



CENTRE FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL STUDIES

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

Nizamiah Observatory Campus, Begumpet, Hyderabad – 500 016

Telangana State, India

Phone: 040-23416610, 23402789, 23416780, Fax: 040-23406808

Email: admissionsdgs@cess.ac.in, Website: <https://cess.ac.in/>

**In Collaboration with
TELANGANA UNIVERSITY, NIZAMABAD**

Ph.D PROGRAMME [WITH FOCUS ON DEVELOPMENT STUDIES]

ADMISSION NOTIFICATION 2025-2026

Established in 1980, the Centre for Economic and Social Studies (CESS) is an autonomous research institution supported by the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), New Delhi and the Government of Telangana. The Centre's research revolves around issues related to the economy, polity and society, with a particular emphasis on India and Telangana, among others. The Centre has state of an art library, computing and other infrastructural facilities available for carrying out good quality research. It is situated on a beautiful campus on the premises of the Nizamiah Observatory at Begumpet in Hyderabad. **CESS, in collaboration with Telangana University, Nizamabad**, invites applications for admission into the regular **Ph.D. Programme** with focus on Development Studies for the academic year 2025-2026.

The Programme is offered in the following disciplines:

- 1. Economics/Agricultural Economics**
- 2. Sociology/Anthropology/Social Work**
- 3. Political Science/Public Administration**
- 4. Commerce/Business Management [Related to Research Areas of CESS]**

Note: The above disciplines include allied subjects as follows: **Economics** – Agricultural Economics (M.Sc. Agriculture); **Commerce** – Master of Business Administration (MBA), Master of Business Management.

Research Areas

The main thrust areas of research of CESS are Agriculture- Structural issues- Tenancy- Allied Agriculture; Industry, Service Sector, International Trade and Services; Poverty, Food Security, Employment and Unemployment, Rural Labour Market; Social Sector-Education and Health, Migration, Ecological Economics, Natural Resources Economics and Management, Environment and Sustainable Development, Climate Change; Governance; Gender Studies, Tribal Studies, Social Inclusion and Inclusive Growth & Development, Public Policy.

1. Academic Curriculum and Duration of the Course

The Programme involves coursework for one year and a Ph.D thesis. The duration of the programme will be six years of which one year is for course work; and five years for completion of Research/thesis work after registration for Ph.D. The Research/Thesis work will be taken up only after completing the coursework, and Registration for Ph.D shall be done within six months after passing coursework examinations.

2. Admission Procedure

Eligibility

The Ph.D. programme at CESS is in accordance with the UGC Regulations – 2022. Candidates qualified in the National Eligibility Tests, such as, UGC-JRF and UGC-NET are eligible to apply for admission.

Accordingly, the following categories of candidates are eligible to apply:

Category 1: Candidates those who Qualified UGC-JRF

Category 2: Based on UGC-NET Score

[1. JRF qualified candidates; 2. Candidates qualified for Assistant Professorship without JRF; and, 3. Candidates neither qualified for JRF nor for Assistant Professorship but appeared for NET and are eligible for admission to Ph.D based on NET score]

Admission to PhD Programme (2025-26) will be done on the basis of UGC-NET examination score, as per the UGC rule. The NET scores of June 2024 (result declared in October 2024) and December 2024 (results declared in February 2025) will be valid/used for PhD admission for the academic year 2025-26. Validity period of JRFs will continue as before.

Admission under category 1 will be based on the performance in the interview, where 100% weightage will be assigned to marks obtained in the interview.

Admission under category 2 will be based on the NET score and performance in the interview, where 70% weightage is assigned to NET score and 30% weightage assigned to marks obtained in the interview.

Number of seats & Reservations: A Total Number of 12 Candidates will be taken for admission for the year 2025-26. The Centre reserves the right to fill or not to fill all the seats if suitable candidates are not found. **Statutory reservations** will be followed as per Government of Telangana norms.

3. Selection Process (as per the norms of UGC)

Research Proposal and Interview

Candidates are required to submit a **research proposal in not more than 1500 words** along with the application. The proposal is expected to reflect critical understanding of the body of knowledge in the proposed research area, research objectives and tentative methodology. Applications without research proposal will NOT be considered.

Shortlisted candidates will be called for the interview. The interview will focus on assessing the competence and interest of the candidate to undertake independent research work.

4. Important Dates

Application Submission Deadline: 01 August 2025

Interviews for Shortlisted Candidates: Personal Interview – 16 August 2025

Commencement of Programme: First Week of September 2025

5. Fees

The fee structure is as follows

Admission Fee **Rs. 5,000/-** [Rs. Five Thousand only] - One time

Tuition Fees **Rs. 25,000/-** [Rs. Twenty-Five Thousand only] per annum

Course Work Examination Fee **Rs. 500/-** [Rs. Five Hundred only] - Per paper

Registration Fee **Rs. 5000/-** [Rs. Five Thousand only] - One time

Re-Registration Fee **Rs. 5000/-** [Rs. Five Thousand only] - One time

Thesis Adjudication Fee **Rs. 10000/-** [Rs. Ten Thousand only]

6. Financial Assistance/Fellowships

The selected Scholars may avail of ICSSR fellowships on a competitive basis after registration. Scholars are encouraged to avail fellowship through national fellowships such as UGC-JRF, RGNE, Ministry of Tribal Welfare, and Savitribai Jyoti Rao Phule Fellowship for Single Girl Child. The selected candidates from SC/ST categories with annual income less than the prescribed limit may avail of the fee concession.

The Inclusive Development Unit of the Institute [CESS] provides two fellowships to scholars working in the area of “Inclusive Development”.

7. Accommodation

Hostel accommodation is fully available for girls and moderately for boys on campus for the outstation students. The rent for the hostel room will be charged as per the rules.

8. Course Work and Pre-Ph.D Test

All the candidates who are admitted to the Ph.D Programme have to undergo One Year Course Work (Two Semesters) on a Regular mode and also have to write the Course Work Examination/Pre-Ph.D test. Attendance is Compulsory.

(a) Course Work

The course work consists of the following Six Papers:

Semester-I

Paper 1 – Research Methodology

Paper 2 – Perspectives and Paradigms of Development

Paper 3 – Fundamentals of Econometrics/Development Statistics*

Paper A - Research and Publication Ethics

Semester-II

Paper 4 – India's Development Debate

Paper 5 – Applied Econometrics/Applied Statistics*

Paper 6 – Paradigms in Social Sciences*

**As applicable to the respective disciplines*

(b) Course Work and Examinations

The final examinations will carry 60 marks, whereas 40 marks will be awarded based on continuous assessment/evaluation during coursework (Assignments, Book Reviews/Seminar Presentations). The candidates must secure 50 per cent marks in each paper to qualify/pass the paper. The candidates should pass all the Seven Papers of the Course Work exam to become eligible for the thesis work. The medium of examination for the Pre-Ph.D test/Course Work Examination and the thesis shall be English only.

9. How to apply and List of Documents to be submitted

- Application should be submitted in the prescribed format
- Age Proof – SSC/SSLC Certificate or any other relevant document
- Bachelor's Degree Certificate & mark sheet
- Master's Degree Certificate and Marks Card (Provisional marks card obtained and signed by the relevant authority of the University in case second year PG results are awaited)
- M.Phil certificate (if applicable)
- Any other degree/ diploma qualification (if applicable)
- JRF Award Letter
- UGC-NET Score Card
- Certificate/offer letter from UGC/NTA
- Candidates in the following categories should submit self-attested copies of the latest relevant certificates from competent authorities. 1. SC/ST candidates - Caste certificate 2. BC candidates –BC Certificate 3. The person with Disability (PWD) (with 40% disability) candidates– PWD Certificate
- Applications of eligible candidates working in Government Departments and Public sector undertakings should be forwarded through proper channel along with a 'No objection' Certificate from the competent authority
- Research proposal (in 1500 words)
- Copies of academic publications (if any)
- **Application form:** The application form and the guidelines can be downloaded from the CESS website: <https://cess.ac.in/>
- **Application fee:** Log on to <http://www.cess.ac.in> to access the home page of “Online Application for Ph.D”. Application Fee of Rs.1000/- to be paid online which is non-refundable. The details of Online Payment are:

Name of the Beneficiary	: Centre for Economic and Social Studies
Name of the Bank & Branch	: Indian Bank, Begumpet Branch
Bank Account Number	: 4 6 0 8 0 7 4 2 9
IFS Code	: I D I B 0 0 0 B 0 5 7

LAST DATE FOR RECEIPT OF APPLICATIONS: 1st AUGUST 2025

Applications can be downloaded and duly filled in application forms along with self-attested copies of the above documents should be sent/ submitted to: “**The Dean, Division for Graduate Studies, Centre for Economic and Social Studies, Nizamiah Observatory Campus, Begumpet, Hyderabad – 500 016**” so as to reach on or before **1st August 2025**.

Note:

1. Please send the filled-in application form, along with the necessary documents, to admissionsdgs@cess.ac.in .
2. Only shortlisted candidates will receive intimation from CESS for appearing for personal interview.
3. For details, the applicants are advised go through the Prospectus of the Ph.D Programme.
