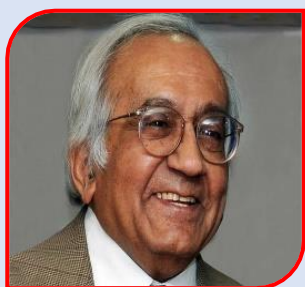


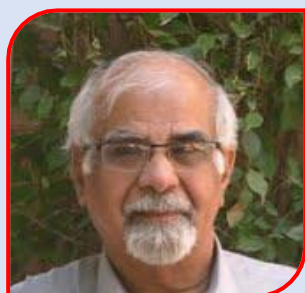
KP @85 Festschrift Conference - Session 6

Date: 12th December, 2020 (Saturday)
Time: 18:00 - 20:20 hrs (IST)



Dr. Kirit Parikh

Chairman, Integrated Research and Action for Development (IRADe)



Dr. Surjit S. Bhalla

Executive Director, India at the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Former Member of Economic Advisory Council of Prime Minister of India



Mr. Rohit Magotra

Deputy Director, Integrated Research and Action for Development (IRADe)



Mr. Litul Baruah

Programme Manager Materials at Laudes Foundation, Gurgaon, IRADe Alumni



Dr. Vikas Desai

Technical Director, Urban Health and Climate Resilience Centre of Excellence



Dr. Jyoti K Parikh

Executive Director, Integrated Research and Action for Development (IRADe)



Dr. Rajat Kathuria

Director and Chief Executive, Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER)



Ms. Amrita Agarwal

National Lead, Health Systems Design, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation



Mr. Karan Bhasin

Director at Global Young Action Network Foundation

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Agenda

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18:00 - 18:40 hrs	Presentation on " Strengthening Public Health Systems for COVID response"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Rohit Magotra, Deputy Director, Integrated Research and Action for Development (IRADe)
18:40 - 19:20 hrs	Presentation on "COVID-19 lockdown impact on rural India"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Litul Baruah, Programme Manager Materials at Laudes Foundation, Gurgaon, ex-IRADe Alumni • Mr. Sudershan Singh, Independent Researcher
19:20 - 20:00 hrs	Presentation on "COVID – 19 India: Evolution and Performance "	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Surjit S. Bhalla, Executive Director for India at the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Former Member of Economic Advisory Council of Prime Minister of India • Mr. Karan Bhasin, Director at Global Young Action Network Foundation
20:00 - 20:15 hrs	Q& A Session	<p>Discussants-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Vikas Desai, Technical Director, Urban Health and Climate Resilience Centre of Excellence • Dr. Rajat Kathuria, Director and Chief Executive, Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER) • Ms. Amrita Agarwal, National Lead, Health Systems Design, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation • Dr. Kirit Parikh, Chairman, Integrated Research and Action for Development (IRADe) • Dr. Jyoti K Parikh, Executive Director, Integrated Research and Action for Development (IRADe)
20:15 – 20:20 hrs	Closing Address & Vote of Thanks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Jyoti K Parikh, Executive Director, Integrated Research and Action for Development (IRADe)

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Abstracts

Presentation 1 - " Strengthening Public Health Systems for COVID response"

Presenter – Mr. Rohit Magotra, Deputy Director, Integrated Research and Action for Development (IRADe)

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The exponential growth of the people getting affected by COVID-19 is rapidly increasing the demand on health facilities and healthcare professionals. Public health systems are unable to operate efficiently and appear overstretched. This requires us to analyze and develop our preparedness to COVID-19 like health disasters and formulate a robust response mechanism that can deal with such emergencies. Priority areas which require our immediate attention are: Situational awareness in building initial response to public health emergencies, balancing of emergency response and routine operations, communication and coordination among the stakeholders/actors in the public health system, resource mobilization, capacity building and long-term management of Pandemic. Increased use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) can prove to be critical in managing COVID-19. New action plans should include measures to combat multi-risk health emergencies amid pandemics, making sure the availability of primary / tertiary health infrastructure for other equally essential health ailments. Standard operating protocols must be established to regulate treatment mechanisms and charges in private hospitals during a public health crisis. Given the high risk faced by healthcare workers, a replacement strategy for healthcare workers is recommended for maintaining enough pool of doctors and nurses to combat workpool losses. Long-haul fight against widespread pandemic requires greater preparedness for home quarantine and addressing the coping mechanisms for the vulnerable demographic. The public health emergency preparedness and response plan needs to be revamped and enhanced to deal with pandemics. These policy action pointers for better preparedness for future public health challenges. With COVID-19, our response mechanisms have finally begun to move in the right direction, and they should be further strengthened by some of the key policy measures recommended here.

Presentation 2 - "COVID-19 lockdown impact on rural India"

Presenter – Mr. Litul Baruah, Programme Manager Materials at Laudes Foundation, Gurgaon, ex-IRADe Alumni and **Mr. Sudershan Singh**, Research Associate, Competition Commission of India, New Delhi

Email- litul.baruah@gmail.com , sudershan108@gmail.com

This paper analyses data from first round of Covid-19 related shocks survey in Rural India. The survey was conducted by World Bank in Jharkhand, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh through CAPI, in collaboration with IDinsight, the Development Data Lab, and John Hopkins University. The samples for these surveys were drawn from multiple sample frames of surveys and impact evaluations previously conducted by the World Bank, the Ministry of Rural Development, India and IDinsight- Aadhar Report Sample (SOAR), Health & Nutrition Messaging Sample (SBCC), Agriculture RCT Sample (SHC) and Health and Nutrition Convergence Sample (CIEFF). The paper looks at the impact of Covid-19 lockdown on migration, household consumption, selling of agriculture produce and price realisation, non-farm employment and access to some of the relief as announced by the government of India.

Presentation 3 - " COVID – 19 India: Evolution and Performance "

Presenter - Dr. Surjit S. Bhalla, Executive Director for India at the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Former Member of Economic Advisory Council of Prime Minister of India and **Mr. Karan Bhasin**, Director at Global Young Action Network Foundation

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COVID – 19 was a great unknown when it arrived almost a year ago, and still is. How can epidemiological performance against COVID be measured, and what explains the differential pattern of such performance (flattening the curve) across different states of India? We examine demographics, urbanization, and several aspects of state capacity to help evaluate performance. In addition, two strategies that India (and most countries in the world) have followed to combat the virus – lockdown and post-lockdown 3-T policy of Tests, Tracing and Treatment - are examined in some detail. Which policy has performed better, and why? The paper also examines the degree to which increased testing, required to isolate contagion, also leads to more infections being detected.