

What is new(s) from GIFT

A. Webinars

20th Anniversary GLOBELICS International Conference 2023 - Innovation - driven Knowledge Economies and Transformation in the Global South - 11-14 October 2023 held at GIFT.

The Global Network for the Economics of Learning Innovation and Competence building Systems (GLOBELICS), started twenty years ago with an international conference in Rio de Janeiro in 2003, aims at building the Learning, Innovation and Competence-building Systems (LICS) in especially in the global south to understand the nexus between innovation and development. The network, having its members across 80 countries across the world has its regional chapters in Asia (Asialics), Africa (Africalics), Europe (Eurolics) North America (Naclics) Latin America (Lalics). In addition being the two large developing countries India and China has its chapters respectively called Indialics and Cicalics. Erika Kramer is the president of the network and its secretary General is K J Joseph, is the Director Gulati Institute of Finance and Taxation (GIFT) and hence the Secretariat of Globelics is presently in GIFT, India. The idea of organising the 20th Globelics anniversary conference in Kerala germinated in the international workshop on Transforming Kerala to a Knowledge Economy jointly organised by GIFT and Globelics subsequent to the Kerala Budget 2020-21 that focussing on transforming Kerala to a Knowledge Economy.

Episodes of development in economic history highlight the successful experience of countries that have managed to harness learning, innovation, and competence-building systems at the global, national, subnational, and sectoral levels to transform their

social and economic structures to achieve prosperity. The constellation of innovations driven by rapid advances in digital technologies has given rise to a new technological revolution (commonly referred to as the fourth industrial revolution, or Industry 4.0) with profound impacts on all sectors of the economies and sections of societies. New and persisting developmental challenges have driven a renewed interest in types of innovation that highlight their impact on society and the natural environment, such as inclusive innovation, responsible innovation, transformative innovation, grassroots innovation and jugaad. At the core of all these approaches is how science-based and experience-based knowledge is harnessed for addressing development challenges. The basic premise is that the knowledge divide is at the root of the development divide.

At the current juncture wherein globalisation is at a crossroads and the economies worldwide, ravaged by the once-in-a-century pandemic and external shocks, consider strengthening the innovation system as a strategic approach towards building resilience. Evidently, there is an across-the-board drive among developing countries to transform their economies into innovation-driven knowledge economies. Such a transformation is often viewed as capable of building resilience by addressing many downsides of globalisation-induced high growth, like excessive exploitation of exhaustible resources and accentuated divides within and between countries. While such initiatives in India are manifested in Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), Digital India, Skill India, and Make in India, among others, in Kerala, the development strategy has been explicitly reoriented in terms of transforming the state to a knowledge economy. Against this background, Globelics revisits India for the 20th Globelics International conference with the chosen central theme *'Innovation-Driven Knowledge-Economies and Transformation in the Global South'*.

The 20th Anniversary of Globelics is also an occasion to celebrate the journey of Globelics from Brazil in 2003 to India in 2023 and its varied achievements. At the same time, it is also a forum for critically reflecting on our perspective and the approaches among other things in terms of its achievements and limits. This is especially important at the current juncture wherein there is growing disenchantment with the development experience under globalisation on the one hand and the need for

reimagining the innovation system in the COVID and post-COVID world towards building the much-needed resilience in the South. The selection of Kerala, known for its unique development experience (so-called Kerala Model of development), as the location for such deliberation could not have been more appropriate.

Globelics-India 2023 coincided with India's Presidency of G-20, which provides immense scope for translating the conference's outcomes into policy action. In the past two decades, we have observed the increasing presence of the Global South in shaping the paradigms and trajectories of the global development agenda—sustainability, climate change, pandemic, and energy security issues—all being closely linked to the research domains of the Globelics.

The 20th anniversary conference was organised in collaboration with Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), New Delhi, Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore (IIMB), Kerala Development and Innovation Strategic Council (K-DISC), and Digital University of Kerala (DUK) and the partnering institutions included Kerala State Higher Education Council (KSHEC), Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), Centre for Development Studies (CDS), Kerala Economic Association (KEA) and the Centre for Latin American Studies (CLAS) at Kerala University.

The conference invited submissions on the following tracks.

1. Science, technology, innovation: Theory and policy for a knowledge economy
2. Transformative innovation, responsible innovation and mission-oriented innovation
3. Knowledge-driven development of national, regional, local and sectoral innovation systems, including Agricultural innovation systems and rural development
4. Measurement of the knowledge economy: Indicators, data requirements, different approaches and methodologies

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5. Skilling for the knowledge economy: Industry-academy interaction, Intellectual property rights, open innovation and development
6. Industry 4.0 and development: Digitalization and automatization, productivity and employment implications, gig economy and quality of employment
7. Economic and social upgrading for sustainable Catch-up: trade policies, FDI, value chains and innovation networks in a knowledge-driven economy
8. Innovation for inclusive development: Indigenous knowledge, Grassroot innovations, Jugaad, informal economy, micro and small enterprises
9. Entrepreneurship, employability and gender dimension in innovation and development
10. The green economy and financing innovation: Low carbon innovations, environmental technologies and renewable energy

The conference had overwhelming response in terms of submissions. There were about 400 regular submissions of which 210 papers were selected. The conference, organized in nine parallel tracks, also included four plenary session, ten special sessions along with book presentations, excursions, and cultural events. The 20th-anniversary conference also had a pre-conference PhD workshop jointly organised with the support of the Young Scholars Initiative (YSI). In this workshop, 21 PhD scholars across the world participated, wherein their research papers were subjected to in-depth discussion under the mentorship of a senior scholar.

The conference was inaugurated by Shri Pinaryi Vijayan, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Kerala. The inauguration session was Chaired by Shri K N Balagopal, Hon'ble Minister for Finance, Government of Kerala and Chairman GIFT. Prof. Erika Kraemer-Mbula, president of Globelics delivered the Presidential lecture. Prof Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General RIS, Prof Rishiksha T Krishnan Director IIM-B and Prof K J Joseph Director GIFT also addressed the audience. The opening session on contextualizing the *conference: Innovation driven knowledge economies and*

transformation in the global south involved the special address delivered by Prof Bengt-Ake Lundvall, the founder of Globelics and Prof. T M Thomas Isaac former Minister for Finance, Government of Kerala and distinguished fellow GIFT. This session was chaired by Prof Luc Soete, UNU-MERIT, The Netherlands and Prof Judith Sutz, University of the Republic, Uruguay.

The conference keynote address was delivered by Prof. Ha-Joon Chang, SOAS London on *Rethinking the Role of Technology and Knowledge in Economic Development*. The Christopher Freeman lecture was delivered by Prof. Gabriela Dutrénit, Metropolitan Autonomous University, Mexico, on the *Coevolution of subsystems of society, innovation systems and development: What we have learned from Chris Freeman*.

The conference had four plenary sessions and ten special sessions

Plenary Sessions

Plenary 1: G20 and Knowledge-Driven Transformation in the Global South: New Perspectives from India's Presidency and Challenges

Plenary 2: 20 Years of Globelics: The Journey So Far and Future

Plenary 3: Innovation System for a Knowledge Economy: National, Sub-national Initiatives and Challenges for India

Plenary 4: Role of Knowledge in Addressing the Core Development Issues in South: Issues and Evidences

Special Sessions

1. Firm and Country Level Innovation Capabilities in Biological medicines: Differences That Matter
2. From Firm to Regional Capabilities: Economic Complexity for Development and Policy

3. Globelics Knowledge to Policy: beyond linear models
4. Opening Green Windows: Technological Opportunities in a low-carbon World
5. Explore the Dynamics of the Life Science Innovation System: When Global South meets North
6. Innovation System and the Development of Medical Diagnostics, Vaccines, and Pharmaceuticals in India: Lessons Learned from the COVID-19 Pandemic
7. Fintech and inclusive development
8. Policy, investment and activism for systemic transformation: Potential and barriers of Transformative Innovation Policy and Deep Transitions in Global South contexts
9. Steering STIs towards the Sustainable Development Goals: Debating Directions
10. The Importance of PhD Programs in advancing the field of Innovation and Development: experiences from the North and the South

Globelics Outreach Program

An innovative feature of this conference was that the eminent innovation scholars from different parts of the world delivered invited lectures and interacted with the faculty and students of all the universities and colleges in Kerala from Trivandrum to Kasaragod. They interacted with the faculty and students over there.

Webinar on Brazil-India Tax Expert Discussion: Evolving a Country Specific Tax system VAT/GST - 19 October 2023

In the discussion and interaction on ‘Evolving a Country Specific Tax system VAT/GST’, Co-Chairs of the session; Simone Maria, Advisor to the Ministry of Economy – National Treasury Attorney and Prof. K J Joseph, Director, GIFT welcomed the scholars from Brazilian Ministry and GIFT. Faculty, GIFT interacted with the Scholars.

Webinar on: Forest area as an indicator in the horizontal devolution formula of XV Finance Commission: “Is it a good proxy? – 27 October 2023

Prof. D Narayana, Former Director & Honorary Fellow GIFT and PhD batch 2023-24, GIFT, presented the paper. Shri C P John, Former member, Kerala State Planning Board chaired the session and Dr Renjith P S, Assistant Professor, GIFT discussed the paper. Prof. K J Joseph welcomed the participants.

Abstract : Since the XII Finance Commission, awards have been made to the states for conserving forests, a global public good. The measure adopted for allocating funds has been the forest area. Three arguments have been provided by the Finance Commissions for making the award, namely conservation cost, opportunity cost and cost disability. The Finance Commissions have taken forest area (very dense and moderately dense) as a proxy for capturing these costs. Consequently, around one-third of the total award goes to just three states, namely Arunachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh. The paper raises the important question of how appropriate is forest area as a proxy for the costs. It is seen that conservation cost or the cost of running a forest department by the state taken as equivalent to the staff strength, or revenue expenditure are poorly related to the forest area. The opportunity cost argument is difficult to justify as the mechanism of compensatory afforestation implemented through the Compensatory Afforestation Management and Planning Authority makes available resources for afforestation. It is seen that area afforested is more than that diverted despite poor utilization of funds allocated. Thirdly, the cost disability arising from the presence of forest area too does not hold as it does not increase in proportion to the forest area. Thus, the forest area-based award by the Finance Commissions suffers from severe infirmities and calls for a change. .

Webinar on: Public and Household Financing of Education in India: Are they Substitutes or Complements? – 24 November 2023

Dr Aswathy Rachel Vargheese, Assistant Professor, GIFT, presented the paper. Dr Indrajit Bairagya, Assistant Professor, ISEC, Bengaluru, chaired the session and Dr

Vachaspati Shukla, Assistant Professor, SPIESR, Ahmadabad discussed the paper. Prof. K J Joseph welcomed the participants.

Abstract: While the extant studies largely dealt with public and household education financing in separate compartments, the present study specifically investigates the nature of the relationship between both expenditures in India from 1987 to 2018 using National Sample Survey data at a macro level. Under the intertemporal utility maximization framework, the study estimates the degree of substitutability or complementarity between expenditures from an Auspitz Lieben Edgeworth Pareto (ALEP) sense. The empirical evidence suggests that in India, the expenditures are best explained as “complements”, wherein increased public spending on education, raises the marginal utility of household education expenditure. The empirical analysis using panel data estimates suggests robust results under linear and Cobb-Douglas forms of utility functions. As a policy input, the study suggests that household spending on education is guided by the quantity of public expenditure across states in India, implying the complementary nature of expenditures. Therefore, it is necessary to plug the loopholes in public education provisions in the country.

Webinar on Approaching the 16th Finance Commission- Managing Imbalances and Sensitivities – 01 December 2023

Shri R Mohan, Honorary Fellow, GIFT, presented the paper. Prof K J Joseph, Director, GIFT chaired the session. Dr N Ramalingam, Associate Professor, GIFT welcomed the participants.

Abstract: Finance Commissions are constituted every five years or earlier by the President as mandated in the Article 280 of the Constitution. The main functions of the Commission are to recommend a) the share of Union taxes to be distributed to the States, b) how the share is to be distributed among the States, c) distribution of grants-in-aid to States in need of assistance as required under Article 275 and d) to augment the Consolidated Fund of the States to supplement the resources of Panchayats and Municipalities. In short, the Commissions are to address the issues of fiscal imbalances between the Union and the States, called the vertical fiscal imbalances and

between the States, called the horizontal fiscal imbalances. Vertical fiscal imbalances are the consequence of a decision, which has its logic rooted in the public finance literature, which treats the basic functions of macroeconomic stability and distribution (implying taxes which have an implication on distribution of income like income tax) as that of the Federal Government or the Union and allocation as the functions of the tier of the government closest to the people. This distribution of revenue and expenditure functions results in vertical fiscal imbalances and it is this imbalance, that the Finance Commission tries to ameliorate through its recommendations. With rising share of surcharges and cesses and uniformity of tax rates after implementation of Goods and Services Tax (GST), the task has become more challenging for the Finance Commissions. The next task of the Finance Commission is to recommend a formula for distribution of taxes among the States. Here, the degrees of freedom of the Finance Commission is restricted through a Terms of Reference (ToR) issued through a Presidential notification, which is in effect by the Union Government. Here, the Commission is placed in a tough situation of having to balance equity and incentive criteria. Which should take prominence is also a question of debate among States and emergence of a consensus seems difficult. In view of the restricted degrees of freedom in devising formula for distribution of tax revenue, which can satisfy the States, which are experiencing divergence in per capita income, it is felt that the distribution of resources through Article 275 to the States in need assumes more importance. In practise, these grants have been classified as revenue deficit grants, though constitutionally they have a wider scope. The 16th Finance Commission will face a challenging task and the approach of the States will have to factor in the emphasising of their needs and recognising the sensibilities of a federal setup.

The Seventh IS Gulati Memorial Lecture conducted by GIFT on 04 December 2023

Prof Deepak Nayyar, Emeritus professor, JNU & Former Vice Chancellor, University of Delhi, delivered the Lecture on the topic ‘A World Order in Crisis and Transition: Thinking ahead about its future’. Prof KJ Joseph, Director, GIFT, welcomed the

participants. The session was chaired by Prof T M Thomas Isaac, Former Finance Minister and Distinguished Fellow, GIFT.

Abstract: The object of this lecture is to analyze the world order that was put in place at the end of the Second World War, and examine how it has unfolded in terms of experience since then. It is clear that, 75 years later, this international order is under stress in what could be described as multiple quiet crises. The question that arises is whether this world order is sustainable. The transition will inevitably be prolonged and the outcome is bound to be uncertain. The structure of the lecture is as follows. First, it will sketch the broad contours of change, which reflect shifts in the balance of economic power in the world, to set the stage before the play begins. Second, it will analyze the evolution of the present world order since it came into existence. Third, it will highlight some manifestations of the crises in the existing world order. Fourth, in thinking ahead, it will pose four questions about where we might be in 2050 and endeavour to provide answers.

GIFT & KEA association

The 20th Anniversary GLOBELICS International Conference has been organised during 11-14th October 2023 at Gulati Institute of Finance and Taxation Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala on the theme of "Innovation-driven Knowledge Economies and Transformation in the Global South". The KEA was a partnering organisation of the conference and as a part of the outreach programme of Globelics, nine lectures were conducted during the preceding and succeeding days of the conference at various University centres and colleges to disseminate the latest research findings connected with the topic by leading scholars from foreign universities.

The first lecture was organised jointly by departments of Economics of University College, Govt College for Women & Government Arts College, Thiruvananthapuram on 10th October 2023. The lecture was delivered by Prof Michiko Iizuka, Professor at the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS) in Tokyo, Japan on the topic Science, Technology, Innovation and Policy.

The second lecture was organised by the Department of Economics & Inter University Centre for Alternative Economics (IUCAE), University of Kerala on 10th October 2023. The lecture was delivered by Prof Susan E. Cozzens Professor Emerita, School of Public Policy, Georgia Tech on the topic "Inequality and STI Policies".

The third lecture was organised by the KN Raj School of Economics, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam on 16th October 2023. The lecture was delivered by Prof. Hideki Esho, Faculty of Economics, Hosei University, Tokyo on "Continuity and Discontinuity of Kerala Model of Development".

The fourth lecture was organised by the Dept of Economics Maharaja's College Ernakulam in association with Dept of Economics, St Teresa's College, Ernakulam.

The keynote address was delivered by Dr Manuel Gonzalo, Professor-Researcher National University of Quilmes (UNQ)-National University of Chilecito (UNdeC), Argentina on "India's Long Term Parth of Development: A Latin American Understanding" on 16th October 2023.

The fifth lecture was St Teresa's College (Autonomous), Ernakulam in association with Dept of Economics, Maharajas College Ernakulam on 17th October, 2023. The lecture was delivered by Dr Manuel Gonzalo, Professor-Researcher National University of Quilmes (UNQ)-National University of Chilecito (UNdeC), Argentina. on " Bangalore's IT Entrepreneurial Ecosystem : A Systemic and Evolutionary understanding from Latin America". .

The sixth lecture was organised jointly by Department of Economics and Department of Social Work, Department of Statistics & Social Action Club St. Thomas College (Autonomous), Thrissur on 18th October 2023. The lecture was delivered by Prof Rasmus Lema, United Nations University, Maastricht on "Green Windows of Opportunity".

The seventh lecture was organised by Department of Economics, Farook College (Autonomous), Kozhikode on 16th October 2023. The lecture was delivered by Prof. Mammo Muchie, DST/NRF Research Professor, Faculty of Management Sciences, Tshwane University of Technology, South Africa on "Growth and Development with Sustainable Development Innovation System".

The eighth lecture was organised by Department of Economics, Kannur University on 16th October 2023. The lecture was delivered by Prof Carlos Bianchi, Institute of Economics (IECON), Faculty of Economic Sciences and Administration, University of the Republic of Uruguay on "Firms Innovation Strategies & Twin Transition Processes".

The ninth lecture was organised by Department of Economics, KMM Government Women's College Kannur in association with SN College Kannur, Payyannur College Payyannur on 16th October 2023 at 02:00 pm. The lecture was delivered by Prof Carlos Bianchi, Institute of Economics (IECON), Faculty of Economic Sciences and Administration, University of the Republic of Uruguay on "Firms Innovation Strategies & Twin Transition Processes".

Prof. M. Kunhaman commemorative meeting and round table discussion on the limitations of Kerala model of economic development.

The programme was inaugurated by Former Health Minister Mrs. Shailaja Teacher. While delivering the keynote speech she discussed the shortcomings of the Kerala development model. She said that Kerala should seriously consider the ideas presented by Prof Kunhaman to overcome the shortcomings. The issues raised by him regarding the distribution of wealth, knowledge and power can help overcome the limitations of the Kerala development model.

In the context of the current financial crisis that Kerala is facing, prominent economist Prof. Prabhat Patnaik said that the problems related to land ownership raised by Kunhaman are valid. In the national situation where the concentration of resources and political power is gaining momentum, Kerala is forced to find domestic

solutions. Efforts should be made to utilize the potential of plantation sector where land reform is not implemented. Prof. Patnaik also opined that the land ownership problem of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes, who have been denied the right to agricultural land, should be resolved.

Former minister Shri Pandalam Sudhakaran said that Kunhaman's life experiences and studies show that caste discrimination continues to be strong in Kerala society. He also highlighted that Prof Kunhaman will continue as a strong presence in the discussions on Kerala development.

In the round table discussion that followed, the questions and concerns raised by Prof Kunhaman regarding the Kerala development model were analysed. Issues related to the implementation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes sub-schemes were discussed by various subject experts in the light of studies. Dr. Raviraman (Planning Board Member), Prof. Sivanandan (CDS), Prof S Harikumar (University of Kochi), Dr Mathew Kurien (MG University), Prof Mohankumar (Director, Institute of Public Policy), L. Anithakumari (Gulati Institute), Josephine J (Planning Board), Dr Abhilash T. (CDS), Prof Manju S Nair and Prof. Anita V, Dr Christabell, and Siddique Rabiath (all from Kerala University) participated in the discussion. Kerala Economic Association President Prof. KN Harilal chaired the discussion and Prof KJ Joseph (Director, Gulati Institute) moderated the discussion. Santosh T Varghese, General Secretary of Kerala Economic Association welcomed the event and Prof. Godwin SK, Treasurer offered vote of thanks.

B. Teaching and Training programmes

1. Post Graduate Diploma in GST (PGDGST)

PGD-GST 2022–23 Batch - Convocation

A total of 150 learners from the 2022–23 batch (5th batch) and 18 learners from previous batches appeared for the examination conducted during June and July 2023.

Out of 168 students, 11 obtained distinctions, 99 obtained first class, and 30 passed. The convocation ceremony for the distribution of training certificates, mark sheets, and diploma certificates was conducted on October 31, 2023, at the conference hall of GIFT. The credentials were distributed to the successful learners by GIFT Director Professor K. J. Joseph. Members of the academic wing, administrative wing, and Ph.D. Scholars have participated in the programme.

PGD-GST 2023-24: Batch - Ongoing

The training for the sixth batch (academic year 2023–24) of PGD-GST started in July 2023. The training consists of theoretical and practical sessions to equip the students to understand and comply with various provisions in the CGST/SGST/IGST Acts, Rules & Forms, and Accounting. A total of 210 students have joined the course. The training sessions are conducted all weekend (Saturdays and Sundays). Special sessions were conducted on Wednesday. Till December 31, 135 hours of training programmes were completed. It is proposed to complete the training programme by March 15, 2024, and conduct the examination in May 2024. The faculty members who handled the sessions are Dr Vidya V Devan, Dr Meenu Mohan, Smt. Jenny Thekkekara, Smt, Anith Kumary, Dr Thomas Joseph and Dr N Ramalingam

Course Co-ordinator: Dr. N Ramalingam

For more details: <https://www.gift.res.in/index.php/course/detail/14/PGD-GST>

2. PhD programme

The activities in PhD programme during October, November and December 2023 are listed below.

The registration for the fifth batch of 10 PhD scholars were completed by October 2023. The foundation courses a) Mathematics for Applied Research and b) Introduction to Concepts, Techniques & Data for Research were launched by Prof Viajayamohanan Pillai and Prof D Narayana for the fifth batch respectively. The scholars from the fourth batch did the second round of their PhD presentation on 8th

December,2023. The scholars received feedback from the faculty during the course of the presentation. The six-monthly presentation for the first three batches were conducted between 5-7 December,2023, where the scholars presented their work progress.

Suha A. M, PhD Scholar, GIFT published a paper titled “An analysis of asymmetric effect of federal transfers across Indian states” in the Journal of Public Affairs, along with Anoop S Kumar and Renjith P. S.

Jerome George , PhD Scholar, GIFT presented a paper titled “Do digital payments enhance tax revenue? Evidence from India” at Globelics International Conference, 2023, Gulati Institute of Finance and Taxation, October 11-14, 2023.

Lekshmi Prasad , PhD Scholar, GIFT presented a paper titled “The Impact of FinTech on Financial Inclusion: A Cross-country Analysis” at Globelics International Conference, 2023, Gulati Institute of Finance and Taxation, October 11-14, 2023”

Shagishna K, PhD Scholar, GIFT delivered an invited talk on the topic ‘Financial Inclusion and Muslims in India’ in the Conference on Finance and Economy in India, 2023 titled “Measuring Recovery”, organised by Centre for Financial Accountability, Economic Research Foundation, and Focus on the Global South on 29th and 30th November, 2023 at Jawahar Bhavan, New Delhi.

Shagishna K was invited as a Resource Person for the orientation session on Economics for First Year Undergraduate (UG) and Postgraduate (PG) students on October 20, 2023 at Govt. Brennen College, affiliated to Kannur University, Kerala, India.

Course Coordinators: Prof. K J Joseph and Dr Anoop S Kumar

3. Research Capacity Building Programme (RCBP)

GIFT in collaboration with Kerala State Higher Education Council (KSHEC) jointly announced the commencement of the Research Capacity Building Programme (RCBP) 2023-24 in view of our collective vision to make meaningful interventions towards enhancing cognitive skills and quality of research, teaching and learning outcomes.

The certificate program, RCBP, is designed to meet the needs of researchers and teachers, offering 60 hours of immersive teaching, serving as an engaging platform, both offline and online, to enhance their research capabilities.

The RCBP curriculum consists of (i) Introduction to Social Science Research: An Interdisciplinary Perspective, (ii) Research Methods, Statistical Analysis and Basic Econometrics (iii) Data Structure, Data Processing and Databases for Research (iv) Data Analytics for Research with R, (v) Extensions and Basic Research Methods and (vi) Qualitative Research, Academic Writing and Research Ethics. The program is envisioned to operate in a hybrid mode with 36 hours conducted offline and the remaining 24 hours delivered online.

The last date for applying to the program is 5th February 2024 and for more details, please refer the detailed notification in the GIFT website.

Course Co-ordinator: Dr. P S Renjith

C. New Faculty at GIFT

Dr Aswathy Rachel Varughese

Aswathy Rachel Varughese is an Assistant Professor of Public Finance at the Gulati Institute of Finance and Taxation in Thiruvananthapuram. Holding a Ph.D. in Development Studies from the Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC), Bangalore, her research focuses on Education Financing, the Economics of Education,

Macroeconomics, and Applied Econometrics. Her work has been published in prestigious journals like Structural Change and Economic Dynamics, International Journal of Educational Development, Indian Economic Review, and Economic and Political Weekly. She is also a contributor of opinion articles to national dailies and has presented her research at esteemed national and international conferences. Prior to her current role, she served as an Economist-Manager at Canara Bank, Bangalore, and held academic positions at Cochin University of Science and Technology and Christ University, Bangalore.

Dr Meenu Mohan

Dr. Meenu Mohan, Assistant Professor, Assistant Professor of Law holds her Ph.D Degree from Department of Law, University of Kerala and has successfully completed her Post Doctoral Fellowship in Law from the National University of Advanced Legal Studies (NUALS), Kochi. Her research areas primarily focus on taxation laws, medical laws, human rights etc. Her articles and research papers are published in a number of national and international journals and edited books and has authored a book entitled “Interstate Migrant Workers in Kerala: Health Safety and Access to Medical Treatment” published by the National University of Advanced Legal Studies (NUALS), Kochi in 2022. Prior to joining this institution, she was an Assistant Professor in Kerala Law Academy, Thiruvananthapuram.

Dr Shamna Thachaparamban

Shamna Thachaparmban is Assistant Professor of Public Finance at the Gulati Institute of Finance and Taxation in Thiruvananthapuram. She holds her Ph.D in Economics from the University of Calicut. Her doctoral research deals with state finances of Kerala, its trends and patterns, electoral and partisan determinants on expenditure, revenue and intergovernmental transfers, inter-temporal relationships of fiscal variables and fiscal sustainability, which will give an additional explanation to

state finances and an alternative explanation for electoral political budget cycle. Her research papers are published in national and international journals. She has also presented her research papers at several national and international seminars. Her research interests focused on development economics and public finance.

Dr. Sumalatha B S

Dr. Sumalatha B S is an Assistant Professor, Public Finance at the Gulati Institute of Finance and Taxation (GIFT), Thiruvananthapuram. She has done per Ph.D degree in Economics from Madras Institute of Development Studies (MIDS), Chennai. Prior to joining GIFT, she worked as Assistant Professor at the Department of Economics, Central University of Tamil Nadu, and Guest faculty at the Department of Economics, Central University of Kerala. Her research areas include development economics, macroeconomics, agricultural economics and other Indian economic issues. She has published research papers in different journals and edited books. She has also presented research papers in various international and national conferences and seminars. Her research projects are funded by the National Commission for Women and National Human Rights Commission

Dr. Vidya V Devan

Dr. Vidya V Devan, Assistant Professor in Law, holds her Ph.D. Degree from Mahatma Gandhi University Kottayam. Secured her LLB from Government Law College Kozhikode. Completed LLM (Taxation) with the second rank from Government Law College Kozhikode, Calicut University. Her research areas primarily focus on Goods and Services Tax. Qualified UGC NET in 2010. She has many articles and research papers published in national and international journals. She has presented her papers at various national and international seminars and conferences. Previous employment- Assistant Labour Officer Grade II, Labour Department, Government of Kerala, Associate Professor at Bharata Mata School of

Legal Studies, Choondi, Aluva, Assistant Professor (FIP) at Government Law College, Ernakulam.

D. Publications

1. Kerala Tax Reporter (KTR)

September, October and November 2023 issues of KTR published Online and offline.

<https://www.gift.res.in/ktr>

2. Innovation and Development

A Routledge journal from GIFT, Volume 13, No. 3 (2023) published, Editor in Chief, K J Joseph.

For details, please visit <https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/riad20/current>

3. Weekly update on Finance, Taxation and the Indian Economy

This is an attempt by the Young Scholar' Forum in GIFT, led by Dr. Shency Mathew to update on important developments on Finance, Taxation and the Indian economy. Twelve issues of Weekly updates published during October to December 2023 which are available in GIFT Website. Latest issue: 23-29 December 2023.

For details, please visit

https://www.gift.res.in/index.php/publish/publish_list/14/Weekly-Updates-on-Finance