



6th THE INDIAN SOCIETY OF LABOUR ECONOMICS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

19-21 January 2026



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**SYMBIOSIS
SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS**

Symbiosis International (Deemed) University, Pune, India





THE INDIAN SOCIETY OF LABOUR ECONOMICS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

19-21 January 2026 | Symbiosis School of Economics, Symbiosis International (Deemed) University, Pune, India

The Indian Society of Labour Economics (ISLE) is pleased to announce its 66th Annual Conference hosted by Symbiosis International (Deemed) University (SIU), Pune during 19-21 January 2026. The Conference is being organised by the Symbiosis School of Economics, SIU, Pune. Professor Praveen Jha, Centre for Economic Studies and Planning, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi is the Conference President. Prof Jyoti Chandiramani, Director, Symbiosis School of Economics, and Dean, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Symbiosis International (Deemed University, Pune is the Organising Secretary of the Conference.

CONFERENCE THEMES



**Technology, Innovations
and Employment**



**Education, Employment
and Labour Markets**



**Rural Transformation and
Workforce Dynamics**

Participation in the Conference is by invitation and registration only. The Conference is international and prospective contributors from both India and outside are invited to contribute papers and participate.

DATES TO REMEMBER



Last Date for
SUBMISSION of Papers
16 AUGUST 2025



COMMUNICATION from ISLE
about ACCEPTANCE of Papers
31 AUGUST 2025



Last Date for **REGISTRATION**
31 OCTOBER 2025

Conference Structure and Duration

The Conference Programme will consist of presentation of selected papers on the Conference themes in the thematic and technical sessions. In addition, 3-4 Plenary lectures by eminent scholars/experts /public intellectuals will be held during the Conference. A Plenary Panel and around 8-10 Thematic (Parallel) Panels will also be organised. The Southern Centre for Inequality studies, University of

Witwatersrand, Johannesburg and Institute for Human Development, New Delhi will be Organising a Panel on “Addressing the Challenge of Employment and Inequality in Emerging Economies of Global South” during the Conference. The Speakers in the Panel will be invited from Brazil, China, Indonesia, India and South Africa.

The Conference will begin at 9:00 am on 19 January 2026 and conclude by 2:00 pm on 21 January 2026. Participants are advised to reach Pune a day prior to the Conference and schedule their departure after 3 pm of 21 January 2026.

Pre-Conference Events

Pre-Conference Events (topics to be announced later on) will also be organised on 18 January 2026 from 4pm onwards, followed by dinner. Those interested in participating in the Pre-Conference events should aim to reach the Conference venue by the noon on 18 January 2026.

Submission of Papers

- ✦ The Conference is open to academicians, professionals, policymakers and analysts, development practitioners, civil society members, etc., interested in labour, employment, and development issues. They are welcome to contribute papers and/or participate in the Conference.
- ✦ The papers should be submitted [online at conference.isleijle.org](http://conference.isleijle.org) by clicking on the ‘Paper Presenter’ button.
- ✦ The length of the paper should be between 5000 to 7000 words and should adhere to the current style of the Indian Journal of Labour Economics (IJLE). For further details, please visit <http://www.springer.com/economics/journal/41027>
- ✦ All papers should include a summary of around 300-500 words. The summaries of all accepted papers will be compiled into a Book of Abstracts which will be uploaded on the ISLE website.
- ✦ The selected revised papers presented in the Conference will be considered for publication in the IJLE after peer review.
- ✦ Authors must ensure that their submissions are original. Please note that all papers will be screened for plagiarism and accordingly accepted or rejected. Further, authors are solely responsible for plagiarism violations.
- ✦ Best Paper Awards: Every year ISLE gives a couple of Awards for the best papers presented in the Conference to young scholars below 35 years. For further details, visit: conference.isleijle.org
- ✦ IWWAGE - ISLE Fellowships for Young Women Scholars: The Institute for What Works to Advance Gender Equality (IWWAGE) and ISLE are pleased



to announce five fellowships aimed at fostering young women leadership in Economics and Finance. These scholarships are open to outstanding women scholars aged 35 years or below pursuing advanced degrees in Economics, Political Science, Gender, Development Studies, Public Policy, and Public Finance. For further details, visit: conference.isleijle.org

Panel Proposals

During the Conference, a number of Thematic Panels will be organised in addition to the Pre-Conference events. Proposals for organising panels are invited from scholars and institutions.

Each panel proposal should contain the following:

1. **Title of the panel** and a description of the Panel's theme.
2. **Titles, authors and abstracts** (around 500 words) of the papers to be presented.
3. **Names, affiliations and brief biographies** of about 100 words along with a digital high-resolution picture to be submitted for each proposed panelists/speakers.
4. **Name, contact and high-resolution logo** of the Panel Organiser/s.
5. **Social media handles** (Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn) of participants and institutions.

Note: A Thematic Panel Session will comprise of 4 – 5 paper presentations. The organisers / coordinators of each Thematic Panel Session are expected to be in charge of the Panel, including raising resources for speakers' travel and other expenditure. Panel Registration fee of Rs. 50,000/- for institutions within India or US \$ 1000 in case of institutions outside India will cover overhead costs including printing, photography, videography, documentation, booklets containing details of the panels, brand visibility, promotions etc.

The proposals may be emailed to mai@isleijle.org latest by 30 September 2025

Travel Arrangements

The Indian Society of Labour Economics does not have any regular source of funding and each year the Society tries to raise some limited resources. As such, it is expected that the paper presenters, resource persons and other participants will fund their travel costs through their own institutions or other sources. For some select keynote / invited paper writers and resource persons, who are either superannuated or cannot manage their travel costs, the Society will make an effort to meet their travel expenses.



Conference Registration Charges*

Participation Category	With Accommodation			Without Accommodation	
	Delegate		Accompanying Person	Delegate	
	ISLE Members	Non-ISLE Members		ISLE Members	Non-ISLE Members
India (INR)	6000	7500	4000	3000	4500
Developing Countries (US \$)	150		75	75	
Other Countries (US \$)	225		100	100	
Students (Post Graduates and Ph.D. only)					
India (INR)	3500	5000	3000	2000	3500
Outside India (US \$):					
Developing Countries	75		60	40	
Other Countries	110		75	60	

* Conference Registration includes a Rs.1500 mandatory ISLE Annual Membership.

- ◆ The Conference registration will cover payment towards the Conference kit, modest accommodation and meals (Breakfast, Tea, Lunches and Dinners) served during the Conference days.
- ◆ The Book of Abstracts, containing the abstracts of the papers, will be published online on <https://conference.isleijle.org> during the Conference. To avail a hard copy of the Book Abstracts an additional amount of Rs. 600/- will be charged while registering on the Conference portal.
- ◆ Those paying the Conference registration charge after the deadline of 31 October 2025 will have to arrange their own accommodation and transportation.

Mode of Payment

The ISLE has implemented a payment system to streamline and centralize the acceptance of payments while ensuring that information is encrypted, providing a secure and convenient transaction process.

Conference registration charge should be paid online at <https://conference.isleijle.org> by clicking the 'Conference Participation Charges' button.



Cancellations:

- ✦ Cancellations more than one month prior to the conference start date will be eligible for a 75% refund of the total conference fee and three weeks prior to the conference start date will be eligible for a 50% refund of the total conference fee.
- ✦ No refunds will be issued for cancellations made less than three weeks before the conference start date.

General Participation

Scholars, experts, organisations and stakeholders interested in labour and employment issues who do not want to present papers in the Conference are also welcome to register and participate in the Conference and contribute to its deliberations.

Conference registration charge should be paid online at <https://conference.isleijle.org> by clicking the 'Conference Participation Charges' button.



CONTACT DETAILS

CONFERENCE PRESIDENT

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All Conference logistics related queries (accommodation, local arrangements) should be addressed on above email and phone numbers.

ISLE SECRETARIAT AT NEW DELHI

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All queries relating to Paper Submissions, Programme and Registrations should be emailed only to: mail@isleijle.org. For details and updates on the Conference, please visit www.conference.isleijle.org





Guidelines on Conference Themes for Prospective Contributors

The guidelines on the conference themes are suggestive only. The prospective paper writers may contribute on other relevant sub-themes as well. Apart from contributions on India, papers relating to other regions and countries are also welcome. Papers can be from different theoretical perspectives, as can be the use of different empirical methodologies (e.g. quantitative, qualitative, case-oriented or mixed methods). Submission of original work that contributes to the advancement of existing knowledge and debates on the topic are encouraged.





Technology, Innovations and Employment

The world economy is currently undergoing a fourth industrial revolution. Technological innovations have significantly accelerated changes in the structure of the economy, polity, and society. These innovations, often termed *disruptive*, are having an unprecedented impact on the organization of work and nature of employment.

Historically, technological progress has been marked by episodes of significant job losses and unemployment but also employment creation in new sectors and activities. The first industrial revolution, for instance, led to widespread displacement of workers in the UK. The resulting unrest culminated in the ‘Luddite riots’, where angry workers destroyed power looms that threatened their livelihoods in the wool and cotton industries. But significant jobs were created in several other activities.

During the first industrial revolution, many workers displaced by mechanization in Europe migrated to settler colonies in North and South America in search of work and a better life. However, the modern-day Global South lacks similar migration opportunities, despite youth aspirations to migrate due to unemployment. Rising anti-immigration sentiments, such as the recent evictions of migrants from the USA, reflect both rising domestic unemployment and political pressures to tighten migration policies.

Today, automation and digital technologies are again displacing workers, potentially on a massive scale. Scholars are divided on the long-term implications. Geoffrey Hinton, for example, argues that advancements in artificial general intelligence and robotics could eventually automate all tasks—both intellectual and physical—necessitating universal basic income schemes. In contrast, Daron Acemoglu contends that humans will continue to be essential for certain tasks, meaning AI will complement rather than replace the workforce entirely.

The World Bank’s *2019 World Development Report* supports a more optimistic view, asserting that while automation may displace some jobs, it simultaneously generates new industries and employment opportunities.

Empirical research over the last four decades, covering technologies such as ICT, robotics, innovation, and total factor productivity (TFP), suggests that the labor-displacing effects of technology are generally outweighed by mechanisms that



create or reinstate employment. However, blue-collar workers have borne the brunt of these shifts, highlighting the urgent need for effective upskilling and reskilling policies, along with targeted social support.

It is widely acknowledged that technological change causes short-term job losses. However, whether it results in long-term unemployment remains a contested issue. The debate features two camps: optimists, who believe that compensation mechanisms offset job losses, and pessimists, who argue that new technologies can, in some cases, lead to lasting employment declines. The phrase *technological unemployment*—coined by John Maynard Keynes in the 1930s—referred to this temporary imbalance during periods of adjustment.

The innovation studies literature, which examines product, process, market, and institutional innovations, illustrates the complexity of assessing innovation's employment impact. No single framework can fully explain the direct and indirect consequences of technological change on labor demand. The core concern remains the relative pace of job destruction through automation versus job creation through new economic activities.

Evidence shows that product innovations (whether novel or imitative) tend to have a positive employment effect, while process innovations often reduce employment. Additionally, recent innovations are increasingly **skill-biased**—favoring more educated workers while displacing unskilled labor. This has led to wage polarization and growing income inequality within and across countries.

In open economies, trade and innovation together significantly shape employment and wage dynamics. National innovation systems play a vital mediating role in determining how technological innovations and their diffusion affect employment. The eventual employment outcomes depend on how labour market's function, how wages are set, and how institutions support worker learning, adaptability, and welfare.

Paper writers should aim to develop consistent models that explain and predict innovation-employment dynamics at the firm, industry, and macroeconomic levels. In particular, the prospective papers may consider examining the following issue:

- ✦ **Firm-level innovation and employment:** Exploring how innovation affects employment within evolving firms and market structures.
- ✦ **Innovation-trade-employment nexus:** Understanding how innovation and trade jointly influence growth and labour markets.
- ✦ **Global value chains:** Analyzing how technological changes reshape employment relations across borders.
- ✦ **Innovation and quality employment:** Investigating how innovation affects job quality and wage structures.



- ◆ **Distributional impacts:** Assessing how innovations impact different countries and regions over time.
- ◆ **Structural transformation:** Examining how innovation drives shift across sectors and their implications for employment.
- ◆ **Artificial Intelligence:** Sector-wise effects of AI adoption on employment and wage patterns.
- ◆ **Youth employment and upward mobility:** Evaluating how innovation affects the educated workforce's aspirations and opportunities.
- ◆ **Organizational innovations and gig economy:** Addressing the impact of platform-based employment models on job security and social protection.
- ◆ **Reskilling ecosystems:** Collaboration with government and industries to build agile, lifelong learning systems that align with emerging technologies.
- ◆ **Digital infrastructure and access:** Bridging the digital divide for ensuring equitable participation in innovation-driven economies.
- ◆ **Inclusive innovation policies:** Tailing strategies needed to ensure innovations benefit to marginalized communities and rural populations.
- ◆ **Public-private partnerships:** Fostering job-creating innovations, particularly in green technologies and sustainable industries.
- ◆ **Labour market flexibility with protection:** Balancing flexibility for firms with adequate security for workers (e.g., portable benefits, universal insurance) in the gig economy era.
- ◆ **Ethical AI adoption:** Guidelines and standards governing the use of AI for ensure human dignity, fairness, and job dignity.
- ◆ **Urban-rural employment gaps:** Leveraging innovations to decentralize economic opportunities and address urban concentration of jobs.





Education, Employment and Labour Markets

While education and skills have great intrinsic value, they are also deeply interconnected with labour market outcomes and labour market inequalities, and with the pace and pattern of growth and development.

Education focuses on largely a structured acquisition of knowledge, while skills focus on how to do things and achieve specific outcomes. Since knowledge and skills can become obsolete, both require to be embedded in a life-long learning approach. Further, although education and skills can be complementary and symbiotic in fostering learning, they are not always aligned. It is possible to have education devoid of practical skill, and skill without substantial knowledge. For meaningful labour market outcomes—especially decent work—the integration of education and skill is essential. The disconnect between the two often results in imbalances, such as youth possessing formal educational qualifications that are irrelevant in a rapidly changing economy driven by technology and innovation.

Globally, the integration of education and skills varies. Some regions successfully blend theoretical learning with practice, while others continue to separate them. In India, formal general education, technical and vocational education, and skill training were segregated till a few decades ago. While education has expanded rapidly, its quality and employability, diversity and inequality in standards across regions and institutions raise a number of questions regarding the links between education and the labour market for different groups and strata in society. The New Education Policy 2020 which is being rolled out, has now attempted to focus on quality, relevance and inter-disciplinarity of education as well as increase in its skill content.

On the other side, formal skill training came under focus since the early years of this century, when a number of reports pointed out skill gaps and deficits in the labour market. Developments in skill training have tried to bridge the gap between skills and mainstream education, and skill training programmes have focussed on modular training, internships, public -private partnerships, formal training of different durations, internships, and recognition of prior learning (RPL). Informal training and learning on the job also continue to acquire a large space in the skill eco-system. A large internship programme with the top 500 companies has been rolled out in 2023-24. However, the links between skill training and labour market



outcomes is still at best, tenuous, and the role of the various stakeholders still requires to be fully delineated.

Rapid technological changes are making significant changes to the education and skills scenario. In the face of disruptive technologies and technological change, treating education and skill as isolated components risks rendering learners obsolete. Even small-scale, labour-intensive industries are being impacted by emerging technologies like artificial intelligence. Firms relying on static skill sets risk redundancy. These changes necessitate a different paradigm for education, skilling and upskilling and their mutual integration.

Sustainability adds another crucial dimension to education and skills. Moving from a linear to a circular economy demands green jobs, grounded in integrated education and skills. Without this integration, green transitions may exacerbate precarities rather than resolve them. This is fundamentally a governance challenge. Firms that resist socio-economic and technological upgrading for short-term convenience risk falling into obsolescence traps. In buyer-driven value chains, upstream suppliers lacking skill and learning capacity face existential threats. Especially in small firms, fostering learning for product and process innovation is essential—particularly as global value chains shift from comparative advantage to capability-driven models.

While policy efforts increasingly incorporate inclusive and sustainable learning, challenges remain in harmonizing general, technical, and vocational education. Key questions include how institutions secure investments for quality education, how they link skills to decent work, and how public policies can align labour markets, industries, and the state toward a shared purpose. Higher education has a critical role to play, evolving from a qualification-centric model to one emphasizing performance, innovation, and flexibility. This applies across sectors and employment forms—whether gig work, manufacturing, software, or academia.

In navigating future-of-work transitions shaped by ageing populations, climate change, migration, and digitization, understanding the interplay between education, skills, and outcomes like wages and employment is vital. Hence, educational and skilling systems must engage with both the state and industry to bridge learning and labour. Some suggested key dimensions and issues for the prospective paper writers are the following:

- ◆ What determines the variations in educational infrastructure and outcomes? How does this vary across regions and for socio-economic groups?
- ◆ How significant are spatial, socio-economic and regional divides in skill building capacity. How can these be bridged?
- ◆ How do higher education and skill formation affect wages and decent job availability? Do the results vary across time and space? Can inclusive and high-quality education and training improve labour market outcomes? How have education and skill ntraining programmes performed in India?



- ◆ How does education – technical and general – influence the pace and pattern of economic growth and productivity?
- ◆ How can public policies align education with labour market needs and reduce persistent inequalities?
- ◆ What are the labour market benefits of aligning technical, vocational, and general education?
- ◆ What are the learnings from existing models of imparting general, technical and vocational education and skills for India and the global South?
- ◆ How do internships and apprenticeships bridge the gap between education and employment? What role have internship schemes in India played in shaping firm productivity and labour market outcomes?
- ◆ Curriculum innovation: What role do emerging domains (e.g., green skills, digital literacy, emotional intelligence) play in curriculum reform?
- ◆ How does the digital economy shape reskilling and upskilling, particularly in the gig sector?
- ◆ Which occupations face continual upskilling pressures, and how does technology accelerate this need?
- ◆ Is reskilling a response to skill obsolescence? What are its primary delivery channels?
- ◆ How do gender and demographics influence access to reskilling and upskilling opportunities?
- ◆ Employer-led skilling ecosystems: What is the role that industries play or can play in co-investing in building sector-specific skill academies or centres of excellence?
- ◆ Behavioural economics of learning: How can nudge-based approaches motivate employers and mid-career workers to engage in skilling-reskilling?
- ◆ Migrant workers and training: What factors constrain or enable migrant workers to access skill training and lifelong learning for decent work?
- ◆ Green skill taxonomies: What specific skills are required for solar energy, waste management, biodiversity restoration, etc.?
- ◆ Workplace redesign: How do skills influence the spatial and digital reorganization of workplaces in sustainable systems (e.g., remote work, low-carbon operations)?
- ◆ How can SDG 4 (Quality Education) and SDG 8 (Decent Work & Economic Growth) be aligned? How do education-skill linkages advance other SDGs (e.g., SDG 5 on gender, SDG 10 on inequality)?



- ◆ Informal sector inclusion: How can informal workers be integrated into SDG-based policy frameworks for skilling and education?
- ◆ Fiscal pathways: What are the financing models (e.g., public-private partnerships, ESG investments, impact bonds) to fund large-scale education-skill initiatives?
- ◆ Human-AI collaboration: How do education systems prepare students for co-working with machines rather than being displaced by them? Are systems building higher-order thinking, creativity, collaboration, and adaptability alongside technical skills?
- ◆ Multi-stakeholder governance models: What role has been played by tripartite collaborations (government, industry, other non-state institutions) play in delivering skill-education integration?
- ◆ Decentralised implementation: What role do decentralise – at or below the level of states/provinces – play in tailoring education-skill strategies to local labour markets?





Rural Transformation and Workforce Dynamics

It is well known—and almost axiomatic in mainstream theories of structural transformation—that as an economy progresses through ‘modern economic growth’, its reliance on the primary sector, particularly agriculture, tends to decline, both in terms of output and workforce share. While this trend has been reflected in agriculture’s declining contribution to national income, most countries in the Global South, including India, have not experienced a corresponding drop in agricultural employment. Since independence, India’s transition from a low-paid agricultural workforce to higher-productivity sectors such as industry and manufacturing has been sluggish. It was argued that market-oriented reforms and policies would accelerate this transformation, with the private sector driving economic growth and the government playing a regulatory and facilitative role. However, the expected shift has not materialised to large extent as anticipated.

In spite of progress, there are also signs of concerns in rural India. Wage growth has been negligible, and the share of the workforce engaged in agriculture, contrary to the slow and steady trend witnessed earlier, has not only remained high but has even increased in recent years. Additionally, self-employment—often a form of disguised unemployment or subsistence earnings—has risen sharply after the shock of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Rural transformation has occurred on multiple levels. Agriculture’s role in shaping the labour market has diminished. This is partly due to structural changes in agricultural production driven by increasing mechanisation and monetisation of the agrarian and rural economy. It is also influenced by shifts in the rural non-farm sector, which has become increasingly integrated with the broader economy through urbanisation, migration, and enhanced connectivity. These changes have had far-reaching implications for the social and economic fabric of villages. The economic transformation, combined with social and economic hierarchies, has led to unequal distribution of the benefits of structural change. Simultaneously, the weakening and dismantling of agrarian production systems have reshaped class and social relations. Previously marginalised groups, such as Scheduled Castes (SCs), have leveraged new opportunities to enhance their bargaining power in the labour market, though they remain excluded from ownership and control of production systems. The emerging class contradictions demand a new lens for understanding rural transformation and its impact on labour markets.



Another key factor shaping the labour market is public policy—both through active intervention and, in many areas, its conspicuous absence. A prominent example of state intervention is the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), which has played a critical role in providing employment to the most vulnerable segments of the rural population. While it initially helped raise rural wages, it has faced pushback from state governments in recent years. MGNREGA proved to be a lifeline for vulnerable workers during periods of economic shock such as droughts, demonetisation, and, crucially, the COVID-19 pandemic. However, it has not empowered rural labour to demand better wages and working conditions in recent years.

There is also a lack of clarity on the drivers behind the recent rise in female labour force participation in rural India, particularly in agriculture but also in non-agricultural sectors. This phenomenon needs to be thoroughly investigated for its role in rural transformation and well-being of women workers.

Finally, the rural economy is now more integrated with the urban and global economies—not just in terms of production structures but also through financial linkages. These integrations have introduced new methods, technologies, and global value chain connections into the rural economy. However, they have also introduced new risks related to production and marketing. These developments have led to new forms of labour relations and land tenancy in agriculture, as well as changes in the organisation and production of non-farm goods and services.

All these clearly necessitates a fundamental reassessment of India's development trajectory. The country must adopt a more nuanced approach to economic policymaking—one that emphasises long-term planning, robust state intervention in critical sectors, and ensures that growth translates into real improvements in wages and employment. At this juncture, revisiting and rethinking economic policies is not just desirable, but essential.

Given this backdrop, some select themes and issues that the prospective paper writers may wish to explore include:

- ✦ What are the trends in multi-tasking or pluri-activity by large segments of workers, in rural India; and their patterns and dynamics?
- ✦ What are the recent trends in non-farm employment and dynamics over time?
- ✦ What is happening to migration (rural to urban/rural to rural) and their implications for rural economy? Has reverse migration stopped after Covid? What are their implications for wages, income and labour relations?
- ✦ How have intergenerational aspirations among rural youth influenced migration decisions, education choices, and engagement with agriculture?
- ✦ The recent increase in women's workforce participation are subsistence led or expanding opportunities?



- ◆ What are the linkages between caste dynamics and the world of work and patterns in participation, remuneration, and socio-economic security?
- ◆ Are there serious mismatches between demand and supply of skills and employment generation in rural areas?
- ◆ How has rural financialisation (microfinance, digital credit, SHGs) altered labour relations and household economic strategies in rural India?
- ◆ In what ways has mechanisation in agriculture contributed to shifts in intra-household labour dynamics, particularly across caste and gender lines?
- ◆ How has the integration of rural economies with global value chains impacted traditional artisanal, craft, or local production systems?
- ◆ What are the long-term implications of rural housing, public services, and informal employment networks?
- ◆ To what extent have digital technologies and platform-based gig work penetrated rural areas, and what are their effects on employment patterns?
- ◆ How do environmental factors (e.g., climate variability, land degradation) intersect with rural employment challenges?
- ◆ What is the impact of public investment in rural infrastructure and irrigation on labour absorption in agriculture and allied sectors?
- ◆ What are the regional disparities in rural labour market transformations, and how do state-specific policies (or the lack thereof) mediate these changes?





Conference Organisers

Symbiosis International (Deemed) University (SIU)

Symbiosis International (Deemed) University is a multi-disciplinary university rooted in the Vedic principle of “*Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam*” – the world is one family, offering its students and faculty a vibrant learning ecosystem designed around its multi-cultural and innovative ethos. The multidisciplinary university comprises the faculty of Law, Management, Computer Studies, Medical & Health Sciences, Media & Communication, Humanities & Social Sciences, Engineering, Architecture & Design and Education.

SIU has consistently excelled in national and international rankings. It has been ranked 31st in India by the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) 2024. Internationally, SIU has also made a significant impact. Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings 2025 has ranked the university in the 601-800 band globally and 4th in India. QS World University Rankings 2025 has ranked the University 31st globally and 1st in India for Employer Reputation. The University is ranked 216 in Asia, 42nd in Southern Asia, and 23rd in India in the recently published QS World University Rankings (Asia) 2025. The university has achieved top rankings in various fields, including Business & Management Studies (140th globally, 6th in India) and Social Sciences & Management (389th globally, 10th in India).

Symbiosis School of Economics

Symbiosis School of Economics is a leading economic institution in the country. SSE is a place where knowledge, intellect and diversity come together to stimulate young minds, creating a class of promising economists and social change makers for a better tomorrow. The institution is committed to fostering intellectual discipline, critical thinking, and analytical skills, nurturing young leaders for the 21st century.

SSE nurtures front-line and innovative research. A number of research projects and consultancy have been awarded to SSE from the Government of Maharashtra, NITI AAYOG, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Macquarie University, Sheffield University, NIUA- UNESCO, NIUA- World Bank, JANAGRAHA, RIS, CTIER, IHD, IIMAD, IRADe, CII, FICCI, RBI, Cybage, PIC, PARISAR, NABARD, NSE and ITDP to name a few. see <http://www.sse.ac.in>



Leadership at SIU



Prof. (Dr.) S. B. Mujumdar

Founder and President, Symbiosis
Chancellor, Symbiosis International (Deemed)
University

(Awarded Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri by the
President of India)

Prof. (Dr.) S. B. Mujumdar is the Founder and
President of Symbiosis, a multi-national, multi-
lingual educational institution

- “Padma Bhushan” in 2012
- “Punya Bhushan” in 2009
- “Padma Shri” in 2005

[view more...](#)



Dr. Vidya Yeravdekar

Principal Director of Symbiosis Society and
Pro-Chancellor of Symbiosis International
(Deemed) University

- Member of ICCR
- Member of UGC
- Chairperson at FCCI

[view more...](#)



Dr. Ramakrishnan Raman

Vice Chancellor, Symbiosis International
(Deemed) University

A visionary academic leader and tech-savvy
strategist driving global excellence in higher
education. He is reshaping the future of learning
through innovation, internationalization,
and digital transformation.

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Dr Rajiv Yeravdekar

Provost & Dean, Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences

Dr. Rajiv Yeravdekar excelled in the Maharashtra PSC exam and taught at B.J. Medical College and Sassoon General Hospital.

Gold Medal awardee at M.D. (Ob & Gyn)

[view more...](#)



Prof. Jyoti Chandiramani

Dean, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Director, Symbiosis School of Economic & Head, Symbiosis Centre for Urban Studies

Prof Chandiramani is an acclaimed educator, academician, researcher, and social scientist. Her areas of expertise include urban infrastructure, urban mobility, urban poverty, urban economic development, international development cooperation, and India's Development Agenda towards the SDGs.

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About the Venue

Located among lush hills, Symbiosis International (Deemed) University, Lavale Campus, Pune offers a chance to coexist with nature as it stands over a valley surrounded by clouds and painted green in its best season. Powered by solar sources, its eco-friendly functioning makes for a perfect setting for contemplative and incisive study far from the worries and hustle of the city.

For details See: <https://www.siu.edu.in/campus/lavale>

How to reach Symbiosis International (Deemed) University, Lavale, Pune

From the airport: 1 hr 5 min (28.4 km) via Sus Lane

- By Auto: Rs. 500-600 approximately
- By Cab: Rs. 700-900 approximately

From the Pune Railway Station: 50 min (19.8 km) via Sus Lane

- By Auto: Rs. 400 approximately
- By Cab: Rs. 500-600 approximately



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About Pune

Weather in Pune in January - Pune experiences pleasant and cool weather in January, making it an ideal time to explore the city. The temperature ranges between **10°C to 28°C**, with crisp mornings and mild afternoons. The humidity levels remain low, and occasional light breezes make it comfortable for sightseeing. Light woollens or jackets are recommended, especially for evenings and early mornings.

Some Places of Attraction

- a) Aga Khan Palace -A historically significant site, the Aga Khan Palace is an architectural marvel associated with Mahatma Gandhi. It serves as a museum and memorial, showcasing Gandhiji's life and contributions.
- b) Raja Kelkar Museum - A treasure trove of India's cultural and artistic heritage, this museum houses an impressive collection of artifacts, including musical instruments, sculptures, and everyday objects from different eras.
- c) Chaturshinghi Temple- Dedicated to Goddess Chaturshringi, this temple is situated on a hill and requires climbing 100 steps, offering a spiritual and scenic experience.
- d) Jangli Maharaj Temple- A revered shrine dedicated to the saint Jangli Maharaj, known for its serene environment and spiritual significance.
- e) Shaniwar Wada - Once the grand seat of the Peshwas of the Maratha Empire, this historic fortification is known for its massive gates, intricate wooden carvings, and the legendary stories of its past.
- f) Laxmi Road - Pune's famous shopping street, known for traditional Maharashtrian sarees, jewelry, and a variety of local handicrafts.

Some places of interest around Pune:

- a) Mahabaleshwar - 120 KM - A picturesque hill station known for its lush greenery, strawberry farms, and stunning viewpoints like Arthur's Seat and Elephant's Head Point.



- b) Lonavala - 67.3 KM Khandala (71.5 km) - Popular twin hill stations offering breathtaking views, trekking trails, waterfalls, and famous spots like Tiger's Leap and Bhushi Dam.
- c) Shirdi - 185.8 KM - One of India's most revered pilgrimage sites, dedicated to Sai Baba, attracting devotees from all over the country
- d) Singhad Fort - 29.8 KM - A historic fortress that played a crucial role in Maratha history. It offers panoramic views of the surrounding landscape and is a popular trekking destination.

How to reach Pune

By Air

Pune International Airport (PNQ) is well-connected to major Indian cities such as Delhi, Mumbai, Bangalore, Chennai, and Hyderabad, with several domestic and international flights operating daily.

By Train

Pune Junction Railway Station is a major rail hub, with regular trains connecting Pune to cities across India, including Mumbai, Delhi, Bangalore, Hyderabad, and Kolkata. The **Deccan Queen** and **Shatabdi Express** are popular options for travel between Pune and Mumbai.

By Road

Pune has excellent road connectivity with major cities:

- ✦ **From Mumbai (150 km):** Via Mumbai-Pune Expressway (~3 hours)
- ✦ **From Bangalore (837 km):** Via NH48 (~13 hours)
- ✦ **From Hyderabad (560 km):** Via NH65 (~10 hours)

Regular **MSRTC buses, private buses, and taxis** operate on these routes, making travel convenient and accessible.

Accommodation Arrangements

The delegates will be accommodated both within the University and in places adjacent to the Conference Venue/University. After the completion of registration, the information on accommodation of the delegates will be communicated to them in advance.

Free crèche facilities will be provided during the days of the Conference with full-time day-care staff (9 am to 6 pm). Those who need the crèche facility should inform the organizers during registration process of the conference.





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SYMBIOSIS **SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS**

Symbiosis International (Deemed) University
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