

EIITF Conference Summary

The Institute has organised its Sixth International Conference on Empirical Issues in International Trade and Finance (EIITF) during 13-14 December, 2018 at its Delhi Campus. The Conference was inaugurated by **Prof. Alan L. Winters**, a distinguished Professor of Economics at University of Sussex, United Kingdom and a leading specialist from the Empirical and Policy Analysis of International Trade and **Prof. Joshua Aizenman**, a distinguished Professor of International Relations and Economics at University of Southern California, Research Associate for the National Bureau of Economic Research, and co-editor of the Journal of International Money and Finance. Besides them, Prof. Manoj Pant, Director IIFT and Prof. Rakesh Mohan Joshi, Chairperson (Research) were present at Inaugural Function. The Conference received wide response from the academia and the policy research community, and a total of 198 papers were submitted from Universities and Research Institutes from India and abroad. After suitable peer-review process, a total of 150 papers were selected for presentation and finally 110 research papers were presented at the Conference.



These included 12 papers from abroad including renowned universities like University of Sains, Malaysia, Abu Dhabi University, Drexel University, USA, Montpellier Business School, France, University of Washington, USA, Union College, New York, USA, Southern Illinois University Carbondale, AUT Business School, Auckland, New Zealand, Institute of Development Studies, UK, University of Virginia, USA etc.

The conference schedule accommodated a total of 29 technical sessions where ongoing research in different areas of international trade and finance were presented. Besides the technical sessions, two special lectures were also organised wherein Prof. Sugata Marjit, RBI Professor of Industrial Economics, Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Kolkata, Prof. L Alan Winters, Distinguished Professor of Economics, University of Sussex, UK, Prof. Partha Sen, ECGC Chair Professor, IIFT and Prof. Joshua Aizenman, Distinguished Professor of International Relations and Economics, University of Southern California were invited to deliver the lecture.

In addition, four Policy Forums on issues of significant contemporary policy relevance, namely: 'Trade and Employment Challenge in South Asia (in collaboration with ILO), 'Bilateral Investment Treaty (in collaboration with Center for Trade and Investment Law), 'Emerging Issues in International Trade Negotiations (E-Commerce) (in collaboration with Centre for WTO Studies) and ' Trade, Technology and Global Value Chain: Issues and Challenges (in collaboration with UNESCAP) were also organized at the EIITF 2018 Conference wherein [distinguished speakers from various](#) Universities and multilateral bodies like University of Sussex, UK, University of California, BRAC University, Dhaka, University College London, UK, University of Melbourne, University of Nottingham, University of Kyoto, Japan, University of Bari, Italy, OECD, Paris, were invited to deliver talk.

The Valedictory address was delivered by the Commerce Secretary, Government of India Dr. Anup Wadhawan. The 'Best Doctoral Paper Award' was given to Ms. Aneesha Chitgupi, Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC), Bangalore for her paper on "Sustainability of India's Current Account Deficit: Role of Remittance Inflows and Software Services Exports"

The Conference ended with the vote of thanks to all dignitaries, paper presenters, session chairs, discussants, and sponsors. IIFT faculty, students and staffs have been acknowledged for their involvement to make this conference successful.