25, 2021 organised by the World Bank and reviewed the work program for 2020-21 on the theme, ‘Internal Migration and Urbanization.’
- Participated as a keynote speak at the International Day for Social Work at Malankara Catholic College at Mariagiri on March 22, 2021.

Jayaseelan Raj

- Presented a paper ‘Postcolonial Caste and the Politics of Counter Narrative,’ at an invited seminar held by SreeSankaracharya University, Kalady, (February 2021).
- Presented a paper ‘Silencing and Reclaiming Past,’ at an invited seminar by DB College, Sasathamkotta, Kollam (June 2020)

M. Parameswaran

- Participated in the ‘National Consultation on Methodologies for Measuring State-level Economic Losses in the Context of COVID-19 Pandemic.’ organised by the Kerala State Planning Board on May 02, 2020.
- Gave a lecture on ‘Migration, Remittances And Development,’ at IGC Patna Summer School in Development Economics on August 14, 2020.
- Gave a webinar on ‘Options for Economics Undergraduates,’ to the students in DHANUS, Perabra on August 15, 2020.
- Presented on the topic ‘Economic Growth in India: Performance and Prospectus,’ in a Symposium on Growth and Sectoral Concerns in the Indian Economy on September 24, 2020, Sri Venkateswara College, Delhi.

Praveena Kodoth

- Speaker in Webinars organised by the India Centre for Migration, New Delhi on ‘Women in International Migration: A case of Domestic Workers from India,’ on June 25, 2020, and ‘Role of Labour Intermediaries in Migration: Issues and Challenges,’ on August 27, 2020.
- Spoke on ‘Women in International Labour Migration,’ at the Webinar organised by the Centre for Women’s Development Studies, New Delhi on ‘The Neglected Gender Dimension: Gender in India’s Labour Migration,’ on June 20, 2020.



- Spoke in four Webinars organised by UNICEF, Chennai on the following themes:
Impact of COVID 19 on Migration (July 16),
Children and Migration (July 23),
Reverse Migration in the age of COVID 19 (July 30) and
Migration Policy (August 6).
- Delivered a Lecture on ‘Migration and Gender, Department of Women’s Studies,’
at Women’s Studies Centre, Madurai Kamaraj University on August 6, 2020.
- Lecture on ‘Women’s Migration, State Policy and Social Disruption at the Source,’
at Women’s Studies Centre, Jesus and Mary College, New Delhi, on January 23,
2021 as part of a course on Public Health and Global Care Chains.
- Presented a paper ‘Migration Governance and Policy: Gendering Shifts in the 21st
Century’ at the Centre for West Asian Studies, MG University, Kottayam on
November 9, 2020.

Ritika Jain

- Presented a webinar on ‘Impact of COVID-19 Lockdown on Profitability of Firms
in India,’ in Kerala University, January 2021 (webinar)
- Presented a seminar on ‘Public Sector in India,’ in Calicut University, January 2021
(webinar)
- Presented a seminar on ‘Corporate Social Responsibility in India,’ in Calicut
University, January 2021 (webinar)
- Presented a seminar on ‘Impact of COVID-19 Lockdown on Profitability of Firms
in India,’ in Christ University, August 2020 (webinar)

Sunil Mani

- Presented a lecture on ‘Diffusion of Automation Technologies and Their Potential
and Actual Effects on Manufacturing Employment in India’, at the International
Growth Centre (IGC) Patna Summer School in Development Economics, August
14, 2020.
- Presented a lecture on ‘Trends in Patenting by Indian Inventors in the Post TRIPS
Phase’ Department of Economic Studies and Institution Innovation Council, Central
University of Punjab, December 19, 2020.
- Presented a paper ‘India’s Patenting Performance since TRIPS Compliance of her
Patenting Regime’ at the ICSSR Workshop, the Productivity Growth from
Technology Transfer in the Indian Manufacturing Sector: A Firm-level Study, at
Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Pune, October 27, 2020.



- Discussant to the project proposal 'Productivity Growth from Technology Transfer in the Indian Manufacturing Sector: A firm-level study,' at Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Pune, on October 27, 2020.
- Presented a lecture at the Science and Technology Policy 2020 by the Ministry of Science and Technology, Govt. of India on February 19, 2021.
- Presented a lecture at the Book Launch function at the CTIER, Pune on February 23, 2021.
- Presented a lecture at the RBI Review Committee regarding the work completed and proposed for the 2021-22 on March 02, 2021.
- Presented a lecture on 'Understanding India's Balance of Payments,' at the Centre for Economic Studies and Planning, JNU on March 8, 2021.
- Presidential address on the Foundation Day Lecture of John Matthai Centre, Thrissur on March 18, 2021.
- Presented a lecture on 'India's Innovation Performance in the Post TRIPS phase' at the Kamathalekar Lecture at Department of Economics, Goa University, on March 24, 2021.

Policy Advice

- Chaired a committee to rationalize revenue expenditure, Government of Kerala (May- August 2020)
- Chaired the thematic group on 'Innovation' for drafting the Science, Technology and Innovation Policy 2020 of Government of India, Department of Science Technology (DST), Government of India (January through July 2020)
- Member, Final Drafting Committee, for drafting the Science, Technology and Innovation Policy 2020 of Government of India, Department of Science Technology (DST), Government of India (August through September 2020)
- Did a report evaluating the functioning of the Rubber Board (2010-11 through 2019-20), October- November 2020.

Advisory Meeting

- Participated as Vice Chair in the 8th Advisory Committee Meeting of Centre for Science, Technology and Innovation Indicators, HSRC, South Africa, November 30, 2020
- Participated as a member of the Research Committee of Institute of Public Enterprise, Hyderabad, August 6, 2020



Project Meetings

- Participated as a member in the project meet on 'IPR system and Technology Catching-up: comparative analysis of China, India and Thailand', University of Tokyo on August 21, October 9, November 13 and December 11, 2020

Srikanta Kundu

- Presented the paper titled 'Effect of Economic Policy Uncertainty on Stock Market Return and Volatility under Heterogeneous Market Characteristics,' in Strategic Research Unit (SRU) at the Reserve Bank of India on September 17, 2020.
- Presented the paper titled 'Is the State Level Heterogeneity in Pro-Poorness an Outcome of Government's Redistributive Policy and Education Level? A Panel Data Analysis In Case of India,' at ECONCLAVE '20 (Conference in Economics, IISER Bhopal, December 21-22, 2020).

Udaya S Mishra

- Delivered an invited talk on 'Level Sensitive Progresss Assessment' at GIDR Ahmedabad, September 9, 2020.
- Delivered a Keynote address in a Webinar on 'Changing Facets of Human Development in the 21st Century' conducted by Dept. of Economics Central University of Tamil Nadu on August 12, 2020.
- Delivered a special lecture titled '2020, Pandemic: Revealing the Insecurities and Vulnerabilities of India,' at the National Webinar on "Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic on the Transforming Indian Economy" organised by Dr. John Mathai Centre, University of Calicut, January 12,, 2021.

Vinoj Abraham

- Panelist in the 'Online Workshop on Technology and Future of Work,'organised by the Integrated Labour History Research Programme, VVNGLI, NOIDA on March 31, 2021.
- Resource person for the UGC-JNU HRDC 51st refresher programme for Economics conducted by Academic Staff College of JNU, New Delhi.Took two lectures on 'Labour and Employment, on March 11, 2021.
- Discussant for online presentation by A Amarender Reddy on 'Assuring Farmers Income in the Context of New Farm Laws: Issues and the Way Forward,'organised by IMPRI, New Delhi on January 15, 2021.
- Online invited lecture on 'An Analysis of the National Budget 2020-21' organised by St. Cyrils College, Adoor, on February 21, 2021.



- Panelist on online panel discussion on ‘Rural Realities- Kerala Practitioners' Experiences in Tackling the Second Wave in Indian Villages,’ organised by IMPRI, New Delhi on May 20, 2021.
- Resource Person for Online Lecture series of UNICEF India programme on Migration and COVID-19: A set of four lectures was delivered during July –August 2020.
- Panelist for online panel discussion on ‘Harnessing the Demographic Dividend amidst the COVID-19 Pandemic in India: The Way Forward for Youth Employment and Opportunities,’ organised by *IMPRI*, New Delhi on July 11, 2020.
- Online invited lecture on ‘Labour and Employment during Covid19,’ organised by John Mathai Centre and Vimala College, Calicut University, Kerala on 10th August 2020.
- Online invited lecture on ‘Unorganised Sector, Informal Labour and State Efforts towards Formalisation in India,’ for the Dept of Sociology, Christ University, Bangalore on August 10, 2020.
- One day Online Workshop on the theme ‘Basic Research Methods in Social Sciences,’ by Department of Political Science, Kirori Mal College University of Delhi on October 30, 2020.
- Moderator for the online presentation by Radhika Pandey on ‘Employment Scenario, Policy and AtmaNirbhar packages amid Pandemic: Impact, Challenges and the Way Forward,’ organised by IMPRI, New Delhi on December 1, 2020.
- Discussant for online presentation by Dr Ian Prates on ‘Brazilian Labour Market amid the Coronavirus Pandemic: Impact and the Way Forward,’ organised by IMPRI, New Delhi on December 15, 2020.

Participation of Students in Seminars, Conferences, Workshops

Ancy A

Participation and excellence in E-Quiz on Basis Economics, conducted by Guru Nanak College, Chennai on May 18, 2020.

Topper in the awareness quiz for International Day of Biological Diversity, conducted by IMoTAagri Forum on May 22, 2020.

Participated in the national webinar on ‘Role of Applied Biology in current Scenarios’ conducted by PG College Jhunjhunwala, Ayodhya on May 22, 2020.

Participated in the online quiz on Allied Chemistry –II conducted by Palaniswamy college of Arts, Erode Rd, Perundurai, on May 29, 2020.

Participated in the online English Grammar Quiz conducted by Focus-20 on May, 31, 2020.



Passed the online quiz competition on ‘Importance of Hygiene and clean Milk Production in profitable dairy farming,’ conducted by GH Raison University with Maharashtra Animal and Fishery Sciences University, Nagpur on June 1, 2020.

Quiz on Basic Economics held at Thiru VIKA Govt. Arts College, Thiruvavur on May 22, 2020.

E-quiz on Environmental Issues and COVID 19 conducted by SBRD and SAAR on June 5, 2020.

Completed national level Online quiz on Public Awareness Programme on COVID 19 at the Government arts college Coimbatore on May 22, 2020.

Participated in National webinar on Preventive Measures in the Post Pandemic Era, conducted by IQAC on June 16, 2020.

Top Scorer in national Level online quiz conducted by SCMS School of Technology and management, Aluva, on June 16, 2020.

Participated and scored meritorious marks in the National Level Quiz on ‘World environment day, 2020’ at the KLE Society’s Science and Commerce College, Navi Mumbai, on June 5, 2020.

Certificate of Honour for attending Self Sufficient Agriculture Webinar at Growing Seed on May 30-31, 2020.

Participated in the National Level E-Workshop on Administering Google forms and its add-on’s for online academic programmes, conducted by MV Muthaiah Govt. Arts College for Women, Dindigul on June 29, 2020.

Participated in the online ‘COVID 19 Awareness Programme’ conducted by IQAC and NSS Units of the Arts and Commerce College, Ashta on June 29, 2020.

Successfully completed the online Quiz on ‘Mini Home A Thon’ conducted by Steam Troops on March 8, 2021.

Suravee Nayak

Participated and presented a paper titled ‘Coal Mining induced Dispossession: An Enquiry into the ‘Classes of Labour’ in Talcher Coalfields of Odisha” at the Journal of Peasant Studies 2nd Writeshop-Workshop in Critical Agrarian Studies and Scholar-Activism 2020 held virtually during July-November 2020 in five waves.

Presented a paper titled ‘From Productive to Speculative: Changing Materiality of Land and Identity Formation in a Coal bearing region of Eastern India,’ at Virtual Conference on Understanding Land: Configuring Spaces, Making Identities organized by Department of History, Shiv Nadar University, from January 29-31, 2021.

Presented a paper titled ‘Fragmentation of Labour and Collective Action: The Production of Capitalist Space in the coalfields of Eastern India,’ at Virtual Workshop on Industrial



Labour and Uneven Development organised by Universität Hamburg and Martin-Luther-Universität Halle Wittenberg, from March 24-26, 2021.

(D) SERVICES TO ACADEMIC COMMUNITY

(a) REPRESENTATION IN COMMITTEES/TASK FORCES/ADVISORY BODIES

MEMBER OF COMMITTEES

Beena P.L

- Member of Board of Studies, Department of Economic, Mar Ivanios College, Trivandrum.
- Member of GLOBALICS, Kerala Economic Association, Knowledge Forum.

S. Irudaya Rajan

- Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, Kannur University
- Co-chairperson of the Working Group on Non-Resident Keralite Affairs, Government of Kerala 2016-2021.

Jayaseelan Raj

- Member, Technical Advisory Committee, Kerala Institute for Labour and Employment.

Sunil Mani

- Member, Committee to draw up Government of India's Science, Technology and Innovation Policy 2020.
- Chairperson, Thematic Group on Innovation, Department of science and Technology, Government of India, 2020.
- Chairman, Committee to rationalize revenue expenditures, Government of Kerala, 2020.
- Coordinator, Summer School on Development Economics, International Growth Centre of LSE, University of Oxford and IIM, Shillong.
- Member, International Advisory Committee, Centre for Science, Technology & Innovation Indicators (CeSTII), Human Sciences Research Council, Republic of South Africa.
- Member, Governing Board, International Centre for Free and Open Source Software.
- Member, Academic Council, Jawaharlal Nehru University
- Member, Court, Jawaharlal Nehru University



- Participated as a member in the project meet on 'IPR system and Technology Catching-up: comparative analysis of China, India and Thailand', University of Tokyo on August 21, October 9, November 13 and December 11, 2020
- Participated as Vice Chair in the 8th Advisory Committee Meeting of Centre for Science,
- Technology and Innovation Indicators, HSRC, South Africa, November 30, 2020.
- Participated as a member of the Research Committee of Institute of Public Enterprise, Hyderabad, August 6, 2020.
- Chaired a committee to rationalize revenue expenditure, Government of Kerala (May- August 2020)
- Chaired the thematic group on 'Innovation' for drafting the Science, Technology and Innovation Policy 2020 of Government of India, Department of Science Technology (DST), Government of India (January through July 2020)
- Member, Final Drafting Committee, for drafting the Science, Technology and Innovation Policy 2020 of Government of India, Department of Science Technology (DST), Government of India (August through September 2020)
- Did a report evaluating the functioning of the Rubber Board (2010-11 through 2019-20), October- November 2020

Udaya Shankar Mishra

Member Scientific Committee of the UDAYA research project, Population Council India

Vinoj Abraham

- Member, Executive Committee of the Indian Society of Labour Economics, 2020-21
- Member, Board of Studies, Banaras Hindu University, Banaras 2020-21
- Member, Board of Studies, Rajiv Gandhi National Institute for Youth Development, Chennai 2020-21
- Member, Board of Studies, , Calicut University, Calicut, Kerala, 2020 -21
- Member, RAC committee for PhD students, , Kannur University, Kerala, 2020-21
- Member, Board of Studies, Demography Department, Kerala University, Kerala, 2020-21
- Member, Board of Studies, MG University, Kerala 2020-21
- Member, Technical Advisory Committee- Project on Post Covid Employment Situation in Kerala- Kerala Institute for Labour and Employment, Thiruvananthapuram.



TEACHING, CO-ORDINATING, TRAINING PROGRAMMES AT CDS/ EXTERNAL TEACHING

Abhilash T

- Presented a webinar on ‘Covid 19 and Scheduled Tribes in Kerala: Policies and Responses,’ at Webinar at CDS on December 18, 2020.

Beena P.L

- Jointly coordinated the conference on “Kerala and the World Economy” along with Dr. ThiaguRanganathan held during February 3-4 ,2021, sponsored by the Research Unit on International Migration Unit, CDS.
- Screened and shortlisted abstracts for the conference on *Kerala and the World Economy* (45 abstracts received and 26 accepted, 18 presented).
- Chaired a Session “International trade under WTO regime and Livelihood issues in Kerala”.

Seminar Presented at CDS:

- Presented an open seminar on ‘IPR Regime and Antitrust Implications of Mergers and Acquisitions: Evidence from the Indian Corporate sector,’ at the Open seminar series, CDS on November, 9, 2020.
- Presented a paper ‘Structure, Direction and Export Contribution of Kerala State: With Special Reference to Cochin Special Economic Zone in a Conference on Kerala and the World Economy,’ at a seminar held at CDS on February 3-4, 2020.
- Presented a paper ‘What Atma-Nirbar Bharat means for the Indian Industry,’ in “Stimulus Package in five Installments: Does it make the Economy more Self –Reliant”, Commentary on India’s Economy And Society, No.15, 2020.

Seminar Participated at CDS

- Participated in many seminars by faculty and students, Participated in special lectures, invited lectures and symposium organized by CDS and Chaired a webinar by Prof. Keshab Das, January 22, 2021.

Chidambaran G Iyer

- Webinar on 'Entrepreneurship and Innovation Systems: Two Indian Case Studies' on September 18, 2020.
- Webinar on 'Industrialization for Jobs and Growth: A case study of cellular mobile phone manufacturers in India' on November 24, 2020.
- Taught 2 sessions in Microeconomics and 2 sessions in Econometrics in the Teaching Innovations Programme in Economics held in February 2021.



Chandril Bhattacharyya

- Taught 4 classes in TIPE programme.

Hrushikesh Mallick

- Delivered a lecture on 'CAD in South Asian Region and Application of Panel Methods' in the TIPE programme held at CDS on February 24, 2021.

S. Irudaya Rajan

- Delivered three lectures for the Indian Statistical Service (ISS) 42nd batch probationary training on Population and Migration Statistics in India organised by the National Statistical Systems Training Academy (NSSTA) on October 5, 2020.
- Conducted Ph.D Viva for Arpita Paul on the dissertation, 'Inter-Linkages between Labour Force participation, health and health care needs of the elderly in Rural West Bengal,' organised by the International Institute for Population Sciences, Mumbai, on December 21, 2020.
- Delivered invited lecture at Department of Geography, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, on 19th March 19, 2021 and spoke on Covid-led migrant crisis.
- Delivered a lecture on Migrant Labourers and Politics in India organised by the Department of Politics and Public Administration, Madras University, on March 23, 2021.

Jayaseelan Raj

- Presented a webinar on, 'The Morality of Abandonment and the Production of Plantation Order in India,' held on August 7, 2020.
- Delivered a lecture on 'Ethnography for Economists,' for the participants of the TIPE Programme held at the CDS in February, 2021.

M. Parameswaran

- Participated in a webinar on 'Economic Growth with Self-Reliance in India: Does the Stimulus Package Enhance It?' on May 27, 2020.
- Gave a lecture on 'Indian Economic Growth,' to TIPE Programme on February 22, 2021.

Ritika Jain

- Took a session on Applied Econometrics in Research Methodology course in February 2021.
- Presented a seminar on 'Impact of COVID-19 lockdown on profitability of firms in India,' in September 2020 (webinar).

**Srikanta Kundu**

- Delivered Five lectures on ‘Econometrics Theory and Application’ in the Teaching Innovations Programme in Economics (TIPE) in CDS held in February, 2021.

Sunil Mani

- Presented a lecture on ‘Understanding India’s Balance of Payment,’ in the Teaching Innovations Programme in Economics (TIPE) at CDS on February 24, 2021.
- Presented a lecture on “Innovation” on the annual discussion on 'Economic Survey and Union Budget' at CDS on February 26, 2021.
- Organised 22 lectures under the 50th Foundation Year Celebrations of CDS.
- Organised 4 Memorial Lectures.

Thiagu Ranganathan

- Taught the Course “Managerial Economics” to Executive PGP batch at IIM Kozhikode.
- Gave a Seminar- Discussion on Economic Survey 2021
- Delivered a Seminar – Affirmative Action for OBCs and Impact on Jobs
- Gave Webinar – Morality and Game Theory
- Taught ‘Game Theory and Decisions under Risk,’ at the Teaching Innovations Programme in Economics (TIPE) at CDS in February 2021.

Tirtha Chatterjee

- Took a session on “Agricultural Issues in India” in Research Methodology course in February 2021.
- Presented a seminar on “Did Reservation in Higher Education Change the Prospects for OBCs in Getting Better Jobs? A Study Using Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) in India” (webinar)
- Presented “Agriculture and Food Management” as part of economic survey discussion series (webinar) held on 26 February, 2021.
- Presented “Agricultural Farm Acts 2020” (webinar) held on 13 November, 2020.

Udaya Shankar Mishra

- Served as a resource person and conducted two sessions in a course on research methodology for the doctoral students at SPISER, Ahmedabad during December 15-17, 2020.



Vinoj Abraham

- Online lecture on ‘Rights Based Approach To Development: The Case Of Labour And Employment in Kerala’ hosted by RULSG, CDS, Thiruvananthapuram on July 24, 2020.
- The Pandemic and the Plantations: Performance of the Plantations during the Covid-19 Pandemic, National Research Programme on Plantation Development (NRPPD), June 12th 2020, *CDS Commentary Series* (With MitheshMadhavan).
- ‘Political Economy of Government Responses to COVID-19,’ open webinar at CDS, on August 2nd 2020 (With ManikantaNataraj).

(B) OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RENDERED

J. Devika

- Member, Editorial Board, Indian Journal of Gender Studies
- Member, Editorial Board, Review of Development and Change.
- Member, Editorial Board, Critical Perspectives in South Asian History [Book series], Bloomsbury Publications.

P.L. Beena

- Referee of research paper, Loyola Journal of Social Sciences.
- The referee of a research paper, Innovation and Development, Routledge.
- The referee of a book manuscript, Routledge.

S. Irudaya Rajan

- Member, Editorial Board, Refugee Survey Quarterly (Oxford)
- Founding Editor-in-Chief, Migration and Development (Taylor and Francis)
- Series Editor, India Migration Report, Routledge since 2010.
- Series Editor, South Asia Migration Report, Routledge, since 2017.

Hrushikesh Mallick

- Editorial Review Board member in “Social Work and Social Welfare”
<https://www.syncsci.com/journal/SWSW/about>
- Editorial Review Board member “Amity Journal of Economics (AJECO)”, Amity Directorate of Management & Allied Areas (ADMAA), Amity University, Sector-125, Noida, U.P. (India) – 201301. <https://www.amity.edu/admaa/ajeco/board-review.aspx>
- Reviewer’s Board for the Athens *Journal of Business & Economics*, Athens Institute for Education & Research (A world association of Academics and Researchers)
[HTTPS://WWW.ATHENSJOURNALS.GR/AJBERB](https://www.athensjournals.gr/AJBERB)



M. Parameswaran

- Reviewed a paper titled 'Evaluating South Asian Economic and Social Success' for South Asia Economic Journal on July 09, 2020.
- Reviewed a paper titled 'Financial Development and Industrial Growth: Role of Bank Finance and Equity Finance in India,' for Indian Economic Review on July 09, 2020.
- Reviewed a paper titled 'Imported Inputs, Firm Capabilities and Productivity' for Journal of South Asian Development on July 14, 2020.

Sunil Mani

- Member, Editorial Advisory Board, Research Policy (Elsevier)
- Member, Editorial Board, Structural Change and Economic Dynamics (Elsevier)
- Member, Editorial Board, International Journal of Technology and Globalization (Inderscience)
- Member, Editorial Board, International Journal of Technological Learning, Innovation and Development (Inderscience)
- External Referee to: Structural Change and Economic Dynamics, Cambridge University Press, Springer Nature, Routledge, Oxford

Udaya S. Mishra

- Co-edited a Special Issue on 'COVID-19 Pandemic: The Indian and the Odisha Experience' for the *Orissa Economic Journal* (Co-editor Prof Pulin B. Nayak)

Vinoj Abraham

- Thesis evaluation committee for IIM Calcutta
- Editorial Advisory Board of *Indian Journal of Human Development*

(C) HOST TO WALK WITH SCHOLAR PROGRAMME

Walk with a Scholar (WWS) scheme proposes to arrange specialized mentoring programmes for students in Under Graduate Programmes in Arts, Science and Commerce and to provide guidance for their future. The scheme introduces the idea of mentoring and builds on the concept of a mentor as a 'Guide' and 'Friend'.

The mentoring scheme will be open for all students entering the first year of the Under Graduate Programme of Study. It aims at giving necessary orientation to needy students, to



prepare them for employment and give them necessary guidance, motivation and necessary mental support to identify appropriate areas for higher study as well as employment.

The mentoring scheme should be planned to identify the opportunities available for the scholars, the areas suitable for them, the manner in which the scholar should proceed before them and evolve ways by which they can be acquired. However, this year due to the pandemic situation it was not possible for students to visit the CDS under the WWS programme.

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

NehaBetail, M A student (2017-19) batch secured a PhD position in Economics at three top universities in the USA, George Washington, Georgia Tech and SUNY Buffalo. She has chosen George Washington. Neha was the topper in her batch securing the Joan Robinson Prize.

CDS has been ranked first in terms of publications among research institutes of the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR).

Professor S. IrudayaRajan, Professor U.S. Mishra, and Professor Sunil Mani, Director CDS have made it to the top 10 at the national level in terms of publications and citations. CDS topped the 2011-2020 list with 430 publications and 1,422 citations. In terms of number of publications, Prof. S. IrudayaRajan, migration studies, topped the list of ICSSR authors with 99 publications and 173 citations. Prof. US Mishra, who focuses on the economics of health, and Prof. Mani, who focuses on the economics of technology and innovation, also figured in the top 10.

4

TEACHING AND TRAINING PROGRAMMES

(a) DOCTORAL PROGRAMME IN ECONOMICS

The Doctoral Programme at Centre allows scholars to register under either JNU or the University of Kerala. Of the 225 scholars who were admitted during 1975-2020, 98 scholars have been awarded PhD Degree: 89 from JNU and 9 from KU. 4 theses are under evaluation at JNU; 1 is waiting for PhD Award Notification after the viva voce examination. 40 scholars are now in campus. 37 scholars have De-Registered from the programme for employment, etc., 8 scholars have Re-Registered for submission of their thesis and 37 scholars discontinued from the programme to join elsewhere.

Overview of the Year

2020 admission:

Integrated MPhil/PhD: In 2014 CDS introduced an Integrated MPhil/PhD programme along the lines of the regulations of Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi as we are affiliated to JNU for the conformant of our Degrees. Twelve candidates were admitted in 2018 for the Integrated MPhil/PhD programme. Five out of twelve students submitted their MPhil dissertation. They are automatically eligible for admission to PhD programme (Provisional) in 2020, as per JNU regulations. Four students joined the PhD programme; one student discontinued from the programme.

Direct PhD: Eleven students joined the PhD Programme on January 04, 2021.

As on 31 March, 2021, four theses are under evaluation at JNU:

- *Farm Household in India; Acquisition and Use of Information*

Aritri Chakravarty, 2008-, ICSSR

Supervisors: Srikanta Kundu & Manmohan Lal Agarwal

- *Activity-participation of the Elderly in Kerala: Determinants and Contributions*

Arya U. R. 2016-, UGC-JRF

Supervisor: S. Irudaya Rajan



- *Innovation in the Informal Sector: Evidence from Urban Manufacturing Enterprises in India*

K. Chandra Shekar, 2015-, ICSSR

Supervisors: K. J. Joseph & P. L. Beena

- *Educational Outcome of the Tribal Children in Odisha*

Susama Hansdah, 2015-, ICSSR

Supervisors: Udaya Sankar Mishra & Chinnappan Gasper

The following scholars have been **awarded PhD degree** by JNU since the last reporting year.

Growth of Multinational Corporations in India: An Analysis of Government Policies and Performance.

Anurag Anand, 2014- ICSSR

Supervisor: Sunil Mani

The thesis examines the growth of multinational corporations in terms of their foreign shares in different Indian industries. It starts by analyzing the changing nature of government policies with respect to FDI. As a result of these policies, not only did the nature and ownership advantages change but the presence of MNCs in various industries also underwent several changes. Specifically, the thesis examines the growing importance of MNCs in India's individual manufacturing industries and identified three different patterns of MNCs share. First, industries having higher share of MNCs during the sixties and seventies, are now dominated by the domestic companies. For example, the Pharmaceutical Industry. Second, are those industries that began with domestic companies, but are now increasingly dominated by foreign MNCs. For example, the Motor Vehicles Industry. In between two extreme cases, the third dominant pattern of MNCs clearly visible in India is the IT services industry. The industry was dominated by few foreign MNCs during the 1950s through early 1960s. During the mid-1970s, with government intervention, indigenous companies started making a presence in the market and dominated the industry for some time. Again, at present, the Indian IT services industry is largely dominated by foreign MNCs.

Further, the thesis empirically examined the technology and export performance of MNCs by using firm-level data on R&D expenditure and exports in case of Indian pharmaceutical industry. It also compares the technology performance of domestic companies with foreign MNCs. Analysis using firm-level panel data from Prowess IQ reveals that all technology and export variables has positive and significant sign on R&D intensity of Indian pharma industry. It is also observed that MNCs are keen to import from abroad and market these in India along with spending in R&D. The results found that the introduction of product patent Act in 2005 motivated domestic pharmaceutical companies to develop their technology base and increase R&D.

In the analysis of MNC's affiliation and their export performance in Indian motor vehicles industry, the study uses firm-level panel data from CMIE Prowess IQ for both exporting and non-exporting companies. Exporting behaviour of the firm follow two main aspects, first; decision to export, second; intensity or amount of exports. The results of Double Specification model shows that there are differences in the determinants to decide the probability to exports and export intensity. The results suggests that to promote exports in



the Indian motor vehicles industry, firm-level and industry-level factors are very important. The role of government is also essential to improve the international competitiveness of domestic companies.

In the case of the Indian IT services industry, patent data have been used to see the growing importance of foreign MNCs in India. The patent data belongs to the number of patents granted to the Indian affiliates of foreign firms in the IT industry at USPTO for a time period of six years from 2013 to 2018. The sample of the study covers 36 U.S. originated companies and 13 non-U.S. originated companies. The main purpose of this chapter is to measure the technological activities of the Indian IT industry by considering the patent granted data and First Name Inventor (IN) data. Considering the existence of all big MNCs, it reflects that the country is becoming an essential spot for technological activities as they are filing patents from their Indian affiliates. Results also found that Bangalore has become one of the most chosen destinations for foreign MNCs.

- *Law, Social Norms and Contracts: A Few Essays*

Indervir Singh, 2008

Supervisors: N. Vijayamohanan Pillai & V. Santhakumar

The aim of the present study is to understand the role of public-order (law) and private-order institutions (such as social norms and reputation) in the decision of a party to enter into a contract and its enforcement. The study has two parts. The first part focuses on the efficiency implications of the legal rules and analyses the breach remedies provided under the Indian contract law. The second part is based on the empirical investigation of contractual relations in informal credit markets of Punjab. The empirical investigation is based on the study of credit contracts between commission agents and farmers. The study examines the strategies used by the commission agents to solve the problem of imperfect information and contract enforcement in informal credit markets of Punjab and the role of law, social norms, reputation and other alternatives in it.

The study based on the existing law and economics literature analyses the breach remedies provided under the Indian Contract Act, 1872 (ICA) and Specific Relief Act, 1963 (SRA). The Indian contract law has many similarities with the English law and is based on the principle of compensating the innocent party for his foreseeable loss. The study argues that the breach remedies provided under ICA and SRA are efficient. However, some provisions of penalty clause can be easily avoided just by changing the language. For example, as per Section 74 of ICA, a lender, in the case of default, may ask for a higher rate of interest from the date of default but not from the date of the contract. A lender can easily avoid this provision by writing a contract that charges a high rate of interest but provides a concession if the debt is paid in time (which is allowed under the law). A better-informed party can use these provisions to his benefit. It will be better to remove such provisions so that no party can take undue advantage of them. In addition, the study finds out that one of the clauses of ICA may be inefficient. Section 63 of ICA allows the promise to waive off wholly or in part the performance of promise made to him. It is argued that the defaulting party may use this clause to compel the plaintiff to accept lesser consideration if he has to bear indirect loss due to breach.

The study, in the second part, examines the contractual relations between farmers and commission agents in rural informal credit markets of Punjab. The commission agents,



commonly known as *arthia*, are the middlemen who facilitate the sale of farmers' crops to government agencies or private parties. They are also the main sources of credit to farmers in the state of Punjab. Commission agents are not professional money lenders and often do not have licenses to do lending business. Nonetheless, their continuous interaction with the farmers and possibility of interlinking the markets facilitate the lending business, despite it being illegal in nature. The study is based on the findings of a primary survey of 120 commission agents from four randomly selected blocks.

Imperfect information is a major problem in the credit markets. Studies have pointed out that a successful lender must be able to screen (to avert adverse selection) and monitor (to avoid moral hazard problem) borrowers at low cost. If a default happens, the lender must be able to enforce the contract at a low cost. The present study analyses the use of law, social norms and reputation by the commission agents for their strategies to screen and monitor the farmers and enforce the contracts.

The results show that the commission agents invest considerable time and effort to screen the borrowers. The time invested and efforts made in screening are not the same in all the regions. The commission agents from a region with a lesser number of defaults invest lesser time and make fewer efforts to screen the borrowers. Though the legal system is used for enforcement in many cases, the commission agents do not consider it efficient. Social norms and other informal instruments are often preferred institutions to enforce contracts. The effectiveness of social norms and other informal instruments, however, declines with an increase in default rate (number of defaults per firm). The farmer unions, in some cases, are reported to have obstructed contract enforcement and involved in renegotiation of the contracts. It is argued that the use of informal methods of enforcement, which is instigated by inefficient legal enforcement rather than their low cost, may lead to significant inefficiencies.

The study points out that interlinked markets are going to persist and banning them will not improve the situation. The solution to these problems lies in developing a system that compels commission agents to disclose information, lowers the cost of the legal action and supports reputation-based enforcement. Also, arbitration instead of court action can be promoted to lower the transaction cost and provide greater flexibility.

- *International Remittances and its Impact on Human Capital Investments in Tamil Nadu.*

Valatheeswaran C., 2010.—, ICSSR
Supervisor: S. Irudaya Rajan

Tamil Nadu has been experiencing large-scale labour migration abroad over the past two decades. The rise in international migration has contributed to increasing remittance flows into the state. Meanwhile, in recent decades, the state government's inability to invest appropriately in the educational and health sectors has affected infrastructure growth and maintenance, and the quality of services in these sectors. As a result, there is growing dissatisfaction among the public and people responded to this shortfall by turning to the private sector which is running for commercial gain. The higher utilisation of private schools and hospitals raises household expenditure, leading to a high economic burden on households, especially lower and middle-income families.

Despite the fact that Tamil Nadu has achieved significant progress in education, health and remittances receipts, studies have not paid much attention to the responsiveness of human



capital investment to remittance receipts in India. This study attempted to fill this gap with the following objectives: study the magnitude and patterns of international migration and remittances inflows in Tamil Nadu; analyse the use of remittances by receiving households and its effects on household expenditure patterns; examine the impact of remittances receipts on household education expenditure and choice of schooling and, investigate how remittance receipts affect health expenditure and demand for healthcare services. The study used both primary and secondary data sources to fulfil the above-mentioned objectives.

The study observed that, during the late 19th and early 20th centuries, Tamil Nadu had experienced mass migration of labourers to British colonies to work in tea, sugar and rubber plantations. After India's independence, the first wave of skilled labourers from Tamil Nadu moved to the developed countries. In the 1970s, the second wave of migration took place when unskilled and semi-skilled labourers from Tamil Nadu migrated on a large scale to countries in the Middle East to work in the oil, manufacturing, services and construction sectors. The Tamil Nadu Migration Survey 2015 reports that there are 2.2 million labourers from Tamil Nadu working abroad. International migration from Tamil Nadu is largely male-dominated and comprised 85 per cent of the total migration rate. Singapore is the most preferred destination country for Tamil migrants, followed by the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia and the USA. As a result of the high out-migration, the state received an amount of INR 61,843 crore as remittances from abroad in 2015, which constituted nearly 14.5 per cent of net state domestic product in that year.

Remittances are primarily spent on food and for repayment of debts by the receiving households. After these needs are met, households spend remittances on children's education and healthcare services. Female-headed households were found to spend a higher share of their remittances on education than male-headed households. However, both male and female-headed households spent more on boys' education than on girls' education. Across different income groups, the study revealed that lower-income households primarily used remittances for debt repayment, while higher income families reported higher utilisation of remittances for saving/investment purposes. Employing the propensity score matching method, the study found that remittance receipts increase household total expenditure by 33.9 per cent. At the disaggregate level, remittances significantly increase household expenditure on durable goods, healthcare and education. Remittances are more likely to increase educational expenditure in female-headed households compared to male-headed households. At the same time, remittances are more likely to increase expenditure on durable goods in male-headed households.

With reference to children's schooling, this study shows that the proportion of children enrolled in private schools increased from 6.7 per cent in 1995-96 to 31.6 per cent in 2014. Private school enrolment is higher in urban areas among boys and children belonging to higher income households, and general category and male-headed households. At the different educational levels, children's private school enrolment is higher at the primary education level compared to other education levels. In terms of out-of-pocket education expenditure, this study found a huge difference between government and private schools. Across genders, educational expenditure seems to be higher for boys at the primary and upper-primary level, while, at the secondary and higher secondary level, it is found to be higher for females, which indicates that parents' prejudice against girls decline when girls attain higher education. Using primary data and employing the instrumental variable approach, this study found that remittances receipts have a positive and significant impact on education expenditure and children's private school enrolment. After disaggregating the



sample into different heterogeneous groups, the study found that remittances have a greater effect on boys, children belonging to socially advantaged groups, and in urban areas.

Regarding the issue of health expenditure and demand for healthcare services, it was observed that the proportion of persons hospitalised significantly increased from 3.6 per cent in 2004 to 5.8 per cent in 2014. A higher incidence of hospitalisation cases observed among females and children belonging to the general category, and in urban areas. Non-communicable diseases accounted for 41.4 per cent of hospitalisation cases in 2014, while communicable diseases account for 28.6 per cent for these cases that year. During the past two decades, private hospitals dominated in treating inpatients both in rural and urban areas. However, in the rural areas, the utilisation of private hospitals declined from 59.2 per cent in 2004 to 53.6 per cent in 2014, while, in urban areas, the corresponding figure has increased from 62.8 per cent to 67.2 per cent during the same period. The study also found gender discrimination against females in terms of access to private hospitals. Moreover, the disparity in utilising private hospitals across social groups was found to have widened over the study period, with persons in the SC/ST category utilising government hospitals to a greater extent than those in the OBC and general category. The out-of-pocket health expenditure seems to be 10 times higher for private hospitals compared to government hospitals. Further, using primary data and employing the instrumental variable approach, this study found that remittances receipts have a positive and significant impact on health expenditure and access to private hospitals. At the disaggregate level, females and persons belonging to the SC/ST category were found to be less likely to use private hospitals compared to their counterparts when they receive remittances. On the whole, this study supports the optimistic view that remittances help to increase the level of investment in human and physical capital in remittance-receiving countries.

- *Gender, Education and Employment: Decision Making Processes and Labour Markets Outcomes of Higher Educated Women in Kerala*

Alice Sebastian, 2005– ICSSR

Supervisor: Praveena Kodoth

In the context of the declining trend in female labour force participation, especially among the educated, this study examines higher educated women's work seeking behaviour and labour market outcomes in Kerala. The study first analysed secondary data on Employment and Unemployment from NSSO between 1993-94 and 2011-12 to understand the trends, patterns and determinants of higher educated women's work participation in Kerala. It found a trend of falling work participation and rising enumeration of higher educated women in the state in domestic duties. The analysis also showed increasing gender segregation of occupations over time. The heavy concentration of women in a narrow range of occupations indicates a skewed job preference which creates an excess supply of educated women in certain segments of the labour market. This could have other consequences by way of depressing wages in 'female occupations' and creating conditions that could discourage women from seeking work and pushing them out of the labour market.

Using logistic regression analysis the study empirically estimates the determinants of work participation of higher educated women with NSS data for 2011-12. The results showed that contrary to expectations arising from the general pattern of women's work participation, among higher educated women, those from poorer households were the least likely to be employed and women from the most affluent households were the most likely to be employed. This suggests that higher education has a differential impact on women's



employment possibilities according to economic status. Age shows a non-linear relationship with women's work participation as women move across different activity statuses over the life cycle. Significantly, marriage and child care emerged as major constraints that prevented young educated women from entering the labour force or remaining in the labour force.

To explain the patterns and determinants of women's labour force participation in terms of the underlying processes and negotiations within households and at the intersection of households and labour markets, a primary survey was undertaken in an urban and a rural ward of Ernakulum district, which has the highest proportion of higher educated women in the State. As the study generated data related to the achieved work/employment trajectories of women, a life course approach was found to be most appropriate to understand women's work seeking behaviour. The study identified three typical pathways in women's employment experience: continuous employment pathway, interrupted employment pathway and continuous domestic work pathway. The study then explored employment/work trajectories of women to understand what enabled or constrained them into following one or other employment pathway.

It became apparent from the analysis of women's testimonies that social structures combine with individual agency (which are produced within these structures and in association with them) to shape the labour market outcomes of women and gives rise to employment pathways. Women who had continuous work history came from more privileged social and economic backgrounds suggesting that initial advantages accumulate to benefit a section of women. Majority of higher educated women in the primary survey earned relatively low wages which contributed to their withdrawal from the labour force upon marriage or childbirth and also created difficulties for re-entry. Among individual factors, the type of education and the levels of aspiration of women too shaped their employment pathways in significant ways. It is also noted that aspiration levels changed over time with life circumstances either encouraging or suppressing women's desires to work.

The results of the primary survey indicate that women's withdrawal from the work force was mostly due to life cycle events like marriage and child care unlike what is suggested as a discouraged worker effect. Many of them aspire to return to the labour market once their full-time child care responsibility is over. Thus there is a need to take note of the systematic pattern of withdrawal of women from the labour force which may indicate a process of transition in the context of the expanding base of higher educated women in the state and the unchanged nature of their responsibility for reproductive work.

There were some indications that social norms may be shifting gradually in favour of women's participation in paid work in the higher educated segment in Kerala. The stigma attached to women working outside the home may be slowly being replaced with a social expectation on educated women to work. This expectation may encourage and/or push women increasingly to seek work outside home. This may be facilitating higher labour force participation among educated women. With the increasing base of higher educated women and in the absence of adequate employment opportunities as well as strong gendered expectations concerning women's reproductive responsibilities, however, women may be confined to select forms of occupations that are marked by relatively low pay. It was possible to observe a kind of constrained optimisation by women leading to ghettoisation of women in 'female occupations' unless better opportunities are made available and accompanied by initiatives designed to alter the division of labour within the household.



Current Studies

1. *Land Alienation and Tribal Labour in Rourkela, Odisha*
John Kujur, 2017- NFH Fellowship
Supervisors: S. Irudaya Rajan
2. *An Assessment of Energy Poverty in India: Dimension and Correlates*
Krishan, 2017- UGC Fellowship
Supervisors: U. S. Mishra & Hrushikesh Mallick
3. *Social Exclusion and its Impact among the Older Persons: Experiences from Tamil Nadu*
Maheshkumar T., 2017- ICSSR Fellowship
Supervisors: S. Irudaya Rajan & T. Abhilash
4. *Understanding the Nature and Performance of Enterprises Owned by Marginalized Social Groups in India*
Rajesh I. D. 2017- GoK Fellowship
Supervisor: P. L. Beena
5. *Locating Disability in Indian Households: Nature, Costs and Coping Mechanisms*
Sachu R. Sunny, 2017- UGC Fellowship
Supervisor: U. S. Mishra
6. *Market Structure and Technological Changes in India's Fertilizer Manufacturing Industry*
Ajil M., 2018- UGC Fellowship
Supervisors: Sunil Mani & M. Parameswaran
7. *Direct Corporate Taxation and its Effects on Financial Behaviour of Indian Firms after the Macroeconomic Reform of 1991.*
Amit Nandan, 2018- UGC Fellowship
Supervisor: Hrushikesh Mallick
8. *Social Fragmentation and Development Disparity in India*
Cyril Jos Nazhicheril, 2018- UGC Fellowship
Supervisor: U. S. Mishra
9. *Low-Carbon Energy Industries in India – A Study of Solar Photovoltaics and Wind Turbine Manufacturing Industries*
Ladenla Lama, 2018- NFST
Supervisors: Hrushikesh Mallik & K. J. Joseph
10. *Analysing Public Private Partnerships in Indian Infrastructure Sector*
Papaiah Koppula, 2018- ICSSR Fellowship
Supervisors: Vinoj Abraham & Ritika Jain
11. *Environmental Sustainability in India's Manufacturing Sector: An Analysis of Firm Strategy and Impact*
Parijata Pradhan, 2018- UGC Fellowship
Supervisors: K. J. Joseph & Hrushikesh Mallik



12. *Broadband Diffusion and the Emergence and Growth of Platform Economy in India*
Rajkumar Byahut, 2018- UGC Fellowship
 Supervisor: Sunil Mani
13. *Uncertainty and Economic Activity: A Study of Indian Industry*
Sandeep Pandey, 2018- ICSSR Fellowship
 Supervisors: M. Parameswaran & Srikanta Kundu
14. *Changing Dynamics of Education, Skills and Employment: Evidence from India*
Shilpa Krishnan, 2018- UGC Fellowship
 Supervisor: U.S. Mishra
15. *Credit Availability and the Performance of MSME Enterprises in India*
Vidyarani K., 2018- ICSSR Fellowship
 Supervisor: Hrushikesh Mallick
16. *Crop Insurance and Farmer's Behaviour*
Binod Kumar Behera., 2019 - UGC Fellowship
 Supervisors: Hrushikesh Mallick & Thiagu Ranganathan
17. *Urban Density Skill and Productivity*
Himangshu Kumar, 2019 - UGC Fellowship
 Supervisor: Chidambaran Gurunathan Iyer
18. *Contrasting the Quantum and Quality of Urbanization in India*
Kavya Lekshmi R. S., 2019 - UGC Fellowship
 Supervisors: U.S. Mishra & Vinoj Abraham
19. *Innovative Entrepreneurship in India with a Focus on Kerala-based start-ups: An Empirical Exploration*
Krishnapriya V.S., 2019 - UGC Fellowship
 Supervisors: Sunil Mani & M. Parameswaran
20. *Analysing the Labour Process and the Scope for Social Upgrading in Global Production Network*
Manikantha Nataraj, 2019 - UGC Fellowship
 Supervisor: Vinoj Abraham
21. *Internationalisation of SMEs: Evidence from the Indian Corporate Sector*
Rahees K. A., 2019 - ICSSR Fellowship
 Supervisor: P. L. Beena
22. *Structural Transformation of Indian Economy: Historical and Institutional Perspective*
Sabhavat Prem Kumar, 2019 - UGC Fellowship
 Supervisors: Vinoj Abraham & Thiagu Ranganathan
23. *Disaggregation of Globalization, External Macroeconomic activity and Concentration of Income: An Analysis of Impact and Interlink from the Indian Economy*
Sanjay Kumar Rout, 2019 - UGC Fellowship
 Supervisor: Hrushikesh Mallick



24. *Sector-wise Public Expenditure and Impact on Poverty*
Vaidik Chakraborty, 2019 - UGC Fellowship
Supervisor: Hrushikesh Mallick
25. *Role of Innovation System on Developing Entrepreneurship - A Comparative Study of Different Social Groups*
Vidyanand Thombare, 2019 - UGC Fellowship
Supervisor: P. L. Beena
26. *Women's Work and Agency*
Annesha Mukherjee, 2020 - UGC Fellowship
Supervisors: Praveena Kodoth & Vinoj Abraham
27. *Analysis of Urban Self-Employment in India*
Basit Abdullah, 2020 - MANF
Supervisors: Vinoj Abraham & Ritika Jain

Topics and supervisors of the following students are yet to be decided.

28. **Sabeer V. C., 2020** - UGC Fellowship
Supervisor: M. Parameswaran
29. **Rajalaxmi Singh, 2020** – UGC Fellowship
30. **Amresh Senapati, 2020** – UGC Fellowship
31. **Ashish Biswas, 2020** – UGC Fellowship
32. **Deltta Kurian, 2020** – UGC Fellowship
33. **Devika Dileep Kumar, 2020** – GoK for SC
34. **Gayathri P., 2020** – UGC Fellowship
35. **Himansu Sekhar Thapa, 2020**
36. **Rhythm Sparsh Narayan, 2020** – UGC Fellowship
37. **Shakuntala Ghadai, 2020**
38. **Shonima Nelliath, 2020** – UGC Fellowship
39. **Sita Majhi, 2020** – UGC Fellowship
40. **Srimanjori Guha, 2020** – UGC Fellowship



Re-Registered for Submission

- *Dynamics and Sources of Industrial Output Volatility: Evidence from India.*
Atish Kumar Dash, (2008) – ICSSR
Supervisors: Hrushikesh Mallick & N. Vijayamohanan Pillai
- *Caste Dimensions of Occupational Transformation in India: An Analysis of Individual Castes and Tribes based on Census Data.*
Midhun V. P., (2008) – ICSSR
Supervisors: S. Irudaya Rajan & N. Vijayamohanan Pillai
- *Challenges and Prospects of Tourism as a Developmental Option: The Experience of Kerala.*
Nalini Netto, (2001) – Govt. of Kerala
Supervisors: Vinoj Abraham & Amit S. Ray
- *Finance and Development: Examining Financial Inclusion in Terms of Dimensions and Determinants.*
Sandhya M. Das, (2010) – ICSSR
Supervisors: U. S. Mishra & N. Vijayamohanan Pillai
- *Inequality Pro-poor Growth and Development: The Indian Experience.*
Amartya Paul, (2015) – ICSSR
Supervisors: Srikanta Kundu & N. Vijayamohanan Pillai
- *The Agrarian Question and the Transition of Rural Labour in India.*
Yadu C. R. (2014) – ICSSR
Supervisor: Vinoj Abraham
- *Dispossession, Labour Process and Production of Space: A Study of Coal Mines in Talcher, Odisha*
Suravee Nayak (2016) – UGC RGNF
Supervisors: Vinoj Abraham & K. N. Harilal
- *Grounded Globalisations and Shaping of the Local: A Political Ecology of Kerala's Midlands and Highlands*
Mijo P. Luke (2016) – MANF
Supervisor: J. Devika

PhD Internship Abroad Programme (PIA)

To bring about more international exposure to research students, the PhD Internship Abroad (PIA) programme was launched in 2016-17. This enables PhD scholars to spend time in research work at an institute of repute in any part of the world. Due to COVID-19 pandemic, this year's PIA programme had to be suspended till further notice.



(b) MPhil PROGRAMME IN APPLIED ECONOMICS

The CDS has been offering its MPhil Programme in Applied Economics from 1975. This 4-semester Programme is affiliated to the Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi and allows students with a Master's degree in any discipline. The focus on applied economics from a plural perspective and adaptation of effective learning tools adds to the uniqueness of the programme which has attracted nation-wide attention. 503 students from the 45 batches till 2019–21 have been awarded the MPhil Degree. The submitted dissertation details of the 44th batch (2018 admission) are listed at the end of this section.

Five students out of twelve of the 2018 batch submitted their dissertations and four of them have joined the PhD programme at CDS. Mr. Satyaki Dasgupta left CDS after submitting MPhil thesis. He is pursuing higher studies abroad.

As per JNU circular No. Eval II/10/AC/2020 dated 24th July 2020, all registered M. Phil students who were to submit dissertations on or before 30th June 2020, but could not submit due to lockdown were granted an extension up to 31st December 2020 to submit their dissertation.

In pursuance of UGC Public Notice No. F.1-10/2020(CPP-II) dated 16th March 2021 and in continuation of JNU Circular No. Eval II/10/AC/2020, dated 10th December 2020, a further extension of six months beyond 30.06.2021, i.e., till 31st December 2021 has been granted for submission of thesis by terminal MPhil/PhD students.

2019-21 batch of terminal MPhil students are in the preparation of thesis submission.

DISSERTATIONS of MPhil Programme 2018-20

Revisiting Urbanisation in India: Examining Mobility and Quality across size Classes.

Annesha Mukherjee

Supervisor: M. Parameswaran

An Analysis of Labour Market and Unemployment among Youth in India.

Basit Abdullah

Supervisors: Vinoj Abraham & Ritika Jain

Understanding the Financial Inclusion in India: A Micro Level Analysis.

Rajalaxmi Singh

Supervisor: Hrushikesh Mallick

Deglobalisation at Global and Revival of Non-Market Reliance at Local: A Regional Perspective from Kerala in the Context of Return Emigration.

Sabeer V.C.

Supervisor: S. Irudaya Rajan

Labour Market Fragmentation and Surplus Extraction: The Indian Case

Satyaki Dasgupta

Supervisors: Vinoj Abraham & U. S. Mishra



(c) M.A. IN APPLIED ECONOMICS

MA (Applied Economics) in CDS is a unique master's programme in economics that aims at providing rigorous training in theory, tools and methods for applied economic analysis, with a special focus on issues of economic development. The degree is awarded by Jawaharlal Nehru University (New Delhi).

2020 MA Admission

For students from India:

In view of Covid-19, admission process of the 2020 MA programme consisted of two stages.

1. In the first stage, candidates were short listed for an online interview on the basis of their weighted-aggregate of marks (in percentage) in Plus two and Bachelor's degree.
 2. The shortlisted candidates were called for an online interview and final selection was done solely on the basis of the interview.
- 861 Applications were received. 200 candidates were shortlisted for online interview.
 - 26 candidates were selected for 2020 MA admission. Finally, 23 (Students from India) candidates joined the programme.

For Students from SAARC Countries

Two applications from SAARC countries were received for MA Applied Economics Programme. One from Bhutan, and the other from Afghanistan. The Committee interviewed both candidates from SAARC countries. The interview comprised questions on previous academic background, motivation for study at CDS, understanding of the subject and their ability and willingness to adjust to the environment at CDS. On the basis of the interview, the committee unanimously recommended Mr. Abdul Samad Majidi from Afghanistan and Mr. Yeshe Wangchuk from Bhutan for admission and scholarship. Both of them joined the MA Programme.

2018 Batch

Final results announced and Award Notification received from JNU.

2019 Batch

The End Semester Examinations (4th semester) was scheduled to begin on April 26, 2021. Due to prevailing situation of pandemic, this is further postponed by two weeks.



The Project topics of 16 students are given below:
MA PROGRAMME- 2019 Batch
AE 208- Project

Sl No.	Name	Tentative Project Title	Name of Mentors
1.	Albert Abraham	Industrial Organisation Issues Associated with Development of Treatments in short term horizons	Dr.Ritika Jain
2.	Aparna G.	The role of institutions in influencing MSME performance	Dr.Ritika Jain
3	Arghyadip Gupta	Behavioural Economics and Portfolio Management	Dr.Thiagu Ranganathan
4.	Divya Johnson	Impact of Nutritional and Epidemiological Transition on Kerala's Demography	Prof. S. Irudaya Rajan
5.	Gunjan Arora	Have FTAs/RTAs helped developing countries: Evidence from India's Electronics Industry	Dr. M. Parameswaran
6.	Hisham Ali Ashraf K.T.	The role of Economic Instruments in Environmental Governance	Dr. Chandril Bhattacharya
7.	Kalpita Sharma	Information Uncertainty and Pricing of Liquidity (Financial Economics)	Dr.Srikanta Kundu
8.	Mangal Kumar Sharma	Effects of setting a minimum requirement for school education	Prof. U. S. Mishra.
9.	Moniraj Ghallay	Regression Analysis of National Income and Expenditure of Bhutan (1985-2020)	Dr. Hrushikesh Mallick
10 .	Neil Jacob Oommen	Factors affecting Indian exports in particular industry OR Empirical Analysis of the pollution haven hypothesis in India (Environment and Trade).	Dr. Hrushikesh Mallick
11 .	Niranjana C.P.	Application of Insights from Behavioural Economics in the Covid 19 Mitigation Policy	Dr.Thiagu Ranganathan
12 .	Rohit James Joseph	The Perils of Purification: A Synthetic Control Analysis of Civil Militias in India's 'Red Corridor'	Dr.Jayaseelan Raj
13 .	Rucha Niranjan Takle	Intra-Industry Trade and its Impact on Climate Change	Dr.Rajit Biswas
14 .	Sushil Kumar Modi	Financial Economics	Dr.Srikanta Kundu
15	Tejesh Mukherjee	Incomplete Contracts and Trade	Dr.Rajit Biswas
16	Uddesh Khuntia	Gender and Mechanisation	Dr.Tirtha Chatterjee



**Certificate courses at the Centre
(Open only to registered students of CDS)**

July 2020 to May 2021

Sl. No.	Name of Course	Instructor	Course Offered
1	Financial Econometrics	Dr. Srikanta Kundu	MA 2 nd Year
2	Advanced Economic Theory	Dr. Rajit Biswas/ Dr. Chandril Bhattacharyya	MA 1 st Year
3	R. Package	Dr. M. Parameswaran	MA and PhD

**Statement for the MA & PhD Programmes during the period 2020-21
(2020 April - 2021 March)**

Year	Course	Number of students Applied	Number of students admitted	Number of students awarded
2020-21	MA	767	23+2 SAARC	20
	PhD	194	11	-
	Total	961	36	20

(d) SHORT-TERM TRAINING PROGRAMMES

Teaching Innovations Programme for College Teachers in Economics (TIPE)

15February–26 February, 2021

Co-ordinator: P.L Beena

In response to a felt need to improve the quality of economics education primarily at the undergraduate level, a month long training programme, Teaching Innovations Programme for College Teachers in Economics (TIPE), for teachers working in universities and colleges in Kerala was organised by CDS. The programme was organised under the K.N. Raj Training and Fellowship Programme funded by the Government of Kerala.

The current version of the TIPE followed the structure of the earlier version conducted during 2006-11 period. The focus of the course was to strengthen the fundamentals of economics education, by providing intensive week long training on economic theory, econometrics and on selected topics on Indian economy.

The course consisted of taught sessions on specific topics. Four broad topics were covered during the course, Micro Economics, Macro Economics, Econometrics and Issues in Indian Economy. This year the course was offered in the online mode. A total of 37 participants applied for the programme. This year 4 participants from outside Kerala joined the programme for the first time. They were from Puducherry, Coimbatore, Madurai and Sitapur.



The Short-term Norwegian Training Programme

The short-term Norwegian Training Programme held for students from the Department of International Development at the Norwegian University of Life Sciences (NULS) was not possible this year due to the pandemic.

This programme is facilitated as part of a MoU signed between the NULS and CDS. During their stay at the CDS the students are given exposure to Kerala's developmental path, its opportunities and challenges. The course consisted of class room lectures and field visits. Lectures are delivered by CDS faculty and other renowned scholars on Kerala. Field visits are also arranged to the Kudumbasree mission, the Mahatma Gandhi Rural employment scheme and the local self-governments. The foreign students are encouraged to immerse themselves in the community life at CDS and participate in various cultural activities of the Centre.

Pathways of Social Research: A Methodological Training (ICSSR Sponsored Capacity Building Programme for Researchers in Social Science)

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the regular capacity building programme for doctoral candidates of SC/ST and other marginalised groups could not be conducted this year. This programme, funded by ICSSR, will engage with participants and provide them with intensive training on specific basic courses that form the core to teaching applied economics with an extra focus on delivering courses specifically through online mode of teaching. This programme is scheduled to start towards the end of July 2021.

K.N. RAJ FELLOWSHIPS

In order to perpetuate the memory of Professor K.N. Raj, the centre has instituted a K.N. Raj Training and Fellowship Programme which aims to improve the curriculum and teaching of Economics in Colleges and University Departments across India, especially Kerala. This is in response to a felt need to improve the quality of economics education at the undergraduate and graduate level. Towards this goal a week long training programme for college and university teachers preferably working in Kerala is organised at CDS. The programme will also award a fellowship which requires the awardee to spend at least 30 days at CDS for preparing teaching materials and these 30 days may be spread over a period of one year.

The focus of the course would be to strengthen the fundamentals of economics education, by providing intensive week long training on specific basic courses.

A training programme, Teaching Innovations Programme for College Teachers in Economics(TIPE), for teachers working in universities and colleges in Kerala was organised by CDS during 15-26 February, 2021. This year 23 candidates were selected for the training programme.



Fellowship for Promising Teachers (FPT)

Under the Fellowship for Promising Teachers (FPT) programme, best performers in the TIPE can avail a fellowship of Rs 50000, of which Rs 25000 is for purchasing books. The fellowship requires the awardee to spend at least 30 days at CDS for preparing teaching materials and these 30 days may be spread over a period of one year. During the 30 days of visit, the awardee is eligible for rent free accommodation and boarding at CDS guest house/hostel. Further, during the term of the fellowship the awardee will have access to both library and computing resources at CDS and, if she or he so chooses, may be mentored by one of the CDS faculty. Further, subject to availability, the awardees will also be provided with office space. This year 4 candidates were selected for the Fellowship.

ICSSR FELLOWSHIP

Dr. G. Murugan, a recipient of the ICSSR Fellowship joined the CDS as Senior Fellow for a period of two years from February 1, 2018 onwards. His area of study is on 'Entitlements, Institutions and Capabilities: An Application to Drinking Water, Sanitation and Hygiene in Urban India.'

(e) RESEARCH AFFILIATION

Ms. Anna Eleanor Kathleen Bridel, Ph.D Scholar at London School of Economics and Political Science, Houghton Street, London has been granted research affiliation at the Centre for Development Studies for her research work on 'Understanding the effects of Climate Change in India'. Ms. Anna's work while with CDS will be guided by Prof. J. Devika. The proposed period of affiliation is for a period of one year from 10th May, 2019 to 9th May, 2020.

Ms. Mira Burmeister-Rudolph, Ph.D Research Scholar at University of Amsterdam-Netherlands has been granted research affiliation at the Centre for Development Studies for her research work on 'The Policies of India and a second country case towards low-skilled emigrant worker's rights'. Ms. Mira's work while with CDS will be guided by Prof. S. IrudayaRajan. The proposed period of affiliation is for a period of one year from 18th Feb, 2020 to 17th Feb, 2021.

Ms. Naivedya Parakkal, Ph.D Research Scholar, Department of Educational Studies, School of Education, University of Michigan was expected to join the CDS but due to the COVID -19 pandemic was not able to join.

Mr. Siddharth Menon, Ph.D Research Scholar, Department of Geography, University of Wisconsin-Madison was also expected to join, but due to the COVID -19 pandemic was unable to join for affiliation at the Centre.

Planning Commission Endowment in Development Economics

The Endowment Unit was established in 1998. On evaluation of the activities of the Unit, the Planning Commission recognised the Unit as the one working on issues relating to technology and innovation in the Indian context. Professor Praveena Kodoth is the Chair Professor. The unit completed a paper “State policy and recruitment of domestic workers and nurses to the Middle East: A comparative political economy analysis” accepted for publication in the *Economic and Political Weekly*.

Ongoing projects include a study of Kadakavoor to understand the impact of outmigration to the Gulf on household (in association with CDS colleagues) sponsored by the Research programme for International migration from Kerala at CDS and a study ‘Evidence Generation on Child Migration: A State Level Study of Tamil Nadu and Kerala (in association with CDS colleagues) sponsored by UNICEF.

During the year the unit had several research publications in the form of chapters in books, background papers and policy documents. In addition to this, a panel discussion and a webinar were presented at the international level along with several webinars and lectures at the national level.

Reserve Bank of India Endowment Unit on Economic Development

The Reserve Bank of India instituted the endowment scheme in 1976 with annual grants for research in Economics and allied subjects. In March 2002, the Bank replaced the scheme with a one-time Corpus Fund of Rs.150.00 lakh for the purpose of research and for higher levels of learning in finance, banking, economics and related areas. On account of the changes in interest rates, inflation and implementation of sixth UGC pay revision, the Bank enhanced the Corpus to Rs.400.00 lakh.

Prof Sunil Mani, Director, CDS is the Chair Professor of the Unit. The activities of the Unit from February to the end of March 2021 include 3 completed research papers and several publications. A book titled “Kerala and the World Economy” was published. A second book, *India’s Economy and Society, Lateral Explorations*, with 15 chapters is being edited. Springer has accepted to publish this book and it is expected to be released in 2021.



In addition to this 4 journal articles, 3 chapters in books and one working papers and a review article were brought out. In addition to these 2 international seminars, 10 lectures, webinars were presented at the national level. Three new studies have been initiated for the coming year. The Chair Professor is member of several committees, advisory bodies at the international, national and state level.

Research Unit on Local Self Governments

The Government of Kerala had set up a Research Unit on Local Self Governments at the Centre in March 2005. The corpus fund received for RULSG was Rs.3.70 crore which was released in 2005-06 (Rs.1.70 crore) and 2006-07 (Rs.2.00 crore).

The objectives of the Unit are (a) promotion of research; (b) research capacity building; and (c) Promotion of usage (dissemination of research findings) particularly in linking up research with training programmes of institutions such as the Kerala Institute of Local Administration.

Activities of the unit suffered from considerable lag due to pandemic conditions in all aspects and phases of research, documentation, and policy work. However, most work commissioned in 2019-20 and 2020-21 are nearing completion now.

The second publication in the series Ecological Challenges and Local Self-Development Responses, 'Suicidal Resistance: Understanding the Opposition against the Western Ghats Conservation in Karunapuram, Idukki' was published as an e-book. The third research project 'Cronyism in Local Governments: A Case Study of the Pallichal Village Panchayat' was completed. Two core essays from the monograph were presented in two webinars at CDS in May 2021.

'The Politics of Post-Disaster Recovery in the Puthenvelikkara Panchayat' and the project titled 'Lessons from a Successful Community-based Local Development Initiative: A Case Study of Jalasamriddhi' are nearing completion.

Concurrent assessment on 'The Growing Lease Cultivation in Kerala and the Kudumbashree – An Analysis of Its Features and Implications' considerably delayed because of the pandemic situation was re-started in February 2021 and will be submitted by August 2021. Three research papers in the series Lateral Studies on Kudumbasree commissioned in 2019-20 were published in 2020-21:

The policy dialogue for 2020-21 was to be on the steady narrowing of the human-animal interface which is a leading development problem now. However, the usual methodology adopted for the policy roundtable was not practically possible under pandemic conditions which led to considerable delay and spillover into 2021-22. The draft policy advocacy note should be ready by September 2021.

Twenty-nine reports/documents relating to Kudumbashree were digitized in 2020-21 and stored in the CDS Library. Digitization of the Panchayat Development Reports of Kottayam and Wayanad and work on the PDRS of Idukki district has commenced. The digitized documents are uploaded on the CDS website by the Library.



National Research Programme on Plantation Development

NRPPD at CDS undertakes policy-oriented research on all aspects of India's plantation sector. The programme is supported by a generous endowment of Rs 5 crores, provided by the Ministry of Commerce, Government of India. The programme works under the overall guidance of a Steering Committee chaired by the Chairman, CDS and a Research Advisory Committee (RAC), Chaired by the Director, CDS. Prof Vinoj Abraham is presently the coordinator of the unit.

The following studies were completed during 2020-21.

1. Performance of the Plantation Sector during the Covid-19 Pndemic.
2. Occupational Segregation in the Indian Labour Markets: A Socio-religious Perspective
3. An Analysis of the producer collectives in rubber and coffee cultivation.

Ongoing projects included a study on

4. Performance of Rubber Production Societies in Rubber
5. An Assessment of the impact of Self –help groups on small tea growers
6. Feasability of e-auction in rubber

In addition to this, 2 journal articles, one chapter in a book and one commentary series paper were published during the year.

Research Unit on International Migration from Kerala

A Research Unit on 'Kerala and the World Economy' was set up at the CDS during 2016-17. This was made possible by the onetime endowment grant of Rs 300.00 lakh sanctioned by the Government of Kerala. Dr M. Parameswaran was the Convenor of the unit for a period of two years.

In the meantime, the Government of Kerala accepted a proposal from CDS for establishing an International Migration Centre at CDS. It was planned to merge this unit which carries a grant of Rs 2 crore with the 3 crore granted earlier for the Research Unit on Kerala and World Economy. This merger helped start the new endowment unit with a corpus of 5 crore, under the title 'Research Programme on International Migration from Kerala (R-PIMK).

The government of Kerala set up a research programme on international migration from Kerala at the Centre for Development Studies (CDS) in December 2019. The CDS has accumulated considerable international reputation in conducting research studies on international migration and has since conducted several rounds of what is known as Kerala Migration Surveys- the latest being in 2018. Studies conducted by CDS is helpful for evidence-based policy making in the field of international migration. Hitherto the studies have been conducted against specific requests for such studies from funding agencies. But the time has come now to institute a permanent research programme at the Centre so that a regular stream of research studies on different aspects of international migration from Kerala will be forthcoming. Further, a database on migration which is searchable will also have to be created. The unit will this have four kinds of activities every year:



- Conduct of research studies on topics that are required by the government
- Organization of an annual training programme on migration research
- Creation and maintenance of a database on international migration; and
- An annual conference on “Kerala and the World Economy”

P.K. Gopalakrishnan Endowment Fund

The late Dr. P.K. 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 a pivotal role in setting up many advanced institutions of research and learning in Kerala during the 1970s and 1980s. As a Policy Advisor and Secretary to the Government during the Chief Ministership of the late Shri. C. AchuthaMenon, Dr.Gopalakrishnan provided excellent support in formulating a science and technology policy for the state. To perpetuate Dr. Gopalakrishnan’s memory, his family instituted the endowment at the Centre.

The 10th P. K. Gopalakrishnan Memorial Lecture on “Why Does the Indian State Both Fail and Succeed?” was delivered by Professor Devesh Kapur, Director of Asian Programs, Johns Hopkins University, USA on 14 December, 2020.

B.G. Kumar Endowment Fund

BhaskarGopalakrishna Kumar was an Associate Fellow at the CDS during 1990-93. His untimely demise in 1993 robbed the profession of a promising, independent-minded economist. Educated at the International School, Geneva and the Calcutta Boy’s School, Gopu Kumar, as he was popularly known, was an undergraduate at the St Stephen’s College, Delhi. Graduate work took him to Leeds, Cambridge and Oxford where he was a student of Amartya Sen. His works span from the Kerala model of development, agricultural price-setting in India and population studies. Gopu’s family had instituted an endowment fund to organise annual lectures in his memory.

The 11th BG Kumar Lecture on “Economic Transformation, Growth of the Middle Class and Family Change in India” was delivered by Professor Sonalde Desai, Professor of Sociology, University of Maryland and Professor and Centre Director, NCAER-National Data Innovation Center, New Delhi on 5 November, 2020.

A.D. Neelakantan Endowment Fund

A.D. Neelakantan was a student of the first batch of the M.Phil. Programme (1975-76) at the Centre. After his tragic demise in 1977, an endowment fund was instituted with contributions 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 ADNeelakantan Endowment prize was awarded to Mr. Rahul Ranjan of the MPhil Programme in Economics 2019-21 Batch.



Chandrika Sharma Endowment Fund

Chandrika Sharma did her MPhil in Applied Economics at the Centre during 1993 through 1996. She was in the ill-fated Malaysian Airline, Flight MH 370, which disappeared without a trace on March 8, 2014, while on a flight from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing. Her classmates at the Centre, during that time, have got together and set up the Chandrika Sharma Endowment at CDS in January 2020. The annual income from this endowment will be used to provide an award for the best Statistical Survey Report written by an MPhil or Pre PhD Student. The award will be available from this academic year (2020-21) onwards and the first award under this endowment will be presented to Mr. Bhagat Umesh Rambhau of the MPhil batch of 2019-21, during the Foundation Day Lecture of October 2021.

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, the Centre had organised seven public lectures. Professor Maria Cristina Marcuzzo of University of Rome, Italy delivered the last public lecture. *The original funds thus created out of the accumulated royalties have been supplemented by a generous grant from Professor Ravi Kanbur, Professor of Economics, Cornell University, USA while he was the first K N Raj National Fellow at the Centre during 2013-14, to form the Joan Robinson Endowment.* The Joan Robinson prize will be awarded for the best overall performance in the MA (Applied Economics) programme. *The prize is awarded from the annual returns of this endowment.* The Joan Robinson prize for meritorious performance was awarded to Mr. Madhurjya Deka for the year (2018-20).

M.G. Kanbur Endowment Fund

Professor M.G Kanbur was among the generation of Indian economists who first used quantitative mathematical and econometric methods to analyze the economy of India and other developing countries. His Ph.D at the University Of Birmingham, UK, was on spatial econometrics methods applied to the rice economy of South India. He was also a close associate of Professor K.N. Raj. He was one of the first economists that Professor Raj invited to visit CDS. He became a regular visitor to the Centre during its early founding days and always spoke warmly of his association with CDS.

The M.G. Kanbur prize is based on annual returns from the M.G. Kanbur Endowment instituted at the Centre by his son, Professor Ravi Kanbur, Professor of Economics, Cornell University, USA with an initial corpus of Rs 5 lakhs. The prize is awarded to the best performer in the quantitative courses of the MA (Applied Economics) programme. The M.G. Kanbur Prize for meritorious performance was awarded to Mr. Albert Abraham and Mr Tejesh Mukhurjee of the (2019-21) batch.

(a) K.N. RAJ LIBRARY

The year 2020-21 was a memorable year for everyone due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Because of repeated lockdowns, nation-wide as well as within the city, the library's activities were less than usual.

The K.N.Raj Library continues to provide Book Selection Lists, display of latest catalogues of leading Universities Presses, prominent publishers, book lists and reviews, display of books on approval from several reputed book suppliers, etc. for the benefit of Faculty and Scholars, thereby improving the quality of books selected for the library. During the year 438 books, 109 ebooks and 3 CD-ROM / DVD were added to the collection. The library automation software Libsys4x is used by users and staff for the day to day operations and catalogue search. The library catalogue [OPAC] is available online at <http://cdslib.cds.ac.in:8380/opac4x/>. CDS Information Repository (Digital Library) using the DSpace Open Source Software is installed to capture / preserve digital content and make them accessible to scholars and faculty. It is updated regularly by capturing the details of CDS Publications. It is available here <http://ir.cds.ac.in:8080/xmlui/community-list>

The K.N.Raj Library subscribes to 78 Print Journals and 12 Newspapers. The library also received 40 print periodicals / journals as gift. The subscription to Oxford Online – Social Science collection (86 journals), Wiley Online (22 journals), ProjectMUSE – Social Science collection (113 journals), Science Direct - Economics, Econometrics, and Finance (106 journals) were renewed for the year 2021. Access to the EconLit (599 journals) and JSTOR (2400 journals) were provided by the ICSSR/NASSDOC consortia. These 6 journal databases jointly are providing access to 3326 e-journals. They are available to the CDS community through IP access.

No of Books	438
No. of e-Books	109
No of CD-ROM / DVD	3
Journals / Periodicals (Print)	88
e-Journals Database	6 (3326 journals)
Statistical Database	7
Software & AMC support	Libsys



Due to the prevailing Covid-19 pandemic situation, external visitors were not permitted to enter the campus. A total of 46 new members joined the library out of which 44 are borrowing members and the rest are reference only members. The library continued to provide Reference Service, Lending Service, Bibliographic Service, Internet Search Service, Content Page Service, and so on. Students and Researchers from all over India and abroad used the online services of the library.

The Electronic Database Unit (EDU) continued to provide services to internal as well as external members. The EDU has a collection of databases in Economics, and related disciplines in Social Sciences. Some of the prestigious statistical databases are Annual Survey of Industries, Census of India Data, CMIE ProwessIQ, EPWRF India Time Series, IndiaStat, National Sample Survey Unit Level Data, IMF Balance of Payment Statistics, IMF Direction of Trade Statistics, IMF International Finance Statistics, RBI Database on Indian Economy, UN Comtrade and World Bank Data. EDU also provided the document delivery / ILL service through DELNET and JNU Library.

During the reporting period the online 'content alerts' site has been updated with 1585 posts and has received 39375 visits. The following is the URL <http://knrajlibrary.wordpress.com/> of the service.

For the convenience of library users, popular social media tools are extensively used to disseminate about the library resources and services, they are (a) Facebook <https://facebook.com/knrajlibrary>, (b) LinkedIn in.linkedin.com/in/knrajlibrary, (c) Twitter <https://twitter.com/knrajlibrary>, (d) ScoopIt www.scoop.it/t/infoknrl (e) Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/knrajlibrary/>, (f) Telegram Messenger App <https://t.me/knrajlibrary>, and (g) WhatsApp Messenger just send a message "[NAME] Add to KNRL Alerts" to +91 9188451892 from your WhatsApp Messenger.

Two book displays were conducted during the reporting period. The publications of Prof. A. Vaidyanathan, available in the library were kept for display during June 12-15, 2020. The works of the Nobel Laureates of 2020, Paul R. Milgrom and Robert B. Wilson, available in the library were kept for display during October 13-16, 2020. The displays were kept in the Circulation Area of the library. The links to online library resources were sent to the library users to enabling them to access the publications of the Nobel Laureates. It was useful for the CDS community and library users.

Two Training Programme on EBSCO e-Resources was organized for the CDS faculty and students on 3 October, 2019 (Thursday) from 3 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. and 29 January, 2021 (Friday) from 1.30 p.m. to 2.30 p.m. Mr. Nanda Lal T. S., Training Manager-South India, EBSCO Information Services was the resource person for both the programmes. The events were held on the CISCO WebEx platform. The users got the opportunity to seek clarification from the resource person for specific doubts about search and retrieval of EconLit and EBSCO e-Books that are subscribed by the centre at <http://search.ebscohost.com> and also about using the mobile app of the EBSCO e-resources.

The 2020-21 batch of MA, and PhD scholars were given an orientation about the library. This included a power point presentation and a live interactive session with the librarian. They later met the library staff to familiarize with the library's activities and services.



External events by staff: 1) V. Sriram delivered four online lectures on open access publishing, avoiding plagiarism, e-resources, and data sources in social science, and reference management software at the Webinar on Research Methods, St. Teresa's College, Ernakulam during 16th and 17th June 2020. 2) He delivered a web-talk on Careers in Social Science and Arts & Humanities in Career Cell Webinar of Kendriya Vidyalaya Pattom, Thiruvananthapuram on 24th July 2020. 3) Sriram delivered a web lecture on the topic Energy conservation ideas for librarians in the Webinar on Role of Librarians in Energy Awareness Programme, Energy Management Center, Thiruvananthapuram on 28th July 2020. 4) V. Sriram delivered an online lecture on the topic Reference Management using Zotero in Online Course on Research and Publication Ethics, organized by St. Thomas College (Autonomous), Thrissur on 13th August 2020. 5) V. Sriram delivered an online lecture on the topic Reference Management in Webinar Series organized by Nehru Academy of Law, Palakkad on 18th November 2020. 6) V. Sriram delivered an online lecture on the topic Information Sources for Research in National Webinar on Fostering Interdisciplinary Research in Young Minds, St. Teresa's College, Ernakulam on 26th November 2020. 7) V. Sriram delivered an online lecture on the topic Employment Opportunities for Library and Information professional in the International Conference on Employment Opportunities in the field of Social Science, organized by Sarovaram, Department of Sociology, University of Kerala, and Nehru Yuva Kendra, Thiruvananthapuram on 16th February 2021. 8) V. Sriram delivered a lecture on Reference Manager & Citation Styles in Online Workshop in Research Methodology for MPhil, PhD and Postdoctoral Scholars in Social Sciences, Madras Institute of Development Studies, Chennai. India on 25th February 2021.

(b) COMPUTER CENTRE

The IT wing of the Centre provides technological support to the faculty and students to achieve its object of knowledge creation/dissemination. In this regard, the IT section supports teaching/research activities and operations of the Library and Administration.

IT infrastructure in CDS Campus

- CDS is having its own data centre with state of the art facilities.
- Nine Juniper 3300 switches with 10 Gigabits uplink ports installed in four buildings of the campus. Switches are distributed in nine locations on the campus.
- Fiber network connection from computer centre to other buildings.
- Fortinet 300 D UTM as security device.
- Two HP proliant DL 180 Gen-9 servers.
- One EMC VnXe 3200 SAN Storage
- One Polycom Video conferencing system.
- Virtualization of servers using VMWare.
- Zimbra based Email server for 200 users.
- LibSys Library software for library access.
- Active directory for 300 users.



- File server for storing and sharing data.
- 80 HP desktops and 50 HCL desktops and 10 thin clients for staffs and student use.
- 60 Printers 6 Scanners.
- 100 Mbps NKN(National Knowledge Network) connectivity and 20Mbps NMEICT connectivity for internet facility in the campus.
- 35 numbers of Cisco and D-link Wi-Fi Access points across the campus including hostel and guest house to provide internet facility.
- Software: Microsoft Windows 10 /Office, Statistical software such as STATA 17 Eviews 9.5, SPSS 22, Gauss software and Grammarly@edu software as writing assistance for grammar checks in the documents.

General Facilities

(a) Computer Lab

The computer lab houses 15 PCs with Windows10 / Windows 8.1 and other essential software including statistical packages like STATA and E-Views. These lab has been used for computer-based training programmes and workshops regularly.

(b) Students Bay and PhD Bay

Students bay, computation environment, exclusively meant for MA and MPhil students. This centre contains 4 PCs and two printers. PhD Bay is equipped with two computers and a printer, and this facility is exclusively for PhD students. Students Bay and PhD bay are open for students throughout the day.

(c) Library

13 PCs have been installed in different locations of the CDS library. These PCs are accessible to all library users.

(d) Wi-Fi Facility

CDS campus is fully WI-Fi enabled. All the buildings in the campus are equipped with Wi-Fi facility. Wi-Fi facility is also available in the guest house and the hostels for students.

(e) Software for Faculty and student's usage.

Statistical software STATA 17, Eviews 9.5, Gauss, SPSS 22 and Grammarly@ edu software as writing assistance for grammar checks in the documents are provided to faculty and students for their education and research purposes.



Activity during 20-21

ERP –Implementation In CDS

CDS is currently implementing Centralised Campus management system -Educational ERP. This Cloud based ERP enables centralized management of the campus. This will help CDS community for

- better and faster decisions,
- reduced workload
- Streamlining Process
- Paperless operations.

The ERP application will have following modules /features

- Online Registrations and Admissions.
- Online fee payment
- Student administration
- Time table and student attendance
- Examinations
- Payroll management
- Attendance and Leave management.

(c) STAFF WELFARE FUND

The Staff Welfare Fund provides limited grants to last grade employees for marriage of dependent children and financial relief for losses due to natural calamities. The Fund also provides loans to employees for purchase of land for construction of their own house, house construction and renovation, education of children, medical treatment, purchase of household items and vehicles, repayment of old debts etc. During the reporting period, six applications for loan were approved.

Three children of employees were awarded merit certificates and cash awards for their scholastic performance in public examinations. One of the non-academic staff members was retired during 2020-21, and a grant of Rs.15,000/- was paid to the retired employee as a welfare measure. The Fund is managed by a Committee. The Chairperson of the committee is Dr J. Devika with Shri Suresh Kumar S, Registrar, Shri Suresh S., Senior Finance Officer and Smt. Ansamma Joseph, Deputy Librarian as members.

The Staff Welfare Fund, started in 1999 with an initial corpus from the CDS endowment has investments and loans disbursed to employees amounting to Rs.148.43 lakh as on 31st March, 2021.

7

NEW INITIATIVES

(A) ACADEMIC

(a) Book Release

A book on Kerala and the World Economy to commemorate Fifty Years of CDS was launched on 2 November, 2020 by Hon'ble Dr. Manmohan Singh.

As part of the Fiftieth Foundation Year, CDS published a collection of researched papers analyzing different dimensions of Kerala's economic engagement with the rest of India and indeed abroad. The Volume was released by Hon'ble Dr Manmohan Singh, Former Prime Minister of India and the first copy was received by Dr Thomas Isaac, Minister for Finance, Government of Kerala. Mr. K M Chandrasekhar, Chairman, Governing Body, CDS presided over the function and Professor Sunil Mani, Director, CDS, delivered the vote of thanks.

The book addresses several oft repeated propositions regarding Kerala's economy with fresh empirical data and methods of data analysis. These are integration of the state's economy with the rest of the world, the importance of remittances sent by Kerala workers especially from the Middle East, the state of Kerala's manufacturing sector and the condition of her environment. The book deals with these current and longstanding issues in 7 broad groups such as sustainable development, commercial crops, livestock and fisheries, high tech manufacturing and modern industries, international trade, migration and remittances and health

(b) Seminar on 'Kerala and the World Economy'

The seminar on 'Kerala and the World Economy' was held during February 4-5, 2021 which focused on issues related to international trade and international migration from Kerala. A very good response was received and 18 abstracts were short listed for paper presentations and another 8 abstracts for poster presentations. Apart from these, there were presentations by 12 invited speakers. It is expected to receive 38 completed papers from the contributors by the end of January 2021. The main themes of the seminar are the following:



- Return Migration to Kerala and India
- Remittances and impact of livelihoods
- Migration and consumption
- Impact of Covid-19 on Kerala's Economy
- Impact on economy due to return migration
- FTAs, Trade, Investment and Livelihoods
- Sectoral Impact: Agriculture, Industry, ITEs, Financial Services, Tourism including health tourism.

The programme was coordinated by Dr. Beena PL and Dr. Thiagu Ranganathan.

(c) 50th Foundation Year Lecture Series

A series of lectures were conducted by eminent scholars from international and national universities and institutions as part of the 50th Foundation Year Celebrations of the CDS. The first lecture by Prof. Sanjay Reddy was delivered on 14 January, 2020 and was concluded by a lecture by Prof. Errol D'Souza on March 22, 2021.

(d) K N Raj Memorial Lecture Series

The lecture series is thought of as a way of paying tribute to Prof. Raj, as also to recall his singular, path-breaking theoretical, empirical and policy contributions in Economics. This would enable students and teachers of Economics at the Centre and elsewhere, as also policy-makers, to gain a deeper appreciation of Prof. Raj's work and gain from it in multiple ways.

Professor K N Raj passed away on February 10, 2010. Ever since, the day has been observed as K N Raj Memorial day. Every year, on that day, one of his erstwhile colleagues used to reflect on his contributions to CDS and the development economics community in general. However, in the 50th Foundation Year of 2020-21, it was decided to convert this into an annual lecture series in his memory. The inaugural lecture in the series was delivered by one of Professor Raj's distinguished students at CDS, Dr. Mihir Shah, on March 10, 2021. Mihir had done his M Phil and PhD at the Centre, graduating with a doctoral degree in 1984. He is currently a Distinguished Professor at Shiv Nadar University, where he has designed a globally first-of-its-kind Masters Program on Water Science and Policy.

(e) Release of 50th Foundation Year Souvenir

As part of the Centre's 50th Foundation Year celebrations the Centre brought out a souvenir which traces out some historical facts of the Centre's growth over the years through narratives and photographs. It also highlights reflections of the alumni on their association with CDS.

The souvenir was released during the concluding lecture of the 50th Foundation day lecture titled 'Should government be in the business of banking,' by Prof. Errol D'Souza on March 22, 2021. Prof. Sunil Mani presented the souvenir to participants through the online mode.



The souvenir was designed and prepared by a three-member team consisting of Sunil Mani, Tilak Baker and Ajikumar A. R. The team received valuable inputs from a number of colleagues from within the Centre. The response from CDS' alumni and well-wishers have been overwhelming. The Centre would like to thank to all its stakeholders and in particular, the Government of Kerala, the Indian Council of Social Science Research.

(f) CDS Ranking among ICSSR Institutions

CDS is ranked number one among the ICSSR institutions in terms of the number of publications during 2016 through 2020 period. CDS also has a high rank in terms of citations. Professors IrudayaRajan, U S Mishra and Sunil Mani, are rated in the top 10 in terms of the number of publications and H-index, with Professor Rajan occupying the first rank. All this is contained in a report on India's social science research prepared by NAASDOC.

(g) Visiting Research Professors/Fellows

The category of scholars known as "Visiting Professors/ Fellows" initiated in the year 2017-18 is continuing this year. Appointments to this category are based on invitation only and represent eminent scholarship in a range of topics that are of importance to Centre's increasing teaching and research responsibilities. The expenses connected with this will be charged to the Director's Research Fund and is not taken from any grants given by either the ICSSR or the Government of Kerala.

Details for the year 2020-21 are given below:

Visiting Professors/Fellows at the Centre 2020-21

Sl No	Category and Name	Home Institution	Area	Terms of Appointment
Category 1A: Lecture only				
1	Prof. Krishnendu Ghosh Dastidar	JNU, New Delhi	Game Theory	15.04.2018 (Two years)
2	Prof. Sujoy Chakravarty	JNU, New Delhi	Microeconomics / Behavioural Economics	09.05.2018 (Two years)
3	Prof. Madhura Swaminathan	ISI, Bangalore Centre	Agriculture Economics	09.05.2018 (Two years)
4	Prof. Sukhpal Singh	IIM – Ahmedabad	Agriculture Economics	09.05.2018 (Two years)
5.	Dr Suraj Jacob	AzimPremji – Bangalore	Project Evaluation	15.12.2019 (One Year)
6.	Prof. Sebastian Morris	IIM – Ahmedabad	Infrastructure Financing/ Applied Macroeconomics/ Indian Economy	Visiting Professor Two years from April 1, 2020



7.	Dr. Dilip K Dutta	University of Sydney	Econometrics Macro Economics	Visiting Fellow Two years from April 1, 2020
8.	Prof.R. Nagaraj	IGIDR	Indian Economy	Visiting Professor 1 year from December 7, 2020
Category 1 B: Lecture & Paper				
9.	Dr. Ravi Raman	Kerala State Planning Board	Political Economy	Two years-April 2020
10.	Prof. Pulapre Balakrishnan	Ashoka University, Haryana IIM - Kozhikode	Applied Macroeconomics	Two years – April 2020
Category 2: Fixed Term Appointment				
11.	Prof. Sudip Chaudhury	IIM - Kolkata	Macroeconomics/ Industrial Economy of India	01.10.2018 (Two years)

Category 3: Foreign scholar				
12.	Prof. Frances Stewart	Oxford University	Development Economics	30.09.2018 - 07.10.2020
13.	Prof. Ravi Kanbur	Cornell University	Development Economics	21.10.2018 - 28.10.2020
14.	Prof. Tirthankar Roy	London School of Economics and Political Science	Economics History	09.04.2018 (Two years)
15.	Prof. Thankom Arun	University of Essex	Economics	01.08.2018 (Two years)
16.	Prof. T V Paul	McGill University	Political Science/International Relations	01.01.2019 (Two years)

(h) Certificate Courses and Non- certificate Courses

At present the Centre offers four different certificate courses in online mode. They are: Advanced Economic Theory, R. Package, Financial Econometrics and Game Theory.



(i) Academic Targets

A committee to draw up the long term teaching and research strategy for CDS has been set up. The committee will recommend the changes that CDS will have to make in terms of its teaching programmes and research priorities and adopt them in the light of the New Education Policy, 2020. The committee is to submit its report by January 1, 2022.

To enhance and improve the output of faculty, each member is expected to teach one course each in the MA and MPhil programmes. In addition to this, they are expected to bring out two working papers in a block of two years from 2017-18 onwards.

Centre is planning to start two Post-Doc positions in the academic year of 2020-21, subject to its funding by Government of Kerala which has included this in the plan budget. But administrative sanction from the state government is still awaited. In the meantime, Centre has framed detailed rules and procedures for the selection of potential candidates and their subsequent management. The Committee of Direction approved the request to start this new activity this year, depending upon the availability of funds or to postpone to the next academic year 2021-21 if sufficient funds are not available.

(j) Welfare

Providing laptops for financially weak students for the period of their study at the centre was initiated during the year. In addition to this a tuition and hostel fee waiver for economically weak but meritorious students pursuing their MA Programme introduced last year is continuing. A fund was also instituted to provide financial support to meet abnormal health expenditures since the financial year 2018-19.

(B) SUPPORT SYSTEMS

Improvement in Recreation Facilities

The COVID pandemic which started in the beginning of March 2020 and continued to do so throughout the reporting year has adversely affected the regular running of the guest house. The usual flow of guests from both India and abroad for participation in programmes as well as for personal purpose was next to nonexistent this year.

Accommodation which is normally provided for important guests from other institutes in India and abroad, participants of seminars & training programs, students & research scholars, members of committees of the CDS from outside and those who usually come to use the library was not used during this year as these programmes were conducted in the online mode.

All rooms are fully furnished with chairs, tables, cots etc. Single occupancy as well as family occupancy is also possible especially in Superior rooms. Outside institutions also, like Kerala State Planning Board, GIFT, NCESS etc are using the CDS Guest House for their important guests. Guest House administration directly manages the Foreign Registration services through FRRO website for foreign registration within 24 hours of arrival. All the room bookings are online through e-mail and are directly administered by the Guest House Manager as per the rules and regulations. During the last year in due to Corona pandemic, Guest House remained closed as per the instructions from Government.



All the rooms are cleaned and sanitized keeping a strict hygiene protocol.

Even though the guest house is meant for official guests of the CDS which also includes parents and relatives of the staff and students, occasionally the rooms are rented out to other guests also. A cafeteria is attached to the guest house which serves simple meals at moderate prices.

Supervision of the guest house is managed by Mr Anoop Kumar P.P, Guest House Manager who provides all the expertise and guidance to running of the Guest House. He is supported by Mr.Saibabu. S, working as the Guest House Attendant for the last six years takes care of room arrangements, cleaning management and maintenance reporting. Sumesh CS, Attendant, is also responsible for taking care of the guest house functioning after office hours and on holidays and in the absence of MrSaibabu.

In addition to his official duties Saibabu is also into Travel Writing, Vlogging on several Social Media Platforms. Hosting a Youtube Channel “Roaming WithSai”, with several Travel Videos, Book Reviews etc. Doing Podcasts on several platforms on subjects like traveling, books and other social subjects.He has also published a book about a historical events happened in 17th Century in Kerala (Colachel War) in Malayalam Language with name “ColachelMuthalDelanoyVare” (Link: <https://www.amazon.com/Kulachal-Muthal-Delanoy-Vare/dp/B08HTP4RSC>)

Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWIsjNATE6iuVWTfAfTz7qw>

Podcasts: <https://anchor.fm/roamingwithsai/episodes/ep-edks7v>

8

GOVERNANCE AND ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

(As on 31 March, 2021)

COMMITTEES

Committee of Direction

K.M. Chandrasekhar (Chairman)
Venu V
Ajay Dubey
J.V. Meenakshi
Virendra Kumar Malhotra
U.S. Mishra
Sunil Mani (Convenor)

Prof. Dipendra Nath Das
(JNU, New Delhi)
Prof. Satish Chandra Garkoti (Rector II,
JNU, New Delhi –Special Invitee)
Dr. M. Parameswaran (CDS)
Dr.Thiagu Ranganathan (CDS)
S. Suresh Kumar, CDS (*Convenor*)

Academic Programme Co-ordinators

Finance Committee

K.M. Chandrasekhar (Chairman)
Venu V
C. Rammanohar Reddy
Virendra Kumar Malhotra
Gabriel Simon Thattil
Praveena Kodoth
Sunil Mani (Convenor)

M.Phil Programme:

J. Devika (Co-ordinator)
Ritika Jain (Associate Co-ordinator)

PhD Programme:

Praveena Kodoth (Co-ordinator)
Jayaseelan Raj (Associate Co-ordinator)

JNU-CDS Committee of Direction for MA/MPhil/ PhD Programmes

Sunil Mani, Director, CDS (*Chairman*)
Prof. Shri Prakash Mani Tripathi,
(VC, Indira Gandhi National Tribal
University, MP)
Prof. P. Kanagasabapathi
(Member, ICSSR)
Prof. Aswini Kumar Mohapatra
(JNU, New Delhi)

MA. Programme:

M.Parameswaran (Co-ordinator)
Rajit Biswas (Associate Co-ordinator)



Faculty Committee

Sunil Mani (Chairman)
 U.S. Mishra (Convenor)
 K.J. Joseph (On deputation to GIFT)
 S. Irudaya Rajan
 K.N.Harilal (on deputation to Kerala State Planning Board)
 Praveena Kodoth
 J. Devika
 Vinoj Abraham

Academic Committee

Sunil Mani (Chairperson)
 Rajit Biswas (Convenor)
 All faculty (Members)
 Registrar (Member)
 Chief Librarian (Member)
 Systems Officer (Member)
 Publications Officer (Member)
 Aishwarya Prakash, (MPhil representative)
 Likhitha, Tirunagari (MPhil representative)
 Niranjana C.P., (MA representative)
 Srivatsan, M (MA representative)
 Srimanjori ,Guha (PhD representative)

Academic Programme Committee

Sunil Mani (Chairperson)
 M. Parameswaran (Convenor)
 All Faculty (Members)

Library Committee

Ritika Jain (Chairperson)
 V. Sriram (Chief Librarian)
 R. Nagaraj (Observer)
 Abhilash T
 S. Suresh Kumar (Registrar)
 Ansamma Joseph
 Rajkumar Byahut (Student Representative)

IT Committee

Beena P.L. (Chairman)
 V. Sarath (Convenor, Ex-officio)
 Srikanta Kundu
 S. Suresh Kumar (Registrar, Ex –officio)
 V. Sriram, (Chief Librarian, Ex –officio)
 Sourish Dutta (Student Representative)

Ethics Committee

J. Devika (Chairman)
 Jayaseelan Raj (Member)
 Rajit Biswas (Member)

Hostel Wardens

M. Parameswaran
 Tirtha Chatterjee

Investment Committee

Sunil Mani (Chairman)
 Praveena Kodoth
 (Finance Committee Member)
 S. Suresh Kumar (Registrar)
 S. Suresh (Convenor)
 Tharun Kumar M.P.
 (Internal Audit Officer)

Staff Welfare Fund

J. Devika (Chairperson)
 Suresh Kumar. S (Registrar)
 S. Suresh (Finance Officer)
 Ansamma Joseph



Staff Council

Ex-officio Members:

Sunil Mani (Director)
S. Suresh Kumar (Registrar)
V. Sriram (Chief Librarian)
S. Suresh (Senior Finance Officer)

Representatives:

Vinoj Abraham (Academic Staff)
P. L. Beena (Academic Staff)
H.S. Shareef
(Convenor & Member,
Administrative Staff A)
T.S. Geetha Devi
(Member, Administrative Staff A)
Ansamma Joseph (Library Staff)
Reeshma R.S.
(Member, Administrative Staff B)
A.R. Ajikumar
(Member, Administrative Staff B)
G. Vijayan
(Member, Administrative Staff C)

Grievance Redressal Committee

S. Suresh Kumar (Registrar)
Praveena Kodoth
Ritika Jain
Lekha K.

Committee Against Sexual Harassment

Praveena Kodoth (Chairperson)
Elsamma Praikalam (Advocate)
Thiagu Ranganathan
Lekha K
Ansamma Joseph
Sachu R Sunny (Student Representative)
Rahul Kamal (Student Representative)

Campus Committee

J. Devika (Chairperson)
Suresh Kumar S, Registrar (Ex-
Officio)(Convenor)
PraveenaKodoth,(GHMC Chairperson) (Ex-
Officio) (Member)
Ajikumar A R (Member)
Aanandh N R (Member)
Anoop Kumar P P (Member)
AmitNandan, (PhD Representative)
Rahul Kamal (MPhil Representative)

Right to Information Act

S. Suresh Kumar, Registrar
(Chief Public Information Officer)

Ajikumar A.R.
(Asst. Public Information Officer)

Sunil Mani, Director
(Appellate Information Officer)



FACULTY

Director

Sunil Mani

Ph.D in Economics
(CDS/JNU)

Research Area: Innovation and Technology

Professors

Joseph K.J.

Ph.D in Economics
(CDS/JNU)

(On Leave from 19 July, 2019)

Research Area: Innovation and Development,
India's Plantation Agriculture

Irudaya Rajan S.

Ph.D.in Demography
(IIPS, Bombay)

Research Area: Migration and Human Development,
Health and Education

Udaya Shankar Mishra

Evaluation,
Ph.D in Population Studies
(IIPS, Bombay)

Research Area: Population Policies and Programme

Analytical and Measurement issues in Gender and Health.
Stochastic Models to Study the Bio-social Determinants of
Fertility and Child Mortality, Poverty, Inequality and Human
Development

Harilal, K.N.

Ph.D in Economics
(CDS/JNU)
*(On deputation to Kerala
State Planning Board)*

Research Area: International Political Economy,
Regional Economy of Kerala, Rural Development and
Agrarian Relations, Local Governments and Democratic
Decentralisation

PraveenaKodoth

Ph.D in Economics
(University of
Hyderabad)

Research Area: Gender, Migration and Human Development

Devika, J.

Ph.D in History
(MG University)

Research Area: History of, and present developments in,
Gender, Politics, Development, and Culture in Kerala; the
history of Migration and Cosmopolitanism in Kerala; local
self- government in Kerala; translations and translation
studies; Malayalam literature; contemporary politics.

Vinoj Abraham

Ph.D in Economics
(JNU)

Research Area: Labour Economics, Gender & Development,
Economics of Technology and Innovation, Development
Economics, Regional Development, Plantation Studies.



Associate Professors

Beena, P.L.

Ph.D in Economics,
(CESP, JNU)

Research Area: Industrial Economics, Indian Corporate Sector, FDI, M&As and Competition Policy, Globalisation and Contemporary Issues of Indian Economy, Kerala Economy

Parameswaran, M.

Ph.D in Economics
(CDS/JNU)

Research Area: Economic Development, Macroeconomics and Industrial Development

Hrushikesh Mallick

Ph.D in Economics
(University of Mysore)

Research Area: Applied Open Economy Macroeconomics and Development Economics

Chidambaran G. Iyer

Ph.D in Development
Economics
(IGIDR)

Research Area: Innovation and Technology, Industry and Trade

Thiagu Ranganathan

Ph.D in Economics
(IIT, Bombay)

Research Area: Agriculture and Plantation Crops Employment and Social Security

Assistant Professors

Srikanta Kundu

Ph.D in Quantitative Economics
(Indian Statistical Institute)

Research Area: Financial Econometrics, Time Series, Volatility Models, Nonlinear Models, Stock Market

Ritika Jain

Ph.D in Economics
(IGIDR)

Research Area: Politics and Development, Industry and Trade, Innovation and Technology, Labour Employment and Social Security

Rajit Biswas

Ph.D in Quantitative Economics
(Indian Statistical Institute)

Research Area: Industry and Trade

Abhilash Thadathil

Ph.D in Political Science &
International Studies
(JNU)

Research Area: Politics and Development, Human Development Health and Education, Labour, Employment and Social Security

**Jayaseelan Raj**

Ph.D in Social Anthropology
(University of Bergen, Norway)

Research Area: Culture and Development,
Politics and Development, Plantation Crops
Labour, Employment and Social Security, Migration

Chandril Bhattacharyya

Ph. D in Quantitative Economics
(Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata)

Research Area: Growth Theory and Other Studies

Tirtha Chatterjee

Ph.D in Development Studies
(IGIDR, Mumbai)

Research Area: Agricultural Economics,
Development Economics, Policy Evaluation

RBI Chair Professor**Sunil Mani**

Ph.D in Economics
(CDS/JNU)

Research Area: Economics of Technology and
Innovation



Honorary Fellows

Vaidyanathan A. (Passed away on 10 June, 2020)	Former Fellow, CDS
Zachariah K.C.	Former Senior Demographer, The World Bank, Washington D.C.
AmitBhaduri	Emeritus Professor, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
Mathew E.T.	Former Professor and Head, Department of Economics, University of Kerala
Jayachandran T.N.	Former Vice Chancellor, Calicut University, Kerala
OommenM.A.	Former Professor and Head, Department of Economics, University of Calicut, Kerala
Damodaran A.D.	Former Director, Regional Research Laboratory, Thiruvananthapuram
Rao G.N.	Former Fellow, CDS
Thomas Isaac T.M.	Former Fellow, CDS
MridulEapen	Former Fellow, CDS
Kannan, K.P.	Former Director and Fellow, CDS
P. MohananPillai	Former Fellow, CDS
P. Sivanandan	Former Fellow, CDS

Honorary Visiting Professor

A.V. Jose Ph.D in Economics (University of Kerala)	<i>Research Area:</i> Social and Labour Policies, Social Protection
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Visiting Professor (Fixed term appointment)

Sudip Chaudhuri PhD (JNU) (Term ended October, 2020)	<i>Research Area:</i> Pharmaceutical Industry, Economics of Patents, India's Industrialisation.
R. Nagaraj (CDS/JNU) (Joined on December 7, 2020)	<i>Research Area:</i> Indian Economy



ADMINISTRATION

S. Suresh Kumar
Shareef H.S.
Ajikumar A.R.

Registrar
Assistant Administrative Officer
Administrative Assistant
(designated as PS to Registrar)

Academic Programme Office

T.S. Geetha Devi
K. Lekha
Raji R.S.
Arun K.C.

Assistant Administrative Officer
Section Officer
Junior Administrative Assistant
Junior Administrative Assistant

Faculty Support Services

Emmanuel T.J.
Satheesh S.S.

Personal Assistant
Junior Administrative Assistant

Guest House

Anoop Kumar P.P.
Saibabu S.

Guest House Manager
Attendant

Publications

Tilak Baker

Publication Officer

Finance

S. Suresh
M.P. Tharun Kumar

Senior Finance Officer
Internal Audit Officer

Arun Hrishikesh
K. Radhamoni
(retired on 28.5.20)
Reeshma R.S.
Biju R.S.

Asst Accounts Officer
Asst Accounts Officer
Jr. Accountant
Attendant

Director's Office

Praveen G.
Ajayanandam S

Section Officer (designated as P.S. to Director)
Attendant

Estate and Engineering

Aanandh N.R.
Anoop Kumar P.P.

Campus Supervisor
Assistant Campus Supervisor
(designated as Guest House Manager)
Attendant

G.Vijayan



COMPUTER CENTRE / IT

V. Sarath *Systems Officer*

K.N. RAJ LIBRARY

V. Sriram	<i>Chief Librarian</i>
Ansamma Joseph	<i>Deputy Librarian</i>
G.P. Anitha	<i>Deputy Librarian</i>
Ameer Ali	<i>Sr.Assistant Librarian</i>
S. Gopakumar	<i>Sr.Assistant Librarian</i>
Sivakumar P	<i>Junior Assistant Librarian</i>
Sumesh C.S.	<i>Attendant</i>

Internal Complaints Committee Report (2020-21)

The ICC was reconstituted on August 21, 2020 following which on August 24 we had the first meeting.

The agenda for the meeting was as follows:

1. To identify a resource person and schedule a sensitisation session for the ICC members
2. To appraise the committee of a complaint that has been received and to discuss the steps that need to be taken.

We deferred the sensitization session till the situation improved and it was possible to have a session physically with a resource person.

The second matter was discussed and a sub committee comprising Ms Lekha, Dr Thiagu Ranganathan and myself was constituted to meet with the respondent. At the meeting, the respondent agreed to pursue the reconciliation process as requested by the complainant. The sub committee also had a meeting with the complainant to understand the conditions on which she sought reconciliation. The sub committee reported these discussions to a meeting of the full committee and a settlement was arrived at which was submitted to the Director. The respondent agreed to abide by the conditions of the settlement. The Chairperson communicated the resolution of the case to the CDS community without mentioning names and the matter was closed. All papers have been filed in the Director's office.

To commemorate Women's Day, the CDS' ICC organized two programmes. First a discussion on "Experiences of Female Students in Higher Educational Institutions in India" was held at 3:30 PM 9th March 2021.

The session began with a presentation by Annesha Mukherjee, a Ph.D. Scholar at CDS. She presented the findings of an online survey conducted by her and a former M.Phil Scholar at CDS, Satyaki Dasgupta. The presentation was followed by a discussion encouraging the participants to share the experiences of women in higher educational institutions in India.

Second a discussion was held with Advocate Elsamma Prayikulam on 23rd March, 2021 on questions of law. The students had provided a set of questions and Ms Prayikulam responded to them.

CULTURE AND DEVELOPMENT*Completed Studies***1. Gendered Childhoods to Gender-Neutral Childhoods? Reflections on the History of Childhood in Kerala**

J. Devika

Status: To be presented at a seminar at ICAS organized by Janaki Nair and Mary E John. This was postponed due to COVID from March 2020. The paper has been further revised.

2. Categorical Oppression: Performance of Identity in South India

Jayaseelan Raj

Status: Published, *The Australian Journal of Anthropology*. Vol. 31 (3): 288-302.

*New Initiatives***3. Unearthing Ancestors: Role of Oral History in Reclaiming Indigenous Livelihood in Western Ghats, South India**

Abhilash T

Status: Research Plan for 2021-22.

DECENTRALISATION AND GOVERNANCE*Ongoing Studies***4. Local Governments and the Politics of Post-Disaster Planning: The Case of the Puthenvelikkara Panchayat**

J. Devika, Anamika Ajay (National Institute of Advanced Studies, Indian Institute of Science Campus, Bengaluru) and Arathy M.R. (Freelance Journalist)

Status: Final draft expected by July 2021. (To be considered for inclusion in the CDS-RULSG Monograph Series on Ecological Challenges and Local Self-Government Responses in Kerala)

*Completed Research Projects***5. Disciplinary vs. Neoliberal Governmentality? Understanding Agency in the Pallichal Panchayat**

J. Devika



Sponsor: RULSG grant research

Status: Ready for presentation and the review process to be considered for the RULSG series on Ecological Challenges and Local Self-Government Responses.

GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT

Completed Studies

6. Kerala State, India: Twenty-First Century Puzzles in Sexual and Reproductive Freedoms

J. Devika

Status: To appear in the Special Issue on South Asia of the journal *Sexual and Reproductive Health Matters*.

7. Gender, Caste, and Abjected Space: A History of Kerala's 'Slum Women' and their Work

J. Devika

Status: Published in Mary E John and Meena Gopal (eds), *Women in the Worlds of Labour: Interdisciplinary and Intersectional Perspectives*, Hyderabad: Orient Blackswan, 2021.

8. Women's Labour, Patriarchy, and Feminism in 21st Century Kerala: Reflections on a Glocal Present

J. Devika

Status: Published in Sujatha V (ed) *Global Capital and Social Difference: Beyond Dialectics and Embeddedness*, New Delhi: Routledge, 2020.

9. Women's Participation in Domestic Activities Leisure, Care Services, and Status Production

Vinoj Abraham

Status: Published in the edited volume: *Labouring Women: Issues and Challenges in Contemporary India* edited by Jha, Praveen, Avinash Kumar and Yamini Mishra, Publisher: Orient BlackSwan.

Ongoing Studies

10. Financial Incentives and Fertility Choices: Evidence from India

Tirtha Chatterjee and Ritika Jain

Status: Ongoing (Expected date of completion: 2 months)

New Initiatives

11. Gender Inclusive Action Plan for Climate Change, Koipram Panchayat.

J. Devika and Praveena Sanjay (WISE, Pune)

Status: To be published by WISE, Pune. (Final draft to be expected by end of May 2021)

12. Flexible Work Arrangements and Gendered Outcomes: Impact of COVID-19 in India

Thiagu Ranganathan and Avina Mendonca (Indian Institute of Management, Nagpur)

Sponsor: ICSSR

Status: New Initiative.



HUMAN DEVELOPMENT, HEALTH AND EDUCATION

Completed Studies

13. Education, and Income Homogamy, and Women's Autonomy in India

Thiagu Ranganathan and Avina Mendonca (Indian Institute of Management, Nagpur)

Status: Published as CDS working paper 'Relative Educational Status and Women's Autonomy: Evidence from India.' CDS Working Paper 494. A paper titled "Does being educated more than the spouse give women higher autonomy? Findings from India". Under Review and another paper, "How much do the birds of a feather flock together? Changes in educational homogamy over time in India". Under Review.

14. Effect of Testing and Social Distancing Measures on COVID-19 Deaths in India: Role of Pre-Existing Socio-Economic Factors

Ritika Jain and Tirtha Chatterjee

Status: Communicated to journal.

15. Assessment of Living Conditions of Urban Slum Dwellers in India in the New Millennium

Balakrushna Padhi (CEFT, Xavier University), Udaya S. Mishra, and T Triveni (Directorate of Economics & Statistics, Department of Agriculture Cooperation and Farmer's Welfare)

Status: *Urban Research and Practice* (on line)

16. Gauging Class and Caste Differences in Mortality: The Indian Experience

Udaya S. Mishra, Rinju and Basant K Panda (IIPS, Mumbai)

Status: *Journal of Death and Dying* (on line)

17. Examining Calorie Undernourishment in India: Is it due Choice or Inadequacy

Udaya S. Mishra, Balakrushna Padhi (CEFT, Xavier University), and Rinju (CDS)

Status: *Nutrition and Health* (on line)

18. Unnatural Deaths in India

Udaya S. Mishra and Basant K Panda (IIPS, Mumbai)

Status: *Journal of Biosocial Sciences*

Ongoing Studies

19. Pathways of Exclusion: Scheduled Tribes and Higher Education in Kerala

Abhilash T

Status: Ongoing (Expected date of completion: October 2021)

New Initiatives

20. Gauging the improvement in Economic Status of Indian Households: Evidence based on NFHS

Udaya S. Mishra, Basant K Panda (IIPS, Mumbai) and Rinju

Status: New Initiative



21. Making Comparison of Hospitalization Rates: Should Age and Disease Pattern Matter?

Udaya S. Mishra, Basant K Panda (IIPS, Mumbai) and Suyash Mishra

Status: New Initiative

22. On Verifying the Genuineness of Rising C-section Deliveries in India

Udaya S. Mishra and Basant K Panda (IIPS, Mumbai)

Status: New Initiative

INDUSTRY AND TRADE

Completed Studies

23. IPR Regime and Antitrust Implications of Mergers and Acquisitions: With a Focus on Software and Pharmaceuticals

Beena P L

Status: *The Antitrust Bulletin*, Volume 66, Issue 2, SAGE, USA, ISSN: 19307969, 0003603X, 2021. (Refereed journal, listed in international index such as Scopus etc.)

24. Outward FDI and Cross-Border M&As: Evidence from Indian Corporate Sector

Beena P L

Status: Accepted for publication with *Economic and Political Weekly*.

25. India's Economy and Society - Lateral Explorations

Chidambaran G. Iyer and Sunil Mani

Status: Book – Edited volume

26. 'Reforming 8 Critical Sectors' in 'The Stimulus Package in Five Instalments, Does it make The Economy More Self-Reliant?'

Chidambaran G. Iyer

Status: Commentary on India's Economy and Society Series – 15, CDS.

27. 'External Sector' in 'Economic Survey (2020-21) and Union Budget (2021-22)

Chidambaran G. Iyer

Status: Commentary on India's Economy and Society Series – 19, CDS.

28. The Combined Impact of Trade Wars and 'Make in India' on the Indian Economy

Badri Narayanan G. (University of Washington Seattle), Chidambaran G. Iyer, Rahul Sen (AUT Business School, Auckland, New Zealand) Sangeeta Khorana (Bournemouth University, UK)SadhanaSrivastava (AUT Business School, Auckland, New Zealand)

Status: Asia-Pacific Research and Training Network on Trade, Working Paper No. 203, 2020

29. Economic Growth in India

M. Parameswaran, Pulapre Balakrishnan and Mausumi Das (Delhi School of Economics)

Status: Published in *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol.56, No. 11, 2021.

30. Trade Openness and Labour Market Unrest: Evidence from Indian Manufacturing Industry

M. Parameswaran

Status: Published in *Journal of Quantitative Economics*, 2021.

31. Impact of COVID-19 Lockdown on Profitability of Firms: Evidence from India



Ritika Jain and Rajnish Kumar (Independent Researcher)
Status: Communicated to journal.

32. Technology Licensing Under Product Differentiation

Rajit Biswas, Neelanjan Sen (Madras School of Economics, MSE), Saumya Kaul (MSE)
Status: submitted to *Journal of Economics*, one revision received.

33. A Model of Trade Preference Bias and Public Goods

Rajit Biswas and Kanupriya Sharma (Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, Delhi)
Status: Completed

34. Taxes and Unemployment

Rajit Biswas and Vandana TR (Vandana worked on this paper when she was a student at Centre for Development Studies. She is currently a student at Department of Economics, University of California-Irvine)
Status: Forthcoming in *International Journal of Economic Theory*.

35. State Ownership and Dividend Decisions: Economic and Political Determinants

Ritika Jain
Status: Communicated to journal.

36. Privatisation and the Voluntary Retirement Scheme: The Case of BSNL

Vinoj Abraham and Ritika Jain
Status: Published in *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. 55, Issue No. 40, 03 Oct, 2020.

37. The Case of the ‘missing middle’ in the Indian Manufacturing Sector: A Firm-Level Analysis

Vinoj Abraham and Sunandan Ghosh
Status: Published in *Journal of Quantitative Economics*: Journal of the Indian Econometric Society, October 2020, DOI: [10.1007/s40953-020-00222-y](https://doi.org/10.1007/s40953-020-00222-y)

Ongoing Studies

38. IPR Regime and Developmental Implications: A Case Study of Patent-Intensive Industries

Beena P L and Siddik Rabiya (University of Kerala)
Status: Ongoing (Presented at the IUCAE, Kerala University, June 2019; Presented also in the XIVth Annual Knowledge Forum conference held during October 11-13, 2019 at IIT, Madras and supported by Tata Trust).

39. FTAs and Economic Integration in South Asia

Beena P L and Meena Chacko (Researcher)
Status: Ongoing (Presented at CDS during July, 2017 and in the UGC sponsored National conference at Government College, Kasaragod).

40. Growth Dynamics of the Handloom Industry: A Case Study of Chendamanagalam Handloom Co-operative Society in Kerala

Beena P L and Kavitha P (Doctoral Scholar)
Status: Ongoing



41. Impact of Policy on Mobile Manufacturing in India

Chidambaran G. Iyer

Status: Ongoing (Expected date of completion: Dec 2021)

42. Phase Manufacturing Policy for Mobile Manufacturing in India: An Empirical and Theoretical Evaluation

Chidambaran G. Iyer

Status: Ongoing (Expected date of completion: Oct 2021)

Completed Research Projects

43. Structure, Direction and Export contribution of Cochin SEZ in Kerala

Beena P L

Sponsor: Research unit on 'Kerala and the World Economy'.

Status: Report submitted in August 2020.

44. Industrialization for Jobs and Growth: A Case Study of Cellular Mobile Phone Manufacturers in India

Chidambaran G. Iyer

Sponsor: Indira Gandhi Institute for Development Research & Ford Foundation

Status : Standalone paper, a shorter version of this work has been published as a CDS Working Paper No. 502.

New Initiatives

45. IPR Regime, Mergers & Acquisitions and Antitrust policy, New Edition by Routledge

Beena P.L.

Status: Research Plan- 2021-22 (New Initiative (Book under preparation))

46. Indian Economy and Neoliberal Globalisation

Beena PL, Murali Kallummal and Santosh Kumar

Status: New Initiative (expected publication before December 2022 ;Signed a contract with Routledge, India)

47. Lerner Symetry Theorem and Melitz Model

Rajit Biswas

Status: To be submitted (New Initiative)

INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY

Completed Studies

48. The Saga of Indigenous R&D in the High Technology Industry in India: Case of India's Semi High-Speed Train-Train 18

Chidambaran G. Iyer

Status: The India Forum, 1 May 2020.

49. Effect of Innovation on Corporate Social Responsibility: Does Ownership Matter? Evidence from Indian Manufacturing Firms.

Ritika Jain and Krishnapriya V S (Doctoral Scholar)



Status: Published in *Economics of Innovation and New Technology*

50. India's Quest for Technological Self-Reliance: Analysis of Her Record With respect To Patents in the Post TRIPS Phase

Sunil Mani

Status: Published as a journal article in an international refereed journal. Details are given below:

Mani, Sunil (2020), 'India's Patenting Record since TRIPS compliance of her Patent Regime' *Asian Journal of Technology*

Innovation, <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/19761597.2020.1829977>

51. India's Leadership in the Export of Computer Software Services

Sunil Mani along with Tiago Couto Porto (Public Administration and Governance at Getulio Vargas Foundation of São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil) and Keun Lee (Seoul National University)

Status: Published as a journal article (Porto, T.C., Lee, K. & Mani, S. The US–Ireland–India in the catch-up cycles in IT services: MNCs, indigenous capabilities and the roles of macroeconomic variables. *Eurasian Bus Rev* **11**, 59–82

(2021). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40821-020-00177-3>

New Initiatives

52. Analysing Digital Payment Systems in India through the Lens of Innovation Systems Framework

Chidambaran G. Iyer and Sunil Mani

Status: New Initiative

53. Entrepreneurship and Innovation Systems: Two Indian Case Studies

Chidambaran G. Iyer

Status: New Initiative

54. Bivoltine Sericulture in India: An Innovation System Perspective

Chidambaran G. Iyer

Status: Research Plan for 2021-22

55. The Evolving Space Economy of India

Sunil Mani and T Shijumon (Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology)

Status: New Initiative.

56. Automation and Manufacturing Employment, Case of India's Automotive Industry

Sunil Mani

Sponsor: Ford Foundation

Status: Expected date of completion: January 31, 2023

57. Innovation performance of India's Pharmaceutical Industry vs Computer Software Industry-

Sunil Mani

Sponsor: Ford Foundation

Status: Expected date of completion: January 31, 2023



58. The State and Market in R&D and Manufacturing in New Health Technologies, Case Of COVID-19 Vaccine Development and Its Diffusion in India and the USA

Sunil Mani

Status: New Initiative (Commenced 1May, 2020. Expected date of completion 31 March, 2022)

LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL SECURITY

Completed Studies

59. Do Job Reservations Hurt Firm Performance? Evidence from Indian Public Sector Enterprises

Ritika Jain and Vinoj Abraham

Status: Under review at *Journal of Development Studies*

60. Information and Communication Technology Adoption and the Demand for Female Labour: The Case of Indian Industry.

Ritika Jain

Status: *The BE Journal of Economic Analysis & Policy*, 1(ahead-of-print).

61. Privatisation and the Voluntary Retirement Scheme

Ritika Jain and Vinoj Abraham

Status: Published in *Economic & Political Weekly*, 55(40), 11.

62. Affirmative Action and Jobs in India

Thiagu Ranganathan and Tirtha Chatterjee

Status: Published as CDS Working Paper 'Did Reservation in Higher Education change the prospects for OBCs in getting better jobs? A Study using Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) in India. *CDS Working Paper 500*.

63. Occupational Segregation in the Indian Labour Market: A Socio-religious Perspective

Vinoj Abraham and Kashif Mansoor (Doctoral Scholar)

Status: Published in *Indian Journal of Labour Economics* 64(1):1-27,

DOI:10.1007/s41027-021-00302-4

64. Structural Change and Rural Households in India: An Analysis of the Nature of Transformation in Their Economic Activities

Vinoj Abraham

Status: Published in volume edited by N K Mishra, *Development Challenges of India After Twenty Five Years of Economic Reforms*, published by Springer, DOI: 10.1007/978-981-15-8265-3_10

New Initiatives

65. Does Vocational Training Lead to Self-employment in India?

Hrushikesh Mallick, Pradeep Kumar Choudhury (Zakir Husain, Centre for Educational Studies, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University) and Amit Kumar (Ph.D. Scholar, Zakir Husain Centre for Educational Studies, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University)

Status: Research Plan 2021-22



66. Effect of Adoption and Use of Information and Communication Technology on the Status and Quality of Female Employment: The Case of India

Ritika Jain and Tirtha Chatterjee

Status: New Initiative

MACROECONOMIC PERFORMANCE

Completed Studies

67. Public Trust in Governance Institutions and its Socio-Economic Determinants: An Empirical Analysis for India

Hrushikesh Mallick, Balakrushna Padhi (Birla Institute of Technology and Science Pilani, Department of Economics and Finance, Rajasthan) and U.S. Mishra.

Status: Submitted to the journal for publication

68. Factors Obstructing India to Become a Major Travel Destination for Foreign Tourism: An Empirical Enquiry

Hrushikesh Mallick and Lekhmi R S (Doctoral Scholar, CDS)

Status: Submitted to the journal for publication

Ongoing Studies

69. Understanding the Determinants of Current Account Performance in Selected South Asian Economies

Hrushikesh Mallick

Status: Ongoing (Expected date of completion: December 2021)

New Initiatives

70. Are there any Significant Differences in External and Idiosyncratic Shock Spillovers in International Sovereign Bond Markets? A Journey from Normal to Covid-19 Period for Eight Major Selected Economies

Hrushikesh Mallick and Sanjay Rout (Doctoral Scholar)

Status: New Initiative

MIGRATION

Completed Studies

71. India Migration Report 2020: Kerala Model of Migration Surveys.

S. Irudaya Rajan

Status: Book Published by Routledge

72. Development, Environment and Migration: Lessons for Sustainability

S. Irudaya Rajan and Debabrata Baral (Bennett University)

Status: Book Published by Routledge.

73. The Political Economy of Policy on Recruitment of Women Domestic Workers and Nurses to the Middle East

Praveena Kodoth

Status: Submitted for publication



74. Contestations of Citizenship: Migrant Labour, a Benevolent State, and the COVID-19-induced Lockdown in Kerala

Praveena Kodoth

Status: Published Asha Hans, Kalpana Kannabiran, Manoranjan Mohanty in *Migration, workers and fundamental freedoms: Pandemic Vulnerabilities and states of exception in India*, New Delhi: Routledge, March 2021)

75. The Reality behind the *Global Care Chain*: The Case of South Indian Emigrant Domestic Workers

Praveena Kodoth

Status: 'Care work and strategies of accumulation,' Padmini Swaminathan and Uma Rani eds., *State Capital Nexus: Implications for Labour, Broadsheet on Politics*, Anveshi Research Centre for Women's Studies, Hyderabad, March 2021

Completed Research Projects

76. Natural Disasters and Household Migration in Kerala

S. Irudaya Rajan

Sponsor: World Bank

Status: Report

77. Migration, Remittances and Dutch Disease: Evidence from Kerala Economy

M. Parameswaran

Sponsor: Research Programme on Kerala and World Economy

Status: A chapter in Mani, Sunil (ed.) *Kerala and World Economy*, published by Centre for Development Studies, 2020.

Ongoing Research Projects

78. Should We Provide incentives for Investment Use of Remittances? A Randomized Controlled Experiment for India

S. Irudaya Rajan and Bharati Basu (Central Michigan University)

Sponsor: UAE Exchange Centre LLC

Status: Ongoing (Expected date of completion: December 2021)

79. Return Migrant Survey 2020

S. Irudaya Rajan

Sponsor: Research Programme on International Migration from Kerala

Status: Ongoing (Expected date of completion: July 2021)

80. The Prospects and Impact of Migration At The Local Level Through A Village Census

Vinoj Abraham, Praveena Kodoth, Parameswaran M and Ritika Jain

Sponsor: Kerala in the World Economy Programme/CDS

Status: Expected date of completion: The research was to be completed by March 2020, but has to be extended due to the COVID pandemic.



New Initiatives

81. Kerala Transforming: Dynamics of Labour and the Economy (Book)

Beena PL and Thiagu Ranganathan

Sponsor: Research Unit on International Migration

Status: Proposal is under review with Routledge, India.

82. Evidence Generation on Child Migration: A State Level Study of Tamil Nadu and Kerala

Vinoj Abraham and Praveena Kodoth

Sponsor: UNICEF, India.

Status: New Initiative

AGRICULTURE AND PLANTATION CROPS

Completed Studies

83. The Crisis and the Retirement: Alienation in Kerala's Tea Belt

Jayaseelan Raj

Status: Published in *Focaal: Journal of Global and Historical Anthropology*. Vol. 86 (2020): 84-96.

84. Exploring Higher Order Risk Preferences of Farmers in a Water-Scarce Region: Evidence from a Field Experiment in West Bengal, India

Thiagu Ranganathan, Kanchan Joshi (Macquarie University) and Ram Ranjan (Shiv Nadar University, Delhi) Status: *Journal of Quantitative Economics*, 1-28, 2021.

85. Risk and Risk Management in Agriculture

Thiagu Ranganathan

Status: Chapter in book in Chakraborty et al. Eds. (2021) *Contemporary Issues in Sustainable Development: The Case of India*. Routledge Publication.

86. Agri-commodity Futures and Value Chains

Tirtha Chatterjee, Ragav Raghunathan and Ashok Gulati (ICRIER)

Status: Chapter in Mishra, A. K., Kumar, A., & Joshi, P. K. (Eds.). (2020). *Transforming Agriculture in South Asia: The Role of Value Chains and Contract Farming*. Routledge.

87. Performance of the Plantation Sector during the COVID-19 Pandemic

Vinoj Abraham and Mitesh Madhavan

Status: Published in *The Indian Economic Journal*. 2020;68(3):438-456.

doi:10.1177/0019466220988064 and also in National Research Programme on Plantation Development (NRPPD), *Commentary on India's Economy and Society Series – 16*, Centre for Development Studies, July.

Completed Research Projects

88. The Quality and Productivity of Rubber Board

Sunil Mani

Sponsor: Rubber Board, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India

Status: Available as a report.



89. An Analysis of the Producer Collectives in Rubber and Coffee Cultivation

Vinoj Abraham and Mitesh Madhavan

Sponsor: NRPPD, CDS

Status: Published in *Kerala and the World Economy*, edited volume by Sunil Mani

Ongoing Research Projects

90. Collective Action among Small Tea Growers (STG)

Thiagu Ranganathan, Vиноj Abraham, Tirtha Chatterjee

Sponsor: National Research Programme on Plantation Development (NRPPD)

Status: Expected date of completion: November, 2021

91. Performance of Rubber Producer Societies in Rubber

Vinoj Abraham and Mithesh Madhavan

Sponsor: National Research Programme on Plantation Development (NRPPD)

Status: The research was to completed by March 2020, but has to be extended due to the COVID pandemic

92. An Assessment of the Impact of Self-help Groups on Small Tea Growers

Vinoj Abraham, ThiaguRanganathan and Tirtha Chatterjee

Sponsor: NRPPD, CDS

Status: The research was to be have been completed by March 2020, but has to be extended due to the COVID pandemic.

93. Performance of Farmer Producer Organisations in Coffee

Vinoj Abraham and Mithesh Madhavan

Sponsor: NRPPD, CDS

Status: Expected date of completion: The research was to completed by March 2020, but has to be extended due to the COVID pandemic

94. Feasibility of e-auction in Rubber

Vinoj Abraham

Sponsor: NRPPD, CDS

Status: Expected date of completion: The research was to completed by March 2020, but has to be extended due to the COVID pandemic.

POLITICS AND DEVELOPMENT

Completed Studies

95. Another Wave of Forest and Adivasi Land Alienation? Revenue versus ForestPattayam and Adivasi Land question in Kerala During Covid 19

Abhilash T and K H Amita Bachan (KFRI)

Status: Accepted for publication, *ArthaVijnana*, UGC recognised journal published by Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Pune.

96. The Politics of State Level COVID-19 Responses in India

Ritika Jain and Tirtha Chatterjee

Status: Communicated to journal (Under review at Economics and Politics)

Research theme: Politics and development



97. Electricity prices and firms' decisions and outcomes: The case of India after a decade of the Electricity Act

Ritika Jain and Amit Nandan (Doctoral Scholar)

Status: Published in *Energy Economics*, 91, 104915.

New Initiatives

98. A Comparative Assessment of Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) and Community Action using Norms

Thiagu Ranganathan and S Krithi, (Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Hyderabad)

Sponsor: ICIMOD

OTHER STUDIES

Completed Studies

99. Nonlinear Relationships between Inflation, Output Growth and Uncertainty in India: New Evidence from a Bivariate Threshold Model

Srikanta Kundu, Kusha Banik Chowdhury (Indian Statistical Institute (North-East Centre), Tezpur, Assam) and Kaustav Kanti Sarkar (Reserve Bank of India, Mumbai)

Status: Published in *Bulletin of Economic Research*

(<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/boer.12260>)

100. Asymmetries in the Monetary Policy Reaction Function: Evidence from India

Srikanta Kundu and Irfan Ahmad Shah (Doctoral Scholar)

Status: Revised version Submitted to Journal

101. Effect of Economic Policy Uncertainty on Stock Market Return and Volatility under Heterogeneous Market Characteristics

Srikanta Kundu and Amartya Paul (Doctoral Scholar)

Status: Revised version submitted to Journal and CDS working Paper

102. An Empirical Analysis of COVID-19 Response: Comparison of US with the G7

Mahua Barari (Missouri State University), Srikanta Kundu, and Saibal Mitra (Missouri State University)

Status: Revised version Submitted to Journal

103. An Empirical Analysis of COVID-19 Response: Comparison of US with the G7

Himangshu Kumar, Manikantha Nataraj (Doctoral Scholars) and Srikanta Kundu

Status: 2nd Revised and Resubmitted to a Journal

104. Does Economic Status Matter in the relationship among Democracy, Macroeconomics and Happiness? A Panel Data Analysis

Srikanta Kundu, Ruma Kundu (Sikkim University, Tadong, Gangtok) and Kul Bahadur Chettri (Research Scholar, Department of Economics, Sikkim University)

Status: Submitted to a journal



105. Risk>Returns Interdependence between REIT and Stocks: A STVAR-BTGARCH-M Model

Srikanta Kundu, Mahamitra Das (Xavier School of Economics, Xavier University Bhubaneswar) and Nityananda Sarkar (Economic Research Unit of the Indian Statistical Institute)

Status: Submitted to Journal.

106. What Determines Child Immunisation? A Study of Socio-Economic Factors in East Sikkim

Ruma Kundu (Sikkim University, Tadong, Gangtok), Srikanta Kundu, and Indraneel Mandal (Institute of Technology and Science, Ghaziabad)

Status: Submitted to Journal.

107. State Heterogeneity, Redistributive Policy and Pro-Poor Growth: Evidence from India with a special reference to Education

Srikanta Kundu and Amartya Paul (Doctoral Scholar)

Status: To be submitted to Journal.

108. Monetary Transmission Mechanism in Asymmetric Framework: Evidence from India

Srikanta Kundu and Irfan Ahmed Shah (Doctoral Scholar)

Status: To be submitted to Journal.

Ongoing Studies

109. Bank Capital Structure and Monetary Policy Transmission: Evidence from India

Srikanta Kundu and Shelja Bhatia (Doctoral scholar)

Status: Ongoing (Expected date of completion: September 2021)

Completed Research Projects

110. Beyond Aesthetic Education: The Malayali Engagement with Humanities

J. Devika

Sponsor: CIPSH and UNESCO

Status: Accepted as Chapter in the India/South Asia section of the World Humanities Report, anchored by Prof Bishnu N Mohapatra, KREA University.

New Initiatives

111. Macroeconomic Growth and Role of Economic Policy Uncertainty: The Case of India

Srikanta Kundu and Sandeep Pandey (Doctoral Scholar)

Status: New initiative (Expected date of completion: September 2021)

112. Performance of $r - (k, d)$ Class Estimator In Terms of Mean Square Error Matrix and Mahalanobis Loss Function under Autocorrelated Error

Srikanta Kundu and Nityananda Sarkar ((Economic Research Unit of the Indian Statistical Institute)

Status: Research Plan for 2021-22.



ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT STUDIES
ULLOOR, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31.03.2021

EXPENDITURE	SCH NO	31 March 2021	31 March 2020	INCOME	SCH NO	31 March 2021	31 March 2020
Faculty & Staff Cost	1	7,42,16,575.00	7,63,07,725.00	Grant in Aid			
Fellowship	2	10,39,384.00	34,85,176.00	A. From ICSSR		2,75,00,000.00	
Academic Development	3	78,19,809.00	95,32,210.00	Salary		10,00,000.00	
Repairs & Maintenance	4	70,58,402.00	82,44,150.00	Non-Salary			3,25,32,000.00
Administrative Expenses	5	18,59,128.00	27,21,488.00	B. From Govt. of Kerala			
Sponsored Research/ Fellowship/ Projects Expenses	6			Plan		2,07,00,000.00	
				Non-Plan		3,25,27,000.00	
Surplus & Recovery of Overheads Transferred to Endowment Fund	7	12,85,218.00	1,21,00,760.00	Total Grant (A+B)			5,61,42,600.00
Net Income from Earmarked Funds Transferred to Respective Funds	B	2,50,69,594.00	4,41,78,753.00	Less: Utilised for Capital Expenditure		8,17,27,000.00	8,86,74,600.00
Depreciation	C	1,26,88,875.00	1,35,51,598.00			95,29,738.00	96,77,919.00
				Fees Received	8	8,52,825.00	9,17,095.00
				Other Income	9	23,39,621.00	2,62,416.00
				Less: Transferred to Endowment Fund		21,42,833.00	
				Sponsored Research/ Fellowship/ Project/ Income Transferred	6	12,85,218.00	1,21,00,760.00
				Surplus & Recovery of Overheads Transferred from Project Funds	7	97,29,710.00	1,28,47,011.00
				Interest on Investment of Earmarked Funds	B	5,39,16,372.00	
				Less: Expenditure on Funds		1,41,00,585.00	
				Less: Transfer to I&E - recoupment of deficit		1,47,46,223.00	
				Transfer from General Fund (Depreciation)	C		4,41,78,753.00
				Transfer from Endowment Fund (Deficit)			1,35,51,598.00
TOTAL		14,07,66,698.00	18,29,68,871.00	TOTAL		14,07,66,698.00	18,29,68,871.00

For KRISHNAN RETNA & ASSOCIATES

Chartered Accountants
FRNO - 0015365

Director
Centre for Development Studies



CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT STUDIES
ULLOOR, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st MARCH, 2021

LIABILITIES	Sch	As at 31.3.2021 (Rs.)	As at 31.3.2020 (Rs.)	ASSETS	Sch	As at 31.3.2021 (Rs.)	As at 31.3.2020 (Rs.)
General Fund	A	9,13,48,885.00	9,84,04,099.00	Fixed Assets	G	9,05,01,735.00	9,75,56,949.00
Earmarked Funds	B	90,14,23,600.00	84,44,81,663.00	Investments	B	89,19,19,429.00	83,66,86,256.00
Deposits	C	14,22,795.00	13,54,895.00	Earmarked Funds			
Current Liabilities	D	46,17,282.00	49,98,548.00	Loans & Advances	H	66,37,562.00	58,09,497.00
Unspent Grant	E	11,63,777.00	11,63,777.00	W F Loan/ Other Advance	I	9,82,755.00	9,39,194.00
Sponsored Projects & Fellowships	F	62,55,797.00	39,25,910.00	Prepaid Expenses		28,66,609.00	19,89,910.00
Unspent Grant				TDS			
				Current Assets	J	39,408.00	48,501.00
				Closing Stock	K	1,32,23,806.00	87,44,605.00
				Cash & Bank Balance			
				Sponsored Projects & Fellowships	F	60,832.00	25,53,080.00
				Grant Receivable			
TOTAL		1,00,62,32,136.00	95,43,28,892.00	TOTAL		1,00,62,32,136.00	95,43,28,892.00



Sumilani

Director
Centre for Development Studies

For KRISHNAN RETNA & ASSOCIATES

Chartered Accountants
FR NO - 0015396

(A. Reinkumar Nair)
Partner

MNO-024791



HONORARY FELLOWS

(As on 31.3.2021)

Vaidyanathan A.*	Former Fellow, CDS
George P.S.	Former Director and Fellow, CDS
Zachariah K.C.	Former Senior Demographer, The World Bank, Washington D.C.
Amit Bhaduri	Emeritus Professor, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
Mathew E.T.	Former Professor and Head, Department of Economics, University of Kerala
Jayachandran T.N.	Former Vice Chancellor, Calicut University, Kerala
Oommen M.A.	Former Professor and Head, Department of Economics, University of Calicut, Kerala
Damodaran A.D.	Former Director, Regional Research Laboratory, Thiruvananthapuram
Rao G.N.	Former Fellow, CDS
Thomas Isaac T.M.	Former Fellow, CDS
Mridul Eapen	Former Fellow, CDS
Kannan, K.P	Former Director and Fellow, CDS
P. Mohanan Pillai	Former Fellow, CDS
P. Sivanandan	Former Fellow, CDS

*Passed away on 20 June, 2020



Professor Sushil Khanna, IIM, Kolkata and GIFT, Trivandrum, delivering a webinar on 'Trade in Kerala Economy,' as part of the Fiftieth Foundation Year Lecture Series on 21 August, 2020.

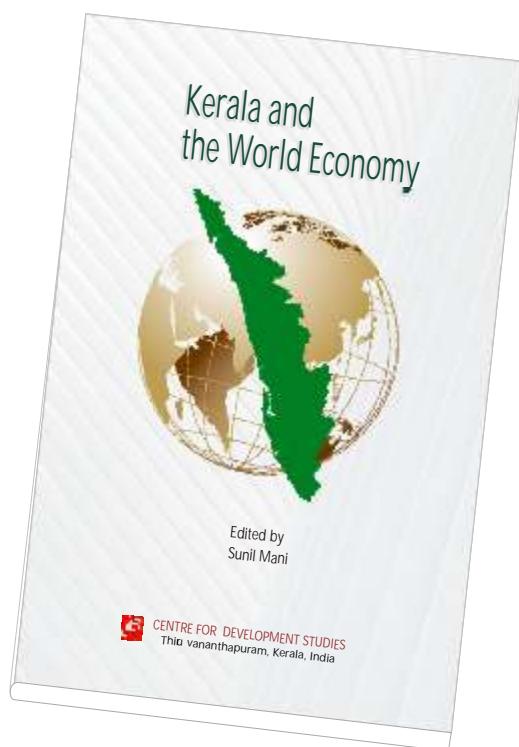


A Webinar on 'Binding the State: State Capacity and the Democratic Deficit in India' was delivered by Professor Patrick Heller, Brown University, USA, on 15 January, 2021.



The Centre for Development Studies is presently celebrating its Fiftieth Foundation Year. It was on 19 October 1970 that the CDS was established as an autonomous social science research institute. The Centre is, perhaps, one of the first educational institutions in the country to follow a democratically decentralised governing structure ensuring complete transparency in administrative and academic matters.

As part of the Centre's 50th Foundation Year celebrations a Souvenir was released at the valedictory function held on March 22, 2021. The souvenir traces out some historical facts and photographs of CDS over the years. It also highlighted reflections of the alumni on their association with CDS.



The Centre for Development Studies has a long tradition of facilitating informed discussion on Kerala's economy. This commenced with the publication of a very influential volume, Poverty, Unemployment and Development Policy by Professor K N Raj and his associates in 1975 based on a project sponsored by the United Nations. In fact, the unique development experience of Kerala has earned it the reputation of being a model of development. Subsequent to that path breaking publication, several members of the CDS faculty and indeed M Phil and Ph.D students at the Centre have published monographs and journal articles on different aspects of the state's economy. But an all-encompassing monograph which discusses the more recent performance of the state has so far not been available. It is hoped that the present volume will fill this important gap in the literature on Kerala's economy.

The book addresses several oft repeated propositions regarding Kerala's economy with fresh empirical data and methods of data analysis. These are integration of the state's economy with the rest of the world, the importance of remittances sent by Kerala workers especially from the Middle East, the state of Kerala's manufacturing sector and the condition of her environment. The book deals with these current and longstanding issues in 7 broad groups such as sustainable development, commercial crops, livestock and fisheries, high tech manufacturing and modern industries, international trade, migration and remittances and health.

It is hoped that the book will precipitate a very lively debate on all these issues which have become more important now than ever before.

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E-Book: Rs.400/-

Foreword by

Professor Robin Jeffrey

Institute of South Asian Studies, National University of Singapore

Endorsements by

"Kerala is well known for its exceptional success on human development. This wide-ranging book complements this story, with an excellent comprehensive overview of Kerala's economy, focusing particularly on patterns of international and inter-state trade, its response to environmental challenges, and migration issues. The book provides an admirable and fitting celebration of the fifty-year anniversary of the pioneering Centre for Development Studies in Kerala and should be compulsory reading for anyone concerned with economic development in the state and beyond".

Professor Frances Stewart
University of Oxford, UK

"A fitting tribute to the fifty years of the productive existence of CDS, this volume affirms once again that Kerala continues to be a fascinating object of study and research in development literature. The essays in this collection eminently succeed in mapping out Kerala's development trajectory in the world economy which has a history that goes back to the third millennium BC and a migration episode that transformed the economy and society. Sunil Mani has edited the work admirably into an organic entity. The work opens a splendid opportunity for informed debates and research on Kerala's development in greater depth".

Professor M A Oommen
Honorary Fellow, CDS

"Kerala's developmental trajectory has long stood out as an exceptional case of successful inclusion and capability enhancement and has attracted extensive scholarly attention. Much less is known about Kerala's integration into the world economy. The 16 essays in this book provide a comprehensive and detailed picture of how Kerala's economy, across a full range of sectors, is managing global integration. The essays assess aggregate trends of globalization, impacts on sustainability, how different labor markets are being affected and how new patterns of production and trade are shaping growth and distributive outcomes. From the careful parsing of data to detailed dissection of policies and institutional changes, the analysis that emerges is rich, complex and invaluable".

Professor Patrick Heller
Brown University, USA

"Students of Indian development know that Kerala's development experience diverged from the Indian one in significant ways. In recent years, the divergence took a distinct form as Kerala forged ahead with innovations in environment and natural-resource management, institutions, and technology. Kerala and the World Economy tells this story with a set of high-quality research-based surveys".

Professor Tirthankar Roy
London School of Economics, UK

Copies can be had from

Amazon.in (<https://amzn.to/2Jlk0b1>)
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Modern Book Centre, Thiruvananthapuram

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Nirmala Padmanabhan, Anup Thaliath Tomy
 4. Conservation of Agrobiodiversity: Assessing the Policies and Institutions in Kerala: Sunil Mani, S.M.Mohanakumar, V. Santhakumar and T. Abhilash
 5. The Saga of Deepening Crisis in Kerala's Plantation Economy: Opportunities or Challenges in the Era of Global Market Integration?:
P.K. Viswanathan and Kavya Krishnakumar
 6. An Institutional Analysis of the Producer Collectives in Rubber and Coffee Cultivation: Vinoj Abraham & Mithesh Madhavan
 7. Reviving Coconut Sector in Kerala: Problems & Prospects: Jayasekhar S.
 8. Biological Innovation and Economic Growth An Analysis of Cattle Development in Kerala: K.N. Nair
 9. The Fisheries Economy of Kerala: Understanding the Development Pathways and Scoping the Future:
Shinoj Parappurathu, Suresh A., Ramachandran C. and Baiju K.K.
 10. Make in Kerala: The Untold Story of Manufacturing SMEs in Kerala:
C. Balagopal and Rajesh Nair
 11. Public Policy and the Challenges of IT-Centred Knowledge Industries of Kerala: M. Arun
 12. International and Intra-national Trade flows of Kerala with Special Reference to Manufacturing Sector: C. Veeramani and Mansi Arora
 13. Structure, Direction and Export contribution of Kerala State: With Special Reference to Cochin Special Economic Zone:
P. L. Beena, George Paily and Pradeesh Kumar S.
 14. An analysis of the Reintegration of Return Migrants and State Responses in Kerala: S. Irudaya Rajan, C. S. Akhil and Sabeer V. C.
 15. Migration, Remittances and Dutch Disease: Evidence from Kerala Economy: M. Parameswaran
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V. Raman Kutty
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