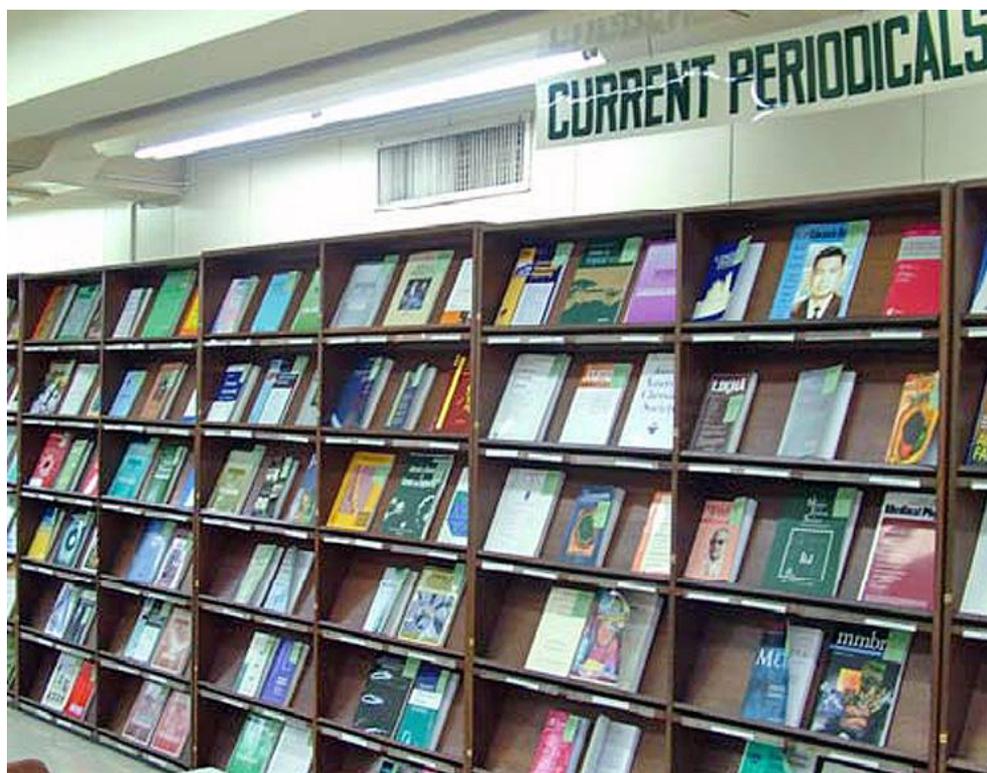




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AGRICULTURE

- 1 Saxena, Jagdeep
Farmers' welfare holds the key.
YOJANA, 61(10), 2017(October): 22-25

Article provides a detailed analysis of the agrarian reforms implemented by the Government during the last three years and its positive impacts on the economy. Accordingly the new vision aims to reduce agrarian distress and bring parity between income of farmers and those working in non-agricultural professions. Indian agriculture sector, in its revamped version, has now geared-up to realize the dream of New India.

** AGRICULTURE.

CHILD MALNUTRITION

- 2 Jayachandran, Seema and Pande, Rohini
Why are Indian children so short? : The role of birth order and son preference
AMERICAN ECONOMIC REVIEW, 107(9), 2017(September): 2600-2629

This article discusses child stunting in India exceeds that in poorer regions like sub-Saharan Africa. Data on over 168,000 children show that, relative to Africa, India's height disadvantage increases sharply with birth order. We posit that India's steep birth order gradient is due to favoritism toward eldest sons, which affects parents' fertility decisions and resource allocation across children. We show that, within India, the gradient is steeper for high-son-preference regions and religions. The gradient also varies with sibling gender as predicted. A back-of-the-envelope calculation suggests that India's steeper birth order gradient can explain over one-half of the India-Africa gap in average child height.

** CHILD MALNUTRITION.

CULTURE

- 3 Desmet, Klaus , Ortuño-Ortín, Ignacio and Wacziarg
Culture, ethnicity, and diversity.
AMERICAN ECONOMIC REVIEW, 107(9), 2017 (September): 2479-2513

In this paper we investigate the empirical relationship between ethnicity and culture, defined as a vector of traits reflecting norms, values, and attitudes. Using survey data for 76 countries, we find that ethnic identity is a significant predictor of cultural values, yet that within-group variation in culture trumps between group variation. Thus, in contrast to a commonly held view, ethnic and cultural diversity are unrelated. Although only a small portion of a country's overall cultural heterogeneity occurs between groups, we find that various political economy outcomes (such as civil conflict and public goods provision) worsen when there is greater overlap between ethnicity and culture.

** CULTURE.

ECONOMICS

- 4 Prettner, Klaus and Trimborn, Timo
Demographic change and R&D-based economic growth.
ECONOMICA, 84(336), 2017(October): 667-681

Article describes in the second half of the 20th century, most industrialized countries experienced declining fertility, rising life expectancy and a slowdown of population growth. Standard models of R&D-based growth predict that a decline in population growth reduces economic growth. We argue that this implication hinges on the assumption of infinitely lived individuals. The semi-endogenous growth model with overlapping generations that we propose implies a negative relationship between population growth and economic growth during a substantial part of the transitional dynamics if the decline in population growth is accompanied by an increase in life expectancy as observed in industrialized countries.

** ECONOMICS.

EMPLOYMENT

- 5 Mehrotra, Santosh and Sinha, Sharmistha
Explaining falling female employment during a high growth period.
ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WEEKLY, 52(39), 2017(30th September): 54-62

In this paper, what explains the decline of the already low female labour force participation rate in India, particularly during a period of rapid economic growth? Women's economic participation is influenced by interrelated factors, each important unto itself. Increased attendance in educational institutions, declining child labour, higher household income levels, structural shift away from agricultural employment, and increased mechanisation of agriculture were some of the factors found to be driving female employment trends. Additionally, it was found that in rural areas the decline in animal husbandry, and in urban areas a fall in international demand for products of labour-intensive industries, have also contributed to the decline as women were the main employees in these sectors. Policy must create an enabling environment for women's economic participation in India.

** EMPLOYMENT

FISCAL POLICY

- 6 Miguel, José, Costa, Cardoso and Vivien Lewis
Fiscal policy and inflation in a monetary union.
ECONOMICA, 84(336), 2017(October): 779-796

This article focuses on study optimal fiscal policies in a small monetary union country. The government uses nominal non-state-contingent debt and distortionary labour taxes to finance exogenous spending. Price levels differ across countries due to consumption home bias; thus fiscal Policy influences inflation and the terms of trade. Prices are flexible. We show that, unlike in a country with an independent monetary policy, some variability in labour taxes is optimal. With nominal public debt there is an incentive to use taxes to inflate in bad times when debt levels are high, reminiscent of the optimal monetary policy result of Chari et al. (1991).

** FISCAL POLICY.

HEALTH

7 Sekhsaria, Pankaj

[How users configure producer identities.](#)

ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WEEKLY, 52(40), 2017(7th October): 57-64

This article describes the challenges in dealing with retinoblastoma, a cancer of the eye affecting little children, are multiple and interrelated, involving medical, technological, economic and social factors. This article explores their interrelatedness, through a narrative anchored around the work and experience of two tertiary eye care hospitals in India. It seeks to illustrate that users not only influence care-providers, they can play a key role in forging producer identities. The girl child who comes to the clinic with the tumour is representative of many users. In responding to different complexities, the clinician emerges as an entity with multiple identities- as a -clinician-scientist-social activist.

** HEALTH.

LABOUR

8 Shyam Sundar, K R

[Labour law, governance reforms, and protests: Are they legitimate?](#)

ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WEEKLY, 52(40), 2017(23rd September): 59-66

Employers and critics of labour regulation have been arguing for the liberalisation of labour laws, and for governance and compliance systems, following the liberalisation of the product market to enable firms to respond swiftly and suitably to fast-changing market conditions. The trade unions opposed this even as the government was seemingly favourably disposed towards employers' demands. The countrywide strikes that have taken place since 1991 have become controversial not merely due to their high frequency but also for their lack of legitimacy as reforms appear to be a foregone conclusion and the protest politics seems to be vain and economically hurting the nation. This paper explores the dynamics of the countrywide strikes and examines whether some of the demands of trade unions are justified.

** LABOUR.

POVERTY

9 Bathla, Seema

[Where to invest to accelerate agricultural growth and poverty reduction.](#)

ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WEEKLY, 52(39), 2017(30th September): 36-45

This article aims to understand the drivers that helped India achieve the challenging targets of the Millennium Development Goal of reducing poverty before 2015. Have increased public investments or farm subsidies contributed to reducing rural poverty, directly through various public spending schemes or indirectly through increased agricultural land productivity? Utilising a structural equation to answer this question for the period 1981-82 to 2013-14, it was found that education and agricultural research and development produced the highest marginal returns for promoting agricultural income, while investments in rural infrastructure development and health provisions are the most effective in reducing rural poverty.

** POVERTY.

10 Sinha, Amarjeet

Enabling opportunities for rural India.

YOJANA, 61(10), 2017(October): 13-16

The article is about tackling rural poverty in India and it has mentioned the Governments' convergent approach that is seen as Mission Antyodaya, a mission to address the multi-dimensionality of poverty.

** POVERTY.

11 Sur, Sayantani

Bodies in poverty: Family planning and poverty removal in India

ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WEEKLY, 52(40), 2017(7th October): 48-56

This article describes how and when did family planning become a blanket term for population control as well as poverty alleviation in India? How did contraception emerge as an economic virtue in family planning discourse, instead of a corporeal one? This paper interrogates whether poverty was the reigning theme in family planning, or the body, as the states especially during the Emergency moved from indirect interventions on the bodies of the poor through sterilisation programmes, incentives and disincentives, to the elimination of the poor themselves by demolishing their homes. When material poverty flowed into bodily poverty and transformed into an identity, Garibi Hatao became Garib Hatao.

** POVERTY.

SWACHH BHARAT MISSION

12 Iyer, Parameswaran

Creating a clean India.

YOJANA, 61(10), 2017(October): 7-11

The article has emphasized on Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM). The Article opines that SBM has become an even stronger force through the country and is inspiring people to play their part in this transformational journey.

** SWACHH BHARAT MISSION.

13 Jha, Padma Kant and Singh, Yogesh Kumar

SBM: effective communication strategy for behaviour change.

KURUKSHETRA, 65(12), 2017(October): 15-18

Authors is Deputy Adviser and Young Professional in NITI Aayog .

Article explain about swachh Bharat Mission on 23rd of September, 2017, Prime Minister did shramdaan and contributed to build a twin pit toilet in Varanasi. His repeated personal contribution shows his commitment to cleanliness. He also praised for naming Shouchalaya as Izzat Ghar. During his 'Mann ki Baat' address on 27th of August 2017, he called upon the nation to undertake a campaign, 'Swachhta hi Sewa (Cleanliness is Service), from September 15 2017 to Gandhi jayanti. These these types of gestures will definitely help in making Swachhata a Jan Andolan (People Movement).

** SWACHH BHARAT MISSION.

TRADE

14 Brandt, Loren and others

WTO accession and performance of Chinese manufacturing firms.

AMERICAN ECONOMIC REVIEW, 107(9), 2017(September): 2784-2820

This article examines the effects of trade liberalization in China on the evolution of mark-ups and productivity of manufacturing firms. Although these dimensions of performance cannot be separately identified when firm output is measured by revenue, detailed price deflators make it possible to estimate the average effect of tariff reductions on both. Several novel findings emerge. First, cuts in output tariffs reduce mark-ups, but raise productivity. Second, pro-competitive effects are most important among incumbents, while efficiency gains dominate for new entrants. Third, cuts in input tariffs raise both mark-ups and productivity. We highlight mechanisms that explain these findings in the Chinese context.

** TRADE.

WOMEN

15 Sinha, R K

Triple Talaq verdict: A victory for muslim women.

YOJANA, 61(10), 2017(October)

The article describes significance of the recent historic judgement by the Supreme Court, which has liberated the Muslim women from the practice of Triple Talaq.

** WOMEN.