Centre for Development Studies

Thiruvananthapuram

Special Drive Admission for candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST) categories - MA Programme in Applied Economics 2025-26

Prospectus

Centre for Development Studies (CDS) invites applications from candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST) for admission to its MA programme in Applied Economics 2025-26.

1. About CDS

Centre for Development Studies(CDS)is an autonomous research centre sponsored by the Government of Kerala and the Indian Council of Social Science Research(ICSSR). CDS was set up at Thiruvananthapuram under the intellectual leadership of Prof. K.N. Raj in 1970 with the mission of promoting research, teaching, and training in disciplines relevant to development. The Centre is internationally known for its research in applied economics and topics germane to development economics.

CDS has been running two regular programmes- MA in Applied Economics, and Doctoral Programme in Economics. Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi awards the degree of these programmes.

2. About the Programme

MA Applied Economics at CDS is a unique programme aiming at providing rigorous training in theory, tools and methods for applied economic analysis, with a special focus on issues of economic development.

Selected MA students will join a vibrant research community at CDS, comprising faculty, research scholars and visitors, working on various facets of development with an inter-disciplinary perspective. The programme aims to equip the students in academia, government, national and international development agencies, research institutions, the corporate sector and the media. The student body organizes a placement facility with the active cooperation of the Centre.

3. Course Structure

Students are required to complete sixteen courses in four semesters. Each course carries four credits. Of the16 courses, nine courses are compulsory and the remaining seven can be chosen from a list of optional courses listed below. One of compulsory courses in the third semester is a project that allows the students to apply the theory, methods and tools learned in other courses on an economic issue under faculty supervision. It is important to note that all optional courses listed below may not be offered every year.

Compulsory Courses

AE101: Fundamentals of Microeconomic Theory
AE102: Fundamentals of Macroeconomic Theory
AE103: Mathematical Methods
AE104: Statistics
AE105: Econometric Methods
AE106: Economic Development
AE107: International Economics
AE108: Indian Economic Development
AE208: Project

Optional Courses (at least 7 courses from the list below)

AE201: Public Economics
AE202: Industrial Organisation
AE203: Topics in Trade and Development
AE204: Economicsof Technology and Innovation
AE205: Population and Development
AE206: History of Economic Thought
AE207: Economic History of Modern India
AE209: Environment and Sustainable Development
AE210: Gender and Development
AE211: Labour and Development
AE212: Law, Economics and Development
AE213: Issues in Indian Agriculture
AE214: Issues in Indian Industry
AE215: Political Economy, Development and Governance
AE216: Economics of Project Evaluation
AE217: Behavioral Economics
AE218: Macroeconomic Stabilization in Open Economies
AE219: Financial Programming

4. Eligibility

- Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST) candidates are eligible to apply irrespective of the percentage of marks secured in the bachelor's degree.
- Those who are appearing for their final examination may also apply. They should submit the final mark sheets of the qualifying examination at the time of registration.

5. Fees

For students belonging to SC/ST/PWD category, tuition fee is Rs. 3300 each in the first & second semester and Rs.3630 each in the third & fourth semester. There is one-time JNU Enrolment cum Registration fee of Rs. 10115, Gym Fee of Rs.236 and miscellaneous charges of Rs. 500.

6. Scholarships and Prizes

MA students with an annual family income of less than 2 lakh and who secures a grade point average of 7 or more in all semesters would be offered (i) Semester fee waiver, (ii) Free hostel accommodation and (iii) Free Basic Cafeteria meals. However the semester fee for the first semester cannot be waved off. This fee waiver facility is available from second semester onwards and to avail this, eligible students have to apply in each semester.

There are also two prestigious cash prizes for those securing the highest marks in the quantitative subjects and the overall course, known respectively as the *M.G Kanbur Prize* and the *Joan Robinson Prize.*

7. Hostel Facilities

Hostel facility will be given based on availability on a shared basis. There are hostels for men and women on the campus. All rooms have attached bath and are modestly furnished. All hostel residents are expected to have their meals at the cafeteria where simple and nutritious food is served.

8. Library and Computing Facilities

The Centre has one of the finest libraries in social sciences in the country. It has a total collection of over 1,50,000 titles in Economics and allied social sciences and subscribes to over 3,500 journals available online to faculty and students. Further, it has Wi-Fi enabled campus, including the student hostels and has a good collection of all leading econometric softwares.

9. Admission

Candidates having minimum eligibility criteria as per the prospectus and qualified in the any of the CUET in Economics/ Development and Labour Studies/Social Sciences/ Management/ Commerce (Test Codes : COQP10, COQP01, COQP04, COQP07, COQP08, COQP12, COQP19, SCQP01, SCQP19, SCQP27, HUQP02, HUQP06, HUQP18, HUQP22 etc), GATE Economics, or any other national level competitive exams can apply. The selection will be based on a shortlisting and scores in the personal interview of the shortlisted candidates.

10. How to Apply

Candidates can either directly fill the application form in MS Word format or they can fill the printout of the form and then scan it. The filled-up Application Form and relevant exam score card are to be emailed to admissionma@cds.edu on or before **August 20, 2025 (3 p.m.)**. There is no need to attach copies of any other certificates. Application fee is exempted.

11.Jurisdiction clause

Any disputes arising in connection with the admission process shall be subjected to the exclusive jurisdiction of the Kerala High Court. This prospectus is subject to modification/addition/deletion as may be deemed necessary by the Centre from time to time.

Candidates are advised to keep checking our website for the latest updates about admission related matters. For any queries or additional information please contact Academic Programme Office on Tel: 0471 2774253/4 during office hours (9 AM to 5 PM) or write to us (admissionma@cds.edu)