



ICFAI School of
Social Sciences

ISoSS Hyderabad



**TWO-DAY
NATIONAL SEMINAR
ON
BREAKING BARRIERS
AND BUILDING FUTURE:
EMPOWERING WOMEN
ENTREPRENEURS IN MSMEs FOR
VISION VIKSIT BHARAT 2047**



(Hybrid Mode)
18th - 19th July 2025



Organized By

**Department of Economics, Central University of Andhra Pradesh
Centre for Economic and Social Studies, Hyderabad
ICFAI School of Social Sciences, IFHE, Hyderabad**

Sponsored By

**Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR)
JNU Institutional Area, Aruna Asaf Ali Marg,
New Delhi - 110067 (INDIA)**

Seminar Venue

**Centre for Economic and Social Studies (CESS)
Nizamiah Observatory Campus Begumpet,
Hyderabad, Telangana – 500016**

ABOUT THE SEMINAR

The Department of Economics (DoE), Central University of Andhra Pradesh (CUAP), in collaboration with the Centre for Economic and Social Studies (CESS) and the ICFAI School of Social Sciences (ISoSS), is organising a Two-Day ICSSR-sponsored National Seminar on “Breaking Barriers and Building Futures: Empowering Women Entrepreneurs in MSMEs for Vision Vikshit Bharat 2047”, scheduled for 18th–19th July 2025. Aligned with the national vision of Vikshit Bharat 2047, the seminar seeks to address the multifaceted challenges faced by women entrepreneurs in the Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSME) sector. Despite contributing significantly to the Indian economy—accounting for nearly 30% of the GDP and employing millions—the MSME sector remains male-dominated, with women comprising only 20% of its entrepreneurs. These women often encounter considerable obstacles, including restricted access to finance, limited technological resources, inadequate training, and socio-cultural constraints.

Recognizing the need to unlock the untapped potential of women entrepreneurs, the seminar aims to promote inclusive growth by advocating for targeted policies, enhanced institutional support, and robust entrepreneurial ecosystems. Through a multi-stakeholder approach, the event will bring together policymakers, government officials, academic scholars, industry professionals, financial institutions, development agencies, and women entrepreneurs. The discussions will be guided by first-hand experiences from entrepreneurs, supported by evidence-based research and expert insights. The seminar will focus on practical strategies to improve financial inclusion, expand access to skill development, and build a more supportive policy and institutional environment.

Ultimately, this initiative aspires to strengthen the role of women in business, driving innovation, resilience, and sustainable development, while contributing to India’s commitments under the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). By fostering collaboration and knowledge-sharing, the seminar aims to generate actionable recommendations that will support the growth of women-led enterprises and advance the broader goal of building a more inclusive and prosperous Bharat by 2047.

OBJECTIVES OF THE SEMINAR

- To generate first-hand insights from women entrepreneurs, policymakers, and experts that can serve as a foundation for future research in the MSME sector.
- To identify critical research gaps, underexplored areas, and emerging trends related to women entrepreneurship.
- To facilitate the exchange of real-world case studies and lived experiences that enrich academic understanding and contextual analysis.
- To encourage interdisciplinary research by bringing together scholars from economics, gender studies, public policy, and development studies.

THEMATIC AREAS

The thematic areas of this seminar are designed to comprehensively address the diverse challenges and opportunities faced by women entrepreneurs in the MSME sector, in alignment with Vision Vikshit Bharat 2047. Specifically, the seminar focuses on **two NIC-2 classified sectors: manufacture of food products and manufacture of textiles**.

Within this context, the discussions will center on critical aspects such as overcoming financial and technological barriers, enhancing skill development, fostering a supportive ecosystem, and creating policies that empower women-led businesses. Through these discussions, the seminar aims to identify actionable strategies to scale women-led businesses, enhance economic growth, and contribute to sustainable development. Ultimately, the seminar seeks to shape policy frameworks and institutional mechanisms to pave the way for a more inclusive and prosperous Bharat.

Deliberations will be organized across three key perspectives: the government functionary perspective, focusing on policy and institutional support; the women entrepreneur perspective, highlighting lived experiences and on-ground challenges; and the research community perspective, contributing analytical and evidence-based insights. These discussions will be facilitated through panel sessions and dialogues featuring government officials, MSME-focused institutions (Implementing Agencies & Civil Society Organisation), and women entrepreneurs themselves.

In addition, the seminar invites original empirical research papers from the academic community engaged in rigorous empirical or conceptual work on any of the following sub-themes:

1. Government Perspective

- Policy, legal and institutional support for women-led MSMEs
- Role of public-private partnerships for women's economic empowerment
- Financial inclusion and women-friendly credit systems
- Access to finance, credit, and digital infrastructure
- Vision Vikshit Bharat 2047: role of women entrepreneurs in building a resilient India

2. Women Entrepreneur Perspective

- Women in leadership roles within MSMEs and empowering marginalized women
- Work-life balance, mental well-being, and leveraging women's networks for business success
- Technology adoption, digital empowerment, and e-commerce opportunities
- Role of startups and innovation in empowering women
- Role of women's self-help groups (SHGs) and skill development for women in MSMEs

3. Research Community Perspective

- Transitioning women-led enterprises and building gender-inclusive value chains in MSMEs
- Marketing, globalization, and social entrepreneurship in the context of women-led enterprises
- Addressing gender bias and socio-cultural barriers in women entrepreneurship
- Navigating intersectional challenges in scaling women-led MSMEs
- Capacity building through higher education institutions and incubators
- Case studies of successful women entrepreneurs in India

The thematic areas outlined above are specifically ***focused on the manufacture of food products and manufacture of textiles (handlooms), as classified under the NIC-2 categories.*** These themes serve as a tentative framework for examining the unique challenges and opportunities encountered by women entrepreneurs within these sectors of the MSME landscape. In addition to the specified sub-themes, the seminar also welcomes original research papers that explore other relevant topics within these categories, particularly those offering innovative solutions and strategies to empower women entrepreneurs. Such contributions are expected to enrich the discourse and align with the broader objectives of inclusive economic growth and sustainable development.

PAPER SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- Original full-length paper of 6,000 to 8000 words in a Word file. The format of the word file is Times New Roman font, 12-point font, 1.5 line spacing, both sides justified, 1 inch margin on all sides, and automatic page numbering on each point.
- The submitted article must be original and not previously published. A plagiarism check will be conducted before its acceptance.
- Paper must include an abstract of 150-200 words, 4-6 relevant keywords and appropriate Journal of Economic Literature (JEL) codes at the end of the abstract.
- The additional guideline for preparation of the manuscript can be found at: <https://link.springer.com/journal/41775/submission-guidelines>
- All the selected papers reviewed by a team of experts will be published as an edited book with ISBN number.
- Registration is mandatory for all selected paper presenters.

SUBMISSION LINK & QR

Please submit your abstract/paper using the following link.

<https://forms.gle/depPhsNGVod6uK7W7>

Abstract/Paper submitted through any other methods will not be accepted under any circumstances.



IMPORTANT DATES

Submission of abstract: **12th May 2025**

Acceptance of abstract: **19th May 2025**

Submission of full paper: **30th June 2025**

Registration and payment of fee: **12th July 2025**

Seminar dates: **18th - 19th July 2025**

REGISTRATION AND PARTICIPATION FEE:

A separate link for registration will be sent to participants whose papers are selected for presentation. The participation fee is as follows:

Participation	Without accommodation	With accommodation
Faculty, Academicians and Industry personnel's	Rs. 1,000	Rs. 2,500
Research Scholars and Students	Rs. 750	Rs. 1,500*

*Concessions, **subject to prior approval**, will be granted to female Ph.D. scholars whose papers demonstrate rigorous empirical analysis and field-level research.

TRAVEL & ACCOMMODATION

No TA/DA will be provided by the organising committee to attend the seminar. Modest accommodation will be provided to registered delegates from 17th evening to early morning of 20th July 2025. Accommodation beyond this period must be arranged by participants themselves. Accommodation will not be provided for spot registration participants.

REACHING THE SEMINAR VENUE: CESS, HYDERABAD

Arrival by Bus: Hyderabad is easily accessible by bus through a strong network of national highways. Both government and private operators offer frequent, affordable services. Major terminals include Mahatma Gandhi Bus Station (MGBS) and Jubilee Bus Station (JBS) in Secunderabad, connecting the city with various intercity and interstate destinations across India.

Arrival by Train: Hyderabad enjoys excellent connectivity with the rest of the country via rail network. Hyderabad has three main railway stations: Hyderabad Railway Station, Secunderabad Railway Station, and Kachiguda Railway Station. These railheads connect the city with prime destinations.

Arrival by Flight: Hyderabad Airport, widely known as Rajiv Gandhi International Airport and Hyderabad International Airport, links this old city with all major Indian and international destinations. The airport is located around 30 km away from the city centre and travelers can easily avail auto and taxi services from outside the airport.

ABOUT THE ORGANISERS

THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS, CUAP

The Central University of Andhra Pradesh, established in 2018 in Anantapuramu, emphasizes socially relevant academic programs with a multidisciplinary approach. It promotes experiential learning, industry collaboration, and student well-being with the goal to nurture responsible global citizens. The institution is committed to research, innovation, and teaching excellence, positively impacting local and global communities. In this context, the Department of Economics (DoE) has delivered quality education since 2018. Offering undergraduate, postgraduate, and Ph.D. programs—including B.Sc. (Hons) Economics, M.Sc. Economics, M.Sc. Economics & Data Analytics—the curriculum combines theoretical analysis with quantitative reasoning. Faculty members, recognized experts in their fields, enhance learning with research. With strong emphasis on quantitative skills through the integration of mathematics and computer applications, the department equips students with critical thinking and analytical abilities for success in a competitive job market.

CENTRE FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL STUDIES

Established as an autonomous research center in 1980, the Centre for Economic and Social Studies (CESS) was recognized as a national institute by the ICSSR in 1986 and integrated into its network of institutions. CESS conducts interdisciplinary analytical and applied research focused on socio-economic development and various aspects of public policy. Originally operating in Telangana, its research now spans across other regions in India. Its key areas include agriculture and allied sectors, industry, service sector dynamics, poverty alleviation, food security, employment, international trade, public finance, education, health, migration, environmental sustainability, gender and tribal studies, decentralized governance, child welfare, and inclusive development. Additionally, CESS assists central and state governments with policy studies. It also organises seminars, workshops, training programs, and collaborative research initiatives.

ICFAI SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

ICFAI School of Social Sciences (ISoSS) in Hyderabad is part of the ICFAI Foundation of Higher Education (IFHE), a deemed-to-be-university under section 3 of the UGC Act, 1956. ISoSS offers three-year (Honors) and four-year (Honors with Research) BA in Economics, BSc in Economics & Data Science, B. Com, MA, and PhD programs in Economics, plus three- and four-year BSc Psychology programs. It provides PhD in Development Studies and Public Policy for professionals, and BBA and MBA courses. Faculty conduct quality, nationally and internationally funded research projects and publish in leading journals and books. The institute's mission is to deliver high-quality social sciences education.

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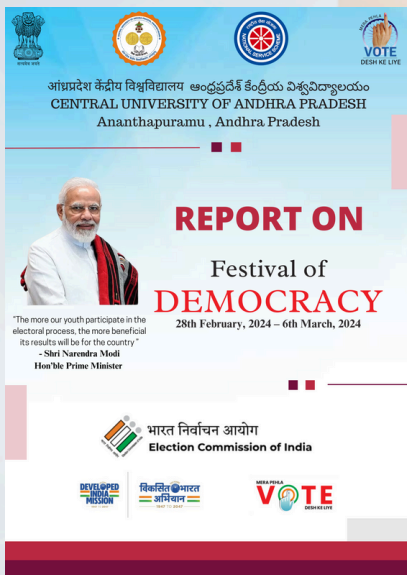
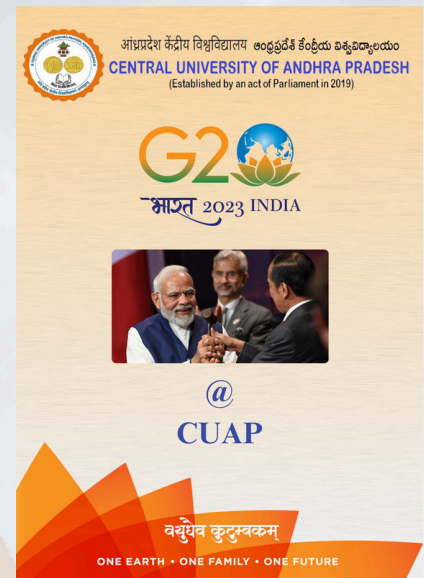
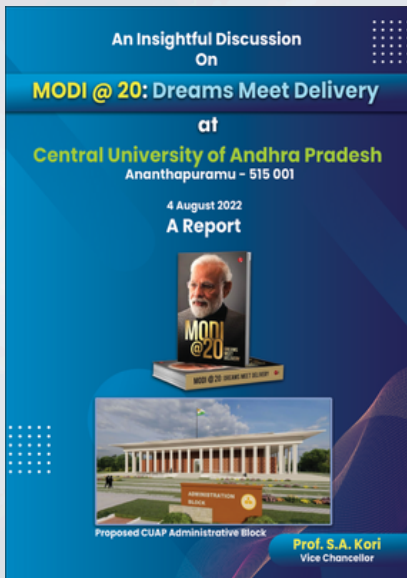


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