



# Indian Institute of Technology Tirupati

## Department of Humanities and Social Sciences Public Policy Special Lecture Series

*Lecture by*



**Dr. Vijayendra Rao**  
Head and Lead Economist  
World Bank

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on

## Can Economics Become More Reflexive? Exploring the Potential of Mixed-Methods

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Date: 22-04-2022 (Friday)

Time: 07.00 PM IST

Venue: Virtual Platform (Zoom)

All are invited

Please register yourself via link prior to the meeting: <https://forms.gle/a6uNHEPuhbfPjFjM8>  
Zoom details to join this special lecture will be communicated to the email ID provided during registration

## Abstract:

This talk argues that Economics can learn from Cultural Anthropology and Qualitative Sociology by drawing on a judicious mix of qualitative and quantitative methods to become more “reflexive.” It argues that reflexivity, which helps reduce the distance between researchers and the subjects of their research, has four key elements: cognitive empathy, the analysis of narratives (potentially enhanced by machine learning), understanding process, and participation (involving respondents in research). The talk provides an impressionistic and non-comprehensive review of mixed-methods relevant to development economics and discrimination to illustrate these points.

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## Brief-Bio of the Speaker:

**Dr. Vijayendra Rao**

<https://socialobservatory.worldbank.org/people/vijayendra-rao>

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