

**Seventh Annual Conference of
INDIAN HEALTH ECONOMICS AND POLICY ASSOCIATION (IHEPA)
STRENGTHENING PUBLIC HEALTH SYSTEMS IN THE CONTEXT OF UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE**

INDIAN HEALTH ECONOMICS AND POLICY ASSOCIATION
in collaboration with
GULATI INSTITUTE OF FINANCE AND TAXATION,
TIRUVANANTHAPURAM

&
Azim PREMJI UNIVERSITY, BENGALURU

organizes its Seventh Annual Conference on
**STRENGTHENING PUBLIC HEALTH SYSTEM IN THE
CONTEXT OF UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE**

Venue & Date
GULATI INSTITUTE OF FINANCE AND TAXATION (GIFT)
GIFT Campus, Sreekariyam,
TIRUVANANTHAPURAM 695017

24 - 25 January 2019

CALL FOR PAPERS

Indian Health Economics and Policy Association (IHEPA) invites policy relevant theoretical and empirical research papers. Major themes of the Conference are:

❑ Health System: Issues of Human Resource, Access and Coverage

Strengthening health care continues to be one of the serious challenges facing India's health care system. Strengthening the public health system has been at the forefront of several policy formulations. However, the public health system in India is crippled by issues of human resources, access, coverage and governance. National Health Mission was a major initiative to address various systemic issues including budgetary allocations to the health sector. Health system studies are relatively scarce in India. Papers analysing issues concerning the health system both public and private are welcome in this theme. Analytical papers on these issues and best practices in overall perspectives are also encouraged.

❑ Health Care Financing including Health Insurance

With out-of-pocket expenditure dominating the health care financing in India, addressing the increasing health care burden has been a serious challenge. The National Health Protection Scheme (NHPS) recently announced by the Government of India has considered insurance as a viable option to address the health care burden of the poor. There are other health insurance schemes operational in different parts of the country with government support. It is important to have a new look at health care financing issues within the context of various policies and programme interventions. Papers dealing with health financing issues are welcome under this theme.



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☐ Health Equity

Socio-economic factors that influence health of a person have been a matter of intense research in India over the last several decades. With the availability of many data sources in recent years like NFHS, NSSO and IHDS, a more nuanced understanding of health equity is possible. Health also needs to be understood not merely as death or disease but with a public health perspective. Sound analytical papers on health equity are expected under this theme with a definite contribution to the vast existing studies on this issue.

☐ Kerala's Health System: Achievements and Challenges

For the last several decades, Kerala's creditable achievements in health status have been a matter of both national and international attention. At the same time, with rapid changes in socio-economic and behavioural patterns, Kerala's health system is also facing several challenges. Under this theme, papers relating to issues that confront Kerala's health system as well as on its health achievements will be discussed.

☐ Other Related Issues

Papers on issues such as public health, nutrition, communicable and non-communicable diseases, global health relevant to the Conference themes are also solicited.

GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSION OF THE PAPER

We invite an extended abstract of around 4 pages (less than 1500 words) to be uploaded online using IHEPA website (www.ihepa.in) by September 30, 2018. The abstract should reflect the whole paper including context, objectives, methodology and main conclusions. The abstracts submitted will be screened by a Panel of Reviewers of IHEPA for acceptance to the Conference. The authors of the accepted abstract are required to submit the full length paper by December 15, 2018. For any further information contact secretary.ihepa@gmail.com or office.ihepa@gmail.com.

Important dates

Submission of an Extended Abstract:	September 30, 2018
Communication on acceptance from IHEPA:	October 31, 2018
Submission of Full Paper:	December 15, 2018
Conference Dates:	January 24-25, 2019

CONFERENCE DETAILS

Accommodation will be provided to all paper presenters. Train fare equivalent to 3-AC (ordinary Express trains by the shortest route) would be reimbursed to the paper presenting author on actual basis on submission of tickets. IHEPA strongly recommends the authors to seek travel grant from other sources, including organizations to which they are affiliated. Please visit www.ihepa.in or write to secretary.ihepa@gmail.com for more details about the Conference.

BEST PAPER AWARD

An award for the three best papers presented in the Conference was instituted by IHEPA since 2017. The award will be based on the quality of the paper as well as the effectiveness of the presentation and defense. A committee of experts will select the papers for the award.

IHEPA

IHEPA is a professional body registered under the Societies Registration Act. It is envisaged as a platform to discuss and share intellectual ideas pertaining to health sector in India. Economists, other social scientists, public health professionals, policy-makers and practitioners are invited to join as members and exchange, deliberate and discuss key issues and strategies to strengthen the health care system in India. Please visit www.ihepa.in for more information.

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GULATI INSTITUTE OF FINANCE AND TAXATION (GIFT)

The Gulati Institute of Finance and Taxation (GIFT) 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. For more details visit www.gift.res.in

AZIM PREMJI UNIVERSITY

Azim Premji University was established in Karnataka by the Azim Premji University Act 2010 as a not-for-profit University and is recognized by The University Grants Commission (UGC) under Section 22F. The beginnings of the University are in the learning and experience of a decade of work in elementary education by the Azim Premji Foundation. The University was founded as one of the key responses to the constraints and challenges that the Foundation encountered both within and in the environment, and as part of a larger strategy to contribute to the Education and Development sectors in the country. More details @ <http://azimpremjiuniversity.edu.in/SitePages/index.aspx>.

MEMBERSHIP OF IHEPA

Membership to IHEPA is open to all individuals and institutions engaged and interested in strengthening health care system of India. IHEPA welcomes all to join and strengthen the Association to make it a more vibrant and productive body of excellence in health research and policy process. For membership form and other details, please visit www.ihepa.in or contact Secretary at secretary.ihepa@gmail.com.

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