



SC/ ST CELL

CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala  
(Under the aegis of Govt. of Kerala & ICSSR, Govt. of India)

## WEBINAR

### Third Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Memorial Event

#### Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's Perspective of Economic Development for India and its Relevance



#### PRESENTER

**Prof. G. Nancharaiah**

Emeritus Professor at the Department of Economics,  
University of Hyderabad

#### MODERATOR

**Dr. ThiaguRanganathan**

Associate Professor, CDS



Friday, the 16<sup>th</sup> of April 2021 at 3.30 PM

URL for the event : <a href="https://bit.ly/31s36TB">https://bit.ly/31s36TB</a>	
Meeting number : 182 517 6450	Password : CDS1234

#### ABSTRACT:

Ambedkar believed that the state has to play crucial role in restructuring the society under democratic polity and the foundations of democracy would be feeble and shaky if there is no social and economic democracy consistent with political democracy. Dr. Ambedkar opined that the existing social and economic institutions particularly caste and land tenure system in India were not conducive for accelerating economic development with social justice and emphasized the need for removing the social and economic inequalities as pre-condition for stable democracy and rapid economic development with justice.

After the attainment of Independence India adopted national economic policy with the primary objective of growth with justice. Self-reliance was one of the important objectives of planning besides expansion of employment and removal of poverty. India like other developing countries has given priority to import substitution as an effective means of industrialization. State was expected to steer the engine of growth and public sector was assigned a crucial role in the process of industrial development. All the basic and heavy industries were supposed to be under the control of public sector. However in the context of 1991 BOP crises the economic policy of India has been liberalised emphasizing on privatization and globalization. In this context the views of Dr. Ambedkar on various aspects of Indian economy merit serious discussion.

This lecture attempts to analyze the Dr. Ambedkar's views on caste and its economic implications, monetary and fiscal systems, exchange rate and trade, Indian agriculture and his plan of economic development and examines their relevance for contemporary India.

#### Prof. G. Nancharaiah

Prof. G. Nancharaiah was born on 4th April, 1950, in a farmer's family in a small village in Krishna district of Andhra Pradesh, India. He was Emeritus Professor at School of Economics, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad for five years (2015-2020). He was the Chairman, IV State Finance Commission, Amaravati, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh for two years during February, 2017 to December, 2019. He was ICSSR National Fellow during 2015-17 at School of Economics, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad. He obtained his M.A. and Ph.D. in Economics from Andhra University. He has taught Post-Graduate students during the last 45 years at different Universities. He worked as a Professor of International Economics at University of Bombay for about two years during 1991 -1993. He was the Head of the Department of Economics at University of Hyderabad for about 3 years during 1999-2002. He was the Dean of School of Social Sciences, University of Hyderabad for 3 years during 2009 - 2012. He was the Dean of School of Economics, University of Hyderabad for 2 ½ years during 2012 to 2015. He was the Director of Academic Staff College, University of Hyderabad for about 4 years during 1993 to 1997. He was the Vice-Chancellor of Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar Central University, Lucknow for five years during 2002 to 2007.

He has been working in the areas of International Economics, Agricultural Economics, and Developmental Economics & Dr. Ambedkar's Economic Thought for his research. He was a Fulbright scholar under Indo-US Exchange Programme and worked at University of California, Berkeley, USA in 1990. He authored a book entitled "Land and Caste" (1988). He edited a book on 'Economic Reforms and Rural Development in India' (2003). He published a good number of research papers in the professional journals. He has also produced a good number of Ph.D. Degrees.

He served as a Member of Research Council, Management Committee & Governing Body of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar National Institute of Social Sciences, Mhow during 1994- 1999. He was a Member of the Executive Council of North-Eastern Hill University, Shillong. He was a Member of Board of Governors of Giri Institute of Development Studies, Lucknow. He was the Chairman of various NAAC Peer Committees. He was a Member of Agriculture Commission appointed by Government of Andhra Pradesh (2004). He was the Chairman/ Member of various expert committees of UGC, New Delhi. He was a Member of the Executive Council of Central University of Bihar. He was a Member of the Executive Council of University of Hyderabad. He was also a member of the High Level Committee constituted by the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (MCAFPD), GoI, for restructuring the Food Corporation of India.

#### Dr. Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar (1891 – 1956) "I like the religion that teaches liberty, equality and fraternity"



Baba Saheb, as he is fondly known among his supporters, was born on the 14<sup>th</sup> of April 1891. He was an Indian jurist, economist, politician and a social reformer.

Baba Saheb is considered as the builder of modern India. He fought persistently to build a society which was based on democratic ideals of liberty, equality and fraternity. He attempted to

build a new social order, which was based on social liberation and economic prosperity. He believed that economic and social justice and political freedom were important to bring about social harmony. The demolition of the four-fold classification of *Varnas* as promoted by Hindu scriptures was his first step towards the attainment of social harmony and nation building.

The Indian constitution is principally the handiwork of Baba Saheb. It contains almost all the important aspects of his beliefs. As the Chairman of the Drafting Committee of India's Constitution, he was the principal architect of humanist and liberal social order. He encouraged all-round welfare of the people, including the poor and the untouchables, for the continuation of our civilization and its further development. He formulated the constitutional structures meant to do away with all discriminatory behaviour associated with religion, caste and creed and laid down the basis for a democratic egalitarian society.

Along with the liberation of the Dalits, Baba Saheb worked towards empowering women. Baba Saheb asserts the following – "***I measure the progress of a community by the degree of progress which women have achieved***". He played crucial role in women's right movement and passing of the Hindu Code Bills (which included the right of women to divorce, the right to inheritance to daughters and the right of widows to equal property rights). He wanted women to have a higher participation in all walks of life particularly in the political arena. He framed numerous pieces of legislations to protect and safeguard the interests of women. He argued that "it is in the interest of the nation that the mother ought to get a certain amount of rest ...". This led to the passing of Protection Act for women, children and working mothers as well as basic rights for mine and factory workers as early as 1938. Thus, at each step, Baba Saheb challenged the deep-rooted patriarchal foundations of the Indian society and helped draft a Constitution which has stood the test of time.

RSVP

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