



## 18<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

### SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION FOR DEVELOPMENT

March 22-23, 2018

The Two-Day 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Global Development Conference, on ‘Science, Technology and Innovation for Development,’ was organised by Global Development Network (GDN) in partnership with the Campbell Collaboration, the ISID and the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) at ISID Campus, New Delhi which was attended by global actors from governments, research, private sector and civil society shared knowledge and practices on innovative initiatives to address the development challenges of today and tomorrow. Discussions will enable progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The thematic focus of the conference was threefold: Global Health Challenges, Sustainable Agriculture, Skills, Employment and Industrial Transformation.

The global community’s approach towards the pursuit of development has shifted from mere economic development to sustainable development, i.e., development that is climate resilient, promotes health for all, uses clean energy, provides decent jobs and uses technological solutions for environment-friendly industrialisation through partnerships between

governments, private sector and the civil society. The new approach calls for new pathways of development with focused attention on knowledge systems that can enable the production, diffusion and adoption of innovation and technology.

Science, technology and innovation (STI) impact lives in many different ways. From the fast changes taking place in the digital sphere of the economy to the anticipated shifts in the labor markets through vastly altered demand for skills, the impact of STI can be seen on global, national and regional policies, the business environment and the understanding of knowledge systems. Innovation has clear implications for development in sectors such as health, agriculture, and industry, and it has become the key driver of growth in the knowledge economy.

The conference took stock of this debate, and discussed the ways forward to enable the use of STI to encourage progress. Developing country researchers, policymakers, the private sector and civil society actors made presentations at the conference. Attendees were privy to first-hand presentations and sessions that featured examples of research, programmes and policies that either develop innovation as a thematic axis or concretely use technological progress to improve life conditions and well-being in developing countries.



1. Prof. M.R. Murthy addressing the gathering in the inaugural session;  
2. Dr. Reji Joseph speaking in one of the technical session

## TWO-DAY NATIONAL CONFERENCE

## STATE OF ADVERTISING INDUSTRY IN INDIA: A CRITICAL APPRAISAL

February 16–17, 2018

The two-day national conference on the ‘State of Advertising Industry in India: A Critical Approach’ was sponsored by the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR). The conference evoked a lot of interest and critical response from academics and ad industry professionals. One hundred faculty members, research scholars and industry professionals registered themselves for the conference.

In the inaugural session, both Prof. S.K. Goyal, Vice Chairman, ISID, and Prof. M.R. Murthy, Director, ISID, shared that some empirical research on the ad sector was undertaken by ISID in the past. It was, however, for the first time that an academic conference was organised to critically look at the functioning of the sector and the emerging issues that surround the ad sector. The Chief Guest for the inaugural session, Prof. V.K. Malhotra, Member-Secretary, ICSSR, emphasised the need for research in the media and advertising sector as both affected the thinking in the society and the nation. He assured that the ICSSR would encourage innovative and cutting-edge research in the field that had policy implications. The Chief Guest for the Valedictory function, Mr. Bimal Julka, Central Information Commissioner and former Secretary, Information & Broadcast Ministry, underlined the importance of self-regulation by the ad sector and emphasised on the need of policy intervention on issues of portrayal of women, use of children in advertising and surrogate advertising.

The conference provided interesting insights and flagged issues for policy intervention. To get the industry back to its pre-eminent status, an organisational re-structuring was considered imperative by industry veterans. Based on the conference deliberations, the following issues were articulated for policy intervention:

- a) Stringent provisions against surrogate advertising. Liquor companies have been advertising their brands surreptitiously through the surrogate route with impunity and it is not unknown to the concerned ministries.
- b) At one time the ratio between news/programme content and advertisements used to be 80:20, but now there seems to be no rule or any surveillance on that. The proposed policy may address this by initiating a dialogue with the industry to rationalise the ratio between news/programme content and advertisements.
- c) With TAM and BARC having merged, the proposed policy intervention can look at the finer points, including the research universe, sample size and methodology to ensure that—keeping in view the size of the country and diversities—the processes are transparent and at the same time credible to the users.
- d) A clear policy on government ads vis-à-vis promotional ads for parties and their leaders is the need of the hour.
- e) A dialogue with industry’s professional bodies and media houses to revise their code of ethics keeping in view the changed media scenario. The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting may consider giving advisory to ensure the following industry codes:
  - i) Ensuring gender sensitivity and portrayal of women in ads and promotional materials to address voyeurism and misogyny;
  - ii) On use of children in advertisements (both in terms of their appearance in ads vis-à-vis brands and the working hours during production of spots/TVCs); and
  - iii) Strict compliance against surrogate advertising on liquor and tobacco products.



1. Prof. V.K. Malhotra, Member-Secretary, ICSSR & Chief-guest giving inaugural address;  
2. Mr Bimal Julka, Central Information Commissioner (CIC), delivering valedictory address

## TRAINING PROGRAMMES

### ORIENTATION PROGRAMME FOR RESEARCH SCHOLARS BELONGING TO SCHEDULED CASTES (SCS) AND SCHEDULED TRIBES (STs)

February 19–24, 2018

The ISID organised an Orientation Programme for Research Scholars belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes from February 19 to 24, 2018 at its campus. This programme was sponsored by the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR).

The objective of the programme was to equip the participants to conduct their research more scientifically, i.e. with appropriate theoretical and empirical knowledge in a systematic way. This was a multidisciplinary programme which dealt with various aspects of qualitative and quantitative research, starting from research design to writing and dissemination of research output. The programme covered the following components: i) Understanding the origins of science and social science; ii) Database familiarisation, which covered NFHS, NSSO, Census, and ISID Online Databases; iii) Conducting Field Survey, which covered various issues and challenges while conducting field survey; iv) Quantitative research, in which various frequently used statistical and econometric techniques were covered. In addition, participants were familiarised with various software packages; v) Qualitative research, in which a general introduction to qualitative research, ethnographic research, biographical narratives and epistemology were covered. Along with this, training on software used in qualitative data analysis, was also carried out; vi) Interdisciplinary Research Methods; vii) Writing, Publication and Research Ethics; and viii) Referencing, whereby participants were introduced to the Zotero referencing tool.

In addition, there were various sessions which focused on important socio-economic issues such as human development, health, labour and gender, tribal livelihood, development and disparities and social capital in the MSME sector.

Apart from subject experts from ISID, eminent academicians from various other institutions/universities delivered lectures. Forty-seven research scholars (M.Phil./Ph.D.) from across the country belonging to various social science disciplines participated in the programme.

Prof. K.S. Chalam, Former Member, UPSC delivered the inaugural address while Dr G.S. Saun from the ICSSR attended the valedictory session, in which the participants shared their feedback on the programme. The participants' feedback, the programme clearly showed that the programme was extremely useful to their future research career since it covered most of the important aspects of research methodology and they liked the course to a great extent. Many of them felt the need to increase the duration of the programme to 10 days to cover more practical sessions such as field survey. The programme was coordinated by Dr Beena Saraswaty.



*Prof. K.S. Chalam, Former Member, UPSC delivering the inaugural*

### AUDIO-VISUAL MEDIA AS A TOOL IN RESEARCH FOR SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCHERS

January 29–February 03, 2018

The Media and Communication Division at the ISID conducted its fifth six-day workshop on Audio-Visual Media as a Tool in Research for Young Social Science Researchers from January 29 to February 3, 2018. Out of a total of 119 applicants from across the country, 34 were shortlisted based on specified selection criterion by a committee. Out of the 34, 23 participants from varied social science fields from across India attended the workshop. The workshop was inaugurated by Prof. V.K. Malhotra, Member Secretary, ICSSR. Prof. Malhotra in his inaugural address emphasised the need and role of media in research methodology.

This workshop is designed to familiarise the participants with AVM tools and motivate researchers and academics to use this medium as a tool, to not only enhance the content, but also to reach wider audience and to have greater impact of their research. Based on previous feedbacks, the practical hands-on training in production of audio-video material was emphasised. The programme broadly covered the following: (i) Basic



*Shri Aditya Seth conducting the sessions on documentary filmmaking*

understanding of the AVM, (ii) Role and importance of AVM as a tool in research, (iii) Effective presentation and dissemination using AVM, (iv) AVM production techniques and understanding the technology, basic camera equipment, editing software, and streaming video, and (v) Hands-on production of AV output.

The participants were given two specified topics to work on during the workshop. The topics were: a) Portrayal of New Age Women in Advertisements, and b) Impact of GST on Common Man. Participants worked in groups to produce short presentations on these topics in multimedia format, incorporating AV material generated and compiled during the workshop, which were later presented by them in the concluding session of the workshop. Each participant started a blog during the workshop and also learnt hands-on camera and video editing skills. Documentary filmmaker, Shri Aditya Seth from Mumbai, was invited to screen one of his films and to conduct sessions related to the documentary production format. Other resource persons were invited from premier media institutes and media organisations. Dr Anand Pradhan from the Indian Institute of Mass Communication conducted sessions on social media and started a blog. Ms Saachi Soni, a young mountaineer and mass communication graduate, who scaled the Mount Everest at the age of 19 and works as an Intern for Doordarshan Sports, conducted a session on Field reporting and Visual Data Collection. Moinuddin Khadri (former NDTV News Journalist), of Design and Media Labs, took the session on TV, Broadcast Journalism. Prof. Jaishri Jethwaney conducted sessions on Audio-Visual Media for Advocacy and Outreach as well as Content Analysis: Ethical and Legal Dimensions. Besides this, Prof. Seema Goyal and B. Dhanunjai Kumar from ISID handled all introductory and technical sessions. The Workshop received 100 per cent positive feedback from the participants and was widely appreciated.

## NATIONAL WORKSHOP

### PATHWAYS TO OUTSOURCING AND CONTRACTING, PHARMACEUTICAL MANUFACTURING IN INDIA AND IMPLICATIONS FOR INDUSTRIAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL UPGRADING

January 23, 2018

The day-long workshop was conducted on January 23, 2018, on the findings and outcomes of the project completed for the ICSSR. The findings were presented with the objective of providing a platform for interaction with the wider professional community associated with the development of pharmaceutical industry on relevant issues and concerns raised by the study. The objective was not only to take suggestions for further development of the work being undertaken by the team at ISID, but also to connect the outcome of the study to the ongoing discussions in the country by the industry and civil society on the Draft Pharmaceutical Policy 2017 announced by the Department of Pharmaceuticals.



*A view of the workshop in progress*

Invitations were sent to around seventy participants, which included key members of the pharmaceutical industry, government officials from relevant ministries and the NITI Aayog, members from the civil society, industry associations (namely BDMA, IPA, IDMA, Small Scale Pharmaceutical Industry Producers Association) and the academia. The workshop had a significant turnout of fifty-six participants. The proceedings of the workshop was also covered and published by the Hindu Business Line. The workshop was divided into four key sessions and each of these sessions had discussants with at least one official from the concerned government ministry, representatives from the private sector, consultants from labour and manufacturing associations, researchers at the level of scientists and members of the academia. The workshop had the support from the leaders and officials of PharmaExcil and CSIR-NCL scientists.

The first session was largely about the state of API manufacturing in India, the current scenario and what ails the industry. The second session discussed regulation and the trend of outsourcing and contracting in the industry. The third and fourth sessions discussed the role of public sector. The discussants raised various concerns associated with the production and drug distribution network and suggested and discussed possible solutions. The final session was devoted to a critical outlook on the Draft Pharmaceutical Policy and its implications. Prof. Dinesh Abrol summarised the final outcome of the workshop.

### INDIA'S RECENT INWARD FDI EXPERIENCE: PERCEPTIONS AND POSSIBILITIES

January 12, 2018

India's reported total foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows increased from \$36.0 billion in 2013–14 to \$45.1 billion during 2014–15 and further to \$60.1 billion in 2016–17. The study, "India's Recent Inward FDI Experience: Perceptions and Possibilities," an outcome of the ISID's long-term research programme on FDI, analysed the reported inflows at a much disaggregated level than what the official briefs provide. The



1. Dr Pranab Sen, who chaired the session giving the address;
2. Prof. Chalapati Rao presenting research findings to the participants

primary aim of the exercise was to sensitise the users to the possible ways in which the inflows could be viewed to get a realistic picture. The study used a large number of examples to highlight various features of the data.

The study noted that due to the prevailing reporting practices and some deep flaws, the available aggregates are extremely unsuitable for drawing straightforward conclusions. At another level, there is not much of a correspondence between the FDI policy changes, selection of thrust sectors under Make in India and the reported inflows. The exercise identified major factual as well as interpretational problems regarding the reported time of inflow, actual amount of inflow, mode of entry, route of entry, activity, etc. Delayed reporting emerged as a major issue. There have been some serious omissions and commissions. The distortions showed up prominently when the inflows were examined at the level of individual companies and industries. The study found that very few newly incorporated companies (registered after September 2014) received substantial FDI.

At another level, it suggested that global FDI aggregates should not be relied upon blindly to provide guidance to developing countries like India, not only because similar problems may be plaguing the data reported by many individual countries, but also because of conceptual and data compilation issues relating to FDI flows, cross-border M&As and greenfield investments.

In order to fine-tune the draft study's findings and to get feedback on the observations from a cross-section of data generators and users, prior to its publication, the Institute organised a Workshop on January 12, 2018 at its premises. The Workshop was well-attended with the external participants numbering as many as 36. Besides senior academics and other scholars from various institutes and universities, the participants included officials of the Reserve Bank of India, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Investindia, FICCI, CII and the financial press. The session was chaired by Dr Pranab Sen, first Chief Statistician of India and former Secretary, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Government of India.

The Workshop started with the welcome address by Prof. M.R. Murthy, Director, ISID. Prof. Biswajit Dhar and Prof. K.S. Chalapati Rao, the co-authors, explained the background to the study and presented the main observations. Thereafter, five discussants, namely Prof. Charan D. Wadhwa (CPR), Prof. Vijay Kumar Kaul (DU), Dr Rajeev Jain (RBI), Dr. Nitya Nanda (TERI), and Dr Shankar Ranganathan (Investindia), commented upon the different aspects of the study. Given the seriousness of the observed lacunae, participants felt that the exercise should be extended to cover some earlier years also in order to see whether there was any improvement over the years. Understandably, many participants wanted the ISID to come out with more studies on the performance of FDI companies with special emphasis on the phenomenon of cross-border M&As.

## RESEARCH PROJECTS / STUDIES

### COMPLETED

- "Asset Quality of Scheduled Commercial Banks" by Dr. Santosh Das and Mr. Pradhyuman Singh Rawat was sponsored by Canara Bank, Bank of India and the Corporation Bank, March 2018.
- "Emerging Patterns of Outsourcing and Contracting in Pharmaceutical Manufacturing in India: Implications for Industrial Upgrading", by Prof. Dinesh Abrol sponsored by the ICSSR, January 2018.
- "India's Recent Inward FDI Experience: Perceptions and Possibilities", by Prof. K.S. Chalapati Rao and Prof. Biswajit Dhar is an internal study, March 2018.
- "Foreign Direct Investment in India and the Role of Tax Havens", jointly undertaken by Centre for Budget and Governance Accountability (CBGA), New Delhi and ISID, September 2017.
- "Changing Perspectives of Women's Work and Decline in Female Labour Force Participation Rate in Rural India: A Case of Odisha" by Dr. Partha Pratim Sahu was supported by S.R. Shankaran Chair National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRD&PR), Hyderabad, April 2017.

- “Information Technology Industry of India” and “Indian Pharmaceutical Industry” are taken up as part of the project on *Innovation, Economic Development and IP in India and China* sponsored by Max Planck Institute for Innovation and Competition, Germany and Applied Research Centre for Intellectual Assets and the Law in Asia (ARCIALA), Singapore Management University, Singapore, Dr. Reji K. Joseph, Associate Professor, ISID and Prof. Biswajit Dhar, IPR Chair Professor, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

## ONGOING

- “Liberalisation, Technology Import and Industrial Development: A Study of Organised Manufacturing Sector in India”, the study sponsored by ICSSR and Dr. R. Rijesh is the Principal Researcher.
- “Penetration and Effectiveness of Health Insurance Schemes in India”, the study was sponsored by ICSSR and Dr. Shailender Hooda is the Project Director.
- “Understanding FDI-Linked Trade through Related Party Transactions: A Study of Manufacturing Foreign Subsidiaries in India”, the study is sponsored by ICSSR and Dr. Swati Verma is the Project Co-ordinator.
- “Global Value Chain Engagement and Industrial Restructuring: A Study of the Indian Electronics Industry”, the research project is sponsored by the ICSSR and is being carried by Dr. Smitha Francis, Consultant, ISID, jointly with Prof. Murali Kallummal, Centre for WTO Studies, New Delhi.
- “FDI in R&D and Development of National Innovation Capabilities: A Case Study of India”, the study is sponsored by the ICSSR. Dr. Reji K. Joseph, ISID and Prof. Biswajit Dhar, CESP, JNU are the Principal Researchers.
- “Changing Business Group Strategies in India: An Inquiry from the Lens of Mergers and Acquisitions in India”, the study is sponsored by the ICSSR and Dr. Beena Saraswathy is the Project Director.
- “Industrial, Trade and Investment Policies: Pathways to India’s Industrialisation”, the two-year programme is sponsored by ICSSR and is undertaken by a team of Institute’s faculty with Prof. M.R. Murthy as the Programme Director and Prof. T.P. Bhat as Co-Director.
- “Urbanisation and Human Capital Development in Assam”, the project is undertaken jointly by ISID and Shaheed Bhagat Singh College, University of Delhi under the ICSSR Research Programme on – Special Areas and Special Issues. Prof. H. Ramachandran is the Project Coordinator and Dr. Poonam Sharma is Co-ordinator.
- “Portrayal of Women: An Empirical Study of Advertising Content – Issues and Concerns for Policy Intervention”, the programme is sponsored by ICSSR and Prof. Jaishri Jethwaney is the Project Director and Prof. Seema Goyal is Co-Project Director.
- Financialisation in India: Nature and Implications with Special Focus on Corporate Sector, the project is sponsored by the ICSSR and Dr. Satyaki Roy is the Principal Researcher.
- “Portrayal of Women in Advertising: Baseline Survey in South Asia”, the two-year long study is being carried out in

collaboration with United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), South Asia Women’s Network (SWAN) and the Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC). Prof. Jaishri Jethwaney is the Principal Researcher and Prof. Seema Goyal is the Co-Researcher.

## INTERNAL PRESENTATION/SPECIAL LECTURES

- Dr. Jagriti Tanwar, Visiting Scholar, German Institute of Global & Area Studies (GIGA) and Dr. Kalaiyasaran A. of ISID made a presentation on “Declining Female Labour Force Participation in India” on October 09, 2017.
- Dr. Lorenza Monaco, Post-doctoral Research Fellow at South African Research Chair in Industrial Development, University of Johannesburg, made a presentation on “India-South Africa: A Comparative Study of Automotive Industry” on October 18, 2017.
- Dr. Johannes Kotschi, Agricultural Development and Natural Resource Management, Germany, visited the Institute on November 07, 2017, and interacted with the ISID faculty and members of the Open Source Seed Initiative (OSSi) comprising 18 scholars and government officials from various African countries.
- Dr. G. Murugan, Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram, made a presentation on “International Remittance, Shocks and Economic Growth: Long-run Dynamics of Kerala Economy” on December 20, 2017.
- Dr. Aarti Krishnan, Ph.D. from University of Manchester and Fellow at the Overseas Development Institute (ODI) in London, made a presentation on “Interrogating the Determinants of Environmental Upgrading in Value Chains and Production Networks: Methodological Perspectives” on December 26, 2017.
- Dr. Christian May, Post-doctoral Researcher and Michael Schedelik, Research Associate, Department of International Relations and International Political Economy, Goethe University, Frankfurt, Germany, made a presentation on their study on “State-permeated Capitalism in Large Emerging Economies” on February 09, 2018.
- Shri P.S. Rawat, Visiting Fellow at the Institute, initiated a Discussion/Talk on “Deficit in Credit Approach of Schedule Commercial Banks” on 19 February 2018.

## PUBLICATIONS

### BOOKS

- Atul Sarma and Debabani Chakravorty (2017), *Integrating the Third Tier in the Indian Federal System: Two Decades of Rural Local Governance*, Palgrave Macmillan, October.
- Atul Sarma and Saswati Choudhury (2017), *Mainstreaming the Northeast in India’s Look and Act East Policy*, Palgrave Macmillan, November.
- Beena Saraswathy (2018), *The Globalisation of Indian Business: Cross-border Mergers and Acquisitions in Indian Manufacturing*, Routledge, United Kingdom.

- K.S. Chalapati Rao, Biswajit Dhar (2018), *India's Recent Inward Foreign Direct Investment: An Assessment*, published by Institute for Studies in Industrial Development, New Delhi.
- Shailender K. Hooda (2018), *Health Sector, State and Decentralised Institutions*, Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group (forthcoming).

## CHAPTERS IN BOOKS

- Reji K. Joseph (2017), "FDI and National Innovation System: Experiences of India and China" in Girish Kumar (Ed.) *Globalisation and India's Innovation System: A Creative Destruction*, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kerala.
- Swati Verma and K.V.K. Ranganathan (2017), "Technology Sourcing and R&D Efforts by Foreign Affiliates: Findings from Automobile Sector," paper (Extended Abstract) published as Conference Proceedings in Girish Kumar (Ed.) *Globalisation and India's Innovation System: A Creative Destruction*, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kerala.
- H. Ramachandran, Surya Tewari and Arifa Begum (2017), "Infrastructure and Hierarchy of Urban Centres in the Hill State of Uttarakhand," *Hill Geographer*, Vol. XXXIII No. 1, pp.1-10.
- Smitha Francis (2017), "Towards a Progressive Industrial Policy in the Time of GVCs and FTAs: An Overview with a Focus on India," in *Global Progressive Industrial Policy: An Alternative for More Social Justice*, Rosa-Luxemburg-Stiftung (RLS), Brussels.
- H. Ramachandran (2017), "Intensity of Use of Land in Urban Areas," *Population Geography*, Vol. 39, No. 1&2, June-December, pp.1-10.
- Smitha Francis, Anirban Dasgupta and Murali Kallummal (2017), "Trade Liberalisation and Indian Agriculture: An Exploratory Analysis,' in M.P. Bezbaruah, Binoy Goswami and Raju Mandal (Eds.) *Indian Agriculture after the Green Revolution: Changes and Challenges*, Routledge.
- Beena Saraswathy (2018), "Innovation-Consolidation Nexus: Evidence from India's Manufacturing Sector" in N.S. Siddharthan and K. Narayanan (Eds.) *Globalisation of Technology*, Springer, pp. 183-201.
- Atul Sarma (2018), "Foreword" in Rajarshi Majumder, Atanu Sengupta and Jaya Prakash Pradhan (Eds.) *Growth and Development in India: Regional Dimensions*, Segment Books, New Delhi.

## ARTICLES/PAPERS IN JOURNALS

- Reji K. Joseph (2017), "Political Economy of India's Engagement with WTO: An Analysis in the Context of Amendment of India's Patents Act," *International Journal of South Asian Studies*, Vol. 7, No. 1, pp. 35-49 (back volume publication for January-June 2014).
- Satyaki Roy (2017), 'Imperialism 'Old' and the 'New': Departures and Continuities' in Sunanda Sen and Maria Cristina Marcuzzo (eds.) *Imperialism Changes its Face: From colonialism to contemporary capitalism*, Routledge.

- Santosh Kumar Das and P.S. Rawat (2017), "Demonetisation and Indian Economy: Some Macroeconomic Challenges", *Journal of Indian School of Political Economy*, Vol. XXIX, No. 3&4, June - December.
- Shailender K. Hooda (2017), "Health Payments and Household Well-being: How Effective are Health Policy Interventions?" *Economic and Political Weekly*, Special Article, Vol. 52, No. 16, pp. 54-65.
- Satyaki Roy (2017), "Rent and Surplus in Global Production Network: Identifying 'Value Capture' from the South," *Agrarian South: Journal of Political Economy*, Vol. 6, No. 1, pp. 32-52.
- Shailender K. Hooda (2017), "Foreign Investment in Hospital Sector in India: Status and Implications," *Foreign Trade Review*, Vol. 52, No. 4, pp. 247-264.
- Shailender K. Hooda (2017), "Growth of Formal and Informal Private Healthcare Providers in India: Structural Changes and Implications," *Journal of Health Care Finance*, Vol. 44, No. 2, September-November.
- R. Rijesh (2017), "Concordance of Manufacturing Industries using NIC-2008 and NIC-2004: A Disaggregate Level Study," *Journal of Industrial Statistics*, Central Statistical Organisation (CSO), India (forthcoming).
- Smitha Francis (2018), "Evolution of Technology in the Digital Arena: Theories, Firm-level Strategies and State Policies", CWS Working Paper No. CWS/WP/200/47, Centre for WTO Studies, IIFT, New Delhi, March.

## MEDIA & NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

- Smitha Francis (2017), "Finally, Working on an Industrial Policy," *The Business Line*, October 10.
- Jaishri Jethwaney (2017), "The Practice of Corporate Communication in India - A Critical Appraisal," *Kaleidoscope*, Vol. 37, No. 6-7, November-December, pp. 19-21.
- Seema Goyal (2018), "Children and Advertising: Creating and Reinforcing Stereotypes in Promotional Material," *Pitch*, April (forthcoming).

## POLICY BRIEF

- Reji K. Joseph (2017), *Investment Facilitation in WTO: For Development?* ISID Policy Brief No. 3, December.

## WORKING PAPERS

### Dimensions of NPAs in Indian Scheduled Commercial Banks, Santosh Kumar Das & Pradyuman Singh Rawat, ISID Working Paper No. 200, March 2018

Growing Non-Performing Advances (NPAs), which reveal deterioration of asset quality, is a cause of concern as it can have adverse impact on the stability of the banking system and the economy as well. Given the limitation of unavailability of any systematic micro level loan data, the present study is an attempt to explore the different dimensions of the current phase of NPA problem and assess its impact on the performance of the Indian Scheduled Commercial Banks. While the source of the stress in the banking system seems to be coming from the dismal

performance of the corporate loans, the worrying factor continues to be the accumulation of stressed assets by the Public Sector Banks (PSBs). The incidence of loan default is found to be relatively high in the Industrial sector vis-a-vis the Agriculture, Services, and the Retail sectors. The composition of NPA in terms of Priority Vs Non-Priority Sector shows that the current phase of NPA problem primarily originates from the Non-Priority sector loans. The accumulation of NPAs has adversely impacted the performance of the banking sector in terms of substantial decline in profitability. Between March 2015 and 2017, the decline in profitability, measured in terms of Return on Assets (RoA) and Return on Equity (RoE) has been much faster. Other performance indicators like operating profit, the ratio of operating profit to total assets also recorded a substantial decline. Although the profitability of both private and foreign banks continues to be higher than that of the PSBs, during last two years, there has been substantial decline in the profitability of the above two banks groups due to an increase in incidence of loan default. Substantial decline in the earnings of the banks have had an impact on the liquidity of the banks, which, in turn, has affected their lending capacity. If this scenario persists for a longer time, it may adversely impact the solvency position of the banks. The increase in NPAs can have a potentially adverse impact on the economy through a reduction in loan growth which is critical to investment.

**Understanding NPAs in Indian Banks: An Analysis of the Role of Banks and Corporate Sector, Santosh Kumar Das & Pradyuman Singh Rawat, ISID Working Paper No. 201, March 2018**

An exploration into the current NPA problem suggests two distinct characteristics. These are, First, substantial volume of NPAs accumulated by the Public Sector Banks (PSBs), and Second, the non-performance of large loans, mainly corporate loans as primary reason behind accumulation of NPA in Indian Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs). The present paper is an attempt to understand the current NPA problem by analysing the role of the SCBs (lenders, PSBs in particular) and corporate sector (borrowers) in the above crisis. We found that broadly, there can be two major issues from the bank's side which can potentially explain the current NPA problem. These are gaps in credit approach and governance aspects of the banks. From the borrower's side, it is found that the Corporate sector as a whole does not seem to be so overleveraged that it cannot payback its loans. Except for a few sectors that exhibited high leverage, the rest of the corporate sector borrowings are under permissible level. Therefore, the notion that a weak corporate balance sheet is actually reflected in a weak bank balance sheet does not justify loan default. This can be further established from the fact that the volume of wilful default has gone up substantially in recent years. The increase in wilful default suggests that the loan money taken from the banks has not been used for the purpose it was taken by the borrowers. Increase in wilful default which implies greater incidence of diversion of borrowed fund from the banks suggests that the possibility of collusion between bank officials or executives and the borrowers cannot be ruled out.

## DISCUSSION NOTES

**Intensifying Competition in Telecom Sector in India, M.M.K. Sardana, ISID Discussion Note DN2017/09, October 2017**

Having armed itself with the best spectrum portfolio for 4G transmission, Reliance Jio entered the telecom market in September 2016 with free voice calls and tiered data tariff plans, thus changing the business model from voice-centric to data-centric. On entry, Jio maintained all of its services free of charge for six months, impacting the revenues of the incumbent players in the market who, in turn, were compelled to reduce their voice and data rates. The customer base of Reliance Jio did not fall as much as some analytics foresaw—even when it started charging for its services. The large-scale disruption thus caused indicates that the market needs to shift to a more consolidated ecosystem and that the incumbent players unfold their plans of regrouping. The government on its part foresaw that the final five players in the field would be good and there would be enough competition. Further disruption was caused by Reliance Jio when it offered 4G enabled telephones virtually free, targeting users of feature phones for using data at tariffs which would be within the budget they incur on voice phones. This move of Reliance Jio pushed the incumbent players to come forward with matching offers. Competition in telecom is becoming intensive.

**Investment Facilitation Agreement in WTO: What it Contains and Why India Should be Cautious? Reji K. Joseph, ISID Discussion Note DN2017/10, November 2017**

There has been a discussion in WTO on initiating negotiation on an investment facilitation agreement during the 11<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Meeting of the WTO which will take place from 10 to 13 December in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The proposals submitted in the WTO indicate that the agreement aims to smoothen the process of cross-border investments by making the process transparent and efficient. The agreement, however, does not tend to incorporate substantive provisions, which has been the demand of advanced countries. It also does not aim to address the challenges caused by large number of bilateral investment treaties, which has been the demand of many countries. Therefore, the agreement in its current form is unlikely to enthruse most Members of the WTO. It seems that the proponents of the agreement may align with advanced countries to make headway. In that case, substantive provisions will have to be incorporated into the agreement which will result in erosion of policy space of foreign investment hosting countries. India has adopted a cautious approach to the proposal and has not consented to initiate the negotiation. Preliminary assessment of India's FDI inflows and outflows shows that India should continue to maintain a cautious approach to the proposed agreement.

**A Note on FRDI Bill, M.M.K. Sardana, ISID Discussion Note DN2017/11, December 2017**

The bail-in Clause 52 of the FRDI Bill has come under debate, raising concerns about the safety of deposits in banks and the larger objective of the bill being lost sight of. The FRDI Bill seeks to establish a Resolution Corporation to monitor the health of financial firms so as to take timely



rescue measures if they tend to be sick. The bail-in clause has sufficient safeguards to ensure that depositors' risks are not hiked with the enactment of the Bill.

#### **Scenario of Handheld Phone Market in India, M.M.K. Sardana, ISID Discussion Note DN2018/01, January 2018**

Chinese companies have established their dominance over handheld handsets in India, relegating the Indian players to the position of minor players; and, one of the Chinese companies has even ended the supremacy of the South Korean giant, Samsung. There continues to be a lucrative market for feature phones in India which foreign-based companies are not producing in a big way. Indian companies have an opportunity in this segment of the market by providing additional features in the feature phones and making them compatible to 4G reception. Despite the coming up of 40 new handset manufacturing and 30 accessory units, value addition has been less than 6 per cent in an indigenous production worth Rs 90,000/- crore in the year 2015–16. There is a case for incentivising the industry by according it tax credits for increasing value addition.

#### **Formalising the Indian Economy on the Wings of Demonetisation, GST and Technology, M.M.K. Sardana, ISID Discussion Note DN2018/02, February 2018**

Demonetisation set the pace for cashless transaction in business and the implementation of GST creates traceable trail of business transactions. Thus, the sector of economy termed as informal sector that thrives on short-changing of taxes comes under strain and makes way for increased role of formal sector which boosts the tax revenues of the government. During transformation from informal to formal, there would be job losses in the informal sector. With increasing resources at its command, government spending on infrastructure, education and health will get a boost and it could devise programmes for both job creation and skill development. Concurrently, the deployment of technology towards creation of aggregation platforms of service providers and e-commerce is also helping in the formalisation of Indian economy in a big way, thus creating jobs in the process.

#### **India's Push for Electric Vehicles by 2030 would be a Win for Chinese Electric Car Manufacturers, M.M.K. Sardana, ISID Discussion Note DN2018/03, March 2018**

With the objective of reducing both greenhouse gas emissions and the spending on oil imports, the Government of India has sought to do away with Internal Combustion Empowered Engine Vehicles by 2030 after which only electric vehicles will be manufactured in India. Faced with an identical objective, China went on to become the leading manufacturer of electric cars as on date with a very robust hold on battery manufacturing and has developed a price competitive electric vehicle market. With India pushing for electric vehicles by 2030, the country would be a ready market and an investment destination for Chinese electric vehicle manufactures.

#### **LECTURES DELIVERED AT ACADEMIC BODIES**

- Shailender K. Hooda delivered a two lectures on “New Health Policy Paradigms: Step towards Making Services Accessible to All?” and “Making Health Right as a Fundamental Right”

during the *Three-week Refresher Course on Human Rights*, organised by University Grants Commission-Human Resource Development Centre (UGC-HRDC) and held at Bhagat Phool Singh Mahila Vishwavidyalaya, Sonipat, Haryana, November 13 to December 02, 2017.

- Shailender K. Hooda delivered a lecture on “New Healthcare Financing and Policy Paradigms: Towards Transforming the Healthcare System” during a Talk organised by *Anveshan Forum* at NewsClick office, Khasra, New Delhi, November 25, 2017.
- Atul Sarma delivered the Keynote Address at the National Conference on *Demonetisation and Digitisation of Economy*, organised by North-Eastern Hill University (NEHU), Shillong, November 27–28, 2017.
- H. Ramachandran delivered a lecture during the *Refresher Training for School Teachers in Geography* at Delhi Public School, Dwarka, New Delhi, December 2017.
- Jaishri Jethwaney took a number of sessions with senior armed force officers on “Crisis Communication Management & Media Handling and Perception Management” at the Indian Institute of Mass Communication, February 2018.
- H. Ramachandran delivered the Keynote Address during the Seminar on *Liveable Cities*, organised by Shaheed Bhagat Singh College and held at Conference Centre, University of Delhi, February 05, 2018.
- Shailender K. Hooda, Special Invitee, delivered a lecture on “Rejuvenate the Public Healthcare System and Issues and Concerns relating to NHPS,” to the Members of Parliament in a *Roundtable on Roadmap for Enhancing Public Investment with Special Reference to the Maternal and Child Healthcare*, organised by the Indian Association of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (IAPPD) in association with Centre for Budget and Governance Accountability (CBGA), Centre for Catalysing Change (C3) and the White Ribbon Alliance India (WRAI), and held at Le Méridien Hotel, New Delhi, February 08, 2018.
- Reji K. Joseph delivered a lecture on “Investment Treaties and FDI: Challenges and Reforms” during the *Capacity Building Programme on International Economic Issues and Development Policy (IEIDP)* under the ITEC/SCAAP Programme of the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, organised by Research and Information System for Developing Countries, New Delhi, February 12 to March 09, 2018.
- Jaishri Jethwaney took a session with doctors at the Maulana Azad Medical College on “Imperative of Effective

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

- Foundation Day Lecture, ‘Indian Economy on the Cusp of Change’ by Dr Rajiv Kumar, Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog, Government of India, May 01, 2018.
- ‘Women for Change: Building A Gendered Media in South Asia’, a UNESCO-SWAN Regional Training and Consultation Workshop, sponsored by UNESCO jointly organised by ISID & IIMC, May 01-05, 2018.
- One-Day National Workshop on ‘Understanding Criticality of Flow of Funds for Robust Growth of MSMEs’, August 13, 2018.

- Communication in Pharmacology,” February 22, 2018.
- Shailender K. Hooda delivered a lecture on “NHPS: Towards Transforming the Healthcare System – At What Cost” during a *Consultation on Urban Issues in Delhi*, at NewsClick office, Khasra, New Delhi, February 23, 2018.
  - Jaishri Jethwaney took workshop mode session with the faculty teaching rural communication on “Mapping Markets and Minds in Rural India” at the Central University of Jammu, February 23–24, 2018.
  - T.P. Bhat delivered a lecture on “Globalisation and Its Consequences” at the Department of Commerce, Delhi School of Economics, February 28, 2018.
  - Satyaki Roy delivered the Valedictory lecture at the National Seminar on *Drivers of Economic Growth: Innovations, Institutions and Policies*, sponsored by the ICSSR and Indian Bank, and organised by and held at the Department of Economics, Faculty of Social Sciences, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, March 13–14, 2018.
  - Shailender K. Hooda, Special Guest at the Valedictory Session as well as Resource Person, delivered a Talk on “NHPS and Its Implications” at the One-day National Seminar on *Contemporary Issues and Challenges in Indian Economy*, organised by and held at the Department of Economics, Indira Gandhi University, Meerpur, Rewari, March 28, 2018.

### PRESENTATIONS IN NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES

- Santosh Kumar Das made a presentation titled “Financial Aspects of Industrial Development: The State of Industrial Finance in the Era of Financial Liberalisation in India” during the *Festival for New Economic Thinking*, held in Edinburgh, UK, October 18–20, 2017.
- Satyaki Roy presented paper ‘Revisiting capital and Revolution against Capital’ in the international conference on ‘Contemporary capitalism and revolutionary possibilities: 150 years after Capital and 100 years after Russian Revolution organized by South Asian University, IIC Delhi, 3-4 November, 2017.
- Reji K. Joseph (co-author) presented a paper titled “SEPs and Standards: Issues and Way Forward” during the Conference on *SEPs, SSOs and FRAND – Fostering Innovation in Interconnectivity: Asian and Global Perspectives*, organised by and held at Singapore Management University, Singapore, November 09–10, 2017.
- R. Rijesh presented a paper titled “Trade Liberalisation, Import of Capital Goods and Export Performance: Evidence from the Organised Manufacturing Sectors in India” at the *12<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of Knowledge Forum*, Bhubaneswar, Odisha, November 10–12, 2017.
- Swati Verma presented a paper titled “Technology Collaboration Contracts of Foreign Affiliates: Contemporary Legal Aspects” at the *Third International Conference on Law and Economics*, held at the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad, November 18–19, 2017.
- Jaishri Jethwaney made a presentation on “State of Advertising Industry in India” at *SWAN’s (South Asia Women’s Network) Ninth Annual Conference* held in Kathmandu, Nepal, November 20–21, 2017.
- Seema Goyal conducted a session on building of the “Gender Sensitivity Barometer,” an interactive web enabled tool to access and quantify an individual’s sensitivity and awareness, as a part of the larger project titled “Women for Change: Building a Gendered Media in South Asia” about issues pertaining to portrayal of women in media, at *SWAN’s (South Asia Women’s Network) Ninth Annual Conference* held in Kathmandu, Nepal, November 20–21, 2017.
- Reji K. Joseph presented a paper titled “Measures to Reduce Import Dependence on Bulk Drugs” during the *First World Conference on Access to Medical Products and International Laws for Trade and Health in the Context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, jointly organised by World Health Organisation, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India and the Indian Society of International Law, and held in New Delhi, November 21–23, 2017.
- Swati Verma presented a paper titled “FDI and Intra-Firm trade in Services: A Study of Manufacturing Foreign Subsidiaries in India” at the *International Conference on Global Production*, held at the National University of Singapore, Singapore, December 06–08, 2017.
- Shailender K. Hooda presented a paper titled “National Healthcare System towards Transformation” at the *21<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference of Indian Political Economy Association*, jointly organised by Indian Political Economy Association (IPEA) and Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi, December 08–09, 2017.
- Reji K. Joseph (co-authored) presented two papers titled “IT Industry in India” and “Post-TRIPS Experience of the Generic Pharmaceutical Industry in India” during the Conference on *Innovation, Economic Development and IP in India and China*, organised by IP School, Renmin University of China, Beijing, Applied Research Centre for Intellectual Assets and the Law in Asia (ARCIALA), School of Law, Singapore Management University, O.P. Jindal Global University, Delhi, and, Max Planck Institute for Innovation and Competition, Germany, and held in Beijing, China, December 18–19, 2017.
- Jaishri Jethwaney took a session on “The Role of Communication in Conflict Resolution” during the session on “Strategic Negotiations: Building New Partnerships” at the *International ADR Summit 2018*, organised by Maadhyam and held at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi, February 02–04, 2018.
- Satyaki Roy presented paper ‘Global Production Network: The New Template of Power and Profit in the Regime of Empire’ in the international conference on “Capital in the East’ organized by Calcutta University, Presidency University and Jadavpur University, Darbar Hall, Swabhami, Kolkata, 30-31 January, 2018.
- Seema Goyal made a multimedia presentation on “Children and Advertising: Creating and Reinforcing Stereotypes in Promotional Material” during the ICSSR sponsored *Two-day National Conference on State of Advertising Industry in India: A Critical Appraisal*, organised and held at ISID, February 16–17, 2018.



## SUPERANNUATION

Professor K.V.K. Ranganathan was superannuated on March 31, 2018, from the services of the ISID at the end of almost four decades of uninterrupted association with the Institute. Professor Ranganathan started working with Professor S.K. Goyal in 1978 as a member of the project staff and witnessed the project gradually transforming first into the Corporate Studies Group (CSG) and finally into ISID. At the time of retirement he was a member of the Board of Governors of ISID. One does not come across many persons who dedicate their entire academic career to only one organisation.

Over the years, Professor Ranganathan shouldered many responsibilities – both academic and organisational. His doctoral thesis, which he completed while at the CSG, was among the first to look into the phenomenon of Indian multinationals when the subject was still in the nascent stage. Besides, he contributed to a number of major studies of the CSG/ISID. As member of the team that executed the projects sponsored by the Indo-Dutch Programme on Alternatives in Development (IDPAD), he had interacted closely with the counterpart Dutch scholars and visited Netherlands. He had also contributed immensely to the building up of the databases at the CSG/ISID. In fact, he was a lead member of the team that developed the databases.

Throughout his stay at the ISID, he had endeared himself to everyone with his amiable attitude and soft spoken nature. He was especially considerate to the young scholars and guided a number of them in their data collection efforts. His commitment to the organisation was exceptional.

## RESIGNATIONS

- Dr. Partha Pratim Sahu, who joined the Institute on November 17, 2005 as Assistant Professor, resigned on June 16, 2017 and joined National Institute of Rural Development & Panchayat Raj (NIRD&PR) as Associate Professor in the Centre for Entrepreneurship Development, Hyderabad.
- Dr. A. Kalaiyaran, who joined the Institute on June 02, 2015 as Assistant Professor, resigned on October 23, 2017 and joined Madras Institute of Development Studies (MIDS), Chennai as Assistant Professor.

- Atul Sarma, jointly with Akhilesh Sharma, presented a paper titled “Differential Impact of Social Security Programmes on Income Generation” at the 3<sup>rd</sup> SANEM (*South Asian Network on Economic Modelling*) Annual Economists’ Conference (SAEC) 2018 on *Leave No One Behind in South Asia*, at BRAC Centre Inn, Mohakhali, Dhaka, Bangladesh, February 17–18, 2017.
- Reji K. Joseph chaired the session on “Human Capital and Sustainable Development” during the International Conference on *Business, Economics and Sustainable Development*, organised by and held at the Department of Business and Sustainability, Teri School of Advanced Studies, New Delhi, February 22–23, 2018.
- Shailender K. Hooda presented a paper titled “Rethinking Health System Financing: Rejuvenate Public Provisioning” at the 4<sup>th</sup> International Conference on *South Asian Economic Development*, organised by and held at the Department of Economics, South Asian University, New Delhi, February 22–23, 2018.
- Mahua Paul presented a paper titled “Impact of Port Infrastructure Development and Operational Efficiency of Ports on Export Performance: A Study of Manufactured Product Exports from India” (jointly prepared with Biswanath Goldar) during the session on “Trade and Sustainability Issues” at the International Conference on *Business, Economics and Sustainable Development*, organised by the Department of Business and Sustainability, Teri School of Advanced Studies, February 22–23, 2018. The same was also presented at the 54<sup>th</sup> Econometric Society Conference held at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, Katra, Jammu, March 07–09, 2018.
- Swati Verma presented a paper titled “Intra-firm Trade of Foreign Enterprises: Evidence from Indian Manufacturing Sector” at the UGC-SAP (DRS-II) sponsored International Conference on *Globalisation and Development*, held at the Department of Economics and Politics, Visva-Bharati University, Shantiniketan, West Bengal, February 23–25, 2018.
- Satyaki Roy made a presentation on “Explaining the Smile Curve and Value Capture in Global Production Network” at the National Conference on *Economic Theory and Policy*, organised by and held at Ambedkar University, Delhi, March 09–10, 2018.
- Mahua Paul presented a paper titled “Poverty Targeting and Economic Growth in India” (jointly prepared with Arup Mitra) at the *Annual Conference of Indian Association for Research in National Income and Wealth*, organised by and held at NIRD&PR, March 15–16, 2018.
- H. Ramachandran made a presentation on “Skilling a Labour Force for the Manufacturing Sector – An Analysis of Trends in Intake Capacities in Engineering Education” at GDN’s 18<sup>th</sup> Global Development Conference on *Science, Technology and Innovation for Development*, organised by Global Development Network (GDN) in partnership with Campbell Collaboration and ISID, and held at ISID, March 22–23, 2018.
- Smitha Francis made a presentation on “Evolution of Technology in the Digital Arena: Theories, Firm-level Strategies and State Policies” at the Centre for WTO Studies, Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT), New Delhi, March 26, 2018.
- H. Ramachandran made a presentation as a Panellist during the National Seminar on *Urban Environment in 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Issues and Challenges*, organised by and held at the Department of Geography, Faculty of Natural Sciences, Jamia Milia Islamia, New Delhi, March 27–28, 2018.

## PARTICIPATION IN EXTERNAL SEMINARS, CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS

- M.R. Murthy attended the Executive Committee Meeting of the Indian Social Association of Social Science Research (IASSI) on September 24, 2017, IIC, New Delhi.
- Santosh Kumar Das attended a Workshop on *Alternate Theories of Development*, organised by Young Scholar's Initiative (YSI) at Edinburgh, United Kingdom, October 18, 2017.
- Santosh Kumar Das attended a Conference on *Reawakening: From the Origins of Economic Ideas to the Challenges of Our Time*, organised by the Institute for New Economic Thinking (INET), Edinburgh, United Kingdom, October 21–23, 2017.
- Mahua Paul participated in a One-day Workshop on *Trade and Development*, organised by and held at the Centre for Development Economics, Delhi School of Economics, October 23, 2017.
- R. Rijesh attended the Fourth India-Indialics Conference 2017 on *Innovation for Sustainable Development: Perspectives, Policies and Practices in South Asia*, organised by the Centre for Studies in Science Policy, JNU, RIS and CSIR-NISTADS, November 02–04, 2017.
- M.R. Murthy attended the Expert Committee Meeting of ICSSR Doctoral Fellowship for the year 2017-18 during November 20-22, 2017 at ICSSR, New Delhi.
- Mahua Paul participated in an International Conference on *Experiences and Challenges in Measuring Income, Inequality and Poverty in South Asia*, organised by the International Association for Research in National Income and Wealth and held at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi, November 23–24, 2017.
- M.R. Murthy attended the meeting as a member of the Expert committee of Major and Minor Research Projects in Economics/Commerce/Managements during November 27-29, 2017 at ICSSR, New Delhi.
- Atul Sarma participated in a Panel Discussion during the Roundtable Discussion on “Reforming of Indian Higher Education with National and International Perspectives” at the 18<sup>th</sup> IASSI Annual Conference on *Inclusive Development: Perspectives and Policies*, organised by the Indian Association of Social Science Institutions (IASSI) in collaboration with Acharya Nagarjuna University, Guntur, and Centre for Economic and Social Studies, Hyderabad, and held at Acharya Nagarjuna University, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh, December 04–05, 2017.
- Atul Sarma participated in the IGIDR CEA Symposium on *Future of India*, held at Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research (IGIDR), Mumbai, December 08, 2017.
- M.R. Murthy participated in the INFLIBNET Negotiations Committee for renewal of On-line Databases of Indian Social Science Journals -- e-ShodhSindhu, a consortium for Higher Education Electronic Resources initiated by Ministry of Human Resource Development, on December 12, 2017.
- Shailender K. Hooda (i) participated in a Dialogue on *Indian Economic Outlook 2018: The Vision*, hosted by the Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC) at Shangri-La Hotel, New Delhi, January 10, 2018, and (ii) attended the Book Launch of *China's Transformation: The Success Story and the Success Trap* by Manoranjan Mohanty at India International Centre, New Delhi, January 10, 2018.
- M.R. Murthy attended the meeting as a Member of the Advisory Committee of the ICSSR Research Programme: Dynamics of Drug Addiction and Abuse in North West India: Social, Economic and Political Implications on January 31, 2018 at CRRID, Chandigarh.
- Atul Sarma chaired a session in the Two-day Workshop on *Indo-Myanmar Cross Border Relations and Interactions: Past, Present and Future*, organised by Omeo Kumar Das Institute of Social Change and Development (OKDISCD), Guwahati, in collaboration with Centre for Study of Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy, Manipur University, and supported by Sasakawa Peace Foundation, Japan, and held in Imphal, Manipur, January 31 to February 01, 2018.
- M.R. Murthy attended the XV Meeting of the Advisory Committee on “Research Surveys and Publications Programme” on March 08, 2018, Delhi.
- Mahua Paul was invited as an Expert on the Interview Panel for MBA (Business Economics) Admission 2018, at the Department of Business Economics, University of Delhi, South Campus, March 20, 2018.
- Smitha Francis attended GDN's 18<sup>th</sup> Global Development Conference on *Science, Technology and Innovation for Development*, organised by Global Development Network (GDN) in partnership with Campbell Collaboration, United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) and ISID, and held at ISID, March 22–23, 2018.

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