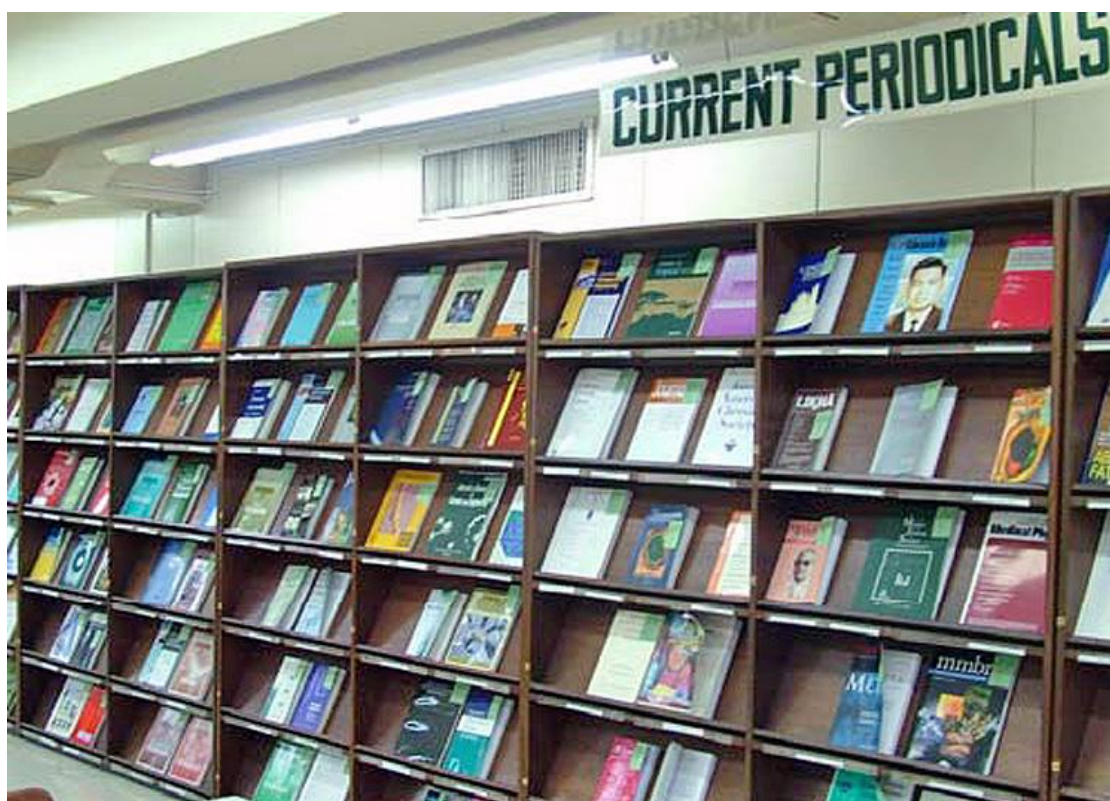




नीति आयोग
NITI AAYOG



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1. Martin Fiszbein

[**Agricultural Diversity, Structural Change, and Long-Run Development: Evidence from the United States**](#)

American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics: Vol. 14 No. 2 April 2022

This paper examines the role of agricultural diversity in the process of development. Using data from US counties and exploiting climate-induced variation in agricultural production patterns, I show that mid-nineteenth-century agricultural diversity had positive long-run effects on population density and income per capita. During the Second Industrial Revolution, agricultural diversity fostered industrialization, diversification within manufacturing, patent activity, formation of new labor skills, and the expansion of knowledge- and skill-intensive industries. These results are consistent with the hypothesis that diversity spurs the acquisition of new ideas and new skills because of the presence of cross-sector spill overs and complementarities.

2. Avinash Kishore, Smriti Saini and Muzna Alvi

[**Assessing Direct Benefit Transfer of Agricultural Subsidies in Bihar and Odisha**](#)

EPW: Vol. 57, Issue No. 16, 16 Apr, 2022

This paper was informed, in part, by interviews with farmers, farm implement dealers, and government officials in Bihar and Odisha, who generously shared their experience and insights. The research was supported by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation under the Cereal Systems Initiative for South Asia. The results of this research do not necessarily reflect the views of the BMGF.

ECONOMICS

3. Agarwal, JD and Agarwal, Aman

[**Facilitating India @100**](#)

Yojana Magazine: April: 2022

Given the rebounding GDP Growth of 9.2% in 2021-2022 with controlled inflation At 5.6% and Fiscal Deficit at 6.9%, India has moved to a higher plane amongst leading economies of the world in every sphere of its activity. Investment in Infrastructure viz.

Roads, Railways, Airways, Ports, Mass Transport, Waterway, Defence Corridors, and Logistics Infrastructure would enhance the productivity of the economy generate huge employment and help revive the economy at a fast track but fly high meeting the challenges of poverty, unemployment, and real effective growth improving the standard of living in light of minimum government and maximum governance.

4. Pranav Raj and Siva Reddy Kalluru

[Dynamics of Economic Growth in India - An Application of Stojanovic's Matrix of Growth](#)

EPW: Vol. 57, Issue No. 15, 09 Apr, 2022

Using a model based on the Stojanovic's matrix of growth to understand India's economic progress shows that the service sector has been the dominant mover of the economy after the start of the reforms in 1990–91. The growth pattern, according to the matrix of growth, can be interpreted as maximising long-run efficiency, and hence, it might be an appropriate investment policy to approximate the output proportions generated using the matrix of growth.

EDUCATION

5. Sharma, Shalender and Thakur Saneel

[Quality Education](#)

Yojana Magazine: April: 2022

The Education system in India is transforming itself from focusing on universalization of access to education to access to quality education in line with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG 4 in particular). As per the National Sample Survey, the literacy rate of persons of age 7 years and above at the All-India level stood at 77.7 %.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted by India in 2015- aims to 'ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all' by 2030.

FINANCE

6. Sharma Karishma and Tyagi Bhavya

[Digital Currency](#)

Yojana Magazine: April: 2022

The Current digital landscape of India makes a strong case for introducing a Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC). An increase in the availability of low-cost smartphones and low-cost 4G data has further deepened digitalisation in India. Despite a Diverse range of virtual currencies being available, penetration of private digital currencies remains low which offers a strong case for India's own digital fiat rupee that will promote financial inclusion and increase demand for real money balances.

7. Manzar, Osama, Katheria Megha and Kazi, Syed S

[Rural banking and financial services](#)

Yojana Magazine: April: 2022

Scheme such as JAM (Jan Dhan –Aadhaar-Mobile) Trinity and Digital India Marked a watershed moment in the financial inclusion of rural India. The Digital Push gave a new fervour to making financial and banking services accessible to rural areas. In 2016, the National Payment Corporation of India (NPCI) launched the UPI to streamline the digital payment's system in India. As per NPCI data, in 2021 UPI has transacted ₹6.39 trillion. However, with only 28% internet participation from rural India, these transactions largely tell the story of urban India. Yet, one cannot ignore the increasing participation in digital payments and banking from rural India.

8. Ambarkhane, Dilip Singh, Shekhar and Venkataramani, Bhama

[Measurement and Analysis of the Productivity of Indian Banks](#)

EPW: Vol. 57, Issue No. 17, 23 Apr, 2022

The paper reveals that cash holdings, the “growth rate of assets,” the “incremental gross non-performing assets,” and the “incremental cost of funds” negatively impact the productivity of banks, whereas the net interest margin has a positive impact. The paper also benchmarks major banks in India that can be used as an input in strategic decision-making.

HEALTH

9. D. Mark Anderson, Kerwin Kofi Charles and Daniel I. Rees

[Reexamining the Contribution of Public Health Efforts to the Decline in Urban Mortality](#)

American Economic Journal: Applied Economics: Vol. 14, NO. 2, April 2022

Using data on 25 major American cities for the period 1900–1940, we explore the effects of municipal-level public health efforts that were viewed as critical in the fight against foodborne and waterborne diseases. In addition to studying interventions such as treating sewage and setting bacteriological standards for milk, which have received little attention, we provide new evidence on the effects of water filtration and chlorination, extending the work of previous scholars. Although water filtration is associated with an 11–12 percent reduction in infant mortality, none of the other interventions under study appear to have contributed to the observed mortality declines.

10. Onur Altindag, Bilge Erten and Pinar Keskin

[Mental Health Costs of Lockdowns: Evidence from Age-Specific Curfews in Turkey](#)

American Economic Journal: Applied Economics: Vol. 14, NO. 2, April 2022

Using a strict, age-specific lockdown order for adults aged 65 and older in Turkey, we examine the mental health consequences of an extended period of tight mobility restrictions on senior adults. Adopting a regression discontinuity design, we find that the curfew-induced decline in mobility substantially worsened mental health outcomes, including somatic and nonsomatic symptoms of mental distress (approximately 0.2 standard deviation). Exploring potential channels, we document an increase in social and physical isolation, with no evidence of robust changes in labor market outcomes or intrahousehold conflict for this subpopulation.

11. Hariprasad T, Dennis Robert and Anish T S

[A Methodological Rectification in the Global Hunger Index](#)

EPW: Vol. 57, Issue No. 14, 02 Apr, 2022

The article proposes a methodological correction to the original Global Hunger Index to improve its validity as a tool to measure hunger in a country. Normalising the variables using their range instead of historic peaks as in the original GHI would help eliminate some of the measurement bias from the ranking procedure and make the ranking more justifi able to the present-day data.

POVERTY

12. Sanjay K Mohanty, U S Mishra, K D Maiti

[Reflections on the NITI Aayog Multidimensional Poverty Index](#)

EPW: Vol. 57, Issue No. 14, 02 Apr, 2022

The availability of information from the pan-India household survey, the National Family Health Survey, facilitates the adoption of the global multidimensional poverty framework and helps in generating results for the Indian states and districts, but it fails to capture the true level of multiple deprivations in better-off states and urban areas. The explicit limitation of the fresh endeavour by the NITI Aayog is its lack of comparability across the spectrum of human development within the country.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT

13. Patel, Neelam and Sethi, Tanu

[Rural women: Integral for Aatma Nirbhar Bharat](#)

Kurukshetra: April 2022

Neelam Patel is Senior Advisor and Tanu Sethi is Senior Associate, NITI Aayog

Government of India has made significant impact in empowering rural women through economic inclusion, assuring social parity and ease of living. Rate of rural women participation in workforce was estimated to be 24.8 percent and out of which 80 percent are engaged in agriculture and allied sector. Being an important demographic dividend, rural women empowerment can be an important contributor for economic reforms in realising an ambitious target of a USD 5 trillion economy for India by 2024-25 and achieving UN- millennium goals by 2030.