

Webinar Report on Solution to Uttarakhand's Out Migration



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Partners in Prosperity

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Webinar on Solution to Uttarakhand's Out Migration

A one day Webinar was organised by Partners in Prosperity on 24 May 2021. The aim of the Webinar was to bring together a wide range of professionals and practitioners, active both at the theoretical and practical level of outmigration, in order to better understand between conservation and livelihood creation on one hand, and strategies which reduce migration and promote wellbeing of local residents.

The webinar was attended by 78 unique individuals drawn representing micro and small business, activists, elected village council chiefs (gram pradhans), thinkers, NGOs, academicians, retired bureaucrats who wish to find solution to migration in collaboration with the government, local people, and other stakeholders.

The days's programme is available in Annexure I. In all, 21 speakers addressed the audience (see Annexure II for a profile of the speakers).

What.....

Over 5 lakh people have migrated out of Uttarakhand in last 10 years, 734 ghost villages in the state, reveals RTI – The New Indian Express.

The continuous migration of the workforce from Uttarakhand hill areas is happening since time immemorial. The regional disparities in development



between hilly and plain regions have historically led to this situation. Increasing awareness about employment opportunities in the cities and growing migrant networks have inspired many youths to leave their native villages. However, in India's era of trade liberalisation, these regional differences have increased drastically as

metropolitan regions favoured policies across India. Additionally, the inline between rural and urban is blurred as the consumer market enters previously self-sufficient agricultural systems. The traditional subsistence-based hill economies are being integrated into the vast national and global economic network. This involves a process of livelihood transition, often resulting in out-migration to meet the balance of payment issue between villages and cities. The formation of Uttarakhand as a new state for a decade seems to have not helped to prevent the trend of migration and residues as the biggest challenges faced by the state in its socio-economic development. The emerging economic opportunities, better infrastructure and facilities outside with various means of communication have

boosted the migration threatening the foundation of the hill economy and the existence of the marginal hill society.

Why.....

Human out-migration is a catalyst behind the demand for partition of a separate state, in the expectation to address the disparity in economic growth among the hill and plain districts. Lopsided development and lack of coordination between different lined governmental departments have ignited the alarming issues affecting the HDI of the state. Hundreds of villages in the state have seen a rapid migration trend, especially by the youth, due to a lack of employment opportunities and basic amenities of quality education and health services. According to a survey conducted, Uttarakhand's unemployment rate rose 1.5% to 8.0% in May 2020 CMIE¹. Unemployment has moved from 5.8 percent in Nov 2019 to its current pace for a more extended period. In the hills, lack of employment

“There should be hill centric Development Policy and Revisiting of Development Policy”- Dr. R.P. Mangain

opportunities is an often cited reason for youth migration. The highly

fragmented and scattered agricultural landholding contributes 22% of the state's domestic product catering to the employment needs of 75-85% population. Though the state has 40000 MSMEs² with an estimated investment of Rs. 400 crores and employing 12,000 people. Small MSME entrepreneurs, on the other hand, face undue harassment as a result of the establishment's written and unwritten rules and regulations governing the establishment, operation and winding up of enterprises. Inadequate health facility is evident from the HDR 2017 published data stating the paucity availability of general physicians, doctors, surgeons and various health specialists, especially in the rural and remote areas in the state-run Primary Health Centres (PHCs) in the hill districts of Uttarakhand. With the ongoing pandemic situation and things going virtual, the lack of high-speed Internet is hindering the delivery of government services, telemedicine, e-commerce, and also e-learning with larger parts yet to be connected. Forests and water availability are interweaved. Reduction and diminution of the forest aggravate extreme water scarcity, climate change, and forest fires, transforming perennial streams into seasonal. The hilly and mountainous areas are treated as the mere extension of plains to formulate and implement various development programmes and schemes. Despite special provision made in the Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Five Year Plans, the developmental requirements of the Himalayan region were not met. The Rural Development and Migration Commission established by Govt. of Uttarakhand in August 2017 to examine all aspects of the

¹ Centre for Monitoring of the Indian Economy

² Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises

problem, advise the Government on multi-sectoral development and submit recommendations that have entirely failed to reimagine solutions, engage all stakeholders, and function in a transparent manner.

Thus, inappropriate development policies and programmes, constraints of livelihood, rampant poverty; rapid urbanisation; climate change; and increasing frequency and severity of natural hazards and disasters and the resultant risks of food and livelihood insecurity have accelerated the process of rural out-migration in Uttarakhand Himalayas during the recent years.

How.....

Migration Commission

- There is an urgent prerequisite for holistic, sustainable development in the mountains that is unnoticed longstanding. The Government of Uttarakhand is requested to choose a more sustainable path of development in a post - Covid world.
- The Rural Development and Migration Commission of Government of Uttarakhand must release the block and district-wise names of uninhabited ('ghost villages') and those having less than ten residents ('abandoned villages') on an urgent basis.
- Compilation of the budget allocated and utilised by various departments in ghost and abandoned villages should be prioritised by the Uttarakhand Rural Development and Migration Commission.



Health

- The Government should encourage, support, and subsidise charities, societies, trusts, and private bodies to set up and operate Primary Health Centres in the hill districts.
- Close collaboration with the ongoing National Teleconsultation Service of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and the Government should be considered for providing services of telemedicine to every citizen in the state.

- The Government should launch special scholarship schemes to train large numbers of auxiliary nurses, paramedics and barefoot technicians in the state.
- ASHA3 are a pivotal link to public health services in Uttarakhand hills. The Government should also recognise, reward and support trained Community Health Workers deployed by non-government organisations.
- Some of the Ghost/abandoned villages could be hired by the Armed Forces/Health Department to house Corona type pandemic victims or those injured in border conflicts.
- Uttarakhand should adopt "one health concept" to provide universal health services at the Primary Health Centre level. The doctors, nurses, ANMs, paramedics and ASHA workers should have multi-skills to deliver "One Health" to all.

Vocational Education

- Vocational training should focus on the level of skill and needs for the hill village economy. A complete inventory of service gaps can help in designing a course that is apt for local conditions.
- The Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan must carry out a market needs assessment to redesign their vocational courses to ensure demand-driven and not supply-led and have employability.
- The Union Government has inked a US\$74 million loan agreement for International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) Credit for Uttarakhand Workforce Development Project (UKWDP). The students from hill districts should be given priority in ITI training, develop the human capacity of labour-market-relevant workers through short term training within these districts.



Agriculture and Allied Activities

“Emphasis on Agro-Horti Tourism should be promoted. Researches are done only in pan and paper without field implementation. If experts extend handholding support development can pace up. Settling up of model villages will help youths in settling up of horticulture plots”. – Mr. Praveen Sharma.

³ Accredited social health activist

- Horticulture, the emerging sector in the hill economy providing substantial employment, should be prioritised for traditional production and marketing.
- 80% of farmers in Uttarakhand practice organic farming in rain-fed conditions. The Government must consider extending organic agriculture to all the 13 hill districts. For this purpose, it must create a cadre of Organic Krishi Mitra in all the blocks of the targeted districts through collaboration with agriculture universities, KVKs and NGOs of the many extant schemes such as National Project on Organic Farming, National Horticulture Mission, Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojna, Jaivik Mulya Shrankhala Vikas Mission Project, for conversion of status to the organic state. The development of niche products based on traditional products can be a way forward.
- A mixed farming system with diversified crops and livestock are climatically more resilient and offers multiple sources of income to households contradicting monoculture, a risky proposition.
- Beekeeping, mushroom, ghee and paneer making, floriculture fruit juices, pickles and beverages farming are emerging enterprises. There is a need to systematically incubate and support rural entrepreneurs through handholding support in facilitating access to finance, technology, management know-how and market access to reach the next level in the growth curve.
- Youth from the districts of the Indo-Chinese border should be given an option for paramilitary training for teaching new life skills, trade and strengthening India's security for enhancing employability.
- Capacity Building and youth training is expected from the authorities towards creating an ecological task force to protect, maintain, and enhance the local ecology, heritage and natural assets.
- The Uttarakhand Government has taken an initiative to reframe its industrial hemp policy and in 2019 issued the first-ever **hemp** cultivation license. This means that hemp can now be used to create medicines, textiles, food items, paper, and building materials. To promote large scale hemp cultivation, the Cabinet approval to draft hemp policy is needed. The Uttarakhand Government has tasked three state research institutions to develop cannabis plants with a THC concentration at 0.3-1.5% for industrial use. The State government should release these reports in the public domain.

Employment

- One of the backbones of Uttarakhand's economy is tourism. Examining the potential of ghost and abandoned villages for a short duration and diversifying tourism by adding cultural and village tourism in the presently conversed topic of eco-tourism and homestays should be considered. The

“Modern tourism potentials such as Dark Sky Tourism, Astro Tourism can be promoted in the uninterrupted lands of Uttarakhand.” - Mr. & Mrs. Lall

forest department should prepare trekking routes in all the hill district. This will help villagers to develop eco-tourism facilities to sustain low impact tourist flows. The same maps will assist police and State Disaster Response Force during times of emergency.

“Adding mythology and historical tales to eco-tourist spots to attract more tourist.” – Dr. Priyanka Tyagi

Internet and Tele-connectivity

- The Government of Uttarakhand should invite private players to provide uninterrupted Internet capability in all the hill districts and facilitate universalising access to those villages without pucca roads. Panchayats, hospitals, schools, resorts, MSME units and commercial institutions should be prioritised. Wherever possible, the Internet should be made available accessible or a subsidised rate.

Micro and Small Industry

- The Government should strengthen the implementation of the Single Window Act and promote clearances under this system.
- Uttarakhand offers excellent opportunities for processing raw material like herbs, aromatic plants, fruit pulps etc., into intermediate goods, which can be further value-added elsewhere.

Forests and Conservation

- Incentives should be designed to reforest private lands in ghost and abandoned villages. Forest laws should be modified to give full rights to farmers to enjoy the benefits of new plantation, including disposal of timber, free from control of the Forest Department.
- There is considerable potential for community reserves already mandated by the amendment of 2003 to the Wildlife Protection Act (1972). The Government should propose a plan for the scientific culling of wild boar and monkey and liberally issue a license to villagers for culling considering Human-Wildlife Conflict.
- Angling in Uttarakhand is increasingly becoming a popular recreation sport for tourists in Uttarakhand. The Forest Department should identify more locations for angling. In order to incentivise conservation efforts, the revenue from angling should be shared with local panchayats and the forest department.
- Since pre-Independence times, a well-established network of village forest institutions (van panchayats) has empowered forest management. Given the high levels of under-employment, direct cash transfers to van panchayats in return for forest protection should be encouraged. Cash

transfers may be possible via CAMPA⁴ , which has been formed for offsetting forest loss due to development projects.

- Train human resources, experience in instrumentation, costing templates, training manuals with expertise and experience at the local level to scale up the projects.

Water

- Promote four broad sets of activities such as Systematic mapping of springs at the block level, Basic engineering measures, identification of local-level management practices/traditional knowledge, capacity building of local communities, Organising workshops. Awareness generation and training regarding climate change and the importance of spring-shed management.

“Water Management is concentrated in plains and hilly areas are neglected and mismanagement of water is alarming. Scientific water management with multi-stakeholder participation is the need of the hour. The Mineral water industry has a great potential in the hills.” – Mr. RBS Rawat

Land Consolidation and Leasing

- The Government of Uttarakhand should develop a digital land consolidation strategy that recognises the need for diverse local solutions considering local agricultural, economic, social and environmental characteristics and financial constraints based upon the needs and expectations of the affected population.
- The Government should engage all stakeholders in address key concerns such as Institutional issues, Financial issues, Legal issues, Capacity building and International cooperation

Conclusions

The webinar was designed with four technical sessions: *Migration in Uttarakhand, Perspectives from the Other States, Some Possible Solutions – Case Studies, and What should be done? How? By whom?* The aim was to bring together a wide range of professionals and practitioners, active both at the theoretical and practical level of out-migration, to better understand between conservation and livelihood creation; on the one hand, and strategies that reduce migration and promote the well-being of the local residents. The participants expressed their sincere gratitude to Partners in Prosperity for organising the webinar and to all the Moderators and Speakers for addressing the issues, and to all the volunteers for supporting various activities for such a wonderful exchange on a burning issue of our time. The conclusions and the conference's recommendations will be transmitted to the Chief Minister of Uttarakhand, to all MPs and MLAs of the State, to leading

⁴ Compensatory Afforestation Management and Planning Authority

politicians in the country, and prominent personalities of Uttarakhand in the country and abroad. We will also submit the recommendations to Mr Alok Sharma, M.P. of the United Kingdom and the President of the 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference, Glasgow, November 1-12, 2021. It is hopeful that the recommendations of this webinar will lay a cornerstone for the continued sharing of practical experience and lessons learned about different approaches to and systems of managing out-migration. The webinar presentations and summary of discussions shall be published as a compendium, providing how a broad audience can access new information and knowledge. Above all, gain inspiration and encouragement for the sustainable management of cultural and natural heritage.

Annexure I

Webinar on Solution to Uttarakhand's Out Migration

Webinar Schedule

- Date: Monday 24th May 2021
- Language: Hindi/English
- Zoom Link: Please click the link below from any browser <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81010678811>

9.30 -10.30 a.m. Opening Session

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|-------------|---|
| 9.30 | Welcome by Dr. K.R. Viswanathan, Chair, PnP |
| 9.50-10.10 | Dr. R.B.S. Rawat, Advisor to the Chief Minister of Uttarakhand and ERincipal Chief Conservator of Forests (PCCF), Government of Uttarakhand |
| 10.10-10.30 | Dr. Shri Bhaskar Pant, General Manager, NABARD, Uttarakhand Regional O |

10.30 – 11.30 am Technical Session 1: Migration in Uttarakhand

Moderator : Ms. Nidhi Prabha Tiwari, Sr Social Sector Specialist, Ujjwala, at Ministry of Petroleum & Nat@as, Government of India

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|--------------|--|
| 10.35- 10.55 | Migration in Uttarakhand Dr. Amina Maharjan, Senior Specialist Livelihoods & Migration, ICIMOD |
| 10.55-11.15 | Outmigration from Hill Region of Uttarakhand Magnitude, Challenges and Policy Options
Dr. R.P.Mamgain S. R Sankaran Chair (Rural Labour), National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Hyderabad |
| 11.15-11.40 | Questions and Answers |

11.50 - 1.00 pm Technical Session 2: Perspectives from Other States

Moderator: Mr. S.T.S. Lepcha, IFS (Retd) and VP Sustainable Developmenterforum

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|-------------|---|
| 11.55-12.10 | Hon. Mr. P.D. Rai, President, Indian Mountain Initiative, Sikkim |
| 12.10-12.25 | Dr. Chander Mohan, Asst. Professor, Dept. of Business Economics, Univ. of Delhi |
| 12.25-12.40 | Mr. K. Lalhmingliana, Director, Labour, Employment, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Government of Mizoram |
| 12.40-1.00 | Questions and Answers |

Webinar Schedule

2.00 - 3.45 p.m. Technical Session 3: Some Possible Solutions Case Studies

Moderator: Dr. Rahul Srivastava

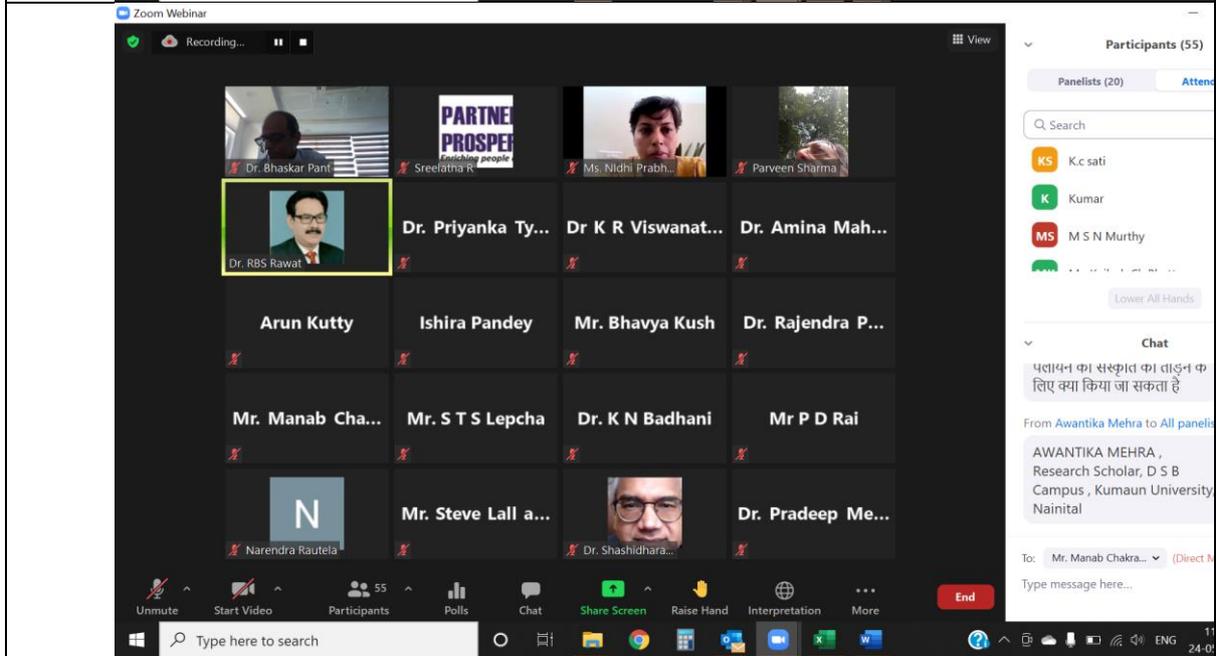
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| 2.10-2.35 | Village Revitalization– Mr. Sushil Ramola, Saur village, Tehri Garhwal |
| 2.35-2.50 | Youth Vocational Training and Healthcare Dr. Vijay Dhasmana, VC, Swami RamBhimmalayan University |
| 2.50-3.05 | Jilling Estate- Mr. Steve Lal and Ms. Nandini Lall, Owners, Jilling Estate, Nainital |
| 3.05-3.20 | Agricultural Produce Marketing Mr. Kailash Ch. Bhatt, Manager, Market Access, UGVS |
| 3.20-3.40 | Question and Answers |

3.45 - 5.00 p.m. Technical Session 4: What should be done? How? By whom?

Moderator: Dr. Shashidhara Enarh, University of British Columbia, Canada Moderator

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|-------------|--|
| 3.45-4.00 | Action Points from the participants- Mr. Narendra Rautela, Dr. Shashidhar, Ms. Nidhi P. Tiwari, Dr. Manab Chakraborty |
| 4.00-4.20 | Responses by the Panel <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prof. K. N. Badhani, Dean (Administration) & Dean (Academics (I/C)), Indian Institute of Management Kashipur• Dr. Priyanka Tyagi, Department of Geography, University of Jammu• Mr. Parveen Sharma, Owner, Chevron Hotels, Nainital |
| 4.20 - 4.50 | Questions and Answers |
| 4.50-5.00 | Vote of Thanks– Bhavya Kush, Creator of Uttarakhand Migration WhatsApp Group |

In case of any difficulty, please feel free to call Mr. Bhavya Kush, Pn@ch@nppindia.org.in; +91 8396075192; +91 7988909314



Zoom Webinar

Recording... View

Mr. Bhaskar Pant Sreelatha R. Mr. Sushil Ramo... Dr. Vijay Dhasmana Dr. K. N. Badhani

Narendra Rautela Ishifa Pandey Dr. Chandr Mo... Ms. Nidhi Prab... Dr. K. R. Viswanat...

1/2 Anil Srivastava Mr. Manab Chakra... Pushpa Joshi priyanka tyagi Mr. Bhavya Ku 1/2

Kailash Bhatt Mr. Steve Lall a... Mr. S T S Lepcha Arun Kutty Aiswarya

Ankit Rana Arun Sarkar Jayesh Mukherjee ranjana rautela Mr P D Rai

Unmute Start Video Participants 48 Polls Chat Share Screen Raise Hand Interpretation More End

Participants (48)

Panelists (20) Attend

Find a participant

DR Dr. Rahul Srivastava (Co-host)

DV Dr. Vijay Dhasmana (Co-host)

MS Mr. Steve Lall and... (Co-host)

Mr. Sushil Ramola (Co-host)

Invite Mute All

Chat

<https://www.thebetterindia.com/109115/saur-ghost-village-wise-wall-project/>

From Ms. Nidhi Prabha Tiwari to All

@Sushil Ramola what a heartfelt presentation. Congrats!

To: Dr. Chandr Mohan Negi

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Annexure II

Profile of Moderators and Speakers

Opening Session

Moderator: Dr. K.R. Viswanathan, Chairman Partners in Prosperity

Dr Viswanathan had earlier worked as Deputy Head (Climate Change and Development) at the Embassy of Switzerland in India. Before that, he had worked as the Senior Adviser of Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), Joint / Additional Commissioner at the Ministry of Agriculture Govt of India, and Principal Director of Defence Research and Development Organisation. He is a veterinarian by training with a Masters in Veterinary Sciences and MBA. Dr Viswanathan was awarded the Vishisht Seva Medal by the President of India in 1985 for the service to Defence of the highest order.

Speaker Dr. Raghubir Singh Rawat, IFS (Retd)

Dr. Rawat, a retired IFS officer, is currently advisor to the Chief Minister of Uttarakhand. Dr. Rawat, joined I.F.S.in 1978, headed the State of Uttarakhand as Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (PCCF) as Head of the Forest Force from 2008 to 2014. He also held the post as Chairman, Subordinate Services Selection Commission, Uttarakhand from 2014-2016. He has a Ph.D. in Medicinal Plants, and M.Sc.in Forestry, Ecology & Allied Subjects, Management and Mathematics. He hails from Chamoli, his village is close to Niti, Mana.

Speaker: Mr. Bhaskar Pant

Mr. Pant a native of Uttarakhand is a Post graduate from Delhi University & holds an MBA degree from Punjab University, Chandigarh. Mr. Pant joined NABARD in 1988 & during his 30+ years of service in the organization has served in various capacities in different centers of the country. He has a wide and a varied experience of being a development bankers. Prior to his present assignment as General manager at Uttarakhand Regional office of National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD)., he was posted at Delhi RO and represented NABARD in many of the GOI meetings at the highest level, convening Gol flagship programmes of Long Term Irrigation, Aggregation of farmers into FPOs, Swachhata Abhiyan Yojana, Rural Housing, Dairy, Fisheries Infrastructure Development.

10.30 – 11.30 Technical Session 1: Migration in Uttarakhand

Moderator: Ms. Nidhi Prabha Tewari

As Sr Social Sector Specialist, Ujjwala, at Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, Government of India, Ms. Tewari currently work on women empowerment through clean cooking fuel as part of a large governmental programme #Ujjwala #PMUY. Also work in Bihar with a few Mukhias coaching them on achieving their chosen goals @Development Management Institute. She is an Ashoka Fellow & Visiting Fellow at Development Management Institute, Bihar. She does policy/legislative research, leadership training & field studies in the areas of democracy & development. (IRMA grad). She dabbles in running a hill resort, solar energy, waste, farming, yoga and Vipassana.

Speaker: Dr. Amina Maharjan

Dr. Maharjan is Senior Specialist Livelihoods & Migration, Livelihoods at the International Centre for Mountain Development (ICIMOD), Kathmandu. She is a people person and interested in a wide range of topics that impact life and livelihoods of mountain people. More specifically, I'm passionate about human mobility and migration and their linkages with the lives and livelihoods of people. She did her PhD in Agricultural Economics from Justus Leibig University Giessen, Germany. She topped MSc Agricultural Economics class of 2002 at University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad.

Speaker: Prof. Rajendra P. Mamgain

Prof. Mamgain is the S. R Sankaran Chair (Rural Labour), National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Hyderabad. He is also the Managing Editor of the Indian Journal of Labour Economics. He earned his Ph.D. in Economics from Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi and Master and Bachelor's degrees from HNB Garhwal University. His areas of Interest Labour Market and Employment, Education & Skill Development, Social Exclusion and Discrimination, and Impact Evaluation of Development Programmes.

11.50-12.45 Technical Session 2: Perspectives from Other State

Moderator: Mr. S. T. S. Lepcha (Retd. IFS)

Mr. Lepcha is the VP & Sustainable Dev Forum, Uttarakhand. He was the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests in Uttarakhand. He has researched various bamboo and natural fibre related activities and helped in formulating Government of India's Natural fibre policy which included nettle and Hemp fibre for the first time in 2010. Currently, he is expert member in Executive Committee of National Bamboo Mission, Minister of Agriculture, GOI and also advises Bamboo and Fibre Development Board, Govt of Uttarakhand. He is editor in chief of Journal of Non-Timber Forest Products, Dehradun. He is also Vice President of Sustainable Development Forum, Uttarakhand (A state chapter of IMI).

Speaker: Hon. Mr. P.D. Rai, ex MP, Sikkim

In 2009, Mr. Rai earned the distinction of being the first and only member of Parliament with degrees from both an IIT as well as an IIM after being elected to the Lok Sabha from the Sikkim constituency. Whether in the Parliament or outside, Mr. Rai continues to work towards the betterment of the Sikkimese people in particular and for all mountain people in general. He is currently the President of Integrated Mountain Initiative (IMI). He sees a great future in mountains for technology and process improvement. "The more you talk of technology, the more you talk of better processes".

Speaker: Dr. Chander Mohan

Dr. Chander Mohan is a native of Kinnaur, H.P. He has extensively researched changing climatic patterns and its impact on apple production and productivity in Himachal Pradesh. His research interest is Commercialization and High Value Crops in Mountain Agriculture: A Comparative Analysis of Alternative Marketing Channels in Horticulture in Himachal Pradesh. He is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Business Economics, University of Delhi, South Campus.

Speaker: Mr. K. Lalhmingliana

Mr. Lalhmingliana is the Director, Labour, Employment, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Government of Mizoram. Both Mizoram and Uttarakhand have high youth unemployment. In the age group of 15-29 years the unemployment rate for graduates and above was 13.3 percent in Mizoram. Likewise youth unemployment rate (age group 15-29 years) in Uttarakhand has doubled since the financial year 2004-05 from 6% to 13.3%. Mr. Lalhmingliana is in the forefront tackling youth unemployment through skill development programmes.

2.00 -3.45 Technical Session 3: Some Possible Solutions – Case Studies

Moderator: Dr. Rahul Srivastava

Dr. Srivastava is a veterinary doctor by training and currently serves as Vice President, Hester Biosciences Limited. He has established "Veterinary Social Business" among smallholder livestock farmers by developing appropriate animal healthcare products and awareness creation among smallholder livestock farmers in South Asia. Development of reliable supply chain of vaccines especially for rural areas of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Odisha, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Nepal. Adopting hybrid approach of development organisation and commercial organisation approach towards community sensitisation, need assessment, new product development and ensuring mass access of animal healthcare products.

Speaker: Mr. Sushil Ramola

Mr. Ramola hails from Saur village, a ghost village from Tehri Garhwal. He is a social entrepreneur, working on enhancing employability of disadvantaged youth in a sustainable way through building their skills, inculcating appropriate attitudes and linking them with employment opportunities. He is also engaged in the institution building work for the organizations working in the social development arena. He has 30 years of corporate work experience, out of which 24 years have been with SRF Limited. He is currently advisor to SRF Foundation and in particular focuses on the leadership development and management of The Shri Ram Schools and other educational and CSR initiatives of the Foundation. Sri Sushil graduated in 1975 with a gold medal in Chemical Engineering and did his PGDM from IIM, Ahmedabad in 1981. He is the past President of Integrated Mountain Initiative (IMI).

Speaker: Dr. Vijay Dhasmana

Dr. Vijay Dhasmana, the Vice Chancellor of Swami Rama Himalayan University and a member of Presidential Body of Himalayan Institute Hospital Trust is a Ph.D from Rohilkhand University, Bareilly and Masters in Mathematics & Masters in Statistics from HNB Garhwal University, Srinagar, Garhwal. He also attained his Masters in Computer Sciences from University of London, United Kingdom. Dr. Dhasmana has a deep understanding of the education landscape in the state. Under his able leadership several departments and educational programs for healthcare professionals were introduced in the state of Uttarakhand. Dr. Dhasmana's deep concern about the youth migration in the hill villages of Uttarakhand, made him set up School for Vocational Studies and Skill Development at SRHU, with an aim to equip the youth of Uttarakhand with entrepreneurial skills and make them financially sustainable.

Speakers: Mr. Steve Lall and Ms. Nandini Lall

In the 70s, Steve Lall, Nandini's father, a former Indian Air force pilot and tea planter, returned to his home in Jilling to preserve and guard the 140-acre mountain top, which covers vast orchards, forests, and farmlands, from encroachers. Nandini is the owner of the Estate, who lends a helping hand to run the Jilling Estate located, 6,500 feet above sea level, 300 km from Delhi and 38 km from the rail head at Kathgodam. With the expanse of their estate, Lalls could very well be a "multi-crore chaps" through commercial tourism and by building a massive resort. Instead, they never hosted more than five to six couples at a time and kept the whole operation low-key and low-density. In September 2020 issue of Reader's Digest, Steve Lal spoke about his difficulties on how to earn enough during the Corona pandemic to keep paying for all the bills.

Speaker: Mr. Kailash Chandra Bhatt

Mr. Bhatt is currently serving as the Divisional Project Manager - Integrated Livelihood Support Project (ILSP), District Almora as well as State Marketing Manager with International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD) and Government of Uttarakhand. The project is working in 9 hill districts of Uttarakhand by supporting producer organisation with technology and access to market to improve food security and livelihoods.

3.45-5.00 Technical Session 4: Panel Discussion - What should be done? How? By whom?

Moderator: Dr. Shashidharan Enarth

After 25 years as a development practitioner and 4 years in academia, Dr. Enarth is on a year plus long break to pursue independent research and freelance consulting. His work experiences include Graduate Program Director at UBC's School of Public Policy and Global Affairs, leadership roles in non-government organizations, a member of multiple national policy forums in India, and international development consultant for the World Bank in Africa and Asia. Dr. Enarth is a trained social worker who returned to the UBC to do a PhD (2001-2008) that explored the relationship between the processes of decentralization and democratization and its impact on good governance.

Presenter of Recommendations: Mr. Narendran Rautela

Narendra Rautela is political leader from Ranikhet. As a development practitioner, journalist and political worker, he has intimate understanding of the grassroots issues of Uttarakhand.

Panelist: Dr. Priyanka Tyagi

She is currently working as Lecturer at Department of Geography, Bhaderwah Campus, Jammu University. Her Phd thesis was "Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction Planning, Rudraprayag District of Uttarakhand from Kumaun University, Nainital. She has been doing academic research in the hill State of Uttarakhand at village level since 2011.

Panelist: Prof. K.N. Badhani

Prof. Badhani is the Dean Academic and Dean Administration at the Indian Institute of Management Kashipur, Uttarakhand. He has a Ph. D. in Finance from Kumaun University. Prof. Surendera Kala, Vice-President Global Research Foundation For Corporate Governance who managed Prof Badhani directly had this to say about him "Professor Badhani is a born intellectual with a fine, humble, charming personality. I found him one of the best Management Teacher with unique professional style of praiseworthy teaching which has always been liked by all the students to whom he taught. A prolific writer and an ardent researcher in the field of trade, commerce, industry and Corporate Management related issues.

Panelist: Mr. Parveen Sharma

Mr. Sharma is owner of Chevron Hotels in Nainital town. He is known as an organic farmer, hospitality expert, and restorer of man-made and natural heritage. He is a member of Management Committee of North India Hotel and Restaurant Association. He is the State Convenor of INTACH ,Uttarakhand; Secretary of Ice Skating Association of Uttarakhand; Secretary of Ski & Snowboarding Association of Uttarakhand, and Board Member on Seed Certification & Organic Certification Board.