

## 'Current economic challenges not due to domestic weaknesses'

**The Hindu Bureau**

HYDERABAD

Many difficulties confronting the country are the result of external and exogenous shocks like global trade disruptions and tensions in West Asia, rather than domestic weaknesses, ex-chairman of Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister, and Chancellor of ICFAI Foundation for Higher Education, C. Rangarajan said.

Speaking at the 18th annual doctoral thesis conference here, he said in spite of a falling rupee, India's fundamentals remain strong, and the end of the war would revive the value of the rupee.

To mitigate the impact



C. Rangarajan

of external shocks, he proposed a three-pronged approach: strengthening diplomatic engagement and diversifying supply sources in the short term, building strategic reserves in critical sectors such as energy in medium term, and pursuing efficient, selective import substitution in strategically key industries over the long term.

**BUSINESS CONNECT****DR. C. RANGARAJAN HIGHLIGHTS ENERGY SECURITY AT IFHE CONFERENCE**

The 18th Annual Doctoral Thesis Conference, jointly organised by ICFAI School of Social Sciences and Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research, commenced at ICFAI Foundation for Higher Education, Hyderabad, with participation from nearly 200 doctoral scholars from premier institutions across India. Delivering the keynote address, C Rangarajan, former RBI Governor and Chancellor of IFHE, said India must focus on sustainable and alternative energy sources to strengthen long-term energy security and tackle global disruptions caused by trade tensions and geopolitical uncertainties. Prof. Basanta Kumar Pradhan, Director of IGIDR, delivered a special address on global climate finance, while Dr. Tamma Koti Reddy, Vice-Chancellor, IFHE, graced the inaugural session. Prof. C.S. Shylajan, Director, ICFAI School of Social Sciences, highlighted the conference's role in promoting research excellence and scholarly exchange.

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## External shocks, not domestic weaknesses, behind current economic challenges: Rangarajan

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THE HINDU BUREAU

Many of the difficulties confronting the country are the result of external or exogenous shocks like the international trade disruptions and tensions in West Asia, rather than domestic weaknesses, former chairman of Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister, and Chancellor of ICAFI Foundation for Higher Education, C. Rangarajan said on Monday.

Speaking at the 18th annual doctoral thesis conference here, he said that in spite of a falling rupee, India's fundamentals remain strong, and the end of the war would revive the value of the rupee. The recent currency pressures have been influenced largely by capital outflows, rather than by structural weaknesses in the economy, he observed.

To mitigate the impact of external shocks, Mr. Rangarajan proposed a three-pronged approach: strengthening diplomatic engagement and diversifying supply sources in the short term, building strategic reserves in critical sectors such as energy in the medium term, and pursuing efficient, selective import substitution in strategically important industries over the long term.

India's objective should not be self-sufficiency at any cost, but rather the development of competitive domestic capabilities in critical areas where excessive dependence on imports may pose risks, he added. He also stressed the importance of accelerating the transition towards alternative and sustainable energy sources, including renewable energy and electric mobility, to strengthen India's long-term energy security and reduce vulnerability to global disruptions.

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## India Must Strengthen Energy Security: Rangarajan

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*Former RBI Governor discusses economic shocks, energy security and climate finance at a doctoral conference*

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The 18th Annual Doctoral Thesis Conference, jointly organised by the ICFAI School of Social Sciences (ISoSS), a constituent unit of the ICFAI Foundation for Higher Education (IFHE), Hyderabad, and the Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research (IGIDR), Mumbai, was inaugurated on 4 June 2026. Held in a hybrid format, the two-day conference brought together academicians, researchers, faculty members and doctoral scholars from across the country.

The keynote address was delivered by Dr C Rangarajan, Former Chairman, Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister, former Governor of the Reserve Bank of India and Chancellor, IFHE. He said many of the economic challenges facing India stem from external shocks, including international trade disruptions and tensions in West Asia, rather than domestic weaknesses.

According to Rangarajan, these developments have disrupted global supply chains, increased energy and food prices and created uncertainty in international financial markets. He noted that despite pressure on the rupee, India's economic fundamentals remain strong and that recent currency movements have been influenced largely by capital outflows rather than structural weaknesses in the economy.

Discussing policy responses to external shocks, he outlined a three-pronged approach. In the short term, he stressed the importance of diplomatic engagement and diversification of supply sources. In the medium term, he advocated the creation of strategic buffers, particularly in areas related to energy security.

For the long term, he called for efficient and selective import substitution in strategically important sectors.

Rangarajan said India's objective should not be self-sufficiency at any cost but the development of competitive domestic capabilities in critical sectors where excessive dependence on imports may pose risks. He also emphasised the need to accelerate the transition towards sustainable and alternative energy sources, including renewable energy and electric mobility, to strengthen long-term energy security and reduce vulnerability to global disruptions.

He urged researchers and doctoral scholars to address contemporary economic and social challenges through rigorous research, data-driven analysis and innovative methodologies.

Delivering the special address, Prof Basanta Kumar Pradhan, Director (Vice Chancellor), IGIDR, spoke on 'The Global Climate Finance Landscape: Concepts, Architecture, and the Road Ahead'. He outlined the distinctions between climate finance, green finance, transition finance and sustainable finance, highlighting the need to avoid greenwashing.

Tracing the evolution of climate finance from the Rio Earth Summit and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to recent global climate negotiations, Pradhan discussed changing trends in climate finance, including the growing role of private capital and project-based funding.

The inaugural session was attended by Dr Tamma Koti Reddy, Vice Chancellor, IFHE. In his welcome address, Prof CS Shyajan, Director, ICFAI School of Social Sciences, spoke about the importance of research and academic engagement among doctoral scholars.

The conference included technical sessions across disciplines such as agricultural economics and sustainability, development economics, entrepreneurial development and general management, behavioural economics and psychology, finance and accounting, health economics, human resource management and organisational behaviour, macroeconomics and international economics, marketing and business strategy and sociology and public policy.

The sessions were chaired by academicians, policymakers and industry experts who provided feedback to participating scholars. Paper presentations and academic discussions continued on 5 June 2026.

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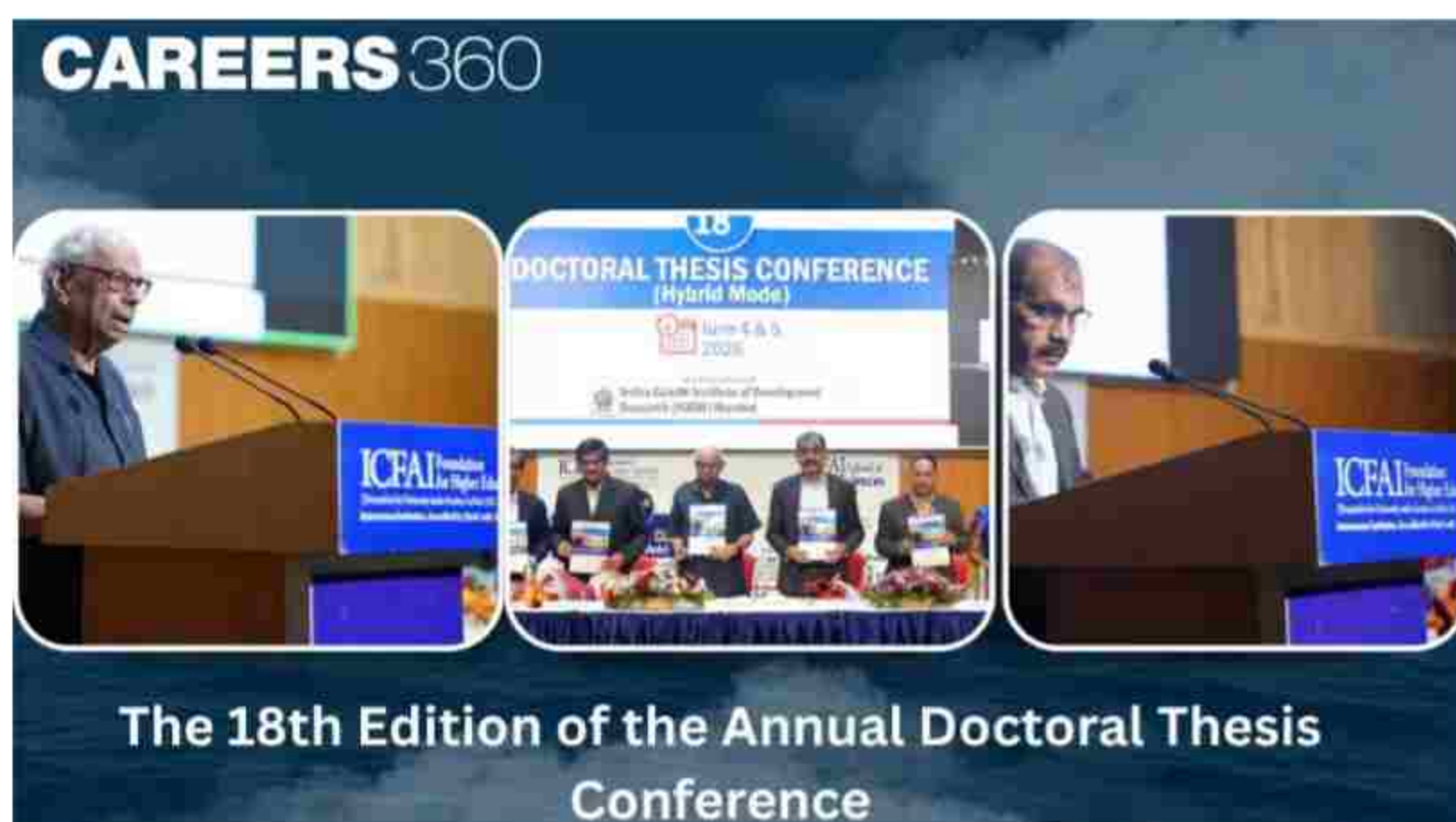
## ISoSS Hyderabad Hosts 18th Edition of the Annual Doctoral Thesis Conference on June 4th and 5th, 2026

#ICFAI School of Social Sciences, Hyderabad

[Overview](#) [Courses & Fees](#) [Admissions](#) [Facilities](#)**Ranjita Kumari**

Updated on 09 Jun 2026, 03:12 PM IST

The 18th Annual Doctoral Thesis Conference was jointly organised by the ICFAI School of Social Sciences (ISoSS) and the Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research (IGIDR), Mumbai. ICFAI School of Social Sciences is a constituent Unit of ICFAI Foundation for Higher Education, Hyderabad. The conference was inaugurated on June 4, 2026 and conducted in a hybrid mode. The two-day conference brought together eminent academicians, researchers, faculty members, and doctoral scholars from across the country.



ISoSS Hyderabad Hosts 18th Edition of the Annual Doctoral Thesis Conference on June 4th and 5th, 2026

The conference has emerged as a significant academic platform for doctoral researchers to present their work, receive expert feedback, and engage in scholarly dialogue. The strong response to the event, with participation from nearly 200 research scholars representing leading institutions including IIMs, IITs, NITs, IIITs, Jawaharlal Nehru University, and several Central and State universities, reflects its growing importance in India's research ecosystem.

**Also See:** [ISoSS Hyderabad Admission](#)

The keynote inaugural address was delivered by **Dr C. Rangarajan**, Former Chairman, Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister, and Former Governor, Reserve Bank of India, Chancellor, ICFAI Foundation for Higher Education, who underscored the critical role of universities and research institutions in advancing knowledge. Analysing the current economic challenges facing India, he noted that many of the difficulties confronting the country are the result of external or exogenous shocks like the international trade disruptions and tensions in West Asia, rather than domestic weaknesses. These developments have affected global supply chains, increased energy and food prices, and created uncertainty in international financial markets. He emphasised that in spite of a falling rupee, India's fundamentals remain strong, and the end of the war would revive the value of the rupee. According to him, recent currency pressures have been influenced largely by capital outflows, rather than by structural weaknesses in the economy.

Addressing the policy response to such external shocks, **Dr Rangarajan** outlined a three-pronged strategy. In the short term, he stressed the importance of diplomatic engagement and diversification of supply sources. In the medium term, he advocated the creation of strategic buffers, particularly in critical areas such as energy security. For the long term, Dr Rangarajan highlighted the need for efficient and selective import substitution in strategically important sectors. He argued that India's objective should not be self-sufficiency at any cost, but rather the development of competitive domestic capabilities in critical areas where excessive dependence on imports may pose risks. He also stressed the importance of accelerating the transition towards alternative and sustainable energy sources, including renewable energy and electric mobility, to strengthen India's long-term energy security and reduce vulnerability to global disruptions. Concluding his address, Dr Rangarajan called upon researchers and doctoral scholars to address contemporary economic and social challenges through rigorous research, robust data analysis, and innovative methodologies.

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Delivering the special address, **Prof. Basanta Kumar Pradhan**, Director (Vice-Chancellor), IGIDR, Mumbai, spoke on "The Global Climate Finance Landscape: Concepts, Architecture, and the Road Ahead." He explained the distinctions among climate finance, green finance, transition finance, and sustainable finance, emphasising the need to avoid greenwashing. Tracing the evolution of climate finance from the Rio Earth Summit and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to recent global climate negotiations, he discussed changing patterns in climate finance, including the growing role of private finance and project-based funding.

The inaugural session was graced by **Dr Tamma Koti Reddy**, Vice-Chancellor, IFHE, Hyderabad. Welcoming the gathering, **Prof. C. S. Shylajan**, Director, [ICFAI School of Social Sciences](#), highlighted the conference's role in nurturing research excellence and fostering intellectual exchange among young scholars and experts from diverse disciplines.

The conference featured technical sessions covering a wide range of disciplines, including Agricultural Economics and Sustainability, Development Economics, Entrepreneurial Development and General Management, Behavioural Economics and Psychology, Finance and Accounting, Health Economics, Human Resource Management and Organisational Behaviour, Macroeconomics and International Economics, Marketing and Business Strategy, and Sociology and Public Policy. The sessions were chaired by distinguished academicians, policymakers, and industry experts who provided guidance and feedback to participating scholars. Paper presentations and academic discussions were made on June 5, 2026.

### About The ICFAI School of Social Sciences (ISoSS)

The ISoSS intends to offer distinctive, high-value education programmes at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels, and promote high-quality research at the master's and doctoral degree levels. Currently, the institution offers a 3-year BA undergraduate and a 2-year MA postgraduate degree programmes in Economics, and a doctoral research programme leading to a PhD.

Towards internationalising higher education, a 4-year BA Economics Programme leading to an undergraduate degree with Honours or Honours with Research was offered from the 2023-24 academic year. In the academic year 2024-25, the School offers a 3-year B.Sc. (Psychology), a 4-year B.Sc. (Psychology (Honours)) and a 4-year B.Sc. (Psychology (Honours with Research)). A masters level research program leading to an MS (by research) degree is also being conceived of. Going forward, the ISoSS proposes to offer double-degree programs leading to BA Economics with Psychology, Law, or Data Analytics, or Management.

**Disclaimer:** This article has been published as a marketing collaboration between Careers360 and ISoSS Hyderabad.

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Posted at: Jun 9 2026 1:21PM

## India must accelerate sustainable energy transition to counter global disruptions: C Rangarajan

Hyderabad, June 9 (UNI) Former Reserve Bank of India Governor and former Chairman of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister, C. Rangarajan, has stressed the need for India to accelerate its transition towards sustainable energy sources to strengthen energy security and reduce vulnerability to global disruptions.

Delivering the keynote address at the 18th Annual Doctoral Thesis Conference jointly organised by the ICAFI School of Social Sciences (ISoSS), Hyderabad, and the Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research (IGIDR), Mumbai, former RBI Governor C. Rangarajan said many of the economic challenges confronting India stem from external shocks rather than domestic weaknesses.

The two-day conference, held on June 4 and 5 in hybrid mode, brought together nearly 200 doctoral scholars, academicians and researchers from leading institutions, including IIMs, IITs, NITs, IIITs, Jawaharlal Nehru University and several Central and State universities.

Rangarajan, the Chancellor of ICAFI Foundation for Higher Education, said international trade disruptions and tensions in West Asia have affected global supply chains, increased energy and food prices and created uncertainty in international financial markets.

Despite the recent depreciation of the rupee, he maintained that India's economic fundamentals remain strong and expressed confidence that easing geopolitical tensions would support currency stability.

He outlined a three-pronged strategy to address external economic shocks.

In the short term, he advocated diplomatic engagement and diversification of supply sources.

In the medium term, he stressed the need to create strategic buffers, particularly in critical sectors such as energy.

For the long term, he called for efficient and selective import substitution in strategically important sectors while building competitive domestic capabilities.

Highlighting the importance of energy security, the former RBI Governor urged policymakers to accelerate the adoption of renewable energy and electric mobility solutions to reduce dependence on imports and improve resilience against global disruptions.

Delivering the special address, Basanta Kumar Pradhan, Director (Vice-Chancellor) of IGIDR, spoke on the global climate finance landscape, explaining the concepts of climate finance, green finance, transition finance and sustainable finance. He also highlighted the growing role of private capital and project-based funding in climate-related investments.

The inaugural session was attended by Tamma Koti Reddy, Vice-Chancellor of the ICAFI Foundation for Higher Education (IFHE), while C. S. Shylajan highlighted the conference's role in promoting research excellence and academic collaboration.

The conference featured technical sessions across a wide range of disciplines, including agricultural economics, sustainability, development economics, finance, health economics, psychology, human resource management, international economics, marketing, sociology and public policy.

UNI KNR AAB

Tags: [#India must accelerate sustainable energy transition to counter global disruptions: C Rangarajan](#)

## India Must Strengthen Sustainable Energy Systems to Withstand Global Disruptions: Former RBI Governor Dr C. Rangarajan

The Hans India Update: 2026-06-09 08:16 IST



**Hyderabad:** India must accelerate its transition toward sustainable and alternative energy sources to safeguard its economy from global disruptions, former RBI Governor and Chairman of the Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council, Dr C. Rangarajan, said at a two-day 18th Annual Doctoral Thesis Conference held at the ICFAI Foundation for Higher Education (IFHE), held recently on June 4-5.

Delivering the keynote address, Dr Rangarajan noted that many of India's current economic challenges stem from external shocks—such as disruptions in international trade, geopolitical tensions in West Asia, and volatility in global financial markets—rather than domestic structural weaknesses. These shocks, he said, have strained supply chains, raised energy and food prices, and created uncertainty across global markets.

Despite the rupee's recent depreciation, Dr Rangarajan asserted that India's economic fundamentals remain strong. He attributed currency pressures largely to capital outflows and expressed confidence that the rupee would regain strength once global conflicts subside.

Outlining a three-tier strategy to manage external shocks, he emphasised diplomatic engagement and diversification of supply sources in the short term, creation of strategic buffers—especially in energy—in the medium term, and selective import substitution in critical sectors over the long term. India's goal, he stressed, should not be self-sufficiency at any cost, but the development of competitive domestic capabilities in areas where overdependence on imports poses risks.

He strongly advocated accelerating India's shift toward renewable energy, electric mobility, and other sustainable energy systems to strengthen long-term energy security and reduce exposure to global volatility. He urged young researchers to address contemporary economic challenges through rigorous research and innovative methodologies.

The conference, jointly organised by the ICFAI School of Social Sciences (ISoSS) and the Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research (IGIDR), Mumbai, brought together nearly 200 doctoral scholars from premier institutions, including IIMs, IITs, NITs, IIITs, JNU, and major central and state universities.

Prof. Basanta Kumar Pradhan, Director (Vice-Chancellor), IGIDR, delivered a special address on the global climate finance landscape, explaining distinctions between climate, green, transition, and sustainable finance while cautioning against greenwashing. He traced the evolution of climate finance from the Rio Summit to present-day global negotiations, highlighting the growing role of private capital.

IFHE Vice-Chancellor Dr Tamma Koti Reddy attended the inaugural session, while ISoSS Director Prof. C. S. Shylajan emphasised the conference's role in fostering research excellence.

Over two days, scholars presented papers on economics, management, psychology, public policy, sustainability, and the social sciences, receiving feedback from distinguished academics and policymakers.

Tuesday, June 9, 2026

## ICFAI Hosts 18th Annual Doctoral Thesis Conference



As India navigates the turbulent waters of international trade disruptions and global supply chain uncertainties, the path forward lies in strategic resilience and sustainable energy. This was the resounding message at the 18th Annual Doctoral Thesis Conference, jointly hosted by the ICFAI School of Social Sciences (ISoSS) and the Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research (IGIDR) on June 4 and 5, 2026. Drawing nearly 200 top-tier research scholars nationwide, the hybrid event featured a powerful keynote by the Vice-Chancellor of ICFAI Foundation for Higher Education (IFHE) and former RBI Governor Dr. C. Rangarajan. He dismantled fears surrounding the falling rupee, attributing current economic hurdles to exogenous global shocks rather than domestic weakness. Dr. Rangarajan outlined a robust three-pronged strategy prioritizing diplomatic diversification, energy security, and selective import substitution. Complementing this vision, IGIDR Director Prof. Basanta Kumar Pradhan tackled the evolving architecture of global climate finance, cautioning against greenwashing.

The 18th Annual Doctoral Thesis Conference, jointly organized by the ICFAI School of Social Sciences (ISoSS), Constituent Unit of ICFAI Foundation for Higher Education, Hyderabad, and the Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research (IGIDR), Mumbai, was inaugurated on June 4, 2026. Conducted in a hybrid mode, the two-day conference brought together eminent academicians, researchers, faculty members, and doctoral scholars from across the country.

The conference has emerged as a significant academic platform for doctoral researchers to present their work, receive expert feedback, and engage in scholarly dialogue. The strong response to the event, with participation from nearly 200 research scholars representing leading institutions including IIMs, IITs, NITs, IITs, Jawaharlal Nehru University, and several Central and State universities, reflects its growing importance in India's research ecosystem.

The keynote inaugural address was delivered by Dr. C. Rangarajan, Former Chairman, and Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister, and Former Governor, Reserve Bank of India, Chancellor, ICFAI Foundation for Higher Education, who underscored the critical role of universities and research institutions in advancing knowledge. Analyzing the current economic challenges facing India, he noted that many of the difficulties confronting the country are the result of external or exogenous shocks like the international trade disruptions, and tensions in West Asia, rather than domestic weaknesses.

These developments have affected global supply chains, increased energy and food prices, and created uncertainty in international financial markets. He emphasized that in spite of a falling rupee, India's fundamentals remain strong, and the end of the war would revive the value of the rupee. According to him, recent currency pressures have been influenced largely by capital outflows, rather than by structural weaknesses in the economy.

Addressing the policy response to such external shocks, Dr. Rangarajan outlined a three-pronged strategy. In the short term, he stressed the importance of diplomatic engagement and diversification of supply sources. In the medium term, he advocated the creation of strategic buffers, particularly in critical areas such as energy security. For the long term, Dr. Rangarajan highlighted the need for efficient and selective import substitution in strategically important sectors.

He argued that India's objective should not be self-sufficiency at any cost, but rather the development of competitive domestic capabilities in critical areas where excessive dependence on imports may pose risks. He also stressed the importance of accelerating the transition towards alternative and sustainable energy sources, including renewable energy and electric mobility, to strengthen India's long-term energy security and reduce vulnerability to global disruptions. Concluding his address, Dr. Rangarajan called upon researchers and doctoral scholars to address contemporary economic and social challenges through rigorous research, robust data analysis, and innovative methodologies.

Delivering the special address, Prof. Basanta Kumar Pradhan, Director (Vice-Chancellor), IGIDR, Mumbai, spoke on "The Global Climate Finance Landscape: Concepts, Architecture, and the Road Ahead." He explained the distinctions among climate finance, green finance, transition finance, and sustainable finance, emphasizing the need to avoid greenwashing.

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The ISoSS intends to offer distinctive, high value education programs at the under-graduate and post graduate levels, and promote high quality research at the masters and doctoral degree levels. Currently, the institution offers a 3-year BA undergraduate and a 2-year MA postgraduate degree programs in Economics, and a doctoral research program leading to a PhD.

Towards internationalizing higher education, a 4-year BA Economics Program leading to an undergraduate degree with Honors or Honors with Research was offering from 2023-24 academic year. In the academic year 2024-25 the School offers a 3-year B.Sc. (Psychology), a 4-year B.Sc. (Psychology (Honors)) and a 4-year B.Sc. (Psychology (Honors with Research)).

A masters level research program leading to an MS (by research) degree is also being conceived of. Going forward, the ISoSS proposes to offer double-degree programs leading to BA Economics with Psychology, or Law, or Data Analytics, or Management.

Business Education Telangana

# India Must Accelerate Shift to Sustainable Energy amid Global Uncertainties: Former RBI Governor C. Rangarajan

1 day ago admin



Hyderabad, June 9 (TNT): Former Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor and former Chairman of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister C. Rangarajan has stressed the need for India to accelerate its transition towards sustainable and alternative energy sources to strengthen long-term energy security and reduce vulnerability to global disruptions.

In his recent keynote address at the 18th Annual Doctoral Thesis Conference jointly organised by the ICFAI School of Social Sciences (ISoSS), Hyderabad, and the Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research (IGIDR), Mumbai, here, Rangarajan said many of the economic challenges facing India today are the result of external shocks rather than domestic weaknesses.

He said international trade disruptions and tensions in West Asia have affected global supply chains, increased energy and food prices, and created uncertainty in financial markets worldwide.

Despite recent depreciation of the rupee, India's economic fundamentals remain strong, he noted, adding that easing geopolitical tensions would help restore currency stability.

Outlining a strategy to address external economic shocks, Rangarajan advocated a three-pronged approach comprising diplomatic engagement and diversification of supply sources in the short term, creation of strategic buffers in critical sectors such as energy in the medium term, and selective import substitution in strategically important sectors over the long term.

He emphasized that India's objective should not be self-sufficiency at any cost but the development of competitive domestic capabilities in critical sectors where excessive import dependence could pose risks.

Rangarajan also called for greater focus on renewable energy and electric mobility as part of a long-term strategy to improve energy resilience and reduce exposure to global market volatility.

Addressing the conference, Basanta Kumar Pradhan, Director (Vice-Chancellor) of IGIDR, discussed the evolving global climate finance architecture and highlighted the growing role of private investment and project-based funding in supporting climate action.

He also highlighted the growing role of private capital and project-based funding in climate-related investments.

The inaugural session was attended by Tamma Koti Reddy, Vice-Chancellor of the ICFAI Foundation for Higher Education (IFHE), while C. S. Shylajan highlighted the conference's role in promoting research excellence and academic collaboration.

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