

ASIAN  
DEVELOPMENT  
RESEARCH  
INSTITUTE

---

SILVER JUBILEE CONFERENCES 2016-17

---

CONCEPT  
DHANUSH VIR SINGH

PROJECT HEAD  
RAJEEV KUMAR GUPTA

RESPONSE EDITOR  
ADITI GUHA

CONTENT EDITOR  
SANA FAHIM

DESIGN  
RAJESH KUMAR SINHA

ADRI BUILDING PHOTOGRAPHS  
TAHIR HADI

PROJECT COORDINATOR  
ANURAG SAHAI

PUBLISHED BY  
BENNETT, COLEMAN & CO. LTD.  
TIMES HOUSE, FRASER ROAD,  
PATNA 800001

**Disclaimer:**  
Due care and diligence has been taken while compiling this book. The Publisher does not hold any responsibility for any mistakes that may have crept in inadvertently. The Publisher shall be free from any liability for damages and losses of any nature arising from or related to the content of the book.

**Copyright © Bennett, Coleman & Co. Ltd., 2019**  
All rights reserved worldwide. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electrical, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without prior written permission of the copyright holder. The opinions and views contained in this publication are not necessarily those of the Publisher.



# FOREWORD



**PARAG RASTOGI**  
Director  
The Times Group

Aristotle once said, “We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit.” And when such excellence continues unabated for 25 long years, it’s no mean feat. The credit for this goes to the Asian Development Research Institute (ADRI), which has rightfully endured this excellence as a habit.

ADRI was established in the 90s. In its initial years, the team behind the institute made a conscious decision to branch out of mere social science research and round out ADRI’s repertoire of activities. These were known to promote, or at least facilitate, socio-economic growth and development, multilateral deliberations, sub-nationalism and culture that’s intrinsic to individual states, especially Bihar.

Gradually and painstakingly, over a quarter of a century, the institution has made an indelible mark on Bihar’s socio-economic landscape. It is excelling in its myriad roles viz ADRI research institute, State Resource Centre (Patna), State Resource Centre (Ranchi), Jan Shikshan Sansthan, Centre for Economic Policy and Public Finance, and International Growth Centre. One of its major achievements, however, has been its ability to bring the best and the brightest minds together on a common platform.

The Silver Jubilee Celebration of ADRI in 2016-17 was one such occasion, which saw scholars, academicians, diplomats, government functionaries and social activists from across the world converged in Patna for three mammoth International Conferences spread across the duration of an entire year. The result was 46 silver jubilee lectures and 37 technical sessions and numerous informal deliberations that fostered free exchange of ideas and knowledge among the academia, the civil society and the government.

This Coffee Table Book by The Times Group captures the moods and moments of ADRI’s Silver Jubilee Conferences, besides chronicling the journey and achievements of this remarkable institution of Eastern India.

We wish Team ADRI all success in their unwavering pursuit of knowledge.

# INDEX

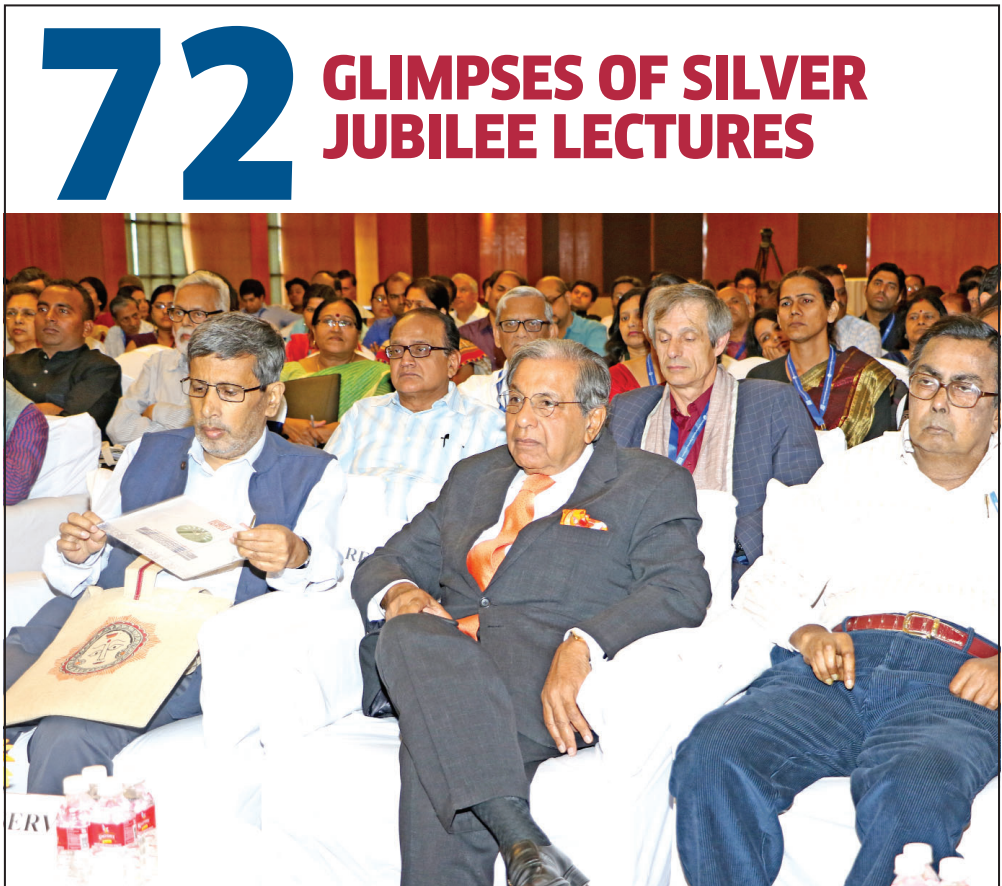




**DEVELOPMENT AND  
GROWTH: EXPERIENCE  
AND THEORIES 38**



**61 MOMENTOUS OCCASION:  
RELEASE OF COFFEE TABLE BOOK  
ON ADRI BY THE TIMES OF INDIA**



>> GENESIS

# ASIAN DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH INSTITUTE



▶ Asian Development Research Institute

**A**sian Development Research Institute (ADRI) was established in 1991 in Patna. The motivation behind starting yet another institute in Patna was not merely to expand social science research, but to emphasise those dimensions of social science research which, although critical, had received rather limited attention. In the above perspective, the objectives of ADRI are – (a) to undertake academic research of direct relevance to development efforts made by an individual or a group or the community itself involving policy change, (b) to broaden the database of research and its end use by involving as many classes of persons and institutions as possible, (c) to offer research results in a more innovative, demystified and use-worthy form, and finally, (d) to restore man to his central position in social science research, and with full dignity.

After being established, the institute functioned in an informal manner till 1995 when its activities were formalised with the appointment of research staff and a director. Since then, the institute has completed

about 125 research studies, many of them using an inter-disciplinary framework. These studies can be broadly divided into four categories – (a) analytical, (b) diagnostic, (c) advocatory, and (d) evaluative. ADRI also prepares the annual Economic Survey for Government of Bihar, and till date 12 such surveys have been prepared.

The organisational structure of ADRI includes, besides the mother institute, three more units – State Resource Centre (SRC) for adult education in Bihar, sponsored by Union Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD); Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS), again, sponsored by MHRD; and Centre for Economic Policy and Public Finance (CEPPF), sponsored by Government of Bihar. The institute also has its office in Ranchi, Jharkhand, which hosts an SRC for Jharkhand, sponsored by MHRD. Yet another unit at ADRI is the International Growth Centre (IGC) India-Bihar, one of the country programmes of the IGC and dedicated to policy research on Bihar. Very recently, Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) has recognised ADRI as one of its member institutions.

>> SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATION

# 25 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE



President Pranab Mukherjee, Bihar Governor Ram Nath Kovind (now the President of India), CM Nitish Kumar with other dignitaries at the inaugural session of the third International Conference on March 24, 2017, in Patna





It was only in late 2014 that the ADRI team, ever engrossed in research, deliberations and academic pursuits, was suddenly jolted with the realisation that its Silver Jubilee is imminent, and it should be making a noise. Thus, preparations for its Silver Jubilee celebrations acquired momentum in 2015 and elaborate discussions were held over a number of meetings. It was finally decided that the core of the Silver Jubilee celebrations would be three International Conferences, on 'Development and Growth: Experience and Theories', 'Social Statistics in India' and 'Bihar and Jharkhand: Shared History to Vision'.

A Silver Jubilee Celebration Committee was formed with Meghnad Desai, the internationally acclaimed economist, as its chairman. As a curtain-raiser to the celebrations, James Manor of University of London delivered a lecture on 'India's States: The Struggle to Govern' in November 2015. The lecture was presided over by Pratap Bhanu Mehta, chairman of Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi. The lecture was indeed an enlightening discourse and widely appreciated by the intelligentsia of Patna.

The first International Conference was a sort of a stock-taking exercise on both experiences and theories of development. This conference was held during March 24-28, 2016, and was

attended by about 200 scholars, many of them from abroad. Fortunately, the theme of the conference was appreciated by many, with three organisations – IGC, World Bank, and ICSSR – having jointly supported the event financially.

The second International Conference, on 'Social Statistics in India', created an opportunity where users and collectors of social statistics in India jointly underlined its limitations, identified the source of these limitations, and, finally, suggested ways to overcome them. The conference took place on June 24-27, 2016, and more than 100 scholars participated. Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, UNICEF and Asian Development Bank, among others, were the partners and supporters in this conference, which was organised in honour of Prabhat P Ghosh, in view of his mammoth contribution in ADRI.

The third and final International Conference, 'Bihar and Jharkhand: Shared History to Shared Vision', was held on March 24 to 28, 2017. This conference was organised in the memory of Arvind N Das, in which over 150 scholars, including over 60 from foreign universities and institutes, delivered talks, presented papers and deliberated on the path that the states of Bihar and Jharkhand would traverse in the near future, apart from musing on the shared histories of development, agitation, decline and divergences leading to the present.

>> THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE  
24-28 MARCH 2017

# BIHAR AND JHARKHAND SHARED HISTORY TO SHARED VISION



▶▶ The ADRI team presenting a memento to President Pranab Mukherjee in the presence of Bihar Governor Ram Nath Kovind (now the President of India), CM Nitish Kumar and others during the inaugural session of the third International Conference on March 24, 2017, in Patna

## CONCEPT

**B**ihar and Jharkhand, right from ancient times, have attracted scholars' attention for various reasons. The region that presently encompasses these two states holds histories that shape them even today. The region is remembered for its numerous achievements in ancient period, like the establishment of the first republic of the world in Lichhavi (Vaishali), or the place where Buddhism first emerged, or the great centre of learning in Nalanda. Even during the colonial period, the two states played a stellar role in India's struggle for Independence, starting with the Champaran Satyagraha of Mahatma Gandhi. But this image of the two states, a land of glorious past, has now been overtaken by another one – underlying its serious social and economic disadvantages and the complex socio-political forces that guide its destiny. Admittedly, the two states have experienced some positive changes in the recent past, but both have a long way to go before they can emerge as regions of prosperity and enlightenment.

Some of the socio-economic and cultural differences within the region cumulated in the partition of the region in the year 2000 and the formation of the two separate federal states. However, shared histories of development and decline continue to impact the region in the present time. The borders have separated the region politically but have not disunited the states socio-economically and/or culturally. As neighbouring states with shared pasts, the borders are porous, both literally and symbolically.

Bihar is one of the regions that have very limited natural endowments, thus, making the task of development demand extraordinary human



effort.

Before its partition in 2000, the state had enormous mineral wealth in its southern part, now Jharkhand; in fact, even after the division, the present Bihar has large tracts of fertile land in its Gangetic plain. However, thanks to its agrarian history, dictated largely by the infamous 'Permanent Settlement' regime introduced by the colonial administration, the growth potential of its land resources is far from being fully realised. Educational backwardness and infrastructural poverty – the result of the state's indifference during pre- as well as post-Independence period – are the two crucial needs that have turned the agenda of development even more challenging in present Bihar.

The story of Jharkhand is not much different, as its natural abundances have been unable to meet its people's aspirations. No reassuring answers have appeared on the way out of this dismay. Its industries are churning out wealth that is revitalising the capital, but it has left



▶ Jharkhand Governor Droupadi Murmu arriving at ADRI's third International Conference in Patna

much of the labour unattended. Such an opaque vision of development will only reinforce frictions in society. The state seriously needs to mull what would satisfy its people, and create a model of its own, if necessary. It also needs to ask how it's preparing to cope with identities.

The polity of both Bihar and Jharkhand is sharply divided along class, caste and tribal identities. Unlike some other states, the political process here has deep roots that had started parallel to India's Independence struggle and various radical mobilisations. And, there were also caste-based mobilisations

that probably started with certain social objectives but later acquired strong political implications. Some have witnessed an element of political democratisation in recent socio-political trends, while others underlined disconnect between democracy and development in that very trend.

In their conference presentations, scholars were invited to deliberate on above-mentioned shared histories of development, agitation, decline and divergences, muse on the present and speculate about the future of the region, based on recent state-specific experiences.





## REPORT

**A**n International Conference on **'Bihar and Jharkhand: Shared History to Shared Vision'** was organised by the Asian Development Research Institute in Patna during March 24 to 28, 2017.

This conference was the third and final one marking the institute's Silver Jubilee celebrations. It was organised in memory of Arvind N Das, eminent social scientist and former chairman of ADRI.

In view of the immense and growing importance of the two states, the third conference was supported by five organisations: (a) United Nations Population Fund

(UNFPA), (b) Centre for Health Policy (an initiative of Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation at ADRI), (c) Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), (d) Bihar State Higher Education Council, (e) Jharkhand State Higher Education Council, and (f) Centre for Economic Policy and Public Finance (CEPPF). The conference was attended by about 400 participants, including the scholars delivering the Silver Jubilee Lectures; those presenting research papers; academicians, government functionaries and social activists from Bihar and Jharkhand; and representatives of various organisations, including those which provided financial support for the conference.







### Inaugural Session

The five-day conference started with a formal Inaugural Session. Pranab Mukherjee, the President of India, inaugurated the conference. Ram Nath Kovind, the governor of Bihar, was the guest of honour, and Nitish Kumar, chief minister of Bihar, was the distinguished guest on the occasion. Tejashwi Prasad Yadav, deputy chief minister of Bihar, and Ashok Choudhary, education minister of Bihar, were also present on the occasion.

NK Singh, former member of Rajya Sabha, presided over the session. Prabhat P Ghosh, director of ADRI, read the citation in memory of Arvind N Das on the occasion.

Shaibal Gupta, member-secretary of ADRI, delivered the welcome speech and Meghnad Desai, chairperson of the Academic Advisory Committee of ADRI Silver Jubilee Celebrations 2016-17, delivered the concluding remarks.

The conference comprised a total of 28 Silver Jubilee Lectures, two Special Lectures and 20 Technical Sessions.









Supported by



### Valedictory Session

The Valedictory Session was presided by Droupadi Murmu, governor of Jharkhand. Saryu Rai, minister of parliamentary affairs and food, public distribution and consumer affairs, Jharkhand, and Ashok Choudhary, minister of education, Bihar, were distinguished guests on the occasion. Shaibal Gupta, member-secretary of ADRI, delivered the welcome speech. JJ Boillot, economic advisor at former French prime minister's office, presented the participant remark on the occasion. The valedictory address was given by Meghnad Desai, chairman of the Academic Advisory Committee of ADRI Silver Jubilee Celebrations 2016-17, wherein he rolled out the '100-Year Vision for Social Science Research in Bihar and Jharkhand', which was one of the intended outcomes of this conference. Diego Palacios, UNFPA country representative for India and Bhutan, Alkesh Wadhvani, country director (Policy and Poverty Alleviation) of Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation-India, and M Asadur Rahman, chief of UNICEF Bihar, were also present on the dais. Anjan Mukherji, chairman of ADRI, proposed the vote of thanks on the occasion.



## >> THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE 24-28 MARCH 2017



# SILVER JUBILEE LECTURES

1. **ALOK RAI**  
Litterateur  
*Hindi Heartland: Making and Unmaking*
2. **ALPA SHAH**  
Associate professor, London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)  
*Jharkhand in the Belly of the Indian Boom*
3. **ASHIS NANDY**  
Honorary fellow, Centre for the Study of Developing Societies (CSDS), Delhi  
*Another Cosmopolitanism: Living with Radical Diversities and Being Oneself*
4. **ASHUTOSH VARSHNEY**  
Professor, Brown University, Providence  
*India's Democracy: Electoral Vibrancy and Liberal Deficits*
5. **CRISPIN BATES**  
Professor, University of Edinburgh  
*Bihari Overseas Labour Migration 1857-1869: Origins, intermediaries, and the role of trust*
6. **DIPAK GYAWALI**  
Chairman, National Water Conservation Foundation (NWCF), and former minister, Government of Nepal  
*Transcending Constraints of Geography: Role of Inland Navigation in the Shared Future of Himalaya-Ganga*
7. **DIPANKAR GUPTA**  
Former professor, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi  
*Making Majorities in Democracies: The Citizenship Embrace*
8. **GEOFF WOOD**  
Emeritus professor, University of Bath  
*Negotiating Landscapes: Learning from Kosi*
9. **GERRY RODGERS**  
Former director, International Institute for Labour Studies (IILS), Geneva  
*Bihar's Development in Comparative Perspective*
10. **GYANESH KUDAISYA**  
Associate professor, National University of Singapore  
*Revisiting the Bihar-West Bengal Merger Plan, c. 1956: Envisioning the Region in the 1950s*
11. **HARRY BLAIR**  
Senior research scholar, Yale University, New Haven  
*Dignity and Development as Trajectory: Bihar as a Model for Nepal?*
12. **IMRE BANGHA**  
Associate professor, University of Oxford  
*Erach, Rajgir, Dalmau: The Earliest Documented Locations of Hindi Literature*

**13. J J BOILLOT**

Economist, CEPII France

*Arthashastra – the Paradox of Modernity in Ancient Times and Beyond (Why a Modern State must be at the same time Liberal, Social, Entrepreneur, and finally, Regulator, but also Conducive to Innovation)*

**14. JANINE RODGERS**

Senior visiting fellow, Institute for Human Development (IHD), New Delhi

*The Feminisation of Agriculture: Drivers and Constraints*

**15. JOHANNES BREMAN**

Professor, Amsterdam Institute for Social Science Research

*The Undeserving Poor*

**16. JOHN HARRISS**

Professor of International Studies, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver

*Polanyi's 'Great Transformation' Redux: The Political and Economic Origins of Our Times*

**17. KANCHAN CHANDRA**

Professor, New York University

*Democracy from the Margins*

**18. KAUSHIK GHOSH**

Professor, University of Texas at Austin

*The Shimmering Land: Adivasiness and the Ecological Imperative*

**19. NIRMAL SENGUPTA**

National fellow, Indian Institute of Advanced Study (IIAS), Shimla

*Emerging Identities in Language, Culture and Economy*

**20. PETER ROBB**

Emeritus professor, School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London

*Colonial Development: On Watchmen and Water in Bihar under British Rule*

**21. S SUBRAMANIAN**

National fellow, Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), New Delhi

*Money-Metric Poverty and the Possibility of a Guaranteed Basic Income for India*

**22. SATISH K JAIN**

Professor, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi

*On the Land Acquisition under the Eminent Domain Power for Private Entities*

**23. SUBRATA K MITRA**

Director, Institute of South Asian Studies, National University of Singapore (NUS)

*Rebels into Stakeholders: Regional Governance and Resilience of the State in India*

**24. VASUDHA DALMIA**

Professor emerita, University of California, Berkeley

*Modernity and Modernism in the Hindi World*

**25. VINITA DAMODARAN**

Professor, University of Sussex, Brighton

*Adivasis and the Anthropocene: Towards an Environmental History of Eastern India*

**26. WENDY SINGER**

Professor, Kenyon College, Gambier, Ohio

*Reservations and Creating New Government: Jharkhand and Bihar in the 1950s*

**27. WILLIAM PINCH**

Professor, Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut

*Blown from Cannon: The Prelude to Buxar, 1764*

**28. YOGINDER K ALAGH**

Chancellor, Central University of Gujarat

*Managing Rivers: The National Water Framework Law*

**SPECIAL LECTURES**
**1. NITYA RAO**

Professor, University of East Anglia, Norwich

*Gendered Migration, Rights and Identities: Experiences and Representation of Jharkhand*

**2. RATHIN ROY**

Director, National Institute of Public Finance and Policy (NIPFP), New Delhi

*Some Reflections on Inclusive Growth and Fiscal Policy in Contemporary India*

## >> THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE 24-28 MARCH 2017



# TECHNICAL SESSIONS

- **AJAI SINGH, PRAKASH KUMAR, AISHWARJ KUMAR, SHASHANK S SINHA, MANOJ KUMAR TIWARY, SONAL SINGH**  
*Colonialism And Its Varied Impact In The Region*
- **AMIT PRAKASH PROFESSOR, SANJAY KUMAR, DEBDATTA SAHA, GAUTAM P PATEL, IMRAN AMIN**  
*Jharkhand And Bihar: Socio-Economic Development & Policies Compared*
- **CRISPIN BATES, CATHERINE SERVAN-SCHREIBER, CAMILLE BUAT, KASHSHAF GHANI, SRAMAN MUKHERJEE**  
*Mobility In The Region Over Time*
- **IMRE BANGHA, CHRISTOPHER L DIAMOND, ROHIT PRAKASH, AWANISH KUMAR, SADAN JHA**  
*Hindi Heartland: Cultural Construct And Identity Formations*
- **DANIEL RYCROFT, NICOLAS JAUL, SAAGAR TEWARI, RAGHAV SHARAN SHARMA, UFAQUE PAIKER, SANKARSHAN THAKUR**  
*Voicing Heroes And Unsung Heroes*
- **ARENDAM CHANDA, CHIRASHREE DAS GUPTA, SISIR DEBNATH**  
*Governance Challenges: Growth And Development*
- **DAVID BOYK, GYANESH KUDAISSYA, SAMUEL BERTHET, ASHUTOSH KUMAR, SARA MAHIMA GEORGE REJY**  
*State Reorganisations And Alternative Identity Formation*
- **RITAMBHARA HEBBAR, MARINE CARRIN, RADHIKA BORDE, SANGEETA DAS GUPTA, PAUL STREUMER**  
*Jharkhand And The Tribal Scenario: History, Status Quo And New Directions*
- **ASHWANI KUMAR PROFESSOR, GAURANG R SAHAY, DILIP SIMEON, AADITYA DAR, SARTHAK BAGCHI**  
*Politics, Election And Power Structures*
- **GREGORY GOULDING, NITIN SINHA, PRANAV PRAKASH, SMITA TEWARI JASSAL**  
*Oral Histories, Poetry/Songs, Theater And The Region*

**KALPANA WILSON, TONI DARBAS,  
KAZUKI MINATO, PRATISHTHA SINGH,  
PRASHANTI TIWARI**

*Gendering The Region*

**KAUSHIK GHOSH, SANJUKTA  
DASGUPTA, ROHAN D'SOUZA, LUISA  
CORTESI, MURARI KUMAR JHA**

*Ecology, Environment, Disasters And The  
State: Contemporary And Historical  
Perspectives*

**D K MISHRA, STEPHEN BIGGS, RUPAK  
KUMAR JHA, STEPHANIE LEDER**

*River, Land And People: The Kosi Trail*

**BADRI NARAYAN, JEFFREY WITSOE,  
MOHAMMAD SAJJAD, CHINMAYA  
KUMAR, ANURAG EKKA**

*Inequalities, Social Justice And Protest*

**NITYA RAO, TANWEER FAZAL,  
RATNAKAR TRIPATHY, AMRITA DATTA**

*Migration Matters*

**DIPAK GYAWALI, ARJUN DHAKAL,  
DWARIKA NATH DHUNGEL, GOVINDA  
SHARMA POKHAREL, POUDEL KESHAB  
PRASAD**

*Bihar And Nepal: Hydraulic And Other  
Connections*

**PETER GOTTSCHALK, MRIDU RAI, I K  
CHOUDHARY, RAJESH KUMAR**

*Caste, Class And Religious Groups During  
Colonial Rule*

**AVIJIT GHOSH, HELENE FLEURY, SALILA  
KULSHRESHTHA, RANU  
ROYCHOUDHURI**

*Visual Cultures And Identities*

**JENNIFER BUSSELL, RUCHIRA GUPTA,  
RAJIVA RANJAN VERMA, ALF GUNVALD  
NILSEN, KAZUYA NAKAMIZO**

*Social Justice And Governance Challenges*

**INDRAJIT ROY, POULOMI DHAR  
CHAKRABARTI, AVIRAM SHARMA,  
ANDRE NICKOW, SANJAY KUMAR,  
MICHEL BAAS**

*Political Dynamics And Development Agenda*



>> SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE  
24-27 JUNE 2016

# SOCIAL STATISTICS IN INDIA



▶ Vice President Mohammad Hamid Ansari felicitating Prabhakar P Ghosh in the presence of Bihar Governor Ram Nath Kovind (now the President of India) and CM Nitish Kumar during the inaugural session of the second International Conference on June 24, 2016, in Patna



## CONCEPT

India is fortunate to have a statistical system that has a long history. 'Statistical Abstract of British India' was published as early as 1862, and the first population census was conducted in 1881. Several initiatives were taken thereafter, and when India became independent in 1947 it had a statistical system that was much more informative than those in other developing countries. Later, to strengthen state planning (the core of India's development strategy then), the country's statistical system was expanded and professionally strengthened through various steps. However, over the years, certain limitations of the system have increasingly become serious, thereby limiting not only its contributions to the decision-making in administration, but also its role as the most important source of data for research.

An important initiative in strengthening the existing statistical system in India was the creation of National Statistical Commission in 2006 with an expansive mandate – one of which is to "evolve measures for improving public trust in official statistics". This issue of the lack of adequate trust in official statistics is particularly serious for social statistics that relates to the status and progress in human development in the country. The dissatisfaction arises from several angles.



For one, the quality of data is sometimes unreliable, with the method of collection being improper. In the face of resource constraints or inadequate supervision, the field personnel sometimes replace observation with judgments to generate unreliable data.

Secondly, social statistics are generally available at the national or state level but the information on sub-state/district level is very limited. This stands in the way of analysing intra-state variations in development – a wide phenomenon in many states of India.



Finally, there have also recently emerged new areas whose link to development is substantial, but they do not fall within the country's social statistics system parameterised long ago. The status of environment is one such area, as is focused data on gender disparities. Indeed, in the wake of an already visible information explosion and increasing role of knowledge capital in many societal actions, the ambit of social statistics needs to be extended further.

Unfortunately, opportunities where users and collectors of social statistics could discuss these limitations are very limited. The second International Conference on 'Social Statistics in India' was one such opportunity, where the participants identified the limitations of social statistics in India, explored the sources of these limitations and, finally, suggested pathways to overcome them.



REPORT

An International Conference on **'Social Statistics in India'** was organised by the Asian Development Research Institute in Patna during June 24-27, 2016. It was the second in a series of three International Conferences to mark ADRI's Silver Jubilee celebrations, and was organised in honour of Prabhat P Ghosh, an eminent statistician and economist, who has been associated with ADRI since its inception in 1991.

In view of the immense and growing importance of social statistics, the second conference was supported by the following organisations – (a) Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, (b) UNICEF, (c) Asian Development Bank, (d) Centre for Economic



SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS  
2016-17  
*International Conference*  
**Social Statistics in India**  
June 24-27, 2016





Policy and Public Finance, Patna, and (e) State Bank of India. The conference was attended by about 250 participants, including the scholars delivering the Silver Jubilee Lectures; those presenting research papers; academicians, government functionaries and social activists from Patna and Bihar; and representatives of various organisations, including those which had provided financial support for the conference.



### Inaugural Session

The three-and-a-half-day conference started with a formal Inaugural Session. M Hamid Ansari, Vice President of India, inaugurated the conference. Ram Nath Kovind, governor of Bihar, was the guest of honour, and Nitish Kumar, chief minister of Bihar, was the distinguished guest on the occasion.



Anjan Mukherji, chairman of ADRI and IGC India-Bihar Programme's country director, presided over the Inaugural Session. Shaibal Gupta, member-secretary of ADRI welcomed the guests. Usha Kiran Tarigopula,

deputy director at Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and Louis Georges-Arsenault, UNICEF India representative, also addressed the audience on the occasion. Sunita Lall, treasurer and administrator of ADRI, proposed the vote of thanks.

The conference comprised a total of nine Silver Jubilee Lectures, eight Technical Sessions and a Panel Discussion.

### Valedictory Session

The Valedictory Session was presided over by Paramita Dasgupta, director general, Administrative Staff College of India, Hyderabad. Abdul Bari Siddiqui, finance minister of Bihar, was the guest of honour on the occasion. The Valedictory Address-cum-Silver Jubilee Lecture was given by Pronab Sen, former chief statistician of India and country director, IGC India-Central Programme. Neeraj Kumar, managing editor, Centre for Economic Policy and Public Finance, Patna, proposed the vote of thanks on the occasion.



>> SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE  
24-27 JUNE 2016

# SILVER JUBILEE LECTURES

1. **ARVIND SUBRAMANIAN**  
Chief economic adviser, Government of India  
*Overview of the Indian economy*
2. **DILIP SINHA**  
Chairman, Manipur Public Service  
Commission  
*Is social democratic development still  
possible?*
3. **DR FAUJDAR RAM**  
Director, International Institute of Population  
Sciences  
*Social Statistics in India: Special Focus on Health and its  
Determinants*
4. **DR NAVIN RUSTAGI**  
Big Data scientist, Baylor College of Medicine  
*The Excitement and Challenge of Big Data in Genetics*
5. **PRONAB SEN**  
Former chief statistician of India, and country director,  
IGC India-Central Programme  
*National Statistics: What is Done; and How Should it be Done*
6. **RATHIN ROY**  
National Institute of Public Finance and Policy  
*Fiscal Space for Human Development*



7. **RUCHIRA GUPTA**  
Visiting professor, New York University, and founder, Apne Aap  
Women Worldwide  
*Reaching SMART: Challenging the Last Goal – The Story of  
Antyaja*
8. **SABINA ALKIRE**  
Director, Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative,  
University of Oxford  
*Multidimensional Poverty Measurement: Robustness and  
Analysis*
9. **TCA ANANT**  
Secretary and chief statistician, Government of India  
*The 2030 Development Agenda: Challenges for Statisticians*







>> **SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE**  
**24-27 JUNE 2016**

# TECHNICAL SESSIONS

■ **INDRAJIT CHAUDHURI, INDRANI GUPTA, KUMAR RANA AND DILIP KUMAR**  
*Health Statistics*

■ **YAGNAMURTHY SREEKANTH, ANUGULA N REDDY, PRADEEP KUMAR CHOUDHURY AND M K JAMUAR**  
*Educational Statistics*

■ **DEVASHISH MITRA, ABDUL ALIM, ARUP MITRA, HIMANSHU AND ABHIROOP MUKHOPADHYAY**  
*Employment and Poverty*

■ **K CHOCKALINGAM AND ARVIND VERMA**  
*Crime Statistics*

■ **JYOTSNA JHA, NEETHA N, PREET RUSTAGI, KANIKA KAUL AND SAUMYA SRIVASTAVA**  
*Gender and Social Inequities*

■ **PRABHAT KUMAR, JALANDHAR PRADHAN, AMITABH KUNDU AND SISIR DEBNATH**  
*Marginalised Section*



■ **RITWIK BANERJEE, SOURAV CHAKRABORTY AND ANIRBAN CHAKRABORTI**  
*New Frontiers of Social Statistics*

■ **SANJAY KUMAR AND SHIV KUMAR**  
*Electoral Data and Social Sector*

■ ■ **PANEL DISCUSSION**  
**DP MONDAL, DDG, NSSO (FOD), PATNA**  
*Official statistical system and the data on social sector*

>> FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE  
26-30 MARCH 2016

# DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH EXPERIENCE AND THEORIES



► Bihar CM Nitish Kumar lighting the lamp along with economist Meghnad Desai, Bihar legislative assembly speaker Vijay Kumar Chaudhary and ADRI team during the inaugural session of the first International Conference on March 26, 2016 in Patna

## CONCEPT

The agenda of development and efforts of various scholars, both economists and others, to theorise it do not have a long history. Midway through the 20th century, when the Second World War had ended, paving the emergence of a new international political order, the idea of development was probably first initiated. The international response was wide-ranging, informed by both concern and hope, and one such response was the First Report on the World Social Situation, published by the United Nations in 1952. Since then, the world has witnessed enormous changes – social, economic and political. But have the goals of development that the world set for itself been met? What are the achievements, and where are the deficits? Where do the development theories stand now? Is the present understanding of the phenomenon more comprehensive, or do they only indicate some conceptual inflation? And finally, does development still continue to be a universal social agenda, or has it been replaced by the affirmations of neoliberalism? These questions deserve great attention.

On the achievements of the development agenda, the experience has been extremely varied, both across and within countries.



However, the overall experience has left doubts, both about the commitments and strategies for development. On the one hand, the number of developing countries that were able to substantially raise at least their material wealth was rather limited. Secondly, human development lagged behind material gains in many countries, growing either moderately or fast. This has led World Development Report 2006 to argue that “equity has a central place in the interpretation of development experience and the design of development policy”. It’s now required to inquire not just why some countries grow and others don’t, but, hopefully, also work out a typology of growth patterns in different countries.



Towards theorising, there have also been several tangible attempts to comprehend and explain the phenomenon of development from unexplored angles. The initial theories of development were understandably economic correlates, but limitations of those initial theories were gradually revealed through many country experiences. Later, scholars have tried to unveil the non-economic correlates of development process that include, among others, human development, role of institutions, and empowerment of people. However, parallel to the search for theories that view development as an all-encompassing social process, there has also emerged neoliberal thinking on development, emphasising the potential of a market-driven development process. Indeed, development experience of the last quarter century, during which neo-liberalism has rather been dominant, has generated an excited debate about development theories.

Now that nearly six decades have passed since the development agenda was first initiated, analysing development experience and rethinking development economics is a tempting exercise. The first International Conference on 'Development and Growth: Experience and Theories' aimed at conducting that exercise, first in an international perspective, and then in an Indian context.



## REPORT

The five-day International Conference on **'Development and Growth: Experience and Theories'** was a part of the Silver Jubilee celebrations of ADRI. The conference was attended by about 250 participants, which included guest speakers, scholars presenting their papers on the theme of the conference, development administrators, as well as a number of other scholars, either local or outstation. The conference was also addressed by a number of cabinet ministers of the state government, including chief minister Nitish Kumar. The deliberations of the conference had greatly enlightened the young scholars from Bihar, for whom such opportunities to listen to international scholars or interact with them are rather limited.

### Inaugural Session

The Inaugural Session of the conference was presided over by Meghnad Desai, emeritus professor at the London School of Economic, and the Inaugural Address was delivered by





Nitish Kumar. Unfortunately, Onnu Ruhl, India country director of the World Bank, could not be present, but Anjan Mukherji, country director of IGC-India-Bihar, addressed the Inaugural Session.

The conference included seven Silver Jubilee Lectures by outstanding scholars in their respective fields. Apart from the Silver Jubilee Lectures, the conference had seven Working Sessions.

### Valedictory Session

The five-day conference came to an end with its Valedictory Session where Arvind Panagariya, vice-chairman of NITI Ayog, delivered the Valedictory Address. This session was chaired by N K Singh, former member of Planning Commission, and Abdul Bari Siddiqui, finance minister of Bihar.



## >> FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE 26–30 MARCH 2016



# SILVER JUBILEE LECTURES

1. **AK SHIVA KUMAR**  
Senior consultant and policy advisor, UNICEF India  
*Growth, Markets and the State: Lessons for Human Development*
2. **BINAYAK SEN**  
Professor, Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies  
*From Test Case to Middle Income: What can Bangladesh Add to Development Economics?*
3. **DILIP M NACHANE**  
Chancellor, Manipur University, Imphal, and emeritus professor, IGIDR  
*Economic Growth and Financial Stability – An Indian Perspective*
4. **JEAN JOSEPH BOILLOT**  
Professor of Economics and Former Researcher, CEPII (Institute of International Economics attached to the Office of Prime Minister of France)  
*AO Hirschman and the rise of China-India-Africa: Why the models of a Dissenter are still valid*
5. **KAIVAN MUNSHI**  
Professor, University of Cambridge  
*Caste in the Indian Economy*
6. **LAKSHMI IYER**  
Associate professor, Harvard University  
*Consequences and Determinants of Women's Political Participation*
7. **PRANAB BARDHAN**  
Professor, University of California at Berkeley  
*Land and Equity – Some Understudied Issues*



>> FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE  
26-30 MARCH 2016

# TECHNICAL SESSIONS

- **MANOJ MOHANAN, RONALD ABRAHAM, MEHJABEEN JAGMAG AND APURVA BAMEZAI**  
*Human Development in Bihar: Improving Health Outcomes*
- **KATYAYNI SETH, RUKMINI BANERJI, YAMINI AIYAR**  
*Human Development in Bihar: Transforming Education and Skills*
- **DEBOLINA KUNDU, PREET RUSTAGI, SHRAYANA BHATTACHARYA**  
*Social Protection and Labour*
- **ATSUSHI KATO, KOICHI FUJITA**  
*Development Experience in India*
- **POULOMI DHAR CHAKRABARTI, RUCHI SHREE, RAHUL GHAI, SUJEET KUMAR**  
*Development Experience in India*
- **KAZUYA WADA, ASHMITA GUPTA, AADITYA DAR**  
*Development Experience in India*
- **RANJIT SINGH GHUMAN, PANCHANAN DAS**  
*Development Experience in South Asia*
- **MANISH SABHARWAL, MITHILESH KUMAR, MEGHADEEPA CHAKRABORTY, SUDHANSHU KUMAR, KAVITA RAO, BIMAL KISHORE SAHOO, BHASKAR JYOTI NEOG, CHINMOYEE MALLIK**  
*Development Experience in India & Development Theory*



>> CURTAIN RAISER  
30 NOVEMBER 2015

# INDIA'S STATES THE STRUGGLE TO GOVERN



▶ Pratap Bhanu Mehta and James Manor in discussion at the curtain raiser of ADRI's International Conferences in Patna

## CONCEPT

The Curtain Raiser lecture examined the problems and opportunities that the chief ministers and their close associates in India's states have faced in recent years. It also discussed important changes that have occurred, especially since 2003. It considered marked variations in approaches to governance and development in different states – variations which mean that the 'Indian state', as citizens experience it, takes rather different forms in different states.

Pratap Bhanu Mehta, president and chief executive officer at the Center for Policy Research, New Delhi, presided over the occasion, while James Manor, professor emeritus of Commonwealth Studies in the School of Advanced Studies, University of London, delivered the Silver Jubilee Curtain Raiser lecture. Lalu Prasad Yadav, former chief minister of Bihar, also addressed the gathering.

In the years between 1989 and mid-2014, no single party could gain a majority in the Lok Sabha. That caused a major redistribution and decentralisation of power away from the once dominant Prime Minister's Office – horizontally to other institutions at the national level and vertically downward to governments and forces at the state level. The 2014 parliamentary election gave the BJP a majority, so that a re-centralisation of power is now underway. But other institutions that gained substantial power after 1989 may now be able to retain much of it.

Ironically, this decentralisation of power at the national level, and within the federal system, was accompanied by a marked centralisation of power in the hands of chief ministers within many states.



This lecture sought to explain how this happened. It connected with two trends: (a) a surge in state and central governments' revenues after 2003, and (b) India's far from neo-liberal economic order which leaves huge discretionary power in the hands of chief ministers.

The lecture also analysed the various devices which chief ministers – centralisers and non-centralisers – use as they seek to increase their influence and to survive in power. Some of these devices are legitimate while others are illicit. Both have implications for state governments' development strategies.

Neeraj Kumar, managing editor, Centre for Economic Policy and Public Finance, Patna, welcomed the guests, while Prabhat P Ghosh, director of ADRI, proposed the vote of thanks on the occasion.

## >> THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

# IN MEMORY OF ARVIND NARAYAN DAS

**A**rvind Narayan Das was endowed with a brilliant mind, deeply analytical and sceptical of all things given, a sharp intellect and great humour. He developed a keen interest in reading under the able guidance of Father James Cox who shaped him as a renaissance intellectual at St Xavier's High School, Patna. Later, studying at St Stephen's College, Delhi, he evolved from an observer and voracious reader to an active participant in the movement for fundamental political change. He participated in the radical agrarian movement. He along with friends put up India 69, a brilliant play on the contemporary situation. In 1970, after completing his Masters in History, he went to Purnia, the land of landlords, poor peasants and *kala azar*. Living among the peasantry, he tried to adapt to their lives while giving them political education and organising actions against the landlord-rich peasant combine. He was imprisoned and tortured like so many others. Subsequently, he was released and moved out of

Bihar to the Gokhle Institute in Pune. He did a PhD in Economic History on the history of the Kisan Sabha and peasant movements in Bihar. Among several books that he wrote, 'Changel: The Biography of a Village' became a classic, taking village studies to a new level. It showed his deep understanding and empathy for the village and it's plight. In 1988, he embarked on a new career in journalism with The Times of India editorial as Senior Research Editor. He brought his deep insights into poverty and inequality and his analytical skills into writing for the edit pages. Another major contribution of Das was the India Invented documentary based on the outlook of D D Kosambi whose work he admired enormously. Then again, he along with others founded Biblio, a book review journal that, too, endures. He was also the chairperson of Asian Development Research Institute during 1992 to 2000, the year he passed away. Das was taken away too early. In these fraught times, when the Right and the Left almost hate each other, Das' friends are from every shade of opinion and each one found something in him to like and love.



## >> SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

# IN HONOUR OF PRABHAT P GHOSH



Prabhat P Ghosh has been one of the founder-members of ADRI. Along with Shaibal Gupta, it was P P Ghosh who conceived the idea of ADRI in 1991, and the two together worked relentlessly since then to establish ADRI as an institution of social science research. Ghosh did his graduation and masters from Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata, and PhD from Patna University. He is a renowned statistician, as well as an economist. As an economist, he has contributed substantially in the fields of regional economies and human resource development. In particular, he had constructed the first Input-Output Table for Bihar in the 70s which was one of the earliest among state-level tables in India. As a statistician, he has conducted several large-scale surveys, including the 'Survey of Socio-Economic and

Educational Status of Muslims in Bihar', which was the first dedicated primary study on the Muslim population in Bihar. Further, he has made substantial contributions in the field of evaluation of social sector projects, particularly those related to education. During the last 25 years, Ghosh has provided the critical academic leadership at ADRI, not just by conducting studies on various dimensions of Bihar's economy and society, but by nurturing a number of young scholars at the institute. He has also undertaken several research projects, assigned by international organisations like ILO, IFAD, UNICEF and UNDP. Besides being a member of a number of committees of the central and state governments, he has also been a member of the Governing Body of the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), New Delhi during 2006-09.

## >> PRESIDENT'S SPEECH



**Pranab Mukherjee**  
President of India

**International Conference on  
"Bihar & Jharkhand:  
Shared History to Shared Vision"**  
*March 24, 2017*

A very good after noon to all of you. First of all let me thank all of you, especially Lord Meghnad Desai, Shri Nitish Kumar, Chief Minister of Bihar, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, the Governor of Bihar for giving a very warm welcome to me. Whenever I come to this State, I feel the inspiration from wisdom of numerous sages and wise men who lived on this land. This is the land of Buddha and Mahavira who gave the whole world the insight into suffering of human kind and the ways to transcend it. This is the land of the great emperors like Ashoka and Chandragupta who shaped the history and culture of our country. And this is also the land of freedom fighters and tall leaders like Dr Rajendra Prashad, Dr Shri Krishna Sinha and Dr Anugrah Narayan Singh who contributed in shaping the modern India.

Dear Friends,

I am very happy to inaugurate this International Conference on 'Bihar and Jharkhand: Shared History to Shared Vision', which is being organised by the Asian Development Research Institute (ADRI) as part of its Silver Jubilee celebrations. Since 2000, Bihar and Jharkhand are politically separated to form two semi-autonomous political entities within the federal India. But contiguity, great mobility within the region and a shared history obviously imply continuity of their economic, social and cultural relations, albeit in a changed framework. It is then obvious that the process of political separation has some limitation and there are phenomena that transcend the political separation. In this background, this conference would deliberate on the continuities and disjunctions on a geographical region that formed one political unit for centuries. I learn that about 125 scholars, many of whom have travelled from abroad, will take part in the deliberations during the next four days and, I am confident, these deliberations would enrich our understanding of the social and economic dynamics of the region.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The ancient history of Bihar, of which Jharkhand was a part, is indeed glorious. It was Bihar where the first democracy of the world was established in Lichchhavi; it was the region where Buddhism first emerged, and it was also the region where the great Nalanda university functioned for six centuries as a great

centre of learning, attracting scholars from both India and abroad. In the recent past, during the British rule, both Bihar and Jharkhand were part of the Bengal Presidency, the first seat of the colonial power. In a sense, the Bengal Presidency was an advantaged region – it had fertile soil of the Gangetic plain where agriculture could flourish, it had mineral resources which could facilitate industrial development and it also had a sea front to connect to the external world. But thanks to the dictates of Permanent Settlement of 1794, the region could never attain its development potential, except in a small region around Calcutta (now Kolkata) which was the capital of British India until 1911. Within Bengal Presidency, the region comprising Bihar and Jharkhand were specially deprived, not solely due to hostile colonial policies, but due to some internal factors as well. In particular, the region did not have any ‘social’ movement of any consequence, parallel to the ‘political’ mobilization for independence that was so wide in the region. Further, Bihar was subjected to extreme repression after the failure of the First War of Independence in 1857 that had a substantial base in the region.

Dear Friends, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The enormous gap between the potential and reality of development in Bihar and Jharkhand, the former having plenty of fertile land and the latter endowed with abundant mineral resources, has attracted the attention of many scholars. Together, they have delved into nearly all dimensions of the economy and society in Bihar and Jharkhand – the colonial legacy, development trend in the post-independence era, social dynamics, the long and wide phenomenon of migration, the caste-based political mobilization, the issue of ecology and environment, the question of sub-national identity or the demand of social justice, all of which have contributed to make Bihar and Jharkhand what they are now. At this moment, both Bihar and Jharkhand, as we all know, are at a crossroad and one wonders which path they would tread in near future to meet the aspirations of their own people. And these aspirations are now much higher than before, thanks to the recent political mobilization in the region which has brought a new section of the people into power who were all politically marginalized till recently.



At this juncture, however, we only need to remember one important lesson of history, viz, the burden of history, howsoever heavy, can indeed be unloaded with right social mobilization and political initiatives. We also need to realize that, for seriously disadvantaged regions like Bihar and Jharkhand, a strategy of development requires the policy makers to unleash the productive forces of the economy, and not just unquestionably follow a path of industrialization, as was done by countries or regions which had developed earlier. It is here that one requires directed research which can identify appropriate policies that best suit the interests of the regions. As an example from the recent past, one may note that Bangladesh, once a part of Bengal Presidency, was indeed able to meet its development challenge effectively, charting an innovative path of development. This experience of Bangladesh has great lessons for some eastern Indian states like Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal.

More specifically, one may consider the immense potential of human development for promoting economic development in regions like Bihar and Jharkhand. The international experience shows that, for specially disadvantaged regions, human development, could indeed be an alternative development strategy. Under this strategy, it is possible for disadvantaged regions to change their comparative advantage from low skill labor-intensive goods and services to more skill-intensive goods and services

provider through deliberate human development. A logical requirement of this alternative development strategy will be prioritizing investment on education beyond what would happen under 'normal' circumstances. One may also note here that education does not mean economic advantage for the educated persons alone. It has some other important advantages as well - it empowers people and also promotes their participation in both development programs and the political process.

Dear Friends,

In the context of development research, I may also mention here that not all our current development problems lend themselves easily to techno-managerial solutions. In most of the developing nations, which attained their independence in the middle of the previous century, the institution of state is considered to be very pervading, with very limited space for non-state institutions. The international development experience shows, in the absence of such non-state institutions, often called 'civil society organizations', the efficiency of the state-led development process is bound to be limited. Such institutional gap is probably found in most parts of India, but this gap is particularly wide in disadvantaged states like Bihar and Jharkhand. In this background, it is indeed an important agenda for the social science research, not just investigate how this institutional gap has emerged over the years, but simultaneously suggest social interventions that would remove this gap.

Dear Friends, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In the recent past, both the states have started doing well. Particularly Bihar has shown the way in implementation of many social development schemes. The growth performance of Bihar economy has been steady over the past one decade registering an annual growth rate at 10.5 percent. This is a remarkable achievement. While Bihar still remains a largely agricultural state, Jharkhand is slowly transforming itself into an economy with larger share of service sector. Governments in both the states have taken a large number of steps to speed up the transformation of the social and economic conditions of the states. I wish the people of this region all the best in their march forward.

I am very happy to learn that the Asian Development Research Institute (ADRI) is one of those institutions which have been active in social science research during the last 25 years. One of the reasons why the institute has been thriving is the orientation of its research agenda which is – 'direct relevance to development efforts made by any group of institutions'. It has also been a goal of ADRI to disseminate its research results in a more innovative, demystified and use worthy form, reducing the gap between undertakers of research and users of research output. Today, I am told, ADRI is providing research support to not just state or central government, but a number of international agencies as well, like the World Bank, UNICEF, DFID and some others. Let me take this opportunity to congratulate the members of ADRI for their academic achievements. I also hope that they would continue their efforts in coming years and attain new heights in their academic pursuit and simultaneously provide valuable research support to various development agencies.

This International Conference, as I learn, is dedicated to the memory of Late Arvind Narayan Das, who was the Chairperson of ADRI for five years, before his premature demise in 2000. Dr Das was one of those rare social scientists whose writings had crossed disciplinary boundaries. His research work had spanned the fields of economic, sociology, political science, social history and all issues that concern development. To enlighten people, he had joined journalism and indeed left a brilliant mark in that field too. Two of his excellent books 'Republic of Bihar' and 'Changel: The Biography of a Village' also underline how deeply rooted he was to Bihar. I join the members of ADRI in paying tributes to Dr. Arvind Narayan Das, a great scholar and a great soul.

Dear Friends, Ladies and Gentlemen,

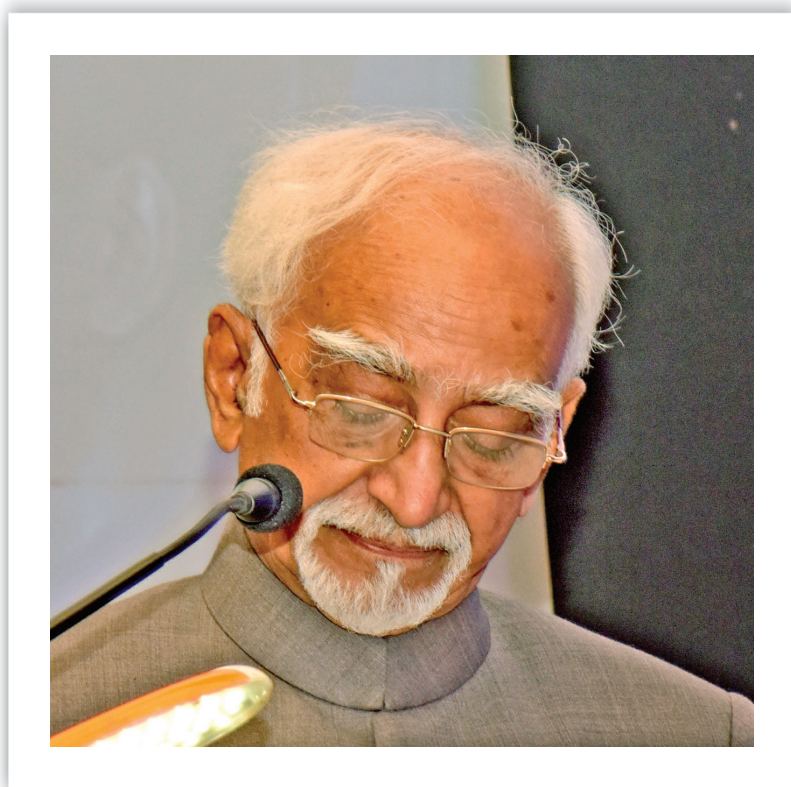
In the end, I wish that Asian Development Research Institute achieves all the glory and success in its journey and become an essential resource for developmental policy research for the region. I wish all of you, a very successful and fruitful year ahead.

Thank you,

**Jai Hind.**



## >> VICE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH



**M Hamid Ansari**  
Vice President of India

**International Conference on  
"Social Statistics in India"**  
*June 24, 2016*

The Asian Development Research Institute, through its empirical and theoretical studies, has done a commendable job of making social science research more inclusive and innovative to meet the emergent social needs.

Developing nations like India need socio-economic information about their population to design redistributive policies,' Concern has also been expressed about the efficiency and efficacy of such public data collection and the gaps which exist in the Indian social statistical. The initiative taken by the Institute in organizing this conference on social statistics is therefore timely and provides an opportunity to assess the state of play in this field.

Statistics has always been intimately linked to the social dimensions of the State, In the late 17th and early 18th centuries, particularly in Europe, when it was more fashionably called 'political arithmetic', attempts started at calculating population size and life expectancy because the analysts believed that a growing population was evidence of a healthy State. These early social researchers, who believed that information about society could help governments devise wiser policies – were called statisticians, and the new quantitative evidence based science, soon began to be called statistics.

The discipline has evolved overtime, great names like Auguste Comte, Herbert Spencer, Emile Durkheim and Talcott Parsons imparted to it philosophical and sociological foundations and scientific methodology. These, together, helped it explore social structures and change and thereby prepare better for social action and intervention.

As a result, today social statistics are the foundation of the structural-functionalist tradition in sociology and social studies. It serves two purposes. The first, and the more visible purpose is to provide us with an accurate and true description of the society. The other use is in the context of constructing 'social problems', where statistics are used to support or discredit particular points of view. A leading commentator has amplified the approach:

*“Sociologists speak of social problems being “constructed” – that is, created or assembled through the actions of activists, officials, the news media, and other people who draw attention to particular problems. Social problem is a label we give to some social conditions, and it is that label that turns a condition we take for granted into something we consider troubling. This means that the processes of identifying and publicizing social problems are important.”*

One of the purposes of statistics is to facilitate the discovery, understanding, quantification, modeling and communication of the facts about the world. In the context of social statistics, the task of describing and quantifying human behavior, with all its uncertainties and unpredictability, is fraught with risks. The statistics, often, only offers an interval of plausible values for an unknown parameter and is at best, an approximation of the reality even when the uncertainty itself has been described in some detail. This has also led to the uncharitable remark that *‘statistics is the only science that enables different experts using the same figures to draw different conclusions.’*

It seems inevitable that good statistical analysis includes judgments. The need for this judgment opens the door to unethical biasing of result, biased data collection and partial reporting or manipulation of results with intent to mislead. The empirical analyses today are more likely to be based on a combination of several very large datasets containing millions of observations, which are processed through specialized statistical software. As a result, errors can be insidious and be detected only by sophisticated forensic. This makes the task of extracting meaning from any given set of data a difficult task.

Every new set of statistics, therefore, has to be put to test in order to assess its validity and usefulness. Critical scrutiny could and should raise a few pertinent questions about origin, process and purpose. Together, these would shed light on credibility or bias, methodological validity or shortcomings and motivations, if any.

In India, the pioneering work in this field was done by Prof. P C. Mahalanobis, who founded the Indian Statistical Institute (ISI) and by P V Sukhamte who

was the driving force behind the statistical branch of the Imperial (later Indian) Council for Agricultural Research. Both were of immense significance in the period immediately after Independence when access to good statistics was critical to the manner in which we addressed our developmental challenges, confronting limited resources on the one hand and the burgeoning needs of our teeming millions on the other. Both necessitated optimal and immediate utilization of resources. The relevance and effectiveness of policy judgments, therefore, depended on the quality of data and the efficacy of analysis and interpretation. It was important therefore that public institutions had access to the best social statistics and statistical analysis.

Today, the discipline of statistics in India boasts a separate Ministry – the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation; a separate arm of bureaucracy – Indian Statistical Service (ISS); a number of information gathering mechanisms such as the National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) and a vast array of central and state government departments engaged in the task of collecting and analyzing data.

We also have a host of specialized research institutes, nearly a dozen research journals and more than 100 educational centres offering training at Masters and PhD levels.

This mechanism provides for some well-established avenues for collection of social statistics in India. The decadal censuses -- the 15th edition of which mobilized more than 2.7 million officials for conducting door-to-door household surveys – remains one of the most extensive primary data collection exercises in the world. The Civil Registration System and the Sample Registration System also provide fairly reliable social data streams. The Health Information Management System and the National Family Health Survey have become established avenues of health related to statistics.

In addition, social and economic surveys by National Sample Survey Office provide data related to social and economic developments, industrial production and the agricultural sector. Both the Ministries of Human Resource Development and Labour similarly have well-defined avenues for creating and disseminating data related to education and unemployment.

And yet, all is not well in the Indian social statistics sector. Concerns have been raised about the quality of data being generated as also about the duplication of efforts to collect statistics across various government departments, inaccessibility of national data archives and the infringement of privacy by government's data collection machinery.

Based on the recommendations of the Rangarajan report in 2001, a National Statistics Commission was put in place in 2005 and the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation released a new Data Policy in 2009, and the National Data Sharing and Accessibility Policy in 2012. Despite this, the problems with our official statistics appear to persist.

Some of the criticism of Indian public statistics, especially when it comes to measurement of crosscutting social issues such as gender disparity, inequality, poverty and growth seems valid. Our public statistics have also attracted opprobrium on issues related to measurement of parameters related to the service sector, the unorganised sector and unemployment figures. This is not only undermining the credibility of Indian statistics globally but also hurting the analysis of some of the most important elements of Indian economy.

French economist Thomas Piketty has lamented the "huge" gap in statistics in India exemplified by paucity of data on income tax and the reluctance of the government to release the caste census results. Even after the Government recently released official figures for the income tax in 2012-13, which has prompted a lively debate about the extent of tax evasion in India with commentators noting that there were very few tax returns at the highest end of the income spectrum, Piketty told the international media that "the data was too thin to draw significant conclusions about the levels of inequality in India".

In an interview given to the BBC, Piketty added that,

*"We see the same problem with access to caste census data that was supposed to clarify the link between caste, income, wealth and income inequality. This puts a limit on our ability to put India on a map in terms of inequality."*

The criticism of India's publically collected Social Statistics is not limited to foreign workers. In July 2011, the Governor of the Reserve Bank of India

expressed concern over the quality of statistics collected by government agencies. A few months later, the then Commerce Secretary admitted that India's exports figure for April- October period in 2011 were found to be inflated by US \$ 9.4 billion due to misclassification of certain items and data entry errors. Not long afterwards, our Chief Statistician conceded that the accuracy of the Index of Industrial Production was questionable. Similarly, the then Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission argued that the National Sample Survey had underestimated household consumption affecting poverty estimates. In this context, some broad challenges in the area of social statistical analysis and interpretation can be identified.

- First, we need to identify the gaps in official data and analysis and determine ways on how best we can bridge them. The quality of data collected by various government agencies depends on the completeness and accuracy of the responses. Significant non-response and time varying patterns can distort the information. There is thus the challenge of getting credible and complete data and in good time.
- Second, given the fast pace of changes in the structure of the economy in face of deregulation, liberalization and competition, it is important that various indices that reveal the underlying mechanism of our society and economy are further refined and updated in order to provide relevant and timely information to the policymakers.
- Third, in the context of our interconnected global village and open economies, the responsiveness of markets to data releases and information has become more acute. False data or its wrong interpretation can result in market volatility, which can have a cascading effect on the economy. We, therefore, have to focus on maintaining certain data standards and improving the quality of our training and statistic education.

There are no easy answers to these challenges. Perhaps the experts gathered here would shed light on them and suggest solutions or correctives.

I thank the organisers for inviting me and wish success to the conference in its deliberations.

**Jai Hind.**

## >> GOVERNOR'S SPEECH



**Ram Nath Kovind**  
Governor of Bihar

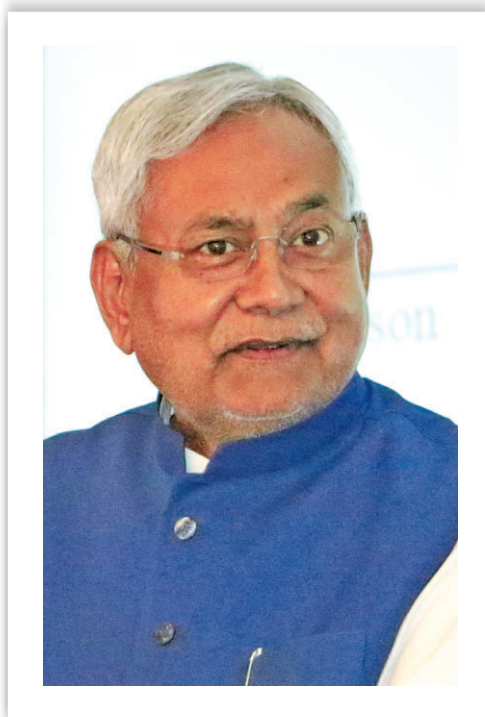
### **International Conference on "Bihar & Jharkhand: Shared History to Shared Vision" March 24, 2017**

**H**onorable President Shree Pranab Mukherjee ji; Honorable Chief Minister Shree Nitish Kumar ji; Deputy Chief Minister Shree Tejashwi Prasad Yadav ji; Education Minister Shree Ashok Choudhary ji; former Member, Rajya Sabha Shree N. K. Singh ji; Lord Meghnad Desai ji, Member-Secretary, ADRI, Shree Shaibal Gupta ji, Professor Prabhat Ghosh ji, distinguished guests, eminent educationists and economists from all over India and abroad, ladies and gentlemen: I am happy to participate in this inaugural session of "International Conference on Bihar and Jharkhand: Shared History to Shared Vision" organised by ADRI. It is indeed a matter of pride that Honorable President of India, Shree Pranab Mukherjee ji is our Chief Guest today and would deliver the inaugural address. This testifies to his deep interest in the academic fraternity as well as in the economic affairs of neighboring states of Bihar. We all know that the challenges of development in the states of Bihar and Jharkhand are indeed enormous. It is a joint responsibility of the central and state governments

to meet this challenge squarely but efforts of government need to be supported by extensive research in both social and economic resources for bringing about desired change. A comprehensive development research agenda for a disadvantaged region should encompass not only local realities but global experience as well. Among the limited number of institutions that have enthusiastically taken up the agenda of development research in Bihar, ADRI stands out both in terms of quality of the research output as well as the broad canvas of their academic pursuits. I take this opportunity to record my appreciation of ADRI's academic achievements in the last 25 years and sincerely hope that its members will continue to work sincerely in the coming years to enrich our understanding of development challenges in Bihar and Jharkhand. Since India is essentially a federal country, development research has often focused on individual states. This obviously has a resonance since each state has its own history, natural endowments, cultural specificities and political traditions but it is probably not very meaningful to exclusively focus on a case study approach too far ignoring the substantial socio-economic linkages between neighboring states, especially when some of them were a single administrative entity in the past. Commonalities in socio-economic, political and administrative ethos enable identification of matters that are critical for understanding. It is in this perspective that one should also undertake an exercise which tries to address simultaneously development challenges in the two adjoining states. For Bihar and Jharkhand, such an exercise is even more imperative since they were together for a very long period and have separated only recently. I also learnt that the five-day long conference has a separate technical session on the relations between Bihar and Nepal which are connected not just through common river systems but other dimensions as well. Many of you present in this gathering would know that the first international conference organised by ADRI was on growth and development: theories and experiences. The second one was on social statistics in India and I had the privilege of being present in its inaugural session there also. There are a number of renowned scholars, some Indian and others international who have participated in these three conferences. ADRI conferences provide a rare opportunity for the intelligentsia of Patna to listen to these scholars or interact with them. Lastly, I sincerely hope both ADRI and other institutions in Bihar and Jharkhand will promote such academic interactions helping our own scholars to build intellectual relations with their counterparts either in India or abroad. Thank you all.

**Jai Hind!**

## >> CHIEF MINISTER'S SPEECH



**Nitish Kumar**  
Chief Minister of Bihar

**International Conference on  
"Development & Growth:  
Experience & Theories"**  
March 27, 2016

इस कार्यक्रम की अध्यक्षता कर रहे लॉर्ड मेघनाद देसाईजी, बिहार विधानसभा के माननीय अध्यक्ष श्री विजय कुमार चौधरीजी, इंटरनेशनल ग्रोथ सेन्टर के कंट्री डायरेक्टर श्री अंजन मुखर्जीजी, आद्री के संस्थापक और सदस्य सचिव श्री शैबाल गुप्ताजी, आद्री में श्री शैबाल गुप्ताजी के सहयोगी श्री पी.पी. घोषजी, डा. सुनीता लाल जी, यहां उपस्थित विशिष्ट अतिथिगण, विभिन्न क्षेत्रों के विशेषज्ञगण, मीडिया के प्रतिनिधिगण, देवियों और सज्जनों : मैं सबसे पहले आद्री को 25 साल पूरा करने पर बधाई देता हूं। 25 वर्षों में आद्री ने अपना एक खास स्थान बनाया न सिर्फ बिहार में। वैसे तो इनका अब एक झारखंड चैप्टर भी शुरू हुआ उसके बारे में मुझे बहुत ज्यादा जानकारी नहीं है लेकिन जहां तक बिहार में जो आद्री का काम है उसकी इतनी ख्याति है कि देश के किसी राज्य के लोग अगर बिहार के बारे में कुछ जानना चाहते हैं, अध्ययन करना चाहते हैं और देश के बाहर के भी लोग तो मेरी जहां तक जानकारी है सबसे पहले वे आद्री से सम्पर्क करते हैं, शैबाल गुप्ताजी से क्योंकि न जाने कितने लोगों से मुझे मिलने का अवसर मिला है। विभिन्न क्षेत्रों के विशेषज्ञ हैं, जानकार लोग राजनीति में दिलचस्पी रखने वाले लोग भी, अर्थशास्त्री, समाज शास्त्री जिनकी दिलचस्पी ग्रोथ में है। ऐसे तमाम तरह के लोग जिनसे मुझे मिलने का मौका मिला है शायद ही कोई अपवाद रहा हो जिन्होंने आद्री की चर्चा मुझे नहीं की हो। चुनाव वगैरह में भी लोग इनसे बातचीत करते हैं। इनका क्या विचार है? क्या चल रहा है? यानी एक पूरे बिहार के बारे में जो हर प्रकार का अध्ययन इस दौर में इन्होंने किया है 25 साल के दौर में वैसे बिहार के ही है और पहले भी ए.एन. सिन्हा इन्स्टीच्यूट से इनका संबंध था और इसके बाद आद्री की स्थापना की तो अच्छे तरह जानते हैं इनके अपने विचार। तो एक तरह से आद्री अब एक रेफरेंस इन्स्टीच्यूशन हो गया है। किन्हीं को कुछ जानना हो, कुछ आगे काम करना हो, अध्ययन करना हो तो आद्री से जरूर सम्पर्क करते हैं। तो यह कोई मामूली उपलब्धि नहीं है। पिछले दस वर्षों से तो मैं सक्रिय तौर पर इनका सहयोग प्राप्त करता रहा हूं और इसके पहले भी हमने देखा है इनके काम को, खास कर के फाइनेंस कमीशन के सामने पहली बार बिहार के सभी दलों के तरफ से एक ऑल-पार्टी ज्वॉइंट मेमोरेन्डम दिया गया था और उस मेमोरेन्डम को तैयार करने में शैबाल गुप्ता जी ने और इनके संगठन ने, संस्था ने बहुत बड़ा भूमिका निभाई और एक साथ लोगों को बिठाने में भी कामयाब हुए उसके बाद। मुझे अच्छी तरह याद है। उस समय मैं केन्द्र में था। यहां तो अपोजिशन में था। तो इनका मेमोरेन्डम आया था। उस पर हमने भी दस्खत किया था और उसके बाद पिछले

दस वर्षों में तो जितने भी फाइनेंस कमीशन का गठन हुआ हर 5 साल पर जो गठन होता है। तो उनके समक्ष पोलिटिकल पार्टी की तरफ से ज्वॉइंट मेमोरेन्डम दिया गया। बिहार जैसे राज्य में सभी राजनैतिक दलों के बीच में आर्थिक मसलों पर बिहार की जरूरतों पर, बिहार का जो हक है, उस पर एक सर्वानुमती उत्पन्न करना यह अपने आप में बहुत बड़ी चीज है और इसकी शुरुआत आद्री ने की। इसके लिए मैं सबसे पहले इनको बधाई देना चाहता हूं। अब 10 वर्षों में तो अनेक काम, जब भी इनसे बात करने का मौका मिला है तो दो चीज पर तो जरूर इनसे चर्चा होती रही है। एक तो सब-नेशनलिज्म पर। यह हमेशा जोर देते रहे। जब भी कोई बातचीत हो तो सब-नेशनलिज्म इनके डिसकोर्स में जरूर रहेगा। उसके बिना इनका पूरा वक्तव्य होता नहीं है। वक्तव्य का एक हिस्सा वह जरूर रहता है और हमने देखा कि बहुत जरूरी है। अब बिहार में इतनी कमी है, अभाव है। बिहार के साथ न्याय नहीं हुआ है लेकिन इसके बारे में पूरे तौर पर अध्ययन अगर किसी ने कर के उसको लोगों के सामने प्रस्तुत किया तो आद्री ने किया। बताया अंग्रेजों के जमाने से लेकर उसके बाद तक आजाद भारत में किस तरह से उपेक्षा होती रही और उसका एक कारण वो गिनाते हैं कि पर्मानेंट सेटलमेंट। तो यह दो चीज इनका पर्मानेंट सेटलमेंट, सुनीता लाल जी हंस रही उसको अगर गंभीरता, जब भी इन्होंने कहा तो मैंने उसको गंभीरतापूर्वक उस पर सोचा और हमने कहा कि यह बिल्कुल सही कह रहे हैं और आंकड़ों के साथ इन्होंने बताया कि किस तरह से परम्परागत तौर पर बिहार के साथ इन्जस्टिस हुआ है, अन्याय हुआ है। यहां केन्द्र की सत्ता में जो भी रहा हो कभी बिहार के साथ न्याय ही नहीं हुआ आजादी के पहले भी नहीं और आजादी के बाद भी नहीं। इसलिए जब हमलोगों ने बिहार को विशेष राज्य का दर्जा मिलना चाहिए यह अभियान की शुरुआत की तो इनका समर्थन मिला और फिर जब रघुराम राजनजी की अध्यक्षता में केन्द्र सरकार ने कमीटी का गठन किया तो बिहार के प्रतिनिधि के तौर पर शैबाल गुप्ताजी उसमें मौजूद थे क्योंकि केन्द्र सरकार ने कहा कि आपलोग अपना एक प्रतिनिधि दीजिए। तो हमने समझा कि भई, शैबाल गुप्ताजी को छोड़कर के इन विषयों में बिहार का प्रतिनिधित्व और कौन कर सकता है। तो शैबाल गुप्ताजी ने बिहार का प्रतिनिधित्व किया। वो एक ऐसा मौका था कि आद्री का प्रतिनिधित्व नहीं कर रहे थे। बिहार का प्रतिनिधित्व कर रहे थे उसमें। तो बिहार की समस्याओं के बारे में और उसके मूल में क्या कारण है इन सब चीजों के बारे में आद्री में निरन्तर काम हुआ है और विभिन्न चीजों पर अध्ययन किया है आद्री ने। कभी स्टेट गवर्नमेंट के द्वारा स्पॉन्सर किए जाने पर, कभी स्वयं

अपने आप। बिहार की माइनॉरिटीज की क्या स्थिति है, उसके बारे में इनकी रिपोर्ट आई और अभी जब हमलोगों ने यह सोचा कि जो सवर्ण समाज के लोग हैं उनमें भी काफी गरीब लोग हैं और उनके लिए भी कुछ काम होना चाहिए। हम आरक्षण की बात तो नहीं कर सकते हैं क्योंकि आरक्षण तो संविधान से उद्भूत है और संविधान में आर्थिक आधार पर आरक्षण का प्रावधान नहीं है। सामाजिक और शैक्षणिक पिछड़ेपन के आधार पर आरक्षण का प्रावधान है लेकिन अन्य प्रकार से उनके अंदर जो दिक्कतें, उनको भी जिन दिक्कतों का सामना करना पड़ता है गांव में रहने वाले खासकर गरीबी में जीवन बसर कर रहे हैं तो हमने जब आयोग बनाया, हमारी सरकार ने तो आद्री से यह अनुरोध किया गया कि आप उनके स्टेट्स पर, उनकी स्थिति पर, आर्थिक और शैक्षणिक स्थिति पर आप सर्वेक्षण कीजिए। तो उसकी भी रिपोर्ट आई और आद्री ने दो जो रिपोर्ट पेश की उसको सवर्ण आयोग ने स्वीकार किया और उसी को राज्य सरकार ने पूरे तौर पर स्वीकार किया इनकी रिपोर्ट को और उसके आधार पर ही जो उंची जाति के गरीब लोग हैं उनके लिए भी कई प्रकार की योजनाओं का सुझाव इन्होंने दिया था उसको स्वीकार किया गया। तो चाहे वो सामाजिक पहलू हो या आर्थिक पक्ष हो यह जो हमारी इकोनॉमी है उसका जो राजनीतिक पक्ष है इन सब चीजों के बारे में आद्री का विशेष काम रहा है। हमलागों ने पहली बार राज्य की आर्थिक स्थिति क्या है इसका आकलन करके, इकोनॉमी सर्वे करके विधानमंडल में उसको प्रस्तुत किया जाए और उसके माध्यम से बिहार के लोगों को मालूम हो कि बिहार की आर्थिक स्थिति क्या है। इसकी शुरुआत जब हमलोगों ने की इकोनॉमिक सर्वे की तो यह दायित्व भी आद्री को दिया गया और आद्री ने बखूबी इसको पिछले दस वर्षों से निभाया और जिसका जिक्र खुद शैबालजी कर रहे थे। दसवां इकोनॉमिक सर्वे इस बार बजट सत्र में पेश किया गया। तो इस प्रकार के इकोनॉमिक सर्वे के माध्यम से हर चीजें रिकॉर्ड पर आती हैं। प्रोग्रेस क्या हो रहा है? हम कहां थे? उसके आगे बढ़ रहे हैं या किन क्षेत्रों में हम प्रगति कर रहे हैं या प्रगति अवरूद्ध है? इन सब चीजों के बारे में समझने के लिए यह जरूरी है कि आपके पास वस्तुस्थिति के बारे में जो अध्ययन हो वो उपलब्ध हो, तो आद्री का यह भी योगदान है और इसलिए बिहार सरकार ने एक निर्णय और किया, सेन्टर फॉर इकोनॉमिक पॉलिसी एंड पब्लिक फाइनेन्स। इसकी जिम्मेवारी भी आद्री को दी गई की आप ही के यहां यह एस्टैब्लिशमेंट हो। जो कुछ भी जरूरत है सरकार को अगर काम करने की इच्छा है। काम न करना हो तो कोई बात नहीं। काम नहीं करना हो तो बहुत रास्ते हैं। यूं ही आप सब को इन्गेज्ड रखा जा सकता है बुद्धिजीवियों से लेकर के आम लोगों तक। सब को इन्गेज किया जा सकता है। अगर काम नहीं भी कर रहा हो तब भी। अगर हम कोई ऐसी बात बोलेंगे तो आप इन्गेज्ड हो जाइएगा उसका काट करने के लिए। जो इन दिनों इस देश में हो रहा है। ऐसा एक दौर चला है राष्ट्र भक्ति का अचानक कि उस डिबेट में सब लोग हैं। तब कुछ करने की कहां जरूरत है। अब कुछ भी करने की कोई जरूरत नहीं है। रोजगार सृजन की कोई जरूरत नहीं है। देश की

आर्थिक प्रगति हो। जो तबका हासिए पर है उसको मुख्यधारा में लाया जाए। यह सब कुछ करने की आवश्यकता ही कहां है। अगर नहीं करना हो तो पहले तो सपने दिखा दीजिए और जब लगा कि सपना साकार करना संभव नहीं है तो कुछ ऐसे बहस छेड़ दिए जाएं देश में कि सारे लोग उसी में उलझ जाएं पक्ष में और विपक्ष में। तब कहां इस देश में डिबेट हो रहा है और आप अगर उठाकर देख लीजिए कभी-कभी, प्रिंट मीडिया, इलेक्ट्रॉनिक मीडिया, सोशल मीडिया, सब पर देख लीजिए। आज सबसे बड़ा स्पेस कौन ऑक्यूपी कर रहा है? किस चीज पर डिबेट हो रहा है। देश की आर्थिक प्रगति पर कोई डिबेट नहीं हो रहा है। डिबेट किसी और चीज पर हो रहा है। तो इसलिए अगर काम नहीं करना हो तो भी लोगों को इन्गेज करने का पर्याप्त उपाय है इस देश में। सब जगह है और इन दिनों तो कहा जा रहा है कि दुनिया वैसा ही चल रहा है। भई, अमेरिका में ऐसा ही हो रहा है। अमेरिका में प्रेसिडेन्सियल कैंडिडेट कोई हैं जो मर्जी बोल रहे हैं तो लोग कह रहे हैं कि भई, दुनिया भर में ऐसा ही हो रहा है तो अपने देश में क्या दिक्कत है। कभी मेक्सिको दीवार खींच देंगे और उसका पैसा वसूल लेंगे। न जाने क्या-क्या। अनरगल बात। तब लोग यह भी डिबेट कर रहे हैं कि दुनिया का यही माहौल है। खैर, यह तो ज्यादा मेघनाद देसाईजी जानेंगे इन सब चीजों को। इन सब चीजों के बारे में हमलोग को कहां, हमलोग तो एक भारत के गरीब प्रदेश में हमलोग हैं। हां, आर्थिक तौर पर हमलोग जरूर कमजोर हैं लेकिन बिहार कभी बौद्धिक तौर पर कमजोर नहीं रहा। यह तो ज्ञान का केन्द्र रहा है। तो अगर किसी को काम करना हो तो काम करने के लिए फिर तो हम कुछ करना चाहते हैं। तो एक तो होती है अपनी समझ कि हम जान रहे हैं शिक्षा के क्षेत्र में ही काम कर रहे हैं तो भई, क्या काम करना? अब आद्री ने शिक्षा के क्षेत्र में भी काम किया। हमलोग के साथ सबसे बड़ी चुनौती थी कि हमारे 12 प्रतिशत से भी ज्यादा बच्चे स्कूलों के बाहर रह जाते थे। उनको पहले स्कूलों तक कैसे पहुंचाए आउट ऑफ स्कूल चिल्ड्रेन को। तो अगर हमारे पास यह आंकड़े नहीं होते कि 12 प्रतिशत बच्चे स्कूलों के बाहर हैं। ये अगर किसी ने सर्वे नहीं किया होता, अध्ययन नहीं किया होता तो फिर यह आंकड़े नहीं होते। फिर उसको दूर करने के लिए अगर कोई कदम उठाया गया तो उसका परिणाम क्या निकल रहा है? उसका फायदा क्या हो रहा है? ये जानकारी नहीं है। तो ऐसे संस्थानों की तो बड़ी अहमियत है हर क्षेत्र में और अब हमलोगों ने जब काम किया उसका परिणाम हुआ कि आज स्कूलों से बाहर रहने वाले बच्चों की संख्या मात्र 0.86 प्रतिशत है। अब सवाल आएगा इसके बाद कि अब तो बच्चों को स्कूल पहुंचा दिया लेकिन स्कूल में पढ़ रहे हैं या नहीं पढ़ रहे हैं? 5वीं कक्षा में 5वीं कक्षा का ज्ञान है कि 5वीं कक्षा में दूसरी कक्षा का ज्ञान है और यह भी अध्ययन होता है तो पता चलता है। तो उसमें भी इम्प्रूवमेंट कैसे आएगा? उसमें भी कोर्स करेक्शन कैसे होगा। अगर हम किसी चीज को लागू करते हैं और अगर बीच में उसका आकलन अध्ययन के आधार पर नहीं हो तो फिर कोर्स करेक्शन नहीं हो सकता है। तो उसके लिए भी ऐसे संस्थानों का और इस प्रकार के

अनेक संस्थानों का और अब उस क्षेत्र में 'प्रथम' ने काफी काम किया। तो इस प्रकार से अनेक संस्थाएं अपने-अपने क्षेत्र में काम करती हैं और उसका लाभ हमलोग उठाते हैं। तो जब भी कोई विचार मन में आता है कि करना है तो हमलोग भी शैबाल गुप्ता को ढूंढते हैं कि जरा देखिए इस पर। इसके बारे में और क्या होना चाहिए। तो इसलिए हमलोगों ने एक सेन्टर फॉर इकोनॉमिक पॉलिसी एंड पब्लिक फाइनेंस का सृजन कराया और जो आद्री में एक सेन्टर के रूप में काम कर रहा है। इन्टरनेशनल ग्रोथ सेन्टर जिसके बारे में डा. मुखर्जी साहब ने पूरी बात बताई। यह कोई साधारण बात नहीं है कि इन्टरनेशनल ग्रोथ सेन्टर का अलग से बिहार के लिए सेन्टर हो। कभी-कभी तो हमारा शैबाल गुप्ताजी से बड़ी झंझट होती है। इन्टरनेशनल ग्रोथ सेन्टर में यह इतने लोगों को इन्चार्ज कर देते हैं, मंत्रियों को, अधिकारियों को, कभी-कभी देखकर के हम हैरत में रह जाते हैं मतलब कि 15 दिन यहां सब काम बंद हो जाए। इनको मालूम है कि हम तो कहीं जाएंगे नहीं। तो ये हमारे ऑफिस तक को नहीं छोड़ते। वहां भी निमंत्रण पहुंच जाता है कि भई, आप नहीं जा रहे तो इन लोगों को भेजिए। तो उस समय हमारा इनसे काफी विवाद होता है कि भई, अब उसके बाद नीगोशियेशन होता है कि भई, यह 15 लोगों को तो हम नहीं भेज सकते। तो निगोशियेट करके 3-4 लोगों पर बात तय होती है, 4-5। विजय चौधरी जी बैठे हुए हैं। इनको भी, तो एक बार तो हमने कहा कि ठीक है, जाईए लेकिन दूसरी बार आया तो हमने कुछ एतराज जताया। लेकिन सबसे बड़ी बात है कि इस तरह के संस्थानों का सेन्टर स्थापित करना, यहां क्या हो रहा है, इसके बारे में अध्ययन करना, स्टडी करना और दूसरे मुल्कों में क्या हो रहा है, दूसरे जगहों पर क्या हो रहा है और आज तो यह जो आइडिया का भी एक्सचेंज होता है। अब बिहार में एक काम हमलोगों ने किया। लड़कियों की संख्या स्कूलों में कम थी तो पहले तो पोशाक योजना शुरू की गई तो उससे फायदा हुआ। फिर जब क्लास 9 में लड़कियों के लिए साइकिल योजना शुरू की गई तो उसको जबरदस्त कामयाबी मिली। लड़कियों की संख्या बढ़ गई और इस साल, करेंट इयर में क्लास 9 में लगभग लड़के और लड़कियों की संख्या बराबर हो गई है। यह मामूली बात नहीं है।

अब लड़कियों के बाद लड़कों को भी साइकिल दिया गया। यह एक अलग चीज है लेकिन बिहार जैसे राज्य में इस साइकिल योजना के जरिए जो गर्ल्स एडुकेशन को बढ़ावा मिला तो इसका अध्ययन करने बहुत लोग आए और लोगों ने महसूस किया कि इस प्रकार से एडुकेशन के मामले में जो भी दुनिया के इलाके पिछड़े हैं उसमें इस प्रकार की योजना कारगर साबित हो सकती है। तो इस तरह के सेन्टर के जरिए कहीं और कुछ काम हो रहा हो। अब जैसे सेल्फ हेल्प ग्रुप में तो हमलोग पीछे थे। इस देश में भी हो रहा था। बांग्लादेश में भी काफी कामयाबी थी उसको अन्य जगहों पर लेकिन हमारे बिहार में तो बहुत पीछे हमलोग थे लेकिन जब हमलोगों ने महसूस किया कि इसके जरिए, मैंने खुद सेल्फ हेल्प ग्रुप से जुड़ी महिलाओं के साथ इन्टरैक्ट किया एक-दो जगह पर जाकर मुजफरपुर और दूसरी जगहों पर। तो हमने

देखा कि ये तो बहुत प्रभावकारी योजना है अगर इसको ठीक ढंग से लागू किया जाए। तो फिर वर्ल्ड बैंक का पहला सहयोग मिला हमलोगों के सरकार में आने के बाद लाइवलीहुड प्रोजेक्ट के नाम से जो 'जीविका' कार्यक्रम चलाया गया। सीमित प्रखंड, सीमित जिलों में, 7 जिलों में और 44 प्रखंड में वो इतनी इफेक्टिव योजना साबित हुई कि फिर तो केन्द्र सरकार ने जो हम सबसे लेट थे सेल्फ हेल्प ग्रुप में हमसे आगे बहुत दूसरे प्रांत थे लेकिन बिहार में जिस ढंग से वो काम हुआ कि यहां का जो मॉडल था इसी को स्वीकार किया गया और आज हमारे जीविका से जुड़ी हुई महिलाएं अब दूसरे राज्यों में ट्रेनिंग देने के लिए जा रही हैं। रिसोर्स पर्सन के रूप में काम कर रही हैं तो यह काम तो यहां बहुत देर से हुआ लेकिन शुरू हुआ। अब वह इतना इफेक्टिव है ना सिर्फ नारी सशक्तिकरण के लिए ही नहीं है बल्कि हमलोगों ने महसूस किया है कि यह तो लोगों को आत्म निर्भर बनाने के लिए। इसलिए 10 लाख सेल्फ हेल्प ग्रुप का हमलोगों ने लक्ष्य रखा। लगभग 4 लाख 60 हजार सेल्फ हेल्प ग्रुप का गठन हो चुका है। तो इस प्रकार के आइडियाज और जो सेल्फ हेल्प ग्रुप का कार्य हो रहा है और जिस तरह से महिलाओं में जागृति आई है आत्मबल उनका बढ़ा है। आत्म-निर्भरता का भाव जागा है और उस परिवार की आमदनी बढ़ रही है उसके चलते। तो यह अपने आप में तो बहुत उपयोगी है। तो इस तरह के जो कुछ भी आइडियाज हों उसके लिए यह आवश्यक है कि हर समय इन विषयों के बारे में अध्ययन हो और उस अध्ययन के आधार पर, आप जिसको कहिए कि ऑब्जेक्टिव एनैलिसिस करें। जब वस्तु परख विश्लेषण होगा तभी आपके सामने चित्र उभरकर आएगा और किस क्षेत्र में क्या इन्टरवेंशन करना है, स्टेट को क्या इन्टरविन करना पड़ेगा जिससे व्यापक लाभ मिले। तो इन सब चीजों में आद्री की भूमिका रही है और आप तो यहां मौजूद हैं। आद्री ने एक रिपोर्ट छपी थी कि बिहार को विशेष राज्य का दर्जा क्यों मिलना चाहिए। हालांकि बाद में तो केस-मुकदमा में कहां ये फंसे हमलोगों को भी फंसाए और उसका विमोचन आपने ही किया यहां 2009 में इसी स्थान पर मेरे ख्याल से हुआ था। तब उसने भी गति पकड़ी। आज बिहार के लोगों के मन में यह भाव आ गया है।

अब अगर इंडस्ट्रियलाइजेशन की बात करते हैं। हम बाकी सभी क्षेत्रों में काम कर रहे हैं। यहां तक की औद्योगिक प्रगति भी हो रही है लेकिन उसकी वो रतार नहीं है। हमारा जो बेस था वो बहुत नैरो है उस हिसाब से अगर हम ग्रोथ रेट देखें तो ठीक ही है। ठीक-ठाक है लेकिन हमलोगों को भी मालूम है कि हमारा बहुत ही नैरो बेस था उस मामले में। उसमें और सम्भावना है और उसकी गुंजाईश है लेकिन उसके लिए जरूरी है कि हमारी इंडस्ट्रियल प्रमोशन पॉलिसी चाहे कितनी भी इफेक्टिव हो लेकिन जब तक केन्द्र सरकार का सहयोग उसमें नहीं प्राप्त होगा और उसी सहयोग के लिए, वही पॉलिसी सपोर्ट हमलोग चाह रहे हैं। पैसा तो चाह ही नहीं रहे हैं। पैसा मिल जाए तो बोनस है। कोई पैसा मिलेगा तो उसको मना थोड़े ही करेंगे। पैकेज वगैरह मिल जाए तो अच्छी बात है। उसमें क्या बुराई है। रिपैकेजिंग भी हो तो उसमें

भी हमको कोई एतराज नहीं है। कुछ तो मिले। वो एक अलग विषय है लेकिन अगर कहिएगा कि हमलोग की मांग या बिहार के लोगों की मांग तो वो तो एक ही है कि बिहार को विशेष राज्य का दर्जा मिले। नतीजा होगा कि लोग यहां इन्वेस्ट करेंगे तो सेन्ट्रल टैक्सेज में उनको मुक्ति मिल जाएगी बहुत वर्षों तक और यह जो रियायतें मिल जाएंगी तो लोग प्रेरित होंगे। तो इसके लिए जरूरी है और बिहार में बाकी माहौल है। अंजन मुखर्जी जी ने उन सब बातों की चर्चा की है। मैं उनको दोहराना नहीं चाहता हूँ एक माहौल बना और बिहार को भी अब एक डेस्टिनेशन के तौर पर लोग देख रहे हैं। हमारा इतिहास गौरवशाली है। मैं एक बात महसूस करता हूँ। सांसद के रूप में भी देश भर के लोगों से मिलने का, केन्द्र में रहने के कारण देश भर में घूमने का जो मौका मिला हमने देखा है कि बिहार में लोगों की दिलचस्पी है। बहुत दिलचस्पी है और उसका एक कारण है। एक भावनात्मक कारण है। हर आदमी के मन में यह बात है कि यह जो हमारा इतिहास है पुराना वो बिहार से जुड़ा हुआ है। तो सबको एक भीतर से स्वाभाविक रूप से बिहार के प्रति आकर्षण है। इसलिए अगर कुछ बुरा होता है हर आदमी को बहुत खराब लगता है और जितना बुरा नहीं होगा, उससे ज्यादा बुराई की चर्चा हो जाएगी लेकिन साथ-साथ यह भी बात है कि अगर कुछ अच्छा होता है तो उसी तरह से भयंकर चर्चा होती है। किसी भी क्षेत्र में देख लीजिए। वो राजनीतिक क्षेत्र हो या कोई भी क्षेत्र हो। आर्थिक क्षेत्र हो। सामाजिक क्षेत्र हो। किसी भी क्षेत्र में अगर कुछ भी अच्छा होता है तो उसकी भी बड़ी जोड़दार चर्चा होती है बगैर कहे। अब जो बिहार में हमलोग इतना मेहनत किए हमारे सब मीडिया के लोग बैठे हुए ये लोग तो लिखते ही रहते हैं थोड़ा-बहुत लेकिन दरअसल उसके बारे में जानकारी दुनिया, देश को किसने दी। यहां जो ट्रक चलाते हैं एक कोने से लेकर दूसरे कोने में आते हैं तो उन्होंने जो महसूस किया और उन्होंने जो लोगों से चर्चा की। अब सड़कें ठीक हो गईं। अब खाना ठीक मिलता है ढाबा में। अब कोई किसी प्रकार का भय नहीं है। इन सब बातों की चर्चा किसने की? जो सब लोग जो कोई भी साधारण तबके के लोग जो बिहार आए या बिहार के रास्ते से गुजरे उन्होंने इसकी चर्चा की। किसी और ने चर्चा नहीं की और यही नहीं। फिर हमारे लोग तो सब जगह हैं। हम नहीं समझते हैं कि इस देश के जितने भी प्रभावशाली लोग हैं चाहे वो मैग्जिन कोई छापे या नहीं छापे प्रभावशाली लोगों की सूचि में लेकिन कई प्रकार के प्रभावशाली लोग होते हैं। इफेक्टिव लोग होते हैं अपने अपने क्षेत्र के विख्यात लोग होते हैं महत्वपूर्ण लोग होते हैं गुणी लोग होते हैं। वैसे तमाम लोगों में देखिएगा तो अधिकांश लोगों के पास कोई न कोई बिहार का आदमी है। चाहे तो उसका ड्राइवर होगा। चाहे तो उसका खाना बनाने वाला होगा। उसका किसी न किसी प्रकार से उसको एसिस्टेंस देने वाला है और वही सब लोगों को बताता है। कई बार हमने देखा है कि हमलोगों का काम आसान हो गया है। किसी को एक्सप्लेन नहीं करना पड़ा। उन्होंने कहा “नहीं, नहीं। हमारे साथ रहता है एक लड़का। वह बिहार का है। अभी घर गया था। लौटकर के उसने कहा “अरे। बहुत अच्छा है। सड़कें बन

गईं। तो स्कूल चलने लगा।” यह सारी बातें। तो यह नहीं है कि लोगों के कान तक आवाज नहीं पहुंच रही है। तो सबकी दिलचस्पी बिहार में है और मैं समझता हूँ इसलिए जब भी शैबाल गुप्ता जी सब-नेशनलिज्म की बात करते हैं कि अगर बिहारियों में बिहारीपन जाग जाएगा तो वो बहुत ही अच्छा हिन्दुस्तानी साबित होगा और भारत की प्रगति में और मजबूती से अपना योगदान दे जाएगा। हमने इनसे डिबेट किया कि भई, सब नेशनलिज्म आप कहते हैं और चूंकि यह जो पूरा का पूरा हिस्सा है इसको लोग मानते हैं कि यह तो मेनस्ट्रीम एरिया है। यह अपने बारे में कम सोचते हैं। पूरे देश को सामने रखकर सोचते हैं। यहां की मानसिकता यही है लेकिन सब नेशनलिज्म का जो इम्पोर्टेंस है और जिस प्रकार से इन्होंने बात चलाई मैं समझता हूँ कि हमलोगों ने भी उसको महसूस किया कि यह बात ठीक कह रहे हैं। तो आज आद्री का जब 25 साल पूरा हो रहा है तो इन चीजों को आपने बढ़ाया है ये आपका योगदान है। यह आपका कन्ट्रीब्यूशन है और आपकी संस्था बढ़े, फले-फूले, आगे बढ़े हम सब लोग आपकी तरफ आशा भरी निगाहों से देखते हैं कि आप बेहतर काम करिएगा, अच्छा काम करिएगा। इसलिए शैबाल गुप्ताजी कभी-कभी अस्वस्थ हो जाते हैं तो हमलोगों को बड़ी चिंता हो जाती है। अब मैं एक ही सुझाव दूंगा कि 25 साल में आपने संस्था बनाई, इसको चलाया और यह आइडेन्टीफाइड हो गया है। अब जैसे कैसे कह रहे थे कि आइजीसी वाले को कहा कि आद्री वाला तो किसी को कहिएगा आद्री तो कोई कहेगा कि शैबाल गुप्ता हालांकि मौर्य होटल में जो इसके मालिक भी हैं और इनके जो खास हैं ये दोनों इनको शाईबाल गुप्ता बोलते हैं। और सब शैबाल बोलते हैं तो शैबाल गुप्ताजी से बिल्कुल जिसको कहिए कि आइडेन्टीफायड है। मेरा यही एक विनम्र सुझाव है कि संस्था और फलेगी फूलेगी आपका साया तो इस पर रहेगा ही, विचार का, काम का, सब का लेकिन साथ-साथ अपनी संस्था में आपने लीडरशीप प्रमोट करने की कोशिश की है इसको और बखूबी आगे बढ़ाइएगा ताकि यह और मजबूती से आगे काम कर सकेगा। तो मेरी यही शुभकामना है और आज की तारीख में अगर बौद्धिक जगत को देखिएगा तो यहां हम देख रहे हैं देश भर से, देश के बाहर से लोग आए हुए हैं लेकिन बिहार के भी खास लोग बैठे हुए हैं। यहां तो हर क्षेत्र के लोग हैं। परस्पर विरोधी राय रखने वाले लोग भी हैं। तो यह कोई मामूली बात नहीं है। एक संस्था का यही काम है। परस्पर विरोधी बात सोचने वाले, अपनी राय रखने वाले लोगों को बिहार के इंटरेस्ट में आइडियोलॉजीकली भी कनेक्ट करना यह कोई मामूली चीज है नहीं है। आपने इस काम को भी बखूबी निभाया है। इसके लिए भी मैं आपको बधाई देता हूँ और आप तरक्की कीजिए, और आगे बढ़िए और मैं तो समझता हूँ कि बिहार के विकास में और उसके लिए नीतियों के निर्माण में आपके संस्थान के अध्ययन की अहम भूमिका रही है और.... ही भूमिका रहेगी। ऐसा ही मुझको विश्वास है। तो इस अवसर पर आप सब को बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद और शैबाल जी को खास करके बधाई, पूरे आद्री संस्था को बधाई और शुभकामनाएं।



# MOMENTOUS OCCASION

## RELEASE OF COFFEE TABLE BOOK ON ADRI





# THE KNOWLEDGE BEARER

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH INSTITUTE

आर्डी  
ادري  
ADRI

*25 years of excellence*

>> *The coffee table book on Asian Development Research Institute, Patna, entitled 'The Knowledge Bearer', brought out by The Times Group.*

The book was unveiled by Mohammad Hamid Ansari, Vice President of India, during the inaugural session of the Second International Conference, 'Social Statistics in India', in Patna on June 24, 2016, in the presence of Ram Nath Kovind, Governor of Bihar (now the President of India) and Nitish Kumar, Chief Minister of Bihar.



# EVENT REPORTS

## IN THE TIMES OF INDIA & THE ECONOMIC TIMES

# TWO STATES

## PREZ SUGGESTS ALTERNATIVE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY FOR BIHAR AND JHARKHAND

**DAY 1**  
Speaking at the inaugural session of the third Silver Jubilee International Conference of ADRI in Patna, the President asked the eastern region polity to explore the possibility of development of human capital as a distinct development strategy



**Sana.Fahim@timesgroup.com**  
**F**or specially disadvantaged region like Bihar and Jharkhand, the development strategy requires the policy makers to unleash the productive forces of the economy and not just unquestionably follow the path of industrialization. This was said by President Pranab Mukherjee in Patna on Friday. He was delivering the inaugural address at the International Conference on 'Bihar and Jharkhand: Shared History to Shared Vision'. The five-day conference is being organised by Asian Development Research Institute (ADRI), Patna as a part of its Silver Jubilee celebrations, in association with the Times of India. This was the third and final in a series of conferences that the think-tank has been organising for the past one year.

**QUARTER CENTURY OF EXCELLENCE**  
Three international conferences under ADRI's year-long Silver Jubilee celebrations:  
**First International Conference: 'Development and Growth: Experience and Theories' (March 26-30, 2016)**  
**Second International Conference: 'Social Statistics in India' (June 24-27, 2016)**  
**Third International Conference: 'Bihar and Jharkhand: Shared History to Shared Vision' (March 24-28, 2017)**

**COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE**  
Earlier in the day, two Silver Jubilee Lectures were delivered by Nirima Senoguptha, national fellow, Indian Institute of International Studies, Shikha, and Johannes Breman, professor, Amsterdam Institute for Social Science Research. The topics were 'Emerging Realities in a New World Order' and 'The Burden of History, However Heavy, Can Indeed be Unloaded with Right Social Mobilization and Political Initiatives'. According to him, Bihar and Jharkhand are at crossroads today. "The colonial legacy, development trend in post-independence era, social dynamics, migration, caste based social mobilization, the issue of ecology and environment, the erosion of sub-national identities, and the and for social justice—all of it have contributed to make Bihar and Jharkhand what they are," he said, adding, Bihar's development model, hence said, "Bihar has shown in the implementation of many social development schemes. The fifth momentum of Bihar's economy been steady over the last one decade. It has registered an annual growth of 10.5%. This is a remarkable event." He commended the state for slowly transforming itself an economic powerhouse of the country. "Both the state governments have taken a large number of steps to improve the transformation of social and economic condition of states," he pointed out, adding, "The regional institutional that is visible in Bihar and Jharkhand, he asked social science researchers to not just investigate the gap but also suggest required social interventions to improve it."

**CONSUMER CONNECT INITIATIVE**  
"Under alternative development strategy, it is possible for disadvantaged regions to change their comparative advantage from low skill, labour intensive goods and services to more skill intensive goods and services through focussed human development. A logical requirement for this would be prioritizing investment on education beyond what will happen under normal circumstances. Here, education doesn't mean economic advantage for the educated persons alone. It has other important advantages as well—it empowers the people and also ensures their participation in development programmes."  
— Pranab Mukherjee, President of India  
Excerpt of his inaugural speech at ADRI's third Silver Jubilee International Conference in Patna on March 24

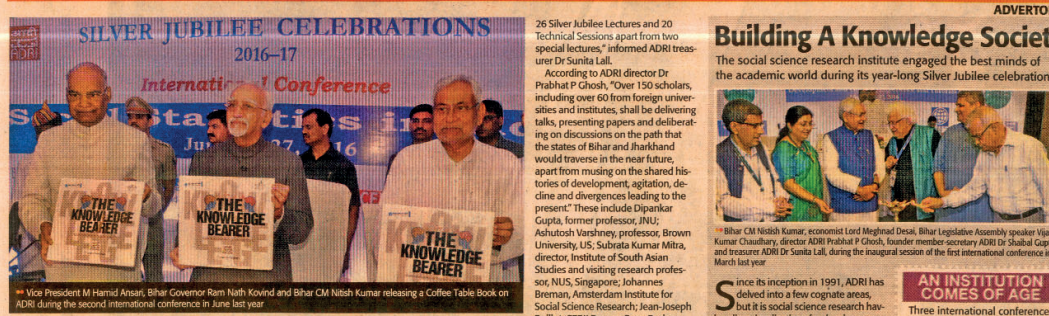
### DAY 5

## Time for integrated socio-economic progress



**G**overnor of Jharkhand Droupadi Murmu said that while the borders of Bihar and Jharkhand have separated, both states have not been dis-united socially, economically and culturally. He was chairing the valedictory session of the five-day long international conference on 'Bihar and Jharkhand: Shared History to Shared Vision'. Post-independence, re-organisation of states has happened many times, but human relations have always survived, Murmu said, and added that the relations between Bihar and Jharkhand are vibrant and have survived political separation with ease. Ashok Chaudhary, education minister of Bihar, said that the conference was important at a time when there seemed to be a disconnect between the common people and the liberal intelligentsia. He informed that Bihar would soon have the country's first centre for river studies, a dedicated institute for economies under Aparthab Knowledge University, and a school for journalism and mass communication. Development of Bihar and Jharkhand is a prerequisite for the country's development, said Sanyu Rai, Jharkhand state minister of Parliamentary affairs, food, public distribution and consumer affairs. He said the time was right to dwell on the shared vision for a Greater Eastern Region including Bihar, Jharkhand, Orissa and West Bengal, to reap the full benefits of an economic integration. In his valedictory speech, Lord Meghraj Desai, former ADRI director, said social science research in the next 25 years. Praising the potential of Bihar in attaining health objectives, Akshay Wadhvani, country director, Policy and Poverty Alleviation, BVGF India, said indicators of maternal and child health have considerably improved in recent years. He also presented on the dalis. While Shaibal Gupta, former member secretary of ADRI, gave the welcome speech, ADRI chairman Anjan Mukherji proposed the vote of thanks. He thanked Bihar State Higher Education Council, CEPPE, ICSSR, UNFPA, The Times Group, Centre for Health Policy at ADRI and Jharkhand State Higher Education Council for partnering in the international conference. Earlier in the day, Alpa Shah, associate professor, London School of Economics and Political Science, presented a lecture on 'Jharkhand in the Belly of the Indian Beast', which was chaired by William Pinch, professor, Wesleyan University. Others who presented lectures were Kaushik Ghosh, professor of Economics, Austin; Geoff Wood, emeritus professor, University of Bath; Satish K Jain, Professor, JNU; Dipak Gyawali, Chairman, National Water Conservation Foundation and former minister, Government of Nepal; S Subramanian, National Fellow, Indian Council of Social Science Research, New Delhi; Rudhika Gupta, founder, Apeep Women's WorldWide. There were two Technical Sessions during the day presided over by Subrata K Mitra, director, Institute of South Asian Studies, National University of Singapore, and Chandhal Kumar, principal secretary, CM Secretariat, Bihar.

# TWO STATES



**ADVERTORIAL**  
**Building A Knowledge Society**  
The social science research institute engaged the best minds of the academic world during its year-long Silver Jubilee celebrations

**A MELTING POT OF IDEAS**  
The third international conference by ADRI Patna, on 'Bihar and Jharkhand: Shared History to Shared Vision', would see scholars share their vision about the future of the region based on recent state specific experiences

**AUGUST GATHERING**  
President Pranab Mukherjee would be addressing the inaugural session of ADRI's third international conference in Patna today. Sana.Fahim@timesgroup.com

### DAY 3

## Of democracy, inclusive growth and migration

**"F**reedoms of expression, religious practice and social mobility are not actually robustly anchored," said Ashutosh Kishorey, professor, Brown University, Providence, on Day 3 of the International Conference. The first lecture of the day was delivered by Vasudha Dalnisa, professor emerita, University of California, Berkeley, on the topic 'Modernity and Modernism in the Hindi World', and the session was chaired by litterateur Aloak Rai. Ratin Roy, director, National Institute of Public Finance and Policy, New Delhi, delivered his lecture on 'India's Overall Macro Picture: Is there Room for Inclusive Growth?'. Litterateur Aloak Rai delivered the lecture on 'Hindi Heartland: Making and Unmaking', which was chaired by Imre Bangsha, associate professor, University of Oxford. Nitya Rao spoke on 'Gendered Migration, Rights and Identities: Experiences and Representation of Jharkhand'. The session was presided over by Alpa Shah, associate professor, London School of Economics and Political Science. The rollout of the direct mobile-based monitoring mechanism, Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS), for the Midday Meal (MDM) scheme in Bihar has improved the provision of the scheme by 20 per cent. The claim was part of the paper presented by Sier Debnath, assistant professor, Indian School of Business, Hyderabad. The session chaired by Mid Nadeem Khan, programme coordinator, United Nations Population Fund, saw two more papers presented by Chirashree Das Gupta, associate professor, IJNU, and Anandam Chandra, professor, Louisiana State University.

### DAY 4

## From flood fury to 'feminization' of agriculture

**D**K Mishra, convenor of Bath Mukti Abhiyan, Patna, said that the largely rural phenomenon of flood and Bihar and Nepal have become an urban phenomenon in Bihar, and a prolonged one at that, leading to massive destruction of human lives, livestock and agriculture produce. The presentation by Stephen Biggs, research associate, School of Oriental and African Studies, London, focussed on 'How the floods and their aftermath have led to an increased use of capital goods and equipment'. Stephanie Leder, post-doctoral fellow, International Water Management Institute, Nepal, dwelt on the 'Termination of agriculture' because of the rural to urban migration of men. Leder presented her paper along with Panchali Salka of International Water Management Institute, Delhi. Rujak Rupa from IIT-Bombay presented his paper on 'Vulnerability Assessment to Floods in Bihar at the Sub-national Scale: An Application of Data Envelopment Analysis Method'. There were five more technical sessions during the day. The topics included 'Inequalities, Social Justice and Protest', 'Migration Matters', and 'Bihar and Nepal: Hydraulic and Other Connections'. Badri Narayan, professor, Govind Ballabh Pant Social Science Institute, Allahabad, spoke about the most marginalised sections of society including Dalits who have been left out from the real democratic process. Chinmaya Kumar, former country economist, ICC, India-Bihar, looked into the issue of whether providing automated voice calls to beneficiaries can reduce leakages in the Public Distribution System. Anurag Ekka of JNU presented his paper on 'Contesting Social Justice: Politics of Recognition and Redistribution among Adivasis in Jharkhand'. Nitya Rao of the University of East Anglia, Norwich; Tanweer Fazal of JNU; Ratnakar Tripathy of Indian Institute of Advanced Study, Shimla; and Amrita Datta of Institute for Human Development, New Delhi, presented their papers on 'Migration Matters'. The four presenters in the 'Physical Science and Visual Cultures and Identities' were Avijit Ghosh, senior editor, The Times of India, New Delhi; Helene Helene of University of Paris-Saclay; Salla Kulkshreshtha, independent scholar, and Ranu Roychowdhury of Nalanda University, Rajgir.

### SILVER JUBILEE LECTURE

- Emerging Identities in Language, Culture and Economy' by Nirima Senoguptha, National Fellow, IAS, Shimla
- 'The Underserving Poor' by Johannes Breman, Amsterdam Institute for Social Science Research
- 'Arthashastra - The Paradox of Modernity' by Anurag Ekka, IIT-Bombay
- 'Bihar's Development in Comparative Perspective' by Gerry Rodgers, Former Director, CEPPE, Patna
- 'Managing Rivers: The National Water Framework Law' by Joginder K Mishra, Chairperson, Central University of Gujarat
- 'Reservations and Creating New Government' by Jharkhand and Bihar in the 1950s' by Wondy Singer, Professor, Kenyon College, Ohio
- 'Adivasis and the Anthropocene: Towards an Environmental History of Eastern India' by Vinita Damodaran, Professor, University of Sussex, Brighton
- 'Democracy from the Margins' by Kanchan Chandra, Professor, New York University
- 'Another Cosmopolitanism: Living with Radical Diversity and Being One' by Ashis Nandy, Honorary Fellow, Centre for the Study of Developing Societies (CSDS), Delhi
- 'Making Majorities in Democracies: The Citizenship Enfranchisement by Dipankar Gaiti, Former Professor, Jawahar Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi
- 'Polanyi's 'Great Transformation' Redux: The Political and Economic Origins of Our Times' by John Herries, Professor of International Studies, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver
- 'National Development in the Water and Water in Bihar under British Rule' by Peter Robb, Emeritus Professor, York University, Toronto
- 'Modernity and Modernism in the Hindi World' by Vasudha Dalnisa, Professor Emerita, University of California, Berkeley
- 'India's Democracy: Electoral Vibrancy and Liberal Defiance' by Ashutosh Kishorey, Professor, Brown University, Providence
- 'Hindi Heartland: Making and Unmaking' by Aloak Rai, Litterateur
- 'Bihar: Overseas Labour Migration 1657-1860: Origins, Intermediaries, and the Role of Trust' by Orjan Bales, Professor, University of Edinburgh
- 'Erach, Rajgir, Dalman: The Earliest Documented History of Hindi Literature' by Imre Bangsha, Associate Professor, University of Oxford
- 'Blown from Cannon: The Prelude to Buxar, 1764' by William Pinch, Professor, Wesleyan University, Connecticut
- 'Revisiting the Bihar-West Bengal Border Plan, c. 1920: Envisioning the Region in the 1950s' by Gyanesh Nakulapya, Associate Professor, National University of Singapore
- 'The Feminisation of Agriculture: Drivers and Constraints' by Jaime Rodgers, Senior Visiting Fellow, IHD, New Delhi
- 'Dignity and Development as Trajectory: Bihar as a Model for Nepal' by Harry Blair, Senior Research Scholar, Yale University
- 'Proboscis into Stakeholders: Regional Governance and Subalternity of the State in India' by Subrata K Mitra, Director, Institute of South Asian Studies, NUS
- 'The Shimmering Land: Adivasiness and the Ecological Imperative' by Kaushik Ghosh, Professor, University of Texas at Austin
- 'Negotiating Landscapes: Learning from Kosi' by Geoff Wood, Emeritus Professor, University of Bath
- 'On the Land Acquisition under the Emancipation Domain Power for Private Estates' by Salish K Jain, Professor, JNU, New Delhi
- 'Transcending Constraints of Geography: Role of Inland Navigation in the Shared Future of Himalaya-Ganga' by Dipak Gyawali, Chairman, WCF, Nepal
- 'Money-Metric Poverty and the Possibility of a Guaranteed Basic Income in India' by S. Subramanian, National Fellow, ICSSR, New Delhi

**ADRI** is a registered trust under the provisions of the Income Tax Act, 1961. It is a not-for-profit organization. All the activities of ADRI are carried out for the benefit of the society. ADRI is a member of the Association of Development Research Institutes (ADRI-ARI) and the International Association of Social Science Research (IASR). ADRI is a member of the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) and the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT). ADRI is a member of the Indian Council of Cultural Relations (ICCR) and the Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR). ADRI is a member of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). ADRI is a member of the Indian Council of Labour Research (ICLR) and the Indian Council of Labour Studies (ICLS). ADRI is a member of the Indian Council of Labour Education (ICLE) and the Indian Council of Labour Training (ICLT). ADRI is a member of the Indian Council of Labour Welfare (ICLW) and the Indian Council of Labour Legislation (ICLL). ADRI is a member of the Indian Council of Labour History (ICLH) and the Indian Council of Labour Culture (ICLC). ADRI is a member of the Indian Council of Labour Arts and Crafts (ICLAC) and the Indian Council of Labour Music and Dance (ICLMAD). ADRI is a member of the Indian Council of Labour Sports and Recreation (ICLSR) and the Indian Council of Labour Games and Amusements (ICLGA). ADRI is a member of the Indian Council of Labour Cinema and Television (ICLCTV) and the Indian Council of Labour Radio and Music (ICLRM). ADRI is a member of the Indian Council of Labour Theatre and Puppetry (ICLTP) and the Indian Council of Labour Circus and Street Theatre (ICLCST). ADRI is a member of the Indian Council of Labour Folklore and Traditional Arts (ICLFTA) and the Indian Council of Labour Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICLIICH). ADRI is a member of the Indian Council of Labour Oral History and Memory (ICLOHM) and the Indian Council of Labour Living Heritage (ICLHGH). ADRI is a member of the Indian Council of Labour Creative Industries and Cultural Economy (ICLCICE) and the Indian Council of Labour Cultural Entrepreneurship (ICLCENT). ADRI is a member of the Indian Council of Labour Cultural Innovation and Entrepreneurship (ICLCINE) and the Indian Council of Labour Cultural Leadership (ICCLLE). ADRI is a member of the Indian Council of Labour Cultural Sustainability (ICCLSU) and the Indian Council of Labour Cultural Resilience (ICCLR). ADRI is a member of the Indian Council of Labour Cultural Adaptability (ICCLA) and the Indian Council of Labour Cultural Inclusiveness (ICLCI). ADRI is a member of the Indian Council of Labour Cultural Diversity (ICLCD) and the Indian Council of Labour Cultural Pluralism (ICLCP). ADRI is a member of the Indian Council of Labour Cultural Globalization (ICLCG) and the Indian Council of Labour Cultural Internationalization (ICLCI). ADRI is a member of the Indian Council of Labour Cultural Globalization and Internationalization (ICLCGI) and the Indian Council of Labour Cultural Globalization and Internationalization (ICLCGI).

## >> AGENDA FOR THE FUTURE



**Meghnad Desai**  
Economist

**Valedictory Address**  
**“Vision for Social Science Research”**  
*March 27, 2017*

**S**hrimati Droupadi Murmu, Honorable Governor of Jharkhand and our Chief Guest, and other distinguished and special guests: I hope you don't mind my not naming you because I don't have enough time to do that if I am going to do my job. My job is a very small one of laying out what the future lines of research for the next 25 years would be for ADRI and all I can do is I can reflect on what we have heard ... was the most marvelous, rich collection of essays and from that what do we conclude are the outstanding problems that we have to bear in mind when we think of the next 25 years of development research that ADRI can undertake as well as we can tell other people that that is the way to do it and of course, by way of implication, tell the people who are going to give us all the money from the international agencies and from the government agencies that we need the money to do this research. One very important insight that has come through this conference is one has to think of development not in terms of just Bihar and just Jharkhand that is Bihar and Jharkhand, and Nepal which was also mentioned, but in terms of the agro-ecological region of the Ganges delta. We really have to put, in any development effort at the top, the agro-ecology of the whole region because it's extremely important, the livelihoods of people, the way the different parts of Bihar-Jharkhand region break down into the flood-prone regions and then a little bit less in the middle, and much, much drier at the bottom, the way people's livelihoods are affected by change in the ecology is obviously a very important thing if we are to understand development. But it is also the problem as we know, as Vinita Damodaran told us and other people have told us that there is a larger perspective of environmental deterioration, of climate change and we really have to stop being skeptical about this, stop being idealistic about it but be realistic and consider how climate change is going to affect people's livelihoods, how it is going to make certain things impossible and how it is going to force us to accommodate in different ways. Just let me give you one example. We have taken a long historical perspective. We have gone back, in some cases, in case of development of Hindi language to the 13th century but we also looked at the history of Bihar from the beginning of its inception as a single state and sometimes even before that. In 1850, it's hard to imagine that India was a land-rich and labor-scarce country. Something nobody would believe; in Champaran, in the 1870s, there was a demand for workers. They had to invite

workers from outside to come to Champaran because land was idle in Champaran. India had only 150 million people, 1/8th of what it has now. The Indian population has gone up 8 times and that 150 million I was talking about was about undivided India. So, possibly, the population got up 10 times and no ecology can stand that big a pressure on itself and it's no good as pretending that India was always like this. We have done things in order to survive and exist and prosper. We have done things to Nature for which we will have to do some re-compass. Now, we have to think about this thing and find out in light of what we have learned at this conference as to how over the next 25 years, we deal with it but to do that, we have to think over the last 200 years as well as 25 years. Various states, boundaries have changed. States have formed and in the middle of that, what we have to understand that in the agro-ecology, the river systems of Bihar and Jharkhand are extremely important. The river systems of entire Gangetic delta are extremely important. I mean again, we have had some very good presentations about Nepal and Kosi, and how the river systems of Nepal have been feeding the Gangetic delta, how there are problems, how we can develop inland waterways and things like that. So, again, we have to think of the agro-ecology of this region in terms of the river, in terms of the forest, in terms of the way many Adivasis have lost not only their livelihood but as someone showed us this morning, the mental peace. The way Adivasis relate to the forest is not in terms of private property ownership or even collective ownership. Their relation to their environment, the forest is a supra-psychological, a spiritual one and separated from the forest, the person is physically and psychologically unhappy. I mean it's very hard how to explain to, as it were, the mainlanders, that Adivasis relate to their environment in a very different way from the way the rest of us do and it is not just good saying "SC/ST". That is too simple a way of classifying a population. It is not just that people are minorities and you need reservations. Yes, they do need reservations but they need more than that. They have to be understood independently as autonomous, cultural communities. I would almost say "nations" and we have to understand how these nations develop, prosper, survive and unless we

do that, we will not be able to make our contribution as social scientists to the problem of our development. From there only, obviously, come to the issue we have been discussing and which Professor Boillot mentioned is how do we see the role of the government, of the state and so on and indeed, in our investigations, we have looked at the colonial state. How the colonial state did some good things, some bad things, how the colonial state invented various practices and built up certain institutions and, of course, what the Indian state has done since independence, and again, what we have seen is this very interesting duality we all have which is why Indian democracy is one of the greatest successes in the world today. It's the only post-colonial democracy that has survived for 70 years the way it has and we heard about that. Well, the rest of the time we heard how it is absolutely not good enough. We go on liking democracy but we also know that it could do much better and it could do much better. We have to find out in what way it can do much better. I don't think one should ever say, as indeed Professor Boillot says, it is not that the people in power don't know that there are insurmountable problems. It is not that the people in power are not trying day after day, whatever you may think of them, to solve the problems but the political power is maybe necessary but it is not sufficient to solve all problems and we have to understand precisely what the limitations of political power are, and what we have been discussing, what are the actions that individual citizens can take individually or collectively to improve that and how we can formulate the things that the people can do. I think I am probably running out of my time. So, I will just say two things. First of all, in ADRI, Bihar and Jharkhand have an enormously powerful instrument to be able to tackle these problems and lastly, I want to very much thank not just Shaibal Gupta and Anjan Mukherjee. I mean they are kind of the leaders but the subalterns, the people who have been helping to make this conference a success, from the staff of ADRI, the staff of Maurya Hotel, and all of you, and I thank the Governor once again for gracing us with her presence and I wish you all a great thank you for being here.

&gt;&gt; FROM THE MEMBER-SECRETARY'S PEN

# LIVING OFF A DREAM



**Shaibal Gupta**

Member-Secretary, Asian Development Research Institute

The journey of Asian Development Research Institute (ADRI) has been extraordinary, to say the least. It was conceptualised and established during a time of inertia, and even regression, in social science research and academia in Bihar. By the 1980s, most of the academic institutions in the state were in decline, including the universities. One such institute was the A N Sinha Institute of Social Studies (ANSISS), one of the leading centres for social science research in the country. Unfortunately, the scenario was so difficult that serious efforts by faculty members of ANSISS to resurrect it could not fructify. Consequently, social science research in Bihar was seriously affected.

It was in this backdrop that in 1991, a group of young scholars from ANSISS and their associates – Shaibal Gupta, Prabhat P Ghosh, Prasanna Kumar Choudhary, Binay K Kanth and Prakash Jha – decided to establish ADRI as a social science research centre in Patna. They envisioned it to be outside the ambit of the state government.

In the initial years, it was Prasanna Kumar Choudhary who provided the academic foundation of ADRI. Prakash Jha, the noted film maker, designed the logo of ADRI. The functioning of the institute in the initial years was greatly facilitated, because it was housed in the sprawling residence of Nandini Mehta, who happened to be its first treasurer. When she left her treasurership about a year later, it was Sunita Lall who took over the responsibility.

After its initial birth pang, two eminent scholars, Arvind N Das and Prof Muchkund Dubey, joined ADRI. The steady growth of the institute was also due to the support that the organisation received from young professionals, members of

civil society organisations and senior functionaries from both central and state governments.

While Prasanna Kumar Choudhary and Prabhat P Ghosh were the principal academic torch-bearers for the institute, it was Arvind N Das who was a live-wire connect with the national and international academic community during the early growth period of ADRI. The association of Professor Muchkund Dubey, the distinguished diplomat, had also authenticated the identity of the organisation. Finally, I tried to pitch in by coordinating the progress of ADRI, not just by bringing the best of professionals together to support the organisation, but also by sustaining its academic agenda through mobilisation of resources.

ADRI's agenda was ambitious, particularly in terms of generation of resources for the nascent organisation. Thus, in the initial years, the main source of resources for the institute was individual contributions. However, thanks to the enthusiasm of the members, the limited resources did not prevent ADRI from organising a number of academic activities in Patna.

As such, the arrival of ADRI was noticed by many, including Kamla Prasad, the then chief secretary of Bihar government. After being impressed by the activities of the institute, he promised to provide financial support to ADRI by putting its name under one of the budget heads of the state government. Unfortunately, this plan could not materialise as the civil servant had to retire. ADRI did receive a grant from the state government next year, but it was a one-time occurrence and not under a budget head.

Besides looking for resources, ADRI also had to identify its own research agenda, particularly the geographical focus. Although located in Bihar, the institute had decided to cover not just India but the whole of Asia as its geographical focus. Indeed, the name of the institute was chosen in that perspective. However, the requests for academic services from local, national and even international organisations that ADRI received were all related to Bihar. Thus, most of the academic exercises at ADRI were Bihar-centric, at the cost of studies that could have had a national or international canvas.



Further, besides academic studies, ADRI also gradually emerged as an advocacy organisation for Bihar and its non-existent sub-nationalism. This was the outcome of ADRI's engagement with documents such as Joint Memorandum to Finance Commission, Special Category Status of Bihar, Land Reforms, Common Schooling System and others.

In all these exercises, ADRI was able to bring together several intellectuals, litterateurs, civil society organisations, media persons and law makers of Bihar. Also, though ADRI's research agenda was mainly confined to the state, it was always mindful to adopt best academic practices from a global canvas. This could be possible because of the institute's constant interaction with international researchers, reputed journalists, experienced diplomats and experts from many other fields.

ADRI was never a closed-door organisation or a regimented one. On one hand, it had always allowed 'knowledge' breeze from all directions to enrich its research programme and, on the other, it had simultaneously ensured that it did not get uprooted from its core values.

In 1991, when ADRI was established with an ambitious agenda, its founding members had hardly conceived that it will continue for the next quarter century. The challenge to build an institution in a place like Patna was difficult, particularly when it neither had a corpus fund nor any state support in the initial years. Fortunately, however, ADRI somehow surmounted all the initial hurdles and grew from strength to strength. Many new friends joined the team as mentors, guides and consultants.

A year before ADRI was to complete its Silver Jubilee, there was some loud thinking about how to celebrate the event. In this process, two members were identified – Meghnad Desai and Gopa Sabharwal, vice chancellor of Nalanda University – to act as advisors for the Silver Jubilee Celebrations Committee. In the course of many brain storming sessions that followed, it was decided to organise three international conferences – 'Development and Growth: Experience and Theory', 'Social Statistics in India' and 'Bihar and Jharkhand: Shared History to Share Vision'.

The first topic of the conference was primarily to explore the trajectory of growth and development in the backdrop of theoretical foundation. Such an exercise is very important for an organisation located in Bihar. The second conference had the objective of a substantive discourse on social statistic in India. From all indicators of social statistics, India is at the bottom. The third conference was dedicated to undivided Bihar because, when











ADRI was established in 1991, the state comprised both present-day Bihar and Jharkhand. Bihar's history and vision, therefore, cannot be delinked from that of Jharkhand.

For the overall planning of these three conferences, a committee was constituted, chaired by Meghnad Desai and with Neeraj Kumar as convener. Other members of this committee were – Anjan Mukherji, Prabhat Prasad Ghosh, Karan Bilimoria, Gopa Sabharwal, Sunita Lall, Kathinka Sinha-Kerkhoff and I. Later some other persons were also involved in the committee, with specific interest for each of the three conferences, eg. Prabhat Kumar and Md Nadeem Noor for the third conference.

The conference invitees for delivering the Silver Jubilee Lectures and the contributor of papers were some of the best in the world, and making them converge at Patna was a long-drawn and interesting process. Most of them had accepted the invitation, with some of them declining either due to health reasons or prior commitments. Two world-class scholars on Bihar could not attend the third conference due to some last moment hitch, which was very unfortunate and a dampener for ADRI. Christopher Hill had suffered a massive heart attack a few weeks before the conference and was recuperating, but finally could not recover enough to undertake the long journey. Anand Yang had to return from Delhi airport for not carrying the right passport and, thus, failing to convince the Indian immigration authority for his passage to India. That said, the 46 Silver Jubilee Lectures were delivered by some of the best scholars in the world.

To set a proper ambience for the three International Conferences, a Curtain Raiser was organised with a lecture by James Manor.

It was also decided that the second conference on 'Social Statistics in India' would be organised in honour of Prabhat P Ghosh, one of our founding members, and the third conference on 'Bihar and Jharkhand: Shared History to Share Vision' would be organised in memory of one of our past chairmen, Arvind N Das. In the third conference, nearly

everybody who was working on Bihar and Jharkhand – internationally and nationally – was invited.

The scale of the conferences was grand. In the process of the intellectual construction of the conferences, the issue about the resources that would be required was not paid much attention. As the date of the conference neared, several national and international organisations were approached by ADRI with trepidation. Although there were some refusals, support was forthcoming from many others. Apart from ICSSR, World Bank, UNICEF, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) and Government of Bihar, State Bank of India and The Times of India also supported the conferences generously. In addition, some support was also available from the respective State Higher Education Councils of Bihar and Jharkhand for inviting faculties of both the states specialising in economics, politics, history, sociology and geography. Nevertheless, generating resources in a peripheral state like Bihar was a challenging experience, and the members of ADRI fully enjoyed the entire process of resources generation. Indeed, with the response of the funding organisations – both refusals and cooperation – one could calibrate the value of the brand 'ADRI', build over the last 25 years.

The first conference was inaugurated by Nitish Kumar, the chief minister of Bihar, the second conference was inaugurated by Hamid Ansari, the Vice President of India, and the last conference was inaugurated by Pranab Mukherjee, the President of India. The present President of India, Ram Nath Kovind, was present in the third conference as then governor of Bihar.

The third conference ended with a note on the next 'One Century of Research Agenda of Social Science in the State' by Meghnad Desai, which he presented in the valedictory session. A highly remarkable thing about the third conference was the raising of a special demand by N K Singh, who chaired the inaugural session of the conference. Singh drew the kind attention of President Pranab Mukherjee towards the need for incepting an advanced institute of politics, philosophy, economics and mathematics in this part of the country.

# GLIMPSES

# Silver Jubilee Lectures

>> SILVER JUBILEE LECTURES: FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE



**SILVER JUBILEE LECTURE – I**

*Chairperson: Lord Meghnad Desai, Emeritus Professor, London School of Economics (LSE)*

*Introducer: Anjan Mukherji, Country Director, IGC India-Bihar*

*Speaker: **Pranab Bardhan**, Professor, University of California at Berkeley*

*Topic: Land and Equity: Some Understudied Issues*

*Chief Guest : Ashok Choudhary, Education Minister, Bihar*

*Vote of Thanks: Prabhat P Ghosh, Director, ADRI*



**SILVER JUBILEE LECTURE – II**

*Chairperson: Sudipto Mundle, Emeritus Professor, NIPFP*

*Introducer: Prabhat P Ghosh, Director, ADRI*

*Speaker: **Kaivan Munshi**, Professor, University of Cambridge*

*Topic: Caste in the Indian Economy*

*Chief Guest: Vijay Kumar Chaudhary,*

*Speaker, Bihar Vidhan Sabha*

>> SILVER JUBILEE LECTURES: FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE



**SILVER JUBILEE LECTURE – III**

Chairperson: Satish Jain, Professor, JNU  
Introducer: Prabhat P Ghosh, Director, ADRI  
Speaker: **Lakshmi Iyer**, Associate Professor, Harvard University  
Topic: Consequences and Determinants of Women's Political Participation



**SILVER JUBILEE LECTURE – IV**

Chairperson: Yameen Mazumder, Chief of Field Offices–Bihar, UNICEF  
Introducer: Pulin B Nayak, Former Director, DSE  
Speaker: **A K Shiva Kumar**, Senior Consultant & Policy Advisor, UNICEF India  
Topic: Growth, Markets and the State: Lessons for Human Development

>> SILVER JUBILEE LECTURES: FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE



**SILVER JUBILEE LECTURE – V**

*Chairperson: Dilip Sinha, Ex-Indian Foreign Service*

*Introducer: Kathinka Sinha-Kerkhoff, Senior Fellow-ICSSR, ADRI*

*Speaker: **Jean-Joseph Boillot**, Professor of Economics and Former Researcher, CEPII (Institute of International Economics attached to the Office of Prime Minister of France)*

*Topic: AO Hirschman and the rise of China-India-Africa: Why the models of a Dissenter are still valid*



**SILVER JUBILEE LECTURE – VI**

*Chairperson: Amitava Bose, Former Director, IIM Calcutta*

*Introducer: Alakh N. Sharma, Director, IHD*

*Speaker: **Dilip M Nachane**, Chancellor, Manipur University, Imphal, and Emeritus Professor, IGIDR*

*Topic: Economic Growth and Financial Stability: An Indian Perspective*



## >> SILVER JUBILEE LECTURES: FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE



### **SILVER JUBILEE LECTURE – VII**

*Chairperson: Gopa Sabharwal, Vice-Chancellor  
Nalanda University*

*Introducer: Pinaki Chakraborty, Professor, NIPFP*

*Speaker: **Binayak Sen**, Professor*

*Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies*

*Topic: From Test Case to Middle Income: What can  
Bangladesh Add to Development Economics?*



▶ N K Singh and Shaibal Gupta along with other attendees at the first International Conference by ADRI

>> SILVER JUBILEE LECTURES: SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE



**SILVER JUBILEE LECTURE – I**

Chairperson: Md Ishtiaque, Vice-Chancellor, Magadh University  
Speaker: **Navin Rustagi**, Big Data Scientist, Baylor College of Medicine  
Topic: The Excitement and Challenge of Big Data in Genetics  
Chief Guest: Ashok Choudhary, Education Minister, Bihar



**SILVER JUBILEE LECTURE – II**

Chairperson: Gulrez Hoda, Member, Bihar State Planning Board  
Speaker: **Faujdar Ram**, Director, International Institute of Population Sciences  
Topic: Social Statistics in India: Special Focus on Health and its Determinants  
Chief Guest: Bijendra Prasad Yadav, Energy Minister, Bihar



**SILVER JUBILEE LECTURE – III**

Chairperson: Gopa Sabharwal, Vice-Chancellor, Nalanda University  
Speaker: **Ruchira Gupta**, Visiting Professor, New York University & Founder, Apne Aap Women Worldwide  
Topic: Reaching SMART: Challenging the Last Goal – The Story of Antyaja

>> SILVER JUBILEE LECTURES: SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE



**SILVER JUBILEE LECTURE - IV**

Chairperson: Abdul Alim, Regional Advisor (South Asia), Social Policy, UNICEF  
Speaker: **Sabina Alkire**, Director, Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative, University of Oxford  
Topic: Multidimensional Poverty Measurement: Robustness and Analysis



**SILVER JUBILEE LECTURE - V**

Chairperson: M Govinda Rao, Emeritus Professor, National Institute of Public Finance and Policy  
Speaker: **TCA Anant**, Secretary & Chief Statistician, Government of India  
Topic: The 2030 Development Agenda: Challenges for Statisticians



**SILVER JUBILEE LECTURE - VI**

Chairperson: Hari Menon, Deputy Director, India Country Programmes, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation  
Speaker: **Arvind Subramanian**, Chief Economic Adviser, Government of India  
Topic: Overview of the Indian economy

>> SILVER JUBILEE LECTURES: SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE



**SILVER JUBILEE LECTURE – VII**  
 Chairperson: Dilip Sinha, Chairman  
 Manipur Public Service Commission  
 Speaker: **Dilip Sinha**, Chairman,  
 Manipur Public Service Commission  
 Topic: Is social democratic develop-  
 ment still possible?



**SILVER JUBILEE LECTURE IX  
 CUM-VALEDICTORY SESSION**  
 Chairperson: Paramita Dasgupta, Director General,  
 Administrative Staff College of India  
 Introducer: Shaibal Gupta, Member Secretary, ADRI  
 Silver Jubilee/Valedictory Address: **Pronab Sen**, Country  
 Director, IGC India-Central Programme  
 Topic: National Statistics: What is Done; and How Should it be  
 Done  
 Guest of Honour: Abdul Bari Siddiqui, Finance Minister, Bihar  
 Chief Guest: Nitish Kumar (TBC), Chief Minister, Bihar  
 Vote of Thanks : Neeraj Kumar, Managing Editor, CEPPE, ADRI



**SILVER JUBILEE LECTURE – VIII**  
 Chairperson: Pulin Nayak, Former Professor Delhi  
 School of Economics  
 Speaker: **Rathin Roy**, Director National Institute  
 of Public Finance and Policy  
 Topic: Fiscal Space for Human Development  
 Chief Guest: Vijay Kumar Chaudhary, Speaker,  
 Bihar Vidhan Sabha

>> SILVER JUBILEE LECTURES: SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE



**SILVER JUBILEE LECTURE IX  
CUM-VALEDICTORY SESSION**  
 Chairperson: Paramita Dasgupta,  
 Director General, Administrative Staff  
 College of India  
 Introducer: Shaibal Gupta, Member  
 Secretary, ADRI  
 Silver Jubilee/Valedictory Address:  
 Pronab Sen, Country Director, IGC  
 India-Central Programme  
 Topic: National Statistics: What is  
 Done; and How Should it be Done  
 Guest of Honour: Abdul Bari Siddiqui,  
 Finance Minister, Bihar  
 Chief Guest: Nitish Kumar (TBC), Chief  
 Minister, Bihar  
 Vote of Thanks: Neeraj Kumar,  
 Managing Editor, CEPPF, ADRI



▶ Deputy CM Tejashwi Yadav, state education minister Ashok Choudhary, Sushil Kumar Modi and other attendees at the second International Conference by ADRI

>> SILVER JUBILEE LECTURES: THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE



**SILVER JUBILEE LECTURE - I**

Chairperson: Prabhat P Ghosh  
Director, Asian Development  
Research Institute (ADRI), Patna

Speaker: **Nirmal Sengupta**  
National Fellow, Indian Institute of  
Advanced Study (IIAS), Shimla  
Topic: Emerging Identities in  
Language, Culture and Economy



**SILVER JUBILEE LECTURE - II**

Chairperson: M N Karna, Sociologist  
Speaker: **Johannes Breman**  
Professor, Amsterdam Institute for  
Social Science Research  
Topic: The Undeserving Poor

>> SILVER JUBILEE LECTURES: THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE



**SILVER JUBILEE LECTURE – III**

Chairperson: Ashis Nandy,  
Honorary Fellow Centre for the Study of  
Developing Societies (CSDS), Delhi  
Speaker: **Jean-Joseph Boillot**,  
Economist, CEPII France  
Topic: Arthashastra – The Paradox of  
Modernity in Ancient Times and Beyond  
(Why a Modern State must be at the same  
time Liberal, Social, Entrepreneur, and finally,  
Regulator, but also Conducive to Innovation)



**SILVER JUBILEE LECTURE – IV**

Chairperson: John Harriss, Professor, Simon Fraser  
University, Vancouver  
Speaker : **Gerry Rodgers**, Former Director,  
International Institute for Labour Studies (IILS) Geneva  
Topic: Bihar’s Development in Comparative Perspective

>> SILVER JUBILEE LECTURES: THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE



**SILVER JUBILEE LECTURE – V**

Chairperson: Nitya Rao,  
Professor, University of East Anglia, Norwich

Speaker: **Yoginder K Alagh**

Chancellor, Central University of Gujarat

Topic: Managing Rivers : The National Water  
Framework Law



**SILVER JUBILEE LECTURE – VI**

Chairperson: Subrata K Mitra, Director, Institute  
of South Asian Studies, National University of  
Singapore (NUS)

Speaker: **Wendy Singer**, Professor, Kenyon  
College, Gambier, Ohio

Topic: Reservations and Creating New  
Government: Jharkhand and Bihar in the 1950s



>> SILVER JUBILEE LECTURES: THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE



**SILVER JUBILEE LECTURE – VII**

Chairperson: Gopa Sabharwal, Founder Vice-Chancellor, Nalanda University, Rajgir  
Speaker: **Vinita Damodaran**, Professor, University of Sussex, Brighton

Topic: Adivasis and the Anthropocene  
Towards an Environmental History of Eastern India

**SILVER JUBILEE LECTURE – VIII**

Chairperson: Siddharth Varadarajan, Founding Editor, The Wire  
Speaker: **Kanchan Chandra**, Professor, New York University

Topic: Democracy from the Margins

>> SILVER JUBILEE LECTURES: THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE



**SILVER JUBILEE LECTURE – IX**

*Chairperson: Dipankar Gupta, Former Professor, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi*

*Speaker: **Ashis Nandy**, Honorary Fellow, Centre for the Study of Developing Societies (CSDS), Delhi*

*Topic: Another Cosmopolitanism: Living with Radical Diversities and Being Oneself*



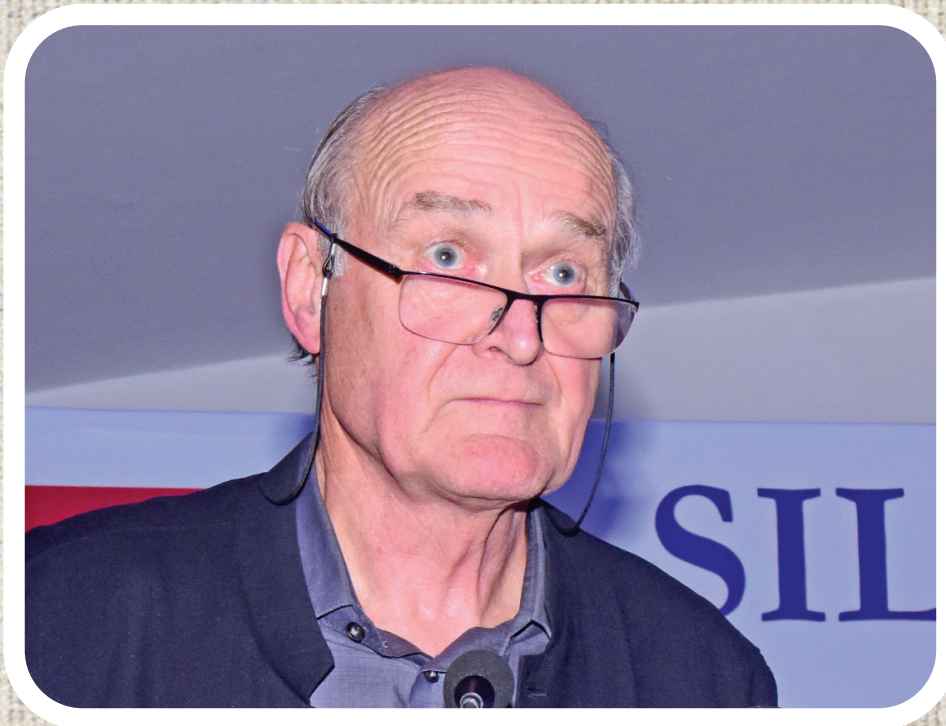
**SILVER JUBILEE LECTURE – X**

*Chairperson: Ashutosh Varshney, Professor, Brown University, Providence*

*Speaker: **Dipankar Gupta** Former Professor, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi*

*Topic: Making Majorities in Democracies: The Citizenship Embrace*

>> SILVER JUBILEE LECTURES: THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE



**SILVER JUBILEE LECTURE - XI**

*Chairperson: A K Shiva Kumar, Senior Consultant and Policy Advisor, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), India*

*Speaker: **John Harriss**, Professor of International Studies, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver*

*Topic: Polanyi's 'Great Transformation' Redux: The Political and Economic Origins of Our Times*



**SILVER JUBILEE LECTURE - XII**

*Chairperson: Vinita Damodaran, Professor, University of Sussex, Brighton*

*Speaker: **Peter Robb**, Emeritus Professor, School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London*

*Topic: Colonial Development? On Watchmen and Water in Bihar under British Rule*

>> SILVER JUBILEE LECTURES: THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE



**SILVER JUBILEE LECTURE – XIII**

Chairperson: Alok Rai, Litterateur

Speaker: **Vasudha Dalmia**

Professor Emerita, University of California, Berkeley

Topic: *Modernity and Modernism in the Hindi World*



**SILVER JUBILEE LECTURE – XIV**

Chairperson: Harry Blair

Senior Research Scholar, Yale University, New Haven

Speaker: **Ashutosh Varshney**

Professor, Brown University, Providence

Topic: *India's Democracy: Electoral Vibrancy and Liberal Deficits*

>> SILVER JUBILEE LECTURES: THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE



**SILVER JUBILEE LECTURE – XV**

Chairperson: Imre Bangha,  
Associate Professor, University of  
Oxford

Speaker: **Alok Rai**, Litterateur  
Topic: Hindi Heartland : Making  
and Unmaking



**SILVER JUBILEE LECTURE – XVI**

Chairperson: Subrata K Mitra, Director, Institute  
of South Asian Studies, National University of  
Singapore (NUS)

Speaker: **Crispin Bates**, Professor, University  
of Edinburgh

Topic: Bihari Overseas Labour Migration 1857-  
1869: Origins, Intermediaries, and the Role of  
Trust

>> SILVER JUBILEE LECTURES: THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE



**SILVER JUBILEE LECTURE – XVII**  
Chairperson: Vasudha Dalmia, Professor Emerita, University of California, Berkeley  
Speaker: **Imre Bangha**, Associate Professor, University of Oxford  
Topic: Erach, Rajgir, Dalmau : The Earliest Documented Locations of Hindi Literature



**SILVER JUBILEE LECTURE – XVIII**  
Chairperson: Christopher V Hill, Professor, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs  
Speaker: **William R Pinch**, Professor, Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut  
Topic: Blown from Cannon: The Prelude to Buxar, 1764

>> SILVER JUBILEE LECTURES: THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE



**SILVER JUBILEE LECTURE – XIX**

Chairperson: Meghnad Desai, Emeritus Professor, London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)

Speaker: **Gyanesh Kudaisya**, Associate Professor, National University of Singapore

Topic: Revisiting the Bihar-West Bengal Merger Plan, c. 1956: Envisioning the Region in the 1950s

**SILVER JUBILEE LECTURE – XX**

Chairperson: Antara Dev Sen, Editor, The Little Magazine, New Delhi

Speaker: **Janine Rodgers**, Senior Visiting Fellow, Institute for Human Development (IHD), New Delhi

Topic: The Feminisation of Agriculture: Drivers and Constraints

>> SILVER JUBILEE LECTURES: THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE



**SILVER JUBILEE LECTURE – XXI**

*Chairperson: Syed Gulrez Hoda, Member, Bihar State Planning Board*

*Speaker: **Harry Blair**, Senior Research Scholar, Yale University, New Haven*

*Topic: Dignity and Development as Trajectory: Bihar as a Model for Nepal?*



**SILVER JUBILEE LECTURE – XXII**

*Chairperson: Mrinal Pande, Senior Journalist & Author*

*Speaker: **Subrata K Mitra**, Director, Institute of South Asian Studie, National University of Singapore (NUS)*

*Topic: Rebels into Stakeholders: Regional Governance and Resilience of the State in India*



>> SILVER JUBILEE LECTURES: THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE



**SILVER JUBILEE LECTURE – XXIII**  
Chairperson: Janine Rodgers, Senior Visiting Fellow, Institute for Human Development (IHD), New Delhi  
Speaker: **Kaushik Ghosh**, Professor, University of Texas at Austin  
Topic: *The Shimmering Land: Adivasiness and the Ecological Imperative*



**SILVER JUBILEE LECTURE – XXV**  
Chairperson: William Pinch, Professor, Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut  
Speaker: **Alpa Shah**, Associate Professor, London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)  
Topic: *Jharkhand in the Belly of the Indian Boom*



**SILVER JUBILEE LECTURE – XXIV**  
Chairperson : Stephen Biggs, Research Associate, School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London  
Speaker: **Geoff Wood**, Emeritus Professor, University of Bath  
Topic: *Negotiating Landscapes: Learning from Kosi*

>> SILVER JUBILEE LECTURES: THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE



**SILVER JUBILEE LECTURE – XXVI**

Chairperson: Anjan Mukherji,  
Chairman, Asian Development Research  
Institute (ADRI), Patna  
Speaker: **Satish K Jain**, Professor,  
Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New  
Delhi  
Topic: On the Land Acquisition under the  
Eminent Domain: Power for Private  
Entities



**SILVER JUBILEE LECTURE – XXVII**

Chairperson: Ambassador Dilip Sinha  
Speaker: **Dipak Gyawali**, Chairman, National  
Water Conservation Foundation (NWCF) &  
Former Minister, Government of Nepal  
Topic: Transcending Constraints of Geography:  
Role of Inland Navigation in the Shared Future  
of Himalaya-Ganga



**SILVER JUBILEE LECTURE – XXVIII**

Chairperson: Amit Khare, Development  
Commissioner, Government of  
Jharkhand  
Speaker: **S Subramanian**, National  
Fellow, Indian Council of Social Science  
Research (ICSSR), New Delhi  
Topic: Money-Metric Poverty and the  
Possibility of a Guaranteed Basic  
Income for India

## >> SPECIAL LECTURES: THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE



### **SPECIAL LECTURE**

*Chairperson: Meghnad Desai  
Emeritus Professor, London  
School of Economics  
Speaker: **Rathin Roy**, Director,  
National Institute of  
Public Finance and Policy  
(NIPFP), New Delhi  
Topic: Some Reflections on  
Inclusive Growth and Fiscal  
Policy in Contemporary India*



### **SPECIAL LECTURE**

*Chairperson: Alpa Shah,  
Associate Professor, London  
School of Economics and  
Political Science (LSE)  
Speaker: **Nitya Rao**, Professor,  
University of East Anglia,  
Norwich  
Topic: Gendered Migration,  
Rights and Identities:  
Experiences and  
Representation of Jharkhand*



▶▶ Meghnad Desai and other attendees at the third International Conference by ADRI