

New studies on Kerala

Young Scholars' Forum, GIFT

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Economics

Scopus indexed journals

1. Azad, P., & Sujathan, P. K. (2022). Hazard Analysis of Unemployment Duration of Return Migrants: The Case of Indian State of Kerala. *Journal of Quantitative Economics*, 1-21. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40953-022-00325-8>

Unfavourable conditions in the Middle East countries opened the door for a high influx of Indian migrants to their countries of origin. However, retrofitting them into the domestic economy is a difficult task. Being aware of the duration of unemployment of return migrants and its determinants is crucial for evaluating labour market activities and implementation of policies. This paper fills the gap by examining the factors that determine the duration of unemployment of return migrants in the Indian State of Kerala. By applying Kaplan Meier Survival Function and Cox Proportional hazard regression models, the study finds that of all variables, a strong social network enabled returnees to be reabsorbed into the labour market at home faster. The paper, therefore, makes a strong case for the government for befitting returnees in the labour market.

2. Preethi, V. P., Thorat, V. A., & Dhekale, J. S. (2022). Disparities in Socio-economic Development in Kerala: A Disaggregated Analysis. *Economic Affairs*, 67(03), 153-159. <https://doi.org/10.46852/0424-2513.3.2022.2>

The paper examines the level of development of different districts in Kerala with the help of Weighted Mean Development Index (WMDI). It covered all fourteen districts of the state. The level of development was examined separately for population, health, education, transportation and communication, industries, and others including overall socio-economic development using district-level data (2019-20) on forty-five socio-economic indicators including ten major sectors. Findings show that the composite indices of overall socio-economic development ranked Ernakulam first and the least ranked was Pathanamthitta. The level of development in different districts of the state has shown wide disparities. It would be useful to investigate and evaluate the level of development at a lower level, such as Tehsil or block level, to make location-specific recommendations.

3. Anjaly, R. (2022). The Impact of Export Promotion on the Merchandise Export Performance of Small and Medium Enterprises in Kerala. *Specialusis Ugdymas*, 2(43), 577-585.

Globalization has made it easier for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to launch worldwide expansion strategies. A growing share of SMEs revenue comes from sales to customers outside of their home country. To expand internationally, it must develop its own set of distinctive, unique, and dynamic competencies in order to acquire competitive strategies that will allow it to compete against other firms, most notably multinational corporations. The global marketplace is becoming increasingly competitive, and consumers throughout the world are demanding higher quality products and services. SMEs often face financial constraints due to a lack of development support and thereby have had less opportunity to learn about and implement cutting-edge ideas and technology. The solution is to become nationally and internationally competitive (Lee et al. 2020).

4. Sathya, P. P., Chalakudy, P. O., & Xavier, S. (2022). Structural Transformation and Food Security in Kerala. *NeuroQuantology*, 20(6), 7031-7036.

The present article divulges the structural formation and food security in Kerala. Kerala has its own development experience, referred to as Kerala Model of Development, discussing Kerala's stronger social development and the weaker economic development. Kerala is experiencing a slowing rate of growth in income post Covid-19 and has seen structural change in recent years, with the economy shifting from agriculture to the service sector. According to development theories, it is a sign of progress but self-sufficiency in food

production is still an unachievable objective in Kerala in spite of the efforts made from policy circles and the farmers. The state of Kerala should awaken to the dawn of self-containment in the production of food which are chemical free and fresh.

Other journals

1. Kannan, K. P. (2022). Kerala 'Model'of Development Revisited: A Sixty-Year Assessment of Successes and Failures. Centre for Development Studies Working Paper Series 501.

This paper is about revisiting the famed Kerala "Model? of Development.This paper traces the trajectory of high human development that ultimately resulted in high economic growth in terms of two phases of growth, covering a period of six decades from 1960 to 2020. The paper notes the highly skewed nature of the high growth process with a diminishing role for the commodity producing sectors of agriculture and industry. It has adversely affected employment generation to the increasing working age population. This has resulted in the under-utilization of the labour of a significant share of educated women in the working age population. The failure is rooted in the inability of the state to manage public finance as well as public investments.

2. Antony, A. V., Verma, A., Choudhary, U., Sen, B., & Dixit, A. K. (2022). Assessment of clean and safe milk production practices on the profitability of dairy farmers in Kerala.The Pharma Innovation Journal, 11 (10), 811 - 815.

Endogenous switching regression model was used to assess the economic performance of dairy farmers conditional on the adoption status of clean and safe milk production practices from a total sample size of 210 farmers that selected from three districts, Kollam, Thiruvananthapuram and Palakkad of Kerala.Adopter farmers' mean yield raised by 4.72 percent while adopting practices, whereas non-adopter farmers' mean yield raised by 7.34 percent while adopting practices.The study also found that farmers choose dairy cooperatives as a marketing channel under excess in the region.

3. Godly, G. (2022). Gender Digital Divide in Kerala, India - An Exploratory Analysis at Micro - Level. The Online Journal of Distance Education and e-Learning, 10(3), 370 - 375.

The present study examines the existence and extent of the gender digital divide in Kerala, a region in India acclaimed for a unique model of social and economic development. The study

found that women who use the internet are more significant than men. Internet penetration among the kudumbasree homemakers is more than the non-kudumbasree homemakers in the panchayat. The micro-level findings that emerged from the study contradict the national and state-level patterns regarding the gender digital divide. The study identified a significant association between socio-demographic variables such as age, gender, education, family size, economic status and internet usage.

4. Jose, L. R. S. S. P., & Manoj, P. K. MSMEs and Sustained National Economic Development: Micro Enterprises for Empowering Tribal Populace in the Knowledge Economy of Kerala, India. *Stochastic Modeling & Applications*, 20(3), 27-40.

The fast growth in tertiary (services) sector at the cost of fast declining primary (agriculture) sector causes growing imbalance, as the secondary (industry) sector is persistently stagnant - its main constituent being the manufacturing sub-sector. In view of the vital need for scaling up the percentage share of India's industrial sector in the country's GDP, particularly that of the manufacturing sub-sector, small scale enterprises (SSEs) in the country play a key role to bring about balanced and equitable national economic growth. The SSEs are referred to under the broader concept of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), after the promulgation of MSME Development Act, 2006 (MSMED 2006). They can create huge equitable employment avenues. Considering the vital role of MSMEs in the industrial revival and equitable economic growth,

Environment

Scopus Indexed Journals

1. Krishnan, G., & Priya, R. S. (2022). Blue Green Infrastructure: A panacea for urban environmental challenges. Case study: Thiruvananthapuram city, Kerala, India. *Materials Today: Proceedings*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.matpr.2022.09.562>

This paper intends to focus on the management of naturally available resources, specifically water (blue) and vegetation (green) within the region of Thiruvananthapuram, where co-existence, management and economic viability will ensure sustainability of all. Blue-Green Infrastructure (BGI) is an active approach to urban flood resilience that capitalises on the benefits of working with urban green-spaces and naturalised water-flow. The study finds that a new development approach to brown field and green field which offers basic infrastructure,

open spaces, sewage and solid waste management is required in emerging cities. BGI at times of disaster acts as a sponge or serves as a spillover space and establishes itself as a point of preservation of locally available flora and fauna.

Other journals

1. Thekkeyil, A., Joseph, S., Abdurazak, F., Kuriakose, G., Nameer, P. O., & Abhilash, P. C. (2022). Land use change in rapidly developing economies-A case study on land use intensification and land fallowing in Kerala, India. Research Square. <https://doi.org/10.21203/rs.3.rs-2164710/v1>

The present study addresses how land is being changed along an urbanization gradient in the most agglomerative city in the state, Kochi, during the last one and half decades. The results indicated the presence of two major and divergent trends; the first one is the intensification of land use activities at the rate of 1.37% per annum, primarily driven by urbanization and infrastructure developments, and the second one is the fallowing and abandonment of land (at the rate of 0.21% per annum) driven by the increased cost of cultivation and unexpected changes in meteorological events frequently reported in the recent history of Kerala.

Education

Scopus Indexed Journals

1. Mathew, M. V. (2022). Self-financialisation and the Qualitative Shifts in Engineering Education in Kerala. *Economic & Political Weekly*, 57(30), 53 - 59.

The self-financed quantitative expansion of engineering education in Kerala since the beginning of the 2000s should not be seen as a logical expansion consistent with demand and supply. Rather it should be primarily seen as qualitative, contributing to a change in the meaning of what engineering education is and has historically been. The qualitative aspect of this expansion is argued from the political economy of engineering education and is deriving from the displacement of functional role attributable to engineering education following the crisis of skills in the new accumulation regime and the new role that engineering education has been playing in the regimentation of the overall field of higher education.

Other journals

1. Anupama, R. (2022). Effect of Hello English Programme of Government of Kerala for Enhancing Communication Skills among Primary School Students. NOLEGEIN-Journal of Advertising and Brand Management, 5(1). Retrieved from <https://mbajournals.in/index.php/JoABM/article/view/959>

For years, in government and aided schools, the teaching of English has not fully equipped learners to use English accurately in speech and writing. English class at the primary level in Kerala is set to undergo a makeover with Hello English. SSA Kerala (in the academic year 2016-17), in collaboration with SCERT and IT@School, devised a program 'Hello English' to improve the quality of English instruction in the state. As a part of this programme, SSA introduced a teacher training module containing activities under three-chapter heads: (1) Initiating communication, (2) Building teacher talk and (3) Presenting stories interactively. Students in the state's primary schools are the beneficiaries of this program.

Health

Other Journals

1. Dayashankar, M., & Hense, S. (2022). Unintended Effects of Policy Interactions in the Health Sector: A Case of Kerala, India. Indian Journal of Public Administration 0(0), <https://doi.org/10.1177/00195561221121035>

This study involves a contextual analysis of two health policies with different instrument logics-emergency care and social health insurance programme-for over a decade in Kerala, employing primary and secondary data, government reports, newspaper articles, and published and unpublished literature. The analysis suggests that the competition between policies has led to policies working at crossroads. The findings also highlight that the interaction effects among health policies receive limited attention among researchers and practitioners. These findings are relevant to countries of similar economies undergoing New Public Management reforms leading to the weakening of the public system in dealing with health functions such as emergency care.

2. Thomas, M. B., Gopinathan, S., & Jose, J. (2022). Changes in life expectancy in Sri Lanka and Kerala: An analysis of its patterns and causes. *Indian Journal of Gerontology*, 36(3), 398-416.

This study investigates the trends in life expectancy by analysing the contributions of age groups and causes of death on changing life expectancies from 1970-to 2019, in Sri Lanka and Kerala. Using the methodology proposed by (Olshansky and Ault, 1986), the Temporary Life Expectancy (TLE) was estimated and decomposition of life expectancy by age and causes of death was carried out. The TLE values show that further potential gain to life expectancy increments in Sri Lanka and Kerala is in the older ages while the decomposition analysis indicates that the contribution of older ages to life expectancy was minimal.

Banking and Finance

Scopus indexed journals

1. Sunil, S., & Durgalashmi, C. V. (2022). A Study on Consumers' Awareness, Perception and Attitude towards Green Banking with Special Reference to Sbi in Southern Kerala. *Journal of Pharmaceutical Negative Results*, 13(3), 400-407.<https://doi.org/10.47750/pnr.2022.13.S03.066>

The study is to check the customers' perception towards green banking and to know whether the customers have knowledge about Green banking practices offered and implemented by the bank. The study has analyzed the factors that influenced customers in adopting green banking and their level of satisfaction. Indian banking companies as a developing country with limited social and environmental awareness among the general public, experience a lot of hurdles in becoming green and environmentally friendly. The study therefore offers some recommendations for improving green banking practices by combining findings from many studies and increasing the awareness about green banking among the customers.

Other journals

1. Antony, A. (2022). Investor Biases and Their Discriminating Power Among the Risk Takers - A Case Study From Kerala. *Journal of Commerce & Accounting Research*, 11(3), 26 - 33.

This study identifies the behavioral biases affecting the investment decision making of an investor. The study was conducted among the salaried group of Kerala who has been invested/investing in the stock market. The study focused on two dimensions (a) the behavioural characteristics of the investors (b) the discriminatory effect of behavioural biases among the risk tolerance level of the investors. From the analysis, it was found that regret aversion and herd behavior have a high influential effect on investor decision making.

Agriculture

Scopus indexed journals

1. Aswathy, S., & Kumar, S. (2022). Women Farmers in Kerala, India and the Gendered Division of Labour. *Intersections: Gender and Sexuality in Asia and the Pacific*, 47.

Agriculture is one of the largest employment sectors in India. As per the 2011 census, of the 72.3 per cent of people engaged in agriculture, the total number of female workers is 149.8 million. Of all workers in India, 24.64 per cent are cultivators of which 24.92 per cent are male and 24.01 per cent female. Of all persons, 29.96 per cent are agricultural labourers, of which 18.56 per cent are male and 55.21 per cent are female.[1] Out of a total 149.8 million female workers, 35.9 million women are cultivators and another 61.7 million are agricultural labourers. The gender disparity is quite apparent in this data wherein there are more women working as agricultural labourers than as cultivators. The data leaves out the work that women do as unpaid family work within the agricultural sector

History and Culture

Books

1. Parvathy, V., & Das, P. K. (2022). Preservation of the Cultural Heritage of Kerala Through Digitalisation. In Mishra, D., & R. S, Sasmita (Eds.), *Digitalization of Culture Through Technology*, 150-153. Routledge

The paper focuses on the lone poet laureate of Malayalam, Vallathol Narayana Menon, and his contribution to the cultural regeneration of Kerala. The poet established "Kerala Kalamandalam", a deemed university, in 1930, dedicated solely for the teaching and development of Kerala's fine arts. Recently, "Kerala Kalamandalam" has felt the need for digitalisation for promoting dance forms through internet and social media. Digitalisation has

made both nourishing and marketing of these art forms easier due to a larger number of audience owing to the global outreach. The paper expatiates on the journey of "Kerala Kalamandalam", making a steady and significant impact in the cultural horizon of Kerala and branching out making a place for Kerala's fine arts not just in India but even abroad.

Sociology

Scopus indexed journals

1. Akhila, P. (2022). Voices and Perspectives of Dalit Elected Women Representatives in Local Governance and Politics in Kerala, India. *Contemporary Voice of Dalit*, <https://doi.org/10.1177/2455328X221116025>

This article explores how gender socialization as women along with other intersecting identities influence the perspectives of Dalit Elected Women Representatives (EWRs) on power relations in the political space of Kerala. The purpose of the article is to understand the perspectives of Dalit EWRs on power relations in local governance, which reveal the barriers, their interest and aspirations in local governance and politics. The perspectives are elicited through detailed interviews of EWRs for two time periods. The study finds that EWRs participation in local electoral politics and the extent to gain space for decision-making would depend on their ability to overcome barriers to their representation and acceptance in decision-making fora. They also faced caste discrimination and allegations of favouritism in the governance.

Other journals

1. Binoy, A. (2022). Colonial Modernity and Social Reforms: Mobilisation of Lower Caste Communities in Kerala. *Journal of Polity and Society*, 14(1). Retrieved from <https://journalspoliticalscience.com/index.php/i/article/view/15>

The caste reform movement in Kerala had implications for Dalit culture and identity. These movements almost tried to Brahmanise the lower caste community to claim status in the highly caste-ridden Kerala society. The reform movements in Kerala tried to achieve upward mobility; vegetarianism and purity were significant articulations among them. People have articulated the reform as a 'renaissance'. Kerala's entire social reform movements mobilised the lower caste into Hinduism that they had never experienced.

Industry

Scopus indexed journals

1. Nair, A. M., Ponnachan, N., & Das, D. (2022). Entrepreneurship Promotion and Progress in Kerala, Through Kerala Start-Up Mission'. *Specialusis Ugdymas*, 1(43), 6364-6367.

The present study is an attempt to assess the role of start-ups in entrepreneurial development in Kerala State. The Kerala start-up mission (ksum) is an agency of Infosys and Wipro.

Other journals

1. George, R., & Siddique, A. M. A Methodical Study on Rationale to Green Initiatives of IT Companies at Technopark, Kerala. *Journal of Critical Reviews*, 7(19), 10173 - 10178.

Prakruthi, a green campus club in the Technopark announced that around 30,000 seedlings of vegetables have been distributed to 670 techies. In addition to this, with a first-of-its-kind integrated and decentralised waste treatment facility, Technopark is going green. Technopark companies are perceived as being environmentally conscious and aim to build a vision of treatment. Technopark's businesses have demonstrated that renewable energy sources minimise energy demand and lower electricity bills. The most important rationale for the Green Initiatives of IT companies at Technopark, Kerala is owing to the Competitive Aspects, Profitability Aspects, Client Requirement Aspect, Legal and Regulatory Aspects, CSR Aspects. There is a difference in the Intrinsic and Extrinsic Aspects of Green Initiatives of IT companies at Technopark.