

## ABOUT THE ORGANISERS

### DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL SELF GOVERNMENT

Kerala State has 941 Grama Panchayats, 152 Block Panchayats, 14 District Panchayats, 87 Municipalities and 6 Corporations. Consequent to the 73<sup>rd</sup> and 74<sup>th</sup> amendments to the Constitution, the three-tier system came into existence in India. In Kerala, Local Self-Government Institutions have been meaningfully empowered through massive transfer of resources as well as administrative powers. Local Self-Government Institutions have emerged as effective agencies for the implementation of developmental programmes. Developmental programmes are identified and implemented through Grama Sabhas. With the decentralisation of power, local administration department has gained an important role in the formulation and implementation of developmental works at the grass-roots level. Today Panchayat Directorate of Panchayats, Directorate of Urban Affairs, Commissionerate of Rural Development and Town and Country Planning Department are the major allied departments of local administration.

### KERALA INSTITUTE OF LOCAL ADMINISTRATION (KILA)

Kerala Institute of Local Administration (KILA), an autonomous institution under the Ministry of Local Self-Government Department, Government of Kerala, is the nodal agency for training, research and consultancy for Local Self-Government Institutions in Kerala. The institute began its operation in 1990. Apart from training, consultancy and policy oriented research activities, KILA organises seminars, workshops and discussions on various issues of local governance and development. The Government of Kerala have recognised it as a Centre of Excellence. The Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Government of Kerala have declared KILA as the SAARC Centre of Training in Decentralisation and Local Governance.

KILA has provided a lead role in the capacity building and training of democratic decentralisation in Kerala and now it is engaged in institutionalising the process of decentralisation and to make the local government system sustainable.

KILA actively collaborates with many national and international agencies like Swiss Agency for Development and Co-operation (SDC), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), UN-HABITAT, and Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO) with a motive of deepening local governance. KILA collaborates with the Sri Lanka Institute of Local Governance and All India Institute of Local Self Governments, Mumbai to conduct international course in decentralised governance and poverty alleviation.

### INTERNATIONAL SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

The ISA was founded in 1949 under the auspices of UNESCO. The goal of the ISA is to represent sociologists everywhere, regardless of their school of thought, scientific approaches or ideological opinion, and to advance sociological knowledge throughout the world. Its members come from 126 countries.



Visit [www.thinkersworkshop.in](http://www.thinkersworkshop.in) for details

Make all correspondence to  
[southasiaschool@gmail.com](mailto:southasiaschool@gmail.com)



### ABOUT KERALA

Kerala, 'the God's Own Country', one of the 50 "must see" destinations identified by the National Geographic Traveler, is the southern most state in India. Endowed with unique geographical features having an equable climate, temperature varying between 17°C to 34°C round the year, serene beaches, tranquil stretches of emerald backwaters, lush hill stations and exotic wildlife, waterfalls, sprawling plantations and paddy fields, it has enchanting art forms and historic and cultural monuments, and festivals.

Referred to as the "Spice Garden of India", Kerala is one of the cleanest and the most peaceful parts of India, with the state remaining a major source of India's pepper, cardamom, ginger, nutmeg, clove, star alise and cinnamon. The state also has cultivation of cashew, banana, rubber, cardamom, coconut and ginger.

Kochi, the commercial capital of Kerala, is a port city with one of the most beautiful natural harbours, has seen a colourful procession of cultures stroll across its streets down the ages. The Arabs, the Chinese, the Jews, the Dutch, the Portuguese and the British have all done their bit to make it the exotic cultural melting pot that is today. Besides architectural delights like the Jewish Synagogue, Dutch Cemetery and the Portuguese Churches, Kochi is a veritable treasure house of enchanting experiences. The centre of trade and commerce in Kerala, it is also a favourite shopping destination of bargain-seeking travelers.



## KILA's International Conference Series

5

## MARGINALISATION, POVERTY AND DECENTRALISATION

19-22 November 2016

Organised jointly by



DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL SELF GOVERNMENT  
GOVERNMENT OF KERALA



KERALA INSTITUTE OF LOCAL ADMINISTRATION



INTERNATIONAL SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION  
RESEARCH COMMITTEE 10 AND WORKING GROUP 5

Patron:  
**Dr. K.T. Jaleel**

Hon'ble Minister for Local Self Government, Government of Kerala.

Venue: KILA Campus

Dear friends,

We are happy to invite you to the International Conference on : Marginalisation, Poverty and Decentralisation, 19-22 November 2016. For details please visit the workshop website [www.thinkersworkshop.in](http://www.thinkersworkshop.in)

The Kerala Institute of Local Administration (KILA), Kerala; the Research Committee 10 on "Participation, Organizational Democracy and Self-Management" and Working Group 05 on "Famine and Society", of the International Sociological Association (ISA), are pleased to announce that the *International Conference on Marginalisation, Poverty and Decentralisation (ICMPD 2016)* will take place at The Kerala Institute of Local Administration(KILA),Kerala,India November 19-22, 2016 and that the Call for Papers is now open!

## OBJECTIVES

The Conference aims to deliberate on issues of marginalisation, poverty and decentralisation across the world and what lessons local self government institutions, states and countries learn from Kerala's experience in democratic decentralisation and poverty alleviation in addressing concerns of marginalisation, poverty, social and political exclusion etc. The best practices from other countries will also be discussed.

Since decentralisation is considered an important prerequisite for addressing many social, economic and political concerns at local level, efforts will be made to discuss the issues, alternatives, innovations and modalities for promoting the same in different contexts. Collective action and social movements in this regard will also be discussed. Poverty is a multidimensional problem and it is closely linked with marginalisation. The issues emerging in poverty alleviation require extensive discussion and dissemination of good practices for replication. Participation is another important aspect of decentralisation and therefore papers are welcome to discuss emerging patterns of participation in various social, political and economic contexts. The papers on various aspects of marginalisation, poverty and decentralisation in local as well as global contexts are welcome. How decentralisation, federalism, participation, organisational democracy and self management can help in resolving various types of conflicts in the developing societies need to be debated.

The Conference will also discuss the emerging issues and options capturing the full import of the acronym **FAMINE** (Food insecurity as a consequence of severely diminished purchasing power of vulnerable groups in society, **A**lienation on account of discrimination based on Caste, Color or Creed; **M**arginalisation on account of severely diminishing real incomes; **I**nequality based on dysfunctional social systems and travails of the workers in the Informal Sector, **N**egative impact on vulnerable groups of natural calamities and man-made disasters such as civil wars and economic shocks caused by market volatility and **E**xclusion from mainstream society based on social and economic ostracisation resulting in social conflict, unrest and violence).

The selected papers will be published in book form with ISBN.

## TECHNICAL SESSIONS

- ⇒ Decentralisation and Local Governance
- ⇒ Marginalisation and Deprivation
- ⇒ Poverty, Inequality and Exclusion
- ⇒ Community Governance
- ⇒ Women Empowerment
- ⇒ Climate Change, Natural Disasters and Food Insecurity
- ⇒ Social Accountability
- ⇒ Collective Action and Social Movements
- ⇒ Participatory Planning
- ⇒ Rights Based Development
- ⇒ Waste Mangement
- ⇒ Natural Resource Management and Organic Farming
- ⇒ Participation, Organisational Democracy and Self Management
- ⇒ Child Rights Governance
- ⇒ Capacity Building and Training

## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

- Professor Isabel Da COSTA, President, RC 10 (CNRS-IDHES; cole Normal Sup\_rieure de Cachan, France
- Dr. T.M. Thomas Isaac, Eminent Economist and Finance Minister, Government of Kerala
- Mr. S.M. Vijayanand, Chief Secretary, Government of Kerala
- Dr. K.T. Jaleel, Minister for Local Self Government, Government of Kerala
- Mr. T K Jose I A S, Principal Secretary, Local Self Government Department, Government of Kerala
- Dr. V K Baby I A S, Secretary, Local Self Government Department, Government of Kerala
- Mr. Tevita G. Boseiwaqa Taginavulau, Director General, Centre on Integrated Rural Development For Asia and the Pacific, Bangladesh
- Mr. M.A. Matin, Director General (In Charge), Rural Development Academy, Bangladesh
- Dr. Harjit Singh Anand, President, WG 05 (Chairman, GlowNet Knowledge Services)
- Professor Staffan LINDBERG (Lund University, Sweden, ytc)
- Professor Surinder JODHKA (Centre for the Study of Social Systems, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India, tbc)
- Professor Fatima ASSUNÇÃO, Vice-President APSIOT and Secretary RC10 (University of Lisboa, Portugal)
- Professor Eleni-Nina Pazarzi, Vice-President European Sociological Association and Treasurer RC10 (University of Piraeus, Greece)
- Dr. Greg Munro, Secretary General, Commonwealth Local Government Forum (CLGF), London, United Kingdom
- Dr. Debal Singha Roy (School of Social Sciences, IGNOU, New Delhi, India, tbc)
- Dr. Amrit Srinivasan, Former Professor and Head, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT, New Delhi
- Dr. Gopakumar K. Thampi, Director, Economic Governance, Asia Foundation, Sri Lanka
- Mr. Janaka Hemathilaka, Practical Action, Sri Lanka
- Dr. John Kattakayam, Professor Emeritus, Department of Sociology, University of Kerala

## SUBMISSION OF PAPERS

The final date for submitting abstracts (500 words in MS Word format) is **15<sup>th</sup> September 2016**. The abstract will be reviewed by an academic committee and final paper needs to be submitted on acceptance of abstract. The final date of submission of full paper (5000 words) in MS Word format is **Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2016**. The papers may be submitted to Prof. P.P. Balan, Director, KILA or Sunny George, Professor, at the email address: [southasiaschool@gmail.com](mailto:southasiaschool@gmail.com).

For details please visit the conference website [www.thinkersworkshop.in](http://www.thinkersworkshop.in).

## HOW TO ARRIVE AT THE VENUE

Kerala Institute of Local Administration (KILA) is the venue of the Conference. KILA is 65 kms away from the Cochin International Airport (COK) which is having connectivity to the International Airport. The nearest railway station is Thrissur (TCR) (11kms, 20min by road from KILA)

## FIELD VISITS

There will be field visits to local bodies.

## CONFERENCE VENUE

Kerala Institute of Local Administration (KILA), Mulamkunnathukavu P.O., Thrissur, Kerala - 680 581, India. Tel: +91 487 2201312. [www.kilaonline.org](http://www.kilaonline.org)

## DATES

The Programme will be conducted from 19<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> of November 2016. The sessions will be in English.

## REGISTRATION

There is no registration fee. The organisers will make arrangements for the accommodation, food, field visits and local conveyance. For those (Indians only) who are contributing full paper, 2<sup>nd</sup> AC Train Fare will be reimbursed.

Dr. P.P. Balan  
Director  
Kerala Institute of Local Administration  
Mulamkunnathukavu P.O., Thrissur  
Kerala - 680 581  
Tel: +91-9446521312

Dr. Sunny George  
Professor  
Kerala Institute of Local Administration  
Mulamkunnathukavu P.O., Thrissur  
Kerala - 680 581  
Tel: +91-9446606973