

Centre for Development Economics
at the
Delhi School of Economics

THE TWENTY FIRST ANNUAL REPORT

AUGUST 2014

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INTRODUCTION

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

- ❖ **Sunil Kanwar**
Executive Director
- ❖ **Sugata Bag**
Secretary
- ❖ **Aditya Bhattacharjea**
Member
- ❖ **Uday Bhanu Sinha**
Member
- ❖ **Anirban Kar**
Managing Director
- ❖ **Ram Singh**
Treasurer
- ❖ **J. V. Meenakshi**
Member
- ❖ **Deepti Goel**
Member

> ADVISORS

- ❖ **Kaushik Basu**
Professor of Economics *and*
C. Marks Professor Cornell University,
Currently, Chief Economist and
Vice-President, World Bank.
- ❖ **Mrinal Datta Chaudhuri**
Former Professor of Economics and
Ex-Director, Delhi School of Economics
- ❖ **Amartya Sen**
Thomas W. Lamont University Professor and
Professor of Economics & Philosophy,
Harvard University, Cambridge, *and*
Nobel Laureate in Economics *and*
Bharat Ratna.
- ❖ **Kenneth J. Arrow**
Joan Kenney Professor of
Economics *and* Professor of
Operations Research, Emeritus
and CHP/PCOR Fellow; FSI Senior
Fellow by courtesy,
Stanford University and,
Nobel Laureate in Economics
- ❖ **Bimal Jalan**
Ex-Governor, Reserve Bank of India
and Member of Parliament
(Rajya Sabha)
- ❖ **Joseph E. Stiglitz**
Professor of Economics,
Columbia University,
Former Senior President &
Chief Economist,
The World Bank *and*
Nobel Laureate in Economics

> THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE ENDOWMENT FUND

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.

RESEARCH ACTIVITY

2013-14 continued to be a busy year for the Centre for Development Economics. Publications of its members were accepted for publication in high-ranking international journals, books and edited volumes around the world. They also disseminated their research by presenting papers and giving talks at conferences, workshops and seminars worldwide. The Centre also continued to publish working papers and hosted several research projects, mostly funded by international funding institutions/agencies and headed by its members.

The Centre organized its annual international conference 'Winter School' during December 2013. Invited lectures were delivered by eminent economist viz. **Oliver Hart** (Harvard University), **John H. Moore** (LSE), **Andrew Foster** (Brown University), **Janet Currie** (Princeton University) and **Romain Wacziarg** (UCLA). In addition to this, there were around 45 junior faculty members, researchers and advance Ph.D. scholars from around the globe participated in the Conference.

The Centre continued to host Public Lectures and regular seminars as part of its research activities. We were happy to have seen 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 travel fellowships were granted to Master's students for conducting field surveys and actively supervised by the faculty members.

In addition to this, Pami Dua was appointed as Dean Research (Humanities and Social Sciences) in the University of Delhi. She also continued to be Vice-President of The Indian Econometric Society (TIES) for the second consecutive year and was appointed as Member of various committees viz. Committee on Data and Information Management at the Reserve Bank of India, Committee on Forecasting Air Traffic, Ministry of Civil Aviation and Academic Committee, Institute of Economic Growth. Uday Bhanu Sinha was awarded by Mahalanobis Memorial Medal - (National Award) – 2012 of The Indian Econometric Society.

PUBLICATIONS

> ABHIJIT BANERJI

“Detection, Identification and Estimation of Loss Aversion: Evidence from an Auction Experiment”, *American Economic Journal, Microeconomics*, January 2014.

➤ ADITYA BHATTACHARJEA

“Imperial Legacy: The Persistence of Colonial Trade Patterns” (with Rashmi Banga), in Sunanda Sen and Anjan Chakrabarty (eds.), *Development on Trial*, Orient Black Swan, New Delhi, 2013.

“Who Needs Antitrust? Or, Is Developing-Country Antitrust Different? A Historical-Comparative Analysis”, in D. Daniel Sokol, Thomas K. Cheng and Ioannis Lianos (eds.), *Competition Law and Development*, Stanford University Press, Stanford, 2013.

"Discussant's Comments" (on Sean Dougherty, Veronnica Frisancho and Kala Krishna, "State-Level Labor Reform and Firm-Level Productivity in India", in Shekhar Shah, Barry Bosworth, and Arvind Panagariya (eds.), *India Policy Forum 2013-14*, Sage Publications, 2014

➤ ASHWINI DESHPANDE

“Does Affirmative Action Reduce Productivity? A Case Study of the Indian Railways” (with Thomas E. Weisskopf), *World Development*, Volume 64, December 2014, pp. 169-180

➤ PAMI DUA

“Capital Flows and Exchange Rates in India: An Empirical Investigation” (with P. Sen), *Indian Economic Review*, Volume XLVIII, Number 1, 2013, pp. 189-220.

“Weather Shocks and Agricultural Commodity Prices in India” (with N. R. Bhanumurthy and L. Kumawat), *Climate Change Economics*, Volume 4, Issue 3, 2013.

“Foreign Portfolio Investment Flows to India: Determinants and Analysis” (with R. Garg), *World Development*, Volume 59, 2014, pp. 16-28.

“Macroeconomic Determinants of Foreign Direct Investment: Evidence from India” (with R. Garg), *The Journal of Developing Areas*, forthcoming.

“Determinants of Yields on Government Securities in India” (with N. Raje), *Margin – The Journal of Applied Economic Research*, forthcoming.

“Forecasting Indian Macroeconomic Variables Using Medium Scale VAR Models” (with G. C. Aye and R. Gupta) in S. K. Upadhyay (ed.), *Current Trends in Bayesian Methodology with Applications*, Chapman Hall/CRC Press, Forthcoming.

➤ PULIN B. NAYAK

“Growth Prospects of the Indian Economy During the 12th Plan and After”, *The Indian Economic Journal (Special Issue)*, December 2013.

The Economy of Odisha: A Profile (Editor, along with P. Pattanaik and S. Panda), Oxford University Press, forthcoming.

➤ OM PRAKASH

Books:

The Trading World of the Indian Ocean, 1500-1800, Pearson, Delhi, 2012.

On the Economic Encounter Between Asia and Europe, 1500-1800, Variorum Collected Studies Series, Ashgate Publishing Limited, Surrey, England, forthcoming.

Papers:

“The Trading World of the Indian Ocean: Some Defining Features”, in Om Prakash (ed.), *The Trading World of the Indian Ocean, 1500-1800*, Pearson, Delhi, 2012.

“The Impact of the Indian Local Fleets in the Development of the Trade in the Indian Ocean, 1500-1800”, *Oceanides*, Paris, 2014, forthcoming.

➤ RAM SINGH

“Infrastructure: Source of Growth or Bottleneck?” (with Paramjit), in Ashima Goyal (ed.) *The Handbook of the Dynamic Indian Economy*, Oxford University Press, Delhi, 2013.

“Economic Efficiency”, in Jürgen Backhaus (ed.), *Encyclopedia of Law and Economics*, Springer, forthcoming.

“Existence and Efficiency of Equilibria: *When Care is Multidimensional*”, in Subrata Guha, Rajendra Kundu, and S. Subramanian (eds.), *Festschrift for SKJ*, Routledge, New Delhi, forthcoming.

▶ UDAY BHANU SINHA

“Can Cost Asymmetry be a Rationale for Privatization?” (with Arjit Mukherjee), *International Review of Economics and Finance*, Volume 29, January 2014, pp. 497-503.

“Strategic Outsourcing with Technology Transfer Under Cournot Oligopoly” (with Tarun Kabiraj), *Economics Bulletin*, Volume 34, Number 2, May 2014, pp. 1133-1140.

“Foreign Entry, Acquisition Target and Host Country Welfare” (with Tarun Kabiraj), Manchester School, forthcoming.

▶ ROHINI SOMANATHAN

“Repayment Incentives and the Distributions of Gains from Group Lending” (with Jean-Marie Baland and Zaki Wahhaj), *Journal of Development Economics*, Volume 105, November 2013, pp. 131-139.

“Aid and Agency in Africa: Explaining Food Disbursement Across Ethiopian Households, 1994-2004” (with Nzinga Broussard and Stefan Dercon), *Journal of Development Economics*, Volume 108, May 2014, pp. 128-137.

CONFERENCE AND SEMINAR TALKS

> ABHIJIT BANERJI

European Association of Agricultural Economics Seminar, Belgium, September 2013.

> ADITYA BHATTACHARJEA

CUTS-CIRC Workshop, Mumbai, January 2014.

International Workshop on 'Intellectual Property and Innovation in the Globalized World', Skolkovo Foundation, Moscow, April 2014.

> ASHWINI DESHPANDE

Conference on 'Growth and Development', Indian Statistical Institute, Delhi, December 19-21 2013.

Conference on 'Development from the Perspective of Labour', Giri Institute for Development Studies, February 21-23, 2014.

Conference on 'Growth and Social Transformation in India', Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi, March 20-22, 2014.

International Economic Association – World Bank Roundtable, Jordan, June 2014.

The Third Samata Annual Lecture on “Affirmative Action and the Private Sector”, Kathmandu, September 13, 2013

> PAMI DUA

Keynote Address, Economics Festival, Sri Venkateswara College, University of Delhi, September 2013.

Golden Jubilee Conference of The Indian Econometric Society (TIES), Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Studies (IGIDR), Mumbai, December 2013.

Reserve Bank of India, Mumbai, March 2014.

Conference on 'Innovative Engagement for Sustainable Development: The Edinburgh – India Story', Edinburgh India Institute, University of Edinburgh, May 2014.

Workshop on Policies for Sustaining High Growth in India, Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi, August 2014.

South Asian University, New Delhi, August 2014.

➤ **SUNIL KANWAR**

Asia-Pacific Innovation Conference, National Taiwan University, December 6-7, 2013.

SouthAsian University (Department of Economics), January 31, 2014.

➤ **OM PRAKASH**

Institute of Advanced Study, Nantes, France, November, 2013.

➤ **RAM SINGH**

Conference on 'Black Economy in India', organized by Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, December 9 – 11, 2013.

Fourth IGC-ISI India Development Policy Conference, Indian Statistical Institute, Delhi, December 17-18 2013.

Seventh Economic Theory and Policy Conference, organized by National Institute of Public Finance and Policy, Jawaharlal Nehru University and Faculty of Economics, Kagawa, Japan, February 20-22, 2014.

➤ **UDAY BHANU SINHA**

Management Development Institute, Gurgaon, February 11, 2014.

Seventh Economic Theory and Policy Conference, organized by National Institute of Public Finance and Policy, Jawaharlal Nehru University and Faculty of Economics, Kagawa, Japan, February 20-22, 2014.

SouthAsian University, Delhi, March 21, 2014.

➤ **ROHINI SOMANATHAN**

Advanced Graduate Workshop, Azim Premji University, Bangalore, January 9, 2014.

Workshop on 'Caste and Inequality: Social, Political and Economic Reflections', Centre for Studies of Social Sciences, Kolkata, March 28-29, 2014.

Conference on 'Theoretical Research in Development Economics', Barcelona, June 27-28.

Continuing from reports of previous years

Paper #	Author(s)	Title and Month & Year of Publication
235	Jean Dreze Reetika Khera	Rural Poverty and the Public Distribution System (September 2013)
236	Ashwini Deshpande Smriti Sharma	Is Self - Employment the Answer to Caste Discrimination? Decomposing the Earnings Gap in Indian Household Non farm Businesses (September 2013)
237	Sunil Kanwar	The Market Valuation of Innovation: The Case of Indian Manufacturing (May 2014)
238	Gopakumar K. U. V. Pandit	Production, Procurement and Inflation: A Market Model for Food Grains (July 2014)

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMETRIC INDIA LINK MODEL

Project Coordinators: Pami Dua (CDE) & 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 2013-14:

(a) Updation of the model.

(b) Release of INDIA LINK Economic Outlook India for 2014-15, March 2014.

Team members made the following presentations during the year:

Invited Talk on 'Down Turn in the Indian Economy: Where We Are Heading?', PETROFED, Delhi, October 4, 2013.

Presented 'INDIA OUTLOOK' in the Project-LINK meeting organized by UNDESA– University of Toronto at New York, October 21-23, 2013.

Keynote address on “Critical Issues in Reviving the Indian Economy”, at Central University of Rajasthan, 23rd January, 2014.

Discussant in “Quarterly Review of the Indian Economy”, NCAER, February 5, 2014

Discussant during the release of UN Report on “World Economic and Situation Prospects”, UN Building, Delhi, February 13, 2014.

SQUAT (SANITATION QUALITY USE, ACCESS AND TREND)

Principal Investigator: Ashwini Deshpande (CDE)
Dean Spears (Rice Institute)
Diane Coffey (Rice Institute)

Funded by: Rice Institute, USA

SQUAT (Sanitation Quality Use, Access, and Trend) is a quantitative survey that was conducted in rural areas of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Bihar from fall 2013 through spring 2014. In each state, we visited two or three districts that had changes in household open defecation between the 2001 and 2011 censuses that were similar to the state as a whole. We interviewed 3,235 adults about their defecation practices and views on latrines and latrine use, and collected individual level latrine use data for 22,787 household members. One important finding of the survey is that many latrines go unused; many people who own latrines defecate in the open; and most people who live in a household with a government latrine defecate in the open. Together, these findings suggest that providing latrine access through construction is not enough to achieve behavior change. See more about the survey at squatreport.in.

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 EU-funded research project NOPOOR – Enhancing Knowledge for Renewed Policies against Poverty – is set up to generate new knowledge on the nature and extent of poverty in developing countries. More than 100 scientists from all over the world are exploring new areas and innovative methods to improve living conditions in Africa, Asia and Latin America. The project brings new knowledge to policymakers around the globe and complements the EU's agenda with consultations, guidance notes and policy briefs. The inclusive research design takes in important poverty alleviation stakeholders – donors and beneficiaries, civil society and researchers, development practitioners and media.

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?

A retrospective primary survey is underway in Delhi since 2013, where we are tracking male students who graduated from high school in 2003. These individuals have been out of high school for over a decade, and we ask them detailed questions about their educational and occupational history. We have a preliminary analysis of the data collected so far, which has been presented in two workshops.

Another component of the project focuses on the question of whether affirmative action could serve as an instrument of social mobility for members of marginalized and disadvantaged groups. We have very recently started another survey to track affirmative action beneficiaries, which will collect both quantitative as well as qualitative information.

Constraints on the Quality of Education in Rural India

(Principal Investigator: Rohini Somanathan)

The project addresses different aspects of the problem of school quality and unequal access to education in India. There are currently three distinct studies that have relied to on project funds. These are briefly summarized below:

1) The role of information in child performance and schooling decisions: This paper uses primary survey data collected from schools and households in Ajmer district in Rajasthan and shows that when parents and schools receive information on quality of each school in the village relative to others, the poorly performing private schools do improve as measured in test of cognitive skills. We do not see much of an effect for public schools. We also find that parents respond to information on school and student rankings by moving children out of one school into a better performing school. These findings need to be confirmed with more rigorous analysis but suggest that small innovations that keep parents and schools better informed about relative performance can have effects on school quality.

2) Sorting Siblings: Gender and School Choice in India: This paper (joint with Kritika Narula and Michael Walton) focuses on a household's choice in sending children to private relative to public schools and the effects of private schooling on performance. This uses nationally representative secondary data collected by the ASER project, which covers nearly 2 million households over the period 2010-2012. We find considerable gender-bias in the private school decision based on the relative fraction of girls and boys that attend private schools.

3) The Effects of Microfinance on Gender Inequality in Schooling in India: This paper (joint with Jean-Marie Baland and Timothee Demont) examines education choices for members of women's Self-Help Groups (SHGs) in India using a panel data set on these households and controls between 2002-2009. We find that girls in SHG households have a higher probability of being in school in transition grades (entering primary and secondary school) than control households. These effects however can only be seen after several years of SHG membership.

Exploring the Dimensions and Dynamics of Indian Urban Poverty: Multidimensional and Political Aspects

(Principal Investigator: Sugata Bag)

Field survey in two cities Mumbai and Kolkata, has been completed. Data compilation for Kolkata survey has been done and so as cleaning of data. Data compilation for Mumbai survey is on the verge of completion. Survey in Delhi slums is in its last leg. We are currently working on preparing a report on Kolkata slums, and the first draft of the report is expected to be completed by March, 2015.

Decomposing the Rural Wage Distribution in India

(Principal Investigator: Deepti Goel)

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 would like to 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)

Nine villages in Uttar Pradesh were surveyed during November-December 2013. Data entry and data cleaning have been completed. Based on the data collected from (12 villages each of) Maharashtra and Orissa, social and economic network of 24 villages were constructed. To interview hub of such networks, a follow-up survey of these villages is currently being conducted. The main data analysis is under progress.

Does Female Leadership Impact on Governance and Corruption? Evidence from a Public Poverty Alleviation Programme in Andhra Pradesh

(Principal Investigator: Farzana Afridi)

Based on survey of 100 mandals, 300 gram panchayats across the eight districts in Andhra Pradesh conducted during 2012-13, a paper entitled "Women Political Leaders, Corruption and Learning: Evidence from a Large Public Program in India" was finalized. Abstract are as follows:-

We exploit randomly assigned political quotas for women to identify the impact of women's political leadership on corruption and on the governance of India's largest poverty alleviation program to date. Using survey data, we find more program inefficiencies and leakages in village councils reserved for women heads: political and administrative inexperience make such councils more vulnerable to bureaucratic capture. This is at odds with claims of unconditional

gains from women assuming political office. A panel of official audit reports enables us to explore (a) whether newly elected women leaders in reserved seats initially perform worse; (b) whether they partly catch up, fully catch up or eventually outperform (male) leaders in unreserved seats and (c) the time it takes for such catch up to occur. We find that women leaders in reserved seats initially underperform but rapidly learn and quickly and fully catch up with male politicians in unreserved seats. Over the duration of their elected tenure, we find no evidence of overtake. Our findings suggest short term 'costs' of affirmative action policies but also that once initial disadvantages recede, women leaders are neither more nor less effective local politicians than men.

Another paper on “Electoral Competition and Corruption” is under progress and an initial draft is expected to be ready by December 2014.

THE SOCIO ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF ADULT LITERACY PROGRAMS

Principal Investigators: Ashwini Deshpande (CDE)
Christopher Ksoll (University of Ottawa)
Annemie Maertens (University of Sussex)
Alain Desrochers (University of Ottawa)

Funded by: University of Ottawa, Canada

Over 700 million adults worldwide are illiterate, the vast majority women. For decades, governments have been implementing adult literacy programs to reap the supposed benefits of adult literacy -- but the available evidence suggests that such literacy programs are, in general, not very effective. The first objective of this research is to provide rigorous evidence on the effectiveness a computer-based adult literacy programs in India, called Tara Akshar. In collaboration with the NGO Development Alternatives, we implement a randomized control trial. The comparison of participant and non-participant literacy outcomes allows for a rigorous analysis of the impacts of technology-based adult literacy programs. We find that Tara Akshar has significant impacts on adult literacy, and that this is true as well in comparison with other literacy programs. The second objective of this research is to analyze the socioeconomic impacts of literacy. The existing body of research - largely based on cross-sectional analysis - suggests that women's literacy in particular is important for a wide variety of socioeconomic outcomes, among them children's education and empowerment. Yet, most of this literature has difficulties attributing the observed outcomes to literacy itself because literate individuals tend to have many other attributes that are different from illiterate individuals. By studying changes in outcomes for individuals who become neo-literate relative to a control group, we can credibly identify the impacts of adult literacy on socioeconomic outcomes. With regards to socioeconomic outcomes, we are particularly interested in female empowerment. We implement experimental methods to measure empowerment and household decision-making and investigate the channels through which literacy might affect these.

SUFFICIENT HOUSEHOLD INCOME YET UNDERNOURISHED CHILDREN: TOWARDS AN EXPLANATION USING AN INTRA-HOUSEHOLD ALLOCATION MODEL.

Principal Investigators : J. V. Meenakshi & Nitya Mittal (CDE)

Funded by : International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT)

We examine patterns of intra-household allocation of food in rural Bihar, based on a primary survey that included 24-hour recall of dietary intakes conducted in 2012. We find evidence for the phenomenon of over-fed adults and under-fed children, within the same household in our sample: nearly half of the households that are calorie sufficient overall, have at least one child whose intake is below the required level. On an average, these children are deficient by a quarter of the total calories they require. We explore if the channels determining allocation of food to children in calorie sufficient households, focusing on children below 6 years, are different from those in other households. Preliminary evidence suggests that time spent with the child and mother's autonomy affect important drivers of a child's intake, but surprisingly nutrition knowledge is not.

CONFERENCES, SEMINARS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES ORGANIZED BY THE CDE DURING 2013-14

WINTER SCHOOL 2013

The Centre organized its annual International Conference 'Winter School 2013' during December 16 – 18, 2013.

The Conference consisted of two parts. The first part consisted of a series of expository lectures by invited eminent economists on their fields of research expertise. The second part consisted of short presentations of current research papers by researchers, junior faculty and advanced research scholars from India and abroad.

Professor John H. Moore (London School of Economics and University of Edinburgh) delivered three lectures entitled '*The Evolution of Money: Theory and Predictions*', '*Liquidity, Business Cycles and Monetary Policy*' and '*Leverage Stacks and the Financial System*'. **Professor Andrew Foster** (Brown University) delivered three lectures on '*Rural Governance and Growth*'. **Professor Janet Currie** (Princeton University) delivered a lecture on '*Why Early Life Health Matters (for Economics)*'. **Professor Romain Wacziarg** (University of California at Los Angeles) delivered a lecture on '*Long-Run Barriers to Economic Development*'.

A Public Lecture was also delivered by **Professor Oliver Hart** (Harvard University). He spoke on '*Liquidity and Inefficient Investment*'.

Research papers were presented by researchers, junior faculty and research scholars from International Monetary Fund (Washington D.C.), University of California at Riverside (USA), University of Exeter (UK), Reserve Bank of India (Mumbai), Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi, Institute of Development Studies (Kolkata), Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research (Mumbai), Indian Statistical Institute (Kolkata), Jadavpur University (Kolkata), Indian Institute of Technology (Kanpur), Indian School of Business (Hyderabad), Presidency University (Kolkata), Institute for Financial Management and Research (Chennai), Institute for Social and Economic Change (Bangalore), Indian Institute of Technology (Mumbai), Centre for Studies in Social Sciences (Kolkata), World Bank (Delhi), Revitalizing Rainfed Agriculture Network (Hyderabad), Institute of Economic Growth (Delhi), and Indian Statistical Institute (Delhi).

The Conference was very well-attended and was of very high quality. Apart from the faculty and students from the Delhi School of Economics, faculty and students from various institutions also attended the sessions and participated actively in the discussions.

The Centre for Development Economics gratefully acknowledges the generous financial support from Export-Import Bank of India and National Housing Bank for this Conference.

PUBLIC LECTURES

The Centre in association with the Department of Economics, Delhi School of Economics, organized two Public Lectures during the year.

Professor Hal Varian (Chief Economist at Google) delivered a lecture on '*Predicting the Present*'. This was held on December 12, 2013.

Professor Kirk Smith (Founder and Coordinator of the Campus-wide Masters Program in Global Health and Environment) delivered a lecture on '*The Burden of Disease from Household Air Pollution in India*'. This was held on March 10, 2014.

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 ten projects were selected from a set of sixteen applications received initially and the surveys were executed under the supervision of Ashwini Deshpande, J. V. Meenakshi and Ram Singh (Department of Economics) and Janaki Abraham and Rita Brara (Department of Sociology).

The ten survey reports include:

The Lack of Proper Toilet Access for Women in Delhi

Aarushie Sharma, Asmita Asaavari and Srishty Anand (Sociology)

Religious Conversion and Mobility: A Sociological Study in Almora, Uttarakhand

Lousigam Rajprabin Singh, Antasa Vairagya, Puja Kumari and Sapam Punsiba (Sociology)

The Gaddi Shepherds: Negotiations with Development

Rhea John and Padmakshi Badoni (Sociology)

Integration and Re-Integration in Society

Promila Jhakhhar (Sociology)

Dropouts in Upper Primary and Secondary School

Ankit Joshi, Ankita Mitra, Divya Suyal, Pankaj Yadav, Sakshi Bhardwaj and Shubham Kalra (Economics)

Short-Term Revenue Fluctuations in Organic Farming: A Case Study of Himachal Pradesh Grower Groups

Aastha Gupta, Rolly Kukreja and Swagatam Sinha (Economics)

Comparative Study of Two Land Acquisition Projects in Jhajjar District of Haryana

Jibin Jose, S. Prasham and Salil Sharma (Economics)

Potpham-Phambee: The Women Vendors of Khwairamband Bazaar

Wangkheimayum Kajal Devi and Akoijam Monika Chanu (Sociology)

From Nakusha to Aishwarya: Gender and Naming Practices in Rural Maharashtra

Radhika Raj (Sociology)

Widows of Brindaban

Arnav Das Sharma, Avipsha Das, Maitrayee Patar, Pratichi Majumdar and Rituparana Patgiri

Development Induced Displacement and its Impact on Local Communities: A Case Study of Teesta Low Dam Project Stage III in Darjeeling, West Bengal

Sanjive Rai (Sociology)

➤ KRISHNA RAJ FELLOWSHIPS PROGRAMME 2014-15

Under the Krishna Raj Fellowships Programme (funded by Sameeksha Trust), ten 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 2014. These ten projects were selected from a set of sixteen applications received initially and the surveys were executed under the supervisions of Ashwini Deshpande, J. V. Meenakshi & Deepti Goel (Department of Economics) and Janaki Abraham (Department of Sociology). The detailed list of surveys will be provided in next year's annual report.

➤ FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO RESEARCH STUDENTS

The Centre awarded financial support to eight 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 2013-14.

➤ 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 Sakshi Gupta [M. A. (Final)] and Priyanka Sindhwani [M.A. (Previous)] during the academic year 2013-14. 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 2013-14

DATE	SPEAKER	TOPIC
September 10, 2013	Jean-Marie Baland University of Namur	The Economic Consequences of Mutual Help in Extended Families
September 12, 2013	Anubha Dhasmana IIM, Bangalore	Real Effective Exchange Rate and Manufacturing Sector Performance; Evidence from Indian Firms
September 26, 2013	Arya Kumar Srustidhar Chand ISI, Delhi	Strategic Information Transmission with Budget Constraints
October 24, 2013	Jeffrey S. Hammer Princeton University	Decentralization and Decision-Making in Karnataka – Who Speaks for the Poor?
October 25, 2013	Jan Breman University of Amsterdam	The Non-Labouring Poor, Still Beyond The Pale
October 31, 2013	Shreemoy Mishra Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology, Delhi	Consumer Privacy and the Value of Purchase History with Rational Consumers
November 7, 2013	Sahana Roy Chowdhury ICRIER	Migration and Back Door Brain-Drain: Do the Unequals Lose?
December 5, 2013	Mudit Kapoor Indian School of Business	Why So Few Women in Politics? Evidence from India
December 13, 2013	Manasa Patnam CREST (ENSAE)	Risk-Sharing with (Dis) Aggregate Shocks
January 23, 2014	Prasenjit Banerjee University of Manchester	Vickery Auction Given Interval Values and Bids
January 30, 2014	Dean Spears Centre for Development Economics	Can an Improving Disease Environment Explain the Indian Calorie Consumption Decline Puzzle?
February 6, 2014	Arnab K. Deb International Management Institute, Delhi	Economic Reforms and Total Factor Productivity Growth of Indian Manufacturing: An Inter-State Analysis
February 12, 2014	David Mare Motu Research in Wellington, New Zealand	Earnings Impact of Foreign Direct Investment
February 13, 2014	N. Kundan Kishor University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee	What Moves the Price-Rent Ratio? A Modified Present Value Approach
February 20, 2014	Clive Bell University of Heidelberg, Germany	The Effects of NREGA on Loan Contracts
March 6, 2014	Nicholas Lawson Aix-Marseille School of Economics	Taxing the Job Creators: Efficient Progressive Taxation with Wage Bargaining
March 7, 2014	Prof. Prabhu Pingali Director, Tata-Cornell Agriculture and Nutrition Initiative	Agriculture for Nutrition – Getting Policies Right
March 20, 2014	Gunjan Sharma The World Bank	Friend or Foe or Family? A Tale of Formal and Informal Plants in India
March 27, 2014	Sushama Murthy University of Exeter	Necessary and Sufficient Conditions for an Environmental Kuznets Curve with Some

DATE	SPEAKER	TOPIC
April 9, 2014	Swapn Dasgupta Dalhousie University	Valuation of Investment and National Income in the Theory of Intertemporal Equity
July 18, 2014	Youngho Chang Nanyang Technological University	Technology, R&D, Endogenous, Substitution and Climate Change
July 24, 2014	Ram Sewak Dubey Montclair State University	A Characterization of Ramsey Equilibrium in a Model with Limited Borrowing
July 28, 2014	Clement Imbert Oxford University	Short-Term Migration and Rural Workfare Programs: Evidence from India
July 29, 2014	Rohini Pande Harvard University	Why are Indian Children Shorter than African Children?
August 4, 2014	Shasikanta Nandeibam University of Bath, U.K.	A Linear Programming Approach to Probabilistic Rationalizability
August 7, 2014	Gurleen Popli University of Sheffield	Persistent Poverty and Children's Cognitive Development: Evidence from the UK Millennium Cohort Study
August 11, 2014	Ketki Sheth University of California, San Diego	The Distributional Consequences of Micro Health Insurance: Can a Pro-Poor Program Prove to be Regressive?
August 14, 2014	Jose Asturias Georgetown University	Misallocation, Internal Trade, and the Role of Transportation Infrastructure
August 22, 2014	Pulapre Balakrishnan Centre for Development Studies	The Mechanism of Long-Term Growth in India

COMPUTING FACILITIES

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.

LIBRARY

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

VISITORS & FELLOWS

The Centre from time to time entertains visitors and appoints fellows.

The following scholars visited Centre during the year 2013-14:

- **Oliver Hart**, *Harvard University, USA*
- **John H. Moore**, *London School of Economics, U.K*
- **Andrew Foster**, *Brown University, USA*
- **Dean Spears**, *Princeton University, USA*
- **Diane Coffey**, *Princeton University, USA*
- **Jean-Marie Baland**, *University of Namur, Belgium*
- **Youngho Chang**, *Nanyang Technological University, Singapore*

OFFICE STAFF – AUGUST 2014

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- Ashok Kumar
Jr. Office Assistant
- Sanjeev Sharma
Sr. Systems Administrator
- Mritunjay Singh Bisht
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