



National Seminar on

Federal Finance in India: Issues and Challenges

Date. 26 March 2018

Organised by

Department of Economics
Ravenshaw University
Cuttack-753003 Odisha,
India

Website :

www.ravenshawuniversity.ac.in

Important Dates:

Abstract Submission

March 07, 2018

Decision on Abstract:

March 08, 2018

Full Paper Submission:

March 17, 2018

Decision on Full Papers:

March 18, 2018

Last date of Registration:

March 21, 2018

Seminar Date:

March 26, 2018

Seminar Theme

The essence of federalism lies in proper division of powers and functions among various levels of government to ensure adequate resources for their functioning. Therefore, the Constitution of India has made a number of enabling provisions for fiscal transfers like the formation of Finance Commission for formula-based transfers from the centre to states. However, the Indian federal system is distinguished by tax and expenditure assignments that result in large vertical fiscal imbalances, and consequent transfers from the central government to the state governments. A major reason behind fiscal transfers is to tone down the fiscal imbalances resulted due to the mismatch in the revenue powers and expenditure responsibilities of the Union vis-à-vis the state governments. But rationalisation of the transfer system and restoration of fiscal balance in the states has always been a controversial issue in a federal system.

For the last several years, there has been a growing conflict between centre and state in matters regarding the distribution of financial resources, between the units in a federation, owing to economic, political and ideological grounds. Successive Finance Commissions have also attempted to address such issues. There have been changes in the structure of central transfers. Meantime the erstwhile Planning Commission has been dismantled to pave way for NITI Aayog, and with this the concept of Plan transfers are done away with. Implementation of GST is also likely to alter the composition and volume of transfers to the states. All these changes have wider economic implications. Under the above circumstances, fiscal federalism necessitates proper integration and co-ordinations of the financial system of different layers of government. Against this backdrop, the Department of Economics, Ravenshaw University is organizing a National Seminar to deliberate on some of the vexed and emerging issues pertaining to "Federal Finance in India". The brainstorming is likely to stumble upon the challenges from the angle of fiscal federalism.

Seminar Sub-themes

The Sub-themes of the seminar are as follows:

1. Reviewing Instruments of Intergovernmental Finance
2. Institutional Arrangement in Fiscal Transfers
3. Grants in Fiscal Federalism
4. Performance –Oriented Transfers
5. Framework for Accountable and Equitable Governance
6. Horizontal and Vertical Equity
7. Equity vs. Efficiency in Fiscal Transfers
8. Review of Finance Commissions' Recommendations
9. The Political Economy of Interregional Transfers
10. Impact of Intergovernmental Fiscal Transfers
11. The Legal Architecture of Intergovernmental Transfers
12. Issues in Tax Sharing especially in the aftermath of GST
13. Fiscal Capacity Equalization
14. Intergovernmental Transfers and Local Finance
15. Any other related to the seminar theme

Organising Committee

Patron :

Prof. Ishan Kumar Patro
Vice-Chancellor

Advisor

Prof. Mamata Swain
Dept. of Economics

Convener:

Dr. Dharmabrata Mohapatra
Head of the Department

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Dr. Lipishree Das
Mr. Manoj Kumar Das
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Guidelines for Paper Submission

Intending participants are requested to send an abstract of around 500 words containing objectives, research methodology and major findings of the study. The abstract should include keywords, full address and e-mail ID of the corresponding author. The acceptance of the abstracts will be intimated to the author through e-mail and then authors have to send the complete paper to the Organising Secretary by e-mail (chittaranjan.ru@gmail.com). The full papers are ideally required to be within 6000 to 8000 words typed in 12-point font (Times New Roman) and 1.5-spaced with margin 1" on top, bottom, left and right, and references be prepared in standard APA format. Submission of paper by e-mail is preferred. However, accepted papers are required to be sent to the seminar organising secretary in both hard and soft copy in MS-Word. A few selected papers presented in the seminar will be considered for publication with ISBN number by a reputed publisher.

Travel and Accommodation

Limited travel grants will be provided to few selected delegates subject to availability of fund. Accommodation and local hospitality for all out-station participants will be arranged on one-person-per-paper basis only on confirmation of participation.

Registration fees: It is **free for paper presenters**. Paper co-authors will also be issued certificate of presentation. A limited number of interested scholars and professionals will be encouraged to participate in the proceedings of the Seminar, **subject to prior approval**. They may write to the organising secretary about how the Seminar could be useful for them. All general hospitality will be provided and participation certificates will be issued to such participants. But conference kits will be made available to paper presenters (one kit per paper) only. On-spot request is discouraged.

About the University

Ravenshaw University was established as a unitary state university on 15th November 2006 and accredited with "A" grade by NACC in 2016. It was an upgradation of Ravenshaw College established in 1868, one of the oldest and largest colleges in India. This much-celebrated institution is considered as one of the greatest educational institutions that India has so far produced. Recognizing its great heritage, the Institution has been awarded National Honour by the Government of India through the issue of a commemorative stamp in 1978. Currently, the University has eleven schools of studies comprising twenty-seven departments in several disciplines. Twenty three departments are offering post-graduate programmes including M.A. M.Phil and PhD. Recently the University has introduced several reforms on the academic front.

About the Department

The Department of Economics of the University (Estd. in 1931) is known for its teaching and research activities in core as well as applied areas of Economics. The Department offers B.A./B.Sc (Hons), M.A., M.Phil and Ph.D programmes in Economics. In addition, it runs regular MA and Ph.D courses in Rural Development. Seminars, workshops, special lectures and other academic programmes on issues of national importance are being organised from time to time. The Department publishes a research journal entitled 'Ravenshaw Journal of Economics' and a seminar bulletin 'Arthatathya' on annual basis. As a major boost to its teaching and research activities, the Department has been conferred the status of UGC Department for Research Support (DRS-I) under Special Assistance Programme (SAP) from 2014.
