



~Nizam College~

(autonomous)



ECOLIT'S
VERY
OWN

THE
ECHOES
OF
ECOLIT



FOLLOW US
FOR MORE AT :



@ECOLIT_NIZAM

MARCH 2025

EDITOR'S NOTE

Get ready to rethink the boundaries of economics and explore the unexpected intersections that shape our world. In this issue, we uncover the hidden patterns of Kumbhonomics, examine the eco-puzzles of our time, and celebrate the innovators and policymakers working towards sustainable solutions.

Our cover story takes a deep dive into the fight for women's economic freedom, highlighting the challenges, successes, and stories of trailblazers who are paving the way for a more equitable future. We also explore the surprising financial power of faith and how it impacts our economy.

With insights from our economist of the month on Budget 2025, this issue is your guide to navigating the complexities of our rapidly changing world. We hope you'll find it informative, engaging, and maybe even thought-provoking.

Best regards,
Poojitha,
Editor-in-Chief

What's inside??

- 1. Current affairs..... 4**
- 2. Trivia..... 5**
- 3. Kumbhonomics:**
The Financial power of Faith.. 6-7
- 4. The Tales of EcoLit..... 8-9**
- 5. How budget 2025 could
help ease inflation in India? 10-11**
- 6. Guest perspective:**
**The Fight for Women's
Economical freedom..... 12-13**
- 7. Eco- puzzle..... 14**
- 8. Fun facts..... 15**

OF THE MONTH:
MARCH 2025

Current Affairs

International:

1. **US-Ukraine Diplomatic Incident:** A diplomatic confrontation occurred between Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy and US President Donald Trump in the Oval Office, raising concerns about future international relations and US support for Ukraine.
2. **U.S. Stock Market Turmoil:** U.S. stocks experienced significant declines, adding to the biggest selloff in months, as investors worried about the impact of the latest tariff threats on the global economy. Trading was volatile, following conflicting tariff updates, while progress toward a ceasefire between Ukraine and Russia briefly lifted equities.

National:

3. **India's GDP growth rate for the December quarter of 2024 was 6.2%, slightly below market expectations of 6.3%. This growth rate indicates a softening in India's GDP growth, which had been the fastest among G20 economies until last year.**
4. **India's Space Docking Experiment (SpaDeX) has successfully achieved both docking and undocking of its satellites. The undocking operation was conducted on March 13, 2025, at approximately 9:20 AM IST, with the satellites separating in a 460 km circular orbit at a 45-degree inclination. Post-undocking, both satellites are operating independently and are reported to be in normal health.**

Telangana:

5. **Srisailem Left Bank Canal (SLBC) Tunnel Incident:** On February 22, a section of the roof in the under-construction SLBC tunnel collapsed, trapping eight individuals. Intensive rescue operations have been underway, with efforts by 11 agencies to locate and save the trapped workers. This incident has highlighted the need for stringent safety protocols in infrastructure projects.
6. **Per Capita Income Growth:** Telangana has emerged as a leader in per capita income growth, according to a report by the Prime Minister's advisory council. This achievement underscores the state's robust economic policies and development initiatives that have contributed to its rapid economic advancement.

GOT ALL THE ANSWERS???
WRITE THEM DOWN AND
CLICK A PHOTO OF THE
PAGE AND DM IT TO US.
SCAN THE QR ON THE
COVER PAGE!!



1. ***Wealthy Wisdom***: Who wrote the influential book "The Wealth of Nations"?
A.
2. ***Market Maven***: What is the term for a market structure where a single firm supplies the entire market?
A.
3. ***GDP Guru***: Which country has the largest GDP (nominal) in the world?
A.
4. ***Global Guru***: Which international organization promotes global economic cooperation and development?
A.
5. ***Money Master***: Who is the founder of the Federal Reserve System in the United States?
A.



Answers to the previous questions in feb 2025 issue.

1. C. The price usually increases .
2. D. All of the above.
3. A. Prices will go down (deflation).
4. C. The cost of missing out on something else when you make a choice.
5. B. Prices are determined by supply and demand.

KUMBHONOMICS:

Every 12 years, the city of Prayagraj transforms into a breathtaking spectacle of faith, culture, and devotion as millions gather for the Kumbh Mela. But beyond the spiritual significance, this massive congregation fuels an economic surge unlike any other. The 2025 edition of the Maha Kumbh, which is believed to occur once every 144 years, is shaping up to be the biggest yet, drawing an estimated 660 million people—a number so staggering that it surpasses the populations of several countries combined!

With billions of rupees exchanging hands across various sectors—tourism, hospitality, retail, and infrastructure—the Maha Kumbh is not just a religious gathering. It's an economic force, a temporary city that drives employment, attracts global attention, and leaves behind a lasting impact. But how exactly does this festival fuel such a financial transformation? Let's take a closer look.

A Festival of Faith... and Finances

It's hard to fathom the scale of an event where a single day can witness over 50 million people taking a dip at the holy Sangam, the sacred confluence of the Ganges, Yamuna, and the mythical Saraswati rivers. Such an enormous footfall brings with it an economic wave that impacts countless lives.

The estimated financial transactions during Maha Kumbh 2025 are projected to be between ₹2 lakh crore and ₹2.5 lakh crore (USD 25 billion to 31 billion) (cited in marketbrew.in). To put it into perspective, this amounts to nearly 0.8% of India's GDP. But where does all this money come from, and who benefits?

Booming Sectors: Who Gains from the Kumbh Economy?

1. Tourism & Hospitality: A Full House Everywhere

Hotels, lodges, and homestays in and around Prayagraj are booked months in advance. Whether it's a luxury tent for VIP guests or a humble shack for sadhus, every form of accommodation sees a surge in demand.

Over 150,000 temporary tents have been set up to house pilgrims, officials, and tourists. Restaurants, roadside eateries, and makeshift food stalls thrive, serving an array of vegetarian delicacies to cater to visitors from all walks of life. The festival attracts not just Indian pilgrims but also foreign tourists, who come to witness this cultural marvel, boosting forex inflow.

2. Transport & Logistics: Moving Millions with Precision

Imagine coordinating transportation for a city's worth of people arriving daily! The demand for trains, buses, and flights skyrockets during the Kumbh, and transportation authorities gear up for the challenge. Indian Railways introduced special Kumbh trains, some running 24/7 to accommodate the influx. Domestic airlines increased flights, with airfares often doubling due to high demand. Thousands of e-rickshaws, buses, and boats navigated the temporary Kumbh city, ferrying devotees across the sprawling festival grounds. The Uttar Pradesh government has invested ₹7,500 crore into permanent infrastructure development—new roads, flyovers, and an upgraded airport terminal—all of which will serve the region long after the Kumbh concludes.

3. Retail & Small Businesses: A Seller's Paradise

For small business owners, the Maha Kumbh was like Diwali, Christmas, and Black Friday all rolled into one. Street vendors, handicraft sellers, and spiritual goods shops have seen their sales skyrocket. Religious souvenirs, Rudraksha malas, and holy water containers were sold in the millions. Textile sellers profited from traditional saffron robes, woolen shawls, and handcrafted bags. Even something as simple as tea stalls and snack vendors have earned more in a month than they would in an entire year. A fascinating example? A single boat-owning family reportedly made ₹30 crore in just 45 days, with each of their 130 boats bringing in ₹50,000–₹52,000 per day!

THE FINANCIAL POWER OF FAITH

4. Advertising & Sponsorships: A Marketer's Dream

With millions of eyes on the Kumbh Mela, brands saw an unparalleled opportunity. Companies from telecom giants to FMCG brands set up stalls, distributed free samples, and ran massive ad campaigns. From mobile networks offering "Kumbh SIM cards" with extra calling benefits to snack brands plastering their logos across billboards, marketing budgets flew in like the Ganges itself.

The Government's Role: Building for the Present and the Future

The Maha Kumbh is a logistical behemoth, and the government stepped in with massive investments to ensure its smooth functioning.

Infrastructure Overhaul: Bridges, roads, sanitation facilities, and power grids saw a significant upgrade, benefiting the city for decades.

Employment Boost: The festival created over 100,000 temporary jobs in security, sanitation, hospitality, and construction.

Health & Safety: Over 50,000 police personnel were deployed, while multiple hospitals and emergency centers were set up to handle medical needs.

Despite these efforts, challenges remained. Crowd control, waste management, and inflation were pressing issues. The sheer volume of people led to price surges in food, transport, and accommodation, making it tough for low-income visitors. Managing waste was another challenge—an event of this scale generates thousands of tons of garbage daily, requiring strict sustainability measures.

A Legacy Beyond the Festival

Once the Kumbh Mela ended, its economic impact continued to ripple outward.

Tourism Boom: Prayagraj's global reputation grew, attracting a steady stream of pilgrims and history enthusiasts even after the main event. The 2013 Kumbh saw a 30% rise in domestic tourism in the following years, a trend expected to continue post-2025.

Permanent Infrastructure: The roads, bridges, and sanitation facilities built for the Kumbh will benefit the city for years, making it more accessible and livable.

Global Recognition for Local Businesses: Artisans, vendors, and small-scale manufacturers gained a platform to showcase their products internationally. Many of them see sustained demand even after the Mela, thanks to global visitors who spread the word.

Conclusion: A Confluence of Faith and Finance

The Maha Kumbh Mela 2025 is more than just a religious event. It's an economic powerhouse that fueled businesses, generated employment, and left behind a legacy of growth. With a financial turnover of ₹ 3 lakh crore (cited in cnbctv.com), this festival is proof that spirituality and economy can go hand in hand.

Of course, challenges remain—price inflation, security risks, and environmental concerns need continuous attention. But with careful planning and sustainable policies, the Maha Kumbh can continue to be a beacon of prosperity, benefiting not just Prayagraj but India as a whole.

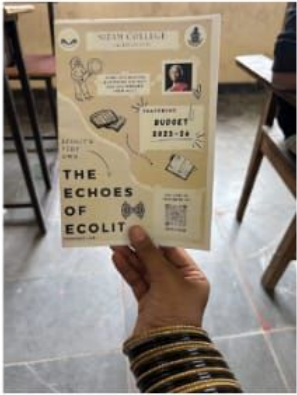
As the festival concludes and the crowds disperse, one thing remains clear: the Maha Kumbh Mela is not just about faith—it's about people, culture, tradition, and an economy that thrives on the sheer power of devotion.

~ K. SAMHITHA REDDY

II Year

B. A. Economics Honours

THE TALES OF ECOLIT



How budget 2025 could help ease inflation in India?

INTRODUCTION

Budget 2025 is here with new plans to help people by cutting income taxes and spending more on important projects. These changes are meant to give families more money to spend and help lower the rise in prices. In simple terms, the government wants to make life a bit easier by keeping everyday costs in check.

1. Budget 2025 at a Glance



Key Measures: Income Tax Relief

What it means: People will pay less tax, so they have more money left.

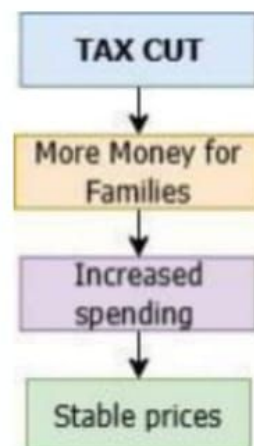
Why it helps: More money in pockets can boost spending and help balance out rising Prices.

Other Supportive Steps

In addition, the government is implementing a series of supportive initiatives. Subsidies are being offered on

essential items like fuel and food to make them more affordable. There is also an increase in government spending on public projects, including the construction of roads and schools, which not only improves infrastructure but also creates jobs. Furthermore, dedicated programs have been set up to support rural areas and farmers, aiming to stabilize prices and strengthen local economies.

2. How These Measures Help?

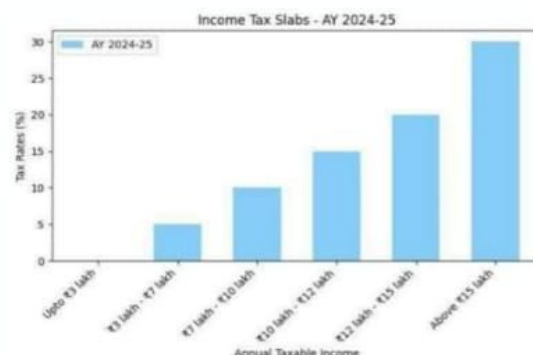


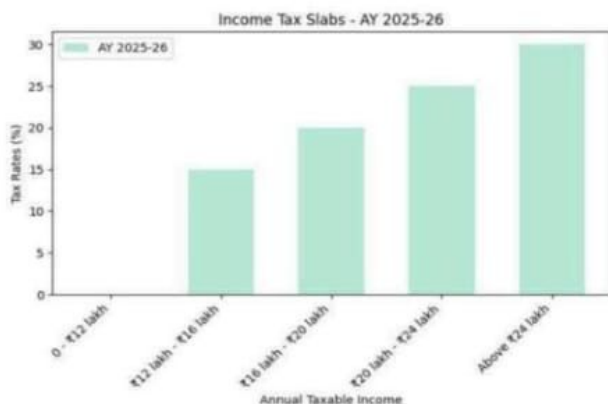
Does Tax Relief Help Lower Inflation?

Income tax relief increases disposable income, leading to higher consumer spending. If this increased demand is met with a corresponding rise in supply, it can stimulate economic growth without significantly affecting inflation. However, if the supply doesn't keep pace, the heightened demand can lead to higher prices, thereby contributing to inflation.

Historical instances, such as the 1972 United Kingdom budget, demonstrate that significant tax cuts can result in increased inflation. Similarly, the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, which provided substantial fiscal support, was estimated to have raised core inflation by about 3 percentage points by the end of 2021.

Therefore, while tax relief can stimulate economic activity, it may also pose challenges in controlling inflation.





What Challenges Might We Still Face?

Even with these measures, some problems could continue:

Despite these proactive measures, several challenges remain on the horizon. Global factors—such as persistently high fuel prices and unresolved international trade tensions—could continue to put upward pressure on consumer prices. Additionally, supply chain disruptions may delay the arrival of essential goods, thereby prolonging periods of high prices and economic uncertainty. Moreover, if the overall economy does not grow as anticipated, further policy interventions may become necessary to curb inflation and maintain stability. Addressing these issues will likely require ongoing coordination between governments and industry, as well as investments in innovative technologies and infrastructure to enhance supply chain resilience and adapt to a dynamic global market. If the overall economy doesn't grow as expected, more steps might be needed.

4. Future Outlook and Challenges

Future Outlook and Challenges		
Year	Opportunities	Challenges
2025 Lower Inflation	Positive Trends	Global Price Hiking
2026 Employment Growth, Innovation & Market Expansion	Tech Advancements	Supply Chain Disruption
2027 Steady Growth	Economic Stability & Consumer Confidence	Geopolitical Tensions
Conclusion: Navigating the Future with Strategy		

A timeline or list showing the expected positive changes (like lower inflation) and the challenges (like global price hikes) side by side

Strategic Solutions for a Resilient Future:

In 2025, the primary concern will be global price hikes, which can be managed through strategic monetary policies, localized production, and sustainable pricing strategies. Governments must regulate interest rates, while businesses should adopt cost-effective manufacturing and encourage consumer financial literacy to mitigate inflationary effects. By 2026, supply chain disruptions will demand a more resilient approach. Companies should diversify suppliers, invest in digital tools like AI-driven forecasting, and enhance local sourcing to minimize dependency on international logistics. Governments can play a crucial role by improving infrastructure and promoting domestic manufacturing, ensuring a more stable and efficient supply chain network. Looking ahead to 2027, geopolitical tensions will pose a significant risk to economic stability. Nations must strengthen trade alliances, invest in cybersecurity, and enhance economic self-reliance by reducing dependence on politically unstable regions. Diplomatic strategies will also be crucial in preventing conflicts that could disrupt global markets.

CONCLUSION:

Budget 2025 aims to give families more money through tax cuts and support measures. This should help boost spending and ease the rise in everyday prices. While there are still challenges ahead, these steps are a move in the right direction to make life a bit easier for the average Indian. Budget 2025 also aims to lower inflation by strengthening the economy through a focus on people. By transforming education (via NEP, IIT expansion, and AI integration), upgrading skills training for millions of youth, and expanding healthcare with more medical seats, the government plans to build a robust workforce. These investments are designed to boost productivity, drive economic growth, and ultimately stabilize prices—making life more affordable for everyone.

~ M. SOUJANYA

II Year

B. A. Economics Honours

GUEST PERSPECTIVE

Beyond Celebration: The Fight for Women's Economic Independence

Every March, during Women's History Month and International Women's Day, we celebrate the incredible achievements of women—their strength, resilience, and progress. We highlight trailblazers, recognize breakthroughs, and honor the milestones that women have reached in various fields. But beneath these celebrations lies a stark reality that often goes unspoken: the economic struggles that millions of women face every single day. We often talk about breaking glass ceilings, but what about the women who are still stuck beneath them? The gender pay gap, lack of financial independence, and barriers to leadership continue to hinder women's economic progress. True gender equality isn't just about recognition; it's about financial freedom, fair wages, and real opportunities. Without financial independence, equality remains an unfulfilled promise. Economic empowerment isn't just beneficial for women—it drives progress for entire societies. Women make up half of the world's population, and their full economic participation is crucial for global development. Yet, systemic barriers continue to hold them back. Here are some of the most pressing economic challenges women face:

1. The Gender Pay Gap

Women around the world continue to earn significantly less than their male counterparts, even when performing the same work. On average, women earn about 20% less than men globally, and the gap is even wider in unorganized sectors such as construction and filmmaking, where wages are inconsistent, and job security is scarce.

But the issue isn't just about skills or qualifications. Deep-rooted biases and societal perceptions often label hiring women as a "risk"—whether due to maternity leave, safety concerns, or outdated notions of a woman's role in the workforce. This results in fewer job opportunities, lower salaries, and less financial stability for women. Economic independence remains out of reach for many, reinforcing cycles of inequality.

2. The Burden of Unpaid and Informal Work

Beyond the workplace, women perform a disproportionate share of unpaid labor, including caregiving, household chores, and child-rearing. This unpaid work, though essential for families and societies, is neither financially compensated nor accounted for in GDP calculations. It significantly limits women's ability to participate in the formal economy and reduces their lifetime earnings.

In many developing countries, women are heavily involved in the informal sector, working jobs without social security benefits, job stability, or legal protection. These economic vulnerabilities make it even harder for women to achieve long-term financial security and independence.

3. Limited Access to Education and Financial Services

Education is one of the most powerful tools for economic empowerment, yet millions of girls worldwide are denied access to quality schooling due to poverty, cultural norms, or early marriage. Without education, women struggle to secure high-paying jobs or even enter the workforce in the first place.

Even for those who do gain employment, financial services remain a significant hurdle. Many women struggle to earn, save, and invest due to limited financial literacy and restricted decision-making autonomy. Societal norms often position men as the primary financial decision-makers, leaving women dependent and financially vulnerable.

Lack of Banking Services and Financial Tools

For many women, even opening a bank account is a major hurdle, especially in rural and developing regions where financial institutions remain inaccessible or unwelcoming. In some cultures, women are discouraged from managing their own finances, reinforcing dependence on male family members. As a result, millions of women remain excluded from formal banking systems, limiting their ability to save, invest, or secure credit.

Women entrepreneurs face even greater financial obstacles. Many struggle to obtain business loans or investments due to restrictive lending policies. Financial institutions often require collateral, such as property or significant assets, which women frequently lack due to inheritance and property ownership inequalities. When women do manage to start businesses, they receive significantly less funding and investment compared to male entrepreneurs, making it harder to scale and sustain their enterprises.

Furthermore, women are more likely to rely on informal credit systems, such as borrowing from family members or predatory lenders who charge exorbitant interest rates.

Without access to fair financial tools, women are trapped in cycles of economic vulnerability, unable to build wealth or secure their futures.

4. Underrepresentation in Leadership and Decision-Making

Women remain underrepresented in political, corporate, and financial leadership roles. Despite making up half of the population, they hold a disproportionately low number of decision-making positions. For example, only about 21% of women report having the most say over household financial decisions, and global economic forums still have fewer female speakers despite women playing an active role in advising and policymaking.

At individual family level they cannot inheritance is often disproportionate to their male counterparts. Woman cannot own or inherit assets in many countries or even face inequality during inheritance and assets ownership and management

The Path Forward: Women's Economic Empowerment

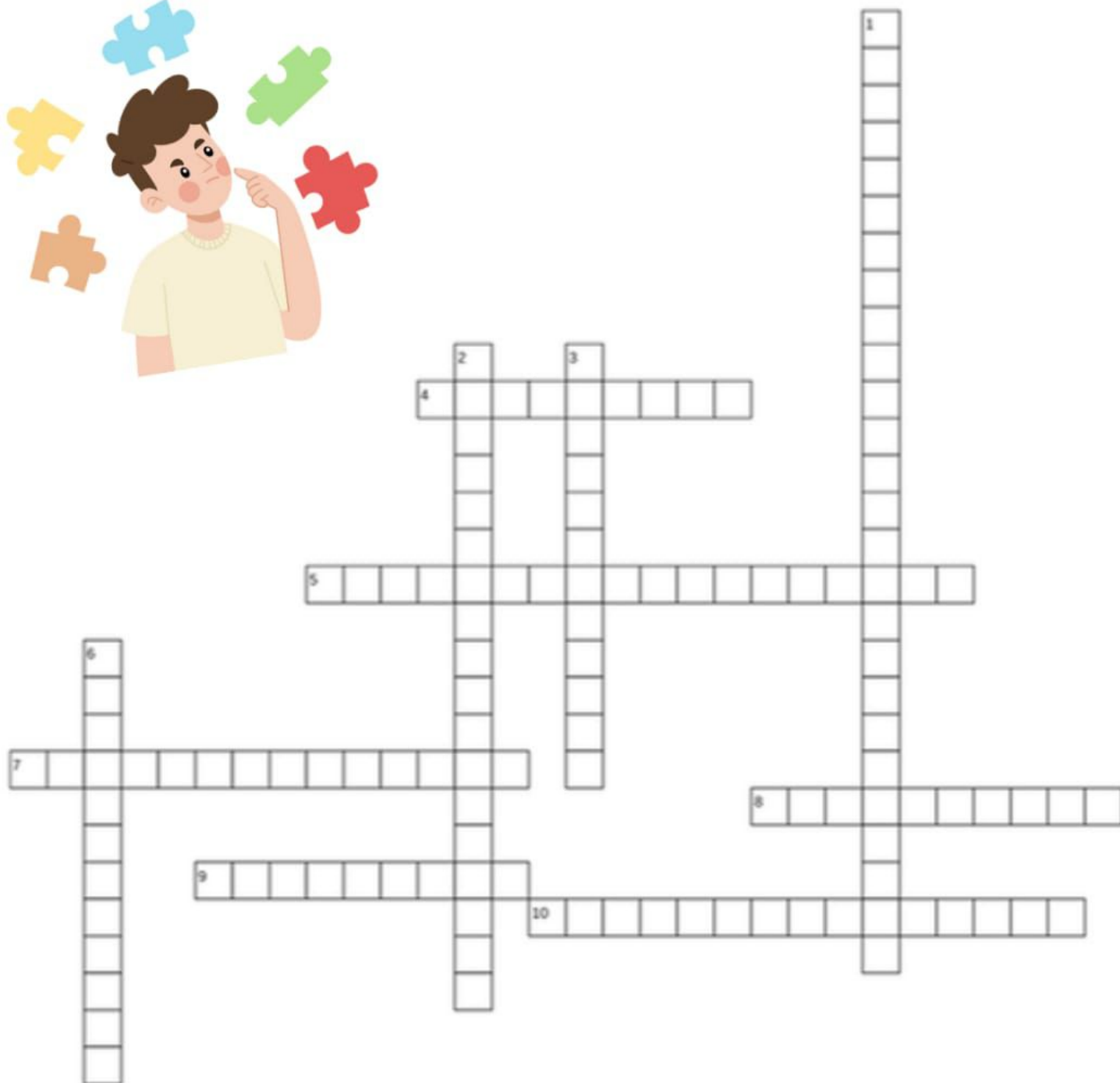
True economic equality means ensuring that women have equal opportunities to work, access financial resources, and participate in decision-making at all levels. Women's economic empowerment isn't just a social issue—it's an economic necessity. When women thrive financially, families, communities, and entire economies flourish as they are the other half of the economy.

~SRI HARSHINI

I Year M.Sc Economics

**Institution Dr BR Ambedkar School
of Economics, Bengaluru
(Ex- Nizamian, one of the original
members of the club)**

Eco- puzzle



Across

4. -Economic system where the government owns and controls the means of production
5. -Theory that suggests governments should intervene in the economy to stabilize output and employment
7. -Term for the study of individual economic units
8. - Economic system where businesses are owned by individuals
9. -Type of market structure where there is only one buyer
10. -Economic concept where the production of one good or service comes at the expense of another

Down

1. -Concept where the additional benefit of consuming one more unit of a good or service decreases
2. -Economic indicator that measures the average change in prices of a basket of goods and services
3. -Term for the additional cost of producing one more unit of a good or service
6. -Concept where the government uses taxes and government spending to influence the overall level of economic activity



FUN

The word 'salary' comes from salt! – In ancient Rome, soldiers were sometimes paid in salt, which was a valuable commodity.

Who knew that!!!!!!

Iceland had a McDonald's, but not anymore! – The country shut down its last McDonald's in 2009 due to economic issues. The last burger and fries bought there are now on display in a museum!

Well, english is a funny language

FACTS

Economist of the month!!



Joan Robinson

Joan Robinson, a prominent 20th-century British economist, significantly shaped post-Keynesian thought. Her groundbreaking work, "The Economics of Imperfect Competition," challenged conventional market theories. A key figure in the "Cambridge School," she critically analyzed mainstream economics, engaging with Marxist ideas. Robinson contributed to debates on capital theory and economic growth, notably the "Cambridge capital controversy." Known for her sharp intellect and critical perspective, she left a lasting legacy, influencing economic discourse with her dynamic and often controversial views.