



From The Director's Desk



On behalf of the faculty and staff of ISEC, I wish to convey the very best wishes for the new year to all our well-wishers, friends and supporters.

As we look back on the year gone by, ISEC takes pride in speaking out. The pace of academic events galloped along with accomplishment of several societal commitments. They also laid a road map for many more challenges to be faced, especially in an environment of diminishing government support for research in the social sciences. Yet,

increasing recognition of the relevance of social science research for the betterment of society has come from policy makers and academicians alike.

During the last six months, several major steps have been taken in the Institute towards capacity building activities. With the support of Sir Ratan Tata Trust, a number of scholarly events were organised for the benefit of the faculty and the wider public. Some of the notable lectures and seminars were by Professors K P Kalirajan, Amal Ray, T Krishna Kumar, M V Nadkarni, and Andre Beteille. Prof. Beteille gave a special talk on 'The Indian Middle Class,' which was attended by a large number of ISEC fraternity. As many as five faculty members are currently participating in collaborative research and exchanges with other institutions in India and abroad, pursuing capacity enhancement and multi-disciplinarity in research. Additionally, Prof. K Yashodhara, Dean of Education of Mysore University, visited ISEC for six months, at the end of which she completed a very important study on the role of NGOs in non-formal environmental education. The Institute is extremely grateful to the Sir Ratan Tata Trust for enabling many such capacity building opportunities and delivery of social commitments.

The Karnataka Rajyotsava was celebrated in November at ISEC with a very special talk by Shri S L Bhyrappa, a well-known Kannada littérateur. Speaking in Kannada, he brought home very important messages in his own emphatic style for all intellectuals, though he was referring mainly to art, music, culture and literature. Labelled as an address on 'Art and Its Applications,' he emphasised the need to make its existence for its own sake and not to be viewed for addressing any specific contemporary problems per se, as an application or even to be viewed as socially relevant. Its evolution should be intrinsic to the artist, for the pleasure and freedom of the artist; but society can take it or apply it for whatever it can do to make it useful.

ISEC's commitment to the wider community was quite visible when two specific training workshops were conducted. The first was for the benefit of officials of Karnataka Backward Classes Development Corporation on 'Making banking and rural credit a pleasure and not a burden either on the farmers or the state'. Second, a regional workshop was organised by ISEC jointly with the National Institute for Public Finance and Policy on 'Capacity Building for Budgetary Analysis,' specifically for the media personnel and reporters. In his inaugural address, the Chairman of Karnataka Tariff Reforms Commission, Shri Veerappa Moily, brought home the need for the media and others to analyse the budget-making process, its 'before and after effects', on the same length and intensity as the budget making within the government. Thus, he asserted, budget making can become a societal concern and not just that of the government.

ISEC's long-term interest and work on watershed development, water resource management and sustainability is well known. In a two-day national workshop on 'Watershed Development Issues and Prospects,' organised by CISED, issues of drought proofing, decision making in a multi-stakeholder framework, and monitoring of the programme were addressed. This was followed by a day-long workshop on 'Alternatives in Rural Water Supply,' with representatives of various governmental, donor and NGO and academic institutions.

In keeping with our commitments to socially relevant problems, several new studies such as those on the problems of the beedi industry, role of telemedicine, public health programmes, impact assessment of various sales tax components, universalisation and quality improvement in education with community participation, have been initiated. All such studies are expected to provide guidelines for better governance, improved efficiency in public delivery systems, and accountability.

The doctoral studies programme has always been of special importance to ISEC. After rigorous testing and screening procedures, ten doctoral fellows joined the programme this year. The Ph.D. curriculum has been modified and improved. Currently, there are forty-eight Ph.D. students at various stages of their work, while two have submitted their thesis during the last six months, and ten are awaiting the awards. The Institute has also encouraged two Ph.D. students, Subodh and Lija Ramachandran, to go abroad for academic exchanges and scholarly presentations. A very special feature of ISEC's Ph.D. programme is the biannual seminars by the students. Students and faculty of ISEC greatly benefited from the participation of several internationally distinguished academicians such as T N Madan, Andre Beteille, A Vaidyanathan, J B G Tilak, and K L Krishna in these workshops. In addition, ISEC continued its commitment to our university fraternity in a number of ways. In these six months, two highly specialised methodology-oriented UGC Refresher courses were conducted, one on 'Politics, Governance and Development', and the other on 'Quantitative Techniques in Economics'. The Institute has enabled faculty members from several universities in India and abroad to spend their academic time at the Institute.

After a lapse of nearly three years, we have revived the much remembered L S Venkataramanan Memorial Lecture, with Prof. Dayanath Jha delivering the fourth lecture in this series. He spoke on 'Crisis in Agricultural Research and Development in India: The Road Ahead.'

Dissemination of research and policy outcomes is ISEC's motto, in line with which several steps have been initiated. Through ISEC's *Journal of Social and Economic Development*, monograph and Working paper series, we are outreaching a large segment of national and international reader community including our own Life and Founder members.

I cannot resist at this stage my temptation to mention a few words about Shri T R Satish Chandran. Recently, he retired as the Chairman of the Board of Governors and Vice-President of ISEC Society. Shri Satish Chandran has served this institution for over thirty years in various capacities, namely, as Chief Secretary to the Karnataka government, as Director, and twice as Chairman of the Institute. In him the Institute has found a balance of the highest order between academic contributions (also as an honorary faculty of ISEC) and administrative acumen. He has been instrumental in bringing about several reforms in the Institute, an expression I can coin certainly with a high degree of satisfaction and gratitude. The ISEC faculty and staff are extremely indebted to him for his tireless and unstinted support in these long years. We all wish him a long, peaceful and healthy life. We hope he will continue to show interest in ISEC and guide us in our endeavours.

Gopal K Kadekodi
Director

Karnataka Rajyotsava Extension Lecture

Dr. S L Bhyrappa, eminent Kannada literature, critic and novelist, delivered this year's Karnataka Rajyotsava Extension Lecture on 'Art and Its Applications' at the Institute on November 15, 2003. Sri T R Satish Chandran, Chairman, Board of Governors, ISEC, presided over the function. The lecture was attended by founder members, academicians from the universities, and faculty, staff and students of the Institute.

Dr. Bhyrappa, speaking on the subject, stated that there is a tendency these days to emphasise that art has a social responsibility, and then, to move away from the view that art should be pursued for art's sake. Differing with this view, Dr. Bhyrappa said, "Art is a medium for an artist to free himself from the routine." Reminiscing about his emergence as an artist, he said, "I started to think sensitively and write creatively only after I shed my intellectual ego." He opined that one cannot create art in a vacuum free from societal creations of life philosophies. He also stressed that the writer cannot avoid the imperative of adaptations of day-to-day language. He lamented the increasing commercialisation of art and the lack of importance being given to it.



(From left to right) Dr. S L Bhyrappa, Shri T R Satish Chandran, Chairman, Board of Governors, ISEC, and Prof. G K Kadekodi, Director, ISEC.

Professor L S Venkataramanan Memorial Lecture

Professor L S Venkataramanan Memorial Lecture, the fourth in the series, was delivered by Professor Dayanatha Jha, National Professor, National Centre for Agricultural Economics and Policy Research, New Delhi, on November 29, 2003, in the Institute. Professor Jha spoke on 'The Crisis in Agricultural Research and Development in India: The Road Ahead.' Professor Gopal K Kadekodi, the Director of the Institute, welcomed the gathering, which consisted of members of the Board of Management, life members of the Institute, and outside academicians and experts. Family members of Professor L S Venkataramanan were also present. Professor R S Deshpande briefly sketched the life of Professor L S Venkataramanan and introduced the speaker to the audience. Shri T R Satish Chandran, Chairman, Board of Governors, ISEC, chaired the lecture.



(From left to right) Prof. Dayanatha Jha, National Professor, National Centre for Agricultural Economics and Policy Research, New Delhi; Shri T R Satish Chandran, Chairman, Board of Governors, ISEC; and Prof. G K Kadekodi, Director, ISEC.

Professor Jha addressed the structural parts of Research and Development in the agricultural sector in terms of research requirements, rigidities in design, policies governing human resource development, technological viability and the process of dissemination of technology. He emphasised that the procedural bureaucracy comes in the way of dissemination of technology and that needs to be dealt with squarely. While highlighting generation of technology and its dissemination, Professor Jha chalked out very carefully the road ahead in the coming decades. He combined his experience as a researcher in the ICAR fold with the practitioners in the field of Agricultural Economics. Dr M J Bhende, Associate Professor, ADRT Unit, proposed a vote of thanks.



Regional Workshop on Capacity Building for Budgetary Analysis at the State Level

In collaboration with the National Institute of Public Finance and Policy, New Delhi, the Institute organised a Regional Workshop on Capacity Building for Budgetary Analysis at the State level during November 25–28, 2003.



Shri T R Satish Chandran, Chairman, Board of Governors, ISEC, presiding over the Regional Workshop. He is flanked by Shri M Veerappa Moily, former chief minister of Karnataka and currently Chairman, Revenue Reforms Commission (left), and Prof. M Govinda Rao, Director, NIPFP (right).

Shri M Veerappa Moily, former chief minister of Karnataka and currently Chairman, Revenue Reforms Commission, inaugurated the workshop. Shri T R Satish Chandran, Chairman, Board of Governors, ISEC, presided over it. Prof. M Govinda Rao, Director, NIPFP, welcomed the gathering and highlighted the importance of the workshop.

Most of the participants were journalists from southern states of the country. The resource persons included Shri Swaminathan A Aiyar, Shri T C A Srinivas Raghavan, Dr Ashok Lahiri, Smt Renuka Viswanathan, Dr V M Rao, and Dr Stephen Howes. Dr Gopal K Kadekodi, Director, ISEC, delivered the valedictory address and distributed the certificates to the participants.

Dr Tapas Sen, Senior Fellow, NIPFP, and Shri H N Ranganathan, Registrar, ISEC, were the coordinators of the workshop.

Workshop on 'Alternatives to Rural Water Supply in Karnataka'

The Ecological Economics Unit, with the support of IWMI-Tata Program, organized a workshop on 'Alternatives to Rural Water Supply in Karnataka' on July 22, 2003 at ISEC. Its main focus was to provide a platform for discussion among experts in rural water supply issues.

Representatives of various organizations including, government, non-government and corporate sector, participated in the workshop. During the first session experts from the Government discussed macro-level issues pertaining to alternative strategies through rainwater harvesting in the context of increasing groundwater depletion. The second session covered the experiences of academicians from ISEC on their studies conducted at the project level. NGOs like Srijan, DANIDA working at the grass roots, private enterprises like Larsen and Toubro which had successfully implemented Sri Satya rural drinking water projects in Ananthpur district of Andhra Pradesh, and STEM, a consultancy organisation, actively participated in the deliberations. In the third session academicians from ISEC looked at the economic and social dimensions of the problem. The fourth session covered application of market research techniques and financial constraints in maintenance of RWS in Karnataka. Prof. Gopal K Kadekodi, Director of ISEC, Prof. Abdul Aziz, Member of the State Planning Board, and Prof. G Thimmiah, former Member of the Planning Commission, were discussants for the sessions.

The workshop provided valuable insights into different dimensions of the problem. The workshop, which was part of the Rural Drinking Water Project, was jointly coordinated by Prof. K V Raju and Dr. S Manasi.

Visitors from the World Bank

Prof. Roy W. Bahl, Georgia State University, Atlanta, USA, Dr. Luis Constantino and Dr. Geeta Sethi, The World Bank, visited ISEC on November 18, 2003, along with Mr. Vasantha Rao, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore. The visitors were interested in learning about the research activities of the Decentralization and Development Unit at the Institute. After welcome and an introduction by Prof. Gopal Kadekodi, Director, Dr. Rajasekhar presented the activities of the Unit in general and the RDPR project on building a database on panchayat finances in particular. The presentation also included the objective, activities, results achieved, and future plans of the project on building a database on panchayat finances. The visitors appreciated the immense utility of the database on panchayat finances for furthering reforms in decentralisation in Karnataka and expressed interest in having a longer association with the Institute. Ms. B P Vani and Mr. H K Amarnath were also present at the meeting.



OUTREACH PROGRAMMES

Roles of Rural Local Organisations: Reflections from District-Level Workshops

D Rajasekhar

The institutional landscape in rural areas has been dense with organisations undertaking similar functions at the district level and below in several sectors. It has often been noted that such a dense institutional landscape has resulted in the duplication of functions and inefficient use of resources. Hence, the following questions commonly emerge while designing and implementing development projects: *what type of local organisations undertakes what function better and what factors contribute to the different levels of performance.* The Decentralisation and Development Unit took up a large research study on 'Roles of Rural Local Organisations' in 2002 to address these questions in the context of watershed, water supply and sanitation, and women development and empowerment projects in Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Uttaranchal. Covering different types of organisations formed by the line department, decentralised government, NGOs and external projects in 216 villages in 13 districts in three states, the study sought some answers to the above set of questions.



Mr. Harsh Gupta, CEO, Bellary District, and key stakeholders in the district-level workshop in Bellary.

The findings of the study were shared among the stakeholders in district-level workshops for the purpose of obtaining feedback and interpretation of the stakeholders on the key findings, and also suggestions on the functions to be assigned to different local organisations. In all, nine workshops were organised in Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh during July-August 2003, which were well attended. Given the vast diversity among workshop participants, the key findings were discussed in the local languages, and what emerged out of the group discussion are a culmination and convergence of peoples' perceptions on local level organisations.

Women Development and Empowerment

In recent years, the strategy of micro-finance for women members of Self-Help Groups (SHGs) has been widely adopted for women development and empowerment by programmes such as Stree-Shakthi, SGSY and Swa-Shakthi (a World Bank programme). The SHGs undertook only the basic functions of formation of groups, providing savings and credit services, conflict resolution and monitoring. The development functions (improving the participation and involvement of the poor in structures that control the resources and wider decision-making processes) were not undertaken due to limited decentralisation, livelihood-related constraints and social obstacles. The performance of the functions was good only in the case of basic functions, and varied across the LOs of different types. The support organisations such as line department and NGOs undertook the functions of formation and management of LOs, providing material assets and staff, conflict resolution and monitoring. However, the NGOs were more successful in undertaking the functions of building the capacity of the members. The village characteristics, socio-economic homogeneity and socio-economic position of the members influenced the performance of functions, and equity, effectiveness and sustainability in the provision of credit services.

Watershed Development

The watershed committees, formed by the programmes of external agencies such as the World Bank and DFID and line departments, undertook only basic functions of providing watershed benefits, enhancing the capacity of members to make regular contributions and proper use of watershed benefits and monitoring. They did not undertake development functions needed for securing and improving the livelihoods of the poor. The support organisations, especially NGOs, undertook the basic functions of formation of groups, management and monitoring and did well in these functions. Uniformly across the programmes and states, the support organisations did not perform well in the functions of organising meetings with the government to obtain assistance for members, training in selection and success in the right technology and crops, linkages with gram panchayats and information sharing. The development outcomes (equity, effectiveness and sustainability in the watershed benefits) were significantly associated with village, local organisation and household characteristics.



Water Supply and Sanitation

When it comes to water supply sanitation, Jal Sansthan in Uttaranchal did not undertake even the basic function of providing timely and adequate water. Gram panchayats in Karnataka did well in undertaking the functions. The village conditions had considerable influence on functional performance. The local organisations, in the process of implementation, were aided by support organisations such as gram panchayats, line department and NGOs in the different programmes. Gram panchayats did reasonably well in Karnataka even though the framework for them to undertake these functions was not very conducive. The line department in Karnataka and Uttaranchal (Jal Sansthan) did not do very well either in undertaking support functions or in performing them. The contextual factors (village, local organisation and household characteristics) significantly influenced the development outcomes of effective, equitable and sustainable provision of water supply benefits.

The participants in all the workshops suggested that key functions be assigned to panchayat raj institutions, capacity building functions to NGOs, and functions relating to technical aspects to the line department. The participants were clear that the central role to the local elected bodies has been assigned not on the basis of their current capacity in participatory planning and implementation but on the assumption that there would be policy and programme changes for these bodies in line with the 73rd Constitutional Amendment.

Karnataka Lokayukta - a Trendsetter for Promoting Good Governance

S N Sangita

The Karnataka Lokayukta has emerged as the most powerful instrument to tackle both political and administrative corruption at high places. Ever since Justice Venkatachala assumed office, the following initiatives have been taken to promote good governance:

- Lokayukta has undertaken district visits to listen to the people directly rather than to wait for formal complaints which villagers normally avoid due to ignorance, illiteracy, distance and complex procedures. Of 3,584 complaints, 2,400 could be solved on the spot due to the presence of the aggrieved party and the district officers.
- Public places have been inspected to assess the quality of service delivery, the extent of malfunctioning and corruption. These inspections brought to light instances such as the absence of doctors, non-availability of medicines in government hospitals, harassment of the poor and exhortations of bribes from the patients.
- The Lokayukta raids against corruption-prone departments not only resulted in the unearthing of 15 scams involving public money to the tune of Rs.1,000-1,500 crores but also helped the state government to take corrective action.
- Rather than punishing the guilty officers in the first instance, the Karnataka Lokayukta has been trying to reform them by periodical appeals through letters and asking the guilty to accept their wrong and return the money.
- Lokayukta has been suggesting systemic changes in administrative methods and procedures.
- Many initiatives (such as appointment of persons with integrity to the highest offices of Lokayukta) have been taken by both the state government and Lokayukta to enhance the credibility of the institution. Openness and transparency in the conduct of Lokayukta's proceedings also brought credibility to the institution.

These have brought about a change in the people's perception towards corruption. The Lokayukta is now a household name in most parts of Karnataka. The credibility of this institution has gone up within a matter of two years. The three-fold increase of complaints within two years reflects this trend. There has been an improvement in the hospital and other services after the Lokayukta visits. The Lokayukta's raids and district visits have provided an opportunity for the State government to rectify the defects and take corrective measures to plug loopholes and prevent opportunities for corruption. Lokayukta's actions had encouraged honest officers to adopt innovative methods in their departments to promote good governance and created fear among the dishonest. Lokayukta's proactive role has helped to prevent wastage of government resources.

However, there is a cynicism about the ability of the Lokayukta in controlling corruption particularly in higher places. In this regard, the important recommendations for the effective functioning of Lokayukta are:

- Constitutional status and suo-motto powers to be conferred on Lokayukta to enable it to function independently.
- Constitution of ombudsman at the district level in place of Lokayukta police stations can facilitate easy access to the common man. This also lays the foundation for a three-tier structure of ombudsman at the national, state and district level. E-governance can further enhance the access to the common man to redress the grievances.
- Establishment of a preventive cell in the Lokayukta office under Upa-lokayukta. He has to focus on preventive aspects by identifying corruption-prone departments' procedures and persons through intelligence and



research studies and surveys. He should act as an administrative reformer under the overall control of the Lokayukta. The research and educational institutions can be used in this regard.

- Establishment of community and public relations wing in the Lokayukta office can facilitate to educate the public to report cases of corruption to Lokayukta. It can also organise training programmes for public officials including political leaders for promoting ethics (on the lines of officer of ethics in USA).
- Appointment of competent and committed officers in the Lokayukta office along with adequate budget support.

Social Upliftment Through Profitable Banking

D Rajasekhar

The Decentralisation and Development Unit organised two training programmes on 'Social Upliftment Through Profitable Banking' for Karnataka Backward Classes Development Corporation. The first programme (held in August 2003) was attended by 35 senior officers, while the second one was (held in November 2003) attended by 33 field-level staff representing all the 27 Karnataka districts. These programmes aimed at enabling experience sharing and arriving at policy suggestions for making the banking operation of the Corporation viable. The training programmes came up with the following suggestions.

- Participatory methods are to be adopted in the identification and selection of beneficiaries. There should be greater freedom for the district-level officials in the selection of beneficiaries.
- Linkages between the Corporation and other development actors at the district level should be thought about and established in preparing district-level credit plan and its implementation.
- Self-help groups should be used to channel credit from the Corporation. This will enable the Corporation to identify the needy beneficiaries, disburse and recover loans in a cost-effective manner. The Corporation can also reduce its transaction cost if policies and programmes of lending through self-help groups are suitably modified in line with rural reality.
- There is a need for the Corporation to redesign its accounting and monetary framework to incorporate emerging issues and challenges.
- Monitoring the disbursement and end-use of loans assumes importance in the context of the objective of the Corporation that the backward classes are to be developed in socio-economic terms. Such monitoring has to be done by both head and local offices with the help of the electronic media. Provision should also be made for e-governance and regular auditing to ensure accountability.

Decentralisation in the selection of borrowers, monitoring of loan utilisation and ensuring repayment of loans has been thus an important suggestion made by the participants for making the banking operations of the Corporation viable.

Seminars by Visitors

Remote Sensing Applications — *Dr. P P Nageswara Rao*, Head, Regional Remote Sensing Service Centre (RRSSC), Bangalore (July 9, 2003)

Economics of Information Technology: A Study of Leading States — *Prof. R G Desai*, Fellow, K K Birla Foundation and Visiting Fellow, ISEC (July 17, 2003)

Understanding Kerala's Development Experience: The Antinomies of Public Action — *Prof. Joseph Taramangalam*, Professor and Head, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Mt. St. Vincent University, Halifax, NS (July 25, 2003)

Governance in the Gullies: Democratic Responsiveness and Community Leadership in Delhi's Slums — *Dr. Vijayendra Rao*, Development Research Group, The World Bank, Washington D C (August 6, 2003)

Estimate of Burden of Disease Attributable to Iron Deficiency, Anaemia and Malnutrition – A Meta-Analysis of NFHS – 2 and RCH-RHS data — *Dr. M Ramakrishna Reddy* (August 13, 2003).

Is Caste System Intrinsic to Hinduism: Demolishing a Myth — *Prof. M V Nadkarni* (September 4, 2003)

Is the Manufacturing Sector in India an Engine of Growth — *Prof. K Kalirajan*, Foundation for Advanced Studies on International Development, Tokyo, and currently SRTT Visiting Professor at ISEC (September 11, 2003)

Social Ethic and Development — *Dr. Amal Ray*, SRTT Visiting Faculty, ISEC (September 19, 2003)

Valuation of Bio-Diversity: The Case of Fishery — *Prof. Mahadev Bhat*, Florida State University (October 21, 2003)



Suitable Framework for Designing Trade Policies of a Developing Country in an Open Global Economy —
Prof. T Krishna Kumar, SRTT Visiting Fellow, ISEC (November 12, 2003)

North-South Growth and Trade: An Empirical Illustration —
Prof. T Krishna Kumar, SRTT Visiting Faculty, ISEC (November 19, 2003)

Role of NGOs in Promoting Non-Formal Environment Education: A Case Study in Bangalore District —
Dr. K Yeshodhara, Professor and Dean, Faculty of Education, University of Mysore, SRTT Visiting Fellow, ISEC (November 20, 2003)

Regional Macro Econometric Modelling: A Case of Karnataka Economy —
Dr. Bhanu Murthy, Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi (December 2, 2003)

Population Policy: A Historical Perspective —
Dr P H Rayappa (December 4, 2003)

International Trade and Development —
Professor Basudeb Guha-Khasnobis, United Nations University, World Institute for Development Economics Research (WIDER), Helsinki, Finland (December 10, 2003)

Hype, Skill and Class: The Politics of Reform in Andhra Pradesh —
Dr. Jos Mooij, Visiting Fellow, Centre for Economic and Social Studies, Hyderabad (December 19, 2003)

An Empirical Model of North-South Growth and Trade as a Differential Game Problem

Prof. T Krishna Kumar presented a seminar on 'An Empirical Model of North-South Growth and Trade as a Differential Game Problem' at ISEC on November 19, 2003. He chose dynamic Leontieff technologies for the two countries and made the following assumptions: (i) the countries are linked through trade; (ii) the import and export functions are linear and the trade balance is achieved through a flexible exchange rate. (iii) A set of parameters was assumed for the model; (iv) the QRs are reflected in the intercept terms of the import (export) function, and the tariffs are reflected in the marginal propensities to import (export).

He demonstrated that Nash equilibrium is the non-co-operative solution of the differential game with a linear discounted national income (output) as the objective function for each of the two countries. He also demonstrated that there is scope for co-operation by showing that there exist other strategies that give more gains to North than the loss to South, allowing for possible side payments.

This model, with linear objective and linear differential equations, can be generalised by relaxing the assumptions. Computation procedures are available for solving differential games with non-linear objective functions and non-linear differential equations. One can thus empirically test the propositions advanced by Baumol and Gomory cited in Prof. Krishna Kumar's first seminar in a dynamic context.

Special Lecture on 'Indian Middle Class'

Prof. Andre Beteille, National Professor, ICSSR, and Chairman, Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta, under the auspices of the Sir Ratan Tata Trust, Mumbai, delivered a special lecture on 'Indian Middle Class' on December 16, 2003. The participants included Justice Sri Nittoor Srinivasa Rao, Dr. K S Krishna Swamy, Sri M K Panduranga Setty, Sri Jayakumar Anagol, Smt. Rukmini Srinivas and several other Founder/ Life Members, academicians from universities and research institutions, general public, faculty, staff and students of the Institute.

Seminars by Faculty

Decentralisation and Employment Generation: A Study of SGSY Programme —
Dr. D Rajasekhar and Dr. K G Gayathri Devi (July 3, 2003)

Development Through Decentralisation: Status of Women Presidents in the Grama Panchayats of Karnataka —
Dr. K G Gayathri Devi (July 3, 2003)

Evaluation of ICSD Programme in Karnataka —
Dr. M N Usha (August 21, 2003)

Free Uniforms to School Children: An Evaluation —
Dr. M D Ushadevi (August 28, 2003)

Contract Farming in Karnataka: A Boon or a Bane —
Dr. S Erappa (September 18, 2003)

Karnataka Public Enterprises Reforms Programme —
Dr. Meenakshi Rajeev (September 22, 2003)

Livestock-Environment Interactions: Issues, Problems and Prospects —
Dr. Syed Ajmal Pasha (September 24, 2003)

Socio-Economic Survey of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Karnataka: A Critical Analysis —
Dr. Manohar Yadav (October 3, 2003)



Fertility Transition in Karnataka — *Dr. T V Sekher and Dr. K N M Raju* (November 6, 2003)

Energy Use and Policy in France and Lessons for India — *Dr. K N Ninan* (December 11, 2003)

STUDENT NEWS

Ph.D. Awarded

The following students were awarded the Ph.D. degree:

Mr. T N Bhat (Sociology, 2003), by Osmania University, Hyderabad, in November 2003, for the thesis 'Women's Status and Fertility Transition: A Case Study of an Agrarian Society in South India'. Prof. G K Karanth was his supervisor.

Mr. H N Viswanath (Education, 1992), by University of Mysore, on September 5, 2003, for the thesis 'A Comparative Study of Effectiveness of Models of Teaching on the Achievement of X Standard Students in Environmental Studies.' Prof. A S Seetharamu was his supervisor.

Fellowship Awarded to Ph.D. Scholar

Mr. Subodh Kandamuthan, Ph.D. Scholar, ISEC, was in Australia from October 6 to November 3, 2003, on an Australia India Council Australian Studies Fellowship to study the environmental and health effects of mineral sands mining in Australia and its lessons for India. Initially, he was at Curtin University of Technology at Perth, and subsequently at La Trobe University in Melbourne.

Paper Presented at International Seminar

Ms. Lija Ramachandran, Ph.D. Scholar, ISEC, presented a paper titled 'Impact of Trade Agreements on Trade Performance: A Gravity Approach' at the **4th Inha – Le Havre International Seminar on Regional Co-operation and Economic Integration: European and East Asian Experiences** held in Incheon, Republic of Korea, during October 8–9, 2003. The seminar was organised by Joung-Yong Lee (Inha University, Republic of Korea) and Pierre-Bruno Ruffini (University of Le Havre, France). The focus of the seminar was regional integration process and its impact on Europe and East Asian countries. The paper analysed the impact of regional trade agreements on trade performance, especially on the export flow using the gravity model.

Students' Biannual Seminar Series

The biannual seminars for ISEC Ph.D. Scholars were held during December 15–19, 2003. There were 28 presentations, of which three were pre-submission seminars. Dr. K L Krishna and Dr. Andre Beteille, who were special invitees for the seminar series, also acted as panellists for quite a number of scholars, providing inputs that were of immense value to them. Both the experts expressed appreciation for the biannual seminar series, noting, in particular, its high academic value.

Research Projects

Completed

South India Fertility Project - Karnataka (*Dr. T V Sekher and Dr. K N M Raju*)

Evaluation of Manebelaku and Udyogini Schemes in Karnataka (*Dr. K G Gayathri Devi*)

National Development Policies and Priorities including Programmes relating to Sustainable Development (*Dr. Shashanka Bhide*)

New

Study on Profession Tax Base (*Dr. M Devendra Babu*)

Comprehensive Study on the Actual Status of Beedi Industry in Karnataka (*Dr. S Madheswaran, Dr. D Rajasekhar and Dr. K G Gayathri Devi*)

The Environment Kuznet's Curve - Evidences with Indian and Japanese Data (*Dr. Ninan*)

Menopause: Emerging Issues in India (*Dr. T S Syamala and Dr. M Sivakami*)



Reproductive Morbidity of Women in Karnataka: Evidence from National Family Health Survey - 2 and Reproductive and Child Health Survey 1998-99 (Dr. R Mutharayappa)

Telemedicine in Karnataka: Use, Limitations and Opportunities (Dr. G K Karanth)

Life After Land Acquisition (Dr. V Ramaswamy)

Panchayats and Watershed Development: An Assessment of Institutional Capacity (Dr. N Sivanna)

Institutional Alternatives for Participatory Natural Resource Management: Lessons from User-Groups Self-initiatives in Forest Conservation (Dr. Madhushree Sekher)

Use of Contractual Labour in Selected Enterprises in Karnataka (Dr. Meenakshi Rajeev and Dr. Supriya RoyChowdhury)

WORKING PAPERS

An Overview

During the last six months, the faculty of the Institute have disseminated their research through eleven working papers on themes ranging from natural resources to decentralisation to impact of world trade agreements. Most of the working papers focused on national issues. Some have dealt with them at state levels, others on comparative basis. One of the working papers looked at lessons that India can learn from the Canadian experience.

Two working papers were on natural resources including land. Deshpande and Bhende analysed the national and state policies relating to land, and trends in land use in Karnataka and their impact on the economy and ecology. A long-term policy for land use based on land-use trends and carrying capacity has been emphasised, and a policy framework in this regard has been suggested. Satyapriya Rout argued that the inability of state law to accommodate the customary rights of different categories of stakeholders over the forest resources results in conflicts among resource users. The adoption of 'legal pluralism' has been suggested as a means of minimising the conflicts and ensuring effective and sustainable use and management of natural resources.

Three of the papers dealt with macro-level issues. Although nearly all the habitations in India have been provided with safe drinking water sources, effective and sustainable access to water has been under threat owing to depletion of groundwater aquifers and water pollution. In this context, Shashi Kolavalli and K V Raju examined the issues relating to protection of drinking water sources. The paper by K Gayithri, which examined Canadian experiments in reducing the fiscal deficit, identified the following lessons for India. i) Formulation of a fiscal management strategy; ii) The delivery of public services should be efficient, and cost recovery should be high; iii) Downsizing the government; iv) More aggressive privatisation of commercial public enterprises; and v) reducing and rationalising the number of government departments, which have become redundant in the wake of economic reforms. Jaya Krishna's working paper found poor awareness of the implications of WTO agreements among entrepreneurs of small-scale industries in Karnataka. The paper found that investment on technology, working capital and workers had a significant influence on growth (in terms of sales turnover) of small-scale units. The paper suggests provision of modern technology, infrastructure, and marketing support, as well as encouragement of foreign investment.

Decentralisation has been the theme of two working papers. Md. Nazrul Islam and S N Sangita have suggested that an institutional arrangement for people to participate would have a positive impact on the functioning of decentralised government specifically on people's involvement in planning and implementation, mobilisation of village resources and in ensuring co-operation between households, leaders and officials. T V Sekhar has argued that the training methodology incorporating links between NGOs and gram panchayats in building the capacity of the representatives of the latter in health issues has been acceptable and effective in improving the awareness and willingness to take up health promotion activities. Health-related issues also received priority in another working paper. Anand Inbanathan and Om Prakash found that in the silk reeling activity, which is carried out in an environment of persistent air pollution, a substantial proportion of workers suffer from breathing problems of varying intensities.

What factors govern entrepreneurship development? The paper by Meenakshi Rajeev went into this question. Comparing entrepreneurship in the foundry industry in West Bengal and Tamil Nadu, she has argued that low technology based production and undercut market price via compromise in quality in the former was due to risk-averse entrepreneurial attitude leading to poor investment growth.



Research on gender carried out within the Institute has been disseminated through two working papers. V Vijayalakshmi's paper, after studying tribal welfare programmes in Karnataka, concluded that gender-related concerns have received inadequate attention, and has suggested strategies to incorporate gender concerns in these programmes. M Sivakami's paper, which examined the relationship between female work participation rates and their autonomy in both rural and urban areas of Tamil Nadu, found a positive relationship only in urban localities.

The following are the titles of the working papers.

- WP 126 *Protecting Drinking Water Sources: A Sub-Basin View* — Shashi Kolavalli, K V Raju
WP 127 *Reducing Fiscal Deficit: Canadian Experiment and Lessons for India* — K Gayithri
WP 128 *Scheduled Tribes and Gender: Development Perceptions from Karnataka* — V Vijayalakshmi
WP 129 *A Search for a Theory of Entrepreneurship: A Case Study of the Foundry Industry in Howrah and Coimbatore* — Meenakshi Rajeev
WP 130 *Does Labour Force Participation Enhance Autonomy of Poor Women? Evidence from Tamil Nadu, India* — M Sivakami
WP 131 *Decentralised Governance and People's Participation: Lessons from West Bengal* — Md. Nazrul Islam, S N Sangita
WP 132 *Land Resources and Policy in Karnataka* — R S Deshpande, M J Bhende
WP 133 *Sensitizing Panchayats on Health Issues Through Television: Experiences of a Pilot Project* — T V Sekher
WP 134 *Small-Scale Industries in the Era of Globalisation: An Explorative Study* — M Jaya Krishna
WP 135 *Interaction between Twin Deficits: Indian Experience In the Macroeconomic Reform Period* — Hrushikesh Mallick
WP 136 *Silk Reeling and Health: Lifestyle and Quality of Life of Workers* — Anand Inbanathan, Om Prakash
WP 137 *Conflicts over Natural Resources and Legal Pluralism: A Case Study from Orissa* — Satyapriya Rout

PUBLICATIONS

Books Published/ Edited

An Overview

An important event at ISEC was the publication of two books by Prof. Gopal K Kadekodi (through Oxford University Press), which not only contribute to understanding of natural resource management issues in the Indian context but also enable curriculum building on topics in Environmental Economics.

The first book, *Common Property Resource Management: Reflections on Theory and the Indian Experience*, bridges the gap in our understanding of current topics such as environmental economics, environmental law, environmental movements, awareness, etc. Common Property Resources (CPRs) have certain specifically defined property rights for their users or those who are dependent on them. They have special characteristics in terms of their link with life support for human and animal life, and they have distinct local versus global linkages, and market or non-market characteristics. This book explores features of common property resources both in theory and practice from the Indian context through theoretical expositions and case studies.

The second book, *Environmental Economics in Practice*, is a collection of case studies covering various aspects of environmental issues, and introducing appropriate economic, statistical, and sociological tools and methods. The book focuses on demonstrating the usefulness of environmental economics in practical applications to policy and action works. The papers in the volume address wide-ranging environmental issues from land, forest, biodiversity and soil degradation to air and water pollution; urban issues such as solid waste management to national environmental accounting; issues related to exhausting natural resources and many more. The economic methods and tools available in Public Economics, Micro and Macroeconomics, and Development Economics have been applied to address these issues.

Kadekodi, Gopal K

Common Property Resource Management — Reflections on Theory and the Indian Experience. Oxford University Press. December 2003.

Environmental Economics in Practice. Oxford University Press. December 2003.

Articles Published in Journals/ Edited Books



Bhide, Shashanka

(with K P Kalirajan). 'Impact of Sector-Specific and Macro-Level Reforms on Agriculture: Simulations from a Macroeconometric Model.' In K Kalirajan and U Sankar (ed.). *Economic Reform and the Liberalization of the Indian Economy*. Edward Elgar. 2003.

(with R T Shand). 'Growth in India's State Economies Before and With Reforms.' In Raghavendra Jha (ed.). *India's Economic Reforms*. Palgrave Macmillan. 2003.

(with Aasha Kapur Mehta). 'Issues in Chronic Poverty: Panel Data Based Analysis.' In A K Mehta, S Ghosh, D Chatterjee and N Menon (ed.). *Chronic Poverty in India*. New Delhi: Indian Institute of Public Administration. 2003.

Deshpande, R S

(with A Narayanamoorthy). 'Irrigation Development and Agricultural Wages.' *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol XXXVIII, No 35, August 30, 2003.

'Liberalisation, Domestic Price Policy and Agricultural Growth.' *Indian Journal of Agricultural Economics*, Vol. 58, No 3, Sept-December 2003.

(with M G Deepika). 'Issues on WTO in Indian Agriculture.' In Mukta Jahagirdar and Sushama Deshmukh (eds.). *Post Economic Reforms Scenario of Indian Economy*. Centre for Economic and Social Studies. 2003.

(with G Mini). 'Management of Irrigation: A View of Institutional Arrangements.' In S Pal, Mruthyunjaya, P K Joshi, and Raka Saxena (eds.). *Institutional Change in Indian Agriculture*. National Centre for Agricultural Economics and Policy Research. 2003.

(with V M Rao). 'Food Security in a Drought-Prone Area: A Study in Karnataka.' In S Mahendra Dev, K P Kannan and Nira Ramachandran (eds.). *Towards a Food Secure India: Issues and Policies*. New Delhi: Institute for Human Development. Trivandrum: Centre for Economic and Social Studies. 2003.

'Impact of WTO on Indian Agriculture.' In R V Dadibhavi and S T Bagalkoti (eds.). *World Trade Organisations: Implications for India*. Dharwad: Department of Studies in Economics. 2003.

(with M G Deepika) 'WTO Trade Policy and Determinants of Trade in Agriculture.' In R V Dadibhavi and S T Bagalkoti (eds.). *World Trade Organisations: Implications for India*. Dept of Studies in Economics, Dharwad. 2003.

Gopalappa, D V

(with Anand Inbanathan). 'Fixers, Patronage, 'Fixing', and Local Governance in Karnataka.' *Sociological Bulletin*, 52(2). September 2003.

Inbanathan, Anand

(with D V Gopalappa) 'Fixers, Patronage, 'Fixing' and Local Governance in Karnataka.' *Sociological Bulletin*, 52 (2). September 2003.

Kadekodi, Gopal K

(with Aparna Nayampalli). 'Prospects of Reversing Biodiversity Losses in Lake Chilika in India.' *Pacific and Asian Journal of Energy*, 13 (1). June 2003.

'Chakriya Vikas Pranali: A Mission or a Myth.' *Wasteland News*, XVIII (4). May-July 2003.

'Environmental Economics through Case Studies.' In Gopal K Kadekodi (ed.). *Environmental Economics in Practice*. Oxford University Press. December 2003.

'Approaches to Natural Resource Accounting in the Indian Context.' In Gopal K Kadekodi (ed.) *Environmental Economics in Practice*. Oxford University Press. December 2003.

Krishna, M Jaya

'World Trade Organisation and Small-Scale Entrepreneurs in Karnataka: An Explorative Study.' *ICFAI Journal of Applied Economics*, 2 (3). August 2003

'Private Foreign Investment in Post-Reform India: An Empirical Analysis.' In Renukarya C K and K M Veeraiah



(eds.). *Globalisation: Dimensions and Impact*. JSS Colleges of Arts, Science, Commerce and Business Management. 2003.

Lele, Sharachchandra

‘Challenges in Doing Socially Relevant and Interdisciplinary NRM Research for Integrated Development.’ In P S Ramakrishnan, K G Saxena, Suprava Patnaik and Surendra Singh (ed.). *Methodological Issues in Mountain Research: A Socio-Ecological Systems Approach*. New Delhi: Oxford & IBH. 2003. Pp.57–78.

Mathiyazhagan, Maathai K

(With D Sahoo) ‘Economic Growth in India: Does Foreign Direct Investment Inflow Matter?’ *The Singapore Economic Review*, 48(2):151–71. New Jersey, London, and Singapore: World Scientific Publishing Company. 2003.

‘People’s Choice of Health Care Provider: Policy Options for Rural Karnataka in India.’ *Journal of Health Management*, 5(1):111–37. London, Thousand Oaks and New Delhi: Sage Publications. 2003.

‘Rural Household Characteristics and Health Expenditure in India: An Analysis.’ *Journal of Social and Economic Development*, 5(1): 69–89. ISEC, Bangalore, India. 2003.

‘Utilization of Maternal-Child Health Care and Contraceptives: Empirical Evidences from India.’ *Proceedings of International Conference on Impact of Global Issues on Women and Children*, Vol.1. pp 70–88. McMaster University, Hamilton, Canada. 2003.

Nadkarni, M V

‘Is Caste System Intrinsic to Hinduism? Demolishing a Myth.’ *Economic and Political Weekly*, 38(45). November 8, 2003.

‘Jathi Paddhathiyu Hindudharmada Swabhava Janya Bhagave? — Part I.’ *Hosathu*, December 2003.

Ninan, K N

‘The Economics of Biodiversity Conservation — The Case of Tropical Forests in the Western Ghats.’ In Jyothi Parikh (ed.). *Reconciling Environment and Economics*. Mumbai: Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research. 2003.

(with Jyothis S). ‘Social Forestry: A Case Study from Karnataka.’ In Gopal K Kadekodi (ed.). *Environmental Economics in Practice — Case Studies from India*. Oxford University Press. 2003.

Rajeev, Meenakshi

‘A Search for an Optimal Policy in a Corrupt System.’ *Journal of Developing Areas*, Vol 3, No.1, Fall 2003, December 15, 2003.

RoyChoudhury, Supriya

‘Old Classes and New Spaces: Unorganised Labour, New Unions and India’s Economic Reforms.’ *Economic and Political Weekly*, December 12, 2003.

Sangita, S N

‘Administrative Reforms for Good Governance.’ *The Indian Journal of Political Science*, Vol. 63, No.4, December 2002.

‘Anti-Corruption Strategies: A Political Scientist’s Perspective.’ *Marg Darshan* (HAL’s Vigilance Newsletter), Vol.III, Issue 11, November 2003.

Sekher, Madhushree

‘Creating Alternative Institutional Arrangements: Role of User-Group Self-Initiatives.’ In Alka Dhameja (ed.). *Contemporary Debates in Public Administration*. New Delhi: Prentice-Hall of India Limited. 2003.

Sekher, T V

‘Sensitising Grassroots Leadership on Health Issues: Experiences of a Pilot TV Project.’ *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol.38(46), November 2003.

Sivakami, M

(with P M Kulkarni). ‘Are Weaker Sections Deprived of Maternal Health Care in Tamil Nadu, India?’ *Journal of Health and Population in Developing Countries*. August 8, 2003.

Keynote and Presidential Addresses

Bharadwaj, R

Delivered the inaugural address on 'Insight into Material Science from the Vedic Literature' at the National Seminar, KHSRC, Bangalore, on June 28, 2003.

Delivered the 'Jan Tinbergen Centenary Lecture', presidential address to The Indian Economic Association's 86th conference, at Shivaji University, Kolhapur, on December 30, 2003.

Kadekodi, Gopal K

Delivered the Valedictory Address on 'Some Recent Thoughts on Environmental Economics' at the sixteenth Refresher Course in Economics of the University of Mysore, organised by the UGC-Academic Staff College and Department of Studies in Economics and Cooperation, University of Mysore, Mysore, on September 30, 2003.

Delivered the Presidential address on 'Linking Biodiversity with Quality of Life: Issues of Assessment, Resilience and Model Integration' at the 3rd Biennial Conference of the Indian Society for Ecological Economics, held at Kolkata during December 18–20, 2003.

Karanth, G K

'Developing a Sociological Imagination: The Path and Prospects' at the Inter-Collegiate Sociology Festival, organised by Christ College, Bangalore, on August 27, 2003.

Lele, Sharachchandra

Delivered the keynote address on '(Re-)Crafting Institutional Arrangements for Resource Management' at a workshop on **Sustaining Community Institutions**, organised by Indo-Canadian Environment Facility during September 9–11, 2003.

Delivered the keynote address on 'Economic and Institutional Concepts and their Application to Watershed Development' at the **Training and Orientation Workshop on Watershed Development**, organised by Indian Society for Ecological Economics and Gujarat Institute for Development Research during October 16–19, 2003, in Ahmedabad.

Narayana, M R

Delivered the valedictory address for the seminar on 'Impact of Economic Reforms on Indian Economy,' organised by Bangalore University Economic Teachers' Association, Government First Grade College, Bangalore, on July 9, 2003.

RoyChoudhury, Supriya

Delivered the keynote address on 'Women in the Unorganised Sector,' at a conference organised by the National Centre for Labour, during June 18–19, 2003, at the Indian Social Institute.

Fellowships and Honours/ Awards

Sekher, T V

Was Visiting Fellow under the India-France Social Sciences Programme at Maison de Sciences la Homme (MSH), Paris, during September–October 2003.

K Lija Ramachandran

Best Paper Award in Economics in COSMAR 2003 in IISc, Bangalore, during September 20–21, 2003. The title of the paper was 'Impact of Trade Agreements on Trade Performance: A Gravity Approach.'

Offices Held in Academic/Professional/Administrative Bodies

Bhide, Shashanka

Member, National Committee for Promotion of Social and Economic Welfare, Ministry of Finance, New Delhi

Iyengar, N S

Member, Editorial Advisory Board, *Indian Economic Journal*





Rajasekhar, D

Member, Institutional Reforms Study, JSYS, Government of Karnataka

Sangita, S N

Elected as Executive Member to the Indian Social Science Congress for the year 2003–04

Shah, Esha

Member of the theme group Colonisation, Decolonisation and Development of the project network 'Technology and the Making of the Twentieth Century Europe (Tension of Europe)' funded by European Science Foundation.

Sivanna, N

Member, Editorial Board, Vidya Bharathi, Bangalore University

Review Workshop on Watershed Development: Issues and Prospects

A national workshop on 'Watershed Development: Issues and Prospects' was organised by CISED during August 7–8, 2003. The workshop was the culmination of a review of watershed development, focusing on the drought-prone regions of Karnataka and Maharashtra, initiated by CISED since October 2002.

During the workshop the draft review document, authored by Sri K J Joy (Visiting Fellow, CISED) and others was presented to and discussed in detail by people comprising academics, activists and practitioners, government officials and donors. An important outcome of the workshop was the decision to initiate a multi-institutional, multi-locational and interdisciplinary research network for study, training, policy advocacy and monitoring of watershed development efforts.



Plenary session of the Review Workshop chaired by Sri T R Satish Chandran, Chairman, Board of Governors, ISEC (centre). To his right are Sri K R Datye (SOPPECOM), and Dr. Amita Shah (GIDR). To his left are Prof. A Vaidyanathan (MIDS), Prof. Gopal Kadekodi, Director, ISEC, Sri K J Joy and Dr. Sharachchandra Lele from CISED.

The workshop concluded with an open plenary session, chaired by Sri T R Satish Chandran, Chairman, Board of Governors, ISEC. Prof. Gopal Kadekodi, Director, ISEC, Sri K R Datye of SARMET/ SOPPECOM, Mumbai, Prof. A Vaidyanathan of Madras Institute of Development Studies, and Prof. Amita Shah of Gujarat Institute of Development Research, spoke about the watershed development review and its implications and ways forward.

Dr. Sharachchandra Lele, Senior Fellow and Co-ordinator, CISED, and Sri K J Joy jointly co-ordinated the workshop.

Training Programme on Social Upliftment through Profitable Banking

Two training programmes on 'Social Upliftment through Profitable Banking' were organised at the Institute. The first one was held during August 21–23, 2003, for 35 senior officers of Karnataka Backward Classes Development Corporation (KBCDC). The second one was held during November 27–29, 2003, for 33 field-level staff of the Corporation, representing all the 27 districts in Karnataka and the head office.

The training programmes assumed significance in the context of banking sector reforms and the expectation that the banking operations of the Corporation need to be viable. The programmes provided training inputs on selection of beneficiaries, micro finance, planning for profit at the district level, management of lending and recovery, and good governance in interactive training sessions.

In the first programme, Prof. G K Kadekodi, Director, ISEC, chaired the inaugural session; Dr. K N Chandrasekhar, Managing Director, KBCDC, delivered the inaugural address. Mr. Falguni Rajkumar, Principal Secretary, Social Welfare Department, GoK, distributed the certificates and addressed the participants in the valedictory session. The resource persons for the programme were Mr. Narasa Reddy, Chairperson, Chitradurga Grameen Bank, Chitradurga, Prof. G K Karanth, Messrs Ravi and Mohan, Chartered Accountants, Bangalore, Dr D. Rajasekhar



and Mr. Chakravarthi, NABARD, Bangalore. The programme was co-ordinated by Dr. D Rajasekhar and Dr. K G Gayathri Devi of Decentralisation and Development Unit.

The second programme aimed at strengthening the capacity of the field-level staff in the day-to-day managerial issues relating to social upliftment through profitable banking. Prof. G K Karanth chaired the inaugural session and Dr. K N Chandrashekar delivered the inaugural address. The resource persons for the programme included Mr. Narasa Reddy, Prof. G K Karanth, Dr. Manohar S Yadav, Dr. D Rajasekhar and Messrs Ravi & Mohan. Prof. V M Rao addressed the participants in the valedictory session chaired by Prof. Gopal K Kadekodi. Dr. D Rajasekhar, Decentralisation and Development Unit, co-ordinated the training programme.



(From right to left) Prof. Gopal K Kadekodi, Director, ISEC; Mr. Falguni Rajkumar, Principal Secretary, Social Welfare Department, GoK; key officials of KBCDC; Dr. D Rajasekhar, Programme Coordinator, at the valedictory function of the Training Programme.

UGC Refresher Course on Politics, Governance and Development

The Development Administration Unit of ISEC organised a UGC-sponsored Refresher Course for College and University Teachers on Politics, Governance and Development during October 6–31, 2003. The course aimed at (1) familiarising the participants with the latest approaches, concepts and theories in politics, governance and development (such as public choice theory, social capital, developmental politics, deliberative democracy, state or society-centric approach towards governance and development) (2) inculcating interest among the trainees in developing an interdisciplinary perspective, (3) equipping the teachers with research and computer skills to find solutions to the complex societal problems and develop policies.



Sri T R Satish Chandran, Chairman, Board of Governors, ISEC, presided over the inaugural and valedictory functions of the UGC Refresher Course on Politics, Governance and Development, held in ISEC. Honourable Justice Rajendra Babu, Judge, Supreme Court, (fourth from left) inaugurated the course.

presided over the inaugural and valedictory functions.

Prof. S N Sangita and Dr. N Sivanna jointly coordinated the course with assistance from Mr. Nazrul Islam, doctoral student of ISEC.

Altogether, 29 college and university teachers from Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Gujarat participated in the Refresher Course. Resource persons were drawn from the disciplines of Political Science, Public Administration, Law, Economics, Education, Sociology and Ecological Economics. The participants presented project reports in the second week and seminar papers during the last week on various themes related to politics, governance and development. Honourable Justice Rajendra Babu, Judge, Supreme Court, Government of India, inaugurated the course, and Prof. D M Nanjundappa, Former Chairman, ICSSR, delivered the valedictory address. Sri T R Satish Chandran, Chairman, Board of Governors, ISEC,



Stricken, Yet Triumphant

Dr. B S Venkatesh, who was awarded a Research Fellowship at the Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore, has secured a Ph.D. degree in economics from Bangalore University for his thesis 'Problems and Prospects of Development of Backward Regions: A Study of Karnataka State.' He worked under the supervision of Prof. Hemlatha Rao.

Dr. Venkatesh's achievement is especially noteworthy as he is visually impaired. Yet another distinction is his being chosen as the 'Best Employee' for the year 2003, and receiving the award from no less a dignitary than the country's first citizen, Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam.

After receiving the award, Dr. Venkatesh said, 'The golden moment of my career was when I was awarded a Research Fellowship for undergoing Ph.D. programme by the prestigious Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC), Bangalore. I was also extremely fortunate to have come under the wing of Prof. Hemlatha Rao. It is her dynamic decision to accept me as her student, which opened up numerous opportunities in my career. As my research guide, she advised me to choose my research topic based not on what would be 'easy' for me, but what would be meaningful and unique.'

We, in the Institute, are very proud of his achievement, and are moved to remark that as a student here his handicap never showed itself up, and he was at home with his fellow students and teachers. We are sure he will obtain many more laurels in the future.



Dr. B S Venkatesh receiving the 'Best Employee Award' from President A P J Abdul Kalam in New Delhi.



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