

# Economic & Political WEEKLY

A SAMEEKSHA TRUST PUBLICATION

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- Biodiversity and Human Welfare Are Inseparable
- The Right to Food in Peril

## ALTERNATIVE STANDPOINT

- Purchase of Assigned Lands of Dalits in North Andhra Pradesh

## COMMENTARY

- Distinction between Work and Employment in Rural India: Estimates from PLFS
- Erosion of Purpose: Biodiversity Convention and Its New Global Biodiversity Framework
- A Non-neoclassical Perspective on Private Property and Inheritance Tax
- And more ...

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- *Thoughts of Gaza Far from Gaza*
- *On Being Indian: The Organic Intellectual, Mystical Poetry, and Lineages of Indian Rationalism*

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- The Burden of Manxiety: Tracing the Urban Shift from Patriarchy to Masculinity
- Economic Road Map for the North-eastern Region
- Determinants and Income Effects of Small Farmers Selling to Supermarkets vs Traditional Market Channels in Four Regions of India

## NOTES

- Sub-classification of Scheduled Castes

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## Sub-classification Debate

Rationalisation of reservation benefits is most likely to take the form of chipping the pie at the edges, hollowing it out from within, and then arbitrating over the scramble for the pie. [page 68](#)

## Small Farmers and Supermarkets

The data do not tell a story of sharp inclusion or exclusion of small farmers in the procurement by supermarkets but rather one of "weak inclusion" with various forms of conditionality for participation. [page 60](#)

## North East Economy

An economic road map for the North East should include building physical infrastructure and upgrading connectivity, avoiding fiscal giveaways, focusing on high-value, low-volume, local resource-based industries, promoting tourism, and harnessing the region's hydropower potential. [page 53](#)

## Global Biodiversity Framework

The target to increase the global coverage of protected areas has been opposed by the Indigenous Peoples and local communities and will gravely impede the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. [page 18](#)

## Appropriation of Assigned Lands

Transactions involving the transfer of assigned lands need to be halted immediately and the titles should be restored to the original Dalit beneficiaries. [page 10](#)



**Purchase of Assigned Lands of Dalits**

10 The government has gradually diminished the importance of land reforms, enacting laws that facilitate the appropriation of land from Dalits and the poor by relaxing clauses in the 1977 act. — *K S Chalam*

**Distinction between Work and Employment in Rural India**

14 In 2013, the 19th International Conference of Labour Statisticians decided to make a distinction between work and employment. — *S Chandrasekhar, Raveendra Kumar*

**Erosion of Purpose**

18 Following the recent conclusion of COP 16, the article discusses how the fair and balanced Convention on Biological Diversity has been weakened by the West in its enforcement. — *S Faizi*

**A Non-neoclassical Perspective on Private Property**

21 The article suggests that an inheritance tax is solid economics and the assumption of private property in models is without foundation. — *Romar Correa*

**Bengaluru's Higher Education Landscape**

24 Analysing the migration of African students, the article uncovers the many challenges they face upon admission to private higher education institutions in Bengaluru. — *Shambhavi Bhushan*

**Measuring the Informal Economy in India**

29 Exploring the evolution of the informal economy within the System of National Accounts framework, the article discusses the classification of informal units and the challenges in data collection. — *Ramesh Jangili*

**Navigating the Post-COVID-19 Landscape**

40 The persisting problems of micro, small and medium enterprises in India have quadrupled since the COVID-19 pandemic, demonetisation, and the goods and services tax regime. This article documents the legal frameworks and post-COVID-19 budgetary provisions for MSMEs. — *Shruti Shuvam, Pratap C Mohanty*

**The Burden of Manxiety**

46 Urbanisation grows as agriculture recedes in importance and men begin to migrate in search of jobs. The city is an unknown terrain because the rules of patriarchy do not work quite as well here, leaving men in a state of deep anxiety, best captured by the term "manxiety." — *Dipankar Gupta*

**Economic Road Map for the North-eastern Region**

53 The north-eastern region of India has low per capita income despite a favourable land-man ratio, rich resource endowment, and a high potential for growth and development. Poor connectivity, location in a troubled neighbourhood, and fractionalisation and polarisation of its population are challenges. — *Ashok Kumar Lahiri*

**Income Effects of Small Farmers Selling to Supermarkets**

60 Using endogenous switching regressions to calculate transitional heterogeneity, we build counterfactual scenarios to identify the treatment effects of small farmers selling to supermarkets and traditional markets. — *Chandra S Nuthalapati, Ashok K Mishra, Prabhu Pingali & Thomas Reardon*

**Sub-classification of Scheduled Castes**

68 This preliminary reading of the recent Supreme Court judgment seeks to gauge the significance of the juridical validity accorded to the sub-classification of Scheduled Castes, as this will have important ramifications in the state's reaffirmation of its commitments to equality and redistributive justice. — *Yagati Chinna Rao, Priyadarshini Vijaisri*

**Postscript**

79 *Ananya Chatterjee* and *Aratrika Das* on the evolving rhetorics of contagion; *Binayak Choudhury* on the Belisha beacons that never beacon in Indian cities; *Avantika Tewari* on navigating ethics in *Anatomy of a Fall*; and Last Lines by *Ponnappa*.

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