

CESS *Prime Time*

(Planning Dept., Govt. of Telangana & ICSSR-Ministry of Education, Govt. of India)



From the Director's Desk....



Prof. E. Revathi

The six-month period from April to September 2024 was vibrant with academic activities at CESS. We began with an insightful lecture by our Chairman, Prof. Dilip M. Nachane, who provided a thorough analysis of macroeconomic stabilization policies in a prolonged low-interest-rate environment, sparking engaging discussions with faculty and Ph.D. scholars on innovative approaches to monetary policy. The Division for Graduate Studies played an active role by organizing lectures and panel discussions specifically designed for the benefit of our Ph.D. scholars, fostering their intellectual growth and critical thinking. From a panel discussion on the multidimensional facets of poverty to our interaction with Karnataka's 5th State Finance Commission, the activities sparked meaningful dialogue on fiscal priorities and socio-economic challenges. The Capacity Building Workshop on Quantitative Techniques, organized in collaboration with ICSSR-SRC, empowered degree college lecturers in Telangana with essential research skills, further enhancing their pedagogical practices. In addition, we commemorated the birth anniversary of Acharya Kothapalli Jayashankar, honoring his instrumental contributions to the Telangana statehood movement.

This was complemented by our Training and Capacity Building Program for Farmer Producer Companies Leaders,

which effectively enhanced the managerial capabilities of CEOs and directors, equipping them with the skills needed to drive organizational growth. Additionally, discussions on the Union and State Budgets 2024 -25 provided opportunity to our Ph.D scholars to present on themes such as taxation, women empowerment, and environmental sustainability.

The period also saw significant progress in research and publications. Our studies spanned diverse and critical themes, including fiscal challenges, social equity, environmental sustainability, and women's empowerment in MSMEs. Noteworthy contributions include analyses of fiscal policies, governance, and agricultural livelihoods, alongside impactful work on industry, global value chains, energy trade, and climate risk. The release of peer-reviewed publications in reputed journals and books further indicates our work. Ongoing projects include studies on AYUSH exports, district development plans, and comprehensive analyses for the State Finance Commission and the 16th Finance Commission. Moreover, completed studies during this period have made substantial contributions to policy formulation at both state and national levels. These initiatives highlight the Centre's steadfast commitment to promoting intellectual dialogue, producing meaningful research, and shaping policies that tackle critical socio-economic challenges. I sincerely thank our faculty, scholars, research and office support staff, and collaborators for their efforts in taking forward the research at the Centre.

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Publications

Books

Reddy, M. G. (2024). Governance of welfare and welfare schemes in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka: An assessment. In V. Anil Kumar & D. Jeevan Kumar (Eds.), *Governance and development in Karnataka: One State, many worlds* (ISBN. 978-93-93082-89-3). Writers Choice Publications Pvt. Ltd.

Revathi, E. (2024). Understanding women's employment trends in rural Andhra Pradesh. In K. Sarap (Ed.), *Understanding labour markets in rural India* (ISBN. 978-81-974489-7-3). South Asia Press.

Journals

Anjaneyulu, P., & Sankineni, L. R. (2024). Precarity of natural resource-based livelihoods: A study of the Vaddera community in Telangana state. *The Deccan Geographer*, 62(6), 36-49.

Chakradhar, J., & Gupta, R. (2024). Heterogeneous effect of economic policy uncertainty and firm financial performance: Empirical evidence from India. *Managerial and Decision Economics*, 1–22. <https://doi.org/10.1002/mde.4308>

Chakradhar, J., & Thao, T. T. (2024). The impact of participating in the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) agreement and potential export markets for Vietnamese rice: An application of augmented gravity model. *Journal of International Commerce, Economics and Policy*, 15(2), 2450004.

Chakradhar, J., (2024). Caste affiliation and access to high-authority jobs in the Indian service sector. *Journal of the Asia Pacific Economy*, 1–27. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13547860.2024.2401220>

Kasturi, A. (2024). Unveiling the factors influencing financial inclusion in India: A comprehensive analysis. *Cogent Economics and Finance*, 12(1). <https://doi.org/10.1080/23322039.2024.2381682>

Krishna Rao, C. (2024). Educational situation among Muslim women in India: A sociological study. *International Journal of Cultural Studies and Social Sciences*, 20(1), 55.

Motukuri, V., & Revathi, E. (2024). Growth of cess and surcharges in India: With special reference to education cess of Union government and its utilisation. *Indian Journal of Human Development*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/09737030241239738>

Sreenivasulu, Y., Vijay, R., & Chandra, K. S. (2024). Tenancy, non-resident households, and institutions used to access inputs: An investigation of two villages in the West Godavari district, South India. *Journal of Social Science*, 22(2). <https://doi.org/10.62656/SIJSS.v22i2.363>

Srividhya, M., & Vidya, C. T. (2024). Internationalization at inception: Insights from the Indian textile industry's born globals. *Journal of Economic Integration*, 39(3), 688–713.

Vidya, C. T. (2024). Climate risk and sustainable investment in Asia. *Journal of Environmental Assessment Policy and Management*. <https://doi.org/10.1142/S146433322450008X>

Vidya, C. T. (2024). Unveiling the complex web: Exploring the international fossil fuel trade network and its impact on CO₂ emissions and trade patterns. *Studies in Economics and Finance*, 41(4), 871-901. <https://doi.org/10.1108/SEF-12-2023-0697>

Others

Anjaneyulu, P. "Jillala Taggimpu Parinamalu Alochinchara?" (Have We Thought about the Implications of Downsizing the Number of Districts?), *Andhra Jyothi*, 3 July 2024.

Anjaneyulu, P. "Telangana Declared 100% Open Defecation Free (ODF): 73 Years After Independence," *Deccan Chronicle*, 20 July 2024.

Chakradhar, J., & Manjunatha, A. V. (2024). Navigating the shifting tides: A critical assessment of international trade theory and policy in the era of emerging trade agglomerations. Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC), Working Paper No. 574. <https://www.isec.ac.in/navigating-the-shifting-tides-a-critical-assessment-of-international-trade-theory-and-policy-in-the-era-of-emerging-trade-agglomerations/>

Revathi, E., & Kelkar, G. "Gendered Poverty in a Matrilineal State," *Shillong Times*, 29 June 2024.

Revathi, E., & Venkatanarayana, M. "Is Education Cess Serving Its Purpose?" *Hans India*, 15 September 2024.

Revathi, E., Suresh Reddy B., Aparna, P., & Sampath, P. (2024). Rapid situational assessment of fundamental principles and rights at work in the cotton growing communities in Telangana, India. Monograph No. 58, August 2024.

Paper presentations

M. Srinivasa Reddy, Climate-smart agriculture: Adoption, impacts, and implications for sustainable development. Special Issue Launch, Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI), Osaka, Sapporo, Tokyo, 26 July 2024 (Online).

M. Srinivasa Reddy. Integrating environmental and water sensitivity in master plans. Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi, 15 July 2024 (Online).

M. Srinivasa Reddy. Investing for the future of climate-food-nature. Asia and the Pacific Food Security Forum 2024, Asian Development Bank, Manila, Philippines, 9-12 April 2024 (Online).

M. Srinivasa Reddy. Linking farmers to markets: Barriers, solutions, and policy options. Special Issue Launch, Asian Development Bank Institute, Tokyo, Japan, 26 July 2024 (Online).

M. Srinivasa Reddy. Postcolonial futures for disaster risk reduction in South Asia. Virtual Roundtable, All India Disaster Mitigation Institute (AIDMI), University of Auckland, and the Copenhagen Centre for Disaster Research, University of Copenhagen, 18 July 2024 (Online).

Revathi, E. Resource conflict in tribal areas: A gender perspective. Presented in the panel discussion on "Theoretical and Empirical Understanding of Tribal Issues and the State" during the International Seminar on "Tribal Livelihood Patterns: Challenges and Strategies for Empowerment," organized by Dr. BR Ambedkar Open University, 7-8 August 2024.

Revathi, E., Rao, S. L., & Reddy, B. S. Comprehensive survey of SC community in Telangana State: Mapping of data and resources on a spatial domain. Presentation at a one-day brainstorming session with S&T knowledge partners, conducted by the Telangana Council of Science & Technology, 7 August 2024, Hyderabad.

Vidya, C. T. Digital connectivity and international trade: Analysing the impact of ICT on goods and services across advanced economies. Presented at the 18th Bulletin of Monetary Economics and Banking International Conference, Jakarta, on the theme of "Policy Innovation in a Turbulent World: Embracing Digitalization and Artificial Intelligence Amid Global Uncertainty," 29 July 2024.

Vidya, C. T. Global value chains: Upstream, downstream, and midstream. Paper presented at the Asia Economic Development

Conference (AEDC), Seoul National University, Seoul, South Korea, hosted by ADB, Manila, and ADBI, Tokyo, 13-14 July 2024.

Completed studies

1. Comprehensive Baseline Survey of the SC Community in Telangana State: Mapping of Data and Resources on a spatial domain (Sponsor: Department of Science & Technology (GoI) and Telangana State Council of Science & Technology (GoT); Project team: E. Revathi, B. Suresh Reddy, S. Laxman Rao, S. Naresh, P. Anjaneyulu, S. Harinath, K. Bhasker, and Ms. Ashwani)

The survey employed the Sustainable Livelihoods Framework to map the livelihoods of Scheduled Castes across Telangana, focusing on five capitals—human, natural, physical, social, and financial—that influence livelihoods. Data was collected from over 10,000 SC households, providing an extensive baseline through a dedicated GIS app. This spatial data serves as a pre-intervention benchmark, facilitating longitudinal tracking in future studies. The study also highlighted potential livelihood enhancement areas, suggesting targeted Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) interventions to support socio-economic development within SC communities.

2. Analysis of the Scheduled Castes Special Development Fund (SC Sub-Plan) of Telangana Government (2014-15 to 2021-22) (Sponsor: Scheduled Castes Development Department (SCDD), Government of Telangana; Project team: Pradeep Kamble)

This annual budget analysis of the Scheduled Castes Special Development Fund (SC Sub-Plan) for Telangana evaluates expenditure data from 2014-15 to 2021-22, with the latest report covering FY 2021-22. During this period, 30 departments implemented the SCSDF, with significant spending from Rural Development, Agriculture, Energy, Scheduled Castes Development, Panchayathi Raj, Telangana Social Welfare Residential Educational Institutions Society, and Health and Family Welfare. In 2021-22, five departments each spent over ₹1,000 crore, while others spent less than ₹1 crore. Major allocations were directed toward Economic Development (37%), Human Development (27%), and Social Security (16%). Future priority areas include pre-school and higher education, reducing child and infant mortality, addressing stunting and wasting among children, and combatting anaemia.

- Farmers' Satisfaction on Paddy Procurement Process in Telangana for Yasangi Season (Rabi) 2023-24 (Sponsor: Department of Civil Supplies, Government of Telangana; Project Lead: B. Suresh Reddy)

CESS conducted a study on farmers' satisfaction with the paddy procurement process for the Yasangi 2023-24 season, funded by the Department of Civil Supplies, Government of Telangana. Using a specially developed app for CATI (Computer-Assisted Telephonic Interview) on tablets, a survey was carried out with 5,000 farmers from a sample of over 8.5 lakh paddy farmers across 32 districts. Findings reveal that over 90% of farmers were satisfied with the timely payment they received, with a quarter of respondents receiving payment within six days of selling their paddy. However, the study also identified a need for improved facilities and machinery at procurement centers (PPCs) to further enhance the process.

- Diversity in the Indian labour market: evidence from Indian manufacturing Industry (Sponsor: ICSSR, New Delhi; Project lead: Jadhav Chakradhar)

Social diversity in Indian manufacturing workplaces is minimal, with notable disparities across social groups. Using data from the NSSO's 68th round Employment and Unemployment Survey and the PLFS 2022-23, our study employs the dissimilarity index to reveal that modern industries are dominated by General category workers, while traditional sectors are concentrated with SC workers. High-ranking positions are largely occupied by General category workers, while SC workers are relegated to lower-ranking roles. OBC and ST groups fare better than SC workers but remain behind the General category in equitable workplace opportunities. Over the past decade, social equality in manufacturing industries has declined, reflecting persistent caste-based polarization that exacerbates inequalities in jobs, income, and workplace diversity.

- Social Audit of Samagra Shiksha Scheme in Selected Schools in Telangana (Sponsor: Directorate of School Education, Government of Telangana; Project Team: K. Chandrasekhar, P. Prudhvikar Reddy, and S. Vijay Kumar)

This project conducted a social audit of the Samagra Shiksha Scheme in Telangana, assessing access to education, infrastructure quality, inclusivity, digital education, and implementation challenges. Using a mixed-method approach, data was collected from 660 schools. Findings indicated that the scheme has notably improved access, especially for girls, marginalized communities,

and children with disabilities. However, challenges such as inadequate infrastructure, lack of transportation, insufficient funding for digital tools, library resources, and sports equipment were identified. Addressing these issues is essential to enhance the scheme's overall impact and effectiveness.



Students in prayer at MPPS, Karimnagar District



Students enjoying lunchtime at MPUPS Thoggudem of Bhadradri Kothagudem

Ongoing studies

- Breaking Glass Ceilings at Workplace: Empowering Women Entrepreneurs in the MSMEs Sector of South India (Sponsor: ICSSR, Special Call for Collaborative Research Projects on Vision Viksit Bharat@2047, New Delhi; Project team: Y. Kesava Reddy, Brajaraja Mishra, Sushanta Kumar Mahapatra, M. Srinivasa Reddy, and Neeraj Kumar)

This project explores invisible barriers faced by women entrepreneurs in MSMEs across South India—Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana. Using mixed methods, it addresses gaps in literature on underrepresentation and intersectional challenges, offering insights through thematic and econometric analysis. The project aims to empower women entrepreneurs by uncovering critical challenges and fostering inclusive growth.

2. Carbon Neutrality and Trade: Green Initiatives of ASEAN (Sponsor: Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia, Indonesia; Duration: 2024-2025; Project lead: C.T. Vidya)

This project investigates how energy trade, both renewable and non-renewable, influences CO₂ emissions and economic growth. With advanced econometric models and scenario-based analysis, including net-zero pathways, it offers policy recommendations tailored to ASEAN nations. By integrating factors like renewable energy adoption, carbon finance, and urbanization, this initiative aims to guide ASEAN towards balanced growth while achieving net-zero emissions by 2050.

3. Comprehensive District Development plan for Mahbubnagar (Sponsor, Planning Board, Govt. of Telangana) Project team: E Revathi, CT Vidya, Jadhav Chakradhar

The Comprehensive District Development Plan (CDDP) for Mahbubnagar focuses on addressing regional disparities in Telangana through targeted strategies in human development, infrastructure, and economic productivity. By integrating data analysis with stakeholder insights, the plan aims to foster inclusive growth, sustainable development, and enhanced socioeconomic outcomes for Mahbubnagar, creating a model for balanced district-level development across the state

4. Enhancing Export Potential of AYUSH Products for Global Well-being: Strategies and Opportunities (Sponsor: ICSSR, New Delhi; Project team: Pravin Jadhav, (IITRM, Gujrat) Chakradhar Jadhav (CESS), Shukkoor T (IITM, Gujarat), Arun Kumar Bairwa (IIM-Amritsar)

This research explores India's AYUSH export potential within the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEEC), analyzing trends, market demand, and regulations in Middle Eastern and European markets. Highlighting successful branding and consumer strategies, it emphasizes scientific validation, quality assurance, and innovation. The study offers actionable insights for policymakers to enhance global acceptance and drive economic growth through AYUSH exports

5. Situational Analysis of PRI Finances in Telangana: A Study by 2nd TSFC (Sponsor: Second Telangana State Finance Commission (TSFC), Government of Telangana; Project lead: M.Gopinath Reddy)

This ongoing study, sponsored by the 2nd Telangana State Finance Commission (TSFC), examines the financial status of Panchayat Raj Institutions (PRIs) in Telangana. It focuses on resource mobilization, per capita fund requirements, tax assignments, and best practices, aiming to enhance the financial viability of PRIs and improve their capacity to deliver quality services effectively.

6. Evaluation of State Finances in Andhra Pradesh: A Study by 16th Finance Commission (Sponsor: Sixteenth Finance Commission, Government of India, Project lead: G.R. Reddy)

This project sponsored by the 16th Finance Commission, examines the fiscal health of Andhra Pradesh from 2012-13 to 2023-24. It focuses on revenue generation, expenditure trends, debt sustainability, fiscal reforms, and contingent liabilities. The study aims to provide actionable recommendations for enhancing tax productivity, public spending efficiency, and designing a sustainable debt roadmap for the state.

Division for Graduate Studies

Ph.D admissions

The Ph.D admission notification for the 2024-25 batch was released on July 22, 2024, for the disciplines of Commerce & Business Management, Economics, Political Science, and Sociology. A total of 37 JRF and NET applicants were shortlisted for personal interviews held on September 14, 2024. Based on their interview performance, 8 candidates were selected (3 from Commerce/Economics, 3 from Political Science, and 2 from Sociology). Classes began on October 14, 2024

Ph.D Awarded

Tula Rajender Kumar. Displacement and Rehabilitation and Socio-Economic Consequence: A Case Study of an Irrigation Project. Ph.D Dissertation, supervised by Dr. P. Padmanabha Rao, Centre for Economic and Social Studies, May 2024 awarded from Dr. BR Ambedkar Open University.

M. Venu Madhav. Governance of Water and Sanitation Programmes: A Study of Local Self- governments (PRIs) and the role of Community-based Organisations (CBOs) in Telangana State, Ph.D Dissertation, supervised by Prof. M. Gopinath Reddy, Centre for Economic and Social Studies, July 2024 awarded from Telangana University.

Shaik Asadullah Hussain. Employees' Job Satisfaction in Commercial Banks: An Empirical Study (A Comparison between Public and Private Sector Banks in Visakhapatnam City, Andhra Pradesh). Ph.D Dissertation, supervised by Dr. K. Chandrashekar, Centre for Economic and Social Studies, August 2024 awarded from Dr. BR Ambedkar Open University.

Ph.D Submitted

M. Sri Vidhya. India's Textile Sector: Trade Networks, Competitiveness and Internationalization. Ph.D Dissertation, Supervised by Dr. C.T. Vidya, Centre for Economic and Social Studies, September 2024 Submitted to Telangana University.

O. Pranathi. Political Participation of Women in Urban Local Governments: A Study of Municipal Corporation in Andhra Pradesh. Ph.D Dissertation, Supervised by Prof.Ch. Balaramulu, Centre for Economic and Social Studies, September 2024 Submitted to Telangana University.

M. Rajeshwar, Economic Analysis of Farm-Level Adaptation to Climate Change in Dryland Agro-Ecosystem. A Study in Telangana State. Ph.D Dissertation, Supervised by Prof. E.Revathi and Dr. B.Suresh Reddy, Centre for Economic and Social Studies, September 2024 Submitted to Telangana University.

Events

1. Special Lecture on Stabilization Policy Options

Prof. Dilip M Nachane, Chairman of CESS, delivered a special lecture on "Stabilization Policy Options in a 'Lower and Longer' Interest Rates Environment" on April 29, 2024. He examined the challenges of conventional monetary policy in prolonged low-interest-rate scenarios and explored alternative approaches,



Prof. Dilip M Nachane, Chairman of CESS, delivered a special lecture on "Stabilization Policy Options in a 'Lower and Longer' Interest Rates Environment"

including the Keynesian liquidity trap and Hawtrey's credit deadlock, with a focus on Quantitative Easing (QE).

2. Panel Discussion on Poverty: Insights for Ph.D Scholars and Students

A panel discussion on poverty was held on May 24, 2024, chaired by Prof. E Revathi, Director of CESS. Key speakers included Prof. C Ravi, who shared insights on the poverty debate's evolution; Dr. M Venkatanarayana, presenting on the Multi-dimensional Poverty Index; and Dr. P Aparna, discussing poverty across states and social groups.

3. Interactive Session with Karnataka's 5th State Finance Commission



An interactive session with the 5th State Finance Commission, Karnataka

An interactive discussion with the 5th State Finance Commission of Karnataka, chaired by Sri C Narayanaswamy, former MP, was held on June 12, 2024, offering an opportunity to discuss pressing fiscal issues and priorities

4. International Yoga Day Celebration at CESS

A lecture on the importance of Yoga, followed by a Yoga session, was held on 21st June 2024 to celebrate International Yoga Day under the guidance of Smt. Ratna Kumari, a certified Yoga trainer, with the participation of Prof. E. Revathi, Director of CESS, along with faculty, research scholars, and staff. She briefly explained the



International Yoga Day Celebration at CESS

science of Yoga, its origin, and the theme for this year, “Self and Society.”

5. Capacity Building Workshop on Quantitative Techniques

From July 1-11, 2024, CESS, in collaboration with ICSSR-SRC, organized a Capacity Building Workshop on "Quantitative Techniques" for degree college lecturers in Telangana. Prof. B. Sudhakar Reddy, Director of ICSSR-SRC, was the Chief Guest.



Capacity Building Workshop on "Quantitative Techniques" for degree college lecturers in Telangana. Prof. B. Sudhakar Reddy, Director of ICSSR-SRC was the Chief Guest

6. Inauguration of Renovated Guest House at CESS

Dr. G. Chinna Reddy, Vice-Chairman, Planning Board, Government of Telangana, inaugurated the Renovated Guest House at CESS on 12th July 2024. The event was graced by the presence of Dr. G.R. Reddy, Founder Member of CESS, and Prof. E. Revathi, Director of CESS, along with faculty, staff, and students, marking a significant milestone in enhancing the institute's infrastructure.



Dr. G. Chinna Reddy, Vice-Chairman of the Planning Board, Government of Telangana, inaugurated the renovated Guest House at CESS

7. Discussion on Union and State Budgets 2024-25

A two-day discussion session on the Union and State Budgets 2024-25 took place on August 5-6, 2024. CESS research scholars presented insights on key budget topics, with contributions from Durga on Income and Corporate Tax, Mohsin on Minority Affairs, Annanya on Energy, Nimisha on Women Empowerment, Salku on Agriculture in Telangana's Budget, Kshama on Agriculture, Bharat on Environment, Sujatha on Health, and Vishwadeep on External Affairs.

8. Dr. Y.V. Reddy Joins CESS as Distinguished Fellow

Dr. Y.V. Reddy, former RBI Governor, has joined CESS as a Distinguished Visiting Fellow. It is an honor for CESS faculty and scholars to engage with his vast expertise in economics, finance, and policy-making through interactive sessions and collaborations.



Dr. Y. V. Reddy, former RBI Governor, joins CESS as a Distinguished Fellow

9. Acharya Kothapalli Jayashankar Birth Anniversary Celebrated

CESS celebrated the birth anniversary of Acharya Kothapalli Jayashankar on August 6, 2024, honouring his role in Telangana's formation. Prof. M. Kodandaram, Retired Professor from



Prof. M. Kodandaram commemorates Acharya Kothapalli Jayashankar's Birth Anniversary

Osmania University, spoke on Dr. Jayashankar's contributions to the statehood movement, with Dr. G.R. Reddy, a founding member of CESS, as the Guest of Honour.

10. Faculty Seminar by Dr. M. Venkatanarayana

Dr. M. Venkatanarayana delivered a faculty seminar on “Wage-Earnings of Regular Salaried Workers in India by Skill Levels and Skill Mismatch with Gender Dimension: Analysis Using PLFS (2022-23).” On September 20, 2024. The session provided valuable insights into wage disparities, skill mismatches, and their gendered implications based on the latest PLFS data.

11. Training and Capacity Building Program for FPO Leaders

From September 23-27, 2024, CESS hosted a Training and Capacity Building Program (CBP) for CEOs and Directors of Farmers Producer Organizations (FPOs). Sponsored by ICSSR, New Delhi, the program aimed to enhance the leadership and management skills of FPO leaders. Susheela Chintala, CGM NABARD was the Chief Guest



Chief Guest Susheela Chintala, CGM NABARD, at the FPO Leaders Training Program organized by CESS and sponsored by ICSSR



Prof. Dilip M Nachane, Chairman of CESS, delivers a special lecture on “Stabilization Policy Options in a ‘Lower and Longer’ Interest Rates Environment”