



First International Conference

By

Inter University Center for Alternative Economics (IUCAE)

Department of Economics, University of Kerala

On

THE DEVELOPMENT QUESTION IN A DEVELOPING ECONOMY: CAN STRATEGIES OF PAST AND PRESENT GIVE A FUTURE?

Dates: 4th-6th April, 2016

Venue: Senate Hall and Senate Chambers, University of Kerala, Palayam

On IUCAE

At present the neo classical economic ideas, which are taught as universally acceptable principles and policies, are prescribed as one size fit for all. This homogenization is derived from the individual rationality and utility maximization principle. Amartya Sen in his essay "Rational Fools" had given a critique to the behavioral foundation of such a single fit of the conceptual and theoretical underpinning of theory and practice. Given the kind of socio economic reality of the present world economy, he kept arguing that the persuasion of standardized norm is not helpful for all, at least to achieve development and its assessment. It invokes us to think alternative trajectories to evaluate and pursue the question of development. At an alternative level, humanism is increasingly foregrounded in resolving present problems and the whole socio economic and even the political framework is incrementally getting revolutionized on the principles of rights rather than individual rationality. Development thus envisages new economic ideas and policy regimes, which need to be studied and evaluated with utmost care and quality. This begs us to have studies beyond the mainstream and dominant views and approaches that are very much embedded in the curriculum, which slowly dismisses the heterodoxy of economic approaches. In this context Inter University Centre for Alternative Economics (IUCAE) is designed and committed to make discussions across the schools and approaches.

On the Conference

“Development” is the single most word, which played a face and regime changing role across the globe in the recent past. The conference on “the development question in a developing economy: can strategies of past and present give a future” intends to bring different concepts and strategies, which are adopted to achieve the process of development in different sectors in India in general and Kerala in particular. This heterodox approach is necessary due to many reasons; for instance, the modeling of strategies often give a diverse picture on the very idea of development in a particular socio-economic and political milieu. An accepted view that the development derives from income growth or higher per capita income is not true or applicable to all economies alike. The frequently referred “Kerala Model” is quoted as a deviation from such notion of higher income led development. Such a strategy of development is not the current experience of Kerala, because many observe that the state has transformed from the low income status to high income status in the country, with relatively slow process of the improvement in social infrastructure. This poses many questions such as whether the experience of the state both as a strategy and a model is at stake, which beg some serious pondering of the issue.

Similar to this, there are cases having relatively high income but lower level of social development indicators in the early years of the income led development discourse. But these economies were also transformed in the onset of global economic paradigm shift. A discussion on the characteristics of such change definitely bring insight to the question and strategies of development across India and globe. If we stick to the mainstream view of income led development, many of such questions remain as puzzle; hence the argument that these experiences are aberrations may not be true. Hence a careful back and forth analysis of the entire scatter plot of development experience and its theories will give new insights on the development question.

Conference Themes

- 1) Development Strategies of Kerala, Its Limits and Way Forward**
- 2) Indian Development Strategies: Gandhian-Nehruvian-Ambedkarian**
- 3) Alternative Development Perspectives of Marxian, Feminist and Islamic Approaches**
- 4) Development Perspectives of Institutional Economics and Its Critique**
- 5) Environmentally Sustainable and Green Development Strategies**
- 6) Any other themes relevant to the broad title of the conference**

The conference will conclude with a Round Table Discussion of distinguished panelists on Alternative Development Strategies and Its Implications to the Development on Kerala

Resource Persons :

Prof. Samir Amin, the noted development economist has kindly consented to inaugurate the conference. Other resource persons who agreed to deliver Keynote addresses include

1, Prof. Venkatesh Athreya, Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth & Development

2, Mr. P. Sainath, Noted Journalist and Social Activist

3, Prof. Ram Kumar, Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Mumbai

4, Dr. Prabhath Patnaik, Emiritus professor, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

5, Prof. Padmini Swaminathan, School of Livelihoods and Development, TISS, Hyderabad

6, Prof. Omkar Nath, School of Economics, University of Hyderabad

7, Prof. Amit Shovon Ray, Director, Centre for Development Studies (CDS), Trivandrum

8, Prof. R. Vijay, School of Economics, University of Hyderabad

9, Prof. M. Kunhaman, TISS, Tuljapur Campus, Mumbai

Paper presentation

Researchers and academicians are invited to present papers in the focus areas proposed. The detailed abstract (1000 words) should be in word format consisting the name of the author, designation, affiliation, email and contact number. Acceptance of the paper will be intimated by e-mail.

Registration

The delegates and participants are directed to register their names with a registration fee (Rs. 500 to teachers/researchers and Rs. 300 to post graduate and M.Phil students) through the Demand draft and send the same in favour of Honorary Director of IUCAE. A soft copy of the registration may be sent to the Coordinator of the conference (e.mail : siddikrabiya@gmail.com).

Important Dates.

Submission of detailed abstract in 1000 words : on or before 15/03/2016

Decision on acceptance of papers : on or before 18/03/2016

submission of full paper : on or before 30/03/2016

Conference : 4th -6th April 2016

Detailed programme and the schedule will be released in the University website and the Centre's website(www.iucae.in)

Organising committee

**Chief Patron : Prof. P.K.Radhakrishnan,
Honorable Vice Chancellor,
University of Kerala**

**Patron : Prof. N Veeramanikandan,
Honorable Pro-Vice Chancellor,
University of Kerala**

**Organising Secretary : Prof. Abdul Salim, A,
Honorary Director, IUCAE**

**Coordinator : Mr.Siddik Rabiyyath,
Dept. of Economics**

**Members : Dr Manju S.Nair, Head, Dept of Economics
Dr A.K. Prasad, Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences
Dr. Anitha, v. Dept. of Economics
Research Scholars ,Students and Staff**