

A peacock with vibrant blue and green feathers is perched on a weathered stone pillar. The background is filled with lush green plants and clusters of bright pink flowers. The entire image has a semi-transparent white overlay.

DIVISION OF GRADUATE STUDIES
CENTRE FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL STUDIES

MÉLANGE

*Newsletter-V
January 2025*

FROM EDITOR'S DESK

With great enthusiasm, we present *Mélange-V*, showcasing the vibrant academic spirit of CESS's research community. This edition captures our scholars' remarkable journey through diverse research endeavors, spanning nine batches of doctoral research, enriching academic discussions, and cultural celebrations. The newsletter highlights significant milestones - from the launch of our "Ink and Insights Society" to impactful research activities and cultural programs that have enhanced our intellectual discourse. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Prof. Dilip M. Nachane, Chairman of CESS, Prof. E. Revathi, Director, Dr. Kasturi Alivelu, Dean of DGS, and the entire DGS team for their unwavering guidance. As we mark this fifth edition, *Mélange* continues to be a testament to our collective pursuit of academic excellence and creative exploration at CESS.



DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Research is the creation of new knowledge and expanding the horizons of knowledge. It requires passion, proficiency, and patience. With generative Artificial Intelligence ruling the world, research can be both exciting and challenging too. While it can be a tool for researchers in accessing information in an organised manner or generating ideas, it can also have a negative effect on the writing skills and thinking process. I am sure younger generations of research scholars would be using AI in their research. The caution is that- 'let it serve us as a tool but let it not be our master'; let the young minds be

thinking minds and come up with inventions and innovations in various domains of social science research. The topics researched by scholars in regional research centres are mostly empirical, spatially closer to or proximate to the issues on the ground and locations. However, research needs to connect the local issues to the global development agenda and/or macro issues of importance. The period during which a PhD is undertaken needs to be spent unequivocally on reading, thinking and writing. Discussion, debating and contending ideas are part of this journey and I am happy that the scholars have shaped their own platform for this in the form of 'Ink and Insights Society'. I wish a wider participation from scholars to sustain and benefit from it. I am happy that the PhD Scholars pool is now diverse providing an opportunity to learn from each other. I am also happy that the fruits of labour are being realised, the regular PhD programme has come of age- the theses are submitted and awarded in 2024. The fifth edition of the *Mélange* showcases the activities of the scholars and it is heartening to see the activities expanding by the day. I heartfully wish the PhD scholars of CESS with the best of their careers.



DEAN'S MESSAGE

Welcome to our fifth edition of *Mélange*. In this publication, we have brilliant news about our scholar's research activities, their publications, participation in seminars, and

their accolades. The newsletter is exclusively meant for showcasing the academic talents of our young and budding research scholars. I am happy to share that this year, one of our PhD scholars has been awarded the degree and four scholars submitted their theses. I would like to place on record my gratitude to our Director, Prof. Revathi, for her constant support and guidance in conducting the DGS activities in a flawless manner. I appreciate the editors of Melange V for their endless efforts to make this publication a reality. I congratulate all the contributors and the editorial board for bringing out such an outstanding newsletter. Wishing all the scholars the best to scale newer heights and greater accomplishments in the coming year.

QUICK GLIMPSE

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ABOUT THE INSTITUTE

The Centre for Economic and Social Studies (CESS), established in 1980, operates as an autonomous research institution under the ICSSR and the Government of Telangana. Located at the Nizamiah Observatory campus in Begumpet, Hyderabad, CESS received national recognition from ICSSR in 1986. The Centre focuses on critical issues related to the economy, polity, society, and development studies through interdisciplinary research. Its scope extends from regional to national socioeconomic challenges through collaborations with organizations, including the World Bank, UNICEF, and UNDP. The institute maintains a library, computing facilities, and research equipment that support scholarly output. Through research initiatives and evidence-based recommendations, CESS contributes to policy discourse and social transformation at the regional and national levels.

STUDENTS' CURRENT RESEARCH STATUS

2016-17 Batch

Name of the Scholar	Title of The Thesis	Current Status of Research Work
Venu Madhav	Governance of Water and Sanitation Programs: A Study of Local Self-Governments (PRIs) and the Role of Community-Based Organisations (CBOs) in Telangana State	PhD awarded
Mumtaz Begum	Islamic Microfinance a tool for Financial Inclusion: A Study in Telangana state	Thesis submitted
Moulkar Rajeshwar	Economic Analysis of Farm-Level Adaptation to Climate Change in Dryland Agro-Ecosystem: A Study in Telangana State	Thesis submitted

2017-18 Batch

Name of the Scholar	Title of The Thesis	Current Status of Research Work
Mummidu Sri Vidhya	India's Textile Sector: Trade Networks, Competitiveness, and Internationalization	Thesis submitted
Ranukuntla Saroja Sree	Agricultural Growth and Economic well-being of farmers in India	Working on chapter 1
Padmaja Ponnamaneni	Export Competitiveness of Indian Turmeric - A Post-WTO Analysis	Drafting chapters completed
O.Pranathi	Political Participation of Women in Urban Local Bodies: A Study of Two Municipal Corporations in Andhra Pradesh	Thesis submitted

2018-19 Batch

Name of the Scholar	Title of The Thesis	Current Status of Research Work
Suresh Kumar Kasarapu	Information Technology Services Startups in Hyderabad – Lean Six Sigma Approach	Working on the first objective
Sampath Panthangi	Crop Diversification and Its Implications to Food and Nutrition Security among Small Farmers: Evidence from Telangana, India	Working on data
Gandam Thiloth Rao	Goods and Service Tax (GST) and Fiscal Federalism in India – A Study	Working on objectives

2019-20 Batch

Name of the Scholar	Title of The Thesis	Current Status of Research Work
Sravani Labishetty	A Study on Streenidhi Scheme in Telangana State	Working on the first objective
R. Shital	Employability of Management Graduates in Telangana: Individual, Institutional and Organisational Factors	Completed survey
Annemalla Ramesh	Financial Inclusion & Economic Growth in India: Evidence from Districts of Telangana State	Pre-submission done
Medha. A.S	Socio-economic Assessment of Vulnerability among Small-scale Fisheries in India	Analysing data

Rincy Simon	Housing and Wellbeing in India.The case of Public Housing in Kerala and Telangana	Analysing data
Srija Mitra	Global Value Chains and Emerging Economies Analyzing Competitiveness and Participation	Completed the fieldwork

2020-21 Batch

Name of the Scholar	Title of The Thesis	Current Status of Research Work
Abba Rohith	Indian Railways and Its Economic Linkages	Working on the proposal
Radha Lekshmi.M	Role of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Mechanisms in Ensuring Access to Justice for Fisher Community: A Study of ' <i>Ur Panchayats</i> ' in the Coromandel Coast of Tamil Nadu	Analysing data
Vinitha Anna John	Interface Between Local Government Institutions and Disaster Management: A Study of Policy Implications of Hydrological Disasters in Kerala in the Context of Climate Change	Completed fieldwork
Suadath. V	A Sociological Study of Health Behavior and Vaccination in Kerala	Completed fieldwork and working on the data
Gugulothu Santhosh	Socioeconomic Inequalities among Tribal Communities in Telangana: A Sociological Study of Adivasi, PVTGs and Dispersed Tribes	Working on chapters

2021-22 Batch

Name of the Scholar	Title of The Thesis	Current Status of Research Work
Panugothu Tharun Naik	A study on Problems and Prospects of Urban Street Vendors in Telangana State with Special Reference to Hyderabad, Karimnagar & Warangal Cities	Macro-level analysis of street vendors in India
Sagar Mekala	Inter-state Mobility of Migrant Laborers in India: A Case Study of Telangana State	Working on objectives
N.Pratyusha	Women Entrepreneurship in Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises: An Exploratory Study of Telangana	Working on the first objective
Siddalinga Sedamkar	Blockchain and Financial Inclusion	Preparing for proposal presentation in DC

Gantla Geetha	Factors Affecting Educational Outcomes and their Impact on Job Market Outcomes: A Longitudinal Study using young Lives data in India	Working on the first objective
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2022-23 Batch

Name of the Scholar	Title of The Thesis	Current Status of Research Work
Swaraj Salah	The Impact of Information and Communication Technology Industry on the Economic Performance of India: A Multidimensional Study	Literature Review
Kannan K	Energy Democracy for India: A Study on a Justice-based Renewable Energy Transition Alternative	Literature Review
Madhyam Vamsha Vardhini	Economic Viability of Kuchipudi Dance: A Study with Special Reference to Telugu-Speaking States	About to give a presentation - Draft Proposal
Maloth Mamatha	Tribal Residential Institutions	Working on the proposal
Poola Devendra	The Emergence of Political Consultants in Indian Politics: A Study on Political Consultancy Impact on Political Parties	Working on core chapters 1 & 2

2023-24 Batch

Name of the Scholar	Title of The Thesis	Current Status of Research Work
Bhukya Salku	Occupational Safety and Health in Agriculture	Working on the proposal
Neelam Durga Bhavani	Role of AI in Financial Inclusion in Developing Countries	Working on the proposal
Kshama Salehundam	Fostering Sustainability in Agriculture through Business Strategy and Policy Intervention	Working on the proposal
Annanya Dwivedi	Climate Finance and Adaptation in Rural India	Working on the proposal
Md Mohsin Khan	Climate Change and Agricultural Sustainability	Working on the proposal
Bharath Naroju	Role of WE-Hub in Shaping Women Entrepreneurship Ecosystem in Telangana	Working on the proposal
Nimisha S S	Digital Governance and Digital Divide in Healthcare	Working on the proposal

Ale Vishwadeep Kiran	Music as a Tool for Political Mobilisation	Working on the proposal
Ramavath Sujatha	A Study on Working and Living Conditions of Sanitation Workers Working in Government Hospitals in Telangana	Working on the proposal

2024-25 Batch

Name of the Scholar	Title of The Thesis	Current Status of Research Work
Matade Neelima	Income Inequality in India: A Multidimensional Study	Currently in coursework
Titir Sarkar	Does Representation Matter? A Study on Women in Politics, Intersectionality and Impact on Health in India	Currently in coursework
Mousumi Chatterjee	Analysing the Effects of Contract Farming on the Adoption of Sustainable and Efficient Poultry Farming Practices In India	Currently in coursework
Madhigiripalli Pushpa	Labour Migration - Undivided Anantapur District in Andhra Pradesh	Currently in coursework
Teegala Shruthi	Gig economy -Socio-economic Conditions of Riders' Food and Commodity Delivery Personnel in the GHMC region	Currently in coursework
Dainampelly Praveen	Yet to decide	Currently in coursework
Suma Perumal	Exploring Social Work Students' Perceptions of Caste and Professional Dynamics with Dalit Clients	Currently in coursework

OUR RESEARCH

Journal Articles

1. 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.
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.11130/jei.2024033>.
2. Mummidi, S. (in press). Internationalization of textile firms in India: A comparative study of 'traditional' and 'born global' firms. *International Journal of Indian Culture and Business Management*.
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1504/IJICBM.2024.10065132>.
3. Mummidi, Srividhya, & Vidya, C. T. (2024). The Changing Topology of Global Textile Exports: A Network Perspective. *Economics Bulletin*, 44(3), 997-1009.

4. Vidya, C. T., Srividhya, M., & Ujjwal, D. (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.
5. Srividhya, M., & Vidya, C. T. (forthcoming). Mapping India's Textile Exports: Trends and Competitiveness. *Artha Vijnana*, 67(4).
6. Srividhya, M. (2024). Macroeconomic Factors and India's CO2 Emissions: Evaluating the Environmental Kuznets Curve Hypothesis. *Ecology, Environment & Conservation*, 30(11), S335-S339.
7. Ponnamaneni, P., Jadhav, C., & Ellanki, R. (2024). Free Trade Agreements and Impact on Indian Turmeric Trade: A Partial Equilibrium Analysis. *Indian Journal of Agricultural Marketing*.
8. Pranathi, O. (2024). Women's Political Engagement in Urban Local Bodies: A Brief Historical Perspective. Huss: International Journal of Research in Humanities and Social Sciences, Vol 11(1), 19-26, January-June 2024, 19-26.
9. Pranathi, O. (2024). Women Ward Members in Urban Local Bodies of Andhra Pradesh: A Study of Factors Contributing or Hindering Their Entry and Engagement. Ajasra ISSN 2278-3741, 13(5), 53-61.(UGC- Care Listed)
10. Pranathi, O. (2024). Draupadi. Misimi ISSN 2454-4329, Nov 24, PP 31-36 (UGC-Care Listed).
11. R. Shital published an article titled "Challenges in Teaching and Learning Generic Skills - Teacher and Student Perspectives" in IJIRMF, Volume 10, Conference Special Issue - 49, March 2024.
12. Vinitha Anna John published 'Unleashing India's Potential: Reflections and the Path Ahead' in the ICSSR-sponsored National Seminar proceedings on *Azadi: Studies on Democratic Decentralisation and Women Freedom Fighters of India* (ISBN: 978-93-56485-80-8), 2024.
13. Prasuna, A., Kasturi, A., & Annemalla, R. (2024). Unveiling the factors influencing financial inclusion in India: a comprehensive analysis. *Cogent Economics & Finance*, 12(1), 2381682.
14. Ramesh, A. (2024). Analysing the extent of financial inclusion through the expansion of bank branches in Telangana state. *Studies in Humanities and Social Sciences (SH&SS)*, 31(1), 10. ISSN 0972-1401.

Workshops

- Saroja Sree participated in the Five-Day International Research Methodology Workshop (in Hybrid Mode) organized by RC 25: Sociology of Sports, Indian Sociological Society, New Delhi, and the Department of History, Providence College for Women, The Nilgiris, in collaboration with Standard College, Manipur, the Department of History, St. Mary's College, Thoothukudi, the Department of Economics, Kamaraj College, Thoothukudi, and the Department of History, Thiruvalluvar Government Arts College, Rasipuram, from 23rd to 27th July 2024.
- O. Pranathi participated as a resource person in a Women Empowerment and Environmental Sustainability workshop organized by NYKS, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Andhra Pradesh, to train Youth Clubs.
- O. Pranathi participated as a resource person in a "Youth - Opportunities in Extra-Curricular Activities" workshop organized by Circle of Radiance in collaboration with UNICEF to train university students.
- O. Pranathi participated as a resource person in a Capacity Building Program and Workshop on Drug Prevention organized by NYKS.

- O. Pranathi completed an Online International Summer School Program, a three-day immersive online certificate training symposium on *“Feminist Foreign Policy - Past, Present, and Future”*, organized by The Asian Foundation and IMPRI, Delhi, from June 24 to 26, 2024.
- Santhosh Gugulothu attended a Three-Day Online Workshop on Qualitative Research Methodology organized by the Indian Sociological Society from November 4 to 6, 2024.
- Santhosh Gugulothu attended a Ten Days International Research Methodology Workshop organized by the Indian Sociological Society & Centre for Study of Social Inclusion, Pondicherry University, from September 18 to 27, 2024.
- Radha Lekshmi M attended a ten-day ‘Research Methodology Course in Social Sciences’ organized by the Council for Social Development (CSD), Hyderabad, under the sponsorship of ICSSR, New Delhi, from July 2-12, 2024.
- Suadath V attended a 10-day Research Methodology Course (July 2-12, 2024) sponsored by ICSSR at the Council for Social Development, Hyderabad.
- Pratyusha attended a 10-day workshop on "Quantitative Methods and Women Studies" organized by CWS of New Delhi in collaboration with HCU.
- Pratyusha attended a two-day workshop on "Mastering the Innovative Techniques of Conducting Primary Research" by Jain University.
- Annanya Dwivedi attended the Ten-Day ICSSR Sponsored Research Methodology Course on "Application of Innovative Tools and Techniques for Qualitative and Quantitative Research" at the Institute of Public Enterprise, Osmania University Campus, Hyderabad, from 25th November 2024 to 5th December 2024.
- Nimisha S S attended the Ten-Day ICSSR Sponsored Research Methodology Course on "Application of Innovative Tools and Techniques for Qualitative and Quantitative Research" at the Institute of Public Enterprise, Osmania University Campus, Hyderabad, from 25th November 2024 to 5th December 2024.
- Bhukya Salku attended the Ten-Day ICSSR Sponsored Research Methodology Course on "Application of Innovative Tools and Techniques for Qualitative and Quantitative Research" at the Institute of Public Enterprise, Osmania University Campus, Hyderabad, from 25th November 2024 to 5th December 2024.

Seminars

- Mummudi Sri Vidhya worked as a Rapporteur at the 64th Annual Conference of the Indian Society of Labour Economics held at the University of Hyderabad from March 29-31, 2024.
- O. Pranathi attended the All India Women Academicians Conference organized by Osmania University, Hyderabad.
- O. Pranathi attended the AP History Congress held at Gudur, Tirupati District, on January 4 and 5, 2025.
- O. Pranathi attended a Two-Day National Seminar on “Implementation and Challenges of NEP 2020 in HEIs” organized at the School of Planning and Architecture, Vijayawada.
- O. Pranathi attended the International Conference on “Sustainable Development: Generative AI and Multidisciplinary Strategies” organized by Sri Padmavathi School of Pharmacy, Tirupati, on December 22 and 23, 2024.

Conference Paper Presentations

- Sri Vidhya, M., presented a paper titled *AI Integration and Digital Regulation: Impacts on Global Trade in Digital Services* at the 18th Bulletin of Monetary Economics and Banking International Conference on July 29, 2024, Jakarta, themed *Embracing Digitalization and Artificial Intelligence amid Global Uncertainty*.
- Saroja Sree, accepted a paper on credit linkages among agricultural households in India for the AERC conference, to be held on 23rd and 24th December 2024 at GIPE, Pune.
- O. Pranathi presented a paper titled *“Women-Led Development Through National Education Policy 2020 for Vikasit Bharat - A Catalyst for Achieving SDG 5”* at the All India Women Academicians Conference, Osmania University, Hyderabad, on September 21, 2024.
- O. Pranathi presented a paper titled *“Navigating the Impact of AI and Automation on Rural Employment in India”* at the International Conference on Sustainable Development: Generative AI and Multidisciplinary Strategies, organized by Sri Padmavathi School of Pharmacy, Tirupati, on December 22 and 23, 2024.
- O. Pranathi presented a paper titled *“Political Activism and Engagement of Women in SPSR Nellore District – A Historical Study”* at the AP History Congress held at Gudur, Tirupati District, on January 4 and 5, 2025.
- R. Shital presented a paper titled *“Employability and Unemployment of Graduates in India”* at the 64th Annual Conference of the Indian Society of Labour Economics held at the University of Hyderabad from March 29 to 31, 2024.
- Medha A S presented a paper titled *“The Contested Commons: Challenges and Realities of Access to Livelihood Space”* at the Small Scale Fisheries Regional Symposium for Asia-Pacific held in Shizuoka, Japan, from April 9 to 12, 2024. The symposium was hosted by TBTI Japan, in partnership with Tokai University and other partners, with support from TBTI Global.
- Vinitha Anna John presented *‘Shadow of Transparency: Examining Electoral Bond Corruption in Indian Politics’* at the PPRI, Thiruvananthapuram, March 30, 2024.
- Vinitha Anna John presented *‘Harmony at Risk: Unveiling Environmental Security Challenges in Gulmarg, Kashmir’* at the International Conference on Non-Traditional Security Challenges in India and China, April 22-23, 2024, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kerala.
- Vinitha Anna John presented *‘Shadows of Migration: Examining the Lives of Andhra Pradesh’s Women Migrants in the Gulf’* at the Global South Paradigms conference, October 11-13, 2024.
- Santhosh Gugulothu presented a paper titled *“Exploring the Impact of Menstrual and Post-Natal Period Practices on Women’s Health and Well-Being: A Study of Tribal Communities in Telangana”* at the 19th Annual Conference of the Indian Institute of Social Sciences and Health (IASSH) held from January 31 to February 2, 2024, at Pondicherry University, Puducherry.
- Santhosh Gugulothu presented a paper titled *“Educational Disparities and Their Underlying Causes: A Study of Tribal Communities in Telangana”* at the 9th National Seminar by Sanskruti – Institute of Dravidian Culture and Research, Hyderabad, on February 15-16, 2024.
- Santhosh Gugulothu presented a paper titled *“Unveiling the Disparities: A Study of Tribal Communities in Telangana”* at the International Conference on Tribal Livelihood Patterns: Issues and Strategies for Empowerment, organized by Dr BR Ambedkar Open University, Hyderabad, on August 8-9, 2024.

- Suadath V presented a paper titled *"Healthcare Disparities and the 'Kerala Model': A Sociological Study"* at the IASSH 19th Annual Conference, January 31 - February 2, 2024, at Pondicherry University.
- Suadath V presented a research paper on the theme *"ITEP-The Transformative Enabler for Indian School Education: NEP Visualisation"* at the National Young Scholars Meet, organized by IQAC, Mar Osthathos Training College, Thrissur, on February 20-21, 2024.
- Suadath V presented a paper titled *'Perceived Social Mobility and Political Participation in India: Gender, Media, and Civic Engagement'* at the 6th Korea-India Forum 2030 in September 2024.
- Ale Vishwadeep Kiran co-authored and presented *'Split Dreams, Rising Tensions: Balancing Regional Interests with Global Commitments in the Indo-Pacific, 2024 and Beyond'* at the National Conference on 'Security, Environment, and Development in the Indo-Pacific: Challenges and Opportunities for India', held in collaboration with ICWA between 23-24 February 2024 at Ravenshaw University, Odisha.

Accolades

- O. Pranathi delivered lectures on *"Politics and Political Setup of Andhra Pradesh and Local Governance"* for Probationary IPS Officers (Batch 2024) at the Andhra Pradesh Police Training Academy, Anantapur, on October 30, 2024.
- O. Pranathi delivered lectures on *"Media Management"* to Trainee Sub-Inspectors at the Police Training College, Ananthapuramu, on December 26, 2024.
- O. Pranathi delivered a special lecture on *"Women's Empowerment"* at RUDSETI, Anantapur, run by Sri Dharmasthala Manjunatha Swamy Temple and SCR of Canara Bank, on February 28, 2024.
- O. Pranathi delivered an invited talk on *"Becoming a Woman of Tomorrow"* at an NSS Special Camp for NSS Volunteers of Arts College, Ananthapuram, SK University, Ananthapuramu, on January 28, 2024.
- Suadath V, Guest Speaker at the Department of Sociology, MAO College of Arts and Science, Elayur, on July 17, 2024, on the theme: *Introduction to Sociology and Research*.
- M Mamatha, invited as a guest speaker, delivered a talk on *"Freedom for Women"* at the Department of Political Science, Nizam College, Hyderabad, on March 19, 2024.

Editorial Contributions

- Mummidi Srividhya, reviewer for the *Journal of Infrastructure and Policy Development* from September to November 2024.
- O. Pranathi authored an editorial article titled *"Telusukonave Yuvathi"*, published in the Sakshi Telugu Daily Newspaper, Telangana Edition, on the occasion of Raksha Bandhan, August 18, 2024.
- O. Pranathi authored an editorial article on *"Scrapping Two-Child Nominations in Elections for Local Bodies in the AP Legislature"*, published in the Andhra Jyothi Telugu Daily Newspaper, Andhra Pradesh Edition, on December 6, 2024.

OUR NEWS

Academic Workshops and Training Programs

Writing Skills Workshop Series

The Division for Graduate Studies at CESS organized a comprehensive Writing Skills Workshop series during August-September 2024. Distinguished academicians led sessions on various aspects of research methodology: Prof. Sujit Kumar Mishra on Book Review writing and Short Pieces, Prof. M. Gopinath Reddy on Literature Review, Prof. U. Vindhya on Research Ethics, Dr. Kasturi Alivelu on Theoretical and Conceptual frameworks, and Dr. Jeena T.S. on Research Problem formulation.

Y.V. Reddy Joined CESS

Dr YV Reddy, former RBI Governor, joined the CESS fraternity as a Distinguished Fellow on Monday, 9th September 2024. CESS faculty and Research scholars are getting a rare opportunity to interact with Dr Reddy and benefit from the discussions.



PhD Admission 2024-2025

The Inaugural Session of the Ph.D. The 2024-2025 Batch was held on 14th October 2024. G.R. Reddy, a CESS founding member, addressed the new batch of scholars. He provided a reflective message, focusing on the Challenging Journey of pursuing a Ph.D. He emphasized the need for passion in research, urging students to be dedicated to reading and hard work while ensuring their research is socially relevant.



Statistical Analysis Training

A four-day intensive STATA workshop was conducted from September 3-6, 2024, under the guidance of Prof. C. Ravi and Mr. Jadhav Chakradhar. The workshop equipped participants with essential quantitative research tools and practical applications using real datasets. This training program strengthened scholars' capabilities in statistical analysis and data management, reinforcing CESS's commitment to research excellence through hands-on training in advanced research methodologies.

Round Table Discussion on Union and State Budgets 2024-25

The Division for Graduate Studies organized a session on Budget Analysis on August 6, 2024, examining the Union and State Budgets 2024-25. The presentations covered Income Tax & Corporate Tax, Minority Affairs, Energy, Women Empowerment, Agriculture at national and state levels, Environment, Health, and External Affairs. The discussion was enriched by valuable insights from the panel members, leading to a comprehensive examination of fiscal priorities and their implications for development.

Panel Discussion on 'Economic and Political Milestones in India's Growth Story'

The Division for Graduate Studies organized a panel discussion on 'Economic and Political Milestones in India's Growth Story' as part of the curriculum on India's development debate. The discussion explored three critical themes: India's growth story through an economic lens, the growth of the manufacturing sector and catch-up of the service sector, and the political dimension of India's fading manufacturing sector. Faculty members have enriched the discourse with their insights during the post-presentation discussion, contributing to a comprehensive understanding of India's growth narrative.



Special Lectures

Special Lecture on ‘Stabilisation policy options in a ‘Lower and Longer’ (L&L) interest rates environment

Chairman Prof. Dilip M. Nachane’s lecture on April 29, 2024, explored stabilization policies during periods of prolonged low interest rates. He discussed three main approaches to tackle the Zero Lower Bound Interest Rate (ZLB): overcoming ZLB through mechanisms like taxation and dual currency systems, addressing the Keynesian liquidity trap through inflation targeting and fiscal stimulus, and managing credit deadlock through Quantitative Easing (QE). The lecture highlighted Hawtrey's pioneering contributions to QE theory, which modern economists have primarily overlooked. Prof. Nachane emphasized that economic ideas never become obsolete, and current policy improvements must build upon historical knowledge and understanding of monetary theory.



Special Lecture on ‘Transformative Urbanisation Towards India 2047’

CESS’s Division for Graduate Studies hosted a special lecture by Prof. Jyoti Chandiramani on transformative urbanization, chaired by Prof. E. Revathi, on November 14, 2024. The lecture explored cities as drivers of economic growth, addressing urban poverty, infrastructure needs, and sustainable development. Prof. Chandiramani discussed global urban trends, citing examples from Pune’s water management and South Korea’s smart city development. Drawing from Nobel laureate Paul Romer’s “Making Room” approach and Jane Jacobs’ insights, she emphasized that cities contribute 80% of global GDP. The lecture concluded by stressing urgent urban planning needs for 2047, noting that 68% of the world's population will live in urban areas by 2050.



Special Lecture on ‘Urban Turn: Contest and Contestation’

The Division for Graduate Studies at CESS hosted a special lecture by Prof. Sudha Mohan, Former Professor and Head of the Department of Civics and Politics, University of Mumbai, on December 11, 2024. The lecture explored India's urbanization challenges, chaired by Prof. E. Revathi and introduced by Dr. Aivelu Kasturi. Prof. Mohan analyzed the development patterns of historically significant cities while addressing contemporary urban governance issues, particularly in megacities post-COVID-19. Drawing comparisons with China’s distributed development model, she advocated for strengthening small and medium towns to reduce metropolitan pressures. The lecture concluded by emphasizing the importance of decentralized governance and creative solutions for sustainable urban development that maintains harmony between rural and urban spaces.



Special Lecture on ‘Seed Industry in India: Current Challenges’

The Division for Graduate Studies at CESS hosted a lecture on “Seed Industry in India: Current Challenges” on December 17, 2024, featuring Mr. Manish Kushwaha and Mr. Mayank Kushwaha, with Mr. K. Sudheer from Canada as facilitators. Chaired by Prof. E. Revathi, the lecture explored critical challenges in India’s seed industry, emphasizing the role of hybrid seeds in productivity and food security. Mr Manish Kushwaha discussed the advantages of open-pollinated seeds for biodiversity conservation and food sovereignty while contrasting them with hybrid seeds. Mr Mayank Kushwaha shared his transition from a technologist to a seed enthusiast, focusing on preserving biodiversity and promoting sustainable agriculture in Telangana and Uttar Pradesh. The session concluded with Dr Alivelu Kasturi highlighting urban farming solutions, emphasizing the need for sustainable approaches in both rural and urban contexts.



OUR ACTIVITIES

Ink and Insights Society

CESS launched its book club “Ink and Insights Society” in February 2024, marking a new chapter in the institute’s intellectual pursuits. Named through a competition won by PhD scholar Vinitha Anna John, the club began its journey with Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie’s “Dear Ijeawele” exploring feminist perspectives and gender narratives. The inaugural meeting at BPR Vithal Auditorium on February 23 set the stage for meaningful literary discussions.

The club’s activities expanded beyond regular book discussions to include special events marking significant occasions. For International Women’s Day, members explored the evolution of gender discourse, drawing parallels between Tarabai Shinde’s 1882 work “Stri-Purush Tulana” and contemporary feminist literature. Independence Day was commemorated with a poetry competition on “Freedom at Midnight” with joint winners Vinitha Anna John and Suadath V.

Through its carefully curated reading selections and inclusive discussions, the Ink and Insights Society has emerged as a vibrant platform fostering intellectual exchange and literary appreciation within the CESS community.



Inauguration of Renovated Guest House

The renovated Guest House at CESS was inaugurated by Dr. G. Chinna Reddy, Vice-Chairman, Planning Board, Government of Telangana, in the presence of Dr. G.R. Reddy, Former Advisor to Government (Finance) and Founder Member, CESS, on July 11, 2024.



Cultural Activities

DGS-CESS continued its tradition of fostering camaraderie through sports and cultural competitions in Festivista 2024. The events, held from January 25-31, 2024, brought together scholars in a celebration of talent and sportsmanship. The competitions included indoor games like chess, ludo, carrom, and table tennis, alongside outdoor sports such as badminton and cricket. Cultural events featured essay writing, singing competition, straw & thermocol ball, eat fast, spoon and marbles, and rangoli. A highlight was the Treasure Hunt on January 29, which tested participants' wit and problem-solving skills. The Cultural Day on January 31 marked the grand finale of Festivista 2024, where winners were felicitated and the CESS fraternity showcased their diverse talents, reinforcing the spirit of community and excellence that define CESS.



Summer Internship Programme

DGS conducts an internship programme for two months during the summer. The internship programme conducted by DGS is designed to prepare students wishing to gain valuable mentoring and guidance necessary for conducting research. The selected interns were assigned mentors who are faculty members at CESS. The list of interns is given below.

S.No.	Name of the Intern	Institute	Topic	Name of the Supervisor at CESS
1	Balka Akshay Kumar	Central University of Kerala	Gulf Migration from Telangana	Dr. Laxman Rao
2	Anirudh K V	Dr. B.R. Ambedkar school of economics, university	Assessing Export Potential and Performance in Indian Agriculture: The Impact of Economics and Policy Uncertainty	Mr. Jadhav Chakradhar
3	Ankit Kumar	University of Hyderabad	Groundwater quality and management: a case study of Saran district in Bihar	Dr. M. Srinivasa Reddy
4	Pembolla Deepika	Central University of Kerala	Gulf migration: a case study of Nirmal district of Telangana	Dr. K. Vijay
5	Muddam Nitish	Central University of Kerala	Rural banking in Telangana	Prof. Amar Yumnarn
6	V. Poorvi	Madras Christian College	Climate Change and Dry Land Agriculture	Dr. B. Suresh Reddy
7	Shivan kamaujia	TISS, Hyderabad	Labor Migration in Delhi	M.Bharath Bhushan
8	Megha Unni p	University of Hyderabad	Dynamics of Social Norms and Gender	Prof.E. Revathi

GALLERY



Sampath's fieldwork in Telangana



Vinitha's fieldwork in Kerala



Pranathi delivered a lecture to probationary IPS officers at Anantapur, AP.



Radha interacted during her fieldwork



Suadath interacted with villagers during her fieldwork.



Medha presented a paper at the SSF Regional Symposium for Asia-Pacific in Japan.



Mamatha was felicitated after her talk at the Nizam College, Hyderabad.





Diwali celebration in girl's Hostel



Holi celebration at campus

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COVER PHOTO COURTESY

Prof E. Revathi



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