Dear Reader,

"Gender budgeting is the implementation of gender main streaming in the budgetary process. This means the valorisation of budgets from the viewpoint of gender, in which case the gender question is taken into account at all levels of the budgetary process with the aim of promoting the equality of women and men"

A gender-responsive budgeting is a budget that acknowledges the gender patterns in society and allocates money to implement policies and programs that will change these patterns in a way that moves towards a more gender equal society. Gender budget initiatives are exercises that aim to move the country in the direction of a gender-responsive budget.

The achievement of human development is heavily dependent on the development and empowerment of the 586.5 million women and girls who, according to the 2011 census, account for 48 percent of the total population of the country. These women and girls not only comprise a large part of the valuable human resources of the country; they are also individuals in their own right and their socio- economic development sets the foundation for sustainable growth of the economy and society as a whole. In addition, the Constitution of India has mandated equality for every citizen of the country as a fundamental right.

This volume of AMBER focuses on various issues of gender budgeting in India like woman empowerment, globalization, engendering development, etc. Readers are welcome to give their feedback on the issues and the suggestions of the readers will help us to improve the quality of the upcoming journals.

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Dr. H. R. Venkatesha Chief Editor

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