



नीति आयोग

NITI AAYOG



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AGRICULTURE

01. **S D Kulkarni**

[From 50 Years Ago: Law and the Adivasis: Story of the Peasants of Akkalkuva](#)

[EPW, Vol. 60, Issue No. 26 & 27, 28 Jun & 05 July, 2025](#)

The history of these Mehwassi states is interesting. *The Gazetteer* of the Bombay Presidency published in 1880 describes the Mehwassi states as half-independent lands of the Mehwas. British rule over Khandesh was established by July 1818. However, there were repeated Bhil revolts upto 1825. Even after that some Bhil uprisings took place and finally peace was established in 1859. In 1880, the region had an estimated gross yearly revenue of Rs 50,000 and a population of about 7,000. The people were generally Bhils who had some Rajput blood and were more turbulent and warlike than the Bhils of the Dangs. Civil and criminal justice was dispensed according to rules framed under Act XI of 1846. The chiefs settled petty cases, each in his own estate, punishing by fine and whipping. There was no regular police force, the chiefs maintained small bodies of 10 to 15 irregular troops, who collected revenue, attended on the chiefs and, under the Khandesh Superintendent of Police, kept order on the frontier, and performed other police duties.

02. **Anjali Sharma and Srinivas Goli**

[Feeding the Urban Poorest](#)

[EPW, Vol. 60, Issue No. 26 & 27, 28 June & 05 July, 2025](#)

Estimates from the latest NFHS suggest an alarming nutritional disadvantage among the urban poorest compared to their rural counterparts. Initiatives like the Amma (from Tamil Nadu) and Anna (from Andhra Pradesh) canteens demonstrate feasible and scalable solutions to ensure food and nutrition security among the urban poor.

03. **Smily Thakur, Baljinder Kaur Sidana, Laishram Priscilla, Sunny Kumar, Samanpreet Kaur and Amrit Kaur Mahal**

[Determinants of Farmers' Adoption of Climate-smart Agricultural Practices and Their Impact on Profitability in Punjab](#)

[EPW, Vol. 60, Issue No.30, 26 July, 2025](#)

Using multinomial logit and multivalued treatment effects models on 240 farmers surveyed in 2020–21, the paper identifies key adoption determinants, that is, household head age, operational

landholding, and farmer training. Short-duration varieties and laser land levelling increased paddy yield by 6% each, with income gains of 10.37%, 9.32%, and 9.56% for SDVs, LLL, and direct seeding of rice adopters, respectively. In wheat, super seeder, zero tillage, and happy seeder increased yields by 10%–13% and income by 16%–18%. This paper highlights the positive economic impacts of CSAPs on yield and income while also identifying the determinants of adoption in Punjab.

ECONOMICS

04. **Privanjali Mitra**

Making Households Work

[Women in Informal Economy and Social Reproduction](#)

EPW, Vol. 60, Issue No. 28, 12 July, 2025

Based on ethnographic fieldwork in an urban village of Gurugram (Haryana), this paper explores the relational dynamics of social reproduction and care work within the informal urban economy. Focusing on women's dual roles in waged work and unpaid labour, it examines how care is distributed and contested within families. Through sustained engagement with workers' everyday practices, the paper highlights the entanglements of labour and kinship, foregrounding care as relational, processual and central to working-class survival.

05. **Abdul A Erumban, Bishwanath Goldar and Suresh Chand Aggarwal**

[K L Krishna's Contributions to the Study of Economics](#)

EPW, Vol. 60, Issue No. 28, 12 July, 2025

As the leader of the India KLEMS project, supported by the Reserve Bank of India, K L Krishna contributed to developing a comprehensive industry-level database of the Indian economy, facilitating in-depth analyses of productivity across different sectors and enabling international comparisons. His legacy is one of academic excellence and compassionate mentorship, making a lasting impact on the field.

06. **Rahul Menon**

[Income Tax Cuts and the Macroeconomy](#)

EPW, Vol. 60, Issue No. 29, 19 July, 2025

Exploring the possible impact of income tax cuts on the macroeconomy, it is shown that it is a suboptimal policy as compared to government expenditure. Furthermore, the contradiction between tax cuts on personal income and tax cuts on corporate profits announced in 2019 is examined; a contradiction that has not been analysed by those praising the government's recent budgetary policies.

07. Andrew Garin, Emilie Jackson and Dmitri Koustas

[New Gig Work or Changes in Reporting? Understanding Self-Employment Trends in Tax Data](#)

[American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, Vol. 17, no. 3, July 2025](#)

We show that increases in the share of workers reporting self-employment to the IRS are not associated with changes in firm-reported payments to "gig" and other contract workers after 2005 but are driven primarily by self-reported earnings of individuals in the EITC phase-in range. We examine a regression discontinuity design that generates exogenous variation in tax rates at the end of the year after labor supply decisions are already sunk and find tax code incentives increase self-employment reporting conditional on actual labor supply. We show that reporting effects have grown over time as knowledge of the tax code spreads.

08. Fernando Cirelli and Mark Gertler

[Economic Winners versus Losers and the Unequal Pandemic Recession](#)

[American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics, Vol. 17, No. 3, July 2025](#)

During the pandemic recession, firms directly exposed to the virus—i.e. the "contact" sector—contracted sharply and recovered slowly relative to the rest of the economy. Less understood is how firms that "won" by offering safer substitutes for contact sector goods have affected this unequal downturn. Using both firm and industry data, we first construct disaggregated measures of revenue growth that distinguish between contact sector losers, contact sector winners, and the noncontact sector. We show that contact sector losers contracted roughly 50 percent more than the sector average, while winners grew. We then develop a model to explain the evidence.

09. Mario Forni, Luca Gambetti, Antonio Granese, Luca Sala and Stefano Soccorsi

[An American Macroeconomic Picture: Supply and Demand Shocks in the Frequency Domain](#)

[American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics, Vol. 17, No. 3, July 2025](#)

We provide a few new empirical facts that theoretical models should feature in order to be consistent with the data. (i) There are two classes of shocks: demand and supply. Supply shocks have long-run effects on economic activity; demand shocks do not. (ii) Both supply and demand shocks are important sources of business cycles' fluctuations. (iii) Supply shocks are the primary driver for consumption fluctuations, demand shocks for investment. (iv) The demand shock is closely related to the credit spread, while the supply shock is essentially a news shock. The results are obtained using a novel frequency domain method.

EDUCATION

10. **Peggy Mohan**

[Building Bridges through Bilingual Textbooks in India](#)

EPW, Vol. 60, Issue No. 26 & 27, 28 June & 05 July, 2025

A Suggestion for the Schooling System and Higher Education

Indian education has been plagued by the binary of teaching in English medium or local languages. Bilingual textbooks would leave teachers and students free to choose the mix that suits them, going at their own pace and concentrating on understanding the lessons. Training a cadre of efficient translators and utilizing machine translation shall help this effort.

ENVIRONMENT& ECOLOGY

11. **Smily Thakur, Baljinder Kaur Sidana, Laishram Priscilla, Sunny Kumar, Samanpreet Kaur and Amrit Kaur Mahal**

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economic impacts of CSAPs on yield and income while also identifying the determinants of adoption in Punjab.

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12. **Berkay Akyapı, Matthieu Bellon and Emanuele Massetti**

[Estimating Macroeconomic Effects of Climate Shocks from Billions of Geospatial Weather Observations](#)

[American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics, Vol. 17, no. 3, July 2025](#)

The literature studying the macroeconomics of weather has focused on temperature and precipitation annual averages, while microstudies have focused more on extreme weather measures. We construct hundreds of variables from high-frequency, high-spatial-resolution weather measurements. Using the LASSO, we identify the parsimonious subset of variables that can best explain GDP and key macroeconomic variables. We find that scarcer mild temperatures and an increase in the occurrence of high temperatures and severe droughts reduce GDP. These variables substantially improve the share of GDP variations explained by weather. Additional evidence suggests that fiscal policy mitigates these shocks.

FINANCE/BANKING

13. **Om Prakash Mathur**

[India's Municipal Finance System at a Crossroads](#)

[Vol. 60, Issue No. 26 & 27, 28 June & 05 July, 2025](#)

A Role for the Sixteenth Finance Commission?

Article 280(3)(c) is an important constitutional provision that requires the finance commissions to recommend measures for augmenting the Consolidated Fund of the state to supplement the resources of the municipalities. Finance commissions have made use of this provision to recommend grants-in-aid for municipalities to take on functions that far exceed their statutorily defined responsibilities, undertake systemic reforms, and establish protocols for ensuring compliance with the recommendations. This article explores these features of Article 280(3)(c) and takes a close look at the consequential changes in the finances and finance systems of municipalities.

14. Lisa Marie Timm, Massimo Giuliadori and Paul Muller

[Tax Incentives for Migrants with Mid-level Earnings: Evidence from the Netherlands](#)

[American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, Vol. 17, no. 3, July 2025](#)

We examine how income taxes affect international mobility and wages. We study a Dutch preferential tax scheme for migrants, which introduced an income threshold for eligibility in 2012. The threshold is low relative to similar schemes in other countries, thereby offering eligibility to migrants with mid-level earnings. We find migration more than doubles closely above the income threshold, while migration below the threshold remains unchanged. These effects appear to be driven by additional migration, while wage bargaining responses are limited. We estimate a migration elasticity ranging from 1.6 to 2.7, somewhat higher than most studies on high-income migrants have found.

15. Andrés Blanco Andrés Drenik and Emilio Zaratiegui

[Nominal Devaluations, Inflation, and Inequality](#)

[American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics, Vol. 17, No. 3, July 2025](#)

We study the distribution of labor income during large devaluations. Across countries, inequality falls after large devaluations within the context of a surge in inflation and a fall and subsequent recovery of real labor income. To better understand inequality dynamics, we use a novel administrative dataset covering the 2002 Argentinean devaluation. We show that following a homogeneous fall in real labor income across workers, the bottom of the income distribution recovers faster than the top. Low labor mobility and lack of union coverage among high-income workers explain their slow recovery.

16. Rahul Menon

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17. Andrew Garin Emilie Jackson and Dmitri Koustas

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HEALTH

18. Kanchan Dev and Vandana Upadhyay

[Informal Work and Child Health in Assam](#)

[EPW, Vol. 60, Issue No. 26 & 27, 28 June & 05 July, 2025](#)

Logistic regression is employed to analyse determinants with variables including maternal and environmental factors. The study found that the global infant mortality rate has substantially declined from 53.80 to 26.05 deaths per thousand live births from 2000 to 2023. While developing nations show gradual declines, significant disparities persist. In India, Assam records higher infant mortality rates, particularly in rural areas. Logistic regression highlights maternal care, environmental factors, income, family structure, and distance to hospitals as significant determinants. Improving these factors could mitigate infant mortality among informal workers in Assam.

INDUSTRY

19. Pariroo Rattan

[Digital Developmentalism and Street Vending](#)

[EPW, Vol. 60, Issue No. 29, 19 July, 2025](#)

Redefining Obligations between the State and the Informal Economy

While scholarly debates on street vending in India have focused on the rights-based developmentalism of the early 2000s, the past decade has seen a rise in digital developmentalism with biometric identification (Aadhaar) and digital payments (Unified Payments Interface). I argue

that digitisation is not simply a change in the medium of exchange to the virtual sphere. Rather, digitisation changes the obligations of the state towards street vendors. This paper studies how digitisation impacts welfare, on-ground usage, harassment and the Street Vendors Act, 2014, e-Commerce, and worker protests.

LAW AND SOCIETY

20. Privanjali Mitra

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21. Aparna Agarwal

[The Visibility and Invisibility of Caste\(d\) Waste Management Infrastructures in Delhi](#)

EPW, Vol. 60, Issue No. 28, 12 July, 2025

Delhi today is facing a burgeoning waste “management” crisis. Newspapers frequently report blazing fires around landfill sites, strikes by sanitation workers or lack of infrastructural facilities, and the subsequent challenges faced by the Municipal Corporation of Delhi to deal with this crisis. This paper addresses two parallel yet interconnected waste management infrastructures—public–private partnership-led waste management services and the Bhalswa landfill in north-west Delhi—to examine how infrastructures are strategically “visibilised” by the former to project a sanitised, hygienic, casteless, and citizen-oriented image of the city's municipality, and “invisibilised” by the latter to conceal the casteist, dirty, and putrid reality of the city.

22. Alok Prasanna Kumar

[No Privacy in a Marriage](#)

EPW, Vol. 60, Issue No. 29, 19 July, 2025

The Supreme Court's judgment in *Vibhor Garg v Neha* (2025) holding that a husband may produce non-consensually recorded phone calls as evidence in a matrimonial dispute seems to suggest that marriage puts an end to the right to privacy between spouses. The Court's broad, sweeping conclusions miss the nuance needed to address a complex legal question that called for balancing competing principles.

23. Sohina Pawah

[Same-sex Marriage Advocacy](#)

[EPW, Vol. 60, Issue No. 29, 19 July, 2025](#)

A Hypothetical Reimagination of India's Constituent Assembly Debates

Marriage laws in India have been a subject of continuous debate and were also discussed in the Constituent Assembly debates. Within this historical context, arguments ranged from the broad-based formulation of a Uniform Civil Code to more specific proposals for the inclusion of the right to marry as a fundamental right. If such a fundamental right had to be resuscitated from the debates for their inclusion into the Constitution as it stands today, the implications for interfaith and same-sex marriages would have notably been different.

24. Marlène Koffi

[Innovative Ideas and Gender \(In\)equality](#)

[American Economic Review, Vol. 115, No. 7, July 2025](#)

This paper analyzes recognition of women's innovative ideas compared to men's using bibliometric data in economics, mathematics, and sociology. I establish similarities between papers to construct relevant counterfactual citations. On average, all-female papers receive 10 percent fewer citations than all-male papers, a disparity reduced by 40 percent when considering team sizes and disappearing in most fields with authors' publication records. Additionally, strong in-group preferences emerge: All-male teams omit more papers with women, and vice versa. Accounting for publication histories, female scholars are cited 0 percent (economics) to 11 percent (mathematics) less, with early-career women enduring a 9–14 percent citation penalty.

25. Aditya Shrinivas, Kathy Baylis and Benjamin Crost

[Food Transfers and Child Nutrition: Evidence from India's Public Distribution System](#)

[American Economic Journal: Applied Economics Vol. 17, No. 3, July 2025](#)

India's National Food Security Act of 2013 (NFSA) led to one of the biggest expansions in food transfers in history, affecting over 500 million people. We use plausibly exogenous variation created by the NFSA to estimate the effect of food transfers on child nutrition. Using individual panel data across eight states in India over five years, we find that increased transfers significantly reduced stunting. The food transfers increased wage incomes and improved dietary diversity. Our results suggest that, in the states we study, the NFSA prevented approximately 1.8 million children from being stunted.

26. Emilio Espino, Julian Kozlowski, Fernando M. Martin and Juan M. Sánchez

[Domestic Policies and Sovereign Default](#)

American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics, Vol. 17, No. 3, July 2025

A model with two essential elements—sovereign default and distortionary fiscal and monetary policies—explains the interaction between sovereign debt, default risk, and inflation in emerging countries. We derive conditions under which monetary policy is actively used to support fiscal policy and characterize the intertemporal trade-offs that determine the choice of debt. We show that in response to adverse shocks to the terms of trade or productivity, governments reduce debt and deficits and increase inflation and currency depreciation rates, matching the patterns observed in the data for emerging economies.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

27. Francesca Truffa and Ashley Wong

[Undergraduate Gender Diversity and the Direction of Scientific Research](#)

American Economic Review Vol. 115, No. 7, July 2025

Can diversity lead to greater research focus on populations under-represented in science? Between 1960 and 1990, 76 all-male US universities transitioned to coeducation. Using a generalized difference-in-differences design, we find that coeducation led to a 44 percent increase in gender-related research publications. This increase is driven by research focused on female subjects and gender differences. While coeducation led to a compositional shift with more women and researchers interested in gender topics, much of the increase comes from male incumbent researchers shifting their research focus toward gender-related topics. The results support interaction with more diverse students and peers as key underlying mechanisms.