



From The Director's Desk



As the New Year began, many thoughts come to my mind. I am reminded of Heraclitus, a Greek philosopher, who said: There is nothing permanent except change. As the name of the Institute vouches for, we have been trying to study the same. After

all, knowledge is the only instrument of production which is not subject to diminishing returns. Hence, we use the outcomes from our studies on social and economic changes for the benefit of local, state and national level policy making.

Many people ask me if ISEC is a state level institution to serve only the people of Karnataka. Our documented research studies reveal that in the last three years, out of the major research studies carried out, one third were at the all India level. Likewise, as many as sixty per cent of the studies were funded by external, national and international sources. Our *Journal of Social and Economic Development* carries articles from international scholars. Currently, our doctoral student group consists of 54 candidates, of whom 12 are from Karnataka by domicile or education, all the rest from various states such as Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Orissa, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and so on. We have recently initiated international collaboration and exchange in teaching, and to start with 9 students are joining ISEC from Lund University, Sweden.

Of late, we are also developing a feeling that there is some merit in studying the social, political and economic dimensions of a state like Karnataka in all its entirety. In terms of size, Karnataka is a large state, comparable to the sizes of many countries in the world. Starting with the vision of Sir M Visveswaraya, the state has been on a faster pace of social and economic transformation and development. During the last six months, two major policy-oriented academic activities have been carried out by ISEC. *First*, a Karnataka Development Report was completed in eighteen chapters with inputs from as many as eighty contributors. The report makes a case for new visions for the state, beyond targets of growth rates and investment strategies. Public-private partnership, effective decentralisation and openness in technology development, and transparency in governance are some of the instruments much needed now. *Second*, and equally important, ISEC organised an international conference jointly with the Cornell University on 'Development in Karnataka: A Multi-Disciplinary Perspective'. The conference was inaugurated by the Honourable Minister for Industries Sri P G R Sindhia, while the address by the Honourable Chief Minister of Karnataka, Sri Dharam Singh, was read out. The conference deliberated on governance, accountability and the role of political leadership in state management. About 30 international experts in the field of Development attended the conference. I consider these two events as complementary to each other, making Karnataka showcase several lessons for development at the national level.

ISEC's scoping of activities have crossed all national boundaries. We had a contingent of delegates from France and

China led by Prof. J F Huchet to share the lessons of development in China and India. We also had a delegation of about thirty educationists from Nepal, another from Spain, both exploring research and teaching exchange programmes. A number of distinguished scholars visited the Institute, directly interacting with our research faculty and students. Some notable names among them are: Prof. Ingolf Vogeler, University of Minnesota; Prof. John Byrne, Director, Center for Energy and Environmental Policy, University of Delaware; Smt Madhumita Lodh, Bureau of Transport and Regional Economics, Australia; Prof. Oleg V Malyarov, Russian Academy of Sciences and old time friend of ISEC; Prof. John Harriss and Timothy Besley, London School of Economics; Prof. James Heitzman, New York University; Prof. Nicholas Hopkins, American University in Cairo; Prof. Mohan Munasinghe, Institute for Development, Sri Lanka; Prof. James Manor, IDS, Sussex; Prof. Ravi Kanbur, and Prof. Ronald Herring from Cornell University, and many others.

The Founder's Day at the Institute was celebrated on January 20, 2005, with Dr. Ramachandra Guha delivering the V K R V Rao Memorial lecture on 'Verdicts on Nehru: The Rise and Fall of a Reputation'. The occasion was also marked with the awarding of M N Srinivas and Justice E S Venkataramiah Memorial prizes for the best Ph.D. dissertations during the last five years. Apart from the regular release of six Working Papers, three books published during the last six months were also released. Several important research studies such as WTO implications for small-scale sector, rural livelihood, regional disparities, decentralised governance, and sectoral studies on floriculture, fodder and feed, rural water supply etc., were completed.

From time and again the Institute has been organising public lectures in Bangalore. We organised one such lecture by Prof. Jagdish Bhagwati, in memory of late Sri Krishna Raj. He spoke on 'Globalisation – Why It Has a Human Face', which was attended by over 200 invited participants. Likewise, public lectures were addressed by Prof. John Harriss, Dr. Abhijit Sen, Prof. Gurpreet Mahajan and several others.

The much needed Faculty lounge at ISEC was inaugurated recently. A pantry room, a small meeting room and ten faculty rooms were also added. The Guest House has been remodelled to suit the special requirements of the visitors. Three new faculty, Prof. M Ramachandran, Dr. Brinda Viswanathan and Dr. V Anil Kumar joined the Institute recently.

With recruitment of new faculty and modernisation and globalising the Institute, there are still many challenges. It reminds me of Albert Einstein who was known for setting the same question paper for his students every time. When asked 'Why he does this', his answer was simple but worth recapitulating: 'The question is same but the answer can be different'. Remember that he was referring to Specific Relativity with time and space as the two new dimensions. When it comes to social science research the same two dimensions are relevant. Hence, there is a need for constant search for new research outcomes and policy imperatives.

Gopal K Kadekodi
Director



Conference on Development in Karnataka: A Multi-Disciplinary Perspective

Under the auspices of the Cornell University, Ithaca, USA, the Institute organised a Conference on 'Development in Karnataka: A Multi-Disciplinary Perspective' on June 10, 2005. As the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Karnataka, Sri Dharam Singh could not attend the conference, Sri P G R Sindhia, Minister for Industries, Government of Karnataka, inaugurated the Conference. Sri S L Rao, Chairman, Board of Governors, ISEC, presided.

Sri P G R Sindhia also inaugurated the newly constructed academic block of the Institute and released books and monographs published recently by the Institute.

Participants included among others, representatives from the Government of Karnataka, Government of India, academicians from Universities and institutions and Founder/Life Members and faculty, staff and students of the Institute.

Dr. S Madheswaran, Associate Professor, Economics Unit, was the Co-ordinator of the Conference.



(From left to right) Dr. G K Kadekodi, Sri S L Rao, Hon'ble Minister Sri. P G R Sindhia, Dr. Ravi Kanbur and Dr. Vijayendra Rao

Founder's Day Celebration



The Institute remembers the founders. Sri. S L Rao garlanding the founder's bust.

The Institute organised the Founder's Day on January 20, 2005. The programme began by paying respects to Prof. V K R V Rao through garlanding of his bust by Sri S L Rao, Chairman, Board of Governors.

Dr. Gopal K Kadekodi, welcomed the gathering. Sri S L Rao gave away the M N Srinivas Memorial Prize in Sociology to Dr. S Sudha for her thesis on 'Society and Religious Consciousness: Veerashaiva Movement in the Medieval Times' and Justice E S Venkataramiah Memorial Prize in Development Administration to Dr. Vaidya Vibhavathi for her thesis on 'Ethics in Public Service with Special Reference to Superior Civil Services in Karnataka'. The staff members who had completed 25 years of service in the Institute were honoured on the occasion.

Sri S L Rao, Chairman, Board of Governors, presided over the function. Participants included among others, distinguished Members of the Board of Governors, Founder/Life Members of the ISEC Society, academicians from various Universities and Institutions, administrators, general public, staff and students of the Institute.

Civil Service Reforms and E-Governance

A one-day seminar in collaboration with IIPA-Karnataka Regional Branch, Bangalore, on 'Civil Service Reforms and Initiatives in E-Governance in the Southern States' was organised at the Institute on January 8, 2005. The seminar was inaugurated by His Excellency, the Governor of Karnataka, Sri T N Chaturvedi, and it was presided over by Sri S L Rao, Chairman, Board of Governors of the Institute. The key note address was delivered by Sri A N Tiwari, Secretary, Department of Personnel and Training, Government of India. Dr. Gopal K Kadekodi, Director, ISEC, welcomed the delegates and Sri S Ramanathan, Chairman, IIPA-KRB, Bangalore, made introductory remarks about the seminar. The concluding remarks were presented by Sri S Ramanathan and Dr. Gopal K Kadekodi.



In all, 12 papers were presented at the seminar by distinguished participants, who included, among others, former and present Secretaries and members of the IIPA Regional Branch, academicians from Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Pondicherry and Tamil Nadu. The papers were discussed in two sessions, one on 'Civil Service Reforms in Southern States', and the other, on 'E-Governance: Initiatives in Southern States' chaired by Sri T R Satish Chandran, and Dr. Sanjeev Reddy, respectively.

Dr. S N Sangita, Professor and Head, Development Administration Unit, co-ordinated the Seminar.



The arrival of the Governor of Karnataka to inaugurate the seminar.

Globalisation – Why It has a Human Face [Late Krishna Raj (editor, EPW) Memorial Lecture]



ISEC Chairman lighting the lamp on the occasion of Late Krishna Raj Memorial Lecture. (Left to Right) Sri Manu Kulkarni, Sri. S L Rao, Dr. Jagadish Bhagavati, Dr. Vinod Vyasalu and Dr. G K Kadekodi

ISEC, jointly with the Centre for Budget Policy Studies, and Hope Foundation, organised the Late Krishna Raj Memorial Lecture on 'Globalisation – Why It Has a Human Face' by Prof. Jagdish Bhagwati, a distinguished economist, Columbia University, USA, on February 26, 2005, at the auditorium of NIAS, Basngalore.

Globalisation is a debated issue with more and more countries taking to it. Prof. Bhagwati in his lecture, defending the policies of globalisation, said, it is in fact the most powerful social force for social good in the world today. Though globalisation is a contentious issue, he said that there are different forms of globalisation such as cultural, trade and financial. Although it is being opposed by the trade unions, political parties and

non-governmental organisations, he stressed the point that globalisation of trade and politics has reduced poverty and improved social and economic conditions of the poor all over the World. In the course of his lecture, he recalled the contributions made by late Krishna Raj.

Regional Dissemination Seminar on District Level Household Survey Results in Karnataka

The Institute, in collaboration with the International Institute of Population Studies, Mumbai, organised a Regional Dissemination seminar on 'District Level Household Survey Results in Karnataka' under the RCH programme on April 16, 2005.

The seminar was inaugurated by Dr. Gopal K Kadekodi, Director of the Institute. Participants included among others, representatives from the Government of Karnataka, Government of India, academicians from Universities and institutions and Founder/Life Members and faculty, staff and students of the Institute.

Dr. K N M Raju, Professor and Head of the Population Research Centre, was the Co-ordinator of the Seminar.



Some participants at the seminar alongwith Dr. G K Kadekodi and Dr. K N M Raju

Budget Seminar

A seminar was organised at ISEC on March 15, 2005 to discuss the major issues relating to both the union and state budgets. The union budget was evaluated in the light of the changing structure of the economy during the post liberalisation era. Concerns about the declining capital formation, particularly in the agricultural sector and growing revenue deficits and declining share of agriculture and manufacturing sector in the national GDP were raised in the seminar.

As far as the Karnataka Budget was concerned, the fiscal deficit appeared to be under control as there was surplus in the revenue account. Karnataka followed a revenue led model to ensure fiscal discipline, and reforms took place in the area of stamp duty, excise duty and privatisation of transport. However, it was also felt that the state budget should lay more emphasis on rural infrastructure, access to institutional credit in rural areas, efficient distribution of power for agriculture, and promoting flow of corporate investment into agricultural sector. Though the budget provided some succour to the drought-hit agricultural sector, rainfed areas were untouched. Further, multiplicity of schemes rendered a very thin spread per unit; hence, allocations could not make any significant impact.

Discussions took place concerning the possible problems of implementing the value-added tax (VAT) in the presence of other taxes like entry tax *in lieu* of Octroi. Concerns relating to lack of social security in the face of falling interest rates were also raised. It was mentioned that corruption and lack of delegation of power to the lower tiers of government created a mismatch between outlays and intended outcomes.

The speakers in the seminar were Sri. S L Rao, Prof. G Thimmaiah, Sri. Gurucharan, Dr. Narendra Pani, Prof. Hemlata Rao, Prof. R S Deshpande and Dr. Ramachandran.

Prof. A S Seetharamu, Head, Education Unit, welcomed the participants. The seminar was co-ordinated by Drs. Meenakshi Rajeev and Devendra Babu, Economics Unit, ISEC, under the guidance of Prof. Hemlata Rao, Head, Economics Unit, ISEC.

Nepalese Visit to ISEC

A delegation of thirty Education Officers from the National Centre for Education Development, Kathmandu, Nepal, visited ISEC on January 7, 2005. The team was led by Prof. S M A Zaidi and other faculty members of NIEPA. Dr. G K Kadekodi, Director of the Institute, welcomed the delegation. The faculty members of the Education Unit, Prof. A S Seetharamu and Dr. M D Usha Devi apprised the delegation of the various activities of the Education Unit, in particular, the research support provided by the Institute to the Government of Karnataka for institutional capacity-building and quality improvement in the field of school education. The team members discussed on various issues relating to the role of government in institutional capacity-building and school management. This meeting was held at the request of the SSA/DOE/GOK.

Spanish Delegation

A Three-member Spanish delegation visited the Institute on April 13, 2005. The delegation met the Director and faculty of the Institute and had discussions on mutually interested topics.

Visit of MP from Uttara Kannada

Sri Anant Kumar Hegde, Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha, visited the Institute on May 28, 2005, and had discussions with the Director, Dr. R S Deshpande, Dr. K V Raju, Dr. D Rajasekhar and Dr. Veerashekharappa.

Visit of IIPS Students

As part of the teaching programme at the International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS), Mumbai, the students of Master in Population Studies (MPS) and M. Phil and Diploma in Population Studies (DPS) visited ISEC on February 17, 2005 to familiarise themselves with the research activities at the Population Research Centre. Dr. Gopal K Kadekodi, Director, ISEC, gave an overview of the teaching and research activities of the institute and highlighted the thrust areas of research in various units. He also briefed about various other facilities available at the Institute such as Library, Computer Centre and other infrastructural facilities facilitating research. Dr. K N M Raju described some of the major studies carried out, methods used in data collection and statistical techniques adopted in data analysis by the PRC faculty since inception. The faculty members in the PRC summarised individually the completed and/or on-going studies. Some studies on Panchayat Raj, Public Health, Reproductive Child Health, Gender Issues and Old Age generated interest among the students because the visitors were also directly or indirectly contemplating research in these areas for their dissertation. Many interesting issues like organising field research - designing questionnaire, sampling and non-sampling errors were also discussed. In general, the students expressed that they benefited from the discussions and the visit was very fruitful.





OUTREACH PROGRAMMES

Trends in Reproductive Child Health and Fertility Preferences

K N M Raju

A Dissemination Seminar on District Level Household Survey (DLHS) under the Reproductive Child Health (RCH) project was organised jointly by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (New Delhi), the International Institute for Population Studies (Mumbai) and the Institute for Social and Economic Change (Bangalore) on April 16, 2005 at ISEC. The seminar was attended by the state and district level officials from the Department of Health and Family Welfare Services, GoK, Bangalore, and officials and researchers working in the area of reproductive child health from NGOs and research institutions. In all, about 40 persons attended the seminar; at least, one senior official represented each of 27 districts in the Karnataka state.

The DLHS aimed at providing district level estimates on various parameters relating to reproductive child health, fertility and fertility preferences. The First Round survey was carried out in 50 per cent of the districts in 1998 and the rest in 1999 in India. The Second Round survey was carried out in 50 per cent of the districts in 2002 and the rest in 2004.

From the analysis of the household data from these two rounds, the following trends could be noticed:

- Fertility was declining in Karnataka as a whole, but there were regional variations between northern and southern districts.
- The RCH indicators also showed a similar divide between the north and south. However, in general, it was observed that some of the indicators of reproductive health such as safe deliveries and deliveries in the health facilities were better.
- Increasing percentage of women was seeking the services of medical or paramedical health personnel at the time of delivery. This had a positive impact on both maternal and infant mortality.
- While immunisation coverage was better, still many pregnant women were not receiving the complete package of antenatal, natal and post natal services.

ISEC Brings out the Karnataka Development Report

On the eve of 50 years of planning in India, the Planning Commission initiated a series of State Development Reports for the states in India. With growing interest in public-private and civil society initiatives, these reports were set to be prepared by involving a mix of stakeholders, mainly outside of the governments. The Karnataka Development Report was prepared very recently with ISEC as the nodal agency and with partnerships from the Centre for Multi-Disciplinary Development Research, Centre for Public Policy, IIM, Bangalore, National Institute of Advanced Studies, and Institution of Agricultural Technologies. The report drew on contributions from about eighty experts from these institutions in the fields of agriculture, industry, social development and transformation, governance, human development, technology, economic management, energy and infrastructure development and so on.

After reviewing the stages and phases of development in the state, the report put forward several visions for the policy planning. As against riding on the principle of growth targets and investment strategies, a case was made for internalising the strengths in the state in public-private partnership, dynamisms in technology development and good governance and delivery systems. Vision was also scoped on reducing regional imbalances in the state, moving to agricultural diversification and showcasing Karnataka as a knowledge-cum-environmentally-friendly state.

Seminars by Visitors

USA Agriculture and Globalisation: Lessons for India – Prof. Ingolf Vogeler, University of Minnesota, USA (January 5, 2005).

Political Economy of Energy – Sri John Byrne, Director, Center for Energy and Environmental Policy, and Distinguished Professor of Public Policy, University of Delaware, USA (January 18, 2005).



The Economic Consequences of the Health Effects of Transport Emissions in Australian Capital Cities – Smt Madhumita Lodh, Bureau of Transport and Regional Economics (BTRE), Canberra, Australia (January 19, 2005).

Current Issues in Indian Agriculture – Dr. Abhijit Sen, Member, Planning Commission, Government of India, New Delhi (January 22, 2005).

Capacity Utilisation in Indian Paper Industry – Dr. Kaustuva Barik, Reader in Economics, Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi (February 4, 2005).

Economic Reforms in Russia – Dr. Oleg V Malyarov, Chief Research Officer, Centre for Indian Studies, Institute for Oriental Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow (February 14, 2005).

Debating Development: India and Egypt – Prof. Nicholas Hopkins, Department of Sociology and Anthropology in the American University in Cairo (February 24, 2005).

Living with Pollution in Egypt – Prof. Nicholas Hopkins, Department of Sociology and Anthropology in the American University in Cairo (February 25, 2005).

Charisma and Responsibility: Max Weber and Revolution – Prof. Nicholas Hopkins, Department of Sociology and Anthropology in the American University in Cairo (February 28, 2005).

The Impact of Non Farm Sector on Poverty Reduction and Gender Disparity in India: 1983-99 – Prof. Bharat Ramaswamy, Indian Statistical Institute, New Delhi (March 14, 2005).

New Politics of the Urban Poor – Prof. John Harriss, Director, Development Studies Institute, London School of Economics and Political Science, London (March 24, 2005).

Democracy and Multi Culturalism – Prof. Gurpreet Mahajan, Professor, Centre for Political Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi (April 20, 2005).

Energy and Sustainable Development – Prof. Mohan Munasinghe, Chairman, Munasinghe Institute for Development and Vice Chairman, Intergovernmental Panel of Climate Change, Sri Lanka (June 8, 2005).

Seminars by Faculty

The Evolution of Contraceptive Technologies in India: Its Impact on the Family Planning Programme – Dr. M Ramakrishna Reddy, Research Fellow, PRC, ISEC (January 13, 2005).

Role of Market Based Instruments in Industrial Pollution Abatement: A Comparative Study of India and France – Dr. G S Sastry (January 27, 2005).

Economics of Nuclear Power in India – Dr. M V Ramana, Fellow, Centre for the Interdisciplinary Study of Environment and Development (CISED), Bangalore (February 17, 2005).

Floriculture in Karnataka: Performance, Problems and Prospects – Dr. P Thippaiah (March 3, 2005).

Cultivation of Medicinal Crops and Aromatic Crops as a Means of Diversification in Agriculture – Prof. R S Deshpande (March 9, 2005).

Study for the Estimation of Seed, Feed and Waste Ratios for Major Foodgrains in Karnataka – Prof. R S Deshpande and Dr. I Maruthi (March 9, 2005).

Production and Cost of Broiler Meat: A Study in Karnataka – Dr. M J Bhende (March 9, 2005).

Investment Subsidy to 'Tourism Industry' in Karnataka: An Evaluation – Dr. L Venkatachalam (March 11, 2005).

Feasibility Study for a Floodplain Restoration Proposal - Hydrological and Social Viability: A Study of the Cauvery Floodplain in Eastern, Rural Karnataka, India – Dr. Malavika Chauhan (March 15, 2005).



Education and Development (Theory and Reality) – Prof. A S Seetharamu (March 17, 2005).

Decentralisation, Governance and Women Leaders in the Grama Panchayats of Karnataka – Dr. K G Gayathri Devi (March 31, 2005).

Valuations of Life and Injury Risks – Dr. S Madheswaran (April 2, 2005).

Power in Slums: Urban Marginality and Welfare in the Era of Globalisation – Dr. Supriya RoyChowdhury (April 4, 2005).

Rural Infrastructure Development: The Role of RIDF – Dr. Meenakshi Rajeev (June 30, 2005).

Use of Contractual Labour in Selected Manufacturing Enterprises in Karnataka – Dr. Meenakshi Rajeev and Dr. Supriya RoyChowdhury (June 30, 2005).

Urban Infrastructure Imperatives and Rainwater Harvesting: Opportunities and Challenges – Dr. Syed Ajmal Pasha (June 30, 2005).

Research Projects

Completed

Floriculture in Karnataka: Performance, Problems and Prospects (Dr. P Thippaiah)

Good Governance and Poverty Alleviation: A Study of SGSY Programme (Dr. D Rajasekhar, Dr. K G Gayathri Devi and Mr. Sachidananda Satpathy)

Decentralised Governance, Representation, and People's Participation: The Panchayats of Kerala (Dr. Anand Inbanathan)

WTO Agreements and Small Scale Industries, Karnataka State: An Explorative Study of Current Policy Issues and Interventions, and Future Policy Alternatives (Dr. M R Narayana)

Consumers' Demand for Telecom Services in Karnataka and Goa (Dr. M R Narayana)

Karnataka Public Enterprise Reform Programme (Dr. Meenakshi Rajeev)

Menopause: Emerging Issues in India (Dr. T S Syamala and Dr. M Sivakami)

Functioning of Ultrasound Sonography Centres in Karnataka (Dr. M Sivakami and Dr. T S Syamala)

Investment Attractiveness of States and Sectors: Manufacturing in India (Dr. S Bhide, B P Vani and Dr. H K Amarnath)

The Environmental Kuznet's Curve – Evidences with Indian and Japanese Data (Dr. K N Ninan)

Traditional Occupations in the Modern Setting: The Case of Safai Karmacharis in Karnataka (Dr. K G Gayathri Devi)

New

Micro Initiatives for Macro Policy (Dr. R S Deshpande)

Power in Slums: Urban Marginality and Welfare in the Era of Globalisation (Dr. Supriya RoyChowdhury)

Effectiveness of Micro-Finance in Alleviating Vulnerability to Debt Bondage in Andhra Pradesh (Dr. D Rajasekhar)



District Planning Process: Evidence from Karnataka (Dr. M Devendra Babu)

Institutional Design for the Elimination of Child Labour: A Study of State Initiatives of Eradication of Child Labour in Karnataka (Dr. D Rajasekhar, Dr. K G Gayathri Devi and Dr. V Anil Kumar)

Credit Linkage between Formal and Informal Credit Institutions: A Comparative Study of Karnataka and Gujarat (Dr. Veerashekharappa)

STUDENT NEWS

Memorial Awards

The M N Srinivas Memorial Prize in Sociology was awarded to Dr. S Sudha for her thesis on 'Society and Religious Consciousness: Veerashaiva Movement in the Medieval Times'.

Justice E S Venkataramiah Memorial Prize in Development Administration was awarded to Dr. Vaidya Vibhavathi for her thesis on 'Ethics in Public Service with Special Reference to Superior Civil Services in Karnataka'.

Ph.D. Awarded

The following students were awarded the Ph.D. degree:

Ms. Mythili N (Education) by the University of Mysore in 2005 for her thesis on 'Determinants of Quality of Schooling in Rural Primary Schools in Karnataka'. Prof. A S Seetharamu was her supervisor.

Sri Amalendu Jyotishi (Economics) by the Bangalore University in 2005 for his thesis on 'Ecological, Economic and Institutional Aspects of Shifting Agriculture: A Study in Orissa. Prof. R S Deshpande was his supervisor.

Students' Biannual Seminar Series

The bi-annual seminars of the ISEC Ph.D. programme were held during June 13-17, 2005. In all there were 25 presentations, of which one was pre-submission seminar, 7 were pre-registration colloquia, 7 were initial proposal presentations and the remaining 10 were presentations of progress reports. There were altogether 31 panelists, both in-house and outside experts for the presentations made. Each scholar's seminar was examined by two panelists who critically reviewed and assessed the scholar's progress and gave useful suggestions for further improvement. Prof. James Manor from IDS, Sussex, UK and Prof. Ravi Kanbur from Cornell University, New York, USA were invited as special panelists for the seminar. Undoubtedly, the suggestions and comments given by these scholars as well as from other panelists added value to students' research work. Prof. Kanbur, in particular, while appreciating this academic activity of the Ph.D. programme observed the remarkable progress made by the Ph.D. scholars in their presentation and handling of the topic.

Young Achievers' Awards

Sri Sachidananda Satpathy, Ph.D Student, has been selected as the finalist for the Infosys-Education World Young Achievers' Awards, instituted by Infosys to recognise and reward talented young individuals in the areas of arts, science, music, sport, academics, technology and social work. The award received around 500 entries from India as well as outside. Eminent personalities from the fields of business, education, media and entertainment adjudged the participants.

Infosys Chairman and Chief Mentor N R Narayana Murthy, told the four finalists: 'Each one of you is here because you are outstanding in your respective field — be it art, social work, demonstration of bravery to save others, sports, science or innovation. The nation needs more role models like you. Congratulations to you all — each one of you is a winner!'



WORKING PAPERS

An Overview

The Institute has brought out six Working Papers in the last six months, of which two are on gender related issues, one each on private utility services, the relevance of macro-economic conditions for agriculture, dimensions of literacy and development index in Karnataka and on e-governance and service delivery.

The paper on 'Do Macroeconomic Conditions Matter for Agriculture? The Indian Experience' by Shashanka Bhide, Meenakshi Rajeev and B P Vani examines the relevance of macro-economic stability for Indian agriculture. Macroeconomic instability, characterised by high inflation, a fragile foreign exchange position and high interest rates, increases uncertainty for any investor or producer and hence, slows down economic growth. The usual perception is, however, that agricultural sector in India is immune to general macroeconomic shocks. The authors examine this perception formally by using a vector auto regressive model. By studying the significance of macroeconomic conditions to the agricultural sector, the authors observe that the sector is not insulated from macroeconomic shocks.

The paper on 'Electronic Governance and Service Delivery in India: Theory and Practice' by S N Sangita and Bikash Chandra Dash examines the issues involved in the adoption of e-governance in improving the quality of governance and the service delivery system. The paper notes that notwithstanding the advantages of e-governance, there are certain problems like poor coverage of e-governance infrastructure, inadequate human resources, mismanagement, technical inexperience and inequitable access (digital divide), lack of public awareness and ineffective civil society participation. The paper provides the enabling conditions for promoting e-governance in India.

In the paper on 'Feminist Politics in India: Women and Civil Society Activism', V Vijayalakshmi examines feminist politics in India and the various issues with which they have been engaged. The paper identifies that the key problem is the shift in the centrality of feminist politics from women issues alone to identity politics of caste and religion. The women's interests and gender justice are undermined by the identity politics of caste and religion.

The other paper of Vijayalakshmi examines the relationship between corruption and gender in the institutions of local government, using a Logit model. Recent debates about women's participation in electoral politics suggest that the presence of more women in government will engender public policy, and will also tend to reduce corruption. The paper indicates that gender is not a significant factor in explaining levels of corruption. The paper finds that there is no significant gender difference in the attitudes towards rent-seeking and in the actual levels of corruption.

In the paper on 'Spatial Dimensions of Literacy and Index of Development in Karnataka', C M Lakshmana examines the linkages between literacy and development across all the taluks in Karnataka state with the help of secondary data. For this purpose, two indices - one on literacy deprivation and the other on crude literacy development - have been developed. The paper shows that although literacy, in general, leads to development, higher levels of literacy deprivation are found in relatively developed taluks of southern Karnataka. There is, therefore, a need to pay special attention to these areas for the improvement of literacy and other socio-economic aspects of their economy.

The paper on 'Promotion of Individual Household Latrines in Rural Karnataka: Lessons Learnt' by Veerashkarappa analyses the household data to examine whether the target of achieving cent per cent coverage through the total sanitation campaign is realistic or not. After examining the policies and strategies in the promotion of individual sanitation at the national and state levels, Veerashkarappa comes to the conclusion that the targets fixed are unrealistic considering the mechanisms chosen to implement the programme.

WP 160: *Promotion of Individual Household Latrines in Rural Karnataka: Lessons Learnt* – Veerashkarappa

WP 161: *Feminist Politics in India: Women and Civil Society Activism* – V Vijayalakshmi

WP 162: *Do Macroeconomic Conditions Matter for Agriculture? The Indian Experience* – Shashanka Bhide, Meenakshi Rajeev and B P Vani

WP 163: *Spatial Dimensions of Literacy and Index of Development in Karnataka* – C M Lakshmana

WP 164: *Rent-Seeking and Gender in Local Governance* – V Vijayalakshmi

WP 165: *Electronic Governance and Service Delivery in India: Theory and Practice* – S N Sangitha and Bikash Chandra Dash

PUBLICATIONS

Monographs

Overview

During the last 6 months, two Monographs were published by ISEC. The eighth Monograph entitled 'Dimensions of Social Development: Status, Challenges and Prospects' is a volume edited by Prof. G K Karanth. A new form of collaboration among ICSSR research institutes in southern region is the annual development convention held since 2001. ISEC hosted the second development convention at Bangalore where 25 papers were presented. The theme of the Second Development Convention had been, 'Social Sector Development: Current Status and Future Challenges. This volume consists of collection of twelve papers (after a screening and refereeing process) presented by the scholars on different dimensions of social sector development in the Convention.

The papers included in this monograph deal mostly with different aspects of the impact of structural change as embodied in the economic reforms process since 1991. The issues covered in the volume are social sector expenditure in India, informal sector, education, local self government, infant mortality rate, health care sector, etc. There is also a paper by Prof. V M Rao on "Beyond Measurement of Poverty: The Emerging Phase in Poverty Research in India". The materials and discussions provided in the monograph will greatly help new researchers in identifying gaps in the area of studies concerning the subject matter.

The ninth Monograph is entitled, 'At Loggerheads or Towards Sustainability? Changing Rural Livelihood Systems and Natural Resource Management'. This is authored by G K Karanth and V Ramaswamy. The central purpose of this study was to validate the following three hypotheses:

1. Rural livelihood systems (as they are emerging) depend increasingly on external resources. This weakens the necessity for village-based natural resource management and contributes to the unsustainability of its natural resource base.
2. The on-going integration of village communities into an enlarged market economy does not further the more sustainable management of natural resources without an appropriate policy framework.
3. Effective village leadership in the past was perceived as the capability to organise people and to pool resources. The emerging patterns of leadership consider the sustainable management of resources as last priority in favour of tapping efficiently the external resources from governmental or non-governmental sources.

The findings concerning the three sets of hypotheses point out to a certain extent the future overshadowed by pessimism. The authors encountered a livelihood system where there was a growing autonomy of individual household at the cost of the village community. The behaviour of individuals towards one another was largely determined by the faction to which they were affiliated. It was the livelihood system consisting of a leadership and governance pattern, which was fragile and unsuitable. Farming, which was a way of life, was gradually taking the shape of leased farming: but the lessee farmer had lasting interests neither in the livelihood system of the community nor in its resource base. It was also a livelihood system which was becoming increasingly dependent on the resources that were externally generated. Further, it was a livelihood system, which was getting further and further integrated into the wider market economy. Finally, the concerns of the ordinary farmers or of the leaders had very little emotional space for the local natural resource base in the emerging livelihood system. At best it was a concern as a commodity, and for short-term gains. The evidence from the study makes one to ask this question: Were the natural resources and the emerging livelihood systems compatible with each other, to make them both sustainable? Or, were they at loggerheads?

G K Karanth (ed.) (2005). *Dimensions of Social Development: Status, Challenges and Prospects*. Social and Economic Change Monograph Series. No.8. Bangalore: Institute for Social and Economic Change.

G K Karanth and V Ramaswamy (2005). *At Loggerheads or Towards Sustainability? Changing Rural Livelihood Systems and Natural Resource Management*. Social and Economic Change Monograph Series. No.9. Bangalore: Institute for Social and Economic Change.





Books Published/ Edited

Overview

Where Water Seeps! : Towards A New Phase in Irrigation Reforms

A Narayanamoorthy & R S Deshpande. New Delhi: Academic Foundation, 2005

History of irrigation reforms in India dates back to the beginning of the 20th century. The studies addressing the need and process of reforms have made two suggestions involving pricing of irrigation water and participatory irrigation management. It is startling to note that most of these solutions are century old. The book provides evidence that these reform solutions began from the very First Irrigation Commission Report of 1903, and continued thereafter, reappearing periodically almost after every two decades albeit with fragmentary success. This study integrates the efforts of the authors incorporating more than a decade's sustained work addressing to the question of irrigation reforms in the current context.

After a review of irrigation sector, the book first maps the problems and locates the crevices where from the water seeps. Following this, the book charts out a corridor that reaches a technology based reform process. It is quite refreshing to read that some of the usual reform tenets are challenged from their basics to hammer home the point about their sporadic success.

Indian irrigation sector is served by three major sources in addition to the other traditional sources of irrigation. During the first phase after independence, surface irrigation and large dams received increasing attention in the policy. This was investment intensive and therefore, the question of returns to investment predominated the debate. The investment in surface irrigation continued more or less at the same speed but largely the expenditure trends were dominated by "operation and maintenance" cost. Subsidies in irrigation sector predominated the debate during the last decade. The subsidies emerge mainly due to the wide gap between revenue collected and the expenditure incurred for irrigation sector. In order to reduce the burden of subsidies on the exchequer it is necessary to operate on revenue as well as expenditure side. Largely, in the literature, one-sided argument is taken wherein enhancing the revenue by increasing water rates is recommended vociferously. The authors suggest that it would be necessary to work on revenue as well as expenditure side in the major irrigation sector in order to review the subsidy burden.

The study covers the entire canvass of irrigation development in India and addresses the issues for further analysis. It dwells over the specific problem of irrigation to provide the technically feasible and economically viable solutions under declining availability of water and increasing demand for it. The study incorporates an analysis of the nexus between poverty and irrigation as well as agricultural wages in the context of irrigation, an area hitherto neglected by irrigation analysts. Finally, it deals with the participatory irrigation management and power subsidy issues in a most candid manner to suggest a path for reforms under the present conditions of scarce water availability and market orientation.

Hydrology of the Western Ghats: Response to Forest Conversions

Jagdish Krishnaswamy, Sharachandra Lele and R Jayakumar (eds.). New Delhi: Tata McGraw-Hill, 2005.

Declining forest cover and increasing water scarcity are the two major issues facing most of the tropical countries. In this context, the 'watershed services provided by the forest ecosystems' have become the focus of much interest. The Western Ghats region of India, which is the source of most east- and west-flowing rivers in peninsular India and which also harbours most of its forest cover, is of particular interest in this context. This book is a first attempt to capture the entire range of research regarding the effects of land-cover change, particularly forest conversion, afforestation and degradation on hydrological and soil erosion processes and their likely socio-economic impacts in the Western Ghats region and to highlight the conceptual and methodological issues in conducting further research on these linkages. This has emerged out of a workshop organised jointly by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), the Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies in Environment and Development (CISED) and the Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology & the Environment (ATREE) in Bangalore in January 2003. The book is organised into 3 sections. The first section consists of three studies covering the basic hydro-meteorological phenomena, hydrological processes and groundwater modelling issues in the region. The second section deals with the effects of land-cover and land-use change on hydrology



and sedimentation. The types of land-use changes examined include forest degradation, afforestation through monocultural plantations, and forest conversion to mining, although the studies are necessarily of a preliminary nature. The third section deals with the conceptual and methodological issues related to understanding the “social” aspect of hydrological change. This book is expected to stimulate greater and better informed public debates and more socially relevant and scientifically rigorous exploration of the subject in this and other tropical regions.

Books Published / Edited

Deshpande, R S

(with A Narayanamoorthy) *Where Water Seeps: Towards a New Phase in India's Irrigation Reforms*. New Delhi: Academic Foundation, 2005.

Karant, G K

(edited) *Dimensions of Social Development: Status, Challenges and Prospects*. Social and Economic Change Monograph Series. No.8. Bangalore: Institute for Social and Economic Change, 2005.

(with V Ramaswamy) *At Loggerheads or Towards Sustainability? Changing Rural Livelihood Systems and Natural Resource Management*. Social and Economic Change Monograph Series. No.9. Bangalore: Institute for Social and Economic Change.

Lele, Sharachchandra

(with Jagdish Krishnaswamy and R Jayakumar) (eds.) *Hydrology of the Western Ghats: Response to Forest Conversion*. New Delhi: Tata McGraw-Hill, 2005.

Articles Published in Journals/ Edited Books

Anantha, K H

(with Jayasheela and Vishwanatha) ‘Small Scale Industries in India: Are They Contributing Enough?’ *SEDME*, 31(4), December 2004.

Babu, M Devendra

‘Decentralised Planning in Karnataka: An Impact Study’. In *Decentralised Planning and E-Governance in India: Problems and Prospects*, edited by A C K Nambiar and C R Pathak. Thrissur: Department of Economics, Calicut University, 2005.

Deshpande, R S

(with R B Desai) ‘Co-operative Processing Sector in the Context of Liberalisation’, *Co-operative Perspective*, 39 (3), October–December 2004.

(with R B Desai) ‘Rainfed Agriculture in Karnataka: Key for the Future Growth’. In *Development of Dryland Agriculture: Problems and Prospects*, edited by K A Rasure, KBBS Samiti, 2004.

(with P S Raghavendra) ‘Inter-Disciplinarity in Educational Research: A View of Processes’. In *Indian Economy: Education, Health and Development*, edited by Manohar Rao, V G Kalyankar, J B G Tilak and V B Annigeri. Himalaya Publications, 2005.

‘Globalisation and Agriculture’. In *Twenty First Century's Challenge to Socialism: Volume in Memory of Sri S M Joshi (Marathi)*, edited by Prakash Bal. S M Joshi Centenary Committee, 2005.

Kadekodi, K Gopal

(with M M Agarwal) ‘Valuing Community Labour: Why Not?’. In *Topics in Applied Economics*, edited by G Mythili and R Hema. New Delhi: Academic Foundation, 2005.



'Regional Disparity Revisited: The Case of Karnataka'. In *Indian Economy: Education, Health and Development*, edited by M J Manohar Rao *et al.* Himalaya Publications, 2005.

'Linking Biodiversity with Quality of Life: Issues of Assessment, Resilience and Model Integration'. In *Biodiversity and Quality of Life*, edited by Nirmal Sengupta and J Bandyopadhyay. Macmillan, 2005.

Lele, Sharachchandra

(with V Saberwal) 'Locating Local Elites in Negotiating Access to Forests: Havik Brahmins and the Colonial State 1860-1920'. *Studies in History*, 20(2): 273-303, 2004.

(with Kamaljit S Bawa, W John Kress, Nalini M Nadkarni) 'Beyond Paradise – Meeting the Challenges in Tropical Biology in the 21st Century'. *Biotropica*, 36(4): 437-46, 2004.

(with Ajit Menon) 'Draft NEP 2004: A Flawed Vision'. *SEMINAR*, 547: 55-62, March 2005.

(with L Venkatachalam) 'Assessing the Socio-Economic Impact of Changes in Forest Cover on Watershed Services'. In *Hydrology of the Western Ghats: Response to Forest Conversion*, edited by Jagdish Krishnaswamy, Sharachchandra Lele and R. Jayakumar. Bangalore: Tata McGraw-Hill, 2005.

Madheswaran, S

(with Badri Narayan Rath) 'The Dynamics of Economic Growth, Inflation and Growth of Labour Productivity: The Case of Indian Manufacturing Sector'. *The ICAI Journal of Industrial Economics*, II(2): 46-53, May 2005.

(with D Rajasekhar) 'Economic and Social Benefits of Micro-Finance Programmes: An Econometric Analysis'. In *Studies in Macroeconomics and Welfare*, edited by B B Bhattacharya and Arup Mitra. New Delhi: Academic Foundation, 2005.

Mutharayappa, R

'A Study of Maternal Health Care in Three Districts in Karnataka'. *Journal of the Indian Anthropological Society*, 40(1), March 2005.

Narayana, M R

'Liberalisation Measures in India's Coffee Sector: Analytical Implications for Market Structure and Consumer Welfare Analysis in Developing Countries'. *South Asia Economic Journal*, 5(2), 2004.

'Small Scale Industries in Karnataka State: Evidence for Impact of Growth, Sickness and Closure on Production and Employment'. *Indian Journal of Labour Economics*, 47(4), 2004.

'Databases for State Level Analysis of WTO Implications on Small Scale Industries in India: Lessons from Karnataka'. *Journal of Indian School of Political Economy*, 16(2&3), 2004.

'Student Loan by Commercial Banks: A Way to Reduce State Govt. Financial Support to Higher Education in India'. *Journal of Developing Areas*, 38(2), 2005.

Rajasekhar, D

(with S Madheswaran) 'Economic and Social Benefits of Micro-Finance Programmes: An Econometric Analysis'. In *Studies in Macroeconomics and Welfare*, edited by B B Bhattacharya and Arup Mitra, New Delhi: Academic Foundation, 2005.

'Institutions of Development'. In *Globalisation and Rural Development: Understanding New Development Paradigm*, edited by M C Behera. New Delhi: Commonwealth, 2005.

Rajeev, Meenakshi

'Equilibrium in Disequilibrium: A Diagrammatic Exposition'. *Indian Economic Review*, XXXIX(2), June 2005.



Raju, K N M

'Family and Fertility Decisions: An Anthropological Enquiry'. In *Fertility Transition in South India*, edited by Christophe Z Gulmoto and S Irudaya Rajan. New Delhi: Sage Publications, 2005.

(with T V Sekher and M N Sivakumar) 'Fertility Transition in Karnataka'. In *Fertility Transition in South India*, edited by Christophe Z Gulmoto and S Irudaya Rajan. New Delhi: Sage Publications, 2005.

Raju, K V

'Water Management in India'. *Indian Journal of Agricultural Economics*, 60(1), Jan-March 2005.

'Pricing, Subsidies on Institutional Reforms in Indian Irrigation'. In *Economic Reforms and Food Security: Impact of Trade and Technology in South Asia*, edited by Suresh Chandra Babu and Ashok Gulati. London: Haworth Press, 2005.

RoyChowdhury, Supriya

'Labour Activism and Women in the Unorganised Sector'. *Economic and Political Weekly*, Review of Labour, XL (22 & 23), May 28-June 3/June 4-10, 2005.

Sekher, T V

(with K N M Raju and M N Sivakumar) 'Fertility Transition in Karnataka'. In *Fertility Transition in South India*, edited by Christophe Z Gulmoto and S Irudaya Rajan. New Delhi: Sage Publications, 2005.

Syamala, T S

'Do Health Worker Female and Traditional Birth Attendant Equipped to Provide Primary Health Care in Tribal Areas? Evidences from Tribal Andhra Pradesh'. *Studies of Tribes and Tribals*, 2(2), December 2004.

Vadivelu, G Ananda

'Choosing *not* to Participate: Evidence from Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP) in Chitradurga, Karnataka'. *Water Policy Research Highlight*, Paper No.18. Gujarat: International Water Management Institute, 2005.

Venkatachalam, L

'Damage Assessment and Compensation to Farmers: Lessons from Verdict of Loss of Ecology Authority in Tamil Nadu'. *Economic and Political Weekly*, XL (15), April 9, 2005.

Keynote and Presidential Addresses

Deshpande, R S

'Missing Markets and WTO' at a seminar on **Missing Markets in World Trade**, organised by the Bangalore Management Association at Bangalore on January 17, 2005.

'Presidential Address: Future of Agricultural Policy (Marathi)' at the annual conference of **Marathawada Economic Association**, organised by Yeshwant Mahavidyalaya at Nanded on February 4-5, 2005.

'Prof. P R Brahmananda Memorial Lecture on Union Budget' at a memorial lecture organised by the **Bangalore Social Science Forum** on March 14, 2005.

'Key Note Speaker' at an international workshop on **Institutional and Technical Capacity Building on Urban and Peri-Urban Agriculture in Asia**, organised by the Food and Agricultural Organisation of United Nations and PNASF, Bangalore on June 29, 2005.



Kadekodi, K Gopal

'Relevance of Census Information for Policy making' at the **Dissemination Seminar on 2001 Census Results**, organised by the Census Organisation at Bangalore on December 29, 2004.

Karanth, G K

'Surviving the Risks and Shocks: Hurdles to Social Development of the Poor and Marginalised' at the UGC sponsored National Conference on **Marginal Groups, Political Participation and Social Development**, organised by the Department of Sociology, Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai on January 6, 2005.

Raju, K V

'Water and Livelihoods in India' at a Seminar on **Water for Livelihoods: Inter-Agency Co-ordination**, organised by OXFAM GD and DHAN Foundation at Bangalore on April 25, 2005.

Sangita, S N

'Public Private Partnership for Sustainable Development' at a workshop on **Public Private Partnership in Nation Building**, organised by the Ecumenical Centre at Bangalore on January 28-30, 2005.

'Paradoxes of Indian Democracy' at a Seminar on **Paradoxes of Indian Democracy**, organised by the Gokhale Institute of Public Affairs at Bangalore on May 14, 2005.

Fellowships

Kadekodi, K Gopal

Honorary Visiting Associate Fellow, International Centre for Theoretical Physics, Rome, Italy, during May 2-5, 2005.

Sekher, T V

Visiting Scholar, Population Council, New York, April 3-10, 2005.

Offices held in Academic/ Professional/ Administrative Bodies

Deshpande, R S

Member, ICAR Nominee, Management Committee, National Centre for Agricultural Economics and Policy, New Delhi.

Member, Agricultural Prices Commission, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore.

Chairman, Committee on Farm Management Studies, Department of Agriculture, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore.

Member, Expert Group on Strategies on Drought Management for Karnataka, Directorate of Agriculture, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore.

Karanth, G K

Member, Academic and Administrative Audit Committee, University of Mysore, Mysore.



Narayana, M R

Member, Board of Post-graduate Studies in Economics, Kuvempu University, Shimoga.

Member, Board of Post-graduate Studies in Economics, Bangalore University, Bangalore.

Raju, K V

Advisor, Water Resources Management Development in Gateway.org, website of the World Bank, Washington D.C. from January 2005.

Rao, V M

Member, Board of Directors, Public Affairs Foundation, Bangalore.

Sangita, S N

Member, Board of Studies in Karnatak University, Dharwad.

Member, Board of Studies in Mysore University, Mysore.

Member, Board of Studies in Kuvempu University, Shimoga.

Sastry, G S

Member, Expert Review Committee on Best Practices in Urban Environmental Management, City Managers' Association, Karnataka (CMAK), Bangalore.

Sekher, T V

Member, International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP).

Miscellaneous

Narayana, M R

Consultancy Report: Background Paper on Financing of Education, Capacity - Building for the Preparation of SHDRs (IND/98/444), United Nations Development Programme (New Delhi) and Department of Planning, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore, 2005.

Seetharamu, A S

Monitoring and Supervision Reports (2) of SSA in Karnataka State submitted to SSA/DOE/GOK and DEE/MHRD/GOI.

Obituaries

H Narasimhaiah

Dr. H Narasimhaiah, Founder Member and Educationist and Ex-Vice Chancellor of Bangalore University passed away on January 31, 2005. His death was condoled by the ISEC fraternity.

At the time of establishment of ISEC in 1972, Prof. V K R V Rao discovered a friendly and humane person in Dr. H Narasimhaiah, who was incidentally the Vice-Chancellor of Bangalore University then. Though a 30 acre piece of land in the Bangalore University campus was allotted to ISEC, it was the initiative of Dr. H Narasimhaiah which made the institute to move to the present campus. Prof. Rao invited him as an ex-officio member on the Board of Governors of ISEC. Dr. H Narasimhaiah used to attend the meetings of the Board of Governors of ISEC and continuously gave moral support to Prof. Rao's endeavours in making ISEC a national institution.



Dr. H Narasimhaiah was a personification of simplicity, humility and austerity. He was rated to be an excellent teacher, kind to students and loved by one and all. He was a rationalist par excellence, a champion of constitutional life in India and a promoter of scientific temper and science as a way of life. ISEC has lost a good friend and well-wisher.

N S Iyengar

Dr. N S Iyengar passed away on March 8, 2005. His death was condoled by the ISEC fraternity. Dr. Iyengar was a legendary figure in the fields of statistics, econometrics and economics. He was also a Founder Member and sitting Member of the Board of Governors of ISEC.

Prof. Iyengar's academic contributions came from theoretical studies of standard errors and decomposition of consumption inequality, limited information maximum likelihood estimators, and multicollinearity to applications of Bayesian methods, applied fields of household expenditure and projecting consumer expenditures at national and state levels with changes in the distribution of income.

Prof. Iyengar was highly productive and wrote in professional journals. He had over 70 research papers and articles published in scientific journals, such as, *Econometrica*, *Journal of Royal Statistical Society*, *Sankhya*, *Journal of Quantitative Economics*, *Journal of Development Economics*, and *Indian Economic Review*. His jointly edited books include *A Survey of Research in Economics* in 1978, *Econometrics in India* in 1991, and *Bayesian Analysis in Statistics & Econometrics* in 1992.

Prof. Iyengar was known for his simplicity, modesty and humility. He was gregarious and humorous. Prof. Iyengar was very active in participating in the meetings of academic bodies and policy discussions. He was the chairman of the Expert Group on Estimation of State Domestic Product of the Government of Karnataka in 2001.

His brilliant academic distinctions and lasting professional contributions will be a source of inspiration. The present and future generation of students, teachers, and policy-makers has a responsibility in carrying out his life-time vision: "India should develop its own statistical standards suited to its conditions even if they appear somewhat inefficient from western standards".

K H Cheluva Raju

Prof. K H Cheluva Raju passed away on February 18, 2005. His death was condoled by the ISEC fraternity. As a Founder Member of ISEC and also a Member of ISEC's Board of Governors in the past, he was closely associated with the institute in various capacities, and helped the institute in promoting its research work.

As a leading political scientist from Karnataka, he was widely respected as a teacher and as an educationist. He served as a president of the All India Association of Political Science and was also the President of the Bangalore Social Science Forum. Though a popular teacher in Political Science, his concern was for all branches of social sciences and he worked diligently towards spreading and promoting social science teaching and research in the State. His association with the Bangalore Social Science Forum bears ample testimony to this.

He was quite well known for his contribution to the theory of federalism, particularly for his studies on co-operative federalism. His attitude towards young scholars was always one of encouragement. He was a very pleasant personality, with a very charismatic smile on his face, which encouraged a large number of young scholars to pursue their studies in the field of political science. He took on the reigns of Gulbarga University as its Vice Chancellor during its early phase of difficult times and is today fondly remembered both as an excellent teacher, administrator and a helping hand to a large number of students.

Environment Day

With global interest in preserving environment, the Institute was not far behind in bringing awareness of its importance. The Institute organised an Environment Day on May 18, 2005 at the ISEC campus. This event was celebrated with the planting of trees in the campus area. All the staff and students in the Institute participated in the event.



Celebrating Environment Day by planting.

Seminar on Indian Polity: Future of Society and Economy

A Seminar entitled 'Indian Polity: Future of Society and Economy', organised by the ISEC, on the occasion of the Annual General Body Meeting of the Indian Association of Social Science Institutes (IASSI) was held on April 29-30, 2005. There were three technical sessions: State and Globalisation, Civil Society and Social Movements, and Parties, Coalitions and Ideologies. Papers were selected from submitted abstracts, and the paper presenters came from member institutions of the IASSI. Each technical session began with a keynote address by a noted scholar in the specific field.

Dr. Supriya RoyChowdhury, Associate Professor, Development Administration Unit, was the co-ordinator of the Seminar.

Seminar on A Statistical Accounting of Water Resources

The Ecological Economics Unit of the Institute organised a two day seminar on 'A Statistical Accounting of Water Resources', on June 24-25, 2005. The Central Statistical Organisation (CSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Government of India, New Delhi, sponsored the seminar. The seminar was inaugurated by Sri P S Rana, Secretary, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Government of India. The inaugural speech by Sri Oscar Fernandes, Minister of State with Independent Charge, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Government of India was distributed to the participants and invitees as he could not attend the seminar.

The main focus of the seminar was on the problems in computing statistics related to water sector and to refine the methodologies relating to statistical accounting of water resources. The focused themes of the seminar were: water resources; urban, rural and groundwater use; water quality, and environment; and conservation of water resources. The water experts presented 15 technical papers in four sessions on the said themes during the two-day deliberations. In addition to the senior officers of the CSO, the officials of the Directorates of Economics and Statistics of different states also participated in the seminar.

The seminar was co-ordinated by Dr. G S Sastry, Assistant Professor and Dr. K V Raju, Professor and Head, Ecological Economics Unit of the Institute.



National Workshop on Open Source Software for Libraries

A National Workshop on 'Open Source Software for Libraries' was jointly organised by the Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore, and the National Social Science Documentation Centre (NASSDOC), ICSSR, New Delhi at ISEC on April 4-5, 2005.

Prof. Gopal Kadekodi, Director, ISEC, inaugurated the workshop, and in his inaugural address, remembered the contribution made by Sri Ranganathan to the Library Science. He said that it is only such innovative mind that can bring change as needed by the society. He also said that one has to work hard to utilise modernisation techniques such as ICT, Open Source Software for Libraries, etc, towards upgrading the services. Sri Manjunath and Dr. P R Goswami briefed about the workshop. Sri T R B Sharma, Deputy Librarian, ISEC, proposed the vote of thanks.

This workshop was co-ordinated by Sri T R B Sharma, Deputy Librarian.

One-Day Workshop on Micro-Insurance in India: Can it be Sold Profitably?

A one-day workshop on 'Micro-Insurance in India: Can It be Sold Profitably?', jointly organised by the International Labour Organisation (ILO), Geneva, German Development Co-operation (GTZ), Bangalore, and Bearing Point, Hyderabad, was held at ISEC on January 28, 2005. The chief objective of this workshop was to discuss the impediments to profitability faced by the insurance companies and the solutions to improve profitability. In all, 30 members, representing the insurance companies both from public and private sectors participated in the meet.



(left to right) Prof. D Rajasekhar, Prof. A S Seetharamu, Sri. Jim Roth and Smt. Namerta deliberating on micro-insurance at the seminar.

Smt. Namerta, Co-ordinator, GTZ-Micro Insurance Project, made a presentation on the experience of the GTZ in managing micro-insurance projects. The presentation focussed on the role and functions of community and the intermediary organisations in providing micro-insurance services. It also focussed on different lessons learnt, expectations and concerns of the client, intermediary organisations as well as insurance providers. This was followed by a presentation by Sri. Jim Roth, ILO, Geneva, on how the companies could undertake the micro-insurance business profitably.

The participants were then organised into four groups each dwelling on impediments to profitability faced by insurance companies, and solutions to overcome the impediments. The main impediments identified were lack of data, low level of awareness, poor clarity on regulations, the issue of costs, quality of intermediary organisations, lack of forum, business obligation, and the absence of a level playing field. Solutions identified to overcome these impediments were the entrustment of data collection and storage to an agency, a more active role played by the regulator in developing the sector, removal of the restriction on commission-sharing in this sector, etc. This workshop was co-ordinated by Dr. D Rajasekhar, Professor and Head, Decentralisation and Development Unit.

Seminar on Chinese Economic Development: Lessons for India

The Institute organised a seminar on 'Chinese Economic Development: Lessons for India' on April 15, 2005. Prof. J F Huchet, University of Rennes II and China Research Centre, EHESS, Paris, spoke on the topic 'Strength and Weakness of the Chinese Economic Growth' and Dr Kong Xinixin, Institute of Venture Capital, National Centre for Science and Technology for Development, Beijing, spoke on the topic 'Learning Process, Technology Capability Accumulation and Self-reliance Innovation of the Chinese Firm'.

Participants included among others, representatives from the Government of Karnataka, Government of India, academicians from Universities and institutions and Founder/Life Members and faculty, staff and students of the Institute.

Dr. M R Narayana, Professor, Economics Unit, was the Co-ordinator of the seminar.

Prof. V K R V Rao Memorial Lecture



Dr. Ramachandra Guha, a noted historian, speaking on Nehru.

Prof. Ramachandra Guha, Historian and Biographer, delivered Prof. V K R V Rao Memorial Lecture, the second in the series, on 'Verdicts on Nehru: The Rise and Fall of A Reputation' as part of Founder's day celebrations on January 20, 2005. The lecture examined the posthumous reputation of India's first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru. It sought to ask, and at least partially answer, this question - why has a man who was so greatly adored in his lifetime been so comprehensively vilified since his death? After exploring how Nehru was revered while he was alive, the essay turns to the political tendencies that opposed and still oppose him. The critics of Nehru, that the paper investigates, were those emanating from the Marxist, Hindutva, Gandian, Lohiaite and free market points of view.



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