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## **Environmentalism of the Poor**

### **How India can reinvent growth without pollution**

**Sunita Narain**

We know we stand at cross-roads today. The challenge of unsustainable growth means that we are hurtling towards climate catastrophe. And the challenge of inequitable growth means that we are hurtling towards increased poverty, increased marginalization and increased anger.

The problem has been that we believed and continue to do so with conviction that we can practice unsustainable development and then clean it up. We can make the pollution go away. We have also believed that we can make environmental management a part of growth. Investment in pollution control is an economic activity after all. Does not work either as we need up managing small fallouts and stay behind the problem. It is technocratic and not political. Our learning is that growth that is not affordable or in other words equitable, cannot be sustainable. We cannot push away the politics of development when we discuss sustainability.

## **Employment Situation Index**

### **Comparison of the Employment Situation across the States**

**Neha Srivastava and Mukesh**

#### **Abstract**

It has been argued that India's high growth has not been inclusive. Employment creation has not been able to keep pace with the fast growing population. Discussions on the employment situation across the States/UTs need to be on the basis of reliable data. Parameters and indicators chosen. To judge the employment situation need to be judicious and comparable. This paper attempts to study and compare the employment situation across 17 major states of India and is based on the data of NSS on employment and unemployment in India. The parameters used in this study relate to levels of employment, growth in employment and quality of employment. The study reveals that the eastern and central parts of the country lagged in comparison to the southern and western parts in employment situation.

Keywords: Labour Force, Unemployment, Underemployment, Regular wage and Salaried, Usual Principal States (UPS) and Usual Principal and Subsidiary Status (UPSS).

## **Changing Pattern of Industrial Employment of the Rural People**

### **Reflections from the Post-Liberalisation Period in India**

**Dipak Kumar Mondal and Sankar Majumder**

#### **Abstract**

This paper is a modest attempt to understand the changes in employment of rural people in one part of non-agricultural sector, viz, industrial sector at all India level over the period 1993-34 to 2011-12. Activities under industrial sector have been grouped under following three: (i) Mining & Quarrying (ii) Manufacturing and (iii) Electricity, Gas & Water supply. Employment of the rural people has increased rapidly in 'manufacturing' activities. Among the manufacturing activities 'Textile & Wearing Apparel' was the most employment providing activities. Percentage share of employment in the manufacturing activities related to fish, meat and dairy has increased significantly. However, employment of rural people in manufacturing activities related to fruits and vegetables was very low and its share has declined. Employment in 'Electricity, Gas and water supply has also increased but not as much as that of 'manufacturing'. Employment in the activities related to 'Gas & Steam and 'water supply' have increased over the time. Employment in 'Mining and Quarrying activities in total has decreased but employment in the activities related to 'sand, clay and stone' has increased over the period. Findings of this study reveal that the employment in industrial units based on products of agricultural sector specially crops and vegetables are not significant though these are the dominant agricultural products.

Keywords: Employment, industry, manufacturing, liberalization, rural, status

## **Dalit Experience of Access to Sanitation With Special Reference of Rural India Swarup Dutta and Ashok Bharti**

### **Abstract**

Abysmally poor sanitation coverage is one of the major developmental challenges that India has been confronting. The situation is further grave for the most vulnerable and marginalized section of the society- the Scheduled Castes (SC) or Dalits. The study reveals that only 12 percent SC households, in five sample states have toilets in which half of them are non-functional, and even if it is functional not all household members use it. Poor or no water supply, lack of proper waste disposal system and maintenance of toilet are major constraints besides financial constraints. Moreover, the condition of dalit women is worse as they suffer from triple disadvantages- they are poor, they are women and they are Dalits. The study mainly explores the issues related to open defecation and also analyses the perception of respondents on the utilization and problems national flagship programmes, etc. Majority of the respondents opined that open defecation is a problem from security point of view as well as a matter of dignity for women. Moreover, a substantial number of women are in favour of having a toilet even without the provision of water as it reduces the drudgery of open defecation and the problems associated with it. Women, those who do not have toilet facility inside their premiss feel insecure of issues such as asocial oppression and violence, health and physical problems , and risk of accidents.

Keywords: Dalit, Sanitation, Open Defecation, Women, Total Sanitation Campaign

## **Financial Burden of Health Care and Catastrophic Expenditure among Urban Households in India Evidence from Different Rounds of NSS Sujoy Kumar Mojumdar**

### **Abstract**

This paper/article tries to evaluate the financial burden of health care especially direct cost of hospitalization and outdoor visits during the recall period. The major objectives of the study are to understand the socio-economic and regional level determinants of health care burden in general and catastrophic health expenditure burden in particular among the urban households in India. The study is carried out by collecting household level expenditure data recorded for hospitalization and outdoor visits pulling urban sample of the three NSS rounds. Data have been analyzed in two dimensions: viz. cross tabulation analysis and regression analysis using SPSS package. The study reveals that the burden of health care and catastrophic spending in urban India has increased over the period. Metro cities and medium size towns experience a faster increase in catastrophic expenditure. Similar trend was followed in case of lower income states. The study also reveals that the ratio of aging population causes the higher health expenditure burden and incidence of catastrophic expenditure. An inverse relationship is found between the household burdens of health care, incidence of catastrophic health expenditure with household economic status as represented by monthly per capita consumption expenditure. Poores are spending less compared to the rich. But in terms of ratio of health expenditure in total household consumption expenditure, poores bear higher burden of health care and face higher incidence catastrophic health expenditure. So, the study found that sharp inequality exists among the urban households in terms of financial burden of care and incidence of catastrophic health expenditure in the post economic reform period

Keywords: Financial burden, Health care, inequity, expenditure, disparities

**Bangladesh vis-à-vis cross-border Migration to India and Identities**  
**A critical geopolitical understanding**  
**Anindita Chakrabarty**

**Abstract**

The paper attempts to analyze the phenomenon of ongoing cross-border migration in the light of critical geopolitics. In doing so, it reflects on the gaps that western concepts often applied to understand the phenomenon and tries to understand the process through a critical geopolitical lens. Although the extent of the movement of Bangladeshi citizens into India has been a point of considerable contention, it is apparent that there has been significant ongoing migration over the last few decades. Vagueness and abstractness of the situation prevails around the notions of identities, identifiers, residents, citizens, refugees as well as political boundaries. The paper questions the applicability of these concepts and establishes the necessity to understand them in careful consideration of regional specificity, which comprises culture and history. It shall also assess whether these should be applied given the 'peculiar' context of a south-Asian nation state.

Keywords: migration, political boundary, geopolitical, Bangladesh, partition

**Money goes rounds**  
**A case study of rotating services and credit associations in Lucknow**  
**Syed Aiman Raza**

**Abstract**

The inability to get bank credit is a major obstacle for the poor people of third world countries who do not have collateral to secure as loan. These individuals, largely as a result of the inability of (formal) credit institutions to monitor and enforce loan repayments, are forced either to borrow from (informal-sector) and money lenders at usurious interest rates, or are simply denied access to credit and therefore investment. This paper tries to focus on how the poorest of the poor are able to survive and manage their monetary resources with minimal risk. The case study is based on a study conducted among the Shia Zardozi (embroidery) workers in old city area of Lucknow, who invest in Beesi networks. The process of such investments, benefits and risks are discussed so as to allow proper dissemination of knowledge on the working of such networks.

Keywords: Urban Poverty, Rotating Services, Credits, Network, Women

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