

GOA DIALOGUES

Dr. M Govinda Rao

Dr. M. Govinda Rao is a member of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister of India. He is also the Director, National Institute of Public Finance and Policy (NIPFP), New Delhi, a major Think Tank on Fiscal Policy in India working closely with the Ministry of Finance. His past positions include Director, Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore (1998-2002) and Fellow, Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies, The Australian National University, Canberra Australia (1995-98).

Dr. Govinda Rao has a number of additional advisory roles. These include, Member, International Advisory Panel on Governance, UNDP Regional Office. Chairman, Expert Group on Taxation of Services (2000-01); Chairman, Technical Experts Committee on VAT. He is also a Member of the Taxation Policy Group in the Initiative for Policy Dialogue (led by Prof. Joseph Stiglitz).

Dr. Rao's research interests include public finance and fiscal policy, fiscal federalism and State and Local finance. He has published technical articles extensively in a number of reputed journals besides 12 books and monographs on various aspects of Public Finance. His recent books include, *Poverty development and Fiscal Policy*, Oxford University Press 2002; *Political Economy of Federalism in International Perspective*, Oxford University Press 2005; and *Sustainable Fiscal Policy for India: An International Perspective*, Oxford University Press 2006. He has recently completed the vision document for the Northeastern Region "*Peace, Progress and Prosperity in the Northeastern Region: Vision 2020*".