



THE INDIAN SOCIETY OF LABOUR ECONOMICS  
**59<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

**16-18 December 2017**

**Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, India**

Organised by

**Gulati Institute of Finance and Taxation (GIFT)**

**Thiruvananthapuram**

in collaboration with

**Department of Economics, Kerala University, Thiruvananthapuram**

**and**

**Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram**



**Department of Economics  
University of Kerala**



**Centre for Development Studies  
Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala**

The Indian Society of Labour Economics (ISLE) is a broad-based professional association of researchers, scholars and other stakeholders interested in the area of labour, employment and development issues. The Society promotes scientific studies of labour markets, employment, employment relations and related issues and disseminates knowledge. It publishes a quarterly, peer-reviewed journal “The Indian Journal of Labour Economics” (IJLE), which is now in its 60th year of publication. Promoting and featuring scientific studies on labour and employment issues, the journal is co-published with Springer. More information on the journal is available on [www.isleijle.org](http://www.isleijle.org)

# THE INDIAN SOCIETY OF LABOUR ECONOMICS

[www.isleijle.org](http://www.isleijle.org)

## 59th Annual Conference

**16-18 December 2017, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, India**

The 59th Annual Conference of the Indian Society of Labour Economics (ISLE) will be held during 16-18 December 2017 in the premises of Gulati Institute of Finance and Taxation (GIFT), Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala. The Conference is being organised by the Gulati Institute of Finance and Taxation (GIFT), Thiruvananthapuram in collaboration with the Department of Economics, Kerala University and the Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram. The Conference president is Professor S. Mahendra Dev, Director and Vice Chancellor, Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research (IGIDR), Mumbai. Professor D. Narayana, Director, GIFT is the Conference Organizing Secretary.

### CONFERENCE THEMES

The themes for the 59th ISLE Annual Conference are:

- Informality and Labour Market
- Macro-Economic Policies and Employment
- Technological Change and Employment

### CRITICAL INFORMATION

#### Dates to Remember

- Dates of the Conference: 16-18 December 2017
- Last Date for Submission of Papers: 15 September 2017
- Communication from ISLE about Acceptance of Papers: 30 September 2017
- Last Date for Registration: 15 November 2017

#### Timings of the Conference

The Conference will start at 9.30 am on 16 December 2017 and will conclude by 2 pm on 18 December 2017. Delegates are advised to reach Thiruvananthapuram a day prior to the Conference and schedule their departure for the evening of 18 December 2017 or the morning of 19 December 2017. A pre-Conference symposium/workshop is also being planned on 15 December 2017 (at around 4 pm) and the theme for this will be announced soon. Those who would like to attend the Pre-Conference event should aim to reach the Conference venue by noon on 15 December 2017.

### Guidelines on the Submission of Papers

Researchers, professionals and other experts including those from outside India, are invited to contribute conceptual and /or empirical papers on any of the Conference themes mentioned above. Apart from papers focussed on India, submissions relating to other regions and countries are welcome.

The papers should be submitted online by creating an account at [www.isleijle.org/59isleconference](http://www.isleijle.org/59isleconference).

Alternatively, the papers may be emailed to [conference.isle@gmail.com](mailto:conference.isle@gmail.com).

Authors of the selected papers will be invited by the Conference President to present their papers either in the Thematic Technical Sessions or the Poster Sessions.

Papers submitted should not exceed 8000 words (including tables and appendices) and should adhere to the current style of writing of The Indian Journal of Labour Economics (IJLE). For details, please visit [www.isleijle.org](http://www.isleijle.org).

All papers should include a summary of 500 -750 words. The summaries of all accepted papers will be compiled into a publication which will be distributed among the Conference participants, along with a CD containing the papers themselves. These summaries will also be put up on the ISLE website. Selected papers after peer-review and revision will be published in subsequent issues of the Indian Journal of Labour Economics (IJLE) in 2018. Those who would like their papers to be published in the journal should send revised papers to the Editor of the IJLE after the Conference on [editor.ijleisle@gmail.com](mailto:editor.ijleisle@gmail.com).

Authors must ensure that their submissions are original. Please note that all papers will be screened for plagiarism and accordingly accepted or rejected. Further, authors are solely responsible for violation with respect to plagiarism.

### Panel Proposals

A few panel discussions on special themes will be organised during the Conference. Proposals for panels are invited from scholars and institutions. The proposals will be selected by a team of experts and reviewers. A panel session will comprise of 4 – 5 paper presentations.

Each panel proposal should contain the following:

- Title of the panel and a description of the panel's theme
- Titles, authors and abstracts (around 500 words) of the papers to be presented
- Names, affiliations and short biographies (100-150 words) of the proposed presenters and discussants/commentators
- Name and contact information of the panel organiser

The organisers/coordinators of each Panel Session are expected to be in charge of the Panel Discussion, including raising resources for speakers' travel and other expenditure.

Proposals should be emailed to the ISLE Secretariat on [conference.isle@gmail.com](mailto:conference.isle@gmail.com) by 15 July 2017.

### **Best Paper Awards**

The Ruddar Datt Memorial Award and the Sanjay Thakur Young Labour Economist Award (each carrying an award of Rs.10,000) will be awarded to the authors of the best papers at the Conference. Only authors who are below 40 years of age will be considered for these awards. In case of joint authorship, all the authors should be below 40 years. The papers on any of the Conference themes to be considered for the award should be presented by the paper writers themselves. Scholars who wish their papers to be considered for these awards should furnish proof of their age along with their full papers during online submission on [www.isleijle.org/59isleconference](http://www.isleijle.org/59isleconference).

### **Surjit Singh Fellowship**

The ISLE awards one Fellowship instituted in the memory of Dr. Surjit Singh, former Secretary of the Society, with a grant of Rs. 40, 000 for preparing a research paper/monograph related to one of the Conference themes. Applications for this Fellowship are invited from scholars who are below 40 years of age. The application should contain a short proposal (about 1500 words) providing details of the research objectives, hypotheses, methodology and theoretical framework of the study. The proposal should be original and not be based on applicant's earlier works, including Ph.D. thesis. The application along with the proposal should be emailed to the ISLE Secretariat on [conference.isle@gmail.com](mailto:conference.isle@gmail.com) by 30 June 2017. The decision of award would be communicated by 21 July 2017. The awardee is expected to prepare a comprehensive draft research paper/monograph by the end of October 2017 and also make a presentation based on it during the Conference. For further details please visit [www.isleijle.org](http://www.isleijle.org).

## **LOGISTICAL AND OTHER INFORMATION FOR DELEGATES**

### **Conference Registration**

- The Conference registration fee is Rs. 3000 for participants from India, US\$ 125 for those from developing countries and US\$ 225 for participants from other countries.
- Registration will entitle participants modest boarding and lodging as well as the conference kit.
- The boarding and lodging will be provided to the delegates for a maximum of four nights from 15 to 18 December 2017, beyond which the participants are requested to make their own arrangements.

- Completed registration form along with Registration fee should be sent latest by 15 November 2017 (Registration form enclosed)
- The prospective participants should adhere to the time line of registration. On-the spot registration will be only for the local participants. In any case, those registering after the deadline of 15 November 2017 will need to take care of their accommodation and transport arrangements themselves.
- Delegates are requested to send complete information along with the registration fee at the earliest so that arrangements can be made for their accommodation. Those who would prefer to arrange their own accommodation need to take care of the relevant logistics themselves. Delegates are encouraged to register via the Conference website and make the paper submission online.

### Conference Registration Fee

Category	Participant	Spouse/ Accompanying Person
India (Rs.)	3000	2000
Developing Countries (US \$)	125	100
Other Countries (US \$)	225	175

- The registration fee for the Conference includes payment towards a conference kit (comprising the summaries of all the papers presented at the Conference, a CD of the papers, a conference bag, stationery, etc.), and modest accommodation and meals.
- The registration fee does not include the ISLE membership fee which needs to be paid separately.
- 50% and 25% concessions on registration are available to Research Scholars and Assistant Professors respectively.

### ISLE Membership

- All participants should take the Society membership (Annual or Life) to be able to attend the conference. However, life membership is a privileged category and requires prior approval of the ISLE Secretariat for which the application should be sent to the Hon. Secretary, ISLE on [isle.ijle@gmail.com](mailto:isle.ijle@gmail.com)
- Participants who are members of the ISLE but have not renewed their membership for the year 2017 or those who are not members of the Society need to pay the membership fee to be able to attend the Conference.
- The annual membership fee is Rs. 1000 for those from India, US\$ 75 for those from developing countries, and US\$ 125 for those from other countries.
- Completed Membership form along with Membership fee should be sent to Secretary, The Indian Society of Labour Economics C/o Institute for Human Development, Plot No. 84, Functional Industrial Estate (FIE), Delhi- 110092 on [isle.ijle@gmail.com](mailto:isle.ijle@gmail.com) with a copy to [conference.isle@gmail.com](mailto:conference.isle@gmail.com). (membership form enclosed)

### Modes of Payment

- **Registration and the Membership fee** may be paid by way of NEFT/RTGS Transfer or Demand draft (DD) or local cheques.

#### **Details for the NEFT/RTGS Transfers:**

Account Name : Indian Society of Labour Economics

Account No : 18200100001495

Bank & Branch: UCO Bank, IIPA Branch, I. P. Estate, New Delhi - 110002

IFSC Code: UCBA0001820

#### **Details for payment through bank drafts or local cheques:**

Demand Draft /local cheque in favour of "The Indian Society of Labour Economics", payable at New Delhi.

- Scan Copy of the transaction id or the Demand Draft/local cheque number of the payment along with the filled Registration/Membership Forms should be mailed to [conference.isle@gmail.com](mailto:conference.isle@gmail.com).

#### *Notes:*

Mention the transaction id/Demand Draft or Local Cheque Number and mark "59 ISLE Conference Registration" in the subject line in case of Conference Registration.

Mention the transaction id/Demand Draft or Local Cheque Number and mark "ISLE Membership" in the subject line in case of ISLE Membership.

### Travel Support

The Indian Society of Labour Economics does not have any regular source of funding and each year the Society is able to raise some limited resources. As such, it is expected that the paper presenters, resource persons and other participants will fund their travel costs through their own institutions or other sources. For some select keynote / invited paper writers and resource persons, who are either superannuated or cannot manage their travel costs, the Society makes efforts to meet their travel costs.

### Travel Grant to Young Scholars

ISLE awards Travel Grant to some select young scholars aged 35 years or below from India (upto the level of Assistant Professor) whose papers have been selected for presentations in the conference. The grant amount will cover only AC three-tier train fare and registration fee. Such fellowships will be awarded after judging the quality of papers. The candidates wishing to avail such grants should send an application stating their age and employment status along with their papers to ISLE Secretariat on [conference.isle@gmail.com](mailto:conference.isle@gmail.com).

### Pre – Conference Event

A pre conference workshop/symposium on some important contemporary policy issue/analytical theme is also being planned between 4 pm and 7 pm on 15 December 2017. The details relating to the theme and presenters/contributors in the event will be communicated in due course. Those desirous of participating in the pre-conference event should reach Thiruvananthapuram by lunch time on 15 December 2017.

### CONTACT DETAILS

#### Conference President

##### **Professor S. Mahendra Dev**

Director and Vice Chancellor

Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research (IGIDR)  
Gen. A.K. Vaidya Marg, Goregaon (E), Mumbai-400065, India  
Email: [director@igidr.ac.in](mailto:director@igidr.ac.in)

#### Conference Organising Secretary

##### **Professor D. Narayana**

Director, Gulati Institute of Finance and Taxation (GIFT)  
Gandhipuram Road, Chavadimukku,  
Sreekariyam, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala 695017  
Phone: 0471 259 6960; Mobile: 9447192396;  
Email: [59isle.gift@gmail.com](mailto:59isle.gift@gmail.com)

Contact persons at GIFT: Sheeja N 91-9447754626, Preena Das 91-9746266469

### ISLE SECRETARIAT

#### **Professor Preet Rustagi**

The Hon. Secretary

#### **Ms. Priyanka Tyagi**

Communication In-Charge

#### **Dr. Seema Singh**

Hon. Joint Secretary

All queries relating to the Conference  
should be addressed to: [conference.isle@gmail.com](mailto:conference.isle@gmail.com).

For details and updates on the Conference, please visit  
[www.isle.rg/59isleconference](http://www.isle.rg/59isleconference)

The Indian Society of Labour Economics  
C/o Institute for Human Development  
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### **About Gulati Institute of Finance and Taxation**

The Gulati Institute of Finance and Taxation (GIFT), Thiruvananthapuram is envisaged as a centre of excellence, specializing in research, training and consultancy, to provide fiscal and social policy inputs to the Government of Kerala in particular and the South Indian states in general. The GIFT was formed in 2009 by upgrading the Centre for Taxation Studies (CTS), an autonomous institution formed by the Government of Kerala in 1992 for undertaking research, training, consultancy, and publication in the area of public economics. The Institute has specialized faculty in three core areas namely Law, Public Finance, Accounting and Management. The Institute offers specialized courses like Post-Graduate Diploma in Taxation and Diploma in Sales Taxation.

The GIFT is named after Professor Iqbal Singh Gulati (1924-2002), an eminent economist who was closely associated with public policy making in various capacities, notably as Chairman of the Kerala State Planning Board. Dr. Gulati was also one of the leading authorities on Centre-State financial relations, taxation, the public distribution system, migration-related issues and international trade.

### **Department of Economics, University of Kerala**

One of the first 16 Universities in India and the first in the state of Kerala, the University of Kerala was founded as the University of Travancore in the erstwhile princely state of Travancore in 1937. At present, the University has sixteen faculties and forty one departments of teaching and research in addition to study centres and other departments.

The Department of Economics started in 1959 in the University of Kerala is one of the leading centers for teaching and research in the field of Economics. Since its inception, it has achieved a spectacular track record in teaching and research, and is privileged to have some brilliant and eminent personalities as faculty and has successfully groomed many talented students who continue to bring honor to this institution. An Inter University Centre for Alternative Economics (IUCAE), attached to the Department of Economics, was set up in 2015 by Professor Abdul Salim . The main objective of the centre is to integrate alternative socio-economic ideas and thereby strengthen our research base to meet the challenges of the fast growing knowledge economy.

### **Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, India**

Established in 1971 by late Professor K.N. Raj, the Centre for Development Studies (CDS) is an internationally renowned, autonomous institution known for its cutting edge research in applied economics and topics germane to socio-economic development. Research at CDS is organized around seven thematic issues, conducted independently, or under various endowment units and endowment funds. The teaching programmes include M.A , M.Phil and Ph.D, all affiliated to Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. The Centre draws its financial support mainly from the Government of Kerala and the Indian Council

of Social Science Research (ICSSR). The state-of-the-art CDS library is one of the biggest repositories in South India with over 1,50,000 titles in economics and related disciplines and subscribing to about 400 professional journals. Equipped with modern infrastructure, computing facilities and fully wi-fi enabled residential campus for faculty and students, the Centre stands out in the current competitive world of academics.

### **About Thiruvananthapuram**

Located in the southwestern tip of India, Thiruvananthapuram is bound by the Arabian Sea in the west and the wooded highlands of the Western Ghats in the eastern and northeastern borders. Named after Anantha Padmanabha or Lord Vishnu, the city has been built on seven low hills. Clean and green, Thiruvananthapuram, is the capital of Kerala.

### **How to Reach Thiruvananthapuram**

#### **By Road**

Long distance buses operate from the Central Bus Station at Thampanoor, opposite the Railway Station. KSRTC Bus Terminal Ph: (0471) 2323886. Short distance buses operate from the City Bus Station, East Fort Ph: (0471) 2575495

#### **By Rail**

There are direct trains from Thiruvananthapuram to all the main towns in Kerala as well as the major cities in India.

#### **By Air**

Trivandrum International Airport (6 km from the city) has over 30 air links with convenient connections to major Indian cities like New Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Kochi and Bangalore as well as has direct flights from Singapore, Maldives, Sri Lanka and Middle East cities.

### **Transport and Sight-Seeing ([www.keralatourism.org](http://www.keralatourism.org))**

The city has an excellent public transportation system with buses plying to every nook and corner of the city. Uber, Ola and private taxis and auto rickshaws are available in plenty.

The City of Thiruvananthapuram, the capital of Kerala, gets its name from Anantha Padmanabha Swamy Temple located at the center of the city.

Kovalam, one of the most famous Beaches in Kerala, is at a distance of 13 kms from Thiruvananthapuram.

Padmanabhapuram Palace, 53 kms south of Thiruvananthapuram is an ancient

historical town with a fort surrounding the finest architectural structures of Kerala in an area of 187 acres.

Kanyakumari, the famous pilgrimage site, located at the southern most tip of the Indian Peninsula is 85 kms from Thiruvananthapuram.

Varkala, 51 km north of Thiruvananthapuram, is a calm and quiet hamlet. The Papanasam beach, ten kilometers away from Varkala, is renowned for its natural spring. A dip in the holy waters at this beach is believed to purge the body of impurities and the soul of all sins; hence the name 'Papanasam beach'. An ancient shrine, the Janardhana Swamy Temple, is at a short distance from the beach. The Sivagiri Mutt, founded by the great Hindu reformer and philosopher Sree Narayana Guru (1856 - 1928) is also close by. Sree Narayana Guru propagated the ideology: "one caste, one religion and one god", in a divided society torn by the taboos of caste system.

Magic Planet ([www.magicplanet.in](http://www.magicplanet.in)) located at Kazhakuttom (5 kms from GIFT), Thiruvananthapuram, built with the objective of providing wonders and immense possibilities of art to the public is designed as complete one-day entertainment package for all age groups. It is a rehabilitation hub for street performers including street magicians and circus artistes. A multitude of fascinating activities, spellbinding performances and tricks awaits visitors here. Together they provide a colourful magical parade and an absolute visual treat.



## SUGGESTIVE GUIDELINES ON CONFERENCE THEMES FOR PROSPECTIVE CONTRIBUTORS

*The guidelines on the conference themes are suggestive only. The prospective paper writers may contribute on other relevant sub themes as well. Apart from contributions on India, conceptual papers or those relating to other regions/countries are also welcome.*

### THEME I: INFORMALITY AND LABOUR MARKET

Contrary to expectations, a long period of economic growth has not significantly lowered informality in most of the economies of the developing countries, including India. The informal (or unorganized) sector's share in total non-agricultural output (excluding "public administration and defence") in India declined somewhat between 1980 and 1995 and then stopped declining. And the informal sector's share in total employment (again excluding "public administration and defence") hardly changed between 1955 and 2000 and then declined somewhat, but this decline was accompanied by growth of informal employment (i.e., employment that is not "regular wage employment with entitlements to non-wage benefits and social security") in the formal sector.

Hidden behind these trends is the fact that the informal sector recorded impressive growth in India. This growth was associated with very significant structural change; the share of agriculture in informal sector's output declined quite rapidly and the share of non-agriculture correspondingly increased. The structure of employment also changed; the share of agriculture in total employment declined while the share of non-agriculture increased. These changes were accompanied by significant increases in labour productivity and labour-incomes (real wages and incomes of the self-employed). In short, employment conditions in the informal sector have improved quite substantially. Since informal wage employment in the formal sector is generally better than informal wage employment in the informal sector, it can be said that the quality of informal employment has improved significantly.

These developments have thus far been barely noticed by many analysts and researchers, who simply assume informal employment to be 'bad' and unchanging in character by definition (and hence not worthy of investigation). Consequently, our knowledge of how informal labour markets work and of how the character of informal employment has been changing is pitifully poor.

This is the backdrop that has prompted the selection of "Informality, and labour markets" as a major theme for the ISLE Conference of 2017. Papers containing empirical analysis at macro or micro levels on the issues relating to this theme are welcome. Some of the sub-topics on which papers may be submitted include:

- Changing status (self-employment, regular wage employment without entitlements in organized and unorganized sectors, casual wage employment in organized and unorganized sectors) distribution of informal employment

- Changing industrial (agriculture, manufacturing, construction, mining and utilities, services) distribution of informal employment
- Changing gender composition of informal employment
- Wage determination in informal labour markets
- Trend in real wage of casual labour (at macro or micro levels)
- Trend in real incomes of the self-employed (at macro or micro levels)
- Trend in labour productivity in informal employment (at macro or micro levels)
- Spread of productivity and labour-incomes across industries / activities within the informal sector

## THEME 2: MACRO-ECONOMIC POLICIES AND EMPLOYMENT

High economic growth rates in recent decades in India have not been matched by similar improvement in employment generation. Integration of employment promotion objectives with macroeconomic policies has been, in general, neglected. Macroeconomic policies, relating to fiscal, monetary, trade, tariff and exchange rate, have direct and indirect impacts on the generation of employment, both in terms of quantity and quality. During the reform period of the early 1990s, emphasis was given on fiscal and financial stability, as well as on disbanding the hitherto state-led approaches to growth, and on providing greater space to markets and the private sector. The essence of the stabilization reforms rested on targeted reductions in budget and current account deficits, inflation and the debt-GDP ratios. It was generally argued that the liberalization and structural adjustment reforms undertaken since early 1990s would remove the 'rigidities' and factor price distortions in the economy, and that it would change the industry-mix and increase the demand for labour coming from the shift to labour intensive products based on comparative advantage. However, the experience so far shows that the expectation has not materialized or at best has been mixed. India deviated from following a strict reforms path influenced by so-called Washington Consensus.

Although the primary objectives of macroeconomic policies are aimed at controlling inflation, sustaining public expenditure and attaining fiscal balance, but these policies through fiscal and monetary policies have significant impact on employment. In order to influence employment, fiscal policy has to improve tax revenue and public investment on infrastructure and other supply constraints. Monetary policy can help in reducing interest rates and raise low cost credit for agriculture, manufacturing and services.

Level and pattern of investment, both public and private, impact the level of employment. Do existing incentives for investment promote capital intensity? There is a spatial dimension to this too, in that investment is very concentrated regionally, and not in the places where employment deficits are greatest.

Another issue is changing pattern of factor shares. The increase in the profit share in organized industry is quite large, and unless it is reinvested could lead to shortfalls in aggregate demand. One issue is whether the overall level of demand management in the Indian economy is employment-friendly.

Trade liberalization has been associated with increased ratio of trade to GDP, improved export performance, and diversification towards manufactured and services exports. However, linkages of trade liberalization to employment are not straight forward. To the extent a country's exports contain products with high labour content, employment can expand. However, if the pattern of growth is capital intensive, there may not be improvements in employment. Another issue is the impact of trade openness on wage gap between skilled and unskilled workers.

An appropriate tariff policy tailored to the requirements of economy in general and manufacturing in particular can raise employment. One view is that tariff rates in India are high in certain lines of production like electronic hardware, electrical equipments which are also labour intensive. China's exports, on the other hand, represent the processing trade, with no tariffs charged on intermediate imports and the consequent promotion of a huge employment potential through the assembling of final products for exports.

Policy on foreign direct investment (FDI) and financial flows can influence employment generation. Over the years, there has been liberalization of FDI policy in different sectors. It can have both favourable and unfavorable impact on employment.

The papers on this theme may address some of the following issues:

- What has been the experience of macroeconomic policies on the quantity and quality of employment in the post-reform period in India? What are the constraints of macro policies in raising employment?
- What lessons the developing countries like India can learn from the international experience relating to employment implications of various macro-economic policies, particularly fiscal consolidation?
- Given India's commitment to SDG goal of attaining "full employment" by 2030, what would be the design of macroeconomic policy to incorporate the dual mandate of full employment and price stability?
- What have been some of the implications of financial sector liberalization on growth and employment ?
- What are the implications of increase in profit shares for aggregate demand? Is the overall demand management employment friendly?
- How does fiscal and monetary policy affect employment in various sectors ? What are appropriate measures to raise tax revenue and public expenditure, and simultaneously meet fiscal deficit targets?

- A greater fiscal space is required to pursue a strategic and robust public investment and expenditure policy to support a range of pro-employment measures, social safety net transfers, and to support the massive proportion of vulnerable people in the rural areas. What are alternative ways to enhance the fiscal space to address the above ?
- What are the regional dimensions of public and private investment and implications for employment?
- What has been the experience of trade policy reforms in India and what are the emerging trends and implications with respect to employment? Which kinds of tariff policies are needed to improve employment?
- Has trade liberalization reduced or increased the wage gap between skilled and unskilled workers? Can India use such a policy and raise employment in the present global situation?
- What is the impact of FDI policies and experience of FDI inflows on employment in India?
- What is the appropriate mix of various types of macroeconomic policies (i.e. fiscal, monetary, exchange rate, tariff etc.) which can have favourable impact on employment?

The above issues are just illustrative and the prospective contributors might take up other relevant sub-themes as well.

### **THEME 3: TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE AND EMPLOYMENT**

Technological change has been the prime mover of growth since the time of industrial revolution. The advent of new general purpose technologies of the recent past have been leading to the emergence of a range of new economic sectors such as the information and communication technology, pharmaceuticals, biotechnology and nano-technology. New forms of aggregation of services in supply chain management, all based on technology and networking, are taking place in almost all sectors of the economy. Correspondingly conventional modes of production both in manufacturing and services are facing a threat of obsolescence with implications for employment and wages. Other sectors of the economy such as agriculture and construction have also been affected.

These global changes are emerging in India as well. India's ranking in global innovation index has moved up to the 54th place by 2009-2013. As a share of total exports, India's high tech exports have improved and are continuing their rise. Patents from India have increased and output per worker too has gone up of which roughly half is due to Total Factor Productivity Growth.

All these are dramatically changing the nature of work and skill requirements. Newer, but short term and flexible forms of employment are gaining at the expense of permanent regular forms of employment typical of the industrial era.

New forms of employment are task based and independent of locations, and supported by new forms of employer-employee relations, management practices and changes in employment contracts. Work timings have become flexible with the arrival of outsourcing and home based work. Skill requirements are changing from the conventional models of singular career path towards newer forms based on poly-valence, reskilling and life-long learning. The fall in transaction costs has made it possible to adopt new pay packages linked to individual skills and performances. The course, content and spatial spread of these developments, and their overall impact on employment, wages and wellbeing of workers are aspects that remain to be studied in greater depth.

A related issue that needs to be explored is the relationship between technological change, productivity changes and wages. Technological change does lead to substantial rise in labour productivity, offering potentially large benefits to workers and their employers. Does it result in an improvement of wages, working conditions and living standards? What is the evidence on these aspects emerging from developing countries and India in particular? A rise in productivity without commensurate rise in wages can result in a declining share of wages in aggregate income. Capital augmenting technological change together with complementary use of skilled labour can end in widening wage inequalities and polarization of job quality. Studies on the OECD economies suggest that rising wage inequality and a declining share of wages in the gross value added are both linked to technological change. They point to the importance of studying the impact of technological change on wage rates, wage dispersion and labour share of output in developing countries, notably India, with a view to drawing the right lessons for policy making.

Some of the possible sub-themes on which the papers could be contributed include:

#### **Emerging nature of work and skills**

- New technology and new forms of work organisation such as putting out, home based, task based etc.
- Technological change and transaction costs including monitoring costs and coordination costs
- Changing labour processes and new technology.
- New forms of work and performance monitoring and productivity-pay parity methods.

#### **Labour productivity and wages**

- Technological change and labour productivity
- Linkages between labour productivity, technological change and wage rates
- Technological change, wage dispersion and labour shares

### **Quantitative and qualitative dimensions of employment under changing technology**

- Impact of technological change on labour demand, including labour demand elasticity for different types of labour.
- Impact of technological change on the less skilled and related adjustment costs.
- Product innovations, process innovations and scale effect on labour demand.
- Technological change, capital- deepening and skill complementarities, polarisation of job quality

### **Labour market institutions**

- Compliance with labour market regulations in new technology work places.
- Changes in collective bargaining practices and structure of representative institutions

The above suggestive sub-themes may be addressed in various sectors of the economy. Papers may also be contributed on the ongoing experiences of the developed countries and their lessons for developing countries such as India.

## 59<sup>th</sup> ISLE Conference

### 16-18 December, 2017, Thiruvananthapuram, India

#### Registration Form\*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Gender \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Designation \_\_\_\_\_

University/ Organisation \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Pin \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Country \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (Off) \_\_\_\_\_ (Res) \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

#### Accompanying person(s) details

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

If paid through NEFT/RTGS Transfer:

Transaction Id: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Transfer: \_\_\_\_\_

If paid through Demand Draft:

Attached herewith demand draft no \_\_\_\_\_ Dated \_\_\_\_\_

Amount for Rs./US \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Accommodation required (Please write Y for yes and N for no): .....

\*Notes:

Scan Copy of the transaction id or the Demand Draft/local cheque number of the payment along with the filled Registration Form should be emailed to ISLE Secretariat on [conference.isle@gmail.com](mailto:conference.isle@gmail.com).

Mention the transaction id/Demand Draft or Local Cheque Number and mark "59 ISLE Conference Registration" in the subject line



# INDIAN SOCIETY OF LABOUR ECONOMICS

## Application for Membership

I/We subscribe to the Aims and Objectives of the Indian Society of Labour Economics. I/ We agree to abide by the Constitution and Rules & Regulation of the Society as may be in force from time to time. I/We hereby apply for membership as per following particulars:

- Ordinary (Individual Annual Membership for the year
- Ordinary (Individual Annual Membership for the year
- Life (Individual) membership 0 Commencement year
- Student Membership (Annual for the year)
- Other (Specify): \_\_\_\_\_

Please tick the appropriate category mentioned above and provide details

Rs./US\$ \_\_\_\_\_ is being sent herewith for the Membership Fee by bank draft bank transfer

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Gender \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Designation \_\_\_\_\_

Full address of organization presently working (in case retired, previous institution) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: (if different from above) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Mobile \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Contact person in case of institutional member: \_\_\_\_\_

Broad areas of research interest \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Encl:

Signature of Applicant

(For membership fee structure, please see overleaf)

## Memberships Details (Individual/Institutional)

### Membership Fee

Type of membership	India (Rs.)	Developing Countries (US#)	Other Countries (US\$)
<b>Individual Annual</b>	Rs. 1,000	75	125
<b>Individual Life</b>	Rs. 10,000	NA	NA
<b>Institutional Annual</b>	Rs. 2500	150	200

### Notes:

1. A short CV (100-150 words) of the applicant should be sent in case of individual membership. In case of Institutional members, a profile of the organization in not more than 500 words should be sent.
2. Signed Application form by post to ISLE Secretariat or scanned copy of signed application can be sent to email id: isle.ijle@gmail.com

### Entitlement of Members:

- Will be entitled to attend the annual conferences of the society.
- Members with a continuous period of two years and life members will have Voting rights in the General Body.
- Will be provided annual conference materials (abstracts and papers) or through CD/email/website: isleijle.org
- Will be given online access to IJLE/after an undertaking (except student members)
- Will be supplied hard copies of Indian Journal of Labour Economics at a subsidized rate.
- For any queries with regard to the Society or the Journal, please write to: Hon. Secretary, Indian Society of Labour Economics, Plot No. 84, Patparganj Industrial Area (FIE), New Delhi-110092, Email: isle.ijle@gmail.com / Phones: +91 22159148 / 49, Extn: 117/118

### Mode of Payments

Membership fee may be paid by way of NEFT/RTGS Transfer or Demand draft (DD) or local cheques.

### Details for the NEFT/RTGS Transfers

Account Name: Indian Society of Labour Economics

Account No: 18200100001495

Bank & Branch: UCO Bank, IIPA Branch, I. P. Estate, New Delhi - 110002

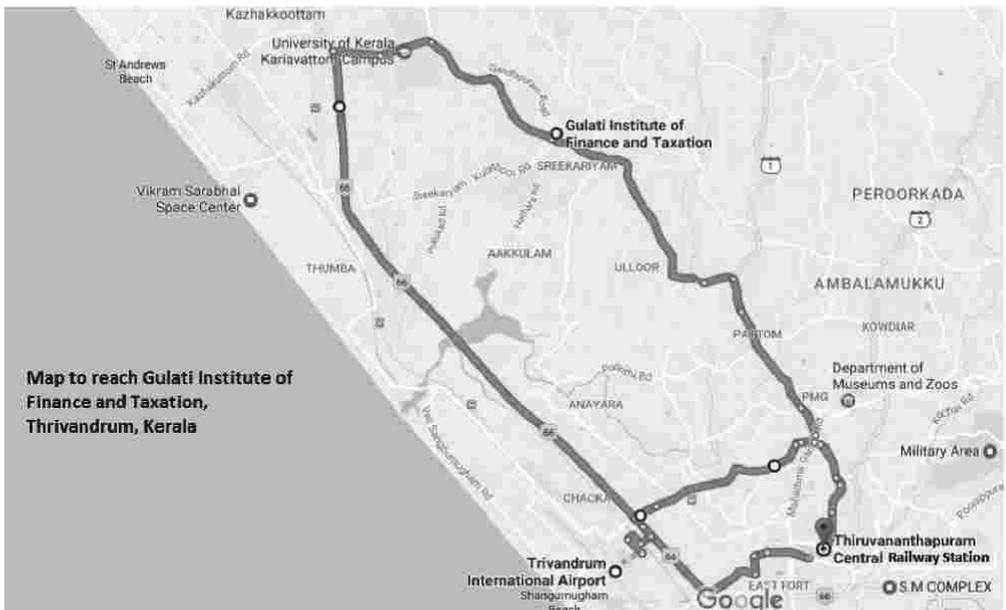
IFSC Code: UCBA0001820

### Details for payment through bank drafts or local cheques:

Demand Draft /local cheque in favour of "The Indian Society of Labour Economics", payable at New Delhi.

Note: Scan Copy of the transaction id or the Demand Draft/local cheque of the payment along with the field Membership Form should be mailed to ISLE Secretariat on conference.isle@gmail.com. Please mention 'ISLE Membership fee' in the Subject line.

## DIRECTIONS MAP TO GULATI INSTITUTE OF FINANCE AND TAXATION





**Gulati Institute of Finance and Taxation (GIFT)**  
Gandhipuram Road, Chavdimukku, Sreekariyam  
Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala 695017  
Phone: 0471-259 6960  
Website: <http://gift.res.in/>



**Department of Economics**  
**University of Kerala**

Website: <https://www.keralauniversity.ac.in/>



**Centre for Development Studies**

Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala  
Website: <http://www.cds.edu/>



**The Indian Society of Labour Economics**

C/o Institute for Human Development  
Plot No. 84, Functional Industrial Estate (FIE)  
Patparganj, Delhi-110092, India  
Phones: 011-22159148/49, Extn. - 117/118; Mobile: +91- 9871177540  
Email: [isle.ijle@gmail.com](mailto:isle.ijle@gmail.com); Website: [www.isleijle.org](http://www.isleijle.org)