

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 October to March witnessed good academic activity. It was the season of seminars and conferences as well as completion of research projects. Select papers presented at the 22nd IASSI Conference hosted by us in November 2023, have been brought out as an edited book published by Springer titled '*Intersecting paths of Sustainable Development, Urbanisation and Women's Empowerment*', which was released in the 23rd IASSI Conference held in IIT Ranchi, in November 2024. A second book was published by one of the faculty on '*Gulf Migration and Rural Transformation in Telangana*'. Faculty have published 6 book chapters and 15 research papers in journals. Couple of studies have been completed on school education- social audit of PM POSHAN and Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. Research scholars have presented their research progress to the doctoral committees held in the November-December window. Research scholars also organised annual sports and cultural events culminating in the Cultural Day on 31st January 2025.

A collaborative project has been launched in December on '*Doing Research in India: Assessing Social Science Research*' awarded by the ICSSR and Global Development Network. Two other new research projects in agriculture, focusing on natural farming practices have been launched – one on *Andhra Pradesh Community Natural Farming – Verification Survey*, and the second on *Fertilizer Consumption, Costs and Returns from Agriculture in Andhra Pradesh*, awarded

by Rythu Sadhikara Samastha (RySS), Government of Andhra Pradesh. Phase - II school survey has been taken up on the *Assessment of PM POSHAN Program in the state of Telangana 2024-25, 2025-26 and 2026-27 (Phase-II)*, funded by Department of School Education, Government of Telangana. In the realm of Public Finance, a couple of studies have begun - *Evaluation of State Finances for the State of Andhra Pradesh* awarded by the 16th Finance Commission, and *A Situational Analysis of the Financial Status of the PRIs in Telangana State in the Context of II SFC* awarded by the State Finance Commission.

The Govt. of Telangana has taken up a Comprehensive Door to Door Household Survey – *Socio, Economic, Educational, Employment, Political and Caste Survey*, in November-December 2024. Our Centre was involved by the Planning Department, Govt. of Telangana in analysing the data. Faculty, scholars and staff have toiled for two months to analyse the data and a team of faculty has prepared the *Analytical Report of the TGSEEEPC survey* which was submitted in March 2025. This was well appreciated which served as a base report and further analysis was taken up by a dedicated committee appointed by the Govt. of Telangana. The Centre has organised the 3rd Annual BPR Vithal Memorial Lecture given by Dr D Subba Rao on 30th January; 7th Foundation Day Lecture given by Prof Santosh Mehrotra on 6th of March 2025. Current batch PhD scholars presented a review on '*India Gender Report 2024*' on the occasion of Women's Day on 8th March 2025. The Young Lives- India Factsheets released in New Delhi in March 2025 has drawn a good response and discussion. Fact sheets for the two states of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana are under preparation.

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Publications

Books/ Edited Books

1. Korra, Vijay, (2025). *Gulf Migration and Rural Transformation in Telangana* (ISBN: 978-93-5999-003-3), Mittal Publications, New Delhi, India. 3 February 2025.
2. Revathi, E., Awasthi, I. C., Reddy, B. S., & Madan, A. (2024). *Intersecting Paths of Sustainable Development, Urbanization, and Women's Empowerment*. (ISBN 978-981-97-9218-4) Springer Proceedings in Business and Economics.

Book Chapters

1. Chakradhar, J. (2024). Digital Inclusion and Women Development: Evidence from Indian States; In the Book: *Intersecting Paths of Sustainable Development, Urbanization, and Women's Empowerment*, Springer Proceedings in Business and Economics; ISBN 978-981-97-9217-7.
2. Gopinath Reddy, M., Tribal Agriculture in the Eastern Indian State of Jharkhand: Can It Be Sustainable? (2024), In the Book: *Intersecting Paths of Sustainable Development, Urbanization, and Women's Empowerment*, (Eds.): E. Revathi, Ishwar Chandra Awasthi, B. Suresh Reddy, Aditi Madan by Springer Proceedings in Business and Economics. ISBN 978-981-97-9218-4 (eBook).
3. Krishna Rao, C., Skill Development and Higher Education: A Paradigm Shift in the National Education Policy 2020 of India. in the Book titled *Education and Sustainable Development: Challenges, Opportunities and Future Prospects* by Dr. Manish K. Verma (Ed.), published by Rawat Publications, Jaipur, India, 2025.
4. Motkuri, V. & Revathi, E. (2024). "Does the Intersectionality of Location, Gender and Social or Religious Identities of Population in India Affect Their Post-Secondary Education Participation?" In the Book: *Intersecting Paths of Sustainable Development, Urbanization, and Women's Empowerment* (Eds.), Springer Proceedings in Business and Economics; ISBN 978-981-97-9217-7
5. Srinivasa Reddy, M., & Mishra, B. (2024), Advancing Women Empowerment and Labor Market Mobility through MGNREGA in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, in *Intersecting Paths of Sustainable Development,*

Urbanization, and Women's Empowerment, ed., E. Revathi, Ishwar Chandra Awasthi, B. Suresh Reddy, Aditi Madan, Springer Proceedings in Business and Economics, 22nd Annual Conference of IASSI, CESS, Hyderabad, India, Springer, Singapore.

6. Sultana, A., Prasad, L., & Revathi, E. (2024). Critical success factors that lead to the sustainability of FPOs. In *Sustainable Smart Technology Businesses in Global Economies* (pp. 219-232). Edited by Lalit Prasad, Routledge, Taylor and Francis Group Publications. DOI 10.1201/9781003616306.

Journals

1. Anjaneyulu, P. & Laxman Rao, S. (2024): Precarity of Natural Resource-Based Livelihoods: A Study of the Vaddera Community in Telangana State, *The Deccan Geographer*, 62(6), December, 2024, pp. 36-49.
2. Anjaneyulu, P. (2024). Lure of Hyderabad: Perceptions of Foreign Tourists to Hyderabad, *The Deccan Geographer*, 62(7), December 2024, 331-345, ISSN-0011-7269.
3. Gugulothu, S., & Korra, V. (2024). Cultural Taboos and Women's Well-Being: A Study of Tribal Communities in Telangana. *IASSI-Quarterly*, 43(4), 922-939, October-December 2024, ISSN: 0970-9061.
4. Gugulothu, Santhosh, & Vijay, Korra. (2024), Cultural Practices and Economic Challenges: An Empirical Study of Tribal Communities in Telangana, *Indian Journal of Social Development* (IJSD), 24(2), July- December 2024, Serials Publications, New Delhi, ISSN: 0972-3692.
5. Korra, Vijay, & Santhosh, Gugulothu (2024), "Is Prostitution as a Caste Occupation in Transition? A Case of Dommaris in Telangana," *Südasiens-Chronik – South Asia Chronicle*, Published by Department of Asian and African Studies, Südasiens-Seminar der Humboldt Universität zu Berlin, Germany, ISSN: 3051-9904.
6. Korra, Vijay, & Santosh, Guguloth, (2025). Health Vulnerabilities of Telangana's Low-Skilled Migrants in Gulf Countries, *IOSR Journal of Humanities and Social Science* (IOSR-JHSS), 30(3), Series 2, March 2025, 37-45, e-ISSN: 2279-0837, p-ISSN: 2279-0845, iosrjournals.org.
7. Krishna Rao, C., (2024), Access to Higher Education among Scheduled Castes: A Sociological Analysis in

Telangana State in the *International Journal of Cultural Studies and Social Sciences*, 21(2), No. 33, July-December: 2024: ISSN: 2347-4777.

8. Krishna Rao, C., (2024), Dr.Ambedkar's Thoughts on Skill Development Education and its Relevance in the Contemporary India in the *Madhya Bharti-Humanities and Social Sciences*, 85(12), July-December; 2024: ISSN: 0974-0066.
9. Krishna Rao, C., (2025), Bhāratadēśānlōni muslim mahilālālō vidyā paristhitiḥ oka sāmājika adhyayanam in *Streevada Patrika Bhumika*, 20(5), March 2025: ISSN: 2347-7369.
10. Laxman Rao, S., & Harinath, S. (2024): Electoral Mandate as Development Agenda: Decoding the Verdict of the 2024 National Elections, *Explorations* (e-journal of the Indian Sociological Society), 8(3), December, 2024, pp. 198-212.
11. Mishra, B., & Reddy, M. S. (2024). Implementation and Impact of Climate Resilient Zero-budget Natural Farming: A Case Study of AF-EC Andhra Pradesh Community Natural Farming in Anantapuramu District. *IASSI-Quarterly*, 43(4), 878-891.
12. Naresh, S. (2024). Social Inclusion and School Education: An Evaluation Study of Best Available Schools in Telangana, *International Journal of Education*, 5(2), pp. 72-92.
13. Sagar, M., & Naresh, S. (2025). Economic Migration Trends: Insights from India's Labor Market and Demographic Shifts: A Decadal Review (2001-2011), *Madhya Bharti Humanities and Social Sciences*, 16(1), pp. 100-108.
14. Sreenivasulu, Y. (2025). Absentee Landowners and their Impact: A Village-Level Study in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. *Journal of Land and Rural Studies*, 13 (1), 1-21.

Working Papers/ Monographs

1. Venkatanarayana, M., (2024). Contours of Educational Development in Telangana (1850 – 2021), CESS Working Paper No.148, <https://cess.ac.in/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Cess-Working-paper-148.pdf>

Others

1. Alivelu Kasturi, delivered a lecture on "Review of Literature" at the Research Methodology Workshop held on 23 November 2024, organised by St. Ann's Degree College for Women, Mehdiapatnam
2. Alivelu Kasturi, delivered a lecture on "Theoretical Framework and Review of Literature" at the Research Methodology Workshop held on 7 March 2025, organised by St. Francis Degree College for Women, Secunderabad.
3. Alivelu Kasturi, delivered the keynote address on "Performance of Industry in Telangana: Examining from the Perspective of SDG 9" at the Annual Conference of the Telangana Economic Association held on 8 February 2025, hosted by Mahatma Gandhi University, Nalgonda.
4. Arifa Sultana, delivered a lecture on "Training of the Trainers (ToT) Programme for SRLM officers all India on the topic "Statutory Book Keeping and Financial Compliances for Producer Enterprises" on 28th January, 2025 at NRLM, National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, (NIRD) Hyderabad, Telangana.
5. Arifa Sultana, delivered lectures on Accounting and Managing the FPOs from 26th to 29th August 2024 at a-Idea, ICAR, NAARM for the ABMDP Certificate program for CEOs, National Academy of Agriculture Research Management, Rajendra Nagar, Hyderabad, Telangana.
6. Arifa Sultana, Resource Person at NRLM, NIRD on "Training of the Trainers (ToT) Programme for SRLM officers all India on the topic "Statutory Book Keeping and Financial Compliances for Producer Enterprises" on 28th January, 2025.
7. Motkuri, V., Speaker in Panel Discussion on Navigating Taxes, Annual Conference on Public Policy, on 28th March 2025, organised by Centre for Development Policy and Practice (Hyderabad) at Centre for Economics and Social Studies (CESS), Hyderabad.

8. Motkuri, V., Speaker in Panel Discussion on Tax Devolutions, Two-Day National Conference on *Federalism in India: Devolution, Development and Economic Dynamics*, during 27-28 March 2025, organised by Department of Economics, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Open University, Hyderabad.
9. Motkuri, V., Speaker in a Panel on Public Distribution Systems, in Project Dissemination Workshop on Public Distribution System in Telangana, organised on 22 February 2025, by School of Economics, Central University, Hyderabad.
10. Srinivasa Reddy, M., Chaired a Technical Session on the theme of Digitalization of Agriculture for Higher, Sustainable, and Inclusive Growth", 32nd AERA Annual Conference on Digitalization of Agriculture for Higher, Sustainable, and Inclusive Growth, Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Raipur, ICAR-NIBSM, Raipur, 11-13 December, 2024.
11. Srinivasa Reddy, M., Chaired a Technical Session on the theme of Contemporary Economic Development and Digitalization, National Seminar on Digital Transformation and the Future of India's Economy, Department of Economics, Central University of Andhra Pradesh, Ananthapuramu, 29th-30th November, 2024.
- Challenges and Participation in Decision-making Process", 17-18 October, 2024 - Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh.
4. Gopinath Reddy, M., Renewable Energy: A Case of Bio Gas in India Challenges and Prospects at the Ninth Annual Conference of Telangana Economic Association (TEA) at Mahatma Gandhi University, Nalgonda during 8-9 February, 2025.
5. Korra, Vijay (2025), "Health Vulnerabilities of Telangana's Low-Skilled Migrants in Gulf Countries", in 9th Annual Conference of Telangana Economic Association held at Mahatma Gandhi University, Nalgonda, Telangana from 8-9 February 2025.
6. Krishna Rao, C., Artificial Intelligence in Indian Higher Education: Opportunities, Challenges, and Future Prospects at two-day National Seminar on Exploring the Role of Artificial Intelligence in Transforming Higher Education held on 21-22 March, 2025 organized by Department of Computer Science, Dr. B. R. Ambedkar College, Baghlingampally, Hyderabad.
7. Krishna Rao, C., Beyond Welfare: Socio-Educational Inequalities in Higher Education in Neoliberal India at the One-day National Scholar's Conference on Politics in 21st Century: Challenges and Prospects held on 17th December 2024 Organized by Department of Political Science in Collaboration with Department of Public Administrations & Department of Sociology at Maulana Azad National Urdu University, Hyderabad, Telangana.
8. Krishna Rao, C., Digital Disparities in Tribal Communities of India: Challenges and Prospects at two-day National Seminar on Programmes and Policies for the Development of Tribes: Issues and Challenges during 3-4 March 2025 organized by Centre for Multi-Disciplinary Development Research (CMDR), Dharwad, Karnataka.
9. Krishna Rao, C., Globalization and Cinema: Understanding of Indian Cinema through the concept of Culture Industry by Theodor Adorno

Paper Presentations

1. Arifa Sultana, & Revathi, E., Impact and Performance of FPOs in Telangana State, D Y Patil Institute of Management Studies, Pune, India.
2. Gopinath Reddy, M., "Agriculture in Tribal Areas of Chhattisgarh: Is it Sustainable?" at AERC Platinum Jubilee Conference at Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics from 23-24 December, 2024.
3. Gopinath Reddy, M., "The Transformation of Marginalized Women from SHG Groups to Village Panchayats: Do they Make Difference to Good Governance?", at ICSSR National Seminar on "Empowerment of Women from Panchayat to Parliament as Policy Makers in India: Achievements,

- & Max Horkheimer of Frankfurt School at the National Seminar on Globalization, Development and Social Transformation: Mapping the Trajectories of Social Institutions and Processes in Contemporary India during 28-29 November 2024 organized by the Department of Sociology, Kakatiya University, Warangal, Telangana (jointly).
10. Krishna Rao, C., Role of MGNREGA in Assets Creation, Management and Sustenance in India at Two-day National Seminar on Implementation of MGNREGS: Opportunities and Challenges during 20-21 February 2025 organized by Centre for Wage Employment and Livelihoods, NIRDPR, Hyderabad, Telangana (jointly).
 11. Krishna Rao, C., Skill Development Initiatives in India: A Sociological Analysis at the National Seminar on Globalization, Development and Social Transformation: Mapping the Trajectories of Social Institutions and Processes in Contemporary India during 28-29 November 2024 Organized by the Department of Sociology, Kakatiya University, Warangal, Telangana.
 12. Sreenivasulu, Y. (2024, December 23-24). Absentee Landowners and Their Impact: A Village- Level Study in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. Presented at AERC Platinum Jubilee Conference held at Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Pune.
 13. Sreenivasulu, Y. (2025, January 23-24). Three Decades of Occupational Transformation: A Case of Socio-Economic Discrimination Against Scheduled Caste Landless Agricultural Labours in Kondaiahgaripalli Village. Presented at Two-Day Conference on Intersecting Identities and Economics of Discrimination, School of Economics, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad.
 14. Sreenivasulu, Y., & Sagar, M. (2025, February, 8-9). Understanding the Dynamics of Land use and Landholding Patterns in Telangana. Presented at 9th Annual Conference of Telangana Economic Association (TEA), Department of Economics, Mahatma Gandhi University, Nalgonda.
 15. Srinivasa Reddy, M., Digital Agriculture in India: Opportunities, Challenges, and Future Prospects, 32nd AERA Annual Conference on Digitalization of Agriculture for Higher, Sustainable, and Inclusive Growth, Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, ICAR-NIBSM, Raipur (Chhattisgarh), 11-13 December, 2024.
 16. Srinivasa Reddy, M., E-Governance: The Future of Indian Economy, National Seminar on “Digital Transformation and the Future of India’s Economy” (with Bakshi Amit Kumar Sinha, Barna Ganguli), Department of Economics, Central University of Andhra Pradesh, Ananthapuramu (Andhra Pradesh), 29-30 November, 2024.
 17. Srinivasa Reddy, M., Evolving Tenancy Agreements under Climate Variability: Evidence from Telangana, 9th Annual Conference of the Telangana Economic Association, Department of Economics, Mahatma Gandhi University, Nalgonda (Telangana), 8-9 February, 2025.
 18. Srinivasa Reddy, M., Land-use Pattern and Sources of Irrigation in Tribal Areas of Telangana State at Sub Regional Level – Comparative Analysis with Andhra Pradesh, 9th Annual Conference of the Telangana Economic Association, Department of Economics, Mahatma Gandhi University, Nalgonda (Telangana), 8-9 February, 2025.
 19. Srinivasa Reddy, M., Livelihood Dynamics of Tenant Farmers amidst Climate Change in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, National Seminar on Transforming Rural Livelihood Landscape in India: Challenges and Pathways, M.P. Institute of Social Science Research (MPISSR), Ujjain (Madhya Pradesh), 23-24 January, 2025.
 20. Srinivasa Reddy, M., Opportunities, Challenges, and Future Prospects of Digital Agriculture in India: A Review, National Seminar on “Digital Transformation and the Future of India’s Economy” Department of Economics, Central University of Andhra Pradesh, Ananthapuramu, 29-30 November, 2024.

21. Srinivasa Reddy, M., Production, Marketing and Pricing of Tomato Crop in Telangana State, 84th Annual Conference of ISAE, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru College of Agriculture and Research Institute, Karaikal (Puducherry) from 11-13 November, 2024.
22. Srinivasa Reddy, M., Transforming Indian Agriculture: Digital Pathways for Growth and Inclusivity, 32nd AERA Annual Conference on Digitalization of Agriculture for Higher, Sustainable, and Inclusive Growth, Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, ICAR-NIBSM, Raipur (Chhattisgarh), 11-13 December, 2024.

Faculty Seminars – Completed

1. Anjaneyulu, P., *Self-Employment among the Scheduled Castes in Telangana: Current Status and the Way Forward.*
2. Bhasker, K., *Socio-Economic Conditions of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) among Scheduled Castes in Telangana State: A Critical Analysis.*
3. Harinath, S., *Institutional Membership and Social Inclusion with Special Reference to the Scheduled Caste Self-Help Groups of Telangana.*
4. Laxman Rao, S., *Skill Development and Employability among Scheduled Castes in Telangana: Policy Implications Emerging from An Empirical Assessment.*
5. Naresh, S., *Educational Status of Scheduled Castes in Telangana: A Critical Analysis*
6. Suresh Reddy, B., *Adoption of Agricultural Technologies by Scheduled Caste Farmers in Telangana State: An Empirical Analysis.*

Completed Studies

1. End Line Elections Survey of Knowledge, Attitude and Practices (KAP) of Citizens in Telangana State (Sponsor: Chief Electoral Officer, Telangana State; Project Team: M. Gopinath Reddy, B. Suresh Reddy)

The specific objectives are:

- i) To understand the level of Knowledge and Awareness of Voters about various issues of Election and their participation in Election Process.
 - ii) To gauge the attitude (willingness) of voters towards Registration as Voter and participation in Voting Processes and the key determinants of attitudinal changes of the Voters on these issues.
 - iii) To understand the level of participation of voters in process of Registration, Enrolment in the recently concluded 2024 Parliamentary Elections.
 - iv) To understand the takeaways of the campaigns for Voter awareness and education and various other initiatives launched in the Telangana State by the CEO, Telangana.
2. A Situational Analysis of the Financial Status of the PRIs in Telangana State in the Context of IInd SFC (Sponsor: Telangana State Finance Commission, Government of Telangana; Project Team: M. Gopinath Reddy)

The main objective of this research is to understand the finances of the PRIs in the state of Telangana in the context of institutionalisation of the Second State Finance Commission (FSFC) in the state. Further, it is to understand that how the issues of Finances of the PRIs have been taken up by the State Government in the state and what are the overall implications of this process on making PRIs effective and viable for delivering goods and services. It is also intended to understand the finances of the state and the status of OSR of the state. The main source of this research and its objective is based on the formation of the IInd SFC in the state and emerging issues of the finances of the state and how it will influence the finances of the PRIs of the state.

3. Performance Evaluation of Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh (Sponsor: Small Farmers Agri Business Consortium (SFAC); Project Team: Arifa Sultana)

The project was assigned by SFAC, Delhi to analyse the performance of FPOs under the Central Sector Scheme

Formation and Promotion of 10,000 FPOs. 24 FPOs of Telangana and 6 FPOs from Andhra Pradesh were evaluated. The various indicators on which the FPOs were evaluated included governance, compliance and capacity building, equity grant, FPO input and output business, marketing, business planning, turnover of FPOs, and best practices were analysed. The report was submitted to SFAC, Delhi.



Dr. Arifa Sultana evaluated Kshetram Farmer Producer Company Limited, Sangareddy District, Telangana

4. Socio-Economic and Heritage Impact Assessment Study for Assessing the Impact of Proposed PVNR OCP and KTK OC-III Exp. on Ramappa Temple. (Sponsor: The Singareni Collieries Co Ltd., Government of Telangana; Project team: Anjaneyulu, Parupally, Bharat Bhushan M, Venkatanarayana M.)

Telangana State's Mulugu and Bhupalpally districts are well-known for their scenic locations and expansive coal mines. Several opencast and underground mining projects are under operation by The Singareni Collieries Company Ltd (SCCL) in both districts. The PVNR Open Cast Mining (Venkatapur village) situated around 5 km from Ramappa Temple and KTK OC III Exp mining project (Baswarajpally village) situated around 8 km from the temple are proposed to be launched shortly by the SCCL. The Palampet Special Development Authority (PSDA) recommended conducting a socio-economic and cultural study to assess the impact of the proposed mining projects on universal value, biodiversity and the safety of the temple and ecology. In light of this, the SCCL Corporate Environment Department commissioned

the Centre for Economic and Social Studies (CESS) to carry out a socio-economic assessment and determine how the proposed expansion project would affect the socio-religious attachment of the local population to Ramappa Temple, biodiversity, and heritage.

The methodology of the assessment comprised a blend of quantitative and qualitative methods that encompass both primary and secondary data sources. Structured schedules for capturing data from the sample households and in-depth interactions with key stakeholders (priests, community/village elders, elected officials from the study area, SCCL project authorities, research scholars, and specialists in the domains of social and environmental impacts of development projects) were employed to gather the required data and insights. The study sample of 1,200 households represent 40 villages—24 from the core regions and 16 from the buffer zones—with each sample location representing 30 households. The report submitted to the sponsoring agency contains the findings and recommendations of the assessment.

Ongoing Studies

1. Development Initiatives for transforming the socio-economic status of Marginalised Communities in Andhra Pradesh State-Impact of TSP and SCSP (Sponsor: ICSSR, New Delhi; Project Team: M. Gopinath Reddy)

The broad objective of the study is to examine the process of socio-economic transformation that has been taken place in the context of implementation of the TSP and the SCSP in the states of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. Further, it is intended to explore how the implementations of these programmes have impacted on quality of life of these communities as a part of economic transformation. Further, it is intended to explore the processes of implementation of these programmes and the ways these programmes have brought change in the socio-economic conditions of the STs and SCs in the state.

Considering the broad objective, the specific objectives are; (i) to examine working of TSP and

SCSP in the states since the enactment of the SCSP and the TSP Act, 2013, (ii) to examine the pattern and trends in transferring funds under these two programmes from the State Government and (iii) to explore the implementation of various development programmes under TSP and SCSP and (iv) impact of these programmes on promoting socio-economic transformation of the STs and the SCs in the states. v) To suggest few policies relevant recommendations to strengthen the implementation of SCCP/TSP.

2. Assessment of PM POSHAN Program in the state of Telangana 2024-25 (Sponsor: Government of Telangana; Project Team: E. Revathi, Jadhav Chakradhar, C. Ravi, P. Prudhvikar Reddy, Bharat Bhushan)

Upon the satisfaction of the report submitted by the CESS on the Social Audit of PM POSHAN – Phase-1, the government of Telangana entrusted our institute to undertake the social audit of PM POSHAN – Phase-2, and the process started in December 2024. A two-day training session for field investigators was conducted on 17th and 18th January 2025 in CESS. Senior officers from the government also participated and gave their input to the trainees. Fieldwork commenced immediately after the training and was completed in March 2025. Data cleaning and entry started in the second week of February 2025 and will be completed in the first week of April 2025. The final report of the study is expected to be in May 2025. The social audit process adopted mixed methods for data collection. A systematic sampling procedure was adopted while



Students enjoying their lunchtime in school during the assessment of the PM POSHAN Program in the state of Telangana

selecting 690 schools from all the districts, including all categories of schools, government, and government-aided schools were considered. As per the mandate, a minimum of 20 schools from each district were studied.

3. Young Lives Survey- Improved understanding of the causes and effects of childhood poverty, inequality, and education – Young Lives at Work – Seventh Round (Sponsor: Department for International Development (DFID), Oxford, UK through Oxford University; Project Team: E. Revathi, P. Prudhvikar Reddy)

Young Lives is a longitudinal study of poverty and inequality. It completed its round-7 survey in Telugu states that had produced fact sheets on Education and Learning, Health, Nutrition and Well-Being, and Work and Family Lives. Dr. Shamika Ravi, a Member of the Economic Advisory Council for the Prime Minister, released the fact sheets on 20th March 2025 at the

India Habitat Centre, New Delhi. She underscored the importance of evidence based studies for effective policy making.



Dr. Shamika Ravi, Member of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister, released the Young Lives Round-7 fact sheets at the India Habitat Centre, New Delhi

4. Field Verification of Various Components under Andhra Pradesh Community Natural Farming Under RySS (Sponsor: Government of Andhra Pradesh; Project leader: Y.Sreenivasulu)

This study aims to critically assess the ground-level implementation and outcomes of the Andhra Pradesh Community-Managed Natural Farming (APCNF) initiative, with a particular focus on verifying the

practices adopted by farmers and evaluating their alignment with the data maintained by Rythu Sadhikara Samstha (RySS). In addition to validating the reliability of the URVI database, the study seeks to facilitate structured dialogues among Community Natural Farming (CNF) farmers and key stakeholders—such as PMDS (Pre-Monsoon Dry Sowing) farmers, Village Organizations (VOs), Self-Help Groups (SHGs), SHG members, Non-Pesticide Management (NPM) shop operators, Internal Community Resource Persons (ICRPs), and other associated entities—towards evaluating the progress, identifying challenges, and deliberating on key issues concerning APCNF. Field visits to farmers' plots form a core component of the study, enabling the research team to directly observe natural farming practices, including the extent of adoption, use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides, and the continuation of PMDS farmers into S2S (Seed-to-Seed) practices in subsequent seasons. A mixed-methods research design, incorporating both qualitative and quantitative approaches, has been adopted to facilitate a comprehensive and evidence-based evaluation of the APCNF initiative. This methodological pluralism ensures the triangulation of findings, thereby enhancing the depth, accuracy, and credibility of the study outcomes.

New Projects Launched

1. Doing Social Science Research Assessment (DRA) in India. A Global Development Network (GDN) Project (Sponsor: ICSSR, New Delhi; Project Team: E. Revathi, Sujit Kumar Mishra, C.H. Yaganti, P. Aparna, Arifa Sultana, S. Harinath; Mentor: Prof. Balveer Arora, Chairman, Centre for Multilevel Federalism, Former Professor of Political Science & Rector, Jawaharlal Nehru University)

The DRA project was launched in December 2024 in ICSSR, New Delhi. The project aims to assess the state of social science research in India by evaluating its production, diffusion, and uptake through a globally standardized methodology. The assessment will unfold in four key phases: context analysis, stakeholder

mapping, framework-based data collection, and national-level dissemination.

The DRA will produce an in-depth analysis of India's research ecosystem, map key actors, generate a dataset based on 54 global indicators, and deliver a comprehensive 3-part report. It aims to inform policy, strengthen research capacity, and enhance evidence-based development planning. GDN will provide technical support and ensure alignment with international standards, while leveraging its global network to give visibility to India's assessment. The DRA in India is part of a broader rollout across Asia, including Cambodia, Laos and Fiji started in 2024.



CESS team Prof. E Revathi, Dr. Arifa Sultana & Dr. C.H Yaganti at the Inception Workshop with ICSSR Member Secretary, Prof. Dhananjay Singh, GDN officials and other team members from Fiji, Cambodia and Laos at ICSSR New Delhi.

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

This multidisciplinary and evidence-based research proposed study outlines a comprehensive study aimed at breaking the invisible barriers hindering the success of women entrepreneurs in the Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSME) sector in South India. This study will focus on all five South Indian states—Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana—due to their vibrant MSME sector and the growing presence of women entrepreneurs. The

selection of this region allows for a comprehensive exploration of the challenges and opportunities faced by women entrepreneurs across diverse sectors and settings. The research will address several gaps in existing literature, including the underexplored area of invisible barriers faced by women entrepreneurs, the underrepresentation of women in MSME sector studies, and the lack of intersectional analysis. By employing innovative research methods such as a mixed-methods approach, thematic analysis, and statistical and econometric analysis, the study aims to generate new knowledge and insights into the experiences of women entrepreneurs.

Division for Graduate Studies

Ph.D Awarded

1. O. Pranathi, Political Participation of Women in Urban Local Bodies: A Study of Two Municipal Corporations in Andhra Pradesh. Ph.D Dissertation Supervised by Prof. Ch. Bala Ramulu, Centre for Economic and Social Studies, February 2025 awarded from Telangana University.
2. Sangeetha Gandu, Housing Finance in Telangana State: The Role of State Bank of India and Housing Development Finance Corporation Limited. Ph.D Dissertation Supervised by Prof. A. Sudhakar, Professor (Rtd.), Dr. BRAOU, February 2025 awarded from Dr. B.R.Ambedkar Open University.
3. 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 Prof. B. Suresh Reddy, CESS, March 2025 awarded from Telangana University.

Ph.D Submitted

1. Ramesh Annemalla, Financial Inclusion and Economic Growth in India: Evidence from Districts of Telangana State. Ph.D Dissertation Supervised by Dr. Alivelu Kasturi, Centre for Economic and Social Studies, December 2024 Submitted to Telangana University.

Events

1. Dr. Y.V. Reddy Honoured with TIOL Fiscal Heritage Award 2024 for Lifetime Contribution to Economics & Fiscal Policy in India

Dr. Y.V. Reddy, former Governor of the Reserve Bank of India and Distinguished Fellow at CESS, was conferred the TIOL Fiscal Heritage Award 2024 in recognition of his lifetime contributions to economics and fiscal policy in India. The prestigious TIOL Kautilya Global Award 2024 was also presented to him by the Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, Shri Harivansh Narayan Singh, at the TIOL Fiscal Awards 2024 ceremony.



Dr. Y.V. Reddy Honoured with TIOL Fiscal Heritage Award 2024

2. Prof. E. Revathi at Kautilya Economic Conclave 2024

Prof. E. Revathi, Director of CESS, participated as a panellist at the Kautilya Economic Conclave 2024 – The Indian Era. She presented on **Education, Skills and Employment Linkages- Evidence from a Longitudinal Study** in the Interactive session on Jobs and Skilling.



Prof. E. Revathi at Kautilya Economic Conclave 2024

3. Inaugural Session of the Ph.D. Induction Programme for the 2024-2025 Batch at CESS

The Ph.D. Inaugural Session for the 2024-25 batch was held on October 14, 2024, in collaboration with Telangana University. Prof. E. Revathi introduced the programme, highlighting its coursework, research structure, and essential workshops. Prof. D. M. Nachane, Chairman, CESS, delivered an insightful address on the scientific approach in social sciences, emphasizing exploratory data analysis, hypothesis formulation, and econometrics. He urged scholars to focus on state-level research topics and discussed key issues like farmer suicides in Maharashtra, Telangana, and Andhra Pradesh. He also explained the distinctions between a thesis, paper, and project, stressing the importance of methodology and research tools like SPSS and STATA. Dr. G. R. Reddy encouraged students to pursue research with passion and engage in field studies.



Ph.D. Induction Programme for the 2024-2025 Batch at CESS



Prof. D. M. Nachane, Chairman, CESS, delivered the inaugural address at the Ph.D. Induction Programme.

4. Book Release of “Intersecting Paths of Sustainable Development, Urbanization, and Women’s Empowerment” at 23rd IASSI Annual Conference held during 25-27 October 2024 at Ranchi

During the 23rd Annual Conference of the Indian Association of Social Science Institutions (IASSI), the book titled **“Intersecting Paths of Sustainable Development, Urbanization, and Women’s Empowerment”** was officially released. This book is an outcome of select papers presented in the 22nd IASSI Conference held at CESS in 2023. Edited by E. Revathi, Ishwar Chandra Awasthi, B. Suresh Reddy, and Aditi Madan, the book delves into key issues surrounding sustainable development, urbanization, and the empowerment of women. The Association emphasises the importance of interdisciplinary research in addressing contemporary global challenges, which is also reflected in the book.



Book release during the 23rd IASSI Annual Conference held at Ranchi

5. Dr. Y. V. Reddy Honoured as ‘Icon of the Indian Economy’

Dr. Y. V. Reddy, former RBI Governor and Distinguished Fellow at CESS, received the “Icon of the Indian Economy” award from CNBC-TV18 in recognition of his outstanding contributions to India's economic growth and stability. Known for his decisive policies, he played a key role in crisis management, financial reforms, and safeguarding Indian banks during the 2008 global crisis. Prof. E. Revathi, Dr. G. R. Reddy, and the CESS community congratulated him on this well-deserved recognition, celebrating his lasting impact on India’s economic landscape.



Dr. Y. V. Reddy was honoured with the "Icon of the Indian Economy" award by CNBC-TV18

6. CESS-DGS Special Lecture on Transformative Urbanization Towards India 2047

On 14th November 2024, CESS-DGS hosted a special lecture by Prof. Jyoti Chandiramani, Director of the Symbiosis School of Economics. Prof. E. Revathi, Director of CESS, chaired the session, highlighting cities as engines of economic growth while addressing urban poverty, migration, and sustainability challenges. Prof. Chandiramani emphasized planned urbanization, inclusive growth, and infrastructure development. She discussed global urban trends, the impact of migration, and the shift of funds from banking to capital markets. Citing successful smart cities, she stressed the need for early planning to avoid future crises and ensure sustainable urban development for India's future.



Prof. Jyoti Chandiramani, Director of the Symbiosis School of Economics, delivered a special lecture at CESS

7. Remembering Shri B.P.R. Vithal on His 97th Birth Anniversary

The 97th birth anniversary of Shri B.P.R. Vithal, Founder and first Chairman of CESS, was commemorated on 2nd December 2024 at the B.P.R. Vithal Auditorium. Prof. E. Revathi, Director, highlighted his legacy and contributions. Dr. Pinaki Chakraborty delivered a lecture on fiscal issues before the 16th Finance Commission, emphasizing post-pandemic fiscal recovery, debt sustainability, and the need for transparent fiscal frameworks.



Dr. Pinaki Chakraborty delivered a lecture on the occasion of Shri B.P.R. Vithal's 97th Birth Anniversary

8. CESS-DGS Special Lecture on "Urban Turn: Contest and Contestation"

On 11th December 2024, CESS-DGS hosted a special lecture by Prof. Sudha Mohan, Former Professor and Head, Department of Civics and Politics, University of Mumbai. Chaired by Prof. E. Revathi, Director of CESS, the session explored the complexities of urbanization, governance, and sustainability. Prof. Sudha Mohan discussed India's rural-urban divide, migration pressures, and the need for decentralized



Prof. Sudha Mohan, Former Professor and Head, Department of Civics and Politics, University of Mumbai delivered a lecture at CESS

governance. She highlighted historical urban centers, challenges faced by megacities, and the importance of developing small and medium towns to ease urban congestion. Emphasizing inclusive urban planning and balanced economic growth, she called for stronger local governance to ensure sustainable and equitable development across India.

9. Workshop on “Energy Transition: COP29 and India – Special Focus on Telangana”

The Centre organised Workshop on “Energy Transition: COP29 and India: Special Focus on Telangana” in collaboration with Council for Green Revolution and Citizen Consumer and Civic Action Group (CAG), on 12th December, 2024.

10. CESS-DGS Lecture on “Seed Industry in India: Current Challenges”

On 17th December 2024, the Division for Graduate Studies (DGS) at CESS hosted a lecture on India's seed industry challenges. *Mr. Manish Kushwaha* and *Mr. Mayank Kushwaha* shared insights on hybrid vs. open-pollinated seeds, biodiversity conservation, and sustainable farming coordinated by Sudhir Kodati. *Prof. E. Revathi* emphasized seed certification, organic farming, and regionally adapted seeds, while *Dr. Alivelu Kasturi* highlighted urban farming solutions. The session focused on the need for strong seed policies and sustainable agricultural practices.



Mr. Manish Kushwaha & Mr. Mayank Kushwaha delivered the Lecture on “Seed Industry in India: Current Challenges”

11. Condolence Meeting in Memory of Prof. Manmohan Singh

On 30th December 2024, CESS held a condolence meeting in memory of *Prof. Manmohan Singh*, former Prime Minister of India. *Prof. CH Hanumantha Rao* chaired the gathering, with faculty, scholars, and media representatives in attendance. *Prof. E. Revathi* paid tribute to *Prof. Manmohan Singh's* legacy, highlighting his role as the chief architect of the 1991 economic reforms and his association with CESS, including inaugurating its Silver Jubilee celebrations. *Prof. CH Hanumantha Rao* recalled *Prof. Manmohan Singh's* academic excellence and contributions to economic liberalization and inclusive growth policies during his tenure as Finance Minister and Prime Minister. A resolution was passed in his honour, recognizing his invaluable contributions to India's economic and social progress.



CESS paid tribute to Prof. Manmohan Singh during the condolence meeting held in his memory

12. Faculty Seminar on “Economic History of Hyderabad State: 1858 to 1948”

CESS hosted a faculty seminar on 2nd January 2025, featuring *Prof. E. Revathi*, Director, CESS as the speaker and *Prof. Adapa Satyanarayana* as the discussant. *Prof. Revathi* discussed economic reforms under the Nizams, agrarian policies, and Hyderabad's integration into the global economy. *Prof. Satyanarayana* highlighted the Nizams' governance, communal harmony, and administrative policies. *Dr. G.R. Reddy* chaired the session and concluded with insights on Hyderabad's economic transformation.



Prof. Adapa Satyanarayana attended the faculty seminar at CESS as the discussant

13. CESS-DGS Presentation on the Contributions of Nobel Laureates by Ph.D Scholars (2024-25 Batch)

On 20th January 2025, CESS-DGS hosted a presentation by Ph.D scholars on the contributions of *Claudia Goldin* and the trio *Daron Acemoglu*, *Simon Johnson*, and *James A. Robinson*. Scholars discussed Goldin's research on women's labour market outcomes and the institutional impact on economic growth as studied by Acemoglu and his co-authors. Prof. C. Ravi provided insights on methodologies, while Dr. Alivelu Kasturi led discussions and concluded the session with critical reflections.



Ph.D. scholars (2024-25 batch) presented on the contributions of Nobel Laureates at CESS

14. Presentation on CESS Activities for School Students

On the invitation of Sri Nijo Ben Joseph, Academic Coordinator, Kothakota Pupils High School, Kothakota, Wanaparthy, Dr. Kasturi Alivelu, Associate Professor/Dean, Division for Graduate Studies (DGS),

CESS made an Online presentation on the activities of the CESS on 23rd January 2025.

Around 180 students attended the session; they responded with happiness and found it very useful and very informative. Further, the students added that other than textbooks, this kind of presentation/introduction about an institution they are hearing for the first time and informed during the feedback, that they will make an assignment based on the presentation and will keep these assignments in their Library for future reference.



Students of Kothakota Pupils High School, Wanaparthy, attended the online presentation on CESS Activities

15. BPR Vithal Memorial Lecture by Duvvuri Subbarao on "India's Fiscal Federalism – Quo Vadis?"

CESS hosted the 3rd B.P.R. Vithal Memorial Lecture on 30th January, 2025, an event dedicated to honoring the legacy of Sri B.P.R. Vithal Garu, Founder Member and the first Chairman of the CESS. *Dr. Duvvuri Subbarao*, former RBI Governor, delivered the memorial lecture, emphasizing Centre-State cooperation for *Viksit Bharat 2047* and the shift from cooperative to combative



Dr. Duvvuri Subbarao, former RBI Governor, delivered the 3rd B.P.R. Vithal Memorial Lecture at CESS

federalism. Sri K. Ramakrishna Rao, IAS, Special Chief Secretary (Finance & Planning), Telangana, chaired the session. The event concluded with a Q&A session and a vote of thanks by Prof. E. Revathi, Director, CESS.

16. CESS Scholar's Research on Farmers' Well-being Wins Best Paper Award

R. Saroja Sree, a Research Scholar, presented a research paper titled "*Economic Well-Being of Farmers Across Agro-climatic Zones of Telangana: An Indicator-Based Analysis*" at the Telangana Economic Association (TEA) Ninth Annual Conference held during 8–9 February at Mahatma Gandhi University, Nalgonda. The paper was recognized for its excellence and awarded the "Best Paper Award," along with a cash prize of ₹ 2500 as appreciation.



R. Saroja Sree, Research Scholar, received the Best Paper Award at the TEA Ninth Annual Conference

17. Special Lecture on "The Public Opinion and Electoral Consequences of Political Misconduct"

CESS-DGS hosted a special lecture on "*The Public Opinion and Electoral Consequences of Political Misconduct*" on 18th February 2025. Adam D. Wolsky, Senior Research Specialist at Princeton University, gave the talk, examining how political scandals influence



Adam D. Wolsky, Senior Research Specialist at Princeton University, delivered a lecture at CESS

public perception and electoral outcomes. The discussion covered the role of partisanship, economic factors, and policy impact in shaping reactions to misconduct. The event concluded with an interactive Q&A session, fostering insights into political ethics and governance.

18. 7th Foundation Day Lecture

CESS hosted its 7th Foundation Day Lecture on March 6, 2025. Prof. Santosh Mehrotra, Research Fellow at IZA Institute of Labour Economics, Bonn, delivered a lecture on '**Universalizing social insurance in India before its demographic dividend ends by 2040**'. Prof. J. Mahender Reddy, Distinguished Advisor at ICFAI Society, Hyderabad, and Member, board of Governors of CESS chaired the session and emphasized the significance of social security in economic stability.



Prof. Santosh Mehrotra, Research Fellow at IZA Institute of Labour Economics, Bonn, delivered the 7th Foundation Day Lecture at CESS

Prof. E. Revathi, Director of CESS, highlighted the growth of CESS as a leading research organization and the importance of the Foundation Day Lecture in fostering academic discourse on critical socio-economic issues.

19. Presentation on the 'India Gender Report' by PhD Scholars (2024-25 Batch)

PhD scholars from the 2024–25 batch at CESS presented key findings from the *India Gender Report* on 7th March 2025, on the eve of *International Women's Day*. The event highlighted critical gender disparities in taxation, workforce participation, healthcare, and

entrepreneurship. The report emphasized structural barriers women face in financial inclusion and economic independence. Discussions also covered gender-based violence and the resilience of women in social movements.



On the eve of International Women's Day, PhD scholars at CESS (2024–25 batch) presented insights from the India Gender Report

20. CESS-DGS Special Lecture on “The 2024 Nobel Prize in Economics – Institutions and Beyond”

CESS-DGS hosted a special lecture on the 2024 Nobel Prize in Economics on 12th March 2025, delivered by Prof. Chandrahas Deshpande, Professor of Economics, Welingkar Institute of Management Development and Research, Mumbai. The session explored the institutional contributions of Nobel laureates Acemoglu, Johnson, and Robinson, and their impact on development economics. Prof. E. Revathi, Director, CESS, reflected on the relevance of inclusive institutions in India's development context.

21. CESS-DGS Lecture on “Democracy and Capitalism – The Changing Dynamics”

The lecture on “Democracy and Capitalism – The Changing Dynamics” was delivered by Prof. Chandrahas

Deshpande, Professor of Economics, Welingkar Institute of Management Development and Research, Mumbai, on 13th March 2025. The session explored the evolving relationship between democracy and capitalism, focusing on FDI, multinational corporations, and their global Influence. It also ex”mine’ technological advancements and their impact on economic systems. The discussion referenced key works by Daron Acemoglu and Martin Wolf.



Prof. Chandrahas Deshpande, Professor of Economics at Welingkar Institute, Mumbai, delivered a lecture on “Democracy and Capitalism – The Changing Dynamics” at CESS

22. CESS Research Scholar Received the Best Paper Presentation Award

R. Saroja Sree, Research Scholar, has presented a research paper titled “Gender Disparities in Access to Technical Advice and its Impact on Agricultural Income in India” at International Seminar on “Technology and Innovations for Gender Inclusivity in Agriculture” held during 19-20 March 2025 at National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE), Hyderabad. The paper was recognized for its excellence and awarded the “Best Paper Presentation”.

Biodiversity in
CESS
Campus



Woodpecker



Peacock

Editors: Dr Y Sreenivasulu and Dr P Aparna

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