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## XIV Annual Conference: October 11-13, 2019

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### Conference Theme: Technology and Economy

(Supported by Tata Trusts)

### Hosted by: Indian Institute of Technology, Madras

About 145 scholars from 32 institutions participated in the conference.

Professor N S Siddharthan, President, Knowledge Forum, Chaired the Introductory Session. Professor Umakant Das, Head, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT Madras welcomed the participants. Professor Bhaskar Ramamurthy, Director, IIT Madras made the opening remarks. Professor K Narayanan, IIT Bombay and Secretary Knowledge Forum presented the Guided Tour of the Sessions. Professor Bino Paul, TISS Bombay gave the vote of thanks.

The *Governing Council* and the *General Body* meetings were chaired by Professor N S Siddharthan, President of the Forum. The General Body decided to continue the same broad theme for the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference: *Technology and Economy*

### 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, New York.
4. United Nations University, Maastricht, the Netherlands.
5. KU Leuven University, Belgium
6. United Nations University, Tokyo
7. Australian National University

#### *Delhi*

8. Delhi University
9. ISID
10. Society for Development Studies
11. Institute for Human Development (IHD) Delhi
12. NISTAD
13. Delhi School of Economics
14. Dept. of Health Research GoI
15. CII

16. NIEPA

***Noidia***

17. Amity College of Commerce and finance

18. BIMTECH

19. Shiv Nadar University

***Mumbai***

20. IIT Bombay

21. Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS)

22. National Stock Exchange

23. Bombay Stock Exchange

24. TCS

25. eSocialSciences

***Chennai***

26. Madras School of Economics

27. IIT Madras

28. INCORE

***Bangalore/Karnataka***

29. Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)

30. National Institute of Technology Karnataka (NITK), Surathkal

***Other Cities***

31. National Institute of Technology Durgapur

32. Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum

**Technical Sessions:**

24 research papers were presented in the technical sessions and 6 presentations in the Panel Discussion on ***Artificial Intelligence***

The following persons Chaired the technical sessions and initiated discussions:

- **Stanley Nollen** (Georgetown University, Washington D.C.)
- **B L Pandit** (Delhi School of Economics)
- **Y. S. Rajan**, Distinguished Professor (ISRO)
- **N S Siddharthan**, Madras School of Economics
- **Malathy Duraisamy**, IIT Madras
- **K Lal**, SDS, Delhi

- **Ashok Jain, NISTAD**

### **Session 1: *FDI - I***

Issues Discussed:

- Impact of internationalisation on innovation.
- FDI and international collusion
- Business group affiliation and FDI spillovers

### **Session 2: *Environment***

Issues Discussed:

- Waste management of micro and small enterprises
- Adoption of water saving irrigation technologies
- Plastic recycling clusters

### **Session 3: *Innovation and Energy Studies***

Issues Discussed:

- Triad of labour, innovation and enterprises
- Innovation and global value chain
- FDI, trade and CO2 emissions
- Innovation capabilities in renewable energies

### **Session 4: *FDI - II***

Issues Discussed:

- FDI and natural disasters
- Indian OFDI to OECD countries
- International subsidiary closures

### **Session 5: *Econophysics***

Issues Discussed:

- Modelling complex behaviour of financial systems
- Financial time series – statistical investigation
- Price dynamics – asymptotic stability

## **Session 6: *Industry***

Issues Discussed:

- Ownership, productivity and technology
- Externality and production effects
- Commercial banks: dynamics of total factor productivity change
- Trade reforms, technology and productivity

## **Session 7: *R&D and Innovation***

Issues Discussed:

- R & D and exports
- IPR regime and development implications
- Molecular diagnostic industry
- Return to skill

## **Panel Discussion: *Artificial Intelligence***

Issues Discussed:

- Legal issues
- Ethical Issues
- Economic problems

## **Concluding Session**

All the participants appreciated and thanked IIT Madras for the excellent arrangements and their warm hospitality. They also thanked the paper presenters for the high quality papers. The Session was addressed by Malathy Duraisamy, K Narayanan and N S Siddharthan