64th THE INDIAN SOCIETY OF LABOUR ECONOMICS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

29-31 March 2024 | University of Hyderabad, India

Organised by

University of Hyderabad

Institution of Eminence

The Indian Society of Labour Economics (ISLE) is pleased to announce its 64th Annual Conference to be held in the University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad, India during 29-31 March 2024. The Conference is being organised by the School of Economics, University of Hyderabad in collaboration with Department of Liberal Arts, IIT Hyderabad, Centre for Economic and Social Studies (CESS), Hyderabad and the Council for Social Development (CSD), Hyderabad. Professor Ritu Dewan, Visiting Professor at the Institute for Human Development, New Delhi and Former Professor and Director, Department of Economics, University of Mumbai is the Conference President. Prof. Alok Kumar Mishra, Professor, University of Hyderabad, is the Organising Secretary of the Conference. Dr. Jajati Keshari Parida, Associate Professor, University of Hyderabad, and Prof. Badri Narayan Rath, Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad (IIT-H) are the Joint Organising Secretaries of the Conference.

CONFERENCE THEMES

- Gig and Platform Work
- Growth and Employment
- Care Economy and Labour Market

Participation in the Conference is by invitation and registration only. The Conference is international and prospective contributors from both India and outside are invited to contribute papers and participate.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Last Date for Submission of Papers	Communication from ISLE about Acceptance of Papers	Last Date for Registration
10 January 2024	25 January 2024	10 February 2024

**Note: Participants from outside India are advised to submit their papers preferably by 31 December 2023 to allow sufficient time for travel and visa clearance.*

Conference Structure and Duration

The Conference Programme will consist of presentation of around 200-250 of papers on the Conference themes in thematic and technical sessions. In addition, 3-4 Plenary lectures by eminent scholars/ practitioners /public intellectuals will be held during the Conference. As in the previous Conferences, a Plenary Panel and 6-8 Thematic (Parallel) Panels will also be organised.

The Conference will begin at 9:00 am on 29 March 2024 and conclude by 2:00 pm on 31 March 2024. Participants are advised to reach Hyderabad a day prior to the Conference and schedule their departure after 3 pm of 31 March 2024 or in the morning of 1 April 2024.

Pre-Conference Events

Pre-Conference Events are also being organised on 28 March 2024 from 2:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Those interested in participating in the Pre-Conference events should aim to reach the Conference venue by noon on 28 March 2024.

The brief Conference Programme Structure may be seen for details.

Submission of Papers

- The Conference is open to academicians, professionals, development practitioners, civil society members, etc., interested in labour, employment, and development issues. They are welcome to contribute papers and/or participate in the Conference.
- The papers should be submitted online at www.isleconference.com by clicking on the 'Paper Presenter' button.
- The length of the paper should be between 5000 to 8000 words and should adhere to the current style of the Indian Journal of Labour Economics (IJLE). For further details, please visit http://www.springer.com/economics/journal/41027
- All papers should include a summary of around 500 words. The summaries of all accepted papers will be compiled into a Book of Abstracts which will be distributed among the Conference participants. These summaries will also be uploaded on the ISLE website.
- The selected revised papers presented in the Conference will be considered for publication in the IJLE after peer review.
- Authors must ensure that their submissions are original. Please note that all papers will be screened for plagiarism and accordingly accepted or rejected. Further, authors are solely responsible for plagiarism violations.

- **Best Paper Awards:** Every year ISLE gives the Ruddar Datt, L K Deshpande, Surjit Singh Awards for the three best papers presented in the Conference to young scholars below 40 years. For further details, visit: www.isleconference.com

Panel Proposals

During the Conference, a number of Thematic Panels will be organised in addition to the Pre-Conference events. Proposals for organising panels are invited from scholars and institutions.

Each panel proposal should contain the following:

1. **Title of the panel** and a description of the panel's theme.
2. **Titles, authors and abstracts** (500-700 words) of the papers to be presented.
3. **Names, affiliations and brief biographies** of about 100 words along with a digital high-resolution picture to be submitted for each proposed panelists/speakers.
4. **Name and contact information** of the Panel Organiser.
5. **Social media handles** (Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn) of participants and institutions.

Note: *A Thematic Panel Session will comprise of 4 – 5 paper presentations. The organisers / coordinators of each Thematic Panel Session are expected to be in charge of the Panel, including raising resources for speakers' travel and other expenditure. These charges include Panel Registration fee of Rs. 30,000/- for institutions within India or* US $ 1000 *in case of institutions outside India to cover overhead costs including printing, photography, videography, documentation, booklets containing details of the panels, branding visibility, promotions etc.*

The proposals may be emailed to mail@isleijle.org latest by 25 January 2024.

Travel Arrangements

The Indian Society of Labour Economics does not have any regular source of funding and each year the Society tries to raise some limited resources. As such, it is expected that the paper presenters, resource persons and other participants will fund their travel costs through their own institutions or other sources. For some select keynote / invited paper writers and resource persons,

who are either superannuated or cannot manage their travel costs, the Society will make effort to meet their travel expenses.

Conference Registration Charges*

Participation Category	With Accommodation			Without Accommodation	
	Delegate		Accompanying Person	Delegate	
	ISLE Members	Non-ISLE Members		ISLE Members	Non-ISLE Members
India (INR)	6000	7500	4000	3000	4500
Developing Countries (US $)	200		100	100	
Other Countries (US $)	300		125	150	
Students (PG and Ph.D. only)					
India (INR)	3500	5000	3000	2000	3500
Outside India (US $):					
Developing Countries	100		75	50	
Other Countries	150		100	75	

** Conference Registration includes a Rs.1500 mandatory ISLE Annual Membership Fee.*

- The Conference registration includes payment towards the Conference kit (comprising Book of Abstracts, printed copies of Presidential Address, Keynote Papers, Plenary Lectures, Conference programme, Conference bag, Stationery, etc.), and modest accommodation and meals (Breakfast, Tea, Lunches and Dinners) served during the Conference days.
- Those registering after the deadline of 10 February 2024 will need to arrange their own accommodation and transportation.

Mode of Payment

The ISLE has implemented a payment system to streamline and centralize the acceptance of payments while ensuring that information is encrypted, providing a secure and convenient transaction process.

Conference registration charge should be paid online at www.isleconference.com by clicking the 'Conference Participation Charges' button.

CONTACT DETAILS

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All Conference logistics related queries (accommodation, local arrangements) should be addressed on above email and phone numbers

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All queries relating to Paper Submissions, Programme and Registrations should be emailed only to: mail@isleijle.org.

For details and updates on the Conference, please visit www.isleconference.com

Local Conference Organising Committee at the University of Hyderabad

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Guidelines on Conference Themes for Prospective Contributors

The guidelines on the conference themes are suggestive only. The prospective paper writers may contribute on other relevant sub-themes as well. Apart from contributions on India, papers relating to other regions and countries are also welcome. Papers can be from different theoretical perspectives, as can be the use of different empirical methodologies (e.g. quantitative, qualitative, case-oriented or mixed). Submission of original work that contributes to the advancement of existing knowledge and debates on the topic are encouraged.

Theme 1

GIG AND PLATFORM WORK

Advancements in digital technologies are bringing about profound transformations in the economy as well as society. These innovations are fundamentally reshaping labour conditions and relationships, affecting both developing and developed countries alike. The rapid expansion of broadband and internet connectivity, coupled with the widespread adoption of cloud computing and infrastructure, has been further accelerated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The innovations in digital technology are also ushering in new ways in organising work processes, which has led to the rise in digital labour platforms, including in developing countries. Governments in developing countries have embraced these platforms as a means of generating employment opportunities and advancing their technological development. The rise of online labour platforms has brought about new ways of outsourcing work, facilitating access to a global pool of skilled workforce. This outsourcing model helps enterprises and corporations to seek new ways to improve their productivity and access workers with varied skills. While this can lead to increase in employment in the platform economy, especially in developing countries, it also carries potential downsides, in terms of job losses in traditional firms as well as precarious working conditions. In addition, these emerging outsourcing models are also disrupting and challenging established economic practices and regulatory standards, reshaping existing markets, and creating new ones.

Platforms promise flexibility and autonomy, making it attractive to workers especially women workers who manage the dual responsibilities of paid and unpaid labour. Similarly, e-commerce platforms can be beneficial for self-employed workers, particularly in retail trade to increase their reach and expand their markets. However, a growing body of evidence highlights the lack of work-related and social protection benefits, as well as increasing algorithmic control over the labour process, resulting in a proliferation of precarious and informal employment. Furthermore, the gigification of certain professional tasks, such as in IT, data analytics, legal and other services, poses a risk to highly educated and skilled workers especially in developing countries, potentially pushing them into precarious or informal working conditions, necessitating careful policy considerations.

While this new business model is often viewed as a win-win situation by technocrats and governments, labour economists have expressed doubt and scepticism, which is reflected in the growing body of empirical evidence and in public policy discussions.

Some issues that can be addressed on this sub-theme are as follows:

- What are the transformative impacts of digital technologies on the organization of work as well as working conditions for all?
- What are the implications of the platform economy for education and skill development?
- What platform characteristics tilt the balance in favour of increasing agency and promotion of decent livelihoods?
- How does the platform economy affect productivity within firms and at the industry level?
- What are the gender implications of the growth of the platform economy for various occupations?
- Can digital labour platforms address the traditional gender division of labour and the caste hierarchies within occupations?
- How do wages and working conditions in the digital economy compare with traditional jobs requiring similar levels of education and occupations?

- What forms of platform control or co-ordination are optimal for enhancing agency and improving working conditions?
- How are local platforms impacting the large international platforms?
- How are the local platform models transforming work, and do they contribute to a more equitable society?
- What impact does the platform work and economy have on the formal enterprises in various industrial sectors?
- What regulatory mechanisms are needed to encourage competition and prevent anti-competitive behaviour by companies?
- How are the new forms of collective bargaining mechanisms developing within the platform economy?
- How have traditional trade unions and non-government organisations responded to the growth of platform work? How are they addressing the concerns of the workers?

Theme 2

GROWTH AND EMPLOYMENT

The simple and direct theoretical relationship between output growth and employment growth notwithstanding, empirical evidence had at best been mixed. India had witnessed periods of jobless growth-economic growth with even declining employment. In more recent periods, India has also witnessed employment growth stagnation accompanied by output growth stagnation. The complexity in this relation between output and employment is conditioned by the nature and composition of employment; nature and composition of output; and nature and composition of substitutes for labour including capital, technology and high skilled labour.

One of the fundamental macro-economic relations between output growth and employment growth lies in the nature of economic growth. Whether economic growth is employment generating or not? Demand led-growth, especially Wage-led growth arguably, has the potential to create higher output growth through higher aggregate demand, enhanced employment growth, technological change and productivity growth. This route of output growth has the potential to be pro-poor and inclusive. The employment impact of Profit-led growth or Supply-led growth, in the long run may be more subdued and has the potential to exacerbate income disparities. These macro-economic questions that received much attention in the 1990s have been relegated to the background with the big policy shift in India. There is need to relook at

the macro-economic nature of output growth, the emerging institutional environment such as state policies, regulatory structures and market interventions, especially labour market interventions and interventions in substitute factors such as capital that may impact employment growth.

Apart from the economic dimensions, the changes in measurement of output and employment too have contributed to the lack of clarity in the direction of their relation. Changes in measurement of GDP in terms of value added in the revised national accounts, the shift in sectoral contributions due to changes in measurement of sectoral value addition, the shift from employment-unemployment surveys to the periodic labour force surveys confound the direction and magnitude of the employment-output relation.

Intersectoral variations in output growth influence employment growth substantially. Such inter-sectoral variations mainly occur on account of nature of domestic demand, structural transformation, factor abundance-based international trade and foreign investment. The relatively higher shares of disposable income spend on agriculture and agro-based products may increase the growth of labour-intensive agricultural products. The employment lag in structural transformation, along with withdrawal of female labour can adversely affect employment elasticity. While rising exports of labour-intensive goods can drive employment growth in labour intensive sectors - foreign direct investments may crowd out domestic firms and introduce production systems that are relatively more capital intensive to suit global product standards. The inter-sectoral variations could affect not only the economic structure but also the employment structure. Employment demand in terms of skills, gender, age, sector and location may get affected on account of inter-sectoral growth variations. Structural transformation would alter the demand for skills, gender, location and sector. Exports and foreign investment could bring in labour demand specificities in skill and gender. These inter-sectoral effects, as stated above can be countervailing forces, the net effect of which would be an empirical question. There is however, need to bring out the various dimensions of intersectoral variations in output growth and its implications for employment growth.

In the typical labour demand analysis, apart from the output market, the single most important factor that affects employment are the factor

substitutes for labour. Rising demand for goods and services can be met by increased use of all factors. Alternatively, the relative cost and relative productivity differentials of factors of production could favour one set of factors over the other in the production process. Analysis of India's growth performance has often identified deepening capital intensity as a causal factor for jobless growth. Studies have shown that capital deepening technology is penetrating across all sectors impacting their ability to absorb labour. Further it is possible that both capital cost and capital productivity have increased due to technological change. The cost of computing, storing and communicating information had been dropping continuously for the last two decades. Moreover, capital is becoming more efficient, due to its increasing divisibility and its enhanced ability per unit. These aspects of capital imply that the declining capital cost and versatility of capital may be driving capital deepening technology in the economy. In the process the demand for labour, both in the quantum and composition may be affected. The composition may be affected due to the skill biased nature of technological change. Further, technological change may not be limited to conventional sectors. The declining transaction costs in the various input and output markets may lead to the rise of new sectors, such as the gig economy, or reconfiguration of conventional sectors such as the health, education or finance sectors into e-health, ed-tech or fintech sectors. While the production costs consideration may allow labour displacement, the transaction costs considerations may encourage scale effect on employment.

Just as economic growth that affects sectors has the potential to affect the composition of employment, capital and technology intensive growth can have wide ranging effects on the composition of employment. Skill based technological change create complementarities between skilled labour and capital. However, the distribution of skills in the economy is predicated on the informal institutions prevalent in the economy. Class, gender, age, caste, religion, ethnicity and other historical institutions of identity critically influences access to education, skills and in turn their ability to access emerging jobs.

Dualistic nature of developing economies, consisting of the informal and formal sectors, makes the output growth-employment growth nexus further complex. The co-existence of a regulated sector with entry-

exit restrictions on labour and a competitive unregulated sector may generate very different employment outcomes with economic growth. Often output growth is propelled by the growth impulse in the formal regulated sector but its employment effect may appear in the informal unregulated sector. Thus, the regulated sector may experience jobless growth while the unregulated sector may experience job growth without commensurate output growth with implications on wages and standard of living in the unregulated sector.

Finally, apart from efficient economic growth, sustainable economic growth is acquiring prime significance. Sustainable economic growth is a premise for employment growth. Sustainable growth encourages labour intensive local products and technologies. The prospects for a shared common global future through sustainable growth require a turnaround in valuation of goods and services. The valuation of goods and services that either penalises or incentivises their contribution to sustainability may alter the metrics of economic growth, and in turn the returns to labour as well. The employment prospects of green jobs are high and a promises potential. This potential needs to be appreciated.

The following questions are interesting to explore in the above context

- The macro-economic nature of economic growth and its impact on, and relationship with, employment growth: international and Indian experiences
- The alternative implications of pursuing a growth based versus pursuing an employment based strategy of development.
- Impact evaluation of growth policies on employment generation
- The emerging institutional environment, policies and market interventions shaping the macro-economic relationship between output growth and employment growth.
- Measurement issues in output and employment and how these affect the understanding of the output-employment relation.
- The differential impact on growth on employment generation across different ascribed identities of class, social groups, gender, ethnicity, location and acquired identities of income class, education and skills.

- Inter-sectoral variations in output growth and its implications on the quantity and composition of employment generated. Specifically, intersectoral variations in output growth driven by economic structure, structural transformation, international trade or foreign investment and their implications on quantity of employment and composition on the basis of skills, gender, age, sector and location.
- The relation between capital, technology and employment in the context of decreasing capital cost and improving capital versatility.
- The impact of technology on emergence of new sectors and employment.
- The segmented employment effect of economic growth in the presence of dualistic nature of economy, especially in the presence of the regulated versus unregulated sector.
- The implications of growth in a dualistic economy on productivity and wages.
- Sustainable economic growth and green jobs: prospective potential sectors that could emerge and their employment and wage effects.

Theme 3

CARE ECONOMY AND LABOUR MARKET

Care work consists of several overlapping activities: direct, personal and relational activities; indirect activities such as cooking and cleaning; activities that fill the macroeconomic investment gaps such as fetching of water, firewood etc; looking after children, aged and ill in the absence of accessible, affordable and universal health and social infrastructure. The multiplicity and simultaneity of activities carried out by women and also men involve a wide circle of paid work – underpaid work – paid care work – underpaid care work – unpaid care work: each impacts the other in tandem with and across not only employment but also livelihoods as well as sustainable living.

In developed countries, women spend on an average around twice the time on unpaid care work compared to men. In developing countries, this ratio is roughly three times (ILO report Women at Work: Trends 2016). In India, using a time use survey report for 2019, a recent study indicates that women in the working age category of 15- 60 years spend 7.2 hours on unpaid domestic work compared to 2.8 hours spent by men. Moreover, even wage-earning women spend twice the amount of time on unpaid domestic work in comparison to wage-earning men. One of the serious consequences of the highly unequal distribution of unpaid care between men and women is reflected in women's disempowerment in the labour market, i.e. their inferior status in the labour market and

in all labour market outcomes (e.g., participation, wages, upward and horizontal mobility, employment status, and diversification). Women in low-income settings struggle to balance paid work with unpaid care work. A report by ILO (2018) uses data from 126 time-use surveys carried out in 75 countries and finds that unpaid work accounts for around half of total work. The result of this is time poverty and a double burden, which can lead to mental and physical depletion. There is also a risk of a care deficit, leaving children in low-quality care or resulting in young girls caring for siblings. The demand for care work is expected to jump by 2030 in low and middle-income countries, where the demographic transition will lead to a higher proportion of the elderly depending on the working-age population. With increasing episodes of climate change and also decline in requisite and relevant state investment, women's unpaid work in farming, gathering water and fuel is growing even more.

Even in the case of paid care work, women comprise the majority of the workforce, as the prevailing gendered division of labour considers this as an extension of the work women perform at home. This is reflected in the low remuneration given to Anganwadi and ASHA workers despite the fact that they provide the most crucial form of paid care work in India. Recent research carried out by IHD and ILO indicate that that in order to achieve the policy targets by 2030, India will need to generate approximately 22.7 million new jobs in the care sector, comprising 10.2 million in education and 12.5 million in health. More than half of these newly created jobs will be generated for women, accounting for approximately 55% (around 12.4 million). This will not only offer more employment opportunities for women but also contribute to reducing the gender gap in employment.

The resulting imbalances within the gendered work continuum leads to increasing dependence on women's underpaid work to substitute unpaid work to fill gaps in public expenditure and 'genderless' macroeconomic policies and to meet the demand of the care economy in the context of growing socio-economic inequalities among women themselves. An additional linkage relates to discriminatory social institutions and stereotypes on gender roles, and increasingly the issue of intersectionality.

A multi-pronged thrust for adequate investment and policy attention towards the care sector is essential. One, by adequate and appropriate

investments in all components of the care economy including physical and social infrastructure to reduce the overall care burden, accompanied by social policies that help to redistribute intra-household care work. Second, to tap into the immense potential this sector has to provide and improve job and career prospects and to also increase female labour force participation. Third, by implementing policy and programme interventions for women and also men such as maternity and paternity benefits, flexible hours, crèches and day-care centres with timings that take into account both paid and unpaid work, etc.

The intersecting role of various institutions in supporting women's care responsibilities must be additionally understood in order to improve their access to paid work and also well-being. The care diamond is a helpful tool to look at the organization of care between the market, government, civil society and the household. This not only considers women's role both outside and within the household, but also the role of paid caregivers who perform essential tasks in the labour market and should have decent conditions and remuneration. Understanding and analysing how care gets distributed among these institutions will also be an area of interest for labour economists, including the role of private actors, both household and non-household, as well as civil society institutions.

Integrated with the morphology of production and reproduction are the opposite yet apposite interconnects between various structures that go beyond the formal and informal, the organised and the unorganised. Central therefore is the extent of interdependence or not between the systems of production, reproduction and ownership of resources, incorporating exchange-value as well as use-value beyond the market – non-market binary, including the intermeshing of the two that lie at the cusp.

Some suggestive themes on which papers could be contributed include:

- Measuring unpaid care – time use surveys and care diaries as tools to determine women's total working hours
- Ways of incorporating care work into international, national and sub-national statistical bases.
- Trends and patterns of duration and distribution of the gendered continuum focusing on unpaid, underpaid, domestic and care work

- Factors affecting demand and supply of women's care work, including the role of technology, declining women's work participation rates, work-from-home, outward and inward migration, family structures, declining access to common property resources, etc.
- The impact of the unequal distribution of care on women's time poverty
- Analysis and impact of allocations, taxation patterns, subsidy levels, devolution of funds, etc on care work.
- The provision of child care and other policy and programme solutions to balance women's responsibilities and improve their access to paid opportunities
- The role and working conditions of care workers in the household as well as the non-household realm
- Transforming the care economy for gender equality – recognizing women's contribution and creating better gender balance in the economy as well as within the household
- Designing of policies, laws, and programmes/schemes to incorporate women's unpaid work.
- Unpaid and care work distribution across sectors, locations, social groups and occupational categories
- 'Voluntary' workers: ASHA, Anganwadi, Bank Sakhis, Pashu Sakhis; etc
- Forms of organising and representation of needs of care and 'voluntary' workers.
- Research and initiatives that focus on paid, underpaid and unpaid care work performed by women and also men, barriers that prevent women from balancing these responsibilities, and insights into how to address these challenges at the public, private, community and household levels.

The above issues outlined in the three Conference themes are suggestive only and prospective contributors are welcome to contribute in other relevant sub-themes as well. Papers may relate to India and other countries, including comparative perspectives.

About Conference Host: University of Hyderabad

The University Campus is spread over more than 2300 acres, and has a large area under forest cover, with two perennial and three seasonal lakes, and rock formations characteristic of the Deccan. It is home to 734 plants, 10 mammals, 15 reptiles and 220 bird's species. Notable animals include spotted deer, hares, peacocks, porcupines, and wild boar. The campus also has a protected megalithic site. The University is recognized as an Institute of Eminence (IoE) by the University Grants Commission (UGC) through the UGC (Declaration of Government Institutions as Institutions of Eminence) Guidelines, 2017 for public institutions. The University was awarded 'Grade A^{++}' by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) in 2022. In January 2015, the University of Hyderabad received the *Visitor's Award for the Best Central University in India,* awarded by the President of India. The University of Hyderabad was ranked 601–650 in the QS World University Rankings of 2020. It is ranked 20th in India overall, 10th among universities by the National Institutional Ranking Framework in 2023. In 2020, the University was ranked 2nd among India's government universities by India Today. The UoH which was established in 1974 with Prof. Gurbaksh Singh as its first Vice Chancellor, has emerged as a leading center for excellence in teaching and research with 12 different Schools and 46 Departments and Centres. The University employs about 400 faculty members, and over 1000 non-teaching staff. About 5000 students (both Indian and International) are accommodated in this university in every academic batch. The university offers about 150 different courses, in Integrated Masters (5-years), Masters, and Doctoral Programmes.

The University of Hyderabad's Study in India Programme (SIP) for foreign students began as a small experimental summer initiative where students from the University of Pittsburgh took nine credits over nine weeks in the summer of 1998. Since then, SIP has grown in leaps and bounds and has gone from hosting eight students in its debut year to nearly 200 in the most recent academic year. The SIP has created specialised, tailor-made programs for partners such as Dartmouth College, Duke University, and the Nordic Centre in India—a consortium of 15 Nordic universities. The University Grants Commission (UGC), has hailed the Study in India Programme as a model initiative and has encouraged other universities in India to emulate the program's approach. In 2014 the SIP Programme was selected for IIE Andrew Heiskell Award. Thirteen Campuses in the world have been recognised for their Outstanding International Initiatives. UoH being the only University from Asia. For more details, visit: www.uohyd.ac.in

School of Economics, University of Hyderabad

The School of Economics (SoE) started as a department in 1979. The department was elevated to a School in the year 2012. The School of Economics offers three important master's programmes viz., Integrated-MA in Economics, post-graduate programmes (M.A.) in Economics and Financial Economics respectively. It also provides a Ph. D. research programme. This school has a strength of 18 full-time faculty members, about 150 research scholars, and about 250 Masters' students. The School expects to achieve its full sanctioned faculty strength of about 30 soon. The focus of SoE is to impart and promote quality teaching and research in Economics in India. In doing so for the last four decades, It has emerged as one of the leading centres for excellence in Economics in India. It has received special assistance form the UGC at the SAP-CAS-Phase-I level for a five-year period 2013 -2018 to work in the thrust area of 'Indian Economy'. The placement cell of the School of Economics is active since the last one and half decades, as almost 100 percent of alumni get placement (in both Government and Private sectors) after completion of their courses.

For more details, visit: www.economics.uohyd.ac.in

City of Hyderabad, India

Hyderabad is a major city of India with an estimated population of about 9 million. It was the capital city of Andhra Pradesh state from 1956 to 2014, and with the creation of Telangana state, it became the capital of Telangana. Hyderabad is located on the Musi River in the heart of the Telangana Plateau, a major upland region of the Deccan (peninsular India). The climate in Hyderabad is warm to hot and monsoonal (i.e., marked by wet and dry periods), with moderate annual precipitation. Most rain falls during the wet monsoon months of June to October. Hyderabad has become the hub of trade and commerce and an International Centre for Information Technology (IT). Pharmaceuticals, jewellery, and textiles are among the main items which are manufactured in Hyderabad. Service activities have expanded dramatically, especially those associated with IT, so that they have come to constitute the lion's share of the city's economy.

How To Reach Hyderabad?

By Air

Hyderabad has an international airport (Rajiv Gandhi International Airport) which is connected with some important international destinations and a number of Indian cities. From the **Rajiv Gandhi International Airport** take a taxi or ride-hailing service (such as Uber or Ola) to the University. The ride will take around one hour to one and a half hours, depending on the traffic conditions with an approximate rate of 1200/- to 1500/- . Alternatively, the delegates can take the AC-bus service provided by TSRTC (named Airport *Pushpak* Bus) to Gachibowli Fly-Over, and then catch a local bus.

(Bus No. 216), or an auto rickshaw/taxi to reach the university (Main Gate). The *Pushpak* bus timings are very convenient as it provides round-the-clock-service with an approximate cost of 250/. The Pushpak Bus tickets can be purchased inside the bus itself. It is the only AC-Bus service in Hyderabad, and is safe, secure and convenient.

By Train

The city is also well connected by train with all the major cities of India. Participants arriving by train can get down at the Secunderabad or Kachigurda/ Nampally railway stations. From these stations, you can take a taxi or ride-hailing service (such as Uber or Ola) to the University which is about 25kms away.It will take around 45 minutes to 1 hour, depending on traffic conditions.

The local train (MMTS) facility is also available in all these railway stations at almost every 30 minutes. Those who want to travel by MMTS, can take the MMTS to reach Lingampalli railway station, and from there take a local bus (Bus No. 216) or taxi or autorickshaw to the University, which will hardly take 10 - 15 minutes.

Those who want to travel by metro rail, can take the Blue Line metro from Secunderabad to Raidurg, and then take an autorickshaw or taxi (approx. Cost 100 to 150) to the University, which will hardly take 10 - 15 minutes to reach.

By Road

Participants coming by Bus from the neighbouring states can get down either at *Mehdipatnam*, *Lingampalli* or *Gachibowli*. Take local bus (Bus No. 216), taxi or autorickshaw to reach the University of Hyderabad.

Accommodation Arrangements

The delegates will be accommodated both within the University and in places adjacent to the Conference Venue/University. After the completion of registration, the information on accommodation of the delegates will be communicated to them in advance.

Free crèche facilities will be provided during the days of the Conference with full-time day-care staff (9 am to 6 pm). Those who need the crèche facility should inform the organizers during registration process of the conference.

Weather in Hyderabad in March

The March-end is a warm month in Hyderabad, with an average temperature fluctuating between 25°C (76°F) and 35°C (°100F).

Some Places of Attraction in Hyderabad

Popular places which attracts the attention of national and international tourists include: *Birla Mandir*, *Chowmahalla* Palace, *Charminar*, *Mecca Masjid Laad Bazaar*, *Salarjung* Museum, *Nizam Jubilee Pavilion* (*Purani Haveli*), *Golconda* Fort, *Qutub Shahi* Tombs, *Lumbini* Park (*Hussain Sagar* Lake), *Ramoji* Film City (One day tour from 9 am to 9 pm).

Please note that all the Museums are closed on Friday, and a few other places are closed on Sunday, the Zoo being open on Friday. For more details, please browse https://www.hyderabadtourism.travel/places-to-visit-in-hyderabad

Some Popular Places of interest for Visitors in Telangana and Neighboring States

Apart from these, other nearby places of attraction in Telangana include: *Srisailam*, *Tirupathi*, *Bhadrachalam-Papikondalu*, *Araku*, Y*adadri (temple), Warangal (Thousand pillar temple), Gadwal etc.* For more information, please visit https://tourism.telangana.gov.in/home

The other nearby tourist attraction in the neighboring states of Telangana include: Mysore & Bangalore in Karnataka, Chennai in Tamil Nadu, and Goa, etc.

Note: There will be a Travel Desk at the Conference venue to facilitate travel arrangements of the delegates.

हैदराबाद विश्वविद्यालय
University of Hyderabad

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National Needs, Global Standards

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In collaboration with

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