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Programme of International Conference on
The Informal Sector in South Asia:
Organizational Dynamics, Institutional Determinants, Interlinkages and Development

July 27, 2009

9.30 – 10.45  Inaugural Session
Welcome Address:  Professor BN Goldar (Director, IEG, Delhi)
Keynote Address:  Professor Arjun Sengupta (Chairman, NCEUS & MP, Govt. of India)
               Professor Sugata Marjit (Director, CSSSC, Kolkata)

11.45 – 12.00  Tea Break
12.00 – 13.00  Session 1 (2 papers):
Chair:  Professor Aditya Bhattacharjea (DSE, Delhi)

- Institutions, Networks and Industrialization: Field level evidences of fragmentation and informalisation from India, Dibyendu Maiti (Institute of Economic Growth)

- Liberalisation, Labour Legislation and Flexibility – Theory and Evidences in India, Dibyendu Maiti (Institute of Economic Growth), Bibhas Saha (University of East Anglia) and Kunal Sen (University of Manchester)

13.00 – 14.00  Lunch Break
14.00 – 15.30  Session 2 (3 papers):
Chair:  

- The State, trade unions and markets: the unregistered manufacturing in West Bengal, Deepita Chakravarty (Centre for Economics and Social Sciences, Hyderabad)

- Informal Vs Formal Manufacturing: Performance in the Post Nineties, Rajesh Natarajan (Centre for Multi-Disciplinary Development Research, Dharawal), Vinish Kathuria (Indian Institute of Technology, Mumbai) and Kunal Sen (University of Manchester, UK)

15.30 – 15.45  Tea Break
15.45 – 17.15  Session 3 (3 papers)
    Chair  Professor Kanchan Chopra (Former Director, IEG Delhi)
    • Locating Forest Dwellers in India’s Informal Sector: Livelihoods and Recent Tenure Reform, Purnamita Dasgupta (Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi) and Oliver Springate-Baginski, (University of East Anglia, UK)
    • Economics of Emission Tax, Corruption and Cost of Investigation: A Model Analysis of an Informal Contract to Under-Report the True Emission Level, Santanu Ray Chaudhuri, (Haldia Law College, Vidyasagar University, West Bengal)
    • Borrower’s in a Village Economy: an Analysis of Credit Contracts across rural households Tanmoyee Banerjee (Jadavpur University) and Chandralekha Ghosh (West Bengal State University)

18.00 – 20.00  Plenary Session on Legislation to Improve the conditions of informal sector
    Chair:  Professor T S Papola
    Speakers:
        Professor K.P. Kannan (Former Secretary, National Commission for the Enterprises of Unorganized Sector, Govt. of India) (to be confirmed)
        Professor Subhasish Gangopadhyay (Director, India Development Foundation and Former Economic Adviser, Ministry of Finance, Govt. of India)
        Professor Ajit K. Ghose (Senior Economist, Employment Strategy Department, ILO, Geneva and Visiting Professor, IHD, Delhi)
        One more person

20.00 – 21.00  Dinner
July 28, 2009

9.30—11.30  Session 4 (3 papers)
Chair: Professor Pulin Nayak (DSE, Delhi)

- *Skills, Informality and Development*, Arup Mitra (Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi) and Dibyendu Maiti (Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi)

- *Informal Sector in Bangladesh: Implications for Economic Growth and Poverty*, Selim Raihan (University of Dhaka, Bangladesh)

- *Why people choose to participate in the informal sector in Sri Lanka?*, Nisha Arunatilake (The Institute of Policy Studies of Sri Lanka) and Priyanka Jayawardena (The Institute of Policy Studies, Sri Lanka)

- *Social Security for the Informal Sector Workers in Coimbatore District*, Tamil Nadu, R. Naagarjan (PSG College, Coimbatore)

11.30—11.45  Tea Break

11.45—13.15  Session 5 (3 papers)
Chair: Professor Prabal Dutta Chaudhury (ISI, Delhi)

- *Organizational forms and market intermediations: A study on Rural Women entrepreneurs in India*, Nilabja Ghosh (Institute of Economic Growth, New Delhi)

- *The Broken Broker System? Transacting on horticulture wholesale markets in India (Uttatakhand)*, Bart Minten (International Food Policy Research Institute, New Delhi) and Anneleen Vandeplas (LICOS, Centre for Institutions and Economic Performance, Belgium)

- *Efficiency in Wholesale, Retail and Village Markets: A Study of Potato Markets in West Bengal*, Jyotish Prakas Basu (West Bengal State University, India)
13.15 – 14.00 Lunch Break
14.00 – 16.00 Session 6 (3 papers): Inter-sectoral Linkages and Informal Sector
Chair: Professor Kunal Sen

- Wages, Working Conditions and Socio-economic Mobility of Spinners and Weavers in Unorganised Khadi Industry: Findings from Survey in India, P. Gopinath (Tata Institute of Social Sciences)
- Institutional credit, transaction cost and informal sector - A case study of Indian Villages’, Jyotirmoyee Kar (ICFAI Business School, Bhubaneswar)
- Formalisation of the Informal Economy – A Comparative Study of the Agriculture Sector of India and Sri Lanka, Neelan Choudhury (Maharshi Dayanad University, Roktak) and Deeksha Tayal (FICCI, Delhi)
- Agriculture – Informal Sector Linkage in India: A Macroeconomic Perspective, Anirban Kundu (Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum) and Saumya Chakraborty (Visva Bharati University, West Bengal)

16.00 – 16.15 Tea Break
16.15 – 17.45 Session 7 (3 papers): Informal Sector and its organisational dynamics
Chair: Professor Arup Mitra

- Subcontracting in India’s Unorganised Sector: A mode of Adoption or Exploitation? Partha Pratim Sahu (Institute for Studies in Industrial Development, Delhi)
- Outsourcing of Service Provisioning and Changing Employment Relationship in Public Sector Hospitals of West Bengal, Bijoya Roy (Institute of Development Studies Kolkata)
- Super-market versus Small Retailing: A socio-economic cost benefit analysis, Tanushree Haldar (Visva-bharati University, India) and Saumya Chakrabarti (Visva-bharati University, India)

17.45 – 18.00 Valedictory Session
Vote of thanks