



Centre
for Public
Policy

XVI International Conference on Public Policy and Management

23rd August 2021 - 25th August 2021

Conference Proceedings & Abstracts



Supported by



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Acknowledgements

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Chairperson's Note

The need for discourse on shaping of Public Policy and constant iteration of learning, formulating, implementing, evaluating and re-learning is absolutely essential. The Annual International Conference on Public Policy and Management - the XVI in the series - provides a robust platform for sharing the work of the academic and practice community in a peer reviewed, rigorous environment so that the policy choices could be better informed. We continued to have the challenge of holding the conference on an online mode, as was the case during the past year. While we are hoping that the next conference scheduled for August 2022 can be held in the traditional format, the response to the call for papers has been going strong.

Like in the past years, even this year, we had papers from a range of themes. In addition to the regular themes, we specifically organized two track sessions on co-operatives and collectives in the memory of Dr. V Kurien, famously known as the 'Milkman of India' to honour his contribution to the Indian co-operative sector. This is the centenary year of the birth of Dr. Kurien and these tracks were a befitting tribute to his contributions in shaping the policy and practice of collectives. We also had a diverse range of papers covering themes from health, education, financial inclusion, gender studies, economic management social inclusion and many more. The number of quality papers received this year was not only encouraging but reposed confidence in the conference as a forum for exchange of good ideas and good work.

We gained from the experience of doing the conference online and were able to manage the conference seamlessly this time. I am particularly thankful to Prof Mahesh Rangarajan, Vice Chancellor, Krea University for having delivered the inaugural address. As you can see from the proceedings he not only delivered an insightful address but also brought in the nuances of the collectives and co-operatives. A special lecture was delivered by PTR Thiagarajan, Honourable Minister for Finance, Government of Tamil Nadu. We are extremely thankful to Mr. Thiagarajan for delivering his insights about the dilemmas of managing state finances. It was particularly enriching because his insights were informed by his experience in the world of investments and banking. The valedictory address was delivered by Prof Jean Drèze, Honourary Visiting Professor, University of Ranchi. In addition our sponsors National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development had a special session on the work on co-operatives and Farmer Producer Organisations. The plenary sessions were a mix of both academic insights as well as policy practice.

I would like to place on record the acknowledgements for the excellent work done by our team at the Centre and the larger IIMB ecosystem managing the conference with all the attendant challenges. I would like to thank Sangamesh of IT Department, Kavitha Kumar and Darshan from the Communications Unit, G Sesikala, Kavitha and Chandru from CPP Office and Bikashita Saikia and Sheetal Gupta, Research Associates who were the pillars of the events, managing both interface with the researchers as well as with the technical team. I would also like to thank my colleagues in the organizing committee Professors Arnab Mukherji, Rajalaxmi Kamath and Tirthatanmoy Das for their constant support. The faculty colleagues at IIM contributed to the conference by reviewing the papers and chairing sessions.

We would also like to acknowledge with gratitude the sponsors – GIC Re and NABARD who have been supporting this conference over the years.

M S Sriram

Chairperson
Centre for Public Policy



Centre for Public Policy

The Centre for Public Policy (CPP) at Indian Institute of Management Bangalore (IIMB) is an independent public interest-oriented policy think-tank engaged in pioneering research, teaching, training and capacity-building. The CPP was established in 2000 based on a quadripartite agreement between the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT), the Government of India (GoI), the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and IIMB.

The Centre was founded on the twin objectives of effectively influencing policy discourse and improving governance. These are achieved through extensive research and stakeholder engagements across multiple domains. The Centre's work in various areas of public policy is continuously being aided through its worldwide association with a number of think-tanks, as a think-tank, we provide advice and evaluate ongoing policies at the national level, in the states, and in multiple municipalities. Being housed within an academic setting, the Centre brings rigor and builds learning and knowledge from these engagements. The Centre also closely works with NGOs and independent professionals. Today, CPP offers a vibrant platform for critical thinking, ideation, research, debates and dialogues around policy-making and implementation. Other than policy analysis, the Centre is also actively engaged in the cycle of policy formulation - implementation - evaluation - reformulation. The backbone of the Centre, which is its faculty, represent diverse disciplines and research interests. Their influential research and publications play a key role in guiding public dialogue and thinking. Their wide network, with many influential policy-related committees within the country and abroad, further support the enhanced visibility of the Centre's efforts and work in public policy. Faculty members regularly work on a wide and ever-changing set of topics broadly around issues of urban governance, law and development, understanding mechanisms through which social policy impacts health and gender outcomes, challenges in financial inclusion and the broader consequences of inequality. Themes in public management and public service delivery are also central to the work of the center.

The research at CPP is supported both by national and international foundations, including Canadian Institute of Health Research, Gates Foundation, UK-India Education and Research – University Grants Commission, and United Nations Office for Project Services. Current collaborators include Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research, McGill University, University of California, San Diego, University of Essex, University of Kent, and the World Bank.

Programmes at CPP

CPP Doctoral Programme

The doctoral programme at IIMB is widely recognized for its rigorous and in-depth training. The Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) inculcates an interdisciplinary research approach in business management and public policy. It focuses on research in public policy analysis, design, process and management.

The Master of Management Studies (Public Policy)

It is a unique programme aimed at improving efficiency and leadership skills among policy-makers and administrators while exposing them to topical issues in management. Candidates from government and non-government sectors interact, exchange ideas and learn in one classroom. Additionally, there is a deepening of conceptual, technical and analytical skills for public policy-making through interactive sessions with eminent people in the Indian policy domain via the 'Policy Speaks' series. This programme ensures that the participants are well versed in various aspects of public policy and general management.

Mahatma Gandhi National Fellowship (MGNF)

We have a collaborative programme with the Government of India, the MGNF, a two-year blended programme to train individuals with an undergraduate degree to work with the District Skill Committees. This is a unique programme that has a mix of classroom teaching, district-level action and active mentoring and partnership with the government at the district level.

Short Duration Executive Education Programmes

The Centre has conducted various mid-career programmes for personnel belonging to different services, such as Executive Teaching and ongoing Executive Mid-Career Programme. These include: Phase IV for Indian Forest Service Officers and Custom Programme for Officers from the Indian Economic Service, the Central Bureau of Investigation, the Comptroller and Auditor General of India's Office, the Commercial Tax Office, the Ministry of Shipping (Ports) and the Airports Authority of India.

Other Activities

In addition to research publications, we actively engage in organizing Policy Hackathons and policy talks, apart from writing popular articles in newspapers and through blogs, and provide forums for interacting with policy makers, researchers and civil society. We hope you will stop by our blogs, our other points of web presence, and of course, also our campus.

Sixteenth International Conference on Public Policy and Management

XVI International Conference on Public Policy & Management			
23rd August, 2021 (Monday)			
09:00-10:30	Welcome Note: Prof. Arnab Mukherji , Centre for Public Policy, IIMB Opening Remarks: Prof. Rishikesh T. Krishnan , Director, IIMB Inaugural Speech: Prof. Mahesh Rangarajan , Vice Chancellor, Krea University		
10:30-11:00	BREAK		
		Parallel Sessions 1	Parallel Sessions 2
		Co-operatives and Collectives Special Track in Honour of Dr. Verghese Kurien	Law, Politics and Policy
	Chair	Dr. Annapurna Neti, Azim Premji University, Bangalore	Dr. Anil B Suraj, IIMB <u>Lead Discussant:</u> M.V. Shiju, Sai University <u>Discussants:</u> R. Rajesh Babu, IIM C M.P. Ram Mohan, IIM A
11:00-12:45	Presentation	Roles and Viability of Farmer Producer Collectives in India (<i>Dr. Shiva Muthuprakash K M and Archana Chandola, VikasAnvesh Foundation</i>)	The Rise of Political Consultancy in India (<i>Dr. Ajit Phadnis and Akansh Khandelwal, IIM I</i>)
		Beyond Leading: Understanding Leadership in Community-Based Organizations (<i>Bikalp Chamola, IIM A and Dr. Shyam Singh, IRMA, Gujarat</i>)	Policy, Politics and Poor Practices: Analysing the Linkages between Multiple Narratives and Policy Actors in Haryana (<i>Leelashree Godara, Punjab University</i>)
		Factors Influencing Sustainability in Collectives: Some Propositions (<i>Dr. Sanjiv Phansalkar and Archana Chandola, VikasAnvesh Foundation, and Bikalp Chamola, IIM A</i>)	
		Factors influencing sustainability of Village Organizations of Self-Help Groups (<i>Dr. Sanjiv Phansalkar, Suresh Sharma, Dr. Nirmalya Chowdhury, VikasAnvesh Foundation</i>)	Dead Letters: A Microanalysis of the State of the Laws (<i>Dr. Srinibas Barik, R.D. Women's University</i>)
Critical understanding of building sustainability in Community Based Organizations (<i>Archana Chandola & Vaishnavi Pawar, VikasAnvesh Foundation</i>)			
12:45-14:00	LUNCH BREAK		

14:00-15:30	Session	Special Track: Environment-Social-Governance (ESG): Policy, Trends & Disclosure	Special Track: Lessons learnt from the impact of the pandemic on Economy, Employment & Expenditure: Exploring Common Threads
	Chair	Dr. Arpit Shah, IIMB	Dr. Jyotsna Jha, CBPS <i>Discussant:</i> Prof. Narendra Pani, NIAS, Bangalore
	Presentation	Cross Country Analysis of ESG Regulatory Trends: A Comparative Analysis, Presentation (Dr. Monica Singhania, FMS, Delhi)	Macro-economic impact of the pandemic on the economy of Chhattisgarh (Madhusudhan BV & Achala Yaraseeme, CBPS)
		The Role of foreign ownership in the performance relevance of Environmental and Social Disclosures (Dr. Neha Saini, NSUT, Delhi)	Exploring the profile and lives of migratory labour in post-pandemic Bangalore (Archana Purohit & Sowmya J., CBPS)
		Non-Financial Disclosure and Firm Risk in Indian Energy Sector, Presentation (Preeti Roy, Jamia Millia Islamia University, Delhi)	Public expenditure on children in India: pre and post COVID19 patterns (Sushmitha MV, Shiboni Sundar & Madhusudhan BV, CBPS)
	Three Decades of Measuring ESG: A Scientometric Analysis (Dr. Dimple Gupta, University of Delhi)	Incomes, Informality and Instability: Examining Poverty in Indian Household after Covid-19 (Nishanth Kumar and Anupama Kumar, Dvara Research, Chennai)	
16:00-17:00 NABARD's Initiatives for Cooperatives and Farmer Producer Organisations (FPO) Moderated by R. Anand (GM), Chandan Chatterjee (DGM) and M R N Murthy (DGM)			
Special Lecture (19:00-20:30) P.T.R Thiagarajan (Honorable Minister of Finance, Government of Tamil Nadu) Moderated by Professor MS Sriram, Chairperson, Centre for Public Policy			
24th August, 2021 (Tuesday)			
09:00-10:30	Session	Gender Mainstreaming: Analysing Work, Travel & Healthcare Policies	Policy 1 (Financial Policy & Economic Evaluation)
	Chair	Dr. Soham Sahoo, IIMB	Dr. Chetan Subramanian, IIMB
	Presentation	Women Riders- In Light of Pink Ticket Policy, A Case of Delhi (Shuktika Sabharwal & Dr. Rutul Joshi, CEPT University, Ahmedabad)	Global Financial Cycle and its determinants: A VECM Approach (Shikha Malhotra and Dr. Chaya Bagrecha, Jain University, Bangalore)
		Factors Affecting Gender Parity- Insights, Issues and Interventions (Pramiti Rawat and Hritik Gera, Nirma University, Ahmedabad)	Social Relations and R&D Networks in Oligopoly (Anurag Kakkar and Debabrata Pal, JNU, Delhi)
	Which mothers do we really 'care' for? Incorporating an equity analysis framework in the evaluation of public health programmes: The case of the Janani Suraksha Yojana in Odisha, India (Rohit Shah and Dr. Sarthak Gaurav, IIT Bombay)	Fiscal Decentralisation & Healthcare in India (Dr. Sandeep Sharma, Dr. Maneeta Jain and Dr. Mampi Bose, NHSRC)	
10:30-11:00	BREAK		

	Session	Co-operatives and Collectives Special Track in Honour of Dr. Verghese Kurien	Financial Inclusion: Policies, Innovation & Challenges
	Chair	Dr. Rajalaxmi Kamath, IIMB	Dr. Jyotsna Jha, CBPS
11:00-12:45	Presentation	Is the AMUL model possible in pulses? The case of Hasnabad Farmer Service Producer Company Limited (Dr. Ajit Kanitkar and Dr. C Shambhu Prasad, IRMA, Gujarat)	Evaluation of Financial Inclusion in villages of India: Precursor to Digital Gaon (Nishi Malhotra and Dr. Pankaj Baag, IIM Kozhikode)
		Dynamics of Incubating a Multi-community, Multi-commodity, Multi-location, FPO: The Case of Krishidhan Producer Company in Gujarat (Astad Pastakia, Development Consultant and Sachin Oza, DSC Foundation, Ahmedabad)	Does the pension programme help in achieving health outcomes and related capabilities among widows? A case of Ganga Swarupa Aarthik Sahay Yojana in Gujarat (Dr. Amrita Ghatak, Dr. Itishree Pattnaik and Dr. Jharna Pathak, GIDR, Ahmedabad)
		Krishi Bagwani Swawlambi Sahakari Samiti Limited (KBSSSL): adaptive management and convergence in an all-women tribal collective (Gautam Prateek, XUB, Pranamesh Kar, WASSAN and Debanjan Ghatak, PRADAN)	Smoothing Consumption in Times of Sickness: Household Recourse Mechanisms (Abhishek Dureja, IGIDR, Mumbai)
		Poultry as a Livelihood Opportunity – Two Case Studies – Kesla and Suguna (Dr. Sankar Datta, RGICS, Delhi)	Cash Transfers for Social Equality- Experience in India (Dr. Dipjyoti Konwar and Dr. Vinita Bhargava, Lady Irwin College, University of Delhi)
		Beyond Promotion: Need for Effective Incubation of Producer Companies (Dr. Richa Govil and Dr. Annapurna Neti, Azim Premji University, Bangalore)	Impact of PMJDY on Financial Behaviour of its Beneficiaries: An Empirical Study in Madurai District of Tamil Nadu. (Dr. S Rameshkumar, Central University of Tamil Nadu, Thiruvavur)
12:45-14:00	BREAK		



14:00-15:30	Session	Production Systems, Technology & Sustainability in Agribusiness	Infrastructure and Inclusion
	Chair	Dr. Sukhpal Singh, IIMA	Dr. Arpit Shah, IIMB
	Presentation	Managing for sustainability: the role of stakeholders in a producer organisation promoting ecologically sound agriculture (Abhishek Saxena, IRMA, Gujarat)	Inequalities in connectivity of Indian Railway zones with semi-high speed and express trains (Dr Shailesh Chandra and Mamta Kumari, California State University Long Beach)
		Locating the Missing Thread in the Making of the Agriculture Export Policy in India (Dr. Malini L Tantri, ISEC, Bangalore)	Corporate Social Responsibility and Firm Financial Performance: A Moderating Effect of Economic Policy Uncertainty (Dr. Jadhav Chakradhar, CESS, Hyderabad and Ritika Gupta, DCRUST, Haryana)
		Developing the policy landscape for inclusively responsible agriculture: Exploring the management of sustainable transitions (Deborah Dutta and Dr. C Shambu Prasad, IRMA, Gujarat)	Taming the beast versus nurturing the beast: Rethinking Entrepreneurship Policy (Manjunath A N, Dr. Kumar K and Vinay Reddy Venumuddala, IIMB)
		Indiscriminate breeding in cattle: an alarm for Indian Milk Market (Dr. S Rajeshwaran and Dr. Amrita Dhiman, DMI)	A Critique of the Initiative for Public Private Partnership in Passenger Train Operations (Dr. G Raghuram, IIM B, Rachna Gangwar, Adani Institute of Infrastructure Management and Charu Rastogi, IIMB)
Consultation or Consultants? The Changing Nature of State Capacity in Agriculture (Dr. C Shambhu Prasad, IRMA, Gujarat)	Assessing the Status and Delivery of Urban Civic Services: A Study of two Indian Cities (Ramakrishna Nallathiga and Dr. Kala S Sridhar, ISEC Bangalore)		
25th August, 2021 (Wednesday)			
09:00-10:30	Session	Inclusion 1: Sexuality and Identity in Shifting Institutional Contexts	Inclusion 2: Diversity, Equality & Social Sustainability
	Chair	Dr. Navdeep Mathur, IIMA	Dr. Deepak Malghan, IIMB
	Presentation	Social Support and Acceptance promotes Mental health and Well-being: Exploring the Coming out Experiences of LGBTQIA+ Community (Rohan Bhalla, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi; Karan Babbar, IIM A)	Shaping of teacher identity in low-fee private schools: A case of three schools in Hyderabad (Nilesh Gourkhede, TISS, Mumbai)
		Understanding the complex relationships between Homophobic Bullying and Depression: A moderated mediation approach (Karan Babbar and Shreya Sharma, IIM A)	Castes, Perceived Discrimination and Human Capital Formation in India (Isha Gupta, University of Padova, Italy)
A Riddled Restitution - the Indian journey from the recognition of the third gender towards LGBTQ (Nikhil Kumar Gupta, MSU, Baroda)	Daughter vs. Daughter-in-law: Kinship Roles and Women's Time Use in India (Tanu Gupta, IGIDR, Mumbai)		
10:30-11:00	BREAK		

	Session	Special Track: Human Development and Inclusion in India	Policy 2: Exploring the nuances of Politics, Institutions & Governance
	Chair	Dr. Hema Swaminathan, IIMB	Dr. Vasanthi Srinivasan, IIMB
11:00-12:45	Presentations	On the margins for basic needs: COVID-19 and Exclusion in context of sanitation and plausibility of public policy (Dr. Tulika Tripathi, CUG, Gandhinagar, and Reem Ashraf, NCAER)	To regulate or liberate? Analysing the impact of Foreign Contributions Regulation (Amendments) Act, 2020 on the performance of NGOs (Abisha Aseervatham, LIBA; Dr. Madhava Priya D., LIBA; Varghese Theckanath, Montfort Social Institute.)
		Dwelling in Possibilities: A case for applying capability approach to housing policies (Debarati Bhattacharaya, CEPT University, Ahmedabad)	
		Mass-Education, Migration and 'Virtuous Growth': Concerns for Inclusive Development in Kerala, India (Dr. K Jafar, MIDS, Chennai)	Managing a research NGO in India: Walking on a tight rope with a sword hanging on your head! (Dr. Jyotsna Jha, CBPS, Bangalore)
		Is India making gender inclusive progress in human development? (Dr. Hippu Salk Kristle Nathan, IRMA, Gujarat, and Dr. Srijit Mishra, IGIDR, Mumbai)	Ecotourism Policies, the Challenges and Opportunities of the Forest Department in India (Freeda Maria Swarna M, Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai, and Shaheed Khan, Director, Dharthi NGO, Bangalore)
		Living Conditions for Migrants: Evidence from the Slums in Delhi (Namita Mathur, Indraprastha College for Women, Delhi University)	Examining Policy Problematisations of Disaster in Indian Disaster Management Policies (Kaniska Singh and Manav Khaire, IIT Bombay)
12:45-14:00	LUNCH BREAK		
14:30-16:00	Valedictory Address by Professor Jean Drèze Visiting Professor at Ranchi University and Honorary Professor at the Delhi School of Economics. Moderated by Professor Hema Swaminathan, IIMB		



Inaugural Address

Professor Mahesh Rangarajan

Vice Chancellor, Krea University

Date: 23/08/2021, Monday, Time - 09:00-10:30



Special Lecture

Talk by P.T.R. Thiagarajan

Minister of Finance, Government of Tamil Nadu

Date: 23/08/2021, Monday, Time - 19:00-20:30



Valedictory Address

Professor Jean Drèze

Visiting Professor at Ranchi University and Honorary
Professor at the Delhi School of Economics

Date: 25/08/2021, Wednesday, Time - 14:30-16:00



Plenary Sessions

Inaugural Address

Professor Mahesh Rangarajan

Vice Chancellor, Krea University

Date: 23/08/2021, Monday, Time - 09:00-10:30

Professor Rangarajan started off his speech by explaining how India stands out from the other erstwhile colonized nations such as Africa and Brazil. Despite being one of the largest democracies in the world with universal franchise, the story of India is unique because India is still predominantly a rural economy. A striking fact about the rural population is that it is constituted of producers as much as of consumers. Even though there has been a significant drop in the percentage of people engaged in agriculture, the latest statistics suggests that about 42% of rural population are directly or indirectly engaged in agriculture. And this considerable population of small and marginal producers operate in a sector that is highly volatile in nature. Agriculture is one of the most dynamic sectors, that is dependent on various conditions such as weather, land holdings, market and new to the list is pandemics. And retaining this as a background, he highlighted the importance of cooperatives.

He set the tone of his speech with the primary theme of the conference by sharing his insights on cooperatives, and with special emphasis on Dr. Varghese Kurien's contribution into the cooperative ecosystem in the country. Having had a background in history, Professor Rangarajan revisited history to elucidate the Amul case that played a pivotal role in giving shape to the cooperative model in India. Dr. Varghese Kurien, popularly known as 'The Milkman of India', along with Tribhuvan Das Patel decentralized milk collection from marginal farmers in Gujarat. This was based on the ideology of democracy and each farmer was given rights and shares irrespective of the number of buffaloes they own or milk they supply. The influence of Amul as a cooperative was so robust that about half of Gujarat at that time was associated with Amul. The success of the Amul story could also be somewhat assigned to the rapid industrialization in agriculture that was introduced during the Green Revolution.

Professor Rangarajan emphasized that there is huge potential for the cooperative model to be mirrored in other sectors as well. He quoted the forest department and other verticals of agriculture (such as fisheries) as examples.

He concluded his speech on a positive note, suggesting that small-scale producers in India can highly benefit from capitalist avenues by using technology to augment their business. This can be done by emulating mid-size or large-scale companies, which are operating on a user-based platform largely enabled by the Internet. As such, cooperatives should not only consider the internet as a source of information, but also as a tool to drive and amplify their business. He also suggested, while urging audience to think creatively, if there could be any way wherein the government and the cooperatives come together to collaborate more progressively, rather than the former over-regulating the latter.

Special Session

**NABARD's Initiatives for Cooperatives and Farmer Producer Organizations (FPO) in conversation with
R. Anand (GM), Chandan Chatterjee (DGM) and M R N Murthy (DGM)**

Date: 23/08/2021, Monday, Time - 16:00-17:00

Mr. R. Anand (GM), Mr. Chandan Chatterjee (DGM) and Mr. M R N Murthy (DGM) provided a comprehensive insight of the initiatives taken by NABARD for building and strengthening the financial and the operational efficiency of the cooperatives and the farmer producer organizations, particularly in Karnataka. NABARD was set up in 1982 to provide undivided attention, forceful direction and pointed focus to credit related issues linked with rural development. Since its inception, the institution has been working with the cooperatives to make them more profitable and efficient. Its Institutional Development department has started initiatives with the Government of India, RBI and other banks to strengthen the health of the rural financial institutions. NABARD has also played an instrumental role in supporting and providing collective strength to the farmers since 1982 through its program, Vikas Volunteer Vahini (VVV), which was later renamed to "The Farmers 'Clubs program"

in 2005. The clubs consist of various small informal groups of farmers who are given grant assistance and sent to various institutions to facilitate transfer of technology. The informal clubs can now register as a legal entity under the ambit of the Cooperative Societies Act or the Indian Companies Act.

NABARD has introduced several initiatives to support joint activities like value addition, processing, collective purchase of inputs and farm produce marketing. In 2014, the Rashtriya e-marketing Service Limited introduced the Unified Marketing Platform, a trading platform for tendering / auctioning the agricultural produce brought by the farmers into the agricultural regulated markets in Karnataka. NABARD has also implemented Tribal Development Fund Projects (Wadi Projects) where tribal families are given one acre of land for farming and horticultural produce. The institution also facilitates marketing of their produce through e-commerce portals and showroom outlets and has collaborations with several agri start-ups for connecting FPOs. Karnataka is probably one of the first states in the country to take initiatives to promote contract farming for exports of crops such as Rose Onions, Pomegranate, Black Pepper, Gherkins and Coffee. Further, NABARD also supported Centre of Excellence for conducting training and capacity building programs of FPOs and also provided iFPO accounting software to 48 FPOs on a pilot basis.

NABARD has been providing both the financial support to the cooperative sectors, and the operational and technical support in building the cooperative credit structure at all the three levels. They have set up Cooperative Development fund, Centre for Professional Excellence in Cooperatives, and Scheme of Financial Assistance for Training of Cooperative Banks' Personnel to support the efforts of the ground level cooperative credit institutions, streamline training systems in Cooperative Credit Structure and promote skill enhancement and capacity building of the staff, respectively. As on 31 March 2021, the short-term cooperative credit structure includes 33 State Cooperative banks, 351 DCCBs and 95,995 PACs, and the long-term cooperative credit structure includes 13 SCARDBs and 602 PCARDBs. Recently, NABARD introduced two new schemes, Special Refinance Facility for transforming all the potential PACs into Multi Service Centres, and Business Diversification and Production Innovation Cell for assisting State Cooperative Banks in undertaking market research on new products and integrating those products into the existing production lines. In addition to financing RFIs, the institution is also monitoring and strengthening RCBs and RRBs and supervising their compliance with regulatory requirements by conducting statutory inspections.

Special Lecture

Talk by P.T.R. Thiagarajan

Honorable Minister of Finance, Government of Tamil Nadu

Date: 23/08/2021, Monday, Time - 19:00-20:30

Dr. Thiagarajan unfolded this special talk by emphasizing on the need for a lot more human resource and investment in the basic concepts of administration, not just in India but throughout the globe in general.

He drew on his personal experience of joining politics to share insights around some of the operational lag within the administration. Having held multiple senior positions in banking, he assumed that the complexity in government systems would be much higher, while the availability of funds would be much lesser as compared to the banking sector. As an opposition MLA, he also assumed that within the government, there would be a lot more support in the form of infrastructure and data. However, upon assuming office as a Minister, he observed that there is an enormous lack of proper data keeping and infrastructure within the system.

He outlined two huge loopholes that persists within the administration. One, a lack of institutional memory or institutional knowledge. This means that the top-tier staff, mainly IAS officers, who are directly in touch with ministers are rotated from one department to another due to regimen changes and other factors. The net result of this is that one ends up with a system that is in continuous flux of human resource. Consequently, most of the people that a minister can consult on official matters are not people with great depth of knowledge in a certain department. A combined effect of such lag is a system that is deficient of fluid data systems, thus introducing great complexity in the administration of the government or implementation of public policy.

Such complexities are multiplied by another issue. That is the proliferation of public institutions, agencies and projects. This is mainly caused because politicians from different legislatures initiate various schemes and projects under their regime which gets added on to the succeeding elected government as leftover projects that are yet to see the light of day. This is, sadly, not accompanied by an equally potent and sizeable human capital.

The net outcome of this translates in the inadequacy in infrastructure, management capability, sophistication, institutional memory and continuity. This ultimately results in the fall of the government because the government fails to deliver what it ought to deliver in terms of quality of life, infrastructure and ensure welfare and inclusive growth to the public who voted them into power.

In the long run, because of such poor outcomes, the common public gets engulfed with a sense of betrayal. They feel indignant because they feel like they are excluded from the growth process. As such, there has been a rise in populist politics in the last decade, not just in India but across the globe. There is an increasing degree of anti-science, anti-intellectualism, emotion-driven right-wing politics that is benefitting from such public resentment.

Valedictory Address

Professor Jean Drèze

Visiting Professor at Ranchi University and Honorary Professor at the Delhi School of Economics.

Date: 25/08/2021, Wednesday, Time - 14:30-16:00

Dr. Jean Drèze opened the session by asking a simple question: Why do some ideas flourish while others fall into oblivion? And why are some thinkers better remembered than others? Academia works under the presumption that good ideas flourish while others perish. Another plausible line of reasoning is that the ideas that suit the privileged and powerful tend to thrive as the privileged and powerful have the resources to promote the ideas that appeal to them. He further stated that the ideas have a better chance to survive and thinkers have a better chance of being remembered if they serve powerful interests. To illustrate this argument, he provided an example of Dr. Ambedkar. It was the work of Dr. Gail Omvedt and other scholars including many Dalit scholars that helped revive the memory of Dr. Ambedkar in the last 20 years. Few scholars remember or have read the work of Dr. Ambedkar, around the end of the 20th century. This is probably because some of his ideas such as the annihilation of the caste system did not appeal to the ruling castes and classes of India.

Similarly, competition appeals to people in positions of power and influence. We tend to overvalue competition, particularly market competition, and underrate cooperation in economics. There are a very few specialized branches of economics such as cooperative game theory or the literature of economic cooperatives where cooperation has received some attention. Competition works wonders for some purpose. But, some form of cooperation or public action is essential to build a good quality of life. Although cooperation is different from public action, many forms of public action have a strong cooperative element and cooperation is the basis for many important social institutions. For instance, sports clubs, university departments, churches, trade unions, political parties and economic cooperatives. Competition and cooperation are not necessarily opposed to each other. For instance, when people play football in a sports club, the two teams compete with each other but they also cooperate in observing the rules of the game.

On the occasion of Dr. Varghese Kurian's birth centenary, Dr. Drèze quoted from one of Dr. Kurian's keynote addresses to the Indian Society of Agricultural Economics in Pune in 1984: "May your tribe perish. You are never there where the action is. You come after the event and glibly find fault. If I am born again, I will become an economist so that others do all the work while all I do is criticize." Dr. Drèze further stated that if we foster cooperation in the economic and social life, we will be able to build a better place. If teachers, parents and administrators cooperate to ensure the best education for all children, all schools will be transformed. He further emphasised on the need to understand what makes cooperation difficult. One major obstacle is inequality and conflict. Dr. Ambedkar in his book, *'The Annihilation of Caste'*, stated that both class and caste system stand in the way of cooperation and solidarity. Today, the traditional upper-class mentality is still hindering the progress of education in India. The upper class believe that if the children of the marginalized sections of the society study, then who will work in their fields or homes. He added an interesting anecdote from Sujatha Gidla's book, *'Ants Among Elephants'*, which conveys how solidarity typically happens within the caste in India. The debilitating effects of the caste system on social solidarity can also be seen from the fact that casteless societies in India, and there are some, tend to have a stronger tradition of cooperation. For instance, the Adivasi societies of eastern India have a remarkable institution of cooperation and mutual aid, which they routinely adopt for a wide range of activities.

He concluded the address by reiterating the need to expand the realm of cooperation in social life. Nuclear war, climate change, genetic engineering, pandemics and a worldwide economic crisis are just five examples of

possible ways in which the human race could self-destroy relatively soon or perhaps go back to the middle age. Averting these dangers requires worldwide cooperation not only on a case-by-case basis but also as a matter of routine. Cooperation as the way of the future may sound like wishful thinking but failing that, there may be no future at all.

Parallel Session 1: Session 1 (Special Track) - Co-operatives and Collectives Special Track in Honour of Dr. Verghese Kurien

Date & Time: 23/08/2021 11:00-12:45

Session Chair: Dr. Annapurna Neti, Azim Premji University, Bangalore

Speakers: Shiva Muthuprakash K M, Archana Chandola, Bikalp Chamola, Dr. Shyam Singh, Sanjiv J Phansalkar, Archana Chandola, Suresh Sharma, Nirmalya Chowdhury, Vaishnavi Pawar

The conference started with this special session that debates on the origins of collectives in India, different verticals and its evolution as a result of policy changes. The track highlighted the significance of such collectives in empowering grassroot communities and their contribution towards the economy. The session had five papers.

The first paper tries to address the disconnect between normative imagination of various stakeholders and lack of clarity on the roles of Farmer Producer Companies (FPCs). The authors surveyed over 250 FPCs across eight different states to understand the roles and viability of the farmer collectives. The study explores the relation between various characteristics of the FPCs with that of the business turnover. It was observed that the turnover stagnates at 5-30 lakhs range in most of the FPCs despite a multifold increase in the number of farmer shareholders. The results have captured the strengths, weaknesses and potential of the farmer collective institutions to an actionable detail that could help promoters and policy makers to strategize the future path of FPCs.

The second paper opens by stressing on the importance of Community Based Organizations (CBOs) in the Indian context. The authors argue that leadership needs to be understood as a collaborative activity in these CBOs, rather than as an individual phenomenon. The paper contributes by contesting the claim that investment in creating a network of leaders automatically leads to the translation of democratic practices among the members of the CBOs. On the contrary, such an overburdening of a class of leaders develops tendencies of elite capture and restricts the scope for democratic decentralization.

The third paper looks at the possibility of any clash between individual rationality and the conduct or behaviour needed for making collectives more sustainable. Such collectives comprise of Farmer Producer (FPO), co-operatives, farmer associations and so on. The paper looks at the leadership strategies of such collectives.

The fourth paper looks at the the model of Self-help groups (SHGs) and its relation with other inter-related federal organisations such as Village organisations (VOs) and Cluster Level Federation (CLF). The paper tries to understand the role and impact of external promotion that these organisations receive to become strong and sustainable.

The fifth paper looks at the vital role played by self-help groups (SHGs) as a tool to alleviate life and eradicate poverty in India. Thus, it is important to help these organisations to become self-sufficient and sustainable in the long run. The paper also tries to examine the interplay of community-based institutions with respect to empowerment, livelihood and social issues.

Parallel Session 2: Session 1- Law, Politics and Policy

Date & Time: 23/08/2021 11:00-12:45

Session Chair: Dr. Anil B Suraj

Lead Discussant: M.V. Shiju

Discussants: R. Rajesh Babu and M.P. Ram Mohan

Speakers: Dr. Ajit Phadnis and Akansh Khandelwal, Leelashree Godara, and Dr. Srinibas Barik

The session had three presentations.

The first paper examines the evolution of political consultancy in India. The study investigates the factors fueled the growth of political consultancy, the characteristics of the industry, the range of services that consultants provide to political clients and the evolution of the political consultants over time in the Indian context. The author suggests that the political consultancy industry in India is on an upward path. The market size will expand substantially in the next five years. The structure of the industry will change, with a few more large players co-existing alongside a sea of smaller firms and the shifts in technology will bring new channels for political communication, thereby creating fresh opportunities for consulting.

The second paper reviews the journey from agrarian land reforms (since 1966) to the homestead land allocation program (2007) in the state of Haryana as a part of the national agenda of equalizing resources and poverty alleviation. Further, the paper employs a case study of poverty alleviation policy 'Mahatma Gandhi Gramin Basti Yojna' (2008) in the state of Haryana to highlight the poor policy practices at multiple levels of implementing policy. The findings indicate that the land reforms act fails miserably on the ground due to loopholes in its working. Various policy actors are left free to work without checks and balances. As a result, the resources at large do not reach into the right hands, making the situation more miserable. The author suggests timely reviews of schemes and their results from the ground, thereby making the policies more efficient and successful in implementation.

The third paper examines the relevance of the laws, the bedrock of civil society, that were handed down to posterity after so many trials and tribulations. The rampant rape of law across the world in the twenty-first century compellingly sounds the alarm bell for the sustenance of civil society. Varieties of crimes, corruption have a debilitating effect on the public in general even though the culprits are a denigrated few. Complete disregard of the law is pervasive among persons irrespective of their positions and across political systems. Pessimistic reflections on such disheartening denouement are possible in free societies; authoritarian ones are profoundly intolerant.

Parallel Session 1: Session 2 (Special Track) - Environment-Social-Governance (ESG): Policy, Trends & Disclosure

Date & Time: 23/08/2021 14:00-15:30

Session Chair: Dr. Arpit Shah

Speakers: Monica Singhania, Neha Saini, Preeti Roy, Dimple Gupta

In recent years, ESG has become a highly coveted topic among academicians and policymakers. Ever since the UN Sustainable Development Goals mandated government and public organisations to incorporate ESG and an increasing number of investors are now considering ESG factors, in addition to typical financial rewards while making investment decisions. However, in the context of India, this field is fairly unexplored. This track draws a cross-country analysis to understand ESG trends and practices in developing countries over the years.

Four papers were presented in the session.

This first paper examines and reviews the literature on environmental, social and governance disclosures as well as relevant regulations across countries and analyses the regulatory framework and theoretical framework associated with ESG issues. Reporting practices in different countries have evolved in line with changes in regulatory and legislative initiatives in that country. Hence, it is important to gain an understanding of the trends in the international context linking governance structures and companies' disclosure practices. The paper talks

about the cross-country comparison of ESG regulation and policies.

The second paper seeks to establish the relationship between environmental–social disclosure scores and corporate financial performance. The authors try to investigate the relevance of assurance practice (whether companies' assessment policies are subject to individual assessment for the given period) and value relevance in foreign-owned firms.

The third paper uses panel data set of energy firms from 2010-2021, along with fixed and dynamic data models and a non-parametric model of quantile regression to reveal that high level of ESG disclosures reduces the firm risk, while low level of such disclosure increases the firm risk supporting the resource-based view of the firm. The fourth paper is set out to provide an in-depth analysis on the tools and processes employed for measuring sustainability or ESG. The results show how ESG as a research area has progressed from Brundtland Commission's reported classification of principles to emergence of new models and sustainability indicators to measure sustainability. An attempt is made to highlight the need to develop an integrated approach to measure the environment, social and governance dimensions individually as well as, in order to guide human behavior and formulate sustainable policy decisions.

Parallel Session 2: Session 2 (Special Track) - Lessons learnt from the impact of the pandemic on Economy, Employment & Expenditure: Exploring Common Threads

Date & Time: 23/08/2021 14:00-15:30

Session Chair: Dr. Jyotsna Jha

Discussant: Prof. Narendra Pani

Speakers: Madhusudhan BV and Achala Yaraseeme; Archana Purohit and Sowmya J; Sushmitha MV, Shiboni Sundar and Madhusudhan BV; Nishanth Kumar and Anupama Kumar

This special track talks about the pandemic's impact on economy, employment and expenditure, as evidenced through four research studies. The session highlights the common threads and lessons, with implications going beyond a state or a city, and provide insights into certain larger public policy issues such as labor laws, social protection and public education.

The first paper assesses the impact of Covid19 on the economy of Chhattisgarh and provides estimations for three scenarios for the next three years, including the present financial year. It also presents the likely economic policy choices that the state has for reviving the economy.

The second paper is based on a survey of a little less than four hundred workers during March-April, 2021 in industries in Bangalore where the proportion of immigrant workers is high: construction, retail, garment and security. The authors also look at issues of income and livelihoods along with access to basic services and impact on aspirations for children's lives.

The third study analyses the trends and patterns of public expenditure on children (0-18 years) during pre and post pandemic period across 16 states. The focus is on gauging any major shifts, if any, in the pattern of public expenditure on children in the post pandemic period, and their linkages with emerging needs.

The fourth paper examines the impact of COVID-19 on Indian households with respect to incomes, type of employment and coping strategies. The findings indicate that a large number of Indians are vulnerable to the risk of transitory poverty. Moreover, the workers in the lowest income categories lack risk protection. The poorest households resorted to negative coping strategies, such as borrowing from informal sources or reducing consumption, in order to cope with the financial shock of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Parallel Session 1: Session 1 – Gender Mainstreaming: Analysing Work, Travel & Healthcare Policies

Date & Time: 24/08/2021 09:00-10:30

Session Chair: Dr. Soham Sahoo

Speakers: Shuktika Sabharwal, Dr. Rutul Joshi, Pramiti Rawat, Hritik Gera, Rohit Shah, Dr. Sarthak Gaurav

The session had three presentations.

The first paper looks at the worrying number of women who use public transport in India. According to census of India, one-third of women use public transport. It is observed that 73% of trips in urban India are comprised of public modes of transport. However, women's share is only 14% in this large figure. The Delhi government's "Pink Ticket Policy" allows women to travel free of cost in DTC and cluster buses. This has opened up a debate about the ways in which women access transport and the barriers they face. This paper tries to bring out the "voice of women" through this socio-economic lifting of barrier on travel and its impact on travel experience and behavior.

The second paper analyses the factors that affect the implementation of public policies with respect to gender parity in the workplace. There is major gap in the acquisition and retention of stature between men and women in workplaces. This reflects on their compensation, promotion etc. Some of the key findings of this study suggest that company culture plays an important role in bridging this gender gap and psychological traits and attitude shape women's labor market opportunities.

This third paper critically examines the aspects of multidimensional inequity in public health program evaluations by focusing on the Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY). The paper identifies the limitations of impact evaluation frameworks in addressing questions of multidimensional inequity specifically for the JSY and emphasize the need to incorporate the dimensions of 'operational' and 'social processes' as well as the 'experiences' of both beneficiaries and service providers. Accounting for the multidimensional nature of inequity could reduce the inherent biases in the evolution of evaluation frameworks, specifically for the JSY. Such an undertaking could have effects in improving evaluations of public policies more specific to health in India.

Parallel Session 2: Session 1 - Financial Policy & Economic Evaluation

Date & Time: 24/08/2021 09:00-10:30

Session Chair: Dr. Chetan Subramanian

Speakers: Shikha Malhotra and Dr. Chaya Bagrecha; Anurag Kakkar and Debabrata Pal, Dr. Sandeep Sharma, Dr. Maneeta Jain and Dr. Mampi Bose

The session had three presentations.

The first paper identifies the other global shocks that can play a role in driving Global Financial Cycle, using the VCEM model. The findings indicate that abundant liquidity created by change in the monetary policy decisions by the US has an influence on volatility of financial markets. Further, the uncertainty arising out of economic policy decisions taken in major countries, whether advanced or emerging countries, can drive volatility in financial markets in the short run. Therefore, the global variables matter more than any country-centric variables in driving the global financial cycle. The results suggest the need for international regulatory action to regulate the inter-connected non-bank international financial channel.

The second paper provides a theoretical framework to understand how social relations can influence the formation of R&D collaborations among the firms. The framework includes firms, which prior to competing in the market, invest in R&D collaborations with other firms which leads to lower costs of production. The extent of reduction in cost depends on the amount of investment and the indirect benefit (spillover) that the firm owner enjoys due to his social relations with other firm owners. The authors specifically look at the formation of pairwise R&D collaborative ties among the firms in the oligopoly market. The results indicate that the structures

of Nash networks are such that firms collaborate either with a firm who is a trusted partner or with all the existing firms.

The third paper analyses the trends and the determinants of states' contribution to health in terms of non-NHM components of health post the 14th finance commission's recommendations. The results indicate that states' share in central taxes has a positive effect on health expenditure at the state level. However, there exists a huge interstate disparity in terms of per capita expenditure on the non-NHM component. Since health status has a significant impact on non-NHM expenditure, the increase in the devolution of untied funds has the potential to ensure higher expenditure on health across states. The authors suggest that the decentralization of planning and management is also required to increase states' absorptive capacity.

Parallel Session 1: Session 2 (Special Track) - Co-operatives & Collectives: Special Track in Honour of Dr. Verghese Kurien

Date & Time: 24/08/2021 11:00-12:45

Session Chair: Dr. Rajalaxmi Kamath

Speakers: Ajit Kanitkar, Shambu Prasad, Astad Pastakia, Sachin Oza, Gautam Prateek, Pranamesh Kar, Debanjan Ghatak, Sankar Datta, Richa Govil, Annapurna Neti

This special track has been dedicated and named after Dr. Verghese Kurien as part of the centenary year. The track brings together a collection of case studies to understand the growth and management challenges of Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) in India.

The session had five papers.

This first paper is a case study that reveals the extensive challenges met by the Hasnabad Farmer Service Producer Company (HFSPC) to replicate an 'Amul type revolution' in pulses. A 'yellow revolution' of this kind was meant to provide remunerative return and long-term growth to local farmers. However, the FPC faced enormous roadblocks in nurturing and making of a sustainable women-led ecosystem.

The second case study explores the journey of Krishidhan Producer Company Ltd (KPCL) and its success in empowering grassroot communities within six years. It was fostered by a CSO called Development Support Centre (DSC) till October, 2019, when it became financially independent from DSC. The study observes the success as well as the challenges faced by the institution so far.

The third study looks at the success of Krishi Bagwani Swawlambi Sahakari Samiti Ltd (KBSSSL) that started with 243 members and a humble grant of 2 lakh rupees in 2003. It expanded to a whopping 2680 members and a turnover of 52.92 lakh in 2020. An all-women collective set out in a back drop of left-wing dominated extremism in Jharkhand, and lesser outreach of markets and state administration and other environmental challenges. The case offers lessons learnt and shared by this collective and raises critical questions around the long-term sustainability of small-holder agriculture.

The fourth article examines the case of the Kesla poultry model which is the first women's co-operative in the country to produce 1.5 million broilers and 3 million eggs every month. Over the years, the consumption of poultry in India has increased significantly; majorly cause of an expanding middle class and chicken and egg being a rather reasonable source of protein. The article explores how the co-operative penetrated the communities of Kesla and encouraged women to form their own co-operatives.

The fifth paper discusses the impact of a recent government mandate by the central government to register every Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs). Such need to register new Producer Companies can have very complex outcomes because of factors such as dissonance among policymakers, intermediaries and farmers, regulatory and operational challenges and skewed geographical distribution of producer companies. The paper demonstrates that such policy changes fail to address the main shortcomings of policy environment and construct an ecosystem that strengthens the institutional framework of producer companies.

Parallel Session 2: Session 2 - Financial Inclusion: Policies, Innovation & Challenges

Date & Time: 24/08/2021 11:00-12:45

Session Chair: Jyotsna Jha

Speakers: Nishi Malhotra and Dr. Pankaj Baag; Dr. Amrita Ghatak, Dr. Itishree Pattnaik and Dr. Jharna Pathak; Abhishek Dureja; Dr. Dipjyoti Konwar and Dr. Vinita Bhargava; Dr. S Ramesh Kumar

The session had five presentations.

The first paper examines the level of awareness about various channels of banking as well as for the Government schemes in various villages in India. The findings indicate that although the level of financial and digital literacy has improved in India, most villages still lack access to Bank Branches and ATMs. Some of them are unable to use ICT to avail the financial services. Further, schemes such as the Kisan Credit Card scheme face various problems in implementation, particularly due to the corruption of the bank officers and the complex documentation and various banking formalities. The authors suggest that there is an urgent need to create information asymmetry through dissemination of information about the financial services.

The second paper analyses the health status of single women including widows, divorced/separated and never married in India and the implications of health on their economic well-being. The authors also examine the role of Ganga Swarupa Aarthik Sahay Yojana (GSASY henceforth) in contributing to the improvement in the health status and health related capabilities of widows in Gujarat. The results indicate that widowhood is not a homogeneous identity and that the health outcomes and health related capabilities vary between younger widows and older widows across the rural and urban areas in Gujarat. The authors further suggest that there is a high dependence of widows on wage employment in informal sector particularly of the older widows and calls for a revision of the benefit amount under GSASY, so that it can adequately meet their livelihood requirements.

The third paper studies the welfare impacts of short-term illness shocks on rural producer-consumer households residing in the Semi-Arid Tropic regions of India. The findings indicate that illness shocks are seasonal and short-lived and lead to a significant increase in the total per-capita monthly consumption expenditure due to an increase in illness-induced medical and travel expenditures. Households non-medical, food and non-food consumption expenditures are insensitive to illness shocks. However, there is a compensating decline in expenditure on education and entertainment. The results also suggest that the illness shocks are associated with a significant increase in the probability and the amount of money received by the households in the form of gifts and remittances, borrowings, and asset sales.

The fourth paper discusses the credibility of cash in addressing social inequalities, particularly those related gender and economic inequalities. The study analyzed the impact of "Cash transfers" in the form of scholarships/ cash incentives on the empowerment of adolescent girls and their families. The findings suggest that cash incentives had a positive psycho-social impact on adolescent girls of BPL families. Further, the utilization of the cash demonstrated the pattern of Maslow's Hierarchy of needs, indicating that the basic needs of such girls are unmet. The author suggests that cash incentives should continue to enable and empower these girls in availing the varied opportunities for optimal development.

The fifth paper analyses the impact of PMJDY on the financial behavior of the beneficiaries under PMJDY in rural as well as urban areas of the Madurai district of Tamil Nadu. The PMJDY aims to make all the beneficiaries of this scheme financially literate. The results indicate that the inclusion of the socio-economically disadvantaged groups in PMJDY has led to the significant and positive changes in their financial behavior. While occupation, residential area, duration of PMJDY account and services through Business Correspondents have a significant influence over financial behavior, the variables like gender, age, marital status, qualification, income level, and participation in Financial Literacy Promotion Program do not show any such influence over the financial behavior. Given the influence of Business Correspondents on financial behavior, the authors suggest that the bankers should expand the number of financial services offered through Business Correspondents.

Parallel Session 1: Session 3 - Production Systems, Technology and Sustainability in Agribusiness

Date & Time: 24/08/2021 14:00-15:30

Session Chair: Dr. Sukhpal Singh

Speakers: Abhishek Saxena, Malini L Tantri, Deborah Dutta, Shambu Prasad, Amrita Dhiman, Dr. S Rajeshwaran

The session had five presentations.

The first paper reveals the pressing need for multiple stakeholders to drive Farmer Producer Organizations (FPO) in India. The relevance of a stakeholder theory arises from a review of literature that indicates that FPOs in India have been studied largely from the perspective of transaction cost economics with managerial and strategic rationale based on the agency theory. Most of this comes from the western context of US and Europe. The conditions within which Indian farmers operate, on the other hand, are very different.

The second paper critically evaluates the making of agricultural export policy in the country and the missing thread in its making. The analysis is based on critically evaluating pertinent policy documents, supported by secondary literature and interaction with key stakeholders. Prima facie, the policy seems to be improvised over the then existed AEZ policy but still many caveats are associated with it. The major one includes insufficient infrastructure required to boost agriculture exports, errors in the inclusion and exclusion of product identified under Agricultural Export Policy and issues pertaining to trade facilitation, doing business and capacity building and preparedness at state level.

The third paper observes the tension between experimental and open-ended process of sustainable initiatives and the challenges of governing such processes in the domain of agriculture. Technological innovation in agriculture created some irreversible shifts in India but such increased productivity has not been accompanied by increased incomes. As such, the Government of India has introduced many programs to make agriculture more remunerative. This paper examines the role of an Indian grassroot organization to aid one such government program in Andhra Pradesh.

The fourth paper attempts to analyze the growth of crossbred cattle in the country over the decade. India boasts to be the largest milk producer in the world. One of the major drivers behind the growth in milk production in India has been the replacement of indigenous cows with crossbred cows. However, there is a paucity of information concerning long-term breeding plans, type of frozen semen available and used since the farmers are not involved in the process of selecting the semen. The paper explores the probable reasons for any change from a policy perspective and its implications for the Indian milk market.

The fifth paper ventures to understand if there could be spaces for investments in newer and more modern institutions that could enable the large number of small and marginal farmers to better negotiate with markets to enhance or double their incomes. This comes in the wake of the new farm bills and the extremely polarizing views that come with it.

Parallel Session 2: Session 3 - Infrastructure and Inclusion

Date & Time: 24/08/2021 14:00-15:30

Session Chair: Dr. Arpit Shah

Speakers: Dr. Shailesh Chandra and Mamta Kumari; Dr. Jadhav Chakradhar and Ritika Gupta; Manjunath A N, Dr. Kumar K and Vinay Reddy Venumuddala; Dr. G Raghuram, Rachna Gangwar and Charu Rastogi; Ramakrishna Nallathiga and Dr. Kala S Sridhar

The session had five presentations

The first paper highlights the regional disparities in the view of different railway stations at which the semi-high speed and express trains stop at undesirable travel times after dark. The results indicate that the inequalities

in connectivity and accessibility exist between zones more than between the stations (as cities) of a zone. The authors suggest that Indian Railways should focus on identifying zones for investments that have the most considerable disparity in connectivity and accessibility, and to enhance the service quality offered by the semi-high speed and express trains, their halts at critical stations for passenger boardings/alighting during nighttime and early morning hours should be facilitated with increased first/last mile connectivity.

The second paper examines the role of the economic policy uncertainties on CSR and the financial performance of the firms. The results suggest that during times of economic policy uncertainties (EPUI and EPUG), social capital generated from the prior CSR investments of firms maintains (or generates) competitive advantage and offsets the negative aspects of uncertainty. Moreover, CSR investments are positively associated with firm financial performance, whereas Economic Policy Index India and Economic Policy Index Global cause a decrease in financial performance.

The third paper undertakes a reflexive policy analysis of entrepreneurship policy at two levels: first, at the level of entrepreneurship policy thinking as prevalent in research, and second, at the level of entrepreneurship policy instruments under the Startup India policy in India. At the empirical level, the study mapped the entrepreneurship policy instruments in India, subjected it to a thematic analysis and identified its major characteristics. The identified characteristics indicates that what is categorized under entrepreneurship policy in India is more in the nature of small business policy and consists largely of support in the form of financial incentives and tends to associate entrepreneurship with innovation. At the theoretical level, the authors' review of scholarly thinking on entrepreneurship policy and the analysis of India's entrepreneurship policy flags two important aspects which are under-appreciated in both scholarly thinking and policy practice, "the complexity and diversity of entrepreneurship", and "the essential nature of entrepreneurship as a contextually embedded, iterative, and experimental process in the navigation of uncertainty."

The fourth paper is a critique of the initiative taken for public private partnership in passenger train operations, started by the Ministry of Railways in July 2020. First, the authors examine each of the clusters in terms of parameters having implications on market and design coherence. Second, they analyse the salient features of bid parameters and conditions. Third, they assess the public private partnership initiative and bid conditions on parameters such as drivers for the initiative, market coherence, design coherence, bidding process and timeline, bid criteria, concession period, issues of competition, financial capacity, entry costs, train set features, fare and ticketing, terminals, schedule and stoppages, haulage and other charges and operations & maintenance. Finally, they recommend a way forward for the stakeholders in this public private partnership initiative.

The fifth paper assesses the current status and delivery of civic services in two major cities – Hyderabad and Pune – based on the primary survey of sample households in the above cities. The survey covers most of the dimensions of core civic service delivery in the cities. Besides comparing the service delivery status with the relevant service norms, it also brings out a comparative assessment of civic service delivery between the cities and spells out some learnings for other Indian cities.

Parallel Session 1: Session 1 – Sexuality and Identity in Shifting Institutional Contexts

Date & Time: 25/08/2021 09:00-10:30

Session Chair: Dr. Navdeep Mathur

Speakers: Rohan Bhalla, Karan Babbar, Shreya Sharma, Nikhil Kumar Gupta

Three papers were presented in this session.

The first paper in the session explores the coming out experiences of LGBTQIA+ people and its effects of acceptance or unacceptance by parents and friends. The Supreme Court of India decriminalized homosexuality in 2018. Despite that, the social acceptance of LGBTQIA+ people remain a challenge. The authors attempt to explore two research questions: What are the effects of social (family and friends) acceptance or unacceptance during the coming out experience? How does it affect the mental health and well-being of LGBTQIA+ people?

The second paper examines the relation between homophobic bullying, gender-based bullying and mental health. The results indicated that homophobic bullying was significantly and positively associated with depression. This relationship was partially mediated by gender-based bullying. Hence, there is a need to develop (a) strong

supportive LGBTQIA+ ally groups in educational and professional spaces to ensure safety and support for the bullied (b) create inclusive policies in academic and professional settings to ensure lower levels of bullying in the Indian context.

This third paper seeks to analyze the changing outlook of the Indian state towards the alternate sexualities. The author argues that the state organizations have been making an ab initio mistake by treating the alternate sexualities as a cohesive group. Due to this fundamental error of understanding, the resultant statutes and verdicts prove to be lopsided, and tend to crystallize the identities. A better alternative shall be to understand the idea that gender identity is a floating concept, which cannot be defined through medical certificates.

Parallel Session 2: Session 1 - Diversity, Equality & Social Sustainability

Date & Time: 25/08/2021 09:00-10:30

Session Chair: Dr. Deepak Malghan, IIMB

Speakers: Nilesh Gourkhede; Isha Gupta; Tanu Gupta

The session had three presentations.

The first paper demonstrates the implications of neoliberalism on feminization of teachers working in LFP schools. This study interrogates cost-effectiveness and efficiency arguments of the free-market ideologues and argue that the new precarious, low-paid, and insecure labor market that the LFP sector opens, the burden of this disproportionately falls on women as subjugated members of a patriarchal society. Since the teaching fits into the patriarchal structure, where women can straddle on household and school responsibilities, the predominance of women can be seen in LFP schools. The school which is a site of social change, mechanism of 'market' in education results into reproduction of exploitative structures and practices of work, as a result, it dilutes their identity as a teacher which develops inferior social identity, and this should be a real concern for education policy, practice and theory.

The second paper highlights the importance of kinship roles in determining the labour market decisions for married women. The custom of patrilocal marriage shifts a woman from her natal family to being part of her husband's household. This shift and the associated change in the kinship role has implications for her participation and time use in paid and unpaid work. This study compares the participation decision and time use in different activities of married and unmarried women in India, and finds that the probability of daughters-in-law engaging in paid employment is lower, while the probability of being involved in domestic work is much higher, compared to the unmarried daughters of the same household.

The third paper examines the role of caste and parents perceived social discrimination on human capital development. The study suggests that there are children belonging to lower castes are disadvantaged in terms of parental investments, more likely to drop out of school early, and are less likely to attend private schools. The author finds significant gaps in the students' performances as well as parental investment, between children belonging to lower vs. upper Hindu castes and these gaps originate early in childhood and persist throughout.

Parallel Session 2: Session 2 (Special Track) - Human Development & Inclusion in India

Date & Time: 25/08/2021 11:00-12:45

Session Chair: Dr. Hema Swaminathan

Speakers: Dr. Tulika Tripathi, Reem Ashraf, Debarati Bhattacharya, Dr. K Jafar, Dr. Hippu Salk Kristle

Nathan, Dr. Srijit Mishra, Namita Mathur

This special track aims to address a crucial element of public policy- human development and inclusion. It also tries to assess the subsequent economic and social challenges it poses for academic scholarship and national and global development organisations alike.

Five papers were presented in this special track proposal.

The first paper highlights the lack of inclusive sanitation with availability of clean water, toilet and drainage housing conditions as an important tool for disease prevention and post-disease management. This health crisis is further heightened by events like Covid-19. With over-exhaustion of the health system, interventions have focused on the urgent need for lowering the burden of hospitalization by curtailing severity of the COVID cases, avoiding post-COVID health complications and long-term sustained practices of containing the spread. However, the measures such as social distancing, home quarantine, frequent handwashing and hygiene didn't seem to go through public reasoning and action.

The second paper uses the lens of the capability approach to assess the underpinning perspectives of the housing policies and programs. It investigates how the government's interventions concerning policy, providing incentives to the developers, and enabling easier access to finance can alleviate the persisting housing crisis in India. A case study of Ahmedabad enables the study to decode the issues persistent at the local level. The study engages in Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) to comprehend the policy framework for providing housing to the poor and low-income groups and understand the approach of Centre, State, and the Urban Local Bodies. It is revealed that limited access to formal finance, developer's hesitance of venturing into the segment, the insecurity of the residents in terms of tenure and title ownership impedes the vision of Housing for All.

The third paper largely talks about the unique development model of the Indian state of Kerala. 'Kerala model' of development and 'virtuous growth' can be used as two distinct phases of development- one, to understand how education plays a critical role in the process of migration and two, remittance-driven development that still takes place in Kerala. Migration of workers and inflow of their remittances have affected almost all spheres of Malayalee life and regional development process. This paper tries to revisit the larger model and makes an attempt to highlight some micro evidence and highlight the role of local factors in shaping specific capabilities.

That fourth paper notes that since the 1990s, paradigm of human development and measure of human development index have increasingly become the language of development and change. As societies move up in the ladder of human development, it is imperative to assess whether progress is inclusive of different social groups. This paper conceives an "inclusive progress" zone to assess the inclusivity in human development. The method is applied for India to assess gender inclusiveness in progress along two human development indicators: life expectancy and literacy rate. One of the significant results of the data analysis is that the gender inclusiveness in literacy is more in urban areas than in rural areas, while the opposite is observed in life expectancy. The study also discusses the state-specific progresses in the indicators.

The fifth paper discusses the increasing instances of migration in India and Delhi becoming a host city for migrants all over the country. The study is based on a survey of 300 households in two slums of Delhi. The proxies used for the living conditions were access to health facilities used, subsidized ration, use of banking services, LPG connection and toilet ownership. The survey highlighted the deplorable living conditions of poor migrant households with their dependence on local private doctors for treatment. Lack of PDS portability also led to many of them being denied access to subsidized ration. The paper talks at length about the various findings and different observations across the two slums.

Parallel Session 2: Session 2 - Exploring the Nuances of Politics, Institutions & Governance

Date & Time: 25/08/2021 11:00-12:45

Session Chair: Dr. Vasanthi Srinivasan

Speakers: Abisha Aseervatham, Dr. Madhava Priya D. and Varghese Theckanath; Dr. Jyotsna Jha; Freeda Maria Swarna M and Shaheed Khan; Kaniska Singh and Manav Khaire

The session had four presentations.

The first paper examines the impact of cross border funding on the organizational performance of NGOs and how the Foreign Contribution Amendment (Regulation) Act plays a role in shaping the overall organizational performance. The findings of this study suggests that the legislation as such has not impacted any aspect of organizational performance including perceived financial performance, customer perspectives and the internal processes of the firm. Further, the results indicate that the foreign funding does not make a significant

difference in the perceived financial performance of organizations.

The second paper highlights the problems associated with managing a research NGO in India. The author discusses about the limitations of the different legal frameworks governing the establishment, accountability and the international funding, particularly the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act. Further, it also highlights the lack of transparency in internal research funding in India.

The third paper identifies the policy milestones in the twentieth and twenty-first century in India and the special purpose vehicles (SPVs) introduced to ensure that ecotourism as a practice becomes a significant part of the community as well as of the other stakeholders, who are unique to the ever-growing tourism system. This study is a work in progress and attempts to understand what policies the Federal and the State Governments in India adopt considering that the forests and the protection of wild animals and birds come under the Concurrent List of the Indian Constitution.

The fourth paper examines the disaster management policies in India to understand the dominant policy discourses that have shaped the different problem identifications and the policy solutions offered in the policy texts. This study attempts to understand the discursive constructions of the concept of disaster and its problem representations in the policy texts while identifying the various policy logics that have shaped the problem-solution policy perspective.

Appendix 1

Abstracts

Parallel Session 1: Session 1 (Special Track) - Co-operatives and Collectives Special Track in Honour of Dr. Verghese Kurien

Date & Time: 23/08/2021 11:00-12:45

Session Chair: Dr. Annapurna Neti

Roles and Viability of Farmer Producer Collectives in India

Siva Muthuprakash K M and Archana Chandola

For over a century, collectives were seen as the solution for the plights of small producers and various forms of collectives had been promoted during different decades. Farmer Producers Companies (FPCs) are the one burgeoning during the last decade in a bid to fix the farm produce marketing woes of small and marginal farmers. FPCs are considered to fill the gap in the marketing ecosystem that leads to high transaction cost, exploitative pricing, delayed payments, etc. for smallholder farmers. While there are a countable number of cases of FPCs which have been successful as an enterprise, thousands of them are struggling to get established as a collective enterprise and do any business. In order to address the disconnect among normative imagination of various stakeholders and lack of clarity on the roles of FPCs, we surveyed over 250 FPCs across eight different states to understand the roles and viability of the farmer collectives. The survey was designed to capture the general profile of the farmer members followed by their role in credit/input supply, farm produce marketing, capacity building, infrastructure and value addition in rural agri-market. The findings from the study helps us understand the participation of farmer members in a range of activities. While more than three-fourth of the FPCs engage in input supply, capacity building and marketing activities, less than half of the FPCs involve themselves in infrastructure support or value addition. However, only a quarter of the member farmers benefit from most of these activities. The study explores the relation between various characteristics of the FPCs with that of the business turnover. Despite a multifold increase in the number of farmer shareholders, the turnover stagnates at 5-30 lakhs in majority of the FPCs. The results have captured the strengths, weaknesses and potentials of the farmer collective institutions to an actionable detail that could help promoters and policy makers to strategize the future path of FPCs.

Beyond Leading: Understanding Leadership in Community-Based Organizations

Bikalp Chamola and Shyam Singh

In the Indian context, Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) have been integral to community development programmes initiated by the State and various NGOs. Ranging from membership-based institutional forms (such as Self-Help Groups, Co-operatives and Producer Organizations) to platforms with universal membership (such as Women Groups, Village Development Councils), these CBOs have been instrumental in creating channels through which various services can be delivered, and simultaneously the voice of citizens can be strengthened. Scholars have argued that leadership plays an important role in making these CBOs sustain their collective activities beyond the intervention period (Sanyal, 2009; Subramaniam, 2012). Thus, it is necessary to understand what factors motivate members to occupy these leadership positions and the nature of the decision-making process in CBOs. This paper aims to answer these questions based on our fieldwork in two Self-Help Group Federations, promoted by a leading NGO in the states of Madhya Pradesh and Jharkhand. In utilizing a comparative case study research design, we selected these federations as they provide a wide variation in terms of their socio-cultural contexts (Yin, 2009). We conducted in-depth semi-structured interviews and focus group discussions with leaders of both these federations and attended their meetings. To strengthen our qualitative findings, we also utilized Social Network Analysis (SNA) to understand collective decision-making in one of the federations. The network data was collected through a survey. The network, so defined, included all the leaders in the federation. We analyze this with respect to four essential tasks of leadership in CBOs: information sharing, advice seeking, consultation for addressing the issues, and collaboration for collective and individual benefits. We also analyze the overall network characteristics.

Factors Influencing Sustainability in Collectives: Some Propositions

Sanjiv Phansalkar, Archana Chandola, Bikalp Chamola

Collective organizations, whether formal ("registered") or informal (or even "synthetic"); are formed to give concrete shape to collective actions of members or that organization. The word sustainability refers to the ability of a collective organization to continue to function, remain financially viable and to continue to espouse the institutional values of collective action. Based on studies of literature on the subject as well as field studies conducted by us; eleven propositions about what factors influence the sustainability of collectives are offered in this paper. These are summed up below. It has been argued that often times the gains from the collective action may exceed the costs of bringing the organization into being for some individual and hence she will take the trouble to form the organization. Similar logic may operate for most members to initially join it and participate in the collective action. However, continued participation is problematic. Individual rationality goals a lay member behave in a selfish manner that may run counter to the requisites of collective action and only strong extension or affiliation motives of a few may encourage them to continue working to make the organization effective. However for them to achieve a balance in their individual life while yet leading the collective, "side payments" as discussed by Olson become important. These could be in the nature of enabling them to fulfil their power motivation (if they come from privileged echelons of society) or extension motivation (if they come from marginalized strata. Members of the collective are likely to demonstrate greater loyalty to it if the collective goods offered by the collective contribute to high individual utility but they would need to be subject to negative incentives if these collective goods offer gains in the long term or tend to verge into public goods. Collectives which produce public goods must resign themselves to an "episodic life" unless they supplement these public goods with relatively mundane but periodic services as well. Collectives which emerge in a "swayambhu" fashion from a community are apt to borrow and depend on the leadership structures and norms of that community while collectives which are formed by external facilitators need to strive hard to blend the values of the external facilitators with those of the communities and hence may face perfunctory member participation till that happens.

Factors Influencing Sustainability of Village Organizations of Self-help Groups

Sanjiv Phansalkar, Suresh Sharma and Nirmalya Chowdhury

"Village organizations" (VO) is the term used to describe unregistered village level federal entities of self help groups (SHG) set up under the National Rural Livelihoods Program. A typical village of 500 household may have up to 10 self help groups in it and these together are federated in the Village Organization. Formally, SHG of women are members of the VO and women members of the SHG are indirect members of the VO. The

village organization is a collective organization whose functions are essentially non-economic. It is expected to act as a platform for reaching the SHGs. A study of 35 VO in three districts of Jharkhand was undertaken to identify the factors which influence the performance of the VO and hence influence its sustainability. The study followed a case survey method. Adopting multiple analytical tools while analysing the case survey data, the performance indicators were related to influencing factors to draw inferences about which factors appear to be associated with better performance and hence higher chance of sustainability

Critical Understanding of Building Sustainability in Community Based Organizations (CBOs)

Archana Chandola and Vaishnavi Pawar

Self-help groups and their federations have been operational in the development discourse for more than two decades. SHGs have been considered an optimum tool for a participatory approach for poverty alleviation programmes with women empowerment as core to it. Several scholars have highlighted the benefits of collective action and role of the SHGs in improving the lives and livelihoods of the women in the rural areas. The three-tier structure of these community-based organizations has emerged the platform for collectivising the rural women, as an organizer of community-led development efforts, championing the cause of socio-economic and political empowerment of women. The paper compares the model of collective institution promotion from two states of India, i.e., Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh. Data was collected from 150 village level federations from 6 districts of Uttar Pradesh and 96 Village level federations from 12 districts in Madhya Pradesh. The research survey was conducted using both qualitative and quantitative methods of data collection. The research paper draws learning on the institutional and operational sustainability of collective institutions. It also examines the interplay of community-based institutions (CBOs) with respect to the principles of institutional architecture, empowerment, engagement with social issues and livelihood promotion.

Parallel Session 2: Session 1- Law, Politics and Policy

Date & Time: 23/08/2021 11:00-12:45

Session Chair: Dr. Anil B Suraj

Lead Discussant: M.V. Shiju

Discussants: R. Rajesh Babu and M.P. Ram Mohan

The Rise of Political Consultancy in India

Dr. Ajit Phadnis and Akansh Khandelwal

Around the world, the practice of politics has taken a turn towards "professionalization". A key political actor that is facilitating this change is the political consultant. However, despite the influential role that consultants play in contemporary politics, they have been subject to little scholarly attention. We introduce a study on political consultants for the context of India, a large middle-aged democracy that has seen a growing presence of consultants over the last two decades. The study investigates four main questions: (a) What factors have fueled the growth of political consultancy? (b) What are the characteristics of the industry, such as the number and types of firms and types of clientele? (c) What are the range of services that consultants provide to political clients? (d) How have political consultants grown and evolved over time in the Indian context? The data for the study come from a combination of primary sources such as interviews with political consultants, and secondary sources such as media and industry reports, and personal accounts published by consultants. The study concludes with a forecast of the future of political consultancy in India, and identifies the pain points that are likely to stifle its growth potential.

Policy, Politics and Poor Practices: Analyzing the Linkages between Multiple Narratives and Policy Actors in Haryana

Leelashree Godara

India accounts for the largest number of rural poor and landless households in the world (World Bank, 1997). Despite the conceptual goals and numerous welfare measures to ensure social justice and equality, we as a

nation have remained with a long way to be mapped out to include the marginalized populace into the main streams of development. Keeping in mind the importance of land for the overall sense of security and well-being both for individuals and households, the right to homestead land and housing has been enshrined as a basic human right in international human rights instruments (UDHR, 1948) and treaties (UN-Habitat, 1978) as well as in the Constitution of India as interpreted by the Supreme Court in many of its judgments (Supreme Court [SC] 152, 1997). In the twenty-first century, Indian government take up such initiatives where they use 'Homestead land' as a medium to alleviate poverty among rural poor. Here, we attempt to look into the series of equalizing efforts of the state in terms of landholding shares in the society. Based on the available key literature and provided data (NSSO and BPL surveys), we argue how the allocation of homestead land is an extension of land reforms in rural India. However, the policy is bounded by the objective of uplifting rural poor lives and creating a self-reliant populace.

This article has two objectives. First, it reviews the journey from agrarian land reforms (since 1966) to the homestead land allocation program (2007) in the state of Haryana as a part of the national agenda of equalizing resources and poverty alleviation. Second, to demonstrate the point of poor policy practices and involved ground level institutions and actors at multiple levels of implementing policy.

Dead Letters: A Microanalysis of the State of the Laws

Dr. Srinibas Barik

Civil society and rule of law are inseparable from each other. The association of both was warranted by emerging situations. Human society, in the beginning, was bereft of the laws as the man was living instinctively like animals in the woods. 'Might is right' was the reigning principle as the resources were in short supply and wants were aplenty. Hobbesian 'state of nature' was the closest approximation of the condition of society in which life was 'solitary, poor, nasty, brutish, and short'. Everyone was constantly haunted by a growing sense of uncertainty and insecurity. Such a prolonged entropy obviated the invention of self-imposed discipline in which all individually and collectively undertook to rein in their galloping aspirations. Such common agreement among the proximate members of a community evolved as law for the community and later on further addition to the number of the members and the complexity of such oral agreements paved the way for the codification of the same to render them permanence and inviolability. The objective of this paper is to examine the relevance of the laws, the bedrock of civil society, that were handed down to posterity after so many trials and tribulations. The rampant rape of law across the world in the twenty-first century compellingly sounds the alarm bell for the sustenance of civil society. Varieties of crimes, corruption have a debilitating effect on the public in general even though the culprits are a denigrated few. Complete disregard of the law is pervasive among persons irrespective of their positions and across political systems. Pessimistic reflections on such disheartening denouement are possible in free societies; authoritarian ones are profoundly intolerant.

Time is rife for the people to get reoriented towards law either through a time-tested dose of moral education or by disincentivizing any violation of law through severe punishment or depriving the violators of essential services or rewards due from the state. It is high time for the custodians of law and the conscience-keepers to practice and profess: 'Be ye never so high, the law is above you.'

Parallel Session 1: Session 2 (Special Track) - Environment-Social-Governance: Policy, Trends & Disclosure

Date & Time: 23/08/2021 14:00-15:30

Session Chair: Dr. Arpit Shah

Cross-country Analysis of ESG Regulatory Trends: A Comparative Analysis

Dr. Monica Singhanian

There has been significant progress in the field of Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) investing, with regards to public awareness as well as regulatory governance. Investors are becoming increasingly inclined towards determining a company's long-term value creation plan and receive credibly, standardized data report for assistance in long-term risk assessments. This study examines and reviews the literature on environmental,

social and governance disclosures as well as relevant regulations across countries and analyses the regulatory framework and theoretical framework associated with ESG issues. Existing literature suggests that there has been an overall rise in ESG reporting instruments around the world and focuses on the impact of ESG disclosure on the financial performance of companies. Reporting practices in different countries have evolved in line with changes in regulatory and legislative initiatives in that country. Hence, it is important to gain an understanding of the trends in the international context linking governance structures and companies' disclosure practices. The current study is talking about the cross-country comparison of ESG regulation and policies.

The Role of Foreign Ownership in the Performance Relevance of Environmental and Social Disclosure

Dr. Neha Saini

The purpose of this paper is to establish the relationship between environmental–social disclosure scores and corporate financial performance. The authors tried to investigate the relevance of assurance practice (whether or not companies' assessment policies are subject to individual assessment for the given period) and value relevance in foreign-owned firms. This research is based on accounting-based valuation model proposed by Berthelot et al. (2003), considering the market value of equity as the function of book value and other financial indicators including Return of Assets and Return on Capital Employed. Environmental and social disclosure scores are extracted from Bloomberg database as the measure of company's transparency in reporting value relevance information and sustainable development. The study considers the sample period of 8 years (2008–15) and uses static (fixed effects and random effects) and dynamic (generalised methods of moments (GMM)) panel data estimations for analysing and concluding results.

Non-Financial Disclosure and Firm Risk in Indian Energy Sector

Preeti Roy

The energy sector of an economy is responsible for causing several environmental concerns which are critically evaluated by institutional investors and international regulators. To address this issue, they are expected to contribute towards societal and environment sustainability. The current study focusses on the level of Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) factors (segregated into high and low scores) on the idiosyncratic and systemic risks (CAPM Beta, Fama-Fench 3 factor model and 4 factor model) of Indian energy sector firms. The study uses panel data set of energy firms from 2010-2021, along with fixed and dynamic data models and a non-parametric model of quantile regression to reveal that high level of ESG disclosures reduces the firm risk, while low level of such disclosure increases the firm risk supporting the resource- based view of the firm (Hart 1995; Hasseldine et al. 2005; Toms 2002). This pattern of relationship is found to be substantial during the COVID-19 epoch, indicating that at the time of market uncertainty such voluntary disclosures reduce the risk perception of Indian investors corroborating with Levy, (2020).

Three Decades of Measuring ESG: A Scientometric Analysis

Dimple Gupta

In 21st century, ESG performance significantly affects corporate value. However, there is no consensus as far as its measurement indicators are concerned. The objective of this paper is to provide an in-depth analysis on the tools and processes employed for measuring sustainability or ESG. The analysis was undertaken using 1709 bibliographic records from Web of Science. This study employs a scientometric analysis using CiteSpace to track the evolution and trends of sustainability quantification research from 1992 to 2021, adopting techniques such as co-authorship, keyword, dual-map overlay, subject category analysis, country/ institution analysis, co-citation analysis as well as clustering analysis. The results show how ESG as a research area has progressed from Brundtland Commission's reported classification of principles to emergence of new models and sustainability indicators to measure sustainability. An attempt is made to highlight the need to develop an integrated approach to measure the environment, social and governance dimensions individually as well as, as a whole in order to guide human behavior and formulate sustainable policy decisions.

Parallel Session 2: Session 2 (Special Track) - Lessons Learnt from the Impact of the Pandemic on Economy, Employment & Expenditure: Exploring Common Threads

Date & Time: 23/08/2021 14:00-15:30

Session Chair: Dr. Jyotsna Jha

Discussant: Prof. Narendra Pani

Macro-economic impact of the pandemic on the economy of Chhattisgarh

Madhusudhan BV and Achala Yaraseeme

This study is based on assessing the impact of Covid19 on the economy of Chhattisgarh and presents estimations for three scenarios for the next three years, including the present financial year. It also presents the likely economic policy choices that the state has for reviving the economy.

Exploring the profile and lives of migratory labor in post-pandemic Bangalore

Archana Purohit and Sowmya J

This study is based on a survey of a little less than four hundred workers during March-April, 2021 in industries in Bangalore where the proportion of immigrant workers is high: construction, retail, garment and security. We are looking at issues of income and livelihoods along with access to basic services and impact on aspirations for children's lives.

Public expenditure on children in India: pre and post COVID19 patterns

Sushmitha MV, Shiboni Sundar and Madhusudhan BV

The pandemic has affected children's lives significantly due to school closures, and also due to its impact on parental income and livelihoods. The confinement and lack of mobility has also affected children's lives in more than one way. In this study, we analyze the trends and patterns of public expenditure on children (0-18 years) during pre and post Pandemic period across 16 states. The focus is on gauging any major shifts, if any, in the pattern of public expenditure on children in the post pandemic period, and their linkages with emerging needs.

Incomes, Informality and Instability: Examining Poverty in Indian Household After Covid-19

Nishanth Kumar and Anupama Kumar

India has had considerable recent success in reducing the incidence of poverty. However, COVID-19 has had a profound impact on households in India. Households had experienced distress shortly after the lockdown was announced, primarily because of the restrictions on economic activity. Once the lockdown was lifted, starting in June 2020, studies reported that there was a rapid increase in economic activity. However, the nature of this recovery, especially with respect to employment arrangements is entirely stable. In this paper, we attempt to unpack the impact of COVID-19 on Indian households with respect to incomes, type of employment and coping strategies using data from the Consumer Pyramids Households Survey (CPHS) published by the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE). Although workers in higher income categories do have access to some forms of risk protection, such as health or life insurance, this is not the case for workers in the lowest income categories. Given that workers in the informal sector already have very little access to formal risk protection measures, lower income households are extremely vulnerable to risk in the event of a prolonged shock such as COVID-19. In fact, our research shows that the poorest households resorted to negative coping strategies, such as borrowing from informal sources or reducing consumption, in order to cope with the financial shock of the COVID-19 pandemic. Based on this, we argue that a large number of Indian are vulnerable to the risk of transitory poverty. We recommend that policymakers address this vulnerability in their responses to poverty. In particular, we reason that there is a need for adequate risk protection mechanisms for those in the lowest income distributions in order to prevent a fall into poverty.

Parallel Session 1: Session 1 – Gender Mainstreaming: Analysing Work, Travel & Healthcare Policies

Date & Time: 24/08/2021 09:00-10:30

Session Chair: Dr. Soham Sahoo

Women Riders - In Light of Pink Ticket Policy, A Case of Delhi

Shuktika Sabharwal and Dr. Rutul Joshi

As per the census of India, only 1/3rd of the women use the public transport. Women and girl population are close to 50% of the urban population of India. 73% of the trips in urban areas are made by public modes of transport. But women's share is only 14% and the rest of it is used by men. (Institute, 2019)

The Delhi government's decision to make public transport free for women has opened a debate about the ways in which women access transport and the barriers they face. The objective of this research is to bring out the 'voice of women' through this socio-economic lifting of the barrier on travel and its impact on travel behaviour. The research is carried out by implying qualitative methods. Semi-structured interview were conducted followed by coding of text and narrative analysis.

Public transport and infrastructure are a means which can improve the well-being of the citizens by providing for access to economic and social benefits. And transport infrastructure services are what connects the different sectors of a city together and lead to its development. The study will try to throw light on these impacts, and how the lifting off of the economic barrier has had positive effects of retention of jobs, financial independence, reclaiming and owing public spaces and increased safety as well as the political faith people have on such policies of target groups.

Factors Affecting Gender Parity: Insights, Issues and Interventions

Pramiti Rawat and Hritik Gera

A major gap is observed in the position and stature of men and women at the workplace in terms of recognition, compensation, promotion, etc. Participation of women in the workplace has always been scarce when it comes to India. A popular tool used for promoting gender equality on corporate boards is the gender quota. Thus, by adopting gender quotas Indian corporations represented a step in the right direction but were unable to go far enough. Increasing gender diversity on the board of directors consists of a range of measures from ensuring equal opportunity to improving the performance of the firm. Furthermore, the policies formulated by governments around the world would lay the foundation on which a gender-neutral workplace could be built.

The objective of this paper is to analyse the factors that affect the implementation of public policies with respect to gender parity. Examining this linkage is crucial to better understand the effect of public policies on diversity and inclusion in the workplace. Thus, seventeen variables under the heads of demographic factors, psychological & socio-cultural factors, corporate governance factors, and organizational factors have been selected for the same. The methodology used to examine the effect of public policies of diversity with respect to gender parity in the workplace and develop a causal relationship between the selected factors is the DEMATEL (Decision Making Experiment and Evaluation Laboratory) method. This structural modelling system measures the degree of centrality and causality of the system variables and combines the degrees to select the key factors. For this study, 12 participants were selected using convenience sampling method. The primary data was collected by way of a self-administered matrix questionnaire.

Which Mothers Do We Really 'Care' For? Incorporating an equity analysis framework in the evaluation of public health programmes: The case of Janani Suraksha Yojana in Odisha India

Rohit Shah and Dr. Sarthak Gaurav

Despite improvements in the maternal mortality ratio (MMR; the maternal mortality ratio is the number of estimated or recorded maternal deaths which occur per 100,000 live births) in recent times, India continues to be amongst the three worst-performing countries in the world. While there has been a considerable policy emphasis on reducing maternal and infant mortality through large-scale interventions, the question of utilising an equity analysis framework in the evaluation of such health programmes remains unanswered.

In this paper, we critically examine aspects of multidimensional inequity in public health programme evaluations by focusing on the Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY). An analysis of data from a nationally representative health survey (NFHS-4) for the state of Odisha using a probit estimation model and decomposition indices informs our evaluation framework for addressing inequities in institutional delivery. We find that maternal health outcomes continue to be inequitable in Odisha.

Our findings corroborate our argument, based on intersectionality theory. We further suggest focusing on the need to consider the processes that contribute to these inequities and suggest ways to parameterise them. Accounting for the multidimensional nature of inequity could reduce the inherent biases in the evolution of evaluation frameworks, specifically for the JSY. Such an undertaking could have effects in improving evaluations of public policies more specific to health in India.

Parallel Session 2: Session 1 - Financial Policy & Economic Evaluation

Date & Time: 24/08/2021 09:00-10:30

Session Chair: Dr. Chetan Subramanian

Global Financial Cycle and its Determinants: A VECM Approach

Shikha Malhotra and Dr. Chaya Bagrecha

In this research paper, we study in detail the determinants that have the potential to drive Global Financial Cycle (GFCy). Researchers and Policy Makers are giving a lot of attention to it due to its role in influencing financial conditions in the Emerging Market Economies (EMEs). The influence of GFCy on EMEs is a manifestation of the increasing integration of financial markets of these economies with the world markets. The presence of this cycle has several policy implications. This gives enough motivation to study this in detail as it has repercussions for small developing and emerging economies. The accommodative monetary policy decisions taken by advanced economies, particularly the US after the global financial crisis created abundant liquidity in the financial system which was directed towards emerging economies in search of higher yields. The announcement of rolling back of those policies later made a sudden reversal of the financial flows from those markets. These sudden surges and reversals had a considerable impact on the financial conditions and business cycles of many EMEs. Implications of such policies and the spillover effects particularly on smaller economies have largely been discussed in the literature but there is only a partial consensus on their impact. Other global shocks also have the potential to impact the GFCy and thus the financial conditions of developing and EMEs. To strengthen the existing literature, it is very important to explore other global shocks that can have a role in driving the GFCy. Some other global factors that could affect the volatility of global markets can be global economic and political news that reflect the uncertainty globally and also global economic output. Therefore, to study the other determinants of GFCy, global economic output (indicated by OECD Industrial Production Index), Oil Prices and global uncertainty (Global Economic Policy Uncertainty Index) along with Global Liquidity indicator (BIS 2017) have been taken into account.

Social Relations and R&D Networks in Oligopoly

Anurag Kakkar and Debabrata Pal

In this paper, we study, how exogenously given social relations (such as friendship, trustworthiness, kinship) among the firm owners/managers/employees influence the formation of R&D collaboration network among the firms. In our framework, firms, prior to competing in the market, invest in R&D collaborations with other firms which leads to lower costs of production. The extent of reduction in cost depends on the amount of investment and the indirect benefit (spillover) that the firm owner enjoys due to his social relations with other firm owners. We capture these social relations by a network (we call it trust network). We study the influence of trust network on firm's decision to form collaborative links, and the architecture of the resulting Nash collaboration network generated by the equilibrium investment strategies of the firms. We further examine, how the architectures of Nash collaboration networks change as the structure of underlying trust network changes. We show, in the equilibrium firms do not only collaborate with trusted partners (friends). The structures of Nash networks are such that firms collaborate either with a firm who is a trusted partner or with all the existing firms. We introduce a notion of pairwise stability and analyze efficiency and stability of the Nash R&D networks.

Fiscal Decentralization & Healthcare in India

Dr. Sandeep Sharma, Dr. Maneeta Jain and Dr. Mampi Bose

Relationship between fiscal decentralization and health care is a neglected area of research in a country like India where health service delivery is the function of sub-national governments (states), but the central government also plays an important role. States spend on healthcare service delivery through its own revenue and fund transferred from central pool of fund. Centre's contribution in state health is channelized primarily through the National Health Mission (NHM) – a centrally sponsored scheme. The center and state governments spend in a fixed ratio for financing NHM. States' expenditure on health can be categorized under two groups, viz. NHM and non-NHM component. After commencement of the 14th Finance Commission (FC), there was a significant change in the financing patterns of states as the 14th FC in 2015 recommended higher devolution of fund to states along with an increase in states' share in NHM. The implication of these policy changes was not very effective as in one hand states were bestowed with additional untied fund which they could use for any purpose, but, on the other hand, with an increase in their share on NHM, they were left with very little of that additional untied fund for other purposes. Before the implementation of the 14th Finance Commission, centre and state ratio was 75:25 in NHM and after 14th FC it was changed to 60:40 ratio (except for hilly states where it remains as before (90:10)). Given this background this paper investigates how the changes brought out by the 14th FC have impacted the health financing at the state level.

Parallel Session 1: Session 2 (Special Track) - Co-operatives & Collectives Special Track in Honour of Dr. Verghese Kurien

Date & Time: 24/08/2021 11:00-12:45

Session Chair: Dr. Rajalaxmi Kamath

Is the AMUL model possible in pulses?: The case of Hasnabad Farmer Service Producer Company Limited

Ajit Kanitkar and C. Shambu Prasad

In November 2015, Mr. Arvind Subramanian, Chief Economic Advisor to the Government of India, while delivering the fourth Verghese Kurien memorial lecture at the Institute of Rural Management, Anand (IRMA) articulated a vision wherein he had hoped for an 'AMUL type revolution' in pulses. Such a 'yellow revolution' would give a remunerative return to farmers as it had done in milk.² Was an AMUL type intervention in pulses possible? Would the farmer organisations in the country be successful in making this dream a reality in rainfed areas?

This case presents the overwhelming challenges in promoting, nurturing, and making sustainable, smallholder women farmers-owned and managed Farmer Producer Company (FPC) in Telangana, seeking to increase incomes from their pulses crop.

Dynamics of Incubating a Multi-community, Multi-commodity, Multi-location, FPO: The Case of Krishidhan Producer Company in Gujarat

Astad Pastakia and Sachin Oza

Krishidhan Producer Company Ltd. (KPCL) was incubated by Development Support Center (DSC), Ahmedabad, a CSO well known for its work in participatory irrigation management and watershed development. Registered in December 2013 it covers 190 villages from Aravalli, Sabarkantha, Mahesana and Amreli districts of Gujarat. It is a multi-commodity, multi-community, multi-location farmer producer company (FPC), which has been recognized at the state and national levels. KPCL was visualized as an integral part of a strategy to revive agriculture in central and northern districts of Gujarat, which was becoming unviable on account of excessive and indiscriminate use of chemical inputs. With financial support from RBS Foundation over a period of ten years, DSC drew up its plans in three phases. Even before establishing the company, it first created an agri-extension system in five clusters that exposed 45,000 farmers to technology for “responsible farming” through sustainable agricultural practices.

The study describes KPCL's six year journey - its unique features, achievements and challenges. It attempts to capture the process of incubation and the role played by its foster institution, DSC. It brings out the social nature of the institution, where the social returns need to be balanced with commercial viability. At the same time, it brings out the challenges of building such an institution and protecting it from external forces that seek to undermine its efforts when threatened by its success. Thereby it provides valuable lessons for facilitating multi-location, multi-region and multi-commodity FPCs.

Krishi Bagwani Swawlambi Sahakari Samiti Limited (KBSSSL): Adaptive management and convergence in an all-women tribal collective

Gautam Prateek, Pranamesh Kar and Debanjan Ghatak

In 2003, when farmer collectives gained renewed policy attention, Krishi Bagwani Swawlambi Sahakari Samiti Limited (KBSSSL) was conceived as an all-women collective in the tribal-dominated Palkot block in Gumla, Jharkhand. The operational area of KBSSSL faces the usual challenges of rainfed agriculture, such as low income and out-migration, coupled with lesser outreach of markets and state administration, and reported influence of left-wing extremism. Although the hilly terrain and water availability limit agriculture in this region, the majority of the tribal population continues to depend on agriculture for livelihood. Notwithstanding the constraints, and drawing upon the existing members of self-help groups, KBSSSL was established in 2003 as an agricultural cooperative. Although KBSSSL started with 243 members and a grant of rupees two lakh, it has grown into a collective with 2680 members, 52.92 lakh (INR) turnover, and share capital of 14.06 lakh (INR) as of 31st March 2020, spread across 198 villages in four blocks of Gumla. Input sales constitute the major chunk of KBSSSL's revenue presently, and on the output side, it majorly deals with the marketing of paddy, mangoes, and tomatoes. Over the years, KBSSSL has procured licenses for the sale of certified seeds, fertilizer, pesticide, as well as mandi license from APMC and FSSAI certified products. The evolution of this collective from an informal set of groups to a formal body has involved substantial support from PRADAN. Around 2013, withdrawal of financial support had unsettled the finances of KBSSSL, but its increasing membership and diversification into the marketing of high-value crops of late have been promising. Overall, this case offers lessons in the utilization of existing community institutions and resources, adaptation with changing socio-economic-demographic conditions, and convergence with the state's developmental policy. It also raises critical questions around the long-term sustainability of smallholder agriculture and the role of farmer collectives beyond intermediaries.

Poultry as a Livelihood Opportunity – Two Case Studies – Kesla and Suguna

Dr. Sankar Datta

The Rajiv Gandhi Institute for Contemporary Studies (RGICS), a knowledge affiliate of the Rajiv Gandhi Foundation has five focal themes, one of which is Growth with Employment. Under that theme, agriculture including allied activities is one of the sub-themes, since this sector was the largest source of livelihoods but most of those were not adequately remunerative. In order to increase farmers' incomes, it is necessary not only to help them increase their productivity, but also to help them diversify into crops and allied activities which help generate more income. Poultry is one of those allied activities. The demand for poultry products – eggs

and meat – has been growing faster than that for cereals and pulses and with some precaution, it can be quite remunerative for producers.

Beyond Promotion: Need for Effective Incubation of Producer Companies

Annapurna Neti and Richa Govil

There has been a push to register new Producer Companies in the wake of the central government scheme for “Formation and Promotion of 10,000 Farmer Produce Organizations (FPOs)” announced in February 2019 and operationalised in July 2020. The scheme commits Rs. 6865 crore towards promotion of 10,000 new FPOs registered as producer companies or cooperatives (GOI 2021, GOI 2020). This is in addition to 7374 producer companies which had already been registered by the time of the announcement, as of March 2019 (Neti et al 2019).

This rush to register new companies seems to ignore the learnings from promotion and operation of farmer producer companies (FPCs) during the last 18 years. Previous studies have highlighted significant challenges faced by producer companies in their early years.

This paper discusses the impact of these recent policies and schemes on PCs, especially on their institutional challenges. It also describes some key characteristics of producer companies, particularly those registered in the last 2 years. The paper is based on the authors’ ongoing study of producer companies, including a) an analysis of all producer companies registered in the country as of March 2021, b) over a hundred interviews with stakeholders of FPCs, and c) a review of recent acts and policy documents affecting producer companies.

Parallel Session 2: Session 2 - Financial Inclusion: Policies, Innovation & Challenges

Date & Time: 24/08/2021 11:00-12:45

Session Chair: Jyotsna Jha

Evaluation of Financial Inclusion in villages of India: Precursor to Digital Gaon

Nishi Malhotra and Dr. Pankaj Baag

Financial Inclusion refers to making banking and financial services available at the door steps of the citizens of India. There has been lot of research at the Macro level to identify the various factors that lead to adoption for technology for the purpose of banking and availing financial services. But there is no study on the factors that impact the adoption of technology and Formal banking services in India. A large section of population in India still uses the Informal Banking channel such as Money Lender, Relatives and Friends which leads to difficulties in availing the financial services. Qualitative Research and within that Grounded Theory has been used for the purpose of research and analysis. Direct Interview has been used for the purpose of collection of data from the participants across 11 different villages. Hypothesis testing, regarding the factors that impact the adoption of the technology, reasons for the lack of usage of Kisan Credit Cards and factors that impact the implementation of the Financial Inclusion program. The study highlights that level of Financial and Digital literacy has improved in India and the Kisan Credit Card scheme faces various problems in implementation such as corruption and bribes at the Bank level and lack of financial literacy and information about the financial schemes. This study concludes that with the adoption of a comprehensive financial inclusion program implementation of Financial Inclusion can be improved.

Does the pension programme help in achieving health outcomes and related capabilities among widows? A case of Ganga Swarupa Aarthik Sahay Yojana in Gujarat

Dr. Amrita Ghatak, Dr. Itishree Pattnaik and Dr. Jharna Pathak

Widowhood restricts women in many ways to avail and access opportunities in many aspects of livelihood and autonomy of decision-making capabilities. While the socio-economic challenges of widows are of one kind the same challenges are often valid even in case of single women who are unmarried.

Using unit level data from NSSO 2014 (health and morbidity), information from NFHS 2015, and data collected through a primary survey of 1659 widows interviewed from November 2020 to April 2021 from six selected districts in Gujarat, this paper analyses the status of health and nutrition among widows. It further analyses the implications of health on the economic well-being of women in general and widows in particular. It makes an attempt to ascertain how the Ganga Swarupa Aarthik Sahay Yojana (GSASY henceforth) contributes to improve the health status and health related capabilities of widows in this state. While the paper focuses on widows, it also considers the cases of divorced/separated/deserted and never married women to explore and compare the implications of health on the well-being and capabilities among adult single women.

Smoothing Consumption in Times of Sickness: Household Recourse Mechanisms

Abhishek Dureja

In this paper, we study the welfare impacts of short-term illness shocks on rural producer-consumer households residing in the Semi-Arid Tropic regions of India. These regions are characterized by missing markets for credit, risk and insurance and have limited access to publicly funded healthcare infrastructure. We find that illness shocks are seasonal and short-lived and lead to a significant increase in the total per-capita monthly consumption expenditure. This increase in per capita expenditure is driven by the illness-induced increase in medical expenditures. However, households non-medical, food and non-food consumption expenditures are insensitive to illness shocks. Upon disaggregation of non-food expenditures, we find that there is a significant increase in illness induced travel expenditures to seek healthcare and a compensating decline in expenditure on education and entertainment. Finally, we find some evidence that illness shocks also change the household dietary diversity and are associated with an increase in the number of gifts and transfers from other non-cohabitant family members and borrowings from informal sources in order to cope with increased medical expenses.

Cash Transfers for Social Equality - Experience in India

Dr. Dipjyoti Konwar and Dr. Vinita Bhargava

Indian society is primarily unequal in nature and in almost every area inequality is visible; be it culturally (caste wise), socially (work wise), economically (class wise) and gender wise. Moreover, poverty is rampant among so called lower castes in Hindu majority society. Minorities also face similar issues.

In this paper, the potential of cash transfers (CT) to address social inequalities especially gender and economic inequality have been discussed. The author did her doctoral research in the states of Assam and Delhi to understand the impact of cash transfers given in the form of scholarships to adolescent girls (15-19 years old) (n=180). The main hypothesis of the study was that "Cash transfers" in the form of scholarships/ cash incentives are likely to empower families with adolescent girls and provide them with new opportunities for development and thus boosting the capabilities of the specific population. Majority of the sample belong to the BPL category. Personal structured interviews were conducted along with administering of WHO Subjective Well-being Inventory (SUBI) by Sell and Nagpal (1993).

The most important finding from the study was the psycho-social impact reported by the adolescent girls who had received cash. Their shared lived experiences suggested instances of hope, resilience, and confidence in life. The reported utilization of the cash demonstrated the pattern of Maslow's Hierarchy of needs (1943). That implies adolescent girls of BPL families still in dearth of fulfillment of their basic needs. The national statistics of infant mortality, maternal mortality and morbidity are poor. Adolescent girls are the future of the next generations. It is imperative to enable and empower her to avail of the varied opportunities for optimal development. It is in the effective convergence and consistency of delivery of services and facilities including that of cash transfer, that the Government of the day can claim its true commitment to one of the most vulnerable sections of the population.

Impact of PMJDY on Financial Behavior of its Beneficiaries: An Empirical Study in Madurai District of Tamil Nadu.

Dr. S Ramesh Kumar

This paper makes an attempt to analyze the impact of PMJDY on the financial behavior of the beneficiaries under PMJDY in rural as well as urban areas in Madurai district of Tamil Nadu. The Multi-stage Proportionate Random Sampling Technique has been employed to select 150 beneficiaries each from rural (Usilampatti) and urban (Thirunagar) branches of Canara Bank in the study area. The statistical tools such as percentage analysis, mean, standard deviation, factor analysis, one-way ANOVA and t-test have been employed to analyze the data. The results show that bringing the socio-economically disadvantaged groups under the ambit of PMJDY has led to the significant and positive changes in their financial behavior. The application of the factor analysis approach has classified the financial behavioral variables into five different factors, namely, digital, financial, borrowing, investment and savings factors of which the borrowing and investment factors top the list in terms of impact of PMJDY on financial behavior of the beneficiaries. While occupation, residential area, duration of PMJDY account and services through Business Correspondents (BCs) have a significant influence over financial behavior, the variables like gender, age, marital status, qualification, income level, and participation in Financial Literacy Promotion Program (FLPP) do not show any such influence over the financial behavior.

Parallel Session 1: Session 3 - Production Systems, Technology & Sustainability in Agribusiness

Date & Time: 24/08/2021 14:00-15:30

Session Chair: Dr. Sukhpal Singh

Managing for sustainability: Applying stakeholder theory to farmer producer organisations

Abhishek Saxena

The increasing importance of value chains and markets in increasing producers' income, reflects the changing contexts of agrarian systems in the twenty-first century. FPOs are business enterprises with an aim to link the members to the market and put a greater share of the consumer rupee in their pocket. However, these organisations are farmer-owned enterprises often dealing in multiple products with limited understanding of business and markets and are low on equity capital. They also are short on skilled managerial staff and are supposed to be built on cooperative principles yet function like private companies. Tackling the complexity thus arising requires other stakeholders that may include, promoting institutions, government agencies, financing institutions, private buyers and forward partners, APMC mandis, academic institutions etc. Examined from a stakeholder theory lens, the FPO is an organisation that is embedded in a system consisting of several other entities.

Interesting questions emerge from the stakeholder perspective, such as how does the FPO co-evolve with the other stakeholders within a given context? How do the stakeholders change with time? How easy or difficult is it to balance social and ecological goals with financial ones? Last but not the least, how do member farmers, the primary stakeholders (and shareholders) of the FPO, benefit from the interaction with other stakeholders? How Ram Rahim Pragati Producer Company Limited (RRPPCL) has been able to turn into profitable enterprise, while never losing sight of their ecological and social commitments can provide pointers for policy level discussion.

Locating the Missing Thread in the Making of the Agriculture Export Policy in India

Dr. Malini L Tantri

In terms of global agriculture production, India stands second, whereas with 2.2 percent share in global exports it ranks ninth position. Domestically, agricultural exports' contribution to India's GDP is lower than 2 percent, lower than other developing agrarian countries. Brazil and Indonesia, for example, the 3rd and 6th respectively in terms of world agri-exports in 2016 contributed 4 percent respectively to their GDPs and Argentina, another leading agro-exporter, saw Agri exports contribute to nearly 7 percent of its GDP in 2016 (TPCI, 2018). In

addition to this, the share of agriculture sector in the country's total exports has declined marginally from 12.07 percent (2016-17) to 11.76 per cent (2018-19) (Press Information Bureau, 2019). Reasons for such patterns are attributed to lower prices and demand in the international market, unfavourable currency movements and international developments like sanctions against Iran and Russia. In addition to this, gross value added from agriculture has declined from 17.75 percent in 2013-14, to 14.6 percent in 2018-19 (MoFPI, 2019). All these are attributed to lower farm income in India.

This paper critically evaluates the making of agricultural export policy in the country. The argument is started with the poser on the effectiveness of the existing policy tools, this is followed by clarifying the contours of making of the agriculture export policy in India and locating the missing threads. The rest of the paper is organized as follows. The second section presents the making of agriculture export policy in India and major issues affecting them. The last section summarises the paper.

Developing the policy landscape for inclusively responsible agriculture: Exploring the management of sustainable transitions

Deborah Dutta and C Shambu Prasad

This paper explores the tensions between the experimental and open-ended process of sustainable initiatives and the challenges of governing such processes in the domain of agriculture. The tensions are analysed from two angles: resistance to alternate forms of knowledge systems and implementing grassroots practices through partnership with formal governance processes.

This paper makes a theoretical contribution through tracing the innovative initiatives of an Indian grassroots organisation known as Rythu Sadhikara Samstha (RySS) (Corporation for Farmers' Empowerment). RySS implements the Zero-Budget Natural Farming (ZBNF) Program of the Government of Andhra Pradesh. This unique program is redefining farmers' relationship with the land through implementing a host of practices derived from agroecological practices. RySS has invested in grassroots capacity building through creating community-resource people as well as implementation experts, who are often young graduates from the State Agri Universities. These initiatives have opened newer channels of dialogue and created fertile grounds (literally and metaphorically) for changing power relations, building agency and dismantling older knowledge structures. Using the findings, our paper attempts to push collective understanding on: How do institutional innovations unsettle established practices? How can symbiotic relationships be developed between formal organisations and field experts? We argue that these considerations play a central role in conceptualising normative actions within complex, socio-technical systems.

Indiscriminate breeding in cattle: An alarm for Indian Milk Market

S Rajeshwaran and Amrita Dhiman

India enjoys the glory of being the largest milk producer in the world. Three types of cattle contribute to milk production in India. They are buffaloes, indigenous cows and crossbred cows.

Replacement of indigenous cows with crossbred cows has been the single major driver behind the growth in milk production in the country, over half a century. This is with the assumption that replacement of low milk yielding animals with high milk producers is the quickest way to increase milk production and make the country self-sufficient. Else, we would have become permanently dependent on imported milk powder, adversely affecting our forex position as has happened in our neighbouring country, Sri Lanka.

Crossbreeding did increase milk production as desired in quick time. But there is paucity of information concerning long-term breeding plans, types of frozen semen available and used. Further, there is absence of involvement of the farmer in the choice of semen. As a result, subsequent generations after F1 not only had limited incremental increase in milk yield but also suffered from infertility and morbidity problems.

Government of India expects milk production in the country to grow at 12% per annum and reach 330 million tons (MT) by 2024 from the 188 MT in 2018-19. Our analysis of five Quinquennial livestock census shows that the Y-o-Y growth rate of adult female crossbred cows steadily declined from 7.7% (1996-2003) to 5.0% per annum (2012-19). This reduced growth rate was compensated by increased growth rate of young heifer stock, which increased from 3.7% to 8.1% in the same two periods, respectively. As a result, total female crossbred

cow population grew at about 6% (2007-19).

This incongruence between the growth rate of crossbred cows and expected growth rate in milk production raises question on the future of self-sufficiency (atmanirbharta) of India in milk as a commodity.

The paper is an attempt to analyse the growth of crossbred cattle over the last two decades, exploring the probable reasons for any change from a policy perspective and its implications for the Indian milk market.

Consultation or Consultants? The Changing Nature of State Capacity in Agriculture

C. Shambu Prasad

The continued farmers protests against the new farm bills of the Government reflects a significant shift in policymaking in agriculture in India. The bills, even if well intentioned, were rushed through without consultations in the Parliament, state governments or farmers and their representatives, and have been much discussed. As protests mounted the supporters of the farm bills often would invoke the new opportunities provided to Farmer Producer Organisations (or FPOs) through the farm bills. Between the extreme views of the '1991 moment for reforms in agriculture' supporting the farm bills and the corporate takeover of agriculture by the opponents, are there spaces for investments in newer, and more modern, institutions that could enable the large number of small and marginal farmers to better negotiate with markets to enhance or double their incomes? The operational guidelines for the 10,000 FPO policy were also released in July 2020 and, unlike the farm bills, have received little attention. The Guidelines and the events leading to it is important for it reflects the everydayness of policymaking in India today and the inability of the, increasingly centralised, state to augment its own capacity to meet the needs of farmers.

The FPO movement in India is a twenty first century phenomenon. With globalisation and for rural producers to be as equal partners in new economy, The High-Powered Committee for cooperative business into companies, under the leadership of Y K Alagh, that had members from the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB), felt the need for newer Institutions that would link the rural economy with new opportunities. Institutions that could market produce in modern and professional manner and yet retain the cooperative ideals as they found in many countries like Denmark, Zimbabwe or the United States even. The subsequent bill and change in the Companies Act has led to a gradual growth in formation of Farmer Producer Companies, or FPCs, since. The last decade though has seen a spurt largely through public policy support through the Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium (SFAC), an institution set up in 1991 but was dormant for two decades from 2011 and later through the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) since 2013-14 onwards. These new institutions set up since had many positive features. They involved Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) with good grassroot presence to mobilize farmers into collectives and unlike the earlier Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies (PACS) that were predominantly in a few states and largely represented by larger farmers, the newer FPOs were more inclusive with predominance of small and marginal farmers, spread across the country and had institutions where tribal and women farmers had potentially more voice (Prasad, 2019).

Parallel Session 2: Session 3 - Infrastructure and Inclusion

Date & Time: 24/08/2021 14:00-15:30

Session Chair: Dr. Arpit Shah

Inequalities in connectivity of Indian Railway zones with semi-high speed and express trains

Dr. Shailesh Chandra and Mamta Kumar

The passenger rail network in India managed, operated, and maintained by the Indian Railways is quite vast and extensive – both in terms of infrastructure and service. The network infrastructure has been expanding steadily over the recent years, with more than sixty-seven thousand kilometers of route lengths recorded in 2019. A significant percentage of rail ridership has been facilitated by the long-distance semi-high speed and express trains – namely, the Rajdhani Express, Duronto Express, Shatabdi Express, and other superfast trains of the Indian Railways. These trains operate across and within the 17 demarcated zones of the Indian Railways and provide critical connectivity and accessibility - both used as economic indicator measures - to rail ridership.

This research examines the regional disparity in these two measures of the Indian rail service network of the various railway zones of India. The focus is to highlight these disparities in the view of different railway stations at which the semi-high speed and express trains stop at undesirable travel times after dark. The Theil's T index, suitable for examining both the between-zone and within-zone disparities, has been deployed to measure regional inequality. Analysis shows that the between-zone disparity, measured with the index, was found to be much higher than the with-in zone disparity for both the 'with' and 'without' undesirable travel times – indicating that the inequalities in connectivity and accessibility exist between zones more than between the stations (as cities) of a zone. Other specific findings and policy recommendations have also been provided in this paper, which will help assist in investment decisions of the Indian Railways for critical zones needing attention in service provided by the semi-high speed and express trains.

Corporate Social Responsibility and Firm Financial Performance: A Moderating Effect of Economic Policy Uncertainty

Dr. Jadhav Chakradha and Ritika Gupta

Assessing the impact of CSR has recently gained momentum over the world. Most related literature examines how CSR investments affect financial performance without considering the nexus under commonly uncertain times. However, Economic policy uncertainty imposes profound impacts on firm financial performance and CSR. Therefore, taking a more refined approach, our paper examines the role Economic and policy uncertainty on Return on Equity and across ten years for NIFTY 100 firms. The panel data fixed effect regression model employed to explore the nexus between EPU, CSR and ROE. The System-GMM estimation technique also used to tackle the issue of endogeneity and to correct the problem of heteroscedasticity and autocorrelation in fixed effect regression model. The empirical evidence suggests that during uncertain periods, prior CSR investments act as a social capital reservoir and improve firm financial performance. Moreover, CSR investments are positively associated with firm financial performance, whereas EPU in India and EPU Globally cause a decrease in financial performance. In addition to this, the observed coefficients of the interaction terms (CSR*EPU) and (CSR*EPU) are also positive and significant at 10 percent and 5 percent, respectively. Further, the results were consistent for firms belonging to highly visible sectors and more sensitive sectors. These novel findings would help government, corporate policymakers, individual investors and managers to better understand and minimize the losses due to uncertainty.

Taming the beast versus nurturing the beast: Rethinking Entrepreneurship Policy

Manjunath A N, Dr. Kumar K and Vinay Reddy Venumuddala

Entrepreneurship as a focus area of policy has gathered significance across the world in recent years. In India too, in line with this trend, a slew of policy instruments has been brought about by both the Central and State governments under the umbrella of the "Startup India" initiative. However, the policies are yet to be critically analyzed and commented upon. Our objective in this paper is three-fold. Our first objective is to review the literature on entrepreneurship policy and comment on the extent of internalization of the theoretically understood and empirically verified core of entrepreneurial processes- navigating uncertainty - within its framework. Our second objective is to analyze the policy instruments under India's entrepreneurship policy as a test case of how aligned the contemporary entrepreneurship policy is to the phenomenon of entrepreneurship as it is practiced. Finally, based on such a review and analysis, to propose policy prescriptions that align with the core function of navigating uncertainty – despite the complex and diverse nature of the process of entrepreneurship.

At the empirical level, our analysis shows that what is categorized under entrepreneurship policy in India is more in the nature of small business policy, largely consists of support in the form of financial incentives, tends to associate entrepreneurship with innovation and has less focus on growth stage and social network of ventures. At the theoretical level, our review of extant thinking on entrepreneurship policy brings together the thoughts of scholars typically inspired by economics with that of organizational theory scholars. We argue that these streams of thought that shape entrepreneurship policy have been under appreciative of the complexity and diversity of entrepreneurship, its contextual embeddedness and iterative and experimental nature in the navigation of uncertainty. To overcome this gap, we propose policy mechanisms of 'bearing' and 'breezing' and argue that their inclusion could be an improvement in making entrepreneurship policy more relevant to the phenomenon of entrepreneurship.

A Critique of the Initiative for Public Private Partnership in Passenger Train Operations

Dr. G Raghuram, Rachna Gangwar and Charu Rastogi

In this paper, we critique the initiative for public private partnership in passenger train operations, started by the Ministry of Railways in July 2020. First, we examine each of the clusters in terms of parameters having implications on market and design coherence. The parameters include category of service (based on running time), train kms per week, train hours per week and average speed. Second, we present the salient features of bid parameters and conditions as per the documents released by the Ministry of Railways. Third, we assess the public private partnership initiative and bid conditions on parameters such as drivers for the initiative, market coherence, design coherence, bidding process and timeline, bid criteria, concession period, issues of competition, financial capacity, entry costs, train set features, fare and ticketing, terminals, schedule and stoppages, haulage and other charges and operations & maintenance. We also draw lessons from our understanding of the public private partnership experience of container train operators, where applicable. Finally, we suggest a way forward for the stakeholders in this public private partnership initiative.

Assessing the Status and Delivery of Urban Civic Services: A Study of two Indian Cities

Ramakrishna Nallathiga and Dr. Kala S Sridhar

The provision of urban civic services is of paramount importance for the cities to sustain the population growth and the concentration of economic activities. Service norm/ standards have been developed to provide civic services by cities. The current status of civic services in the cities is now made with reference to such service norms/standards in order to gauge the performance of service delivery institutions. This paper attempts to assess the current status and delivery of civic services in two major cities – Hyderabad and Pune – based on the primary survey of sample households in the above cities. The questionnaire survey covered most of the dimensions of core civic service delivery in the cities. Besides comparing the service delivery status with the relevant service norms, it also brings out a comparative assessment of civic service delivery between the cities and spells out some learnings for other Indian cities.

Parallel Session 1: Session 1 – Sexuality & Identity in Shifting Institutional Contexts

Date & Time: 25/08/2021 09:00-10:30

Session Chair: Dr. Navdeep Mathur

Social Support and Acceptance Promotes Mental Health and Wellbeing: Exploring the Coming out Experiences of LGBTQIA+ Community

Rohan Bhalla and Karan Babbar

The LGBTQIA+ community is considered a marginalised and vulnerable section of society. The community struggled for equity and fundamental rights against the discrimination and victimisation imposed by society for a long time. The atrocities, abuse, and sufferings of the sexual minorities made them prone to mental health anomalies. Disorders like stress, depression, anxiety, and PTSD are common in these people. The Indian LGBTQIA+ community is identified as one of the 12 groups that are least represented in health equity research. Over a period, the legal institutions and policymakers devised some measures for improving the social stature and living conditions of the LGBTQIA+ community, particularly in western countries. However, in India, it is recent that the Supreme Court decriminalised homosexuality that has enforced a sense of freedom and acceptance amongst the LGBTQIA+ community. Still, the social acceptance of this community remains a challenge. Research reports that community people require social support and acceptance wherein institutes like family and peer group can play a significant role in promoting mental health, well-being, and self-development. Post decriminalisation of homosexuality, many people are coming out about sexual orientation, but little is known about their acceptance or unacceptance and its effects.

This study explores the coming out experiences of LGBTQIA+ people and its effects of acceptance or unacceptance by parents and friends. The authors selected two research questions: What are the effects of

social (family and friends) acceptance or unacceptance during the coming out experience? How does it affect the mental health and well-being of LGBTQIA+ people?

Understanding the complex relationships between Homophobic Bullying and Depression: A moderated mediation approach

Karan Babbar and Shreya Sharma

Although homophobic bullying has been shown to play an important role in poor mental health outcomes, especially depression, little is known about the mediating and moderating role underlying this mechanism. Thus, as a part of this study, we try to understand whether gender-based bullying mediated the relationship between homophobic bullying and depression and whether the self-concept moderated this mediating process. A sample of 431 respondents, 18 years and above, were surveyed through online mode to understand homophobic bullying and its implications on the mental health of the people who identify as LGBTQIA+. The results indicated that homophobic bullying was significantly and positively associated with depression. This relationship was partially mediated by gender-based bullying. Moderated mediation analysis further revealed that self-concept moderated the relationship between gender-based bullying and depression. This relationship became stronger for LGBTQIA+ individuals with higher levels of self-concept. Hence, there is a need to develop (a) strong supportive LGBTQIA+ ally groups in educational and professional spaces to ensure safety and support for the bullied (b) create inclusive policies in academic and professional settings to ensure lower levels of bullying in the Indian context.

A Riddled Restitution - the Indian journey from the recognition of the third gender towards LGBTQ

Nikhil Kumar Gupta

This paper seeks to analyze the changing outlook of the Indian state towards the alternate sexualities. It is proposed to be done through a critical study of the legal texts and court verdicts affecting the fate of the alternate sexualities. The paper also seeks to contemplate the areas and reasons that might result in the feeble impact, if not a failure altogether, of the state initiatives. Throughout the paper, I shall argue that the state organizations have been making an ab initio mistake by treating the alternate sexualities as a cohesive group. Due to this fundamental error of understanding, the resultant statutes and verdicts prove to be lopsided, and tend to crystallize the identities. A better alternate shall be to understand the idea that gender identity is a floating concept, which cannot be defined through medical certificates. Thus, instead of an attempt to follow an approach of redistributive justice, what is needed is a recognition of the differences and an accommodative stance, for which state can perform a role of a facilitator.

The arguments of the paper proceed through analytical reading of the laws, reports and court verdicts pertaining to the alternate sexualities, and a conceptual reference to the philosophical texts relating to the matter. To substantiate the arguments and observations, I have also utilized the Right to Information Act, 2005 and gathered data from various government organizations regarding the implementation of the various policies. Thus, while the arguments presented in the paper are carefully deduced from the existing legal resources, the observations are also backed by factual evidence accumulated over a period of months through RTIs.

Parallel Session 2: Session 1 - Diversity, Equality & Social Sustainability

Date & Time: 25/08/2021 09:00-10:30

Session Chair: Dr. Deepak Malghan, IIMB

Shaping of teacher identity in low-fee private schools: A case of three schools in Hyderabad

Nilesh Gourkhede

There is a documented increase in the number of Low Fee Private (LFP) schools in the last two decades in India. Studies show that the LFP sector has emerged as a distinct system of schooling provision for disadvantaged sections of population, particularly in urban and peri-urban areas. This growth reflects the withdrawal of state

commitment to public education at large and the operation of market forces in school education in particular, significantly marked by the operation of 'school choice'. The widely debated place of LFPs in the post-globalization education scenario in India has tended to elide the role of teachers in these schools, and their role in providing education to lower-income families. In fact, public debates engendered by market reforms tend to downplay teachers' significance and suggest that teachers in low-fee private schools (LFP) perform better on around one-third of the salary of regular teachers. Neoliberal policy discourse propounds cost-effectiveness and efficiency of locally hired contractual teachers in LFP schools. However, there is a dearth of studies that tells us what teachers think and feel, what they go through and who they perceive they are. This paper is an attempt to understand subjectivities, lived experiences and their sense of identity as teachers in LFP schools. The paper is based on the in-depth interviews conducted with the fifteen teachers (12 women, 3 men), three school owners and informal interactions as well as classroom observations over an academic year 2019-20 conducted in three LFP schools in Hyderabad. The paper interrogates cost-effectiveness and efficiency arguments of the free-market ideologues and argue that the burden of poorly paid, precarious and insecure job of teachers in LFP schools falls more on women as a subjugated members of a patriarchal society which, in turn, reproduces 'subjugated identity' of teachers in the society. This has serious implications for the construction of robust professional identity of teachers which is now globally recognized as a prerequisite to improve the quality of school education. The application of market principles of neoliberalism in the form of LFP schools dilute/fade identity as a teacher and a new neoliberal teacher identity is formed as 'worker' and 'academic salesman/saleswomen'.

Castes, Perceived Discrimination and Human Capital Formation in India

Isha Gupta

India is characterized by social stratification of people along the lines of religion and caste. In this paper, I examine the role of caste and parents' perceived social discrimination on human capital development in India. I investigate the evolution of gaps across castes in children's cognitive outcomes and parental investment in children's education from age 5 to age 15. Using 5 rounds of longitudinal data collected in 2002, 2006, 2009, 2013, and 2016 from Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, India when the children were aged 1, 5, 8, 12, and 15, I find that significant gaps in test scores as well as parental investment, between children belonging to lower vs. upper Hindu castes, originate early in childhood and these gaps persist throughout. These gaps cannot be completely explained by the differences in socioeconomic status across castes. I also find that parents' perceived social discrimination hampers parental investment throughout childhood, but it negatively affects children's cognitive outcomes only at later ages. In this paper, I address the concerns related to the ordinality of test scores. The findings of this paper are important for their implications for further research and policy.

Daughter vs. Daughter-in-law: Kinship Roles and Women's Time Use in India

Tanu Gupta

The custom of patrilocal marriage shifts a woman from her natal family to being part of her husband's household. This shift and the associated change in the kinship role has implications for her participation and time use in paid and unpaid work. In this paper, we compare the participation decision and time use in different activities of married and unmarried women in India. Our comparison group for married women or the daughters-in-law within the household is the unmarried daughters of comparable age and educational qualification. We hypothesize that conditional on age, educational attainment and other observable characteristics, the differences in time devoted to domestic activities and caregiving of these women are due to differences in their status and hierarchy in the household. We find that compared to daughters, daughters-in-law spend more time in home production and less time in paid employment, learning, socializing, leisure and self-care. Moreover, they spend more time on religious activities, which suggests that not all women may bear equal responsibility for producing status goods for the household and that this responsibility may invariably fall on the daughters-in-law.

Parallel Session 2: Session 2 (Special Track) - Human Development & Inclusion in India

Date & Time: 25/08/2021 11:00-12:45

Session Chair: Dr. Hema Swaminathan

On the margins for basic needs: COVID-19 and exclusion in context of sanitisation and plausibility of public policy

Tulika Tripathi and Reem Ashraf

Discourse on the public health crisis has been concentrated around the shortages of health workers, medication, hospitals and supportive treatment for COVID-19 management. What remains an underrated concern is the need for inclusive sanitation with availability of clean water, toilet and drainage housing conditions as an important tool for disease prevention and post-disease management. However it is important to tackle the current pandemic. It's more important for human developmental goals. With over-exhaustion of the health system, interventions have focused on the urgent need for lowering the burden of hospitalisation by curtailing severity of the COVID cases, avoiding post-COVID health complications and long-term sustained practices of containing the spread. However, the measures such as social distancing, home quarantine, frequent handwashing and hygiene didn't seem to go through public reasoning and action. And the public was blamed for it, however we hypothesize that the culprit was availability of sanitisation. It is instrumental not only for public health policy but also for households to follow it. The sanitisation related infrastructure has potential to ensure reduced economic and health shocks, advancing human development and reduced inequalities with respect to basic needs. Lack of evidence on availability of sanitisation have jeopardised policy recommendations and resource utilisation.

This paper attempts to situate available sanitisation as conversation factor (CF) to desirable human development policy, in terms of containment of the spread and reduced severity of any present or future epidemic/pandemic/infectious diseases. The paper estimates availability of sanitisation with respect to clean water, toilets and drainage with other household correlates such as family size, number of rooms across socio-economic groups, gender and geography including rural and urban areas. The study uses NFHS-4 (2015-16) data which is a nationally representative data set, focused on demography and health related indicators. Results of the study suggest glaring differences across the SES of the households disabilling millions to follow the hygiene, distancing and quarantine protocol leading to public health threat and human capital depletion.

Dwelling in Possibilities: A Case for Applying Capability Approach to Housing Policies

Debarati Bhattacharya

Since independence, housing policies have evolved in accordance with the socio-economic context and have increasingly come to be divested of social and human dimensions. Today, housing, one of the three basic human needs, remains beyond the reach of 18.78 million households in India (Census, 2011). Of the 18.78 million households, 1.77 million survive without a roof over their heads; approximately 10 million live in dilapidated housing conditions while 7 million live in unbearable conditions (Jha, 2013; MHA Annual Report, 2011). Housing can be said to have played a critical role in enhancing inequalities.

This paper uses the lens of the capability approach to assess the underpinning perspectives of the housing policies and programs. The capability approach enables one to holistically comprehend the concepts of poverty, social justice, and well-being. The approach can be used to decipher the source of capability deprivation and to re-establish social justice at the core of policy decisions. This paper investigates how the government's interventions concerning policy, providing incentives to the developers, and enabling easier access to finance can alleviate the persisting housing crisis in India. A case study of Ahmedabad enables the study to decode the issues persistent at the local level.

The study engages in Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) to comprehend the policy framework for providing housing to the poor and low-income groups and understand the approach of Centre, State, and the Urban Local Bodies. It is revealed that limited access to formal finance, developer's hesitance of venturing into the segment,

the insecurity of the residents in terms of tenure and title ownership impedes the vision of Housing for All. A set of recommendations is provided thereafter to provide insights on how the capability approach could be applied to address the housing crisis in India.

Mass-Education, Migration and 'Virtuous Growth': Concerns for Inclusive Development in Kerala, India

K Jafar

The development experience of Southern Indian state Kerala has been widely discussed for its unique patterns. 'Kerala model' of development and 'virtuous growth' can be used as two distinct phases of development 1 to understand how education plays a critical role in the process of migration and remittance-driven development that still takes place in Kerala. Migration of workers and inflow of their remittances have affected almost all spheres of Malayalee life and regional development process. Studies have highlighted the positive effects of labour migration, especially its impact on upward socio-economic mobility of migrants and their families. Broadly, these narratives present Kerala's migration a 'successful model' for local development. At the same time, there are various local factors which determine how different socio-economic groups and regions follow this larger model. The difference in the quality of human capital formation and nature of migration shape the way different regions follow this macro model differently. This paper tries to revisit the larger model and makes an attempt to highlight some micro evidence and highlight the role of local factors in shaping specific capabilities. We may look into the way certain socio-economic groups are left out from this larger model and try to see the implications of this exclusion. The study finds the share of migrant households highest among the Muslims followed by Christians and Hindus. Within the Hindu households, migration remains limited among the backward and forward castes while households belonging to the SCs and STs seem to be excluded. In many sense, marginalisation of these groups from migration-led development model indicates the exclusive nature of this development model can be seen with the larger pattern of development in the state.

Is India making gender inclusive progress in human development?

Hippu Salk Kristle Nathan and Srijit Mishra

Since the 1990s, paradigm of human development and measure of human development index have increasingly become the language of development and change. As societies move up in the ladder of human development, it is imperative to assess whether the progress is inclusive of different social groups. In this paper, invoking a notion of shortfall sensitivity in human development, we conceive an 'inclusive progress' zone and based on deviation from this zone evaluate inclusiveness of the progress. We derive the method in a two-dimensional framework where those dimensions are different subgroups of the population. The method is applied for India to assess gender inclusiveness in progress along two human development indicators: life expectancy and literacy rate. One of the significant results of the data analysis is that the gender inclusiveness in progress in literacy is more in urban areas than in rural areas, while the inverse is observed for progress in life expectancy. The study also discusses the state-specific progresses in the aforementioned indicators.

Living Conditions for Migrants: Evidence from the Slums in Delhi

Namita Mathur

The period 1991-2011, has been a period of rising mobility. Migration has deepened and more people are migrating now than before. As per the Census, the migrant population as a proportion of the total population of the country increased from 27.4 per cent in 1991, to 30.6 per cent in 2001 and 37.5 per cent in 2011. Delhi has been a centre of attraction for migrants from all over the country. Many of them are semi-skilled or unskilled and end up being employed in the informal sector. They live in unauthorised colonies and JJ clusters due to lack of adequate developed land at affordable rates.

To study the living conditions of the migrants in the slums of Delhi, a survey of 300 households was carried out in two slums of Delhi. An attempt was made to determine the factors affecting the standard of living of the households. The proxies used for the living conditions were access to health facilities used, subsidised ration, use of banking services, LPG connection and toilet ownership. The survey highlighted the deplorable living conditions of poor migrant households with their dependence on local private doctors for treatment. Lack of PDS portability also led to many of them being denied access to subsidised ration. While a substantial

proportion did have at least one bank account in the family, very few had any form of social protection. Many households did not have an LPG connection and had to buy their cylinders from local dealers at high rates without the government subsidy. It was found that the duration of migration and the possession of any token card significantly influenced the probability of having an LPG connection. Access to toilets has a direct impact on the health of individuals. The slum which a household belonged to and the income of the head of the household had a significant impact on the probability of having access to individual or shared toilets compared to being dependent on community toilets.

Parallel Session 2: Session 2 - Exploring the Nuances of Politics, Institutions & Governance

Date & Time: 25/08/2021 11:00-12:45

Session Chair: Dr. Vasanthi Srinivasan

To regulate or liberate? Analysing the impact of Foreign Contributions Regulation (Amendments) Act, 2020 on the performance of NGOs

Abisha Aseervatham, Dr. Madhava Priya D. and Varghese Theckanath

After spending a quarter-century engaging in several developmental projects in Russia and having made \$173 million dollars in grants, The MacArthur foundation was listed as an “undesirable organization” by the Russian Parliament. In the year 2017, Compassion International - A Christian charity closed its operations in India. This left tens of thousands of their beneficiaries with no meals, access to medical care or tuition fee support (Barry, E. and Raj, 2017). Such incidents are not isolated events, but have been repeatedly occurring in countries like China, Kenya, and many others. Since 2014, 20,000 Non-governmental organizations in India have lost their FCRA license, a mandatory license that permits individuals and associations to accept and utilize foreign funds (Dishes, 2021). The Foreign Contribution Regulation Act is a law that regulates the inflow of foreign support to individuals and associations for the purpose of protection of national interests. The Foreign Contribution Regulation Act, 2010 was later amended and passed on 29th September 2020 as the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Amendment Act to include provisions that combat the misappropriation of funds and enhance transparency. However, the amended act was met with a lot of criticism and leading NGOs believe that such regulations will ‘kill’ the voluntary sector.

The present study is an attempt to understand the impact of cross border funding on the organizational performance of NGOs and how the Foreign Contribution Amendment (Regulation) Act plays a role in shaping the overall organizational performance. The organizational performance of the NGOs was measured using a scale adopted from the Balanced Score Card. The sample for this study from was collected from members of the top-level management of NGOs located in India from the states of Telangana, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and others. The data collected from these non-governmental organizations were analyzed using SPSSv26. The findings of the study revealed that regulatory policies like the Foreign Contribution Amendment (Regulations) Act, 2020 has no impact on the organizational performance of NGOs. While the government is striving to eliminate all forms of trade barriers and economic controls in several sectors, the chronology to economic liberation for non-governmental organizations has been reversed. Foreign funding is a critical resource for NGOs in India given the limited access to domestic resources and lack of a philanthropic culture. The article thus sheds light on how dependence on foreign funding and how regulatory policies impact the growth of non-governmental organizations.

Managing a research NGO in India: Walking on a tight rope with a sword hanging on your head

Dr. Jyotsna Jha

Managing any institution has always been a challenging task. Irrespective of howsoever small or big, or how well-designed processes the institution may have built, the task of managing diverse people, processes and functions alongside addressing broader issues of governance and legal compliances is a challenge for all but perhaps much more so for a Non-Governmental-Organisation (NGO) in India. Managing an NGO, which was never an easy task, has become much more difficult in recent years in India due to fast changing laws

and strictures often brought in a non-transparent manner. The process did not start with this political regime but became much more restrictive in this regime. These new Acts and rules not only procedurally challenging but are also making the very survival of NGOs increasingly difficult for two major reasons. One is the issue of funding. This situation is much worse for a research NGO, as NGOs are usually expected to be engaged in service provisions while research is associated with ideas, exploration of facts and establishing accountability. The act of research is often viewed as 'political' and therefore contradictory to what these laws expect NGOs to be. What makes it more difficult is that NGOs are not a homogenous entity although the rules are uniform for all- one size fits all. Not only they vary in their sizes, approaches and nature of work but also in their motives and functioning. The paper will discuss these Acts and laws, taking historical and contemporary issues into account, and build an argument in support of these inferences through analysis of experiences and occurrences. Largely experiential, the paper will also build upon the analysis of existing records and reports, as existing in public domain.

Ecotourism Policies, the Challenges and Opportunities of the Forest Department in India

Freedda Maria Swarna M and Shaheed Khan

Ecotourism, Community Based Tourism (CBT) are buzz words across the world in the domain of Tourism, Travel and Hospitality (TTH). World over adopting Ecotourism is based on the tenets of sustainability and ensuring the participation of the communities who are otherwise bereft of the benefits of TTH business. The Research paper is a work in progress and makes efforts to understand what policies that Federal and State Governments in India adopt considering that Forests, Protection of wild animals and birds comes under the Concurrent List of the Indian Constitution. The paper identifies policy milestones that have occurred in the twentieth and twenty-first century in India and the special purpose vehicles (SPVs) that have been considered to ensure Ecotourism as practice gets to the deep-dive of the community, and the other stakeholders who are unique to the ever-growing tourism system.

The Research study undertaken has ensured interaction with the authorities in the Federal Forest Structure and four State Governments, where, the researcher has worked with the Forest Officers and the Communities who have made an effort to create SPVs as a policy dynamic in ensuring the objectives of the Constitutional mandates. Hence, the research objective has been to ensure the identification of milestones over seventy years which will help in assuaging the way the forest policy and various interventions help in the move towards Ecotourism promotion. The Researchers have worked with the Communities across four states to ensure a thought process and suggested to the State Governments the way forward in the promotion of Ecotourism.

Examining Policy Problematizations of Disaster in Indian Disaster Management Policies

Kaniska Singh and Manav Khaire

Introduction of Disaster Management (DM) Act, 2005 and National Policy for Disaster Management (NPDM), 2005, marked a paradigm shift in the disaster policy thinking of the Indian government from a highly sporadic and stand-alone to a pro-active disaster risk reduction perspective. This paper attempts to uncover the problem representations within the DM policy documents through policy analysis of the policies. We use the analytical framework of 'What is the Problem Represented to be' (WPR) proposed by Carol Bacchi (2009) for critical policy analysis of the Indian DM Acts and policies. Policy problematizations affect the policy responses, thereby limiting the scope of the policy to specific ways in which problems are defined. By applying the WPR approach, we attempt to unpack the dominant problematizations in Indian DM policies.

Further, by analyzing the aspects of the policy which are left unproblematic, we also attempt to uncover the epistemologies and disaster paradigms leading to specific problematizations in the policies. The study's findings are threefold: first, we identified the dominant role of the hazard paradigm that has led to the conceptualization of the concept of disaster in the policies. This results in originating policy solutions majorly from hazard triggers while concealing any other forms of problems. Second, the goal of Disaster Risk Reduction has been increasingly shaped by the neoliberal rationality undergirding the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Lastly, the current policy problematization of disaster downplays the role of macro-level processes like globalization and colonialism and context-specific factors relating to socio-economic development concerning disaster risk. This results in policy responses getting overly focused on managing the hazard triggers rather than taking on a proactive way of policy response

Appendix 2: Authors & Affiliation

Name	Paper Title	Affiliation
Shiva Muthuprakash K M	Roles and Viability of Farmer Producer Collectives in India (TRACK SESSION)	VikasAnvesh Foundation
Archana Chandola	Roles and Viability of Farmer Producer Collectives in India (TRACK SESSION) Factors Influencing Sustainability in Collectives: Some Propositions (TRACK SESSION) Critical Understanding of Building Sustainability in Community Based Organizations (TRACK SESSION)	VikasAnvesh Foundation
Bikalp Chamola	Beyond Leading: Understanding Leadership in Community-Based Organizations (TRACK SESSION) Factors Influencing Sustainability in Collectives: Some Propositions (TRACK SESSION)	IIM Ahmedabad
Shyam Singh	Beyond Leading: Understanding Leadership in Community-Based Organizations (TRACK SESSION)	IRMA, Gujarat
Sanjiv Phansalkar	Factors Influencing Sustainability in Collectives: Some Propositions (TRACK SESSION) Factors Influencing Sustainability of Self-Help Groups (TRACK SESSION)	VikasAnvesh Foundation
Suresh Sharma	Factors Influencing Sustainability of Village Organizations of Self-Help Groups (TRACK SESSION)	VikasAnvesh Foundation
Nirmalya Chowdhury	Factors Influencing Sustainability of Village Organizations of Self-Help Groups (TRACK SESSION)	VikasAnvesh Foundation
Vaishnavi Pawar	Critical Understanding of Building Sustainability in Community Based Organizations (TRACK SESSION)	VikasAnvesh Foundation
Ajit Phadnis	The Rise of Political Consultancy in India	IIM Indore
Akansh Khandelwal	The Rise of Political Consultancy in India	IIM Indore
Leelashree Godara	Policy, Politics and Poor Practices: Analysing the Linkages between Multiple Narratives and Policy Actors in Haryana	Punjab University

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Srinibas Barik	Dead Letters: A Microanalysis of the State of the Laws	R. D. Women's University
Monica Singhania	Cross Country Analysis of ESG Regulatory Trends: A Comparative Analysis (TRACK SESSION)	FMS, Delhi University
Neha Sain	The role of foreign ownership in the performance relevance of Environmental and Social Disclosures (TRACK SESSION)	NSUT, Delhi
Preeti Roy	Non-Financial Disclosure and Firm Risk in Indian Energy Sector (TRACK SESSION)	Jamia Milia Islamia University, Delhi
Dimple Gupta	Three Decades of Measuring ESG: A Scientometric Analysis (TRACK SESSION)	University of Delhi
Madhusudhan BV	Macro-economic impact of the pandemic on the economy of Chhattisgarh (TRACK SESSION) Public expenditure on children in India: pre and post COVID 19 patterns (TRACK SESSION)	CBPS
Achala Yaraseeme	Macro-economic impact of the pandemic on the economy of Chhattisgarh (TRACK SESSION)	CBPS
Archana Purohit	Exploring the profile and lives of migratory labour in post-pandemic Bangalore (TRACK SESSION)	CBPS
Sowmya J	Exploring the profile and lives of migratory labour in post-pandemic Bangalore (TRACK SESSION)	CBPS
Sushmitha MV	Public expenditure on children in India: pre and post COVID19 patterns (TRACK SESSION)	CBPS
Shiboni Sundar	Public expenditure on children in India: pre and post COVID19 patterns (TRACK SESSION)	CBPS
Nishanth Kumar	Incomes, Informality and Instability: Examining Poverty in Indian Household after Covid-19 (TRACK SESSION)	Dvara Research
Anupama Kumar	Incomes, Informality and Instability: Examining Poverty in Indian Household after Covid-19 (TRACK SESSION)	Dvara Research
Shuktika Sabharwal	Women Riders - In Light of Pink Ticket Policy, A Case of Delhi	CEPT University, Ahmedabad

Name	Paper Title	Affiliation
Rutul Joshi	Women Riders - In Light of Pink Ticket Policy, A Case of Delhi	CEPT University, Ahmedabad
Pramiti Rawat	Factors Affecting Gender Parity - Insights, Issues and Interventions	Nirma University, Ahmedabad
Hrithik Gera	Factors Affecting Gender Parity - Insights, Issues and Interventions	Nirma University, Ahmedabad
Rohit Shah	Which mothers do we really 'care' for? Incorporating an equity analysis framework in the evaluation of public health programmes: The case of the Janani Suraksha Yojana in Odisha, India	IIT Bombay
Sarthak Gaurav	Which mothers do we really 'care' for? Incorporating an equity analysis framework in the evaluation of public health programmes: The case of the Janani Suraksha Yojana in Odisha, India	IIT Bombay
Shikha Malhotra	Global Financial Cycle and its Determinants: A VECM Approach	Jain University, Bangalore
Chaya Bagrecha	Global Financial Cycle and its Determinants: A VECM Approach	Jain University, Bangalore
Anurag Kakkar	Social Relations and R&D Networks in Oligopoly	JNU, New Delhi
Debabrata Pal	Social Relations and R&D Networks in Oligopoly	JNU, New Delhi
Sandeep Sharma	Fiscal Decentralisation & Healthcare in India	NHSRC
Maneeta Jain	Fiscal Decentralisation & Healthcare in India	NHSRC
Mampi Bose	Fiscal Decentralisation & Healthcare in India	NHSRC
Ajit Kanitkar	Is the AMUL model possible in pulses? The case of Hasnabad Farmer Service Producer Company Limited (TRACK SESSION)	IRMA, Gujarat

Name	Paper Title	Affiliation
Shambhu Prasad	<p>Is the AMUL model possible in pulses? The case of Hasnabad Farmer Service Producer Company Limited (TRACK SESSION)</p> <p>Developing the Policy Landscape for Inclusively Responsible Agriculture: Exploring the Management of Sustainable Transitions</p> <p>Consultation or Consultants? The Changing Nature of State Capacity in Agriculture</p>	IRMA, Gujarat
Astad Pastakia	Dynamics of Incubating a Multi-community, Multi-commodity, Multi-location, FPO: The Case of Krishidhan Producer Company in Gujarat (TRACK SESSION)	DSC Foundation, Ahmedabad
Sachin Oza	Dynamics of Incubating a Multi-community, Multi-commodity, Multi-location, FPO: The Case of Krishidhan Producer Company in Gujarat (TRACK SESSION)	DSC Foundation, Ahmedabad
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Annapurna Neti	Beyond Promotion: Need for Effective Incubation of Producer Companies (TRACK SESSION)	Azim Premji University
Richa Govil	Beyond Promotion: Need for Effective Incubation of Producer Companies (TRACK SESSION)	Azim Premji University
Nishi Malhotra	Evaluation of Financial Inclusion in villages of India: Precursor to Digital Gaon	IIM Kozhikode

Name	Paper Title	Affiliation
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Itishree Pattnaik	Does the pension programme help in achieving health outcomes and related capabilities among widows? A case of Ganga Swarupa Aarthik Sahay Yojana in Gujarat	GIDR, Ahmedabad
Jharna Pathak	Does the pension programme help in achieving health outcomes and related capabilities among widows? A case of Ganga Swarupa Aarthik Sahay Yojana in Gujarat	GIDR, Ahmedabad
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Dipjyoti Konwar	Cash Transfers for Social Equality- Experience in India	Lady Irwin College, University of Delhi
Vinita Bhargava	Cash Transfers for Social Equality- Experience in India	Lady Irwin College, University of Delhi
Rameshkumar Subramanian	Impact of PMJDY on Financial Behaviour of its Beneficiaries: An Empirical Study in Madurai District of Tamil Nadu	Central University of Tamil Nadu, Thiruvarur
Abhishek Saxena	Managing for sustainability: the role of stakeholders in a producer organisation promoting ecologically sound agriculture	IRMA, Gujarat
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Deborah Dutta	Developing the policy landscape for inclusively responsible agriculture: Exploring the management of sustainable transitions	IRMA, Gujarat
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Amrita Dhiman	Indiscriminate breeding in cattle: An alarm for Indian Milk Market	DMI, Patna
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Mamta Kumari	Inequalities in connectivity of Indian Railway zones with semi-high speed and express trains	California State University Long Beach

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Ritika Gupta	Corporate Social Responsibility and Firm Financial Performance: A Moderating Effect of Economic Policy Uncertainty	DCRUST, Haryana
Manjunath A N	Taming the beast versus nurturing the beast: Rethinking Entrepreneurship Policy	IIM Bangalore
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G Raghuram	A Critique of the Initiative for Public Private Partnership in Passenger Train Operations	IIM Bangalore
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Karan Babbar	Social Support and Acceptance Promotes Mental Health and Wellbeing: Exploring the Coming out Experiences of LGBTQIA+ Community Understanding the Complex Relationship between Homophobic Bullying and Depression: A moderated mediation approach	IIM Ahmedabad
Shreya Sharma	Understanding the Complex Relationship between Homophobic Bullying and Depression: A moderated mediation approach	IIM Ahmedabad

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Nilesh Gourkhede	Shaping of teacher identity in low-fee private schools: A case of three schools in Hyderabad	TISS Mumbai
Isha Gupta	Castes, Perceived Discrimination and Human Capital Formation in India	University of Padova, Italy
Tanu Gupta	Daughter vs. Daughter-in-law: Kinship Roles and Women's Time Use in India	IGIDR, Mumbai
Tulika Tripathi	On the margins for basic needs: COVID-19 and exclusion in context of sanitation and plausibility of public policy (TRACK SESSION)	CUG
Reem Ashraf	On the margins for basic needs: COVID-19 and exclusion in context of sanitation and plausibility of public policy (TRACK SESSION)	NCAER
Debarati Bhattacharya	Dwelling in Possibilities: A case for applying capability approach to housing policies (TRACK SESSION)	CEPT University, Ahmedabad
K Jafar	Mass-Education, Migration and 'Virtuous Growth': Concerns for Inclusive Development in Kerala, India (TRACK SESSION)	MIDS, Chennai
Hippu Salk Kristle Nathan	Is India making gender inclusive progress in human development? (TRACK SESSION)	IRMA, Gujarat
Srijit Mishra	Is India making gender inclusive progress in human development? (TRACK SESSION)	IGIDR, Mumbai
Namita Mathur	Living Conditions for Migrants: Evidence from the Slums in Delhi (TRACK SESSION)	Indraprastha College for Women, Delhi University
Abisha Aseervatham	To regulate or liberate? Analysing the impact of Foreign Contributions Regulation (Amendments) Act, 2020 on the performance of NGOs	LIBA
Madhava Priya D	To regulate or liberate? Analysing the impact of Foreign Contributions Regulation (Amendments) Act, 2020 on the performance of NGOs	LIBA

Name	Paper Title	Affiliation
Varghese Theckanath	To regulate or liberate? Analysing the impact of Foreign Contributions Regulation (Amendments) Act, 2020 on the performance of NGOs	Montfort Social Institute
Jyotsna Jha	Managing a research NGO in India: Walking on a tight rope with a sword hanging on your head!	CBPS
Freeda Maria Swarna M	Ecotourism Policies, the Challenges and Opportunities of the Forest Department in India	Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai
Shaheed Khan	Ecotourism Policies, the Challenges and Opportunities of the Forest Department in India	Dharthi NGO, Bangalore
Kaniska Singh	Examining Policy Problematisations of Disaster in Indian Disaster Management Policies	IIT Bombay
Manav K	Examining Policy Problematisations of Disaster in Indian Disaster Management Policies	IIT Bombay

Appendix 3: Paper Reviewers

Name	Affiliation
Anil B Suraj	IIM Bangalore
Arnab Mukherji	IIM Bangalore
Allen P Ugargol	IIM Bangalore
Ankur Sarin	IIM Ahmedabad
Arpit Shah	IIM Bangalore
A Damodaran	IIM Bangalore
Deepak Malghan	IIM Bangalore
G Raghuram	IIM Bangalore
Gopal Naik	IIM Bangalore
G Ramesh	IIM Bangalore

Name	Affiliation
M Govinda Rao	Former Director, NIPFP
Hema Swaminathan	IIM Bangalore
Hippu Salk Kristle Nathan	IRMA Gujarat
Jyotsna Jha	CBPS
MS Sriram	IIM Bangalore
Srinivasan Murali	IIM Bangalore
Mukta Kulkarni	IIM Bangalore
Nilam Kaushik	IIM Bangalore
Padmini Srinivasan	IIM Bangalore
Rajalaxmi Kamath	IIM Bangalore
Rupa Chanda	IIM Bangalore
Rahul Dé	IIM Bangalore
Sanjiv Phansalkar	VikasAnvesh Foundation
Soham Sahoo	IIM Bangalore
Sukhpal Singh	IIM Ahmedabad
Suresh Bhagavatula	IIM Bangalore
Vasanthi Srinivasan	IIM Bangalore
N S Vishwanathan	IIM Bangalore

Appendix 4: Session Chairs & Discussants

Name	Session	Affiliation
Annapurna Neti	Co-operatives and Collectives Special Track in Honour of Dr. Verghese Kurien	Azim Premji University
Anil B Suraj	Law, Politics and Policy	IIM Bangalore
R Rajesh Babu	Law, Politics and Policy	IIM Calcutta

Name	Session	Affiliation
M.P. Ram Mohan	Law, Politics and Policy	IIM Ahmedabad
M.V. Shiju	Law, Politics and Policy	Sai University
Arpit Shah	Special Track: Environment-Social-Governance (ESG): Policy, Trends & Disclosure Infrastructure & Inclusion	IIM Bangalore
Jyotsna Jha	Special Track: Lessons learnt from the impact of the pandemic on Economy, Employment & Expenditure: Exploring Common Threads	CBPS
Soham Sahoo	Gender Mainstreaming: Analysing Work, Travel & Healthcare Policies	IIM Bangalore
Chetan Subramanian	Policy 1: Financial Policy & Economic Evaluation	IIM Bangalore
Rajalaxmi Kamath	Co-operatives and Collectives - Special Track in Honour of Dr. Verghese Kurien	IIM Bangalore
Jyotsna Jha	Financial Inclusion: Policies, Innovation & Challenges	CBPS
Sukhpal Singh	Production Systems, Technology & Sustainability in Agribusiness	IIM Ahmedabad
Navdeep Mathur	Inclusion 1: Sexuality and Identity in Shifting Institutional Contexts	IIM Ahmedabad
Deepak Malghan	Inclusion 2: Diversity, Equality & Social Sustainability	IIM Bangalore
Hema Swaminathan	Special Track: Human Development and Inclusion in India	IIM Bangalore
Vasanthi Srinivasan	Policy 2: Exploring the Nuances of Politics, Institutions & Governance	IIM Bangalore
Narendra Pani	Special Track: Lessons learnt from the impact of the pandemic on Economy, Employment & Expenditure: Exploring Common Threads	NIAS, Bangalore

Appendix 5: Organising Committee

Professor MS Sriram
 Professor Arnab Mukherji
 Professor Rajalaxmi Kamath
 Professor Tirthatanmoy Das

Transforming Villages. Ensuring Prosperity.



Climate Action



Rural Infrastructure



Watershed
Development



Farmer Collectives



Women
Empowerment



Tribal
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