



Globalizing Indian Thought

IIM Kozhikode
Centre for Employment
Relations and Labour Studies
(CERLS)

Presents

INDIA LABOUR CONFERENCE 2026

3rd
Edition

**THEME:
“GIG WORKERS IN GROWING INDIA”**

March 27–28, 2026 @ IIM Kozhikode

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

Work has evolved from classical scientific management to newer and emerging employment arrangements. Gig work, recognized under the broader umbrella of “non-standard forms of employment,” is now central to the future of work. As per NITI Aayog estimates, the gig workforce in India is expected to expand to 2.35 crore (23.5 million) workers by 2029–30. While legal recognition appears in the Code on Social Security (2020), meaningful and comprehensive protections remain limited, warranting policy and institutional attention.

The third edition of India Labour Conference 2026, themed “Gig Workers in Growing India,” will bring together scholars, policymakers, trade unions, businesses, and labour organizations to explore strategies for addressing these issues related to Gig work and stakeholders involved in Gig economy. In the two days of conference, participants and guest’s speakers will debate, and discuss matters focusing on pivotal topics shaping the future of work itself.

The conference fosters dialogue among stakeholders to promote fair wages, decent work, and social security for gig workers. The conference aims to tackle the following urgent matters:

01

How can the employment status of gig workers be defined in a way that ensures their fundamental rights at work, including freedom of association, collective bargaining, and protection against discrimination?

02

What mechanisms can guarantee fair remuneration and income security for gig workers, in line with ILO principles on living wages and decent working conditions?

03

How can social protection systems (healthcare, unemployment insurance, pensions, sick leave) be adapted or expanded to cover gig workers, ensuring universality and portability of benefits?

04

What measures are needed to ensure that digital platforms’ use of algorithms respects transparency, accountability, and worker participation, while upholding the ILO’s vision of decent work in the digital economy?

KEY THEMES TO BE EXPLORED

- Platform economy
- Role of Technology and AI in driving gig work
- Gig workers -Financial empowerment inclusion
- Gig Worker and Employment Relations
- Labour Migration and Non- Standard Forms of Employment
- Legal Aspects of Gig Work
- Historical Development of Gig Work
- Policy and Government Intervention in Gig Economy
- Gender Equality and Gig Work
- Gig Workers and Voice Within Organisation
- Fair Wage in Informal Economy
- Gig Workers' Rights and Standards
- Gig work and international standards
- Gig work- what India can learn from other countries
- Gig Economy and Labour Market Change
- Algorithmic Management and Gig Work
- Anthropomorphism
- Social Protection in Platform and Shared Economy
- Role of Trade Union in Gig Economy
- Role of Civil Society in Ensuring Working Conditions for Gig Workers
- Role of Trust in Non-Standard Forms of Employment Relationship
- Wellbeing at Work Among Gig Workers
- Changing Dynamics of Work
- Sociology of Work
- Role of Psychological Safety at Gig Work
- Bullying in The Gig/Platform Work
- Uncertainty in Employment and Precarious Employment
- Education, Employment, And Emerging Gig Workers
- Gig Work and Sustainable Development Goals
- Labour Market Flexibility and Gig Work
- Gig Work and Identity
- Gig Work and Work-Life Conflict
- Productivity and Gig Work



IMPORTANT DATES

FEB 26, 2026

Last date of
submission of full
paper

MAR 01, 2026

Decision on
submissions

MAR 01, 2026

Registration
open

MAR 20, 2026

Registration
closes

CONFERENCE FEE

Faculty and post-doc researchers
INR 6000 + 18% GST OR \$70

Ph.D scholars / Retired Professors
INR 2000 + 18% GST OR \$25

Industry Professionals
INR 8000 + 18% GST OR \$95

REGISTRATION/SUBMISSION

<https://shorturl.at/7g1x3>

SUBMISSION DETAILS

Full paper

The submissions are invited in the form of conceptual papers, literature reviews, policy papers, case studies etc. ranging from 6000-10000 words (including references). The manuscript must contain an abstract of 150-250 words and follow APA referencing style. Log on to the following link for Paper Submission.

VENUE

Conference will be organized at the beautiful campus of Indian Institute of Management (Kozhikode campus).

Location on Google Map: <http://goo.gl/maps/B9F2y>

CORE COMMITTEE



**Prof. Debashis
Chatterjee**
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KNOW MORE

<https://iimk.ac.in/centres/cerls/ilc2026//>



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