

# Economic & Political WEEKLY

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- *The Oxford Handbook of Caste*

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- Estimating from Grouped and Specific Percentile Data the Proportion and Number of Poor for States and India in 2022–23
- From Isolation to Navnirman: A History of Student Politics in Gujarat (1967–75)
- Exploring the Existing Challenges and Hurdles in the Indian Aviation Sector

## CURRENT STATISTICS

## POSTSCRIPT

## Dubious Basis for Tariffs

The US formula for calculating tariffs is particularly problematic and applying high tariffs on all imports lacks theoretical support and risks major disruptions to global supply chains. [page 19](#)

## Delimitation Conundrum

Population stabilisation should not be regarded as a prerequisite for lifting the current freeze, as the demographic divide is unlikely to narrow in the foreseeable future. [page 15](#)

## Critical Caste Scholarship

*The Oxford Handbook of Caste*, as a critical tool of research, intervenes in debates about the so-called immemorial character of caste or putative colonial nature, the artificial separation of status from power, and religious oversimplification and mystification, among others. [page 36](#)

## Student Politics in Gujarat

Between 1967 and 1975, student agitations were chiefly focused on direct academic concerns and grievances, as protests rarely began with or were organised around overtly political demands and issues. [page 59](#)

## Aam Aadmi Party's Defeat

AAP's depoliticised discourse in politics can no longer float its delivery-based politics on its own, as political strategy cannot be mere tactics for better governance, bereft of ideology. [page 27](#)



**Trump 2.0: Recalibration of US Foreign Policy?**

- 10 Despite the peace rhetoric, Trump's foreign policy is attempting to make the us influential again through continuity and escalation to rejuvenate its national security. — *Jawahar Bhagwat*

**Demography, Democracy, and Delimitation**

- 15 The recent debates over the possibilities of lifting the half-a-century-old constitutional freeze on the state representation in the Lok Sabha have elicited widespread indignation from the southern states. — *S Irudaya Rajan, J Retnakumar*

**The Tariff Tantrum and Its Justification**

- 19 Applying high tariffs on all imports lacks theoretical support and risks major disruptions to global supply chains, raising costs for producers and consumers in the United States. — *Parthapratim Pal, Partha Ray*

**ILPS in Manipur and Minority Communities**

- 22 Manipur was abruptly brought under the Inner Line Permit System in 2020, bartering it with the cacophonous local agitation against the then controversial Citizenship (Amendment) Bill. — *Md Chingiz Khan, Zeet Nawaz Thoubu*

**The Aam Aadmi Party Learns to Lose**

- 27 The defeat of the Aam Aadmi Party in the Delhi assembly elections signifies a rejection of the party's overweening ambition, combined with its increasingly ambiguous and unconvincing ideological positioning. — *Rashmi Singh*

**The Vulnerability of Indian Federalism**

- 31 Article 368 of the Indian Constitution reveals a paradox. Its dual-track process promises protection for federal principles, yet it narrowly defines what constitutes a "federal issue." — *Sumedha Ray Sarkar*

**Enhancing Livelihood Security of the Rural Households**

- 44 The study investigates whether the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme acts in a procyclical, countercyclical, or neutral manner in response to economic fluctuations captured by the changes in GDP. — *Arushi Jain, Smita Sharma & Dilpreet Sharma*

**Estimating the Numbers of the Poor**

- 51 Poverty estimates for rural, urban and combined areas for 2022–23 have been computed. The updated Tendulkar poverty lines indicate a poverty incidence of 6.4% for rural areas, 3.1% for urban areas and 5.3% for combined areas, while the updated Rangarajan poverty lines indicate a poverty incidence of 9.3% for rural areas, 9.5% for urban areas and 9.4% for combined areas. — *Srijit Mishra*

**A History of Student Politics in Gujarat**

- 59 Based on the examination of written, official, semi-official, and non-official sources, this paper is an attempt to write the history of student politics from its resurgence in Gujarat in 1967 to the imposition of the internal Emergency in 1975. — *Sahil Kureshi*

**Challenges in the Indian Aviation Sector**

- 70 With radical market liberalisation and increasing complexities, sustainable capacity-building approaches are a pressing need for a viable and sustainable aviation industry. The lack of competition in an oligopolistic Indian aviation market needs to be addressed. — *Siddharth Chaturvedi, Himanshi Srivastava*

**Postscript**

- 79 *Subhankar Dutta* on how *Atanjas* in Bengal are reclaiming their identity; *Sundaresha D S*'s observations and notes from election duty; *Haroon Rashid Lone* on Akhter Mohiuddin's subversive vision in *Jahnamukh Panun Panun Naar*; and Last Lines by *Ponnappa*.

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