

ECOLLECTUAL

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS, LSR



SNIPPETS FROM THE CELEBRATION OF OUR DEPARTMENT FEST



Day 1

- Opening Ceremony/Key Note
- Panel Discussion
- Optimal Decision Maker
- Policy Dilemma
- PPF 2.0

- Dr. Saroj Gupta Memorial Paper Presentation
- Merger Mania
- Investonomics
- Ecopravog
- Closing Ceremony



Day 2

KEYNOTE LECTURE

- Nikita Agarwal and Prashita Nath

The Department of Economics, Lady Shri Ram College for Women, commenced its annual international academic symposium with the inaugural ceremony, with a keynote speech by Dr. Kirti Parikh (Former Member, Planning Commission Chairman, Integrated Research and Action for Development (IRADe)). The theme for the keynote was centered around India’s demographic dividend and reviewing the economic outlook for the Indian economy in a post-pandemic World.

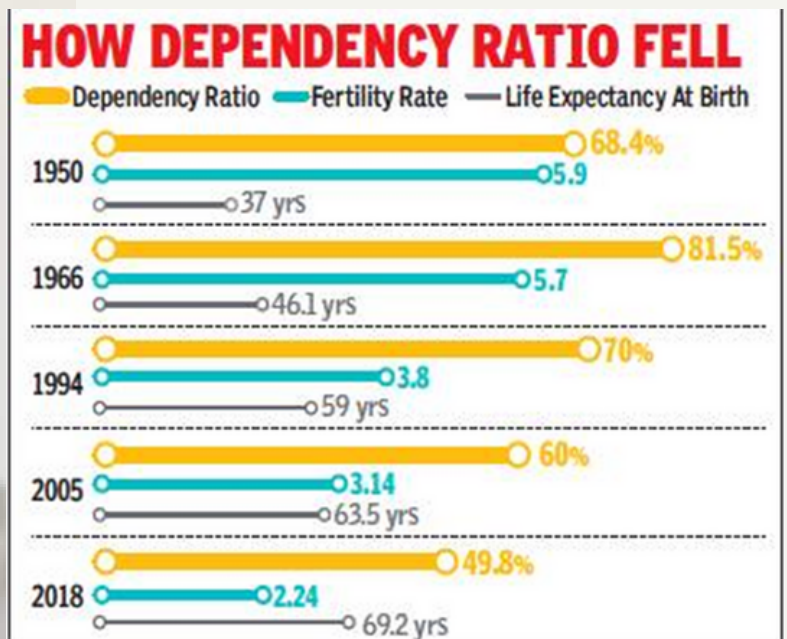
Following the theme, Dr. Kirti shed light on India’s demographic dividend and dependency ratio, and the expanding

scope for the Indian population and economy through enabling progressive jobs and quality education.

He also reiterated that tackling unemployment and the decreasing women's work participation rate are quintessential moving forward. Towards the conclusion, he graciously answered thoughtful questions put forward by the ardent listeners

His enlightening address was followed by the vote of thanks by our Head of Department, which marked the intellectual beginning for other insightful events of Econvista 2022.

DR. KIRIT PARIKH



Panel Discussion

- Sona Mahajan and Krishna Jain



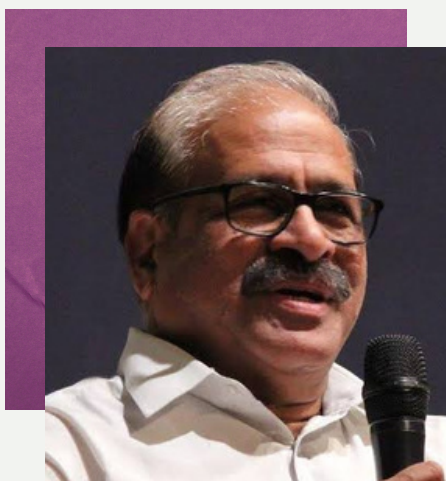
Ms. Andrea Wojnar
(UNFPA INDIA RESIDENT
REPRESENTATIVE)



Prof. Suresh Babu M
(PROFESSOR, IIT MADRAS)
(MODERATOR)



Dr. Neethi P
(SENIOR CONSULTANT, IIHS)



Mr. P C Mohanan
(FORMER MEMBER, NATIONAL
STATISTICAL COMMISSION)



Dr. Satyendra Mishra
(ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR & HEAD,
SCHOOL OF STUDIES IN ECONOMICS
VIKRAM UNIVERSITY)

The first day of Enconvists 2022 started off with a panel discussion, held via zoom, with an esteemed panel including Mr. PC Mohan, Ms. Andrea Wojnar, Dr. Satendra Mishra, Dr. Neethi P, moderated by Mr. Suresh Babu. The panel critically addressed their views on India's Demographic dividend in the post-covid period.

Prof. Suresh Babu set the ball rolling by emphasizing on the urgent need for India to reap its demographic dividend. Recent events such as recovery from the COVID-19 crisis, rising exports of the country, concerns over the Russia-Ukraine Crisis and low employment figures were emphasized by him to set the stage for the discussion.

Ms. Andrea Wojnar, in her video address, emphasized on the importance of inclusion of women in the workforce. According to Ms. Wojnar, if sustainable change and development has to be achieved, an economy cannot ignore the power and autonomy of women.

She stated that India has a billion opportunities with its current demographic condition and the youth will play a big role in transforming the country.

Followed by Ms Andrea, Mr. PC Mohana explained through the use of vital statistics, how quality of education for the youth needs to be improved for the dividend to be a boon rather than a bane. Despite the 50-50 ratio of women in population, participation of women in economic activities is severely low.

The final panellist, Mr. Satyendra Mishra presented a grim picture of the future, suggesting that changes in the age structure will not affect the economic prospects of the country. Dr. Neethi P presented a similar opinion as she emphasized on the need for robust policies to prevent the increase in unemployment and social evils in the country.

After the first round of discussions, Prof. Babu asked panelists thought-provoking questions based around whether India is stuck in a 'capability trap' and the future of the labor market in a post-pandemic world.

He also pointed out that the structural transformation from agrarian to service economy has worked well in pulling people out of poverty but in a way has created a loop of middle income due to limited skills and employment generation.

All the panelists talked about migration as a deterministic factor in the quality and type of employment people are willing to take up. Dr. Neethi stressed on the need for India to work on building its capability for the successful implementation of policies, which are usually well-designed. The student body and faculty alike were enlightened by the opinions and discussions of the panellists

POLICY DILEMMA

- Mokshagna Teja and Ishika Kumari

WINNERS-

- 1. GYANESHWAR MISHRA**
- 2. TEAM RISKY BISCUITS**
- 3. TEAM LET'S GET FISCAL**

Policy dilemma, a flagship event of Econvista, commenced with an introductory speech by the event head highlighting the demographic dividend of India and its interlinkage with development.

The topic of the event was the BIMARU lens of development. The contestants, first, had to prove their prowess in various domains like economics, current affairs, the Indian economy and related topics in the quiz, following which the top seven teams entered the second round. The seven teams were then challenged to brainstorm and present the solutions for the development of the BIMARU states. Each team was given seven minutes to present which was followed by a question round by the judges, Mr. Asheerwad Dwivedi and Mr Saket Kumar. The judges critically analysed the policies suggested by the participants and gave insightful feedback.

A one of its kind event, the Optimal Decision Maker was designed to test a person's ability to make proactive investment and policy decisions in a way that leads to the holistic development of the economy. The participants were faced with different policy and investment options in the domain of health and education. After analysing the economy of a fictitious country- Azaria- using the given data and economic indicators, the teams had to "choose" the best policies for the country without exceeding the given budget constraint!

Mimicking the formulation of the actual HDI index, the organising committee calculated the HDI scores of each team. However there was a catch! A team's HDI score not only depended on their choices, but also on the policy options chosen by other teams i.e. it was all relative!

The team with the highest HDI scores bagged the prize!

OPTIMAL DECISION MAKER

-Stuti Kakkar

WINNERS-

- 1. TEAM STALWARTS**
- 2. TEAM SXC**
- 3. TEAM ANNIHILATORS**

PPF 2.0

- Aarushi Pandey and Epsa Bhatia



PPF 2.0 kicked off with an online Treasure Hunt on the first day of Econvista, with teams receiving 10 encrypted pdf documents, each with a clue about the password for the next document ranging from economics to mathematics. Out of a total of 12 teams, the first 6 teams which found the clues proceeded to the final round.

The final round of the PPF 2.0 was held on 9th of April, 2022. The final round was conducted with the top 5 teams being required to present their solutions regarding the adequate utilisation of India's demographic dividend. Miss Nikita Sangwan, a Ph.D. student at the Indian Statistical Institute and Miss Akanksha, a member of the Advisory committee at the Delhi minorities commission presided over the event as the judges for the final round. The event was aimed at providing the participants hands-on experience in formulating policies, and understanding and optimising the usage of resources to navigate through the trade offs faced while drawing up policies. The participants presented interesting ideas which underlined measures to enhance the quality of human capital and increase gainful employment in the country. Questions were then posed to the participants about the solutions underlined by them by the judges, which opened the floor for insightful discussions between the judges and the participants about the pros and cons, the costs and benefits of each solution and measures prescribed to utilise the benefits of India's demographic dividend.

Winners

1. Team PB (1st place)
2. Team Twin D's (2nd place)
3. Team Econs (3rd place)

DR. SAROJ GUPTA MEMORIAL PAPER PRESENTATION

- Celinaa Srivastav and Isabel George

The Dr. Saroj Gupta Paper Presentation Competition is one of the most esteemed platforms for academic debates. It provides an opportunity to undergraduate researchers across various fields of economics to prove their mettle.

This year, no common theme tied the paper topics together; each paper had a different yet riveting concept. The winners of this event were Sanjana Saxena and Rijul Alvan Das from Ramjas College, who presented their paper on the topic - Do Coalition Governments Provide Better Developmental Outcomes in the Indian States. They aimed to understand if and how coalition governments affect overall development in the context of India, and found that coalition governments are, on average, negatively associated with developmental outcomes.

The event was judged by Professor Bipasha Maity, Ms. Ria Dutta, Professor Anjana Singh, and Professor Vaishali Verma. The judges remarked that the papers were well written and presented, and that the energy of the students was infectious. They were impressed by the students' ability to answer their questions and also observed that the true research spirit of being able to understand the scope of one's research and readiness to work more upon it was reflected in some of their answers.

ROUNDS: 2

EVENT HEAD: Arushi Arora

TOPICS OF THE PAPER PRESENTATIONS:

- (1) The Power Struggle: Linking Clean Energy and the Geoeconomics of Climate Change
- (2) Do Coalition Governments Provide Better Developmental Outcomes in the Indian States
- (3) Blockchain and Banking: Inclusion of Blockchain in the Financial Sector and its Repercussions on Banks, Governments and the Economy
- (4) CCTVs and Safety: A Gendered Perspective of Women from Delhi

MERGER MANIA

- Medha Sinha

The flagship case study competition of the Finance, Investment and Crisis Understanding Cell (FISCUL) was a three-round foray into mergers and acquisitions, an invaluable part of finance. Students in teams of 2-4 had to pass the preliminary quiz followed by a case. The contemporary case study involved a conglomerate desiring to acquire a company and had to choose from a group of suitable options. The event saw the participation of 630+ students across 271 teams. The top eight teams made it to the final round wherein they had to present their case solutions in front of an esteemed panel of judges.

The teams gave their rationale behind the company of choice which was followed by a round of questioning by the judges. The event was a platform for students to engage with the interesting world of mergers and acquisitions and learn the foundations of this sector.

Event Heads

- Shradhha Talwar
- Aakarshi Agarwal
- Vani Bhasin

Winners

- **1st place:** Amaan Alam, Navya Malhotra
- **2nd place:** Ankur Agrahari, Gunnidhi, Pratik Khetan, Shreya Gupta
- **3rd place:** Aditri Srivastava, Iqra Akhlaq



INVESTONOMICS

- Suhani Jain and Arunima Mishra

At Econvista 2022, a new flagship event called Investonomics - a shark tank edition was launched. In this event, participants were taken to a post-pandemic world and were asked to revive the market and meet their funding requirements. It was a perfect blend of wit, entrepreneurship and innovation.

In the Preliminary Round, the participants were given a quiz to solve. In the second round, the 22 qualifying teams were given interesting prompts around products like airlines, cosmetics, etc whose demand declined due to the pandemic. They sent a 7-slide pitch explaining their strategy to revive the sale of these products.

In the final round, the 6 selected teams presented their pitches in front of the Sharks. The Shark panel included - Mr. Abhay Aggrawal, an entrepreneur interested in technology and innovation, currently working on Colexion, an NFT marketplace and Mr. Shashank Mishra, the founder of a social enterprise called Ekak Innovations, addressing issues like energy access and road safety. Each team presented their pitch in 8 minutes. The Sharks counter-questioned them, deciding if they would invest in the same and gave their valuable feedback.

Event Heads

- Sidika Sahai
- Aditi Verma
- Gauri Gupta

Winners

- **1st place:** Team Triple A
- **2nd place:** Team Impact
- **3rd place:** Team 1D

ECOPRAYOG

- Alisha Varandani

Policy Propositions

1. Encouraging investment in smaller EdTech companies to help them get at par to the giants as competitors rather than a possible acquisition option. these incentives can take the form of tax incentives for investments in these companies.
2. Providing subsidies to those companies who plan to provide the best quality education at the lowest possible prices.

Sub part of Digital India policy

1. Extension of RTE to digital education, reservation of 25% seats for EWS category at affordable prices
2. A government-controlled statutory regulatory body to keep a check on giants to prevent them from exploiting marginalized students by means of psychological manipulation.

Ecoprayog, one of the flagship events under the aegis of Econvista 2022, was conducted this year across three rounds. The event tested participating teams' creative and analytical abilities by combining theoretical and practical issues and presenting answers utilizing new methods.

The preliminary round was a crisis-solving round held before Econvista, wherein participants were given a crisis brief pertaining to a previous economic crisis faced in South-East Asia. Participants were required to develop an alternative economics strategy to overcome the crisis and present a critical analysis of why their proposed solution was better than the one followed by the IMF. A total of 6 teams were shortlisted from a pool of 100+ entries.

For round two, the shortlisted teams were allotted an article from leading journals, newspapers or magazines. All teams were required to identify the core economic theory at play and give a presentation on the same, before the panel of judges, and face a round of questioning by the judges as well as the other teams.

The final round was the ultimate challenge for the participants to identify the issues with sector-specific policies, suggest new policies to address them, and relate them to at least one economic theory. The brief provided to the participants targeted the Ed-tech sector and delved into possibilities of curtailing the monopoly imposed by companies such as Byju's in the same. Participants presented their policies to the panel of judges, followed by a round of questioning.

Judges: Preeti Endlaw, Yashika Choudhary

Event Heads: Alisha Varandani, Krati Prakash

Winners:

- **1st place:** Zubiya Moin, Adnan Hasan Khan, Hamza Ahmad
- **2nd place:** Priyadarshini Roy, Sarnalika Das, Shayri Mitra
- **3rd place:** Priyalaxmi Roy, Ayush, Saurabh Kedia

Ed tech
sector

- Part 1: Problem Identification
- Part 2: Policy formulation
- Part 3: Policy adoption
- Part 4: Implementation
- Part 5: Evaluation

CLOSING CEREMONY

- Isabel

All good things must come to an end. Econvista 2022 came to a majestic end after two days of enlightening debates and exciting competitions.

The closing ceremony was hosted by Ms Arya Ananditha, President and Ms Meghna Arya, General Secretary of the economics students union. Professor Sashi Bala Garg, felicitated the gathering with the welcome address. Ms Kushi Singhal, Treasurer of the students union thereafter announced the results of the competitions.

The President addressed the audience one last time, thanking them for their cordial presence and enthusiasm. The Union extended their gratitude to the organising committee for their immense hard work, our faculty for their support and compassion and ended this two day odyssey and on an emotional and hopeful note.



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