AGRICULTURE

1. Haque, T and P K Joshi

**Agricultural transformation in inspirational districts of India: Comparative Analysis of Districts in Bihar**

ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WEEKLY, 53(51), 2018(December, 29):35-43

NITI Aayog is presently anchoring a programme to help develop 115 aspirational districts which can potentially catch up with the best district within the same state and subsequently become one of the best in the country. The composite index for identification of districts is problematic thereby excluding many relatively underdeveloped districts and including several that are more developed than the aspirational category in terms of per capita district domestic product or per capita agricultural income or yield of principal crops. However, a comparative analysis of the inspirational, non-inspirational and frontier districts in Bihar reveals that strategy for bridging the inter-district gaps should be sector-, location- and enterprise-specific. While irrigation, education, farm and non-farm diversification hold the key for acceleration of agricultural development in both inspirational and undeveloped districts, urbanisation, energy consumption and development of location-specific infrastructure would be essential for overall economic development.

** AGRICULTURE.

2. Kaur, Pavneet and Singhla, Navneet

**Can Contract Farming Double Farmers Income?**

ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WEEKLY, 53(51), 2018(December,29) :68-73

This article focus on double farmersX income by 2022, the central government has enacted a separate model contract farming act in 2018 based on the perception that contract farming is one of the several pathways for doubling farm income. However, findings from primary surveys in Moga, Tarn Taran and Amritsar districts in Punjab, reveal that despite bringing in new crops, technologies and markets for farmers, contract farming excludes the smallholder farmers. Unless such arrangements can protect the interests of the smallholders who constitute
almost four-fifth of India’s farming population, doubling farm income will remain elusive.

**AGRICULTURE.**

3. Sekhar, C S C, Tripathi, Amarnath and Bhatt, Yoges

**Ensuring MSP to Farmers: Are deficiency payment an option?**

ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WEEKLY, 53(51), 2018(December, 29):50-57

The paper is based on an evaluation study carried out for the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers’ Welfare (MoA&FW). In the wake of the central government’s minimum support prices hike for kharif 2018-19, the state government in Madhya Pradesh implemented a variant of the deficiency payments system called the Bhavantar Bhugtan Yojana for compensating the farmers when market prices fell below MSP. Besides the problems of long delays in payments to farmers, large transaction costs that farmers incurred due to multiple registrations, and the disposal of inferior quality produce by farmers, a major limitation of BBY is that it is a counter-cyclical payment, insulating farmers from the market by ignoring the demand side completely. A differentiated MSP based on quality and dovetailing with electronic National Agriculture Market may help address some of these problems. A carefully designed price deficiency payment system with partial procurement and dovetailing with e-NAM and other ways of ensuring MSP to farmers, such as direct payments and participation of private sector, are also discussed.

**AGRICULTURE.**

4. Singh, Sukhpal

**Reforming Agricultural Markets in India: A tale of two model acts**

ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WEEKLY, 53(51), 2018(December, 29):44-49

The union Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers’ Welfare had prescribed a model Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee Act in 2003. The state-level adoption of the act has been tardy and varied in terms of both the magnitude and content of agricultural market reforms. Yet, the ministry under the current central government has come up with another model act, the Agricultural Produce and Livestock Marketing (Promotion and
Facilitation) Act, 2017, supposedly an improvement over the 2003 act. Among other things, the provision that has grabbed much attention is the removal of contract farming from the APMC domain to a separate model act of Agricultural Produce and Livestock Contract Farming and Services (Promotion and Facilitation). Analysing these draft acts, the paper finds that both the model acts suffer from serious conceptual lacunae that have implications for their application and governance, and, consequently, for inclusive and sustainable agricultural development.

**AGRICULTURE.

5. Swaminathan, M S

**Capitalizing on technology for farmers' welfare.**
YOJANA, 63(1), 2019(January): 12-15

This article focus on to improve the economic viability of farming by ensuring that farmers earn a minimum net income and encase that agricultural progress is measured by the advance made in improving that income.

**AGRICULTURE.

ATAL INNOVATION MISSION

6. Ramanan, R

**Contributing to a knowledge based revolution.**
YOJANA, 63(1), 2019(January): 29-32

Atal Innovation Mission is to create and promote a world class innovation and entrepreneurial ecosystem throughout the length and breadth of our country and to provide such an innovation ecosystem that will also transform our job seekers to job creators of the future. That is why Atal Innovation Mission initiatives are so important and need to be embraced by all. The children and youth of our country deserve it. We all need to collectively make it happen.

**ATAL INNOVATION MISSION.**
ECONOMICS PERFORMANCE

7. Kuran, Timur
   **Islam and economic performance: historical and contemporary links**
   JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC LITERATURE, LVI (4), 2018(December): 1292-1359

   This essay critically evaluates the analytic literature concerned with causal connections between Islam and economic performance. It focuses on works since 1997, when this literature was last surveyed comprehensively. Among the findings are the following: Ramzan fast by pregnant women harms prenatal development; Islamic charities mainly benefit the middle class; Islam affects educational outcomes less through Islamic schooling than through structural factors that handicap learning as a whole.

   **ECONOMICS PERFORMANCE.**

EMPOWERMENT OF RURAL YOUTH

8. Chadha, Anupriya
   **Education initiatives for rural youth.**
   KURUKSHETRA, 67(3), 2019(January): 15-19

   At this time, when India is governed by the targets laid down in sustainable development goals, development without the active involvement of youth may not be possible. Their ideas are the key to harness the demographic dividend and would pave the way to hold human rights, gender equality, human capital and dignity at the centre of all investment.

   **EMPOWERMENT OF RURAL YOUTH.**

9. Srija, A
   **Empowerment of youth through skilling.**
   KURUKSHETRA, 67(3), 2019(January): 11-13

   This article focuses on National Apprenticeship Promotion Schemes(NAPS), Start-Up Village Entrepreneurship Programme(SVEP), Rural Self Employment Training Institutes(RSETIs),
National Employability Enhancement Mission, National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), Pravasi Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PKVY), Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS) and National Council of Vocational Education and Training.

** EMPOWERMENT OF RURAL YOUTH.**

10. Tomer, Narendra Singh

   **Empowerment of rural youth.**
   KURUKSHETRA, 67(3), 2019(January): 5-10

   The pace of development of our villages has accelerated and it has positively impacted the empowerment of youth in rural areas. The need of the hour is not only to provide rural youth education and skill training at par with international level and maintain current pace of providing them suitable employment and self-employment, but also take the pledge to enhance the momentum constantly.

   **EMPOWERMENT OF RURAL YOUTH.**

ENDOWMENT EFFECT

11. Anagol, Santosh, Balasubramaniam, Vimal and Ramado

   **Endowment effects in the filed: evidence from India's IPO lotteries**

   We study a unique field experiment in India in which 1.5 million stock investors face lotteries for the random allocation of shares. We find that the winners of these roll assigned initial public offering (IPO) lottery shares are significantly more likely to hold them lottery losers 1,6 and even 24 months after the random allocation. This fit strongly evokes laboratory findings of an endowment effect for risky gambles and persist in samples of highly active investors, suggesting along with additional eve this behaviour is not driven by inertia alone.

   **ENDOWMENT EFFECT.**
GOVERNANCE

12. Reddy, C Achalender and Chakraborty, Avik

*Improving governance in public system.*
YOJANA, 63(1), 2019(January): 39-42

This article describes about that innovations in public systems are indispensable and it is both a continuous process as well as a result. It is also specific area of high importance where tools, methods and approaches are facilitates identification, documentation and replication of innovations.

**GOVERNANCE; INNOVATIONS.**