TWO-DAY NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON GST 2.0 REFORMS: VISION FOR VIKSIT BHARAT @ 2047

20 - 21 AUGUST 2026 | NIT ROURKELA

Organised by

Department of Humanities and Social Sciences
National Institute of Technology Rourkela

In collaboration with

Indian Council of Social Science Research
(ICSSR)

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

The National Conference on *"GST 2.0 Reforms: Vision for Viksit Bharat @ 2047"* seeks to provide a comprehensive platform for examining the transformative role of Goods and Services Tax (GST) in shaping India's evolving economic landscape. As India advances towards the vision of *Viksit Bharat*, the conference focuses on how GST reforms can shape MSME competitiveness, digitalisation, and contribute to broad-based economic transformation. In this context, the conference will also analyse how GST facilitates or constrains innovation in MSMEs and startups, and suggest policy measures to promote innovativeness and sustainability of startups. The conference will explore sectoral dimensions of GST across manufacturing, energy, services, healthcare, and e-commerce, while also highlighting regional disparities and fiscal dynamics. Special attention will be given to the interplay between Central GST (CGST) and State GST (SGST), examining variations in tax structures and revenue flows across states. In addition, the conference will address the complexities of integrating the informal economy within the GST framework, identifying both challenges and emerging opportunities. By fostering interdisciplinary dialogue among academics, policymakers, and practitioners, the conference aims to generate evidence-based insights and actionable policy recommendations to strengthen the GST regime and support India's long-term development trajectory towards *Viksit Bharat @ 2047*.

ABOUT NIT ROURKELA

National Institute of Technology Rourkela, an institute of national importance, is one of the premier national level institutions for technical education in the country and is funded by the Government of India. With a vision to become an internationally acclaimed institution of higher learning that will serve as a source of knowledge and expertise for the society and be a preferred destination for undergraduate and graduate studies, NIT Rourkela has been constantly striving to serve the society since its very inception in 1961. At present, it is ranked #99 in QS Southern Asia University Rankings (2026), #396 in QS ASIA University Rankings (2026), #34 in NIRF Overall category (2025), and is steadily progressing to achieve all the epitomes of world level recognitions.

ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT

The Department of Humanities and Social Sciences has been functioning as a full-fledged department catering to both undergraduate and postgraduate students. The faculty has wide experience in teaching and research and in communicating with students of diverse backgrounds. The Department offers a full-time PhD programme in the disciplines of Economics, Anthropology, Sociology, Psychology, and English; an MA Programme in Development Studies; and also offers compulsory open electives to undergraduate and postgraduate students of the institute.
For more details, visit www.nitrkl.ac.in

CALL FOR PAPERS

Original, unpublished abstracts and full papers are invited for presentation at the conference. Submissions should align with the broad themes of the conference; however, contributions addressing allied and interdisciplinary areas relevant to GST reforms and economic policy are also encouraged. Indicative broad thematic areas are as follows:

Theme 1: GST structure, competitiveness and economic transformation
Theme 2: GST reforms and sectoral impacts
Theme 3: GST, innovation and the startup ecosystem
Theme 4: GST and regional implications
Theme 5: GST and the informal economy
Theme 6: GST compliance, digitalisation and Ease of Doing Business in MSMEs

Submission and Timelines
Faculty members, early-career researchers and registered Ph.D. scholars from universities and research institutions, as well as policymakers and industry practitioners are eligible to apply.

Authors are required to submit an abstract of 250-300 words via email to gst.conference2026@gmail.com no later than *30th April 2026*. The abstract should clearly state the title of the paper, and outline the research objectives, methodology, and/or preliminary findings. Authors must indicate the name of the presenter and his/her contact details (affiliation and email). All submissions will be peer-reviewed, and the decisions on acceptance of abstracts will be communicated by *15th May 2026*.

Authors of accepted abstracts will be required to submit a full paper no later than *30th June 2026*. The full paper should typically be between 6000-8000 words inclusive of references, tables, and figures. Manuscripts must be prepared in MS Word format and should follow a consistent academic citation style. Submission of the full paper is mandatory for presentation at the conference. All full papers will be reviewed for academic quality and relevance, and notification regarding their acceptance will be communicated. Authors who fail to submit the full paper by the deadline will not be included in the conference programme.

Registration
A registration fee of INR 1000 is applicable for participation in the conference and is payable only by authors of accepted papers. Authors must pay the registration fee before *15th July* for their paper to be included in the conference programme. Details regarding registration and payment will be shared in due course.

Travel and accommodation details
No TA/DA will be provided to the participants by the organisers. Limited accommodation will be provided to all outstation participants in the NITR Guest Houses on twin-sharing basis during the conference, subject to availability and prior request. Local hospitality including conference meals will be arranged during the conference days.

Certificate
Certificates of completion will be given to the registered participants after successful completion of the conference.

Publication
As per ICSSR guidelines, the conference proceedings and related outputs will be published by ICSSR. Selected papers will be considered accordingly.

Venue
The conference will be conducted in *offline* mode at the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, NIT Rourkela.

How to reach NIT Rourkela
En route Howrah-Mumbai main line of South Eastern Railway, Rourkela city is well connected to all major cities of India by railway network and inter- and intra-state bus services. It takes around 2 hours from Jharsuguda airport, 6 hours from Kolkata airport and around 3 hours from Ranchi airport by train. Rourkela railway station is approximately 6 kms from NIT Campus. Rourkela airport is also functional, with connecting flights available to and from Bhubaneswar and Kolkata.

IMPORTANT DATES

- Abstract Submission Deadline: **30 April 2026**
- Notification of Acceptance of Abstracts: **15 May 2026**
- Full Paper Submission Deadline: **30 June 2026**
- Notification of Full Paper Acceptance: **15 July 2026**
- Registration Deadline: **31 July 2026**
- Conference Dates: **20-21 August 2026**

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