



International Conference on

NEW TECHNOLOGIES & THE FUTURE OF WORK IN THE GLOBAL SOUTH

17-19 JULY 2023 | INDIA INTERNATIONAL CENTRE, NEW DELHI

PROGRAMME BOOK











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About the Conference

Context

New technologies are bringing about fundamental changes in every sphere of life and profoundly reshaping the world of work. Innovations in digital technology such as artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning and robotics, digital platforms and cloud infrastructure have led to new ways of organizing work processes. Governments in developing countries have embraced digital technologies as a strategy to leapfrog to more technologically advanced levels of development, improve productivity and global competitiveness, and generate jobs. However, there are also fears about the possibility of massive job losses, growing labour insecurity and rising inequality, in the wake of automation and other technological processes. The empirical evidence is both limited and inconclusive, as the potential impacts of new technologies on jobs depends on the organisation of work and production by sector and country, the nature of contentious politics and worker power, and public policies.

Innovations in digital technologies have led to an expansion of digital labour platforms, including in developing countries. Platforms promise to provide flexibility and autonomy, which is particularly for women who must balance the double burden of paid and unpaid work. However, a growing body of evidence shows that digital labour platforms are leading to the proliferation of precarious and informal employment, due to the misclassification of platform workers as "self-employed" and deepening algorithmic control over the labour process. Issues which have attracted significant interest among scholars include changing work practices with algorithmic management, work intensification and income, occupational health and safety, social protection, data ownership, workers' rights and emerging forms of worker struggle, and the role of the state. While there is

now a growing literature on the impacts of digital labour platforms in developed countries, the evidence on developing countries, which face significant levels of unemployment and informality, is still limited.

It is in this context that this two- and half-day international conference is being organised in New Delhi. The conference will bring together researchers and experts from across the global South to systematically deliberate on various issues related to the challenges and opportunities posed by new technologies in the world of work. The varied experiences of the adoption and diffusion of new technologies will contribute towards a policy paradigm for a better future of work with decent work for all.

Scope and Issues

The conference will address some important issues and concerns in the wake of technological change and emerging forms of work which have important implications for the future of work and workers. Some of the issues to be addressed in the conference, which are only suggestive, include:

- What is the extent of and motivation for the adoption of robots, digital tools and technologies across firms in different sectors in developing countries?
- What are the implications of new technologies for occupational profiles, tasks and skills? How do they impact the organisation of work and job polarisation?
- What are the gendered impacts of new technologies on labour productivity, wage dispersion and working conditions? Do they further reinforce gender roles as women work from home?
- What are the implications of algorithmic management technologies on job quality, including working conditions such as pay, autonomy, and job security?
- What is the extent of penetration of digital platforms, including labour platforms in different sectors of the economy, especially in developing countries? What is extent of participation on these platforms by gender?
- What are the opportunities and risks for workers engaged in digital platforms?
- How do digital labour platforms challenge or reproduce inequities and discrimination along the lines of gender, race, citizenship, age?
- Is there an increase in precarity and informality with the rise in digital labour platforms?

- What are some of the regulatory initiatives to address some of the challenges such as the employment relationship, social protection, etc. on digital labour platforms? What are the impacts of these regulatory initiatives on workers and the platform business model? What broader lessons can be learned from legal reforms based on judicial decisions?
- How have unions engaged with civil society organisations and informal associations in enhancing protection for workers on digital labour platforms? What initiatives or strategies of collective organisations have been most promising with a view to strengthening and extending labour and social security rights and standards?

The above are only suggestive topics and certainly other relevant themes can be addressed keeping in view the country specificities.

Organisation, Structure and Participants

The conference will be organised during 17-19 July 2023 at India International Centre, Lodhi Estate, New Delhi. It will be organised by the Institute for Human Development (IHD), New Delhi and International Labour Organization in collaboration with NITI Aayog, Government of India and WITS University, South Africa. Professor Ravi Srivastava, Professor and Director, Centre for Employment Studies, IHD; Professor Imraan Valodia, Director, Southern Centre for Inequality Studies (SCIS) and Pro Vice-Chancellor, Climate, Sustainability and Inequality, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa, and Dr. Uma Rani, Senior Economist, Research Department, International Labour Organisation, Geneva will be the Conference Coordinators. Some well-known scholars working in this area will be invited to present their papers. Some papers will also be selected through a process of competitive call for papers. Apart from paper presentations, a Panel Discussion on 'Technological Change, Future of Work and Emerging Policy Paradigm' will be organised as a Concluding Session of the Conference. Experts from various fields -policymaking, industry, technology companies, workers' organisations and academics – will be invited to contribute to this Panel.

Altogether 125 persons are expected to participate in the conference. Apart from academics, many of them will be drawn from policymaking, civil society, industry, worker's organisations and international organisations.

Outputs of the Conference

A report containing main findings, conclusions and policy implications will be brought out immediately after the conclusion of the conference. This will be widely circulated both by social and electronic media. The select and revised papers presented in the conference will be brought out as one or two special issues of the Indian Journal of Labour Economics (a quarterly journal of Indian Society of Labour Economics published by Springer). We hope that these outputs will make a good contribution to the theme of technology and future of work.

Plenary Panel

Emerging New Technologies and Education and Skills for the Future Workforce

Background Note

In today's globalized world, the rapid pace of technological advancements and digitalization, as well as its adoption, coupled with the COVID-19 pandemic, are bringing about significant changes in the labour market. Some of these changes are also bringing about disruptions in the labour markets, such as changing the demand for skills and leading to job losses, particularly in routine and manual tasks. The process of digital transformation is bringing about some structural employment challenges but at the same time creating new opportunities, which could be direct, indirect and induced jobs, roles and tasks, while it is also destroying many others. The effect of technological and digital transformation is hard to predict both in terms of nature of skills that would be required as well as its impact on employment, whether an entire occupation would be replaced, or a particular task within an occupation. As we move forward and embrace technological advancements, we also need to ensure that decent jobs will be created and this is a deliberate choice: it is a social and political choice, and it would require a coherent and holistic policy approach.

Some Issues to be Discussed in the Panel Include:

 How has the rapid pace of technological advancements and digitalization impacted labour markets worldwide, particularly in terms of skill demand and job losses?

- What specific skills do you believe will be most in demand in a digital future?
 Are there any particular industries or sectors where specialized digital skills will be crucial? How do we prepare the workforce in these fields?
- How can we strike a balance between digital proficiency and broader skills development? What other skills or competencies will be valuable in a digital future?
- What role do education and training institutions play in preparing individuals for the changing labour market? How can these institutions adapt their programs to align with the skills needed in the digital age? How can the education system foster a mindset of lifelong learning and encourage individuals to embrace continuous skill development?
- How can we strike a balance between embracing technological advancements and ensuring that workers are not left behind? What measures can be taken to upskill and reskill the workforce to meet the demands of an economy that is transforming technologically and digitally?
- What initiatives or programs exist that aim to bridge the digital skills gap, particularly for marginalized communities or underrepresented groups? How can we ensure equal access to digital education opportunities?
- What role does continuous learning and upskilling play in navigating a digital future? How can organizations support employees in acquiring new skills throughout their careers?
- How can private or public sector and educational and training institutions collaborate to provide work-integrated learning experiences that prepare individuals for the demands of a digital workplace?
- Are there any specific policy approaches/examples that have been successful in facilitating a smooth transition to a digital future with increased job opportunities? How can governments, social partners and development partners work better towards creating decent jobs and to ensure that the new employment opportunities are sustainable and provide fair working conditions?

Plenary Round Table on Managing Future of Work for Inclusive Growth

Background Note

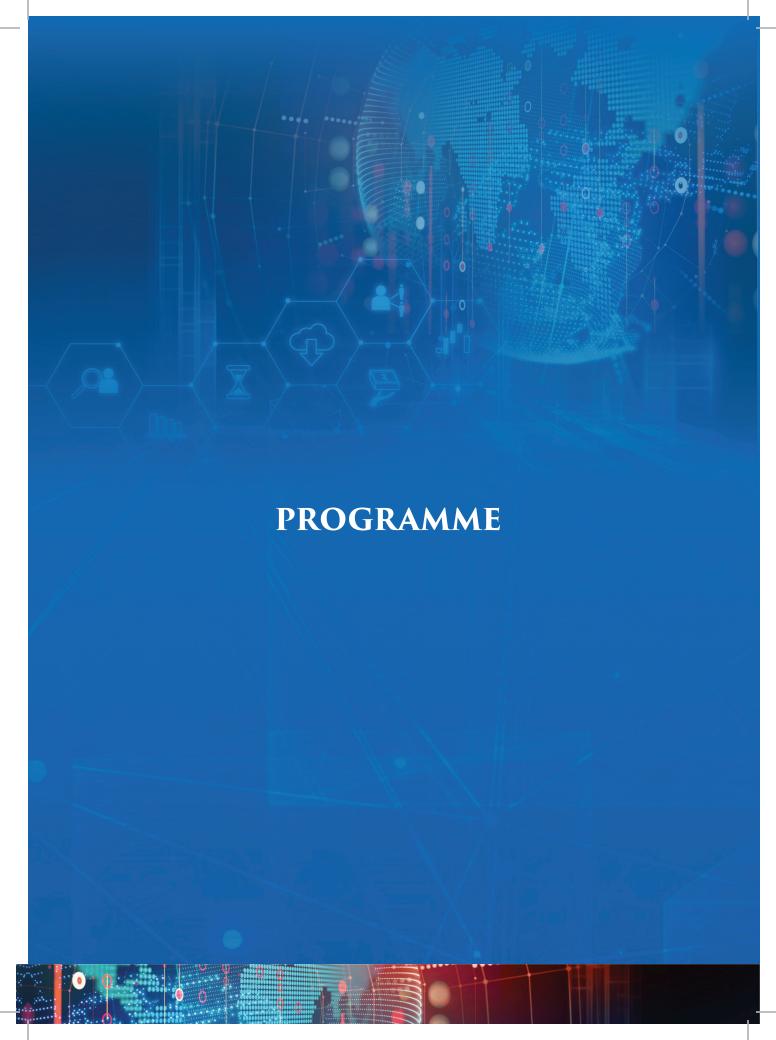
The world of work is rapidly changing thanks to the fast changing technological transformation taking place. The pace of change is likely to be faster in future. It is estimated that around half of the tasks in which people are engaged may not exist after 15 years or so. The impact of technological change through digitalization, robotization, and other 4th IR technologies, climate change, the transition to low carbon economies etc. will have profound impact on future of work, although the change will differ across regions. How these changes affect the future of work will also depend upon the strategies and policies that various countries design to benefit from these transitions, mitigate their adverse effects, and share benefits inclusively among the whole population. The new digital platforms are leading to changes not just to the organization of enterprises and work processes but also employment relationships. These changes are leading to new forms of work and ways of working. Managing these changes, including in the future, will determine whether the growth processes will be inclusive or exclusive.

This Roundtable will attempt to address some of the important issues for managing future of work inclusive. Some suggested issues are:

- As new forms of work and employment relationships emerge, how do workers, such as those engaged in digital platforms, be classified? How should the regulatory system respond to the new forms of work, given also the globalized nature of work arrangements that are fast emerging?
- Overworking and low remuneration for many workers is a major issue. How
 can decent working time and a reasonable remuneration be ensured to

workers?

- Some countries are attempting to innovate social security systems in view of the new forms of workers. How is the necessary level of social protection be provided to these workers and how can this be achieved?
- Apart from the earlier occupational safety and health issues, several new issues such as mental illness are emerging with the new forms of work and work from home which also have a gender-differentiated impact. In what ways they can be addressed?
- In the wake of remote working as well as new forms of work, how the workers should organize? With algorithmic management and lack of transparency, how can the unions and civil society engage with businesses and government?
- In the wake of accelerating changes in transition to low carbon regime, what kinds of new work and employment relations will emerge and how the workers can be benefitted?
- As the world will be ageing faster in future, care work is likely to emerge
 as a major source of employment but will also be impacted by changing
 technologies. How the women workers, who will form important part of such
 work, be given a fair deal in the care economy?





Day 1

Monday, 17 July 2023

0830 hrs : **TEA AND REGISTRATION**

0930-1030 : **INAUGURAL SESSION**

Venue: Multipurpose Hall

Welcome and : Alakh N. Sharma

Opening Remarks Professor and Director

Institute for Human Development (IHD)

New Delhi

Introduction to the

Conference

Ravi S. Srivastava

Professor and Director

Centre for Employment Studies

Institute for Human Development (IHD)

New Delhi

Remarks : Imraan Valodia

Pro Vice-Chancellor and Director Southern Centre for Inequality Studies

WITS University, South Africa

: Satoshi Sasaki

Deputy Director and Officer-in-Charge

ILO Decent Work Team for

South Asia and Country Office for India

Address by the Chief Guest : Arvind Virmani

Member, NITI Ayog

Vote of Thanks : Priyanka Tyagi

Chief Executive Officer (CEO)

IHD, New Delhi

1030-1100 : TEA

1100-1315 PLENARY SESSION 1

New Technologies and Emerging Labour

Market: Global Perspectives

Venue: Multipurpose Hall

Chairperson : Sachin Chaturvedi

Director General

Research and Information System for Developing Countries

(RIS), New Delhi

Discussant : Rana Hasan

Regional Lead Economist, South Asia

Economic Research and Development Impact Department

Asian Development Bank

Presentations : Sarah Cook

Visiting Researcher

Southern Centre for Inequality Studies, WITS University South Africa and Honorary Professor, UNSW, Australia

Uma Rani

Senior Economist

Research Department, International Labour Organization(ILO)

Geneva

Platform Work in Developing Economies: Can

Digitalisation Contribute to Structural Transformation?

Andrew Green

Labour Market Economist

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

(OCED), Paris

Artificial Intelligence and the Labour Market

Sunil Mani

Honorary Visiting Professor and Former Director

Centre for Development Studies

Trivandrum

Automation and Employment, Analysis of the Employment Implications of Multipurpose Industrial Robots and AI in Asian Manufacturing and Service Sectors

: Balaji Parthasarathy

Professor and Principal Investigator, Fairwork India, Center for Information Technology and Public Policy, International Institute of Information Technology Bangalore

Janaki Srinivasan

Associate Professor and Co-Principal Investigator, Fairwork India, Center for Information Technology and Public Policy, International Institute of Information Technology Bangalore

Mounika Neerukonda

Research Associate, Fairwork India, Center for Information Technology and Public Policy, International Institute of Information Technology Bangalore

M. Bilahari

Research Associate, Fairwork India, Center for Information Technology and Public Policy, International Institute of Information Technology Bangalore

Raktima Kalita

Research Associate, Fairwork India, Center for Information Technology and Public Policy, International Institute of Information Technology Bangalore

Pradyumna Taduri

Research Associate, Fairwork India, Center for Information Technology and Public Policy, International Institute of Information Technology Bangalore

Mark Graham

Professor and Director, Fairwork, Oxford Internet Institute, University of Oxford, UK

The Promise of Flexibility, the Experience of Precarity: Gig Work on Digital Platforms in India

: Annarosa Pesole

External Expert, European Commission and Former Adviser to the Minister of Labour and Social Policies Government of the Republic of Italy

The Plaformisation of Work: Experiences of Spain and Germany

1315-1415 : LUNCH

(Hosted by Springer Nature)

1415-1615 : PARALLEL TECHNICAL SESSIONS

TECHNICAL SESSION 1

Venue: Multipurpose Hall

Chairperson : Bino Paul

Professor and Pro Vice Chancellor

Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai

Discussant : Radhicka Kapoor

Visiting Professor

Indian Council for Research on International Economic

Relations (ICRIER), New Delhi

Presentations : Zerihun Berhane Weldegebriel

Associate Professor

Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia

The State of Digital Economy in Ethiopia and its Implications for the Future of Work and Inequality

: Dinesh Awasthi

Professor, L J University, Ahmedabad

Jignasu Yagnik

Professor, L J University, Ahmedabad

Digitisation, Automation and 'Jobs at Risk': A Comparative Analysis of BRIS Countries, and a Detailed Analysis of the Indian Scenario

: Selim Raihan

Professor of Economics, Dhaka University; and Executive Director, South Asian Network on Economic Modeling (SANEM), Bangladesh

Mehtab Uddin

PhD Scholar

Global Development Institute University of Manchester, UK

Farhan Khan

MS. Student, North South University

Bangladesh

What Drives Firms to Innovate? Empirical Evidence from Firm-Level Cross-Country Panel Data

: Amit Prakash

Professor

International Institute of Information Technology Bangalore

Rajesh Hanbal

Independent Researcher

Balaji Parthasarathy

Professor

International Institute of Information Technology Bangalore

Using Digital Technologies to Reengineer Healthcare: A Study of Public and Private Sector Organisations

1415-1615 : TECHNICAL SESSION 2

Venue: Seminar Halls 2&3

Chairperson : Aasha Kapur Mehta

Chairperson

Centre for Gender Studies and Visiting Professor

IHD, New Delhi

Discussant : Babu P. Remesh

Dean, Research and Development;

Director, Centre for Research Methods, and Professor, School of Development Studies

Dr. B.R Ambedkar University, Delhi

Presentations : Jeemol Unni

Professor, Economics and Public Policy Ahmedabad University, Ahmedabad

Ravikiran Naik

Assistant Professor, Flame University, Pune

Precarity in Gig Work: Evidence from India

: Uma Rani

Senior Economist, Research Department

ILO. Geneva

Rishabh Kumar Dhir

Researcher, ILO, Geneva

Nora Gobel

Researcher, ILO, Geneva

Work on Online Labour Platforms: Does Formal Education

Matter?

: Reema Nanavaty

Director

Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA), Ahmedabad

Mansi Shah

Senior Technical Coordinator

Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA), Ahmedabad

Technology and Future of Work for Informal Sector Women Workers – Is it an Enabler or Disabler?

: Ruth Kelia Castel Branco

Research Manager

Southern Centre for Inequality Studies

WITS University, South Africa

Bridging the Missing Middle: The Extension of Social Security to Informal Platform Workers in Mozambique

1615-1640 : TEA

1640-1845 : PLENARY SESSION 2

Panel: **Emerging New Technologies and**

Education and Skills for the Future

Workforce

Venue: Multipurpose Hall

Chair : Rajiv Kumar

Chairman, Pahle India Foundation and

Former Vice Chairman

NITI Aayog, Government of India

Panelists : Andrew Green

Labour Market Economist

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and

Development (OCED), Paris

: Ajit Ranade

Vice-Chancellor

Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Pune and

Formerly Chief Economist

Aditya Birla Group

: Rajeev Dubey

Chairman, Mahindra First Choice Wheels Ltd. and Member of the Governing Body, ILO, Geneva

: K.K. Dwivedi

Additional Secretary, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Government of India

Srinivas B. Reddy

Chief of Skills and Employability Branch

ILO, Geneva

1845-1900 : TEA

1900-2000 : PLENARY SESSION 3

CONFERENCE KEYNOTE ADDRESS

(Online and Hybrid Mode) Venue: Multipurpose Hall

Chair : Imraan Valodia

Pro Vice-Chancellor and Director Southern Centre for Inequality Studies

WITS University, South Africa

Keynote Address : Simon Johnson

Ronald A. Kurtz Professor of Entrepreneurship and Head, Global Economics and Management Group Massachusetts Institute of Technology Sloan School of

Management, USA and Former Chief Economist

International Monetary Fund (IMF)

Topic: Can We Redirect Technological Change?

When, How, and to Achieve What Exactly?

2000 : RECEPTION DINNER

Day 2 Tuesday, 18 July 2023

0830-0900 : TEA

0900-1100 : PLENARY SESSION 4

Emerging Contours of Work: Opportunities and Challenges

Venue: Multipurpose Hall

Chairperson : Sudipto Mundle

Chairman

Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum

Discussant : Ajit Sinha

Professor and Chair

Research and Faculty Development

Thapar School of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Patiala

Presentations : **Dev Nathan**

Professor, IHD, New Delhi and

Fellow, Southern Centre for Inequality Studies

WITS University, South Africa

The Enclosure of Advanced Technological Knowledge and the Global Organization of Work: The Global Division of

Labour and Adverse Specialization

: Pasquale Tridico

Professor

Dept. of Economics, Roma Tre University, Italy

Inequality and Social Exclusion in Global Financial

Capitalism

: Yesim Elhan-Kayalar

Advisor, Office of the Chief Economist and Director General, Economic Research and Development Impact Department, Asian Development Bank, Manila

Digital Platforms and the Future of Work:

A Gendered Perspective

: Jamie Woodcock

Senior Lecturer

Essex Business School-Management and Marketing

University of Essex, UK

Platform Work, Class Composition, and the Global South:

What are the Risks and Opportunities for Workers?

1100-1130 : TEA

1130-1330 : PANEL AND PARALLEL TECHNICAL SESSIONS

Panel: **Technological Transformations:**

Exploring Patterns of Continuities

and Change in India

(Organised by: International Institute of Information Technology Hyderabad)

Venue: Seminar Hall 2

Chairperson : K. P. Kannan

Hon. Fellow and Former Director

Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum

Discussant : Prabhu P Mohapatra

Professor

Department of History, University of Delhi

Theme Presentation : Anirban Dasgupta and Radhika Krishnan

Human Sciences Research Centre

International Institute of Information Technology

Hyderabad

Presentations : Smitha Francis

Non-Resident Consultant

Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies

Employment Implications of Digital Technologies:

A Macro Perspective

: Rakhi Sehgal

Independent Researcher

Trade Unions in Current Times of Technological Change

: Abhishek Sharad Mali and Anupam Guha

Indian Institute of Technology Bombay

Human Resource Analytics and Artificial Intelligence: Disruptive Technologies with Disparate Implications for Labour in the Global South - A Policy Study of the Indian

Context

1130-1330 : **TECHNICAL SESSION 3**

Venue: Seminar Hall 1

Chairperson : Aditya Bhattacharjea

Former Professor and Director Delhi School of Economics

New Delhi

Discussant : Suresh Aggarwal

Visiting Professor IHD, New Delhi

Presentations : Ajit K. Ghose (Late)

Professor IHD, New Delhi

Balwant Singh Mehta

Sr. Fellow IHD, New Delhi

New Technologies, Employment and Inequality in Indian

Economy

: Arup Mitra

Professor

South Asian University, Delhi

Chandan Sharma

Professor

Indian Institute of Management, Lucknow

Technologies' Effects on Employment and Productivity in Developing World: Domestic versus Imported Expertise

: Anjali Tandon

Associate Professor Institute for Studies in Industrial Development, Delhi

Technology and the Future of Work: Prospects, Challenges and Role of Policies

: Rahul S.

Assistant Professor Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai

Joonkoo Lee

Associate Dean and Associate Professor Hanyang University, South Korea

Shengjun Zhu

Associate Professor Peking University, Beijing, China

Dev Nathan

Professor

IHD, New Delhi and

Fellow, Southern Centre for Inequality Studies

WITS University, South Africa

The Impact of Technology Use, Assimilation, and Creation on the Workforce: A Comparative Analysis of China, India and South Korea, 1995-2020

1130-1330 : **TECHNICAL SESSION 4**

Venue: Seminar Hall 3

Chairperson : Pasquale Tridico

Professor

Dept. of Economics, Roma Tre University, Italy

Discussant : Somjita Laha

Sr. Fellow, IHD, New Delhi

Presentations : Anjali Bansal

PhD Scholar, IIT Roorkee

S.P. Singh

Professor, IIT Roorkee

Pratap Chand Mohanty

Associate Professor, IIT Roorkee

Does Automation and Robotization Affect Emerging Jobs in India: An Empirical Study?

: Balakrushna Padhi

Assistant Professor, BITS Pilani

T. Triveni

Economic Officer, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare Government of India

Is the Future of Jobs at Risk Due to Technological Innovation in India? An Empirical Assessment of the Indian Labour Market

Sri Hartini Rachmad

Sr. Research Associate

BRIN - The National Research and Innovation Agency

Indonesia

Daniel G.P. Riveong

Research Associate

GLOBAL SWARM Consulting, Virtual Office

Yosep

PhD Scholar

Lampung University, Indonesia

Between the Threats and Opportunities of Future Main Work Status in the Digital Environment, Indonesia

: Mahtab Uddin

PhD Scholar, University of Manchester, UK

Farhin Islam

Short Term Consultant, The World Bank, Bangladesh

How Would Automation Impact Employment in the Manufacturing Sector of Bangladesh? An Empirical Projection

: Tiago Cabral Barreira

Research Assistant, FGV/RJ, Brazil

Bruno Ottoni

Professor, Fundacao Getulio Vargas (FGV), Brazil

Ana Tereza Pires dos Santos Research Associate, IDados Brazil

Robots and the Rise of Informality

1330-1430 : LUNCH

1430-1630 TECHNICAL SESSION 5

Venue: Seminar Hall 1

Chairperson : Sarthi Acharya

Professor, IHD, New Delhi

Discussant : Jeemol Unni

Professor, Economics and Public Policy Ahmedabad University, Ahmedabad

Presentations : Deepa Kylasam lyer

PhD Scholar

ILR School, Cornell University, Ithaca, USA

Francis Kuriakose

Fellow

Cambridge Development Initiative, UK

The Market for Online Labour

: Abigail Osiki

Lecturer, CENTROW, University of the Western Cape Cape Town, South Africa

Opportunities and Challenges of Domestic Workers' Platform Cooperatives: Lessons from the Digital Platform Cooperative Project (DPCP), South Africa

: Jacob Omolo

Senior Lecturer

Department of Applied Economics School of Economics Kenyatta University, Kenya

Digital Technologies and the Changing Nature of Work in the E-Hailing Sector in Kenya

: S.C. Srivastava

Secretary General

National Labour Law Association, Delhi

Legal Protection and Social Security for Platform-Based Gig Workers in India and the Contribution of the Supreme Court of India and Abroad

: Dipanwita Chakraborty

Sr. Fellow

Giri Institute of Development Studies, Lucknow

Parmod Kumar

Professor

Giri Institute of Development Studies, Lucknow

Covid 19, Digital Platforms and Economic Transformation of SHG Entrepreneurs in Dry flower Handicrafts: A Case Study in West Bengal

1430-1630 **TECHNICAL SESSION 6**

Venue: Seminar Hall 2

Chairperson : Ritu Dewan

Visiting Professor

IHD, New Delhi and Former Professor and

Director, Department of Economics, University of Mumbai

Discussant : Sarah Cook

Visiting Researcher

Southern Centre for Inequality Studies, WITS University South Africa and Honorary Professor, UNSW, Australia

Presentations : Sona Mewati

Research Associate

Indian Institute for Human Settlements, Bangalore

Raghav Mehrotra

Research Associate

Indian Institute for Human Settlements, Bangalore

Earning From Home: Legitimising Women's Work on Micro Tasking Platforms

: Sabina Dewan

President and Executive Director JustJobs Network, New Delhi

Himanshu Wardhan

Chief Executive Officer

Thevasa, Delhi

Unlocking E-Commerce Opportunities for Women: Who Benefits?

: Sona Mitra

Principal Economist

IWWAGE, New Delhi

Labour Practices in India's Emerging Gig Economy: Case Study of Women Workers in Urban Companies

: Anuza Subramaniam

PhD Scholar

IIT Madras, Chennai

Gender and Social Relations in a Globalised Workplace: Indian Information Technology (IT) Sector During the COVID 19 Pandemic 1430-1630 TECHNICAL SESSION 7

Venue: Seminar Hall 3

Chairperson : Parmod Kumar

Director

Giri Institute of Development Studies, Lucknow

Discussant : Anirban Dasgupta

Professor

International Institute of Information Technology Hyderabad

Presentations : Veena Ranna Naregal

Professor

Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi

ONORC, Digital Governance and Food Security for India's Migrant Workforce: The Promise of Portability in Four

States

: Suguna Bheemarasetti

Data Engineer, LibTech India

Anuradha De

Director, CORD

Rajendran Narayanan

Assistant Professor, Azim Premji University

Parul Saboo

Senior Researcher, LibTech India

Laavanya Tamang

Senior Researcher, LibTech India

MGNREGA as a Technological Laboratory: Analysing Wage

Payment Delays as a Result of Two Interventions

: Jayesh M P

Assistant Professor

CHRIST University (Deemed to be), Bangalore

Jayan Jose Thomas

Professor

Indian Institute of Technology Delhi

How do Mobile Phones Empower Migrant Workers:

Evidence from a Field Study in Kerala, India

: Anupam Guha

Assistant Professor

IIT Bombay

Digital Taylorism in Indian Workplaces and the Myth of

Productivity

1630-1650 : TEA

1650-1915 : PLENARY SESSION 5

Round Table: Managing Future of Work for

Inclusive Development

Venue: Multipurpose Hall

Moderator : Alakh N. Sharma

Director

IHD, New Delhi

Panelists : Uma Rani

Senior Economist, ILO, Geneva

: Balaji Parthasarathy

Professor, IIIT Bangalore

: G. Manjunath

Additional Labour Commissioner

Government. of Karnataka

: Shaik Salauddin

Co-Founder and National General Secretary

Indian App-based Workers Union

: Vinoj Abraham

Professor

Centre of Development Studies, Trivandrum

: Aishwarya Raman

Executive Director

OMI Foundation

: Imraan Valodia

Pro Vice-Chancellor and Director Southern Centre for Inequality Studies WITS University, South Africa

: Yesim Elhan-Kayalar

Advisor, Office of the Chief Economist and Director General Economic Research and Development Impact Department Asian Development Bank

: Manali Shah

National Secretary, SEWA

: Ravi Srivastava

Professor and Director Centre for Employment Studies IHD, New Delhi

1915 : DINNER

Day 3

Wednesday, 19 July 2023

0830-0900 : TEA

0900-1040 : **TECHNICAL SESSION 8**

Venue: Seminar Hall 1

Chairperson : Selim Raihan

Professor of Economics, Dhaka University and

Executive Director, South Asian Network on Economic

Modeling (SANEM), Bangladesh

Discussant : Ruth Kelia Castel Branco

Research Manager

Southern Centre for Inequality Studies

WITS University, South Africa

Presentations : Digvijay Singh

PhD Scholar, IIT Roorkee

Anindya Jayanta Mishra Professor, IIT Roorkee

Impacts of Algorithmic Management on Labour Agency in

the Platform Economy

: Sreyan Chatterjee

Consultant (Research and Legal)

IT for Change, Bangalore

Pathways of Regulation of Digital Labour Platforms:

The Algorithmic Management Question in Global South

: Areesha Khan

PhD Scholar

IIT Bombay, Monash Research Academy, Mumbai

Rahul Suresh Sapkal

Assistant Professor, IIT Bombay

Making Workers Better Off or Worse Off? Platformization

and Work in India

: Chiara Furtado

Researcher

Centre for Internet and Society, New Delhi

Nishkala Sekhar

Researcher

Centre for Internet and Society, New Delhi

Chetna V. M

Researcher

Centre for Internet and Society, New Delhi

Ambika Tandon

Researcher

Centre for Internet and Society, New Delhi

Labour Subordination Beyond the 'App': Heterogeneous Systems of Work Organisation and Control Within Taxi and Delivery Platform Work in India

0900-1040 : **TECHNICAL SESSION 9**

Venue: Seminar Hall 2

Chairperson : Nilambuj Sharan

Sr. Economic Adviser

Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship

Government of India

Discussant : Uma Rani

Senior Economist

Research Department, ILO, Geneva

Presentations : Keshab Das

Visiting Professor IHD, New Delhi

Hastimal SagaraAssistant Professor

GLS University, Ahmedabad

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Disruptive Technologies and Job Prospects in India: Are

STEM Graduates at Sea?

: Nausheen Nizami

Associate Professor

Pandit Deendayal Energy University, Gandhinagar

Tulika Tripathi

Assistant Professor, Central University of Gujarat, Ahmedabad

Empirical Evidences on the Impact of Automation on Skill-Gap and Demand for Labour in India's IT-BPM Industry

: Isirabahenda Gonzague

PhD Scholar, Babes-Bolyai University, Romania

Working in an Outsourcing Age: Critical Reflections on Education-Job Mismatch in Romania

: Kouadio Clement Kooakou

Professor, CREMIDE, Cote D'ivoire

Mounoufie Valery Koffi

Assistant Professor, CREMIDE, Cote D'ivoire

Andoh Regis Vianney Yapo

Research Associate, CREMIDE, Cote D'ivoire

Future Jobs in Secondary Cities in Côte d'Ivoire in the Digital Era

0900-1040 **TECHNICAL SESSION 10**

Venue: Seminar Hall 3

Chairperson : Rajat Kathuria

Dean and Professor of Economics

School of Humanities and Social Sciences

Shiv Nadar University

Discussant : Veena Ranna Naregal

Professor, Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi

Presentations : Leonardo Albero Lanzona

Professor, Ateneo de Manila University, Quezon City

National Capital Region, Philippines

Dimensions of Job Polarization in the Philippines: Inferences on the Redistributive Effectiveness of Government Labor Market Interventions during the

Pandemic

: Chetana Chaudhuri

Consultant

National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER)

New Delhi

Devender Pratap

Sr. Fellow

National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER)

New Delhi

Sanjib Pohit

Professor

National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER)

New Delhi

Effect of Energy Transition Under Net-Zero Target on

Employment

: Aditi Surie

Senior Consultant - Academics
Indian Institute for Human Settlements

Bangalore

How Workers Use Platforms in Their Livelihoods

Portfolios: Evidence from Bengaluru, India

: Julius Kuziva Tinashe Nyamwena

Associate Researcher, Center for Competition

Regulation and Economic Development, South Africa

New Technologies and Implications for Future Work in South African Manufacturing Firms

1040-1100 : TEA

1100-1240 TECHNICAL SESSION 11

Venue: Seminar Hall 1

Chairperson : Lakhwinder Singh

Visiting Professor, IHD, New Delhi and Former Professor, Punjabi University, Patiala

Discussant : S. P. Singh

Professor of Economics

IIT Roorkee

Presentations : Crispen Chinguno

Assistant Professor

Sol Plaatje University, South Africa

Labour Process and Contested Spatial Fixes in The Gig Economy: Case of Platform-Based Food Delivery in Johannesburg and Kimberley in South Africa

Jeevan R. Sharma

Professor

South Asia and International Development University of Edinburgh, Scotland, UK

Emergence of Platform Economy for Domestic Work: Opportunities and Challenges for Nepali Migrant Workers in India

: Kinchan Chakma

PhD Scholar, IIT Bombay

Rahul Suresh Sapkal

Assistant Professor, IIT Bombay

Occupational Safety and Health at Platform Work in India: Building Narratives from Platform Drivers' Experiences

: Gayatri Nair

Assistant Professor

Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology Delhi

Labour Solidarities and Worker Collectives in the Platform Economy of India

1100-1240 **TECHNICAL SESSION 12**

Venue: Seminar Hall 2

Chairperson : Bishwanath Goldar

Retired Professor

Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi

Discussant : Abhinav Alakshendra

Associate Professor

Department of Urban and Regional Planning

University of Florida, USA

Presentations : Avdhesh Kumar

PhD Scholar

Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

Absence of 'Self' on the Work Floor: A Case Study of Intensive Use of Technology-Driven Surveillance in Call

Centre in Delhi

: Manikantha Nataraj

PhD Scholar

University of Strathclyde, Scotland, UK

Role of Technology in Labour Process: Insights from Warehouses of E-Commerce Enterprises in India

: Tanzeem Ahmed

PhD Scholar

Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

Dispositifs of Novel Urban Discourse and Labour Dimensions in Industrial Townships: Technologies of Governance in Electronics City, Karnataka

: Ankit Kumar Singh

Executive - Systemic Change Safe in India Foundation, Gurugram

Work and New Technology on the Shopfloor: Control and Force in the Labour Process of [Contemporary and Upgraded] Capitalist Production Regime of Automobile Industry in India

1100-1240 **TECHNICAL SESSION 13**

Venue: Seminar Hall 3

Chairperson : Dinesh Awasthi

Professor, L J University, Ahmedabad

Discussant/s : Arup Mitra

Professor, South Asian University, Delhi

: Kushang Mishra

Research Associate, IIIT Bangalore

Bidisha Chaudhuri

Associate Professor, IIIT Bangalore

Social Shaping of Precision Farming: A Case of Non-automation in an Agricultural Marketplace in India

: Shamim S Mondal

Professor

Alliance University, Bangalore

Reexamining Path to Prosperity for Developing Countries in the Age of AI

: Mukta Jain

PhD Scholar, Delhi School of Economics, New Delhi

Mausumi Das

Professor, Delhi School of Economics, New Delhi

Ayona Bhattacharjee

Assistant Professor

International Management Institute, Delhi

Automation, Impatience and Growth

: Suravee Nayak

Associate Fellow

Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi

Energy Transition, New Technology and the Future of Work in India

1240-1300 : TEA

1300-1400 : VALEDICTORY SESSION

Venue: Seminar Halls 1,2&3

Welcome : Shreeranjan, IAS (Rtd.)

Joint Director IHD, New Delhi

Key Takeaways from the

Conference

: Ravi Srivastava

Professor and Director

Centre for Employment Studies, IHD, New Delhi

: Imraan Valodia

Pro Vice-Chancellor and Director Southern Centre for Inequality Studies

WITS University, South Africa

: Uma Rani

Senior Economist

Research Department, ILO, Geneva

: Sakshi Khurana

Senior Specialist, Skill Development

Labour & Employment

NITI Aayog, Government of India

Valedictory Address by the :

Chief Guest

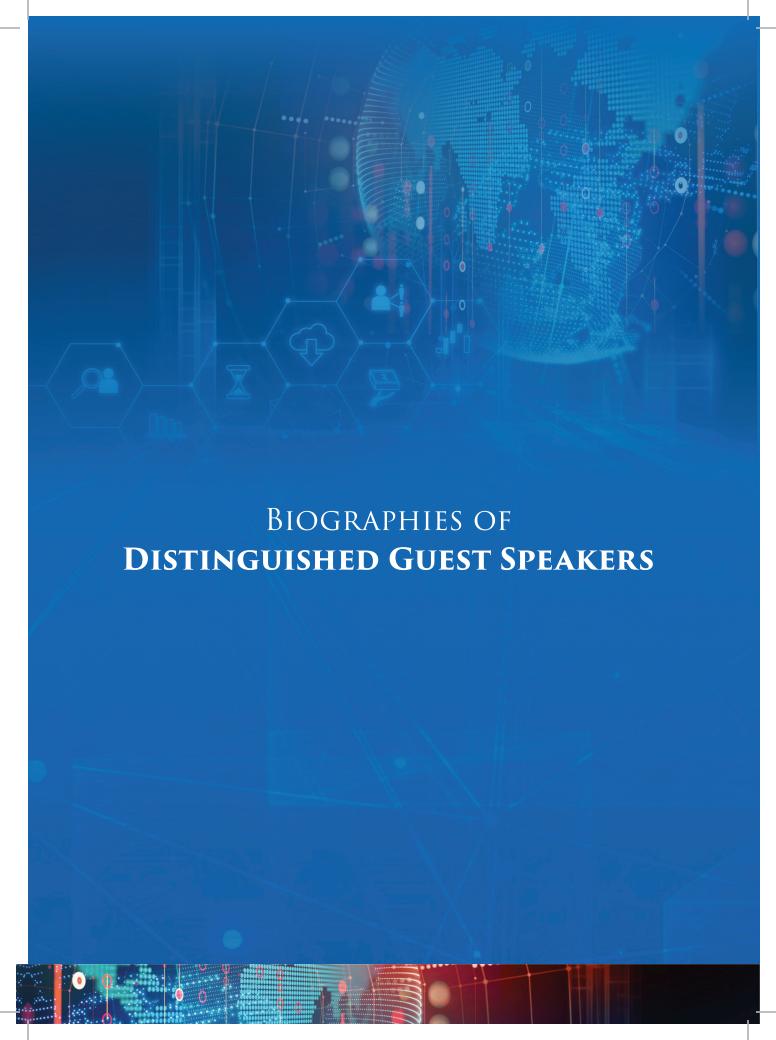
B.V.R. Subrahmanyam

Chief Executive Officer (CEO) NITI Aayog, Government of India

Vote of Thanks : Balwant Mehta

Sr. Fellow, IHD, New Delhi and Associate Conference Coordinator

1400 : LUNCH





Inaugural Address



Arvind Virmani joined NITI Aayog as a full time Member since 16.11.2022. He earlier served as Chairman of the Foundation for Economic Growth and Welfare (EGROW) and President of the Forum for Strategic Initiatives (FSI, Delhi). He has held several senior-level positions over the past including Executive Director, IMF, Chief Economic Advisor, Ministry of Finance and Principal Advisor, Planning Commission; Director & Chief Executive of ICRIER (Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations) and has published 37 Journal Articles, 24 Books & Book Chapters, around 70 other Working Papers and 50 policy papers on Macroeconomics, Growth, Tax & Tariff Reform, Foreign Exchange, International Relations and National Security Strategy. Dr. Virmani has been a key figure in Macroeconomics and Policy Reform.

Keynote Address



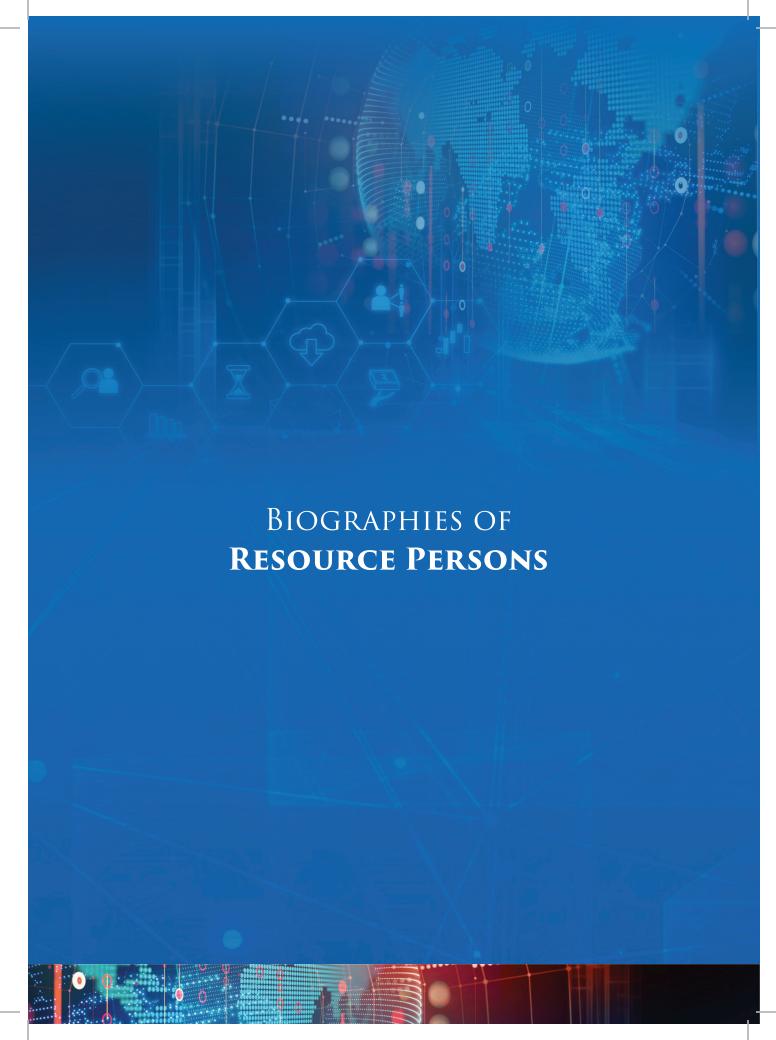
Simon Johnson is Ronald A. Kurtz (1954) Professor of Entrepreneurship at MIT Sloan School of Management, where he also serves as the Director of the Global Economics and Management group. He was the International Monetary Fund's chief economist in 2007-08, and he currently co-chairs the CFA Institute Systemic Risk Council. Johnson's most recent book co-authored with Daron Acemoglu, examines the history and economics of major technological choices up to and including the most recent developments in Artificial Intelligence. His previous book, Jump-Starting America: How Breakthrough Science Can Revive Economic Growth and the American Dream, co-authored with Jonathan Gruber, detailed how to create millions of good new jobs.

Valedictory Address



B.V.R Subrahmanyam is the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) at NITI Aayog, Government of India. As an Indian Administrative Service Officer of the 1987 batch (Chhattisgarh cadre), he has held key positions in Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, and Jammu and Kashmir over the last three decades, as well as a stint at The World Bank. He has served as Secretary in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Chief Secretary in Jammu and Kashmir, Principal Secretary in the Government of Chhattisgarh, and in the Prime Minister's Office.









Aasha Kapur Mehta is Chairperson, Centre for Gender Studies and Visiting Professor at the Institute for Human Development, Delhi. Prior to this, she was Professor of Economics at Indian Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi. She has served on several Committees, Task Forces, Missions and Working Groups constituted by Planning Commission, NITI Aayog, Cabinet Secretariat and several Ministries/ Departments of Government of India. She led the work of the Chronic Poverty Research Centre in India. Her books, articles and working papers are on poverty, poverty dynamics, deprivation, human and gender development indicators, gender budgeting, inaccuracies in estimating female work force participation, gender related data gaps, estimating the monetary value of women's contribution to GDP, impact of ill health on women's care burden, and policy imperatives for achieving SDG1 and SDG3.



Abhinav Alakhshendra is Associate Professor and Director at the Center for International Design and Planning, University of Florida. His research interests are mainly focused around the areas of urbanization, international development, and applied microeconomics in Southeast Asia. He is a trained Development Economist who uses cutting edge empirical research methods to understand complex socioeconomic problems. He is a recipient of many prestigious research grants including UKAID, Land and Housing Institute, Korea, and Florida Department of Transportation.



Abhishek Sharad Mali is a Ph.D. student at the Ashank Desai Centre for Policy Studies, Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay. His research work is related to Artificial Intelligence(AI) and Public Policy and for his Ph.D., he is working on 'An Instrumental and Politico-Economic Investigation of AI and Automation on the Indian Workers', under the guidance of Prof. Anupam Guha. Broader research area of interests include Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Work, Labour and Public Policies, Defence and Strategic Policies, Next Generation Warfare. Completed his post-graduation, i.e. MTech in Modelling and Simulation from the Applied Mathematics Department, Defence Institute of Advanced Technology, Pune and has experience of around more than two years of programming with MATLAB and Python through academic-level projects.



Abigail Osiki is a human rights lawyer and socio-legal researcher with experience working in labour rights with a focus on law and policy reform, advocacy and program implementation. Her research background is in working poverty, non-standard forms of work and the informal economy in sub-Saharan Africa. She is an advocate of the High Court of Nigeria and holds a PhD in Labour Law from the University of Cape Town. Abigail

was formerly a postdoctoral fellow at the Fairwork Project. She currently lectures in the Mercantile and Labour Law department at the University of the Western Cape (UWC), South Africa and has provided technical expertise to various organisations and initiatives including the International Labour Organisation and the Initiative for Strategic Litigation (ISLA). She is also a research associate at the Centre for Transformative Regulation of Work, UWC.



Aditi Surie teaches and researches digital labour platforms, worker well-being, and livelihoods in India. At the Indian Institute for Human Settlements, she leads the academic and policy research portfolio on technology and society which has been built through rigorous research and a strong network in academia, industry, and civil society. The portfolio focuses on worker perception of platforms within the context of the Indian urban labour market and changing forms of capitalism that ultimately will impact future employment trends. Surie has conducted extensive sectoral studies of men and women from 2015 onwards, across location-based work, and online labour platforms which describe working conditions, experience of platform design, and the nature of risk on platforms. Surie writes extensively through peer-reviewed articles, op-eds, webinars, and podcasts. Her new edited book *Platformization and Informality* published by Palgrave Macmillan (2023) speaks to the need to create global South-specific frameworks to understand quality and regulation of platform work.



Aditya Bhattacharjea is Professor of Economics at the Delhi School of Economics (DSE), University of Delhi, India, where he teaches postgraduate courses in industrial organization and Indian economic development. He served as Head of the Economics Department of the DSE from 2014 to 2018, and is currently Executive Director of the Department's research adjunct, the Centre for Development Economics. He earlier taught for many years at St Stephen's College, Delhi (1980-96), and has been a visiting associate professor at Duke University, USA. His research interests include competition (antitrust) law, economics, and policy; labour market regulation; and trade policy under imperfect competition. His articles have appeared in leading law and economics journals in India and abroad. He served as a member of the Expert Group on Trade and Competition Policy, Ministry of Commerce, Government of India, in 2002-03. From 2005 to 2010, he was a resource person for the Competition Policy and Government Procurement sessions of the annual WTO Regional Trade Policy Courses for the Asia/ Pacific region, conducted at Hong Kong University and then at the National University of Singapore. He recently served on the Competition Law Review Committee which was set up by India's Ministry of Corporate Affairs.



Aishwarya Raman is the Executive Director of OMI Foundation, a newage policy research and social innovation think tank developing knowledge frameworks at the intersection of mobility innovation, governance, and public good. An M.Sc. in Sociology from the University of Oxford, Aishwarya has over a decade of professional experience in the mobility domain. She is the co-founder and ex-CEO of AutoRaja, one of India's earliest and largest book-an-auto services. She also created India's earliest all-women autorickshaw fleet, AutoRani. She started her journey with Ola as the Head of the Ola Auto category in Hyderabad in 2015, and subsequently as the Head of Ola Auto - North India in 2016-18. After her stint as an entrepreneur, Aishwarya helped establish the think tank, OMI Foundation. Aishwarya is a member of the Global Future Council on Urban Mobility Transitions at the World Economic Forum. She is a Salzburg Global Fellow participating in the Japan-India Transformative Technology Network, an initiative funded by the Nippon Foundation. As a Salzburg Global Fellow, Aishwarya is building two high impact, funded projects which harness the power of big data and Al: one to enhance road safety, and another to catalyse higher participation of women in the economy. Aishwarya advises and mentors organisations, researchers, and young professionals, including the Global Partnership for Popular Transportation, Young Leaders for Active Citizenship, among others. Aishwarya was an academic, at the University of Madras, India, in her previous avatar.



Ajit Ranade is Vice Chancellor at Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics. He earlier served as an Executive President & Chief Economist, Aditya Birla Group and Executive Officer of Financial Technologies India Ltd. and Chief Economist at ABN AMRO Bank. His professional career has spanned academic and corporate assignments, including teaching in universities in India and U.S. Dr. Ranade serves as a Director on the Board of Hindalco Almex Aerospace Limited, a joint venture company of Hindalco and Almex Inc. of USA. He has served on various committees of the Reserve Bank of India, most recently in the committee for Fuller Capital Account Convertibility. Dr. Ajit Ranade has earlier served as Chief Economist of the Aditya Birla Group (2003-2022) and Chief Economist of ABN AMRO Bank, India (2000-2003). His professional career has spanned academic and corporate assignments, including teaching in universities in India and U.S. He has served on many boards of companies, academic institutions and trusts. He has served on various committees of the Reserve Bank of India, most recently in the committee for Fuller Capital Account Convertibility. Dr. Ranade is a trustee of Pune International Centre, Board member of MCCIA and Chairs the Research Advisory Panel of the Indian Institute of Banking and Finance.



Ajit Sinha is currently Professor and Chair, Research & Faculty Development at Thapar School of Liberal Arts and Sciences in Patiala. Professor Sinha started his career as lecturer of economics at University of Delhi in 1982, and went on to teach economics at State University of New York at Buffalo, York University, Canada and The University of Newcastle, Australia. In 1999, he joined LBS National Academy of Administration at Mussoorie as Professor of Economics and taught there for two years. Since then he has been Professor (and also Director) at Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Maître des Conférences Associé at Collège de France, Paris, Visiting Professor at Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research in Mumbai, University of Paris 1 (Sorbonne), University of Trento, Italy and Professor at Azim Premji University in Bangalore. He has also been Visiting Fellow at the Centre for Development Economics at Delhi School of Economics, Centre for Economic Studies and Planning at JNU, Department of Economics, Bombay University, Honorary Senior Research Fellow at Open University, UK, Elected Life-Long Honorary Research Associate at PHARE (University of Paris 1 Pantheon-Sorbonne) and Visiting Scholar at Faculty of Economics and Politics, University of Cambridge, UK. He has also served as a member of 'Research Institutes Committee' and the National Steering Committee of the Indo-Dutch Programme on Alternatives in Development (IDPAD) of Indian Council for Social Science Research (ICSSR) and was a member of the Indian delegation of IDPAD to Amsterdam in 2004. Professor Sinha has received M.A in Economics from Delhi School of Economics and PhD from State University of New York at Buffalo. His main area of research is history of economic theory. He has authored three books and edited/coedited four volumes as well as more than sixty research papers in reputed international journals, handbooks, edited books and encyclopaedias.



Alakh N Sharma is currently Professor and Director of the Institute for Human Development (IHD), New Delhi. He has made significant contributions to research in varied areas such as livelihoods, political economy, employment, labour markets and related issues. During his academic career spanning over 40 years he has directed/coordinated more than 40 research projects in the above areas sponsored by various agencies such as, national and state governments, bilateral and multilateral agencies and international organizations. He has been consultant to several international organizations which include ILO, UNDP and World Bank. Professor Sharma has been closely associated with the policymaking processes involving employment, livelihoods and development in India and has been members of several high-level committees/task forces constituted by the national and provincial governments. He has authored /edited/co-edited 18 books and published over 50 research papers in various journals. He is Editor of the Indian Journal of Labour Economics (IJLE), the peer reviewed quarterly journal of the Indian Society of Labour Economics (published by Springer) and the Indian Journal of Human Development (IJHD), a journal brought out by IHD (published by Sage).



Ambika Tandon is a feminist researcher and activist. Her work has aimed to highlight the stories and voices of marginalized groups in policy debates. She is currently a Non-Resident Fellow at the Centre for Internet and Society, where she does research and advocacy to protect workers' rights in the digital economy. She has also consulted with a range of digital rights and development organizations such as BBC Media Action, Algorithm Watch, and Privacy International.



Andrew Green is a labour market economist on the Future of Work team at the OECD. His work at the OECD has focused on the effect of technology and automation on labour market outcomes, non-standard forms of work, and the changing job prospects for workers at the bottom of the wage distribution. His research interests explore the effect of firm structures and relationships (platform work, franchising, domestic outsourcing, monopsony) on the labour market. Prior to the OECD, he held positions at the U.S. Census Bureau's LEHD program where his research focused on bargaining over hours of work, statistical record linkage, and the construction of publicuse labour market statistics. He holds a PhD in economics from Cornell University.



Anirban Dasgupta is Professor and Head, Human Sciences Research Centre at IIIT Hyderabad. Trained as a development economist, his published work has focused on agrarian studies, structural transformation and inclusive growth. His recent research interest is in the area of technology and development.



Anjali Bansal is a Research scholar at IIT Roorkee. Her research area is, "Future of Work: Changing Landscape of occupation, skills and Technologies". She is also working at the Skill Development, Labour & Employment Vertical in NITI Aayog. She is working in the development sector for 5 years. She has immensely worked on SDGs, future of work and gender issues. She has worked with UNDP and IPE global previously. In the Skill Development, Labour & Employment, NITI Aayog, she is responsible for undertaking and coordinating research studies, policy briefs, evaluation studies, preparing data insights etc.



Anjali Tandon is an Associate Professor at the Institute for Studies in Industrial Development, New Delhi. Her research focuses on energy, international trade, and industry in multisectoral framework. Her long experience in consulting projects, and publications ranges across industry, energy economy, export diversification, FTAs, agriculture subsidies, fiscal allocative efficiency, among others. Her applied work majorly involves Input-Output analysis and CGE modelling. Her earlier co-authored book Measuring Structural Change and Energy Use in Indian Economy is published in 2019. Her forthcoming book from Routledge is titled "Labour and Capital Use in Indian Manufacturing: Structural Aspects" (2023).



Ankit Kumar Singh is an Executive at Safe in India Foundation, driving systemic change for improving safety and social security conditions (ESIC) for the automobile workers in Haryana. He is a fellow of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland and is currently working on a project with the Center of History and Economics at Harvard University. He has previously worked as research assistant at Stanford University, Delhi School of Economics and Oxford University.



Annarosa Pesole is a labour economist specialised in new forms of labour and impact of technology. She is the former economic and technology adviser of the Italian Minister of Labour and Social Policies and a former scientific officer at the Joint Research Centre (JRC) of the European Commission. Her main research interests cover innovation and technology and their impact on labour market and society at large. She has a keen interest on platform economy, and she led the FutureJobs project, among the first attempts to measures platform work in Europe. Annarosa is a member of several taskforces (OECD-ILO -EUROSTAT) on measurement of platform economy with a specific focus on employment and working conditions. Before working for the JRC, she was Research Associate at Imperial College Business School working on intangible economy, growth and labour productivity. Annarosa has a background in applied economics, she holds a PhD from the University of Milan and a MSc from Queen Mary University.



Anupam Guha is an Assistant Professor at the Ashank Desai Centre for Policy Studies at IIT Bombay who primarily works on AI, AI policy, AI and labour. He has a PhD, batch of '17, in computer science from the University of Maryland where he worked on multimodal language and vision AI systems. He has also worked in the industry as an AI researcher from 2017 to 2019 on NLP systems. His current work in AI policy is informed by a technical understanding of AI and its relationship with labour and capital. He works to expand the critical lens on AI from the current instrumental and normative frameworks to one informed by an immanent critique of the political economy of techno-social systems.



Anuradha De is the Director of Collaborative Research and Dissemination (CORD). She is an Economist by training, and uses interdisciplinary methods to research the problems of the disadvantaged. She has done extensive research on school education, health, nutrition and labour. In more recent years, her research has been focused on welfare schemes and citizen's experiences.



Anuza Subramaniam is a research scholar at the department of humanities and social sciences, IIT Madras. After completing her post-graduation in psychology and working as a research associate at The Banyan, a NGO working for mental health conditions, homelessness and poverty in Chennai, she is currently specialising in the area of gender studies under the guidance of Dr. K. Kalpana. She is in her fifth year working on data analysis from her interviews. Her thesis is on the interplay of gender and social relations in the Indian IT sector, a globalised workplace, during the COVID pandemic and the changes in the work model post the pandemic. Her areas of interest include gender and social relations, women in STEM, Indian IT sector, collective bargaining, future of work.



Areesha Khan is a research scholar doing a joint PhD at IIT Bombay Monash Research Academy. She was awarded the RDW fellowship for presenting her work in the 8th Regulating Decent Work conference at ILO, Geneva. Her PhD project is a comparative study between India and Australia on platform economy's impact on workers. She has worked as an RA with the Department of HSS, IIT Guwahati on a project "Morbidity and Mortality among Tea Garden Workers in Assam". Her research interests are concerning decent work, impact of technology on work, health and wellbeing of workers and gender and intersectionality.



Arup Mitra is Professor of Economics at South Asian University. His research interest includes development economics, issues in urban development, labour and welfare, corruption, industrial growth and productivity, and gender inequality. He was awarded the Mahalanobis memorial Gold Medal by the Indian Econometric Society for his outstanding contribution to quantitative economics. His book on Inclusive Growth, Employment and Wellbeing published by Springer received Professor S. R. Sen best book award, 2019. His book on Urban Headway and Upward Mobility (2020) is published by Cambridge University Press.



Avdhesh Kumar is a Doctoral Scholar from the Centre for Comparative Politics and Political Theory, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India. His areas of academic and research interest include labour studies; workplace surveillance; Organizational theory; Women, labour and technology. His doctoral research titled "Technology, Labour and Questions of Selfhood: A Study of BPO and Consultancy Companies in the National Capital Region of Delhi" His Doctoral research is analyzing the idea of self from the perspectives of workers and management members in the domestic BPO industry in Delhi, India. Particularly, how the idea of self and selfhood gets evolve in the BPO workspace. Broadly, the analysis of the mechanism of the control, management activities and internal mechanism of daily activities in the industry are the ways through which the idea of self and identity has been explored.



Babu P Remesh is currently Professor, School of Development Studies; Dean (Research & Development) and Director, Centre for Research Methods at Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University Delhi (AUD). He is a researcher in labour studies, with a track record of close to three decades. His areas of research interest include: informal sector and livelihood issues, social security, labour in BPOs/Call Centres, work/workers in media, industrial structure and labour in automotive sector, rural/industrial labour relations, changing forms of work organization, gig work, new patterns of internal migration and social exclusion of migrants (with special focus on the cases of North East Migrants in Delhi and Long-distant migrants in Kerala), He has also been actively working on various research methodologies – qualitative, quantitative and interdisciplinary. He is the lead author of `Migration in South Asia: Poverty and Vulnerability' (SAAPE Poverty and Vulnerability, 2020).



Balaji Parthasarathy is Professor at the International Institute of Information Technology Bangalore, and a co-founder of the Institute's Center for Information Technology and Public Policy. His interests are rooted in economic geography and economic sociology, and explore the relationship between technological change and innovation, economic globalization, and social transformation, especially in underprivileged contexts. His publications have spanned the organization of production in the global software industry, to the political economy of e-governance, e-waste and social innovation. His current work examines the opportunities and constraints afforded by the digital platform economy. More on Balaji's interests and work can be found here: https://www.iiitb.ac.in/faculty/balaji-parthasarathy



Balakrushna Padhi is currently working as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Economics and Finance, Birla Institute of Technology and Science (BITS), Pilani Campus, Rajasthan. Apart from his current assignment, he has also worked in various capacities (Economist, Research Assistant and Consultant) in national level institutions like, IEG (New Delhi); CDS (Trivandrum); CEFT (Bhubaneswar) & IIM (Indore). His research interest includes employment and labour migration, informality; and issues related to poverty, inequality and health. Recently he has associated in the NITI Aayog's first study on India's Booming platform and Gig work. He has also contributed in the UNFPA study report on India's internal migration challenge. He has completed his PhD from Centre for the Study of Regional Development (CSRD), Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. Prior to this he completed his MPhil. in Applied Economics at the Centre for Development Studies (CDS), Trivandrum, Kerala and his Master's in Economics from Sambalpur University, Odisha. He has published several research papers in the journal of national and international repute. Profile Link- https://www. bits-pilani.ac.in/pilani/balakrushnapadhi/profile



Balwant Singh Mehta is a Senior Fellow at the 'Institute for Human Development' in Delhi. He has authored ten books and over five dozen articles in peer-reviewed national and international journals on various topics such as employment, inequality, poverty, child well-being, heath, education, information and communication technology for development, and other human development-related issues. He has been honored with the 'Amy Mahan International Fellowship' from UPF (Universitat Pompeu Fabra), Spain, the 'Research Fellowship' from SIRCA (Singapore Internet Research Centre), Singapore, the 'Emerging Researcher Award' by IDRC (International Development Research Centre), Canada, the 'Excellence Award in Labour Economics' by Amity University India, and a 'Post-Doctoral Fellowship' from the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), New Delhi, India. He writes op-eds on contemporary issues in national dailies and holds the position of 'Associate Editor' in the Indian Journal of Labour Economics.



Bino Paul is Professor at the School of Management and Labour Studies, Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Mumbai. His research interests include labour market, social networks and knowledge activity, and small businesses. He has also taught at TA Pai Management Institute, Manipal (2004-2007). At TISS, he was also the Dean of the School of Management and Labour Studies from 2015 till 2018. Prof. Paul completed his B.A. (Economics, 1993) from Christ College, University of Calicut, and M.A. (Development Economics, 1995) from Department of Economics, University of Calicut. He then went to IIT Bombay to receive a M.Phil (Planning and Development, 1995-1997), and a Ph.D. (Economics, 2000-2005). Prof. Paul has also been the Chairperson of the Centre for Labour Studies, TISS (2015-2018), and the Chairperson of Centre for Human Resources Management and Labour Studies, TISS (2012-2014). He has been a member of the Ethnic Power Relations Project, ETH Zurich,

since 2015. He was also a member of the BRICS Studies Thematic Group, BRICS Network University (Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India) from 2016 till 2018.



Bishwanath Goldar is a former Professor of Economics at the Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi, He did M.A. in Economics in 1971 and Ph.D. in 1982 from the Delhi School of Economics, Delhi University. He taught Economics at the Shri Ram College of Commerce from 1971 to 1979 and then joined the Institute of Economic Growth. He has been with the Institute of Economic Growth since 1979. He has worked as a Senior Fellow at the National Institute of Public Finance and Policy (NIPFP) during 1988-90 and as a Professor at the Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER) during 2003-04. Professor Goldar specializes in industrial economics and international trade. His publications include a large number of papers on productivity, employment and wages in Indian industries, protection of Indian industries and trade reforms and an authored book entitled *Productivity* Growth in Indian Industry (1986). He has been associated with a number of important official committees, and is currently the Chairman of the Standing Committee of Industrial Statistics.



Chetana Chaudhuri is a Consultant in National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) with primary research interests in Energy, Environment, Macroeconomics, Employment and Health Economics. Her research work has been in the area of macro-economic analysis, input-output modelling, social accounting matrix, health financing, labour market analysis, and analyses of large sample surveys. She was previously associated with National Institute of Public Finance and Policy (NIPFP), Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI) and Institute of Economic Growth (IEG). She has worked on a wide variety of studies, including research studies based on input-output models and social accounting matrix, qualitative and quantitative assessment of schemes like ESI, PMJAY, PMMVY, RKVY etc; Benefit cost analysis, Benefit incidence analysis, Private sector in health etc. She has received her doctorate degree from Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi.



Chetna V is a social science researcher with the Labour and Social Justice team at the Centre for Internet and Society, India. She has a background in economics having done her master's at the School of Economics, University of Hyderabad. She has contributed to projects researching informal labour markets, the garment factory industry and the care economy. Presently her research focuses on issues concerning labour, particularly in the platform economy.



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K.P. Kannan, a former Fellow and Director of the Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum is currently a Honorary Fellow there. He is also the Academic Chairman of the Laurie Baker Centre for Habitat Studies in Trivandrum. He was a member of the International Panel on Social Progress, a collective initiative of social scientists from different parts of the world, which prepared a global report on Society in the 21st Century in June 2018 (published by Cambridge University Press). Professor Kannan has had several UN assignments, the most important of which was as an Expert Member in the Technical Secretariat of the World Commission on Social Dimension of Globalisation constituted by the ILO in Geneva (2002-03). During 1995-97 he worked as the Professor of Development Studies and Research Director at the Cambodia Development Resource Institute in Phnom Penh. Recently he worked as a Member of a UN Team that produced a Post Disaster Needs Assessment Report for the State of Kerala after its devastating floods in August 2018. During 2005-09, he was a Member of the National Commission for Enterprises in the Unorganised Sector (NCEUS) appointed by Prime Minister Manmohan Singh that prepared a number of major reports on the informal economy and informal workers in India. In 2008, he was conferred the first VV Giri Memorial Award for his contributions in the area of social security especially for the informal workers. In recognition of his contributions to development studies in India, the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) awarded a two-year National Fellowship to Professor Kannan during 2016-18.



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Kushang Mishra is working as a Research Associate at IIIT Bangalore. He is working on the "Humanising Automation" project which explores what kind of skills can realistically be automated through the deployment of digital technologies and its implications for job roles. The research focuses on the current phase of automation to explore how human cognition, learning, and skill-building manifest themselves in job roles spanning the "mundane" to the "highly cognitive". He is looking specifically into automation and its impact in the Agricultural sector. Before this, he worked as a Research Analyst at the Aapti Institute where he worked on the AI Data Labelling Report which looked at the role of data annotators and labellers in the AI supply chain and the emergence of startups in India in this space.



Laavanya Tamang works with LibTech India and is based in Jharkhand. She has studied Economics and Sociology from Delhi University. Her work involves doing action research on the exclusions faced by tribal communities in social security programmes including MGNREGA, NFSA, and NSAP. Her area of interest is public policy and technology. She is interested in exploring the intersection between technology and social security within a rights-based framework. Laavanya also works with campaigns on the right to food and employment.



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Manali Shah is National Secretary with Self Employed Women's Association, SEWA. She is working in SEWA for the past 31 years. SEWA is a Central Trade Union working in 18 states with 2.5 million women members in the informal sector including; Policy Intervention at local, national, international Level on issues of the informal economy in various trade categories like Home Based work, Street vendors, Waste Recyclers and Construction workers; extensively involved in Gender Equity policy interventions for Livelihood Security, Social protection for urban informal economy poor women workers; SEWA's 40 years of experience with Street vendors enabled the formulation of the Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending Act, 2014, also enabled status of a self-employed for them; played a relevant role for involving the poor, vulnerable and traditional waste recyclers in all levels of Urban Solid waste management in Ahmedabad city; heading the Legal Cell of SEWA and; the Labour Codes which are being formed currently, representing the women workers of the informal sector to ensure that their voice and visibility is sustained and included in these Codes.



Manikantha Nataraj is in his 2nd year of the Ph.D. program in Department of Work, Employment and Organisation at the University of Strathclyde. His research interests are in employment and nature of work, the labour process, global production networks and interfirm linkages. His PhD research is on understanding and comparing the labour process in the supply chains of the e-commerce enterprises in the logistic sector of India, the role of technology in shaping the labour process, and how it impacts on the working conditions. His research is supported by the University Student Excellence Award at Strathclyde University. He holds a MPhil degree in Applied Economics from the Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram, a Master of Arts degree in Economics from the University of Hyderabad, and a Bachelor of Science degree with Honours in Economics from Ramakrishna Mission Residential Collage, Calcutta University.



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Parul Saboo is a senior researcher at Libtech, a research centre at Collaborative Research and Dissemination (CORD) and is based in Jharkhand. She has studied Economics from Delhi University and Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research. Her areas of interest include education, environment, sustainable development, disability and rights-based policies. She is interested in making data actionable and accessible.



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Rajat Kathuria is the Dean School of Humanities and Social Sciences, and Professor of Economics at Shiv Nadar University. He is the former Director and Chief Executive of the Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER). He worked with the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India during its Initial years. He is currently the Co-chair of the T20 Digital Task Force under India's G20 Presidency. Rajat has over 20 years of experience in teaching and 25 years of experience in economic policy, besides research interests on a range of issues relating to regulation and competition policy. He has worked with the World Bank, Washington DC as a Consultant and carried out research assignments for a number of international organizations, including ILO, UNCTAD, LirneAsia, World Bank, and ADB. He has published in international and national journals, besides in popular magazines and newspapers. He has served on the Boards of the Delhi Management Association and the Micro Finance Institutional Network of India. He is on several governments and industry committees and has been on the research advisory council of SBI. He has an undergraduate degree in Economics from St. Stephens College, a Masters from Delhi School of Economics, and a Ph.D. degree from the University of Maryland, College Park.



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Shaik Salauddin has been working with app-based ride-hailing/sharing companies since 2012, and has been a driver organizer in Hyderabad since 2014. In his role as an organizer, Shaik Salauddin has worn a number of hats. In 2014, he founded the Telangana Four Wheeler Drivers' Association to represent the interests of outsourced, contracted, and other private drivers. In 2019, he was elected the newly-formed National General Secretary of the 'Indian Federation of App- based Transport Workers' (IFAT), a registered trade union, a coalition of 20 workers' associations and unions from 15 cities across India, collectively having around 35,000 members.

In 2022, he started a new organization called Telangana Gig and Platform Workers' Union (TGPWU), through which he hopes to broaden his sights beyond ride-hailing/sharing and delivery workers and reach out to all gig and platform workers in Telangana state. TGPWU aspires to bring all gig and platform workers working with Ola, Uber, Swiggy, Zomato, Blinkit, Flipkart, BigBasket, Amazon, Dunzo, Shadowfax, Urban Company etc. under a single unified umbrella.

Shaik Salauddin has also been part of expert panels and government initiatives to improve upon Social Security Code, e-Shram, Motor Vehicle Aggregator Guidelines, e-Vehicle rollout etc. On 1st May 2023 Shaik Salauddin was awarded in recognition for his work with gig and platform workers in Telangana, the Shram Shakti Award.



Shamim S. Mondal is Professor of Economics and Director of the MA and Doctoral Program of Economics at School of Liberal Arts, Alliance University, Bangalore, and a visiting Professor of Economics at IIM Visakhapatnam. Previously, he was a Professor of Economics at VPSM, DY Patil (Deemed to be) University and Associate Dean of Research and Ph. D. at School of Business Management, NMIMS (Deemed to be) University. Earlier, he was the Program Director of Ph. D. Program at School of Business Management, Alliance University. He has also consulted and trained data science to hundreds of employees at reputed Fortune 500 and Indian MNCs. Prof. Mondal obtained his Ph. D. from University of Rochester, USA in 2007, where he specialized in macroeconomics and labour economics. His doctoral dissertation focused on differences in labour market outcomes between African American and white male workers in the USA, and how that have evolved over time. Subsequently, he worked as a consultant for 4 years at Analysis Group, Inc., at Boston. His research interests include applied topics in economics and business, including labour market, pharmaceutical market, and corporate governance in financial markets.



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