Centre for Development Economics
at the
Delhi School of Economics

THE TWENTIETH ANNUAL REPORT

AUGUST 2013
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The Centre for Development Economics (CDE) was set up with a generous grant from the Ministry of Finance, Government of India as a research adjunct at the Delhi School of Economics (Department of Economics) to provide better research facilities to the faculty and the students of the Department of Economics. It is a non-profit organization that supports research in all areas of Economics. It came into existence in August 1992 and began effectively functioning from early 1993, with the full range of activities picking up only in late 1993 after it received its grants from the Government of India and the Ford Foundation.

AIMS

- To promote and disseminate research;
- To sponsor economists from all over India and abroad to visit to Delhi School of Economics;
- To conduct regular conferences and workshops;
- To upgrade research infrastructure, including communication and computing facilities.
THE COUNCIL

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The Office Bearers of the Centre for Development Economics and the Head of the Department of Economics together with Chief Economic Advisor of the Ministry of Finance, Government of India, constitute the Governing Council of the Endowment Fund.

THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE CORPUS FUND

The Office Bearers of the Centre for Development Economics together with Secretary, Economic Affairs of the Ministry of Finance, Government of India, constitute the Governing Council of the Corpus Fund.
2012-13 was a busy year for the Centre for Development Economics. Its members could be credited for about thirty publications, including papers in high-ranking international journals, books, and articles in influential national journals and in edited volumes. They disseminated their research by giving talks at seminars and conferences worldwide. The CDE published twenty working papers reporting new research. Further more, at present, we also house fourteen research projects, mainly funded, at this time, by international agencies.

Four conferences were organized by the CDE in 2012-13. This included the Asian Meeting of the prestigious Econometric Society, organized in India for the first time. Apart from this, there were seminar talks, public lectures and workshops throughout the year (thirty) by economists from India and abroad. We were happy to have seven visitors in the course of the year. We also extended research support to a substantial number of Ph.D. students in our active and growing Ph.D. programme. A large number of summer research projects undertaken by Master's students were also funded and actively supervised by faculty members.

In other news, Sunil Kanwar was awarded an ICSSR-NWO Research Fellowship to Maastricht University, and Pami Dua and Santosh Panda were elected, respectively, Vice-President of the Indian Econometric Society and President of the Orissa Economic Association. Shreekant Gupta, was Visitor, CESifo Institute, Munich and nominated to the Board of Trustees, Clean Air Asia, Manila, for a second term, as well as appointed as Expert Member on the National Screening Panel, Obama-Singh 21st Century Knowledge Initiative 2012-13, USIEF, NewDelhi.

**PUBLICATIONS**

**A. BANERJI**


“Cartels and the Competition Commission” (with Oindrila De), *Economic and Political Weekly*, Volume XLVII, Number 35, September 1, 2012.

“India's New Antitrust Regime: The First Two Years of Enforcement”, *The Antitrust Bulletin*, 57(3), Fall 2012 (invited contribution for a special issue).


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**Book:**


**Papers:**


PAMI DUA


"Weather Shocks and Agricultural Commodity Prices in India" (with N.R. Bhanumurthy and L. Kumawat), *Climate Change Economics*, forthcoming

DEEPTI GOEL


SHREEKANT GUPTA

*Book:*


*Papers:*


SUNIL KANWAR


“Estimation of Calorie Norms and Measurement of Food Intakes: Some Implications for the Magnitudes of the Prevalence of Undernutrition in India” (with Brinda Viswanathan), *Indian Economic Review* (Special Issue in honour of Professor Suresh Tendulkar), forthcoming.


“Growth, Poverty and Social Sector in Odisha”, in Volume to be published by Department of Analytical and Applied Economics, Utkal University, forthcoming.


CONFERENCES AND SEMINAR TALKS

SUGATA BAG

‘Asian Meeting of Econometric Society 2012’, Department of Economics, Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi, December 2012.


A. BANERJI


ADITYA BHATTACHARJEA


ASHWINI DESHPANDE

'Asian Meeting of the Econometric Society 2012', Department of Economics, Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi, December 2012.

Conference on 'Growth and Development', Indian Statistical Institute, Delhi, December 2012.

Conference on 'Inequality, Mobility and Sociality in Contemporary India', Yale University, USA, April 2013.

PAMI DUA

Keynote Address, Seminar on 'Euro-Crisis: Implications for India', Pondicherry University, September 2012.

Department of Physics and Astro Physics, University of Delhi, November 2012.

Asian Meeting of the Econometric Society 2012, Department of Economics, Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi, December 2012.
Delhi Economics Conclave 2012, Department of Economics, Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi, December 2012.

Keynote Address, Seminar on 'Shifting Gears: Jump starting a Slowing Indian Economy', Delhi College of Arts and Commerce, January 2013.


Asian Meeting of the Econometric Society 2012, Department of Economics, Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi, December 2012.

Conference on 'Growth and Development', Indian Statistical Institute, Delhi, December 2012.

Department of Political Science, University of Delhi, September 2012.

Delhi Economics Conclave 2012, Department of Economics, Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi, December 2012.

Department of Business Economics, University of Delhi, South Campus, December 2012.

BAQ (Better Air Quality) Conference, Hong Kong, December, 2012.

Jindal School of Government and Public Policy, Open Lecture Series, Jindal Global University, Sonepat, January, 2013.

ISI Foundation (Institute for Scientific Interchange), Turin on behalf of European Commission at Brussels, February 2013.

Regional Workshop on 'Scaling Up Climate Finance in the Asia-Pacific', Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Singapore, GIZ Germany and LKY School of Public Policy at National University of Singapore, April 2013.

Joint Conference on 'Asia-EU Energy Security and Environmental Policies', LKY School of Public Policy and Asia Centre at ESCP Europe, Paris, June 2013.

Ifo Institute – Leibniz Institute for Economic Research at the University of Munich, June 2013.
Meeting of Like Minded Developing Countries on Climate Change (LMDCs), National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) China and South Center, Geneva.
- Geneva, March 1-2, 2013
- Xi'an, China, August 19-21, 2013

Lead Author Meeting, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), Working Group 3
- Vigo, Spain, November, 2012

SUNIL KANWAR
Norwegian School of Economics, Nordic Conference in 'Development Economics' (June 17-18, 2013).
Maastricht University, Department of Economics and MERIT, June 12, 2013.
Janaki Devi Memorial College (Department of Economics), University of Delhi, February 28, 2013.

SANTOSH C. PANDA
Professor B. Mishra endowment lecture, 45th Conference of Orissa Economic Association held at NISER, Bhubaneswar, February 9, 2013.
Keynote address, National Workshop on 'Social Sector in India-Issues and Challenges' organized by Department of Analytical and Applied Economics, Utkal University, Bhubaneswar, March 29, 2013.

RAM SINGH
Conference on 'Economic Growth and Development', Indian Statistical Institute, Delhi, December 2012.
Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, January, 2013.
UDAY BHANU SINHA


ROHINI SOMANATHAN


Monash University, October, 2012.


Indian School of Business, November, 2012.

Workshop on Governance and Political Economy, MYRA School of Business, Mysore, December, 2012.

Conference on 'Ethics in Comparative Politics Experiments', University of California San Diego, May, 2013.


International Growth Centre Conferences, Delhi, July 18 and Patna, July 20, 2013.

Indian Statistical Institute, Delhi, August, 2013.
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Working Papers from No. 80 onwards are downloadable from our website http://www.cdedse.org
Improving Urban Air Quality In India: Lessons From The Kolkata Clean Air Regulations of 2009

Principal Investigators: Parikshit Ghosh and Rohini Somanathan

Funded by: International Growth Centre, London School of Economics

A concern with the health effects of air pollution in India has led to court-mandated clean air plans in many Indian cities. The resulting transitions to clean fuels and new vehicles have been smooth and speedy in some cases and violent and protracted in others. One reason for these varied experiences may be differences in the costs and benefits of the new technology to those most affected by it. Based on a survey of 100 auto rickshaw drivers in Kolkata in the summer of 2010, we find that operating profits declined for many auto-drivers when they were forced to switch to autos fuelled by LPG. The largest increases in costs were faced by drivers who rented (rather than owned) their autos. Rents doubled after the change and there were no substantial fuel savings for many of these drivers because they relied on cheap adulterated fuel, rather than petrol, prior to the switch-over. These distributional effects may be important for understanding both the political resistance to clean air policies and their welfare implications.

Incorporating Public Good Availability Into The Measurement Of Poverty

Principal Investigators: Anders Kjelsrud (Univ. of Oslo and ESOP) and Rohini Somanathan (CDE)

Funded by: International Growth Centre, London School of Economics

Official poverty measures in India do not explicitly account for access to public amenities and in-kind government transfers even though these vary substantially across Indian villages. This study makes an attempt to incorporate benefits from unpaid public services into consumption decisions to arrive at more accurate measures of poverty and inequality. The analysis is based on primary data collected from 40 villages in Bihar in 2012. We consider three types of public services: schooling, health care and subsidized food grains though the Public Distributions System (PDS). We show that accounting for the use of these services leads to a narrowing of the consumer expenditure distribution and lower inequality in Bihar because the poor utilize the public facilities more intensively then other households. However, we also find that such accounting leads to a rise
in the regional dispersion in poverty rates. So while the targeting within villages leads to a fall in the overall inequality, facilities are not always located in the poorest villages. Finally, we show that the changes in measured poverty from all three types of public services are positively correlated and there is clustering in the location of publicly provided goods. It is likely that this clustering has implications for growth since investments in education, health and nutrition are estimated to have high marginal returns in the literature and have also been shown to be an important historical precondition for growth many parts of the world.

Evaluating the Effects of Targeted Transfers to 'Mahadalits' in Bihar
Principal Investigators: Hemanshu Kumar and Rohini Somanathan
Funded by: International Growth Centre, London School of Economics

This project is in two parts. The first documents the heterogeneity in social outcomes, especially educational attainment, across the castes of Bihar and compare groups classified as Mahadalits with each other and with the rest of the population. The second evaluates Mahadalit programmes in Bihar on the basis of data collected in field surveys. The first part uses data on Scheduled Castes from the Census of India for five census years, 1961-2001. The second is based on survey data from 48 panchayats in 4 districts of Bihar and focuses on evaluating the Vikas Mitra programme in which development workers from the most populous Scheduled Caste were hired in each panchayat to better connect households to officials responsible for government welfare schemes.

Litigation Over Eminent Domain Compensation
Principal Investigator: Ram Singh
Funded by: International Growth Centre, London School of Economics

The project examines various issues related to disputes and litigation over eminent domain compensation. The first question addressed in why most of acquisition affected parties end up litigating the compensation amount. Besides, the research investigates the following questions: How do government officials and the judiciary determine the market value of the property/land acquired? Are court awards generally higher than the government awarded compensation? What are the underlying reasons behind the mismatch between the government provided compensation, on the one hand, and the court awards, on the other hand? Finally, the project studies whether the benefits from litigation over compensation varies across categories of land; agricultural, residential and commercial land.
Information Provision and the Quality of Education in Rural India

Principal Investigator: Bidisha Barooah (DSE)
Funded by: International Growth Centre, London School of Economics

The project uses a randomized design to study the effect of providing 'report cards' on the quality of education, measured by scores in tests of mathematics and language, in private and public schools in rural Rajasthan to stakeholders in education. By varying the recipients of the report cards (parents or schools) and the level at which test scores are reported (absolute or relative to other schools) it is possible to identify two broad channels through which information can impact the quality of education, namely households and schools. It is found that households resort to switching schools due to the report cards but do not influence learning outcomes of children. Private schools respond to information on relative school scores provided to both schools and households by improving English scores by 0.3 standard deviations within an academic year while public schools do not respond to such information.

Information and Fuel Choices in Unequal Rural Households

Principal Investigator: P. P. Krishnapriya (DSE)
Funded by: International Growth Centre, London School of Economics

This project studies the factors that affect households' choice of fuels and associated devices. It attempts to determine how these choices are made when additional information about the costs and benefits associated with fuel used is provided, in particular, when there is unequal bargaining power among the members of the household. This is accomplished through field experiments that will study the following questions:

1. What type of information that results in higher uptakes of cleaner fuel related alternatives.
2. In households where male and female members have unequal bargaining power, who should be the recipient of information so that uptakes are higher?
3. Assuming variation in bargaining power of female members, how are uptake levels affected with the variation in the recipient of information?
NOPOOR PROJECT on 'Enhancing Knowledge for Renewed Policies against Poverty'

Project Coordinator: Ashwini Deshpande
Funded by: European Commission through Research Institute for Development (IRD), Paris

The project NOPOOR aims to build new knowledge on the nature and extent of poverty in developing countries to provide policymakers with a broader understanding of poverty. Poverty cannot be tackled without a comprehensive approach. It is a multidimensional phenomenon, and NOPOOR explores its new and uncharted dimensions. An understanding of poverty entry and exit processes is also needed for achieving MDGs and for making the policies more effective. Twenty experienced partners are involved in the project, which includes ten teams from developing and emerging countries in three regions (Latin America, sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia). These countries have implemented different poverty reduction policies, and this forms the basis for the comparative and case studies approach taken. The project seeks to identify key mechanisms that explain the persistence and exacerbation of poverty, which have been altered by the insertion of developing countries into the globalization process, including trade, aid, FDI and migration, and by the growing interdependence of economics. NOPOOR puts significant resources into generation new knowledge from original surveys, database work and qualitative work. NOPOOR also pursues an active policy of dissemination and capacity building, including training of young partner countries researchers and statisticians. The project is policy-oriented. NOPOOR accompanies the EU's agenda for its policy against poverty and for the review of MDGs by consultations, guidance nores, and policy briefs on issues relating to the program.

A team of researchers from the Centre for Development Economics is undertaking six research studies under the NOPOOR project, details of which follow.

**Education and Social Mobility**

*(Principal Investigator: Ashwini Deshpande)*

This study seeks to examine the role of education in promoting social mobility in India. Studies in a variety of contexts show that education enhances earning capacities of individuals and that each additional year of education has a positive effect on the wage earned. This suggests that acquiring more education, ceteris paribus, would play a significant role in upward mobility of individuals. However, in many contexts, the relationship between family background and educational opportunity is strong and therefore, education could actually reinforce social inequalities by social class, caste or religion and multiple dimensions of inequality might reinforce each other, with the result that disadvantaged groups might remain disadvantaged across multiple generations. The project will investigate, one, if the association between class/social group of origin and education changed over time and two, to what extent is the association between class of origin and destination mediated through education?
We have been estimating educational outcomes for different social (caste) groups using secondary data from different rounds of the National Sample Survey of India. This estimation is being done in collaboration with Rajesh Ramachandran, a doctoral student at the University of Barcelona, Spain. A first draft of this paper is now complete.

The survey instrument for examining the pathways from high school to labour market is now ready. A team of researchers in the state of Rajasthan has been identified who will be employed, in addition to other RAs, to conduct a survey. The same survey will be done in Delhi as well. I am in the process of identifying the schools for data.

A third study is being planned with Professor Anirudh Krishna of Duke University on studying the specific causes of drop-out at different transition points during school admissions, which have critical bearing on upward mobility (or the lack of it).

**Information Provision and the Quality of Education in Rural India**  
(Principal Investigator: Rohini Somanathan)

The United Nations Millennium Development Goals have recognized the role of education in enabling households to escape poverty and seek to achieve universal primary education by the Indian educational policy has introduced several initiatives aimed at increasing the availability and quality of public schooling. In spite of the increase in public, private schools have mushroomed and about a quarter of the school going population in Indian villages attends private schools. This project aims at understanding the determinants of school choices in India and their effects on attainment. It consists of several related studies. The first of these is experimental and asks whether providing households with better information on the quality of the school attended by their children induces them to shift towards higher quality schools. Data collection for this started in July, 2011 and survey data covers 157 schools in 72 villages of Ajmer District in Rajasthan. The second study uses nationally representative data from the ASER surveys to estimate gender-bias in school choices and the resulting effects on gender-based achievement. The third explores the idea that stronger collective action within villages can improve schooling outcomes by studying household data from Self-Help Groups in Jharkhand.

**Exploring the Dimensions and Dynamics of Indian Urban Poverty: Multidimensional and Political Aspects**  
(Principal Investigator: Sugata Bag)

Indian society has been witnessing a process of impoverishment and nearly 27.5% of India's citizens have below the income poverty line (GOI, 2007). The number is, however, double (55.4%) by the recent estimates of the UNDP (HDR 2010, UNDP) based on the multidimensional poverty index (MPI).
Poverty is a multidimensional phenomenon and thus its study should not be confined to income. Among all Indian poor, a quarter lives in urban areas, but recent studies have mostly focused on the rural poverty. Even the recent study by the UNDP does not discern the dimensions and cut-offs across rural and urban areas, although the nature of urban poverty is different. Poverty may be viewed as a result of structural failures and ineffective public policies and thus, its alleviation requires political will. In this project, we will study the role of political dimensions in urban poverty alleviation alongside the multidimensional analysis of poverty that has not been well-explored and suggest strategies for formulating micro action plans.

**Decomposing the Rural Wage Distribution of India**  
*(Principal Investigator: Deepti Goel)*

Joint work with Rene Morissette. Using data from the three most recent quinquennial rounds of the ‘Employment and Unemployment Survey’ conducted by the National Sample Survey, we first characterize the evolution of the wage distribution for rural India between 1999 and 2009. Next, we examine the factors that can explain the changes in this distribution over time. Specifically, we examine the influence of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme that was launched in 2005.

**Localized Power Structures, Conflict and Poverty**  
*(Principal Investigator: Anirban Kar)*

We will measure the degree of interdependence and direction of causality between the emergence of left-wing extremist power in parts of India during the last decade and the availability of publicly provided goods and services in such regions, and other similar case studies. Operations are as follow: Survey to gather primary data from sampled villages (sample design to be determined later) of India to identify exactly nature of local power relations—political and/or otherwise; Survey to identify the various dimensions of deprivation in these villages; Collection of primary data is necessary to capture the dynamic nature of such power structure as well as the various subtle ways in which deprivation is inflicted on and experienced by the poor; Compare these to existing recent datasets on deprivation (like IHDS) and the data from the 2011 Indian census; Set up the theoretical models. Estimation of the models.

Status: First round of primary data collection and data entry have been completed. Primary data was collected from 12 villages each in Maharashtra and Orissa and 6 villages in Eastern Uttar Pradesh. In each village 100 households were interviewed. Next round of survey will start from November (tentatively). A preliminary analysis of impact of LWE conflict on public good has also been done using secondary (IHDS) dataset.
Does Female Leadership Impact on Governance and Corruption? Evidence from a Public Poverty Alleviation Programme in Andhra Pradesh (Principal Investigator: Farzana Afridi)

The concept and objectives of this study is to identify of female leadership on the governance of a large poverty alleviation programme in a context where local people are in a position to closely monitor the actual against the prescribed allocation of public funds. In order to establish a casual relationship between gender and governance we focus on the interaction between the policy of randomly reserving one third of village council leaderships for women and the implementation of rural works under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) in the state of Andhra Pradesh.

The proposed survey of 100 mandals, 300 gram panchayats across the eight districts in Andhra Pradesh was initiated in September, 2012 and completed by 15 October, 2012. The data entry was completed by January, 2013. Thereafter, any inconsistencies and errors in data entry were corrected. Concurrently, data from the State Election Commission on panchayat elections at the district and sub-district level, available electronically, have been consolidated. The survey dataset and the SEC data have been merged and STATA files have been created. Since the main outcome of interest in the project is corruption in NREGA implementation, the consolidated file on electoral competition (above) has been merged with the social audit data from original NREGA audit reports for the same sample already available with the researchers. Initial data analysis has been conducted and preliminary results obtained. The next step is to begin work on the theoretical model.

International Econometric India Link Model
Project Coordinators: Pami Dua (DSE) & N. R. Bhanumurthy (NIPFP)
Research Associate: Lokendra Kumawat (Ramjas College)
Adviser: V. Pandit (Sri Sathya Sai University)

The following activities were undertaken during the year 2012-13:

(a) Updation of the model.

Team members made the following presentations during the year:

Pami Dua
“Indian Economy: Challenges and Prospects” (Keynote Address), Seminar on 'Shifting Gears: Jumpstarting a Slowing Indian Economy', Delhi College of Arts and Commerce, January 2013.
N.R. Bhanumurthy, Pami Dua and Lokendra Kumawat
“Macroeconomic Modelling and Forecasting the Indian Economy”, Conference on 'Macroeconomic Issues and Challenges in India' (as part of the Delhi Economics Conclave 2012), Department of Economics, Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi, December 2012.

N.R. Bhanumurthy
“Global Economic Crisis and India's Macroeconomic Situation”, United Nations ESCAP Expert Group Meeting on Inclusive Development and Regional Cooperation in South and South West Asia, New Delhi, July 2012

Presented 'India Outlook” in the Project-LINK meeting organized by UNDESA-University of Toronto at New York, 22-24th, October 2012.

Competition Issues in The Indian Pharmaceuticals Sector
Principal Investigator: Aditya Bhattacharjeya and Fiyanshu Sindhwani
Funded by: CUTS International (Consumer Unity & Trust Society)

The market for pharmaceuticals has several features that require a special kind of economic analysis. Consumer choice is influenced by doctors and pharmacists, who in turn are influenced by the medical representatives and marketing strategies of the producers. This results in the possibility of 'supplier induced demand' and market failure. The market for pharmaceuticals is also vulnerable to collusive agreements between producers and/or distributors, anti-competitive mergers and acquisitions, and abuse of intellectual property rights. The report analyzes all these features of the Indian pharmaceuticals market. We begin with an account of the evolution of the policy framework. We then compute trends in entry and exit, import competition, concentration and profitability in the pharmaceutical sector. We critically analyze all the relevant cases decided under the Competition Act, and draw attention to some anticompetitive industry practices that have escaped attention. We then undertake a systematic assessment of other policies affecting competition in the sector, including drug price control, quality regulation, import restrictions (especially antidumping duties), and laws governing foreign direct investment and intellectual property rights, all of which have undergone significant changes in recent years. We also review other recent competition-enhancing measures such as the revival of drug production by public sector enterprises and various schemes for public procurement and distribution of essential drugs. The report concludes with a checklist summarizing the competition-restricting practices of both private players and the government, and suggests ways to enhance competition.

The Econometric Society is the most prestigious learned society in the field of economics, with a world-wide membership. Its main object is to promote studies that aim at a unification of the theoretical-quantitative and empirical-quantitative approach to economic problems and that are penetrated by constructive and rigorous thinking similar to that which has come to dominate in the natural sciences. It operates as a purely scientific organization, without any political, social, financial or nationalistic allegiance or bias.

AMES 2012 was the unified Asian region meeting of the Econometric Society and it was hosted in India for the first time.

The program of AMES 2012 consisted of three plenary lectures by leading international scholars, nine other invited lectures by distinguished international scholars and approximately three hundred contributed talks by scholars from around the world. Details of the programme are available at www.econdse.org/ames2012/

Three plenary lectures delivered are as follows:-

- **The Exim Bank Lecture**
  Avinash Dixit, Princeton University

- **The Presidential Lecture**
  Jean-Charles Rochet, University of Zurich

- **The Marschak Lecture**
  Andrew Postlewaite, University of Pennsylvania

The other invited lectures were delivered by Dirk Bergemann (Yale University), Markus Brunnermeier (Princeton University), Olivier Compte (Paris School of Economics), Jacob Goeree (University of Zurich), Hidehiko Ichimura (University of Tokyo), Mark Roberts (Pennsylvania State University), M. Scott Taylor (University of Calgary), Yoon-Jae Whang (Seoul National University) and Myrna Wooders (Vanderbilt University).
Meetings of the Econometric Society are not devoted to any single theme. They provide a platform for the exposition of cutting-edge research in all areas of economics that are methodologically attuned to the broad goals of the Econometric Society.

AMES 2012 was attended by registered participants, faculty and students of the Delhi School of Economics. The sessions were well-attended and of very high quality.

The Centre for Development Economics and the Department of Economics at the Delhi School of Economics would like to express their gratitude to the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, the EXIM Bank, the Indian Council of Social Science Research and the Econometric Society for their generous financial support for AMES 2012.

**CONFERENCE ON 'MACROECONOMIC ISSUES AND CHALLENGES IN INDIA'**

(as part of DELHI ECONOMICS CONCLAVE 2012)

The Centre for Development Economics and the Department of Economics at the Delhi School of Economics in association with The Indian Econometric Society (TIES) organized an international conference 'Macroeconomic Issues and Challenges in India' between December 19 and 21, 2012. This Conference was part of a week-long event called the Delhi Economics Conclave 2012 (DEC 2012) and was fully sponsored by the Ministry of Finance.

Avinash Dixit (Princeton University) delivered the Inaugural Lecture of the Conference on 'Economic Governance and Foreign Direct Investment'. This lecture was chaired by Raghuram G. Rajan (then Chief Economic Advisor to the Ministry of Finance, Government of India).

Papers within the sub-theme “Macroeconomic Challenges and Prospects” were presented by M. Govinda Rao (National Institute of Public Finance & Policy and Member, Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister), Partha Sen (South Asian University), Pami Dua (Delhi School of Economics), Nishita Raje (Reserve Bank of India) and the team members from Project India LINK (housed at the CDE).

Papers within the sub-theme “India and Climate Change” were presented by Partha Sen (South Asian University), Shreekant Gupta (Delhi School of Economics), Suchita Srinivasan (American Express), K. S. Kavi Kumar and Brinda Viswanathan (Madras School of Economics), N. R. Bhanumurthy (National Institute of Public Finance and Policy), Pami Dua (Delhi School of Economics) and Lokendra Kumawat (Ramjas College).
The Centre for Development Economics in association with the Water and Sanitation Programme – South Asia of the World Bank organized a two-day Conference on 'Child Height and Stunting and Early Life Disease' during August 2 – 3, 2013.

Leading scholars of child height – economists, epidemiologists, nutritionists, and pediatricians – and government officials including the Honourable Minister of Rural Development Shri Jairam Ramesh met at the Department of Economics, Delhi School of Economics to share research on an urgent question: why are children in India so short? Height is an important indicator of overall health and human development. Many of the conference papers argued that sanitation stood out as an important part of this puzzle. Unfortunately, India has exceptionally poor sanitation: 60 percent of the open defecation that happens in the world happens in India alone, and almost 50 percent of the Indian population report usually not using a latrine. Not only is open defecation an immense hardship for those who have no other practical option and an important issue of human dignity, the Conference on Sanitation and Stunting also presented evidence showing open defecation as an important factor explaining widespread stunting in India.

The presentations included, among others, studies that attempted to (i) establish a causal effect of sanitation on stunting, (ii) show that diseases associated with fecal pathogens increase the odds of stunting, and (iii) argue that international comparisons and within-country comparisons over time could explain a lot of variation in child height and hemoglobin levels using open defecation alone. In view of these findings, there was a discussion of directions of further research on designing incentives to prioritize sanitation.

The Centre for Development Economics in association with the Department of Economics at the Delhi School of Economics organized a conference on 'Indian Economy: Issues and Perspectives' on August 23 and 24, 2013. It was held at the Delhi School of Economics campus and was organized as part of the golden jubilee celebrations of The Indian Econometric Society (TIES), the pre-eminent economics society in India.

The conference covered various aspects of the Indian economy including macroeconomic challenges and policies as well as issues related to poverty, labour markets, productivity and the environment, especially climate change.
Dinesh Singh (Vice Chancellor, University of Delhi) delivered the Inaugural Address.

The Keynote Address on 'The Indian Economy – Some Immediate Concerns' was delivered by C. Rangarajan (Chairman, Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister).

The Distinguished Lecture on 'Prospects and Challenges for the Twelfth Plan' was delivered by Montek Singh Ahluwalia (Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission).

Charles Kolstad, (Stanford University) delivered a lecture on 'Climate Change, Green Growth and India'.

Subhash Ray (University of Connecticut) delivered a lecture on 'Measurement and Decomposition of a Cobb-Douglas-Lowe Index of Total Factor Productivity Growth in Indian Banking'.

The session on Environmental Issues included presentations by Bharat Ramaswami, E. Somanathan and Eshita Gupta (Indian Statistical Institute), Subir Gokarn (Brookings India), Surender Kumar (Department of Business Economics, University of Delhi) and Shinsuke Managi, Tohoku University.

The session on Aspects of Poverty included presentations by Sugata Marjit (Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Kolkata) and Farzana Afridi (Indian Statistical Institute, Delhi).

The session on Labour Issues included presentations by Amrita Dhillon (University of Warwick) and Neeraj Hatekar (University of Mumbai).

The session on Macroeconomic Challenges in India covered papers presented by Ashima Goyal (Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research), M. Ramachandran (Pondicherry University) and Himanshu Joshi and Sonna Thangzason (Reserve Bank of India).

The Valedictory Lecture on 'Indicators for Assessing Government Performance: Principles and Caveats' was delivered by T.C.A. Anant (Secretary & Chief Statistician of India, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation).

The Centre for Development Economics and the Department of Economics at the Delhi School of Economics would like to express their gratitude to the Export-Import Bank of India, United States-India Educational Foundation (USIEF) and The Indian Econometric Society (TIES) for their generous financial support for the conference.
The Centre for Development Economics and the Department of Economics, Delhi School of Economics hosted the sixth Gender and Economic Policy (GEP) discussion forum, organized by Institute of Social Studies Trust in association with Heinrich BöllStiftung, on March 15. The purpose of the GEP is to contribute to a process through which public discourse on economic policy is made more sensitive to gender concerns. The topic of the sixth forum was Gender and Affirmative Action and the speakers were Mary E. John (Centre for Women's Development Studies), Vidhu Verma (Centre for Political Studies, School of Social Sciences at the Jawaharlal Nehru University) and Ashwini Deshpande (Delhi School of Economics).

The forum addressed the question of political representation of women, which became a debatable topic with the proposed 33% reservation under the Women's Reservation Bill (WRB). Those in favour of the WRB argue that it is required to break the patriarchy induced oppression and better representation of women's interests. Those against the WRB argue that a blanket reservation policy is not good enough to represent interests of women from minority groups. And 33% reservation would lead to confinement of women to only the reserved seats. Internal party quotas were suggested as a good alternative for increasing political representation of women. However, quotas by themselves cannot remove the barriers and so they should only be viewed as a means and not an end.

The Centre in association with the Departments of Economics at the Delhi School of Economics hosted a Public Lecture by Professor Angus Deaton (Princeton University) on 'Randomized Controlled Trials and Economic Development'. This was held on 18th October 2012.

The Centre in association with the Departments of Economics and Sociology at the Delhi School of Economics hosted a Public Lecture by Professor Marc Galanter (University of Wisconsin-Madison and London School of Economics & Political Science) on 'Affirmative Action 60 Years On'. This was held on 23rd January 2013.

The Centre in association with the Departments of Economics at the Delhi School of Economics hosted a Workshop on 'The Identification Problem: Some Solutions and Some Applications' by Professor Esther Duflo (MIT). This was held on 11th March 2013.
Under the Krishna Raj Fellowships Programme (funded by Sameeksha Trust), ten groups of students from the Departments of Economics, Sociology and Geography at the Delhi School of Economics were selected and provided fellowships to carry out field surveys during the summer of 2012. These ten projects were selected from a set of sixteen applications received initially and the surveys were executed under the supervision of Ashwini Deshpande, Anirban Kar and J. V. Meenakshi (Department of Economics) and Janaki Abraham (Department of Sociology).

The ten survey reports include:

**Mid Day Meals and School Attendance**  
Bhavnish Walia, Shambhavi Sharan, Prachi Priya and Bhanu Shri  
(Economics)

**Study of Child Labour**  
Ananya Smriti, Devkanya Chakravarty, Garima Wahi, Jasmine Kaur and Shiny Kundu  
(Economics)

**Do Social Networks Affect Remittances?**  
Garima Agarwal, Shashank Bhatt, Adway De, Skand Goel and Arushi Kaushik  
(Economics)

**Analysis of Rajiv Gandhi Gramin Vidyutikaran Yojna in the Bundelkhand Region**  
Ankit Singh, Kashif Khan, Nitin Arora and Piyush Raj

**Infant Mortality in Malda**  
Ankit Sinha and Karmini Sharma  
(Economics), Prama Mukhopadhyay  
(Sociology), Rishika Mukherjee, Moumita Biswas and Debasree Banerjee  
(Geography)

**Caste and Music: Transformation in Garhwali Music**  
Pratiksha Khanduri  
(Sociology)

**Assessing the Impact of Building and Other Construction Workers’ Welfare CESS Act, 1996**  
Deeksha, Rahul Walia, Sahib Singh Tulsi, Soumik Bhar and Himanshu Chauhan  
(Economics)

**The Looming Crisis: Negotiating the Future in Face of Crisis in the Silk Handloom Industry in Kanchipuram**  
Rohini Ram Mohan  
(Sociology)

**Folk Art and the Urban Social Space: An Ethnographic Exploration of the Social and Economic Life of the ’Creators of Divinity’**  
Samayita Ghosh  
(Sociology)

**Microfinance and Women Empowerment in Urban North India**  
Chirasree Pal, Priya Goyal and Swati Sadana  
(Economics)
KRISHNA RAJ FELLOWSHIPS PROGRAMME 2013-14

Under the Krishna Raj Fellowships Programme (funded by Sameeksha Trust), eleven groups of students from the Departments of Economics and Sociology at the Delhi School of Economics were selected and provided fellowships to carry out field surveys during the summer of 2013. These eleven projects were selected from a set of nineteen applications received initially and the surveys were executed under the supervisions of Ashwini Deshpande, J. V. Meenakshi & Ram Singh (Department of Economics) and Janaki Abraham, Rita Brara & Radhika Chopra (Department of Sociology). The detailed reports on these surveys will be provided in next year's annual report.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO RESEARCH STUDENTS

The Centre awarded financial support to twelve Ph.D. students of the Department of Economics, Delhi School of Economics as part of the utilization of Corpus Fund received from the Ministry of Finance, Government of India during 2011-12.

PROFESSOR SURESH TENDULKAR MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS

The Centre on the recommendations of the Department of Economics, Delhi School of Economics extended Professor Suresh Tendulkar Memorial Scholarships to two students of M.A. (Economics) namely Kanika Dang [M.A. (Final)] and Yatish Arya [M.A. (Previous)] during the academic year 2012-13. These scholarships were paid out of the Endowment created with the contributions of family of Late Professor Suresh Tendulkar, Professor T. A. Bhavani (Institute of Economic Growth and student of Professor Tendulkar) and a group of M.A. students belonged to the batch of 1981.
The following seminars were organized by the Centre during 2012-13:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tr>
<td>September 13, 2012</td>
<td>Aditya Bhattacharjea &amp; Uday Bhanu Sinha</td>
<td>Multi-market Collusion with Territorial Allocation: Three Paradoxes</td>
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<td>September 27, 2012</td>
<td>Anmol Ratan</td>
<td>Mistakes, Closure and Endowment Effect in Laboratory Experiments</td>
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<td>October 11, 2012</td>
<td>Rajiv Sethi</td>
<td>Perspectives, Opinions, and Information Flows</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 1, 2012</td>
<td>Amy Farmer</td>
<td>Competitive Markets When Customers Anticipate Stock Outs</td>
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<td>November 8, 2012</td>
<td>Christophe J. Nordman</td>
<td>Household Entrepreneurship and Social Networks: Panel Data Evidence from Vietnam</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 8, 2012</td>
<td>Abhinash Borah</td>
<td>Accommodating Procedural Fairness in Harsanyi’s Impartial Observer Setting: Do we really need Non-linear Social Welfare Functions?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 3, 2012</td>
<td>Karna Basu</td>
<td>Time-Inconsistency, Renegotiation, and Firm Ownership</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 10, 2013</td>
<td>Anant Sudarshan</td>
<td>Money for Nothing: Using Peer Comparisons and Financial Incentives to Reduce Electricity Demand in Urban Indian Households</td>
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<td>January 17, 2013</td>
<td>Alok Bhargava</td>
<td>Modeling the effects of immunizations timing on child health outcomes in India</td>
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<td>January 22, 2013</td>
<td>Dean Spears</td>
<td>How Much International Variation in Child Height Can Sanitation Explain?</td>
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<td>February 5, 2013</td>
<td>Sumit Agarwal</td>
<td>Did the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) Lead to Risky Lending?</td>
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<td>February 22, 2013</td>
<td>Stephan Klasen</td>
<td>Push or Pull? Drivers of female labour force participation rate in urban India during India’s economic boom</td>
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<td>February 28, 2013</td>
<td>Tarun Jain</td>
<td>Common tongue: The impact of language on educational outcomes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Speaker</td>
<td>Topic</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 5, 2013</td>
<td><strong>Eleanor Fox</strong>&lt;br&gt;New York University School of Law</td>
<td>Intellectual Property, Competition Law, and Economic Development – What balance works for developing countries?</td>
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<td>March 7, 2013</td>
<td><strong>Anirban Mukherjee</strong>&lt;br&gt;IIT, Kanpur</td>
<td>Community Identity and Skill Mismatch: A Study on the Indian Labour Market</td>
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<td>March 21, 2013</td>
<td><strong>Nishant Chadha</strong>&lt;br&gt;Shiv Nader University</td>
<td>Technological change and political mobilization: Evidence from North India</td>
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<td>March 25, 2013</td>
<td><strong>Deepak Mohanty</strong>&lt;br&gt;Reserve Bank of India</td>
<td>Efficacy of Monetary Policy Rules for India</td>
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<td>March 26, 2013</td>
<td><strong>Sujoy Chakraborty</strong>&lt;br&gt;Jawaharlal Nehru University</td>
<td>The effect of minimal group framing in a dictator game experiment</td>
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<td>April 4, 2013</td>
<td><strong>Diane Coffee</strong>&lt;br&gt;Princeton University</td>
<td>Women's status and Children's Height in India: Evidence from Joint Rural Households</td>
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<td>April 15, 2013</td>
<td><strong>Sanjay Jain</strong>&lt;br&gt;Cambridge University</td>
<td>Workers Without Borders? Culture and the Political Economy of Temporary versus Permanent Immigration</td>
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<td>April 18, 2013</td>
<td><strong>Prabal Roy Chowdhury</strong>&lt;br&gt;ISI, Delhi</td>
<td>iHoldup: Gradualism, Investment Dynamics and Efficiency</td>
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<td>April 25, 2013</td>
<td><strong>Kaushal Kishore</strong>&lt;br&gt;Southern Methodist University</td>
<td>Tax Competition, Imperfect Capital Mobility and the gain from non-preferential agreements</td>
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<td>July 23, 2013</td>
<td><strong>Kaivan Munshi</strong>&lt;br&gt;Brown University</td>
<td>Too Much of a Good Thing: Inclusive Institutions and Long-Run Misallocation</td>
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<td>July 30, 2013</td>
<td><strong>Kunal Sen</strong>&lt;br&gt;University of Manchester &amp; Sabyasachi Kar Institute of Economic Growth</td>
<td>The Dynamics of Growth: A Visual Handbook of Growth Rates, Regimes and Volatility</td>
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<td>August 5, 2013</td>
<td><strong>Markus Zimmer</strong>&lt;br&gt;Ifo Institute – Centre for Economic Studies</td>
<td>Integrated Assessment of Climate Change Policies</td>
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<td>August 8, 2013</td>
<td><strong>Nishith Prakash</strong>&lt;br&gt;University of Connecticut</td>
<td>Cycling to School: Increasing Secondary School Enrollment for Girls in India</td>
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<td>August 12, 2013</td>
<td><strong>Stuti Khemani</strong>&lt;br&gt;The World Bank</td>
<td>Equilibrium Consequences of Clientelism for Government Performance: An Empirical Investigation</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
The Centre has well-equipped air-conditioned computer labs with software and hardware for meeting the research and training needs of M.A., M.Phil and Ph.D. programmes of the Department of Economics, Delhi School of Economics. Currently there are 100 Desktop Computer Systems linked through network with DELL Power Edge SC430 (Linux Server). Broadband internet connectivity from SIFY Technologies Limited has been provided to all of the Computer Systems. The Centre also provides web based e-mail facility to the faculty, visiting research scholars, M.Phil. and Ph.D. students of the Department of Economics.

The Centre has acquired wide range of statistical and econometric software packages such as: Stata, E-Views, Shazam, Gauss, RATS, LIMDEP, NLOGIT, MICROFIT, and Scientific Work Place. It has access to various online and offline databases including National Sample Survey (NSS), National Accounts Statistics of India, Annual Survey of Industries (ASI), Census of India, Time Use Survey, Domestic Product of States of India (EPWRF), Prowess, Econlit, Institute for Studies in Industrial Development (ISID), SCC Online (Supreme Court Case Finder & Supreme Court Cases), and Indiastat.com.

The Centre also has online access to e-journals viz. JSTOR (through university), Sciencedirect.com (through university) and Economic & Political Weekly (EPW) online.

The Centre maintains a mini library, which consists of specialized research resources including collection of published material and data sources related to economic research.
The Centre from time to time entertains visitors and appoints fellows.

The following scholars visited Centre during the year 2012-13:

- **Dean Spears**, *Princeton University, USA*
- **Diane Coffey**, *Princeton University, USA*
- **Shivans Rajput**, *Erasmus University Rotterdam, The Netherlands*
- **Christophe JalilNordman**, *French Institute of Research for Development (IRD), DIAL, France*
- **Rajiv Sethi**, *Barnard College, Columbia University, USA*

## OFFICE STAFF – AUGUST 2013

- Surjeet Singh  
  Manager
- Sanjeev Sharma  
  Sr. Systems Administrator
- Mritunjay Singh Bisht  
  Office Assistant
- K. P. Vinayan  
  Sr. Systems Administrator
- Rajesh Papnai  
  Sr. Office Assistant
- Ashok Kumar  
  Jr. Office Assistant

## FINANCE & ACCOUNTS

- **Finance & Accounts**  
  : Jayaraman & Co. Chartered Accountants  
  V. K. Krishna Menon Bhawan  
  9, Bhagwan Das Road  
  New Delhi 110001
- **Auditors**  
  : Khanna & Annadhanam Chartered Accountants  
  3/7B, Second Floor,  
  Asaf Ali Road,  
  New Delhi 110002