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years

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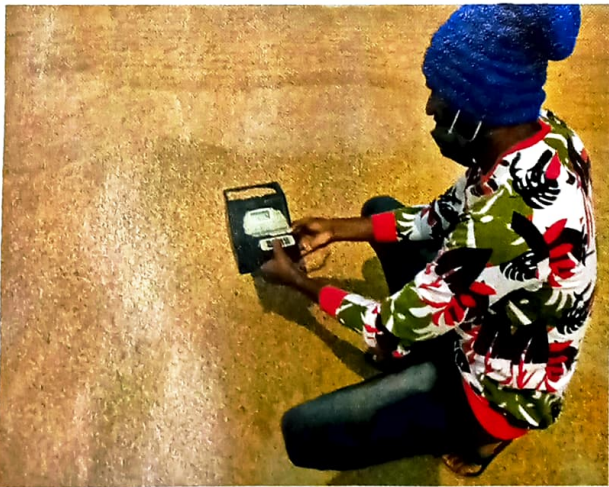


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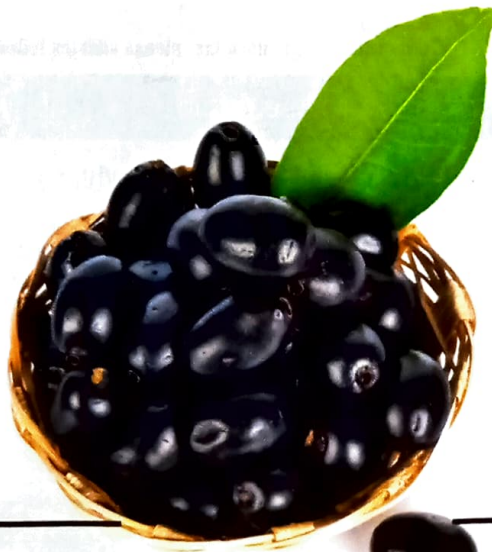
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Language as a Space for Scientific Enquiry

- 10 Languages that learners bring to school indicate their cognitive potential. Their languages can constitute a space for introducing them to the methods of scientific enquiry. — *Rama Kant Agnihotri*

Food Consumption Expenditures and COVID-19

- 16 The pandemic-induced lockdowns resulted in a sharp increase in the share of food in the total expenditure across rural and urban India for all income groups, castes, and religions. — *Nidhi Kaicker, Aashi Gupta & Raghav Gaiha*

National Achievement Survey 2021

- 22 The National Achievement Survey has unveiled the picture of the current school education system in India. — *Parul Gazta, Jagdish Jadhav*

The Sri Lankan Crisis

- 25 Sri Lanka's problems have their origins in economic policy that focused on providing fiscal sops and a family-run political establishment that enabled the government to ignore sound advice. — *Biju Paul Abraham, Partha Ray*

W(h)ither Karnataka?

- 29 Of late, Karnataka has been in the news for unhealthy reasons. Controversies relating to the wearing of hijab by students have left a scar on the social landscape. — *V K Natraj*

The Left Victory in Colombia

- 32 The electoral victory of the left represents a great shift in the Colombian political landscape and the political common sense of the Colombian people. — *Tathagatan Ravindran*

Viewing Caste Inequality Upside Down

- 43 The justification for a slew of preferential policies aimed at Brahmins in three southern states of India is empirically examined in this article. These preferential policies retrench the existing caste inequalities instead of eliminating them. — *Ashwini Deshpande, Rajesh Ramachandran*

Repositioning of the Family Planning Programme in India

- 50 The findings from the National Family Health Survey-4 (2015–16) indicate a strong need to reposition the family planning programme to meet the unmet need of contraceptives by improving the quality of healthcare and promoting the spacing methods of contraception by minimising the 12-month contraceptive discontinuation rate in India. — *Shri Kant Singh, Gudakesh*

Socio-economic Inequality in Longevity in India

- 57 Two new indices—the index of representation in longevity and the index of socio-economic inequality in longevity—are presented for examining socio-economic inequality in longevity in India. The findings suggest that India suffers from substantial socio-economic inequality in longevity with the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and Muslims being the worst off. — *Laek Ahemad Siddiqui, Ashish Singh*

The Earning *Bhadramahila* and the 'Endangered Race'

- 66 This paper attempts to document the changing attitude of the sections of *bhadralok* in colonial Bengal towards middle-class women's paid work. From the 1920s onwards, a number of journal editors and contributors began to propagate ideas of middle-class women's/widows' economic independence. — *Ishita Chakravarty*

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Bank Privatisation Is Not Easily Accomplished

10 Those who urget the wholesale privatisation of public sector banks do not seem to have given adequate thought to the mechanics of bank privatisation in India. — *T T Ram Mohan*

Farm Laws: The Way Ahead

12 This article analyses the issue of extending minimum support price coverage to major food crops. — *C S C Sekhar*

Managing Urban Floods: A Case Study of Vadodara

17 As cities and regions around the world are getting incorporated into the globalisation and urbanisation processes, they simultaneously exhibit characteristics that are more diverse and complex due to the relations of their local and regional bases. — *Lancy Lobo*

Review of ASEAN–India Free Trade Agreement in Goods

22 This article provides the broad contours around which the review of the ASEAN–India free trade agreement may focus. — *Prabir De, Nida Rahman*

Understanding the Political Shift in Bodoland

26 It is pertinent to argue that the accord, under the pretext of fulfilling their demands, may herald an unprecedented shift in the electoral politics and identity assertions of the Bodos. — *Ankur Jyoti Bhuyan, Partha Pratim Borah & Tarun Gogoi*

Epidemic and Infectious Disease Surveillance

35 The COVID-19 pandemic has seen some Asian countries employ sophisticated mass-surveillance technologies to contain the spread of infection in their populations. There has also been an intrusion of military and allied national security actors into the traditionally civilian domain of public health in the form of disease surveillance. — *Sumitran Basu*

Factors Affecting the Usage of Financial Services in Punjab

43 This paper focuses on the usage of accounts to avail various financial services under the financial inclusion drive by the Government of India. It examines the factors affecting the use of financial services by 500 respondents from three districts of Punjab, namely Jalandhar, Gurdaspur, and Sangrur. — *Sarbjeet Kaur*

Power and the Politics of a Hindu Upper Caste in Colonial Goa

51 The relationship between the Gaud Saraswat Brahmins and the Portuguese state has not drawn much scholarly attention. This paper studies internal contradictions, the caste networks, and institutions of the GSBs in the context of competitive conditions in the 19th century and the first decades of the 20th century. — *Parag D Parobo*

Postscript

63 *Amulya Anita Gurumurthy* on *Mirch Masala's* women and their acerbic resistance; *Natasa Thoudam* on how the repeated invocations of "India" in the literary scape seemingly exclude India's North East; *Anisha George* on *Panchayat's* insightful portrayal of the quotidian aspects of rurality being marred by its unrealistic portrayal of caste; and Last Lines by *Ponnappa*.

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A Setback for Data Privacy Rights

- 10 The union government's withdrawal of the Personal Data Protection Bill, 2019 is an unmitigated disaster for all Indians. — *Alok Prasanna Kumar*

Vulnerability as an Ex Ante Measure of Poverty

- 13 Using both rounds of the India Human Development Survey, this article measured vulnerability as an *ex ante* measure of poverty for Indian households. — *Sutirtha Bandyopadhyay, Joysankar Bhattacharya*

Assessing the Recent Indian Economic Growth

- 17 Although the headline growth in 2021–22 and the projections for 2022–23 following the disastrous COVID-19 pandemic are impressive, this is not the hoped-for v-shaped recovery as the output loss is far from being recouped. — *Alok Sheel*

A Comedown: Kerala Town and Country Planning Act

- 21 This article discusses how there has been a dilution of important provisions of the Kerala Town and Country Planning Act alongside other major changes to Kerala's planning system. — *Jacob Easow*

B D Chattopadhyaya (1939–2022)

- 25 An overview of the intellectual trajectory and contributions of B D Chattopadhyaya, the departed historian and thinker, underscores his role as a crusader against the homogenised representation of Indic pasts. — *Suchandra Ghosh*

Machine Learning Techniques and Macroeconomic Forecasts

- 34 Machine learning techniques are now very common in many spheres, and there is a growing popularity of these approaches in macroeconomic forecasting as well. Are these techniques really useful in the prediction of macroeconomic outcomes? — *Sabyasachi Kar, Amaani Bashir & Mayank Jain*

A Feminist Foreign Policy for India?

- 42 In terms of representation, India has made significant strides towards gender parity in its political, diplomatic, and military institutions but performs worse than other countries with similar developmental profiles. While India has several gender-sensitive foreign aid programmes, they need to be diversified. — *Akshaya Jose Devasia*

To Write Was to Cense

- 48 The paper argues that *kāvyaśāstra* in ancient India functioned like a conditioning mechanism and persuaded the writer to voluntarily confine themselves within the hegemonic limits set by the prevalent ethical and moral codes, making external controls redundant. — *Sreenath V S, Mini Chandran*

Indian Railway Health Service

- 55 If the railway health model is redeveloped and recreated to achieve the goal of universal health coverage, it can not only continue to provide robust healthcare facilities but also deliver quality people-centred integrated care. — *Feroz Iqbal, Rudrani Ghosh & Praveen Bhide*

A New Economics Awaits Us

- 61 The major motivation for the initiation of this article came after reading Dipankar Gupta's review titled "A New Sociology Awaits Us" (*EPW*, 26 December 2020), which mainly concentrated on urban affairs. — *Sankar Varma*

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Viability of Nuclear Energy for India

- 10 Nuclear power continues to be an overrated option in the Indian context, and it is being projected as a panacea to meet climate change norms.
— *Jawahar Bhagwat*

The 'One Nation, One Ration Card' Scheme

- 15 The "One Nation, One Ration Card" scheme is examined in this article. It highlights its ground-level ineffectiveness among the migrant workers.
— *Vamakshi*

COVID-19 and Bank Behaviour

- 18 This article analyses the impact of the pandemic on the banking sector in India. — *Saibal Ghosh*

Mumbai School of Economics and Public Policy

- 22 The Bombay School of Economics, an autonomous department of the University of Mumbai, completed 100 years on 1 August 2021.
— *Abhay Pethe, Mala Lalvani*

The Mission Antyodaya Project

- 26 This article outlines the significance of the decentralisation reforms mandating systemic outcomes in democracy, accountability, local economic development, and social justice. — *MA Oommen*

Reinventing Agricultural Extension System in India

- 37 Agricultural extension is critical to improve farm productivity and to translate the same into increased income. However, the agricultural extension system in India is facing a multitude of challenges.
— *A Suresh, V K Sajesh, R N Padaria & A K Mohanty*

Exploitation in Small Tea Gardens of Assam

- 46 The emergence of small tea growers is a relatively new phenomenon in Assam. The nature of production of the sector is informal. The unemployed youth and farmers of other unprofitable crops, who have taken to small-scale tea cultivation, are likely to be exploited by agents and owners of tea factories who buy raw tea leaves. — *Karabi Das, Debarshi Das*

Uncertainty, Investor Sentiment, and Stock Returns

- 53 The Indian stock market witnessed a sharp recovery in the post-COVID-19 period. The event studies show that the 2020 lockdown and announcement of the first fiscal package had a significant impact on stock returns. The effect of other events like the first COVID-19 case, second fiscal package, beginning of the vaccination drive, and the second wave was insignificant.
— *Sreelakshmi R, Apra Sinha & Sabuj Kumar Mandal*

Livelihood Volatility in the Urban Labour Market

- 62 This paper aims at capturing the labour market volatility, which is conceptualised in terms of the lack of sustainable sources of livelihood across different quarters in a year. The change in the job status, which cannot occur unless the job changes, unravels important findings as retrieved from the repeated survey of the same households over different quarters.
— *Arup Mitra, Puneet Kumar Shrivastav & Guru Prakash Singh*

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- 72 *Diya Binu* on how drag culture is inherently political; *Tapas Mitra* on cinema as an independent language of depicting the urban; and Last Lines by *Ponnappa*.

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“An ounce of action is worth a ton of theory.”

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Ralph Waldo Emerson

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