



**नीति आयोग**  
**NITI AAYOG**



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## AGRICULTURE

1. Dutta, Meghna and Dhar, Niladri Sekhar

[The Effect of Extensive and Intensive Margins on Income from Crop Production - A Study in Bihar](#)

EPW: Vol. 58, Issue No. 1, 07 Jan, 2023

The determination of factors influencing income from crop production remains crucial in understanding and mitigating stagnation in agricultural income. However, the calculation of income from cultivation is difficult owing to a dearth of available data on costs causing studies to rely on policies or indicators that generate biases. This paper uses field survey data from eight villages in Bihar to identify the determinants of crop income. It explores different aspects of agrarian production processes to identify two major groups of crop income determinants: the extensive margin and the intensive margin.

2. [The longed-for transformation of English farming isn't happening: The green revolution that failed](#)

The Economist: 14 Jan. 2023

“There’s been lots and lots of chat about it, and now it’s happening,” says Nic Renison, a livestock farmer in Cumbria. What has happened is that agricultural subsidies in England have been pruned hard enough that Ms Renison and others are seeing the effect on their bank statements. Puzzlingly, though, something more profound is not happening. The wholesale transformation of farming, which the government is trying to achieve through the subsidy cuts and other reforms, appears to have gone awry.

3. Kapoor, Mohit

[Agriculture 4.0 is a potential solution to meet food and climate goals](#)

Forbes India: 18 Jan. 2023

Every year, nearly one-third of food produced for human consumption—worth over \$1 trillion and weighing approximately 1.3 billion tonnes—is lost or wasted globally. At the same time, nearly 828 million people go to bed hungry every night. These statements, culled out from two separate UN World Food Programme reports, do not paint a picture of irony. They merely draw attention to the fact that one of the primary causes of rising hunger around the world is food wastage or loss.

It is more obvious than ever that our food systems in their current state are inadequate to end poverty and hunger. A potential solution is the use of technology such as big data analytics and AI to improve the yield or income per acre of farmers—so that they remain invested in agriculture.

## **ECONOMICS**

4. Nilanjan Banik and S Ramakrishna Velamuri

[The ‘What,’ ‘Why,’ and ‘How’ of a Widening Current Account Deficit](#)

EPW: Vol. 58, Issue No. 3, 21 Jan, 2023

The reason for the increase in the current account deficit during first quarter of fiscal year 2022–23 is analysed. One reason for the widening of CAD has to do with India’s growing dependence on fossil fuels. There is also an element of lack of price competitiveness that is hurting exports. India is exporting low-valued technology-intensive goods whereas importing high-valued technology-advanced goods. The Government of India and the Reserve Bank of India are taking adequate measures to control the widening trade deficit. While some of these measures are yielding results in reducing CAD, external factors such as geopolitical tensions and the United States Federal Reserve System’s move of quantitative tightening are making CAD difficult to control.

5. Patel, Neelam and Sethi, Tanu

Women and youth participation in cooperatives

Kurukshetra: January 2023

**Neelam Patel is Senior Adviser and Tanu Sethi is Senior Associate, NITI Aayog**

Indian has become the fifth largest economy in the world and can channelize its demographic advantage in its quest to become one among the world’s top three largest economies. Co-operative movement is one such window that can bring youth

and specifically more women in the mainstream to contribute constructively to sustainable economic development. Cooperatives in India are carving its niche in almost every field of economic activities. In the 75<sup>th</sup> year of Independence, a new-Ministry of Cooperation has been set-up to realize the vision of cooperatives as having immense potential to drive socio-economic development goals towards the ambit of Aatma Nirbhar Bharat and rural development. Promotion of inclusive cooperatives models that integrate capacity building, education, skill training, engagement of youth and women, can lead in realizing true cooperative development models and achieving dual targets of becoming a USD \$ 5 trillion economy whilst fulfilling commitments of UN-SDG's targets.

6. V. V. Chari, Juan Pablo Nicolini, and Pedro Teles

[Optimal Cooperative Taxation in the Global Economy](#)

Journal of Political Economy: Volume 131, Number 1 2023

How should countries cooperate in setting fiscal and trade policies when government expenditures must be financed with distorting taxes? We show that even if countries cannot make explicit transfers to each other, every point on the Pareto frontier is production efficient, so that international trade and capital flows should be effectively free. Trade agreements must be supplemented with fiscal policy agreements. Residence-based income tax systems have advantages over source-based systems. Taxing all household asset income at a country-specific uniform rate and setting the corporate income tax to zero yield efficient outcomes. Value-added taxes should be adjusted at the border.

7. Ghosh, Nilanjan and Bhowmick, Soumya

[Roaring tiger: India's world @ 2023](#)

ORF: 27 Jan. 2023

The year 2023 is a significant year for India. It marks the Indian presidency for the G20 and the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO). From the G20 perspective, the Indian presidency is crucial as it is in the middle of the troika from the global south, with Indonesia being its predecessor, and Brazil being its successor.

On the other hand, this also marks the year when India overtakes China to become the world's most populous country in mid-January (India's 1.417 billion versus China's

1.412), according to World Population Review (WPR) estimates. This indeed creates an opportunity for India to convert this massive pool of human capital to a productive factor input in its avowed goal to achieve 5- and 10-trillion-dollar GDP. Despite a deteriorating global geopolitical and financial climate, fears of inflation and dip in forex and the demand slowdown, the World Bank has upgraded growth projections for India from 6.5 per cent to 6.9 per cent, citing the economy's strong resilience to global shocks.

## **EDUCATION**

8. Tapas Roy, Sudas Roy

[Engineering Education in India - Problem of Assessment and Challenges of Employability](#)

EPW: Vol. 58, Issue No. 1, 07 Jan, 2023

Serious concerns have been raised from time to time about the efficiency of the engineering education in India in providing the skills to be employable. A study on summative questions asked in an engineering exam, of a state university, revealed that the questions lingered in the first three levels of lower order thinking skill. This article attempts to identify the weaknesses of the existing curriculum in the areas of pedagogy and assessment which are pertinent to improve the employability in the context of the New Education Policy, 2020.

## **ENERGY**

9. Atul Agrawal & Bibhu Prasad Rath

[Coal for Electricity Generation in India](#)

EPW: Vol. 58, Issue No. 3, 21 Jan, 2023

The paper discusses the commitment on climate change negotiations and reflects why thermal power plants are not replaceable by renewables. It gives a glimpse on electricity demand and supply as well as coal availability. Accordingly, we formulate different horizontal scenarios for electricity demand and vertical scenarios for coal supply, thereby calculating the coal requirements for different demand scenarios. The results are validated with medium-term coal projections along with the actual coal consumption at power plants for producing electricity.

## FINANCE

10. Todd Keister, Daniel Sanches

[Should Central Banks Issue Digital Currency?](#)

The Review of Economic Studies, Volume 90, Issue 1, January 2023

We study how introducing a central bank digital currency affects equilibrium allocations and welfare in an environment where both currency and bank deposits are used in exchange. We highlight an important policy tradeoff: while a digital currency tends to improve efficiency in exchange, it may also crowd out bank deposits, raise banks' funding costs, and decrease investment. We derive conditions under which targeted digital currencies, which compete only with physical currency or only with bank deposits, raise welfare. If such targeted currencies are infeasible, we illustrate the policy tradeoffs that arise when issuing a single, universal digital currency.

11. Sauradeep Bag

[The G20 and India's role in cryptocurrency regulation](#)

ORF: 05 Jan. 2023

Gita Gopinath, Deputy Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), believes that during India's presidency, the G20 has the opportunity to make significant progress on three critical issues. These issues include debt relief, regulation of cryptocurrencies, and climate finance. With no global consensus or frameworks in place, cryptocurrency regulation is one area where India can lead the way by leveraging the G20 presidency. The steep fall of several key crypto players in 2022 underscored cryptocurrency regulation to protect consumers and investors, and maintain the integrity of financial markets.

## HEALTH

12. Chloe N. East, Sarah Miller, Marianne Page and Laura R. Wherry

[Multigenerational Impacts of Childhood Access to the Safety Net: Early Life Exposure to Medicaid and the Next Generation's Health](#)

American Economic Review: Vol. 113 No. 1 January 2023

We examine multigenerational impacts of positive in utero health interventions using a new research design that exploits sharp increases in prenatal Medicaid eligibility

that occurred in some states. Our analyses are based on US Vital Statistics natality files, which enables linkages between individuals' early life Medicaid exposure and the next generation's health at birth. We find evidence that the health benefits associated with treated generations' early life program exposure extend to later offspring. Our results suggest that the returns on early life health investments may be substantively underestimated.

13. Sobin George and Mohan Rao

[Barriers to Establishing a Dedicated Public Health Cadre - Reflections from the South Indian States](#)

EPW: Vol. 58, Issue No. 4, 28 Jan, 2023

The efforts to develop a public health cadre have not seen much progress in most of the Indian states, despite the recommendations of several committees appointed by the union government, and the 2022 guidelines issued for establishing them. This paper, by drawing on the views of experts in the field, examines the epistemic, structural, systemic, and administrative barriers to the establishment of such a cadre in the south Indian states. It notes that the dominance and perpetuation of biomedical view of health, poor understanding of what public health is, privatisation of healthcare, the vested interests of clinicians, consultancy firms, international funding institutions and the existing hierarchies and binaries within the system, act as major barriers to the establishment of the cadre. The paper suggests that the proposed public health management cadre needs a critical revisit in light of these impediments and concerns.

14. Amit Mishra, Sundeep Sahay

[Strengthening Health Information Infrastructures in Developing Countries - Master Facility List for Health in India](#)

EPW: Vol. 58, Issue No. 1, 07 Jan, 2023

With the rapid proliferation of health information systems in low- and middle-income countries, there are ongoing efforts to incorporate architectural approaches to ensure interoperability and reduce fragmentation. A key component of this approach is a master facility list representing a standard list of health facilities. However, building and deploying mfl is a formidable challenge given the various socio-technical complexities. The theory of information infrastructures, which deal with large-scale, complex and distributed systems, provides guidance on how to approach such



complexities. This paper suggests that Indian mfl has failed to create the heterogeneous socio-technical network around it, and been unsuccessful in creating value for initial group of users and subsequently building growth momentum. Also, it failed in making itself adaptable to different applications and use contexts. Three sets of recommendation for its improvement include enabling governance structure, adopting flexible design architecture and making active efforts to promote mfl use.

## **INDUSTRY**

15. Aljoscha Janssen and Xuan Zhang

[Retail Pharmacies and Drug Diversion during the Opioid Epidemic](#)

American Economic Review: Vol. 113 No. 1 January 2023

This study investigates the role of retail pharmacy ownership in the opioid epidemic. Using data of prescription opioid orders, we show that compared with chain pharmacies, independent pharmacies dispense 39.1 percent more opioids and 60.5 percent more OxyContin. After an independent pharmacy becomes a chain pharmacy, opioid dispensing decreases. Using the OxyContin reformulation, which reduced nonmedical demand but not the legitimate medical demand, we show that at least one-third of the difference in the amount of OxyContin dispensed can be attributed to nonmedical demand. We show that differences in competitive pressure and whether pharmacists own the pharmacy drive our estimates.

16. Lakshmi Prasad Padhy, Ipseeta Satpathy, B C M Patnaik

[Adoption Intention of Digital Tools by Micro and Small Entrepreneurs in the Post-pandemic Era - An Empirical Study in Odisha](#)

EPW: Vol. 58, Issue No. 3, 21 Jan, 2023

The rationale for the adoption of digital tools by micro and small entrepreneurs in the post-pandemic is explained. This will help digital service providers to customise their products and services to match the needs of micro and small businesses.

17. Morgan Kelly, Joel Mokyr, and Cormac Ó Gráda

[The Mechanics of the Industrial Revolution](#)

Journal of Political Economy: Volume 131, Number 1 2023

Although there are many competing explanations for the Industrial Revolution, there has been no effort to evaluate them econometrically. This paper analyzes how the very different patterns of growth across the counties of England between the 1760s and 1830s can be explained by a wide range of potential variables. We find that industrialization occurred in areas that began with low wages but high mechanical skills, whereas other variables, such as literacy, banks, and proximity to coal, have little explanatory power. Against the view that living standards were stagnant during the Industrial Revolution, we find that real wages rose sharply in the industrializing north and declined in the previously prosperous south.