

September 12, 2018

SEMINAR NOTICE

Topic: **Entropy Law and Social Dimension of Economic Growth**

Speaker: **Dr. Ramprasad Sengupta, Professor Emeritus in Economics,
Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.**

Chair: Prof. Manoj Panda, Director, Institute of Economic Growth

The seminar details are as follows:

Date & time: Thursday, October 4, 2018 at 3.30 p.m.

Venue: A.M. Khusro Room
Institute of Economic Growth,
University Enclave, North Campus, Delhi-110 007

All are welcome.

(Sabyasachi Kar)
Seminar Convenor

Abstract:

The seminar talk will be based on the author's latest work on tracing the connection between entropy law and social sustainability of economic development. It will define the notion of entropy law so as to understand its relation with economic processes and how does it apply to economic system as a whole and its sustainability. In a wider perspective it will be noted that in spite of openness of our planet earth's ecosystem vis-à-vis the rest of the outer space and the entropy moderating role of development of human knowledge, there exist bounds on such favorable impact and the unavoidable reality of irreversibility of entropy law. This raises the issue of sustainability as an unavoidable challenging factor for the process of economic development.

While economic growth is the resultant of use of increasing amount of low entropy energy and material resources, the quality of growth would on the other hand depend on the equity aspect of growth, its inclusiveness and inequality in the distribution of benefit of growth which are determined by social, political and cultural factors. However, the ultimate source of the problem of inequality or inequity lies in the limitedness of ecological resources relative to the size of human population due to the operation of entropy law. We further focus in this paper on the dimension of social sustainability of the development process – particularly on the determining factors of social tension which results in social disruption in violent forms of the different types of crime – homicide, property related crime (dacoity, robbery and burglary), riots and Left wing insurgency destabilizing a socio-economic order. Although occurrences of such crimes are symptoms of weakness of the law and order of the state, such events are mostly induced by various types of deprivation and discrimination, inadequacy of infrastructure and social factors like caste or religious divisiveness. This paper attempts to find out the role of economic deprivation - resulting in economic inequality and poverty - as well as other infrastructural and socio-economic developmental factors, including religious polarization in determining particularly **riots** in India using a panel data of the Indian states. The results point to the required direction of policy reform for building up peace and a socially cohesive sustainable society in India.