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1. Sharma Ankita and Sengupta Hindol
   **India’s New Farm Bills: Ushering in Agriculture 2.0**
   Kurukshetra: November 2020

   India’s new farm bills carry within them the promise of self-reliant prosperity, and they are also likely to trigger a digital revolution in Indian agriculture, Smart implementation of the new farm bills will lead to four significant changes. An increase in farmer’s income, the rise of agr-entrepreneurs, massive private investments in agriculture, and a jump in farm product exports. Put together, this package of legislations seeks to open up the farming at both ends – production (through Contract farming) and sale (through complete deregulation). But most importantly these bills will diffuse technology and innovation into the most traditional sector of the Indian economy.

2. Saxena, Jagdeep
   **Agriculture: Saviour of Economy**
   Yojana: November 2020

   To Sustain Agricultural growth and boost rural economy in post Covid era, it is crucial to have a robust infrastructure in place to support farm and farm processing based activities, Government Soon launched and implemented farmer –friendly schemes, reforms and financial incentives to ensure timely agricultural operations in fields. The next step is to bring the advantages of these reforms to the doorstep of farmers for their welfare and prosperity.

3. R Ramanan, Agrawal, Naman and Agrawal, Himanshu
   **Innovation and Entrepreneurship for Sustainable Growth**
   Kurukshetra: November 2020
   R Ramanan, Additional Secretary and Mission Director, NITI Aayog

   Promoting Entrepreneurship and Startups will ensure an unprecedented wave of long deserved growth, prosperity and well-being that can serve the interest of the rest of the world as well as the spirit of New India. Creating a nation of job-creators and not just
job–seeker is important for a sustainable growth. And central to this, is the need for an extensive collaboration between corporate industry, academia, and government at the village, district, state and central level.

**BUSINESS**

4. Angeletos, George-Marios Collard, Fabrice and Dellas, Harris

*Business-Cycle Anatomy*

American Economic Review: Vol. 110 No. 10 October 2020

We propose a new strategy for dissecting the macroeconomic time series, provide a template for the business-cycle propagation mechanism that best describes the data, and use its properties to appraise models of both the parsimonious and the medium-scale variety. Our findings support the existence of a main business-cycle driver but rule out the following candidates for this role: technology or other shocks that map to TFP movements; news about future productivity; and inflationary demand shocks of the textbook type. Models aimed at accommodating demand-driven cycles without a strict reliance on nominal rigidity appear promising.

5. Marta Lachowska, Alexandre Mas and Stephen A. Woodbury

*Sources of Displaced Workers' Long-Term Earnings Losses*

American Economic Review: Vol. 110 No. 10 October 2020

We estimate the magnitudes of reduced earnings, work hours, and wage rates of workers displaced during the Great Recession using linked employer-employee panel data from Washington state. Displaced workers' earnings losses occurred mainly because hourly wage rates dropped at the time of displacement and recovered sluggishly. Lost employer-specific premiums explain only 17 percent of these losses. Fully 70 percent of displaced workers moved to employers paying the same or higher wage premiums than the displacing employers, but these workers nevertheless suffered substantial wage rate losses. Loss of valuable specific worker-employer matches explains more than one-half of the wage losses.
6. Henderson, J. Vernon and Turner, Matthew A.

**Urbanization in the Developing World: Too Early or Too Slow?**

Journal of Economic Perspectives: Volume 34, No. 3 summer 2020

We describe patterns of urbanization in the developing world and the extent to which they differ from the developed world. We consider the extent to which urbanization in the developing world can be explained by conventional models of spatial equilibrium. Despite their relative poverty, developing world cities are relatively highly productive and often provide good access to safe water, improved sanitation, schooling, and inoculations. In some parts of the world, they are home to a surprisingly small number of factory workers and a surprisingly large number of farmers. Developing world cities seem to do less well at protecting their residents from lifestyle diseases and crime, their female residents from domestic violence, and their children from illness. In thinking about these facts, we note that one strand of the literature focused on structural transformation has suggested that urbanization in the developing is occurring "too early," while another strand argues that urbanization is occurring "too slow" to be consistent with conventional models of spatial equilibrium. Despite many differences between developing and developed world cities, our new results combined with those in the literature suggest that models of spatial equilibrium can be adapted as a useful guide to understanding the urbanization process in the developing world.

7. Lagakos, David

**Urban-Rural Gaps in the Developing World: Does Internal Migration Offer Opportunities?**

Journal of Economic Perspectives: Volume 34, No. 3 Summer 2020

This article provides an overview of the growing literature on urban-rural gaps in the developing world. I begin with recent evidence on the size of the gaps as measured by consumption, income, and wages, and argue that the gaps are real rather than just nominal. I then discuss the role of sorting more able workers into urban areas and review an array of recent evidence on outcomes from rural-urban migration. Overall, migrants do experience substantial gains on average, though smaller than suggested by the cross-sectional gaps. I conclude that future work should help further explore the frictions—in particular, information, financial, and in land markets—that hold back rural-urban migration and may help explain the persistence of urban-rural gaps.
EDUCATION

8. Chattopadhyay, Saumen
   National Education Policy, 2020 - An Uncertain Future for Indian Higher Education
   Economic and Political Weekly, Vol. 55, Issue No. 46, 21 November, 2020

   The National Education Policy, 2020 unveiled finally seeks to usher in major structural reforms in higher education. Among many measures, revamping of the entire regulatory structure to construct a system based on enhancing students’ choice in opting for courses assumes critical significance. This has the potential to obliterate the concepts of time and space associated with a university. This innocuous measure will serve the purpose of fostering competition among the higher education institutions to improve their performance primarily under the surveillance of the National Accreditation Council and other institutions, with a renewed thrust on going online amid the pandemic.

HEALTH

9. Paul, Sohini
   Inequality in the Utilisation of Maternal Healthcare Services - Evidence from Indian States
   Economic and Political Weekly, Vol. 55, Issue No. 45, 07 November, 2020

   How the pattern of inequality in maternal healthcare service utilisation has evolved after the adoption of the National Rural Health Mission in 2005 is analysed here and the absolute as well as relative measures of inequality at the state level are estimated. National Family Health Survey data from the third round (2006) and the fourth round (2016) shows that inequality has declined but poor women in poor states still have a long way to go to catch up with even the poor in rich states. By 2016, 10 years after the implementation of the NRHM, the utilisation of maternal healthcare services by poor women in well-performing states was higher than the utilisation of similar services by rich women in poorly performing states.

10. Borooah, Vani Kant
    Sanitation and Hygiene in India - The Role of Development
    Economic and Political Weekly, Vol. 55, Issue No. 47, 28 November, 2020
Using data from the India Human Development Survey, this examination of toilet possession and personal hygiene in India shows that the strongest influences on households in India having a toilet were their circumstances: standard of living, educational level, and whether they possessed ancillary amenities. However, toilet possession depended also on households’ social environment; households in more developed villages were more likely to have a toilet than those in less developed villages. Open defecation is due to a lack of development and not because caste, ritual pollution, and untouchability instil in rural Indians a preference for defecating in the open.

INDUSTRY

11. Sabnavis Madan

Changing Landscape
Yojana: November 2020

The Major Change in the landscape of Indian business will be the right irrelevance or gradual diminution in the importance of several service industries on account of the pandemic-induced lockdown which has changed the way in which business function. First the future of commercial real estate has been questioned as companies have found that work-from-home (WFH) has been a convenient way of getting work done and there are saving to be made in term of lease and rent

LABOUR

12. Timothy J. Bartik

Using Place-Based Jobs Policies to Help Distressed Communities
Journal of Economic Perspectives: Volume 34, No. 3 Summer 2020

Place-based jobs policies seek to create jobs in particular local labor markets. Such policies include business incentives provided by state and local governments, which cost almost 50 billion USD annually. The most persuasive rationale for these policies is that they can advance equity and efficiency by increasing long-term employment rates in distressed local labor markets. However, current incentives are not targeted at distressed areas. Furthermore, incentives have high costs per job created. Lower costs can be achieved by public services to business, such as manufacturing extension, customized job training, and infrastructure. Reforms to place-based jobs policies should focus on greater targeting of distressed areas and using more cost-effective policies.
Such reforms could be achieved by state and local governments acting in their residents' interests or could be encouraged by federal interventions to cap incentives and provide aid to distressed areas.

13. Patankar, Juthika & Mishra, Maneesh  
**SANKALP for Employment**  
Yojana: November 2020

The skill training ecosystem must take an interchanged must take an integrated view of existing and potential demand, trainees, training providers and employers. Considering the demographic, economic, cultural and resources diversity of India, putting such an ecosystem in places would such as ecosystem in place would continue to be an in-progress project for a long while.

14. Kumar Manish  
**PPP: Bridging Skill Gaps**  
Yojana: November 2020

As we move towards becoming an ‘Aatmanirbhar Bharat,’ it is important to focus on advancement of skills in line with the emerging economic realities of the market. Give this, there is an need for the government and private sector to work together to address skill gaps and link supply with demand and vice-versa. Equipped with the right skill to meet the emerging demand of the new industrial era, the youth will be the torchbearers of India’s march to becoming a self–reliant nation.

**MONETARY POLICY**

15. Patra, Michael D  
**India’s Monetary Policy**  
Yojana: November 2020

Monetary Policy is all about balancing the desirable and the feasible. Ensuring macroeconomics stability as reflected in low and stable prices is its biggest contribution to strong, Sustainable an inclusive growth in India. Its main objective is to ensure that
an economy grows steadily along a path in which all available resources such as labour and capital are gainfully employed, or in other words, along its potential.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT

16. Dutt, Pankhuri

**Rural Women Entrepreneurs: Empowering a new India**

Kurukshetra: November 2020

Pankhuri Dutt, Public Policy Consultant, NITI Aayog

Over the years, the government has taken active steps towards improving the literacy rates among women in the rural India. NITI Aayog Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEF) is one such digital initiative that aims to reduce the information asymmetry for women entrepreneurs. Launched in 2018, this online platform collaborates with public and private sector organisations and brings information on all women focused schemes, initiatives and programmes in one portal.

17. Lone Irtif

**Start-up Ecosystem in Rural India**

Kurukshetra: November 2020

In India, the start-up eco-system has a great extent in the last decade. It started from a few metropolitans such as that a Bangalore, which many a times has been referred to as the Silicon Valley of India and then spilling to Mumbai, Delhi and Hyderabad. Start-ups have also become drivers of growth and prosperity, delivering jobs, and bringing socio-economic development to the countries both developed and developing.