



From the Director's Desk . . .



Just as much as... old time memory is refreshing, three generations later, Professor N Jayaram is joining ISEC as the new Director.' So wrote Professor Gopal K Kadekodi, the former Director, welcoming me to the ISEC fraternity. Seeing such stalwarts as Professor G Thimmaiah, Professor M V Nadkarni, Professor Abdul

Aziz, Dr Ramanathan and Shri Satish Chandran, among many others, at the informal function organised to welcome me to the ISEC fold was extremely gratifying. I went back the memory lane to recount my association with the Institute since 1973, from my fledgling days as a research scholar in the Department of Sociology, Bangalore University. That I am now occupying a position that once was held by eminent scholars and administrators makes me both proud and humble. I should thank the Search Committee for reposing confidence in me, and the President of the ISEC Society and the Chairman and members of the Board of Governors for endorsing that confidence. My grateful thanks to the faculty, the students and the staff for the warm welcome extended to me. I am touched by their sentiments.

It has just been a month since I joined ISEC. I have learnt from my colleagues and staff that July – December 2006 has been a hectic period for the Institute. The Institute was host to a number of workshops, seminars, training programmes and review meetings: workshop on 'Rural-Urban Disparity in Karnataka', National workshop on 'Rejuvenating Tanks for Sustainable Livelihoods – Emerging Trends', SANDEE's 'Proposal Writing Workshop in Environmental Economics', Seminar by Japanese scholars from Sasakawa Peace Foundation (Tokyo), and review meeting of ISEC-IFPRI (International Food Policy Research Institute, Washington DC), (26 July 2006).

As always, the Institute extended a helping hand to the Government of Karnataka by organising a two-day Training Programme for Elected Representatives of Bangalore Rural Zilla Panchayat, and a one-day workshop on the Role of District Administration in the context of the introduction of decentralised planning and governance through the 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments. Such interface between academicians and government officials is always mutually beneficial.

The annual Karnataka Rajyotsava Extension Lecture was delivered on November 14, 2006 by Shri M Veerappa Moily, Chairman, Administrative Reforms Commission, Government of Karnataka. He spoke on a theme of immense contemporary relevance, namely, 'Knowledge Society and Caste-based Reservations'. At this function, Shri Sabuj Kumar Mandal received the Dr D M Nanjundappa Endowment Prize for securing the highest marks in the Pre-PhD Examination in Economics.

The Institute has been busy with several research projects. Six projects were completed during this period and the faculty members have embarked upon ten new projects. True to the transdisciplinary orientation of the Institute, the themes covered are varied: work participation of weaker sections, rural-urban disparities, governance reforms and service delivery, micro-finance and vulnerable groups, impact of IT-enabled services on the quality of life, environmental governance and sustainable local management of natural resource, globalisation and employment, intellectual property rights and protection of indigenous environmental knowledge, innovative small-scale sustainable agricultural projects, and demographic transition and economic development.

Ten students were admitted to the PhD Programme, and Mr Satyapriya Rout (Sociology) was awarded the PhD degree by the University of Mysore.

Discussion and deliberation on ideas, researched and researchable, has been an important activity of the Institute. Several visiting scholars and administrators gave seminars under the Institute's auspices. These include Dr Kishan Chug, Mr Oliver Dagnelie, Mr Clifton D'Rozario, Professor Sulochana Gadgil, Professor Mike Goldfield, Professor Kim Quaile Hill, Dr Anuradha Mathur, Professor M V Nadkarni, Professor A S Seetharamu, Dr S V Subramanya, and Mr Uday Kumar Verma. Besides, there were fourteen faculty seminar presentations. It is noteworthy that the faculty of the Centre for Ecological Economics and Natural Resources found time to interact with the students of Christ College, Bangalore. Such interactions go a long way in bringing the Institute closer to institutions of higher learning.

Ultimately, it is the publication of our research work that brings us greater visibility in the scholarly world. It is gratifying to note that, since July 2006, the Institute has brought out five Working Papers. As many as four anthologies and nineteen articles have been published by the faculty. The papers presented by six faculty members at seminars/conferences and the keynote addresses delivered by two faculty members, I am sure, will soon be published in academic journals. With several of the faculty members being actively involved in professional and administrative bodies, the Institute's flag is kept flying.

As the year 2006 draws to a close, we can look back at our achievements with pride and resolve to surpass these in the coming year. I wish the ISEC fraternity a happy and peaceful New Year.

N Jayaram
Director



Karnataka Rajyothsava Extension Lecture

The annual Karnataka Rajyothsava Extension Lecture was delivered on November 14, 2006 by Shri M Veerappa Moily, Chairman, Administrative Reforms Commission, Government of Karnataka. The former Chief Minister of Karnataka spoke on 'Knowledge Society and Caste-based Reservations'. Shri S L Rao, Chairman, Board of Governors, ISEC, presided.

Chairman of the ISEC Board of Governors Shri S L Rao and Director in-charge Prof G K Karanth escorting former Chief Minister Shri M Veerappa Moily to the Karnataka Rajyothsava function.



As is the practice, Dr D M Nanjundappa Endowment Prize was also awarded at the function. This year, the prize was given to Shri Sabuj Kumar Mandal, a PhD student of the Institute, who had secured the highest marks in the Pre-PhD Examination in Economics.

Many Founder/Life Members of the ISEC Society, academicians from sister institutions and universities, administrators and other invitees participated.

Shri M Veerappa Moily delivering the Karnataka Rajyothsava Extension Lecture.

Workshop on Rural-Urban Disparity in Karnataka

A two-day workshop on 'Rural-Urban Disparity in Karnataka' was organised at the Institute on July 5 and 6, 2006. The main objective of the workshop was to disseminate the findings of the study on the topic undertaken by Prof D Rajasekhara, Dr Gagan Bihari Sahu and K H Anantha. The National Institute of Rural Development, Hyderabad, funded this research project.

Prof G K Kadekodi chaired the inaugural session, while Prof V M Rao delivered the inaugural address. In five technical sessions, the authors of the study highlighted the rural-urban disparity in access to drinking water, educational attainment, utilisation of health services, access to electricity, and income. The discussants of the papers presented were mainly drawn from the Institute and different universities in Karnataka. In the final session, Professors V M Rao, Abdul Aziz and Dr Meenakshi Sundaram discussed the conclusions and policy suggestions emerging from the study. In all, about 40 delegates representing the various universities and NGOs attended the seminar.

The workshop was coordinated by Prof D Rajasekhara, Head, Centre for Decentralisation and Development.

Making Decentralisation and Local Governance Work for the Rural Poor: Lessons from India

The Review Meeting of the ISEC-IFPRI study on 'Making Decentralisation and Local Governance Work for the Rural Poor' was held on July 26, 2006. It was attended by 35 participants, including government officials — both the State-level staff and those from Kolar Taluk — the Kolar Zilla Panchayat President, and representatives from the two case-study Gram Panchayats. The research project is being carried out by the Centre for Ecological Economics and Natural Resources (CEENR), ISEC, in collaboration with the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), Washington DC. The project has two phases: In Phase 1, a case study was conducted in two Gram Panchayats (Arabeekothanur and Ithirasana Halli) from Kolar Taluk in Karnataka; and in Phase 2, a village and household survey will be conducted in 80 Gram Panchayats. The purpose of the Review Meeting was to present some major findings of the case study carried out in Phase 1.

Dr R S Deshpande, Professor and Head, Agriculture Development and Rural Technology Centre (ADRTC), inaugurated the Review Meeting and welcomed the delegates on behalf of ISEC Director, Prof G K Kadekodi. The meeting was presided over by Shri V P Baligar, Principal Secretary, RDPR, Government of Karnataka. Shri Meenakshisundaram, former Secretary, RDPR, Government of Karnataka, attended the meeting as an expert. Prof K V Raju, Head, CEENR, made a brief presentation about the project and Dr Madhushree Sekher, Associate Faculty, CEENR, made the case-study presentation.



CEENR Faculty Interaction with the Students of Christ College, Bangalore

About 80 graduate students of economics with specialisation in environmental economics from Christ College, Bangalore, evinced interest in having an interaction with the CEENR faculty and the ISEC Library. The main objectives of their interaction were to get an overview of the subject from research perspective and its future scope. Dr P M Mathew, Head, Economics Department, had sent a request for the programme. Accordingly, an interactive session was organised on July 31, 2006, between 1.30 pm and 4.00 pm which included a visit to the Library.

The interactive session began with a welcome note and brief introduction of the Institute by the Director, Prof Gopal K Kadekodi. Dr G S Sastry presented an overview of the subject, which was followed by interaction of students with the CEENR faculty members. The visiting students raised several important questions on the subject. The CEENR faculty members, Professor K V Raju and Professor K N Ninan, Dr G S Sastry, Dr Puttaswamaiah and Dr Madhushree Sekher, were present during the session. Dr G S Sastry, Assistant Professor, CEENR, coordinated the programme.

Proposal Writing Workshop on Environmental Economics

Capacity-building in Environmental Economics research and teaching in South Asia is one of the major activities of South Asian Network for Development and Environmental Economics (SANDEE). In addition to the research grants and its flagship course in Environmental Economics conducted annually at different locations in South Asia, SANDEE also undertakes periodic Policy and Proposal Writing workshops.

This year's 'Proposal Writing Workshop in Environmental Economics' was held at the Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore, in August 2006.

The workshop was designed to bring together South Asian researchers and to let them develop skills in economic tools and techniques as well as research methods, with peer level feedback at each stage. The workshop sought to provide training in logical thinking, research proposal writing and presentation skills. At the end of the workshop, participants were encouraged to submit research proposals to SANDEE.



Participants at the Proposal Writing Workshop on Environmental Economics.

The diversity of proposals at this workshop (12 in all from three countries — Bangladesh, India and Nepal) also helped participants get a wide exposure to problems and tools that could be used to study them.

During the course of the workshop, Shri S L Rao, former chairman of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC), gave a talk on the current energy scenario in India. The workshop also acted as a forum to highlight work by SANDEE's own grantees and associates. A K Enamul Haque (Indoor Air Pollution) and S Madheswaran (Value of Statistical Life) made presentations during the workshop.

Resource persons at this workshop included A K Enamul Haque (Bangladesh), M G Chandrakanth, R S Deshpande, Gopal Kadekodi, S Madheswaran, K V Raju, and L Venkatachalam. S Madheswaran (ISEC) was the local coordinator of the programme.



Seminar by Japanese Scholars

A group of six Japanese scholars associated with the Sasakawa Peace Foundation India, Tokyo, visited the Institute on August 22, 2006. The team was led by Dr Hideki Esho, Professor of Economics of Hosei University. These are scholars with strong research interest in Indian context broadly working in the areas of Indian economy, Indian political system etc. A half-day workshop was organised by the Center for Economic Studies and Policy, where in each of the scholars made a presentation, which was followed by discussion. Presentations included themes such as 'The Impacts of Rising Indian Economy', 'Competitiveness of Indian Small-Scale Industry in Asian Economic Integration', 'The Stability of Indian Democracy: The Roles of Politics and Electoral Politics'. The workshop commenced with a few introductory remarks by Prof Gopal Kadekodi, ISEC Director, followed by presentations and discussion. Prof S N Sangita chaired the session. Dr K Gayithri coordinated the workshop.

Two-Day Training Programme for Elected Representatives of Bangalore Rural Zilla Panchayat



(Left to Right) Prof Abdul Aziz, Dr K G Gayathri Devi, Prof V M Rao, Prof G K Karanth, CEO of Bangalore Rural Zilla Panchayat, Shri K S Satyamurthy, Prof D Rajasekhar and Prof K V Raju, during the Training Programme.

In order to take decentralisation reforms forward, the capacities of elected representatives need to be built and continuously improved. Towards this end, the Centre for Decentralisation and Development organised a two-day training programme for the elected members of the Bangalore Rural Zilla Panchayat (ZP) on September 26-27, 2006. The inaugural address was delivered by Mr Narayanaswamy, ex-president of Bangalore Rural Zilla Panchayat. The programme was conducted in six sessions covering the legal framework, budgeting, conducting meetings, leadership, undertaking the different roles specified for ZPs and implementing the Total Sanitation Campaign. In the concluding session, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the ZP, Mr Satyamurthy spoke on the need to

improve literacy, education, drinking water, sanitation facilities and other services in the district, following which the ZP members provided their feedback and inputs towards improving such training programmes.

The training programme was co-ordinated by Prof Abdul Aziz, Honorary Visiting Professor, and Dr K G Gayathri Devi, Associate Professor, CDD.

Workshop on the Role of District Administration

A one-day workshop on the Role of District Administration was organised by the Centre for Decentralisation and Development in collaboration with the Administrative Staff College of India (ASCI), Hyderabad, on December 1, 2006. The main objective of the workshop was to analyse and assess the role of District Administration in the context of attempts to introduce decentralised planning and governance through the 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments. The workshop was conducted as a part of the process to provide inputs to the Administrative Reforms Commission. Prof N Jayaram, Director, ISEC, chaired the inaugural session, while Prof G K Karanth welcomed the participants who included the government officials at the state and district levels and representatives of NGOs and academic institutions. Mr M R Srinivasa Murthy, the Principal Secretary, RDPR of GoK, delivered the keynote address. The workshop deliberated the changing roles of Deputy Commissioner, Chief Executive Officer of the Zilla Panchayat, and other officials. An important issue discussed in the workshop was whether the present set-up of District Administration is compatible with the spirit of local self-governance that the Constitutional Amendments intended to bring about. The workshop was co-ordinated by Prof D Rajasekhar, Head, CDD.



Workshop on the Role of District Administration in progress at ISEC.



Rejuvenating Tanks for Sustainable Livelihoods – Emerging Trends

The Centre for Ecological Economics and Natural Resources of the Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore, organised a two-day National Workshop on 'Rejuvenating Tanks for Sustainable Livelihoods – Emerging Trends' on August 3 and 4, 2006 at ICRISAT Campus, Hyderabad. The National Workshop was conducted as a component of the study on Tanks in Mid-Godavari Basin: Building Techno-Ecological Status, funded by the World Wide Fund – International.

Tanks are traditional sources of irrigation in semi-arid zones of the mid-Godavari basin in Warangal district of Andhra Pradesh. For ages, tanks had proven to sustain the agriculture-based economies as a result of a dynamic involvement of the community in tank maintenance. However, the advent of the British colonial government and subsequent continuation of its policies even after Independence gave way to the thinking that minor irrigation systems were a burden on the state revenues. This resulted in the state, donning the role of a 'provider', promoting major irrigation. These developments snapped the vital link between the community and tank maintenance over the years. The economic consequences of this degradation of tanks have manifested in the form of suicide deaths of the farming community.

In this backdrop, WWF intended to restore tanks in the mid-Godavari basin. Three core issues were taken into consideration during tank restoration: strengthening of the village community, economic development of the villagers and preservation of the ecology around the tanks. Twelve tanks from four mandals were selected for this project. A local NGO, Modern Architects of Rural India (MARI), Warangal, was chosen to execute desiltation work involving the village community. International Crops Research Institute for Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), Hyderabad, took up a physico-chemical and biological analysis of silt quality and its impacts on yields. ISEC was involved to work on social, economic and ecological impacts of the interventions. WWF formulated maps using GIS. The objective of this combined effort was to put forth a case of potential positive benefits of tank restoration and initiate a major policy dialogue.

In this context, a national level workshop 'Rejuvenating Tanks for Sustainable Livelihoods – Emerging Trends' was organised by WWF at ICRISAT Campus, Patancheru, Hyderabad, on August 3 and 4, 2006. The objective of the workshop was to share the findings of the study, experiences and insights on various approaches/efforts undertaken by different agencies, discuss critical issues, policy implications and learn lessons to initiate action in a larger context. Dr William D Dar, Director, ICRISAT, chaired the inaugural session and welcomed the participants. Dr Biksham Gujja, Special Project Scientist, WWF, detailed the objectives. Prof Gopal Kadekodi, ISEC Director, chaired the concluding session and recollected interesting works by eminent scholars like Anil Agarwal and A Vaidyanathan and highlighted the significance of understanding the social system to revive the tank system. More than 40 experts from different disciplines participated and 22 papers were presented. Experiences, approaches, technology, impacts and policy issues were discussed followed by a panel discussion. The key issues highlighted were: contradictory efforts on promoting watershed and tank development, conflicts in setting up local institutions, basic data flaws, sustainability issues etc. Action points were discussed to further strengthen the process and work towards sustainability of tank rejuvenation and management.

The research team of this study involved Dr K V Raju, Professor and Head, Dr Lenin Babu, Research Officer, Dr S Manasi, Research Officer, Centre for Ecological Economics and Natural Resources of the Institute. Dr Manasi coordinated the workshop.

Book Release

His Excellency Shri T N Chaturvedi, the Governor of Karnataka, released the book 'Hinduism: A Gandhian Perspective' authored by Prof M V Nadkarni, Visiting Faculty of the Institute, on October 25, 2006 at Raj Bhavan.

Justice M Rama Jois, former Governor of Jharkhand, presided. The participants included, among others, Founder/Life Members of ISEC Society, faculty, staff and students of the Institute and friends of Prof Nadkarni.



Seminars by Visitors

Literacy and Numeracy in Karnataka: Attainment Levels of 4th Standard Children (Project Completion) — Dr A S Seetharamu, Professor (Retd), Centre for Human Resource Development, ISEC, Bangalore, July 12, 2006.

Traversing Landscape — Dr Anuradha Mathur, Associate Professor, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, and Dr Dilip Da Cunha, Faculty, Persons School of Design, New York, July 13, 2006.

Socially Engaged Hinduism — Prof M V Nadkarni, former Vice-Chancellor and Visiting Professor, ISEC, Bangalore, July 14, 2006.

Rotating Savings and Credit Associations — Mr Oliver Dagnelie, Doctoral Fellow, Centre for Research in Economic Development, University of Namur, Belgium, July 27, 2006.

The Indian Monsoon, GDP and Agriculture — Prof Sulochana Gadgil, Centre for Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, August 10, 2006.

Community Monitoring Programme in Health, Education and Nutrition in Raichur District of Karnataka; and
Bio-Intensive Gardens as a Means to Improve Quality of Education in Raichur and Gulbarga Districts of Karnataka — The Unicef Interns Team (Kristi Arthur, Anubha Prakash, Jonathan Kennedy, Prakash Phillip, Shilpa Maiya and Dan), ISEC, Bangalore, August 11, 2006.

New Ideas on the Rehabilitation of Project-Affected Families — Shri Uday Kumar Verma, IAS, Vice-Chairman and Principal Secretary, Narmada Valley Development Authority, Government of Madhya Pradesh, August 16, 2006.

Impact of Neo-Liberalisation and Globalisation on the Decline of Unions in the US — Professor Mike Goldfield, Professor of Industrial Relations and Human Resources, Department of Political Science, Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan, US, August 25, 2006.

Issues in Water Privatisation: The Case of the Greater Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Project — Clifton D' Rozario, Alternative Law Forum, August 29, 2006.

Engagement in Civic Associations and in Religious Organisations; and
Mass-Elite Representational Linkages in Local Communities in the United States — Prof Kim Quaille Hill, Department of Political Science, A and M University, Texas, US, September 19, 2006.

The Relationship between Income and Inequality and Health: What Have We Learned so far? — Dr S V Subramanya, Assistant Professor, Harvard School of Public Health, Harvard University, USA, October 11, 2006.

Childhood and Adolescent HIV/AIDS — Dr Kishan Chug, Senior Paediatrician and Pulmonologist, Sir Gangaram Hospital, Delhi, November 10, 2006.

Religion and Social Sensitivity: A Case of Hinduism — Prof M V Nadkarni, Former Vice-Chancellor and Visiting Professor, ISEC, Bangalore, December 28, 2006.





Seminars by Faculty

Participatory Management of Water Resources: A Case of Canal Irrigation in Malaprabha Project Area — Dr Nayanatara Nayak, SRTT Fellow (July 10, 2006).

Performance of Elementary Education in Karnataka: As Revealed through Census Illiteracy Data — Dr M D Usha Devi (July 28, 2006).

Fuelling Fire or Dampening the Flames: Conflict Management by Karnataka's Gram Panchayats; and Rights to and Participation in Drinking Water Supply in Karnataka — Dr K G Gayathri Devi and Dr Anil Kumar (August 4, 2006).

Construction of National Transfer Accounts for India — Prof M R Narayana and Prof L Ladu Singh, IIPS, Mumbai (September 2, 2006).

Changing Character of the Indian State — Prof James Manor (IDS, Sussex, UK), VKRV Rao Chair Professor, ISEC, Bangalore (September 16, 2006).

Implication of Declining Power of Caste Hierarchy — Prof James Manor (IDS, Sussex, UK), VKRV Rao Chair Professor, ISEC, Bangalore (September 18, 2006).

Reforms in Urban Water Supply Sector in Developing Countries: A Critique of Existing Approaches — Dr L Venkatachalam (September 20, 2006).

Intellectual Property Rights and Protection of Indigenous Environmental Knowledge: An Explorative Study with Special Reference to Karnataka — Dr C Nanjundaiah (October 5, 2006).

Assessing Micro-Finance Needs of Vulnerable Groups — Prof D Rajashekar (October 12, 2006).

Institutional Design for Elimination of Child Labour: A Study of State Initiatives for Eradication of Child Labour in Karnataka — Prof D Rajashekar (November 2, 2006).

District Planning Process: Evidence from Karnataka (Project Completion) — Dr M Devendra Babu (December 14, 2006).

Credit Linkage between Formal and Informal Credit Institutions: A Comparative Study of Karnataka and Gujarat — Dr Veerashekharappa (December 15, 2006).

Rural Infrastructure Development: Role of RIDF — Dr Meenakshi Rajeev (December 16, 2006).

India's Export of Selected BPO Services: Understanding Strengths and Weaknesses — Dr. Meenakshi Rajeev and Mrs B P Vani (December 16, 2006).





Research Projects

Completed Projects

Changes in Work Participation of Weaker Sections in Karnataka: A Study of Last Three Decades (Dr I Maruthi)

Growing Rural-Urban Disparity (Dr D Rajasekhar)

Life After Land Acquisition (Dr V Ramaswamy)

Eleventh Finance Commission's Grants for Administrative Upgradation (Infrastructure) and Service Delivery: An Evaluation of Regulatory and Financial Departments in Karnataka (Dr S N Sangita)

Governance Reforms and Service Delivery in Karnataka (Dr S N Sangita)

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

New Projects

Assessing Micro-Finance Needs of Vulnerable Groups (Dr D Rajasekhar)

Technical, Socio-Economical and Ecological Study of Sujalam Sufalam Yojana in Gujarat State (Dr K V Raju and Dr S Puttaswamaiah)

Moving towards an Information Society: Case Study of the Impact of IT-enabled Services on the Quality of Life in Bangalore (Dr Moushumi Basu)

Good Governance and Public Service Delivery in Karnataka (Dr S N Sangita)

Multi-Level Environmental Governance and Sustainable Local Management of Natural Resources (Dr Madhushree Sekher)

Strategic Integrated Environmental and Social Assessment (Dr K V Raju and Dr R S Deshpande)

Globalisation and Employment: A Case of Readymade Garments in Bangalore in Post-MFA Era (Dr Supriya RoyChowdhury)

Intellectual Property Rights and Protection of Indigenous Environmental Knowledge: An Explorative Study with Special Reference to Karnataka (Dr C Nanjundaiah)

Documentation of Innovative Successful Small-Scale Sustainable Agricultural Projects in South India (Dr G K Karanth, Dr V Ramaswamy and Dr Joan P Mencher)

Demographic Transition and Economic Development in Kerala: The Role of Emigration (Dr K S James and Dr Irudaya Rajan)





PhD Degree Awarded

Mr Satyapriya Rout (Sociology) was awarded the PhD degree by the University of Mysore in 2006 for his thesis on 'Community in Conservation and Management: A Study of Joint Forest Management in Orissa'. Dr G K Karanth was his supervisor.

Students' Biannual Seminar Series

The PhD Fellows' biannual seminars were held during December 18-23, 2006. There were 20 presentations in all, which included three pre-submission and one proposal seminars.

PhD Programme – 2006 Batch

The 2006 batch PhD Programme with 10 students was inaugurated in August 2006. The discipline-wise break-up of the students is: Economics – five; Sociology – one; Political Science – one; Gender Studies – one; Population Studies – two. The programme was inaugurated by Shri S L Rao, Chairman, Board of Governors of the ISEC.





WORKING PAPERS

An Overview

The Institute published five Working Papers (WP Nos.173-177) during the six-month period. Nisha, K R (WP No. 173) in her paper, 'Community Participation in Rural Water Supply: An Analysis Using Household Data from North Kerala', has made an attempt to identify the factors that influence users' participation in community-based rural water supply schemes in North Kerala. Through a primary survey, she has tried to capture the rate of participation by constructing two forms of indices – attendance in group meetings and influence in decisions. Her main findings reveal that household characteristics were the most influential factors: males were actively participating in the group meetings; and the level of education and involvement of households in other local organisations were the other major factors affecting participation.

In his paper on 'Urbanisation in a Forward Looking State of India: Patterns, Issues and Policy', G S Sastry (WP No.174) attempts to analyse the pattern, issues and policy aspects of urbanisation in the rapidly urbanising state of India, Karnataka and its capital Bangalore city. The author observes that both India and Karnataka have encouraged 'top heavy character', city - region disparities and associated problems of environment and development of Indian urbanisation. His observations reveal that in Karnataka, Southern Maidan is the highest urbanised region with the highest concentration of urban population, cities and towns as well as high growth performance towns. However, ecologically fragile Malnad region is also observed to be under urban population pressure. It is further observed that the trickle-down process has not succeeded in diffusing the benefits of urbanisation and associated infrastructure and services thus resulting in sharper city regional disparities. A four-tier hierarchy of urban centres has been proposed to promote balanced regional development in the state.

Meenakshi Rajeev has addressed the issue of 'Contract Labour Act in India: A Pragmatic View' in her Working Paper (No.175). In the context of a growing resort to contract labour by the employers to circumvent labour laws and the protection extended under the Contract Labour Regulation and Abolition Act of 1970, the author has attempted to ascertain the implementation of the stipulations of the Act through a primary survey. The results reveal that many of the stipulations made in the Act to safeguard contract labourers are not followed in practice in the state of Karnataka. The workers felt that that collusive agreement between the labour inspector, the protector of law, and the principal employer (or the contractor) has aided the violation of law. The author has formulated a game theoretic model to show why it is economically optimal to collude; she also has examined theoretically the issue whether provision of any reward for the labour inspector would help to protect the law.

Working Paper 176, entitled 'Issues of Unaccounted for Water in the Urban Water Sector' by G S Sastry, addresses the issue of mismanagement of precious potable water, resulting in an increasing share of unaccounted for water, which has large-scale implications both on cost and resource availability for the supplier as well as the consumer. It is observed that the main influencing factors for unaccounted for water are per capita GDP, literacy, technology and institutional structure for water distribution. The paper has examined the problems of higher share of unaccounted for water and associated cost implications for both suppliers and consumers in the case of Bangalore urban water utility. It has been observed that frequent augmentation to the water potential in the city has ended up in higher share of unaccounted for water than any improvement in the per capita consumption. The pilot study initiated by the Bangalore water utility as a diagnostic measure has revealed that contributions from distribution network as well as consumer meters and illegal connections to the share of unaccounted for water are significant. The author observes that substantial savings could be effected through appropriate policy measures in reducing the share of unaccounted for water, and they need to be taken up on a priority basis even before any measures are initiated to augment the potential.

H P Mahesh in his paper, 'Liberalisation and Efficiency of Indian Commercial Banks: A Stochastic Frontier Analysis' (WP No.177) attempts to examine the efficiency level of Indian banks for the period 1985-2004. He has employed the technique of stochastic frontier analysis to estimate bank-specific cost, profit and advance efficiencies. The analysis reveals that deregulation has significant impact on all three types of efficiency measures. Public sector banks rank first in two of the three efficiency measures showing that, as opposed to the general perception, these banks do not lag behind their private counterparts.



Books and Monographs Published / Edited

Madheswaran, S

(with D Rajasekhar, Suchitra J Y and G K Karanth) Design and Management of Social Security Benefits for the Unorganised Sector Workers, commissioned by GTZ and Department of Labour, GoK.

Ninan, K N

(with S Jyothis, P Babu and V Ramakrishnappa) The Economics of Biodiversity Conservation — Valuation in Tropical Forest Ecosystems, Earthscan, London, December 2006.

Rajasekhar, D

(with Suchitra J Y) Showing the Way Forward: India's Redistribution Experience in Extending Social Protection to All, ILO, New Delhi, 2006.

(with N L Narasimha Reddy and Suchitra J Y) Effectiveness of Micro-finance Programmes in Reducing Vulnerability to Debt Bondage in Andhra Pradesh, ILO, New Delhi, 2006.

(with Suchitra J Y, G K Karanth and S Madheswaran) Design and Management of Social Security Benefits for Unorganised Workers in Karnataka, GTZ, New Delhi, September 2006.

Suchitra, J Y

(with D Rajasekhar) Showing the Way Forward: India's Redistribution Experience in Extending Social Protection to All, ILO, New Delhi, 2006.

(with D Rajasekhar and N L Narasimha Reddy) Effectiveness of Micro-finance Programmes in Reducing Vulnerability to Debt Bondage in Andhra Pradesh, ILO, New Delhi, 2006.

(with D Rajasekhar, G K Karanth and S Madheswaran) Design and Management of Social Security Benefits for Unorganised Workers in Karnataka, GTZ, New Delhi, September 2006.





Articles Published

Deshpande, R S

(with M G Deepika) Trade Policy and Quantitative Restrictions: Assessing the Likely Impact on Agriculture, *Indian Social Review*, Vol. VII (2), October 2006.

(with M G Deepika and A K Ray) Impact of Quantitative Restrictions in the Globalised Economy of India: A Critical Analysis, *Agricultural Situation in India*, Vol. LXII (5), November 2006.

Emerging Issues in Land Policy, *India Resident Mission Policy Brief Series*, New Delhi: Asian Development Bank, 2006.

(with Dhanmanjari Sathe) Sustaining Agricultural Trade: Policy and Impact, *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. XLI (52), December 30, 2006.

James, K S

Decentralisation and Health: A Review of Evidence, in T M Joseph (ed.), *Grassroots Democracy in India* New Delhi: Concept Publishing Company, 2006.

Kumar, Anil V

Gramsci and Freire: Bridging the Divide in Indian Context: An Exploratory Essay, *Electronic journal eSocialSciences*, November 8, 2006.

Lélé, Sharachchandra

Linking Ecology, Economics, and Institutions of Village-level Forest Use in the Karnataka Western Ghats, *Sahyadri E-News*, 21, July 2006.

(with Joy, K J, A. Shah, S Paranjape and S Badiger) 'Issues in Restructuring', *Economic and Political Weekly*, XLI (27-28), July 8, 2006.

Thinking about Ecological Sustainability, *Seminar*, 565, August 2006.

Madheswaran, S

(with Badri Naryan Rath and Hailin Liao) Productivity Growth of Indian Manufacturing Sector: Panel Estimation of Stochastic Production Frontier and Technical Inefficiency, *Journal of Developing Areas*, Vol. XL (1), 2006.

Caste Discrimination in the Indian Urban Labour Market: An Econometric Analysis, *Rivista Internazionale di Scienze Economiche e Commerciali* (International Review of Economics and Business), Vol. LIII (3), September, 2006.

Narayana, M R

Formal and Informal Enterprises: Concept, Definition and Measurement Issues in India. In Basudeb Guha-Khasnobis, Ravi Kanbur, and Elinor Ostrom (eds.). *Linking the Formal and Informal Economy: Concepts and Policies*, Oxford University Press, New York, 2006.

Awareness of Policies and Programmes among Small-Scale Industries in India: Evidence and Implications of a Case Study, *Journal of Asian and African Studies*, Vol. XLI, 2006.

Inflow of Foreign Direct Investment into Karnataka: Patterns, Performance, and Implications, *Foreign Trade Review*, Vol. XLI, 2006.

Competitiveness of Small-Scale Industries in India, *Journal of Business in Developing Nations*, Vol. VIII, 2006.

Pattanaik, Sarmistha

Globalisation, Poverty and the Politics of Protest; An Analysis, *The Society, An International Journal*, Vol. IV, December 2006.

Puttaswamaih, S

(with Ian Manns and Amita Shah) Promoting Sustainable Agriculture: Experiences from India and Canada, *Journal of Social and Economic Development*, VIII (2), July-December 2006.

**Rajasekhar, D**

(with V M Rao and Suchitra J Y) Putting the Cart Before a Non-Existent Horse, *Economic and Political Weekly*, XLI (32), August 12-18, 2006.

(with Sachidananda Satapathy) An Assessment of a Major Anti-Poverty Programme (SGSY) for Women in India, *Indian Development Review*, IV (2), 2006.

Decentralised Planning: Provisions and Practices. In Anke Schuermann (ed). Local Governance in Rural India: Proceedings and Outcomes, German Agro Action and European Commission, 2006.

(with Gagan Bihari Sahu) The Growing Rural-Urban Disparity: Some Issues. In P N Sankaran and Ravikant Joshi (eds). Towards Rural-Urban Partnership Development, SJCBA, Bangalore, 2006.

Raju, K V

Biofuels in South Asia: An Overview, Guest Editor for Special Issue, *Asian Biotechnology and Development Review*, Vol. 8 (2), July 2006.

(with H K Amarnath) Irrigation Subsidies: Can it Help Reforms in Karnataka? In V Ratna Reddy and S Mahendra Dev (eds). Managing Water Resources: Policies, Institutions, and Technologies, Oxford University Press, New York, 2006.

Ramana, M V

(with J Y Suchitra) High Costs, Questionable Benefits of Reprocessing, *Economic and Political Weekly*, XLI (47), November 25, 2006.

Sastry, G S

(with R Maria Saleth) Water Supply and Sanitation in Karnataka: Status, Issues and Policy. In V Ratna Reddy and S Mahendra Dev (eds). Managing Water Resources: Policies, Institutions and Technologies, Oxford University Press, New Delhi, 2006.

Urbanisation in an IT-Prominent State of India: Patterns, Issues and Policy. In Sailabala Debi and V B Annigeri (eds). Sustainable Development and the Indian Economy: Issues and Challenges, Serials Publications, New Delhi, 2006.

Emerging Megalopolis: Bangalore, From 'Boiled Beans' Town to Advanced IT City, *eSocialSciences*, Mumbai, December, 2006.

Thippaiah, P

Encroachment of Tanks: A Study in Karnataka, *Land Bank Journal*, XXXV (1).

Keynote and Presidential Addresses

James, K S

The Implications of Demographic Transition: Theoretical and Empirical Evidence, at the Seminar organised by Nirmala College, Muvattupuzha, Kerala, December 1-2, 2006.

Raju, K V

Mining and Environmental Issues, at the Workshop on Reappraisal of Mining and Environmental Issues organised by Department of Geology, Bangalore University, Jnanabharathi, Bangalore, September 1, 2006.



Papers Presented at Conferences / Workshops Abroad

Madheswaran, S

Measuring the Value of Life and Limb, at Far Eastern Econometric Conference, Tsinghua University, Beijing, China, July 9-12, 2006.

Gender Wage Gap in India, Paper presented at the Conference on Gender Access in South Asia, sponsored by IUSSP, Dhaka, November 14-18, 2006.

Ninan, K N

Non-Timber Forest Products and Biodiversity Conservation — A Study of Tribals in a Protected Area in India, at the 26th International Conference of Agricultural Economists organised by International Association of Agricultural Economists, Gold Coast, Australia, August 12-18, 2006.

Non-Timber Forest Products and Biodiversity Conservation — A Study of Tribals in a Protected Area in India, at the International Conference on the Global Dimensions of Human Environment Change – Resources, Efficiency, Equity and Effectiveness, organised by Freie University, Berlin; Humboldt University, Berlin; and others; Berlin, Germany, November 17-18, 2006.

Puttaswamaiah, S

(with K V Raju and Shashidhara) Case Study of Tungabhadra, at the Workshop on Strategy and Methodology for Improved IWRM — An Integrated Interdisciplinary Assessment in four Twinning River Basins, organised by the Norwegian Institute of Water Research, Norway, July 17-19, 2006.

Ramana, M V

Nuclear Economics in a Developing Country: The Case of India, at the Conference on the Future of Nuclear Energy organised by Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists and the University of Chicago, Chicago, USA, November 1-2, 2006.

Roy Chowdhury, Supriya

Informality and the Limits of Activism, at the Conference on Globalisation and the Workplace in Asia, organised by St Anthony's College, Oxford University, UK, October 29-30, 2006.

Sarkar, Rinki

(with Pranab Bardhan, Dilip Mookherjee, Jean-Marie Baland and Sanghamitra Das) Managing the Environmental Consequences of Growth: Deforestation in the Indian Middle Himalayas, at the Conference on India Policy Forum-2006, organised by NCAER and The Brookings Institute (US), July 31 - August 1, 2006.

Awards / Fellowships

Lélé, Sharachchandra

World Technology Fellow (Environment), World Technology Network, 2006.

Madheswaran, S

Received a Fellow title from South Asian Network for Development and Environmental Economics.



Offices Held in Academic/ Professional Bodies

Deshpande, R S

Chairman, Drafting Committee for Agricultural Policy of Karnataka, 2006.

Member, Search Committee for Rajeev Gandhi National Professor, Kolkata University, Kolkata.

Member, Management Committee, Indian Institute of Dalit Studies, New Delhi.

Member, Expert Sub-Group on Agricultural Indebtedness, Dept of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Govt. of India, New Delhi.

Member, Working Group on Rain-fed Areas for 11th Plan, Planning Commission, Govt of India, New Delhi.

Member, Search Committee for Vice-Chancellor, CSVM University, Kanchipuram.

Member, Working Sub-Group on Land Issues, XI Plan, Ministry of Rural Development, Dept of Land Resources, New Delhi.

Gayithri, K

Member, Advisory Committee on Value Added Tax, Government of Karnataka.

Lakshmana, C M

Member, International Union for Scientific Study of Population, USA.

Life Member, Indian Association for the Study of Population (IASP).

Life Member, Indian Science Congress Association (ISCA), Kolkata.

Lélé, Sharachchandra

Member, Working Group for 11th Plan on Research, Education and Information in Environment and Forests.

Madheswaran, S

Technical Advisor, South Asian Network for Development and Environmental Economics, Nepal.

Narayana, M R

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

Member, Scientific Advisory Committee, Foundation for Prevention of Disability, Bangalore.

Rajasekhar, D

Member, Working Group on Social Protection Policy constituted by Planning Commission, Government of India, New Delhi.

Rajeev, Meenakshi

Member, Banking, Finance and Economic Affairs Committee, Federation of Karnataka Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

Raju, K V

Member, Scientific Expert Committee constituted by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India to look into the status of environment and other allied matters in Andaman and Nicobar Islands. K V Raju visited Andaman and Nicobar Islands during October 26 - November 7, 2006.

Guest Editor, Special Issue on Biofuels and South Asia: Policy Options, Asian Biotechnology and Development Review, Vol.8, No.2, March 2006.

Sangita, S N

Executive Member, IIIT Law, Bangalore.

Miscellaneous

Ninan, K N

Reviewer of Contributed Papers submitted to 26th International Conference of Agricultural Economists.

Raju, KV

Attended Core Group Meeting of Watershed Study convened by ICRISAT, Hyderabad, July 11-12, 2006.

Sangameswaran, Priya

Delivered four lectures on Perspectives on Development and a lecture on Gender Perspectives at the CISED's First Short-term Course on Environment and Rural Development, Bangalore, October 4-14, 2006.

Sastry, G S

Resource Person for the topic 'Theory of Environmental Policy' for the MA (Economics) Course, Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), New Delhi, 2006.

Usha Devi, M D

Coordinated UNICEF Internship Programme for the Bio-Intensive Garden Project in Karnataka during June -August 2006.

Rajyothsava fete at ISEC



Former Chief Minister Shri M Veerappa Moily, who delivered the Karnataka Rajyothsava Extension Lecture on November 14, 2006, being felicitated by the Chairman of ISEC Board of Governors Shri S L Rao.



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