



Director's Message

This issue of **ISIDNEWS** summarises the activities of the Institute during July–September 2021. These include major policy roundtables on MSMEs (in July 2021) and on Industry 4.0 (in August 2021). These events organised by ISID in collaboration with ICSSR, CII, and UNIDO involved participation of key policymakers such as Vice-Chairman and CEO of NITI Aayog, senior officials from Ministries of MSMEs and MEITY, SIDBI, leaders of private sector, think-tanks and international organisations.

It also reports on research seminars that ISID organised on NPAs problem, on innovation in MNEs, on M&As and competition and on ISID policy briefs, the new weekly value-adding service *Industry Matters* among other activities.

As the premier national think-tank focused on industry, ISID is gearing up to support India's current emphasis on manufacturing through excellence in policy research, advocacy, capacity building, and outreach activities. **ISIDNEWS** will keep you posted on the activities and work of the Institute every quarter, in a timely manner.

- Nagesh Kumar

Policy Roundtable

Reigniting Sustainable Growth of MSMEs in the Aftermath of Covid-19 Pandemic



The policy roundtable on Reigniting Sustainable Growth of MSMEs in the Aftermath of Covid-19 Pandemic was organised by ISID in collaboration with ICSSR and UNIDO on August 30, 2021. Dr Rajiv Kumar, Vice-Chairman, NITI Aayog delivered the keynote address. The Roundtable was also addressed by Mr S K Misra, Chairman, ISID; Prof V K Malhotra, Member Secretary, ICSSR; Mr Rene Van Berkel, Representative of UNIDO; Mr Sivasubramanian Ramann, CMD, SIDBI; Mr Sudhir Garg, Joint Secretary-ARI, Ministry of MSME; Prof M H Bala Subrahmanya, Indian Institute of Science; Dr Rajni Aggarwal, President, Federation of Indian Women Entrepreneurs; Mr Animesh Saxena, President, Federation of Indian MSMEs; Mrs Sushma Morthania, Director-General, India SME Forum; and, Dr Akhilesh Kumar Sharma, Assistant Professor, ISID. The event was moderated by Prof Nagesh Kumar, Director, ISID. The Roundtable was joined by over 250 participants from the country and beyond, besides 300 odd watched the broadcast on ISID YouTube channel and was widely covered in the media. [\[read more\]](#)

ISID has issued a [policy brief](#) based on Policy Roundtable and the YouTube video is available [here](#).

Policy Roundtable

Harnessing Industry 4.0 for India's Development: Opportunities and Challenges



The advent of Industry 4.0 and the way industries and the economy in India is likely to be impacted was the main focus of the roundtable on "Harnessing Industry 4.0 for India's Development: Opportunities and Challenges," organised by the Institute in collaboration with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) on August 25, 2021. The CEO, NITI Aayog, Mr Amitabh Kant in his keynote address focused on the extent of preparedness of Indian industries, which was further

substantiated by the special address by Dr Rajendra Kumar, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, highlighting government policies on this count. The roundtable was also addressed by Mr S K Misra, Chairman ISID; Mr Dilip Sawhney, Co-Chairman, CII Smart Manufacturing Council; Dr Clovis Freire, UNCTAD, Geneva; Mr Tejpreet Chopra, President & CEO, Bharat Light & Power Pvt Ltd; Prof Sunil Mani, Director & Professor, Centre for Development Studies; Prof Amaresh Chakrabarti, Professor & Chairman, Centre for Product Design & Manufacturing, Indian Institute of Science; Dr Raja M Mitra, Consultant, Asian Development Bank, Manila; Dr Uma Rani, Senior Fellow, International Labour Organisation; Mr Parminder Jeet Singh, Senior Fellow, IT for Change; Dr Nupur Chowdhury, Assistant Professor, Centre for the Study of Law and Governance, Jawaharlal Nehru University; Dr Anant Kamath, Assistant Professor, National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS); and, Dr Satyaki Roy, Associate Professor, ISID. The roundtable was moderated by Prof Nagesh Kumar. The Roundtable was joined by nearly 160 participants from the country and beyond, besides 300 odd watched the broadcast on ISID YouTube channel. The YouTube link of the roundtable is available [here](#). [\[read more\]](#)

Webinar

Knowledge Sources for Innovation by Multinational Enterprises (MNEs): An Analysis of Pharma Patent



Prof Suma Athreya of Essex Business School, University of Essex presented this paper which is co-authored with John Cantwell of Rutgers Business School, Rutgers University, Sarah Edris of University of Maastricht, and Marianna Marra of University of Sussex Business School on September 17, 2021.

The presentation was followed by a discussion by a panel consisting of Prof Vinish Kathuria, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay, Ms Aradhana Aggarwal Copenhagen Business School, and Dr Reji Joseph, ISID and a Q&A session. Prof Nagesh Kumar moderated the webinar. The YouTube link of the roundtable is available [here](#). [\[read more\]](#)

Webinar

Performance of India's Banking Sector: A Critical Focus on Non-Performing Assets (NPAs)



Dr Santosh Kumar Das presented the major findings of the ICSSR sponsored study in the online workshop conducted at ISID on July 23, 2021. The presentation was focused on the performance of India's banking sector with focus on the non-performing assets or advances (NPAs). A distinguished panel comprising academics and bankers reviewed the Study Report. Eminent panellists included Mr Gopal Krishna Tadas, former Executive Director of IDBI Bank, who provided a banker's insights on the subject; Prof Rudra Sensarma of the Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode; and, Prof Ananya Ghosh Dastidar of the Department of Finance and Business Economics, Delhi University, who provided many useful comments and suggestions. The event was moderated by Prof Nagesh Kumar. The deliberations of the workshop were helpful in enriching the report. The YouTube link of the webinar is available [here](#). [\[read more\]](#)

Webinar

Mergers & Acquisitions (M&As), Business Group Strategies and Competition



Dr Beena Saraswathy presented the findings of the ICSSR sponsored study in the webinar on "Mergers and Acquisitions (M&As), Business Group Strategies and Competition," organised by ISID on September 24, 2021. Eminent panellists included Mr Augustine Peter, former

Workshop

Audio-Visual Media as a Tool in Research for Social Science Researchers



The Media and Communication Division at the ISID conducted its seventh six-day workshop on "Audio-Visual Media as a Tool in Research" for Social Science

Member, Competition Commission of India and currently Visiting Fellow, Research and Information System for Developing Countries; Prof Pulak Mishra, IIT Kharagpur; and, Mr Amol Kulkarni, Director-Research, CUTS International. Prof Nagesh Kumar moderated the discussion. The YouTube link of the roundtable is available [here](#). [\[read more\]](#)

Researchers from August 23–28, 2021. Due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, this year the workshop was conducted online.

The workshop was inaugurated by Prof Amita Singh, former Professor and Chairman Centre for the Study of Law and Governance, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU). Prof Nagesh Kumar gave the opening remarks and Prof Seema Goyal introduced the course modules. [\[read more\]](#)

Research Programmes/Projects: Completed

Performance of India's Banking Sector: A Critical Focus on Non-Performing Advances (NPAs)

The study analysed the performance of the India's banking sector with focus on non-performing advances (NPAs). It attempted to provide critical insights into the NPA problem by exploring the nature and contributing factors of the current banking crisis in India. It analysed the NPA crisis in context of the changing structure of the India's banking sector and provided a comparative analysis of the two phases of the NPA crisis in Indian banks and examined the possible impact of NPAs on banks. The study explored the factors responsible for the NPA problem, with emphasis on the role of bank specific factors and the role of operational, governance, and credit approach aspects of banks. Issues of wilful default and corporate performance have also been analysed. Besides, the study critically analysed the current policy of NPA management framework, and suggested an appropriate policy framework for effective NPA management. The research project was sponsored by the ICSSR, under the IMPRESS Scheme. Dr Santosh Kumar Das was the project director.

ISID Publications

Policy Briefs

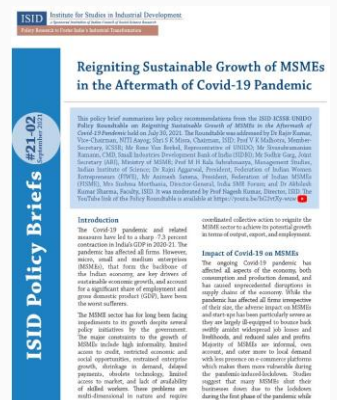
- [Reigniting Sustainable Growth of MSMEs in the Aftermath of Covid-19 Pandemic](#), ISID Policy Brief 21-02, September 2021.

Industry Matters

- [IM Weekly Issue – September 24, 2021](#)
- [IM Weekly Issue – September 17, 2021](#)
- [IM Weekly Issue – September 10, 2021](#)
- [IM Weekly Issue – September 3, 2021](#)
- [IM Weekly Issue – August 27, 2021](#)
- [IM Weekly Issue – August 20, 2021](#)
- [IM Weekly Issue – August 13, 2021](#)
- [IM Weekly Issue – August 06, 2021](#)
- [IM Weekly Issue – July 30, 2021](#)
- [IM Weekly Issue – July 23, 2021](#)
- [IM Weekly Issue – July 16, 2021](#)
- [IM Weekly Issue – July 9, 2021](#)
- [Industry Matters Weekly Inaugural Issue – July 2, 2021](#)

Journal Articles and Book Chapters

- Nagesh Kumar and Joseph George (2021), "Leveraging Regional Cooperation for Achieving the SDGs in South Asia," UNESCAP-SSWA Development Papers #21-02, August.
- Satyaki Roy (2021), "[Garment Cluster in Kolkata: The Untold Story of Expansion Relying on Low-end Domestic Demand](#)," in R Nagaraj (Ed) *Industrialisation for Employment and Growth in India: Lessons from Small Firm Clusters and Beyond*, Cambridge University Press, United Kingdom, pp. 24–48.
- R Duggal and Shailender K Hooda (2021), "[Covid-19, Health Insurance and Access to Healthcare](#)," *Economic & Political Weekly*, Vol. 56, No. 32, pp. 10–12.
- Santosh Kumar Das (2021), "Industrial Finance in a Liberalised Regime in India," *Man & Development*, Vol. 43, No. 2, pp. 33–52.
- Jaishri Jethwaney (2021), "Deconstructing New Labour Codes: Implication for the News Media Workforce," *Communicator*, Vol. 56, No. 2, pp. 33–39.



Contributions to External Events

Prof Nagesh Kumar, Director

- Chaired the First Meeting of the Exim Bank BRICS Economic Research Annual Award 2021 Jury, held on July 9, 2021.
- Keynote Speaker at the Policy Roundtable on *Rising Forex Reserves: A Bane or Boon?* organised by the Council on International Economic Understanding on July 16, 2021.
- Participated in the Expert Consultation on Food Security and Management, NITI Aayog, held on July 13, 2021.
- Invited intervention at the CUTS and PIC webinar on *Improving India's Competitiveness for Inclusive Growth*, held on July 14, 2021.
- Eminent speaker at the International Webinar on *Redesigning the Global Financial Architecture for Financial Stability and Inclusive Growth after Covid-19*, organised by Gautam Buddha University on July 23, 2021.
- Chaired the UNESCAP Expert Meeting on "South Asia Network on the Sustainable Development Goals (SANS)," held on August 4, 2021.
- Participated in the Meeting with the leading Think-Tanks under the Chairmanship of the Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog, held on August 10, 2021.
- Delivered a Special Lecture on "Indian Economy@75: Where Do We Go From Here?" in the Series of six special lectures organised on India@75 by CCS University, Meerut, Uttar Pradesh on August 10, 2021.
- Chaired a Session at the *United Nations Stakeholder Consultation for Common Country Analysis: Leveraging Evidence Based Policy Research for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in India*, organised by the UN Resident Coordinator for India on August 16, 2021.
- Chaired the Second Jury Meeting of the Exim Bank BRICS Economic Research Annual Award 2021, held on August 13.
- Served as an Expert Member on the NITI Aayog Selection Committee, on September 24, 2021.
- Panelist in the ICSSR Virtual Roundtable Discussion on *Start-ups for New and Atmanirbhar Bharat*, held on September 9, 2021.

Dr Swati Verma, Assistant Professor

- Made an online presentation on "Related Party Trade and Transfers to Tax Havens: A Study of Select manufacturing Foreign Subsidiaries in India" in the conference on *Human Rights and the 4 "Rs" of Tax Justice*, organised by Tax Justice Network, United Kingdom from July 6–9, 2021.

Dr Sangeeta Ghosh, Assistant Professor

- Online interview on "[Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code: An Assessment of the Recent 2021 Amendment Involving MSMEs](#)," hosted by the Centre for Financial Accountability on September 3, 2021.

Prof Jaishri Jethwani, Senior ICSSR Research Fellow

- Delivered the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) MOOC (massive open online course) lectures on "Crisis Management: Communication Imperatives."
- Expert panellist in the online Special Session 2: An Expert Insight on "What the New Labour Codes have for the Working Journalists in India: An Empirical Perspective," in the international conference on *Information, Communication and Artificial Networks*, organised by Delhi Metropolitan Education (DME), Noida in collaboration with School of Communications and Creative Arts, Faculty of Arts and Education, Deakin University, Melbourne, Australia from July 1–10, 2021.
- Panellist in the 28th National Webinar on "Deconstructing Advertising and PR Trends in Covid-19 in India," organised by Communication Today, a media quarterly journal, on July 21, 2021.
- Panellist in the online session on "Multidisciplinary Approaches to Journalism Education in India: The Way Forward," during the roundtable on *Journalism Education in India: Issues and Challenges*, jointly organised by Welsh Joint Education Committee, United Kingdom, Indian Institute of Mass Communication, New Delhi, and United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation, France from August 10–11, 2021.

Forthcoming Events

- ISID session at WTO's Public Forum 2021 on "Making the TRIPS Agreement Work Effectively for the Public Health Challenges," October 1, 2021.
- Webinar on "India's Export Performance: Lessons from An Analysis of Long-term Trends," by Aradhana Aggarwal, October 12, 2021.
- Professor S K Goyal Memorial Lecture, October 26, 2021.
- Webinar on "Industry Level Productivity Growth under Market Imperfections: Some Insights" by Dr Ramaa Arun Kumar and Dr Mahua Paul, October 29, 2021.