The foundation stone of UPUEA was laid on 25th September 2005 with its first formal meeting held at Udai Pratap College, Varanasi presided over by Prof. M. Muzammil, Ex-Vice-Chancellor, BRA Agra University as a U.P.-Uttarakhand chapter of the Indian Economic Association. UPUEA has its independent membership, constitution, fund and the system of management.

UPUEA organizes annual conference of its members to discuss contemporary economic problems. It promotes original research in the area of regional economic issues such as one on whole of U.P. and Uttarakhand, or on area specific problems. To disseminate the findings of researches undertaken, the association publishes a bi-annual-bilingual economic journal, namely, “Uttar Pradesh- Uttarakhand Economic Journal” and encourages members and institutions to organize seminars, symposia, workshops and training courses, with a view to get its members acquainted with grass root problems and advance research techniques to analyze the identified problems scientifically.

UPUEA, with its strength of more than 1500 learned life members and 13 well received annual conferences in a row, has succeeded in drawing attention of members of NITI AYOG, Central and State Planning Commission and several ministers in central and state Governments and other luminaries concerned with development issues and being at the helm of affairs.

However, a lot is yet to be done by the association. Taking short term projects on significant contemporary regional socio-economic issues (like gender sensitization, rural miseries, social inclusion etc.) and suitably designing and structuring the related issues to get them included in the syllabi of the state universities may be some of the future task before the association. We are quite hopeful of sorting out the future step in view of the well stated vision and mission of the association with the generous cooperation and effective participation of the esteemed members.

With regards and warm welcome to all at the XIV annual conference of UPUEA:

Prof. Ravi S. Srivastava
President, UPUEA
CSRD, JNU, New Delhi

Prof. Shyam Kartik Mishra
General Secretary, UPUEA
PDDU Chair, FSS, BHU

25th May 2018
The 14th Annual Conference of Uttar Pradesh Uttarakhand Economic Association (UPUEA) will be held during 29th and 30th October 2018 at the Giri Institute of Development Studies, Lucknow. The 14th Annual Conference will be presided over by Prof. Jagdish Narayan, Former Dean, Faculty of Commerce, Allahabad University, Allahabad and President, Fourteenth Annual Conference of UPUEA. Prof. B. K. Bajpai, Director, Giri Institute of Development Studies, Aliganj, Lucknow will be the organizing secretary of the conference.

CONFERENCE THEMES AND SUBTHEMES

Theme 1: Recent Development Experience and Challenges of Low Income States in India: with special reference to UP and Uttarakhand

The low income states comprise Bihar, Odissa, MP, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and UP. Nearly half of the country’s population lives in these states. These states share the common features of a backward economy like low income, high incidence of poverty, poor human development status, inadequate infrastructure, high dependence on agriculture, low fiscal capacity. At the same time these states are marked by differences in resource endowment, demographic composition, quality of administration and political leadership. There is no doubt that rapid development of the country would not be possible unless growth rates accelerate in the low income states. In fact all of them have experienced acceleration in growth rate in the recent years though at different rates. In fact in some states like Bihar double digit growth rates have registered.

The development experience of the low income states have varied in different states and the drivers of growth have been different. Each of these states has some success stories from which the other states can benefit. It would be worthwhile to examine in detail the pattern of development followed in the low income states in a comparative framework and draw lessons from them. The paper may focus on analysis of some specific aspect of development in one or more states. The experience of the low income states can also be compared with that of the richer states. The papers may also highlight some success stories.

The papers may cover the following and other related sub-themes:
- Growth Performance of Low Income States and convergence hypothesis
- Sectoral Performance: Agriculture, Industry, Infrastructure
- Sectoral Shifts in employment and income
- Trends in Human Development Indicators
- Poverty and Unemployment Trends
- Social and Caste Inequalities
- Decentralisation and Working of PRIs
- Fiscal Trends and Capacities
- Quality of Governance and Economic Reforms
- Social Welfare Schemes and Their Implementation
- Success Stories
The weakest aspect in the course of development of the Indian Economy, it can be undeniably contended, has been employment. Growth rate during first 30 years after Independence, though 7 times the rate that prevailed over half a century before Independence was considered sluggish and was not well appreciated as its impact on, for example, poverty was hardly noticeable. We focused on growth and got good results in terms reduction in poverty and emergence of sizeable middle class and good number of billionaires. Rich grew enormously richer while poor might not have poorer but inequality grew quite high, which does not get captured through consumption Gini.

AGB Fisher in late 1930s and Colin Clark in early 1940s had articulated on the basis of their studies on ‘the economic movements that in each progressive economy there had been steady shift in employment of labour and investment of capital from essential primary activities into secondary activities of all kinds and to still greater extent into tertiary production’. However, in India, by and larger, it was interpreted in terms of sectoral composition of GDP and justified in terms of Engle’s law. Inadequate shift in composition of labour force was lamented as was slow growth of manufacturing sector, particularly in the wake of neo-liberal regime. The strategy of GDP growth with resultant employment was too easily accepted while that of full employment with resultant GDP growth was always shelved as impractical.

Several schemes for self-employment and wage-employment have been launched by Governments largely as welfare measures rather than well-integrated into growth strategy though of late the idea of inclusive growth was interpreted to include employment generation, which was itself promoted in view of the wider perception of jobless growth.

Education is often posed as panacea for employment by welfare economists but market analysts find that education imparted in the country often produces unemployables. Many management and technology institutions and course have closed down. The mismatch between education and employment have often been pointed out and several schemes of training and vocational education were not seriously designed and implementers at no stage are part of the design. Skill India is expected to bridge this gap somewhat better.

One cannot simply wish away the division of employment between public sector and private sector in view of the fact public sector of late is shedding workers in absolute number and private corporate sector is hardly improving its tally while population size and its composition is raising the number of participants which might have gone beyond 50 crore.

However, there are issues of gender and residence. While labour force was getting feminized in last few decades, it is being found that de-feminization is taking place. Their unemployment is found to be highest in the urban areas. Social class division of employment and unemployment need a serious probe.

While poverty estimates were always questioned that of unemployment was hardly ever. In terms of number it may not be very high by usual status but no political party can ever afford to point it out as they would become unpopular. Less careful scholars too raise the bogey without caring for numbers or getting engaged in interpreting different measures of unemployment. Unfortunately, there are so many
agencies which produce statistics for a variety of aspects of labour with some overlap. RGI, Economic Census of CSO, NSSO, several outfits of Ministry of Labour such as Labour Bureau, DGET, etc., at times come out with widely different estimates of unemployment, creating confusion for scholars.

At the same time, ILO has raised the body of decent work; middle class women are seeking flexible job; management scholars are engaged in work-life balance; while at the other end self-employment is suggested to be the solution for burgeoning labour force. One is also encouraged to take up Gary Becker’s sexual division of labour or neo-classical labour-leisure division or Gandhian issue of idleness or Guy Standing’s decent work but they should try to connect with Indian economy. One could also attempt the trade-off between productivity and labour-intensity in growth perspective in Indian case. In any case, even in the face of widespread perception of unemployment, one could study work-life balance which has become impact in certain sectors of employment. There may also be need to examine required equitable distribution of work in the wake of ever-rising productivity and eventual plateauing in growth.

Scholars are expected to submit their papers on:
- Disconnect between economy and employment
- Mismatch between employment demand and supply
- Solution in wage-employment or self-employment
- Connect between labour supply and labour force
- Measures of employment and unemployment
- Industrial and occupational classification of the employed
- Social division of unemployment
- Government employment generating schemes
- Skill India and its impact
- Nexus between unemployment and crimes

**Theme 3: Doubling Farmer’s Income: Improving Agricultural Viability and Farmer’s Income in India**

Among a vast sea of problems that the Indian economy is enwrapped in and that are sapping its vigour and much talked about potential to emerge as an economic power, a very pertinent one is decay of agriculture and despair and desperation of the farmers. With dependence of population on agriculture still on the other side of 50%, crisis like situation in agriculture and low, stagnant and uncertain income of farmers is complicating the issue of inclusiveness. Indian farmers are made to leave a meagre life constrained by a very low income that over a period of time has increased at snail’s pace. Cost of production in agriculture has gone up while absence of agricultural marketing network and adoption of neo-liberalism together have depressed price of agricultural produce making agriculture an unviable profession for a vast majority of farmers. The situation is alarming and has forced the present government to come up with a plan of doubling farmers’ income by 2022. The intentions definitely look fair but too ambitious. It is imperative to debate the crucial issue of viability of agriculture and deliberate on alternative strategy and reforms that are required to give a boost to farmers’ income or doubling it.
There are a number of stumbling blocks and crucial factors that make the issue of doubling farmers’ income challenging and at the same time interesting. A prominent issue is the absence of adequate and dependable estimates of farm income, and its components (with little information except those provided by NSSO 59th & 70th rounds relating to Situation Assessment Surveys), something that makes the goal of doubling income vague and the job of fixing specific targets impossible. There are also questions relating to the relationship between farm yield and farm income as in India rise in farm yield has not been accompanied with a surge in farmers’ income and agricultural output and farmers’ income have not moved in tandem. While absence of storage & transport facilities has been causing significant loss of marketable surplus, existence of a national agricultural market that can ensure remunerative and assured prices to farmers has caused prices to remain low. International price deflation that have occurred in the neo-liberal era and the alleged withdrawal of the government from the marketing of agricultural produce exposing farmers completely to the vagaries of market have deprived farmers from getting due prices for their produce. In an era where farmers have been forced to shift to new techniques and cost of production has been spruced up, price deflation and marketing woes have given a telling blow to farmers’ fortune.

Farmers’ economic condition has also taken a beating for want of diversification in agricultural household activities. They have, in majority of cases stuck to traditional crops and have seldom gone for diversification in livestock area. Their involvement in farm linked and post production activities where value addition is relatively high, is also limited. The absence of non-farm activities is another drag.

These issues need to be debated and talked about so that the academia is able to come up with an alternative policy perspective and able to suggest some dos and don’ts to the government. It is for this purpose that UPUEA has chosen this area and invites members to contribute papers on the critical issues.

The papers could address any of the following subthemes-

- Measuring Farmers’ Income: The Methodological Issues
- Farm Yield, Total Factor Productivity & Farm Income
- Diversifying Agriculture Household Activities-Crop, Livestock, Farm Linked & Post Production Activities,
- Ensuring Right Prices & Favourable Terms of Trade for Agriculture
- Managing Risk & Uncertainty in Agriculture
- Economising Cost of Agricultural Production

**Critical Informations**

**Dates to remember & to be followed strictly:**

- Dates of the Conference: 29th and 30th October 2018.
- Last Date for Submission of Papers (Full Paper along with 200 words of Abstract): 31st July 2018.
- Communication from UPUEA about Acceptance of Papers: 15th August 2018.
- Last Date for Registration: 30th September 2018.
Timings of the Conference:
The Conference will start at 10.00 am on 29th October 2018 and will conclude by 4 pm on 30th October 2018.

Guidelines on Submission of Papers:
Member researchers and other professionals are invited to contribute papers on any of the Conference themes mentioned above. Papers submitted should not exceed 2500 words (including tables and appendices) with an abstract of 200 words and 5-6 key words. References in the paper should be given in the Harvard style. The papers may be written in Hindi or English. The paper in Hindi should be in Kruti Dev 30 in font size 16 and in English it should be in Times New Roman, 14 point in MS Word. The summaries of all accepted papers will be compiled into a publication that will be distributed among the Conference participants. The soft copy of the full paper should be emailed to mishraskupuea@gmail.com. Hard copy of the paper need not be sent.

Author/s are requested to ensure and submit an undertaking that their contributions are original and have not been published or presented in part or in full at any other academic forum prior to this Conference. Further, all papers will be screened for plagiarism.

Full text of the papers accepted will be published (in soft copy) in UPUEA Economic Journal (Conference Number 14). The copy of the paper published so, may be downloaded from the Association’s Website for which there is no fee.

Logistics and Other Information for Delegates:

Conference Registration:
The registration/delegate fees for the Conference is Rs. 1000/- which will entitle participants to modest boarding and lodging as well as the conference kit. For registration, the delegates should contact Prof. B. K. Bajpai, Director, Giri Institute of Development Studies, Aliganj, Lucknow and Organising Secretary, 14th Annual Conference of UPUEA (Mob. 9839300811 & email: bribajpai@gmail.com). The organisers may not ensure the accommodation to those who register after the due date, 30th September 2018. It should also be noted very clearly that it would be difficult to arrange accommodation for those who register on the spot.

Membership of the Association:
A non-member wishing to participate in the conference is requested to take membership of the association by paying membership fee before the conference. The life membership fees of the association is Rs. 2000/-. Payment may be made through DD/local Cheque in favour of “Secretary UPUEA”, payable at Varanasi. This should be sent along with the membership form, available on the association’s website, to Prof. S. K. Mishra, General Secretary, UPUEA, SA-2/285 M6K, Chauranagar Colony, Pandeypur, Varanasi-221002 (U.P.), India.

The information about membership and on-going activities of the association may also be sought from the EC members of the respective universities.
PRE-CONFERENCE EVENT:
As per precedence, pre-Conference event is also being planned in form of one day workshop on “HOW TO WRITE A RESEARCH PAPER” from 10.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. on 28th October 2018. The facility will be available only for 50 members, mostly to local young teachers and/or research scholars, selected on first come first served basis by the host institution. Those who wish to attend the workshop must contact and submit their form by 20th September 2018 to the Organising Secretary of the conference, Prof. B. K. Bajpai, Director, GIDS, Lucknow.

For updates on the Conference, please visit the UPUEA website: http://www.upuea.com

For any query, members may contact General Secretary of the Association, Prof. S. K. Mishra (Mob. 9628855558)
Delegates’ Registration Form
UPUEA 14th Annual Conference
29th October and 30th October, 2018, Dept. of Economics,
GIDS, Aliganj, Lucknow

Name of the delegate: ..........................................................................................................

Designation: .........................................................................................................................

University/Organization: .....................................................................................................

Address: .................................................................................................................................

(Mobile): .................................................... Email: ..................................................

Accompanying person(s) details: ..........................................................................................

Name(s): ...............................................................................................................................

D. D. No. ................... Date: .....................

Amount Details (in Rs.): ........................................................................................................

Accommodation required: Yes / No (please tick whichever applicable)

Date and Timing of Arrival: ..................................................................................................

Date and Timing of departure: ..............................................................................................

Send your registration form duly filled to: ........................................................................

Prof. B. K. Bajpai
Organising Secretary 14th Annual Conference of UPUEA
Director, Giri Institute of Development Studies, Aliganj, Lucknow

Signature:

Date:
Dear Sir,

I request you to enroll me as a Life Member of UPUEA. The Membership fees of Rs. 2000/- is sent here with by Demand Draft No. / cash: Dated:

I am giving my full particulars: ................................................................... ...............

Full Name (In Block Letters): ...................................................................... ...............

Designation: ................................................................................................. .......................

Qualifications: ................................................................................................. .......................

Address (With Phone No. and e-mail) Office: .......................................................

Residence: ........................................................................................................ ........................

Contact Details: ......................................................................................................................

Mob. No.: .................................................................................................................. ........................

Email: ................................................................................................................... ...........................

Field of specialization: ......................................................................................... ..................

Please acknowledge the receipt of the amount.

Dated: .......................

Yours Faithfully

(              )

2. Membership fees should be paid by Bank Draft in name of the Secretary, UPUEA payable at Varanasi.
3. Completed form along with the Bank Draft should be sent to the residence address of the secretary, as stated above, by post.