



ISEC

News

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From The Director's Desk



As I pick up the pen now, the year 2004 has drawn to an end. During the year gone by, the country has seen a large number of changes, events and developments, some good, some bad, some of which to be remembered and many more to be forgotten. It reminds me of what Samuel Taylor Coleridge

said long back: "Often do the spirit of great events stride on before the events; and in today already walks tomorrow". It is natural but necessary to reflect on the past and set our vision and goals for the New Year. I take this opportunity to wish all the readers of this newsletter and well-wishers of ISEC the very best in their pursuits, and a very prosperous year ahead.

Talking of changes, both at the Centre and in Karnataka State, we have had a change of guard in terms of governments. Specially designed missions of 'Common Minimum Programmes' having been announced, I am sure that the people of this country would be watching them very closely, for their accountability, transparency, performance and achievements. After all, we often abhor changes, but it is only change that hopefully brings prosperity.

At ISEC, it may be useful to take stock of events and activities organized, at least during the last six months and set our goals for the coming months. While completing nine projects during the last six months, eleven new research studies have been launched. As many as eight books and monographs have been released, besides twelve working papers.

ISEC has taken a major stride in networking and outreach collaborations. In the month of November, ISEC joined hands with South Asian Network on Development and Environmental Economics (SANDEE) to organize a conference and training camp for ten days on Environmental Economics. Well-known social scientists such as Karl Goran Maler, Jeffrey Vincent, David Glower, Partha Dasgupta and several international experts, numbering about 40, participated in this outreach event. We have also been taking the lead in research and dissemination of policy outcomes to different agencies on a variety of social and technological issues. For instance, in association with ICSSR, IDPAD and NOW, a three-day conference was organized on 'Biotechnology and India's Development' in which about 50 scientists and social scientists, DBT and NGO representatives from all over the world participated. Among them were Professors V R Panchamukhi, Peter Van der Veer, Peter Nijkamp, and S L Rao. ISEC also organized a conference on India-Development, jointly with Stanford University and Infosys. Professors TN Srinivasan, Roger Noll, B K Chandrasekhar, and Sri N K Singh were some of the main speakers. Likewise, we

had day-long seminars and workshops on issues of 'social security for the un-organized sector' and 'Design of activity mappings for the three-tier Panchayat raj institutions'. We also had several other visiting scholars like Professors Ravi Kanbur, Margaret Grieco and Peter Van der Veer, whose visits were enabled through the generous support of SRTT.

One of the important activities of social science institutions such as ours is to reach the society on a need basis. With this in mind, we had organized several public lectures for the benefit of the wider society. Professors Partha Dasgupta, Scarlet Epstein and Dipankar Gupta spoke on issues of Irreversibility and development, Need for re-inventing growth centres, and Rethinking India's villages, respectively. Karnataka Rajyotsava Lecture at ISEC this year was delivered by the well-known dramatist, artist, journalist and Magsaysay award recipient, Sri K V Subbanna. Speaking on the theme 'My Concept of Community,' he brought home to our memory the meaning of community as was used during the period of freedom struggle and at independence. He made a fresh plea for community-based management in all spheres of development, be it rural or urban.

I must also make mention of the recent developments in our Ph D programme. ISEC has been enabled by Mysore University to establish our own Doctoral Committees to take care of the initiation to conducting the final viva-voce. This is yet another fine gesture from Mysore University aimed at simplifying the procedural system. With this, we hope to be able to roll out Ph D students well within five years. During the last six months as many as eight Ph D degrees have been awarded to ISEC and external students.

During the year just ended, some of ISEC's well-wishers and associates as Life Members and former faculty left for their heavenly abode. I would like to recall the memory of Chief Justice Nittoor Srinivasa Rau, Professors H G Hanumappa and Amal Ray for their intimate association with ISEC in several capacities. We pray that the Almighty may bestow eternal peace on them.

Tsunami calamity apart, challenges can be many more in the years to come. But the worst calamity that one can think of is that of being ignorant of calamities. It reminds me of what Mencius, a great Chinese thinker who wrote around the third century BC, that "When heaven sends down calamities, man may escape from them; but if a man occasions calamities himself, he will no longer be able to live". That is the kind of warning with which we shall march on this year.

Gopal K Kadekodi
Director



Stanford - India Development Conference — 2004

The Stanford-India Development Conference-2004 was held on Infosys Campus in Bangalore on December 21, 2004, co-hosted by ISEC, Infosys Technologies Limited, and Stanford Centre for International Development (SCID) with financial support from The Indus Entrepreneurs (TiE). The goal of the conference was to enhance debate and informed discussion on the multidimensional nature, composition, process and implications of economic reforms to ensure growth and equity. The conference recognised that economic reforms and growth require the collaboration of the government, other policy makers, business community and academic researchers. Hence, the participants, numbering seventy, were invited from each of these groups. This considerable turnout suggested the success of the endeavour.



Prof. Gopal K Kadekodi, Director, ISEC, introducing the Stanford-India Development Conference 2004 at the inaugural session. Also seen in the picture are Shri N R Narayana Murthy, Chairman, Infosys, Prof. B K Chandrashekar, keynote speaker, Prof. Roger Noll, Stanford University, and Shri Atul Vashistha, CEO, NeoIT, California.

Sri N R Narayana Murthy chaired the inaugural session, and Prof. B K Chandrashekar delivered the keynote address. Sri Atul Vashistha proposed a vote of thanks.

There were four technical sessions with distinguished speakers, chairpersons and discussants. The speakers were Prof. T N Srinivasan on overview and assessment of India's economic reforms; Prof. Roger Noll on performance of power sector; Sri N K Singh on changes in governance and institutions in the reform era; and Prof. Naushad Forbes, Anjini Kochar, and A S Seetharamu on reforms in education and evaluation of the education system. Sri T R Satish Chandran, Prof. Prakash G Apte, Sri D P Yadav, and Sri M K Panduranga Setty chaired the sessions. The discussants comprised senior civil servants and academicians: Professors G Thimmaiah, Chiranjeev Sen, Samuel Paul, D P Sen Gupta, Sri Phillipose Mathai, Sri G Gurucharan, and Sri T M Vijayabhaskar.

Prof. Gopal K Kadekodi chaired the concluding session. The invited address by Dr. Shibal Gupta was on comparative analysis of State-level development with special reference to reforms and development experiences in Bihar. Prof M R Narayana, Conference Co-ordinator, proposed a vote of thanks and emphasised the need for a long-term professional collaboration between ISEC and SCID, Infosys, and TiE for sharing of knowledge and experiences. At the end of the conference, Prof. Gopal K Kadekodi summarised the deliberations as providing some fresh thoughts to make the process a continuous one and free from political and governmental changes.

Karnataka Rajyotsava Extension Lecture



Shri K V Subbanna, delivering the Karnataka Rajyotsava Extension Lecture on the theme 'My Concept of the Community' at ISEC, on November 26, 2004.

The Karnataka Rajyotsava Extension Lecture was delivered on November 26, 2004, by Shri K V Subbanna, well-known theatre personality and winner of the 1991 Ramon Magsaysay Award for Journalism, Literature and Creative Communication Arts. Speaking on the theme 'My Concept of the Community,' Shri Subbanna expressed concern over the diminishing human values and the fragmented concept of development. The driving force behind this kind of development being competition, he warned against its ills like aggression, envy, enmity and violence. Citing the contributions to world development by Buddha, Lohia, Gandhi, Vinoba Bhave, Ambedkar, and Gopal Gowda, he emphasised the values of simplicity and restraint, mutual love and co-operation for progress that should be a holistic process. He explained it as a

'synthesis' of old and new civilization. His idea of community is this new synthesis or integrative way of life.



By starting NINASAM in the tiny village of Heggodu in Shimoga district of Karnataka, he has opened many avenues not only for Indian theatre but also for the mobilisation and growth of community and culture at large. For Shri Subbanna, democracy and decentralisation are recurring themes in the NINASAM outlook. "One day, a change will come, which will be a new way of equity, decentralised and democratic and contentment with our own way of life." This holistic understanding is what he understood as community.

Shri Subbanna stated that he belongs to the world because he belongs to Heggodu. To belong anywhere, one must begin somewhere and for him it is this tiny village of Malnad. But it is not a 'retreat.' This is where he and his people engage passionately with the world and all its work'.

Conference on Biotechnology and India's Development

A Conference on 'Biotechnology and India's Development' was organised by ISEC during November 22-25, 2004, in Bangalore. The conference was enabled by the Netherlands Foundation for the Advancement of Tropical Research. It was hosted in association with the Indo-Dutch Programme on Alternatives in Development (IDPAD) and the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), New Delhi. The Inaugural Panel comprised Prof. Peter Nijkamp, Chair NOW, Mr. Hans Knijnenburg, First Secretary of the Netherlands High Commission, New Delhi, Prof. V R Panchmukhi, Co-Chair IDPAD and Chair ICSSR, Dr. Peter van der Veer, Co-Chair IDPAD, Prof. S L Rao, Chair ISEC and Prof Gopal K Kadekodi, Director, ISEC.

Participants represented a cross-section of scientists, economists, social scientists, state and central government officers, planners, industrialists and civic societies. There were sessions on development and poverty alleviation, food security, regulatory issues, drugs and pharmaceuticals, and the economics of biotechnology. The conference concluded with two intensive panel discussions. The 'International Biosafety Protocol' panel included Dr. S R Rao, Prof A Damodaran, and Dr. S Chaturvedi. The panel on 'Formulation of Recommendations for Future Course of Social Science Research in Biotechnology' included Prof. V R Panchmukhi, Prof. Peter van der Veer, and Prof. G K Kadekodi.



Prof. Van der Veer, co-chairman, IDPAD, speaking at the inaugural function of the Conference. Seated on the dais are (from left to right): Prof. G K Kadekodi, Prof. V R Panchamukhi, Shri S L Rao, Shri Hans Knijnenburg, and Prof. Peter Nijkamp.

'Ecological Irreversibilities: What Do They Tell Us about Sustainable Development?'

Prof. Partha Dasgupta, FRS, Frank Ramsey Professor at Cambridge University, UK, delivered a public lecture on the above theme. Prof. Dasgupta addressed the problem of ecological irreversibility by posing three different issues. First, referring to the nexus of low-level nutrition and poverty syndrome, there is a fundamental issue of threshold level of nutrition to be crossed to break the nexus. Given the social, economic and demographic milieu of the population, there may be problems of irreversibility from low level of nutrition.

Second, he posed the question about lack of substitutes for a number of natural resources that can reverse the process of low levels of sustainability. Third, based on the classical example of over fishing beyond the replacement (or reproduction) levels from water bodies like rivers, lakes or ponds, at some point in time, the cost of harvesting may cross over the gains from exploitation rates. Then, not only would the livelihoods be affected, but the capacity to regenerate may vanish making the eco-system totally unsustainable.

Therefore, in most commonly observed ecological problems, there is a need to watch and ward for the situations of such irreversibilities well in advance to reduce the dangers of such incapacities to be faced by generations.



Project Inception Seminar on 'Design and Management of Social Security Benefits in Karnataka'

The Institute has initiated a multi-disciplinary study on 'Design and Management of Social Security Benefits in Karnataka' in collaboration with Department of Labour and GTZ/Micro-Insurance Project. This study aims to assess social security needs of unorganised workers, assess affordability and willingness to make contributions and suggest the design and management of social security benefits. A research inception seminar was held on July 14, 2004 with key stakeholders to discuss the study questions. About 39 persons representing government, trade unions, NGOs, insurance companies and research institutions participated in the seminar, which was chaired by Prof. G K Kadekodi, Director, ISEC. The keynote address by Mr. Sanjiv Kumar, Labour Commissioner, GoK, emphasised the need for critical assessment of needs and examination of the existing schemes in the formulation of new schemes. Mr. T R Raghunandan, Secretary, Department of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, GoK, suggested that gram panchayats play a key role in the registration of workers, mobilisation of contributions and delivery of benefits. The study team (consisting of Prof. D Rajasekhar, Prof. G K Karanth and Dr. S Madheswaran and Ms. Suchitra J Y) presented key issues relating to the study questions.



From left to right: Prof. V M Rao (Honorary Professor, ISEC), Ms. Namerta (Coordinator, GTZ-Micro Insurance Project), Mr. Sanjiv Kumar, (Labour Commissioner, GoK), Prof. G K Kadekodi (Director, ISEC) and Prof. D Rajasekhar (Head, Decentralisation and Development Unit).

Key stakeholders welcomed the study as this would provide a scientific base for designing social security programmes. Assuring full support and co-operation for the study, the stakeholders suggested that careful thought should be given to issues relating to affordability of unorganised workers to make contributions and the social role of the state and other agencies in the design and management of programmes.

Prof. D Rajasekhar, Decentralisation and Development Unit, co-ordinated the seminar.

Brainstorming Session on 'Growth Centre: Measures to Prevent Migration from Urban and Rural Areas'

In collaboration with RDPR of GoK, the Institute, on October 4, 2004, hosted a half-a-day brainstorming of experts and administrators on the theme of promoting 'Rural Growth Centres.' Professor T Scarlett Epstein narrated the experience of a similar approach in the Latin American and African context. A plan was made, emphasizing the growing linkage of rural artisans and small enterprises with global markets, to develop the growth centres. Mr H T Thimmegowda, Chairman and Managing Director of Cauvery Neeravari Nigama, outlined the proposal for a pilot case to be tried out in the village 'Mangala,' the famous 'Wangala' of Dr. Epstein's classic study is Mandya. Mr. Chiranjeevi Singh, Development Commissioner, Government of Karnataka, while welcoming the proposal called for keeping the lessons learnt in earlier experience of developing industrial centres. Dr. G K Kadekodi, Director, ISEC, presided over the meeting. Prof. G K Karanth was the Coordinator.

Cambodian Visit to ISEC

A twelve-member delegation from Cambodia visited ISEC and had discussions with senior faculty members on 'Global Economy and Its Impact on Small Manufacturing Sector', 'Decentralisation and Voice for the Small Manufacturing Sector,' and 'Governance Issues for the Small-Scale Industries.' Of the twelve members, nine represented the small-scale manufacturing units in Cambodia, while three represented The Asian Foundation, an NGO working on democracy and elections, women's empowerment, decentralisation and economic programmes.

Professors G K Kadekodi, A S Seetharamu, G K Karanth, M R Narayana, R S Deshpande, S N Sangita, and D Rajasekhar attended the meeting.

OUTREACH PROGRAMMES

Activity Mapping among Panchayat Raj Institutions: Issues and Ways Forward

D Rajasekhar

Devolution has come to be recognised as an indispensable mechanism to make participation of the poor and marginalised substantive and governance accountable. The 73rd Constitutional Amendment delegated key development functions to the Panchayat Raj Institutions (PRIs). The challenge now is *how* to and *what* to transfer of the 29 matters listed in the eleventh schedule of the constitution to the three tiers of the PRIs. It is a formidable task to identify the tiers best suited to each of these matters and the possible hurdles and problems in implementing and empowering these institutions.

In order to discuss these issues, a one-day workshop on 'Activity Mapping among PRIs' was jointly organised by the Union Ministry of Panchayat Raj, New Delhi, and ISEC, Bangalore, at ISEC on August 27, 2004. There were 45 participants in the workshop, most of whom were senior officials (such principal secretaries, additional secretaries, secretaries and other officials belonging to the Panchayat Raj Department) from almost all the states. In addition, a few faculty members of ISEC and representatives of a few NGOs attended the workshop.

The presentations at the workshop called for substantive implementation and operationalisation of the provisions mentioned in Act 243G of the Constitution, and welcomed the measures by the state government to devolve functions through activity mapping. They sought to allay fears in certain quarters that the specification of functions to panchayats would 'disempower' the state-level politicians and bureaucrats. The state-level actors would have to play a pivotal role in various technical activities such as maintaining audits and accounts. The presentations focused on the comparative advantage of different tiers in order to overcome the problem of 'role clarity'.

It was also argued that the issue of 'comparative advantages' could be comprehended only if an attempt was made to understand the 29 subjects in terms of various sub-functions such as financing, staffing, provisioning, implementation, evaluation, conflict resolution, accountability, and information sharing. Depending on the comparative advantage and principle of subsidiarity, each of the tiers could be assigned various functions. Such an activity mapping can be effective only if devolution is based on the principle of subsidiarity and backed by legislation rather than administrative orders.

The resource persons also attempted to map the various possible problems that states could face in devolving activities through activity mapping. First, the problem of political and bureaucratic will. Bureaucrats need to undergo a 'mind-set change' and be willing for complete devolution. They should not encourage patronage and shun from making provision for hidden funds. MLAs and other public representatives have to be told to negotiate directly with the representatives of the ZPs. Bureaucrats should concentrate their efforts on training, documenting and networking between PRIs. Similarly, activity mapping and devolution does not mean abdicating 'technical supervision,' so that no state department feels that it is completely disempowered. Second, activity mapping should be assigned on the basis of complexity of the problem/issues and not on pecuniary limits. Third, some of the programmes cannot be easily demarcated into functions belonging to various tiers (for instance, poverty alleviation). They need teamwork and various tiers working jointly across sectors. Fourth, encourage 'peer learning' to both arrive at and learn from 'best practices.' It is essential to organise exposure visits to other GPs. The fifth problem relates to parallel bodies. These bodies are consciously encouraged by various central and state ministries, and also multilateral and bilateral agencies to side-track funds and avoid devolution of the decision-making process. The workshop identified finances, legal process, social dimension, political parties, regional variations, parallel bodies, convergence and method of devolution as key issues in the devolution of functions through activity mapping.

It was concluded that notwithstanding the problems in operationalising activity mapping, an earnest effort should be made to delineate the functions to PRIs. In preparation for the exercise on activity mapping, the workshop attempted a comprehensive review on key economic, political, administrative and social variables for effective and meaningful devolution of functions through activity mapping. In other words, the emphasis was to look at fiscal, political and administrative decentralisation as a comprehensive programme for both democratisation of governance and empowerment of the disadvantaged. The workshop not only identified the key issues and problems but also provided suggestions for overcoming the problems to a large number of policy makers at the highest level.





Drinking Water Situation in Kolar City

K V Raju

The study attempts to estimate the water demand, assess water resources in Kolar town, design alternatives, and identify issues for further analysis. It involved interactions with various personnel of City Municipal Council (CMC), elected councillors, Government and various private organisations. The survey covered 950 households spread over all 31 wards of the city. The study, with support from IWMI-TATA, was carried out by Dr. K V Raju, B K Anand, Praveen Holla, and Shashidhar of the Ecological Economics unit of ISEC, Bangalore.

The study finds that demand for water in Kolar, with population density of 445 persons per hectare, is being partially met by the CMC. The total demand, as per the survey, is 7.27 MLD and, as per the CMC data, is 13.56 MLD. The total supply, as per the survey, is 3.43 MLD and as per the CMC data, is 7.1 MLD. Ammanikere, one of the surface water resources, which was serving 50 per cent of the town, has been dry for the past 18 months. Treatment units were installed in 1971. The pump has not been replaced since then. Lack of proper management and of technical personnel has contributed to the problem.

The CMC, which is supplying water from bore wells, meets 50 per cent of the demand. The groundwater quality analysis, based on 137 samples, shows that 98 per cent of the samples are contaminated and not potable.

Apart from the resource problem, there are managerial issues, which include non-availability of household data, an important element in the assessment of the water demand in the town. Despite the fact that Kolar is growing, the tax collections have not been done by the revenue department.

Technical problems are involved in the design of pipe networks from supply to distribution. Moreover, the absence of a perennial river exacerbates the problem. The people in the town are suffering from dental fluorosis, skeletal fluorosis and other waterborne diseases.

The study findings were presented at a public meeting organised by the Kolar City Municipal Council in Kolar. The local media gave wide coverage to the findings. The Deputy Commissioner and other senior officers, besides city councillors, attended the meeting. The debate was lively and an eye-opener for many of them. It has been debated in the Assembly, and the government has granted Rs.50 lakhs to improve the drinking water situation in Kolar city. Now that the new knowledge has influenced action at the state and local levels, the Kolar CMC is exploring long-term solutions with the Ecological Economics Unit of ISEC.

REACHING OUT

Research Methodology Training Programme for the Master's Students of Lund University, Sweden

Centre for East and South-East Asian Studies (CESEAS), Lund University, Sweden, approached ISEC for organising a research and training programme for their Master's students in Asian Studies. The arrangement was cleared by ARPC of the Institute and a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed with the CESEAS Lund University. The programme involved training the Master's students of CESEAS in research methodology, specifically focussing on the topic of their dissertation. The first batch of two students, viz, Mr. Rasmus Bay Arnbjerg and Ms. Mette Haagen, joined on September 1, 2004. They attended the specially designed course on Research Methodology and worked at the Institute for a period of two months (September 1, 2004 to October 31, 2004). Mr. Rasmus Bay Arnbjerg conducted a case study on 'Collaboration or Collision? Identity Formations and Resource Management' and Ms. Mette Haagen worked on 'Misinformation and Poverty in the context of Kidney Transplantation in India.' The first four weeks of the course covered lectures on research methodology and also special lectures in their respective areas of research, to acquaint them with the area-specific issues. This was followed by a four-week fieldwork and a final presentation and discussion on the field experiences. Prof. R S Deshpande, ADRT Unit, co-ordinated the programme. The Director of CESEAS, Dr. Jan Magnusson, wrote back that he was very satisfied with the ISEC model of the training course on Applied Fieldwork and evinced keen interest in continuing the tie-up arrangement.

Seminars by Visitors

Battles over Nature: Nature Conservation in South Asia in Historical Perspective — *Mahesh Rangarajan*, Environmental Historian (June 22, 2004).

Waste Pickers and Collectors in Delhi: Poverty and Environment in an Urban Informal Sector — *Prof. Yujiro Hayami*, Foundation for Advanced Studies on International Development, Tokyo (June 28, 2004).

Dimensions of Spatial Inequality in China — *Prof. Ravi Kanbur*, T. H. Lee Professor of World Affairs and Professor of Economics at Cornell University and V K R V Rao Chair Professor, ISEC (July 2, 2004).



New Interactions, New Possibilities: Transport, New Information Communication Technology and the Reduction of Rural Social Inequalities — *Prof. Margaret Grieco*, Professor of Transport and Society at Napier University, Edinburgh, Scotland, and SRTT Visiting Faculty, ISEC (July 3, 2004).

Global Commons, Local Solutions: Climate Change Policies and Small-Scale Industries in India — *Dr. Preeti Soni*, (July 12, 2004).

Reaching The Un-Reached: Towards An Energy – Development Paradigm for Rural India — *Dr. Shirish Sinha*, (July 14, 2004).

Is There Another Development? Towards a Paradigm for Addressing Rural-Urban Imbalances — *Prof. Scarlett Epstein*, SRTT Visiting Professor (August 23, 2004).

Socio-Economic and Ecological Feasibility Study of a Riparian Floodplain for Increased Stream Flows — *Dr. Malavika Chauhan*, SRTT Visiting Professor (August 26, 2004).

WWF's Dialogue on Water, Food and Environment — *Dr. Biksham Gujja*, Advisor, Living Waters Programme, WWF International (November 9, 2004).

The Land Surface Hydrological Processes: An Evaluation Using Macro Scale Process Models and the Application of Remote Sensing and GIS in Hydrology — *Dr. Venkataramana R Sridhar*, Assistant Professor, School of Natural Resources, University of Nebraska, USA (November 22, 2004).

Civil Society in India and China — *Dr. Van Der Veer*, University of Utrecht, Netherlands (November 27, 2004).

Indian Immigrants in the United States — *Dr. Gopal C Dorai*, Professor of Economics, University of Maryland, Baltimore, USA (December 3, 2004).

Rethinking the Indian Village — *Prof. Dipankar Gupta*, Centre for Study of Social Systems, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

Fertility Change in South Asia — *Dr. Christophe Z Guilmoto* and *Dr. Irudaya Rajan* (December 9, 2004).

Information Technology and Urban Development: A Case of Bangalore — *Prof. James Heitzman*, New York University, USA (December 28, 2004).

Seminars by Faculty

Structure and Determinants of Spatial and Sectoral Patterns of Investment: The Case of India's Manufacturing Sector — *Prof. Shashanka Bhide, B. P. Vani and H. K. Amarnath*, RBI Unit (June 26, 2004).

Lokayukta and Good Governance in Karnataka — *Prof. S N Sangita*, Development Administration Unit (July 1, 2004).

Urban Water Supply: A Comparative Study of Bangalore and Paris — *Dr. G S Sastry*, Ecological Economics Unit (July 8, 2004).

Growing Rural Urban Disparity — *Dr. D Rajasekhar*, Decentralization and Development Unit (July 15, 2004).

India's Export of Selected BPO Services: Understanding Strengths and Weaknesses — *Dr. Meenakshi Rajeev*, Economics Unit (September 1, 2004).

Building Up of an Efficient Marketing System to Obviate the Need for Large Scale State Intervention in Karnataka — *Prof. R S Deshpande*, ADRT Unit (September 6, 2004).

Human Development, Environment and Poverty Nexus in India — *Prof. Gopal K Kadekodi*, Director (September 8, 2004).

Menopause: Emerging Issues in India — *Dr. T S Syamala and Dr. M Sivakami*, Population Research Centre (September 9, 2004).

Traditional Services in a Modern Setting: The Case of Safai Karmacharis in Urban Karnataka — *Dr. K G Gayathri Devi*, Decentralization and Development Unit (September 13, 2004).

Profession Tax Base: A Study of Karnataka State — *Dr. Devendra Babu*, Economics Unit (September 14, 2004).

Reproductive and Child Health Programmes in the Urban Slums of Bangalore City — *Dr. C S Veeramatha*, Population Research Centre (September 15, 2004).

Panchayats and Watershed Development: An Assessment of Institutional Capacity — *Dr. N Sivanna and M Gopinath*, CESS, Hyderabad (September 16, 2004).

Representation and Participation: Panchayats of Kerala — *Dr. Anand Inbanathan*, Sociology Unit (September 17, 2004).

Environmental Kuznets Curve: Evidences from India and Japan — *Dr. KN Ninan*, Ecological Economics Unit (September 20, 2004).

WTO Agreements and Small-Scale Industries in Karnataka State: An Explorative Study of Current Policy Issues and Interventions, and Future Policy Alternatives — *Prof. M R Narayana*, Economics Unit (September 23, 2004).

Decentralization and Employment Generation: A Study of SGSY Programme — *Prof. D Rajasekhar and Dr. K G Gayathri Devi*, Decentralization and Development Unit (October 14, 2004).



Urban Water Supply: A Comparative Study of Bangalore and Paris — *Dr. G S Sastry*, Ecological Economics Unit (October 21, 2004).

Consumer Demand for Telecom Services in Karnataka and Goa — *Prof. M R Narayana*, Economics Unit (October 30, 2004).

Towards Solidarity: Naxalite, Dalit and Women's Movements in Andhra Pradesh — *Dr. Ajay Gudavarthy*, Decentralization and Development Unit (November 18, 2004).

(a) Institution for Rural Infrastructure in Karnataka: A Collaborative Study of IFPRI and ISEC and; (b) Rural Water Supply: A Study of Gujarat and Karnataka — *Prof. K V Raju*, Ecological Economics Unit (November 25, 2004).

Eleventh Finance Commission's Grants for Administrative Upgradation and Effective Service Delivery in Karnataka: An Evaluation

Part – I: With Special Reference to Regulatory and Financial Administration — *Prof. S N Sangita*, Development Administration Unit (December 2, 2004).

Part – II: With Special Reference to Development and Welfare Programme — *Dr. Syed Ajmal Pasha*, Ecological Economics Unit (December 2, 2004).

Institutional Alternatives for Participatory NRM: Lessons from User-Group Self-Initiatives in Community Forest Management (CFM) — *Dr. Madhushree Sekher*, Development Administration Unit and *Dr. Madhu Verma*, Indian Institute of Forest Management, Bhopal (December 4, 2004).

Population Change in Karnataka: A Decadal Overview (A Taluk-Wise Study) — *Dr. C M Lakshmana*, Population Research Centre (December 22, 2004).

Rapid Assessment and Participatory Irrigation Management in Andhra Pradesh — *Prof. K V Raju*, Ecological Economics Unit (December 30, 2004).

Research Projects

Completed

Agricultural Input Subsidies in India: Quantum of Subsidies to SC/ST Farmers (*Dr. M Mahadeva*)

WTO and Agricultural Policy in Karnataka (*Dr. R S Deshpande*)

Karnataka's Agriculture: A Submission to Farmers' Commission (*Dr. R S Deshpande*)

Rural Water Supply: A Comparative Study of Gujarat and Karnataka (*Dr. K V Raju*)

Institutions for Rural Infrastructure: Emerging Dimensions. A Case Study of Karnataka (*Dr. K V Raju*)

An Enquiry into the Nature of Regional Disparities: The Context of Human Development in Karnataka (*Dr. Gopal K Kadekodi*)

Federal Finance: Major Issues and Use of Quantitative Techniques (*Dr. Hemlata Rao*)

Urban Water Supply: A Comparative Study between Bangalore and Paris (*Dr. G S Sastry*)

Evaluation of ICDS Project in Karnataka (*Dr. M N Usha*)

External Evaluation of Janshala Programme in Karnataka (*Dr. M N Usha*)

New

Study for Estimation of Seed, Feed and Waste Ratios for Major Food Grains (*Dr. R S Deshpande and Dr. I Maruthi*)

Cultivation of Medicinal Crops and Aromatic Crops as a Means of Diversification in Agriculture (*Dr. R S Deshpande*)

Evaluation of Prime Minister Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) in Karnataka (*Dr. R S Deshpande, Dr. M J Bhende and Dr. P Thippaiah*)

Viable Entrepreneurial Role for Women in Agriculture (*Dr. M Mahadeva*)

Estimation of Total Production of Broiler Meat and its Costing (*Dr. M J Bhende*)

New Development Model and Implications for the Human Rights of the Vulnerable Groups (*Dr. Ajay Gudavarthy*)

Urban Governance in India: Mapping Partnerships in Public Service Delivery (*Dr. Madhushree Sekher*)

India's Export of Selected BPO Services: Understanding Strengths and Weaknesses (*Dr. Meenakshi Rajeev and Smt. B P Vani*)

Population Change in Karnataka – A Decadal Overview: A Talukwise Study (*Dr. C M Lakshmana*)

Socio-economic and Ecological Feasibility Study of the Riparian Floodplain Restoration Programme for Increased Stream Flows: A Rapid Assessment of the Riparian System of the River Cauvery (*Dr. Malavika Chauhan*)



Urban Infrastructure Imperative and Rain Water Harvesting – Opportunities and Challenges (Dr. Syed Ajmal Pasha and Dr. K V M Varambally)

Rural Infrastructure Development: Role of RIDF (Dr. Meenakshi Rajeev)

Rapid Assessment of Participatory Irrigation Management in Andhra Pradesh (Dr. K V Raju)

Role of Market-Based Instruments in Industrial Pollution Abatement: A Comparative Study of India and France (Dr. G S Sastry)

Perspectives on Telemedicine in India (Dr. G K Karanth and Dr. H Sudarshan)

Explaining the Growing Demand for International Reserves (Dr. M Ramachandran)

STUDENT NEWS

Dr. D M Nanjundappa Endowment Prize

Dr. D M Nanjundappa distributed the 'Dr. D M Nanjundappa Endowment Prize' to Ms. Tarodi Tunga Lakshminarayana and Ms. Sarbani Mukherjee in Development Administration and in Economics respectively for the year 2003-04.

Memorial Awards Instituted

The Board of Governors has instituted two memorial awards once in five years for the best Ph D thesis of ISEC — one in Sociology in the memory of Professor M N Srinivas and the other in Development Administration in the memory of Justice E S Venkataramiah. Dr. S Sudha's thesis on 'Society and Religious Consciousness: Veerashaiva Movement in Medieval Times' (guided by Professor G S Aurora) has been selected for Prof. M N Srinivas Memorial Award in Sociology and Dr. Vaidya Vibhavathy's thesis on 'Ethics in Public Service with Special Reference to Superior Civil Services in Karnataka' (guided by Professor S N Sangita) has been selected for Justice E S Venkataramiah Memorial Award in Development Administration for the period 2000-04.

Ph D Awarded

The following students were awarded the Ph D degree:

Ms. Anita Samal (Political Science) by the University of Mysore in 2004 for her thesis on 'Women in Development Bureaucracy: A Study in Karnataka State.' Dr. N Sivanna was her supervisor.

Mr. Md Nazrul Islam (Political Science) by the University of Mysore in 2004 for his thesis on 'Decentralised Governance and Development in India: A Study in West Bengal.' Prof. S N Sangita was his supervisor.

Mr. Ramakrushna Panigrahi (Economics) by the University of Mysore in 2004 for his thesis on 'Environmental Costs and Regional Income Accounting.' Prof. M V Nadkarni was his supervisor.

Ms. T S Jeena (Economics) by the University of Mysore in 2004 for her thesis on 'Economic and Institutional Factors in the Use and Management of Wetlands – Case Study of Cochin Backwaters.' Dr. K N Ninan was her supervisor.

Mr. Pravakar Sahoo (Economics) by the University of Mysore in 2004 for his thesis on 'Impact of Changing Indian Federal Fiscal System on Backward States: A Study of Orissa State.' Prof. Hemlata Rao was his supervisor.

Mr. Krishne Gowda B (Education) by the Bangalore University in 2004 for his thesis on 'Role of Institutional Structures at District and Sub-District levels in Promoting School Quality in the Context of Universalisation of Elementary Education in Karnataka.' Dr. M D Usha Devi was his supervisor.

Ms. Latha Nair K (Economics) by the University of Mysore in 2004 for his thesis on 'Finances and Functions of Urban Local Governments in India: A Case Study of Bangalore City Corporation.' Prof. M Nageswara Rao was her supervisor.

Mr. M Lingaraju (Development Studies, External) by the University of Mysore in 2004 for his thesis on 'Impermanent Migration to the City: A Survival Strategy of the Poor.' Dr. M Johnson Samuel was his supervisor.

Students' Biannual Seminar Series

The Ph D Fellows' biannual seminars were held during December 6–10, 2004. There were 21 seminars by students whose work is in progress and 8 students presented pre-submission seminars.

Dr. Ravi Kanbur, VKRV Rao Chair Professor, Dr. Dipankar Gupta, Professor of Sociology, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi; Dr. S K Ray, Professor (Retired) of Agricultural Economics, Institute of Economic



Growth, New Delhi, and Professor G Haragopal, Professor of Political Science, Hyderabad Central University, served as Panel Members in their respective area/s of specialisation.

Besides, there were many experts both from within ISEC and from outside, including Shri T R Satish Chandran, Prof. B S Bhargava, Prof. Abdul Aziz, Prof. M V Nadkarni, Prof. R G Desai of Bangalore University, and Prof. Chandrakanth of UAS, Hebbal.

WORKING PAPERS

An Overview

Over the last few months, the faculty of the Institute has disseminated its research through twelve working papers on themes ranging from poverty, growth and inequality to reforms in public sector enterprises, air pollution, water rights, and forest management.

As many as five papers were on inequality of various kinds, one was on poverty, and another on growth: On the issue of inequality, three papers by Ravi Kanbur delve into the question of regional and spatial inequalities and also raise fundamental issues on the economic analysis of growth, inequality and poverty.

Another paper, by D Rajasekhar and Gagan Bihari Sahu, addresses the issue of the growing rural-urban disparity. It critically examines the understanding, approach and indicators that have been used to measure the degree of disparity. Focusing on disparities between rural and urban areas, it examines 'why' and 'how' such disparities have come into existence. The study suggests that 'income' is not a sufficient indicator to capture the magnitude of disparities at any level. It is, therefore, necessary to develop other indicators representing human resource development and infrastructure facilities to understand the growing rural-urban divide.

A paper by Kshaminidhi Adabar makes a preliminary attempt to understand the growth process of real per capita consumption across 14 major states in India using data on household consumer expenditure based on the National Sample Survey. It tries to examine the absolute and sigma convergence in real per capita consumption across the states in India and to establish the relationship between the two. β -convergence is found for rural sectors of the states during the pre-liberalisation era. A similar result is obtained by combining the rural and the urban areas of the states. In contrast, the reform period shows opposite results. Furthermore, σ -convergence shows that consumption inequality has increased over time.

India's poor growth performance in the manufacturing sector after the 1991 economic reforms has been analysed in a paper by Kaliappa Kalirajan. The analysis reveals that manufacturing output growth in the post-reform period is 'inputs driven' rather than efficiency driven. The paper advocates policies to improve production efficiency by encouraging firms to invest more in R&D, technical training for workers, and technology-aided managerial processes.

A paper on effectiveness of poverty reduction strategies discusses the stress laid by the Millennium Development Goals of the United Nations and the World Bank strategy on the need for a major shift from the present preoccupation of the anti-poverty strategies with meeting the minimalist poverty norms like \$1 per day income. This paper, by V M Rao, explores the implications of this shift for the roles that the international community can play in helping the developing countries to cope with the emerging poverty perspectives.

Two papers dealt with state-level public sector enterprises (PSEs) in Karnataka. One of them, by Meenakshi Rajeev, reviews the status of the PSEs in Karnataka, the recent restructuring measures initiated by the State Government and issues emerging from them. The second paper in this category, coauthored with B P Vani, considers panel data relating to 59 state-level public sector firms in Karnataka and uses a random effect model to examine the possible factors contributing either positively or negatively to the performance of public enterprises.

There were two papers on natural resources, one of which dealt with water rights in India and water sector reforms in Andhra Pradesh, and the other on air pollution in Bangalore. The first paper, by K V Raju and CVSK Sarma, discusses the reforms that have sought to introduce water rights through user organizations, and provide for better allocation across competing sectors. It discusses the water allocation situation in India and some implications of reforms in Andhra Pradesh for water rights. The second paper, by K V Raju and Puttanna Honaganahalli, discusses the measures taken by the Karnataka State Government to address air pollution in Bangalore. It reviews the workings of the various departments, and, on the basis of interviews with policy makers and implementers, analyses the relationships between the agencies. Lack of appreciation of the problem, institutional and personnel capacity, personnel force, sustained action and a positive attitude, are shown to be a few of the impediments to better air quality.

A paper by G K Kadekodi *et al*, on joint forest management, reports on a field study to evaluate an ongoing joint forest management project (JFM). The methodology of the evaluation is a straightforward cost-benefit analysis, while reference to alternative methods is made in passing. Attempts are made to incorporate all the major views of the people of the village or the beneficiaries in the analysis. In doing so, an approach of 'with and without' JFM in a social accounting framework has been adopted. The findings reveal that the project can



yield some net benefits to the people of the village, but not without uncertainties or sensitiveness of outcomes. The following are the titles of the working papers:

- WP 148 *Reforms in State Public Enterprises in Karnataka: A Review* — Meenakshi Rajeev
- WP 149 *Water Rights in India and Water Sector Reforms in Andhra Pradesh* — K V Raju and CVSK Sharma
- WP 150 *Joint Forest Management: A Case Study of Village Kottekoppa in Uttara Kannada District of Karnataka* — Gopal K Kadekodi, N H Ravindranath, Prabhakar R Bhat and Seema Hegde
- WP 151 *Is the Manufacturing Sector in India an Engine of Growth?* — Kaliappa Kalirajan
- WP 152 *Performance of Public Enterprises in Karnataka: A Panel Data Analysis* — Meenakshi Rajeev and B P Vani
- WP 153 *Convergence of Standards of Living Across Indian States* — Kshamanidhi Adabar
- WP 154 *Air Quality Management in Bangalore, India: A Preliminary Assessment* — Puttanna Honaganahalli and K V Raju
- WP 155 *Towards Effective Poverty Reduction: A Global Perspective* — V M Rao
- WP 156 *The Growing Rural-Urban Disparity: Some Issues* — D Rajasekhar and Gagan Bihari Sahu
- WP 157 *Growth, Inequality and Poverty: Some Hard Questions* — Ravi Kanbur
- WP 158 *Fifty Years of Regional Inequality in China: A Journey through Central Planning, Reform and Openness* — Ravi Kanbur and Xiaobo Zhang
- WP 159 *Spatial Inequality in Education and Health Care in China* — Xiaobo Zhang and Ravi Kanbur

PUBLICATIONS

Monographs

Overview

The ISEC Monograph Series saw its seventh contribution recently with the publication of *Moon in the Mirror: Farmers and Minimum Support Prices in Karnataka*, by Prof. R S Deshpande and Sri T Raveendra Naika. The study attempts to analyse the effectiveness of Minimum Support Prices (MSP) in Karnataka as an instrument of Price Policy. Effectiveness is viewed from five distinct angles, viz, (i) impact on the fluctuations in prices, (ii) role of MSP as an incentive price, (iii) its impact on cropping pattern, (iv) distribution parameters, and (v) operational effectiveness of MSP. The study also incorporates the analysis of the administrative process in the implementation of MSP.

Findings of the Study

- i) The impact of MSP on market prices in terms of reducing the seasonal and cyclical fluctuations during the nineties has been quite negligible.
- ii) MSP could not act as an incentive price since more often it is declared well after the sowing season. Moreover, the mechanism of implementing MSP does not fully allow it to perform the role of an incentive price.
- iii) It also does not help in the adoption of technology as the declarations come well after the sowing of the crop is undertaken. The determinants of the adoption of technology were largely located in the market prices and market behaviour.
- iv) The MSP has not influenced the structure as well as quantum of inputs since many of the farmers are not even aware of MSP.
- v) MSP does not influence the regional variations in the prices and these continued to dog the agricultural commodities market.
- vi) Among the factors that dictate the effectiveness of MSP, the following assume importance:
 - (a) Process of implementation of the scheme.
 - (b) Undue dependence on the state machinery every time for the purpose of initiating the procurement.
 - (c) Information asymmetry prevailing in the agricultural market, thereby causing severe market imperfections.



- (d) Absence of a state-level mechanism for monitoring agricultural prices to initiate *suo moto* intervention.
- vii) The relevance of MSP in the case of Karnataka proves to be extremely marginal and its influence could be seen only on the paddy and sugarcane growers.

Policy Options

The nineties witnessed several changes in the agricultural sector as well as in agricultural policy. In the light of these changes it was felt that the primary objectives of the price policy should be: (i) to protect the agricultural producers from the sharp fall in prices (providing insurance); (ii) to encourage a definite cropping pattern in the context of overall growth imperatives; and (iii) to ensure the participation of the primary producer in the international market as well as to protect the farmers' interests against the price fluctuations due to world price/market situations. Therefore, the change in the focus of the price policy was quite imperative.

Minimum Support Prices, as a tool of price policy, cover a large number of crops across the country. Over the years, CACP added quite a few crops to this list. In the process, the inter-crop price parity got vitiated and the policy became instrumental to such process of deliberate neglect. Discouraging certain crops and crop-groups also brought about inequality across regions and farmer groups. It is suggested that the MSP be selectively applied to crops and in the regions specified based on growth pattern, competitiveness, and trade response.

There are several institutions involved in the procurement process with hardly any co-ordination between them. For an effective policy, it is necessary to have a single agency co-ordinating the whole procedure without any time-lag involved. It is suggested that FCI handle food commodities as is done now and that NAFED may be made responsible for other non-food commodities and international trade. The rest of the bureaucratic structure causing distance between procurement agencies and the farmer should be done away with.

The details of the monograph are as follows:

Deshpande, R S, and T Raveendra Naika, (2004). *Moon in the Mirror: Farmers and Minimum Support Prices in Karnataka*. Social and Economic Change Monograph Series. No.7. Bangalore: Institute for Social and Economic Change.

Books Published/Edited

Overview

An important event at ISEC was the publication of three books, under the Millennium Study Series, brought out by Academic Foundation, New Delhi. One of them, *Water Resources*, was by Prof. K V Raju *et al.*, and the other two were by Prof. R S Deshpande *et al.*, entitled *Crops and Cultivation* and *NGOs and Farmers' Movements* respectively.

The study by Raju *et al.* focuses on India's irrigation sector, particularly groundwater irrigation. In no other country barring China is the irrigation system as extensive as in India. It is this irrigation system that has fuelled India's growth in agricultural production. During the 1990s the growth rate of area under canal irrigation declined, despite significant increase of expenditure on the major and medium irrigation sector. This is a serious matter for planners and policymakers.

One of the biggest developments that have taken place in Indian irrigation after Independence is groundwater irrigation. The source is predominantly owned and managed by farmers. Unlike declining area under tanks and canal irrigation, area under groundwater irrigation grew at the rate of 3-5 per cent during different periods since 1960s.

The book analyses various dimensions of the irrigation sector, which includes financing pattern, pricing and subsidies, water conservation strategies, and effects on farmers, and then identifies critical issues affecting the performance of the sector. At the end, the authors have analysed the emerging institutional reforms like participatory irrigation management, policy and legal reforms, capacity building and innovations in irrigation financing.

The second book, *Crops and Cultivation*, attempts to review the changes that have taken place in the crops and cultivation in the country during the past five decades. These changes have made a differential impact on the farming community and thus the farmer is the focus of discussion here. The following issues are addressed:

1. Importance of principal crops in the national economy and farmers' households

The importance of principal crops lies in its attempt to bring forth the major changes in the crop constellations in the country. Demand-supply gap forms a part of this analysis. Important states contributing to production of different crops have been identified. The farmer remains the core of the analysis of crop enterprises and agrarian structure. This is achieved with the help of data from Agricultural Censuses.

2. Past Strategy and Constraints

Crop-wise constraints, available technologies and their market prospects have been analysed.



3. Cropping Systems

This analysis refers to the changes that have occurred in the four decades, viz., mid-50s, 60s, 70s, 80s, and 90s as the changing points. This analysis has been attempted across agro-climatic zones as well as the states.

4. Area, Production and Productivity

The importance of individual crops is reviewed and worked out across states. The factors inducing or constraining growth are considered across the time period. The focus is on bringing out the role of crop enterprises from the farmers' perspective.

5. Impact of Government Policies and Pricing Regimes on the Cropping Pattern

Analysis of the changes in the government policies and pricing regimes has been in the background of the present work.

6. Development of Crops

Crop schemes, technology mission sponsored under Central sector schemes at all India level and state levels have been analysed.

The third book, *NGOs and Farmers' Movements*, focuses on locating and analysing the role of NGOs' and farmers' movements in the development dynamics of the agricultural sector in India. Initially, the theoretical setting of the NGOs in the development process becomes important. After getting past the issues confronted during the last fifty years, the role of NGOs has to be emplaced in the agricultural sector. Having recognised the spread of NGOs, it is important to keep a few important but representative cases in view. The farmer being the hub of the analysis, it is important that these examples are farmer-centred. Finally, the question of sustenance/fragility of these organisations is also quite intriguing and therefore relevant here. These have been analyzed from a positivist methodological viewpoint. However, the farmers' movements are to be viewed from a different methodological outlook. Essentially, the movements originate from critical perspective about an issue and thus the analysis begins from an understanding of this perspective in the context of farmers getting together for welfare augmentation. A look at it in a retrospective frame reveals quite a few issues. Therefore, the farmers' organisations have been analysed from their historical perspective in terms of their focus, achievements and processes through which these organisations have gone. The issues pertaining to the process of politicisation and achievements of various farmers' organisations through their movements become an inherent point in the discussion. As NGOs and farmers' movements are two different forms of organisations but wedded to the same cause they are analysed separately.

The following are the details of the books brought out:

Raju, K V, A Narayanamoorthy, Govind Gopakumar, H K Amarnath (2004). *State of the Indian Farmer: A Millennium Study — Water Resources*, Vol.3. New Delhi: Academic Foundation.

Deshpande, R S, M J Bhende, P Thippaiah, M Vivekananda (2004). *State of the Indian Farmer: A Millennium Study — Crops and Cultivation*, Vol 9. New Delhi: Academic Foundation.

Deshpande, R S, D Rajasekhar, Pradeep Apte, Dhanamanjari Sathe (2004). *State of the Indian Farmer: A Millennium Study — NGOs and Farmers' Movements*, Vol.23. New Delhi: Academic Foundation.

Books Published/Edited

Bharadwaj, Ranganath

Excitement at Knowing the Known (Experimental Kannada Play) The play reflects on the consequences of slow growth and low level of human resource development on the life of the people in a typical rural setting.

(with CNB Rajesh) *Software Development: Technology Based on Structural Methodology*. Institute for Educational Research and Development. September 2004.

Deshpande, R S

(with M J Bhende, P Thippaiah, M Vivekananda) *Crops and Cultivation: State of the Indian Farmer-A Millennium Study*, New Delhi: Academic Foundation. August 2004.

(with D Rajasekhar, Pradeep Apte, Dhanamanjari Sathe) *NGOs and Farmers Movements: State of the Indian Farmer — A Millennium Study*. New Delhi: Academic Foundation. August 2004.

(with Ravindra Naika) *Moon in the Mirror: Farmers and the Minimum Support Prices in Karnataka*. Institute for Social and Economic Change, Monograph No 7. November 2004.

Rajasekhar, D

(with R S Deshpande, Pradeep Apte, Dhanamanjari Sathe) *NGOs and Farmers' Movements*. New Delhi: Academic Foundation. 2004.



Raju, K V

(with A Narayana Moorthy, Govind Gopakumar, H K Amarnath) *Water Resources*. New Delhi: Academic Foundation. 2004.

(with Ashok Gulati, Ruth Meinzen-Dick) *Institutional Reforms in Indian Irrigation*. New Delhi: Sage Publications. 2005.

Rao, V M

Rainfed Agriculture: State of the Indian Farmer—A Millennium Study. Vol.10. New Delhi: Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, 2004.

Sangita, S N

Administrative Reforms for Good Governance. IIPA, Publication Series 11. 2004.

Thippaiah, P

(with R S Deshpande, M J Bhende, and M Vivekananda) *State of the Indian Farmer, A Millennium Study: Crops and Cultivation*. New Delhi: Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, and Academic Foundation. 2004.

Articles Published in Journals/ Edited Books

Babu, M Devendra

‘Decentralisation and Devolution Criteria: The Position in Karnataka.’ *IASSI Quarterly*, 22(2), October - December 2003.

(with Dr. N Jayaramaiah). ‘Financial Relations Between State and Local Governments: A Study of Karnataka State.’ *The Indian Journal of Public Administration*, L(3), July – September 2004.

Deshpande, R S

‘In the Name of the Farmer: Central and Karnataka State Budget, 2004-05.’ *Economic and Political Weekly*, 39 (31), July 31-August 6, 2004.

(with Prachitha J) ‘Entangled at the Crossroads: Growth and Employment in Indian Agriculture.’ *Agricultural Situation in India*, August 2004.

(with M G Deepika) ‘Liberalisation and Agricultural Trade Policy in India.’ In *Better Expression on Globalisation*, edited by C G Krishnaswamy, S R Keshava and R M Tirlapur. Bangalore: Better Expression, 2004.

Kadekodi, Gopal K

(with Divya Dutt, S C Garg, K K Narang, D Sharma, and J P Singh) ‘Environmental Fiscal Reforms in India: Issues and Some Steps Forward.’ In *Environmental Fiscal Reform for Sustainable Development and Poverty Reduction*, edited by GTZ, published by OECD/GTZ, July 2004.

Karant, G K

‘Replication or Dissent? Culture and Institutions among ‘Untouchable’ Scheduled Castes in Karnataka.’ In *Caste in Question: Identity or Hierarchy?* Edited by Dipankar Gupta, New Delhi: Sage Publications.

‘Experience: An Indian Viewpoint.’ In *Key Words: Experience — For Different Kind of Globalization*, edited by Nadia Tazi (Series Editor), The Other Press (New York) [US Edition of earlier Publication].

Lélé, Sharachchandra

‘Beyond State-Community and Bogus “Joint”ness: Crafting Institutional Solutions for Resource Management.’ In Max Spoor (ed). *Globalisation, Poverty and Conflict: A Critical “Development” Reader*. Kluwer Academic Publishers, Dordrecht and Boston, pp.283-303, 2004.

Madheswaran, S

‘Measuring the Value of Life and Limb: Estimating Compensating Wage Differentials among Workers in Chennai and Mumbai.’ *SANDEE Working Paper*. No.9. November 2004.

Menon, Ajit

‘Colonial Constructions of “Agrarian Fields” and “Forests” in the Kolli Hills.’ *The Indian Economic and Social History Review*, 41(3), September 2004.



Pasha, Syed Ajmal

'Water Crisis and Rain Water Harvesting in Urban Centres: Issues and Prospects.' In *Urban Infrastructure and Quality of Life* edited by K V M Varambally et al. New Delhi: Allied Publishers Pvt. Ltd.. 2004.

Rajasekhar, D

'Micro-Finance and Rural Non-Farm Sector: Some NGO Experiences.' In *Rural Transformation in India: The Role of Non-Farm Sector*, edited by Rohini Nayyar and Alakh N Sharma. New Delhi: Institute for Human Development, 2004.

'The Interface between Gram Panchayats and NGOs: Issues, Strategies and Ways Forward.' *Journal of Karnataka Studies*, No.2, May – October 2004.

Ramana, M V

'Scientists, Nuclear Weapons, and the Peace Movement,' *Economic and Political Weekly*, 38(46-47), November 20, 2004.

Ramaswamy, V

(with G K Karanth and Ruedi Hogger) 'The Threshing Floor Disappears: Rural Livelihood Systems in Transition,' in *In Search of Sustainable Livelihood Systems: Managing Resource and Change*, edited by Ruedi Baumgartner and Ruedi Hogger. New Delhi: Sage Publications, 2004.

(with G K Karanth) 'From Marrey to Market: Changing Faces of Rural Livelihood Systems,' in *In Search of Sustainable Livelihood Systems: Managing Resource and Change*, edited by Ruedi Baumgartner and Ruedi Hogger. New Delhi: Sage Publications, 2004.

(with G K Karanth, Ruedi Baumgartner and Ruedi Hogger) 'Participatory Research on Rural Livelihoods: Promoting Local Ownership of Research Findings,' in *In Search of Sustainable Livelihood Systems: Managing Resource and Change*, edited by Ruedi Baumgartner and Ruedi Hogger. New Delhi: Sage Publications, 2004.

(with Ruedi Baumgartner, C S Aurora and G K Karanth) 'Emerging Rural Leadership and Sustainable Management of Natural Resources: Evidence from Two South Indian Villages,' in *In Search of Sustainable Livelihood Systems: Managing Resource and Change*, edited by Ruedi Baumgartner and Ruedi Hogger, New Delhi: Sage Publications, 2004.

Rao, V M

'Where Reforms Do Not Reach.' In *Poverty and Economic Reforms: The Social Concerns*, edited by G S Aurora. New Delhi: Academic Foundation, in association with Institute for Social and Economic Change, 2004.

'The Poor Communities in the Southern States.' In *Poverty and Economic Reforms: The Social Concerns*, edited by G S Aurora. New Delhi: Academic Foundation, in association with Institute for Social and Economic Change, 2004.

'Development Role of Agricultural and Rural Diversification: Illustrative Profiles from Drought-prone Villages.' In *Rural Transformation in India*, edited by Rohini Nayyar and Alakh N Sharma. New Delhi: Institute for Human Development, 2005.

(with R Radhakrishna and Shovan Ray) 'Beyond Quantification of Poverty: Emerging Issues in Poverty Reduction.' *Indian Journal of Labour Economics*, 47(2) April–June 2004.

(with D V Gopalappa) 'Agricultural Growth and Farmer Distress: Tentative Perspectives from Karnataka.' *Economic and Political Weekly*, XXXIX(52), December 25-31, 2004.

Sastry, G S

(with R Maria Saleth) 'Water Supply and Sanitation Sector of Karnataka, India: Status, Performance and Change.' *Water Policy*, 6(3): 161-83. November 2004.

Sekher, T V

(with KNM Raju and M N Sivakumar) 'Fertility Transition in Karnataka: Levels, Trends and Implications.' In *Fertility Transition in South India*, edited by C Z Guilimoto and S Irudaya Rajan. New Delhi: Sage Publications, 2004.

Syamala, T S

'Relationship Between Socio-Demographic Factors and Child Survival: Evidences from Goa, India.' *Journal of Human Ecology*, 16(2), October 2004.



Usha, M N

'Role of Neighbourhood Women Leaders in Promoting Primary Education in Karnataka.' *Journal of Grassroots*, AP, January-June 2005.

'Functioning of Kendriya Vidyalayas in Karnataka and Kerala.' E-Journal of AIAER, Pondicherry.

Venkatachalam, L

'Sources of Government Failure and the Environmental Externality: Analysis of Groundwater Pollution in Tamil Nadu, India.' *Water Policy*, 6 (5): 413-26, 2004.

Keynote and Presidential Addresses

Deshpande, R S

'Rural Development: Have We Staggered on the Path?' At a seminar on **Current Sociological Issues**, organised by Tunga Vidyavardhaka Sangha, Shimoga.

'Agriculture and Institutions' at the **18th European Conference on Modern South Asian Studies** organised by South Asian Studies Network, Lund, Sweden, during July 6-9, 2004.

'Current Issues Confronting Agricultural Development' at **Special Lecture** organised by Indian Statistical Institute, Bangalore, on July 31, 2004.

'Agriculture and Environmental Sustainability' at a seminar on **Integrating Environmental Sustainability with Economic Development**, organised by Maharani's College for Women, Bangalore, on August 25, 2004.

'TRIPS, WTO-Biodiversity and Environment' at the **Developmental Programme on Environmental Economics**, organised by JSS Mahavidyapitha, College of Engineering, Mysore, on September 17, 2004.

'Liberalisation, Intellectual Property Rights and Agricultural Sector: Implications for Rainfed Rice Ecosystems' at an international symposium organised by International Rice Research Institute, Indian Council for Agricultural Research and IGARU, Raipur, during October 11-13, 2004, at Raipur.

'Policy and Culture: Reflections on Water Policy' at a seminar on **Water Policy**, organised by Team of Excellence in Natural Resource Economics, University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore, on October 19, 2004.

'GATS: Challenges and Prospects for India' at a seminar on **GATS: Challenges and Prospects for India**, organised by Kuvempu University, Shimoga, on November 17, 2004.

'Governance of Agriculture and WTO' at the Silver Jubilee Symposium on **Governance in Development: Issues, Challenges and Strategies**, organised by Institute of Rural Management Anand, Anand, Gujarat, during December 14-18, 2004.

Devi, K G Gayathri

'Rural India in Transition: Towards a Sociological Understanding' at a seminar by the same title, organised by St. Philomena's College, Mysore, on September 29, 2004.

Kadekodi, K Gopal

Inaugural keynote address on 'Nexus Between Environment and Development' at a UGC refresher programme in **Environmental Economics** organised by Maharani's College, Bangalore, on August 25, 2004.

Lele, Sharachchandra

'From Participation to Self-Governance: Rethinking People's Role in Watershed Development' at a national seminar on **Forest, Water and People**, organised by National Institute of Hydrology, in Belgaum, during July 29-30, 2004.

'Alternative Development Model: Some Thoughts' (in Marathi) at a conference on **12th Vichar Vedh Sammelan** organised by Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Academy, at Barshi, Maharashtra, on November 28, 2004.

Nadkarni, M V

Keynote address on 'Management of Water Resources in Agriculture' at ICAR-sponsored **Summer School on Natural Resource Economics and Management in Agriculture**, at University of Agricultural Sciences, GKVK Campus, Bangalore, on July 29, 2004.

Raju, K V

Seminar on Role of Farmers in Water Management organised by DVS College, Shimoga, on September 6, 2004.
Economic Forum organised by DVS College, Shimoga, on September 6, 2004.



RoyChowdhury, Supriya

Keynote address on 'Labour Activism and Women in the Unorganised Sector' at a meeting on **Women and Work**, organised by the National Centre for Labour, at the Indian Social Institute, Bangalore, on October 29, 2004.

Sangita, S N

'Research Issues in Political Science' at a seminar on Social Science Research organised by Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai.

'Ethical Values in Public Life for Promoting Good Governance and Sustainable Development' at the **Third Development Convention on Social Security, Human Development and Growth: Linkages and Disparities** organised by the Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram, during January 29–30, 2004.

Venkatachalam, L

'Estimating the Economic Value of Environmental Damages: The Case of Water Sector' at the UGC-sponsored national-level seminar on **Environmental Degradation and Its Impact on Society: Measurement, Management and Control** organised by Erode Arts College, Erode, during September 23–24, 2004.

Fellowships

Deshpande, R S

Visiting Fellow at University of Lund, Sweden, in July 2004.

Ninan, K N

Visiting Professor at Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of Tokyo, Japan, during October 1, 2004 – September 30, 2005.

Sekher, T V

Visiting Fellow at Lund University, Lund, Sweden, during July 4–20, 2004.

Shah, Esha

IDPAD Exchange of Scholars Visiting Fellowship at Department of Technology and Agrarian Development, Wageningen University, The Netherlands, during October 6–22.

Syamala, T S

Visiting Fellow, Cornell University, Ithaca, during September 20–October 1, 2004.

Offices Held in Academic/Professional/Administrative Bodies

Deshpande, R S

Member, Expert Committee on Establishing the Natural Disaster Mitigation Centre of Karnataka

Chairman, Sub-Committee on Cost of Cultivation Study, Government of Karnataka State

ICAR Nominee Member on the Research Advisory Committee, Central Plantation Crops Research Institute, Kerala.

Devi, K G Gayathri

Member of the Research Advisory Committee, Karnataka State Sericulture Research and Development Institute, Thalaghattapura. Bangalore.

Sastry, G S

Life Member, Regional Science Association, India.

Miscellaneous

Narayana, M R

Contributed to Chapter 5 on Grants-in-aid Policy for the *Report of the Task Force on Higher Education*, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore, on September 24, 2004.

Raju, K V

Participated in a meeting on **Promoting Biofuel Usage**, organised for the visiting delegates of Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra by Samudra Vikas, on July 2, 2004.



Participated in the meetings of University of Karl Shruer, Germany, at BWSSB and BESCO in Bangalore on July 20, 2004.

As a member of South Asia Technical Advisory Board, attended the 5th Regional Council Meeting on October 26-27, 2004, and Global Technical Committee on Global Water Partnership Meeting held on October 28-29, 2004, in Chennai.

Prof. K V Raju earlier had prepared a strategy paper for Oxfam India to develop a long-term action research project in South Indian states. Based upon this strategy paper, Oxfam India has got funding and launched the programme from September 2004. He attended the first meeting of Oxfam India Water Programme Advisory Committee held in Bangalore on November 2 and 3, 2004.

Co-ordinated a 20-session module on Ecological Economics to the III Semester students of the Post Graduate Environmental Science Students of the Department of Environmental Sciences, Bangalore University, during November 4-10, 2004.

Seetharamu, A S

Attended the Tele-Conference Preparatory Meeting at the RIE, Mysore, on November 16, 2004.

Contributed an article on 'Public Schools and the Pursuit of Excellence in National Life,' for the souvenir brought out by Sri Jagadguru Renukary Education Society, on the occasion of the inauguration of their Public School Souvenir.

Bidding Adieu to Bhide

Prof. Shashanka Bhide, Head of the RBI Unit, ISEC, returned to NCAER recently. Bidding him farewell, the Director of ISEC, Prof. G K Kadekodi, has penned a poem in honour of him, reproduced below.

DEAR SHASHANKA BHIDE

As you leave ISEC, here is a message
Staff and students round the passage
Want to know on your courage
Leaving ISEC like a mirage

Books and papers rolled with speed
Lectures and notes reached all with need
Team of people rounded with the seed
Of research and policy good for the spade

As you leave ISEC, track many behind
Thoughtful roots for future brand
Sorts of links rich with your mind
To follow them up with pen of your kind

Time line is short for one to measure
Got the worth your being with the pleasure
Many are tempted to follow you for sure
Meeting you in Delhi on academic tour

Staff and students, faculty and lords
Fraternity in ISEC is growing in hoards
Send off this time is meant for Board's
Welcome in ISEC with open doors

Gopal K Kadekodi



2003 VKRV Rao Prizes

The 2003 VKRV Rao Prizes jointly being given by ICSSR and ISEC are as follows:

Prof. Sugata Majid	Economics
Prof. Manohar Rao (posthumously)	Economics
Prof. Shiv Ganesh Bhargava	Management
Prof. Kalpana Kannabiran	Social Aspects of Law

Visit to Cornell University

Dr. P Thippaiah, Associate Professor, ISEC, visited Cornell University during September 21–30, 2004, as a Visiting Fellow. He had very fruitful discussions with several professors on Horticulture, Co-operation and Agriculture sectors. The seminars on International Economics, Development Economics, Microeconomics and Applied Microeconomics, the World Food Prize Seminar Series and two-day Conference on Growing Inequality in China at Cornell gave him the opportunity to understand the developments in various fields and experiences of different countries. The reference material in the libraries helped him to know more about his areas of interest.

Training Course to be Conducted

A training course for South Asian researchers and practitioners is to be conducted on Natural Resource Management and Institutions: The Links between Property Rights, Collective Action and Natural Resource Management during February 7–11, 2005, in Hyderabad. The course is being organised by CGIAR System-Wide Program on Collective Action and Property Rights; Institute for Social and Economic Change; University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore; and ICRISAT, Hyderabad. The course seeks to familiarise participants with collective action and property rights issues in agricultural development, with a focus on natural resource management applications, and practical applications of how collective action and property rights institutions can be strengthened through policies and projects. Further information on the course is available at CAPRI@cgiar.org

Obituaries

Nittoor Srinivas Rau

The life and achievements of Sri Nittoor Srinivasa Rau illustrate the heights to which a man can soar when driven by principles such as justice and truth and reverence for life. The following vignette seeks to capture this reality in the various milestones of his life, and highlights the values and ideals to which he was wedded. In this attempt, it is compelled by space constraints to omit incidental details of a life well lived and worth recalling.

After his graduation, Shri Nittoor Srinivas Rau wanted to pursue higher studies in science at the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, But his father, fearing that his persistent abdominal pain would get in the way, advised him to pursue a law degree from Chennai instead. Rau completed his law degree from Madras Law College in 1927.

From the mid-1920s, Shri Nittoor Srinivasa Rau was tremendously influenced by Gandhiji's principles and ideologies, and started translating the autobiographical serial of Gandhiji which had begun appearing in Gujarati and Hindi in the publication *Navajeevana*. He obtained permission from Gandhiji to translate his autobiography in Kannada.

Shri Nittoor Srinivasa Rau participated in the freedom struggle in 1930, 1932, and 1942. In 1953, he was appointed as Advocate General of Old Mysore (Karnataka), in 1955 as Justice of High Court, and in 1961 as the Chief Justice.

In 1963, he was the acting Governor and the same year he retired as Chief Justice of Karnataka (New Mysore). In 1964 Rau was appointed the first Central Vigilance Commissioner of India by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, and he retired from that post in 1968.

Shri Nittoor Srinivasa Rau's association with ISEC as a Founder Member served as a source of tremendous moral inspiration to the Institute. He epitomised the highest values and ideals, and believed in doing something because it was 'the proper thing to do.' His observance of the finer points of etiquette fascinated all with whom he interacted. Meticulous to a fault, he would unfailingly honour promises and keep appointments he had scheduled. He was also known to have a sharp mind; his memories even in his advanced age were clear, and he could narrate events that occurred during pre-independence times with amazing clarity. At social functions he would deliver speeches extempore very cogently, without rambling. Clearly, age had not dimmed his zest for life, his enthusiasm and keen interest in the goings-on around him.



Shri Nittoor Srinivasa Rau believed in Gandhi's saying: 'you must not lose faith in humanity; humanity is an ocean; if a few drops of the ocean are dirty the ocean does not become dirty.'

H G Hanumappa

Professor H G Hanumappa, who retired as Professor and Head, Agricultural Development and Rural Transformation Unit, passed away on November 11, 2004. Professor Hanumappa served almost from the beginning of the Institute initially as Research Associate, Associate Professor in Rural Economics Unit, and thereafter as Professor and Head of ADRT Unit. During his tenure at the Institute he worked on several projects and published a number of research papers and quite a few good books. His works on the agricultural policy of Karnataka and that on the Economics of Sericulture in Karnataka are often cited. Professor Hanumappa also worked for Agro-climatic Regional Planning for the States of Karnataka and Kerala. His contribution to the Institute and the field of Agricultural Economics will always be remembered.

Amal Ray

Professor Amal Ray, who retired as Professor and Head, Development Administration Unit, ISEC, on May 31, 1991, passed away recently. Professor Ray had joined ISEC as Associate Professor in May 1977 after 16 years of teaching (including seven years of post-graduate teaching), in Calcutta and Jadhavpur in the capacities of Lecturer, Senior Lecturer, and Visiting Lecturer. He assumed charge of the Development Administration Unit of ISEC on November 14, 1985.

Prof. Ray's research interests included Indian federation, coalition government, decision-making and federalism, and he published extensively in various journals besides writing several books. He was granted a two-month fellowship from Ford Foundation for study abroad in April 1978. He spent six months at the University of Rochester as a Visiting Fellow from September 1, 1985. He was at the Institute of Developing Economies, Tokyo, on a nine-month visiting fellowship from April 1989.

Prof. Ray's contribution to the Institute and to the field of public administration will always be remembered.

Discussion on Challenges to Social Science Research in India

Professors A M Shah and B S Baviskar addressed the students and faculty of the Institute on November 19 and 20, 2004, on the question of challenges to social science research in India. Prof. Shah, Chairman of the Centre for Social Studies in Gujarat, expressed concern over the declining interest among young and bright scholars in the social sciences as their area of discipline. Prof. Baviskar called for a much more rigorous interaction between undergraduate colleges, universities, and ICSSR research institutions. In the discussion the doctoral students pointed out some of the basic hurdles in attracting talent to social science research. Chief among them were inaccessibility to good journals and reference material at the undergraduate level, and the meagre amounts of money as fellowships/scholarship.

Prof. Kadekodi, while agreeing with the guests, pointed to the efforts made in the past and also presently by ISEC as 'outreach' activities aimed at the undergraduate and postgraduate departments. The journals and ISEC monographs are being shared with the institutions at no cost, the refresher courses, and the presence of many of ISEC faculty on the boards of studies in the various universities. He also explained that the syllabus of pre-university courses Economics, Sociology, Education, etc., had been revamped, with contributions from ISEC faculty. The meeting was co-ordinated by Prof. G K Karanth, Head, Sociology Unit.

Workshop on 'Social Security for Unorganised Workers'

As part of the GTZ-funded study on 'Design and Management of Social Security Benefits in Karnataka,' a half-day workshop on *Social Security for Unorganised Workers* was held on September 17, 2004 at the Institute. It discussed the social security needs of unorganised workers, the risk management strategies, and strengths and weaknesses of these strategies for delineating roles for development actors in the sector. Dr. Ruediger Krech, Head, Social Protection Section, GTZ, Germany, shared the interest of his organisation in providing social security for the unorganised. Prof. G K Karanth, ISEC, discussed the



Prof. A S Seetharamu (Head, Education Unit, ISEC) welcoming the participants. To his immediate right is Ms. Vatsala Watsa (Principal Secretary, Labour Department, GoK).



social security needs of workers in agriculture, domestic and construction. Mr. Sanjiv Kumar, Labour Commissioner, Department of Labour, Government of Karnataka, spoke about coverage, effectiveness and possible ways forward in the social security schemes of the government. Ms. Suchitra J Y, Research Assistant, Decentralisation and Development Unit (DDU), provided an overview of the formal and informal risk management mechanisms employed by the poorer sections of the population. Mr. Gagan Bihari Sahu, Research Officer, DDU, dealt with government expenditure on social security and other social services in Karnataka.

By analysing strengths and weaknesses of formal and informal risk management strategies, Prof. D Rajasekhar, ISEC, suggested roles of actors in the management of social security schemes. About 35 persons, representing government, trade unions, NGOs, insurance companies, and the academia, participated in the workshop. Prof. A S Seetharamu, ISEC, welcomed the participants and Dr. S Madheswaran proposed a vote of thanks. Ms. Gabrielle Ramm, GTZ, Germany, chaired the workshop. Prof. D Rajasekhar, DDU, co-ordinated the workshop.

'Strengthening Public Information and Communication in ADB Projects'



(From left to right) Ms. Usha Tankha, Coordinator, External Relations; Prof. R S Deshpande, Head, ADRT Unit, ISEC; Prof. G K Kadekodi, Director, ISEC; Shri Robert H Salomon, Principal Director, Office of External Relations; and Ms. Cindy at the inaugural function of the Consultative workshop held at ISEC on July 16, 2004.

The Institute facilitated the organisation of a Consultative workshop on revised information and communication policy of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) on July 16, 2004. The workshop was designed by ADB to be organised at ISEC. The ADB had formulated a policy in 1993, which has been revised in 2004. The new policy intends to strengthen the information and communication channels within the Bank as well as across a variety of stakeholders including the general public in the conceptualisation, design and implementation of DB-funded projects in Asian countries. Such a measure is perceived to ensure greater efficiency, transparency, participation, accountability and effectiveness of ADB projects. The workshop was attended by a cross-section of the concerned stakeholders such as Government

Representatives, the NGOs, academicians, intellectuals, and representatives from industry and business apart from the ADB staff and ISEC faculty. Dr. Manohar Yadav, Associate Professor, Sociology Unit, ISEC, coordinated the workshop.

Talk on Rethinking India's Villages

Professor Dipankar Gupta, Centre for Study of Social System, JNU, New Delhi, gave a dinner talk on December 8, 2004. Speaking on the theme of 'Rethinking India's villages', he questioned the wisdom of social scientists persisting with the stereotyped image of Indian village while describing the social and economic changes. He questioned the validity of macro-data, which often failed to reflect the nature and extent of changes that were sweeping the rural hinterland. His talk was attended by a host of intellectuals in Bangalore and elsewhere. Prof. Dipankar Gupta's lecture was organised with the support of SRTF.

Course on Survey Methods for Environmental Economists

A course on Survey Methods for Environmental Economists, organised jointly by SANDEE and ISEC, was conducted at Manipal County, Bangalore, during November 1–3, 2004. The purpose of the course was to help SANDEE researchers in designing household surveys, constructing random samples, and improving survey implementation, all in an effort to improve the quality of data collected. It is expected that improved quality of data, in turn, will help to answer research questions better.



Participants in the SANDEE Research and Training Workshop held at Manipal County, Bangalore, during November 1–9, 2004.

course trainers were Dr. Shreekant Gupta of Delhi School of Economics, India, and Dr. Urvashi Narain of RFF, USA.

The Survey Method Course was followed by SANDEE's 9th Biannual Research and Training Workshop, held at the same venue from November 5 to 9, 2004. SANDEE grantees presented their final/progress reports of their work while new research applicants presented their research proposals before SANDEE's Management and Advisory Committee. Fourteen resource persons and 25 researchers attended the workshop in Bangalore.

Both the workshops were co-sponsored by the Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC). Prof. Partha Dasgupta, one of SANDEE's Management and Advisory Committee Members, also delivered a talk at ISEC on November 8, 2004, which was attended by 100 persons including ISEC Board Members, faculty and students. Prof. G K Kadekodi, Director, ISEC, co-ordinated the workshops with the assistance of Dr. S Madheswaran.

Workshop on 'Activity Mapping among Panchayat Raj Institutions'



Prof. G K Kadekodi, Director, ISEC, (centre) and (to his right) Ms Sudha Pillai, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Panchayati Raj, along with other senior officials of the Department of Panchayati Raj, participating in a workshop on Activity Mapping on August 27, 2004.

Following the 73rd Constitutional Amendment and the confirming laws of states, the challenge is *how* to and *what* to transfer of the 29 matters listed in the eleventh schedule of the Constitution to the three tiers of panchayats. It is a formidable task to identify which of the tiers is best suited to each of these matters and the possible hurdles and problems in devolving functions for empowering panchayats.

To discuss these issues, a one-day workshop on 'Activity Mapping among Panchayat Raj Institutions' was jointly organised by the Union Ministry of Panchayat Raj, New Delhi, and ISEC, Bangalore, on August 27, 2004. Mrs. Sudha Pillai, Additional Secretary of the Ministry, inaugurated the workshop. This was followed by the presentation of two papers; the first was on 'Activity Mapping among Panchayat Raj Institutions' by Prof. D Rajasekhar, Head, Decentralisation and Development Unit, and the second was on 'How to Operationalise Activity Mapping' by Shri T R Raghunandan, Secretary, RDPR, Bangalore. The workshop identified finances, legal process, social dimension, political parties, regional variations, parallel bodies, convergence, and method of devolution as key issues in the devolution of functions through activity mapping.

Prof. G K Kadekodi, Director, ISEC, welcomed the participants, most of whom were Secretaries and other senior officials from panchayat departments from 20 states. Prof. D Rajasekhar co-ordinated the workshop.



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