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- ED and CBI as Fourth Branch Institutions? Exploring the Paradigm of an Ideal Investigative Agency for India

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- Lives of Slum Dwellers: Evidence from a Field Survey in Ludhiana
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CURRENT STATISTICS

AI Policy for India

Evidence-based investments, reducing deployment harm, reclaiming digital public infrastructure as a market-correcting measure, and following AI approaches other than those supported by US technology billionaires are essential for a people-centred AI policy. [page 36](#)

Rubber Industry and FTAs

The natural rubber industry in India illustrates how the state-GVC nexus can end up serving the interests of monopoly capital at the expense of unorganised petty commodity producers and labourers. [page 42](#)

Gaza Genocide Case

By itself, an order by the International Court of Justice may not change the ground reality, but it provides a lever through which further action can be mobilised, leading to political solution. [page 13](#)

Anaemia and Public Health Policy

An expensive, near-universal, mandatory, and invasive programme of iron fortification is launched at the cost of peoples' health and dietary rights, and principles of good public health practice. [page 24](#)

Olympics and Gender

The idea of having strictly binarily segregated sports needs to be problematised to reconceive the idea of the spirit of sports that factors in gender in its complexity. [page 10](#)

Combat Sports and Recipes Made from Scratch

10 The recent abuse received by sportspersons of colour and the growing popularity of traditional womanhood influencers remind feminists of the most fundamental debates regarding gender and identities. — *Radhika Jagtap*

The Tightrope Walked by the ICJ

13 The International Court of Justice has recently given its order on provisional measures in the application filed by South Africa alleging acts of genocide by Israel. The judges' reasoning, and the limitations and implications of these orders are analysed in depth. — *Rahul Mohanty*

Intervention of Behavioural Nudges in the NPS

19 This article identifies the biases overriding human beings' rational retirement planning decisions and how the National Pension System directs Indian citizens towards rationality using behavioural nudges. — *Aparna A S, Biju A V*

Messing about with Anaemia

24 A rise in the prevalence of childhood anaemia between the two rounds of the National Family Health Surveys and the ensuing government response of declaring mandatory iron fortification of rice has led to much debate. — *Vandana Prasad*

ED and CBI as Fourth Branch Institutions?

27 Averments to the non-independence of the Enforcement Directorate and the Central Bureau of Investigation are made on the premise that these are supposed to be "fourth branch institutions," distinct from the three Montesquiean branches. — *Garima Thakur*

What Would a People-centred AI Policy for India Look Like?

36 Sovereignty and leadership in technology should mean developing appropriate solutions for real problems. This requires the government to prioritise public welfare and development over the short-term desires of large domestic capital and its own ideological moorings in neo-liberalism and surveillance. — *Jai Vipra*

The Political Economy of Deep Integration

42 India's recent rush to sign free trade agreements with major trading partners raises questions about their impact on mutual trade orientation and the role of the state. Proactive role of the state would be crucial to facilitate advantageous participation in global value chains. Deep integration and privatisation of governance may adversely affect public interests. — *KN Harilal, Rajesh Many*

Lives of Slum Dwellers: Evidence from Ludhiana

50 Using survey data from 265 slum households, the socio-economic characteristics of slum dwellers across spatial locations in Ludhiana, Punjab are examined. The lives of the slum dwellers are looked into from the lens of their migration history, occupational profile, intra-generational occupational mobility, factors affecting their occupational mobility, income, consumption, and savings. — *Ayushee Gautam, H R Sharma*

Nature and Trends of Crime against Dalits

58 An analysis of the rate of crime against Dalits in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Bihar, Punjab, and Uttar Pradesh, based on the National Crime Records Bureau reports of 2017–21, reveals that the frequency and intensity of crimes is inversely proportional to the degree of resistance mounted by the Dalits. — *Akshat Pushpam, Rajeev Kumar Singh*

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