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## **ANTHROPOLOGY-ASSAM**

1 Bordoloi, Manasjyoti

[Impact of colonial anthropology on identity politics and conflicts in Assam.](#)

ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WEEKLY, 49(20), 2014(17 May):47-54

The assertion of ethnocentric identity by different groups or communities in heterogeneous Assam demands that one look back at the genesis of such a situation. The present ethnocentric crisis in Assam is so volatile that most of the "tribes" have already rejected the proposal to become part of an "Assamese" identity. One finds that colonial ethnography and anthropological approaches in postcolonial Assam play a very crucial role in the present unresolved crisis. This article tries to highlight some of these problems.

\*\* ANTHROPOLOGY-ASSAM.

## **CASTE SYSTEM**

2 Jal, Murzban

[Asiatic mode of production, caste and the Indian left.](#)

ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WEEKLY, 49(19), 2014(10 May): 41-49

The study of Marxism in India has consciously underestimated Karl Marx's concept of the "Asiatic mode of production" which has led it to a number of errors. The place of casteism in the larger matrix of the "Asiatic mode of production" can only be understood if the Eurocentric reasoning and the search for a fictitious "Indian feudalism" are avoided. This would also end the consequent illusory search for the transition from feudalism to capitalism, which has rendered the project of socialism in India to be a mirage. This paper studies the ifs and buts of this theory.

\*\* CASTE SYSTEM.

## **EDUCATION**

3 Dutta, Swati

Parental education and family aspect of school enrolment in rural India.

JOURNAL OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT, 33(1), 2014(Jan-March):111-126

University access to primary education is one of the millennium development goals to be reached by 2015. India has made elementary and free child education to achieve the Universal Elementary Education. Constitution of India states that all children up age 14 years have a fundamental right to free and compulsory education. Despite several efforts, education for all has not been achieved in India. Furthermore, low quality of school and a high dropout rate, as well as gender and rural urban disparities remain the major challenges of India.

\*\* EDUCATION.

### **EMPLOYMENT-INDIA**

4 Mehrotra, Santosh

Quantity and quality: policies to meet the twin challenges of employability in Indian labor market.

INDIAN JOURNAL OF INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS, 49(3), 2014, (January): 367-377

Half of India's population is below 25 years of age, and nearly two-thirds is below 35. Without employing this growing youth bulge, India's potential demographic dividend will come to naught. Since the demographic dividend comes but once in the life of any nation, and there are only 25 more years to go before this window of opportunity closes, the number of jobs in non-agriculture sectors must grow at least as rapidly as the labor force. However, the employability of such youth joining the non-agricultural labor force must similarly grow. This implies not just job creation, but equipping youth with the education and skills to make them ready for jobs.

\*\* EMPLOYMENT-INDIA.

### **EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT**

5 Deuchar, Andrew

[All dressed up with nowhere to go: transitions to \(un\)employment for lower middle class young men](#)

ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WEEKLY, 49(17), 2014(26th April):104-111

This article draws upon the theoretical framework of Pierre Bourdieu to examine the capacity of lower middle class young men in Dehradun to gain employment. Despite having tertiary level education, their search for employment is an extended one, marked by anxiety, hardship and uncertainty, which often

precipitates a sense of hopelessness and shame. By utilising qualitative research methods, this article shows how youth contest their marginalisation, for example by equipping themselves with skills and competencies or migrating.

\*\* EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

### **ENERGY-INDIA**

6 Mathur, Ritu

India's energy security: challenges and opportunities  
YOJANA, 58(5), 2014(May): 21-27

What is important therefore is, for India to plan forward towards the transition to prevent energy and infrastructure "lock-ins", and strengthen the wherewithal of the system to absorb new technologies over the next few decades. From a technological perspective, alternative choices are emerging and it is merely a matter of time that the paths that each of these options would traverse become clearer. India, just like any other country should use the next few years in studying itself for a phase where alternatives can play a much larger role.

\*\* ENERGY-INDIA.

### **FINANCE-WEST BENGAL**

7 Ghosh, Soumya Kanti, Karmakar, Suparna and Nath, Arnab

[Refinancing West Bengal: something other than debt relief](#)

ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WEEKLY, 49(19), 2014(10 May): 50-57

With a debt burden at around 37% of the state gross domestic product, which is almost twice the average of other states, West Bengal's finances are in a precarious situation. The primary reason for this is the state's inability to realise its own revenue potential-West Bengal's own tax revenue to state domestic product ratio is the lowest among all Indian states. The state also uses borrowings to finance its non-plan expenditure. The state government now wants the centre to restructure its debt and suspend its interest payments for three years. Analysing different scenarios, this paper evaluates whether such a relief package is necessary or even the best way of avoiding a debt trap.

\*\* FINANCE-WEST BENGAL.

## **FINANCIAL DEVELOPMENT-GUJARAT**

8 Gadhavi, B K and Vekariya, S B

Financial performance of RRBs in Saurashtra region of Gujarat.

JOURNAL OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT, 33(1), 2014(Jan-March): 33-49

Agricultural sector plays a dominant role in improving living standard of people and employment generation in rural India. Regional rural banks are providing credit the farmers, agricultural labor and artisans for the development of rural India. So it is essential to evaluate its performance and viability regarding agricultural sector to enhance the smooth flow of credit to this sector. Keeping this in view an attempt was made to undertake the study on "economic evaluation of the performance of institutional finance to agriculture in Junagadh district, Gujarat".

**\*\* FINANCIAL DEVELOPMENT-GUJARAT.**

## **MONEY**

9 Banerjee, Abhijit V and Duflo, Esther

Do firms want to borrow more? Testing credit constraints using a directed lending program.

REVIEW OF ECONOMIC STUDIES, 81(2), 2014(April): 572-607

The article uses variation in access to a targeted lending program to estimate whether firms are credit constrained. While both constrained unconstrained firms may be willing to absorb all the directed credit that they can get (because it may be cheaper than other sources of credit), constrained firms will use it to expand production, while unconstrained firms will primarily use it as a substitute for other borrowing. We apply these observations to firms in India that became eligible for directed credit as a result of a policy change in 1998 and lost eligibility as a result of the reversal of this reform in 2000 and to smaller firms that were already eligible for the preferential credit before 1998.

**\*\* MONEY.**

10 Farhi, Emmanuel, Gopinath, Gita and Itskhoki, Oleg

Fiscal devaluation.

REVIEW OF ECONOMIC STUDIES, 81(2), 2014(April): 725-760

We show that even when the exchange rate cannot be devalued, a small set of conventional fiscal instruments can robustly replicate the real allocations attained under a nominal exchange rate devaluation in a dynamic New Keynesian open economy environment. We perform the analysis under alternative pricing assumptions-producer or local currency pricing, along with nominal wage stickiness, under arbitrary degrees of asset market completeness and for general stochastic sequences of devaluations. There are two types of fiscal policies equivalent to an exchange rate devaluation-one, a uniform increase in import tariff and export subsidy and two, a value-added tax increase and a uniform payroll tax reduction.

\*\* MONEY.

### **NORTH EAST STATES**

11 Srikanth, H

[Who in North East India are indigenous?](#)

ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WEEKLY, 39(20), 2014(17 May): 41-46

As the struggle for gaining recognition as "indigenous peoples" gains momentum, more and more tribal communities in north-east India have begun identifying or projecting themselves as such. Although no community is officially declared indigenous, the central and state governments grant constitutional and political concessions to certain tribal communities in the north-east, recognising their claims to indigeneity. But in the region, the question of who is indigenous remains contentious. While reflecting on the implications of recognising some communities in the region as indigenous, this article focuses on the limitations of the politics of indigeneity.

\*\* NORTH EAST STATES.

### **PANCHAYATI RAJ**

12 Ashwani Kumar

Panchayati Raj institutions in Jammu and Kashmir: a critical analysis

JOURNAL OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT, 33(1), 2014(Jan-March): 73-82

Panchayats as traditional institutions were seen in India as almost sacred with their panchas referred to as panch parmashwar with expectations of fairness and justice in their role of settlement of local inter-personal and community disputes. The genesis of the new panchayats can be traced to the attempts made in colonial India. The state of Jammu and Kashmir has its own unique history as far as Panchayati Raj is concerned. This article attempts to highlight the loopholes in the 73rd Amendment Act of the Jammu and Kashmir Panchayati Raj Act, 1989.

**\*\* PANCHAYATI RAJ.**

### **PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM**

13 Rahman, Andaleeb

[Revival of rural public distribution system: expansion and outreach](#)

ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WEEKLY, 39(20), 2014(17 May): 62-68

This paper quantifies the improvements in the public distribution system in rural India after 2004-05 using data from three rounds of surveys conducted by the National Sample Survey. It finds that Tamil Nadu and Himachal Pradesh continue to be the leading performers, but early movers such as Odisha saw improvements in the functioning of the PDS between 2004-05 and 2009-2010. In late movers such as Bihar and Jharkhand, improvement was evident between 2009-2010 and 2011-12. The paper also estimates a seemingly unrelated regression model to quantify changes in the shares of consumption from the market, the PDS and home produce across states over the three rounds.

**\*\* PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM.**

### **RAGHURAM RAJAN COMMITTEE**

14 Ramaswami, Bharat

Composite development index: an explanatory note

YOJANA, 58(5), 2014(May): 15-19

The index is not based on a priori views about whether a particular state is less developed or not. It is equally important to note that the index and therefore the allocation of funds is relative. The article discusses the advantages and disadvantages of the CDI. Everybody cannot do well on the index. For this reason, some states that are higher ranked on the development scale would

receive less funds than a lower ranked state. This the logic of a development index.

\*\* RAGHURAM RAJAN COMMITTEE; ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT-INDIA.

### **WATER-MAHARASHTRA**

15 Prasad, Pooja, Mishra, Vishal and Sohoni, Milind

[Reforming rural drinking water schemes: the case of Raigad district in Maharashtra.](#)

ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WEEKLY, 39(19), 2014(10 May): 58-67

This paper analyses the ground level impact of the national rural drinking water policy in Maharashtra. It observes that compared to what is reflected in the national rural drinking water programme database, the drinking water coverage status is poorer on the ground and scheme failures are more widespread. The case studies show that the causes of scheme failures have largely remained unchanged in spite of the changes in policy regimes. poor capacity and expertise of state agencies are the main cause of poor outcomes and improving them will require infusion of new knowledge and practices. National policy can assist state agencies by creating avenues for educational and research institutions.

\*\* WATER-MAHARASHTRA.

### **WOMEN WORKERS**

16 Neethi, P

[Home-based work and issues of gender and space.](#)

ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WEEKLY, 49(17), 2014(26th April): 88-96

This article studies the experiences of a group of women workers involved in home based work for a food processing unit in Kerala where membership to Kudumbashree, the state centric civil society organisation is necessary for participation. The theoretical aspects of space and gender, in the context of how they are mutually formed and how gendered spaces are produced in the workers' everyday lives are analysed. A geographical explanation of the formation of such gendered spaces under home-based production is presented following which everyday labour relations and the framing of workers' response strategies are illustrated.

\*\* WOMEN WORKERS.