

3rd National Seminar, 2016
on

Market Imperfections, Farmers' Distress and Agrarian Crisis in India

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Registration

The duly filled-in registration form along with registration fee (**which includes registration kit and working lunch**) may be sent through crossed demand draft/multicity cheque drawn in favour of **Society of Economics and Development** payable at Ludhiana, to *Organizing Secretary, Society of Economics and Development, Department of Economics and Sociology, PAU, Ludhiana-141004*. No TA/DA will be paid for participation in the Seminar.

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Registration Fee

Delegate : ₹ 1500.00
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Venue:
Punjab Agricultural University
Ludhiana



Society of Economics and Development
Department of Economics and Sociology
Punjab Agricultural University
Ludhiana-141 004

About the Society

The Society of Economics and Development (SOED) is a non-profit association. It was founded in 2004 and initially known as the Indian Institute of Industrial Economics and Development Society, it became the **Society of Economics and Development** in 2012. It is a scientific society of individuals and institutions interested in the field of Economics and related disciplines. Being a scientific society, its principal aim is to promote the research effort in the field of Economics, Sociology and Business Studies. The membership of the society is open to all professionals all over the globe who are actively involved for the betterment of society and their work addresses a broad range of disciplines such as economics, applied economics, rural development, resources and environment, food and consumer issues, and agribusiness. The SOED brings together researchers and other professionals interested to solve the socio-economic problems of society and to enhance/exchange the knowledge and understanding about the relevant areas/activities pertaining to Economics, Agricultural Economics, Business Management, Consumer Behaviour, Sociology and Development. *Indian Journal of Economics and Development* is the official organ of the Society. The Society also ensures that its scientific journal (*Indian Journal of Economics and Development*, **NAAS Score: 4.01**) is regularly published, widely read and circulated, has high impact and attracts high-quality papers from Indian and foreign authors and to organise Conference/Seminar every year for providing an excellent forum for interacting and deliberating on identified themes.

About the Punjab Agricultural University

The Punjab Agricultural University (PAU) is located in Ludhiana city (Punjab State) in north-west India at a distance of 316 km from New Delhi. It is well connected by road and rail with the national capital. Situated on the Ludhiana Ferozepur Road, the University covers an area of 1510 acres on its main campus and 4615 acres at the regional research stations. Modelled on the pattern of Land Grant Colleges in U.S.A., the PAU performs the integrated functions of teaching, research and extension in agriculture, agricultural engineering, home science and allied disciplines.

About the National Seminar

Topic: Market Imperfections, Farmers' Distress and Agrarian Crisis in India

Market imperfections affect virtually every transaction in some way, generating costs that interfere

with trades that rational individuals make, or would make, in the absence of the imperfection. Understanding these costs gives us insight regarding the total costs of transactions, where to place them, or whether to make them at all. Market imperfections also generate profit opportunities for entrepreneurs who can reduce or eliminate them. Institutions or individuals who can lower costs tracing to imperfections have a competitive advantage and can earn economic rents until competing firms adapt. Imperfections can and do change over time, but they collectively never go to zero. Identifying and solving the underlying business problems linked to these imperfections remain an ongoing challenge and profit opportunity. Land ownership inequality, malfunctioning rural factor markets result in increased land concentration, increased income inequality, and inefficient resource allocation.

Increase in agricultural productivity, the shift from subsistence to commercialized farming and increased market access are considered as some of the ways to make the farming sector in India a viable enterprise. Quite often, the prevalence of market imperfections in both input and output markets ration out the small and marginal farmers and put their sustainability in danger. Continuous existence of informal credit agencies, large number of intermediaries in agricultural marketing, lack of infrastructure in markets, high costs of production, collusions among traders are some of the imperfections deeply embedded in Indian agriculture sector. Such imperfections have resulted in farmers' distress and agrarian crisis in large part of the country. Manifestations of agrarian distress in contemporary India is not confined to the pockets of backwardness; even the regions having a high degree of commercial agriculture, using relatively better technology and diversified cropping pattern reported high indebtedness and distress of various kinds.

In such a scenario, Seminar is planned in the theme, **Market imperfections, Farmers' Distress and Agrarian Crisis in India** for bringing greater awareness among the academicians, researchers and policy makers regarding the role of market imperfections in causing agrarian crisis in India. The themes of the seminar are further divided into following sub-themes:

A. MARKET IMPERFECTIONS

1. Input and output market imperfections

- Marketing efficiency of farm product markets.
- Market failure and government intervention.
- Instability of agricultural markets.
- Imperfections of livestock, milk, egg, and poultry markets.

- Rural market imperfections vis-a-vis market access.
- Role of market intelligence in integration of food markets.
- Role of super markets and supply chain management as tools to contain market imperfections.

2. Land and labour market imperfections

- Impact of market imperfections in labour and land markets on land productivity and sustainability.
- Labour market imperfections vis-à-vis total factor productivity.
- Land ownership inequality, malfunctioning rural factor markets versus increased land concentration, increased income inequality, and inefficient resource allocation.

3. Credit market imperfections

- Farm credit market imperfections and farm investment.
- Impact of farm credit market imperfection on land rent, productivity, and profits.
- Impact of mal-distribution of farm subsidy on farm investment.
- Imperfections related to private money lenders.

B. FARMERS' DISTRESS

1. Indebtedness

- Extent of rural indebtedness.
- Causes and consequence of indebtedness.
- Impact of debt waivers on bank balance sheets
- Impact of rural indebtedness on land productivity.

2. Farmers suicides

- Farmers' suicides rate in India.
- Causes and cure of farmers suicides.
- Impact of farmers' suicide on social fabric.
- Myth and realities of farmer's suicides.

C. AGRARIAN CRISIS

- Over-exploitation of natural resources
- Wages and income inequality.
- Stagnation in land productivity.
- Shrinking of holdings and problems of biomass management
- Impact of rising cost of production on farm profitability and agricultural price policy.

Last Date of paper submission

23rd February, 2016

Date of Seminar

7th April, 2016