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## AGRICULTURE

1. Ranganathan, Thiagu and Sarthak Gaurav

[The curious case of cocktails, weedicides, and tonics: Pest Management practices of cotton farmers in Vidarbha.](#)

ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WEEKLY, 54(44), 2019(9th November): 53-58

This study uses primary survey data collected from Vidarbha, Maharashtra, to analyse pest attacks and pest management practices among cotton farmers who are at the risk of long-term exposure to toxic pesticides. We find that despite a reduction in bollworm infestations, secondary pest pressure is high. Farmers use pesticides indiscriminately and there is widespread practice of using "pesticide cocktails." Farmers also mix pesticides with fertilisers. The use of weedicides and "tonics" is also widely prevalent. Farmers who perceive pesticides as yield-enhancing input spent more per acre on them. These findings raise concerns about the role of agricultural input dealers in filling up the agricultural information void for pest management.

\*\* Agriculture

2. Drew, Georgina

[Pushing back Delhi's 'Day Zero' - centralised efforts needed for Rainwater Harvesting.](#)

ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WEEKLY, 54(43), 2019(26th October): 41-48

To prevent a water crisis in New Delhi, city dwellers are being asked to take up the socially responsible act of catching rain where it falls, known as rainwater harvesting. Just how viable, however, are individual and household efforts for addressing the water challenges on the horizon? Drawing from a selection of documents and interviews, it contends that several disincentives deter people from acting on the clarion call of household-level rainwater harvesting. The observations shift the onus of responsibility back onto the centralised water system and the municipal agencies charged with water management.

\*\* WATER.

3. Wijeratnam, R S Wilson and Fernando, Karin

**Reflections on Moving Agricultural Research from Laboratory to Farm.**

ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WEEKLY, 54(41), 2019(12<sup>th</sup> October): 36-42

The experiences of researchers at the Industrial Technology Institute, and the Centre for Poverty Analysis, Colombo, Sri Lanka, are drawn on to provide reflections on moving agricultural technologies from laboratory trials to farms in the global South. The challenges and potentials for a hexanal-based Enhanced Freshness Formulation spray and a wrap made from banana fibre (using waste products) are discussed, demonstrating that in generating innovative technologies for sustainable agricultural development, agricultural researchers must think beyond laboratory viability and successful field testing to adaptability in the real world for a range of agriculture stakeholders, and be open to considering the potentials of unexpected, spin-off technologies.

\*\* AGRICULTURE

4. Samuel, Manoj P

**Road Map for agricultural technology transfer and commercialisation.**

ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WEEKLY, 54(43), 2019(26<sup>th</sup> October): 13-16

The management and transfer of agricultural technologies for commercialisation purposes is considered to be a new concept in India. However, there is an upward surge in the technology protection, incubation and other commercialisation activities in recent times. This can be attributed to the recent transformation of the agribusiness ecosystem in the country due to policy initiatives and more focused research in applied and frontier areas.

\*\* AGRICULTURE.

## CAPITAL

5. Río, Fernando del and Lores, FranciscoèXavier

**The Decline in capital efficiency and labour share.**

ECONOMICA, 86(344), 2019(October): 635-662

We calibrate and simulate a neoclassical growth model with a variable elasticity of substitution production function and three types of technological change: labour augmenting, capital augmenting and investment specific. In this framework, we find that the decline in US labour share was caused by a large decline in capital efficiency, which led to a decrease in the ratio of effective capital to effective labour in a context in which capital and labour are gross complements. Moreover, the decline in the relative price of investment contributed to reducing the fall in US labour share, while the increase in the economic depreciation rate of US fixed assets accounted for a small reduction in US labour share.

\*\* CAPITAL

## EDUCATION

6. Ashish Kumar and Iype, Sarah  
**Strategy to Promote Rural Education.**  
KURUKSHETRA, 2019(November): 13-15

From being a luxury only a few could afford, today the sight of children in school uniforms even in the most remote regions of the country has become common place. With a marked increase in first generation learners, students are transcending the educational attainment of their parents. .

\*\* EDUCATION.

7. Bhasin, Nanu and Jain, Arvind Kumar  
**Policy and planning towards rural education.**  
KURUKSHETRA, 2019(November): 5-10

Government of India has taken determined steps to correct the rural-urban imbalance in literacy rates which affect the overall development of the economy as well as the country as a whole. The Ministry of Human Resource Development of Government of India Works through two departments:1) Department of School Education & Literacy 2) Department of Higher Education. And since education is a subject of concurrent List,

therefore Central government and State Government work together for the betterment of education sector.

\*\* EDUCATION.

## EMPLOYMENT

8. Dewit, Gerda Görg, Holger and Temouri, Yama

**Employment Protection and Firm Relocation: Theory and Evidence.**

ECONOMICA, 86(344), 2019(October): 663-688

We examine the determinants of the decision to relocate activities abroad for firms located in OECD countries. We argue that particular firm specific features play a crucial role for the link between employment protection and relocation. Stricter employment protection laws over time in the current production location discourage firms' relocation abroad. While larger, more productive firms and firms with higher labour intensities have, ceteris paribus, higher propensities to relocate, they also face higher exit barriers if the country from which they consider relocating has strict employment protection laws. Our predictions are supported empirically, using firm level panel data for 28 OECD countries over the period 1997-2007.

\*\* EMPLOYMENT.

## GENDER GAP

9. Maasoumi, Esfandiar and Wang, Le

**The Gender Gap between Earnings Distributions.**

JOURNAL OF POLITICAL ECONOMY, 127(5), 2019(October): 2438-2504

We advocate a different approach to measure the gender gap, summarizing each distribution by suitable evaluative functions and computing the difference between the evaluations. Unlike the conventional approach, ours does not assume rank invariance. We discuss the decision-theoretic framework behind different functions and introduce measures based on entropy functions. We further adopt quantile-copula approaches to account for selection into full-time employment and discuss how to take into account

nonmarket values in measuring the gap. The evolution of the gender gap depends on the measure of it and whether nonmarket values are incorporated. We further assess and challenge a variety of assumptions, hypotheses, and findings in the literature.

\*\* GENDER GAP.

## GLOBALISATION

10. Nayyar, Deepak

[The future of Globalisation - Learning from History.](#)

ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WEEKLY, 54(44), 2019(9th November): 30-37

An analysis of globalisation in a historical perspective can help us understand how the past or the present may shape the future. In so doing, this article outlines the contours of the present era of globalisation since its inception, circa 1975, to find that the successive epochs of globalisation during the second millennium came to an abrupt end because of their own consequences embedded in the process. Given this, the article seeks to focus on the present conjuncture, at the intersection of economics and politics, when globalisation is again in crisis to reflect on its future.

\*\* GLOBALISATION.

## INDUSTRIAL POLICY

11. Rotemberg, Martin

[Equilibrium effects of firm subsidies.](#)

AMERICAN ECONOMIC REVIEW, 109(10), 2019(October): 3475-3513

Subsidy programs have two countervailing effects on firms: direct gains for eligible firms and indirect losses for those whose competitors are eligible. In 2006, India changed the eligibility criteria for small-firm subsidies, and the sales of newly eligible firms grew by roughly 35 percent. Competitors of the newly eligible firms were affected, with almost complete crowd-out within products that were less internationally traded, but little crowd-out for more-traded products. The newly eligible firms had relatively high marginal

products, so relaxing the eligibility criteria for subsidies increased aggregate productivity by around 1è2 percent. Targeting different firms could have led to similar gains.

\*\* INDUSTRIAL POLICY.

## INFRASTRUCTURE

12. Mishra, Alka

**Infrastructure development in school education.**

KURUKSHETRA, 2019(November): 39-42

During last two decades a major emphasis has been given on improving school environment by different educational programmes like Operation Blackboard, District Primary ducation Programme (DPEP), Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA)and Samagra Siksha, in order to enhance regular participation of students and finally resulting in improvement in their learning levels.

\*\* INFRASTRUCTURE.

## LABOR DISCRIMINATION

13. Kleven, Henrik Landais, Camille and Søgaard,Jako

**Children and Gender Inequality: Evidence from Denmark.**

AMERICAN ECONOMIC JOURNAL: APPLIED ECONOMICS, 11(4),  
2019(October): 181-209

Using Danish administrative data, we study the impacts of children on gender inequality in the labor market. The arrival of children creates a long-run gender gap in earnings of around 20 percent driven by hours worked, participation, and wage rates. We identify mechanisms driving these "child penalties" in terms of occupation, sector, and firm choices. We find that the fraction of gender inequality caused by child penalties has featured a dramatic increase over the last three to four decades. Finally, we show that child penalties are transmitted through generations, from parents to daughters, suggesting an influence of childhood environment on gender identity.



\*\* LABOR DISCRIMINATION.

14. Dube, Arindrajit

**Minimum Wages and the Distribution of Family Incomes.**

A MERICAN ECONOMIC JOURNAL: APPLIED ECONOMICS, 11(4),  
2019(October): 268-304

There is robust evidence that higher minimum wages increase family incomes at the bottom of the distribution. The long-run (3 or more years) minimum wage elasticity of the non-elderly poverty rate with respect to the minimum wage ranges between  $-0.220$  and  $-0.459$  across alternative specifications. The long-run minimum wage elasticity's for the tenth and fifteenth unconditional quintiles of family income range between  $0.152$  and  $0.430$  depending on specification. A reduction in public assistance partly offsets these income gains, which are on average 66 percent as large when using an expanded income definition including tax credits and noncash transfers

15. Kaur, Supreet

**Nominal Wage Rigidity in Village Labor Markets.**

AMERICAN ECONOMIC REVIEW, 109(10), 2019(October): 3585-3616

This paper develops a new approach to test for downward wage rigidity by examining transitory shocks to labor demand (i.e., rainfall) across 600 Indian districts. Nominal wages rise during positive shocks but do not fall during droughts. In addition, transitory positive shocks generate ratcheting: after they have dissipated, wages do not adjust back down. Ratcheting reduces employment by 9 percent, indicating that rigidities distort employment levels. Inflation, which is unaffected by local rainfall, enables downward real wage adjustments-offering causal evidence for its labor market effects. Surveys suggest that individuals believe nominal wage cuts are unfair and lead to effort reductions.

\*\* LABOUR

## MONETARY POLICY

16. Camous, Antoine and Cooper, Russell

**"Whatever It Takes" Is all you need: Monetary Policy and Debt Fragility.**

AMERICAN ECONOMIC JOURNAL: MACROECONOMICS, 11(4), 2019 (October): 38-81

The valuation of government debt is subject to strategic uncertainty. Pessimistic lenders, fearing default, bid down the price of debt, leaving a government with a higher debt burden. This increases the likelihood of default, thus confirming the pessimism of lenders. Can monetary interventions mitigate debt fragility? With one-period commitment to a state-contingent policy, the monetary authority can indeed overcome strategic uncertainty. Under discretion, debt fragility remains unless reputation effects are sufficiently strong. Simpler forms of interventions, such as an inflation target, cannot eliminate debt fragility.

\*\* MONETARY POLICY.

17. Ikeda, Daisuke and Kurozumi, Takushi

**Slow Post-financial crisis recovery and Monetary Policy.**

AMERICAN ECONOMIC JOURNAL: MACROECONOMICS, 11(4), 2019 (October): 82-112

Post-financial crisis recoveries tend to be slow and accompanied by slowdowns in total factor productivity (TFP) and permanent losses in GDP. To prevent them, how should monetary policy be conducted? We address this issue by developing a model with endogenous TFP growth in which an adverse financial shock can induce a slow recovery. In the model, a welfare-maximizing monetary policy rule features a strong response to output, and the welfare gain from output stabilization is much larger than when TFP expands exogenously. Moreover, inflation stabilization results in a sizable welfare loss, while nominal GDP stabilization works well, albeit causing high interest rate volatility.

\*\* MONETARY POLICY.

## SANITATION

18. Dayal, Anuj

**Delhi Metro: Sanitation in public places.**

YOJANA, 2019(November): 42-44

Over 30 lakh footfall, on an average, every day would bring enormous challenges in terms of sanitation and hygiene for any public - transport system. Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) is continuously working towards developing a sustainable model to maintain world class public hygiene and sanitation across its premises. The article discusses its success story and evolution highlighting the efforts made in last two decades. .

\*\* SANITATION.

19. Gangwar, Santosh Kumar

**Sanitation economy and dignity of the sanitation workers.**

YOJANA, 2019(November): 7-13

This article intends to highlight the first major initiative towards sanitation was the Swachh Bharat Mission with an aim to accelerate sanitation coverage to achieve a clean and Open Defecation Free India by 2nd October, 2019. Sanitation workers are one of the major contributors to the vision of combatting pollutions. However, the workers involved in this occupation suffer from social stigma, especially the manual scavengers. Our government has taken a number of steps to effect changes in the perception of the people towards the sanitation workers. .

\*\* SANITATION.

20. Mohanty, Ranjita and Dwivedi, Anju

**Culture and Sanitation in Small Towns - An Ethnographic Study of Angul and Dhenkanal in Odisha.**

ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WEEKLY, 54(41), 2019(12th October): 51-57

In the current sanitation policy discourse, cultural norms of purity and pollution are considered major obstacles to toilet use, leading to an emphasis on behavioural change. A

recent study of slums in Angul and Dhenkanal-two small towns in Odisha-shows that culture does not operate in isolation. It is determined by multiple factors such as the availability of physical space in urban areas, the resources to be invested, essential infrastructure such as water, and accessible, cost-effective technology. There are aspects of culture that people compromise on, but certain cultural norms are non-negotiable. This calls for a decoding of the cultural determinants of sanitation.

\*\* SANITATION.

## TOURISM

21. Corvo, Paolo

**Tourist Industry: Sustainability and local versus global consumer happiness.**

INDIAN JOURNAL OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, 65(3), 2019 (September):  
661-678

Sustainability and the pursuit of happiness are concepts frequently used in the academic community as well as in the ordinary language. It is objectively difficult to define these terms and their characteristics as well as everything that is fashionable and trendy (Bauman, 1998, *Globalization. The human consequences*. Cambridge, UK: Polity Press; 2005, *Liquid life*. Cambridge, UK: Polity Press). Tourism applies both phenomena, as many accommodation facilities follow sustainable practices or are inspired by them. Moreover, desire for well-being represents one of the most important needs of the contemporary postmodern society, and it affects many tourists' choices. These features are not always well-balanced in tour operators' travel and holiday offers and in the protagonists' experience. Moreover, the economic and global crisis, started in 2008, is causing deep transformations in the consumers' habits and is posing a further element of complexity. With particular reference to Asian contexts of tourism, the article particularly focuses on how the tourism industry has become interested in a return to nature, rural themes and related aspects of slow tourism.

\*\* TOURISM.

## UNEMPLOYMENT

22. Eeckhout, Jan and Lindenlaub, Ilse

### Unemployment cycles.

AMERICAN ECONOMIC JOURNAL: MACROECONOMICS, 11(4), 2019  
(October): 175-234

The labor market by itself can create cyclical outcomes, even in the absence of exogenous shocks. We propose a theory in which the search behaviour of the employed has profound aggregate implications for the unemployed. There is a strategic complementarity between active on-the-job search and vacancy posting by firms, which leads to multiple equilibria: in the presence of sorting, active on-the-job search improves the quality of the pool of searchers. This encourages vacancy posting, which in turn makes costly on-the-job search more attractive—a self-fulfilling equilibrium. The model provides a rationale for the Jobless Recovery, the outward shift of the Beveridge curve during the boom and for procyclical frictional wage dispersion. Central to the model's mechanism is the fact that the employed crowd out the unemployed when on-the-job search picks up during recovery. We also illustrate this mechanism in a stylized calibration exercise.

\*\* UNEMPLOYMENT.