

Indian context. Though the agenda of Inclusive Growth figures quite prominently in all the policy planning exercises of the government, a proper plan of action and its implementation is still a far cry. The recent imposition of surcharge on income taxes on high income group is a step in the right direction towards redistribution of income and hence reduction of inequality. The income gini coefficient is 33.9 (2013) which places India at the 135th rank in the world. Redistribution of income through government subsidies in favour of targeted groups of people is a major imperative for the government. As the available data and reports reveal, the level of deprivation among certain sections of the people awaits justice.

• **Social sector**

Among all sectors, in development paradigm, the social sector always remains least attended. Private funds are not attracted because the source and rate of return are not attractive and well-defined in some cases. However, these sectors require huge resources and there is a natural tendency of monopoly concentration, and sub-optimal allocation of resources, if left with the market. Moreover, due to the nature of merit consumption, these sectors require the state to perform the role of provider and distributor. But pressed with the double target of SAP and SDG, India, like many other developing countries, sought the easiest way out of alternative service models, popularly called public private partnerships (PPPs). This changing role of the government needs to be assessed and policy recommendation should evolve to improve India's rank of HDI (0.64 in 2017) placed at 139th.

Call for Papers

Papers are invited for presentation and publication for the forthcoming 40th Annual National Conference of Bangiya Arthaniti Parishad (Bengal Economic Association) On Analyzing the Growth Trajectory of Indian Economy: Productivity, Efficiency, Employability & Equity in collaboration with the Department of Economics, Bethune College, Kolkata during 29.02.2020 and 01.03.2020.

Themes:

Papers should be relevant but not restricted to any of the following subtopics:

- **Agriculture**
 - **Industry, Labour and emerging markets**
 - **50 yrs of Bank Nationalisation-way forward**
 - **Inequality and Justice**
 - **Social sector**
- Full papers (4000 words) preceded by an extended abstract (1000 words), keywords in MS-Word/PDF to be submitted/ sent to The Local Organizing Secretary, Annual 40th National Conference and to The President BEA at

bchatterjee.presidentbea@gmail.com
satarupabandyopadhyay17@gmail.com

The abstract should be an extended one that will include the objectives and the research hypothesis, a brief description of methodology, results and an outline of the paper.

Important Dates:

- Last date for abstract submission: 10th December, 2019
- Notification of Acceptance: 31st December, 2019
- Last date for full paper submission: 15th January, 2020
- Last date for registration: 15th February, 2020

Registration Fee:

- For Members of BEA: Rs. 500/-
- For Non-members of BEA: Rs. 600/-
- For Research scholars: Rs. 300/-
- For Students: Rs. 100/-

Venue:

Bethune College, Kolkata
181, Bidhan Sarani, Kolkata-700006

For registration and payment details please visit :
<https://www.bethunecollege.ac.in>

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40th Annual National Conference of Bangiya Arthaniti Parishad (Bengal Economic Association)

On

Analyzing the Growth Trajectory of Indian Economy:
Productivity, Efficiency, Employability & Equity

On

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In collaboration with
Department of Economics,
Bethune College, Kolkata



About the Conference :

India, as an emerging world economy has made significant strides in stepping up her rate of economic growth during the past few decades from the abysmal Hindu rate of growth to which the economy was tied down during the initial few decades of Planning. Now India is the 7th largest economy in the world economy and is poised to open up a huge untapped market with her teeming population estimated at almost 1.4 billion.

However, quite a few areas of concern stir uneasiness in the minds of the economists. Most important of this being whether the growth is sustainable or not from the point of view of increasing productivity and efficiency along with generating adequate employment opportunities for the growing proportion of the young members of the society. No less attention needs also to be drawn to the issue of equity in the economy which exhibits a glaring gini coefficient of 0.51 and ranks 139th with respect to HDI. There is also a perceptible difference in the growth and development performance of the 28 odd states and 7 Union Territories.

All these deserve a sector wise analysis of the growth trajectories in the perspective of the above mentioned issues.

Sub Themes

- **Agriculture**
- **Industry, Labour and emerging markets**
- **50 yrs of Bank Nationalisation : way forward**
- **Inequality and Justice**
- **Social sector**

About the College :

Established in 1879, Bethune College is eponymous with generations of educated, enlightened and empowered women who have excelled in every sphere. Starting with the first women graduates of the University of Calcutta, Chandramukhi Basu and Kadambini Ganguly who went on to become the first Indian female Principal

of Bethune College and the first practising female doctor respectively, the institution has been the one of the flagship colleges of the Government of West Bengal in terms of quality driven education, which is run entirely by the Department of Higher Education, Govt. of West Bengal. The college has been twice accredited with the 'A' Grade by NAAC. Recently the institution was ranked 50th at the national level by the National Institute Ranking Framework (NIRF), in college category. Today the college has a dedicated team of teachers who consistently upgrade and update themselves through active participation in research, publications, seminars and workshops. Presently, the college has affiliation in 16 Honours subjects, and 6 Post Graduate courses. Bethune College has a record of consistent and excellent academic results. The college has received grants from various sources like DST-FIST and RUSA that strengthen teaching and research facilities in all departments of the college. With the present total roll strength at approximately 1300 and the number of sanctioned posts in teaching at 115, Bethune College continues its journey as the pioneer institution of women's education, spanning a period of 140 years.

Concept Notes with Sub-Themes

• **Agriculture**

Agriculture still forms the backbone of the Indian economy but has been the most slowly growing sector. Large numbers of operational holdings of below viability level have marginalized the farming community with poor productivity and efficiency compared to the international standards. Indian agriculture is grappling with the negative impacts of WTO regulations. But it employs around 70 percent of the total workforce of the country raising the issue of disguised employment. However historically, the growth impetus of any economy takes off and is sustained from and by the agricultural sector as the size of the agricultural surplus increase, and employment potential expands.

• **Industry, Labour and emerging markets**

Indian industry now enjoys a diversified base, thanks to the public sector which was at the commanding heights of the economy. But the public sector is fraught with inefficiency and low productivity problems which was sought to be tackled with radical policy changes of disinvestment and privatization. It still remains to be seen how private initiatives can carry forward the process of industrialization in the country, away from low productivity to high productivity and low employment elasticity to high employment elasticity. For a less developed economy like India an important precondition for industrial growth is the tackling of the market imperfections through proper measures and guidance with policy directives and implementation.

• **50 yrs of Bank Nationalisation : the way forward**

The banking sector has played an effective role as a hand maiden of govt policy through the tools of directed lending after the massive drive of bank nationalization. However the banking industry was suffering from the problems of low/ negative profitability arising from hugely administered interest rates, large NPA and lack of capital adequacy. Economic reforms took measures to restructure the banking sector by allowing public holding and foreign holding of the equity shares of the banks almost to the extent of 49 percent. The administered interest regime was dismantled and interest rate determination is now tied to the market forces. A host of other reforms have also been initiated following the recommendations of the Rangarajan committee. The banking sector now faces the challenge of fulfilling the objectives of competitiveness, diversity and efficiency within the overall economic framework of achieving economic growth with efficiency.

• **Inequality and Justice**

The resolving of the conflict between inequality and growth still remains an unfinished task in the Indian context. Though unfinished task in the