



INDIAN ECONOMIC ASSOCIATION

Overarching Theme
**Economic Growth, Fiscal Federalism,
Livelihoods and Environment**

102

**102nd Annual Conference
of
Indian Economic Association**

Themes for IEA 102nd Conference 2019

Theme 1. Economic growth, International Trade and 'Make in India': Global and domestic challenges

Indian economy has been growing at around 7-7.5% p.a. in recent years. While India is one of the fastest growing economies in the world, the current growth rates are much lower than the 8% plus growth rate witnessed in the first decade of this millennium suggesting that the economy is probably performing below its potential. Achieving a faster growth is imperative not only to realize the latent potential but also from the perspectives of employment generation for the growing numbers of young Indians and long-term poverty removal. While the government has initiated several pro-growth reform measures such as the introduction of Goods & Services Tax (GST), Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC), 'Make in India' initiative, various administrative measures that has helped improve the country's global ranking in ease of doing business, among others, it nevertheless is a fact that economic growth has not accelerated as was expected prior to these reforms. The challenges to growth are both global and domestic. Two areas of concern are exports and capital formation.

Sub-themes

- ❖ Global challenges for economic growth
- ❖ International trade and exports.
- ❖ Exports and Make in India. Policies for raising exports.
- ❖ Foreign Direct Investment
- ❖ Domestic challenges for economic growth
- ❖ Increasing investment : Household, corporate for Make in India
- ❖ Monetary policy for maintaining balance between growth and inflation
- ❖ Fiscal policy, GST and growth
- ❖ Banking, NPAs, Insolvency Bankruptcy Code

Theme 2. Rural Development: Agriculture and Rural non-farm

Rural development is often treated synonymously with agricultural development. While this was valid historically when agriculture was the dominant sector in rural areas and often the only source of livelihood for most of the rural households, this is no longer true in large parts of the country. As per the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) 70th Round Situation Assessment Survey (SAS) for the year 2012-13, at the all India level, agriculture was the main source of income for about 64% of the agricultural households (which

are themselves distinct from rural households), while for 22% of them wages and salaries was the main source of income, followed by non-agricultural enterprises. This suggests that rural non-farm activities are fast becoming an important aspect of the rural economy in the country, even as agriculture remains an important activity. Thus, rural development should encompass both agricultural and rural non-farm sectors. Indeed, agriculture and rural non-farm activities should not be seen as substitutes but as complementing each other.

Sub Themes

- ❖ Agriculture diversification
- ❖ Farmers' distress
- ❖ Doubling Farmers Incomes
- ❖ Technology and agriculture
- ❖ ICT and rural development
- ❖ Rural non-farm sector: Manufacturing and services
- ❖ Factors determining growth of rural non-farm sector
- ❖ Agriculture and rural non-farm linkages
- ❖ Investment in infrastructure for rural development
- ❖ Institutions, governance and rural development
- ❖ Rural and urban linkages

Theme 3. Fiscal Federalism

Fiscal relations between the Union and State governments have undergone a major change following (i) the adoption of the system of revenue transfers as recommended by the 14th Finance Commission, (ii) the abolition of the Planning Commission, and (iii) the Constitutional amendment that enabled the introduction of GST. These changes have fundamentally altered the taxation powers of states, and the manner in which tax revenues are shared between the Union and States, both of which affect the ability of States to provide public services. In this context, the formation of the 15th Finance Commission is an opportunity to address several issues in fiscal federalism. Some of the important issues in this context are the following:

Sub-Themes

- ❖ Vertical imbalance in taxation and expenditure responsibilities, GST
- ❖ Horizontal allocation of resources, 15th Finance Commission
- ❖ Conditional versus unconditional grants
- ❖ Finance Commissions and regional imbalances

- ❖ Expenditure responsibilities of the Union and States.
Expenditure in some socially important sectors, viz., agriculture, health, education, water and sanitation
- ❖ Cesses and surcharges: Role of Centre and States
- ❖ Reinventing of Niti Ayog

Theme 4: Livelihoods and social protection: Jobs, universal basic income etc.

Providing productive livelihoods is important for inclusive growth and reduction in poverty. There are concerns about job creation in India. Nearly 90% of workers are in informal sector. There is problem of working poor. People are working but at low wages and incomes. Over time, workers have to be shifted from agriculture to non-agriculture and informal to formal sectors. At the same time, we need to have social protection programmes because poor and disadvantaged sections face several risks like health risks, weather risks, unemployment risks, financial risks etc. In India, we have several preventive, protective and promotional social protection programmes. There is also debate on universal basic income and schemes like PM-KISAN and several State Government schemes. There can be trade-off between these programmes and expenditure on human development.

Some prefer to have better old age pension schemes and maternity entitlements than providing universal basic income.

Sub-Themes

- ❖ Creating quality jobs
- ❖ Shifting workers from agriculture to non-agriculture
- ❖ Raising productivity and wages of informal workers
- ❖ Social protection programmes in India: Preventive, protecting, promotional schemes
- ❖ Merits and demerits of programmes like Universal Basic Income, PM-Kisan, NYAY
- ❖ Tradeoffs between social protection schemes and expenditure on health and education
- ❖ Accessibility of social protection schemes for socially and economically disadvantaged sections.

Theme 5: Environmental issues

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) agenda adopted by UN General Assembly in 2015 set a plan of action over the next fifteen years in areas that are of critical importance to “People and Planet” to bring about “Prosperity and Peace” through “Partnerships”. Implicit in the SDGs is recognition of the need to maintain balance between economic growth and Social and environmental development. While an accelerated growth is required to alleviate wide spread poverty in the country, natural resource depletion and environmental pollution resulting from it must be accounted for. Improved economic conditions also induce change in consumption patterns and life style of people enhancing the environmental stress. Continuing with a “Business-as-Usual” approach towards environment might result in an irreversible damage to our ecosystem.

India has a long history of environmentalism with the passage and codification of various Acts even before the pre-reforms period, started in 1974. The National Environmental Action Plan, proposed in pre-reforms period (as early as in 1990s) to integrate the environmental damages in all sectors of the economy must be accelerated. Existing environmental regulations in the country are among the most stringent laws exist elsewhere. However, their implementation and

enforcement had been inadequate. This has resulted in continued deterioration of ecology and environment and needs to be corrected.

Sub-Themes

- ❖ Air pollution caused by industries, rapid growth in transportation, especially personal transport vehicles, natural resources industries, large-scale seasonal burning of agricultural residues.
- ❖ The health hazards posed by air pollution.
- ❖ Water pollution.
- ❖ Management of waste in terms of recycling
- ❖ Climate change and extreme events
- ❖ Climate change and agriculture.
- ❖ Policies for adaptation and mitigation of climate change.
- ❖ Role of women in climate change and environment issues.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

LAST DATE OF SUBMISSION OF PAPERS

Papers must reach latest by **31st August 2019**. Papers received after the last date will not be considered for publication in the Special issue of the Journal. Members can however be allowed to present their papers received after the due date only with the permission of the Chair.

SIZE OF PAPER AND NUMBER OF COPIES

The paper should be in about 3000 words typed in **Times New Roman font 12 in 1.5 space, with an abstract of 500 words**. Papers without abstracts will not be considered for publication. Along with a hard copy, the CD containing the paper must be sent. Articles should be typed in MS-WORD only. Research Papers on other formats, like pdf will not be considered. Papers without the Abstract will also not be considered. Kindly also mention your date of birth in your forwarding letter for consideration of awards for your paper.

Hard copy of the paper along with a CD should be sent to the Convenor, Coordination Committee, IEA Dr. Anil Kumar Thakur, latest by **31st August 2019** and also a soft copy by email to Dr S. Narayanan, Coordinator and Special Invitee, Executive Committee, IEA on their addresses given below.

<p>Dr S. NARAYANAN</p> <p>Coordinator & Special Invitee, EC, IEA Department of Economics, D.G. Vaishnav College, Chennai – 600 106. Tamil Nadu</p> <p>Phone: 988-45-13004 E.Mail: narayanan.econ@gmail.com</p>	<p>Dr ANIL KUMAR THAKUR</p> <p>Convenor, Coordination Committee, IEA Secretariat Colony, Road No. 3, House No. B/ 6, Kankarbagh, Patna – 80 020. Bihar.</p> <p>Phone: 094310-17096. E.mail: anilkumarthakur.iea@gmail.com</p>
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the list are requested to send emails of their paper along with a scanned copy of proof of having sent it earlier to Dr Anil Kumar Thakur at the given email addresses, latest by **15th October 2019** for the same to be considered for onward action

IMPORTANT DATES

Last date for submission of Paper:	31 st August 2019
Notification of Papers received on IEA's website:	10 th October 2019
Last date for receipt of papers lost earlier in postal transfers:	15 th October 2019
Notification of accepted papers on IEA's website:	05 th November 2019

IMPORTANT NOTE FOR THE PAPER WRITERS

- ❖ The papers of only those authors will be considered who members of the Indian Economic Association are. Those who are not the members of the IEA, but wish to submit their papers, will have to first become members by filling the requisite form and fees, the details of which are available on the **IEA website: www.indianeconomicassociation1917.com**.
- ❖ **The co-authors too need to be the members of the IEA.** Co-authors, who are not the members of the IEA will automatically, have their names deleted from the paper author(s) unless they too become the members.
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- ❖ **The paper contributors, including co-authors, need to also mention in their forwarding letters their Permanent Membership Number. The latest IEA's Membership Profile 2017 is also available at IEAs Website indianeconomicassociation1917.com for your ready reference.** New applicants must mention "membership applied for" (along with the category of membership—annual or life) in the forwarding letter. Papers without membership numbers of authors and co-authors will not be considered
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