What is Economics?

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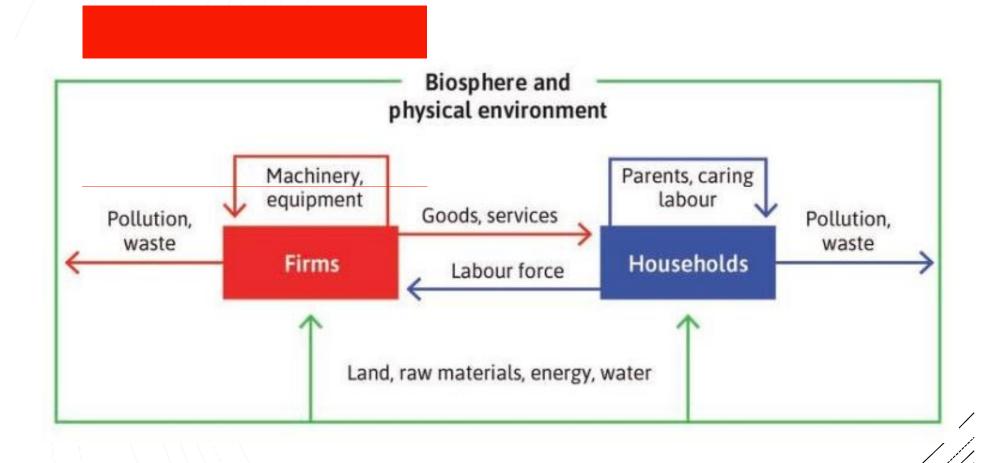
Assistant Professor

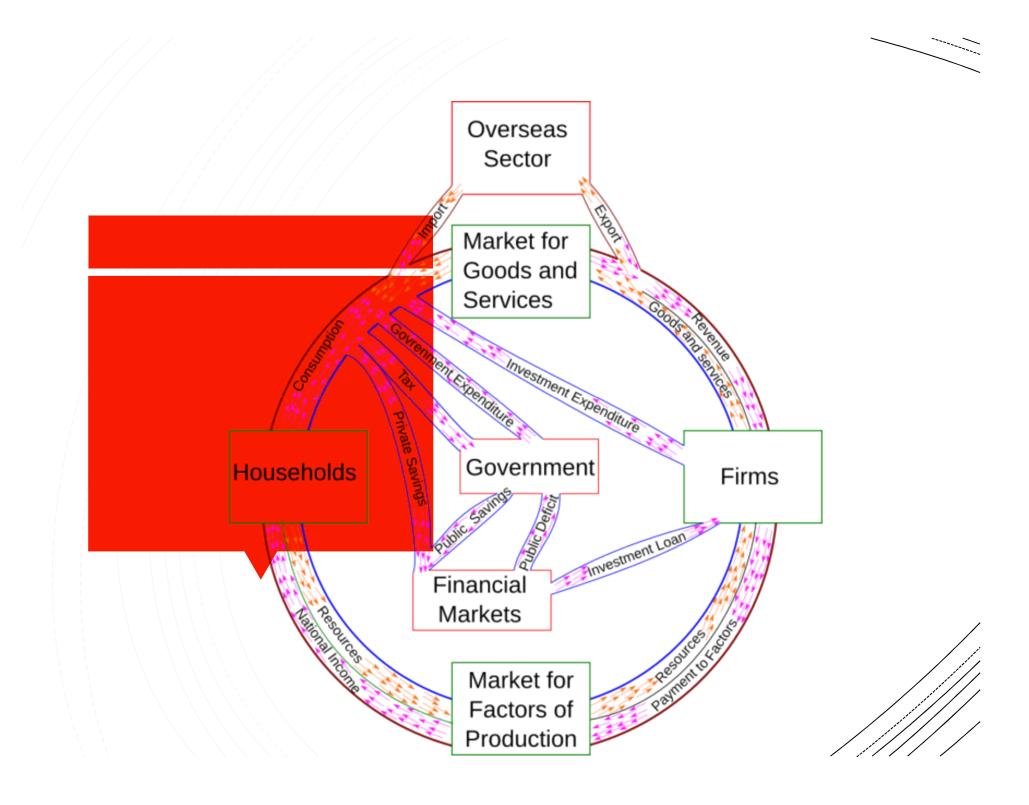
Definition

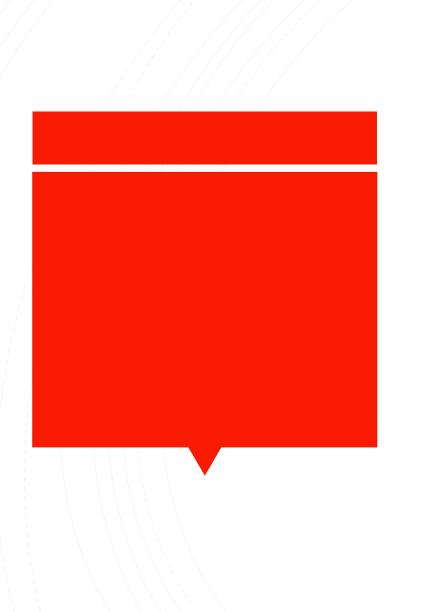
- Adam Smith (1776)
 - An Enquiry into the nature and causes of wealth
- Lionel Robbins (1932)
 - Economics is the science which studies human behaviour as a relationship between ends and scarce means which have alternative uses
- Core Project
 - Economics is a way of understanding that economy, based on facts, concepts and models.
 - Economics is the study of how people interact with each other, and with the natural environment, in producing their livelihoods.

Economics studies

- How we come to acquire the things that make up our livelihood: Things like food, clothing, shelter, or free time.
- How we interact with each other: Either as buyers and sellers, employees or employers, citizens and public officials, parents, children and other family members.
- How we interact with our natural environment: From breathing, to extracting raw materials from the earth.
- How each of these changes over time







- Price (law of demand and supply)
- Inflation (Types, causes, how to control inflation, monetary policy, fiscal policy)
- Role of government
- Budget (Sources of revenue and expenditure), Union, State, local
- Balance of payment (export, import, exchange rate)
- Stock market
- Types of market
- Types of economies

Branches of Economics

- Micro
 - Individual behaviour
- Macro
 - Aggregate Picture
- Growth and development
 - Why are some nations richer than others?
- Public Finance
 - Sources of revenue and expenditure of the government; taxes, non-tax revenue, allocation of resources
- Monetary Economics
 - Money market, capital market, international money market,
- Environmental Economics
 - Environmental problems, how to control these problems, Sustainable development ecological issues, natural resources

Branches of Economics

- Economics of Social sector
 - Education, health
- Law and Economics
 - How law influences economy
- Institutional Economics
 - How social and institutional factors influence economy
- Mathematical Economics
 - How to apply mathematics in economics
- Econometrics
 - Use of statistics and econometrics in economics
- Industrial Economics
 - Industrial clusters, determinants
- Agriculture Economics
 - Price determination of agricultural products, forward and backward linkages

Micro Vs. Macro Economics

MICRO ECONOMICS

- Deals with individual behaviour
- Consumer behaviour (utility maximisation)
- Producer behaviour (profit maximisation
- Single commodity price determination
- Optional quantity of output production
- Equilibrium prices of factors of production
- Quantity of factors of production

MACRO ECONOMICS

- Deals with macro picture or aggregate picture
- However summation of micro is not macro
- Aggregate output (GDP/GNP/GVA)
- Aggregate employment
- General price level (inflation/deflation)
- Monetary policy
- Fiscal Policy
- Balance of payment

Fallacy of Composition

The **fallacy of composition** arises when an individual assumes something is true of the whole just because it is true of some part of the whole.

Paradox of Saving also known as paradox of thrift