



MANGALORE UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Organise

**TWO –DAY
NATIONAL CONFERENCE
ON
RURAL EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE
SCHEME: GOVERNANCE REFORMS,
RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND
INCLUSIVE GROWTH IN THE VISION
OF VIKSIT BHARATH**

**SPONSORED BY
ICSSR (MINISTRY OF HRD - GOVT
OF INDIA)**

Date: 23rd and 24th October 2026

VENUE

**Mangala Auditorium
Mangalagangothri, Konaje
Karnataka, India - 574199**

<https://www.mangaloreuniversity.ac.in/>

About Mangalore University

Mangalore University is located on a picturesque hillock, spread over 353 acres of land at Mangalagangothri, which is around 20 km to the southeast of the historic coastal town of Mangaluru, in Karnataka, India. The University has set the tone for educational endeavours in the three districts under its jurisdiction. It has a pleasing campus and secured the 4th place in the country and 179th place globally in the 2024 UI GreenMetric World University Rankings. The University has grown from a modest postgraduate centre of the University of Mysore to become an independent university in 1980.

The University has excellent infrastructure facilities such as a university library, mangala auditorium, guest houses, a cyber lab, sports facilities, and hostels for men and women. There are two national research facilities, namely the Microtron Centre and the Ocean & Atmospheric Science and Technology Cell.

About the Department of Commerce

Department of Postgraduate Studies and Research in Commerce was established in 1969 as part of the PG Centre of the University of Mysore. It became an integral part of Mangalore University since 1980. The department offers M. Com, M. Com (HRD), and Ph.D. programs. It engages in research activities that address the problems of this region.

Nearly sixteen colleges affiliated with the University offer M. Com courses, and the Department of Commerce extends its assistance to these colleges. The M. Com (HRD) course is a super speciality course with a major focus on Human Resource Management and Development. The thrust areas of research in the department are commerce, banking, human resource development and management, finance, small business management, marketing management, rural development, entrepreneurship, international trade, and many more.

Background of the Conference

Since Independence, rural development policies in India have focused on reducing poverty, improving agricultural productivity, and creating employment for surplus and underemployed rural labour. Wage employment programmes have gradually evolved as key instruments for supporting rural livelihoods while also strengthening basic infrastructure, with approaches adapting to changing socio-economic conditions. Rural employment has been a cornerstone of India's social protection framework for nearly two decades. Since its enactment in 2005, the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) has played a key role in providing wage employment, stabilizing rural incomes and creating basic infrastructure. The experience under MGNREGA also highlighted the critical role of field-level staff, who ensured the continuity and scale of implementation despite limited administrative resources and staffing. However, alongside these gains, deeper structural issues persisted. These trends indicated that while delivery systems improved, the overall architecture of MGNREGA had reached its limits.

Over time, the structure and objectives of rural India have evolved significantly. Rising incomes, expanded connectivity, widespread digital penetration and diversified livelihoods have altered the nature of rural employment needs. As rural livelihoods become more diversified and digitally integrated, the open-ended, demand-driven design of MGNREGA no longer fully aligns with contemporary rural realities. The Viksit Bharat Guarantee for Rozgar and Aajeevika Mission Gramin Act respond to this context through a comprehensive legislative reset. The Viksit Bharat–Guarantee for Rozgar and Aajeevika Mission (Gramin) Bill, 2025, commonly referred to as VB-GRAMG, is a major rural development legislation passed by the Indian Parliament in December 2025 and given Presidential assent in December 2025. It replaces the long-standing Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), 2005, with a revamped rural employment and livelihood security framework aligned to the national vision of Viksit Bharat 2047.

CALL FOR PAPERS

Academicians, practitioners, research scholars, and students are invited to submit their abstracts (not exceeding 200 words) or full papers (not exceeding 3000 words) on the main themes, sub-themes, or any related topic to the conference or Commerce and Management. The paper contributors are requested to submit full papers in MS Word format, using Times New Roman, font size 12, and line spacing 1.5. References should follow the APA citation style.

Abstract Submission Guidelines: The abstract must include a clear indication of the research purpose, methodology, major results, implications, and keywords. Additionally, the sub-theme of the conference should be clearly stated.

Full Paper Submission Guidelines: The front page of the full paper should contain the author (s) 'names, affiliation/organization, email address, and contact number. All tables and figures should be numbered and included within the corresponding text with appropriate captions.

Review Process: All submitted papers will undergo a double-blind review process, where papers will be evaluated based on originality, relevance, applicability, and contribution.

Students' Conclave: Best Paper Awards will be presented separately for students. Papers submitted within the given deadlines only shall be considered for this award. Papers sent in absentia are not considered for the Best Paper Award.

All correspondence regarding submissions shall be addressed to the first author. Abstracts and full papers should be sent via email to the Organising Secretary commerceconf26@gmail.com

Important Dates

Submission of Abstract: **1st October 2026**

Submission of Full Paper: **15th October 2026**

Last date for Registration: **20th October 2026**

Conference Dates: **23rd and 24th October 2026**

Registration Details

All participants are required to register for the conference on or before 20th October 2026. Registration is per author per paper basis. After completing the registration through the link, please join the WhatsApp group to receive further updates. The details of Bank for transferring prescribed fee is as follows:

SCAN & PAY



UPI ID: commerce@abi

Account Number : 10094967371

Account Name : Chairman, Commerce Association

IFSC : SBIN0008034

Bank : State Bank of India

Branch : Mangalagangothri

Registration Link:

<https://forms.gle/XZy2pnCwdHfUuceX6>

For More Details Contact:

1) Dr Azizuddin Sultani Ph: 6361884366

2) Ms Karishma K Ph: 9632290274

Registration Fee

Sl. No.	Category of Delegates	Fees without accommodation
		INR/ \$
1	Academicians/ Research Scholars	200.00/ \$15
2	Students (UG & PG)	100.00
3	In-absentia - For all	250.00

The contributors are encouraged to develop papers bearing the form of conceptual, empirical and case studies on the theme and sub-themes but not necessarily limited to them. The paper should not have been published nor be under consideration for publication elsewhere.

Conference Themes / Sub-Themes

- G-RAM-G Act: Conceptual Framework and Legislative Perspective
- Rural employment and livelihood
- Role of Panchayati Raj Institutions in Good Governance
- Digital Governance and Smart Rural India
- Rural Infrastructure, MSMEs, and Employment Generation
- Financial Inclusion, SHGs, and Cooperative Institutions

Recent Developments in the field of

- Financial Market, Financial Products, Digital Financial Infrastructure, Financial Services, Digital India, Skill India
- HRM, HRD, AI Tools
- Digital Marketing Management
- Digital Banking
- Insurance and Risk Management
- International Business
- Corporate Social Responsibility and Governance

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Ph: 7411735203

You are invited to contribute valuable insights and actively participate in making this International Conference an academically enriching conflux.

ALL ARE CORDIALLY INVITED