



## *From the Director's Desk....*



I took over as Director of ISEC at a difficult time when positive cases of COVID 19 started to soar in the country. Needless to say, my initial focus after assuming office was to ensure the safety of staff, students and faculty members; without hampering or compromising the routine academic and administrative activities. Now, when I look back, after sailing through the difficult times, I feel great joy, pride and a sense of accomplishment. The reason is nothing but the academic achievements that we have accomplished in the past six months. I am delighted to note that we continued our work on all fronts vis-à-vis research projects, academic publications, national and international seminars, conferences, workshops, lectures and other events that promoted the Institute's vision amidst the crisis unleashed by the pandemic. I take this opportunity to thank the entire ISEC community, as well as funders and collaborators, for trusting and standing firmly with us during this difficult time. In particular, I place on record the support extended by the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), Government of Karnataka, President of the ISEC Society, the ISEC Board of Governors, Life Members of the Institute and funders of various research projects. I also thank faculty members, staff, and students of ISEC for showing utmost sense of responsibility in timely delivering the work entrusted on each.

Let me present the gist of the academic activities that we accomplished in the past six months. It is highly commendable that our faculty members, despite the pandemic situation, completed eleven research projects and initiated fifteen new research projects worth Rs. 1.05 crore. Besides this, new research projects that aim to study the implications of COVID 19 on different fronts of the society and economy were submitted to various funding agencies.

Another important academic activity that I would like to highlight is research dissemination and outreach. Faculty members published as many as 10 books, 41 research articles, 17 working papers and 5 policy briefs during this period. They presented 22 papers in various national and international conferences. Further, faculty members and students actively participated in discussions in public spheres through news paper articles and visual/social media on various issues during this period. I am glad to note that Journal of Social and Economic Development (JSED), published by ISEC and Springer arranged to publish two Special Issues –one on Covid-19 and another on Sustainable Development – Goals in Karnataka.

The Institute also organised several distinguished lectures, national and international seminars and conferences, and training programmes during this period. The 16<sup>th</sup> Dr VKRV Rao Memorial Lecture was delivered by Professor D Narayana, Former Director, Gulati Institute of Finance and Taxation on 20 January 2020. A regional conference titled 'Towards Peace, Harmony and Happiness: Transition to Transformation' was conducted during 23-24 January 2020. The 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Indian Association of Social Science Institutions (IASSI) was conducted during 27-29 February 2020. Major training programmes organised during this period include the Executive Education programme on 'Public Policy and Governance' (PPPG) for officers from the Government of Karnataka; a research

methodology course in Social Science Research for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Research Scholars; an international training programme on Panchayats, Cooperatives and Rural Development in collaboration with the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka and the Social Science Talent Search (SSTS) programme. We continued dissemination activities during the pandemic period through online platforms and organised webinars in which eminent Economists, Sociologists and Political Scientists from all over the country made presentations covering several aspects related to COVID 19 including environment, public finance, impact on international trade, income support, risk and risk communication, labour market governance and economic crisis.

The doctoral programme is a flagship academic programme of the Institute. In recent years our Ph.D. programme had reached a stalemate since we could not admit new students for nearly four years. I am happy to share the news that we have been able to revive the Institute's Ph.D. programme by re-negotiating the association with Mysore University, wherein the autonomy that we previously enjoyed is maintained and the equalisation of fee structure for Karnataka and non Karnataka students has been achieved. After more than three and a half years, the advertisement calling for applicants for the PhD Programme was sent out and 326 applications were received. Preparations for conducting the online written test are ongoing. We have also signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Bangalore University for academic and research collaboration which includes the conducting of the Ph.D. programme at ISEC, which is recognized by Bangalore University. We have also ensured that the ongoing Ph.D. programme is not affected by the present crisis. I am glad to note that Ph. D. degrees were awarded to five students during this period. A further nine students are in the process, with four students having submitted their thesis to Mysore University and four students having presented pre-submission seminars during this period. The Institute successfully conducted Doctoral Committee Meetings and Students' Bi-annual Seminars through online platforms.

We have also made notable progress in initiating new academic collaborations. I am delighted to share the information that we have initiated discussions with several research institutions for academic

collaboration. ISEC has signed a MoU with Fiscal Policy Institute, Finance Department Government of Karnataka. The broader objective of the MoU is to contribute towards capacity building and strengthen governance in the Government of Karnataka through training and research in the area of public finance. In addition to these, we have also initiated a MoU with the Karnataka State Labour Institute, Department of Labour, Government of Karnataka for the purpose of conducting training programmes as well as joint research on contemporary areas in labour studies.

Another important activity which we focussed on during this period is participation in policy making. I would like to highlight that we were able to work closely with policy making bodies during this period. The Agricultural Price Commission had requested me to provide inputs to strengthen the supply chain of agricultural marketing in Karnataka in terms of institutions, infrastructure and technology during COVID-19 period. I was also requested by the Deputy Chairman, State Planning Board to provide suggestions on many aspects such as the problems faced by the farmers, migrants, marketing, state fiscal situation etc., during the COVID-19 pandemic. A small report on these aspects has been prepared and submitted to the State Planning Board, Government of Karnataka. In addition, I have provided comments and suggestions as member of the technical committee and the General Body of Karnataka Evaluation Authority, GoK on various aspects pertaining to the evaluation of studies undertaken by them and suggestions to SDG report to the Planning Department, GoK. I have also contributed to policy matters as Member- State Planning Board, Advisory Committee Member- ICSSR, Southern Region, Karnataka State Council for Science and Technology, GOK.- Executive council Member of Karnataka Vocational Training and Skill Development Corporation Ltd, GoK- Scientist Member of Karnataka State Natural Disaster Monitoring Centre and Technical Committee member and General Body Member- Karnataka Evaluation Authority. Our faculty members worked as members of several policy-making bodies and working groups of Government of India and Government of Karnataka.

We have also been able to continue our ongoing initiatives of strengthening of research capacity during this period. I am pleased to share that Chair Professors positions including V.R.R.V. Rao Chair,

Ramakrishna Hegde Chair and M.N. Srinivas Chair have been filled during this period.

I would like to mention a few important administrative activities that were initiated to ensure the smooth functioning of the Institute during the pandemic period. Despite the pandemic and the declaration of lock-down in March 2020, ISEC has been functioning partially with the Registrar I/C, Accounts Officer, Academic Section, Library, Computer Section mostly with the help of staff residing on campus. Even during lock-down, all the statutory committee meetings were convened. The meetings of Academic Programmes Committee, Research Programme Committee, Bye-Law Committee, Finance Committee, Building committee and C&R committee meetings were regularly conducted through online. I am also happy to note that steps were taken to speed up the Dr.V.K.R.V Rao Hostel construction work, which had become sluggish during the lockdown period.

I must admit that it has been extremely challenging for me from the time I have taken charge as Director with the onset of the COVID 19 pandemic. The major

concern was to keep the campus Covid-19 free. Although one or two incidents of Covid-19 cases were reported on campus, immediate steps were taken to contain further spread. We have streamlined all safety measures and have been adapting to the new normal by making appropriate technological interventions. We could do all these with the support and co-operation of ISEC fraternity. I once again thank you all. I also use this opportunity to congratulate faculty members, staff and students who worked hard and made considerable academic progress in this difficult time. I wish them all success and look forward to a safe, healthy and research friendly environment ahead.

I cherish the hope that the faculty, students and staff of ISEC would persevere in the tasks undertaken with renewed vigour, and help the Institute excel as a research institute of outstanding repute. For us, who are concerned about social and economic change, achieving success is not just delivering the 'possible' but it ought to be 'making impossible possible'. Let's lay the path for making impossible today to a possible tomorrow.

**S Madheswaran**  
Director



## Orientation and Distribution of Scholarships to SSTS Scheme Students

Social Science Talent Search (SSTS) is an ongoing programme of the Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC) since January 2009 comprising of the orientation and scholarship distribution programme, undertaken in collaboration with Bangalore University and the Christ University. While the two universities have been kind enough to sponsor scholarships to meritorious students, the programme has been receiving financial support from Sir Ratan Tata Trust (SRTT), as part of its support to academic and scholarly initiatives at ISEC. The programme is an initiative to foster interest in Social Science subjects in degree courses among the student fraternity. Two Orientations on Social Science Scope and Relevance are conducted every academic year during August and January, along with Scholarship Distribution in two installments provided for selected students during their three years' tenure as undergraduate students in Social Science courses. A Talent Search Examination is held to select new students studying at second year PUC level. Students write a competitive exam and the top 75 students are eligible to avail Orientations on Social Science Scope and Relevance and Scholarship.

As part of this initiative, half-yearly Orientation and Scholarship Distribution Programmes were conducted at ISEC during August 24-25, 2019 and January 4-5, 2020. Dr Venugopal K R, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Bangalore University, Bengaluru, Professor M G Chandrakanth, Director, ISEC, Bengaluru, and

Professor M Siddananda, Visiting Professor, Dept. of P G Studies in Economics, The National College, Basavanagudi, Bengaluru, Professor H K Moulesh, Former Professor & Head, Department of Sociology, The National College, Basavanagudi, Bengaluru & Controller of Examinations, SSTSS, ISEC, Bengaluru participated in distributing the scholarships and addressed the students. In the first program, resource persons were drawn from within ISEC and other institutions to deliver lectures. To name a few, Professor H S Ashok, Department of Psychology, Bangalore University, Professor Siddananda, Professor H K Moulesh, Professor N Sivanna, Former Professor, ISEC, Professor Krishna Raj, Professor, ISEC, Dr Pampa Devi, Azim Premji Foundation. Dr Krishne Gowda, Co-ordinator, P-G Department of Sociology, The National College (Autonomous), Basavanagudi, Bengaluru and Dr M Lingaraju, Faculty, CHRD, ISEC, Bengaluru addressed the students. Similarly, in the second programme, Professor M Siddananda, Professor H K Moulesh, Professor Wasim Akram, Professor of English, Government Science College, Bengaluru, Professor M Kunhaman, Former Professor, Tata Institute of Social Sciences [TISS], Maharashtra, and Former Member of UGC, were the resource persons and provided highly-intellectual support to the programme. Nodal officers from different colleges and parents of the students also attended both the programmes. The SSTSS programme was coordinated by Dr M Lingaraju.

## Founder's Day

The 49<sup>th</sup> Founders' Day was celebrated at the Institute on January 20, 2019. Professor P G Chengappa, Member BoG and Professor M G Chandrakanth, ISEC Director, garlanded a bust of Dr VKRV Rao. Professor Chandrakanth welcomed the gathering.



Founders' Day held at ISEC on January 20, 2020.

The participants included distinguished members of the Board of Governors, Founder/Life Members of ISEC Society, academicians, administrators, ISEC residents, faculty, staff and students of the Institute. To commemorate the occasion, the 16<sup>th</sup> Dr VKRV Rao Memorial Lecture was delivered by Prof. D Narayana, Former Director, Gulati Institute of Finance and Taxation. Professor D Narayana spoke on 'National Pension System: Consumption and Growth'.

**Best thesis awards were announced on this occasion:**

### *Economics*

Dr V K R V Rao Memorial Prize – Dr Anantha Ramu M R (Supervisor: Professor K Gayithri).

Shri T R Satish Chandran Memorial Prize – Dr Sumedha Bajar (Supervisor: Professor Meenakshi Rajeev).

#### **Sociology**

Professor M N Srinivas Memorial Prize in Sociology – Dr Priyanka Dutta (Supervisor: Professor Manohar Yadav).

#### **Public Administration**

Justice Shri E S Venkataramiah Memorial Prize in Public Administration – Dr Lavanya Suresh (Supervisor: Professor N Sivanna).

During the occasion eight books authored by ISEC faculty members, and brought out by various publishers, were released. An ISEC Monograph of a faculty member was also released. Mr B Suresh, who had completed 25 years of service in ISEC, was felicitated on the occasion. Prizes were distributed to the winners in various sports and games events that had been held to mark the Founders' Day. Some staff of ISEC and their family members performed various cultural programmes during the celebrations. Professor P G Chengappa, Member, Board of Governors of ISEC, presided over the function. The programme concluded with a vote of thanks proposed by Professor C M Lakshmana.

### **Executive Education Programme on Public Policy and Governance (PPPG)**

A four-week long executive education programme on 'Public Policy and Governance' (PPPG), was conducted at ISEC between January 21, 2020 and February 19, 2020, for 24 officers from the Government of Karnataka. The programme was sponsored by the Government of Karnataka. The main objective of the PPPG was to impart state-of-the-art knowledge, relating to different dimensions of policy making and policy implementation and governance, using theoretical and field-based research insights.

Dr A Ravindra, IAS (retd.), former Chief Secretary and Programme Advisor, delivered the inaugural address, while Mr. M Vijaya Bhaskar, IAS, Chief Secretary, GoK, delivered the valedictory address. During the first two weeks of the programme various sessions including lecture-cum-interactive sessions, group discussions, case studies, practical demonstrations, and hands-on exercises, relating to different aspects of the public policy were held. In addition, a one-day exposure visit was organised to learn about the latest technological issues in public policy. An international study tour to Korea Development Institute (KDI),



*Officers from the Government of Karnataka participated in the Executive Education Programme on Public Policy and Governance, organised at ISEC during January 21 – February 19, 2020.*

Seoul, South Korea, was organised in the third week in order to learn best practices and lessons from the Korean experience. During the last week of the programme a few more interactive sessions were conducted, together with presentations on policy issues by all the participants.

Dr D Rajasekhar, Professor and Head, Centre for Decentralisation and Development (CDD), coordinated the programme, while Dr R Manjula, Assistant Professor, CDD and Dr Khalil, Databank Manager, were assistant coordinators for the programme.

### **Two-day Regional Conference on Towards Peace, Harmony and Happiness: Transition to Transformation**

Population Research Centre (PRC) conducted a 'Two-day Regional Conference on Towards Peace, Harmony and Happiness: Transition to Transformation' jointly with Pranab Mukherjee Foundation, New Delhi, Centre for Research in Rural and Industrial Development (CRRID), Chandigarh, on January 23-24, 2020.

Professor M G Chandrakanth, Director, ISEC,

and other dignitaries inaugurated the seminar by lighting a lamp. Professor R S Ghuman, Programme Co-ordinator, CRRID, Chandigarh; Professor Jeevan Kumar, Hon. Professor, Karnataka State Rural Development and Panchayat Raj University, Gadag; Professor V R Venugopal, Vice-Chancellor, Bangalore University, and Dr Gurinder Kaur, CRRID, Chandigarh, graced the occasion. Other dignitaries present were Professor Saumen Chattopadhyaya,





Population Research Centre (PRC), ISEC, organised Two-Day Regional Conference on 'Towards Peace, Harmony and Happiness: Transition to Transformation' during January 23-24, 2020.

Zakir Husain Centre for Educational Studies, School of Social Sciences, JNU, New Delhi; Professor A S Seetharamu (Former Professor and Head, Department of Education, ISEC, Bengaluru), Professor Manohar Yadav, Professor & Head, CSSCD, ISEC; Professor G K Karanth, Director, Karnataka State Labour Institute and Retd. Professor and Head, CSSCD, ISEC; Professor K N M Raju (Former Professor and Head, Population Research Centre, ISEC; Professor M V Nadakarni (Former Vice-Chancellor, Gulbarga University, Gulbarga; Dr M Mahadeva, Secretary, Dr Ambedkar Institute Of Technology, Bengaluru and

former Member, KPSC, Bengaluru, and Professor C M Lakshmana, Local Organising Secretary, PRC, ISEC. There were about 40 participants, including the faculty and staff of PRC.

Professor Jeevan Kumar, Hon. Professor, Karnataka State Rural Development and Panchayath Raj University, Gadag, Karnataka, and (Retd. Professor, Department of Political Science, Bangalore University, Bengaluru) delivered the keynote address and Professor K R Venugopal, Vice-Chancellor, Bangalore University, Bengaluru, Chief Guest of the programme addressed the audience. The conference was covered four sessions: (a) Education Transition and Transformation, (b) Socio-cultural Transition and Transformation, (c) Economic Transition and Transformation, (d) Health Transition and Transformation. The outcome of the conference brought the relevant discussion on the above themes, which have a positive bearing on policy implications. Professor Giridhar R Babu, Public Health Foundation of India, Bengaluru, delivered the valedictory speech. Dr Vikash Kumar, Assistant Professor, CRRID, Chandigarh, proposed a vote of thanks.

Professor C M Lakshmana coordinated the programme.

## Annual Conference of the Indian Association of Social Science Institutions

The 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Indian Association of Social Science Institutions (IASSI) was conducted during February 27-29, 2020 at the Institute. Three themes were covered (i) Social and Economic Inequalities: Emerging Perspectives; (ii) Child Development: A Fair Chance to Every Child and (iii) Challenges of Urban Transformation. The conference was inaugurated by Hon'ble Vice-Chairman State Planning Board Shri B J Puttaswamy. Professor S Madheswaran, Acting Director of Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC) welcomed the Chief Guest and other dignitaries and participants of the conference. Professor Alakh N Sharma, Director Institute for Human Development and Member Secretary Indian Association of Social Science Institutions (IASSI) apprised about the activities of the Indian Association of Social Science Institutions.

Professor R Radhakrishna, Chairman, Indian Association of Social Science Institutions and former Chairman, National Statistical Commission welcomed the dignitaries and presented his remarks about the conference. The Inaugural Address was delivered by the Chief Guest Hon'ble Vice-Chairman



20<sup>th</sup> Indian Association of Social Science Institutions (IASSI) conference was organised at ISEC during February 27-29, 2020.

State Planning Board, Shri B J Puttaswamy. Hon'ble Vice-Chairman presented the achievements made by the state government under different programmes and schemes for the well-being of people in the state. The inaugural session was presided by Professor P G Chengappa, Former Vice-Chancellor of University of Agriculture Sciences Bengaluru and Member Board of Governors, ISEC. The session was concluded by a vote of thanks by Professor Parmod Kumar, faculty, ISEC and Local Organising Secretary, IASSI.

The Conference had in total seven plenary sessions and 3-4 parallel technical sessions. The key note

addresses were delivered by eminent scholars on the three themes by Professor S Madheswaran, Acting Director, ISEC on Social and Economic Inequalities: Emerging Perspectives; Professor A K Shiv Kumar, Visiting Faculty, Ashoka University on Child Development: A Fair Chance to Every Child; and Professor S R Hashim, Chairman, Institute for Human Development (IHD), Delhi; Former Member-Secretary, Planning Commission and Former Chairman, Union Public Service Commission on Challenges of Urban Transformation. In the post lunch session, a panel on India and Sustainable Development Goals was organised. The session was chaired by Shri Sanjiv Kumar, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary and Chief Election Officer, Government of Karnataka. The speakers were: Mrs Chaya K Degaonkar, Additional Chief Evaluation, Government of Karnataka; Mrs Shipra Maitra, Professor, Institute for Human Development, Delhi and Professor Meenakshi Rajeev, RBI Chair Professor, ISEC.

The Atal Bihari Bajpai memorial lecture was delivered by Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, the Director General Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS). Two special lectures were organised sharing the experiences of the government programmes in the state of Karnataka and the speakers were: Shri Sanjiv Kumar, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary and Chief Election Officer, Government of Karnataka and Shri G Kumar Naik, Principal Secretary, Social Welfare

Department, Government of Karnataka. Tarlok Singh Memorial lecture was delivered by Professor Sudipto Mundle on the topic 'Development, Institutions and the State: Reflections on the Interaction between Theory, Policy and Ground Reality'.

Presidential address was delivered by Professor V K Malhotra, Member Secretary, Indian Council of Social Sciences Research (ICSSR). The topic of his presidential address was 'Social Science Research in India: Issues and Perspectives'. A special lecture was delivered by Mr Anjum Parwez, Principal Secretary, Urban Development Department, Government of Karnataka on the topic, 'Challenges of Urban Transformation in Karnataka'. A panel on New Education Policy was organised with the leading educationists. The panelist included Professor N V Varghese, Vice Chancellor, NIEPA, New Delhi; Ramesh Sharan, Vice Chancellor, Vinoba Bhawe University, Hazaribagh, Jharkhand; M V Nadkarni, Former Vice Chancellor, Gulbarga University; R K Mishra, Director, Institute of Public Enterprises, Hyderabad and K R Venugopal, Vice chancellor, Bangalore University.

Close to 100 presentations were made on conceptual and or empirical aspects of the three Conference themes. There were 13 parallel technical sessions and 7 plenary sessions including 3 special lectures organised during the conference.

### International Training Programme on Panchayats, Cooperatives and Rural Development

Several policies and programmes were introduced for rapid rural development in developing countries, including countries of South Asia. These policies were successful in achieving a number of positive development outcomes. With the formulation of the Sustainable Development Goals in 2015, the discussion is currently centred around the ways to sustain development outcomes that have been achieved in South Asian countries. In India, soon after Independence, the responsibility for social and economic development at the village-level was placed on institutions of panchayats and cooperatives. In view of the worldwide recognition of decentralisation and the role of institutions in rural development, there is now recognition that an interface between these institutions is needed to sustain the development.

Against this background, a three-day training programme was organised by the Centre for



*Inauguration of the International Training Programme on Panchayats, Cooperatives and Rural Development, organised by the Centre for Decentralisation and Development, ISEC during March 4-6, 2020.*

Decentralisation and Development, ISEC, in collaboration with National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka, for participants representing various cooperatives in Sri Lanka, during March 4-6, 2020 at ISEC. The training programme saw in-depth discussion on the role of decentralisation in rural



development taking Karnataka as an example. The meet identified best practices that could be adopted for cooperatives and rural development.

Professor D Rajasekhar and Dr R Manjula were the coordinators of the international training programme.

### Research Methodology Course in Social Science Research for SC and ST Research Scholars

A Research Methodology Course (in Social Science Research for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Research Scholars) was organised at ISEC during March, 9-18, 2020 by the Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC), Bangalore. It was sponsored by the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), New Delhi. 25 participants from all over India and across discipline (economics, education, history, management, political science, public administration, rural development, social exclusion, social work, sociology and women studies) participated. Some participants were doing their MPhil/PhD while others were working professionals.

The course covered conceptual, theoretical and empirical issues pertaining to social science research. Both qualitative and quantitative parts of research were taught to participants. Beside this, participants were exposed to various hands-on experience using Excel, SPSS and STATA and introduced to NSSO

unit-level data set. The course was taught by various resource persons drawn from within the ISEC and from other institutes.

The course was coordinated by Dr Malini L Tantri, Dr Channamma Kambara and Dr M Balasubramanian.



Research Methodology Course in Social Science Research for SC and ST Research Scholars was organised at ISEC during March 9-18, 2020.

### 43<sup>rd</sup> Indian Social Science Congress

The 43<sup>rd</sup> Indian Social Science Congress, 2020, was held from January 17-21, 2020, at the Bengaluru Central University, Bengaluru. Professor Sunil Nautiyal, Head, CEENR, ISEC, was the Chairperson of one of the thematic panels titled 'Natural Resources, Biodiversity and Geographic Information System' held as part of the event. On the first day, a session for the Chairperson's address was jointly-organised with another panel. Professor Nautiyal, along with Professor Asha Mukherjee, VisvaBharati University, Shantiniketan, and Dr Manjulika Vaz, St. John's Research Institute, Bengaluru, who were the Chairperson and Convener respectively, of the other thematic panel titled 'Ethics of Science and Society', delivered lectures at the joint session. Apart from them, there were several other participants who attended the discussion. The session began with a welcome address by the chairpersons, after which all the delegates introduced themselves and mentioned their research interests. It was a trans-disciplinary group, that included researchers from science, technology and humanities. Professor P B S Bhadoria, IIT-Kharagpur, was the keynote

speaker of the panel 'Natural Resources, Biodiversity and Geographic Information System' and the first to initiate the discussions. During the session, the discussion aimed to identify and use technology for the benefit of society and elaborated on the link between demand and technology citing various examples. At the session on Natural Resources, Biodiversity and Remote Sensing', a detailed discussion was held on development of technology for efficient production of resources towards enabling self-sustainability of villagers in various agro-climatic regions of India. The scholars discussed that there is a need to collaborate with NGOs to help transfer the benefits of technology to society. 25 scholars submitted papers for presentation in the session. All the deliberations triggered a vibrant exchange of ideas among the participants. Individual presentations by various delegates, under the thematic panel 'Natural Resources, Biodiversity and Geographic Information System', were also scheduled. The participants of the sessions actively involved in discussions, which led to the inception of several innovative ideas.



## Lectures

### Professor L S Venkataramanan Memorial Lecture

Professor R S Deshpande, Former Director, Institute for Social and Economic Change delivered Professor L S Venkataramanan Memorial Lecture on the topic '*Disaster Management in India*' on July 28, 2020, through webinar.

## ISEC Webinar Lecture Series

ISEC Webinar Lecture – 1: '*Covid-19 and the Environment*' – Professor Krishna Raj, Professor, CESP, ISEC, Bengaluru (June 5, 2020).

## Seminars/Lectures by Visitors

**Labour Contestation and the Changing Composition of Industrial Capitalism** – Dr Ashok Kumar, Lecturer, Birkbeck College University of London (January 10, 2020).

**Critical Success Factors Impacting B-School Student Employability: A Study in Rural Districts of Karnataka, India** – Dr M Swapna, Associate Professor, Ramaiah Institute of Management Studies, Bengaluru (February 3, 2020).

**Contemporary Contributions to Critiques of Political Economy: Political Economy, Moral Economy, Moral Sociology, and Spiritual Ecology and the Calling of Alternative Planetary Futures** – Dr Ananta Kumar Giri, Professor, Madras Institute of Development Studies, Chennai (March 3, 2020).

## Seminars by Students

**Productivity and Efficiency of Indian Fertilizer Firms with Special Reference to Energy Consumption** – Ms Soumita Khan, Research Scholar, ISEC, Bengaluru (February 24, 2020). (Pre-thesis submission seminar)

**Financial Inclusion in India: A State Level Analysis** – Ms Shika S, Research Scholar, ISEC, Bengaluru (May 18, 2020). (Pre-thesis submission seminar)

**Fiscal Responsiveness of States to Federal Transfers in India** – Ms Darshini J S, Research Scholar, ISEC, Bengaluru (June 19, 2020). (Pre-thesis submission seminar)

**Economic Analysis of Urban Water Demand: A Study of Demand-Side Management of Residential Water in Bengaluru** – Ms Kavya Shree K, Research Scholar, ISEC, Bengaluru (June 23, 2020). (Pre-thesis submission seminar)

**Estimation of Economic Cost of Traffic Congestion in Bengaluru City** – Ms Vijayalakshmi S, Research Scholar, ISEC, Bengaluru (June 29, 2020). (Pre-thesis submission seminar)

**Economics of Low Carbon Economy in the Power and Manufacturing Industries in India** – Ms Kaumudi Misra, Research Scholar, ISEC, Bengaluru (June 29, 2020). (Pre-thesis submission seminar)

## Research Projects

### Completed Projects\*

1. **Outlook on Agriculture** (Professor Parmod Kumar)
2. **Status of Central Sector Scheme of Gramin Bhandaran Yojana/Rural Godown Scheme: A Case Study Approach** (Dr Ramappa K B)
3. **Evaluation of Global Food Chains concerning Sustainability: Development of a Methodology and Case Studies of Indian Products with Swiss Target Market** (Professor Parmod Kumar, Dr A V Manjunatha and Dr Mohin Shariff (UAS-B))
4. **Swachh Bharat Mission in Karnataka: Status, Issues and Prospects** (Prof.D Rajasekhar and Dr R Manjula)
5. **Integrating Air and Space-borne Spectroscopy and Laser Scanning to Assess Structural and Functional Characteristics of Crops and Field Margin Vegetation** (Professor Sunil Nautiyal and Professor Meenakshi Rajeev)
6. **Scaling up Apprenticeship Programme in Karnataka: Policy and Strategy Suggestions** (Dr

K Gayithri, Dr Malini L Tantri and Professor D Rajasekhar)

7. **Functioning of NCD Clinics: A Comparative Study in Selected Two Districts of Karnataka** (Professor C M Lakshmana and Dr C Yogananda)
8. **Assessment of Home Based New Born Care (HBNC) in Selected Districts of Karnataka** (Dr T S Syamala, Dr Lekha Subaiya, Dr P Prabhuswamy and Dr N Kavitha)
9. **PIP Monitoring in 10 districts of Karnataka, 5 districts of Arunachal Pradesh, 11 districts of Meghalaya, 2 districts of Puducherry, 2 districts of Sikkim and 5 districts of Manipur** (All PRC Staff)

## New Projects\*

1. **Lockdown Distress and Government Response: A Study in Rural Karnataka** (Professor D Rajasekhar and Dr R Manjula)
2. **Climate Resilient Agriculture and Socio-ecological Sustainability: A Case Study** (Professor Sunil Nautiyal)
3. **Carbon Footprint and Changing Lifestyles of Indian Households** (Professor Sunil Nautiyal)
4. **Vulnerability of Diverse Communities to Climate Change in Different Districts of Karnataka** (Dr M Balasubramanian)
5. **Ecosystem Functioning and Services of Himalaya Temperate Forest under Anthropogenic Change: A Plant Functional Trait based Evaluation Economic Valuation of Ecosystem Services in Himalayan Forests** (Professor Krishna Raj)
6. **Urban Primacy in Karnataka: Infrastructure, Policy and Dispersal of Jobs** (Professor Kala Sridhar)
7. **Impact of i-RTC and RTC Wallet – Land Record (RTC) through Internet – A Study of e-Governance Initiative in Karnataka** (Dr S Manasi, Dr Channamma Kambara and Dr Malini L Tantri)

8. **Promoting Green Buildings to Combat Climate Change: A Study of Bengaluru** (Dr S Manasi and Dr Channamma Kambara)
9. **Livelihood Uncertainty: Challenges and Strategies among Reverse North-East Migrants during Covid-19 Pandemic** (Dr Marchang Reimeingam)
10. **Effects of Urban Growth on Resource Degradation and its Impact on Environment: Issues and Challenges in India** (Professor C M Lakshmana)
11. **Children's Migration and Health of their Older Parents in India** (Dr T S Syamala and Ms Madhu Bidari)
12. **Adolescent Marriages in India: Trends and Patterns** (Dr T S Syamala and Dr N Kavitha)
13. **Contraceptive use Among Young Women in India** (Dr Lekha Subaiya)
14. **Factors Associated with Hypertension and Diabetes among Women in India** (Dr Lekha Subaiya)
15. **Impact of PwDs Interventions in Motivating PwD Voters for Registration and Creating Awareness in the Election Process in Karnataka** (Professor S Madheswaran and Ms B P Vani)
16. **India's Changing Cityscapes: Work, Migration and Livelihoods** (Professor Supriya Roy Chowdhury, Professor Carol Upadhy, NIAS and Ms B P Vani)
17. **Kudubi Community in Karnataka: An Ethnographic Study** (Professor Manohar Yadav)

## STUDENT NEWS

### Students' Biannual Seminar Series

The Forty First Bi-annual Seminars were held during July 6-10, 2020. In all, there were 22 presentations comprising of 22 progress seminars (10 Sessions). Twentyone students sought exemption from

presenting at the Bi-annual seminars with the approval of Director, 35 students did not make the presentation and 2 students presented 3- pre 2 thesis colloquium, 7 students submitted their theses and one student is yet to conduct the viva voce.

### PhD Degree Awarded

The following ISEC scholars were awarded the degree of PhD by the University of Mysore during the last six months:

**Dr Pratap Singh:** 'Reforms in Direct Tax Administration and Tax Performance in India' (Supervisor: Professor K Gayithri)

**Dr Madhavi Marwah Malhotra:** 'Environmental and Institutional Economics of Groundwater Irrigation: A Study of West Bengal' (Supervisor: Professor Krishna Raj)

**Dr Neeti Singh:** 'Social Entrepreneurship and the Development Question: A Sociological Perspective' (Supervisor: Dr Anand Inbanathan)

**Dr Abnave Vikas Bajrang:** 'Sustainability of Sugarcane Cultivation: A Study of Maharashtra State' (Supervisor: Professor M Devendra Babu)

**Dr Susanta Kumar Naik:** 'Federalism and The Formation of States in India' (Supervisor: Dr V Anil Kumar)

## PUBLICATIONS

### WORKING PAPERS

- 1 **Working Paper No. 471:** 'The Nation and Its Historical Mediations: Towards Typologies of Regions/States' by **Anil Kumar Vaddiraju**
- 2 **Working Paper No. 472:** 'Structure and Functions of Social-Ecological Systems: A Case Study from Indian Sundarbans' by **Sneha Biswas**
- 3 **Working Paper No. 473:** 'Multiple Vulnerabilities in Utilising Maternal and Child Health Services Across Regions of Uttar Pradesh, India' by **Prem Shankar Mishra** and **T S Syamala**
- 4 **Working Paper No. 474:** 'Fertility at the Crossroads of Ethnicity and Gender: Understanding Oraon Tribe in Jharkhand, India' by **Ujjwala Gupta**
- 5 **Working Paper No. 475:** 'Complexities of Collaboration, Negotiation and Contestation: Agragamee and the State' by **Ambuja Kumar Tripathy**
- 6 **Working Paper No. 476:** 'International Best Practices of Apprenticeship System and Policy Options for India' by **K Gayithri, Malini L Tantri** and **D Rajasekhar**
- 7 **Working Paper No. 477:** 'Public Healthcare Infrastructure in Tribal India: A Critical Review' by **Mohamed Saalim P K**
- 8 **Working Paper No. 478:** 'Whether Caste Impedes Access to Formal Agricultural Credit in India? Evidence from NSSO Unit Level Data' by **Karthick V** and **S Madheswaran**
- 9 **Working Paper No. 479:** 'Harmonization of Intellectual Property Rights Across the Globe: Impact on India's Pharmaceutical Exports' by **Supriya Bhandarkar**
- 10 **Working Paper No. 480:** 'Decentralization and People's Participation in Educational Governance: A Review of International Experiences' by **Mahima Upadhyay** and **D Rajasekhar**
- 11 **Working Paper No. 481:** 'Initiatives in Solid Waste Management: A Case Study of the City of Bengaluru' by **Natasha Kalra** and **S Manasi**
- 12 **Working Paper No. 482:** 'Agrarian Change in Bihar: A Study of Two Villages' by **Prashant Kumar Choudhary**
- 13 **Working Paper No. 483:** 'Information Asymmetry, Exclusion and Inclusion Errors and Elite Capture of MGNREGA: Critical Examination of IEC Strategies in Karnataka and Ways Forward' by **Sanjiv Kumar, S Madheswaran** and **B P Vani**
- 14 **Working Paper No. 484:** 'Political Regimes and Religious Minorities in Karnataka: 2008-2018' by **Azhar Khan Chikmagalur Akbar**



- 15 **Working Paper No. 485:** *'Economic Estimation of Health and Productivity Impacts of Traffic Congestion: A Case of Bengaluru City'* by **Vijayalakshmi S** and **Krishna Raj**
- 16 **Working Paper No. 486:** *'Economic Development in the Princely State of Jammu & Kashmir (1846-1947)'* by **Sardar Babur Hussain**
- 17 **Working Paper No. 487:** *'Local Government and Decentralized Natural Resource Management'* by **Mahima Upadhyay**

### An Overview

The paper **'The Nation and Its Historical Mediations: Towards Typologies of Regions/States'** (WP 471) by **Anil Kumar Vaddiraju** focuses on the historical role of mediations in the evolution of nations. Societies are a product of the diverse mediations that they go through in time. These mediations are not the same for every society. The concrete historical events and processes, that are mediated over time, determine the substance and form of a society. The West, as we know it today, has undergone definite economic, social, political and cultural mediations in its history. Consequently, it is today a product of these mediations. The developing /Third World countries on the other hand have gone through their own events and processes in history. And their historical trajectory therefore determines their present condition. This trajectory, however, is not uniform for all societies. It is definitely specific to each society. The specificity of concrete historical mediations therefore determines what type of society has resulted from them. This is true even of different types of capitalism that evolve in different societal contexts. The theory of historical mediationism therefore directs us to look more and more for concrete historical events and processes that shaped the history of a place rather than rely on one broad general supra-historical theory that suits all places and all times. Historical mediationism therefore focuses on two aspects: The concrete historical processes that shaped a society and the diversity or similarity of the same between different societies. While this theory shifts the balance from a supra-historical theory of studying and understanding concrete history, it neither rejects nor strictly follows Marx. What is stressed therefore is historical specificity and diversity. In sum, this theory says that there is no reason to steamroll historical diversity to suit one particular straight jacket of a theory.

The paper **'Structure and Functions of Social-Ecological Systems: A Case Study from Indian Sundarbans'** (WP 472) by **Sneha Biswas** is a micro-level analysis of the resource use and resource flow in the Indian Sundarbans.. A primary survey was conducted in four villages (Madhya Gurguria, Debipur, Satjelia and Rangabelia) from two blocks (Kultali and Gosaba) with the help of a questionnaire. Findings show that there is a high dependency on agricultural, fishing and livestock resources in the study area. Dependence on multiple resources for income generation is the norm in the village ecosystem which, in turn, is increasing the pressure on the existing resource base. The author suggests that there is need for a robust framework endorsing an inclusive and participatory role for all stakeholders in resource management which will ensure the sustainability of resources and the livelihood of people living in the Socio-Ecological System of the Indian Sundarbans.

Although there are multiple vulnerabilities in access to MCH services in India, the research has always been focussing on single dimension vulnerabilities like economic vulnerabilities or social vulnerabilities. Individuals who are poor may also face other types of vulnerabilities which together affect the access to health services. This paper **'Multiple Vulnerabilities in Utilising Maternal and Child Health Services Across Regions of Uttar Pradesh, India'** (WP 473) by **Prem Shankar Mishra** and **T S Syamala**, investigates the linkages between multiple vulnerabilities and utilisation of maternal and child care services. Data from NFHS (2015-16) for the state of Uttar Pradesh were used for analysing the key outcome variables, namely women who received full-antenatal care (ANC), delivery care, post-natal care (PNC) and full-immunisation for children in the age groups 12-23 months. Bivariate analysis and binomial logistic regression analysis were employed to examine the multiple vulnerabilities on utilising MCH care services across three dimensions of vulnerabilities such as education, wealth and caste. The paper identifies strong linkages between multiple vulnerabilities and the utilisation of MCH services. Women with multiple vulnerabilities were less likely to utilise essential maternal and child healthcare services. Utilisation of MCH care services declines with increasing vulnerabilities. A multi-sectoral approach is therefore required to deal with the issues of low access and under-utilisation of maternal and child care services in the state.

*Ujjwala Gupta* focuses on the relationship between fertility and autonomy at a time of change among tribal women in the paper '**Fertility at the Crossroads of Ethnicity and Gender: Understanding Oraon Tribe in Jharkhand, India**' (WP 474). Historically, Tribes have been known for more egalitarian gender balance and autonomy. However, the growing concern is the unseen inherent gender disparity and their continued vulnerability owing to recent changes following forced displacement, restricting access to forest resources and seasonal migration. With impact on cultural milieu putting an undue pressure on overall fertility, women's autonomy and value placed for children has changed. This paper, using its empirical study findings, attempts to unfold multi-dimensional issues of Oraon tribe women, of Jharkhand.

Agramee is one of the better-known civil society organisation in the country. It is located in the tribal hinterlands of the state of Odisha. Since its origin in the late 70s and early 80s, this socially committed organisation has witnessed different phases in its relation with the state while performing its developmental functions. The trajectory of relation with the state for the organisation began with collaboration in the early phase. Then, as the organisation matured with emphasis on a rights-based approach, the relation got transformed into negotiation and expression of differences and finally into contestation and resistance. The paper '**Complexities of Collaboration, Negotiation and Contestation: Agramee and the State**' (WP 475) by *Ambuja Kumar Tripathy* analyses the dynamics surrounding the changing relation of the NGO with the state and their implications for Agramee's political and developmental characters in a nuanced way.

India's Apprenticeship Policy, conceived in 1961, has evolved over the years to be customised to the changing requirements of the industry. Despite this, India has accommodated a substantially far too lower number of apprentices in comparison to the large labour force and as compared with other countries. Among others, in the literature, it has been criticised for its complex bureaucratic proceedings and various flaws in the formulation and implementation of the Act in its true spirit. In this backdrop, learning from international best apprenticeship practices may help in addressing these barriers. While it is recognised that such practices cannot be completely emulated

in our system, the key success features are certainly expected to help in expanding the apprenticeship programme in the country. The paper '**International Best Practices of Apprenticeship System and Policy Options for India**' (WP 476) by *K Gayithri, Malini L Tantri* and *D Rajasekhar* discusses some key features that are worth emulating in scaling up the apprenticeship programme in India.

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) were to be achieved by 2015, however, access to healthcare services in rural areas, especially the tribal regions of the country, continues to be one of the major problems of healthcare delivery in India. Government of India and the state governments have initiated several healthcare schemes and incrementally developed health care infrastructure since Independence, but there is still a huge deficiency in improving rural and tribal health infrastructure. Against this backdrop, *Mohamed Saalim P K* critically reviews and discusses the inadequate rural health infrastructure and personnel in India with a focus on Tribal areas in particular, in the paper '**Public Healthcare Infrastructure in Tribal India: A Critical Review**' (WP 477). The data for the paper has been drawn from the Rural Health Statistics (RHS) and Census Reports of Government of India.

*Karthick V* and *S Madheswaran* study the relationship between Caste and access to credit in their paper '**Whether Caste Impedes Access to Formal Agricultural Credit in India? Evidence from NSSO Unit-Level Data**' (WP 478). Despite many initiatives and policies that have been taken by the government on access to credit for agricultural growth, the declining share of formal credit (mainly from cooperatives and commercial banks) from 1991 to 2012 has affected marginal and small landholders' access to credit. Besides, caste is the main predictor of economic outcomes in India that determines access to credit of marginalised communities. Hence, using large national-level unit data of NSSO (AIDIS) and bivariate probit econometric model, the authors have analysed whether access to cooperative and commercial banks credit is determined by caste. Our findings show that, in India, both commercial, as well as cooperative bank, discriminate against both SCs and STs in access to credit. Thus, this study endorses the critical appraisal of the existing policies of formal credit towards an increase in access to credit for better agricultural growth.

*Supriya Bhandarkar* focuses on Intellectual Property Rights within the Indian pharmaceutical sector in the paper entitled '**Harmonization of Intellectual Property Rights Across the Globe: Impact on India's Pharmaceutical Exports**' (WP 479). Critics of the global intellectual property rights (IPR) regime have argued that the harmonization of IPRs across the globe would lead to a fall in exports from developing countries like India by restricting the production and export of patented products. The paper assesses the impact of the Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) agreement on Indian pharmaceutical exports based on the gravity model framework employing the pseudo maximum likelihood (ppml) estimator and detailed product level data from 1991 to 2018. The Ginarte and Park index is used to identify the impact on exports. Contrary to assumptions the results show that the strengthening of IPRs did not have a negative impact on exports from India. Additionally, the findings demonstrate that patent protection has not impacted Indian firms' exports, not due to innovation of new products but because of the adoption of other survival strategies such as the utilisation of the patent cliff and investing in incremental innovation.

In the paper entitled '**Decentralization and People's Participation in Educational Governance: A Review of International Experiences**' (WP 480) *Mahima Upadhyay* and *D Rajasekhar* review studies on decentralization in India and abroad with the objective of providing a conceptual understanding of current and emerging trends in decentralization and people's participation in educational governance. The paper first provides a background on the problem of poor educational outcomes and how decentralization is helpful in addressing these problems. After providing the concept of decentralization, an attempt is made to discuss how decentralization in education is looked at in different countries by addressing the questions such as what is decentralized, why is it done and what results it brings. Finally, an attempt is made to learn lessons by comparing and discussing national and international experiences of decentralization and people's participation in educational governance.

Globally, unplanned urbanisation has been posing serious administrative, economical, ecological and social challenges. An outcome of urbanisation is the high rate of waste generation, which is a major concern for citizens, administrators, and policy makers. Besides the traditional approaches such as composting

and landfill dumping, waste management is currently witnessing several innovations with multiple stakeholder participation across various phases beginning with raising awareness and including segregation, collection, transportation, treatment and disposal of waste. The paper '**Initiatives in Solid Waste Management: A Case Study of the City of Bengaluru**' (WP 481) by *Natasha Kalra* and *S Manasi* is an attempt to understand and map the initiatives and document a few best practices in solid waste management in the city of Bengaluru. Secondary data sources as well as primary field observations have been referred to compile these initiatives. Subsequently, the cases of three best practices have been discussed in detail. It has been observed that many initiatives have been undertaken under the phases of awareness creation and treatment of waste. Further, the engagement of multiple stakeholders, particularly community participation, is relatively higher in these two phases compared to the other phases.

The paper '**Agrarian Change in Bihar: A Study of Two Villages**' (WP 482) by *Prashant Kumar Choudhary* focuses on the social, political, and agrarian profile of two villages studied at the micro level. The paper begins with the socio-demographic characteristics of the villages including education attainment, type of house, occupation and household income based on field study. Next, the paper presents the district level agrarian change which took place in the last thirty years. This change is presented in terms of change in landholdings for the landowning class. The main aim of the paper is to describe the agrarian structure among different castes, agrarian change in relation to practice and conditions of sharecropping, availability of attached labour, tenancy and wage labour. The study also describes the physical conditions of economic production which show that different factors such as mechanisation in agriculture, irrigation facility and availability of market for agricultural produce affect the existing agrarian system in the village economy.

In the paper '**Information Asymmetry, Exclusion and Inclusion Errors and Elite Capture of MGNREGA: Critical Examination of IEC Strategies in Karnataka and Ways Forward**' (WP 483) *Sanjiv Kumar*, *S Madheswaran* and *B P Vani* investigate the relationships between inequality, elite capture, and information asymmetry of the largest rights-based workfare programme, the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act



(MGNREGA). The study concentrates on the design of Information, Education and Communication (IEC) activities, awareness and access level about the programme by all stakeholders particularly the poorest, the weakest and the illiterate. Using primary data, collected during 2018, from 320 beneficiaries and 160 non beneficiaries and also data collected from implementing stakeholders in Karnataka State, the study finds conclusive evidence of information asymmetry, inclusion and exclusion errors and elite capture of the MGNREGA programme.

*Azhar Khan Chikmagalur Akbar* focuses on the political initiatives and the relationship of political regimes of Karnataka with religious minorities, particularly Muslims and Christians in the paper **'Political Regimes and Religious Minorities in Karnataka: 2008-2018'** (WP 484). The two political regimes selected for the study are the BJP government from 2008 to 2013 and INC government from 2013 to 2018. The central objective of the paper is to study the political initiatives of selected political regimes, whether or not they have resulted in the inclusion and protection of Muslims and Christians. The paper highlights the political ideology and the social bases of INC and BJP, particularly in Karnataka. It highlights the election details, social coalitions, manifestos of the political parties, electoral outcomes, formation of governments and its implications upon religious minorities during both the political regimes. Four prominent issues concerning religious minorities, one each from religious, cultural, legal, and political spheres, are examined.

Traffic congestion in urban areas is mainly due to the exponential growth of the vehicular population. It imposes a huge economic cost in the form of the opportunity costs of time and health costs. It is observed that urban residents, particularly commuters, are the main sufferers of traffic emissions. These costs are incurred in the form of morbidity and mortality. Epidemiological evidence shows that there is a strong causal relationship between vehicular emissions and possible health impacts. **'The study Economic Estimation of Health and Productivity Impacts of Traffic Congestion: A Case of Bengaluru City'** (WP 485) by *Vijayalakshmi S* and *Krishna Raj* substantiates this interrelationship with empirical evidences. Using the ARDL approach, the study establishes empirically that an increase in vehicular mobility results in increased traffic-induced air pollution. Further, various research studies found that constant

exposure to traffic pollution for more than an average of 38 minutes per day not only cause high incidence of respiratory-related illness among commuters, but also reduced their economic productivity. To quantify these impacts for Bengaluru city, India, the study has adopted the cost of illness approach by classifying the costs into direct and indirect costs. The results show that the direct and indirect cost of illness due to traffic congestion amounted to an average of 1.17 per cent and 11.2 per cent of the annual income of the respondents respectively.

The paper **'Economic Development in the Princely State of Jammu & Kashmir (1846-1947)'** (WP 486) by *Sardar Babur Hussain* presents the status of the economy of the princely state of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) in 1947 and an overview of development during Dogra rule (1846-1947). During Dogra rule, the means of production remained under the control of a class of a few landlords and industrial capitalists, who exploited the surplus of the majority of the population working in the fields and factories. The landlords and the industrial capitalists used to take the economic surplus away from the peasantry and the artisans, and failed to reinvest it to develop the productive capacities of agriculture and industrial growth. The primary preoccupation of Dogra rule was to maintain law and order, streamline tax collection and ensure defence. The ultimate result of this type of economic structure was the backwardness of the productive forces. It is argued that the economic and political conditions within the princely state of J&K, and the degree to which British interfered in internal affairs, explain the wide disparities between J&K and rest of the princely states.

The interaction processes of natural resource degradation - climate change - persistent poverty and unsustainable development are more pronounced in poorer countries like India where a majority of the population is dependent on natural resources. Agriculture underpins Indian livelihoods, with land-water-forest resources determining productivity and sustainability to a great extent. In the past few decades, a sharp decrease in the quality of these resources is witnessed. Decentralization is being practiced globally as a potential institutional innovation for solving resource management issues involving community, line departments, NGOs and local governments at local level; yet, the community appears at the forefront in the field and in literature;

(Continued on page 18)











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local governments' potential is not explored much despite its statutory status as a local body for managing local affairs including natural resource management (NRM). Based on secondary data sources, the paper '**Local Government and Decentralized Natural Resource Management**' (WP 487) by **Mahima Upadhyay** attempts to explore this role. Theoretical discourses, policy practices and ground evidences are referred for the exploration where the state of Madhya Pradesh, India, is taken as a case to discuss policy practices and ground evidences. The paper suggests that amid a polycentric decentralized structure, many NRM functions are devolved to local governments. However, the devolution is marked by some in-built flaws and local governments also do not seem to play their part to an optimum level.

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**Nautiyal Sunil, Roy N, Roychoudhury S, Agarwal S K and Sangeeta B** – 'Socio-economic and Eco-biological Dimensions in Resource use and Conservation (Prologue)'. In Roy N, S Roychoudhury, Sunil Nautiyal, S K Agarwal and S Baksi (eds), *Socio-Economic and Eco-Biological Dimensions in Resource Use and Conservation: Strategies for Sustainability*. Switzerland: Springer International, 2020. Pp 1-11.

**Roy, N, A Debnath and Sunil Nautiyal** – 'Livelihood Strategies and Agricultural Practices in Khonoma Village of Nagaland, India: Observation from a Field Visit. In Roy N, S Roychoudhury, Sunil Nautiyal, S K Agarwal and S Baksi (eds), *Socio-Economic and Eco-Biological Dimensions in Resource Use and Conservation: Strategies for Sustainability*. Switzerland: Springer International, 2020. Pp 423-32.

**Roy N, S Roychoudhury, Sunil Nautiyal, S K Agarwal and S Baksi** – 'Socio-economic and eco-biological dimensions in resource use and conservation (Epilogue)'. In Roy N, S Roychoudhury, Sunil Nautiyal, S K Agarwal and S Baksi (eds), *Socio-Economic and Eco-Biological Dimensions in Resource Use and Conservation: Strategies for Sustainability*. Switzerland: Springer International, 2020. Pp 547-553.

**Rajasekhar, D** – 'Role of Panchayats in the Delivery of Drinking Water and Sanitation Services'. In D Rajasekhar, M Devendra Babu and R Manjula (eds), *Decentralization, Cooperatives and Rural Development*. Rawat Publications, 2020.

**Rajasekhar, D** – 'Gram Panchayats, Cooperatives and Micro-Finance'. In D Rajasekhar, M Devendra Babu and R Manjula (eds), *Decentralization, Cooperatives and Rural Development*. Rawat Publications, 2020.

**Rajasekhar, D** – 'Decentralisation and Primary Education: Lessons from Sino-Indian Comparative Study'. In Gayithri K, N Sivanna and M Devendra Babu (eds), *Decentralised Governance and Planning in India*. New Delhi: Studium Press, 2020.



**Rajeev, Meenakshi, B P Vani and Veerashekarappa** – ‘Group Lending through an SHG Bank-linkage Programme in India: Transaction Costs and Social Benefits’. *Development in Practice*, 30 (2): 168-81, 2020. DOI: [10.1080/09614524.2018.1508418](https://doi.org/10.1080/09614524.2018.1508418)

**Rajeev, Meenakshi and Pranav Nagendra** – ‘Understanding Regional Variation in Fish Prices: Evidence from a Developing Economy’. *Journal of Agribusiness in Developing and Emerging Economies*, 10 (4): 475-92, May 2020.

**Rajeev, Meenakshi and Dipankar Dasgupta** – ‘Paradox of a Supply Constrained Keynesian Equilibrium’. *Economic & Political Weekly*, 55 (22), May 2020.

**Ramappa, K B, Vilas Jadhav and A V Manjuantha** – ‘Comparative Economics of Neem Coated Urea Vis-à-vis Normal Urea: An Evident from Field Study in India’. *Economic Affairs*, 65 (2): 1-10, June 2020.

**Reimeingam, Marchang** – ‘Economic, Occupational and Livelihood Changes of Scheduled Tribes of North Eastern Region’. In George, Sobin, Manohar Yadav and Anand Inbanathan (eds), *Change and Mobility in Contemporary India: Thinking MN Srinivas Today*. Oxon and New York: Routledge.

**Reimeingam, Marchang** – ‘Education, Employment and Economy of Scheduled Tribes of North East India: A Study of Manipur’. *Journal of Rural Development*, 39 (1): 24-45. (ISSN: 0970-3357)

**Sridhar, Kala Seetharam** – ‘Is India’s Urbanisation Really too Low? Some Evidence’. *Area Development and Policy*, 5 (1): 32-49, January 2020.

**Sridhar, Kala Seetharam** – ‘Urban Governance, Land Use and Economic Effects on Indian Cities: The Cases of Ahmedabad and Bengaluru. *Urban India*, 40 (1), January-June, 2020.

**Sridhar, Kala Seetharam** – ‘Achievements in Urban Development (of the Government of Karnataka). In *Putakitta Chinna*. Sirigeri, Bellary, Karnataka: Annapurna publishers. Pp 115-21.

**Tantri, Malini L and Shruthi Mohan Menon** – ‘Is there a Broad-basing Process in the Indian Economy?’. In Nadakarni M V (ed), *Socio-Economic Change and Broadbasing in India*. Routledge, 2020. Pp 120-138.

### Working Papers Published Outside ISEC

**Bairagya, Indrajit** – ‘Returns to Education in Self-Employment in India: A Comparison Across Different Selection Models’. **WIDER Working Paper 2020/5**. Helsinki: UNU-WIDER.

### Keynote/Presidential Addresses

**Madheshwaran, S**

‘Covid’s Impact on the Economy’, in the Video Conference, organised by Christu Jayanthi College, Bangalore, May 13, 2020.

**Nautiyal, Sunil**

Invited to talk on ‘Field Margin Vegetation and Socio-ecological Development’, in the 107th Indian Science Congress, organised by GKVK, Bangalore, January 3-7, 2020.

Chairman’s Address, in the thematic panel ‘Natural Resource, Biodiversity and Geographic Information System’ of the 43<sup>rd</sup> Indian Social Science Congress, organised by Indian Social Science Academy in collaboration with Bangalore Central University in Bangalore Central University, Bengaluru, January 17-21, 2020.

Invited talk on ‘Climate Change – Nature – Society-Economy interface’. In the National Seminar on Environmental Concern, Water Crisis and Sustainable Development - Issues and challenges, organised by Sacred Heart College, Tirupattur, Tamil Nadu, 2020.

Keynote lecture on ‘Climate Change – Nature – Society-Economy Interface’, in the National Seminar on Environmental Concern, Water Crisis and Sustainable Development - Issues and challenges, organised by Sacred Heart College, Tirupattur, Tamil Nadu, February 20-21, 2020.

**Raj, Krishna**

Inaugural address on ‘Transforming Economic Perspectives’, at National Level Undergraduate Fest ‘ALTIUS’, organised by the Department of Economics, Christ University, Bengaluru, January 22, 2020.

## **Rajeev, Meenakshi**

Key note Speaker, in one-day National Level Webinar on Adversity to Advantage, organised by Research Development and Consultancy Cell of Bapuji Academy of Management and Research, Davangere, Karnataka, June 1, 2020, via Cisco WebEX platform.

## **Ramappa, K B**

Panel discussion, ISEC Policy Contributions on 'Agri-Business Development Policies', in the Executive Education Program on Public Policy and Governance, organised by ISEC, Bangalore, February 15, 2020

## Papers Presented at Conferences/ Workshops/Seminars

## **Bairagya, Indrajit**

(with Channamma Kambara) Earnings in Street Vending: Does it differ between Migrants and Natives?; at the 20<sup>th</sup> IASSI Annual Conference, organised by IASSI and ISEC, February 27-29, 2020, at ISEC, Bengaluru.

## **Balasubramanian, M**

The Valuation of Ecosystem Services: A case study of BRTWLS in Karnataka; at the Annual Conference of The Indian Econometric Society (TIES), organised by School of Economics, Madurai Kamaraj University, January 8-10, 2020, at Madurai, Tamil Nadu.

Forest Ecosystem Services Contribution in the Sustainable Development Goals: A case study from the Western Ghats Region in Karnataka; at the 7<sup>th</sup> Northern Regional Social Science Congress, organised by ICSSR-NRC, February 2-4, 2020, at UP Rajshri Tandon Open University, Prayagraj.

Economics of Forest Ecosystem Services in Karnataka; at the National Congress on Environment Management and Education (NMCE), organised by Mar Thoma College, Kerala, 18 and 19, 2020.

## **Kambara, Channamma**

Climate Change Extremes: Impact on Women; at the Workshop on Understanding Space-Time Variability of Climate Extremes for Societal Resiliency in Krishna River Basin, organised by Department of Civil Engineering, IIT-Hyderabad, January 7-8, 2020.

(with Indrajit Bairagya) Earnings in Street Vending:

Does it differ between Migrants and Natives?; at the 20<sup>th</sup> IASSI Annual Conference, organised by IASSI and ISEC, February 27-29, 2020, at ISEC, Bengaluru.

## **Kumar, Parmod**

(with Yasmeen) Supply Chain Management of Food Grains in India; at the Two-Day National Seminar on Indian Economy and Society, organised by CDS Trivendrum, February 7-8, 2020.

Direct Benefit Transfer of Fertilizer DBT; Presentation to Additional Secretary, organised by Ministry of Fertilizer and Chemicals, February 20, 2020, at Shashtri Bhawan.

## **Kumar, V Anil**

Challenges of Urbanisation in South India: Diverse Patterns and Different Learnings; at the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Indian Association of Social Science Institutions, organised by IASSI in collaboration with ISEC, February 27, 2020, at Bengaluru.

## **Lakshmana, C M**

A Study on Utilisation of Free Benefits under Janani Suraksha Karyakram (JSSK), for Institutional Deliveries in Chamarajnagar District of Karnataka; at the 4<sup>th</sup> Knowledge Dissemination Workshop of Population Research Centre, organised by PRC, Patna University, Patna, Bihar, January 16-17, 2020, at Patna University, Patna.

## **Manasi, S**

IWRM in Tungabhadra River Basin - Challenges and Issues; at the Workshop on the Krishna River Basin as part of the project titled Understanding Space-Time Variability of Climate Extremes for Societal Resiliency in Krishna River Basin, organised by IIT Hyderabad, January 5-6, 2020.

## **Nautiyal, Sunil**

Natural Resource, Biodiversity and Geographic Information System, at the 43<sup>rd</sup> Indian Social Science Congress, organised by Indian Social Science Academy in collaboration with Bangalore Central University, January 17-21, 2020, at Bangalore Central University, Bengaluru.

Household Carbon Footprint under Changing Lifestyle; at the Workshop on Coordination of climate change actions in India, organised by GIZ office Delhi, January 20, 2020.

## **Raj, Krishna**

Three Decades of LPG in India: Does LPG matter for the Environment?; at the International Conference on Liberalization, Privatization and Globalization: Three Decades of Experience in India, organised by Department of Economics, The Gandhigram Rural Institute, February 14-15, 2020, at Gandhigram.

Ecology and Economy at Crossroads: The Way forward for Sustainable Development; at the one-day National Conference on Ecology, Economics and Sustainability, organised by St Joseph College, March 9, 2020.

Covid-19 and Atmanirbhar Bharat; at the two-day Online Workshop, organised by Institute of Management Studies, Davangere University, May 29-30, 2020.

## **Rajasekhar, D**

Local Governments and the Pandemic: Reflections from Southern States; at the national webinar on The Covid-19 Pandemic and the Local Governments, organised by Gulati Institute of Finance and Taxation and Kerala Institute of Local Administration, Kerala, May 16, 2020.

Covid-19 and Agriculture: Role of Institutions; at the National webinar on Emergent North-East India: Strategic and Development Imperatives, organised by Indian Institute of Management, Shillong, June 5, 2020.

Social Security Coverage and Delivery in the Time of Crisis; at the National webinar on Universalisation of Social Security: A Framework, organised by Social Security Association of India: Karnataka Chapter, June 13, 2020.

## **Ramappa, K B**

Institutional Mechanism for Registration and Reporting of Transactions under amended APMC Act; at the Workshop on Recent Amendment to APMC Act, organized by Department of Agricultural Marketing, Cooperation & Business Management, UAS, GKVK, Bangalore, June 15, 2020.

## **Reimeingam, Marchang**

North East Migrant Woman Workers: Issues and Challenges amidst Covid-19; at the Webinar on Coping in Times of Covid-19, organised by Tangkhul

Women Society Delhi (Tangkhul Shanao Ngarumsak Long Delhi), Delhi, June 27, 2020.

## **Tantri, Malini L**

The State of Food Security of Farm and Labour Household - With a Special Reference to Tea Plantation in the Nilgiris; at the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of IASSI, organised by ISEC, Bengaluru, February 27-29, 2020, at Bengaluru.

## Honours/Awards/Fellowships

### **Nautiyal, Sunil**

Awarded the Membership for the board of Academic Editors, International Journal of Ecology.

ZALF Fellow, Leibniz Centre for Agricultural Landscape Research, Germany (2019-2020).

Recognized as supervisor for MSc/PhD students at University of Kassel and University of Göttingen, Germany.

### **Sridhar, Kala Seetharam**

Top 10% of Authors on SSRN by total new downloads, March 2020.

Globally in the top 10% of Authors on SSRN by total new and all-time downloads, June 2020.

## Offices Held in Academic/Professional/ Administrative Bodies

### **Balasubramanian, M**

Member, Board of Studies, Department of Economics, MS University Affiliated Colleges, Tamil Nadu.

### **George, Sobin**

Member of Ethics Committee, ICMR - National Centre for Disease Informatics and Research, Bengaluru from January 2020 onwards.

### **Kambara, Channamma**

Member – Academic Programmes Committee (APC) January 2020 to December 2021.

Member Cultural Committee – Founders' Day Celebration 2020.



## **Kumar, Parmod**

Member, Editorial Board of *Journal on Social Justice and Equality* published by Center for Social Justice and Equality, ATI Mysore, January 2020.

Constitution of Committee under the Chairmanship of Parmod Kumar to prepare a factual report about the legal case registered by Ms. Akhila, February 6, 2020.

## **Kumar, V Anil**

Member, International Political Science Association (IPSA), 2019-20.

## **Madheswaran, S**

Advisory Committee Member, ICSSR, Southern Region, from May 2020.

Honourable Governor, Maharashtra appointed as a Member of Search Committee for Vice Chancellor, Gondwana University, Gadchiroli, Maharashtra, May 2020.

Karnataka State Council for Science and Technology – Executive Council Member, 2020.

Karnataka Vocational Training and Skill Development Corporation Ltd., GoK – Executive Council Member, 2020.

Karnataka State Natural Disaster Monitoring Centre, GoK – Scientist Member, 2020.

Technical Committee Member and General Body Member, Karnataka Evaluation Authority, GoK, 2020.

## **Nautiyal, Sunil**

Examiner for MA students (Rural Development and Panchayat Raj) RD. 4.3: Decentralized Natural Resource Management.

Examiner for Karnataka State Eligibility Test (K-SET) Environmental Science 2020, conducted by University of Mysore.

Member of PhD Doctoral Committee in Environmental Science, Under the Faculty of Science, Bangalore University, Jnana Bharathi Bangalore from 2020 for the period of three years (under the Regulations governing the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Bangalore University).

## **Rajasekhar, D**

Member of Scientific Committee for the Research Conference of International Cooperative Alliance (ICA)

## **Rajeev, Meenakshi**

Managing Editor, *Journal of Social and Economic Development (JSED)*, Springer.

Expert for formulation of Standard Operating Procedure for the Shelter for Homeless for DAY-NULM, Government of Karnataka

Expert Member of EGROW (Foundation for Economic Growth and Welfare), New Delhi.

Subject Expert for Karnataka Evaluation Authority, Government of Karnataka.

Member of Committee of experts for Women and Child Development–Karnataka Evaluation Authority.

Expert for the committee on Shelter for Homeless, DAY-NULM, Government of Karnataka.

## **Reimeingam, Marchang**

Member, Academic Programmes Committee of ISEC, from June 2020

Member, Research Programmes Committee of ISEC, from June 2020

## **Sridhar, Kala Seetharam**

Member, Fact finding Committee for a Legal case, February 2020.

Chairperson, ISEC Brochure revision committee, February 2020-current.

Nominated as Vice-Chairperson, Research Programmes Committee, June 2020.

## **Subaiya, Lekha**

Editor of ISEC Newsletter

Member of APC, ISEC

## **Syamala, T S**

Managing Editor for the *Journal of Social and Economic Development*, published by Springer.

## Newspaper Articles/Media

**Kumar, Parmod**

'Budget Expectation', in various Hindi Newspapers, January 26, 2020.

Newspaper article published in various Hindi Newspapers, April 6, 2020.

**Manjula, R**

(with D Rajasekhar) 'Farm Labourers were the worst hit in April'. *The Hindu*, May 17, 2020.

(with D Rajasekhar) '77% of Migrants Plan to Return to Work in Cities'. *The Hindu*, May 18, 2020.

(with D Rajasekhar) 'Cash Transfer Inadequate, Food Support Confined Mainly to Rice'. *The Hindu*, May 19, 2020.

**Nautiyal, Sunil**

'BRT Sanctuary Generates Annual Income of Rs 2.39 cr. For Tribals: Study'. <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/karnataka/brt-sanctuary-generates-annual-income-of-239-cr-for-tribals-study/article29480495.ece>

'Lockdown Unlocks Fresh Air, Bengaluru Breathes Easy'. <https://www.newindianexpress.com/cities/bengaluru/2020/may/02/lockdown-unlocks-fresh-air-bengaluru-breathes-easy-2138128.html>

'Paryavarna Sankrakshan me ManviyaMulyon ka Yogdan (Role of human values in environmental conservation)'. *Channelmountain*, June 24, 2020.

'India - Nepal: Known for Peace and Friendship'. *Channelmountain*, June 15, 2020.

**Raj, Krishna**

Invited as expert for panel discussion on 'Covid-19 and Rs 20 Lakh Crores Economic Incentives Packages', in *All India Radio*, Bengaluru, May 14, 2020.

Invited as expert to live discussion on 'Swavalabhi Bharatha Abhiyanakke Aarthika Uttejana', in *Dooradharshan Chandana*, May 14, 2020.

Invited as expert to live discussion on 'Survival versus Revival: Lives and Livelihoods are at Risks as

the Lockdown Continues', in *TV 5 Diksuchi*, May 18, 2020.

Invited as subject expert to discuss on 'Covid 19 and Economic Revival', in *All India Radio*, Bengaluru, May 27, 2020.

**Rajasekhar, D**

(with R Manjula) 'Farm Labourers were the worst hit in April'. *The Hindu*, May 17, 2020.

(with R Manjula) '77% of Migrants Plan to Return to Work in Cities'. *The Hindu*, May 18, 2020.

(with R Manjula) 'Cash Transfer Inadequate, Food Support Confined Mainly to Rice'. *The Hindu*, May 19, 2020.

**Rajeev, Meenakshi**

'Will Nirmala Sitharaman's Budget for Agriculture Boost Economy? Not until this Happens'. *Financial Express*, February 4, 2020.

'Input from Experts on 3<sup>rd</sup> Shadow Monetary Policy Committee held in April 2019'. *EGROW Foundation*, April 2, 2020.

'Government, RBI must Assess, Address Covid-19 Challenges on the Go'. *Policy Circle*, April 3, 2020. Available online at: <https://www.policycircle.org/economy/govt-rbi-must-address-covid-19-challenges-on-the-go/>

Interviewed by the *Digital Discourse Foundation* on the topic 'Pandemic Exposes Unsustainable Growth', published on June 14, 2020.

'Time to Focus on the Rural Non-farm Economy'. *Deccan Herald*, June 7, 2020.

**Reimeingam, Marchang**

'Uncertainty of Return of Migrant Workers in Covid-19 Pandemic'. *The Sangai Express*, Imphal, May 23, 2020, p4.

**Shaha, Khalil**

'Assurance amid Challenges' (Kannada). *Prajavani*, Bengaluru, March 6, 2020.

**Sridhar, Kala Seetharam**

(with Vishal, R) 'Urban is the Urbane Thing To Do'. *The*

*Economic Times*, March 7, 2020. [www.economictimes.com](http://www.economictimes.com)

(with Vishal, R) Capital Cities: The More the Merrier. *The Hindu Business Line*, March 18, 2020.

(with Vishal, R) Cities as Hubs of Innovation. *The Hindu Business Line*, May 4, 2020.

(with Vishal, R) Urban Reforms Can No Longer Be Ignored. *The Hindu Business Line*, (<https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/opinion/urban-reforms-can-no-longer-be-ignored/article31789073.ece>), June 9, 2020.

## Miscellaneous

### **Bairagya, Indrajit**

Attended Board of Studies meeting of the Department of Economics, St. Joseph's College (Autonomous), Bangalore, January 20, 2020.

External examiner to evaluate dissertations of MA (Economics) students, St. Joseph's College, Bengaluru, March 28, 2020.

Set a question paper of Human Resources Economics for the semester examinations (April 2020) of M.A. Economics – III Semester, St. Joseph's College (Autonomous), Bangalore.

Reviewed two manuscripts for the *Journal of Social and Economic Development* (Springer), ISEC Journal.

Reviewed a manuscript for the *Journal of Public Affairs* (Wiley).

Presently guiding three PhD students.

Attended 11 doctoral committee meetings, out of which 3 were pre-thesis submission colloquium and 8 progress seminars.

### **George, Sobin**

Article reviewed: *Journal of Social and Economic Change*, Springer.

Article reviewed: *Vikalpa: The Journal for Decision Makers*, Sage.

Supervision of Interns: Dr Divya S Patil, Doctoral candidate, Manipal University.

### **Kumar, Parmod**

Meeting with Dr Srivalli Krishnan, Senior Program Officer for Agricultural Development and Ms Mariana Kim at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation in ISEC, January 13, 2020.

Reviewed a manuscript for *Oxford Development Studies*, January 9, 2020.

Reviewed a manuscript for *Journal of Social and Economic Development*, January 16, 2020.

Referee report for a paper for *Artha Vijnana*, January 16, 2020.

Reviewed a paper for the *Journal of Agricultural Research*, March 31, 2020.

Constitution of Committee under the Chairmanship to prepare a factual report about the legal case registered by Ms. Akhila, February 6, 2020.

Guided the team of Public Policy on the policy paper entitled 'Measures for Controlling Illegal Sand Mining In Karnataka State' by R G Vijaya Vikram, S Dinakar, Savithri H S, Rathna Kumari B T, Jayashree S N, Satish R Huddar, paper finalized on March 29, 2020.

Online Meeting with Agriculture Price Commission Karnataka held at ISEC to discuss COVID-19 Impact on Agriculture in Karnataka, April 29, 2020.

Attended Ms Shika's Pre-Submission Seminar, May 18, 2020.

Several zoom meetings held with Professor Arjunana Subramanian, Glasgow University and Ms Yasmeen of ISEC on Information, Market Creation and Agriculture Growth Project funded by ESRC, UK.

ADRTC Brainstorming Session for ADRTC Contractual Staff Work Report, June 12, 2020.

Reviewed the paper 'The Influence of Farmers' Characteristics, Ihsan Attitudes, Economic Conditions, and Socio-Cultural Environment Support on Farmer Behaviors'. *Journal of Social and Economic Development (JSED)*, April 1, 2020.



Reviewed ICAR-NIAP Policy Papers 'Market Access, Price Policy and Diversification in Indian Agriculture', June 28 2020.

Held several zoom meetings from April to June with Daniel Lapidus, Senior Economist and Policy Analyst, Center for Applied Economics and Strategy, RTI International and his team regarding initiating new project on Indicators for MPACT construction for AgDev; Concept Note on Data Bases in Agriculture submitted on April 12, 2020.

Evaluation of Seed Mini-kits Rajasthan Report sent to Professor Kalamkar, June 8, 2020.

#### **Lakshmana, C M**

Resource Person for the panel discussion on ISEC Policy contribution on Public Health Infrastructure, at the ISEC Public Policy and Governance Programme, February 15, 2020.

Completed and submitted the NHM-PIP Monitoring reports to the Ministry (2 districts of Karnataka, 3 districts in Meghalaya, 2 districts of Sikkim and 3 districts in Telangana).

#### **Lingaraju, M**

Attended Course Work Examination as a Supervisor of PhD work for my External Student: Mr Lingaraju in Development Studies- Paper II on Review of Literature scheduled, January 18, 2020, at Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Mysore, Mysuru.

#### **Manasi, S**

Panel expert for PhD student Shikha, (Supervisor: Professor Meenakshi Rajeev)

Supervision: Ms Sindhu Kedilaya, BMS College of Architecture is working as intern for her postgraduate studies – Urban Planning and Habitat Design.

Supervision: Ms Thrishala Vasudeva and Ms Priyanka, Christ college are working as interns.

#### **Manjula, R**

Webinar with the SIDBI, New Delhi to discuss the project progress with the sponsors, June 19, 2020.

#### **Nautiyal, Sunil**

Invited to GIZ office Delhi to present project proposal on Household Carbon Footprint under changing

lifestyle. This research proposal has been accepted to carryout research work in various agro-climatic zones in India, January 20, 2020.

Participated in 33<sup>rd</sup> TIFAC Foundation Day on India in 2020 and Beyond, 'A'- Wing Vishwakarma Bhawan, New Delhi. In TIFAC foundation day our project book "Conservation of Agro-biodiversity and Ecosystem Management: A Study in Indian Agro-climatic sub-zones" was released (PI-Sunil Nautiyal and research project was Sponsored by TIFAC, DST, Government of India), February 10, 2020.

Attended Study Steering Committee Meeting at TIFAC, New Delhi and presented preliminary findings on the work done in research project titled Climate Smart Livelihood & Socio-ecological Development of Biodiversity Hotspots of India (Sponsored by TIFAC, Govt. of India), February 11, 2020.

Attended 22<sup>nd</sup> Executive Committee Meeting of Karnataka State Natural Disaster Monitoring Centre (KSNDMC), at MS Building Bangalore, February 20, 2020.

Visited University of Mysore to attend Expert committee meeting and also visited Kodagu for identification of field study site for implementation of new project, February 22-24, 2020.

Visited IIT Mumbai, JNU, Delhi, Delhi University, Delhi, NIRDPR, Hyderabad, SHC, Tirupattur, VIT Vellore, RDPR University Gadag, GIZ, Delhi, University of Mysore, Bangalore University (Central and Jnana Bharathi), GKV Bangalore for discussion with faculty members/scholars regarding collaborative research work in India's agro-ecological regions.

Reviewed Research papers submitted for publications in following international journals (Science of Total Environment (Elsevier); International Journal of Ecology (Hindawi); AAQ Research (SJR); Biomass and Bio-energy (Elsevier); Energy (Elsevier), Studies on Ethnomedicine (KRE).

Edited several research papers submitted for publication in International Journal of Ecology as an editor of the journal.

Supervised Ms Kristina Backhaus, University of Kassel and University of Göttingen, Germany as supervisor

for her Master Thesis on 'Seasonal Composition of Spontaneous Plant Species and Their Uses in Rural and Peri-Urban Areas of Bengaluru, India'. Thesis submitted on May 29, 2020.

Supervising five scholars at the centre under various theme namely, Environmental valuation of a protected area, Institutional framework and governance of medicinal plants sector; Landscape dynamics of rural – urban landscapes; Ecology and socio-economy of cash crop cultivation; Climate change and vulnerability assessment; Protected areas and their conservation under changing policy and environment.

Adjudicated PhD thesis of a students from Department of Studies in Environmental Sciences, University of Mysore.

Organised and participated in final viva-voce of Ms Kristina Backhaus, University of Goettingen, Germany (June 2020) as a supervisor.

Reviewed the 4 research reports from KEA, Govt. of Karnataka and submitted the detailed review to KEA.

#### **Raj, Krishna**

Dr Madhavi Marwah Award of Ph D thesis entitled 'Economics Environmental and Institutional Economics of Groundwater Irrigation: A Study of West Bengal' by University of Mysore, Mysore, in Economics in 2020.

#### **Rajasekhar, D**

Webinar with the SIDBI, New Delhi to discuss the project progress with the sponsors, June 19, 2020.

Reviewed one paper for Journal of Rural Development (NIRD, Hyderabad)

Reviewed two research papers for the Indian Institute of Management, Shillong.

#### **Rajeev, Meenakshi**

Meeting attended with the Convenor, Kerala Fishermen Association in Trivandrum, January, 2020

Visit to Department of Agriculture, Government of Karnataka for discussion on Crop Insurance in Karnataka, January 2020.

Visit to Kudumbasree, Trivandrum, Government of Kerala, January, 2020.

Visit to Shelter for Homeless in Karala and Urban Local Body, January, 2020.

Resource Person for a session on 'Using Macro Economic Data for Social Science Research' in the ICSSR-sponsored Research Methodology Course for SCs and STs, organised by ISEC, Bangalore, March 11, 2020.

Resource Person for the Public Policy Course for Mentoring the Participants in the Preparation of Policy Brief, February-April, 2020.

Thesis examination for Jadavpur University

Thesis examination for Viswa Bharati University, Shantiniketan

Viva-Voce: for Hyderabad Central University

Viva-Voce for IIM Bangalore

Viva-Voce for IISC, Bangalore

Reviewed an article for the *Journal of Peasant Studies*.

Supervision: Ms Supriya Bhandarkar, PhD Scholar, 'Performance of the Indian Pharmaceutical Industry under the New IPR Regime', Ongoing.

Supervision: Ms Padmavathi N, PhD Scholar, 'Performance of unorganized food processing industry in India', Ongoing.

Supervision: Mr Prajeesh Karnoon, PhD Scholar, 'Performance of telecom industry in India', Ongoing.

Supervision: Ms Shika Sarvabhavanam, PhD Scholar, 'Financial Inclusion in India', Ongoing.

Supervision: Ms Soumita Khan, PhD Scholar, 'Fertiliser Industry in India', Thesis Submitted.

Thesis evaluated for Jadavpur University

Collaboration with Kassel University, Germany that had been established earlier continues

Ongoing collaboration with Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI), Norway on international collaborative research project "Traders

in Food Value Chain: Firm Size and International Food Distribution”.

Worked as a resource person for the public policy course for mentoring the participants in the preparation of policy brief, February-April 2020.

#### **Ramappa, K B**

Presented a final report on ‘Rural Godown Scheme (Gramin Bhandaran Yojna) - Case Study Approach’ via Skype, to the sponsoring agency CCS NIAM, March 13, 2020.

#### **Reimeingam, Marchang**

Supervisor of five PhD students of ISEC.

#### **Sridhar, Kala Seetharam**

External Examiner, Comprehensive Viva-Voce, five PhD Scholars, National Institute of Technology, Tiruchirappalli, March 9, 2020.

External Examiner, PhD thesis, on ‘Assessment of Urban Finance: A Study of Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) and Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation (PCMC)’, by Gargi Patil, Symbiosis International (Deemed University), Pune, October 2019-April 2020.

Fulbright Campus Representative, Institute for Social and Economic Change, January 2019-April 2020.

Selected research on urbanization (invited). Presentation to the Government of Karnataka. Bengaluru, January 10, 2020.

Benchmarking Urban Infrastructure and Service Delivery, Training Programme on Public Policy and Governance for Government of Karnataka, ISEC, Bengaluru, January 30, 2020.

Mentor, Policy brief on Urban solid waste management, Training Program on Public Policy & Governance for Government of Karnataka, Institute for Social and Economic Change, Jan-March 2020.

Got update from UN Habitat regarding the Delhi meeting on harmonizing definitions of urbanization across countries, to whom she sent the Area Development & Policy article, which was acknowledged, February 2020.

Gave comments as Member, Research Advisory Committee of Mr Himangshu Kumar, a PhD scholar at CDS, regarding his thesis on Urban divergence in India: Patterns in skill composition, amenities and housing consumption, March 2020.

Became the India guide for Thomas Budie, University of Utrecht, March 2020.

Referee for *Journal of Housing & Built Environment* (JOHO), April 2020.

Reviewed a PhD thesis (on Assessment of Urban Finance: A Study of Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) and Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation (PCMC)) for *Symbiosis International (Deemed) University, Pune* (April 2020, reviewed a revised version).

Received contract for urbanization volume from Routledge (March 2020). Kala and her co-editor have submitted full urbanization volume (edited) to Routledge, May 2020.

Invited speaker, Webinar on Review of Municipal Own Finance and Reforms, Government of Karnataka, Bengaluru, May 2, 2020.

Attended Frontiers (Urban Science) editorial board webinar, May 20, 2020.

Referee for *Developments in Built Environment* (DIBE), May, 2020.

Attended MHRD Minister’s webinar, May, 2020.

conducted the DC meetings of 4 of her students, June 2020.

Attended webinar of Dr Ravindra on Covid and positive thinking, June, 2020.

PhD student submitted his revised thesis on Intra-urban mobility to UoM, June 2020.

Attended the meetings of 4 students on whose doctoral committee she is a member, June 2020.

Upon invitation, wrote and submitted a chapter in honor of the late Padmashri Dr.Pritam Singh,



former Director of IIM-Lucknow and Management Development Institute, Gurgaon, June 2020.

#### **Subaiya, Lekha**

Participated in a discussion with a study team from Piramal Foundation conducting a landscape study on urban health in India to understand the challenges thereof, the administration and governance structure of urban health, map innovative interventions within this space, and different health financing models, February 19, 2020, at ISEC, Bengaluru.

Participated in an online review course organised by International Institute for Population Sciences, Mumbai.

Participated in the review meeting of Population Research Centres conducted by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, GoI, May 8, 2020.

Participated in the review meeting of EQUIMOB project, May 8, 2020.

Reviewed an article submitted to the *Journal of Social and Economic Development*.

Reviewed the Study Report entitled 'Qualitative Assessment of Kayakalp Programme for Public Health Care Facilities' for the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, GoI.

Reviewed the Study Report entitled 'Quality Care Services in Labour Room and Maternity OTs under LaQshya Programme in Assam' for the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, GoI.

Served as panel member in the ISEC student's Bi-annual seminars.

#### **Syamala, T S**

Mentor for the group working on a policy brief on mental health issues during the executive education programme on Public Policy and Governance from January 21 to February 2, 2020 at ISEC, Bangalore.

Participated in the Review Meeting of Population Research Centres, organised by MoHFW, Statistics

Division, May 8, 2020.

Participated in the Review Meeting of Population Research Centres, organised by MoHFW, Statistics Division, May 17, 2020.

Reviewed an article submitted to the *Journal Ageing and Society*.

Reviewed an article for the *Journal of Clinical Epidemiology and Global Health*.

Examined the PhD thesis titled 'Spatial Inequalities in Access to Healthcare Services in Rajasthan', submitted to Jawaharlal Nehru University.

Participated in the online course organised by International Institute for Population Sciences, Mumbai.

Reviewed a project report titled 'Strengthening Comprehensive Care through Health and Wellness Centres: A facility Based Study in Uttar Pradesh', Submitted by Population Research Centre, IEG, Delhi for Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, New Delhi.

Reviewed a Project Report titled 'An Assessment of Status of Implementation and Functionality of LaQshya Initiatives in Karnataka, Maharashtra and Jharkhand', submitted by Population Research Centre, JSS Institute of Economic Research, Dharward for Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, New Delhi.

#### **Tantri, Malini L**

Judge for Young Economist Competition for undergraduate students on February 3, 2020. The theme of the competition is 'Sustainable Economic Development: Emerging Issues in India.

Article Reviewed for *Journal of Current Chinese Affairs*.

Article Reviewed for *FFTC Journal of Agriculture Policy*.

Panel Member in Ms Amrin's Bi-annual Seminar.

### MoU with Fiscal Policy Institute, Government of Karnataka

ISEC has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Fiscal Policy Institute, Govt. Of Karnataka, the broader objective of which is contributing towards larger capacity building and to strengthen governance in Govt. Of Karnataka through training and research inputs largely in public finance pertaining to macro-economic issues, fiscal policy, governance and management, local government finance, education, health, environment, urban governance, etc. The faculty members of ISEC can utilise the opportunity by making use of this MoU in the field of training and research.



### MoU with University of Mysore



ISEC has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the University of Mysore which was executed on 23.05.2017 and valid for five years. The University of Mysore have revised the MoU providing autonomy to the Institute for conducting the ISEC Ph.D. Entrance Test and Coursework and thus recognising the ISEC Entrance Test/ Coursework. According to the revised MoU, the University of Mysore will charge the Ph.D. students of ISEC a uniform fee applicable to Karnataka students thus the ISEC students will be treated on par with the students of University of Mysore.

### MoU with Bangalore University

ISEC has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Bangalore University for the purpose of Academic and Research Collaboration that will encompass exchange of students and members of faculty between the two parties and Ph.D. Programme at ISEC duly recognized by the Bangalore University under the Bangalore University. Bangalore University shall collaborate in mutually agreeable academic endeavours, in teaching, training and research fields. Under the MOU, BU recognizes ISEC as an autonomous Research Centre for the Conduct of PhD Programme of Bangalore University. Former Director Professor. M.G. Chandrakanth had signed the MoU with Bangalore University in January 2020 and the



process was completed thereafter by the current Director Professor S. Madheswaran.





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