

BITS Goa Economics Conclave 2017: A snapshot

BY KURIORITY

"Sustainable development can be promoted through mutual cooperation along with respect for natural resources," said Padma Shri as well as Padma Bhusan awardee Madhav Gadgil while speaking at the department of Economics, BITS Pilani KK Birla Goa Campus' annual two-day event.

'BITS Goa Economics Conclave'. The theme of the event this year was 'Changing Contours of Indian Economy: Welfare Implications and Policy Responses'.

The event began with the welcome address by convener and head of department, Aswini Kumar Mishra. This was followed with a presentation by economics professor Satya R Chakravarty from Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata who delivered a talk on equity and efficiency issues related to multidimensional economic inequality.

He explained how policies can improve welfare and reduce economic inequality in India. Director, ISEC Bengaluru, professor MG Chandrakanth then pointed out the dangers of unsustainable growth, for example in mining or agriculture sectors which tend to overuse resources like groundwater at the cost of in-



Seen in the pic: Pinky Pawaskar, Mridula Goel, Debdulal Thakur, Arun Kumar, Aswini Kumar Mishra, Rajorshi Sen Gupta, Sibichen K Mathew, Madhav Gadgil, Rammohan Menon, Debasis Patnaik, MG Chandrakanth, VVSNV Prasad and Anoop Kumar

creasing productive efficiency. IRS, commissioner of income tax, Bengaluru, Sibichen K Mathew described the problems associated with tax compliance and how technology

is helping to increase compliance and enforcement. Director, MSME Development Institute, Goa, G R Akadas explained the problems faced by MSME sector in Goa and the role of various government initiatives to create employment and competitiveness in this vital

sector.

The first day of the event concluded with professor, Centre for Economic Studies and Planning, JNU, New Delhi, Arun Kumar explaining how demonetisation might not be effective in curbing black economy in India.

The second day of the event began with a talk by professor R Nagaraj from IGIDR,

Mumbai. He explained the problem of stagnant share of manufacturing sector in national income and provided suggestions to improve economic data

in India.

Professor Gopal Naik from IIM, Bangalore provided insights on conducting social experiments like tele-education project to address the problem of poor quality education in rural and aided schools in Karnataka.

Director of EPW Research Foundation, J Dennis Rajakumar explained how corporate financing and investment is affecting India's development. Commissioner of Customs, Central Excise and Service Tax, Goa, K Anpazhakan spoke about the efficiency associated with GST and how automation is going to help increase tax compliance.

The keynote address was delivered by Padma Shri and Padma Bhusan awardee Madhav Gadgil from Center for Ecological Sciences Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore. Drawing from his personal experiences through field visits in different parts of Goa, he illuminated the audience on the concept of cooperative commonwealth whereby he put forth the idea that sustainable development can be promoted through mutual cooperation along with respect for natural resources.

On a concluding note, director of BITS Pilani KK Birla Goa campus, professor Raghurama G pointed out the importance and relevance of economic analysis towards sustainable development.

KOLLEGE UDDA