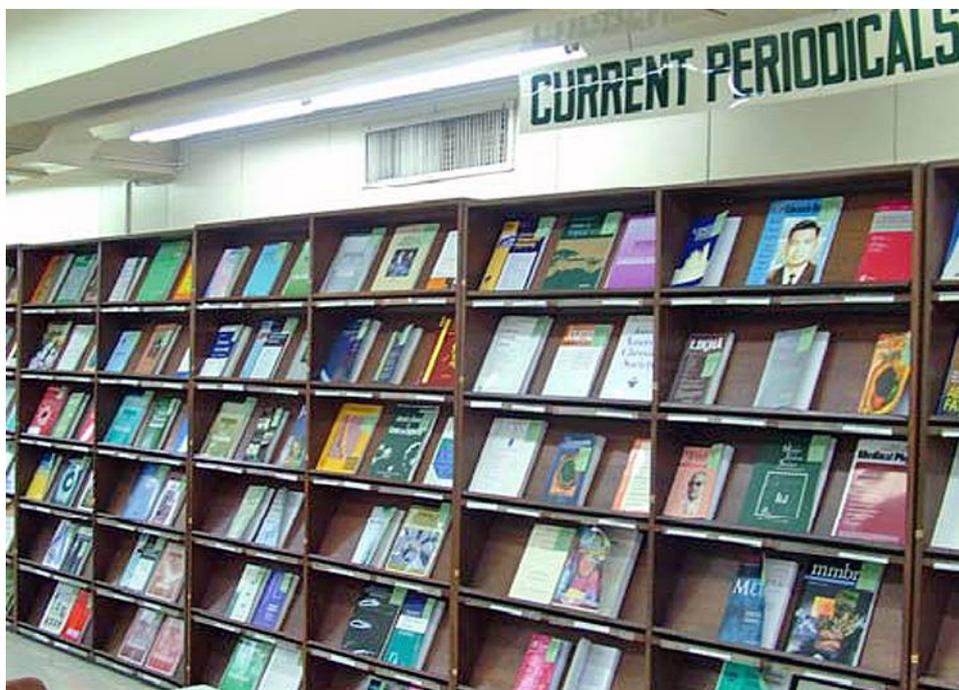




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CONTENTS

AGRICULTURE	1-2
FINANCE	3-4
HEALTH	5-9
MONETARY POLICY	10
RURAL DEVELOPMENT	11

AGRICULTURE

1. Hassan, Bakhtaver, Bhattacharjee, Mahua and Wani, Shabir A

[Horticulture Diversification Key to Development Role of Small and Marginal Farmers](#)

EPW: Vol. 56, Issue No. 36, 04 Sep, 2021

The trend of growth in horticulture, along with the underlying value of output from the sector, is analysed. The higher remuneration from the sector pulls the farmers towards horticulture, especially cultivation of vegetables. Regression analysis, and a direct correlation between farm size and income levels, is used to understand the relationship between the small and marginal farmers and the diversification in agriculture. Evidently, the diversification of agriculture is highly valuable and critically important for the small and marginal farmers. Although challenges persist, there is need to provide proper infrastructure, generate effective marketing intelligence and provide quality inputs to facilitate diversification.

2. P. Chandrasekhara, Rao, Jayaraghavendra, V K Venkattakumar R and Gajanana TM
[Agricultural marketing strategies during Covid -19](#)

Kuruksheetra: September 2021

The Covid-19 pandemic led to a standstill around the world and the agricultural chain in India was equally affected. However, the crisis also led to several innovations and models in agricultural marketing which were institutionalised by development departments, Farmers Producers Organisations (FPOs), voluntary associations and private players.

FINANCE

3. Shukla, Avdhesh Kumar and Shaw, Tara Shankar

[Impact of Leverage on Firms' Investment - Decoding the Indian Experience](#)

EPW: Vol. 56, Issue No. 35, 28 Aug, 2021

It has been observed that the economic growth cycle coincides with the investment cycle in India. It is found that firm-level leverage could provide early signals about the movements in the investment cycle. Furthermore, a firm's leverage adversely affects its

investment activity after a threshold. Regression results, after controlling for firm's price to book ratio and operational variables, indicate that the adverse impact of high leverage is predominant on low-growth firms. The initiatives to clean up the balance sheets of banks and deleveraging by non-financial corporates should help in the revival of the investment cycle. The results are consistent with the agency cost of debt and trade-off theory of capital structure, wherein firms set targets for leverage by balancing costs and benefits of debt.

4. Srikanth, Maram, Ranjani, K S and Kalloor, Veneet J

[**Making Digital Financial Inclusion a Reality**](#)

EPW: Vol. 56, Issue No. 36, 04 Sep, 2021

Technology has had a disruptive effect on the delivery of financial services, and adoption of digital solutions could help accelerate financial inclusion. This article creates a road map for digital financial inclusion in India using the framework based on the eight high-level principles of G-20 nations. While evaluating the progress under each one of these principles, the article concludes with policy recommendations both on supply and demand sides to achieve the coveted digital financial inclusion.

HEALTH

5. Baru, Rama Nundy, Madhurima, Bisht, Ramila C U Thresia and Sarma Jyotishmita

[**Integration of Health Services for Older Persons in Urban India - A Scoping Review**](#)

EPW: Vol. 56, Issue No. 37, 11 Sep, 2021

This paper presents a review of the available literature on integrated care for older persons in the urban context in India. Our methodology is a systematically conducted scoping review. Our findings present the epidemiological and demographic profiles of older persons in India, the health services available to them, and the policies and programmes that govern these services. Based on our review, we provide an understanding of the gaps in the available literature and offer some policy recommendations.

6. Tripti Kumari and Verma, Santosh

Status of Women's Reproductive Health in Bihar

EPW: Vol. 56, Issue No. 37, 11 Sep, 2021

Based on the National Family Health Survey data for 2015–16 and 2019–20, the article shows the precarious sexual and reproductive health of women in Bihar. While there are some improvements in this period, multiple indicators emerging from social and institutional determinants continue to show poor SRH of women in the state.

7. Abhijit Banerjee, Amy Finkelstein, Rema Hanna, Benjamin A. Olken, Arianna Ornaghi and Sudarno Sumarto

The Challenges of Universal Health Insurance in Developing Countries: Experimental Evidence from Indonesia's National Health Insurance

American Economic Review: Vol. 111, No. 9, September 2021

To investigate barriers to universal health insurance in developing countries, we designed a randomized experiment involving about 6,000 households in Indonesia who are subject to a government health insurance program with a weakly enforced mandate. Time-limited subsidies increased enrollment and attracted lower-cost enrollees, in part by reducing the strategic timing of enrollment to correspond with health needs. Registration assistance also increased enrollment, but increased attempted enrollment much more, as over one-half of households who attempted to enroll did not successfully do so. These findings underscore how weak administrative capacity can create important challenges in developing countries for achieving widespread coverage.

8. Kapoor, Nimish

Innovating Breast Cancer Screening

Yojana: September 2021

There is an unwillingness among women to come up for regular breast cancer screening not only due to concerns over privacy, pain, and radiation exposure but also with associated stigma and lack of awareness. In India, due to the large population, mass screening using devices like a mammogram is not practical and affordable. Dr Seema's innovation is a big achievement in the area of medical electronics devices which can save the lives of lakhs of potential breast cancer victims. She has developed a low-cost, portable, easy to use breast cancer screening device, the first of its kind.

Gupta, Anshu

Menstruation – A human issue

Yojana: September 2021

Women play the ‘building block’ roles in our society as caretakers, farmers, entrepreneurs, conscience keepers, and educators, though with a constant struggle to get acknowledged as equal human beings. Is menstruation a women’s issue or a human issue, therefore? Why isn’t a women’s dignity seen as connected to her menstruation? What about the connection between women’s nutritional needs or unavailability of undergarments, with her menstrual needs? This pandemic has offered us a chance to acknowledge and correct many gaps in our understanding of menstrual Hygiene Management.

9. Saha, Debdatta, Verma, Samridhi and Agarwal, Varun

[On the Economics of E-pharmacies: Potential Issues for Anti-trust Analysis](#)

EPW: Vol. 56, Issue No. 35, 28 Aug, 2021

This article investigates potential issues for anti-trust policy regarding e-pharmacies. These entities have gained prominence in many countries due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and seem to provide an alternative channel for consumers. However, the extent to which the promise of an added dimension of competition in the retailing of medicines is made possible by e-pharmacies needs deeper analysis.

MONETARY POLICY

10. Silvia Miranda-Agrippino and Giovanni Ricco

[The Transmission of Monetary Policy Shocks](#)

American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics: Vol. 13 No. 3 July 2021

Commonly used instruments for the identification of monetary policy disturbances are likely to combine the true policy shock with information about the state of the economy due to the information disclosed through the policy action. We show that this signaling effect of monetary policy can give rise to the empirical puzzles reported in the literature, and propose a new high-frequency instrument for monetary policy shocks

that accounts for informational rigidities. We find that a monetary tightening is unequivocally contractionary, with deterioration of domestic demand, labor and credit market conditions as well as of asset prices and agents' expectations.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT

11. G. Narendra Kumar and C. Kathiresan

Panchayati Raj: Present Status and Future Prospects

Kurukshetra: September 2021

India has a remarkable achievement of continuing Panchayati Raj System, which is an integral part of our culture and civilisation. The 73rd amendment of the Constitution of India provided constitutional status and institutional framework to Panchayats to strengthen grassroots level democracy through elected self-governing local bodies in the rural areas. Year 2021 marks 28 years since Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) come into existence and this article is an attempt to understand evolution of PRIs as units of local governance, their roles and responsibilities, achievements and way forward.