

**CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT STUDIES**

**THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, KERALA**

(Under the aegis of ICSSR, Govt. of India & Govt. of Kerala)



**MARCH 2021**



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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The souvenir was designed and prepared by a three-member team consisting of Sunil Mani, Tilak Baker and Ajikumar A. R. Of the three Ajikumar A. R played an important role with the layout. 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 place its grateful thanks to all its stakeholders and in particular to the Government of Kerala, the Indian Council of Social Science Research and Jawaharlal Nehru University.



**K N RAJ**

**THE VISION**

*The CDS envisages to join the league of universally acclaimed centres of excellence in theoretically informed applied economic research, teaching and training in development studies by reorienting its research agenda, and strengthening and diversifying its teaching and training programmes with a view to providing policy input and capacity-building in collaboration with other centres of excellence within and outside the country so as to address the development challenges in tune with the changing needs of the economy and society.*

ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN  
GOVERNOR OF KERALA



RAJ BHAVAN  
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM-695 099

09 March 2021



### MESSAGE

I am happy to know that the Centre for Development Studies (CDS), an autonomous social science research institute under the aegis of the ICSSR Govt. of India and Govt. of Kerala is celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> Foundation Year and that a **Souvenir** will be released at the valedictory function to be held on 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2021.

It is commendable that the Centre for Development Studies has flourished into an institution of national and international repute in the broad area of development economics.

I compliment the entire CDS team for their dedicated work and wish the celebrations as well as the Souvenir all success.



[Arif Mohammed Khan]

**PINARAYI VIJAYAN**  
CHIEF MINISTER



GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

Secretariat  
Thiruvananthapuram-695 001



No.123/Press/CMO/21.

24<sup>th</sup> February, 2021.

MESSAGE

Centre for Development Studies (CDS) occupies a pride of place in our higher education sector. Started in the early 1970s, CDS has given a unique opportunity to our students to interact with renowned scholars like Jan Tinbergen, Joan Robinson to name a few. The institution made a landmark contribution in its CDS-UN Study, 1975, which thoroughly analysed Kerala's development narrative. Later, our development narrative became highly popular under the nomenclature 'Kerala Model'.

The founder of CDS Prof. K.N. Raj was part of India's early experiments with five year plan experiments in the 1950s. The erudite scholars who joined CDS under his leadership in its initial days mentored batches of students who have gone on to become eminent academicians, policy makers, journalists and activists who are spread across different countries.

CDS has produced high quality works which have been extensively used by researchers and administrators. The institution has successfully encouraged inter-disciplinary research and has fostered a spirit of enquiry which has led to valuable empirical findings, often challenging established theories holding the field.

The CDS is now in its golden jubilee year. I wish the institution a bright future.

**Pinarayi Vijayan**

The Director  
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**Dr. T. M. Thomas Isaac**  
Minister for Finance  
Govt. of Kerala



## **Founders and Torchbearers of a Knowledge Society in Kerala**

I wish to highlight some unique traits of the Centre for Development Studies since I was an early beneficiary of this ambitious venture launched in Kerala by a team of dedicated visionaries in the 1970s. Foremost among them was the spirit of tolerance that pervaded the place, embracing the entire faculty and students from diverse regional, linguistic, cultural and disciplinary backgrounds and ideological persuasions. They could easily co-exist on the campus, engage in serious academic pursuits, read, reflect and contribute to each other's intellectual advancement and emotional well-being. People like me who showed up from not necessarily acceptable ideological backgrounds were welcomed and never discriminated against on any grounds. We all proudly belonged to a profoundly humane environment.

The CDS set and practised a distinctly different set of academic standards. Analytical clarity, theoretical foundation and methodological rigour were mandatory requirements for any student drawn to higher studies and research in social sciences. While doing any academic assignment - written or oral presentation - we were constantly reminded to use only facts and figures as evidence and to minimise the use of rhetoric. The pioneers of the CDS meticulously monitored the all-round development of their wards, a thorough job that yielded rich rewards over the years. That was one place we learned to hold the ground, argue our case, disagree even fiercely with other viewpoints and still maintain a great deal of warmth and affection for each other. The formative years at the CDS helped us sharpen our perspectives and pursue fulfilling career paths in different domains of life.

My respectful salutations to the founding fathers – KN Raj, PGK Panikar, TN Krishnan, IS Gulati and N Krishnaji – and to the subsequent generations of teachers and scholars who together shaped up one of the finest social science institutions of India and in the process made better human beings out of us all.



**V. K. Malhotra**  
(Professor of Economics)  
Member Secretary



भारतीय सामाजिक विज्ञान अनुसंधान परिषद्  
मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार  
**INDIAN COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH**  
Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India



### MESSAGE

I am pleased to extend my warmest greetings and congratulations to the Centre for Development Studies (CDS), Thiruvananthapuram as they celebrate their Fiftieth Foundation Year. The CDS, established in 1970 as an autonomous research institute under the aegis of ICSSR and Government of Kerala, is known to have well acknowledged achievements in the field of developmental research as the Centre gained from the visionary leadership of development economist Professor K.N.Raj for more than two decades. The CDS is one of the first research institutes to come under the support of ICSSR.

Over these fifty years, the CDS is known to have promoted social science research through their training & research programmes, publications and conferences. Over these years, the Centre has shown commendable scholarship especially in the area of empirical research and providing informed inputs to the policy makers. CDS have developed and diversified their research in a good number of areas ranging from local government, migration, gender and development to industry and trade. I wish the Centre to still more vigorously contribute through policy making at all levels. The institute also holds the honour to have one of the largest social science libraries in India with a rich collection of over 1.5 lac titles comprising of books, journals, publications of other research institutes and government publications. I hereby, once again extend my best wishes to the institute and wish them success for their future initiatives.

*V.K. Malhotra*  
(Prof. V.K.Malhotra)

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The Centre for Development Studies has been the leading institution for economic research in Kerala for fifty years. Any serious student of Kerala's economy has to engage with the work that has been conducted at the Centre over the years, and to utilise the enormous resource that is the Centre's Library. I send my good wishes to the faculty, administrative staff, and students of the Centre, and look forward to many years of progressive scholarship from the Centre.

  
V K Ramachandran  
March 22, 2021

**Dr. VENU V. IAS**  
Additional Chief Secretary to Govt. &  
Member Secretary  
Kerala State Planning Board



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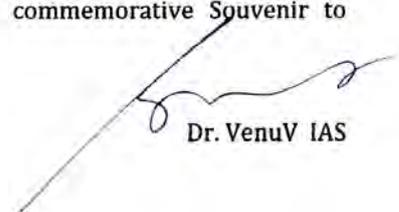


### **MESSAGE**

I am happy to learn that Centre for Development Studies [CDS] is bringing out a Souvenir on the occasion of the celebration of its 50<sup>th</sup> Foundation year.

CDS has grown into a highly respected research centre for social sciences in the country. From the very beginning, the centre has been nurtured by eminent scholars and experts who have contributed their time and intellect in providing it the right vision and direction. All of us who have benefited from the work of the Centre are thankful to the visionaries who have shaped it in its formative years. The academic freedom and decentralized governance that the centre enjoyed have ensured that the centre has developed specialized expertise in certain areas which are unique in nature. The formidable network of academic collaborations and the continuous emphasis on inter-disciplinary work have infused the centre with original thought and new areas of study.

I extend my compliments to Sri K.M. Chandrasekhar, Chairman of the Governing body and Prof. Sunil Mani, Director for providing visionary leadership to CDS, and for bringing out a commemorative Souvenir to celebrate this landmark.

  
Dr. VenuV IAS



जवाहरलाल नेहरू विश्वविद्यालय  
JAWAHARLAL NEHRU UNIVERSITY

नई दिल्ली - ११००६७  
NEW DELHI - 110067

प्रोफेसर म. जगदीश कुमार  
कुलपति

**Professor M. Jagadesh Kumar**  
Vice-Chancellor

05 March 2021



**MESSAGE**

I am very pleased to learn that the Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram, has completed fifty years in the service of our society. The CDS has over past decades made significant contributions to developing ideas, analyzing problems and theories that concerned our rich culture, ancient civilisation and diverse society; research and studies in the area of social sciences empowers the mind of our people further to ponder how our country and society should celebrate what we have inherited from the past and how to improve our process of thinking. As a significant research centre, the CDS has been encouraging studies in various fields of Social Sciences, training youth to think scientifically and logically to present solutions to the many problems of our society. One particular area of Social Sciences in which this Centre has excelled in recent decades is studying economic aspects of our country and society, which is commendable and necessary.

The CDS will be celebrating its Fiftieth Foundation Day this month and I would like to send my warm greetings and best wishes to the administrators and scholars of the Centre. I look forward to seeing the Centre's contributions grow further in Social Sciences.

My heartiest congratulations to the Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram, on this joyous occasion.

(Prof. M. Jagadesh Kumar)

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# UNIVERSITY OF KERALA

(Re-accredited by NAAC with 'A' Grade)

**PROF. V. P. MAHADEVAN PILLAI**  
Vice Chancellor

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Monday, March 1, 2021

## MESSAGE

*I am happy to know that the Centre for Development Studies (CDS) is bringing out a Souvenir, as part of its 50<sup>th</sup> Foundation year Celebrations.*

*The discipline of Social Sciences has an important role today as it covers a wide spectrum of areas, offering a better understanding of the world. We are living in a complex society and students of social sciences should be instilled with right skills to solve problems faced by the modern society.*

*I applaud your esteemed institution for having completed 50 glorious years of selfless and sincere service contributing to the economic stability of the country.*

*I wish the Faculty, Staff and Students of the Centre all the best on this occasion.*

**Prof. V.P. MAHADEVAN PILLAI**



## THE KERALA STATE HIGHER EDUCATION COUNCIL

Constituted by Kerala State Legislature by notification No.19536/Leg.Uni.3/2007/Law. Dated, Thiruvananthapuram, 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2007  
Science & Technology Museum Campus, PMG, Vikas Bhayan P.O, Thiruvananthapuram - 33.  
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**Prof. Rajan Gurukkal**  
**Vice Chairman**



12<sup>th</sup> March 2020

### Message

It is immensely gratifying to congratulate Centre for Development Studies at its 50th anniversary by gratefully recalling its legendary founder KN.Raj and his awe-inspiring colleagues, who made it one of the premier social science institutions of international recognition in the country.

I am aware of the Institute's commendable contributions to social science research in general and local level development studies in particular. It has produced several experts, who matter in development economics and inspired a good number of researchers in different allied fields of research.

Many professionals in Economics including researchers and teachers owe their accomplished stature in the discipline to the demanding academic culture of the Institution.

I wish the institution all the best to go forward with its intellectual heritage of half-a-century, to an all the more brilliant future of creative and critical educational success.

Prof.Rajan Gurukkal



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INDIAN INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT AHMEDABAD

Errol D'Souza, Ph.D.  
Director

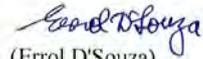


Prof. Sunil Mani  
Director  
Centre for Development Studies  
Prasanth Nagar, Ulloor,  
Thiruvananthapuram 695 011.

9<sup>th</sup> March, 2021

*On the 50<sup>th</sup> Foundation Year of CDS*

My salute to the Centre for Development Studies on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its foundation year. Over the years it has been a beacon for those of us who have been engaged in work on various aspects of development. The studies on migration and the debates on the Kerala model of development caught our imagination and inspired us to think about alternative ways in which states and societies can benefit humanity. It is fair to say that though Kerala as a state is less integrated with the rest of the world and India the CDS has overcompensated with informed debates on the diaspora and remittances, population and migration, labour economics, plantation agriculture, agriculture, livestock, fisheries and the environment, hi-tech manufacturing, and science and technology policy, amongst other aspects of development. My best wishes to the scholars of the next 50 years as they build on this edifice and showcase new work that the epistemic community in other parts of the world profit from.

  
(Errol D'Souza)

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The Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram, has been a pioneering institution, researching all aspects of Indian society, based on hard empirical research. It produced a path-breaking report in the 1970s on the economy, health and education in Kerala, which is an unacknowledged precursor of the Human Development Reports produced by UNDP from 1990. The writings of its founder the late Professor K. N. Raj on Indian agricultural growth, and the problems the Indian economy faced in a globalized world instigated an enormous body of research. It would be invidious to name names among so many brilliant contributions made by members of the CDS faculty. I will mention the work of my late friend T. N. Krishnan, who showed that in the Indian context in the aggregate there was an inverse relation between the consumption of food products and of industrial products. Other contributions that stand out are the delineation of social movements and political activism to the rise of Kerala to the head of the human development league table, the analysis of the problems faced by the telecommunications industry, the way a people's plan should be formulated and the analysis of the place of the informal sector in the Indian economy. I consider it a privilege that I have been able to interact with practically all the directors of the CDS from K. N. Raj to the present incumbent

**Amiya Bagchi**

Emeritus Professor

Institute of Development Studies Kolkata

Adjunct Professor, Monash University



Let me congratulate this unique institution called CDS on the occasion of its 50th anniversary. Although I had heard about it before, I learnt more about CDS and Dr. K.N. Raj when I was working on my Ph.D on agriculture and poverty at the Delhi School of Economics. At that time, I also learned about Raj's contributions to building up the Delhi School in the 1950s and the 1960s and later creation and development of CDS in Trivandrum. While reading literature for my Ph.D., one thing that attracted me was the CDS study "Poverty, Unemployment and development Policy: A Case Study of Selected Issues with Reference to Kerala, prepared by a team led by Dr. Raj published in 1975. It is well known that this study highlights the achievements of Kerala in attaining higher human development despite low level of per capita income; the so called "Kerala Model of Development". This study served as a great source of inspiration for my subsequent work on the social sector in India. I have also benefited from the CDS studies on various aspects of development in India in general and Kerala in particular. The ARTEP study on labour use in agriculture, the relationship between agriculture and industrial stagnation were also very useful.

I visited CDS several times and interacted with many economists and social scientists including K.N.Raj, A. Vaidyanathan, T.N. Krishnan, N. Krishnaji and learned a lot on various analytical issues on development economics. Later I was in the Governing Body of CDS for 6 years. During that time, Chandan Mukherji, K.P.Kannan and K.N. Nair were the directors and late Madhav Menon was the Chairman. I enjoyed my interactions with the faculty and students and close association with the Centre's activities. CDS attract high quality students from different parts of the country. In one of the Board meetings, someone from the government of Kerala suggested that M.Phil in CDS should be discontinued. I differed with him and strongly recommended for the continuation of M.Phil as I had gone through some of the dissertations which have high quality.

When I became the director of the Centre for the Economics and Social Studies (CESS) in Hyderabad, late Shri BPR Vithal told me that he established the CESS inspired by the model of CDS and the great work of KN Raj in building institutions. During my tenure at CESS, I visited CDS several times. We also started an annual conference of the ICSSR institutes from South India.

CDS has certain unique features that other institutions particularly those of ICSSR can learn and follow. Some of these characteristics are: tradition of open debate and cultivating critical engagement; consensus building; democratic and decentralized governance; larger role to faculty in governance; following autonomy by maintaining distance from the government; using low-cost housing techniques developed by Laurie Baker; a sense of co-ownership by CDS extended family including alumni. The institute has undeniable impact on shaping discussions across the social sciences particularly on development studies. I hope that CDS will continue its uniqueness in the next 50 years and beyond. All the best to the present director and CDS for their future activities.

**S. Mahendra Dev**  
Director and Vice Chancellor,  
IGIDR, Mumbai

## MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIRMAN



The Centre for Development Studies celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> Foundation Year in 2020-2021. To mark this milestone, it has been organising academic activities like lectures and seminars on different aspects of the economy and society of India, with specific emphasis on Kerala. Over the last 50 years, the Centre has shaped itself into a centre of excellence in development studies.

Over the last four decades and more, it has generated a great deal of outstanding talent in the field of economics and development in the form of academic research scholars, policy analysts, economic journalists and civil society activists. A noteworthy feature is that research and teaching has a distinct flavour by being evidence-based, focused on empirical data. Very often, our work has led to academic discourse on a wide range of development issues. Dissemination of its research activities have been very effectively carried out through its publication programme, organising international/national seminars, conferences and workshops and academic discussions with distinguished speakers from India and abroad.

Many in the faculty have served as members of policy oriented committees, task forces and advisory bodies at the State, Central and at international levels. The state of the art library is always open for researchers, college lecturers, students and members of the public. Over the last few years the focus has been more on improving the quality of research and teaching. The year saw several new research efforts by research scholars, internationalisation of teaching and research, new training programmes and automation of administrative functions .

I am sure that these activities will continue to grow with redoubled vigour in the years to come.

**K.M. Chandrasekhar**

## FOREWORD FROM OUR DIRECTOR



I have had the privilege of moving through different stages, being a student here and then a faculty member and finally its director. This rather long association with the Centre has allowed me to appreciate this important research centre's uniqueness from different vantage positions. Over the last five decades, the Centre has made three types of contributions to the development economics community of scholars in India and abroad.

The first one in my list of three is the Centre's contribution to human resources development for training and research development economics. The Centre accomplished this through establishing an MPhil programme in Applied Economics and then a PhD programme and since 2012-13 an M A programme in Applied Economics. The way the three programmes are structured, the kind of students it has attracted, and the Centre's long-standing affiliation with one of the best universities in the country, the Jawaharlal Nehru University, has added rigour to these programmes. CDS alumni from three programmes numbering over 600 or so occupy important positions in academia, government, multilateral institutions, economic journalism, and civil society organisations. Many of them have grown to become important resources persons to be reckoned with in their respective areas of expertise.

The second contribution in my list is the contribution to systematic empirical research on different aspects of Kerala and India's economy. It is generally believed that a fast-growing population, both unhealthy and illiterate, will act as a brake to a developing country's economic growth. So the solution to this problem was the application of controls on population growth through a variety of physical birth control means such as contraceptives and sterilisations. But research has shown that such coercive means of controlling population growth is always short-lived especially in a democratic context. A better and more organic way of controlling the population has been developed. One of the earliest pieces of research done at the Centre brought the "Kerala Model of Development" concept to the fore, which is now very well entrenched in the development literature. Basically, among other things, it demonstrated that population growth could be controlled very effectively by spreading female literacy. Once mothers are literate, they are more inclined to seek professional supervision at both pre and postnatal stages. The more professional supervision at birth takes place, and the lesser is the infant mortality rate lesser will be the desire to have more children. This is likely to lead to reductions in the total

fertility rate. This also showed that the key to systematic reductions in population growth lay in educating the women. Through this spread of especially female literacy, even poorer societies can show high human development. So, this entire notion of the Kerala model of development, contributed by earlier CDS research, has changed the way governments and multilateral institutions approached the issue of population control and human development not just in Kerala and India but in developing countries as well. It was this realisation that made the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) to initiate a global training programme on “Population and Sustainable Development” as a way of sensitising developing countries public policy administrators to this crucial question of improving female literacy and the opportunities that this can imply for overall human development in a nation-state. In more recent times research done at the Centre has contributed much to the literature on international migration. Over the last five decades research done at CDS has helped public policymaking in a range of areas in Kerala and India, such as in international migration, social protection measures, decentralisation of governance, pricing of public utilities such as water, electricity and public transportation and incentivising the performance innovation activities at the firm level. I must add that this is just an incomplete list.

Of late, the Centre has been contributing to the capacity building of teachers and researchers in Economics. Initially, this was done through specially organised refresher courses titled Teaching Innovations Programme in

Economics (TIPE). These programmes were spread over two weeks. During each week, university and college teachers in Economics drawn from Kerala and rest of the country were introduced to some of the latest techniques and pedagogy in economic theory, quantitative techniques, and the Indian economy. Recently, we have replaced this programme with the K N Raj fellowship programme, which has three components, the traditional TIPE programme, the Fellowship for Promising Teachers and the College Mentoring Programme. Under the CMP, the Centre adopts the department of economics of a government college and nurture it over three years by training its faculty, complementing teaching of economic theory and quantitative techniques, and improving the quality of its economics library and computing environment. This is one limited way of the Centre returning to the larger society within which it is located. Further, it has also been offering short duration programmes in migration research and in innovation policymaking.

The excellent physical infrastructure at the Centre, especially the superb library with its vast collection of research material and state-of-the-art computing facilities, facilitates one to work harder. With its vast array of committees, the Centre’s governance structure makes decision-making both transparent and inclusive.

With the central government’s new education policy, the country’s higher education establishment is poised for a sea change. With its strong foundation, I am sure the Centre is well prepared to take on the many challenges of an exciting future.

Sunil Mani

# FIRST GOVERNING BODY

**Dr. A. Aiyappan**

Former Vice Chancellor,  
University of Kerala.

**Dr. A. Vaidyanathan**

Director, Perspective Planning Division,  
Planning Commission, New Delhi.

**Shri C. K. Chandran**

Member Secretary,  
Northern Regional Electricity Board,  
Ministry of Irrigation and Power,  
New Delhi.

**Dr. George Jacob**

Chairman, University Grants Commission,  
New Delhi.

**Dr. K. S. Krishnan**

Vice Chancellor,  
University of Kerala.

**Mr. G. Parthasarathi**

Vice Chancellor,  
Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

**Dr. P. G. K. Panikar**

Head of the Department of Economics,  
University of Kerala.

**Prof. Moonis Raza**

Head, Centre for the Study of Regional  
Development, Jawaharlal Nehru  
University, New Delhi.

**Dr. P. K. Gopalakrishnan**

Member Secretary, State Planning Board and  
Secretary, Dept. of Planning and Economic  
Affairs,  
Government of Kerala.

**Prof. C. Z. Scaria**

Head of the Department of Economics,  
St. Berchman's College,  
Changanacherry.

**Dr. M. V. Pylee**

Director, School of Management  
Studies,  
University of Cochin, Cochin.

**Prof. K. N. Raj**

Professor, Centre for Development Studies.

**Dr. I. S. Gulati**

Professor, Centre for Development Studies.

**Dr. A. K. Sen**

Professor of Economics, London School of  
Economics and Political Science,  
London.

**Dr. P. G. Sukhatme**

Emeritus Professor,  
Gokhale Institute of Politics and  
Economics, Pune.

**Dr. M. S. Swaminathan**

Director General, ICAR,  
New Delhi.

**Dr. S. Chakravarty**

Member, Planning Commission,  
New Delhi.

# CURRENT GOVERNING BODY

## Chairman

### **Shri K.M. Chandrasekhar**

(Formerly) Cabinet Secretary  
Government of India

## Convenor

### **Professor Sunil Mani**

Director, CDS.

## Members

### **Prof. M. Jagadesh Kumar**

Vice-Chancellor  
Jawaharlal Nehru University  
New Delhi.

### **Prof. V. P. Mahadevan Pillai**

Vice Chancellor  
University of Kerala,  
Thiruvananthapuram

### **Prof. Govindan Rangarajan**

Director  
Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore.

### **Dr. V. Venu IAS**

Additional Chief Secretary  
Department of Planning & Economic  
Affairs, Govt. of Kerala  
Member Secretary, Kerala State  
Planning Board, Thiruvananthapuram

### **Prof. Virendra Kumar Malhotra**

Member Secretary  
Indian Council of Social Science  
Research, New Delhi

### **Dr. C. Rammanohar Reddy**

Editor, The India Forum

### **Prof. J. V. Meenakshi**

Department of Economics  
Delhi School of Economics  
University of Delhi, New Delhi.

### **Prof. Ajay Dubey**

School of International Studies  
Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

### **Prof. Gabriel Simon Thattil**

Professor & Director  
Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC)  
Department of Commerce,  
University of Kerala, Trivandrum

### **Prof. U.S. Mishra**

Centre for Development Studies  
Trivandrum

### **Prof. Praveena Kodoth**

Centre for Development Studies  
Trivandrum

### **Prof. K.P. Kannan**

Honorary Fellow, CDS  
Trivandrum

### **Prof. P. Sivanandan**

Honorary Fellow, CDS  
Trivandrum

## CHAIRMEN OF GOVERNING BODY



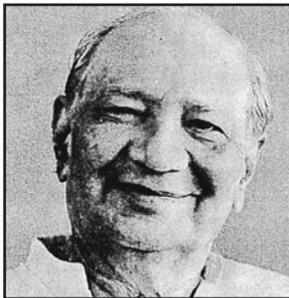
Prof. A Aiyappan  
(1970)



Prof. George Jacob  
(1971 - 1975)



Prof. P V Sukhatme  
(1975 - 1978)



Prof. M.L.Dantwala  
(1979 -1980)



Prof. D T Lakdawala  
(1980 - 1986)



Prof. Malcom Adiseshiah  
(1986 -1992)



Prof. K N Raj  
(1992 - 1998)



Prof. A. Vaidyanathan  
(1998 -2002)



Prof. N R Madhava Menon  
(2002 - 2009)



Dr. Bimal Jalan  
(2009 - 2015)



Shri K M Chandrasekhar  
(2015 - )

## DIRECTORS OF THE CENTRE



Prof. P.G.K. Panikar  
(1971-1985)



Prof. T.N. Krishnan  
(1985-1989)



Prof. P. S. George  
(1989-1995)



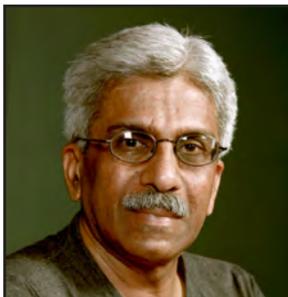
Prof. Chandan Mukherjee  
(1995-2003)



Prof. K.P. Kannan  
(2003-2004)



Prof. K. Narayanan Nair  
(2004-2010)



Prof. Pulapre Balakrishnan  
(2010-2013)



Prof. Amit Shovon Ray (2013-  
2016)



Prof. Sunil Mani (2017-)



Prof. Frances Stewart  
University of Oxford

Many congratulations to the CDS on its fifty year anniversary. Professor K.N.Raj was a man of great vision and humanity, and his values have informed the work of the Institute over the past half century. During these years, CDS has undertaken impressive empirical work supporting policies which contribute to widening opportunities and reducing poverty and inequality. These achievements provide a great foundation to enable the CDS to meet the critical challenges that will confront the country and the globe over the next 50 years.

## REGISTRARS, OVER THE FIVE DECADES



C.G. Devarajan  
(1973-1999)



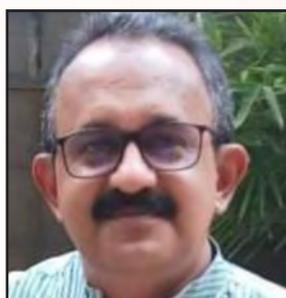
Soman Nair  
(1999-2012)



M. A. K. Haroon Rasheed  
(2012-2013)



P. Suresh Babu  
(2013-2016)



Suresh Kumar S.  
(2016 - )

## LIBRARIANS



Raveendran Nair  
(1973-1986)



V. Ramakrishnan  
(1990-2003)



T. K. Subramoni  
(2008-2010)



V. Sriram  
(2010-)



**Prof. Robin Jeffrey**

Institute of  
South Asian Studies  
Singapore

I've had the benefit of knowing people at CDS since 1974, of experiencing its hospitality and of interacting with its fine library and librarians. It has enabled outstanding scholars to range widely across topics and interpretations of current and past events and write about them freely. Whenever anyone outside of India has asked me about studying or learning about Kerala, CDS is one of the first things I mention. I am sure there will be no shortage of ex-students of CDS anxious to express their gratitude to the institution and their pleasure at the time they spent there. I have a particular memory of a vigorous rendition of "We Shall Have Overcome," sung one evening in the canteen during Mrs Gandhi's "emergency" in 1975.

I hope CDS can continue for another fifty years to provide a home for serious study of pressing economic and social questions and a haven for scholars from all over India and the world.

## ENDOWMENTS



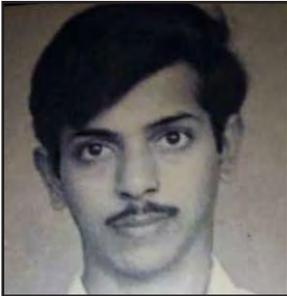
Joan Robinson



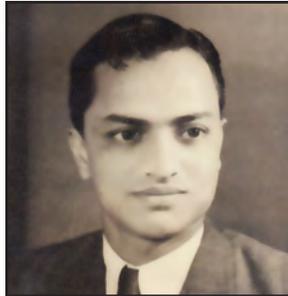
P.K. Gopalakrishnan



B.G. Kumar



A.D. Neelakantan



M.G. Kanbur



Chandrika Sharma





As part of the Centre's 50<sup>th</sup> Foundation Year celebrations the Centre is delighted to bring out this souvenir through which we hope to trace 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.

True to its tradition, the celebrations are only in terms of academic activities like organizing lectures and seminars on different aspects of India and Kerala's economy and society.

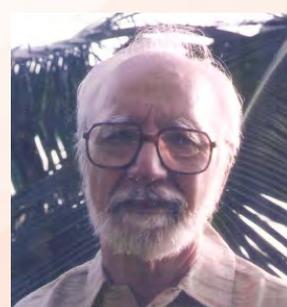
### **Background**

The Centre for Development Studies (CDS) Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala was conceived as a premier social science institution to promote research and teaching in applied economics and development studies. The impetus for its setting up came from two sources. At the national level, in 1969, the Government of India established the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) to review and promote social science research in the country. This was primarily sought to be achieved through setting up 'centres of excellence' in a context where the university system was found lacking. At the regional level, the then Government of Kerala headed by Shri C. Achutha Menon decided to actively support research in development issues with a view to provide the necessary intellectual inputs for Kerala's development initiatives. Shri Menon invited Professor K.N. Raj, a renowned economist with the Delhi School of Economics, to help establish an institution that could fulfill this objective. Professor Raj accepted the invitation and took the initiative to set up the CDS as an autonomous institution with funding from both the ICSSR and the Government of Kerala.

CDS was registered as a Society in September 1970 under the Travancore-Cochin Literary, Scientific and Charitable Societies Act. Since its inception, the Centre has undertaken a series of innovations beginning with the use of low cost building construction techniques. CDS was 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 the CDS campus is the result of this vision and effort of Laurie Baker. Other innovative beginnings include launching an inter-disciplinary M.Phil Programme affiliated to Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi and a Ph.D programme affiliated to both JNU and University of Kerala, capacity building through training programmes in varied areas of development studies including decentralisation, demography, gender and development, human resources, and social security, and acting as consultants to the government in development planning.

While the teaching programmes of the Centre have attracted students of diverse backgrounds from across the country, the training programmes have drawn participants from all over the world. The research activities of the Centre have thrown up new insights on development issues at the regional, national and international levels. The intellectual ambience of openness to ideas and plurality of perspectives that evolved over the years have contributed to defining the intellectual tradition of CDS.

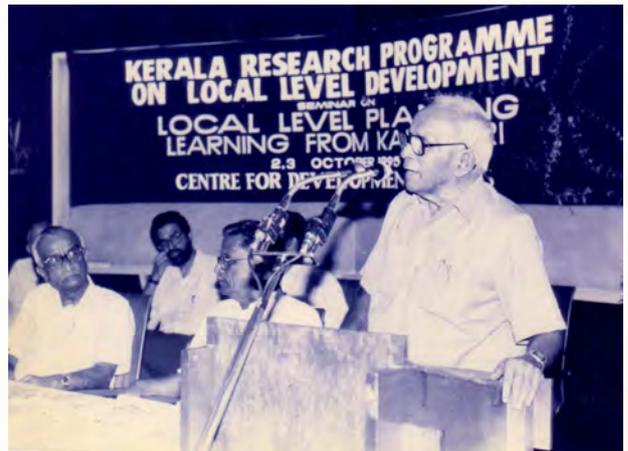
Recognising the value of the research carried out at the Centre, the state and central governments, and varied other bodies, national and international, including ICSSR, Planning Commission, Reserve Bank of India, United Nations Fund for Population Activities and other U.N. Agencies and the Government of Netherlands offered liberal financial assistance. Such assistance accepted after ensuring that the Centre's academic autonomy is retained intact, coupled with the visionary leadership of the founders and a matching dedicated service put in by all segments of the staff and students helped the Centre to create and maintain a world-class infrastructure in terms of buildings, library, and computer facilities, and to find its own niche, in the world of development studies.



## Governance

The Centre is, perhaps, one of the first educational institutions in the country to follow a democratically decentralised governing structure in administrative and academic matters. The Centre is presently managed by a Governing Body consisting of eminent academicians, planners as well as administrators. The present Chairman of the Governing Body is Sri. K.M. Chandrasekhar. The current Director is Prof. Sunil Mani. The Governing Body has delegated several of its powers to sub-committees to ensure the smooth day-to-day running of the Centre.

The Centre draws its financial support mainly from the Government of Kerala and the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR). The Reserve Bank of India and the Planning Commission has instituted endowment units for research in selected areas at CDS. The Union Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs had set up a migration unit to study issues relating to international migration from India.

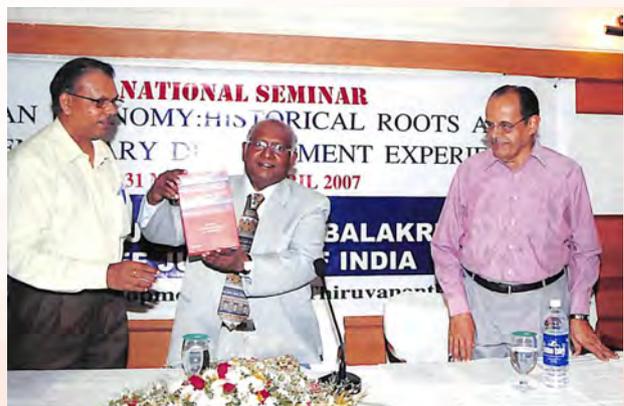
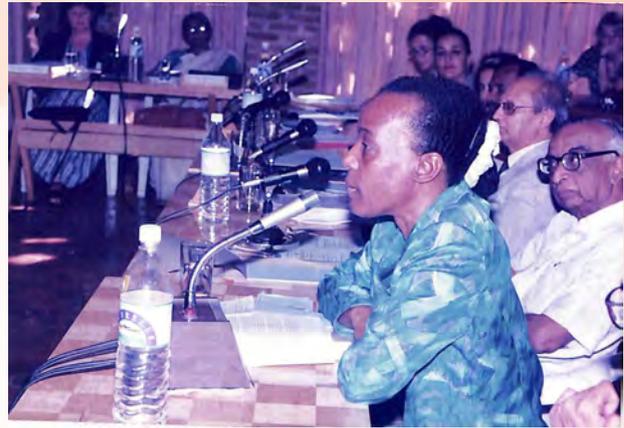


## Research activities

The Centre started with a very small team of five Fellows in 1970. Presently the CDS has a regular faculty strength of 23. Further, it has 18 Visiting Professors/Fellows from across the country and abroad and 31 Administrative Staff.

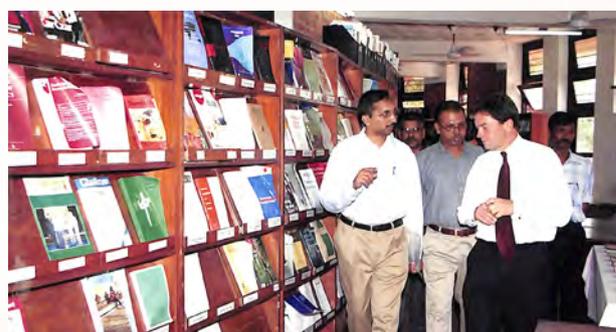
The main activities of the Centre are research, teaching and training. Right from the beginning, a strong all-India character in terms of both faculty and student composition was seen, as well as being very much internationalized, attracting a large number of distinguished academic visitors from abroad in addition to several tie-ups with international institutions, national institutions and institutions at the state level.

Over the past 50 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. 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 launched the 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 researching various dimensions of development.

Another major milestone for CDS in recent years is the launch of its MA programme in Applied Economics in 2012. The introduction of the MA programme marked a paradigm shift in CDS' 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.





## 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. CDS is affiliated to Jawaharlal Nehru University for all the three programmes. The University of Kerala also has recognised CDS as a Centre for its doctoral studies.

The PhD programme in Economics was established in 1975, allowing scholars to register under either JNU or University of Kerala. To bring about more international exposure to research students, the PhD Internship Abroad (PIA) programme launched in 2016-17 enables scholars to secure internships at prominent universities abroad. Following UGC guidelines, it is proposed to start a direct PhD programme shortly.



The MPhil Programme in Applied Economics which had started in 1975 at the CDS offered a 4-semester Programme affiliated to the Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi and was open to all students with a Master's degree in any discipline. The focus on applied economics from a plural perspective and adaptation of effective learning tools added to the uniqueness of the programme which had attracted nation-wide attention. From 2014-15 onwards an integrated MPhil/PhD programme was introduced 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.

The MA in Applied Economics established in 2012-13 provides rigorous training in theory, tools and methods for applied economic analysis, with a special focus on issues of economic development. Special lectures and certificate courses are also offered. The MA programme is now into the seventh batch. The SAARC Scholarship available for MA students, launched in 2016-17 provides five scholarships to students from SAARC countries that enrol in the MA programme. This is made possible by the generous funding of the State government which enables the MA programme to go international.



## Library and Computing facilities

From the very inception of the Centre, top priority was accorded to the building up and development of the Library. This policy has resulted in the growth of the Library as one of the foremost development studies research libraries in the country. The KN Raj Library was the first in Kerala to go for computerization and had completed the retrospective conversion of the old books in record time. It has a rich collection of books, journals, publications of other research institutes (national and international) and government publications. The library collection has over one lakh fifty one thousand titles covering development studies, economics, sociology, demography, statistics, history, political science, education and other allied subjects.

The IT wing of the Centre provides technical support to the faculty, students, library and Administration. 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. 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.

## ERP –Implementation In CDS

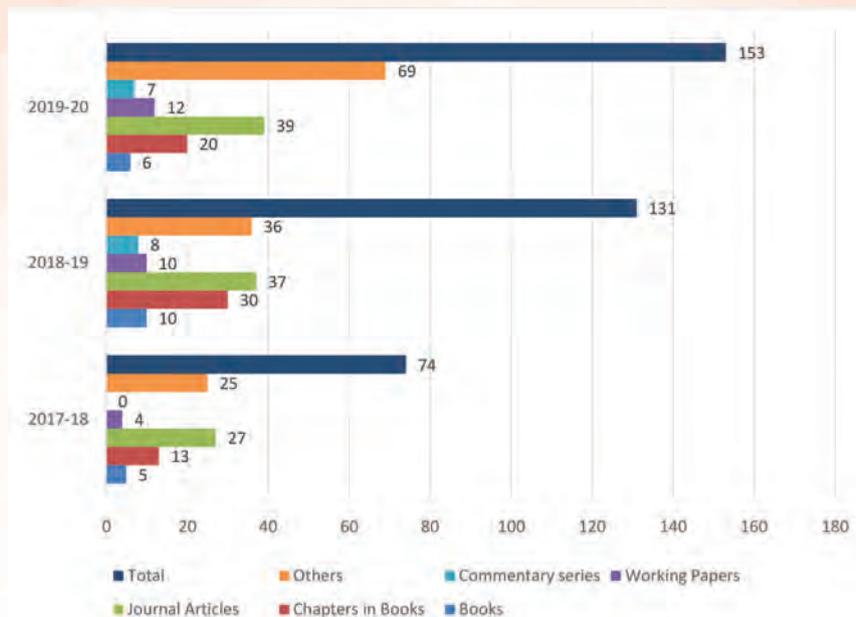
CDS is currently implementing Centralised Campus management system - Educational ERP. This Cloud based ERP enables centralized management of the campus. This will help CDS community for; Better and faster decisions, Reduced workload, Streamlining process, Paperless operations.

The ERP application will have following modules / features:

Registrations and Admissions, Online fee payment, Student administration, Time table and student attendance, Examinations, Payroll management, Attendance and Leave management.



## ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS



Trends in Publications by CDS faculty from 2017-18 to 2019-20

### 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 PhD programme in Economics was established in 1975, allowing scholars to register under either JNU or University of Kerala. Since inception, a total of 225 students have been admitted and 98 degrees awarded.

The MPhil programme in Applied Economics was also started in 1975 with a yearly intake of 12 per year and since inception has graduated 503 students and awarded 429 degrees.

The MA in Applied Economics established in 2012-13 provides rigorous training in theory, tools and methods for applied economic analysis, with a special focus on issues of economic development. So far 175 students have been admitted and 128 awarded degrees.

### NIRF Ranking

The Ministry of Human Resource Development has introduced a comprehensive framework for assessing and charting the performance of higher education institutes in the country. Based on the framework, ranking of universities, colleges and institutes are now available for the years 2017, 2018 and 2019. The framework considers five parameters: Teaching and learning resources, Research and professional practice, Graduation outcomes, Outreach and inclusivity, and perception. With a final score at 74.89 out of 100, CDS is one of the top-ranking research and teaching centres in the country. The final score for 2018-19 is not different from that of the previous year.

## CDS IS RANKED NUMBER 1 AMONG ICSSR INSTITUTES DURING 2011-2020

(Ranked in terms of number of publications and its citations)

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. Three CDS authors, Irudaya Rajan, U S Mishra and Sunil Mani, are 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.

### Top 10 ICSSR Grant-in-Aid Research Institutions' Research Publications 2011-2020

Name of Institutions	No. of Publications	Total Citations	Total Author
Centre for Development Studies (CDS), Trivandrum, Kerala	430	1422	850
Institute of Social and Economic Change (ISEC), Bangalore	402	1578	160
Institute of Economic Growth (IEG), Delhi	336	2066	160
Centre for Policy Research (CPR), New Delhi	261	2658	160
Centre for Studies in Social Sciences (CSSS), Kolkata	230	682	160
Centre for the Study of Developing Societies (CSDS), Delhi	182	429	102
Madras Institute of Development Studies (MIDS), Chennai	163	802	134
Centre for Economic and Social Studies (CESS), Hyderabad	69	442	160
Institute of Public Enterprise (IPE), Hyderabad	56	155	70
Sardar Patel Institute of Economic and Social Research (SPIESR), Ahmadabad	28	40	24

The major contribution of Grant-in Aid research institutes of ICSSR are Centre for Development Studies (CDS), Trivandrum, Kerala, Institute of Social And Economic Change (ISEC), Bangalore, Institute of Economic Growth (IEG), Delhi, Centre for Policy Research (CPR), New Delhi, Centre for Studies in Social Sciences (CSSS), Kolkata, Centre for the Study of Developing Societies (CSDS), Delhi, Madras Institute of Development Studies (MIDS), Chennai, Centre for Economic and Social Studies (CESS), Hyderabad, Institute of Public Enterprise (IPE) Hyderabad, Sardar Patel Institute of Economic and Social Research (SPIESR), Ahmadabad.

Source: Scopus Database: [www.scopus.com](http://www.scopus.com)

### Three CDS professors are among the top 10 in terms of publications

### Top 10 ICSSR Authors' Research Publications 2011-2020

Author	Number of Publications	h-index	No of Citations	Affiliations
Rajan, S. I	99	22	173	Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum
Marjit, S.	62	13	200	Centre for Studies in Social Sciences Calcutta, Kolkata, India
Nautiyal, S.	43	20	135	Institute for Social and Economic Change
Mishra, U.S.	42	10	48	Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum
Joe, W.	41	10	235	Institute of Economic Growth
Kar, S.	37	12	145	Centre for Studies in Social Sciences Calcutta
Dubash, N.K.	36	20	647	Centre for Policy Research
Giri, A.K.	36	7	21	Madras Institute of Development Studies
Mani, S.	35	8	82	Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum
Mitra, Arup P.	34	15	173	Institute of Economic Growth

Highly contributed authors from ICSSR Grant-in-Aid Research Institutions are S I Rajan from CDS, S. Marjit from CSSS, S. Nautiyal from ISEC, U.S. Mishra from CDS, W. Joe from IEG, S. Kar from CSSS, N.K. Dubash from CPR, A.K. Giri from MIDS, S. Mani from CDS and A.P. Mitra from IEG.

Source: Scopus Database: [www.scopus.com](http://www.scopus.com)

## SPECIAL COLLECTIONS : K N RAJ LIBRARY



### **Nicholas Kaldor Collection**

Lord Nicholas Kaldor (1908-1986) was Professor of Economics and Fellow of Kings' College, University of Cambridge. He came to CDS in 1985 to inaugurate and deliver the first Joan Robinson Memorial Lecture. The Kaldor family donated his entire personal collection of 362 books comprising of books on economic theory, classical political economy, business cycles, history of economic thought etc., to the CDS Library in August 1995.



### **Joan Robinson Collection**

Prof. Joan Robinson of University of Cambridge was a great friend and well wisher of CDS during the 1970s and early 1980s. After her passing away in 1983, her daughter, Ms Barbara Jeffrey, donated Professor Robinson's personal library containing 110 titles to the Library.



### **K N. Raj Collection**

Prof K. N. Raj played an important role in India's planned development, drafting sections of India's first Five Year Plan, specifically the introductory chapter when he was only 26 years old. In 1971, Raj set up the Centre for Development Studies at Thiruvananthapuram.. His family graciously donated his personal book collection to the library which is named after him.



### **Sanjaya Lall Collection**

Prof. Sanjaya Lall (1940-2005) was Professor of Development Economics at the University of Oxford. Sanjaya was a visitor at the CDS during 1995 when he spent about ten days here lecturing to the students. He was deeply impressed with the way Centre had built up its library. Upon his passing away, his family donated his entire private collection of 303 books on MNCs, technological capability and East Asian growth process. A large number of not-so-easily accessible books and research papers on these subjects are an important feature of this collection.



### **BG Kumar Collection**

Dr. Bhaskar Gopalakrishna Kumar (1958 - 1993) was on the faculty of CDS, from 1987 to 1993 when he passed away. His family graciously donated his personal collection of 185 books to the CDS library. The books are merged with the general collection to ensure its widest usage.



### **Devaki Jain Collection**

Dr. Devaki Jain (born 1933) is an Indian economist and writer well known for her contributions in the field of feminist economics. In 2006 she was awarded the Padma Bhushan, the third-highest civilian award from Government of India, for her contribution to social justice and the empowerment of women. She is a well-wisher of CDS and donated her personal collection to the library.



### **Robin Jeffrey Collection**

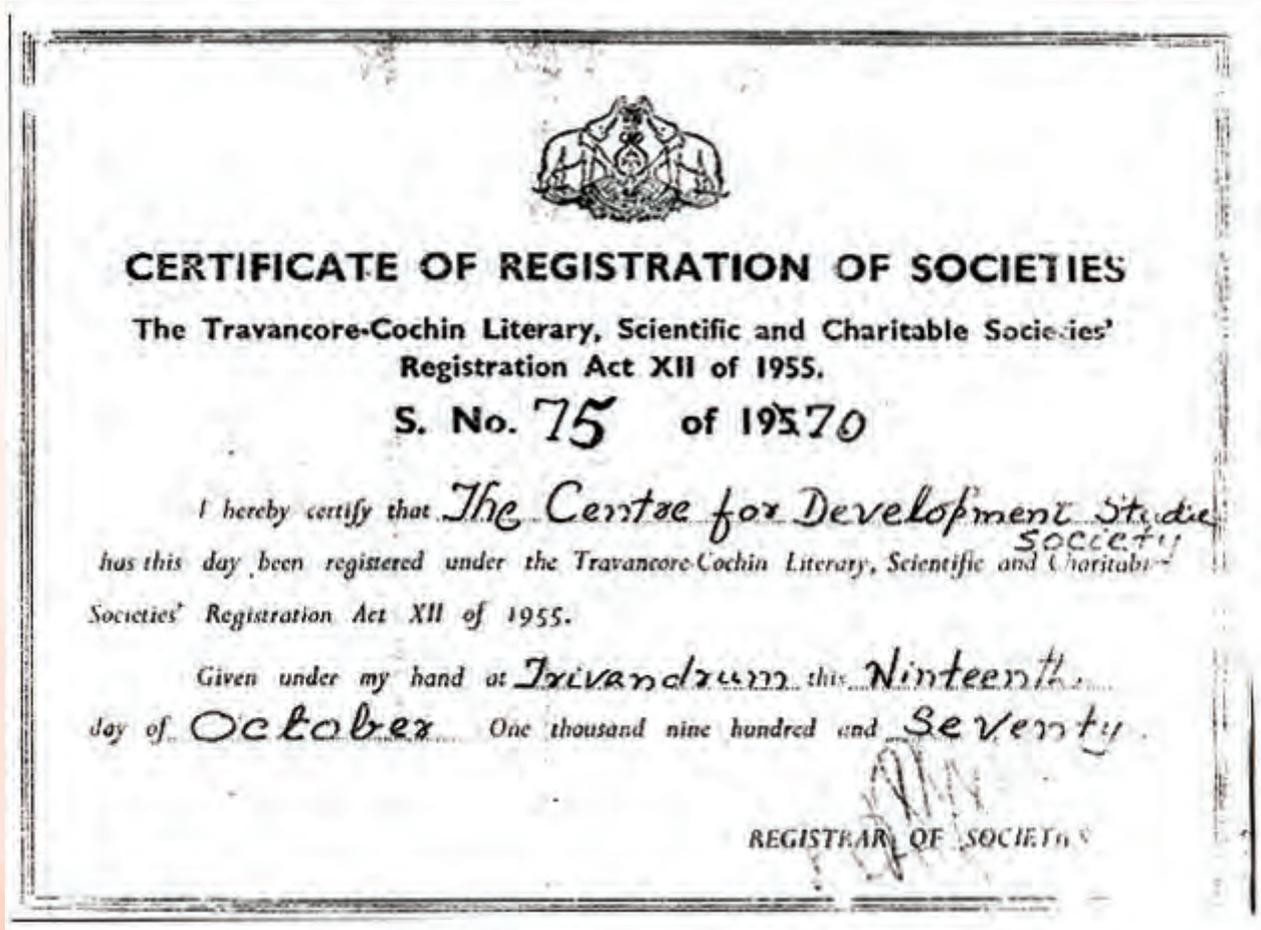
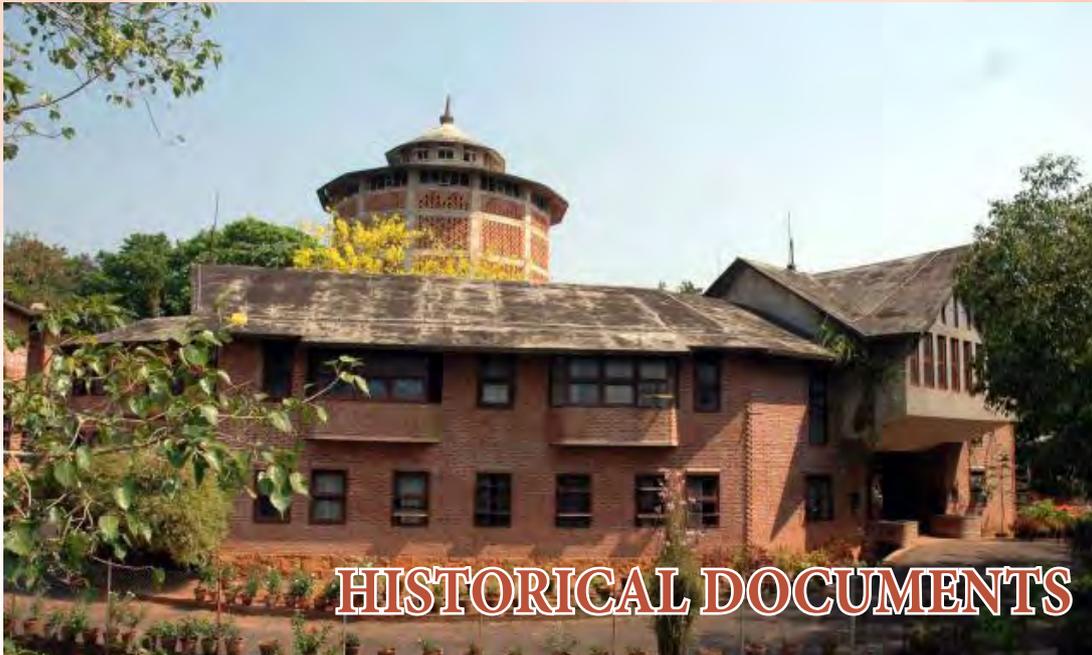
Robin Bannerman Jeffrey is a Canadian-born professor settled in Australia. His primary research interest is the modern history and politics of India, especially with reference the northern area of Punjab and Kerala in the south. He is also interested in Indian media studies and development studies. He is a well-wisher of CDS. Prof. Jeffrey donated his personal collection of books related to Kerala Studies to the library in 2019.

### **Kollecode Collection**

The CDS Library has the honour of receiving the Kollemcode Collection of records donated by the Raja of Kollemcode (Palghat District, Kerala) in 1978. The Collection of records consists of 178 printed documents, 48 manuscripts and 38 sets of palm leaf documents (consisting of 10,713 separate documents) that give a descriptive account of income and expenses of the Kollemcode Palace and temples. The collection is thus an important source of information to understand the economic history of northern Kerala.

### **Thripunithura Palace Collection**

The library also possesses a rich collection of rare books received from Thripunithura Palace Library and, as a gift the personal Library of the late Dr. Rama Varma, a well-wisher of the CDS.





Office: 233174  
Phone: 430730  
DEPT. OF PLANNING & ECONOMIC AFFAIRS  
GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT  
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM  
DATED: 22-11-2002

**CERTIFICATE**

Sub- Status of Centre for Development Studies,  
Trivandrum

The Centre for Development Studies, Prashanthnagar, Trivandrum, Kerala, an Institution registered under the Travancore-Cochin Literary, Scientific and Charitable Societies' Registration Act XII of 1955, is an autonomous Research and Development Institution under the aegis of the Planning and Economic Affairs Department, Government of Kerala.



S.M.VIJAYANAND  
Secretary to Government  
S. M. VIJAYANAND  
Secretary to Govt.  
Planning & Economic Affairs Deptt.  
Govt. Secretariat

GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

**Abstract**

Centre for Development Studies Kerala, Payment of grant to the Centre - Rules - approved -

PLANNING AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS (D) DEPARTMENT

G.O.(MS)No.9/72/Plg & EA Dated:Trivandrum, 3-5-1972

Re: G.O.(MS)842/70/Edn dated 30-7-1970.

**ORDER**

Government are pleased to issue the rules appended to this order for the purpose of regulating the grant to the Centre for Development Studies from Government.

(By Order of the Governor)

P. SUKUMARAN  
UNDER SECRETARY.

- To ✓ The Director, Centre for Development Studies, Prashanthnagar, Trivandrum.
- The Accountant General (This order issues with the concurrence of the Finance Department)
- The Finance Department (Vide No. P/02/E & R/02/Fin dated 14-3-1972)
- The Law Department (Vide No. 4345/D/72/Law dated 30-3-1972)
- The Examiner of Local Fund Accounts
- The Education Department.

Forwarded / By Order,

K. J. J. J.  
Section Officer



भारतीय सामाजिक विज्ञान अनुसंधान परिषद्  
INDIAN COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

GRAM : 130955 817  
PHONE : 27201 8177

11 P. A. Noida  
New Delhi-110001  
March 15, 1974

My dear Dr. Paniker,

I am writing this letter about the grant-in-aid that is likely to be paid by the ICSSR to the Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum, during 1974-75.

At the outset, let me make it clear that the scheme has been transferred to the ICSSR subject to the agreement already reached between the Government of India and the Government of Kerala which only needs ratification by the Governing Body of the Centre. As soon as this ratification is received, the agreement will come into force.

Under this agreement, the Government of India will give a grant-in-aid of Rs. 25 lakhs recurring and Rs. 20 lakhs non-recurring during the Fifth Five-Year Plan, subject to the condition that an equivalent grant is given by the Government of Kerala and to the further condition that this does not exceed half the expenditure actually incurred. So far as the plan period is concerned, the funds have been provided on this basis.

During 1974-75, I understand that an ad hoc provision of Rs. 5 lakhs has been made as there are no firm estimates and proposals received from the Centre in time to be included within our budget. This amount will be available to you, subject to a condition that we are not allowed to sanction grant-in-aid for any new buildings to be started during the current year.

I would also like to request you to send me your concrete proposals for 1974-75 with estimates of cost. In their scrutiny, if any additional funds are required, we shall try to approach Government for a supplementary grant.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,  
J.P. Malik  
(J.P. Malik)

Dr. P.G.K. Paniker,  
Director,  
Centre for Development Studies,  
Trivandrum.



जवाहरलाल नेहरू विश्वविद्यालय  
नई दिल्ली-110067  
JAWAHARLAL NEHRU UNIVERSITY  
NEW DELHI-110067

No. Eval/14/19  
Dated: 08.02.2013

**TO WHOMSOEVER IT MAY CONCERN**

This is to certify that JNU has recognized Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram, for the award of M.A./M.Phil./D. degree as per the provision of Section 5 (13) of JNU act of 1966.

JITENDRA KR. TRIPATHI  
DEPUTY REGISTRAR (EVAL)

29. <sup>110</sup> ORDINANCE RELATING TO CENTRE FOR  
DEVELOPMENT STUDIES (1974)

Office of the Coordinator (Eval)  
Jawaharlal Nehru University  
New Delhi-110067

1. Short Title

1. This Ordinance may be called Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum, Ordinance 1974.

2. It shall come into force on and from 26th April, 1974.

2. Constitution of the Governing Body

The Governing Body of the Centre shall include the Vice-Chancellor or his nominee and a senior faculty member of the Jawaharlal Nehru University to be nominated by the Vice-Chancellor.

3.<sup>111</sup> Constitution of the Committee of Direction

The Committee of Direction for the M.Phil./Ph.D. programme shall include two members of the faculty of the University nominated by the Academic Council.

4.<sup>112</sup> Powers and Functions of the Committee of Direction

The Committee of Direction of the Centre shall exercise the powers and duties of the Centres of Studies, the Committee for Advanced Studies and Research and the Board of the School of the University in respect of M.Phil./Ph.D. programmes, except that the courses of study will be submitted to the Academic Council for approval.

<sup>113</sup>. The Executive Council on the recommendation of the Academic Council shall have the right to cause an inspection after every three years to be made by such person or persons as may be decided by the Executive Council in respect of its buildings, laboratories and equipments and also of the examinations, teaching and evaluation with a view to ensuring of academic standards.

110 Approved vide Resolution No. 12.2/EC/6.4.1974.

111 Amended vide Resolution No. 5.8/EC/5.9.1977.

112 Amended vide Resolution No. 5.8/EC/5.9.1977.

113 Amended vide Resolution No. 5.21/EC/30.4.1986.



भारतीय सामाजिक विज्ञान अनुसंधान परिषद्  
(मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय)

पोस्ट बॉक्स-१०५२८, अरुना आसफ अली मार्ग,

नई दिल्ली-११००६७

INDIAN COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

(Ministry of Human Resource Development)

Post Box No. 10528, Aruna Asaf Ali Marg,

New Delhi-110 067

Gram : ICSORES Fax : 91-11-26179838 Ph.:

Dr. Jessy George  
Deputy Director  
Ph: 011 26716689

23.02.2012

TO WHOMSOEVER IT MAY CONCERN

The Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala is one of the Research Institutes funded by the Indian Council of Social Science Research, Government of India on the understanding that the respective State Government (here the Government of Kerala) will bear 50% of the annual capital and recurring expenditure of the Centre for Development Studies. The Indian Council of Social Science Research has been funding the Centre for Development Studies on the above lines with effect from the financial year 1974-75.

Jessy George

NOTIFICATION FOR MPhil ADMISSION - 1975

**CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT STUDIES**

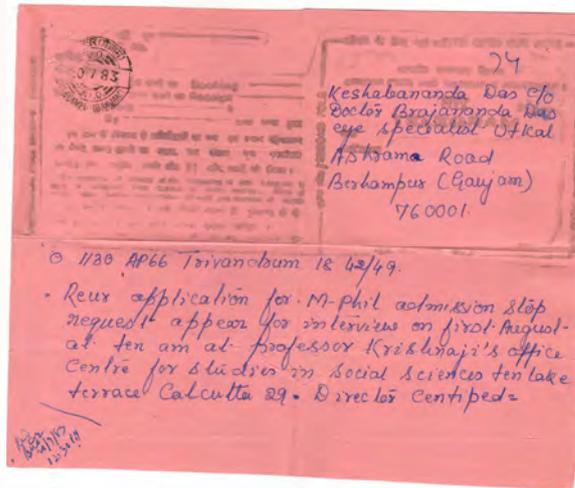
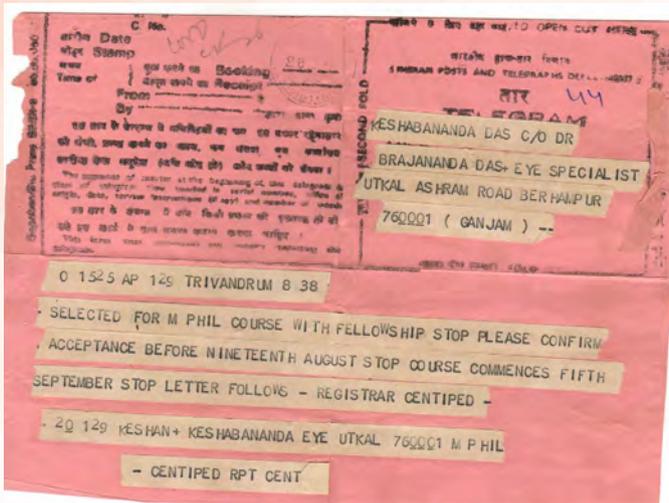
**Ulloor, Trivandrum 695011**

Applications are invited for a 1-year Course in Applied Economics leading to the M. Phil Degree of the Jawaharlal Nehru University. The Course is designed to give basic training in the application of theoretical and quantitative tools to the study of problems of development. Admission is open to research scholars, college and university teachers, administrators, engineers, agricultural scientists, etc. The minimum qualification for admission is a Master's Degree or its equivalent from a recognized university. Fellowships of the value of Rs. 300 per month are available to the selected candidates.

The course starts in the first week of September 1975 and the last date for receipt of applications is August 1. Applications are to be sent in a prescribed form (available from the Centre), and should be accompanied by a detailed statement of a problem the candidate would be interested in working on for meeting the dissertation requirement of the degree.

*Director*

TELEGRAM: SELECTION FOR ADMISSION



FIRST BOOK: K N RAJ LIBRARY

Accession Number 1 in the Library

THE THEORY OF SHARE TENANCY

With Special Application to Asian Agriculture and the First Phase of Taiwan Land Reform

STEVEN N. S. CHEUNG

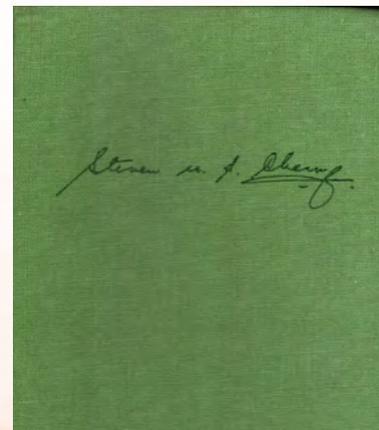


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Catalogue Card

337.191	CHEUNG (Steven N S).
K9	Theory of share tenancy, With special application to Asian agriculture and the first phase of Taiwan land reform, 1969.
W9	(Bibliography on P 175-182).
	Chi. Uni. Press. Rs 81/-.
001	xv, 188.

Cover Page





## **SEMINARS, CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS**

As part of its 50<sup>th</sup> Foundation Year celebrations, the Centre conducted two national seminars in the first half of 2020, in which a total of 32 invited papers were presented. In 2021 the same two seminar were conducted in an online mode due to the pandemic.

### **Seminar on ‘Kerala and the World Economy’**

A national seminar on ‘Kerala and the World Economy’ was conducted at the Centre during February 3-4, February 2020 co-ordinated by Dr. A.V. Jose and Prof. Sunil Mani.

The technical sessions covered topics on, Sustainable Development, Commercial Crops, Hi-tech Manufacturing and Modern Industries and Livestock and Fisheries, ending with a Public Lecture on “Assessing India’s Free Trade Agreements with East Asian Countries”, which was delivered by Prof Biswajit Dhar, Jawaharlal Nehru University.

On the concluding day two technical sessions were held, one on Migration, Remittances and Trade Balance and the other on Health and Tourism.

### **Seminar on ‘Indian Economy and Society’**

A seminar on ‘Indian Economy and Society’ was conducted at the Centre during February 7 and 8, 2020. The seminar was inaugurated by Professor Sunil Mani, Director. This was followed by different sessions on themes relating to Agriculture, Labour and Employment; Industry, Innovation and Technology; Corporate Sector. The second day started with a session on Health and Education followed by sessions on Gender; International Trade and Capital Flows; Land and Infrastructure. Two papers, titled ‘Caste, Courts and Business’ and a paper on ‘Leveraging Trade Agreements to Boost Export from Indian Engineering Goods Sector’ was presented by Skype as the authors were not able to attend. The seminar was attended by 87 participants including, speakers, faculty and students from CDS as well as 18 students for the Government College, Nedumangad. At the end of the sessions, a vote of thanks was delivered by Dr. Abhilash T, coordinator of the seminar.

The papers and proceedings of the seminar are under publication with Springer. The volume titled “India’s Economy and Society, Lateral Explorations,” is edited by Sunil Mani and Chidambaran G Iyer. The book is to be published in March 2021.

### Collected Papers of CDS Founding Fathers

As part of the Fiftieth Foundation Year, and also to perpetuate the memory of the Centre’s founding fathers, a compiled collection of papers of Prof. K.N. Raj, Prof. P.G.K Panikar, Prof. T.N. Krishnan, Prof. A. Vaidyanathan, Prof. I.S. Gulati and Prof. N. Krishnaji was released by Prof. Gita Sen on 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2020 in the presence of the family members of the founding fathers, which was also celebrated as K N Raj Memorial Day. The collected papers are kept permanently on display in the Circulation Area of the K.N.Raj Library from February 17, 2020 onwards.

### Book Launch

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.

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.



### PUBLIC LECTURES

50<sup>th</sup> 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 11<sup>th</sup> B G 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 10<sup>th</sup> P K Gopalakrishnan Memorial Lecture on ‘Why Does The Indian State Both Fail And Succeed?’ was delivered by Professor Devesh Kapur, Director of Asia Programs, Starr Foundation Professor of South Asian Studies, Paul Nitze School of Advanced International Studies, Johns Hopkins University on Monday the 14<sup>th</sup> of December, 2020.

## 50<sup>th</sup> FOUNDATION YEAR LECTURE SERIES

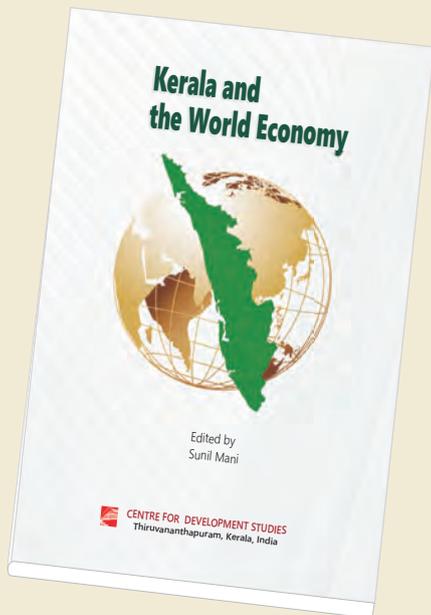
As part of the 50<sup>th</sup> Foundation Year Celebrations of the CDS a series of Lectures were conducted by eminent scholars from international and national universities and institutions.

Sl. No.	Date of Seminar	Presenter	Designation	Title
1	14 <sup>th</sup> Jan 20	Prof. Sanjay Reddy	Associate Professor of Economics, New School for Social Research, New York, USA	Development Economics for Whom? Randomization and Beyond
2	16 <sup>th</sup> Jan 20	Prof. Guilhem Fabre	Professor, Department of Chinese Studies at the Université Paul Valéry-Montpellier 3 (France)	China's Economic Slowdown
3	21 <sup>st</sup> Jan 20			China's R&D and Innovation Policies
4	27 <sup>th</sup> Jan 20	Prof. T. V. Paul	James McGill Professor of International Relations, McGill University, Canada	India as a Rising Power: Opportunities and Constraints in the 21st Century
5	3 <sup>rd</sup> Feb 20	Prof. Biswajit Dhar	Centre for Economic Studies and Planning, JNU	Assessing India's Free Trade Agreements with East Asian Countries
6	11 <sup>th</sup> Feb 20	Prof. Santosh Kumar Mehrotra	Centre for Informal Sector and Labour Studies-JNU	Trends in Employment in India since Economic Liberalization
7	21 <sup>st</sup> Aug 20	Prof. Sushil Khanna	IIM, Kolkata & Gulati Institute of Finance & Taxation	Trade in Kerala Economy
8	10 <sup>th</sup> Sep 20	Dr. Carl Benedikt Frey	University of Oxford	Automation & Employment
9	16 <sup>th</sup> Oct 20	Prof. C Veeramani	IGIDR, Mumbai	From Make in India to Assemble in India to Atmanirbhar Bharat: Contradictions of Trade Policy
10	20 <sup>th</sup> Nov 20	Prof. Amit Shovon Ray	JNU	Locating Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) In A Discourse On Development
11	27 <sup>th</sup> Nov 20	Prof. Tirthankar Roy	London School of Economics	Climate and the Economy in India from 1880 to the present
12	04 <sup>th</sup> Dec 20	Prof. Reetika Khera	IIT, Delhi	The Question of Ethics in RCTs
13	11 <sup>th</sup> Dec 20	Prof. D Rajasekhar	ISEC, Bangalore	Talking to Ghosts: Exploring forged employment records in NREGS

14	8 <sup>th</sup> Jan 21	Prof. K P Kannan	Honorary Fellow, CDS	Revisiting the Kerala Model of Development and its Virtuous Cycle: Spectacular Successes, Spectacular Failures and Outlook for the Future
15	15 <sup>th</sup> Jan 21	Prof. Patrick Heller	Brown University, USA	Binding the State: State Capacity and the Democratic Deficit in India
16	18 <sup>th</sup> Jan 21	Prof. T Arun	Essex University, UK	Mainstreaming financial inclusion
17	21 <sup>st</sup> Jan 21	Dr. Keshabananda Das	GIDR, Ahmedabad	Industrial Clustering: The Indian Context
18	29 <sup>th</sup> Jan 21	Prof. Rajeswari Raina	Shiv Nadar University, Noida	Institutions and the Evolution of Indian Agriculture
19	12 <sup>th</sup> Feb 21	Dr. Shoba Arun	Manchester Metropolitan University, UK	Contemporary challenges to Migrant Integration in the EU-UK Context: What do we know so far?
20	17 <sup>th</sup> Feb 21	Prof. Jong II You	KDI School of Public Policy, Republic of Korea	The state and Markets in the economic development of South Korea
21	5 <sup>th</sup> Mar 21	Prof. Rohini Somnathan	Delhi School of Economics	Public Spending for Gender Equality
22	22 <sup>nd</sup> Mar 21	Prof. Errol D'Souza	IIM, Ahmedabad	Should government be in the business of banking



# 50<sup>TH</sup> FOUNDATION YEAR PUBLICATIONS



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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Paperback: Rs.500/-  
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

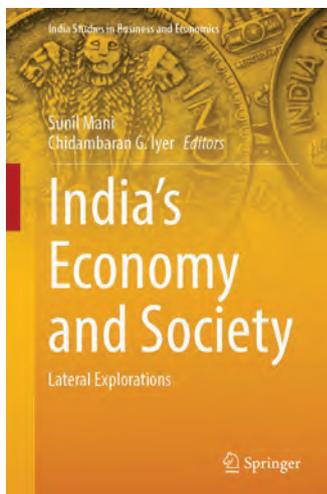
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Amazon.in (<https://amzn.to/2Jlk0b1>)  
Or  
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## For more details contact

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Publication Officer, CDS, Prasanth Nagar, Medical College, P.O.,  
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Tel: +91-471-2774200, 2448881, 2448412, Fax: +91-471 2447137  
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V. Raman Kutty
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Mani, Sunil, Iyer, Chidambaran G. (Eds.)

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- Maintains a balanced approach of being theoretically informed while empirically oriented
- Contains contributions from the top researchers on the topic from the region

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## Message...



**Prof. Gabriel Simon Thattil**  
Director, IQAC and Director,  
School of Business Management  
and Legal Studies, University of Kerala.

The Higher education sector in India is turning to be more and more complex in terms of the exponential growth in the number, nature and character of HEIs. India today has over 1000 universities and about 50000 colleges which are state owned or private, autonomous or affiliating, specialized or multidisciplinary. We have enhanced our GER but still not grown in terms of quality of such institutions as per global standards. Our research outcomes and intellectual property badly need a transformative mode in terms of societal linkages and human life.

The COVID pandemic has made higher education and research more challenging and submissive to validity and relevance. We are now thinking in terms of holistic education which focuses on skills and competencies that are demanded in an integrated mode, capable of supporting and developing the society and thereby the nation.

The pandemic has thrown open the education sector to certain challenges which include digital learning models, virtual laboratories, skill based learning, holistic education, best use of natural resources, innovative and creative thinking. All these would call for a change in the very philosophy of learning and research. Trans-disciplinary learning, multi-tasking and use of data science grounded with digital support would be the key drivers of higher education. All forms of research need to be validated in terms of how it relates to life and gives meaning to life and human society.

I am happy to learn about the journey of CDS which is turning fifty years old. CDS has grown to be a mature institution of higher learning and research in social sciences with research of quality and researchers with commitment, dedicating themselves to the cause of quality outcomes. The research publications and projects from this institution have supported policy reforms and crucial decisions in terms of social applications. The souvenir to be released, I believe would bear testimony of the quality of research in the institution and the rich legacy and output it could produce.

I wish the Institution and all its stakeholders the very best and hope that CDS would grow to greater heights in years to come. I hope we would all try and use technology to the best of its advantage in research, education and creative learning. It is our responsibility to use all forms of knowledge for the better living, where we live meaningfully in a society with equity, justice and inclusivity.

## HONORARY FELLOWS

**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



The years have gone by but the memories of scholarship with passion at CDS are still fresh. They have been my motivation through many careers ever since. I was delighted on a brief recent visit to CDS to see that new generations of students are imbued with the same sense of passion for what they are studying and plan to do. They, like some of my classmates, will, I am sure push the frontiers of policy and knowledge. Best wishes,

**Ashoka Mody**

Charles and Marie Robertson Visiting Professor in International Economic Policy at the Woodrow Wilson School, Princeton University, USA.



The fifty years milestone is a major event in the life of the Centre for Development Studies. I first visited the Centre in the years of its infancy and then signed up for the M.Phil. programme in 1980. It was then and I am sure, still remains, a place that offers unmatched facilities for study and research, having been conceived and nurtured through its early infancy by true visionaries. I have had occasion in all the decades that have passed since, to look back often and fondly, at my two years in the Centre. It was a time when I gained the capital, in multiple dimensions, to deal with challenges faced through my subsequent trajectory: first in journalism, then intraining and advocacy, and most recently in academia.

My personal regards to the Director, Professor Sunil Mani, and to all others on the faculty.

**Sukumar Muralidharan (MPhil 1980-82)**

Professor, Jindal School of Journalism and Communication, O.P. Jindal Global University, Sonapat.



Fifty years is a momentous milestone in the life of an institution. From a small accommodation in a rented house in the early 1970s, the Centre for Development Studies (CDS), has grown into a beautiful campus winning academic laurels on the way. CDS was catapulted to fame with its avant-garde publication in development economics: Poverty, unemployment and development policy. This work not only rediscovered the salience of Kerala's transformative process, it also eminently succeeded in showing the need to anchor social justice to the conceptualization of development. I wish the CDS well and wish it produces many more works that will earn it an enduring place in the map of development policy in the world.

**Professor M A Oommen**

Honorary Fellow, CDS.



My CDS memories are many, including recruitment and promotion of the 'Giants' by now, from RAs, to Lecturer, Reader and then Burra Sahebs. Long evenings in the Baker 'Villas' and the Sea Breeze. Arguments between us (Raj, Iqbal, George and me), going up to the plane tarmac and then signing. Carrying Krishnamurthy's 5th Plan Model critique to the EPW Editor on way back to Ahmedabad: working for Raj for the Alagh, Bhalla, Bhaduri ILO ARTEP piece and Krishnaji on Asian Social Indicators, amongst others.

**Yoginder Alagh**

Professor Emeritus and Vice Chair, Sardar Patel Institute of Economic and Social Research., Ahmedabad, Gujarat.



I first heard of the Centre for Development Studies while I was a graduate student in the Jawaharlal Nehru University in New Delhi where I was a graduate student in the second half of the seventies. It was known popularly as the KN Raj Centre. Prof Raj commanded huge respect in JNU, and CDS was also affiliated to JNU in the matter of award of academic degrees. There were therefore always some students in JNU who had spent time in CDS.

My own association with CDS began a few years later when I came to Kerala in 1983 after being allocated to the Kerala cadre of the Indian Administrative Service (IAS). The overall ambience of the institution was reminiscent of JNU, including its unique red brick building that looked very like the new campus recently completed in JNU. I found its library well stocked, and I would try to spend some time there during my visits to Trivandrum from the districts where I was posted. As a senior officer I was privileged to represent the State Government on the Governing Body of CDS where I had occasion to get first hand knowledge of the big issues that the institution grappled with.

CDS is one of India's finest social science institutions. It is my regret that I never actually spent time on its beautiful campus in academic pursuit. It is a matter of great satisfaction and celebration as this reputed institution completes 50 years of its existence. I wish it every success as it goes forward towards the next fifty.

**Alok Sheel, IAS (Retd)**

RBI Chair Professor in Macroeconomics,  
Indian Council for Research in International  
Economic Relations (ICRIER), New Delhi.



I joined CDS only because I would probably have never cleared an entrance test for an M.Phil programme anywhere in the world. I applied because I was only expected to submit a research proposal and defend it before a panel. Poignantly, many years later, faculty members who were on the panel even recalled my proposal, which I never actually pursued; such was the commitment to research!

When I arrived at CDS in 1985 I was immediately struck by four aspects of life there. The first was the rigour which encouraged me to seek truth from facts, even if they did not sit comfortably with things I thought I already knew. The second was the humbling realisation that multidisciplinary approaches in economics was not just a fad at CDS but a genuine pursuit; only four of us in my batch came to CDS with a track record in economics, and by all accounts, they enriched the discipline of economics as I had known it before I came to CDS. The third was the fabulously endearing quality of having an absolutely flat hierarchy, a cardinal principle of intellectual life, a principle that is, sadly, under siege these days. In fact, youngsters nowadays wonder how I could have ever have gotten by by referring to my teachers — mighty ones at that — by their first names! The fourth facet of life at CDS was the humbling lesson that education is a lifelong affair, for which I am forever indebted to this great institution.

Of course, despite a few heartbreaks, more than anything else, CDS changed me as a person. Forever and for the better.

**V. Sridhar** (M.Phil - 1985-1987)  
Associate Editor, Frontline Magazine  
Bangalore.

## VISITING FELLOWS

**Prof. Ravi Kanbur**

Home Institution: Cornell University  
Areas of specialisation:  
Development Economics



**Prof. Krishnendu Ghosh Dastidar**

Home Institution: JNU, New Delhi  
Areas of specialisation: Game Theory

**Prof. Frances Stewart**

Home Institution: Oxford University  
Areas of specialisation:  
Development Economics

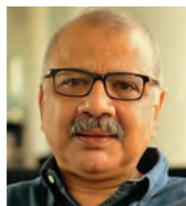


**Prof. R. Nagaraj**

Home Institution: IGIDR  
Areas of specialisation:  
Indian Economy

**Prof. Sudip Chaudhury**

Home Institution: IIM – Kolkata  
Areas of specialisation:  
Macroeconomics/Industrial  
Economy of India



**Prof. Tirthankar Roy**

Home Institution: London School of  
Economics and Political Science  
Areas of specialisation:  
Economics History

**Prof. Sebastian Morris**

Home Institution: IIM, Ahmedabad,  
Areas of specialisation: Infrastructure  
Financing/ Applied Macroeconomics/  
Indian Economy



**Dr. Dilip K. Dutta**

Home Institution: University of Sydney  
Areas of specialisation: Econometrics,  
Macro Economics

**Prof. Madhura Swaminathan**

Home Institution: ISI, Bangalore Centre  
Areas of specialisation:  
Agriculture Economics



**Mr. R. Mohan**

Home Institution:  
Indian Revenue Service (Retd)  
Areas of specialisation: Public Finance

**Dr. K. Ravi Raman**

Home Institution: Kerala State  
Planning Board  
Areas of specialisation:  
Political Economy



**Prof. Pulapre Balakrishnan**

Home Institution: Ashoka University,  
Haryana IIM – Kozhikode  
Areas of specialisation:  
Applied Macroeconomics

**Prof. Sukhpal Singh**  
Home Institution: IIM,  
Ahmedabad  
Areas of specialisation:  
Agriculture Economics



**Prof. James Nedumpara**  
Home Institution: Centre for  
International Trade and Investment  
Law (CTIL) at the Indian Institute of  
Foreign Trade (IIFT), New Delhi  
Areas of specialisation:  
Trade & Investment Agreements

**Prof. Sujoy Chakravarty**  
Home Institution: JNU, New Delhi  
Areas of specialisation:  
Microeconomics /  
Behavioural economics



**Prof. Thankom Arun**  
Home Institution:  
University of Essex  
Areas of specialisation:  
Global Development &  
Development Finance

**Prof. T. V. Paul**  
Home Institution: McGill University  
Areas of specialisation: Political  
Science/International Relations



**Prof. A. V. Jose**  
Home Institution: Former Economist  
ILO and Honorary Faculty  
GIFT, Trivandrum  
Areas of specialisation: Social and  
Labour Policies, Social Protection

**Dr. Aparna Nair**  
Home Institution: University of  
Oklahoma  
Areas of specialisation: Disability  
Studies & History of Public Health



**Dr. Suraj Jacob**  
Home Institution: Azim Premji  
University, Bangalore  
Areas of specialisation:  
Project Evaluation



**Dr. Dilip Dutta**  
Founding Editor,  
International Journal of  
Development Issues

It is a great pleasure for me to know that India's Centre for Development Studies (CDS), an autonomous social science research institute under the aegis of the ICSSR Govt. of India and Govt. of Kerala, is going to celebrate its Fiftieth Foundation Year.

My warm felicitations to all who over the years have been associated with the CDS in flourishing into a research and higher degree teaching institution of repute, both nationally and internationally in the broad area of development economics.

I convey my best wishes for a grand success of the Celebration and release of a Souvenir at the valedictory function to be held on March 22, 2021.



### What I learnt at CDS

The centre's intellectual strengths were liberal academic tradition and a strong grounding in empirical research. Students were encouraged to think for themselves and examine the received wisdom critically. Though the course content was light, the faculty strongly encouraged students to pursue their intellectual passion through extensive reading.

The strongest teaching component was the seminar course on the Indian economy, enabling students to understand the history, institutional context and development theory. In quantitative methods focus was on the fundamental principles, the careful application of techniques and cautions interpretations of results.

### R. Nagaraj

Visiting Faculty, CDS



I am proud to be an alumnus of the CDS. Though economics is not my primary area of interest, as a physician and public health practitioner, my training in CDS has helped me sharpen my skills and develop valid insights into my discipline. I have also forged professional and personal relationships that have lasted a lifetime, a source of immense satisfaction for me. The opportunity to be part of CDS opened new vistas in my life for which I shall be ever grateful. I hope the institution goes from strength to strength!

### V. Raman Kutty

Research Director,  
Amala Cancer Research Centre, Thrissur



### Fifty years of CDS

The Centre for Development Studies (CDS) was established as an autonomous social science research institute in 1970. Professor K. N. Raj was the founding father and provided the intellectual leadership for the first two decades. He performed the difficult task of transforming the initial aspirations of researchers, grand but unfocused, into a functioning reality. The centre devised a unique system of academic research in development studies and allied areas that won recognition, with astonishing rapidity, as one of the finest in the country.

Research at CDS has always provided a delicate balance between the rigors of intellectual pursuit and the needs of the surrounding society and economy. Putting learning to work was the theme of the first fifty years of this great institute. CDS's special gift to research has been giving life to the imagination. The academic activities here possess a rare combination of rigorous intellect and cultivated sensibility that empowered a researcher to function with equal ease both as a scholar and as a human being who is sensitive to social inequities and problems.

Perhaps the most significant triumph of CDS's first fifty years has been its devotion to scholarly integrity. Never has it wavered in its belief that its truest service would be achieved through adherence to the highest standards. CDS has committed itself to serving as the escalator for the talented researchers.

I consider myself to be extremely fortunate that I have been associated with CDS in some its academic endeavors over the last few years. I am sure that under the very able and dynamic leadership of the present director, Professor Sunil Mani, CDS will continue to grow and reach new heights.

### Krishnendu Ghosh Dastidar

Professor of Economics,  
Centre for Economic Studies and Planning,  
School of Social Sciences (II),  
Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi



It is an honor to congratulate The Centre for Development Studies (CDS) on its fiftieth foundation year. In the knowledge economy of today, CDS distinguishes itself in its strengths and promises with exemplary research and learning that continually inform policies and practices, not just in Kerala but around the globe. In 2018, when I was informed that my host institution in India for a Fulbright-Nehru Excellence Award sponsored by the United States Department of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs would be CDS, little did I anticipate I would be coming home to the world.

Thanks to its rigorous research programs backed by its accomplished faculty, the resourceful K.N. Raj Library, its curious students, a courteous staff body, and a stunning campus, I was able to witness and participate in an extraordinary academic culture that allowed me to examine, gauge, analyze, and document the 1970s “Gulf boom” in Kerala and its representations in literature through a multi-disciplinary lens of literary theory, history, economics, and globalization studies. As it is well-known, CDS is renowned in the broad area of development economics. As a scholar of literary studies, it offered me a point of intersection to investigate how literature brings into economic arguments of migration in the Gulf, a more generous reading of extenuating circumstances, social conditions, psychological states, and human frailties. I am grateful for the enriching discussions with many of the faculty members at CDS who generously shared their time and talent with me.

CDS is exemplary in leading initiatives for building ethically sustainable societies through mutual, systemic, and ongoing involvement—where the presence of global scholars and administrators engender fertile social interventions beyond the level of academic discourse.

I am inspired to see the significant role this educational institution plays in stimulating social changes wherein faculty, administration, and students engage in collaborative initiatives that have the power to trigger “real-world” consequences.

As CDS celebrates its fiftieth year, I want to congratulate all its administrators, faculty, staff, students, and alumni on reaching this significant milestone. From its early days, it has been brilliantly led and deserves to flourish manifold in the decades to come. Let me also take this opportunity to especially thank you for your deep sense of intellectual hospitality that ensured I had a fertile fellowship in India. The Centre has a unique commitment to academic excellence, which I continue to cherish as an integral part of my Fulbright experience.

Congratulations, again, on this landmark anniversary and warmest good wishes for an equally illustrious future.

**Priya Menon**

Professor of English, Fulbright Fellow 2018  
Troy University, Troy, Alabama, USA





Centre for Development Studies (CDS) has always been a dream place for me during my post graduation days at Kariavattom Kerala University Campus. I visited CDS Library on two or three occasions and got fascinated with the learning ambience of CDS Campus. After I got admission for the M.Phil programme in CDS, I was extremely thrilled to join the programme there and also got acquainted with Dr.K.J.Joseph, a native of my district Idukki, who was pursuing his Ph D programme at that time.

Apart from excellent Library and hostel rooms, the monthly fellowships of Rs.500/- was another attraction which provides financial independence in those days of penury. It was a long and exciting 5 years initially as an M.Phil student under the guidance of Prof. P. S. George and Prof. Pushpangadan and later as a Ph.D Scholar (UGC Research Scholar) under the combined supervision of the renowned Prof Late Dr.T.N.Krishnan and Prof. Chandan Mukherjee. Since I moved to Delhi for taking up a job at National Productivity Council of India, I couldn't complete my PhD at CDS. However, the strong research foundation received during CDS days enabled me to eventually get a Ph D from IIT Delhi.

I still rate those 5 years of my life at CDS mentored by world class economists namely Prof Raj, Prof Vaidyanathan, Prof T N Krishnan, Prof P S George, Prof Chandan Mukherjee, Prof Pushpangadan, Prof Kaushik Basu, to name a few, kept me in good stead throughout my professional life. I still cherish the rare meetings of CDS Alumni in Delhi and also the occasional visits to CDS, the citadel of learning as far as I am concerned, since I hail from a remote village of Idukki District (Vellathooval) and now transformed into a confident person to interact with intellectuals and top bureaucrats in Delhi and sometimes impress them through out of the box thinking, all made possible because of the grooming I received at this great institution built up by Prof Raj.

### **K. P. Sunny**

Director & CVO, National Productivity Council  
Lodhi Road, New Delhi



The occasion of this landmark year for CDS marks both reflections about the institution's trajectory & influence (and celebration) as well as an opportunity to think about the future. Two broad strands seem to be particularly important. First, CDS was founded in an intellectual and socio-political milieu where fundamental questions were being asked: What is 'development' and how do we go about understanding it? These questions are both strongly normative and analytical-explanatory. Work at CDS opened up these questions beyond the narrow theoretical confines of capital-labour ratios and growth theories to include agrarian structures, the life of labour, intersectionalities with gender, and so on. Simultaneously there was a natural trans-disciplinarity at work, especially in going beyond the narrow confines of Economics.

Second, CDS has engaged with important questions of the place of such inquiries into development by asking: Who does 'development studies' and who is it for? CDS sought to attract individuals with different (and sometimes even contesting) perspectives and backgrounds, including those outside narrow academia. It also sought to make its inquiries relevant beyond narrow academia – not just in the policy sphere but also the public sphere more generally.

While looking back and rightly celebrating CDS, this is an opportunity to revisit both these strands to think about the future. Notions of 'development' and approaches have apparently narrowed again, alas, so CDS's past work is very relevant for the future. The challenge of productively building an academic institution on diversity of backgrounds and perspectives, and engaging with wider public debates and initiatives, will continue to inspire us long into the future.

### **Suraj Jacob**

Azim Premji University, Bangalore



In its half a century of existence, CDS has made an extraordinary contribution to the study of the Indian economy by, first, encouraging research on India's development to move out of a narrow 'economics' approach, towards inculcating an interdisciplinary approach that includes politics, sociology, history and more. Second, it has promoted the study of local and on-the-ground situations, all the while keeping the big picture in mind, something that was not common earlier. Third, it began by encouraging study of (at the time) the much neglected states of South India. All this has contributed to building a significant body of work that has enriched our understanding of the development processes in India.

Equally significant is the special role it has played in opening up the study of development to those outside the field of Economics. In its time, the innovative MPhil programme of CDS enabled a number of students who did not have a basic degree in Economics to explore the field of development, some of whom have gone on to make a significant mark in the field.

The pioneering first generation of economists at CDS, KN Raj, TN Krishnan, IS Gulati, N. Krishnaji and A. Vaidyanathan, were visionaries but no less important were those who came after them to build on and strengthen the unique vision of CDS.

### **C. Rammanohar Reddy**

Editor, The India Forum.

He did his MPhil and PhD at CDS and was on the faculty of the Centre 1982-88.

Currently a member of the Board of Governors of CDS



Both as a doctoral scholar and as faculty, the years I spent at CDS remain as fresh as ever in my mind, which is due in main to the liberal leadership and collegiality it maintained then and continues to this day. Whether abroad or in India, whenever I require access to a new book or research material, it is the CDS that instantly comes to mind, such a great treasure house has it been in my experience since the mid-80s. The natural environment it is ensconced in adds to its aura of a self-contained academic niche. Looking out of my window in my hostel room at the CDS, John Abraham likened it to Borges poem. Institutions grow and so also the people associated with them, and the larger social purpose the institutions are meant for. I would like to see the CDS continue with its tradition of openness to modern ideas and reflexive sensitivity to the changes in the larger society. The radical politics I held dear in my CDS days sharpened my identity, but a renewed understanding of democracy, politics, and the marginal life continue to inspire me, for which I owe much to my CDS upbringing. I would forever cherish and foster my relationship with CDS, for both personal and social reasons.

### **K. Ravi Raman**

Member, Kerala State Planning Board



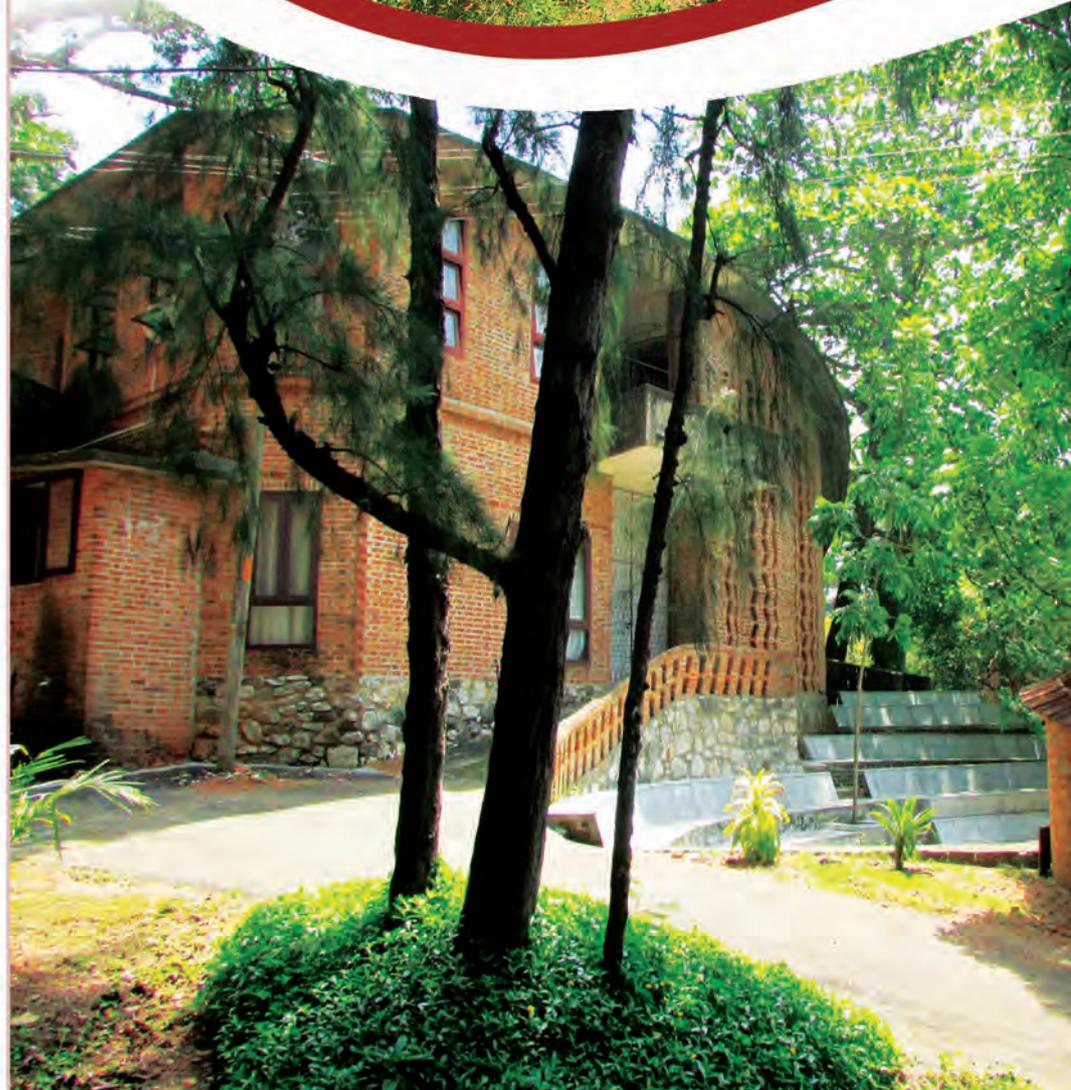
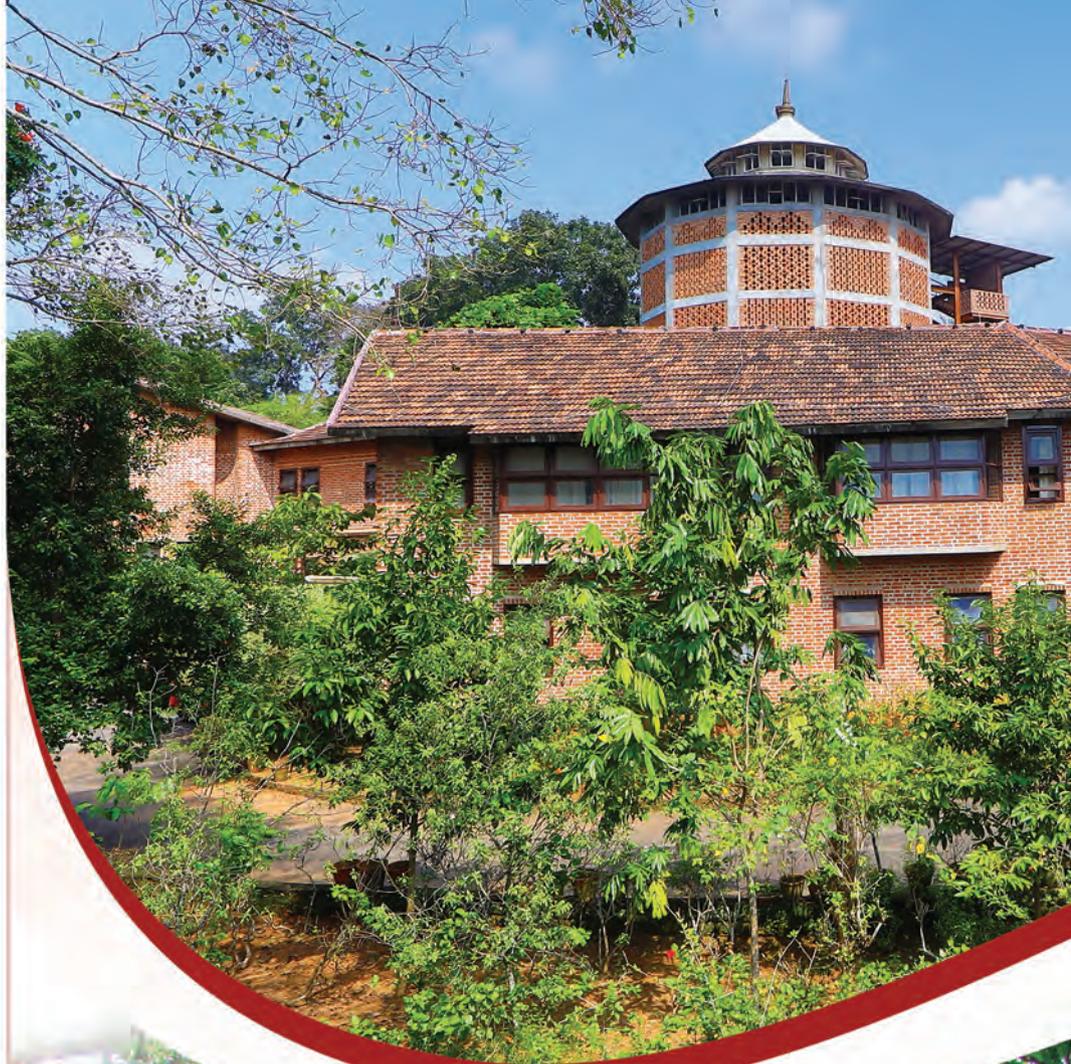


I spent seven of the happiest and most formative years of my life at CDS from 1978 to 1985. Those were the halcyon days of the Centre. As students we could not have asked for a more vibrant intellectual climate. All the founders were there, each one a giant in their own right. It was a time of great ferment, of new ideas and immense hope and anticipation about building a new India. Every one, students and faculty alike, were passionate about contributing to crafting a vision that could be a trail-blazer for the entire country. It was a remarkably congenial and unobtrusive working atmosphere, where theoretical concerns with an inter-disciplinary and historical orientation were provided much support. The buildings, the library, the campus were such a delight. The energy permeating the Centre in those days has shaped each one of us who was lucky enough to be there at that time.

My fondest memories of those days, of course, remain the spirit of cooperation and mutual support that prevailed within the student community at CDS. I must regard myself as unusually lucky in having shared these years with a set of people with a deep sense of involvement in their work, very often motivated by larger and more fundamental concerns. Our collective working together on each other's projects greatly helped in preventing too narrow a preoccupation with one's own area of work. In the process I developed several close friendships, which have lasted to this day. Cannot say thank you enough to CDS!

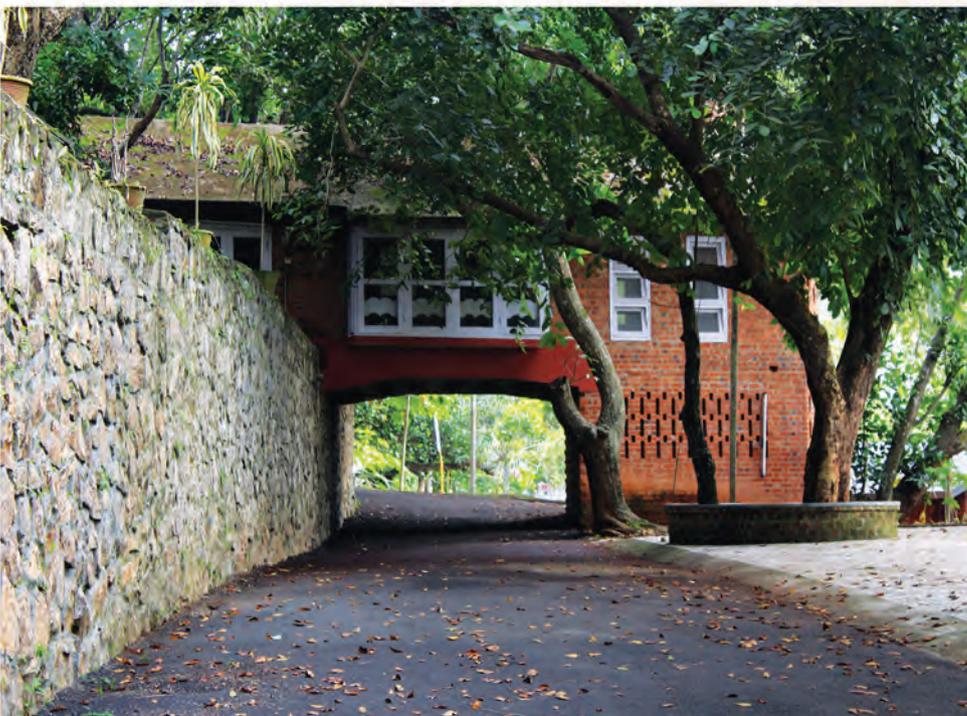
### **Mihir Shah**

Co-Founder, Samaj Pragati Sahayog  
Former Member, Planning  
Commission, Govt. of India





The Kanbur family has had a long association with CDS. My late father Professor M.G. Kanbur was one of the earliest visitors to the Centre at the invitation of the founder Professor K.N. Raj. My father and my late mother Malati Kanbur spoke with great warmth of their visits to CDS, at a time when the Centre was still being built. Many years later I visited the Centre as RBI K.N. Raj Memorial National Fellow and was accompanied as visitor by my wife Professor Margaret Grieco. I subsequently delivered the Founder's Day Lecture and was privileged to contribute to the Corpus for the Joan Robinson and M.G. Kanbur awards to Masters students at CDS. Over this long association our family has treasured two hallmarks of CDS—its intellectual quality, and its human warmth. Indeed the two go together since at CDS, intellect and rigour are put to the service of human flourishing within local and national development. Long may it continue to fulfill the vision and the ambition of its illustrious founder.



**Ravi Kanbur**

T. H. Lee Professor of  
World Affairs,  
International Professor of  
Applied Economics and  
Management,  
Professor of Economics,  
Cornell University.



“I am delighted to know that the Center for Development Studies (CDS) is celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> founding anniversary. As an occasional visitor to CDS I must say it is a delight to enter the campus, see its beautiful buildings and gardens, and then meet the scholars and administrators who have shown over the years that an institution of repute can be created and managed professionally in a highly politicized state like Kerala. I am also much impressed by the library facilities as well as the cafeteria. Over the years, the Center has produced many good economists and scholars who have contributed to Kerala and India’s development through their works which explore the economic challenges a developing country faces, especially in the era of globalization. The topic of migrant laborers and their contributions to economic development of Kerala is a major part of that research and CDS offers a unique setting for its conduct. I am also pleased to know that CDS has received strong support from both the Kerala and the central governments irrespective of the political dispensations in power. I am sure in the years to come CDS will provide much insightful research on the pathologies of development while training first rate scholars and policy advisors who can resolve the multi-faceted challenges of our times. I wish you much success in the years ahead.”

**T.V. Paul**

James McGill Professor of  
International Relations  
Fellow, Royal Society of Canada





My first physical entry into the CDS campus was in 1976. This was on a van to deliver fish to the canteen, at the request of Dr. A.V. Jose, one of the early CDS researchers.

Dr. K.N. Raj once spotted me and the van on his walk back from lunch at the canteen. He queried about then unusual venture. I explained about the community development initiative I was working for and about the fisher cooperative there. He wanted to pay a visit to the village which I gladly welcomed. Some months later he came with some of the faculty. On that occasion he asked if I would be keen to come to CDS to research and write about the socio-economic aspects of Kerala's fisheries sector assuring me that having a post-graduation in business management, not economics, was no barrier to entry.

The rest for me was an exciting history of three decades of research and continued activism – from the local to the global – a combination greatly encouraged by the dynamic and dedicated founders of CDS in its first three decades. At CDS, I was always a 'reluctant academic', but the congenial inter-disciplinary atmosphere, combined with collegial and convivial professional interactions, greatly encouraged me towards becoming a 'reflective practitioner' for which I remain ever grateful.

**John Kurien**  
(1977 – 2008)





## FORMER DIRECTORS



It was the morning of October 31, 1973. I reached Trivandrum by the now extinct Meter Gauge Train. I was received warmly by a smiling Dr. A. V. Jose. There began my journey at CDS. It was an exciting period as I joined the elders for the landmark study 'Poverty, Unemployment and Development', and designing a unique MPhil Programme in Applied Economics. I was mostly engaged with a clunky Facit machine (calculators of our time) burning the midnight oil, churning out various statistics. Early morning, returning to our temporary hostel room, I hopped all the way to avoid imaginary snakes.

Over the years, through the ebbs and flows, CDS has succeeded in sustaining the basic principles of disciplinary and methodological inclusiveness, established by the founding generation of leadership. It has maintained an interdisciplinary approach towards understanding development by combining politics, history, sociology and economics. At the same time, it has not veered away from its primary focus on what is happening on the ground, in states, districts and villages. I look back at CDS with pride and look forward with hope that it will continue to serve a very meaningful purpose that it has done so far - in an exemplary manner.

### **Chandan Mukherjee**

(1973-2011)



In this year of 2021 with the Covid-19 Pandemic putting severe restrictions on mobility of people, the Centre for Development Studies in Thiruvananthapuram has been celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> year of functioning through the world of virtual reality made possible by the new IT technologies. At this juncture, several memories rush to my mind. I joined the CDS in October 1973 while I was working as a young Lecturer in the Sydenham College of Commerce and Economics of the University of Bombay (now Mumbai) with great enthusiasm at the opportunity to pursue my career as an academic. I formally retired in 2011 that covered a period of 38 years as a member of the CDS faculty. Several of my assignments abroad as well as at the national level were facilitated by CDS that reinforced my commitment and attachment to CDS by coming back every time I left the place for specific assignments. My continued association with the CDS as an Honorary Fellow is something that I cherish.

I think I grew up with the CDS that provided an intellectually stimulating, free, and informal environment for academic pursuits. Several episodes and developments mark the functioning of the CDS as an institution for research, teaching, policy advice, arena for encouraging action-research and so on. The first collective research study under the intellectual leadership of Professor K.N. Raj, who is the principal founder of the CDS, continues to be discussed and debated even today under the rubric of 'Kerala Model of Development'. Another continuing field of research is the agenda of Decentralised Development about which CDS initiated a discussion during the first year of its founding. When Professor K.C. Zachariah, well known demographer and expert in migration studies, returned to settle down in Thiruvananthapuram after a quarter century of work at the World Bank, CDS invited him to join the faculty as an Honorary Fellow that later got resulted in initiating and sustaining considerable amount of research on Kerala's international labour migration to the Gulf countries. In fact there are not many aspects of the Kerala economy that the CDS academic community left out in its pursuit of understanding the development process in Kerala.

However I must also put on record that the CDS was equally committed to the study of developmental

processes and challenges in other States of the country. Several studies have been carried out although I would say that it is time to undertake comparative studies in development across Indian States in a spirit of 'learning from each other'. National level studies as well as academic contributions through invited participation in national level commissions and committees were also part of the academic history of CDS.

The starting of a teaching-cum-research programme in the form of an M. Phil in Applied Economics in 1975 attracted many brilliant youngsters – men and women – from several parts of India and most of them rose to occupy high academic and non-academic positions both within the country and outside. Later a post-graduate programme, M.A. in Applied Economics, has also been added that I am sure will scale new heights.

When the CDS was started, Professor Raj was mainly responsible with the backing of his senior colleagues with Professor P.G.K. Panikar as Director to launch an experiment in an alternative approach to architecture and building construction when Laurie Baker was invited to design and construct the campus of the CDS.

Despite standing high and shiny, this cost-effective and environmentally more sustainable approach to building construction is yet to take roots in Kerala and elsewhere in the country. But I must mention this since in the days to come every country will be forced to follow an environmentally sustainable economic growth and development path, thanks to the power of Nature in teaching mankind a lesson or two occasionally.

CDS was exceptionally fortunate in attracting a large number of world renowned scholars since its inception. They came, stayed here, delivered lectures, interacted with students and the young faculty and contributed immensely to its advancement. At the same time CDS also kept up its tradition of drawing students and faculty from all over India as well as invited foreign scholars from time to time. We are living in a world that is increasingly being threatened by forces that are not exactly comfortable with, or even opposed to, free thinking and interaction, to put it modestly. It is therefore imperative to keep the tradition of free thinking and academic pursuit of knowledge.

I wish the CDS all success in its current and future endeavours.

**K. P. Kannan (1973-2011)**





I have witnessed the evolution of CDS over a period of four decades since it was set up in 1971. I was fortunate to work closely with the founding faculty as well as a large number of eminent scholars in India and abroad and publish widely in professional journals of repute and carve out a standing of my own in areas of my research. On the occasion of the 50<sup>th</sup> foundation year, I wish to express my deep gratitude to CDS for providing me the opportunities in building my academic and personal life with a larger world view.

The CDS I lived and worked in many ways was distinctly different from other social science institutes in India. For the faculty here was full freedom to prosecute research on their areas of interest, an informal environment of free interaction among faculty and students on wide-ranging societal concerns and excellent support system, especially the library and computing facilities. The opportunities for cross-breeding of ideas was very much there due to the large stream of visitors from within the country and abroad, I also recollect the interaction with dominant political leaders in the state on important developmental issues and encouragement given by the senior faculty to youngsters to participate in the activities of civil society organizations. CDS was able to adopt this flexibility while retaining its autonomy intact due to the liberal approach by funding agencies especially the state government and the ICSSR unfortunately, the socio-political environment in the country at the present juncture appears to be working against the autonomy of social science institutes. I wish CDS success in facing this challenge and building a bright future by retaining its institutional autonomy and value system inherited from the past.

**K. N. Nair**



I am delighted to have been asked to send in a message on the occasion of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of CDS. It was the “go to” centre for research on India’s economy when we were at university in the seventies, implying that it had established itself very early in its life. Given the diversity of India’s economic experience it is hoped that all its states will emulate the record of CDS as a source of ideas for regional development. As for CDS itself, the turn towards empirical research that has taken place globally leaves it well-placed to regain its pre-eminence in India as it had started out early as a centre of vigorous empiricism.

**Pulapre Balakrishnan**





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10 March 2021

#### MESSAGE

I am very happy to know that the Centre for Development Studies (CDS), Trivandrum, is celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> Foundation year. During the very first decade of its existence under the able leadership of its distinguished founder Professor K N Raj, CDS achieved a rare distinction among academic institutions in India by contributing to the evolving global scholarship on development theory through its pioneering research on the Kerala model of development. Subsequently, the Centre has developed and nurtured several niche areas of expertise, such as technology and innovation, migration, plantations, and gender. It has established itself as a leading academic institute engaged in post-graduate teaching and research in applied economics, not only in Kerala but also nationally. About 5 or 6 years ago, with a generous grant from the Kerala Government, CDS planned to expand its reach beyond India to attract students and scholars from other South Asian nations on a regular basis and eventually become a leading academic institution on development studies in the Global South. On this auspicious occasion of its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, I wish that CDS may fulfill this dream within a short span of time and bring itself to the next level of recognition and excellence.

Amit S Ray  
Professor, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi  
(Formerly) Director, Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum

## DIRECTORS OF NATIONAL AND REGIONAL RESEARCH INSTITUTES FROM AMONG CDS ALUMNI



Congratulations to CDS on the occasion of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its establishment!!

When I look back the life at CDS, I realise what an exciting time those years had been!! With the morning rush to the computer centre and library, evening coffee break at the favourite shanty, relaxed indoor and outdoor games, the late-night heated debates; the stay appeared rather marvellous. These were awesome moments but not significantly different for students graduating from other places.

What then makes CDS so different and unique? Perhaps, what distinguishes CDS is its distinct institutional culture; so exceptional and greatly different from other places where I worked later in my career. The informal nature of the campus where faculty and students are considered on equal footing; the culture of discussion and debate on topics of relevance, the range of such debate from history to advanced econometrics, heated exchanges during seminars motivated purely by enhancing knowledge, mere ambience created on how to view society differently etc., were important memories that never fades from one's mind.

It is a proud moment for all of us that CDS is celebrating its Golden Jubilee. It gives me immense pleasure to congratulate Director, Faculty, Staff, Students, Alumni and well-wishers on this occasion. I wish CDS every success and look forward to thriving years ahead.

### **K S James**

Director and Senior Professor  
International Institute for Population Sciences  
(IIPS), Mumbai



**Achin Chakraborty**  
Professor and Director  
Institute of Development  
Studies, Kolkata



**Sunil Mani**  
Director & Professor,  
RBI Chair, CDS  
Thiruvananthapuram



I joined the CDS MPhil programme in 1993. Democratic values and their nuanced understanding were the most fascinating part of CDS campus life. These values helped shaped minds and ideas. I also had the opportunity to teach at CDS. Teaching at CDS was one of the most joyful experiences of my academic career. I am delighted to know that CDS is celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> Foundation Year. My best wishes. I am sure, as an Institution, CDS will continue to play its critical role in promoting research and nurturing young minds.

### **Pinaki Chakraborty**

Director  
National Institute of Public Finance and Policy,  
New Delhi





I first heard about CDS from my seniors in John Matthai Centre. While pondering about their future, one of them said, MPhil from CDS would surely fetch a job, but the admission extremely difficult. Later I applied and fortunately was called for the interview wherein I could tell what all I knew about cardamom and Idukki. After about 45 minutes or so, while I was expecting the real questions, I realised that the interview was over. After a few days came the telegram; got the admission.

I have benefited immensely from CDS; being a student of great scholars like Raj, Vaidy, KK, Gulati and others and later as their younger colleague. A unique group of administrative staff, Devarajan, Phil Roy, Ramesh, Varghese et al; and ever helpful Library staff Swami, Sriram, Anilkumar et al; Incredible seniors Mihir, Nagaraj, Shakthi, Babychayan, Biju et al; admirable batchmates; Asish, Durgam, Haseeb, Joshi, Keshab, Manikiavasagam, Pare, Radhika and Raju, and the wonderful time that we had with our most unassuming coordinator, Chandan. All these put together made the stay in CDS the best part of my life!! My journey into research about cardamom marketing guided by Michael and DN, and later into India's electronics industry, mentored by KK and Mohanan Pillai, is unforgettable. KK's home always to all students, for me too.

I am yet to fathom how much I benefitted; I believe, I'm only one among the many who share the same view.

### **K J Joseph**

Director, Gulati Institute of Finance and Taxation (GIFT)  
Thiruvananthapuram  
MPhil (1983 batch), PhD (1985 batch)



Being from a remote village of Odisha getting admission to CDS M.Phil was like a dream came true for me. My UG friend Ramakrushna's incredible motivation and support ultimately brought me to such a life changing environment. Those two years at CDS are like more than half of my life experiences with great friends - Pulak, Kandula, Vijayanand ji, Josey, Deepa, Tripati, Reshmi, Gayathri, Nebu, Manjula..... Prof. G. N. Rao and Prof. Udayshankar Mishra, my guide and co-guide respectively, along with other legendary professors taught me ABC of research. Had never seen a computer before, CDS introduced me to it. Beautiful campus, hostel, canteen, library, class room, computer room, TV room..... snaky roads, tall coconut trees.... fresh mornings, busy days, party evenings.... I wish time would have stopped there! On the second day of my CDS life, we all new batch-mates were taking lunch in the canteen. Somebody with white beard, a half shirt and mundu came holding a lunch plate and sat beside us. Honestly, I thought maybe a peon or some office staff. The man surprised me with a hard severing next morning when he entered the class and poured the world of knowledge in 75 minutes... it was Prof. K.K!

My CDS – a treasure of sweet memories to cherish for life time!

### **Ramakanta Prusty**

Director  
B.P. College of Business Administration  
Kadi Sarva Vishwavidyalaya,  
Gandhinagar



When I received the email from Prof. Mani to pen down 200 words about my life in CDS, I was really confused. I do not know what to write and what not. My fairly long stay in CDS hostel for seven years from 1987 to 1993 has left a sort of forget-me-never life experience. I still cherish and live with it.. Hailing from a rural and remote village in Thiruvananthapuram district, Vellanad (Thankappan Nair, the cook in CDS Canteen used to address me vellanadan), whatever I had come across in CDS was fascinating for me. Suresh Kumar (MA Batch met and who worked in CDS in different research projects till 1991) came home one day with piece of advertisement and asked me to apply for a field investigator job in CDS. When we reached CDS, it was about 6 PM. But librarian at the counter Mr Ravi took the application from us with a promise that he would hand over to the office the very next day. He did it unflinchingly and my friend and myself joined research project in CDS in March 1987. After four months, I joined MPhil course in CDS and I happened to be the only one Malayalee male student in the 14 member group in the batch. In my initial days, I had none to talk freely and I felt lonely. I was privileged to have lectures from Ashok Mitra on Political Economy, and K.N.Raj on National Income estimation.

I completed MPhil in 1989 and joined again in a research projects under the late Prof. T.N.Krishnan and continued to work with him till I got admission in JNU for PhD in 1993. Almost every evening in CDS ended up in a sort of celebration. After dinner from the canteen, we collect Rs 30-50 each and walk up to the house of retired army personal in Prasanthnagar to purchase a bottle of rum branded Gold dagger. The night often prolonged till 2-3 am in the morning. Gathering in the evenings were a place for heated political and academic debates and I would say I understood nuances of academics and politics more from such wonderful evenings. Those evenings have left lots of nostalgic and immortal memories. Walking down the hill for a tea from Sasikada was inevitable routine in the everyday life in CDS. Those were most enjoyable, lovable, memorable, and fanciful phases of my life. The life took an entirely different turn altogether. It was not in my wildest thought that I would ever become a professor and even for a while, assume the charge of Director in another ICSSR Institute in India. My exposure in CDS made it possible. Whatever I had come across, experienced and practised in CDS were all new for me. I owe a lot to my great friendship circle in CDS, which I still adore and cherish. I owe a lot.

**Mohanakumar, S**

Professor & Director(i/c)

Institute of Development Studies, Jaipur, Rajasthan

MPhil, 1987-89 Batch





## Centre for Development Studies: Its Remarkable Contribution



I am writing this article for two reasons. First the CDS is currently celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Secondly, it has been adjudged recently as the number 1 among the social science research institutes in the country in terms of research publications.

In order to address the possible issues of conflict of interest, I need to be transparent on my relationship with the Centre. I was a member of its faculty for 15 years but I moved out in 2011. I continue to teach here occasionally without any financial gain. Azim Premji University has allowed to me to do so as part of the outreach programs of its faculty.

A number of well known people were associated with the CDS and it would be difficult to mention all of them. However any commentary on the Centre cannot neglect three people.

First, K N Raj who founded the institute but was never the director of the institute; As I noted in a recent essay, an important contribution of Raj was in ensuring that the Centre would be relatively free from the bureaucratic interventions of the state and national governments. Secondly, Achutha Menon - the former Chief Minister of Kerala - whose vision led to the formation of not only the CDS but also a few other research institutes in Kerala, and who entrusted the responsibility to build the Centre with K N Raj. Anyone who spend even a single day at the Centre cannot neglect the mark of Laurie Baker - the architect.

There were many remarkable aspects to the Centre. It played a very important role on the discussions on human development or the need to focus on aspects other than economic growth or the possibility of enhancing the welfare of people even without higher levels of per-capita incomes. Scholars. And policy-makers interested in these discussions cannot neglect the contribution of the Centre.

It envisaged an education program to create people who can think about and practice development. Those who completed its pioneering M. Phil program became leaders and practitioners of NGOs, Journalists, activists, and development researchers. There was enough emphasis on the theory, method and practice of development. It was not meant for the creation of researchers who have little exposure to the real world challenges.

The affiliation with the Jawaharlal Nehru University for its teaching programs enhanced the visibility at the national level. Almost all students used to get a fellowship until recently. Even for those who need to pay a fees, it is at a highly subsidised rate. Though the money available was limited, the centre did not face major financial difficulties. It could develop and sustain an important library in social sciences in the southern part of India. It has probably one of best infrastructure facilities for a higher education institute in the country which are available at a highly subsidised rate to students.

It was probably one of the first institutes in



India which admitted non-economists (including engineers, and those who have studied law, English literature and so on) to a research-based degree in applied economics. Some of these non-economists have excelled in their careers related to development later on.

It played an important role in understanding almost every aspect of Kerala's development. No one can study the human development or migration or gender discrimination or any such aspect of Kerala without referring to the literature produced by the researchers of the CDS. There was a time when studies on agriculture and industry were also important but the importance of these has declined since its economy moved towards one dominated by the service sector.

Its contribution to the policy processes are notable. A number of students of the Centre have worked as the senior officers of the state government. Though the case of Thomas Isaac - two times finance minister of the state and a former student and faculty of the centre is well known, there are a number of others who participated in policy-making bodies like the State Planning Board. The participation of the faculty, researchers and students of the Centre in public debates through newspaper columns and other popular articles is another important pathway through which the centre has shaped the public discourse on development in Kerala.

The outreach to field-level organisations and social movements was a notable feature. Organisations like the Kerala Sastra Sahitya Parishad (KSSP) enjoyed close contacts with the Centre. The decentralisation efforts within the state have deepened the contacts of the CDS with local governments. A major program to fund research for local level development enhanced the research capacities of a large number of college teachers and NGO activists. Currently, feminist academics of the centre collaborate with women activists to highlight and address the issues of gender discrimination within the state.

The nature of programs and faculty changed over time. The relevance of the M.Phil program declined and that led to the need for other teaching program. The relatively new M.A. program has acquired national recognition, and I would put it one among the top 5

such programs in the country. The PhD Scholars of the Centre get jobs in reputed universities and research institutes. Though development studies was the initial focus, the contribution of the Centre towards the teaching and research in economics is widely noted.

The approach of the centre in terms of economics research is also notable. The initial set of researchers were not happy with the mainstream (or neoclassical economics) but they were not dogmatic ideologues. They focused on context-specific and empirically valid understanding of social and economic issues. That tradition has continued without much change. The focus on theory-informed (and not theory-driven), methodologically sound empirical research continues to be its strength. The centre is contributing to the education of social sciences in different colleges and universities by teacher training programs and fellowships or by making its library and other resources available to all teachers and other users.

In essence, the CDS is successful for its organic connection with the social context. There is a relatively strong connection between the government, academia and the civil society in Kerala and CDS plays a pivotal role in this regard. Each of these strengthens the other by studies, criticisms, and also through the participation in public discourse. Such a connection would enhance the usefulness and accountability of academic institutions, and it has to be nurtured if the centre has to be impactful on a sustainable basis.

Though there are similar institutes in other states of India, these are not that successful as the CDS.



One reason is that the connections with the state government and civil society are not strong. State governments do not feel the need to support these institutes financially and/or politicians and people at large don't see the value of supporting these institutes adequately. The work of academics also tend to be isolated and do not aim at addressing the regional socioeconomic issues insightfully.

The challenges that the CDS faces (would be facing in future) also need to be highlighted in such an essay. Though it is in a relatively better financial situation compared to others which come under the umbrella of Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), CDS is also vulnerable in this regard. It is relatively better due to the support of the state government and its internal endowments (thanks to a UN sponsored training program initiated by Professor T N Krishnan). However the state government may find it difficult to enhance financial support due to its own financial challenges. There would be many competitors to get the support from the ICSSR and the willingness to support social science research is declining in the country. All these may enhance the financial vulnerability of the CDS.

The employment situation in Kerala is not vibrant. This may prevent the CDS from attracting good quality researchers from other states. When a youngster from Bengal or Odisha joins the centre as

a faculty, it is not easy to find a good job for his/her spouse. Though the centre could attract recently a set of young researchers from other states as faculty, the situation in Kerala may encourage them to move to metropolitan cities. The centre needs faculty from different parts of India and a regionalisation (with more academics from Kerala) may not be desirable.

My sense is that the quality of students who join PhD programs in social sciences in Indian institutes is declining over time. There could be multiple reasons: The availability of other employment opportunities, the general quality of school, undergraduate and post-graduate education; the lesser ability of proficient students to sacrifice income earning opportunities for getting doctoral education and so on. A sizeable section of those who join are not intrinsically motivated or interested in pursuing doctoral education. This can have a bearing on the quality of the pool of students and teachers that an institute like CDS can get in future. This may impact the research and other outputs.

The sustained success of the CDS and other research institutes may depend on how society addresses these challenges.

**V. Santhakumar**  
Azim Premji University





Congratulations to the many students, alumni, staff and faculty members who have been part of the 50-year journey of CDS Thiruvananthapuram. We gratefully remember the visionary leadership of the Institution's founders whose magnetism and sense of professional mission attracted so many. Gita and I arrived in CDS on the day that it was celebrating its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We left our bags in the Guest House and joined the tea! Though there for just a decade, we remain members of the CDS family.

What made CDS very special and ensured lasting impact was commitment to a key set of principles. It addressed emerging development problems of the time, providing fresh insights for understanding and action on a diverse range of issues. The methods that CDS encouraged included fidelity to data, examining development from the ground up, methodological inclusiveness, readiness to learn from multiple perspectives and experiences. CDS pioneered multi-disciplinary teaching programs. Its M Phil admissions were open to students from all backgrounds.

Decades have elapsed. The world has changed more than we may have expected. May we remain faithful to those founding principles that give meaning and purpose to our endeavours. I look forward to the future with pride and hope.

**Chiranjib Sen**

Visiting Professor  
Azim Premji University, Bangalore



It is with immense pleasure and pride that I recollect my thoughts on CDS as its Faculty Member for well over two decades. The first thing that impressed me as a new comer on the CDS campus in 1980 was its cosmopolitan character. CDS could attract young research scholars into its M.Phil and Ph.D Programmes from far off places. There were some favourable factors behind this positive development visible at CDS even by 1980s.

Firstly, CDS had on its faculty an inspiring and outstanding set of scholars as founders, teachers and guides such as Prof. K.N.Raj, Prof. I.S.Gulati, and Prof. A.Vaidyanathan. Secondly, founders of CDS had laid greater emphasis on spending more funds on quickly enriching the Library than on the construction of fancy buildings on the campus. Thirdly, CDS could secure academic affiliation for its M.Phil and Ph.D degrees with Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

Another feature of CDS community from the very beginning had been its non-hierarchical features both among the faculty members and between them and the research scholars. This helped build up a harmonious group on the campus.

A significant feature of the M.Phil course is the inclusion of a discussion on the evolution of Indian economy from Pre-colonial and Colonial times onwards --a feature not visible in many of the M.Phil courses elsewhere in the country. The standards of the M.Phil Theses at CDS had significantly increased over time. Credit to this positive development should go both to the brilliant set of young people who joined as research scholars as well as conscious efforts made by the research guides in this direction.

During the course of time research by both the faculty and scholars had spread over several areas such as population and development, fisheries, agriculture, migration of labour, industrialisation, technology, human development, gender issues, villages studies so on and so forth.

I always cherish the time I spent at CDS as precious and invaluable. I wish the CDS Community all the very best in the years to come.

**G. N. Rao**  
Hon. Fellow, CDS

“During my stay at CDS between 1980-83, I learnt a different perspective on economics and economic research; discovered cultural diversities; appreciated alternative architectural style; developed taste for different cuisines; and most importantly earned a large number of friends across different age groups, hierarchy and orientations. Both Lopa and I enjoyed our CDS life very much. We still cherish those memories.”

### **Rajaram Dasgupta**



I joined CDS in the early eighties after working in the research institutions located in New Delhi & Ahmedabad. The experience here was unique. I got acquainted with keen student community full of insatiable curiosity and powerful urge to learn. In the research area, focus here was slightly different. It is on regional economic issues. I experienced this for the last thirty years. Now, even after retirement I am enjoying that experience.

### **P. Mohanan Pillai**

Hon. Fellow, CDS



I am an earliest member of CDS community. I greatly appreciate the dedication and farsightedness of its founding fathers and the earnestness of all successive torch bearers leading CDS towards intellectual heights for societal advancement. I am proud of being associated with this prime institution for so long and known by it.

### **P. Sivanandan**

Hon. Fellow, CDS



Dr. K N Raj was first and foremost my Teacher at the Delhi School of Economics during 1962-64, who taught us Indian Economy; how to look at the economy in all its dimensions, showing us the interconnections, for instance the agriculture-industry linkages; impact on employment due to differential sectoral growth changes and so on. He had the most profound impact on my research capabilities from 1973 onwards when I migrated to Kerala (by marriage!) and joined the Centre for Development Studies which had just started and was located in a building in front of its present structure. Under his guidance I did my first major research on explaining the per capita decline in cloth consumption due to, inter alia, a stagnant agriculture. He taught us work ethic, to be thorough, sincere and completely committed and honest in one's research. Together with the other stalwarts in the field of Economics, at the CDS in the initial years, I learnt how to do research. There could be no compromise on the written product which for Dr. Raj, should be complete, in all senses, from the formatting to the punctuation marks and of course the content. Cannot miss out the great job he did in decentralising functions at the CDS which not only provided a chance to the juniors to participate but also smoothened the whole process of governance. He is my Guru.

### **Mridul Eapen**

Member, Kerala State Planning Board &  
Hon. Fellow, CDS

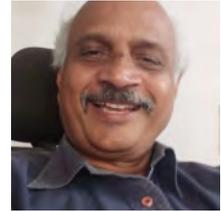


On this wonderful occasion of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Centre for Development Studies I am reminded of the pioneering faculty Prof. K.N. Raj brought together in establishing the Centre fifty years ago: Professors Gulati, Krishnaji, Krishnan, Panikar and Vaidyanathan. These pioneers are no longer with us, but they have left behind a grand legacy of inclusive, evidence based enquiry unshackled particular theoretical orthodoxies. I was privileged to belong to the second generation of faculty and students to whom these pioneers passed on the baton. The baton has since been handed down through

several generations after us and today the Centre still remains one of the leading centres of social science research and learning in the country. Its alumni is spread across several professions both in India and abroad. On this very special day I would like to convey my very best wishes to the Centre for Development Studies to achieve even greater heights during the next fifty years and beyond.

**Sudipto Mundle**  
Distinguished Fellow,  
National Council of Applied Economic  
Research , New Delhi

## FORMER NON-ACADEMIC STAFF



My association with CDS starts in the early eighties when I joined there as a computer programmer. Initially, it was a culture shock for me, as till then, I was living in a narrow comfort zone without any exposure to different cultures (a frog in the well). But the CDS hostel life and the opportunity to interact with wonderful minds had a lasting impact on my life. My mind is bursting with fond memories!

During those days, the computer centre, a small air-conditioned cubicle, where I used to spend most of my time (the lure of air conditioning was very strong, especially during summer days!), was considered to be a very sacred place. By today's standards, our computer, the single-line monitor microcomputer (if I remember correctly it is called HCL 1600), cannot even be considered as an electronic toy. The RAM was just 16k and the secondary storage capacity was just 128KB/256KB. Though the floppy disk was very huge, its capacity was abysmally low. Decades ago the current storage capacity standard of terra bytes-1000 KB makes 1MB, 1000MB makes 1GB and 1000GB makes 1TB- was just science fiction. However, despite being a very low-end digital device, this old workhorse could do quite a lot of things-a glance at the dissertations and other academic products published during those times would attest to this observation.

The arrival of the UNFPA project dramatically changed different aspects of CDS life. The dawn

of affluence brought in by that project completely changed our computing infrastructure. The small cubicle computer room is replaced with a separate building. The computer centre is now flooded with personal computers. Students who used to run around the city searching for good typists started typing down their research materials themselves on WordStar and WordPerfect (these word-processing packages are not available now. MS-word, which came much later, killed these products). The advent of word-processing enabled writing infrastructure was an instant hit among students as it allowed them to create documents easily- they could type out whatever comes to their mind and later correct/assemble the text in any way they choose. It was huge a productivity boost for the academic world.

The word-processing revolution was not confined to the academic community. It slowly moved over to the office staff and in a few months time typewriter, which was a fixture in our office rooms, completely disappeared from the scene. We even created a 24x7 computing facility exclusively meant for students- students were given complete freedom to manage this facility.

The library computerisation was yet another landmark during this period. We procured Libsys, prominent library software, and installed it on our Unix based minicomputer. The software became quite popular



among CDS librarians and one of the Libsys service persons later became our Chief Librarian.

Though we had several computers, most of them were working in stand-alone mode. Naturally, system management and service delivery were difficult. The installation of CDS LAN (during the early 2000s) connecting faculty rooms and all sections of the organisation represents a quantum leap in our computing systems functionality. The immediate offshoot of this jump in computing infrastructure is that it helped us provide 24x7 Internet facilities (independent email ids, mailing groups, CDS websites- cds.edu/cds.ac.in, personal web pages for faculty/students etc) to all faculty members and officers.

Yet another development worth a mention is the installation of a SAN-based centralised storage facility and virtual private network (VPN). The advantage of a central storage network is that it allows the user to access her files from anywhere on the net. This means you can access your data anytime you need from anywhere on the LAN. When you log-in to the network your central storage gets connected automatically to your computer (as a virtual drive) and gets attached to it. The VPN service lets you access all the CDS computing services from anywhere outside the campus anytime.

Looking back, it is quite obvious that the CDS has always been keeping pace with the technological treadmill. Of course, this does not happen out of thin air. The progressive/unconventional support provided by the CDS management is the key driver of this transformation.

**J. Murali**

Former Systems Manager





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**Soman Nair  
Executive Registrar**

17<sup>th</sup> March, 2021

Prof Sunil Mani  
Director  
Centre for Development Studies  
Prashanth Nagar, Uloor  
Thiruvananthapuram 695 011

Dear Prof Sunil Mani,

I am delighted to learn that CDS is celebrating its fiftieth foundation year in 2021. I recall with pride my long stint as Registrar of CDS from April 1998 to May 2012. I had also the fortune of having associated with those who have graduated from CDS and carved a niche for themselves as policy makers, outstanding scholars and teachers. There is always a 'spark' of attention one gets from the academic and research community, whether they belong to social sciences or technology, when one drops the name of 'CDS.' This shows the extent to which the Institution has built up its reputation over the years. I wish the fifty years of influential research and quality teaching in development studies and other allied areas continue to be the major landmark of CDS in the years to come.

With best regards,

Soman Nair



Greetings to the CDS community on this happy occasion of celebrating its fiftieth foundation year.

My association with CDS started in 1980 when I joined as a library personnel. I have happy memories of 30 years in the CDS campus – in the hostel, the staff quarters and above all in the library – that wonderful seven-storied tower of learning built by Mr. Laurie Baker. At this juncture I remember with fondness the founders of the institution, the staff and students and my colleagues in the library who were also my friends.

I pay special homage to all my friends and colleagues who are no more with us and left for eternal rest.

Wishing the CDS community many more happy and prosperous years into the future.

**Sosamma Mathew (Molly)**  
(Former CDS Library Staff)



I joined the CDS in 1989. The first thing that struck me about the institution was the informal and friendly interactions between all members of the community. In particular, I fondly remember our first Director Professor P.G.K. Panikar and Professor K.N. Raj who motivated, encouraged, and supported our endeavours in sustaining the CDS Library. At a time when good libraries were a rarity, the CDS Library provided a rich collection of students and members of the general public. I am humbled to have been part of this historic journey.

**Shobhana Kannan**  
(Former CDS Library Staff)



## CDS RESEARCH SCHOLARS WHO HAVE MANAGED TO ACQUIRE A SPOUSE FROM AMONG THEM

1. T. M. Thomas Isaac (PhD 1978)
2. Rakesh Basant (MPhil 1979-81)
3. Albert Christopher Dhas ( PhD 1986)
4. Keshab Das ( PhD 1987)
5. R. Nagaraj (PhD 1980)
6. Anand S. (MPhil 1984-86)
7. Anil Kumar V. ( PhD 1988)
8. Arun T.G. (PhD 1993)
9. Babu P. Remesh (PhD 1996)
10. Harikurup K. K. (PhD 1995)
11. Pinaki Chakraborty (PhD 1996)
12. Binoy John K. V. (MPhil 1995-97)
13. Charvak (MPhil 1995-97)
14. Prabhat Kumar (MPhil 1997-99)
15. Subrata Mukherjee ( PhD 2001)
16. Rajesh Kumar K. ( PhD 2003)
17. Nirmal Roy V. P.(MPhil 2005-07)
18. Ananth Kamath (MPhil 2005-07)
19. Amareandra Das (PhD 2006)
20. Binoy Goswami (MPhil 2006-08)
21. William Joe (PhD 2006)
22. Indervir Singh (PhD 2008)
23. Khanindra Das (MPhil 2007-09)
24. Anirban Kundu (PhD 2009)
25. Anand S (MPhil 2007-09)
26. Pinak Sarkar (PhD2012)
27. Deepak Singhania (MPhil 2010-12)
28. Rakesh Ranjan Kumar (MPhil 2012-14)
29. Akhil C. S. (PhD 2015)
30. Vijayasuryan C. K. (MPhil 2011-13)
- Nata Duvvury (PhD 1979)
- Jeemol Unni (MPhil 1979-81)
- Helen Mary Jacqueline (MPhil 1989-91)
- Thara S. Nair (PhD 1989)
- P. Manaswini (MPhil 1982)
- Soudamini K. V (MPhil 1984-86)
- Sunanda S (MPhil 1989-91)
- Shobha Varghese (MPhil 1993-95)
- Neetha N ( PhD 1994)
- Deepa G. L (MPhil 1992-94)
- Lekha S ( PhD 1997)
- Jayasree Paul (MPhil 1997-98)
- Deepita Chakravarty (MPhil 1996-98)
- Jyoti Parimal Sarkar (MPhil 1997-99)
- Rakhe P. B (PhD 2003)
- Binu Roshni P (PhD 2006)
- Sumalatha B.S (MPhil 2005-07)
- Neethi P (PhD 2007)
- Bibhunandini Das (PhD 2008)
- Anoopa S. Nair (PhD 2008)
- Shalini Rudra (MPhil 2011-13)
- Asha Purna Baruah (MPhil 2009-11)
- Swati Dutta (MPhil 2008-10)
- Sravanthi Choragudi( PhD 2008)
- Sanchita Mukherjee (PhD 2014)
- Nutan Shashi Tigga (PhD 2012)
- Soumi Roy Chowdhury (MPhil 2010-12)
- Anjana Rajagopal (MPhil 2012-14)
- Aarathi G (PhD 2014)
- Akhila P (MPhil 2014-16)

**Based on available records. We cannot vouch for complete accuracy of this list.**



My life at CDS has been both transformative and one of the most influential experience in every aspect. Although born and bred in Thiruvananthapuram, spending time in a different corner of the city with a diverse group of colleagues was indeed an eye-opener, giving different perspectives, and started to view the city itself from a different angle! I really cherished those daily trips to CDS by coach!

I was so enthralled in my first month at CDS with the array of collections in the library, and recall running up and down through those narrow steps of the marvellous library! I fondly remember the excitement in presenting on social accounting matrix seminars for K.P.Kannan's sessions and attending the lectures on flexible manufacturing by P.Mohanan Pillai. We even undertook a survey of small vendors in Kesavadasapuram under D. Narayana's guidance, and the feel of achievement when we handled the real-World data was enormous. B.G Kumar's departure was still a painful memory. Apparently, the culture of strong research values instilled in us through formal and informal guidance by our faculty has been invaluable. In those days, many of us were regulars at the homes of faculty members. We fondly remember teachers such as KK sir who supported us beyond limits! I can't forget one other matter, of receiving a very long and detailed reference letter from our very own Professor K. N. Raj. I still get goose bumps when I think about the effort and time he spent to write those two full pages about a student who was not his formal student! I remember that kindness with gratitude whenever I write reference letters now!

I am glad to pen these memories as part of the 50<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day Celebrations.

**Thankom Arun**

The University of Essex, UK



CDS is indeed more than a site of learning, it is a much cherished community of scholars and friends. I joined CDS in 1993, as a nervous PG student from the quiet corner of Nilgiris, and fortunate to be taught by many renowned scholars on Kerala model of development, instilling a rigorous research culture. After two decades, Arun and I were fortunate to spend time again on the charming Baker inspired green campus as part of our academic visit in 2018, coincidentally during the devastating 2018 Kerala floods. This gave us an opportunity to interact with the academic and student community.

I am so pleased to see how over the recent years, and as part of the 50th Year Celebrations, the Centre has brought together key thinkers, scholars, practitioners and local communities to rekindle debates on global challenges and inclusive development. This is true testimony to how the unprecedented Covid-19 Pandemic has taught us values of humanity, resilience and solidarity, harnessing forces of creativity and courage for our common futures. My best wishes to the Centre for its continued success in its journey creating vibrant multi-disciplinary academic communities in the post-pandemic period.

**Shoba Arun (1993-95)**

Department of Sociology  
Manchester Metropolitan University.  
United Kingdom



I arrived in CDS on September 8, 1979 and was immediately fascinated by the raw but inspiring architecture of the place. My training before coming to the Centre was scratchy and I still believe that had I been interviewed; I would not have made it to the MPhil programme! Fortunately, I did. The research culture was contagious and has remained with me. I remember how the Penguin edition of Capital resulted in vibrant discussions on formal and real subsumption of labour by capital, adding to the ongoing debate on capitalism in Indian agriculture. New data on anything - terms of trade, cost of cultivation or agricultural wages - always put CDS research minds in a tizzy! I learnt the value of the right questions and to respect and question data. Spoke English, ate beef and enjoyed indigenous cocktails for the first time! Made lifelong friends, found a life-partner and learnt humility! I also learnt to go late for lunch if I had not read the papers suggested by Raj or Vaidy because they would always remember. Appropriately, I finalized my doctoral dissertation on campus as my advisor KK had moved to CDS! The Centre has grown but still feels like home.

**Rakesh Basant**

Professor, IIM, Ahmedabad



I applied to CDS and JNU, Delhi for an M.Phil and was pleasantly surprised to be called for an interview at both places. As luck would have it, coming from this protective Malayalee family, I was 'allowed' to appear for the CDS interview and not for the JNU one. Not sure what I said there, but I had read a lot of EPW articles which taught me to argue against the trend. Must have said something of that sort on some current economic issue and I got admission!

It definitely was a life changing experience in more ways than one. The idea of a career had not been instilled in my head, and neither did CDS do that! CDS taught me to enjoy reading and writing and gave me this love for data. I remember that on afternoons when I was 'free', I would go to the basement of the library tower where the Census and other data sources were stored to just browse through the data! Imagine, that was my hobby and today it is my profession! And guess who I met there often, Dr. K.N Raj!! He was doing the same, of course at a much higher intellectual level!! Guess that is why he agreed to supervise my M.Phil. Dissertation!! Thank you CDS!

**Jeemol Unni** (M.Phil. Batch 1979-81)

Ahmedabad University, Ahmedabad



This comes from Neethi P (MPhil 2005-07 and PhD 2007-13) and Anant Kamath (MPhil 2005-07).

CDS for us is not just one among a string of institutions we have studied or taught in. It remains an important entity in our academic and personal lives. The Centre drove within us the instinct to aspire to critical thinking and writing, as well as to look wide beyond the bounds of any mainstream discipline or methodology in our enquiries. It also brought the two of us together and made us eternally grateful. We lose no opportunity to pay obeisance at this temple of thought on our annual visit to Trivandrum, and, even to this day, we reflect on many classes and academic experiences during our thinking, writing, and teaching. CDS will always remain in our minds and hearts as the centrepiece of our personal and academic journeys, and we hope to do justice to the institution in our lives ahead.



**Neethi P:** Indian Institute for Human Settlements (IIHS) Bangalore

**Anant Kamath:** National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS) Bangalore



This is Lekha.

I joined CDS when I was 22. In 1995. An ocean of uncertainties. Emotional gaps. A sense that “I do not belong”. That was me, then. The first two decades of my life were not easy.

CDS healed me - to focus, to love, to rebel and to own my dreams.

The “counterfactuals” still haunt me. The moment I think what else could have happened to me.

To “own my choices”.

I enjoyed the companionship of brilliant scholars - their kindness, simplicity and the unconditional knowledge sharing. I became a confident scholar over the years.

The CDS “air” helped me - the freedom of thoughts.

And a deep sense that everyone is “equally equal”.

Immensely grateful to Professor K N Raj for his vision – “growth with equity”.

That’s the marksmanship I owe to all my teachers in CDS.

I owe to Pinaki Chakraborty, Thomas Isaac and I S Gulati, more than I realise.

In 2007, I joined CDS as a faculty member, when Prof K N Nair was our Director. Grateful to him for his love, guidance and compassion.

My CDS students told me, they felt , Am their “friend” so near, not a teacher. That’s the reward, I cherish.

Thank you CDS.

### **Lekha S. Chakraborty**

Professor and Chair, NIPFP NET-Website Committee

National Institute of Public Finance and Policy, New Delhi



We joined the M Phil batch of CDS in 1992 and then continued for the doctoral studies. Our active time in CDS were about 6 years from 1992, as we both left the centre in 1998 to join National Labour Institute, NOIDA. Undoubtedly, this short span made all differences in our lives. CDS is the place where we began our research journey; where we found each other; and which gave us values and directions in academic and professional lives. The enabling environment of CDS is unique and inspiring. Availability of best possible learning facilities, mentoring by great teachers, motivating presence of legends like Professor Raj, loving company of classmates, friends and CDS employees, unlimited freedom to pursue academic interests – all these together transformed us. The stay in the campus itself was very soothing, which also filled us with the values and vision of the peoples’ architect, Laurie Baker.

The best description of CDS is there in the lines of Tagore, printed on the memento of the first ever alumni meet of CDS, which we keep as a treasure in our reading room. Yes, CDS is a place, “Where mind is without fear and the head is held high, where knowledge is free;

Where the world has not been broken into fragments by narrow domestic walls”.

### **Neetha N. & Babu P. Remesh**

New Delhi





## Four Amazing Women during My Days at the Centre

I landed at the Centre in early September 1983 as an MPhil student and subsequently did my PhD. Having come from a fairly conservative southern Orissa city I had my set notions of women in society which I thought were cool and conventional. Even in our graduation and post-graduation days in the college men and women hardly interacted excepting in gendered huddles.

At CDS, over the years, I met four amazing women – Gita Sen, NataDuvvury, Sundari Ravindran and RadhikaLal – one was quite unlike the other but they were all what I now understand the women of substance. Exceptionally intelligent, very well read and travelled, argumentative, kind and fun-loving, they had their style too. But that style was not about how they dressed, looked, smiled, cooked or did not do any of these, but that they were themselves. As I begin to understand a bit about the dynamics of gender, I'm convinced these ideas germinated in me observing them then and there. Even as I have not quite met them over decades I have a deep sense of pride and elation that I know such ones. Quite spontaneously, I do cite their writings and struggles in critical gendered discourses in my sessions in research capacity building, seminars or even arguments, small or big.

All this is not to suggest that there were no other amazing men or women at the Centre during my time. In fact, there were quite a few – bright, lovable, eccentric and some a bit impractical! I will write about them one day. But that's another day.

### **Keshab Das**

Professor, Gujarat Institute of Development Research, Ahmedabad, Gujarat



I don't know whether it is the structure, the people, or the ambiance. But CDS played a significant role in shaping me. I joined in 1998 with a vibrant and diverse group of 12 others, and we were lucky and excited to be in Prof. Raj's lectures to our M. Phil batch - he started the class saying that "You are 13; 13 is not a bad number, I was born on that date." Since then, there have been several learning moments – academic, non-academic, and even inherited habits – from seniors, juniors, peers, and of course, the teachers. A very senior professor like KKS would walk through the campus with his arm on your shoulder, yet he would be very strict when needed to be. When it came to my evaluation once, he would stop me in front of his office, "Azeez, there is a Lakshmana Rekha there," he would say. "Until this line, we were friends, but once you enter inside, I will be a different person." And he would literally be – very hard. He was an inspiration to every student, no matter who your supervisor is, and he has influenced me both in my personal and academic journey. In general, the friendly ambiance, yet the tough spares and disagreements in seminars that CDS used to offer, makes you humble and prepared to survive anywhere. Above all, the friendship you create in CDS remains forever, and you will cherish the moments on the campus eternally. So are the unending stream of stories passed over generations and the memories of runs between your supervisors (I had two helpful and easy-going ones, Pushpangadan and Achin Chakraborty).

### **Abdul Azeez Erumban**

Assistant Professor, the University of Groningen,  
The Netherlands  
& Senior Research Fellow, The Conference  
Board, New York, and Brussels

It was not true that I was very much interested in research. In 1975, I was then working as a research Assistant in a project at the Indian Institute of Management, Calcutta. I came to know about CDS from Chandan Mukherjee who was junior research fellow at the centre. I applied for the M.Phil. course and got an interview call from the Centre. I was then very busy with the field survey. So I wrote them that I would not be able to make it. But to my utter surprise, I was selected. Had there been any interview, I am sure, I would not have been selected. We were seven in the first batch.

Everyone in the batch ( other than me) was seriously interested in academics at the CDS. May be I was an exception. But I enjoyed the life to the fullest extent. I was inclined to the film shows and met Kerala film directors like Arvandan ( whom I met in the Rubber Board, Trivandrum Branch ) , Adoor, John Abraham. I was then seriously thinking of withdrawing myself from the academic activities and coming back to Kolkata. But there were fabulous set of faculty members like Prof. Krishnaji, Prof. Gulati , Prof. Vaidyanathan who forced me to complete the course. I remember that Prof. Gulati once caught me and scolded me like anything. He could somehow understand that I would yield only under pressure. Then I started working on my M.Phil. dissertation which was on Economic aspect of rubber Plantation. Prof Gulati was so meticulous and stringent about my research works that I had to submit 9 drafts to him. Now I realize It was a fantastic research training program which I had to go through under the guidance of my guru Prof. Gulati. He okayed the 10<sup>th</sup> draft and told me with a sweet smile in his face ‘ go and submit it’. Prof. Gulati also wanted me to work on Ph.D ( extension of my M.Phil. work ). I have not done that. I still repent for not listening to him.

During our time there was a cricket match between CDS researchers and Trivandrum Medical college students and this match was held in medical college stadium. Our captain was Prof. Krishnaji. We had a practice session prior to the match. And the result? Would anyone guess ? Yes, we have won the game.

I still cherish the sweet memories of CDS. I wish I could go back to CDS and start afresh.

### **Arabinda Bhattacharya**

M.Phil. Student, 1<sup>st</sup> batch

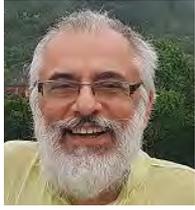


I was privileged to have been a student of Professor K N Raj at the Delhi School of Economics. Raj brought along with him a distinct tradition of extending gentle care to the student community when he moved to Thiruvananthapuram for initiating the Centre for Development Studies. I got a chance to work with him from 1971 onwards, thereby gaining a ringside view of shaping a premier education institution by a talented team of scholars including P G K Panikar, T N Krishnan, I S Gulati, N Krishnaji and A. Vaidyanathan. The original crew created a magical world of teaching and research in social sciences, which attracted the finest students from all over India.

The CDS was structured to bring out the best from the students of diverse disciplinary backgrounds. Many came out as trained economists and social scientists, who eventually matured into the best analysts and commentators of the Indian economy and made their mark in different walks of life. They became distinguished social scientists, gifted professors, prominent members of the policy community, and leading media professionals. The climate of academic interactions pioneered in the CDS made it a place of pilgrimage for many social science scholars of India and abroad. They streamed in and contributed to developing a vibrant academic community nurturing a climate of dissent, debate and fierce intellectual honesty. Proudly I profess my loyalty to that unique culture, which will outlive of all us.

**A. V. Jose**

Visiting Fellow, CDS



I was a student at CDS, 82-84. A truly wonderful place that was challenging, unnerving with its confusion created for the self but also so full of love, warmth and friendships. I helped a friend complete his thesis but couldn't do mine. At times we pitched our empirical inquiries far too high but could not tide over them. Many of our conversations revolved around two poles: One finding or making sense of the data we had collected or were going to collect and the other about how one could understand & affect social change. There's a large grey area in between. Whatever I'm glad, as one looks back that we weren't afraid of the messy world. One graduated with the spirit of inquiry, friendships and sharing that has sustained over four decades. Apart from intellectual sharing CDS friends contributed so much to our exposure to nature and forests. I feel amazed and grateful at the trust and energy that faculty reposed in us, a very diverse set of students.

**Arvind Sardana**  
(MPhil 1982-84)



On the occasion of the 50<sup>th</sup> Foundation Year of Centre for Development Studies (CDS), it is my utmost pleasure to share my experience. Being an alumni of one of the prestigious Institutes in the world, my journey has been truly remarkable. As I reminisce the good old days, I am reminded of how someone like me, from a purely rural background, having limited understanding of research and academia was introduced to the fascinating world of development economics and economic policy making. I am thankful for the care and concern I received at the hands of professors like Prof T .N. Krishnan, Prof P.G.K Panicker, , Prof P S George, Prof K.K Subramanian, Prof Michael Tharakan, Prof T M Thomas Isaac, Prof K P Kannan, Prof Mridul Eapen, Prof Pushpangadan among many others. The years 1986-87 also reminds me of the excitement I felt learning from eminent scholars from across the world. The building styled by Laurie Baker, the extensive collection of books in the library and the campus life I get to experience are all fond memories that I cherish for a lifetime.

After my MPhil degree, I stayed connected with the Institute by working in various research projects until my career began at Gulati Institute of Finance and Taxation (GIFT), an autonomous institution of Government of Kerala on January 17<sup>th</sup> 1993. More than seven years of experience and learning I gained at CDS have certainly influenced my professional and personal life. I still maintain contact with many of my professors and friends at CDS. Looking back, I also realize how discussions with professors and seniors on academics, art and culture, films, politics and others kept my life at CDS vibrant and lively. The care and comfort I received from Prof K. K Subramanian and his wife, Padmam chechi, and the delicious food many times I had at their home is an anecdote I still share with my children. I am also reminded of my hostel life and the time spent with all my classmates including seniors and juniors. The non-teaching staffs at CDS were also always cooperative.

I extend my heartfelt wishes to CDS on this auspicious occasion, as a proud student.

**Anitha Kumary L.** (1986-87 M Phil Batch)  
Associate Professor  
Gulati Institute of Finance and Taxation  
Thiruvananthapuram.

## Reminiscences of CDS

First September, 1981 is forever etched in my memory. It was raining when I reached Centre for Development Studies in the evening after an arduous train journey from Siliguri. It was my first journey down south and the cultural alienation had started during the journey. Phil Roy welcomed me and took me my room in the hostel. Immediately co-hostellers, including Hrukesh Panda and Sunil Mani, came to welcome me. The cultural alienation soon disappeared and I embarked on a journey of learning academically and culturally, including accepting and living with differences. It was one big family of staff, students and faculty, including luminaries like Raj, Vaidyanathan and Gulati. We worked hard and partied hard, went together for picnics and movies. The intense academic debates often spilled over from the classroom to the canteen. We had ups and downs but one could always find help for the asking. I got into an ambience of learning for the sake of learning and to put facts first instead of empty theorizing, a learning that has lasted a lifetime. There were moments of humour too, like when I got locked up in the library tower and the security guard thought he saw a ghost. I do miss CDS!

**Amit Mitra**



I joined CDS with an intention of pursuing my research on the stock market. The M.Phil course work along with interactions with friendly faculty, senior scholars and the CDS environment per se changed my thought process and perception of life. For my M.Phil dissertation, I decided wholeheartedly to work on rural transformation particularly land-caste issues and economic mobility of a village in Deltaic Andhra under the supervision of Professors G.N. Rao and G. Omkarnath. This sea change of my research interest wouldn't have been possible but for CDS and its culture.

CDS's impact on my thought process is tremendous and distinctive. Before joining CDS, I used to think economics in the lines of efficiency and profits like a capitalist farmer/entrepreneur from coastal Andhra Pradesh. After joining CDS, my mind unconsciously started processing information in the lines of equity, equality, social justice and inclusion.

If I am asked to summarize why CDS is so special and unique in three words, I would say: Diversity, Freedom and Respect.

Above all, CDS was like a home for me due to parental love & affection from Jamuna aunty and Professor G.N. Rao and warm welcome from Nani (little-cute dog).

**Babu N.S. Dasari**  
(1996-98 M.Phil)





I belong to the M.Phil. batch of 1989 and I was very lucky to be part of a batch which had a fairly good mix students who at the time played an essential role in shaping me to be what I am today. There were sixteen of us including two from Holland. Others were from West Bengal, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, New Delhi, Tamil Nadu, Goa and Kerala.

My very first visit to CDS was in December of 1987 as part of my MA dissertation work. I today distinctly remember my first memorable sight in the campus was of a young woman, apparently a UNFPA student, climbing down the library stairs with a child on her hip and a cigar in her hand – a sight which marked the beginning of learning that in the end, women could do it all. Later that day, I also happened to meet my old schoolmate after a gap of almost eight years. I recognised her almost immediately, I still remember speaking to her happily in Malayalam as she kept responding to my statements and queries in English. I remember the staff at the CDS library were very welcoming eventually making the library comfortable enough to be my second home during my study here. The shy village girl in me, fresh from Guruvayoor was also fascinated and quite frankly a little anxious upon seeing all people in the canteen. At the time I had thought that even if I managed to get into this institution, I would not have been able to cope up. I remember thinking that I would have to start smoking and speaking in chaste English if I were to ever be part of the intellectual space here. In the end, not only did I manage, I had some of the best years of my life here. So much so that years later, after seeing much of the country and visiting abroad I was back to work in my Alma Mater.

When I had applied at CDS in 1989 for my M.Phil., I visited CDS once again; this time with my older brother. We took a short post-dinner walk at night through the Prasanth Nagar colony with the purpose of meeting Thomas Isaac only to find ourselves completely lost in the pitch of dark. Later

on, after we gave up and managed to find our way back home and were fast asleep, we heard someone knocking at the door. It was past midnight and with great hesitation, my brother opened the door only to find Thomas Isaac himself standing at the door.

My life was filled with laughter and learning after joining the course. Of course, I was also immensely lucky to have P. Mohanan Pillai and K K Subramanian as my formal M.Phil. advisers. We really enjoyed the lovely campus and the liberty given by the Centre, events in the centre, the midnight birthday parties, occasional invitations to house gatherings of different faculty members and of course the research atmosphere with a 24/7 computer lab. We were also more than happy to accept the lifts given by the UNFPA Maruti van and also by friendly strangers commuting from Ulloor to Prasanth Nagar. The last such lift that I had mentioned was given by T N Krishnan and K N Raj who saw me climbing down the hill with a heavy big shopper, on my way to St. Joseph's Press, to bind my M.Phil. dissertation. My two years of stay at CDS had given me enough exposure to survive in any part of the world and that was the real asset I carried with me when I left for Delhi with the ambition of pursuing Ph.D. at JNU.

I joined back at CDS as a post-doctoral fellow in 1999, exactly after a decade of my joining the Centre. And finally, in late 2001, I joined as a faculty at the Centre where lay the cherished memories of our youth. I have now completed twenty years of service as a faculty in the same campus which I had considered a dreamland at first sight. Thank you CDS for adding such beautiful colours to my life and shaping and at the same time being my future.

**Beena P. L.**  
1989 M.Phil. batch.



Hailing from an economically, and educationally backward Kerala village, I could not even imagine traveling beyond my city. Given the job market insecurity and the conservative marriage market, the opportunity cost of sending girls for education is higher. First time I heard about CDS from my Ivanios teacher and CDS alumnus, Jesse Teacher. After that, I regularly visited the CDS library while doing MA project work. This is the time when the notification for the MPhil program came and I applied with friends. For me, the CDS interview was not only a test of my subject knowledge but also my ability to speak English! Needless to mention, the interview and coursework were the best I ever attended. First time I used the computer to run stata, without even knowing how to type with Word! Obviously, I found it difficult to adapt at first. However, once Prof. Kannan and Prof. KKS sir's classes started, I began to enjoy the course. Beena ma'am initiated me to the area of M & As. No wonder, my life has changed forever by my eight years at CDS. Prof. KKS sir and Mohanan Pillai sir are instrumental in it. I am thankful to all my CDS teachers for correcting and guiding me to the right path. CDS enriched my perspectives and friend circle which makes it my alternate home.

CDS 'lives' outside Prasanth Nagar through the policy-relevant studies undertaken by its alumni, faculties, and students. We have organised three alumni meets in Delhi, which indicates the same.

### **Beena Saraswathy**

(2004-2006 MPhil and 2006-2012 Ph.D.)

Institute for Studies in Industrial Development,  
New Delhi



During the eighties, the Centre for Development Studies was truly a melting pot. Faculty from Kerala in the South to Punjab in the North and from Kolkata to Maharashtra. So were the students: from Gujarat all way to West Bengal and from Kerala to Kashmir. The students were also from diverse backgrounds; engineering, medicine, political science, sociology and economics. This confluence of diverse streams of knowledge produced a vibrant learning atmosphere. This cosmopolitan milieu provided a unique learning experience not only in academics but also on society, culture as well as the rich and varied music, cinema, art and fine arts of India. The Centre has produced great academic minds, eminent political scientists, politicians, bankers and journalists. Times might have changed but CDS remains a great institution for learning, producing some great academic minds and illustrious professionals in diverse fields. The legacy of CDS continues.

**C J Punathara**  
Journalist





### **M.Phil. at CDS: A turning point in my life.**

Breaking out of the “disciplinary silos” was rather unthinkable about half a century ago and so leaving my comfort zone of zoology and forestry to learn economics was quite challenging. After listening to some of my work as Divisional Forest Officer – which included evicting encroachers from forests, controlling illegal wood cutting, countering corruption at various levels, planting teak and eucalyptus, selling timber, etc. - Prof. K N Raj and Dr. T N Krishnan reassured me that such experience could form a good starting point to learn economics that really matters.

The M. Phil programme at CDS turned out to be a unique experience, helping me to have a good grasp of the societal dimensions of forestry. The learning environment, which encouraged debates, discussions, and dissent, was quite different from what I had experienced earlier. Being the first M. Phil batch, we received special attention. Dr. Krishnaji’s excellent lectures on quantitative methods taught us how to unravel the hidden stories behind numbers, and to get over my mild “numerophobia”. Living in the pre-IT era, it is difficult to forget the many hours spent on tapping the keys of the FACIT Calculator – the most widely used machine then - inverting 7X7 input-output matrices. While enabling me to think outside the “forestry box”, I was able to generate some interest in forests and forestry among the CDS community (including through some campus greening effort!). What I learned from CDS immensely helped me in my career spanning several institutions and countries. My positive experience at CDS in a way paved the way for a formal system of intake of interested government officials to the M.Phil. programme during subsequent years.

**C T S Nair** (1975-76 M.Phil. Batch)

Formerly: Chief Economist, Forestry Department

Food and Agriculture Organization

Executive Vice President,

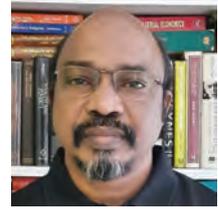
Kerala State Council for Science, Technology and Environment



I was a M. Phil student at CDS, 1982-85. Our M. Phil Class was diverse and interesting. We benefited tremendously from the rich intellectual atmosphere at the Centre, with friendly Seniors and Teachers. Building friendships and relationships for a lifetime. One of the highlights was an introductory letter from Dr. KN Raj to Hiten Bhaya, that proved to be vital for my M. Phil field work in Calcutta on Industrial Sickness. Another interesting project was the evaluation of the IRDP (Integrated Rural Development Program) in Sasthamkotta, Kerala, undertaken by our M. Phil Class, which in retrospect proved to be a useful starting point for my 25-year plus career as an evaluator for the World Bank Group in Washington DC, USA. Since leaving, I have visited CDS during my home visits to Kerala, meeting students and old friends.

In addition to academic pursuits, I remember fondly the camaraderie among students and faculty. In particular, our time at the Center marked a breakthrough for Indian Cricket, with the 1983 World Cup victory in England, and the 1984 Benson and Hedges Cup in Australia. Watching cricket matches in the homes of Faculty and Staff was fun and exciting.

**Cherian Samuel**  
(M. Phil 1982-85)



Being away for about two decades from CDS, its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary drives me nostalgic. After I joined the M. Phil Programme (1991-93), my academic orientation turned to a new direction filled with equalitarian values and a deep sense of fraternity. I vividly recall and cherish my interview for M.Phil admission. It was the best interview I had ever had. The course work was very demanding and challenging, but ultimately instilled more confidence in me and made me firm footed. Pursing Ph.D at the Centre was eventful and a life time experience by itself. Candid discussions and fierce arguments created a learning atmosphere that any aspiring scholar would wish to have. Critical questioning of our faculty members set a culture of inquisitiveness that had a profound influence on my growth. The hectic moments of Dissertation / Thesis submission are very memorable. Bickering, gossips, petty academic jealousy, brawl at parties and joyful fests added more fun to our campus life. More than anything, the friendship that I developed on campus continues to glow and remains a major source of strength and happiness.

Memory of CDS will linger in my heart for ever.

**J. Dennis Rajakumar**  
(M. Phil Programme (1991-93)  
Director, EPW Research Foundation, Mumbai.







### Reflections of a Prodigal Daughter

My relationship with CDS began about three decades ago, never complete, which meant that I had to keep going back to breathe more of that intellectual ambience and the personal warmth that touched my life in many ways. I had several stints at CDS, some short, some long – as a student, as a visiting scholar, as a mere visitor. No visit to Trivandrum is complete without catching a glimpse of that Knowledge Tower (mind you, not Ivory Tower) symbolizing the hearts and minds that built the institution, mixing earth and sky, mind and matter, the material and the ideational... Salute to thee who have stayed on at CDS carrying on the mantle, and for letting my own students from far away lands partake of the intellectual treasures and down-to-earth connections, which nurtured me once and continue to nurture me.

Congratulations on the 50th Foundation Year of CDS!

### Darley Jose Kjosavik

Department of International Environment and Development Studies, Norwegian University of Life Sciences (NMBU)



CDS takes ordinary students and produces the best scholars for nation building. CDS is the temple of learning in God's own country. It is our second home for us. Each and every moment treasured in our life.

### Krishna Reddy Chittedi

Assistant Professor,  
School of Economics, University of Hyderabad.  
CDS PhD (2008-12)



As the first none-Indian graduate, I feel very privileged to have a long-lasting association with CDS. I first visiting in 2006 as part of my masters dissertation comparing taught development studies programmes in India and UK. The then MPhil director Dr. Navaneetham gave me a helpful overview of the Programme and Prof. Mani kindly showed me a presentation recently prepared for the British high commissioner outlining key academic outputs for the centre. Over three days I was warmly received by a friendly and curious student community and remember warm and informative conversations with Mythri, Rajeev and Alice. With encouragement from Prof. Mani, and the infinite patience of Mr. Phil Roy, I was able to join the MPhil programme in 2008. My two years on campus were the most memorable, and I'm grateful to all my lectures, the campus staff and all my fellow students for being so welcoming and tolerant. I continue to enjoy my engagements with current students and faculty whenever I'm back in Kerala, connecting digitally with fellow alumni, and meeting with CDSers in London, Liverpool, Delhi, Bangalore, Mumbai or Kolkata, or Botswana! I very much look forward to continuing my proud association for the next 50 years. Happy Birthday CDS!

CDS Alma Mater!

**Gareth Wall**  
(MPhil 2008-10)





## My Tryst with CDS

I joined CDS for the M Phil programme in 1979. In some sense, it was a lateral entry. I was going back to academics a decade after my master's at the Madras Christian College. During these years much water had flown under the bridge. I had joined the State Bank of India as a Probationary Officer and worked my way through several assignments which also included a posting in the Economic and Statistical Research Department of the Bank at Mumbai

The atmosphere at CDS was indeed like a breath of fresh air, something that I could not expect even in the universities in the country. CDS itself was young. The founding stalwarts of CDS- Prof K N Raj, Prof Vaidyanathan, Prof Gulati, Prof Krishnan and Prof Krishnaji were in their most productive phases of their life. During the interview Prof Vaidyanathan asked me: "Are you planning to have an academic vacation?" He did not wait for an answer; we stared at each other for a moment. Nothing was sure. Anyway, I found myself as a student.

CDS gave me the opportunity to be familiar with the research work done by of scholars from different parts of the world. My academic interests have since undergone changes, from economics to history, sociology and anthropology. My book published in 2018 reflects this transformation. The book is titled "Faith and Industrial Reformation". It was my tryst with CDS that changed my life.

**Jaiprakash Raghaviah**  
(M.Phil 1979)



CDS was my first 'home' away from home... and three decades on, although my memories are getting a bit blurred around the edges, what I have lovingly carried with me all these years are feelings of gratitude, warmth, and pride every time I think of my MPhil years. I have a CDS family... my teachers who inspired me in so many ways, my batch-mates who shared my journey, my seniors with whom I spent some of the best moments and my juniors whom I had welcomed.

As I write this, I feel myself transported to... a beautiful campus and winding paths, unique red-brick architecture and lush greens all around, a lovely room of my own with my favourite posters on the wall, winding (and mind-bending!) stairs in the library... the flavours of Kerala cuisine and a babble of multiple languages in the canteen... An open-air theatre and a cosy little common room with the TV... the celebration of Onam, vibrant flowers and colourfulsarees. Not-to-be-missed dinners with friends and the walk down to the 'kada'i'... those spontaneous trips to the city centre on that special bus. And, not to forget, the two-day train journeys in Rajdhani Express all the way from Bhubaneswar to Trivandrum!

All those little things that made every day meaningful and the big things that made us all aspire to reach our potential -- that's the place CDS holds in my heart and mind.

Wishing CDS all the very best as we take a moment to reflect on what's gone by, and the amazing vista that lies ahead for those starting their journey there!

**Lopamudra Patnaik Saxena**  
Research Fellow  
Centre for Agroecology, Water and Resilience  
Coventry University, UK



I belong to the 1998 batch of MPhil at CDS. When I arrived at CDS, I was struck by the beauty of the campus. Slowly, I got accustomed to the culture of Kerala, picked up the language, started loving the food, my batchmates and lifelong friends and with each passing day, my respect and admiration for the faculty and intellectual legacy of CDS grew exponentially. To me, CDS provided ample space and freedom to grow academically, understand various schools of thought as well as to be compassionate and empathetic towards diverse cultures. I have learnt a lot during my stay in CDS not only in terms of academics, but the spiritual beauty and musical heritage of Kerala as well. I pray that CDS continues to give and grow taller as always and forever.

**Madhuri Saripalle**

Associate Professor  
IFMR Graduate School of Business, Krea University



It was a plethora of emotions being a part of the Centre for Development Studies. I joined the institute as a postgraduate student. The academically wonderful campus has truly humbled me in life. I have also had the privilege to work in CDS as a Research Assistant for a few months. CDS has been an architectural wonder built in perfect harmony with nature. The KN Raj library was one of the main attractions at CDS. The healthy comradeship and rapport between the professors, staff and student in the campus is also worth remembering.

**Malavika A. Nair**



My two year Masters at CDS were a breath of fresh air (literally too), where in the pristine surroundings of nature and unconventional architecture, I was exposed to how highly contrasting streams of thought can respectfully coexist in the same space, to ask questions that opened up new horizons, and to a community which taught me so much about diversity and acceptance. I can confidently say those two years had a tremendous influence on making me the person I am today and whatever professional success I have had thus far is due to the rigorous training I received at CDS. As they say, the greatest learning a teacher can give you is not 'what to think, but how to think', and CDS more than fulfilled that mandate.

I have some fond memories of campus too, of collecting fallen mangos during the summer, the snake that found its way into our hostel, the dragonflies which were permanent residents of my room, walking to Kumar Chetta's dosa stall and many many more. I am very proud to be associated with this institution and I wish it hearty success for the next half century.

**Mehak Malhotra,**

CDS Batch 2014-16  
(MA Applied Economics),  
currently Senior Consultant at  
PwC, New Delhi



CDS is like an old love for me, whose memories charm me every monsoon season when the rains hit parts of the country and I am reminded of “Onam” and memories of my campus life. I had joined institute’s the then recently started MA program in Applied Economics in the year 2013, after having finished my UG degree in Economics at Delhi University. Not being a big fan of metro living culture, I was happy to shift to Thiruvananthapuram and enjoy the campus life in a laid back city with excellent student amenities. The professors were highly learned, pleasant and encouraged discussions which many a time led to lemonade at the shop outside the campus or lunch during field visits. For many among us, the unique optional papers offered were a source of excitement and I hope the institute continues to expand the list. The institute’s library is simply elegant & serene and I can’t praise it enough, though I wish I had used it more. I had wonderful batch mates and I have good memories of several group outings that we took together, general body meetings and discussions with them and our seniors. Looking back, I also realize that my cherished CDS experience was equally enriched by the wisdom of its architect Sir Laurie Baker and the unique Kerala experience. The aesthetics of campus, dedicated faculty, liberal living environment, resource support and warmth of people at campus made those two years no less than bliss for me and for many others as I know. I think those two years polished my reflective cognition, enhanced my research capabilities and equipped me well to diversify my academic engagements, cutting across disciplines. Most importantly, memories of those two years makes me content, happier and thankful that I joined the MA program at CDS!

As the institute celebrates its 50th foundation year, I hope it adds to its prestige and becomes a preferred place for a diverse body of scholars to seek and contribute to academic research and teaching-learning.

**Nitish Kashyap** (Batch of 2015)  
Assistant Professor, Department of Economics,  
Daulat Ram College, University of Delhi



Wandering into CDS in early 1990s was more than an accident. The solemn looking Baker structure was a familiar but distant destination for a hydrogeologist. When my earnest suggestions for ‘sustainable land use’ seemed not working, I wrote a proposal to CDS to understand the soul of my remote sensing maps- specifically the socio-economic reasons for disappearing wetlands. The founding fathers were still active who (indirectly) taught humility, rigor, independence and a dose of irreverence. The second generation who were my supervisors deepened the need and relevance of studying real world issues. They also opened up homes and taught how to treat students with friendship, care and dignity. It was the first-time experience with “readings” and the democratic classrooms not only taught domain knowledge of economics but a window to sociology and political science. More learning was waiting in the green benches, canteen and hostel terrace. When flows of inspiration dry up in hostels, Uttarayan opened up larger spaces for discussion. Streams of visiting pilgrims both alumni and others opened-up new horizons of debate and learning late into evenings. Assignments stretched into day-break. Yes, CDS was definitely the passport and formative influence to academia. It was the best thing that happened in my journey and feel most privileged to be part of it.

**N. C. Narayanan**  
IIT Bombay



Coming from a conservative doctor family who did not know any profession other than engineering or medicine, I came to CDS only because of Radhakrishnan Sir from University of Kerala who directed me there. It was a new world for me with a number of unconventional practices- a computer lab open throughout night, Chiranjib Sen sitting crosslegged on the table while teaching, students strolling over to Isaac's house for lunch with a string of raw fish, never ending debates in the mess, guesthouse..... In that casual settings, I found meaning in studying economics as I realized that, like how KKS once advised, a doctor can only save or kill one patient at a time but an economist can do that for many people through a single policy. Even now have to say a CDS Alumni certainly stands out amongst economics faculty in Kerala. Hats off to Alma Mater for that sound foundation.

**Nirmala Padmanabhan**  
M. Phil 1987-89



Life happens between chances and chances. While planning what next after M.A, Anant Pant over Ganga dhaba chai suggested CDS. CDS admission happened few days before other options came my way. I joined M.Phil in 1993. I am not sure of any other batch which had such diversity of personalities.- a jeans fetish to a die-hard activist. Our first bonding was through a trip to Aakkulam. A photograph we all cherish- Chandrika is with us (we lost her in Malaysian aircraft tragedy). Coping with established economists in the class was tough for me. Fondly remember the encouragement of KKS, KPK, Micheal Tharakan and the generosity of many seniors. CDS for me is that library with Shobha chechy and others, computer lab, canteen with debates and laughter, terrace party, many friendly family members, staff and children. CDS continues to be a part of life through good friendships!

**Piush Antony**  
United Nations Children's Fund  
Office for Uttar Pradesh

I still remember my first visit to CDS in mid-1983 with some kind of introduction to S Ramnathan, who took me around the campus and introduced me to a few people, including Ashok Babu and Ashoka Mody, both being Ramnathans friends, and also Sunil Mani, a fellow Loyolite. I was lucky to secure admission that year and the most exciting part, apart from the library and the great hostel rooms, was the monthly fellowship of Rs 250, and weekly bus trips to the city, despite which I always saved a princely amount of Rs 50 each month.

Then it was a long and exciting 12 years in the hostel. Heavy weight professors including Raj, Vaidyanathan, Krishnan and Panikar, an impressive list of mentors from seniors like Ram Reddy, Padhi and Mihir Shah, so many batches, so

many friends and the best of times I enjoyed, despite running out of fellowship for a few years, till early 1995. And the skills I learnt and my friends from CDS, including Haseeb, gave me a freedom to switch more than a dozen jobs during my short two- decade stint in the professions, a freedom that only a lucky few can aspire to. As professor Gulati once told me 'you don't have a permanent life so why a permanent job? Looking back, I know that it was CDS which empowered me, a first- generation graduate, to work as an economist and journalist, in some of the best institutions in Delhi, for so many years. Thanks to the great institution and all my teachers and friends since those heady days.

**Pyaralal Raghavan**  
MPhil, PhD (1983 to 1995)



My association with CDS started way back in 1994 as an MPhil student in a bit unplanned manner. Being undecided about making a choice between looking for a job and pursuing higher studies after completion of my master's degree, one day I saw the notification about the CDS MPhil Programme and just applied. I can still recall my experiences while travelling alone all the way from a small town of West Bengal to CDS to attend the interview. I also remember the day I arrived at CDS with luggage after being selected for the programme. I was not sure whether I would be able to stay at CDS being far away from my family members, particularly in those days of no STD (at my place), email or mobile phone facility. However, the next two years at CDS were a memorable journey for me in respect of academics as well as the life at large.

The legacy of CDS, illustrious teachers, seniors and friends changed the way of my thinking – from too much focus on abstraction to the practices. I always cherish the golden period of my life at CDS and will continue doing so. It was CDS that gave me the right academic platform, confidence and necessary exposure to grow as a student and also as a person. Today, as a faculty member at IIT Kharagpur, often I share many such experiences with others as I consider them as the major driving forces in my life. Time has changed and CDS has grown overwhelmingly over the years, but its rich legacy continues.

**Pulak Mishra**

MPhil: 1994-96 Batch



In New Zealand – the country that has been my home for the last quarter of a century – there is a Māori word 'turangawaewae'. It is translated as 'a sense of identity and independence associated with having a home base' or simply, 'the place where I stand'.

For me, CDS is turangawaewae, the home base where I cultivated my academic and political identity nearly thirty years ago. It is where I trained to be methodical in my analysis of inequality and poverty, and to be passionate in my outrage that it persists. No matter how far away I am physically, CDS is my intellectual home.

CDS is also where I first developed my personal identity as a Malayalee. I am what is called a 'third culture kid' – I was not born in Kerala and when I first arrived there as a twelve-year old, I had hardly any knowledge of the place where my ancestors came from. It was at CDS that I seriously engaged with Kerala's unique history, its rich culture, language and literature, and, inadvertently, with my own sense of belonging. Although I am once again a migrant, that belonging has held me in good stead over the years as I pass on to my daughter her sense of place as a Malayalee, her turangawaewae.

**Rachel Simon-Kumar**

Associate Professor  
School of Population Health,  
University of Auckland  
Co-Director, Centre for Asian Health Research  
and Evaluation (CAHRE)





I entered CDS as a “mature student” with no grounding in social sciences. CDS provided me with a solid foundation in academics in general and Applied Economics in particular. The atmosphere was great and the environment intellectually stimulating. The level of academic discussions, both formal and informal, were of a very high standard. Connections to the faculty and visiting scholars I made over there continue to be of important to me long after I left CDS.

The rigour my thesis supervisors insisted on, gave me a grounding on academic writing, which stands me in good stead even today. I went on to work in the sector of my dissertation, building on the foundations built in CDS and was able to carry that knowledge and training into managing the health sector in Kerala. Academics and hands-on-management feeding into and reinforcing each other, gave me a vantage position rarely available to my peers. It is standing me in good stead in my current assignment where I head a think tank on health systems and policy.

My years at CDS has played a transformative role in my professional and academic life and I am grateful for it.

**Rajeev Sadanandan**  
(MPhil 1992-1994)



I came to know more about CDS during my masters' days, when I had come to CDS to collect material for my dissertation. I had a detailed discussion with D. Narayana and Hari Kurup about my dissertation and I was so touched by the friendly and humble attitude of the faculty, research scholars and the staff. Since then, I had a wish to study in CDS and spent some time for the preparation of a proposal with the guidance of K.N. Harilal, who was my teacher in Mahatma Gandhi University. The M.Phil. interview was probably the toughest interview that I had faced in my life; nearly one-hour grilling. After a few days, I was so happy to receive a telegram informing me about my selection into the M.Phil. programme.

The exposure that I received at CDS had a tremendous impact on my life and career. I fondly cherish memories of the tea-time discussion, sitting on the green benches, with stalwarts like KKS around. Chandan Mukherjee's method of evaluation for the course on statistics was an eye-opener for me in many respects; he assessed each student based on her/his understanding at the beginning of the course and the progress he/she made by the end of the course. My first encounter with computers was at CDS. The memories of going to the computer centre for collecting floppies and the dot matrix printing papers will never fade.

**Reji K. Joseph**  
M.Phil. 2000-2002





I am delighted that CDS is completing 50 years. Completion of 50 years is indeed a great milestone in the history of an institution, and signifies the contribution, commitment and sacrifice from founders, management, directors, faculty, staff and students to build and strengthen an institute like CDS. I congratulate the Board, the Director, the faculty, the staff and students on this important occasion.

I joined for M.Phil at CDS in September 1983 and stayed in the institute until January 1990 for my M.Phil and Ph.D research. Being born and brought up in a village, I was awestruck with everything about CDS when I joined this great institute. The teachers had great values and attitude towards the student community. After having completed my post-graduation from a state university in my native language, I was having some hesitation to discuss academic matters with my teachers. However, my teachers constantly encouraged me in such a manner that I did not feel that my background was a hindrance. The encouragement was such that I became the first student to contribute to CDS monographs. There was great camaraderie between teachers and students. For instance, my teachers asked me to call them by their names. This was something that I did not experience in my college or university days, where hierarchy was commonly practiced.

It was a welcome sight that M.Phil and Ph.D scholars would discuss larger societal, economic and cultural issues in the canteen. Or, they talked about the research work that we were engaged in. Scholars belonging to different political spectrums often had fierce debates, but were soon found together in popular student joints. Initially, I was hesitant to join in these discussions; but, my fellow scholars were more than accommodative and gently persuaded me to get into these discussions. From the second year on, I found myself comfortable to participate in these lively and academically enriching discussions.

Years later, I realised that I was fortunate to be in CDS and to get exposed to healthy academic culture in my formative years. I would like to place on record that I am a researcher today because of the solid training that I received from my teachers, who were stalwarts in their chosen fields at that time.

**D. Rajasekhar**

HAG Professor and Head

Centre for Decentralisation & Development (CDD)

Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC), Bengaluru



My knowledge in economics, before entering into CDS, was restricted to economic theories only. CDS taught me that 'these theories have practical applications.' The rigorous MPhil course work and careful and critical supervision of Prof. P. Mohanan Pillai and Dr. M. Parameswaran throughout my MPhil dissertation at CDS added substantial value to my understanding of economics. Further, during my PhD, I discovered that a holistic and interdisciplinary approach could be adopted to study and understand economics rather than applying the conventional mainstream approach. My supervisor, Prof. Sunil Mani, helped me articulate and comprehend economics of innovation in a holistic manner. Beyond academic work alone, Prof. Mani's has been a constant source of encouragement and inspiration, and on low days that are the part and parcel of any research scholar's life, a conversation with him would always lift my spirits and help me focus on my research. Furthermore, the best peers, conducive and hierarchy-free environment at CDS helped me grow academically as well as intellectually to grasp and understand the problems of this country in an inclusive manner. Finally, I can say without any doubt that had I not joined CDS I could not have reached where I am today.

**Sanjaya Kumar Malik,**

MPhil (2008-2010) and

PhD (2010-2016)



“... Where the mind is without fear and the head is held high; Where knowledge is free; Where the World has not been broken up into fragments by narrow domestic walls; Where words come out from the depth of truth;...” This famous stanza of Gitanjali (Rabindranath Tagore, 1910), as inscribed in one of its memorial pillars at the iconic academic building, suitably describes CDS’ binding ethos. This excellent learning environment has enhanced my scholarly capabilities and instilled necessary life skills, human values, and a holistic approach to life. Undoubtedly, as a first-generation learner, it was the most incredible opportunity of my life to be part of this institute of international repute that commemorates its 50<sup>th</sup> Foundation Year. As we celebrate this historical milestone, let me seize this opportunity to express my deepest gratitude to CDS for everything. I also extend my warm greetings to all CDS fraternity and wish my alma mater the best for glorious years ahead.

**Sandeep Kumar Kujur (2010 PhD batch)**

Assistant Professor  
Institute of Public Enterprise, Hyderabad



I had applied for admission to M Phil course at both JNU and CDS and the interviews for the latter for also in Delhi where TNK had interviewed me. I travelled unreserved from Amabala Cantt to Trivandrum (then) for 62 hours as I had not made up my mind to join the program until few days before the joining date and until encouraged by friends and teachers at Patiala to go ahead and join CDS. By then, reserved train seats were not available as it was summer season.

As a rural lad from semi-medium farming family and first generation master’s graduate from Patiala, when I landed at CDS, it was a new world for me. I had never been beyond Delhi before that and had inadequate familiarity with spoken English. My undergraduate studies were in vernacular medium from a local town college where I topped the college with just 56% marks. The less than two years at CDS for M Phil transformed my life as it has been the most significant academic and cultural learning. I was perhaps also the first student from Punjab to complete a degree from CDS as it was tough for a rural Punjabi to survive on boiled rice and black tea and coffee! But, the CDS community have been friends forever since then. I think CDS has its own culture which is unique, valuable and needs to be preserved and promoted for life skill and holistic learning for future generations of students. I wish CDS and the CDS community a great future and a vibrant journey to achieve even higher academic excellence.



**Sukhpal Singh**  
Professor

Centre for Management in Agriculture (CMA)  
Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad (IIMA)



What I remember most about CDS of my times (1986-1995) was that it appeared as an ideal mini public sphere where 'reason' alone mattered and 'status' of the individual was immaterial. It was never who you were, but what you spoke, that counted not just in the 'Habermsean Canteen', but in the classrooms as well as in the Seminar Halls. CDS instilled in me the fearlessness of academic democracy.

I began using CDS Library from my Masters' days as an 'external member' and I have learned most of whatever little I know just from this one single place. CDS set the high marks of teaching and research that I still aspire to reach.

I have had several occasions in the past to associate with CDS after my student life and each time, it was like a visitation of the most cherished past, bringing joy and pride. CDS has always been a place scholars, activists, litterateurs, writers and artists cherished to stop by, the contacts with whom opened my vistas to a whole new world of creativity and inspiration.

I thank CDS for all the emotional, physical and intellectual care that I have received from fellow students, teachers, librarians and non-teaching staff. Above all, it is with an intimate sense of belonging that I always remember the marvelous 'Bakerian' architecture whihc sheltered me in CDS for almost a decade.

**T. T. Sreekumar**

Professor and Head, Department of  
Communication, School of Interdisciplinary  
Studies, Director (i/c),  
Educational Multimedia Research Center (EMMRC)  
The English and Foreign Languages University,  
Hyderabad



It is a proud moment for all of us, when the Centre celebrates the 50th Foundation Year. I had the fortune of both being a student and faculty at the Centre from 1992 to 2004. The training that I received during my MPhil and PhD was on par with the best in the profession at that point. As young researchers we had the opportunity to attend lectures of stalwarts and interact with a number of visitors, who came to the wonderful library. The inaugural lecture of Prof. K N Raj set the tempo for the course work in MPhil. The seminars during PhD was the litmus test for conceptual clarity and empirical rigor. I would fail in my endeavor to recollect the events of bustling academic activity at the Centre during those years, as there were so many. Centre always bring back wonderful memories of hostel life, the warmth of the staff, canteen debates and of course the terrace parties. The relations we had among friends, staff and faculty remain permanent and valuable. I wish the Centre all the success to continue its march on the same values and high quality academic training.

**M. Suresh Babu**

Professor, IIT Madras



I belong to 2003 MPhil batch continuously done PhD upto 2009. Being a person with cerebral palsy it was my first stay away from my home. Centre given me equal opportunity in both academic and non academic affairs. Interactions in centre developed my knowledge on subject and political views. I was fortunate to interact with Issac, KKS, Chandan, Achin etc. Only limitation of centre was buildings are not disabled friendly.

Being a teacher, its my best choice for my top students.

**Syam Prasad**

Central University of Kerala



### Ode to My CDS

As a post graduate (PG) student in the Department of Economics, University of Kerala, Kariavattom, it was a dream for me (from the small town of Kasaragod) even to visit the Centre for Development Studies (CDS) and read at its library. I never thought the CDS would be laying the foundation for an applied academic career for me in the future.

My association with the CDS began as a research assistant during my PG days at Kariavattom. The tasks involved data tabulation and generating summary statistics which, though elementary, were exciting in the delightful ambience of the CDS of those days. Academic life for me started as an MPhil student with a dissertation on applied empirical issues like inequality estimates, validating measurements and authenticating the information base for verifying the hypothesis on 'Agricultural Growth and Trickle Down' for India. The academic effort was descriptive involving exercises in cross-validation. The scale of research was limited but received notice and attention for the issues it raised. It brought out the limitations of the debates on (i) trends in inequality based on non-comparable Lorenz curves due to varying grouping bias across the National Sample Survey consumer expenditure tabulations for different rounds; (ii) trickle down benefits of growth based on a dataset on declining / stagnant real consumption.

This initial training played a critical role in my future academic pursuits by opening up possibilities for research from rigorous economic and econometric perspectives which eventually led me to call the bluff of the debates on poverty and the Five Year Plan strategies for poverty reduction in India a la 'The Emperor's New Clothes'.

**M. H. Suryanarayana**  
IGIDR, Mumbai



Three decades ago, in the last week of August 1991, I had set foot on campus. Nostalgia hits me as I try to gather my thoughts. The participatory teaching modules ensured that one learned from classmates with diverse disciplinary backgrounds and varied professional experience. These were complemented and supplemented by hands-on training on fieldwork. The discussions following seminars always spilled over and extended for hours.

At CDS, every student had "a room of one's own," and here I acclimatized for my fieldwork by not using electricity for a few months, making me find my way and carry out routine activities even in the dark. Ah, the CDS library, where I have got locked a few times, immersed in its treasure, and the hours spent in the computer centre; all these are beautiful memories.

Those days we would wander into Ulloor panchayat and saw its changing face on account of urbanization, put forth vividly by the transition in its temple festival. Aforay to the Medical College grounds to play football made me realize that I could no longer sight the ball properly, thus, starting my vision through glasses. The spectacles stay, memories linger, and CDS remains unforgettable. I am ever grateful to my professors and friends at CDS for this grounded experience.

**Srijit Mishra**

CDS affiliation: MPhil (1991-93),  
PhD (1994-97)

Current position: Professor, Indira Gandhi  
Institute of Development Research, Mumbai



When I joined the M.Phil Course in CDS in 1985, little did I know the salience of this unique institution founded by stalwarts in the economics profession. Nor could I visualise the many avenues it would open up for my professional advancement. I was fortunate enough to be taught and, indeed, nurtured by Raj, Krishnan, Chiranjib and Gita all of whom embraced us students from diverse disciplines and backgrounds as one family. Looking back, I realise how much I owe to this nurturing environment. I wish CDS great success.

**Sudha Mahalingam**

Raja Ramanna Chair Professor  
Energy and Environment Programme  
National Institute of Advanced Studies,  
IISc Campus, Bangalore



I came to know about CDS from my seniors and colleagues in IIPS, Mumbai. While applying for the M.Phil programme, I was very much afraid whether I would be selected in the programme or not and that scare increased manifold at the time of interview when my friend Jatinder (at that time we were not knowing each other), whose viva was just before mine, was continuously asking econometric terms from his friends over the phone. When I entered the interview room, our Director at that time, Prof. K.N. Nair asked me in a jolly manner “So you are also Singh, but you are not wearing turban” and this question itself lessened much of my fear. Luckily, I was selected and it opened the doorway for a whole new world to me.

Academic environment in CDS is undoubtedly one of the best I have ever seen. After coming to CDS only, I realised that not only faculty members but also non-teaching staff could be so friendly. I am grateful to all the faculty members of CDS, especially my M.Phil supervisors Prof. Rajan and Prof. U.S. Mishra for their guidance and continuous support. I am also grateful to Lekha ma'am and Prof. Pinaki, who are no less than family to me. I used to share all my academic and personal problems with them during my stay at Delhi and their consistent support and love always helped me to overcome all the problems.

I am thankful to CDS from the bottom of my heart for everything.

**Yadawendra Singh**

M.Phil (2007-09).  
Assistant Professor, Dept. of Economics  
CM College, LNMU, Darbhanga





Well, I had a fascinating journey en route CDS. I left home just when the monsoon rains pelted on the Eastern Ghats. Neither I had a map of India to exact my destination nor I had any prior reservation ticket since the referred travel agency was closed and all the trains delayed for 24 hours due to strike. I had to stay overnight near Vizianagaram station at a cost of Rs.25. Next, as they say, “when the entire world conspires”, it turned out that two samaritans tagged me along to Chennai and then to Trivandrum. All my worries of arduous journey melted away when Mr. Phil Roy greeted me with a grin “Mr. Tripat(H)i”. He benched me on the wall-in-built table while he was seating on a chair glued to computer to verify my records. That was CDS- informal, unassuming, fun loving and argumentative, gully-cricket, boat ride, affable classmates, and lot of perspiration during Seminars and Thesis work!

Life was never same and never has been during and after CDS for the better. It inculcated in us the passion for data-based research and a sense of purpose in our profession. It gave us “wings”!!

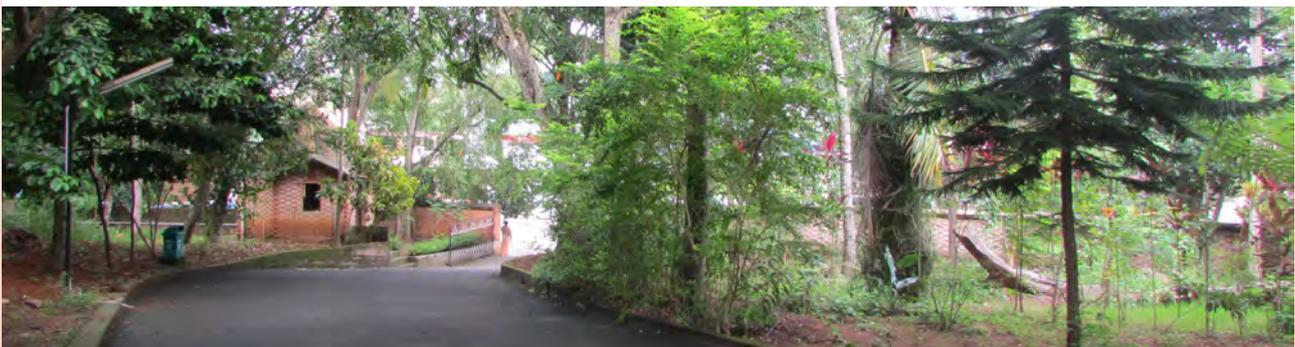
CDS Alma Mater!

**D. Tripati Rao**  
(University of Mumbai)  
Professor of Economics,  
Business Environment Area  
Chairman, Executive Education (MDP)  
Indian Institute of Management,  
Lucknow, U.P.



I was an MPhil and doctoral student in the Centre between 1982 and 1988. CDS taught me to think like a scholar. No single teacher or course did that. It was the ethos or academic culture of the place that made me think like a scholar. That ethos made it acceptable, even fashionable, to disagree with a fellow scholar. It showed that good debates needed a sense of equality between students and teachers. The ethos made us greet a fellow-CDS with the question, “what are you working on?” or “what are you reading now?” starting an instant intellectual discussion. The ethos made us squander our scanty fellowship money on expensive books about poststructuralist philosophy, only to impress other students. CDS culture said that being an economist meant observing real people in the real world, not slavishly learning mathematical formulas from another economist. Coming to my research, CDS taught me that history was telling a new story credibly. Credible was the story that trusted its sources unless contradicted by other sources. All these values helped me grow. They continue to define the identity of this unique institution. I was lucky to have studied here.

**Tirthankar Roy**  
(PhD 1982–88)  
Professor of Economic History  
London School of Economics





I am Tharcis Albin belong to the 1990-92 M.Phil. batch. Learning Economics became my most preferred choice since my +2 however, CDS taught me the art of correct way of learning the beautiful subject called Economics for which I owe a lot. The life at CDS hostel is something very unique that it always remains as an ever-green part of my life. The library at CDS deserves a special mention as the dedicated staffs in it never failed to make their pleasant imprint in me whenever I stepped into it. The experience of learning economic issues from Prof. K.N. Raj, Prof. A. Vaidyanathan, Prof. K.K. Subramanian, Prof. Michael Tharakan, Dr. Gopu Kumar and many others are something unforgettable and ever cherishing.

Now to know that the Centre is celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> Foundation Year, it brings me more joy and I wish all the very best.

**Tharcis Albin**  
1990-92 M.Phil. batch



I have no hesitation in saying that that I owe CDS everything I am in my professional life today. I went to CDS in 1993, wet behind the years with the cocky confidence of textbook bred education, and came out humbled, after almost a decade of unlearning. The CDS seminars were the most enthralling and exciting of experiences. That training has made one capable of withstanding any audience anywhere in the world. CDS taught me to question norm and changed my life perspective beyond the realm of Economics. CDS experience for me cannot be separated from the time spent under the tutelage of KKS and the abundant love of Padma teacher. From SEWA canteen “mathi”, to shashikada “kathi” and the parties on the hostel terrace, every moment is etched in memory forever.

Thank you CDS for making me who I am today!

**Uma Kollamparambil**



This 50th year of CDS, brings memories and hopes. Over the past three decades, several of us CDS alumni, working on some vexing and persistent problems, have met, collaborated and contributed to academic, civil society and policy forums. That these local, national and global arenas always have a sprinkling of former CDS students, speaks volumes about CDS.

CDS was a decisive intellectual haven for several people like me, coming from diverse disciplines, keen to study economics. My questions about the agricultural sciences, relationships between science and economic development, poverty and inequality were accepted and inter- and trans-disciplinary research encouraged in CDS, way back in the late 1980s. The ambience of debate, dialogue and rigour that our teachers inculcated, our rich library and eminently patient librarians, and the air of learning that wafted across the unique architecture perched on a hillside, shaped our academic life and our commitment to economic, social and ecological well-being. Friends who shared readings, valiantly defended hallowed schools of thought in economics (which did contribute to many spirited discussions), distilled our questions about the ontology of capital, economic growth, and the institutions of sustainability and resilience, remain friends for life. CDS has achieved many academic and policy accolades; looking forward to the next 50 years of this great organization!

**Rajeswari S. Raina**  
(Shiv Nadar University)



For a mathematics student, shift to social science was possible only at a multi-disciplinary learning institution like CDS. When the interview for my admission took place at CESS Hyderabad, from the panelists I was introduced to the diverse areas of research work that students can pursue at CDS. I fondly recall the conversations with panelists that included Prof. Chiranjeeb Sen, Prof. N. Krishnaji and Prof. R. Radhakrishna.

My 18 month stay at CDS (1989 batch) has been memorable with an intense classroom discussions ranging from economic history, long-run dynamics, trade and development, to labour relations; long evening walks on Akkulam road, chai at Sashi kada, and evening chit-chat at the hostel bench. As a neophyte in economics I found every topic of the course work exciting and a new discovery. My interest in economic history has influenced the choice of my thesis. CDS has been a turning point in my life as it enabled me to move into the arena of development economics and policy work.

**C. Upendranadh**  
Lucknow



As I look back to the events that have had the greatest impact in determining the course of my professional journey so far, the student days at CDS - from 1998 to 2002 - are the first thing that comes to mind. I decided to do a PhD not because I was exceptionally good at academics or because I had a great passion for research. The real reason was that I didn't have another option; the wind blew in certain direction that led me to CDS. Once I landed in CDS, however, it showed me a clear direction on where to go next.

The CDS experience taught me that academicians are entitled to the special privilege of having freedom of thought. The lure of "becoming one's own boss" was irresistible. Freedom, friendship and fraternity are indeed the basic foundations on which the 50 glorious years of CDS has been built, not to mention the charming architecture by Laurie Baker. CDS provided the students with an environment to enjoy full academic freedom and to approach real world problems from a perspective that they feel most comfortable with. Even as my doctoral thesis used the framework of neoclassical theories to analyze certain issues pertaining to India's international trade, I thoroughly enjoyed writing a term paper on the mode of production debate in Indian agriculture – a topic of great interest to Marxian economists. The CDS experience helped me a great deal in my attempt to have an open mindedness with respect to different perspectives and ideologies.

CDS also taught me the value of unconditional friendship, the comfort of informality in relationships and the importance of showing compassion towards nature, animals and humanity. Going forward, I hope CDS will continue to offer safe-havens to complete the onward voyages of many a sailor who arrives to its shores by the force of the winds.

**C. Veeramani**

Professor, Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research,  
Mumbai



Outside of Delhi, CDS probably represents the best of liberal and academic traditions among higher education institutions in the country. Like other traditions, they were never codified, merely practised. When we joined, we just imbibed them. And hopefully passed them on! It was only after we stepped out did we realize the uniqueness of these practices.

My academic work thus far is backed by a mere 8 months of formal training in economics when I joined CDS for M.Phil. It was what happened outside the classroom during all those years in CDS that shaped me and my contemporaries. Faculty and senior scholars willingly engaged with our work and political views into late hours, across hostel rooms, faculty houses, terraces and the canteen, sharing insights, new readings and puncturing holes in our arguments! The magnificent library constantly reminded us of our inadequacy as scholars! Emphasis on real world problems, another hallmark of the CDS tradition, helped us see the limits of disciplinary frameworks. ‘Economists’, most of us were, but few could escape reading or hearing history, politics or sociology.

Intellectual and personal relationships that I forged in CDS have remained the strongest. As a non-CDS friend of mine often says, “There is something unique about the intimacy among CDS fraternity that I haven’t seen among people from other institutions.” In its Golden Jubilee year, I wish CDS the very best for sustaining these traditions.

**M. Vijayabaskar**

Professor,  
MIDS, Chennai



I walked into CDS as a student in September 1982 to join the MPhil programme. Coming from a small town in Kerala with limited exposure to the academic world outside, CDS opened the floodgates of knowledge for me. CDS library was and continues to be a magic world of infinitely vast material for reading and exploration. I had not even heard the names of many of the journals that adorned its shelves. Seminars by external speakers were great occasions. I spent the best years of my life at CDS, learning from and interacting with a wide range of stellar faculty and brilliant students, many of whom continue to be my close friends till today. There is something in the CDS air which forms and fosters lasting, lifelong friendships!! At CDS, I was trained to ask questions with an open mind, examine data meticulously and avoid sweeping generalisations, however tantalising they might be. This training became immensely useful when I moved to North India, tribal Madhya Pradesh, to set up a voluntary organisation along with Mihir Shah and other friends. Working in rural areas, my CDS background helped me understand and engage with situations that were vastly different from what I had experienced before. In a dynamically evolving rural context, there were many exciting new avenues to explore and my CDS experience enabled me to pursue those vigorously. That pursuit continues till date. Speaking to us in our class, KN Raj once said that his vision of CDS is that it would help the students form an “earthworm’s view of earthly matters”. I do not know whether I have been able to form any view but I am happy and content to have been an earthworm in the company of many!!

**P.S. Vijayshankar**

Founder Member of Samaj Pragati Sahayog,  
Bagli, Madhya Pradesh

## ENDOWMENT PRIZE WINNERS

### M G KANBUR PRIZE

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. 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. The prize is awarded to the best performer in the quantitative courses of the MA (Applied Economics) programme.



2012-2014  
Greeshma R P



2013-2015  
Shatakshi Garg



2013-2015  
Sourish Dutta



2014-2016  
Ashwin R. Nair



2015-2017  
Divya Sebastian



2015-2017  
Shyam Agarwal



2016-2018  
Himani Aggarwal



2016-2018  
Shubhaa Bhattacharyya



2017-2019  
Karan Lalwani



2018-2020  
Madhurjya Deka



2019-2021  
Albert Abraham



2019-2021  
Mr. Tejesh Mukherjee

## JOAN ROBINSON PRIZE

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. The Joan Robinson prize is awarded for the best overall performance in the MA (Applied Economics) programme.



2012-2014  
Greeshma R P



2013-2015  
Shatakshi Garg



2014-2016  
Ashwin R. Nair



2015-2017  
Divya Sebastian



2016-2018  
Ammu Lavanya



2016-2018  
Shubhaa Bhattacharyya



2017-2019  
Neha Vinod Betai



2018-2020  
Madhurjya Deka

## CHANDRIKA SHARMA ENDOWMENT PRIZE

Chandrika Sharma did her MPhil in Applied Economics at the Centre during 1993 through 1996. She was in that 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 Ph.D Student.



MPhil 2019-21  
Bhagat Umesh Rambhau

## A. D. NEELAKANTAN ENDOWMENT PRIZE

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.

### Integrated MPhil/PhD Programme



2018-20  
Annesha Mukherjee



2019-21  
Rahul Ranjan

## A NOTE OF GRATITUDE



As a student of the very first batch of MA Applied Economics, I feel proud to pen down these words on the 50<sup>th</sup> foundation year of the Centre for Developmental Studies, Thiruvananthapuram. Looking back, pursuing my Masters at CDS was the best decision I made in my academic journey. Even though it was the sheer beauty of the campus with its lush greenery and breathtaking architecture that attracted me to the space, it was the quality of the learning experience that kept me there.

Being a girl from a small village in Kerala who had only traditional textbook knowledge of Economics, the academic experience at CDS was, to say the least, life changing. I was, for the first time challenged to think like an economist. I was encouraged to read original papers and listen to eminent scholars of the field which brought about clarity of thought and expression.

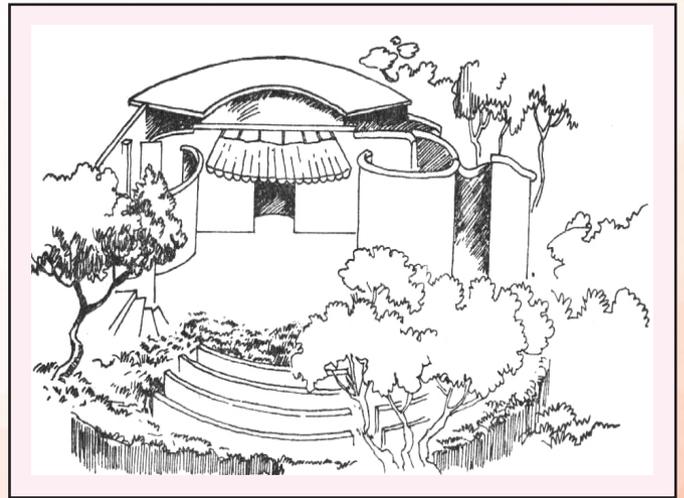
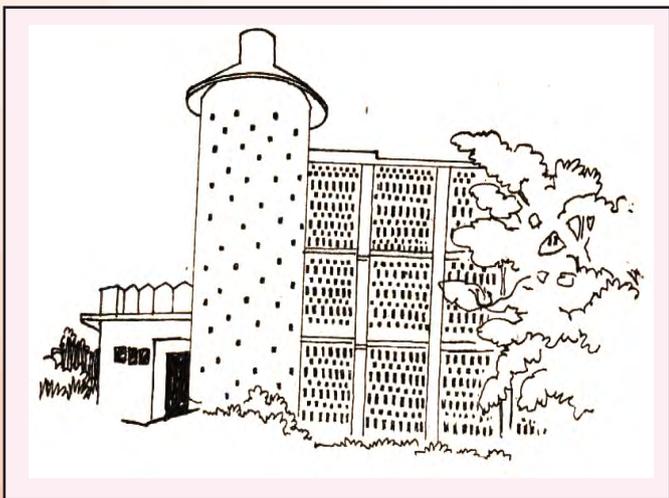
Mentored by professors who were actively pursuing research, I got a firsthand experience in research design and methodology. The K N Raj library was instrumental in honing my critical thinking skills and multi-dimensional approach to economic analysis. Today, being an Assistant Professor myself, I strive to kindle that spark in my students, that I felt at CDS eight years ago.

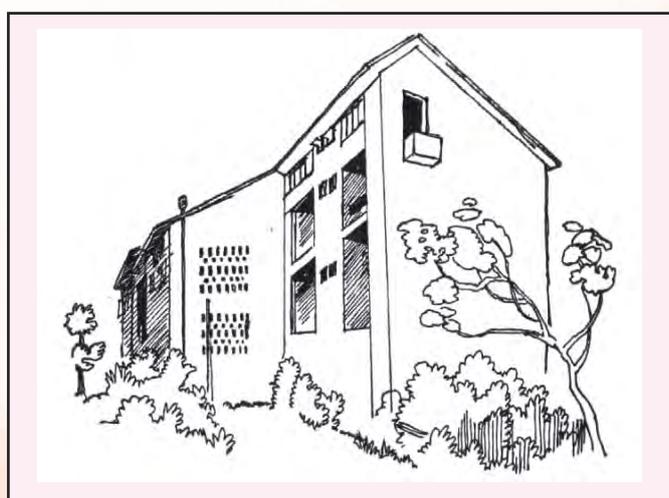
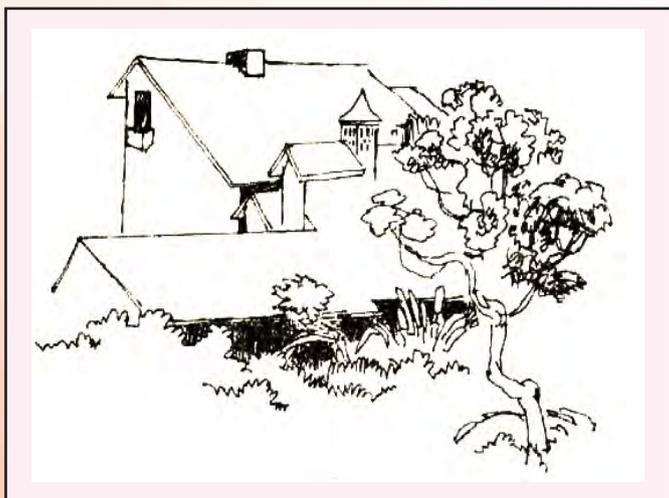
Be it the pleasant, comfortable accommodation, beautiful campus, friendly seniors, or the cordial staff, everything about CDS was dreamlike. Right from the beginning, I noticed that everyone was treated with equal respect, regard and kindness. I felt that I belonged to one big family and CDS became my second home. In all honesty, my stint at the multi-cultural, multi-lingual CDS campus has transformed me as a person in every way imaginable and I will remain indebted to the institute every step of the way ahead.

**Greeshma R .P.**

Winner, Joan Robinson Prize &  
M G Kanbur Prize, MA 2012-14

CDS ALUMNI MEET (2011)







It is with great pleasure that I learn about the Fiftieth Foundation Year of the Centre for Development Studies. It is a milestone for any institution and all the people associated with it, right from its inception to the present, who build, preserve and help it grow. It is also an opportune moment to reflect on the ethos of the institute, to share its rich history, and to join hands for its further development guided by that very ethos. I was fortunate to have spent two years at CDS for Master's degree, which I consider to be formative years in ways more than one. Life on campus for those two years was an enriching experience. On the academic front, the institute offered one of the finest courses in Applied Economics. The classroom lectures were enlightening and fun in equal parts, the latter given the setting of the entire teaching learning discourse which I consider to be an unparalleled experience. From the breezy and natural lit rooms, to the canteen, to the benches outside hostels, to the teachers' cabins, to the walks to the tea stall outside campus, to even home of the teacher at times, we as a batch got a flavour of how effective teaching and free flow of ideas can happen in liberating spaces. I have personally benefitted from the interactions with my teachers that helped me make the most of the two years as well guided me to pursue research passionately. Needless to say, the Laurie Baker architecture was at the heart of it all. Through my stay at CDS and in Kerala, I became aware of his rich body of work that embodied low energy, cost effectiveness and inclusivity at its heart. The aesthetically designed spaces on campus, the lush greenery all over especially during the monsoon, and the combined efforts of all to preserve the beauty of the campus with conscious efforts like timely plantation and waste management; time at CDS taught how it takes a community to nurture spaces like these. Equally striking was to see

how inclusive CDS was. A melting pot in true sense, for me the realization first came in the CDS canteen. Never before had I seen faculty, students, administrators, staff, guests and visitors share the same table, and relish the diverse and spicy food with equally diverse and engaging conversations in the most amicable manner. May be this spirit is what ensures healthy exchange of ideas with everyone on campus. Over a cup of *chaya* and sharing a *pazhampori* in the canteen, I have bonded with people on campus and enriched myself with every single conversation that followed. In retrospect, I strongly believe that it paved way for me to explore and pursue my creative side as well without the fear of ridicule or judgement. It not just shaped me as a confident and more humble human being, but also helped me understand how shared spaces and experiences go a long way in influencing our personal and professional choices, and for that I shall forever be indebted to the institute and the people on campus.

On certain occasions, we were fortunate to have alumni and former teachers come and share their experiences which helped us understand a bit more about Dr. K N Raj and his legacy, and appreciate the journey of the institute. When I walked out of the institute to start my professional career as a researcher, I was not aware of the privilege as well the responsibility of being an alumnus of CDS. But interactions with people at work each day helps me gradually realize it given the rich body of work of people associated with CDS as well as the what the institute represents. This helps me stay grounded and forever seek knowledge to become a better professional as well as strive to be a worthy CDS alumnus. There cannot be a more apt occasion than the celebration of Fiftieth Foundation Year of CDS to celebrate and be grateful for this wonderful institute that nurtured me. I wish the institute great success!

**Shatakshi Garg**

Winner, Joan Robinson Prize & M G Kanbur Prize  
MA 2013-15

## FACULTY



### Professors



**Sunil Mani**  
Director & Professor, RBI Chair  
Research Area:  
Economics of technology and innovation



**Joseph K.J.**  
Research Area: Economics of Technology  
and management of Innovation;  
Plantation Agriculture  
(On Leave from 19 July, 2019)



**Irudaya Rajan S.**  
Research Area: Migration and Human  
Development, Health and Education



**Udaya Shankar Mishra**  
Research Area: Population Policies and  
Programme Evaluation, 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.**  
Research Area: International Political  
Economy, Rural Development  
and Agrarian Relations,  
Local Governments and Democratic  
Decentralization (On deputation to Kerala  
State Planning Board)



**Praveena Kodoth**  
Research Area: Gender, Migration,  
Human Development



**Devika, J.**  
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; Malay-  
alam literature; contemporary politics.



**Vinoj Abraham**  
Research Area: Labour Economics, Gender  
and Development, Economics of Technology  
and Innovation, Development Economics,  
Regional Development,  
Plantation studies

## Associate Professors



### **Beena P. L.**

Research Area: Industrial Economics, Indian Corporate Sector , FDI, M&As and Competition Policy, Globalisation and Contemporary Issues of Indian Economy, Kerala Economy



### **Parameswaran M.**

Research Area: Economic Development, Macroeconomics and Industrial Development



### **Hrushikesh Mallick**

Research Area: Applied Open Economy Macroeconomics and Development Economics



### **Chidambaran G. Iyer**

Research Area: Innovation and Technology; Industry and Trade



### **Thiagu Ranganathan**

Research Area: Agriculture and Plantation Crops, Employment and Social Security



## Assistant Professors



### **Srikanta Kundu**

Research Area: Financial Econometrics, Time Series, Volatility Models, Nonlinear Models, Stock Market.



### **Ritika Jain**

Research Area: Politics and development, Industry and trade, Innovation and technology, Labour, employment and social security



### **Rajit Biswas**

Research Area: Industry and Trade



### **Abhilash T.**

Research Area: Politics and Development, Human Development, Health and Education, Labour, Employment and Social Security



### **Jayaseelan Raj**

Research Area: Politics and Development, Culture and Development, Plantation Crops, Labour, Employment and Social Security, Migration



### **Chandril Bhattacharyya**

Research Area: Growth Theory and Other Studies



### **Tirtha Chatterjee**

Research Area: Agricultural Economics, Development Economics, Policy Evaluation

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PS to Registrar

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PS to Director



Ajayanandam S  
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Satheesh S  
Jr. Administrative Assistant

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Tilak Baker  
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Arun Hrishikesh  
Assistant Accounts Officer



Reeshma R S  
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Systems Officer

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Lekha K  
Section Officer



Arun K C  
Jr. Administrative Assistant

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Chief Librarian



Anitha G. P  
Deputy Librarian



Ansamma Joseph  
Deputy Librarian



Ameer Ali  
Sr. Assistant Librarian

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Vijayan G  
Attendant



Anoop Kumar P P  
Assistant Campus Supervisor &  
Guest House Manager



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