

# THE INDIAN SOCIETY OF LABOUR ECONOMICS

[www.isleijle.org](http://www.isleijle.org)

## 57th Annual Conference

**10-12 October, 2015, Srinagar**

The 57th Annual Conference of the Indian Society of Labour Economics (ISLE) will be held during 10 - 12 October, 2015 in Srinagar, Kashmir. The Conference is being organised by the Department of Economics, Central University of Kashmir, Srinagar, in collaboration with the Division of Agricultural Economics, Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir. The 57th Annual Conference will be presided over by Professor Ravi Srivastava Centre for the Study of Regional Development, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi. Professor G.M. Bhat, Head of the Department of Economics and Dean of the School of Social Sciences, Central University of Kashmir, Srinagar, is the Organising Secretary of the Conference.

### CONFERENCE THEMES

The themes for the 57th Annual Conference of the Indian Society of Labour Economics (ISLE) are:

- Unpaid Work
- The Right to Work and the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act
- Labour and Employment in the Manufacturing Sector.

### CRITICAL INFORMATION

#### Dates to Remember

- Dates of the Conference: **10 – 12 October 2015.**
- Last Date for Submission of Papers: **31 July 2015.**
- Communication from ISLE about Acceptance of Papers: **17 August 2015.** (Those who would like to receive early communication of the acceptance of their papers should request for early information in this regard while sending their papers)
- Last Date for Registration: **15 September 2015.**

#### Timings of the Conference

The Conference will start at 9.30 am on 10 October 2015 and will conclude by 4 pm on 12 October 2015. Delegates are advised to reach Srinagar a day prior to the Conference and schedule their departure for the evening of 12 October 2015 or the morning of 13 October 2015. A pre-Conference event is also being planned for 9 October 2015 (at around 3 pm) and the theme for this will be announced soon. Those who would like to attend the Pre-Conference event should aim to reach the Conference venue by noon on 9 October 2015.

#### Guidelines on the Submission of Papers

Researchers and other professionals, including those from outside India, are invited to contribute papers on any of the Conference themes mentioned above. Scholars from outside India may contribute either conceptual or empirical papers relating to international or Indian experience. The papers should be emailed to:

**Professor Preet Rustagi, The Hon. Secretary, Indian Society of Labour Economics, NIDM Building, 3rd Floor IIPA Campus, I.P. Estate, Mahatma Gandhi Marg, New Delhi – 110002, India** on [conference.isle@gmail.com](mailto:conference.isle@gmail.com) with a copy marked to: [57isleconferencecukmr@gmail.com](mailto:57isleconferencecukmr@gmail.com).

Authors of selected papers will subsequently be invited by the Conference President/ ISLE Secretariat to present their papers during either the Thematic Technical Sessions or the Poster Sessions.

Papers submitted should not exceed 8000 words (including tables and appendices) and should adhere to the style of writing of the current issues of The Indian Journal of Labour Economics (IJLE). [For further details, please visit [www.isleijle.org](http://www.isleijle.org)].

All papers should also include a summary of about 1000 words. The summaries of all accepted papers will be compiled into a publication that will be distributed among the Conference participants, along with a CD containing the papers themselves. They will also be put up on the ISLE website. Selected and revised papers that have been peer-reviewed will be published in subsequent issues of The Indian Journal of Labour Economics (IJLE) in 2016. Those who would like their papers to be published in the journal should send revised papers to the Editor of the IJLE after the Conference.

In line with the editorial philosophy of the ISLE, authors are requested to ensure that their contributions are original and have not been published or presented in part or in full at any other academic forum prior to this Conference. Further, all papers will be screened for plagiarism.

### **Panel Proposals**

A few panel discussions on special themes will be organised during the Conference. Proposals for panels are invited from scholars and institutions. The final proposals will be selected by a team of experts and reviewers for presentation at the Conference. A panel session will comprise 4 – 5 paper presentations.

### **Each panel proposal should contain the following:**

- The title of the panel and a description of the panel's theme.
- The titles, authors and abstracts of the papers to be presented.
- The names, affiliations and short biographies of the proposed speakers/presenters.
- The name and contact information of the panel organiser.

The organisers/ coordinators of each Panel Session are expected to be in charge of the Panel Discussion, including raising resources for the travel expenses of speakers. However, the ISLE will take care of all their other expenses, including boarding and lodging. Proposals should be submitted to the ISLE Secretariat latest by 31 August, 2015.

### **Best Paper Awards**

The Ruddar Datt Memorial Award and the Sanjay Thakur Young Labour Economist Award (each carrying an award of Rs.10,000) will be awarded to the authors of the best papers at the Conference. Only authors who are below 40 years of age will be considered for these awards. The papers on any of the Conference themes to be considered for the award should be presented by the paper writers themselves. Contributors who wish to be considered for these awards are requested to furnish proof of their age along with their papers.

### Surjit Singh Fellowship

The ISLE also invites applications from scholars below 40 years of age working on labour and employment issues for the award of one Fellowship of Rs. 50,000 instituted in the memory of Dr. Surjit Singh, former Secretary of the Society. The application should contain a short proposal (about 2 – 3 pages) providing details of the research objectives, hypotheses, methodology and theoretical framework of the study. The awardee is expected to prepare a comprehensive research paper/monograph by the end of 2015 and also make a presentation based on it during the Conference.

*The last date for submitting the application is 7 May 2015 and the decision on the award will be communicated to applicants by the 20 May 2015.*

## LOGISTICAL AND OTHER INFORMATION FOR DELEGATES

### Conference Registration

The registration fee for the Conference is Rs. 2000. Registration will entitle participants to modest boarding and lodging as well as the conference kit. Completed registration form along with a demand draft (DD) drawn in favour of **“local organising secretary ISLE 57”, payable at Srinagar**, should be sent by 15 September 2015 to the Local Organising Secretary, Professor G.M. Bhat, Head of the Department of Economics and Dean of the School of Social Sciences, Central University of Kashmir, Transit Campus, Sonwar (Near G.B.Pant Hospital), 190004 Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir. A soft copy of the form and the DD should be emailed to **57isleconferencelukmr@gmail.com**.

Participants, who are members of the ISLE but have not renewed their membership for the year 2015, or are not members of the Society need to pay the membership fee to be able to attend the Conference. The annual membership fee is Rs. 1000 for those from India, US\$ 100 for those from developing countries, and US\$ 150 for those from other countries. Payment may be made through DD/local cheque in favour of “The Indian Society of Labour Economics”, payable at New Delhi. This should be sent along with the application form to Professor Preet Rustagi, Hon. Secretary, The Indian Society of Labour Economics, NIDM Building, 3rd Floor, IIPA Campus, I. P. Estate, Mahatma Gandhi Marg, New Delhi-110002. Alternatively, the membership fee along with the registration form may be sent to the Organising Secretary at the above mentioned address with information to ISLE Secretariat.

### CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FEE STRUCTURE\*

Category		
India (Rs.)	2000	1500
Developing Countries (US \$)	100	75
Other Countries (US \$)	200	150

\*This does not include the ISLE membership fee.

The registration fee for the Conference includes payment towards a conference kit (comprising the summaries of all the papers presented at the Conference, a CD of the papers, a conference bag, stationery, etc.) and modest board and lodging.

*It is expected that the paper presenters, resource persons and other participants will take care of their travel costs through funding from their own institutions or other sources. For some select keynote / invited paper writers and resource persons, whose travel costs cannot be managed by them, the Society will meet their travel costs.*

Those who would prefer to arrange their own accommodation need to take care of the relevant logistics themselves.

Delegates are requested to send complete information along with the registration fee, at the earliest and in any case, before 15 September 2015 so that arrangements can be made for their accommodation. The organisers cannot guarantee the accommodation of those who register after this date. It should also be noted that it would be difficult to arrange accommodation for those who register on the spot. Those interested in staying on in Srinagar beyond the Conference dates will need to make their own arrangements.

### **PRE-CONFERENCE EVENT**

A pre-Conference event is also being planned around 3 pm on 9 October 2015 and those who would like to participate in it should aim to reach Srinagar by noon on 9 October 2015.

For updates on the Conference, please visit the ISLE website: <http://www.isleijle.org>, or call + 91-11- 23358166/23321610 Extn: 50; Mobile: +91-9871177540; Fax: +91 – 11-23765410, or email at [conference.isle@gmail.com](mailto:conference.isle@gmail.com).

### **CONTACT DETAILS**

#### **Conference President**

##### **Professor Ravi Srivastava**

Centre for the Study of Regional Development (CSRD)  
Jawaharlal Nehru University  
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Email: [ravisriv@gmail.com](mailto:ravisriv@gmail.com)  
Tel. : 2670410(Office)

#### **Conference Organising Secretary**

##### **Professor G.M. Bhat**

Head, Department of Economics  
and Dean, School of Social Sciences  
Central University of Kashmir  
Transit Campus, Sonwar (Near G.B.Pant Hospital)  
190004 Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir  
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### **ISLE SECRETARIAT**

#### **Professor Preet Rustagi**

The Hon. Secretary  
The Indian Society of Labour Economics  
C/o Institute for Human Development  
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**All queries/submissions relating to the Conference should be addressed to: [57isleconferencecukmr@gmail.com](mailto:57isleconferencecukmr@gmail.com)/conference.isle@gmail.com**

## **ABOUT CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF KASHMIR**

The Central University of Kashmir, Srinagar was established by an Act of Parliament in 2009. The proposed campus will be developed on about 450 acres of land in the vicinity of Srinagar city. Presently, the university is functioning in rented buildings at three different sites in Srinagar city and there are 16 departments functioning within 8 different Schools.

### **Department of Economics**

The Department of Economics was started in the year 2011 to offer postgraduate courses in economics. So far, there have been three batches of students who have successfully completed their postgraduate degrees. From the current session onwards, the department will offer an integrated M. Phil and Ph. D programme. The 57<sup>th</sup> ISLE Annual Conference is the first major event organised by the department.

### **Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir (SKUAST)**

The University is an agricultural university located in Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir. While its main campus is in Shalimar, Srinagar, the University has multiple campuses, colleges, and research and extension centers across the Kashmir Valley and Ladakh regions of the state.

The university was founded in 1982 by an Act passed by the State Legislature of Jammu and Kashmir. It was named after Kashmiri leader Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah who is popularly known as Sher-e-Kashmir (Lion of Kashmir).

### **A Few Words about Srinagar**

Srinagar is the summer capital of the Indian State of Jammu and Kashmir. It lies in the Kashmir Valley, on the banks of the Jhelum River, which is a tributary of the Indus. The city is famous for its gardens, lakes and houseboats. It is also known for traditional Kashmiri handicrafts and dried fruits. The city is located on both the sides of the Jhelum River, which is called Vyath in Kashmir. The river passes through the city and meanders through the valley, emptying into the Dal Lake. The city is famous for its nine old bridges that connect the two halves of the city. Srinagar has a humid subtropical climate, and is significantly cooler than much of the rest of India due to its moderately high elevation and northerly position. The valley is surrounded by the Himalayas on all sides. Winters are cool, with daytime temperatures averaging 2.5 °C (36.5 °F) in January, and temperatures below freezing at night. Moderate to heavy snowfall occurs in winter and the only road that connects Srinagar with the rest of India may be blocked for a few days if avalanches occur. Summers are warm with a July daytime average of 24.1 °C (75.4 °F). Spring is the wettest season while autumn is the driest.

### **Weather in Srinagar in October**

People enjoy the colours of autumn which usually arrives in the month of October. The cool breeze during the evening makes the weather a bit chilly. Visitors to Srinagar love the visual delight of the fall season during October. The temperature ranges between 22.4°C - 5.8°C. Delegates/Participants are recommended to carry adequate warm clothes.

## **How to Reach Srinagar**

### **By Air:**

Srinagar city is well connected with the rest of the country by air. Most airlines run multiple flights a day into Srinagar's Sheikh ul-Aalam International Airport. Direct flights from Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru, Ahmadabad and Jammu to Srinagar also operate daily and in all seasons. Srinagar Airport is about 15 kilometres from the city centre.

### **By Train:**

Trains operate only up to the Udhampur and Katra stations. It is possible to disembark at Udhampur, (but preferably at Jammu city) and then use public transport to reach Srinagar. The journey to Srinagar city from Jammu Tawi (the distance is about 300 kms, including 200 kms of roads through the hills) usually takes about 8 hours. Hiring a vehicle to make the journey is easy, although it is advisable to travel in groups. Shuttle busses are also available from Jammu Tawi to Srinagar.

## **How to Reach Central University of Kashmir/SKUAST**

Delegates travelling by air will be met by volunteers on 9/10 October 2015 at the Sheikh-ul-Aalam International Airport. From there they will be escorted to their accommodation. Delegates travelling by road should report to the Tourist Reception Centre in Srinagar. They will be escorted to their accommodation from there.

## BRIEF SUGGESTIONS FOR AUTHORS OF PAPERS ON THE CONFERENCE THEMES

### Theme I: Unpaid Work

#### *Concept of Unpaid Work*

Unpaid work, is essentially work that does not receive any direct remuneration. Unpaid work can be divided into two categories:

- (a) The first category is unpaid work that falls within the Production Boundary, as determined by the System of National Accounts (SNA), which is the internationally agreed standard set of recommendations on how to compile measures of economic activity in accordance with strict accounting conventions based on economic principles approved by all UN member countries. This work may be called unpaid SNA work, and consists of unpaid work in family enterprises; the subsistence production of goods by households for own consumption and the free collection of products also for own consumption (such as fetching water, fuel wood, fish, fruits, etc); and collection of free goods for production purposes (such as, collection of fodder, wood, craft materials, etc). This unpaid SNA work is a part of the conventional economy and is included in national income accounts. Though satisfactory data are frequently available on this work, this unpaid work is part of the conventional economy.
- (b) The second category is unpaid work that falls within the General Production Boundary but outside the Production Boundary of the SNA document. It is called non-SNA unpaid work, and is excluded from the conventional economy as well as from national income accounts. Non-SNA work includes daily activities of household upkeep (cooking, washing, cleaning, shopping for own household, etc); care-related activities (unpaid care of children, the old the sick, disabled of own household); and voluntary services and unpaid community services. Complete data are available on this work, as time-use surveys are not yet universal, and therefore this type of unpaid work is not always visible in statistics.

The different contexts in which unpaid work tends to be discussed and debated, as outlined below, offer possible areas of focus for conference papers.

#### *The Care Economy*

Unpaid work is often discussed in the context of the care economy. Important input for human well-being and for the nurturing of children can be provided by the four “care diamond” institutions, namely, the government, the market, voluntary organisations or communities, and the household. The government is expected to ensure that adequate and reliable care of good quality is provided to all those who need it . That is, if there are any gaps in care, it is the duty of the government, as a part of the social contract, to see that these gaps are filled.

Some of the important concerns in this context are: the present status of the care economy and whether there are significant gaps; the role of unpaid household care and its role in an economy; ensuring just and fair distribution of the responsibility of care within the household; the desirable distribution of care among the “care diamond” institutions, and the factors on which this distribution depends.

### ***Unpaid Work and the Labour Market***

It is frequently argued that the burden of unpaid work on women divides the labour market on gender lines. This also impacts almost all labour market outcomes for women, and results not only in gender gaps but also in gaps for all labour market outcomes. It will be interesting to see, empirically and conceptually, how the size and nature of women's unpaid work (or sharing of unpaid work between men and women) impacts different labour market outcomes. Also, the sharing of paid and unpaid work between men and women will have important implications for labour market and employment policies.

### ***Valuation of Unpaid Work***

The 1993 SNA document as well as the 2008 SNA document recommended that the monetary value of unpaid work (unpaid services) should be compiled into a satellite account in each country. The Beijing Platform for Action also recommended valuation of unpaid work in monetary terms. However, there is major debate in the literature on whether unpaid work should or should not be valued in money terms. Some economists argue that unpaid work is "much more than labour" and therefore it should not be valued in petty money terms. Such valuation would trivialise work that is usually performed out of love. On the other hand, there are several proponents of valuation, who argue that one cannot make unpaid work visible without presenting its monetary value. This offers a comparative picture of the contribution of unpaid work and paid work to overall human well-being.

Another area of debate in valuation is the methods of valuation. The different methods discussed in the literature are (i) the input method, (ii) the output method and (iii) compilation of systematic satellite accounts of unpaid work. Although no standardisation and harmonisation of the methods has been achieved at the global level so far, this is an interesting area of debate.

In the light of the above, papers on this theme could include some of the following aspects:

- The concept of unpaid work, its definition and purview and whether there should be separate concepts of unpaid work in the Global North and Global South.
- The concept of the care economy and how unpaid care is a part of the care economy; the concept of care deficiency and the need to reorganise care responsibility in different institutions; the policies needed to ensure that care is provided to all those who need it, and at the same time to see that women are not impacted adversely by such policies; quality-related issues of care when it is provided by the government, the market or voluntary agencies.
- The necessity (or lack thereof) of assigning a monetary value to unpaid work; the advantages and disadvantages of valuation of care; deliberations on the different methods of valuation; methods appropriate to the Global South; explorations of the concept in the Indian context based on primary data from different states/locations; the impact of unpaid work or care on women's well-being or women's status in the economy.
- The connections between care and labour markets; the need (or lack thereof) for policies on work-life balance, gender justice and gender empowerment.



- Lessons that can be derived from the countries which have time-use surveys on women's unpaid work on the basis of which implications for their labour market participation can be assessed; whether the concentration of women in self-employed, home-based work as unpaid workers is influenced by their care responsibilities; how women who are regular workers cope with their care responsibilities; whether the sectoral and occupational concentration of women reflects their care responsibilities or whether this is similar across categories of women with and without specific care responsibilities; whether there a distinction noted based on family structure (nuclear versus joint), number of children and their ages, other members such as the ill and aged.

## **Theme II: The Right to Work & Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA)**

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) has already been the subject of a great deal of economic research. Yet we still know relatively little about many critical aspects of the Act. Some of the issues on which contributions on this theme can be made include the following:

- ***Wider regional focus***

Much of the empirical research so far focuses on a few states, especially Andhra Pradesh. Some states where the MGNREGA has done quite well, like Chhattisgarh, have received very little attention as things stand. There is a need to extend state-specific studies to a much wider range of states.

- ***Theoretical models***

Several theoretical models of MGNREGA have been developed to investigate issues such as the impact of the programme on employment, wages, poverty and migration. Yet the need remains for a theoretical framework flexible enough to accommodate different assumptions about the structure of the labour market, which varies a great deal in different contexts. This would also help to think more clearly about the macroeconomic effects of MGNREGA, e.g., its alleged inflationary effects.

- ***Impact on labour markets***

For labour economists, one of the main issues raised by MGNREGA is its impact on labour markets. Some research has already been done on this in the form of estimations of the impact of the programme on agricultural wages. But MGNREGA could also have many other effects on labour markets, e.g., by affecting seasonal labour availability, workers' bargaining power, women's labour force participation, accepted labour standards, migration patterns, and (over time) agricultural productivity. MGNREGA is small relative to the economy as a whole, but it may have substantial local impacts – even the generation of purchasing power in pockets of high MGNREGA employment may have significant multiplier effects on the local economy. There is much scope for further research on these issues.

- ***Welfare effects***

Similarly, there is scope for further research on the welfare effects of MGNREGA, including its impact on rural poverty, insecurity, undernutrition, school participation, economic inequality, social relations and intra-household distribution. Some of these issues have already been investigated with specific reference to Andhra Pradesh, where some particularly useful datasets are available. Hopefully, it will be possible to extend these investigations, both regionally and thematically, as better data becomes available across the country.

- ***Productive value of MGNREGA assets***

MGNREGA works are often assumed to be largely unproductive, yet the limited evidence available does not support this assumption. For instance, a recent study of MGNREGA assets in Maharashtra suggests that most of these assets are valued by local communities, and another study points to high rates of return on MGNREGA wells in Jharkhand. The fact remains that no comprehensive study of assets has been completed so far – this is a gaping hole in MGNREGA research.

- ***Gender aspects of MGNREGA***

There is a great deal of anecdotal evidence that MGNREGA is a source of empowerment for women: it gives them an opportunity to earn an independent income, have their own bank account, and participate in local democracy. On the other hand, the double burden of household work and wage employment may have adverse effects on women's health and well-being, especially when it is not a matter of choice. A distinction also needs to be made here between household effects and social effects of women's workforce participation: given that India has some of the lowest rates of female labour force participation in the world, wider employment opportunities for women may have positive social effects even if a particular woman gains little individually from participation in MGNREGA. Much remains to be done to understand these gender-related issues.

- ***Skill development***

MGNREGA is often criticised for failing to promote skilled work and skill formation. In fact, the programme does include an implicit skill formation component. Large numbers of men and women have learnt new skills as mates, Gram Rozgar Sevaks, programme officers, technical assistants, social auditors, MIS operators, among other skilled posts created by MGNREGA. Since most of these posts are contractual, it is quite likely that many of these employees move on at some stage and then use their newly acquired skills in other sectors. It would be really interesting to investigate this skill formation aspect of MGNREGA, and examine whether and how it can be consolidated – not only for these functionaries but perhaps also for MGNREGA workers themselves.

- ***Wage payments***

Delays in wage payments have undermined MGNREGA ever since the transition from cash payments to bank (and post office) payments in mid-2009. Many attempts have been made to streamline and accelerate the payments, with limited success so far. Technological solutions to one set of problems often generate a new set of problems. For instance, business correspondents can facilitate the transition from post offices to banks, which tend to be better placed to ensure timely payment, but they create new dependencies – on technology, private contractors, and (if "Aadhaar-enabled") on UID enrolment. The recent improvement in electronic tracking of wage payments opens up new possibilities of useful research on this critical issue.

- ***Incentives and accountability***

Aside from delayed payments, the vitality of MGNREGA has been affected by low motivation among frontline functionaries. In the old days of the "PC system", when funds were easily embezzled and the loot was widely shared, functionaries benefited from high levels of MGNREGA employment. As embezzlement becomes harder and riskier, however, they often lose interest. One way of reviving the motivation of key functionaries (e.g., Gram Rozgar Sevaks and Programme Officers) would be to give them salary bonuses linked to the quantity of MGNREGA employment generated in the area. These incentive issues have received little attention so far.

- **Workers' organisations**

Last but not least, more attention needs to be paid to MGNREGA as an organisational opportunity for informal sector workers. It has worked best in areas where labourers were able to organise, either due to the prior existence of a workers' organisation, or because MGNREGA itself acted as a springboard for the formation of some sort of trade union. However, this has happened on a very limited scale, contrary to the high hopes that accompanied the enactment of MGNREGA. The reasons for this limited organisational success, and the scope for more active mobilisation in the future, need to be better understood.

Contributors may also touch upon some of the above issues vis-à-vis similar experiences of the right to work in other developing countries, if any.

### **Theme III: Labour and Employment in Manufacturing Sector**

Over the last two decades, the manufacturing sector's share in domestic output and employment has stagnated at around 15 per cent and 12 per cent respectively, despite faster domestic output and export growth. India has managed to escape premature de-industrialisation – unlike Latin America – but rapid rise in the trade imbalance points to a lost opportunity for industrialisation, employment expansion and technological progress. The services-led growth of India is also contrary to the historical experiences of today's developed countries and the late industrialised countries of Asia. Apparently, the current policy slogan of "Make in India" is, in effect, an attempt to overcome industrial stagnation. This theme of the Conference is intended to focus on the various employment and labour market aspects of the problem.

Manufacturing employment in India is distributed over three categories, namely, factory manufacturing (those employed in registered factories), household manufacturing (producing traditional, labour-intensive goods mostly using family labour) and small factories and workshops that lie between these two categories in the unorganised sector.

Interestingly, while the manufacturing sector's share has remained stagnant over the last two decades, its distribution in the various categories/sectors has varied considerably. For instance, factory manufacturing employment, which almost stagnated for nearly two decades until the mid-2000s, displayed unprecedented growth between 2004 and 2012. This has been attributed to the investment boom in capital and skill-intensive industries. Is this an adequate answer? Systematic analysis of Annual Survey of Industry (ASI) data by industries and regions could help to understand the emerging patterns of employment.

It is widely accepted that the organised and unorganised manufacturing sectors are not just competitors in the product market, but are complementary – via sub-contracting (outsourcing) – in many producer services (where unorganised sector firms perform low productive jobs paying lower wages). Moreover, with growing competition in the product market after deregulation, it was expected that jobs would move from the organised to the unorganised sectors to take advantage of lower labour costs and practically no regulation. But we find that during the last decade, when domestic output accelerated, unorganised manufacturing employment fell by nearly 10 million workers. What could account for this? Perhaps disaggregated analyses by region and industry would, as a first approximation, help map the pattern of the decline, and could suggest meaningful hypotheses. For analyses of various aspects of unorganised manufacturing, the occasional rounds of NSSO surveys may also be very useful.

Historically, household manufacturing declined in relative and absolute terms with industrialisation. In India, the process seems to have stalled or slowed, with about one-third of manufacturing employment still engaged in this form of industrial employment. The recent population census provides rich and disaggregated data on household manufacturing employment, which can be used to understand emerging patterns. Some evidence points to the fact that household manufacturing employment continues to flourish in urban areas as a livelihood option for surplus labour households. It may also be thriving in some sectors on account of state support. Detailed studies of this sector could help shape future policy. Systematic analyses of the 2011 population census data could also yield valuable insight.

Some other aspects related to this theme that contributors could address include:

- Linkage of organised and unorganised sectors
- Informalisation of the organised/formal sector
- Critical constraints in expanding growth of manufacturing output and employment – infrastructure, macroeconomic policy, institutional framework (labour laws, etc.)
- Micro, small and medium enterprises in manufacturing output and employment
- Skill development and training and manufacturing growth
- Working conditions including environmental concerns and health/occupational hazards, particularly in unorganised and small-scale manufacturing.

The papers may be at macro as well as disaggregated levels based on either secondary or primary or both types of data. Prospective Contributions can also be made on international experiences, particularly in Asia and other developing countries. Conceptual/theoretical papers are also welcome.

**ISLE 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference****Srinagar, 10-12 October, 2015****Registration Form**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Designation \_\_\_\_\_

University/ Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (Landline): \_\_\_\_\_ (Mobile) : \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Accompanying person(s) details**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

D.D. no. \_\_\_\_\_ Dated \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Details (in Rs./US \$) \_\_\_\_\_

Accommodation required \_\_\_\_\_ Yes / No (please tick whichever applicable)

**Send your registration forms duly filled to:****Professor G.M. Bhat**

Head, Department of Economics and Dean  
 School of Social Sciences  
 Central University of Kashmir  
 Transit Campus, Sonwar  
 (Near G.B.Pant Hospital)  
 190004 Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir  
 Email: hodeconomics.ku@gmail.com  
 Ph: 09469022125& 09797282909

***E-mail: 57isleconferencecukmr@gmail.com***

# Indian Society of Labour Economics

## Application for Membership

To

The Hon. Secretary

Indian Society of Labour Economics

NIDM Building, IIPA Campus, I.P. Estate, New Delhi - 110 002, India

Sir,

I/We subscribe to the Aims and Objects of the Indian Society of Labour Economics. I/We agree to abide by the Constitution and Rules & Regulations of the Society as may be in force from time to time. I/We hereby apply for membership as per following particulars.

Individual Annual Membership for the calendar year.....

Individual Life Membership for the calendar year .....

A Bank Draft for Rs/US\$......is being sent herewith for the Membership Fee.

Date:.....

Yours faithfully,

Encl:.....

(Signature of Applicant)

Name in full (in block letters) \_\_\_\_\_

Designation \_\_\_\_\_

Full Address of Organization presently working (in case retired, previous institutions) \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address (if different)

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Nominee (in case of institutional member) \_\_\_\_\_

Areas of Research Interests: \_\_\_\_\_

### Membership Fees

Type of Membership	India (Rs.)	Developing Countries (US \$)	Other Countries (US \$)
Individual Annual	1,000	100	150
Individual Life Membership	10,000	—	—

- Notes: 1. Payments are to be made only through bank drafts or local cheques drawn in favour of the INDIAN SOCIETY OF LABOUR ECONOMICS, payable at Delhi/New Delhi.  
2. A short C.V. (100-150 words) of the applicant should be sent in case of individual membership.