

**Conference on**  
**KERALA AND THE WORLD ECONOMY**  
**23 – 25 February, 2022**

**Book of Abstracts**  
**&**  
**Programme Schedule**

*Organized by*



**Research Programme on**  
**International Migration - Kerala**  
**CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT STUDIES**  
Thiruvananthapuram

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## **a. Ecological and Social Vulnerabilities in Kerala:**

### **Emergent Scenarios**

**[Session1, Day 1: Feb 23.]**

**Chair : Dr Satish Deshpande**

1. Dr N C Narayanan

Title: Understanding Spatiality of Vulnerability: Experiments in Localizing Climate Action in Kuttanad, Kerala

Abstract: Kuttanad is a deltaic formation of five river systems encompassing the Vembanad Lake, a Ramsar listed wetland of global importance. It was one of the worst flood-affected locations in Kerala during the 2018 monsoons. The change in land use, unscientific infrastructure building and climate change are considered as the key reasons behind the frequent and increasing floods in the region. With the history of environmental externalities due to the rice-centric development policies in Kuttanad, the macro plans of flood-proof infrastructure currently envisaged by the state government have to be seriously reviewed through the lens of sustainability and inclusion. CANALPY (a joint initiative by IIT Bombay and KILA) has been working in Kuttanad since 2018 in association with local self-governments to develop local disaster risk reduction plans. IIT Bombay has designed a protocol to map the spatiality of vulnerability and prioritise activities to develop disaster risk reduction strategies for panchayats through a three-step process to: (1) develop a hazard zonation map using GIS tools; (2) understand the inter-sectional aspects of vulnerability through a household survey to fix priorities for inclusive development (3) work with local governance and integrate it to the annual plans of the panchayats.

Short bio :N.C. Narayanan is a Professor at the at the Ashank Desai Centre for Policy Studies, Indian Institute of Technology Bombay. He works at the interface of technology, development and policy. His areas of interest are Water/Sanitation/Climate Policy Process, Local Governance, Coastal Wetland Management, Development Theory and Political ecology of resource use.

2. Dr John Kurien

Title: Global Happenings and Local Outcomes: Situating Kerala's Marine Fish Economy into this Narrative

Abstract: Humanity is confronting a world of climate crisis, Covid-19, increasing loss of democratic space and counter efforts at globalization. The nature of local responses and outcomes to these narratives of change, need to be observed and encountered with an eye for detail. In this paper, the attempt will be to sketch out what is happening to different sections of the marine fishing communities in Kerala as they struggle, a second time, to respond to the increasing set of vulnerabilities -- both affecting them and others. Are their actions commensurate with the magnitude of the existential crisis before them? Are there lessons others

in Kerala can also draw from this 'outlier' community in their effort to retain their identity and yet integrate into the mainstream?

Short bio: John Kurien is a reflective practitioner who has worked with small-scale fishing communities and fishery socio-economic and ecological issues for five decades. Was in Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum and is now with Azim Premji University, Bengaluru.

### 3. Dr Meera Oommen

Title: Conversations with Communities of Fate: Understanding Vulnerability among Proximate Migrants of the Travancore Famine

Abstract: Migrant experiences have received significant attention in academic scholarship in Kerala both in the context of the transnational Malayalee diaspora as well as that of the Malabar migrations. Travancore, despite its widely differing historical milieu from Malabar and its role as the source locations for migrants has been comparatively poorly explored in terms of its internal dynamics of migration and consequences thereof. Using the medium of oral history, I explore the perceptions of the migrant settlers and the making of a frontier village located on the eastern forest boundary of Central Travancore. By analysing settler oral histories, I argue that in such places, contemporary projects such as environmental protection combine with the lingering legacies of the past to keep memories and vulnerabilities alive. The shared memories of famine and shared experiences of hardship serve not only as a means to reminisce about the past, they are instrumental in building identity, politicising causes and catalysing collective resistance to state-imposed strategies that settlers view as standing in the way of their future aspirations.

Short bio: Meera Oommen is with the Dakshin Foundation.

### 4. Dr Abhilash T

Title: Beyond Romantic Idealism: State Intervention and Inclusion of Adivasis in Kerala.

Abstract :Being an already disadvantaged social category, 'Adivasi' experience of state intervention in the capital-driven economy seems to be further excluding these historically marginalized communities. Their participation in the local economy has deteriorated further not only because of global capital but also due to the lack of sufficient rights over their own resources. With market holding sway over the state and dominating exchanges within the state-market relations, disadvantaged social groups like Adivasis are forced to bargain with market forces. The question is who can succeed in this new globalized world order dominated by capital - of all forms ?It is essential to understand the much cherished western model of indigenous development that is achieved through self-determination and entrusting the traditional rights over the resources. This has improved the

community's collective bargaining with state and capital to absorb the physical capital. But here the situation not only debilitates the bargaining power of the communities but the state also becomes a facilitating agency for the capital for appropriating these communities.

Short bio: Abhilash T is a faculty member at Centre for Development Studies.

## **b. Emergent Gender Issues in Development** **[Session 2, Day 1: Feb 23.]**

**Chair : Dr Subhashri Balakrishnan**

### 1. Prof. J Devika and Dr Anamika Ajay

Title: 'Keep Calm and Carry On?': The Gendered Implications of 'Resilience' in Kerala's Development'

Abstract: This paper is a preliminary attempt at tracing the implications of 'resilience' as it appears in Kerala's development discourse and making sense of contemporary gender politics here in development and outside. The introduction is followed by three substantial sections and the conclusion. In the second section, we reflect on the antecedents of 'resilience' in Malayali development discourse from the 1990s, from the conceptualisation of the People's Planning by the dominant left, till the explicit appearance of 'resilience' in contemporary development discourse. The two sections that follow use the lens of resilience to make sense of gender politics in the women-centred development civil society in Kerala, composed of the state-wide network of women's self-help groups popularly known as the Kudumbashree. We rely upon observations from our fieldwork in different parts of Kerala, urban and rural in the first section. The second section relies largely on very recent public sphere materials from around 2015 to the present. In the conclusion, we reflect on the implications of recent shifts in development and the nature of the state for the Kerala Model of politics of the twentieth century, and of the women-centred development society for gender politics in Kerala.

Short bios: J Devika and Anamika A are with the Research Unit on Local Self-Government, CDS.

### 2. Shilpa M.

Title: Sex Work, Trans Vulnerability and Kerala's Transgender Rights Movement

Abstract: In 2015, the Kerala government released the "State Policy for Transgenders," amid media acclaim for being the first state to institute a comprehensive policy on transgender rights, reifying Kerala's image as a "progressive" state. The policy document, based on a survey of over 4000

transgender persons, does not mention sex work or sex workers' rights. Given that sex work continues to be a major source of income, mobilization (through HIV-AIDS surveillance networks), and stigma for trans women, this occlusion merits enquiry. In this paper, I propose that the inarticulability of sex worker's rights within the ambit of transgender rights in Kerala can be understood in two ways: Firstly, through a regionally located genealogy of how gender and sexuality have been distinctly constituted as objects of planning by the developmentalist subnational state, and secondly, by examining the specific discourses and institutional setups through which transgender persons have negotiated access to state and public recognition. In doing so, I move beyond nationally staged battles around legal recognition to address a different set of concerns that matter to transgender persons in Kerala as they attempt to establish livable lives, and begin to think through transgender rights movements in India and their vexed relationship with the construct of a broader, globally legible LGBTQ movement.

Short bio: Shilpa M. is a PhD candidate in Anthropology at the University of Illinois Chicago. Her research explores the dynamics between transgender Malayalis and the state government, arguing for locating Kerala's transgender politics within a specifically subnational history of politics and social movements rather than just seeing it as a localized instantiation of a national "LGBTQ movement." She is interested in how Kerala's narrative of regional exceptionalism impacts the lives and politics of transgender Malayalis seeking rights from the state.

### 3. Dr. Souvik Pyne, Dr. Malu Mohan and Vinitha J

Title: Unintended Pregnancies among Traditional Fisherfolk Community of Kerala – Socio-Ecological Pathways of Embodiment

Abstract: This paper presents the findings of a qualitative exploration conducted in a Grama Panchayath in Kerala, where the predominant residents are members of the traditional fisherfolk community. It aims to unpack the socio-ecological pathways of unintended pregnancies among women. Since the study also intended to explore the perceptions regarding and barriers faced in accessing induced abortion services in the community, the socio-ecological model was employed to conceptualize the study involving individual, community and institutions. In addition to young women, both married and unmarried, we conducted in depth interviews with community gatekeepers and representatives from the health system and local self-government. The findings indicate that unintended pregnancies among women is shaped by a complex web of interconnected and overlapping deprivations.

Short bio: Souvik Pyne currently works as a Senior Program Officer - Policy Engagement and Research at The YP Foundation and also leads CommonHeath, a national level CSO coalition on reproductive health and safe abortion.

## **c. The Pandemic, Migration, and Prospects/Dangers for Kerala**

**[Session 1, Day 2: Feb 24.]**

**Chair: Dr V J Varghese**

1. Dr B A Prakash :

Title: COVID-19 Pandemic, Global Recession and Exodus of Keralite Emigrant Workers from GCC Countries.

Abstract: The paper examines the causes of the exodus of Keralite emigrant workers, the employment status of the workers prior to return, their activity status after the return to Kerala and the current problems faced by them. The data used for the study is a sample survey of return emigrants in Kannur and Malappuram districts in Kerala. The preliminary findings of the survey suggest that the returned emigrants were employed mostly in trade and repairs, hotel and restaurants, construction, industry and workers in houses and majority earned an average wage of more than Rs. 30000 per month prior to return.

The findings on the current status of the return emigrants show that 81 percent of them are unemployed. They are not able to adapt to the conditions of the local labour market in their places. On the other hand, the rest of them (19 percent) are working as casual labourers, engage in small trade or business and work as auto rickshaw drivers. A noticeable aspect is that among the sample returnees 90 percent want to re-migrate to some foreign country. They think that re-migration is a better option than finding a job in the local labour market. Another thing is about the expectation of the sample returnees. All the return emigrants interviewed expect to get substantial help from the state government to tide over the crisis in the form of liberal credit, subsidised credit, subsidies and other direct assistance.

Short bio: B A Prakash is a former Professor and Head, Department of Economics, University of Calicut and University of Kerala. He has engaged in active economic research for four and a half decade. He was also a former Chairman of Kerala Public Expenditure Review Committee and 5<sup>th</sup> State Finance Commission, Kerala.

2. Dr Vinoj Abraham, Dr Praveena Kodoth, Dr M Parameswaran, Dr Ritika Jain

Title: Overseas Migration from a South Kerala Village

Abstract: The paper will provide a broad overview of international migration from a village in south Kerala that witnessed large scale mobility for work to West Asia since the 1970s. Previous work in this area documented changes shaped by migration at the household level and in the village economy. For some years now, it has been observed that overseas migration from Kerala is no longer growing and the direction of migration may be changing. The importance of the study is that it being undertaken at a moment when pandemic-related factors have combined with other ongoing trends to produce new kinds of tensions. The paper draws on a

census of the village to trace overseas migration and return since the 1970s and to examine the immediate effects of the pandemic on migration and employment at the household level.

Short bios: Vinoj Abraham, M Parameswaran ,PraveenaKodoth, and Ritika Jain are faculty members of the Centre for Development Studies.

### 3. Mijo Luke

Title: Spatiality of Transnational Migration: Changing Ecology and Livelihoods in Rural Kerala

Abstract: Kerala as a region has been witnessing increasing international migration since the 1970s. Existing literature suggests the catalyst role of migration for multi-faceted transformation in local areas of Kerala, including evidence of local capital formation through remittances in the region in recent decades. In this context, the paper explores transnational migration induced ecological changes and patterns of livelihoods and the emergence of new spatiality by focusing on migrants and non-migrants. The paper manifolds insights on the extent and nature of transnational migration and livelihood portfolio across the communities to examine the larger processes shaping the local level changes. The paper is based on fieldwork carried out in two settlements from two different physiographic regions in Kerala. The one has a longer history, and the other has a recent history of international migration. Using a mixed method approach, combining information from GIS methods, inter-generational family survey, and semi-structured interviews, the paper argues that the transnational movement of the dominant communities has brought changes in the rural, particularly through the changes in land use practices and a shift from agriculturally based livelihood practices. For instance, it has been observed in both the settlements that the dominant communities like Syrian Christians using transnational migration opportunities while the marginalized communities, particularly Pulayas, diversify their livelihoods locally. Interestingly, despite belonging to different physiographic regions, the second settlement with recent transnational migration follows the same historical trajectory of transformation as the first settlement. The paper concludes by pointing out that the local capital formation and land use changes induced by transnational migration exacerbate the vulnerability of marginalized communities differently across the physiographic regions

Short bio: Mijo Luke is a doctoral scholar at the Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram. His doctoral research, 'Grounded Globalisations and Shaping of The Local: A Political Ecology of Kerala's Midlands and Highlands,' looks at the changing nature-society relations at the midland and highland region of Kerala. His research interests primarily include Interdisciplinary approaches in Social Sciences; Sociology of Globalization; Nature-Society relations; History of Migration, Development, and Ecology of Kerala. He has a forthcoming article, 'Globalization and Changing Geography of Social Life in Rural Kerala' in the *Journal of South Asian Development*.



## **d.Pandemic and Public Health in Kerala**

**[Session 2, Day 2: Feb 24.]**

**Chair: Dr V Ramankutty**

1. Dr Anish T S

Title: Emerging Infectious Diseases: Concerns and Challenges for Health of Kerala

Abstract: The state of Kerala has been applauded for the positive changes in the health status of its people that surfaced by the second part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The control over communicable diseases is marked as one of the major attributes of the Kerala model. However, over the years the emergence and re-emergence of infectious diseases pose a great challenge not only to the health of its people but also to the Kerala model of health management. With the rich biodiversity and continuous close human-animal interaction in the state, even a chance for emergence of a new zoonotic disease with pandemic potential cannot be neglected. The intensity of such suspicion is heightened by the recurrent attacks of Nipah infection in the state, a disease with the potential to cause a global pandemic. On a deep-rooted analysis, the socio-economic divide in the community tends to make certain groups of people like tribals more vulnerable to infectious diseases. With the COVID-19 pandemic, it became more evident with the rampant spread and clustering of cases in areas of socio-economic deprivation like coastal areas and urban slums. At this juncture, it needs to be emphasized that each new emerging and re-emerging infections should be evaluated beyond its immediate health consequences and need to be viewed as potential economic shock waves as in the long run. Unfortunately, at present, the system fails to look in to this matter comprehensively. The 'Health in all' approach and 'One health' approach will go a long way in Kerala in preventing communicable diseases and will help to save valuable lives.

Short bio: Dr. T. S. Anish is an Associate Professor (Community Medicine) at the Government Medical College, Thiruvananthapuram (affiliated with Kerala University of Health Sciences) is an epidemiologist with many publications in infectious disease epidemiology. He is a Public Health Consultant (on Deputation) with the Kerala State Disaster Management Authority (to advise in health-related emergencies in the context of natural disasters and COVID-19 pandemic), and a member (Epidemiologist) of the State Expert Panel of COVID-19.

## 2. Dr Rakhal Gaitonde

Title: Interrogating the Kerala Model through the lens of Health Inequity - *Quo Vadis?*

Abstract: While the Kerala Model has been much discussed and theorized about, there have been persistent concerns about the distributional outcomes of the model. As early as 1995, Kurien pointed out to the groups left behind by the model. Over the years there has been consistent documentation of poor outcomes among Adivasi, Dalit and Coastal communities among others. Despite the political commitment as reflected by the allocation of large sums of money for targeted developmental activities including in Health, outcomes seem persistently poor relative to other mainstream communities. While concerted attempts at improving particular indicators like vaccine coverage have been successful, persistent inequities in a range of other more comprehensive aspects of health point to the superficiality of these "achievements". This paper argues for the need for states like Kerala (and Tamilnadu) which have "achieved" very good health indicators to reflect on how "deep" these achievements are, and whether they truly reflect better health of the marginalized communities or merely a better consumption of health care commodities through an efficient health care delivery system? Further, if indeed the state of Kerala wants to improve Health in its widest sense, what would be some of the steps forward? This paper draws on literature generated around discussions on the social and structural determinants of health to suggest new directions that health systems need to take to ensure a reduction of health inequity and ensure social justice. These would include actively pursuing processes like Health In ALL Policies and similar inter-sectoral, All of Government approaches, Community Empowerment and Participation, and deep reflection by the health system on its own cultural and structural competency.

Short bio: Dr. Rakhal Gaitonde is a Professor of Public Health at the AchuthaMenon Centre for Health Science Studies of the SreeChitra Tirunal Insititute of Medical Sciences and Technology, Thiruvananthapuram.

## 3. Dr Sunil George

Title: Stigmatisation and its Impact on Access to Healthcare: The Situation of Indigenous communities in Attapadi

Kerala is considered to be a leader when it comes to social development in India. In addition to various other factors, the pioneering social movements led by reformers such as Narayana Guru, Ayyankaali led to shifts that promoted a more egalitarian society and repeated benefits for Kerala in the areas of health and development. However, at regular intervals, events in Kerala have shown that beneath the veneer of a socially progressive society, the root causes of segregation and discrimination continue to be active. In the field of health and wellbeing, Kerala has had several instances in the past decade where notions of the dominant majority who exercise power on defining 'morality', 'right behaviour', cultural and religious affiliations etc. have been used to excluded others who are perceived not to follow the accepted norms. This presentation will draw on ethnographic work

carried out among the Irula, Muduga and Kurumba communities living in Attapadi between 2018-19. Using examples from maternal and child health provision among these communities, I will discuss how stigmatisation of the communities occurs at present, the lack of cultural safety in healthcare and its implications for inequitable access to healthcare.

Short bio: Dr. Sunil George is a public health researcher with over 16 years of experience working with socially excluded communities. His work with socially excluded communities has taken him from India to Kenya, South Africa and Australia. Dr. George's PhD thesis studied the impact of social exclusion on access to healthcare among Indigenous communities and older widows living by themselves in the state of Kerala.

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## **e. Entrepreneurship, Labour, and Livelihoods in Kerala** **[Session 1, Day 3: Feb. 25]**

**Chair: Dr Vinoj Abraham**

### 1. Dr S Mohanakumar

Title: Changing Labour Market in Kerala and its Implications for the Global Market

Abstract: This study analyses the changing characteristics of labour market in Kerala. As part of the neo-liberal development policy, value of labour power is cheapened globally by forcing nation states to compete one another to attract capital. The labour market in Kerala is integrated with the global market than most of other provinces in India for historical and social reasons. The labour market in the state is characterised by several unique features. Unlike the trend and pattern observed in several other states and at the national level, proportion of workers in the regular employment has increased by 7% between 2011-12 and 2017-18 while the proportion of casual labours has declined during the reference period. Often, in the literature on labour market, it is considered a welcome trend. However, in the present day context, can it be labelled as an appreciable trend by looking at the statistics of employment by usual status? The study will make use of the employment and Unemployment Survey of 2011-12 and the last three Periodical Labour Force Survey (PLFS)

Short bio: S Mohanakumar is Professor and Director in charge at the Institute of Development Studies, Jaipur. His area of specialisation are: Political Economy of Agriculture and Development, Animal Husbandry, Panchayat Raj System and Decentralisation, Labour and Environmental issues.

## 2. Nalini Netto

Title: Tourism and Livelihoods: A Study of Kovalam, Kerala

Abstract: The picture of Kerala tourism in terms of statistics on the demand and supply side is actually oblivious to the ground realities, particularly how tourism affects the destination and its communities. This is also a less explored area in terms of studies on Kerala tourism. It is only in recent times that initiatives like Responsible Tourism have started working with destination communities in the state. The present paper is an attempt to delve into the various aspects of tourism as a livelihood option for the local communities. The study area is Kovalam in Thiruvananthapuram district, one of the oldest destinations in the state. The data collected through household survey is analysed within the Sustainable Livelihoods Framework. The results point to the multidimensional nature of the issues in this context and the difficulties in addressing them.

Short bio: Nalini Netto is presently completing her doctoral dissertation on tourism and development in Kerala, at the Centre for Development Studies. A retired officer of the Indian Administrative Service, she draws upon her extensive experience of her career spanning 37 years, spread over a number of domains including Tourism. A post-graduate in Chemistry from the University of Kerala, she did her M.Phil in Applied Economics from the Centre for Development Studies (Jawaharlal Nehru University) and M.A. in Rural Development from the University of East Anglia, UK.

## 3. Krishnapriya VS

Title: The State and the Startup Ecosystem: The Case of Kerala

Abstract: The recent growth of technology-based startups in India and their concentration in metropolitan cities has rekindled the discussion on the spatial dimension of innovation and the advantage provided by large urban agglomerations for startup development. Kerala presents a unique and curious case in this regard as it has seen emergence of startups throughout the state, although the numbers are higher in the cities. Driven by a proactive state-led mission (Kerala Startup Mission), Kerala has witnessed tremendous growth in the number of startups in diverse sectors as well as the development of an entrepreneurial ecosystem replete with investors and incubators in the last few years. This study is an attempt to understand the drivers of startup growth in Kerala, a state which does not have an industrial advantage or metropolitan cities, but has a large pool of educated labour force as well as state-support. We examine the nature and characteristics of Kerala-based startups and ecosystem-supporting services in an attempt to understand if technology-based entrepreneurship in Kerala is sustainable and whether it can transform the state into a knowledge-based economy.

Short bio: Krishnapriya VS is a Doctoral scholar at Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram. Her research interests include economics of innovation, innovation-led development and entrepreneurship. As part of her PhD work, she is analysing the growth and performance of startups in India.

## **CONCEPT NOTE ON PANEL DISCUSSION ON TRADE [24 FEB.]**

Research on Kerala has clearly highlighted the importance of trade in the development of Kerala. Historically, Kerala had a highly commercialised economy that specialized in export-oriented cultivation of commercial crops and processing of their products. In 2019-20 tea, coffee, cashew kernels, seafood, coir products and spices are the major items of export through Cochin port. Imports, on the other hand, were used to meet a major part of consumption in the state. This seems to be continuing with fertilizers and raw materials, iron, steel and machinery and miscellaneous items including petroleum, oil, and lubricants being the major items of import in 2019-20. The Export Preparedness Index 2020 released by NITI Aayog gives pointers for improvement to Kerala. With respect to export ecosystem, among major states, Kerala is ranked 18th; while in policy it is ranked 10th. These however, do not seem to affect export performance, in which Kerala is highly ranked at number four.

In addition, the introduction of the goods and services tax (GST) has given Kerala an opportunity to increase its share in inter-state trade within the country. Can Kerala use its existing product basket to increase its share or are there new avenues?

Given this context and the focus of the conference, the panel discussion may want to focus on the following questions:

- 1) Despite a not so encouraging export ecosystem, what are the factors that have helped the commercial crop sector deliver a stellar performance?
- 2) How does the manufacturing industry view the ecosystem and how is it trying to cope with it?
- 3) Has policy been able to promote value addition in the exporting sectors? As the ranking clearly points out with regard to export promotion, why has not it been aggressive?
- 4) Have exports led to better livelihoods? What have been the experiences of the commercial crop sector and the manufacturing industry?
- 5) How should the share of Kerala in inter-state trade be increased?

Participants: Sri Tomy Mathew V, Fair Trade Alliance Kerala.

Sri C Balagopal

Dr K N Harilal, CDS

Chair/Moderator : Dr Sunil Mani, Director, CDS.

### **The Silver Line Project and the Future of Kerala : A Discussion**

Dr T M Thomas Isaac, Hon. Fellow, CDS

Dr K P Kannan, Hon. Fellow, CDS

Chair: Dr Sunil Mani, Director, CDS.

## **Programme Schedule**

### ***February 23, 2022 – Day 1***

9:30 – 10:15

Inaugural Session

Welcome : Prof J Devika

Opening Remarks: Prof. Sunil Mani

10:30 – 1:30

Session 1: **Emergent issues in Gender**

Chair: Dr Subhasri Balakrishnan

Shilpa M – Sex Work, Trans Vulnerability and Kerala's Transgender Rights Movement

Prof. J Devika and Dr. Anamika A – Keep Calm and Carry On? The Gendered Implications of 'Resilience' in Kerala's Development

Dr. Souvik Pyne, Dr. Malu Mohan, and Ms. Vinitha J. – Unintended Pregnancies among Traditional Fisherfolk Community of Kerala – Socio-Ecological Pathways of Embodiment

Discussion

2 : 30 – 5 00

Session 2: **Ecological and Social Vulnerabilities in Kerala: Emergent Scenarios**

Chair: Prof Satish Deshpande

Prof John Kurien – Global Happenings and Local Outcomes: Situating Kerala's Marine Fish Economy into this Narrative

Prof N C Narayanan – Understanding Spatiality of Vulnerability: Experiments in Localizing Climate Action in Kuttanad, Kerala

Dr Meera Oommen – Conversations with communities of fate: understanding vulnerability among proximate migrants of the Travancore famine

Dr Abhilash T – Beyond Romantic Idealism: State Intervention and Inclusion of Adivasis in Kerala

Discussion

**February 24, 2022 – Day 2**

9:30 – 11:30 Session 3: **The Pandemic, Migration, and Prospects/Dangers for Kerala**

Chair: Prof V J Varghese

Prof B A Prakash - COVID-19 Pandemic, Exodus of Keralite Emigrant Workers from GCC Countries and its Impact: A Study of Return Emigrants in Kerala

Prof. Praveena Kodoth, Dr. Parameswaran M, Dr. Ritika Jain, and Prof. Vinoj Abraham - Overseas Migration from a South Kerala Village

Mr. Mijo Luke - Spatiality of Transnational Migration: Changing Ecology and Livelihoods in Rural Kerala

Discussion

11:45 – 1:30 pm **Panel Discussion on Trade**

Chair/ Moderator: Prof. Sunil Mani

Sri Tomy Mathew V, Fair Trade Alliance Kerala

Sri C Balagopal, Entrepreneur and business observer

Prof. K N Harilal, CDS.

Discussion

2:30 – 4:30 pm Session 4: **Pandemic and Public Health in Kerala**

Chair: Dr V Ramankutty

Dr Anish T S - Emerging Infectious Diseases: Concerns and Challenges for Health of Kerala

Dr R Gaitonde - Interrogating the Kerala Model through the Lens of Health Inequity - Quo Vadis?

Dr Sunil George - Stigmatisation and its Impact on Access to Healthcare: The Situation of Indigenous Communities in Attapadi

Discussion

**February 25, 2022 – Day 3**

10:30 – 1:00	<p>Session 5: <b>Entrepreneurship, Labour, and Livelihoods in Kerala</b></p> <p>Chair: Prof. Vinoj Abraham</p> <p>Prof. S Mohanakumar – Changing Labour Market in Kerala and its Implications for the Global Market</p> <p>Ms. Nalini Netto – Tourism and Livelihoods: A Study of Kovalam, Kerala</p> <p>Ms. Krishnapriya – The State and the Startup Ecosystem: The Case of Kerala</p> <p>Discussion</p>
3:00– 4:30 pm	<p><b>The Silver Line Project and the Future of Kerala: A Discussion</b></p> <p>Chair/Moderator: Prof. Sunil Mani</p> <p>Prof. T. M. Thomas Isaac, Hon. Fellow, CDS</p> <p>Prof. K. P. Kannan, Hon. Fellow, CDS.</p>
4:30 – 5:00 pm	<p><b>Concluding Session</b></p> <p>Reflections on Kerala’s Development:</p> <p>Dr V K Ramachandran, Kerala State Planning Board.</p>
5: 30 pm	<p>Vote of Thanks: Dr Chidambaran G Iyer</p>