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# Down To Earth

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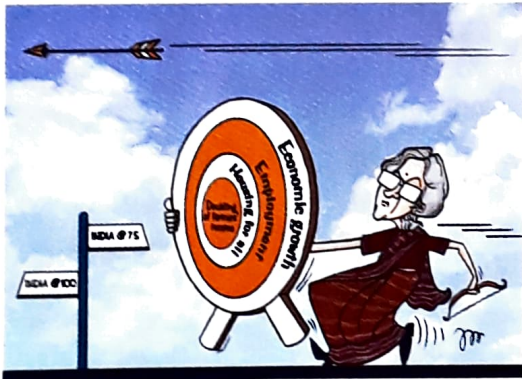
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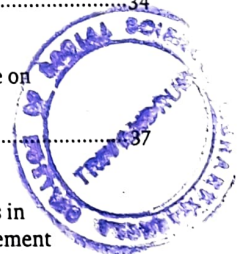
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**Cryptocurrencies Are a Dangerous and Retrograde Step**

13 Someone needs to speak up for the benefits of regulated fiat money, which, in the last 50 years, has been associated with more growth and stability than the gold standard era. — *Avinash Persaud*

**Trust in Public Health Practice**

15 Two instances of trust deficit during the COVID-19 pandemic reveal that trust-building is a process based on past experiences of people, built through engagement with institutions and service providers over a long period. — *Mathew George*

**Bank-like Regulations for NBFCs: A Cautionary Approach**

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**Women’s Work Participation in Rural Karnataka and Tamil Nadu**

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**Three Arguments for the Application of Proportionality**

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**The Buck Stops Here: A Look into the 105th Amendment**

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**Goeconomics of Trade Agreements and the Pacific Rim**

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**Who Cares for Labour? An Empirical Inquiry**

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**Income Distribution and Aggregate Demand in the Indian Economy**

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**Political Churning in Punjab before the Elections**

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**Methodological and Econometric Issues in the Wage Determination**

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**Appointing High Court Judges—II**

10 With the union government’s practice of segregating recommendations and the refusal to appoint nominees even after the reiteration by the collegium, it is questionable whether the present system of appointment can be called the collegium system of appointment. — *Alok Prasanna Kumar*

**Housing for Migrant Workers**

12 This article examines the effectiveness of the Kerala government’s housing policy called “Apna Ghar” by exploring the “housing–work” relation in the existing housing sub-markets in Kerala’s Ernakulam district. — *Malay Kotal, Saurav Chakraborty & Priyank Pravin Patel*

**Political and Electoral Dynamics in Punjab**

19 The current elections in Punjab reflect a clear decline of earlier hegemonies, particularly of the landed aristocracy of the region, which has controlled state politics over the past five decades or so. — *Surinder S Jodhka*

**Unfolding 60 Years of Political Process in Goa**

23 Discussions on the concept of independence and liberation are essential in the democratisation of politics in Goa. This article traces the history of Goa’s electoral politics starting from its independence or liberation till the present and identifies the key phases in its politics. — *Nawoo Varak, Prachi Naik*

**Revisiting the Role of Mandis**

33 Based on the insights drawn from the fieldwork, we suggest a strategy to help the farmers earn remunerative prices. The central argument is that *mandis* can be strengthened to generate favourable outcomes for farmers if farmer-oriented entities play dominant roles in them. — *Gopi Sankar Gopikuttan, Gopal Naik*

**The Political in Shame**

39 The questions and challenges of our times have thrown up emotions such as shame at the centre of both social and public life. But there seems to be not enough engagement in the discipline of political science to understand emotions in their own right. This paper tries to bring out the characteristics of shame both as an emotional as well as a political concept. — *Jigyasa Sogarwal*

**Mobile Phone Manufacturing in India**

46 The analysis of the five-digit Annual Survey of Industries data for 2016–17 and 2017–18 makes it apparent that the impetus towards domestic assembly of mobile phones through various policy measures has made a positive impact on the growth of investments, particularly in plant and machinery assets. — *Chidambaran G Iyer*

**COVID-19 and Market Failure: An Indian Experience**

54 Since vaccines provide a limited period of immunity, the slow pace of vaccination, as witnessed in the case of the African continent and Indian subcontinent, may result in the repetition of doses. Any country or region left behind may infect the whole world once again, which necessitates collective and concerted efforts of the whole world to attain herd immunity and make it COVID-19-free. — *Anish Gupta, Shaveta Kohli*

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63 *Soumyajit Patra* on researchers’ reincarnation in the pandemic; *Andleeb Shadani* on grief and seeking closure; *Jayanti Dutta* on the unexpected consequences of an unusual spelling of Punjab; and Last Lines by *Ponnappa*.

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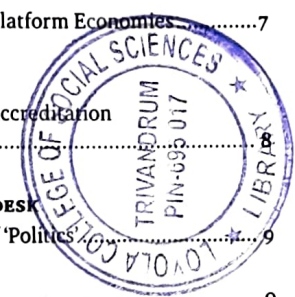
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**Who Controls the Levers of the India–US Relations?**

10 Modi’s charisma and persona has done little to change the trajectory of India–US relations. The change is largely driven by the shift in the American strategic focus towards what is now commonly called the Indo-Pacific. — *Atul Bhardwaj*

**Inflation, Debt Sustainability, and Government Borrowing**

12 High food inflation and the adoption of inflation targeting will impose severe constraints on the ability to expand borrowing and maintain low levels of debt-to-GDP ratio. — *Rahul Menon*

**Current Situation of ASHA Workers**

17 Despite their stellar role during the COVID-19 pandemic, ASHA workers face neglect and discrimination by a callous government that draws upon the free labour of women. — *Kiran Moghe*

**Biodiversity Management Committees in Madhya Pradesh**

21 The state’s multipronged approach with a focus on bio-finance, regulatory flexibility, convergence with other government schemes, and enabling policy environment holds the key to building empowered, *Atmanirbhar* biodiversity management committees. — *Indrani Barpujari*

**Privatisation in Education and Populist Budgets**

24 The delay in releasing grants to 12 constituent colleges of the University of Delhi shows a correspondence between privatisation and populism in implementing the National Education Policy, 2020. — *Narender Thakur, Vaishali*

**Housing Rehabilitation in Coastal Kerala**

29 This article attempts to analyse the process of housing rehabilitation among the coastal community through the perspectives of traditional fishers. — *Preethi Solomon*

**Workers’ Safety and Monetary Compensation**

38 Monetary compensation has been incorporated into institutional corporate strategy and state control where reimbursing deaths with money has become an everyday business for employers. The new labour codes continue this strategy. — *Ananya Pattnaik*

**Drivers of Child Nutritional Change in India**

44 While there has been a saturation of persistent government interventions for immunisation, antenatal care, and institutional delivery, education and economic status have become stronger predictors. Therefore, the future of child nutrition lies largely in the improvement of quality education and inclusive economic development. — *Biplab Dhak*

**International Migration and Caste Dynamics**

50 The understudied nexus between international migration and caste in Tamil Nadu is examined. The findings indicate that the Backward Classes were the forerunners in benefiting from international migration opportunities. — *H Arokkiaaraj*

**Assessing Marine Plastic Pollution in India**

57 Providing a picture of marine plastic pollution along India’s coast, this study points to the dire consequences in store if no or limited action is taken. — *Saudamini Das, Prabhakar Jha & Archana Chatterjee*

**Performance of the PMFBY in Maharashtra**

64 In Maharashtra, the coverage under this scheme indicates a skew, with the drought-prone districts in Marathwada and Vidarbha showing higher coverage under insurance as compared to the Konkan districts. — *Sangeeta Shroff, Manasi Phadke*

**Classical Economics and Keynes**

70 The author of *Macroeconomics: An Introduction* responds to Rahul Menon’s review of his book, “Competing Frameworks of Economic Thought” (*EPW*, 18 December 2021). — *Alex M Thomas*

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“Perseverance is not a long race; it is many short races one after the other.”

Sir Walter Elliot

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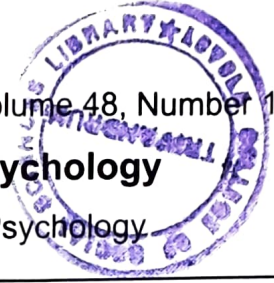
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(The Dawn)

A Theological Half-Yearly

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Rig Veda*

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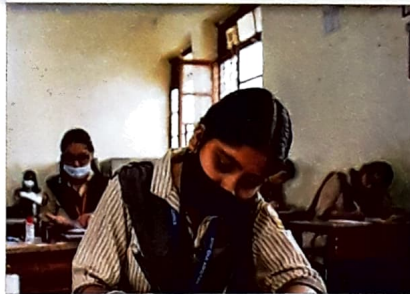
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ഡോ. അജീഷ് പി. ടി
- 21 മാധ്യമലോകത്തെ തൊഴിൽസാധ്യതകൾ  
പ്രവീൺ പി. എഫ്.
- 27 വിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തിലൂടെ സമൂഹനിർമ്മിതി  
പ്രൊഫ. എം കെ ശ്രീധർ, പ്രൊഫ. മാനസ നാഗദുഷണം
- 31 അദ്ധ്യാപനപരിശീലനം  
സന്തോഷ് സാരംഗി
- 34 മുല്യനിർണ്ണയ പരിഷ്കാരങ്ങൾ  
മനോജ് അഹുജ, ആഞ്ചൽ ചോമൽ
- 37 തൊഴിൽവിദഗ്ദ്ധരാക്കാൻ  
സന്തോഷ് യാദവ്
- 41 സർവ്വവിജ്ഞാനകോശം ഇൻസ്റ്റിറ്റ്യൂട്ട്  
ഡോ. എ. ആർ. രാജൻ
- 45 ഗുണനിലവാരമുള്ള വിദ്യാഭ്യാസം  
മനീഷ് ഗാർഗ്
- 49 മലയാളമണ്ണിൽ മഹാത്മജി  
അജിത് വെണ്ണിയൂർ