Panel Discussion on Social and Economic Development in Bihar: Opportunities and Challenges, 21 January 2014, Patna

To focus on Bihar's development challenges, the Institute organized a panel Discussion on Social and Economic Development in Bihar: Opportunities and Challenges, on 21 January 2014 at Patna. The Governor of Reserve Bank of India, Dr. Raghuram Rajan guest of honour.

The Discussion focused on the areas of Human Development, Agriculture, Rural roads, Environment and forest, Energy supply, Urban Development, Social Welfare etc. Various stakeholders to Bihar's development, comprising representatives from the funding agencies, policy makers and development experts discussed strategies and opportunities for partnerships in the discussion. Senior officials from the World Bank participated in the deliberations. The facilitator for the Discussion was Mr. Deepak Bhattacharjee, Head economist of the World Bank. Mr. Rameshwar Singh, Principal Secretary, Department of Finance, Government of Bihar; Dr. Shaibal Gupta, Member-Fellow and Director, India Development Foundation (IDF), Gurgaon; Mr. Amarjeet Sinha, Principal Secretary, Department of Education, Government of Bihar presented their perspectives in the discussion. Mr. Onno Ruhl, Country Director of the World Bank in his concluding remarks spoke about the possibility of partnership between the State and the World Bank to take forward development initiatives in the State. The closing remarks were given by the Development Commissioner of the State, Mr. Alok Kr. Sinha.

Consultation on Urban Planning, Poverty and Violence in India, 2 October 2013, Patna

A consultation with concerned stakeholders ranging from government, planning, research and policy was held in Patna on 2 October 2013 in order to discuss the
beginning stages of research including methodology and secondary data sources not easily available such as local police station level crime data, GIS maps of resources, slums as well as the city plan documents of the past as well as the latest Patna Master Plan which is to be released soon. Some of the panelists included Prof. Shaibal Gupta, Member Secretary and Director, ADRI; Mr. Rakesh Tiwari, Support Programme for Urban Reforms, DFID; Mr. Rajvardhan Sharma (IPS); Dr. P. P. Ghosh, Director, Asian Development Research Institute (ADRI) and Dr. K.R.P. Singh, Bihar Remote Sensing Application Centre, Geographer and Cartographer.


A collection of 268 summaries of research documents related to a decade of overall economic and social development of Bihar titled 'Development Research on Bihar 2000-2010: A Compendium' was launched jointly by Institute for Human Development (IHD) and ADRI on 17 March, 2012, Patna. The compendium was released by the Education Minister of Bihar, Shri P K Shahi and Professor S K Thorat, Chairman, ICSSR. The Book release was followed by a panel discussion on 'Strengthening Development Research in Bihar' in which some well known academicians including Professor J Krishnamurthy, formerly of the ILO, Professor Ravi Srivastava of JNU and Professor Alakh N Sharma of IHD will express their views. The compendium prepared at the Institute for Human Development, New Delhi with support from Department of Planning and Development, Government of Bihar has been edited by Alakh N Sharma, Amrita Datta and Joyita Ghose.

**Compendium**


The Institute for Human Development in collaboration with the University of Manchester
organised a workshop on ‘Understanding the Tipping Point of Urban Conflict: Violence, Cities, and Poverty Reduction in the Developing World’ on 24 February, 2012 to discuss the main findings of the Patna Study. There was a select group of about 50 experts drawn from various fields ranging from government, civil society, policy think tanks, media and academia to participate in this workshop. The study was on urban conflict and the factors that cause it to ‘tip’ into violence. This study was focused on four cities in Asia (Patna, India and Dilli, Timor Leste), Africa (Nairobi, Kenya) and Latin America (Santiago, Chile) which has been associated with one or two factors conventionally linked with urban violence. The aim of the study was to understand various factors that may cause conflict to tip over to generalized violence. The project was sponsored by the Department for International Development and the Economic and Social Research Council.

**Workshop Programme & Papers**


The Institute for Human Development, The Bihar Foundation and Asian Development Research Institute (ADRI) organized the ‘Global Summit on Changing Bihar: Forging Partnerships for Development, 2012’ during 17-19 February, 2012 at Patna. The Summit brought together leading development practitioners, policy makers, scholars, industrialist, investors and a representatives from the world of art and culture, donors and members of civil society for forging partnerships to pursue and reinforce social and economic progress in Bihar. The Summit was successful in generating innovative ideas for fostering progress in the state and to create strong networks among all the concerned stakeholders in order to facilitate their effective participation in the development of the state. About 1000 people from around the world participated in the mega event. The event was inaugurated by The Hon’ble Prime Minister of Nepal, Dr. Baburam Bhattarai. The Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister of Bihar were its Chief Patron and Patron respectively.

**Summit Programme & Papers**
Release of Food Security Atlas of Rural Bihar, 20 May 2010, Patna

Bihar food security atlas was released by Deputy Chief Minister Sushil Kumar Modi and Prof. Abhijit Sen, Member, Planning Commission on 20th May, 2010 at Patna. Commission for Agriculture Costs and Prices chairman Prof. S. Mahendra Dev presided over the function. The report was jointly prepared by the Institute for Human Development and the UN World Food Programme under the guidance of a Technical Advisory Committee chaired by Prof. Abhijit Sen. It identifies the food insecure districts in the state which require priority attention of the government based on eleven indicators which are classified into three broad categories of food availability, food access and food absorption. The release of the report was followed by a panel discussion.


Organised by IHD, in association with the Asian Development Research Institute, and with support from UNDP, the seminar was inaugurated by Chief Minister Nitish Kumar. An international round table was held on experiences and success stories in poverty reduction on the inaugural day. Other key topics of debates included dimensions of poverty in Bihar, gender disparities vis-à-vis poverty, development for poverty reduction, and framework for state intervention. The event was attended by policymakers, experts and specialists from the field.

SEMINAR REPORT