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CONTENTS

BANKING	1
CHILD NUTRITION	2
COMPUTER NETWORKS	3
CONSUMER RIGHTS	4
DEMOCRACY	5
ECONOMIC GROWTH	6
EDUCATION	7
MICROECONOMICS	9
TAX REFORMS	10
TRADE	11
WATERSHED DEVELOPMENT	12

BANKING-INDIA

1 Nair, Tara S

Microfinance regulation in India: a critical perspective
YOJANA, 58(4), 2014(April): 45-48

It is noteworthy, however, that between 2001 and 2011, there was a 23 per cent increase in the number of households serviced by banks. The increment was more pronounced in the rural areas, where the share of such households rose from 30 per cent to 54 per cent. These numbers to some extent allay the anxieties expressed by some that with the deregulation of the banking industry, there would be a retreat of banks from serving rural populations.

** BANKING-INDIA.

CHILD NUTRITION-INDIA

2 Aguayo, Victor, Singh, Gayatri and Badgaiyan, Nina

[Scoring child nutrition in India: measuring the performance of states](#)
ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WEEKLY, 49(14), 2014(5th April): 97-103

Essential nutrition interventions are found to be strongly associated with lower under-nutrition levels in India. This is shown by constructing and comparing a child under-nutrition index and child nutrition score, both of which use data from India's latest National Family Health Survey. The indicators that 16 of the 28 states have high or very high levels of child under-nutrition. Effective state governance systems need to prioritize programmes to scale up the coverage and equity of proven interventions in the fight against child under-nutrition in India.

** CHILD NUTRITION-INDIA.

COMPUTER NETWORKS

3 Prasad, Rohit and Sridhar, V

[The economics of net neutrality.](#)
ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WEEKLY, 49(16), 2014(19th April): 52-58

The emergence of broadband networks-both wire line and wireless-has assisted in fostering the applications and content development and provided

content and application providers with a huge and growing addressable market with very low barriers to entry. However, there is always a tension between end-user connectivity providers and CAPs on the nuances of net neutrality, the principle that content consumed should be decided by the end-user without any distortion by the connectivity provider. While much attention has been paid to the technology dimensions of net neutrality, this paper addresses the economic dimensions, including access and termination pricing.

** COMPUTER NETWORKS.

CONSUMER RIGHTS

4 Paul, M C

Globalization of markets and consumer rights: challenges and opportunities
YOJANA, 58(4), 2014(April): 28-34

Synergizing all the pro-consumer action programmes and strategies together can deliver the goods. Now the time has come when the legislature, the executive, the judiciary and the fourth estate must come together and pro-actively work in tandem curbing the rising menace of market wrongdoings and injustices in the era of globalization and liberalization of Indian market economy. Often consumers end up buying inferior, unsafe, spurious low quality, impure goods at higher prices from many retail outlets etc..It is in this context that the spread of consumer rights education and awareness movements find their relevance and centrality.

** CONSUMER RIGHTS.

DEMOCRACY-NAGALAND

5 Wouters, Jelle J P

[Performing democracy in Nagaland: past politics and present politics](#)
ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WEEKLY, 49(16), 2014(19th April): 59-66

Drawing on the February, 2013 assembly elections in Nagaland, this article explores the continuities and connections between past Naga politics and modern electoral politics. It departs from conventional assessments of Nagaland elections, both scholarly and commentarial, which tend to emphasise its "electoral ills", and subsequently, condemn it as a mockery, if not a slur on democracy. This article argues towards a contextualized, culturally-embedded

understanding of Nagaland's electoral processes, which renders bare the incongruence between modern democracy and different traditional Naga polities.

**** DEMOCRACY-NAGALAND.**

ECONOMIC GROWTH

6 Batabyal, Amitrajeet and Nijkamp, Peter

[Technology, learning and long run economic growth in leading and lagging regions.](#)

ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WEEKLY, 49(14), 2014(5th April): 92-96

This paper uses a dynamic model to study the effects of technology and learning on the long-run economic growth rates of a leading and a lagging region. New technologies are developed in the leading region but technological improvements in the lagging region are the result of learning from the leading region's technologies. Finally, the paper discusses the policy implications of our analysis and then offers suggestions for extending the research described here.

**** ECONOMIC GROWTH.**

EDUCATION-INDIA

7 Jha, Praveen and Parvati, Pooja

[Assessing progress on universal elementary education in India: a note on some key constraints](#)

ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WEEKLY, 49(16), 2014(19th April): 44-51

The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 promises free and compulsory education to all children in the age group of 6-14 years. But the way this critical entitlement is being implemented leaves much to be desired. Apart from there being glaring gaps in the provisions of the Act, its implementation challenges have plagued the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, the programme that is aimed at ushering in quality elementary education for all. The problems are many, and this paper observes that most of them can be connected to inadequate funds. It concludes that the best way of ensuring that the Act's aims are fulfilled is to bring in a common school system based on neighborhood schools.

** EDUCATION-INDIA.

8 Gangopadhyay, Kausik and Sarkar, Abhirup
[Private investment in education: evidence across castes and religion from West Bengal](#)

ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WEEKLY, 49(13), 2014(29th March): 44-52

This article presents empirical evidence on educational investments by members of different castes and religion using household-level, cross-sectional data from West Bengal. It finds that scheduled caste households invest significantly less than other households in private coaching of children, even after controlling for all available socio-economic background variables. This result is posited to arise from two possible sources from cultural factors and from positive discriminative practices. The article develops an empirical strategy to determine which type of factor is more significant and finds that cultural factors are more likely than positive practices.

** EDUCATION-WEST BENGAL.

MICROECONOMICS

9 Bryant, W D A

The microeconomics of choice under risk uncertainty: where are we?

VIKALPA: THE JOURNAL FOR DECISION MAKERS, 39(1), 2014(Jan-March):

21-40

Financial decision making is not straightforward, in part, because such decisions generally involve comparing financial assets the payoffs from which are subject to risk and uncertainty. This paper concentrates on the first of these questions, that how do economic agents go about the business of making choices in the face of risk and uncertainty. It discusses some of the main attempts made by economic theory to understand how economic agents go about the business decisions-making under conditions of risk and uncertainty.

** MICROECONOMICS.

TAX REFORMS

10 Purohit, Mahesh C

Tax reforms and GST: challenges for future reforms
YOJANA, 58(4), 2014(April): 36-39

Since 1991, the major thrust in fiscal policy was on overall reforms in tax policy and administration. Initially, the reforms in direct taxes focused on simplification and rationalization of the rate structure; reduction in the high marginal rates and the rate categories; reducing the dispersion and lowering of tax rates. However, owing to the plethora of changes in the original enactment of all the taxes on income and property, the tax structure has now become very complex. Under the present provisions of the Constitution, the centre is not empowered to levy tax beyond manufacture and the states do not have the power to levy tax on services; therefore, an amendment to the Constitution is a pre-requisite.

** TAX REFORMS.

TRADE

11 Gopinath, Gita and Neiman, Brent

Trade adjustment and productivity in large crises.
AMERICAN ECONOMIC REVIEW, 104(3), 2014(March): 793-831

The authors empirically characterize the mechanics of trade adjustment during the Argentine crisis. Though imports collapsed by 70 percent from 2000 to 2002, the entry and exit of firms or products at the country level played a small role. The within firm churning of imported inputs, however, played a sizeable role. The authors build a model of trade in intermediate inputs with heterogeneous firms, fixed import costs, and roundabout production. Import demand is nonhomothetic and the implications of an import price shock depend on the full distribution of firm-level adjustments.

** TRADE.

WATERSHED DEVELOPMENT

12 Clement, Floriane and Chandrappagari, Suvarna

[Translating watershed guidelines on the ground: exploring the](#)

[implementation gap](#)

ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WEEKLY, 49(13), 2014(29th March): 53-60

While learning from the successes of Andhra Pradesh in implementing national watershed development programmes, this paper argues that national level guidelines must provide incentives to state government machinery and allow for some context-specific modifications in order to achieve the larger goal of effective localised water management. The government needs to move away from a purely technocratic top-down approach to a more flexible and innovative implementation of policy.

** WATERSHED DEVELOPMENT.