



**नीति आयोग**  
**NITI AAYOG**



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## **AGRICULTURE**

1. Saxena, Jagdeep  
Inclusive development and modernisation of agriculture  
Yojana: March 2023

Agriculture and allied sectors are among the pillars of Indian economy. Inclusive growth of agriculture is essential in the current scenario of economic challenges. This will ensure economic growth of the country and well-being of farmers. The union budget (2023-24) shows the government's determination and commitment in this regard. There are many provisions in the budget that will ensure inclusive growth in agriculture and allied sectors, modernisation and economic empowerment of farmers.

2. S Mahendra Dev  
[Agriculture and Rural Areas in Budget 2023–24 - A Need for Comprehensive Approach for Transformation](#)  
EPW: Vol. 58, Issue No. 12, 25 Mar, 2023

Agriculture and rural incomes are under stress for several reasons. The budget has given importance to agriculture and allied activities and strengthening their cooperative model, digital infrastructure, and the production of millets. These are steps in the right direction, but much more needs to be done. There is a need to change the narrative towards more diversified, high-value production, food systems approach for nutrition-sensitive agriculture, inclusion and sustainable agriculture.

## **ECONOMICS**

3. Sudipto Mundle and Ajaya Sahu  
[Massive Capital Expenditure, Modest Fiscal Consolidation, and Cut in Pillars of Social Safety Net](#)  
EPW: Vol. 58, Issue No. 12, 25 Mar, 2023

The finance minister's five budgets, including the 2023–24 budget, demonstrate a welcome commitment to transparency. They also reveal a clear strategy of combining high capital expenditure-led growth with fiscal consolidation. But post

the pandemic, these strategic priorities have been pursued at the cost of weakening the two key pillars of India's social safety net—food subsidy and the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act income support.

4. Sacchidananda Mukherjee

[Revenue Shortfall and GST Compensation - An Assessment](#)

EPW: Vol. 58, Issue No. 9, 04 Mar, 2023

The states that will suffer the maximum revenue impact if the expected goods and services tax collections do not improve in the coming years, are identified. The pre- and post-GST buoyancy of the states is compared to understand the possible outcome. The likely revenue requirement for servicing the accumulated special market borrowings of the union government is assessed.

5. Niharika Salar, Anindya Sircar

[Taxation of Non-fungible Tokens - An Emerging Legal Challenge for Taxing Intellectual Property in Virtual Digital Assets](#)

EPW: Vol. 58, Issue No. 9, 04 Mar, 2023

India took its first step towards regulating non-fungible tokens when the Finance Bill of 2022, in particular Section 2(47A) and notifications 74 and 75 of 2022, were introduced. However, these amendments seem to be insufficient and superfluous given the complex and novel subject matter of NFTs. An attempt is made to dissect the provisions and examine the bill.

6. Sinha, Shishir

Banking: Focus on new responsibilities and good governance

Yojana: March 2023

In the Union Budget 2023-24, a slew of measures have been taken to promote savings among women and secure the future of the elderly through savings. Acknowledging the wider acceptance of digital payments, the budget ensures continuous fiscal support for digital public infrastructure in 2023-24. The agriculture sector continues to get benefits like Kisan Credit Card, besides an increase in the agricultural loan target focusing on animal husbandry, dairy and fisheries.

7. Gerald Carlino, Thorsten Drautzburg, Robert Inman and Nicholas Zarra  
[Partisanship and Fiscal Policy in Economic Unions: Evidence from US States](#)  
American Economic Review: Vol. 113 No. 3 March 2023

Partisanship of state governors affects the efficacy of US federal fiscal policy. Using close election data, we find partisan differences in the marginal propensity to spend federal intergovernmental transfers: Republican governors spend less than Democratic governors. Correspondingly, Republican-led states have lower debt, (delayed) lower taxes, and initially lower economic activity. A New Keynesian model of partisan states in a monetary union implies sizable aggregate effects: The intergovernmental transfer impact multiplier rises by 0.58 if Republican governors spend like Democratic governors, but due to delayed tax cuts, the long-run multiplier is higher with more Republican governors, generating an intertemporal policy trade-off.

## **HEALTH**

8. Annmary Jose, Lakshmi Kumar  
[The Existence of a North–South Divide in Kerala - An Analysis of Recent Socio-economic Trends](#)  
EPW: Vol. 58, Issue No. 11, 18 Mar, 2023

The pattern of disease that comes about due to inadequate availability and poor quality of drinking water as well as substandard sanitation and micro-environmental (drainage, sewerage, and solid waste disposal) facilities in the slums of Lucknow are investigated in this paper. It estimates the relevant health costs and catastrophic health spending in these slum households. The results suggest that limitations in these public utilities cause numerous water-borne and faecal-transmitted infections as well as other infectious diseases. Consequently, the poorest sections of the urban population of Lucknow, who live in slums, spend almost a third of their consumption expenditure on out-of-pocket expenditure, and over half of these disease-affected households have encountered CHS. It suggests a comprehensive and integrated approach for reviving a large number of short- and long-term policies, which involve specifically developing a policy for providing free medical

facilities to all acute and chronic cases in poor households, which would lead to a reduction of OOPE and CHS in slum areas.

9. D. Mark Anderson and Daniel I. Rees  
The Public Health Effects of Legalizing Marijuana  
Journal of Economic Literature: Vol. 61, No. 1, March 2023

Thirty-six states have legalized medical marijuana and 18 states have legalized the use of marijuana for recreational purposes. In this paper, we review the literature on the public health consequences of legalizing marijuana, focusing on studies that have appeared in economics journals as well as leading public policy, public health, and medical journals. Among the outcomes considered are: youth marijuana use, alcohol consumption, the abuse of prescription opioids, traffic fatalities, and crime. For some of these outcomes, there is a near consensus in the literature regarding the effects of medical marijuana laws (MMLs). As an example, leveraging geographic and temporal variation in MMLs, researchers have produced little credible evidence to suggest that legalization promotes marijuana use among teenagers. Likewise, there is convincing evidence that young adults consume less alcohol when medical marijuana is legalized. For other public health outcomes such as mortality involving prescription opioids, the effect of legalizing medical marijuana has proven more difficult to gauge and, as a consequence, we are less comfortable drawing firm conclusions. Finally, it is not yet clear how legalizing marijuana for recreational purposes will affect these and other important public health outcomes. We will be able to draw stronger conclusions when more posttreatment data are collected in states that have recently legalized recreational marijuana.

10. Balendu Sharma Dadhich  
Efficient and inclusive healthcare ecosystem  
Kurukshetra: March 2023

The year-over-year growth in the budgetary allocation for the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare shows that the government is committed to building an efficient, affordable, accessible, inclusive, and modern healthcare ecosystem in the country. This bodes well for the healthcare sector which is going through a process

of modernisation and expansion and has been a focus area for the central and state governments during and after the COVID-19 pandemic.

## **INDUSTRY**

11. Smitha Francis

[Unpacking the 'Industry 4.0' Narrative and Its Implications](#)

EPW: Vol. 58, Issue No. 10, 11 Mar, 2023

Examining the digital technology systems underlying the ongoing industrial transformations towards cyber–physical production systems, this article argues that the “industry 4.0” narrative prevents India from recognising that digital technologies are all mediated by information and communications technology hardware, software and other electronics products, along with other software-embedded devices/machinery. Getting entrapped in the big tech-driven industry 4.0 narrative and its neo-liberal interpretations will severely curtail India’s ability to formulate the combination of policies that will reduce forex drain from our digital consumer economy.

## **WASTE MANAGEMENT**

12. Sanju Kaladharan, Dhanya M, Rejikumar G

[Household Pharmaceutical Disposal Practices in India - Call for Action](#)

EPW: Vol. 58, Issue No. 11, 18 Mar, 2023

Action towards scientific planning and management of pharmaceutical waste by controlling it from its source, especially the households, is necessary. We propose a four-item strategic plan for proper disposal of household pharmaceutical waste: fostering pro-environmental consciousness and behaviour; policy framing and implementation; targeted continuous ecopharmacovigilance; and integration of circular economy principles.