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11th Annual Conference of Knowledge Forum

December 3-5, 2016

(In partnership with Tata Trusts)

Hosted by: IIT Madras, Chennai

Conference Theme: *Globalisation of Technology and Development*

Conference Report

About 90 persons from 30 institutions registered and participated in the conference. Professor S R Hashim, President, Knowledge Forum, could not attend because of the sudden cancellation of his flight from Delhi. In his absence Professor Stanley Nollen (Georgetown University and Vice President of the Forum), Chaired the Introductory Session. Professor Malathy Duraisamy (HoD HSS IIT Madras) welcomed the participants. Professor N S Siddharthan presented the 'Tour of the sessions' and Professor Kensuke Fukushi (Tokyo University) delivered the 'Key Note' address. Professor K Narayanan (IIT Bombay and co editor of the volume) gave an introduction to the volume published by *Springer* containing select papers presented at our 2014 conference and 2015 March workshop. Professor A K Mishra (Dean Academic Research, IIT M) released the volume. Professor K Narayanan proposed the vote of thanks.

The *Governing Council* and the *General Body* meetings were Chaired by Professor Y S Rajan (ISRO and Vice President of the Forum). The General Body decided the following theme for the 12th Annual Conference:

Changing Paradigms in Technology, Trade and Development

Participation

Scholars from the following institutions participated:

International

1. Georgetown University, Washington DC.
2. Centre for International Environmental Studies, Graduate Institute of Geneva, Switzerland
3. CUNY Brooklyn College and Graduate Center

4. Tokyo University
5. United Nations University, Maastricht, the Netherlands.
6. ILO Geneva

Delhi

7. Delhi University
8. JNU
9. CSIR-NISTADS
10. ISID
11. Society for Development Studies

Mumbai

12. IIT Bombay
13. Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS)
14. eSocialSciences
15. Reserve Bank of India
16. Tata Trusts

Chennai

17. Madras School of Economics
18. IIT Madras
19. Madras Institute of Development Studies
20. IFMR
21. MIDS
22. Indian Institute of Materials Management

Bangalore/Karnataka

23. Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)
24. Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC)
25. National Institute of Technology Karnataka (NITK), Surathkal
26. IIM Bangalore

Kerala

27. CDS Trivandrum
28. IIM Kozhikode

Other Cities

29. Rajiv Gandhi Indian Institute of Management, Shillong
30. IIT Indore

Technical Sessions:

21 research papers and 4 case studies were presented.

The following persons Chaired the technical sessions and initiated discussions:

- **K. L. Krishna**, Chairman MIDS and former Director Delhi School of Economics, (DSE)
- **N. S. Siddharthan**, Hon. Director Knowledge Forum and Hon. Professor Madras School of Economics
- **Y. S. Rajan**, Distinguished Professor (ISRO)
- **Malathy Duraisamy**, Head H&SS, IITM
- **Ashok Jain**, Former Director, NISTAD CSIR
- **P. Duraisamy**, ICSSR National Fellow MIDS and former Head Dept. of Econometrics, University of Madras
- **Stanley Nollen** (Georgetown University, Washington D.C.)

Session 1: *FDI Spillovers*

Issues Discussed:

- Worldwide shift of FDI to services and its impact
- Firm capabilities and FDI spillovers
- Employment growth, exchange rate volatility and FDI

Session 2: *Outward FDI*

Issues Discussed:

- M&A and outward FDI
- Outward FDI and international production network
- Pull and push factors of FDI

Session 3: *FDI Other Issues*

Issues Discussed:

- FDI and business cycle co-movements
- Culture, quality of innovations and governance
- Domestic private investments and FDI

Session 4: *Innovations*

Issues Discussed:

- Innovation, product life cycles and intellectual property rights protection
- Organizational learning capability for responding to innovation and change
- Board characteristics, ownership structure and technological efforts

Session 5: *Information Technology*

Issues Discussed:

- Global technologies and higher education in India
- ICT and SMEs

Session 6: *Technology*

Issues Discussed:

- Intra industry trade and technology
- Globalisation and growth

Session 7: *Industry Studies*

- Pharmaceutical industry: New patent regime and monopoly power
- Basic metals: Productivity and determinants
- Paper and pulp industry: Technical change and energy efficiency
- Auto component industry: Labour, information technology and knowledge management

Session 8: *Brainstorming Session on Changing Nature of FDI*

- Changing Nature of FDI: Need to re-examine the productivity spillovers
- FDI: Shift to services
- Technology services

Session 9: *IIT Madras Case Studies*

- Patents and IPR management
- Joint ventures and know-how transfer
- Solar desalination technologies
- Micro-electronics industry

In the concluding session the participants expressed their appreciation and thanks to the hosts, IIT Madras, for efficiently organizing an excellent conference and in particular were full of admiration for the student volunteers for their enthusiasm and helpful nature.