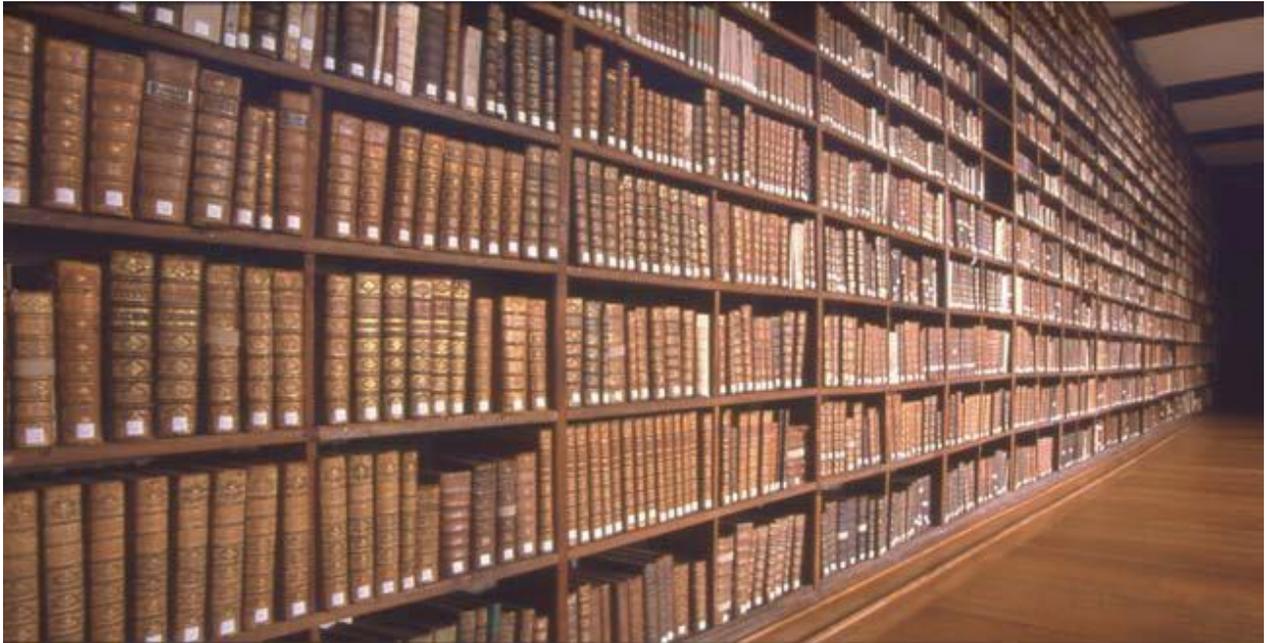




Planning Commission

Government of India



DOCPLAN-OCTOBER-2014

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ECONOMICS

- 1 Krishnaswamy, R and Shetty, S L

[Sixth economic census: intriguing numbers](#)

ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WEEKLY, 49(38), 2014(20 September): 78-82

The provisional results of the Sixth Economic Census (2013) of establishments in the non-agricultural sector suggest that this is not a census count. A comparison with the National Sample Survey numbers shows that the number of workers in the latest census may be only a little over half the actual number. There also appear to be some serious omissions in individual states.

** ECONOMICS.

- 2 Nathan, Dev

[Reforming social protection for economic transformation.](#)

ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WEEKLY, 49(38), 2014(20 September): 19-21

India is a low middle-income economy with a development policy that aims to promote it to a high middle-income economy, which requires both economic growth and structural transformation. This article turns the spotlight on some aspects of structural transformation, such as the movement to higher productivity jobs, the formalisation of the vast informal sector, and the promotion of women as economic agents. The experience of other economies shows there is room for a higher share of social protection expenditure in India, but bringing that about would depend on increasing tax revenue and reducing subsidies that are not for the poor.

** ECONOMICS.

EDUCATION

- 3 Maharatna, Arup

[Invasion of educational universe by neo-liberal economic thinking: a civilisational casualty](#)

ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WEEKLY, 49(37), 2014(13 September): 61-70

The early 1960s witnessed attempts at constrictive reinterpretation of the role and purpose of education in terms of ideological premises, concepts and methodology of neoclassical economics, with "economics of education" being founded. In this newly-founded economic discourse, education is seen as a vehicle for "human capital formation", a key both to avowed growth of aggregate economy and to upward economic mobility of individuals/households. An increasing dominance of this narrow neo-liberal view of education has undermined the long-standing hold of the pre-existing vision and liberal view of education wherein it is a means not only to material progress but also to higher level of civilisational ethos.

** EDUCATION.

- 4 Nawani, Disha

[The elusive nature of educational incentives.](#)

ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WEEKLY, 49(37), 2014(13 September): 71-78

This paper examines the assumptions underlying educational incentive schemes with the help of data collected on the status and implementation of three such schemes for minority communities in Maharashtra. Though the lacunae in the design and implementation of these schemes are highlighted, the objective is not to condemn them. All parents interviewed gave utmost importance to a good learning environment. An incentive only offers temporary and partial relief. Good quality education for all children is the biggest incentive and educational incentives should not be assumed to be a substitute for poor learning environment in schools.

** EDUCATION.

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

5 Banerjee, Monika

[Elementary education of the urban poor: policy context, text and practice in Delhi](#)

ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WEEKLY, 49(37), 2014(13 September): 32-35

Through a two way process comprising text analysis of the policy framework of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan programme and analysis of empirical data collected through interaction with policy implementers, teachers, students, experts, etc. this article puts forth the argument that urban education system has failed partly because of the inability of the implementers to plan, manage and facilitate the programme.

** ELEMENTARY EDUCATION.

ENVIRONMENT

6 Murthy, M N

[Measuring well being and accounting prices of environmental resources.](#)

ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WEEKLY, 49(35), 2014(30 August): 64-69

Along the non-optimal sustainable developmental paths of the economy, the choice between benefit-based or cost-based accounting prices for measuring wealth assumes importance from the point of empirical feasibility and tractability. In the context of depletion of environmental resource stocks in the development process, compensatory afforestation of one hectare of forestland or reduction of a tonne of particulate matter emission at margin could be regarded as marginal investment projects.

** ENVIRONMENT.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

7 Muni, S D

[Modi's neighbourhood initiative.](#)

ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WEEKLY, 49(38), 2014(20 September): 28-30

The initial optimism about an improvement in bilateral relations with Pakistan and Nepal has largely evaporated. The Hurriyat imbroglio first stalled the Pakistan initiative and with Nepal greater sensitivity needs to be demonstrated to the concerns of that country. Bureaucratic and political hurdles have to be first overcome and the shadow of Hindutva hangs over India's ties with all of South Asia.

** FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT

8 Mondal, Sanghita and Pant, Manoj

[FDI and firm competitiveness: evidence from Indian manufacturing](#)

ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WEEKLY, 49(38), 2014(20 September): 56-64

As developing countries are increasingly opening up their economies to foreign direct investment, one of the principal objectives has been to enhance competitiveness of domestic firms using their network technology and organisational skill. This study on India shows that competitiveness is more likely to be achieved with the presence of foreign firms rather than by simple purchase of foreign technology. Absorptive capacity of firms and institutional factors induce competitiveness among firms.

** FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT.

HEALTH

9 Dasgupta, Monika and Muraleedharan, V R

[Universal health coverage: reform of the government system better than Quality Health I](#)

ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WEEKLY, 49(35), 2014(30 August): 29-32

For India to improve the existing government health system is far less complex than expanding health insurance. International experience shows the difficulties of regulating an insurance-based system to keep costs down and assure quality. This article shows the various problems faced in order to improve the Indian system of health insurance.

** HEALTH.

10 Gupta, Indrani and Chowdhury, Samik

[Public financing for health coverage in India: who spends, who benefits and at what cost?](#)

ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WEEKLY, 49(35), 2014(30 August): 59-63

Any discussion on universal health coverage in India is premature without a comprehensive understanding of public financing of health coverage in the country. This article analyses the government's share of financial resources for health across different agents, with particular focus on resources for health coverage. An attempt is made to separate spending for health in general and health coverage in particular, and to examine the issue of equity. The analysis indicates that the present health coverage system is inadequate and inequitable, with various systems running at different costs. It suggests consolidating financing and moving towards a more unified system to realise the benefits of efficiency gains.

** HEALTH; PUBLIC FINANCE.

INFLATION

- 11 Ghosh, Atish R, Qureshi, Mahvash S and Tsangarides, Charalambos G
On the value of words: inflation and fixed exchange rate regimes
IMF ECONOMIC REVIEW, 62(2), 2014(April-June): 289-322

To maintain price and exchange rate stability, many emerging market and developing countries de facto peg their exchange rates, intervening in the foreign exchange markets, but without formally committing to a peg. But in doing so, are they foregoing important benefits in terms of lower inflation? This article tries to find out about this and analyze the theories in the light of maintaining the price stability.

** INFLATION.

PLANNING COMMISSION

- 12 Mehrotra, Santosh
[The reformed 'Planning Commission': the way forward](#)
ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WEEKLY, 49(37), 2014(13 September): 18-20

The government must recognise that one source of China's strategic economic growth is an institution with strategic planning capacities, the National Development and Reform Commission. The success of China with the NDRC tells us that fiscal decentralisation, accountability mechanisms, experimentation, learning and openness to expertise form the core of any institution that seeks to provide vision and strategic economic planning. Further, strategic planning institutions in Asian economies, like India's Planning Commission, have helped deal with various regional and global economic crises; a lesson we must keep in mind.

** PLANNING COMMISSION.

- 13 Nachane, Dilip M
[Yojana Bhawan: obiter dictum](#)
ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WEEKLY, 49(37), 2014(13 September): 12-17

Now that the government has decided to abolish the Planning Commission and create a new body in its place, the question is what form and shape should the replacement take? This article discusses different aspects of the old and the likely new body. It offers a detailed review of the history of planning dating from the Soviet era and outlines the different strands of thought that fed into the Indian experience with planning and argues that what was needed was a restructuring of the commission and not its abolition.

** PLANNING COMMISSION.

14 Shah, Rajeeva Ratna

[Reorienting the Plan process and revitalising the Planning Commission.](#)

ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WEEKLY, 49(37), 2014(13 September): 20-23

What needs to be done to give the plan process a new content and direction, and make the proposed National Development and Reform Commission an effective body? This article shows some of the points to be kept in mind while designing the new body.

** PLANNING COMMISSION.