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- West Asia: Regional Wars, Strategies, Tragedies

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- Banks' Deposit Growth: The Composition of Deposits Is the Issue

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- *Childscape, Mediascape: Children and Media in India*
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CURRENT STATISTICS

Health Deprivation in States

The spatial heterogeneity in the pattern of overall health deprivation is deeply associated with the performance of the states in background variables related to health affordability, amenities, and infrastructure. [page 64](#)

Defence Procurement Policy

Constraints on India's strategic autonomy in national security result in limited and expensive choices for defence procurement and a weak military-industrial complex, both exacerbated by the lack of an effective oversight mechanism. [page 51](#)

Composition of Bank Deposits

Banks need to find ways to mobilise retail deposits in better manner and look for suitable alternatives to stable deposits. [page 10](#)

GENERAL ELECTIONS 2024

A set of seven articles on Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Rajasthan, Haryana, Assam, and Nagaland analyse certain striking sociopolitical phenomena emerging from the general election outcomes and discuss the implications for the future trajectory of politics in the respective states. [pages 12–45](#)

Banks' Deposit Growth

10 How a bank finances its asset growth is crucial. It is not enough to garner deposits; the composition of deposits matters. — *T T Ram Mohan*

General Elections 2024

Declining Bipolarity and Disintegrating Social Fabric

12 The 2024 election results in Kerala reflect a significant political shift, highlighted by the rise of the Bharatiya Janata Party, waning political bipolarity and growing acceptance of a pan-Hindu consolidation. — *Sarath Sasikumar, Balu Sunilraj*

Electoral Shifts in the Dravidian Stronghold

17 This article explores the Bharatiya Janata Party's relative success in Tamil Nadu, and the decline of the Dravidian parties' combined vote share. It examines whether this indicates the erosion of Dravidian hegemony and the emergence of a "Hindu vote bank." — *Arun Kumar G*

A Tale of Telugu States

21 The rise of the Congress in Telangana and the Telugu Desam Party-led alliance in Andhra Pradesh has significantly altered the political landscape in the Telugu states. Electoral developments have made the political space crowded in both states. — *Vikram Mukka*

Dissecting the Results in Sikar and Bharatpur

27 The general election results in two parliamentary seats in Rajasthan generated special interest. In Sikar, the Communist Party of India (Marxist) candidate won with the Congress's support, and the Bharatpur constituency sent one of the youngest members of Parliament to the 18th Lok Sabha. — *Akhil Alha*

The 2024 General Election in Haryana

30 The even division of seats in between the Bharatiya Janata Party and the Congress in Haryana indicates a clear bipolar contest between the two parties. — *Rashmi Singh*

Charging Hindutva, Churning Narratives

36 While the general elections of 2024 have entailed a mammoth victory for the Bharatiya Janata Party and its allies in Assam, this mandate has sparked curious insinuations about a narrative shift in state politics. — *Akhil Ranjan Dutta, Gaurav Das*

Between Resistance and Participation

39 After long being missing from the high corridor of electoral politics in Nagaland, the Congress has managed to defeat the formidable force of the ruling conglomerate led by the Nationalist Democratic Progressive Party and the Bharatiya Janata Party. — *Ngoru Nixon, Kevilenuo Tepa & Salikyu Sangtam*

Strategic Autonomy in National Security

51 India's strategic autonomy in national security is severely constrained due to the perspectives of the Indo-Pacific think tanks with corporate interests that dominate New Delhi's policymaking circles. — *Jawahar Bhagwat*

Fiscal Decentralisation

57 This paper examines the composition and functions of the Odisha State Finance Commissions and their efficacy in supporting a common minimum level of public goods in the state. The analysis highlights several drawbacks which warrant a restructuring of the composition of the commission. The current regressive nature of revenue sharing should be revised. — *Pareswar Sahu*

Regional Disparities in Health Deprivation

64 Spatial disparities in health deprivation across 19 major Indian states are examined. The results show that most central Indian states are acutely health-deprived, while the northern (except Uttar Pradesh) and southern regions of the country perform better. — *Priyabrata Sahoo, Soumyabrata Mondal & Vinay Kumar*

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