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**Deshbandhu College Library**

**Current Awareness Service  
Current Contents**

**September 2022**



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# Down To Earth

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**Investigative Agencies and Their Hyperactivism**

7 The independence of institutions is being subordinated to the political calculations of the ruling regime.

**An Assault on Democracy**

8 The onslaught against freebies is yet another attempt to disempower the poor and hustle the electorate.

**From Sairat to Jhund via Jai Bhim**

10 Mainstream Indian cinema has rarely depicted the complexities of caste and its associated social problems. — *Sai Thakur, Byasa Moharana & Rimil Bobonga*

**FDI, GDP, and Regional Disparity**

16 This article reveals that foreign direct investment has limited and unexpectedly negative effects on the Indian gross domestic product. — *Dipen Roy*

**India's Turn to Save the World from the Next Crisis**

22 India, the incoming G20 President, must provide the leadership necessary to save us from an emerging market debt crisis. — *Avinash Persaud*

**Reading Ecology, Reinventing Democracy**

24 The Gadgil report on the Western Ghats is a major ecological tract and a significant reflection on the politics of ecology. It illustrates how a theory of nature, lives, livelihood combined with local knowledge, decentralisation, and diversity add to the dynamism of democracy. — *Shiv Visvanathan, Chandrika Parmar*

**Bhairabi Prasad Sahu (1957–2022)**

30 Bhairabi Prasad Sahu made path-breaking contributions to the study of the issues ranging from the history of regions, cultural aspects of the state, and legitimation strategies in premodern India to technology and social change. — *Yogender Dayma*

**Agricultural Federalism**

39 This paper argues for a reassessment of the distinct and complementary roles of the union and states in the agriculture sector in accord with the spirit of the Constitution. Achieving this vision would require the states and the union to embrace the kind of cooperative federalism that led to the realisation of the goods and services tax. — *Shoumitro Chatterjee, Devesh Kapur, Pradyut Sekhsaria & Arvind Subramanian*

**Fiscal Federalism in India**

49 Intergovernmental transfers play an instrumental role in shaping fiscal adjustments and performance at the subnational level in a federal system like India. Taking into account the conditional and unconditional transfers, this paper empirically verifies the presence of substitution or stimulation effects on the state-level development spending for 14 major states. — *J S Darshini, K Gayithri*

**Fiscal Decentralisation: A Kerala Experience**

57 In the case of intergovernmental fiscal transfers through State Finance Commissions, there has been delayed implementation of SFC reports, rejection of devolution recommendations, implementation of very few recommendations and non-implementation of accepted recommendations, indicating a distorted implementation of fiscal decentralisation in Kerala. — *BA Prakash*

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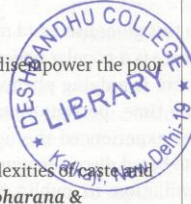
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**Another Global Debt Crisis**

10 When multiple crises confront global leaders, some yet-brewing ones tend to be ignored. — *C P Chandrasekhar*

**Needles, Blood, and Data**

13 Through abandonment by the state, reluctance towards women's health and an epistemological gap at the heart of modern medicine, it is ensured that the effects of vaccines on women's menstrual cycles remain ignored. — *Meghna Roy*

**Regulating Creditors**

17 For balancing the interests of bankruptcy governance, this article suggests structural reforms to the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code that aims to foster an expedient resolution process and reduce losses to creditors. — *Urmil Shah*

**Monetary Policy and Stagflation**

21 This article argues that the view of neutrality of the supply side to monetary policies may change if we pay more attention to the role of money supply on the working capital requirements of firms. — *Sugata Marjit, Ranajoy Bhattacharyya*

**Sri Lanka–China Relations**

31 The Sri Lankan, Indian, and Chinese perspectives on the growing strategic partnership between Sri Lanka and China are analysed. The motivations and objectives of India and China in strengthening their partnership with Sri Lanka are examined. — *Rajiv Ranjan, Asantha Senevirathna*

**Dynamics of Government Budgets, Growth, and Welfare**

37 What hinders the effort of the poorer states in accessing resources from the centre and in reaching out to the poor? This paper demonstrates that poorer states in India lag behind the less poor states in the implementation of development programmes despite the fact that such programmes are conceived to offer opportunities to the poorer states. — *Niten Chandra, Himanshu Sekhar Rout & Padmaja Mishra*

**The Indian Time Use Survey 2019**

46 This paper examines the concepts, methods, and quality of data used in the TUS 2019, the results of which throw light on the workforce, health, and educational status of the population, and other dimensions of life. Its status in the global South and the challenges faced by the countries therein are also discussed. — *Indira Hirway*

**COVID-19 and Indian Growth Drivers**

52 In India's battle with COVID-19, recovery was largely under-predicted and financial sector distress over-predicted based on the view that more structural reforms were a prerequisite for growth. Sustaining Indian growth requires continued fiscal supply-side action that reduces costs of doing business and inflation, allowing monetary policy to keep real interest rates below growth rates. — *Ashima Goyal*

**Postscript**

63 *Ganesh Gaigouria* on the exhibition "Passage to Asylum" and the lived experience of refugees; *Anupama Kumar* on P G Wodehouse and his appeal among Indian readers; *Anannya Dasgupta's* poem "How we remember the hands;" and Last Lines by *Ponnappa*.

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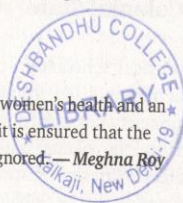
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**Human Development Index 2021–22 and India**

The slowdown in the growth of life expectancy, schooling, and income has become a major challenge.

**The Use and Misuse of Central Investigative Agencies**

The central investigative agencies must catch the bigger cause and not just the effect.

**Mandatory Reporting under POCSO**

The obligation on every person to report any knowledge they may have of an offence thought to have been committed in violation of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act raises serious questions related to medical ethics and the privacy of the victim. — *Alok Prasanna Kumar*

**The Draft National Youth Policy 2021**

In the absence of a robust strategy and timely and targeted intervention plan, the policy vision of “unlocking the potential of the youth” in the draft National Youth Policy 2021 will remain on paper only. — *Kuldeepsingh Rajput, Manoj Jatav*

**Focus on Agriculture in the National Water Policy**

The National Water Policy, last revised in 2012, is a guiding principle for Indian states, and it is expected that the states take cognisance of the NWP while formulating their policies and laws. In 2019, the Ministry of Jal Shakti formed a committee to revise the NWP. Focusing on “water in agriculture,” this article recommends changes in the NWP. — *Eshwer Kale, Marcella D’Souza & Crispino Lobo*

**Is India Ready for Tariff Reforms?**

Recent trade models with firm heterogeneity predict that trade liberalisation reduces the number of firms and the firms’ markups, while it increases their average size. The present study attempts to test these predictions in the context of trade reforms in India with the Annual Survey of Industries data over two decades (1987–88 to 2017–18). — *Aaheli Ahmed, Debashis Chakraborty*

**Overindulgence in the Facile**

This article will directly delve into the question of: Have pedagogy-related variables been considered for measurement in national educational surveys? This query will be contextualised with reference to a list of five nationwide metrics or surveys in India and their subjective ideas of the principal attributes of quality education. — *Charusheel Tripathi*

**Inter-industry Wage Differentials in India**

This paper notes persistent regularity in industry-level wage rates confirming the absence of a convergence behaviour. The stability of industry-level wage rates brings industrial reforms under the scanner for their implications on worker welfare. Wage convergence could be inhibited by the inter-industry movement of workers. — *Anjali Tandon*

**The National e-Commerce Policy, 2019**

The draft National e-Commerce Policy, 2019 states that the e-commerce platforms use network effects and mining of unstructured data to create entry barriers. We argue that network effects alone do not create a sustainable competitive advantage for the platforms. The added effect of the high customer switching costs creates a dominant position for the big firms. — *Shyam Sreekumaran Nair, Santhi Perumal & M H Bala Subrahmanya*

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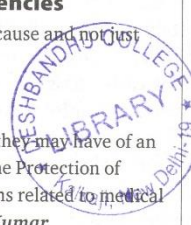
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**Towards the Instrumentality of Inequality**

10 The Dadabhai Naoroji conference at the National Institute of Advanced Studies on the instrumentality of inequality raised conceptual, ethical, and practical dimensions of inequality. — *Anant Kamath, Debosree Banerjee & Chetan Choithani*

**Policy Changes in R&D Tax Incentives**

14 India has seen relatively low investment in research and development, which calls for policy changes. — *Aakanksha Kaushik*

**Need for Credit Resilience Score in India**

17 Paired with the borrower score/rating, a credit resilience score would better equip the financial institutions to account for borrower resilience and make credit decisions accordingly. — *Chetana Asbe*

**Dietary Diversity during COVID-19 in India**

21 The article reports the findings on the changing dietary patterns of Indian households during COVID-19 based on an analysis of the Consumer Pyramids Household Survey. — *Aashi Gupta, Nidhi Kaicker*

**S Parasuraman (1952–2022)**

25 S Parasuraman, with his interdisciplinary educational background and vast experience in the development sector, contributed to institution building. — *Lakshmi Lingam*

**Is the Employment Situation Improving?**

34 Within regular protected employment, there can be a greater degree of regularity and deeper protection than the minimum definition offers. This very idea is explored to take a view on the evolution of the internal structure of this employment form. — *Nomaan Majid*

**Leveraging Trade in High Technology for Emergence**

39 The emerging strength of Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa in high-technology trade is examined. Trends in high-technology trade in BRICS are reviewed, highlighting the hugely disproportionate contribution from China in trade in high-technology products. — *Sachin Chaturvedi, Sabyasachi Saha & Prativa Shaw*

**The Role of Industrial Policy in Market-friendly Economies**

47 Given the public good characteristics of new technologies and especially those contributing to improved health, there is a strong case for state support for research and development and indeed for converting those research results to commercialise products and processes. — *Sunil Mani*

**The Electricity–Water Nexus in Indian Agriculture**

54 This study summarises all the electricity consumption methods and numbers in the major agricultural states by state electricity regulatory commissions and researchers. Clear disparities in electricity consumption can be seen for some states and crops in the numbers summarised. — *Namita Sawant, Ganesh Hegde*

**Nature of Health Insurance Demand in India**

61 In this paper, an attempt is made to explore the elasticity of health insurance demand in India. We evaluate whether people have appropriate information about these governmental schemes and the influence of other socio-economic factors on individual household choices. — *Brijesh C Purohit*

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72 *Embassy Lawbei* on how the South Korean boy band BTS brings people together; *Andleeb Shadani* on the spirit of the mango orchard; *Rohini Kejriwal's* poem “Stop the press”; and Last Lines by *Ponnappa*.

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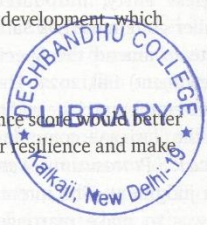
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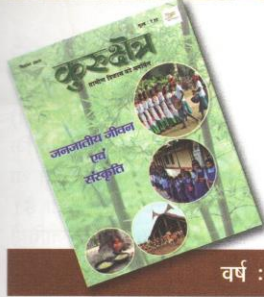
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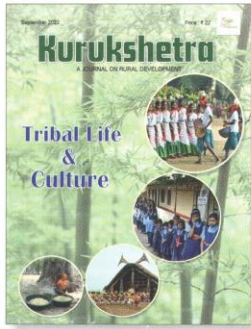
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addressing the challenges facing

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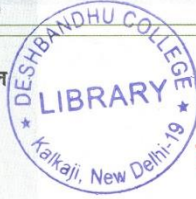
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### आगामी अंक : हमारा पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र



प्रकाशन विभाग के देश भर में स्थित विक्रय केंद्रों की सूची के लिए देखें पृ.सं. 18

हिंदी, असमिया, बांग्ला, अंग्रेजी, गुजराती, कन्नड़, मलयालम, तमिल, तेलुगु, मराठी, ओडिया,  
 पंजाबी तथा उर्दू में एक साथ प्रकाशित।



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