



Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations

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## NEWSLETTER

The September 2019 Issue of the Newsletter provides a quick recap of ICRIER's research and policy engagements during the month of August 2019.

ICRIER, in collaboration with the Ford Foundation organised the second dialogue under the ongoing 'Samvaad' series on "*Globalisation, Equity and Jobs*" on 28th August, 2019. Dr. Carl Benedikt Frey spoke on his recent book "*The Technology Trap: Capital, Labour and Power in the Age of Automation*", published by the Princeton University Press, 2019. The dialogue that followed the presentation focused on the implications for emerging markets like India, including the possible policy responses.

During the month, ICRIER scholars published several articles in leading newspapers and other media on a variety of contemporary issues such as jobs, exports, agricultural challenges including storage issues, land markets, contract farming, WTO reforms; population explosion, sports infrastructure among others. We hope you will take a few moments to glance through these updates and engage further with anything that interests you. As always, we welcome your valuable feedback.

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### BOOKS, REPORTS, WORKING PAPERS AND POLICY BRIEFS

#### India-Bhutan Economic Relations

Nisha Taneja, Samridhi Bimal, Taher Nadeem and Riya Roy

#### Linking farmers to futures market in India

Tirtha Chatterjee, Raghav Raghunathan and Ashok Gulati

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### SEMINARS, LECTURES, CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

#### "Samvaad" A Dialogue on Globalisation, Equity and Jobs

28 Aug 2019

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### OUR PRESENCE IN THE MEDIA

#### How Would Blockbuster Banking Reforms Impact The Economy? | India Development Debate

Rajat Kathuria | *ET NOW* | 30 August 2019

Two very important numbers today have dominated headlines all day that give us a picture of the economy; One is 5 and the other is 12. At 5% GDP clocked for the first quarter of this financial year, India has seen...

### **Former Agriculture Secretary highlights distorted cropping patterns**

[Siraj Hussain | \*cnbctv18.com\* | 30 August 2019](#)

The fourth Advance Estimates of production of major crops for 2018-19 have been released by the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare on August 19. As per Fourth Advance Estimates, total foodgrain production...

### **Understanding India's Jobs Challenge**

[Radhicka Kapoor | \*The India Forum\* | 30 August 2019](#)

Unemployment today is at an all-time high but that is not the only challenge in jobs: more and more workers are withdrawing from the labour force, the wages of casual workers are below a reasonable minimum, and regular workers are largely without a contract.

### **Cities at Crossroads: Getting Siri-ous about Sports**

[Isher Judge Ahluwalia & Ayush Khare | \*The Financial Express / The Indian Express\* | 28 August 2019](#)

Sports complexes like the DDA's Siri Fort one are the need of the hour as they provide much-needed sports infrastructure for the public.

### **What Explains India's Poor Performance in Garment Exports?**

[Saon Ray | \*Ideas for India\* | 28 August 2019](#)

India has been losing its share of the world garment trade over time – it went down from 6% in 2013 to 3.5% in 2016. This article examines the Indian garment industry based on a survey of garment manufacturers in India.

### **What the Data Tells Us: Are Muslims Responsible for India's Population ...**

[Ali Mehdi | \*The Times of India\* | 27 August 2019](#)

India will become the world's most populous country in 2027 itself, according to estimates by UN World Population Prospects 2019. So, yes, the population explosion has happened and continues to happen.

### **The Code on Wages, 2019: A Step in the Right Direction**

[Durgesh K. Rai | \*CogitAsia\* | 26 August 2019](#)

The Code on Wages Bill, 2019, was passed recently by both houses of the Indian Parliament and became an act after it received the presidential assent on August 8, 2019.

### **IT Takes Many**

[Rajat Kathuria | \*The Indian Express\* | 20 August 2019](#)

A question uppermost on trade economists' minds is whether the WTO is worth saving. One way to evaluate the question is to investigate its achievements, with the obvious caveat that the past is an imperfect guide to the future.

### **Explained: The Challenges for One Nation, One Ration Card**

[Sandeep Das | \*The Financial Express\* | 17 August 2019](#)

The government has made a 'soft launch' for rolling out nation-wide portability for an estimated 23 crore ration card holders by June 1, 2020.

### **FCI's Filled Granaries Pose a Storage Problem**

[Sandeep Das | \*The Hindu BusinessLine\* | 16 August 2019](#)

Unless the government liquidates the excess grain stock, procurement in the forthcoming kharif seasons will be hampered

### **Explained: How Yoga can Boost Exports**

[Neha Gupta & Varsha Jain | \*The Financial Express\* | 16 August 2019](#)

Linking to the wellness carnival of the International Yoga Day (IDY) on June 21, many yoga studios are opening up both in India ...

### **From Plate to Plough: Unlock the Land Markets**

Ashok Gulati & Ritika Juneja | *The Indian Express / The Financial Express* | 19 August 2019

Early in its second term, on July 1, the Narendra Modi government constituted a High Powered Committee of Chief Ministers for Transformation of Indian

### **Explained: Why WTO Needs an Interim Arbitration Body**

Anwarul Hoda | *The Financial Express* | 16 August 2019

With WTO's dispute settlement process set to fall apart due to appellate body vacancies remaining unfilled, a parallel arbitration procedure is a must

### **While Delhi is Busy with Politics, the Rest of India Waits for Genuine**

Siraj Hussain | *The WIRE* | 13 August 2019

The government's feeble steps at removing restrictions on contract farming will do little to boost the rural agri-economy.

### **From Plate to Plough: In the Shade of Solar Trees**

Ashok Gulati | *The Indian Express / The Financial Express* | 5 August 2019

In one acre you can have 500 solar trees in such a manner that even tractors can move through those and farmers can keep growing their normal two crops.

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Please feel free to share contact details of others who may be interested in receiving ICRIER's Newsletter, papers, publications and notices regarding seminars, workshops, conferences, etc.

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