1. Medha Kudaisiya’s paper delved into a period that is of exceptional importance in the history of the Indian planning process. It recounted the experience of economic planning in India in the late 1960s, a time of vigorous contestation over ideas, instruments and choices of economic paradigms. These were critical years in terms of the political transition which India experienced. The rich historical documents presented by the author lucidly described the tensions that were playing out with regard to the appropriate approach to planning. It examined the contestations which raged in different *fora* –within academic circles, especially amongst economists, in political circles, in the press and amongst bureaucrats. It also took a look at how planning became a contested area between the Centre and states and at the endeavors to decentralize economic planning, especially in its financial aspects. The author contended that by the end of this period and with the removal of D.R. Gadgil from the position of the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission, a political approach to planning reigned over a scientific and technocratic approach

Chairing the session, Dr Nasir Tyabji observed that this was an important contribution for the insights it provided into to how the accumulation regime faltered after the mid1960s, , with a change in emphasis from planning for accumulation to planning for regional resource allocation. Also, how the Congress tried to incorporate the political aspirations of assertive regional entrepreneurial interests, which first expressed themselves in the 1967 election, by including them within "Congress factionalism." He wished the author had drawn out the larger issues of political economy from the extended anecdotal discourse around planning.

As the discussant, Dr. Arindam Banerjee felt that the period dealt by the author is of immense significance not only for whatever happened to the planning process during this time but also due to the tumultuous conditions and uncertainties in the economy. The fact that the Five-year Plans were suspended during this short period is also linked to the larger stress generated by slow growth rates and emerging food shortages in the economy. The Green Revolution strategy, which went on to become a grand success in raising food output, was launched largely in the wake of these food shortages, more driven by vulnerability than by any well-thought out plan. The new accumulation in agriculture also led to the spontaneous rise of rural capitalist farmers, who formed an important political lobby in the country since this period.

The contestation of ideas and approaches within the planning process Dr Banerjee argued emanated out of these complex and volatile political economy factors in this short phase of

cannot comprehend the enormity of the illegal mining scam in Bellary without understanding Bengaluru’s role in it. In theorizing the role of provincial capital in explaining economic transitions, the paper argued for a long term view of colonial and post-colonial socio-economic and political transformations which explain differential geographic trajectories and outcomes of the growth of provincial capital. Both scale and spatiality of capital become central subjects of interrogation and analysis in this exercise.

Responding to the presentation the discussant Dr.S.K. Singh noted that while the paper critiques the heavy dependence on neoliberal explanations, such as blaming globalization for everything, it is however silent on the question whether it is at all possible in today’s world to understand the ‘local’ without its linkages with the global forces. The merit of the arguments in this paper, he added , lies in its emphasis for a more balanced view which does not treat rural and urban, city and village as binaries rather as dynamic dyads in constant interaction with each other.

1. Sukhpal Singh’s paper sought to analyze the nature of agrarian entrepreneurship in the post green revolution period of the 1960s and 1970s. Through the case studies of Punjab and Andhra the paper examined the generation, flow and conversion of agrarian surpluses into a range of agro commercial establishments and the emergence of what he chooses to define as agro- entrepreneurship. It compares and contrasts the nature of this agro-entrepreneurship in terms of patterns of mobility and social and cultural factors and their significance in understanding the rural social change from a business history perspective. This paper highlighted the role of socio-cultural environment and caste-class dynamics as factors to explain the lack of entrepreneurship among the Jat Sikh farmers of Punjab who are the dominant landed gentry of the region. The presence of a hegemonic merchant class (Banias) from Hindu community and their entrenched networks, the paper argued, has thwarted the entrepreneurial initiatives of the rich Jat agriculturists. As a result there has been very limited movement of surplus capital from agriculture to industry in Punjab. Singh also argued that the Jats have been agriculturists traditionally and they are not usually market savvy and lacks network skills, important ingredients for successful industrial entrepreneurship. In contrast the social environment in Andhra Pradesh has been conducive for the farming communities such as Kammas, Reddys, Kapus and Rajus as there was no predominant merchant class in existence. Making a comparison, Singh underlined the role of communalized market networks in Punjab as responsible for the lack of interest among the Jat community towards industrial investment. Andhra Pradesh, in contrast, had a rather congenial atmosphere for the smooth flow of capital from rural to urban, which partly explains the growth of Hyderabad as global economic hub, at least in IT sector.

Commenting on the paper, discussant Dr S.K. Singh, felt that the attempt to understand and analyse agro-entrepreneurship in purely cultural terms was misplaced and simplistic. He felt the paper does