



भारतीय प्रबंध संस्थान कोषिकोड

Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode

Globalizing Indian Thought



MDP on Public Policy & Economic Growth

A gentle introduction to the economics of prosperity

27th September to 1st October, 2023



What is the program about?

Much of the discussion about public policy in India revolves around how to ‘split the pie’, put differently, on how to divide the wealth generated by economic growth among different groups. The fact of the matter however is that in a poor country like India it is far more sensible to focus on the role of public policy in ‘growing the pie’. This program differs from other programs on public policy in that we introduce our participants to the intricate relation between public policy and economic growth. Participants will understand not only what makes some nations rich and others poor, but also what kinds of policies can make India rich.

The five-day program will teach its participants the fundamentals of public policy and economic growth enriched by applications of the core principles at work. In the first day of the program we will learn about the seen and the unseen effects of public policy. Unseen effects that reveal themselves over the long-run in complex ways are often of greater significance than the simple effects visible in the short-run. We will also learn how the interplay between material interest groups and ideological do-gooders can often generate public policies that are inimical to prosperity.

In the second day, we begin the journey of understanding the processes by which a nation becomes prosperous. Participants will analyze the role of specialization and exchange in generating economic growth. We will also note that a larger population need not necessarily hurt economic prosperity as evidence by the fact that more densely populated cities are more prosperous than empty country-sides. Densely populated Singapore is prosperous, while scarcely populated sub-Saharan African nations are poor.

The third day of the program is dedicated to understanding institutions that are conducive to the creation of wealth. Institutions are in essence the rules by which the economic game is played. Within certain institutional setting, population generates prosperity, within others it generates poverty. Within certain institutional setting, technological improvements generate improvements in the quality of lives of common people, within others knowledge sits dead on the shelves of scientists.

On the fourth day, we delve into the role of prices within an economy. Much of the harm caused by bad public policy occurs through disturbance to the price system. To understand how public policy disturbs the price system and why such disturbance matters, we begin by developing a sense of how prices coordinate economic activity. We also compare ‘market failure’ (or the failure of prices) with ‘government failure’. We concretize our understanding of market and government with the notion of Robust Political Economy, wherein a public policy is thought to be sensible if it places decision-making powers upon those who have the incentive and the information to make good decisions.

On the fifth day, we apply the theories and ideas learned in the first four days to questions pertaining to trade policy, food policy, education policy, and health policy. We note the seen and the unseen effects of government intervention in the market for food, which primarily occurs through the Food Corporation of India. We will analyze the Right to Education Act from an economic point of view and note some of its unintended consequences such as the closing of private school for the poor. We will also study the health policies during the COVID pandemic to see if they make sense from an economic point of view.



Learn

why some nations are poor and others rich

how to apply basic economic tools to understand the long-term consequences of policy interventions

how to think and write more sensibly about public policy questions from domains as wide as rent-control, food security, health, education, and international trade

Who should apply?

Indian Administrative Service officers and other civil servants involved in making public policy

Politicians and legislators who would like to make India rich

Journalists who report on public policy and economics

Public policy consultants including individuals who work on public policy related matters at non-profit organizations

Managers and industrialists who would like to know why some nations are rich and others poor



What are the modules?

Day 1

- I - The economic way of thinking: A gentle introduction
- II - The seen and the unseen effects of public policy
- III - Who makes public policy: A tale of Bootleggers and Baptists
- IV - Growing the pie versus dividing the pie

Day 2

- I - Stylized facts about economic growth
- II - Specialization, exchange, and generalized increasing returns
- III - The roundaboutness of production
- IV - Natural resources, population, and economic growth

Day 3

- I - Entrepreneurship, public policy, and economic growth
- II - Institutions or rules of the game
- III - What kinds of institutions generate economic growth?
- IV - Caste and economic growth

Day 4

- I - Prices and the coordination of economic activity
- II - The economic consequences of price controls
- III - Central planning or planned chaos?
- IV - Market failure and government failure

Day 5

- I - Is there a case for unilateral free trade?
- II - Do we need the Food Corporation of India for food security?
- III - Did The Right to Education Act increase access to education?
- IV - Health policy in the pandemic: what made economic sense and what did not

Fee and other details

Programme Fee : ₹ 50,000 + GST (Accomodation will be on twin sharing basis)

Date : 27th September to 1st October, 2023

Venue : IIMK Campus



Programme Director's Profile



Vipin P Veetil received his PhD in economics from George Mason University in the United States, where he worked on monetary economics and political economy. He did his postdoctoral work on the economics of networks at Sorbonne University in France. Vipin's scientific work has appeared in leading international economics journals. He has also written on public policy questions for Wall Street Journal Asia, The Hindu, Mint, Print, The Wire, and Forbes India. Vipin has worked on several public policy related questions, including the COVID pandemic. In midst of the pandemic, Vipin and his collaborators developed a granular network model to estimate the cost of the lockdowns. The model and related articles were carried by multiple scientific organizations including the US National Institute of Health. To know more about Vipin's work visit vipinveetil.com



About IIM Kozhikode

Started in 1997 with its Post Graduate Programme (PGP), the Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode (IIMK) is on a high growth trajectory today, offering widest range of academic programs in the field of management education. These include Fellow Programme in Management, Executive PG Programmes, Management Development Programmes and Faculty Development Programmes. IIMK set up a Satellite campus at Infopark, Kochi, in 2013 dedicated to Executive Education. IIMK has also the unique distinction of launching a PhD (Practice Track) programme for working professionals besides bringing in new dynamic courses like the one-year Post Graduate programme in Business Leadership (2019) MBA in Finance and MBA in Liberal Studies & Management (2020). The institute is also home to IIMK LIVE a first-of-its-kind startup incubation programme and the Indian Business Museum.

IIMK is ranked 3rd as per NIRF India Rankings 2023: Management. The institute also features regularly among top global institutes for its flagship MBA (PGP) and EMBA programme (EPGP) in QS World University Rankings. The Institute has leapfrogged 100 spots to be placed in the Top 251-300 Institutes in Business & Management Studies globally, as per the QS World University Rankings by Subject 2023. It is also Ranked No.2 in CFIs (non-Technical) category in the Atal Innovation Rankings (ARIIA 2021) rankings released recently by Ministry of Education, Govt. of India, and has the distinction of being the only IIM in the coveted innovation rankings. IIM Kozhikode is globally accredited by EQUIS (EFMD) and AMBA (UK).

IIM Kozhikode also made its debut in the prestigious Financial Times Rankings (FT Rankings 2023) at 72nd position among the top-75 Open-enrolment executive programme providers globally, catapulting the 27-years young IIM to an exclusive list of foremost providers of executive education in the world. IIM Kozhikode has successfully delivered close to 1300 MDP programmes for the past two decades, training more than 41000 participants from 150+ organisations - which also includes several Fortune 500 companies in the process.

#2 Atal Innovation
Rankings (ARIIA) 2021

#3 NIRF India Ranking
2023, Management

#3 India's Best B-School The Week
- Hansa Research Survey 2022

