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Inaugural Session of the 52nd Annual Conference of the OEA held at the Parala Maharaja Engineering College, Berhampur, Odisha. From left to right: Dr. Amarendra Das, Secretary OEA; Professor Bhabani Prasad Dash, President OEA, 2002; Professor Satyakam Mishra, President, OEA; Professor Asoka Kumar Das, Vice Chairman, Odisha State Higher Education Council; Professor Ranjan Kumar Swain, Principal, PMEC and Dr. Jnanaranjan Mohanty, Organizing Secretary.

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About the Orissa Economics Association

he Orissa Economics Association, founded in 1968, was accorded the status of a learned registered society by the Government of Orissa under the Societies Registration Act, 1868 bearing the number 5358/1968-69, dated 27.04.1968. It is one of the oldest regional academic associations in the country. The Association was founded in Ravenshaw College, Cuttack, by Professor Sadasiv Mishra (first President), and a dedicated team of eminent economists: Dr. Debendra Chandra Mishra, Dr. Chakradhar Mishra, Dr. Kshetra Mohan Pattanaik, Shri Ghanashyam Das, Dr. Baidyanath Misra (first Secretary), Dr. Bidyadhar Mishra and Shri Ranga Lal Agarwal. At present the OEA

has 682 individual life members and two institutional members.

Objectives:

The objectives of the Association shall be:

- To engage with debates and discussions on economic issues of contemporary relevance through organising seminars, symposia and similar events;
- To contribute towards improving methods and approaches of teaching economics in the state;
- c. To strengthen the overall socioeconomic research environment and provide policy inputs to the state based on rigorous research; and
- d. To disseminate research findings and contribute to the capacity building of young and aspiring researchers and teachers.

Address for Correspondence

Dr. Amarendra Das, Secretary, OEA

School of Humanities and Social Sciences, NISER Bhubaneswar, Jatani-752050, Khordha, Odisha,

Email: orissaea@gmail.com, Website: orissaea.in

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/OrissaEconomicsAssociation

https://www.youtube.com/c/OdishaEconomicAssociation

Activities Undertaken in 2020

Pre-Conference Workshop on Data Science



Participants of the workshop with Dr. Subhankar Mishra (the resource person); Principal, PMEC, Professor Ranjan Kumar Swain; former Secretary, OEA, Dr. Rabi Narayan Patra; Secretary, OEA Dr. Amarendra Das; and organising secretary Dr. Jnanaranjan Mohanty.

A Pre-Conference Workshop on Data Science was organised at the Parala Maharaja Engineering College, Sitalapalli, Berhampur on February 7, 2020. About 30 research scholars and college lecturers from Odisha attended this workshop.

Dr. Subhankar Mishra, Assistant Professor, Computer Science, National Institute of Science Education and Research (NISER) Bhubaneswar imparted training on R, Python and Anaconda softwares for data analysis.

52nd Annual Conference of the OEA



[Felicitation of Professor Bhabani Prasad Dash, President OEA, 2002 by Professor Asoka Kumar Das, Vice Chairman, Odisha State Higher Education Council, Govt. of Odisha for his significant contribution to the OEA in the presence of Professor Satyakam Mishra, President, OEA (on the left), Prof. Ranjan Kumar Swain, Principal, PMEC (second from the right); Dr. Jnanaranjan Mohanty, Organizing Secretary (extreme right)]

The 52nd Annual Conference of the OEA was organised at the Parala Maharaja Engineering College, Berhampur during February 8-9, 2020. The president of the conference was Professor Satyakam Mishra (retired professor, economics department, Ravenshaw College, first registrar Ravenshaw University, President, Board of Secondary Education, Director, Higher Education Department, and member Odisha Public Service Commission). The themes of the conference were:

- 1) Economics of Natural Resources, Environment and Climate Change,
- 2) Development of Social Sector in Odisha: Issues, Challenges and Prospects.



Professor Deepak Kumar Mishra, JNU, delivering the Professor Baidyanath Misra Endowment Lecture

Invited Speakers

- 1. Professor Asoka Kumar Das, Vice Chairman, Odisha State Higher Education Council.
- Professor Udaya Shankar Mishra, Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala
- Professor Deepak Kumar Mishra, Centre for the Study of Regional Development, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.
- 4. Professor Saudamini Das, Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi
- Professor Amaresh Samantaraya, Pondichery University, Puduchery.
- 6. Shri Jugal Kishore Mohapatra, former Chief Secretary, Odisha









Shri Soumya Ranjan Sahoo, from BSE, Bhubaneswar office, being felicitated by Professor Surendra Nath Behera after delivering a talk on the basics of money and capital market

Endowment/Memorial Lectures at the 52nd Annual Conference of the OEA, PMEC, Berhampur

- The 12th Professor Baidyanath Misra Endowment Lecture was delivered by Professor Deepak Kumar Mishra, JNU, CSRD, on February 8, 2020.
- 2. The 7th Professor Kshetra Mohan Pattanaik Memorial Lecture was delivered by Professor
- Amaresh Samantaraya, Pondichery University on February 8, 2020.
- The 2nd Professor Adwaita Mohanty Memorial Lecture was delivered by Shri Jugal Kishore Mohapatra, former Chief Secreary, Government of Odisha on February 9, 2020.

Pre-Budget Consultation and Budget Discussion



From left to right: Dr. Balakrushna Padhi, Economist, CEFT, XIMB; Shri Panchanan Kanoongo, former finance minister; Professor Satyakam Mishra, President OEA, and Dr. Sarit Kumar Rout, Indian Institute of Public Health, Bhubaneswar.



From left to right: Professor Mitali Chinara, HoD, A&A Economics, Utkal University (standing); Professor Satyakam Mishra, President OEA; Professor Soumendra Mohan Pattanaik, Vice Chancellor, Utkal University; Shri Ashoka K. K. Meena, Principal Secretary, Finance Department, GoO; Professor Srijit Mishra, Director, NCDS, Bhubaneswar.



From left to right: Dr. Amarendra Das, Secretary, OEA (standing), Shri Surendra Kumar Sahu, CoF, Utkal University; Professor Bhabesh Sen, President-Elect OEA; Professor Kishore C. Samal, Editor, OEJ; Dr. Satyapriya Rath, Budget Officer, Dept. of Finance, GoO; Dr. Sarit Kumar Rout, IIPH, Bhubaneswar; Dr. Siba Sankar Mohanty, A&A Economics, Utkal University; Dr. Chittaranjan Nayak, Economics Dept. Ravenshaw University, Cuttack

Pre-Budget Consultation

A Pre-Budget (2020-21) Consultation was organised in the Economics Department of Ravenshaw University, Cuttack on January 11, 2020. Speakers were the following: Shri Panchanan Kanoongo, former finance minister, Government of Odisha; Dr. Sarit Kumar Rout, Associate Professor, Indian Institute of Public Health, Bhubaneswar; Dr. Balakrushna Padhi, Economist, Centre for Excellence in Finance and Taxation, Xavier University, Bhubaneswar; Professor Satyakam Mishra, President, OEA; Dr. Amarendra Das, Secretary OEA; Dr. Dharmabrata Mohapatra, head of the Department, Ravenshaw University; Dr. Chittaranjan Nayak, Assistant Professor, Ravenshaw University and coordinator of the event. The inputs received were compiled and submitted to the Finance Minister, Government of Odisha. Around 200 participants joined this discussion that included life members of the OEA, students of Utkal University and media representatives.

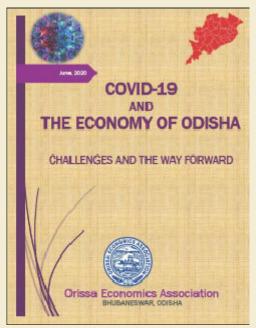


Discussion on Odisha Budget 2020-21

A Panel Discussion on Odisha Budget 2020-21 was jointly organised by the Department of Analytical and Applied Economics, in the Post Graduate Council Hall of the Utkal University on February 19, 2020. The speakers included: Shri Ashoka K. K. Meena, Principal Secretary, Finance Department, Government of Odisha; Professor Soumendra Mohan Pattanaik, Vice Chancellor, Utkal University; Professor Mitali Chinara, Head of the Department, A&A Economics, Utkal University; Professor Srijit Mishra, Director, Nabakrushna Choudhury Centre for Development Studies, Bhubaneswar; Professor Satyakam Mishra, President, OEA; Dr. Amarendra Das, Secretary, OEA; Dr. Satya Prasad Rath, Budget Officer, Government of Odisha; Professor Kishore Chandra Samal, Editor, Orissa Economic Journal; Dr. Sarit Kumar Rout, Associate Professor, Indian Institute of Pubic Health, Bhubaneswar; Dr. Chittaranjan Nayak, Assistant Professor, Ravenshaw University, Cuttack; Dr. Siba Sankar Mohanty, A&A Economics, Utkal University; Shri Surendra Kumar Sahu, Comptroller of Finance, Utkal University and Professor Bhabesh Sen, President-Elect, OEA.

Report on COVID-19 and the Economy of Odisha

The world is going through an unprecedented health and economic crisis due to the wide spread of Corona Virus Disease-2019 (COVID-19). The first confirmed case of coronavirus in India was reported on January 30, 2020, in the southern state of Kerala. Odisha reported the first confirmed coronavirus case on March 16, 2020. The patient was a 33-year old researcher who returned from Italy to Delhi on March 6 and travelled



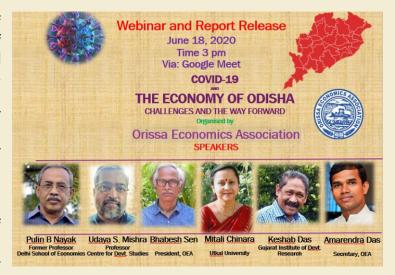
to Bhubaneswar by train on March 12, 2020. The Government of India and Government of Odisha have been taking best possible measures to fight the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic. Both the central and state governments have also announced a slew of economic measures to save the lives and livelihood of millions of people who have been losing jobs and finding their families in

penury. Nonetheless, the threat of a deep economic contraction is looming large. The need of the hour is to initiate open debate and discussions amongst academics and policy makers to devise the best possible economic policy to save the economy from a great depression. In this context, the Orissa Economics Association prepared a report entitled COVID-19 and the Economy of Odisha: Challenges and the

Way Forward to assess the economic consequences of the pandemic on the Odisha economy and suggest appropriate economic policy measures for the Government of Odisha to save the economy from the potential massive slump, unemployment, hunger, and social unrest. The complete report is available at the OEA website orissaea.in.

Webinars

The webinar discussed the key findings of the report COVID-19 and the Economy of Odisha: Challenges and the Way Forward prepared by the Orissa Economics Association. The speakers included Professor Pulin Bihari Nayak, former professor Delhi School of Economics; Professor Udaya S. Mishra, Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram; Professor Bhabesh Sen, President OEA; Professor Mitali Chinara, Utkal University; Professor Keshab Das, Gujarat Institute of Development Research, Ahmedabad and Dr. Amarendra Das, Secretary, OEA. The recorded version of the webinar is available on the YouTube Channel of OEA at https://youtu.be/rXx0XabK1eE





Professor Prabhat Patnaik argued that the welfare nation should ensure five fundamental economic and justiciable rights to every citizen: Right to food, right to employment, right to free and quality public education, right to free and quality public healthcare and right to old age pension. The recorded version of the talk of Professor Patnaik can be watched online on the YouTube Channel of OEA at https://youtu.be/WFFpETl9zNw.



The webinar discussed the implications of the newly formulated National Education Policy and the ordinance on Odisha Universities (Amendment) Act on the autonomy of universities. The speakers included Professor Atul Sood, CSRD, JNU; Professor Vimala Ramchandran, ERU Consultants, New Delhi, and Professor Aditya Kumar Mohanty, Tripura Central University, Agartala. The recorded version of the discussion is available on the YouTube Channel of OEA at https://youtu.be/hXLvuyDodNg.

The webinar included the speakers Dr. Matilde Adduci, Research Associate, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London; Professor Birendra K. Nayak, formerly with Utkal University; Professor Banikanta Mishra, at XIMB, XUB, former President, OEA; and Mr. Srikanta Mohanty, State Leader, All India Khet Mazdoor Kishan Sabha. The discussion can be watched online at https://youtu.be/TzMS4GvcAZs.







The Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel 2020 was awarded jointly to Paul R. Milgrom and Robert B. Wilson "for improvements to auction theory and inventions of new auction formats." In the webinar Professor Debasis Mishra, Indian Statistical Institute, New Delhi made a lucid presentation on the contributions of the Nobel Laureates to the auction theory and how the auctions work in real life. The lecture can be watched on the YouTube Channel of OEA at https://youtu.be/Vlhws0CBmco.



Dr. Basant Misra, the eldest son of Professor Baidyanath Misra, who is a neuro surgen at the Hinduja Hospital, Mumbai.



The 13th Professor Baidyanath Misra Endowment Lecture was delivered by Professor Sudipta Sarangi, Virginia Tech, USA on Novemebr 22, 2020 (100th birthday of late Professor Misra). The lecture of Professor Sarangi can be watched online at https://youtu.be/bZnjH99-XJ8

COVID Special Issue of the *OEJ*

Two special issues of *Orissa Economic Journal* have been published in January 2021. In response to the call for papers, 48 papers were received of which 18 were shortlisted for online presentation and finally 15 papers have been published in the journal. The guest editors of the journal are Professor Pulin Bihari Nayak, former Director, Delhi School of Economics, and Professor Udaya Shankar Mishra, Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram. All journals are available on the website.

OEA Blogs

The Orissa Economics Association is going to launch a website oeablogs in for publishing blogs on various contemporary issues on the economy. The blogs would carry writings in English and Odia languages under different categories like interviews, reflections, books, economy etc. About half of the writings will cover issues relating to the Odisha economy. For submitting write-ups for the blog please visit the website **oeablogs.in**

Upcoming Events

Annual Conference

The 53rd Annual Conference of Orissa Economics Association is going to be organised by the National Institute of Science Education and Research Bhubaneswar on virtual platform during February 12-14, 2021. The president of the conference is Professor Bhabesh Sen. The themes of the conference are (1) Migration, Reverse Migration and the Economy and (2) Farm Non-farm Linkages for Regional Economic Regeneration.

Orissa Economic Journal

The Association has been publishing the Orissa Economic Journal since its inception. The OEJ is a peer reviewed journal with ISSN 0976-5409. The journal got enlisted in the



UGC-CARE in March 2020. The OEA brings out two issues of the journal in a year. Issue-I publishes peer reviewed and selected conference papers (presented at its annual conference). Issue-II includes articles received from open call for papers. A new website has been launched for the journal orissaeconomicjournal.in. Scanned copies of all back volumes of the journal are available on this webiste. For submitting papers to the journal please visit the website.



