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- ◆ *Health Economics and Policies*
- ◆ *Agriculture and Rural Economy:
Issues and Challenges*
- ◆ *Strategies for External Economic Sector*
- ◆ *Economic Thought of Kautilya and
Its Contemporary Relevance*



Indian Economic Association

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Editorial

It is our privilege and pride to present the proceedings of the 101st Annual Conference of the Indian Economic Association (IEA) being organised during 14-16 December, 2018 at the prestigious Institute for Studies in Industrial Development (ISID), New Delhi.

India's economy is currently passing through economic transformation brought about by the dynamic reforms that have benefitted almost all sections of the society. But growth is a complex process, and the economy continues to face diverse challenges and threats of domestic and global perspectives. Whereas the IEA has been intensely debating these issues, it has resolved to dwell in this Conference on the following themes:

- (i) Health Economics and Policies;
- (ii) Agriculture and Rural Economy: Issues and Challenges;
- (iii) Strategies for External Economic Sector;
- (iv) Economic Thoughts of Kautilya and its Contemporary Relevance.

Response of the scholars from across all over the country to our call for well-researched papers has been encouraging and satisfying. Papers in full/abstracts will be published after scrutiny for basic quality norms.

Encouraging wide and quality participation will be the hallmark of the Conference. Conferring awards on distinguished persons in recognition of their significant contribution in the subject of Economics and economic policy is the age long tradition of the IEA. Inspired by the tradition, Atal Bihari Bajpai Award will be presented to distinguished person who had contributed in the field of Economic Development in India. (Mrs) Ashok Sablok Memorial Gold Medal will be given for Best Conference Paper. An innovative initiative from this year is the Best Academic Participation Award two in each of the four thematic sessions which will be awarded after adjudication. Four Awards will be given for Best Paper Presentation in each thematic area to the Young Economists of up to 40 years of age.

We look forward to wide and quality interactions of high standards particularly by Young Economists in the Conference that will provide them an opportunity to sharpen their abilities and knowledge in the domain areas.

On behalf of the office bearers of the IEA, the Executive Committee members and the members of the organising committee, we extend a warm welcome to the contributors and the scholars, and exhort them to participate wholeheartedly in the Conference. Finally, we understand that organising a conference of this stature and size is a challenging one. But our task has been greatly facilitated by the unstinted support and cooperation extended by the ISID, especially its Chairman Shri T. N. Chaturvedi, Vice-Chairman Professor S.K. Goyal, and the Director Professor M.R. Murthy, that are thankfully acknowledged. We wish the Conference a grand success.

V K Malhotra
D K Madaan

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