

**Call for Abstracts: *Climate Change and Agriculture:
Vulnerabilities, Livelihood Adaptation and Food Security*
May 4-5, 2017**

The Centre for the Study of Regional Development, Jawaharlal Nehru University is organising a National Conference on *Climate Change and Agriculture: Vulnerabilities, Livelihood Adaptation and Food Security on May 4-5, 2017 at JNU*.

Climate change has raised significant concerns and has drawn attention from the scientific community, policy makers and more importantly farmers across globe. Climate variability and change can bring changes in temperature and rainfall which in turn modify the availability and demand of water, especially for agriculture. Climate extremes such as drought, flood, cyclones are increasingly affecting the resource use and farm productivity. Adverse impacts of climate change are more pronounced in the case of countries, like India that relies heavily on agriculture for consumption as well as livelihood, hence making them more vulnerable to the effects of climate change.

Recognising that India is a large and diverse country with high dependency on monsoon rainfall, there exist direct and indirect interlinkages between climate, agriculture and rural development. Sound public policies enabled the country to achieve self-sufficiency in food, avoid food shortages and alleviate poverty since independence. Ironically, the welfare of the farming community continues to be a matter of deep concern with rising input cost and declining profitability, technology fatigue and growing risks due to frequent droughts, unseasonal rainfall and hailstorms. The Government of India has already set a policy target of doubling farmers' income by 2022. The paradigm shift from production to income has implications in evolving strategies, identifying options and exploring innovative institutional mechanisms. The proposed plan encompasses an increase in crop area through intensification, improvement in yields and production efficiency and reduced cost of cultivation, agricultural diversification and primary and secondary value addition. While strategising policy actions, the obvious question is how risks due to climatic factors should be addressed which have bearing on food security and livelihood of farmers. In specific,

1. What are the inter-linkages between climate change, agriculture and food security?
2. What are the feasible options to address water scarcity at watershed/basin level to sustain agricultural production, food security, and growth in view of growing risks due to climate change?
3. What are the effects of climate change on crop diversification and nutrition ?
4. What are the climate induced vulnerabilities (crop productivity, occupational diversification, migration, income etc.)?
5. What are the policy prescriptions for climate resilient agriculture, like climate smart agriculture for enhancing income of farmers?
6. In what ways resource conservation technologies such as zero tillage can be promoted so that farmers become less vulnerable to weather shocks?

We invite participation in the conference. Paper contributors may submit an abstract of 300 words by April 15, 2015 at ccaseminar2017@gmail.com with complete details of the authors. The focus can be regional dynamics on the selected issues. Abstracts will be included in the conference and limited travel grant is available for young scholars.

Coordinators:: Dr (s). Seema Bathla; Sreekesh; Srinivas Goli; Purva Yadav