IMPORTANT DATES

Last Date for Submission of Abstracts : 15-03-2025

Last Date for Submission of Full papers: 20-03-2025

Registration Fee Details

For Students & Research Scholars : Rs. 600/-

For Academicians and Faculty : Rs. 1000/-

For Professionals & Industry Experts: Rs. 2000/-

Important Information/Payment Procedure:

All the participants must register by paying the required registration fee on or before deadline. Co-authors are also required to register separately. Only registered participants will be allowed to present the paper. T.A. and D.A. will not be paid to any participants or papers presenters.

Certificates will be issued only to registered participants and paper presenters who attend the two days of the Conference.

Registration Link:

https://forms.gle/73TAMghtVVuXMuHz6

The registration fee can be paid through credit card / debit card / internet banking

Bank: State Bank of India Branch: BRAOU Campus A/C No: 42597443166 IFSC Code: SBIN0020872

Accommodation:

Accommodation will be provided at University Guest House as per the request of the delegates on payment basis. Please contact the Conference Director for more information.

Venue of the Conference:

Auditorium, CSTD Building, Dr. BRAOU Campus, Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad.

Chief Patron

Prof. Ghanta Chakrapani

Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Dr. BRAOU, Hyderabad.

Patron

Dr. L.V.K. Reddy

Registrar, Dr. BRAOU, Hyderabad.

Chairperson of the Conference

Prof. G. Pushpa Chakrapani

Director (Academic), Dr. BRAOU, Hyderabad.

Conference Advisor

Dr. Krishna Reddy Chittedi

Associate Professor, School of Economics, HCU, Hyd.

Organizing Committee

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For further details contact

Dr. K. Krishna Reddy

Conference Director Head, Dept. of Economics Mobile No: 94408 90076 / 9000555022





Two Day National Conference On

Fiscal Federalism in India: Devolution, Development, and Economic Dynamics

25th and 26th March 2025



Organized by
Department of Economics
Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Open University
Hyderabad - 500033 (T.G)

About the University

The *Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Open University*, initially known as Andhra Pradesh Open University (APOU), was set up on 26th August, 1982 through an Act of the A.P. State Legislature (APOU Act 1982). Subsequently, the University was renamed as Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Open University (Dr.BRAOU) on 26th October 1991 by the erstwhile Government of Andhra Pradesh. The motto of the University: *'Education at your doorstep'* and the mission: *'Education for all'*. For the last 43 years (1982-2025), university is offering PhD, M.Phil, Postgraduate, Undergraduate, Diploma and various other certificate courses. The university system adopts multi-disciplinary pedagogy approaches and adheres to flexible patterns in terms of admissions, choice of subjects, duration and age requirements to fulfill the mission and vision of the University.

Department of Economics

The Department of Economics was established in 1982. Economics being one of the most popular Departments in Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Open University offers a complete and holistic study of the discipline of Economics through Distance mode. The Department offers a wide spectrum of specialized and common core courses at Under-Graduate and Post-Graduate level Programmes. Initially, the department offered B.A. Economics in both English and Telugu medium. Since 1996 onwards M.A. Economics programme started. In the spirit of the 'Vision & Mission' of the University, the department organizes academic programmes to meet the requirements of the diverse sections of the society. Along with this, the department has introduced M.Phil and Ph.D. research programmes from the year 2008 onwards. Some of the Broad Research Areas include – Agriculture, Banking, Development Economics, Rural and Tribal Studies.

About the Conference

India's federal structure is unique, balancing a strong central government with autonomous state governments. Fiscal federalism which governs the distribution of financial resources between the Union, States, and local governments plays a crucial role in ensuring equitable development. The devolution of funds, guided by the Finance Commissions and other mechanisms, directly impacts governance, social welfare, and economic growth.

Recent shifts in tax structures, revenue-sharing mechanisms, and the role of institutions such as the GST Council have significantly influenced the financial autonomy of states and local bodies. To understand these dynamics, it is essential for assessing their implications on cooperative federalism, regional equity, and overall economic progress.

This conference aims to discuss and debate on essential themes in public sector financial planning and budgeting, health and social protection financing, and the relationship between public finance and economic inequality. The aim is to improve the effectiveness of fiscal policy and contribute to socio-economic progress.

This conference aims to provide an opportunity for scholars, policymakers, and practitioners to critically analyze India's fiscal federalism and explore pathways for strengthening the devolution of funds in the spirit of cooperative and competitive federalism.

Objectives

- To examine the evolution and current trends in fiscal federalism in India.
- To analyze the role of the Finance Commission in devolution and resource-sharing.
- To assess the impact of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) on Centre-State financial relations.
- To explore the challenges and opportunities in local government financing.
- To discuss strategies for achieving a balanced fiscal framework that ensures both equity and efficiency.

Sub-Themes

1 Evolution of Fiscal Federalism in India

- Constitutional provisions and historical developments.
- Changing patterns of Centre-State financial relations.
- Role of Planning Commission vs. NITI Aayog in resource allocation.

2 Finance Commissions and Devolution of Funds

- Recommendations of recent Finance Commissions and their implications.
- Vertical vs. horizontal devolution of resources.
- Special category states and regional disparities.
- In-equitable tax sharing: a south Indian perspective.

3 GST and Its Impact on Federal Fiscal Relations

- GST as a model of cooperative federalism.
- Revenue distribution and compensation mechanisms.
- Challenges faced by states under the GST regime.

4 State Autonomy and Fiscal Challenges

- Borrowing powers of states and debt sustainability.
- Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) and their impact on state finances.
- Issues related to off-budget borrowing and fiscal discipline.

5 Local Governments and Fiscal Decentralization

• Implementation of the 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments.

- Financial autonomy of Panchayats and Urban Local Bodies.
- Role of State Finance Commissions and innovative financing models.
- Fiscal Decentralization and Tax Devaluation in South India

6 Towards a Balanced Fiscal Framework

- Strengthening cooperative and competitive federalism.
- Policy reforms for equitable and sustainable fiscal management.
- Global lessons for improving fiscal federalism in India.

7 Health and Social Protection Financing

- Financing universal healthcare and social security systems
- Pension system reforms and fiscal sustainability
- The impact of demographic changes on public finance
- Post-pandemic health sector financing

8 Public Finance and Economic Inequality

- Wealth taxation and redistribution policies
- Fiscal policy measures to reduce income inequality
- The impact of austerity measures on vulnerable populations
- Public finance and labor market policies

Expected Outcomes

- To offer policy recommendations for strengthening fiscal federalism in India.
- To identify key challenges in fund devolution and resource allocation.
- To provide strategies to enhance financial autonomy and accountability at all levels of government.
- To identify roadmap for improving Centre-State and State-Local fiscal relations.

This conference will provide a platform for insightful discussions, fostering academic and policy-oriented deliberations on strengthening India's fiscal federalism for socially inclusive and sustainable development.

Call for Papers

Papers are invited from professionals, academicians, research scholars, and students of respective fields to participate and present the papers. Authors are requested to contribute their original and unpublished papers related to themes of the conference.

The abstracts (300 words) should be emailed to **braou.economics2025@gmail.com** by 15th March, 2025 and a soft copy of the full-length original papers should be submitted on or before 20th March, 2025 in MS Word format with a limit of 2500 to 3000 words. All papers will be peer reviewed by the expert committee and the best papers will be published in an Edited Book with ISBN.