

**The 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Neemrana Conference**  
**National Council of Applied Economic Research**

**December 16-17, 2023,**

**Neemrana Fort Palace, Neemrana, Rajasthan 301705**

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**Saturday, December 16, 2023**

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- 9:00 – 9.20 am **Departure by Cars for the Neemrana Fort Palace**
- 12:00 pm **Arrival at the Neemrana Fort Palace**
- 12:00 -1:30 pm **Settling in and lunch**
- 1:30 pm** **Welcome and Overview of the Conference**  
Nandan Nilekani, *Infosys and NCAER*  
Manish Sabharwal, *TeamLease and NCAER*
- Session 1**  
1:40–3:15 pm **Public Debt Landscape: Global and India**  
Chair: **Manish Sabharwal**, *TeamLease and NCAER*  
Speakers:  
(1) **Barry Eichengreen**, *UC Berkeley and NCAER*  
(2) **Poonam Gupta**, *NCAER*  
(3) **Shekhar Aiyar**, *Johns Hopkins University and NCAER*  
(4) **Kavita Rao**, *NIPFP*
- 3:15–3:45 pm **Coffee Break**
- Session 2**  
3:45–5:00 pm **The Neemrana Talk: Skills, Jobs and Economic Growth in the Era of AI**  
Chair: **Suman Bery**, *NITI Aayog*  
Speaker: **Nandan Nilekani**, *Infosys and NCAER*
- 5:00–5:30 pm **Coffee Break**
- Session 3**  
5:30–7:00 pm **Will India's Trade and Industrial Policy Activism Revive its Manufacturing Sector?**  
Chair: **Arvind Panagariya**, *Columbia University and NCAER*  
Speakers:  
(1) **BVR Subrahmanyam**, *NITI Aayog*  
(2) **Rupa Chanda**, *UN ESCAP*  
(3) **Deepak Mishra**, *ICRIER*  
(4) **Heiwai Tang**, *Asia Global Institute*
- 7:00 pm **Cocktails and Dinner**

**Sunday, December 17, 2023**

**Session 4**

9:00–10:30 am

**Responding to External Shocks: What is the Right Policy Mix for India?**

Chair: **Ratna Sahay**, *NCAER*

Speakers:

- (1) **Poonam Gupta**, *NCAER*
- (2) **Errol D'Souza**, *IIM Ahmedabad*
- (3) **Prakash Loungani**, *Johns Hopkins University*

10:30–11:00 am

**Coffee Break**

**Session 5**

11:00 – 12:30 pm

**Demography and Destiny**

Chair: **Sonalde Desai**, *NCAER*

Speakers:

- (1) **Ajay N. Jha**, *15th Finance Commission*
- (2) **Neelanjan Sircar**, *CPR and Ashoka University*
- (3) **Chinmay Tumble**, *IIM Ahmedabad*
- (4) **Rakhi Dandona**, *PHFI and University of Washington*
- (5) **Andrea Wojnar**, *UNFPA*

12:30–1:30 pm

**Lunch**

**Session 6**

1:30–3:00 pm

**Global Outlook and Implications for India**

Moderator: **Latha Venkatesh**, *CNBC TV18*

Panelists:

- (1) **Barry Eichengreen**, *UC Berkeley and NCAER*
- (2) **Swaminathan S Aiyar**, *Times of India*
- (3) **Heiwai Tang**, *Asia Global Institute*

3:00–3:30 pm

**Coffee Break**

**Session 7**

3:30–5:00 pm

**The Silent Transformation in how India's Private Sector Finances, Governs and Manages itself**

Moderator: **Manish Sabharwal**, *TeamLease and NCAER*

Panelists:

- (1) **Pramod Bhasin**, *Clix Capital and ICRIER*
- (2) **Sandeep Singhal**, *WestBridge Capital and NCAER*
- (3) **Falguni Nayar**, *Nykaa and NCAER*

**Session 8**

5:00–6:15 pm

**Neemrana Lecture: India in search of Glory**

Chair: **AK Bhattacharya**, *Business Standard*

Speaker: **Ashok Lahiri**, *15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission and West Bengal Legislative Assembly*

Discussants:

- (1) **Laveesh Bhandari**, *CSEP*
- (2) **Rana Hasan**, *ADB*

6:15 pm

**Closing Remarks**

**Manish Sabharwal**, *TeamLease and NCAER*

**Sandeep Singhal**, *WestBridge Capital and NCAER*

6:25 pm

**Cocktails and Dinner**



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**Monday, December 18, 2023**

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7:30 am–12:00 pm **Brunch and Departure for Delhi**