



सत्यमेव जयते

## नीति आयोग NITI AAYOG



**DOCPLAN-APRIL 2024**

**Compiled By:**

**Mr. Kumar Sanjay, Director (Library)**

**Mrs. Indira Rani, ALIO**

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## **AGRICULTURE**

Manzoor H. Dar, Alain de Janvry, Kyle Emerick, Elisabeth Sadoulet and Eleanor Wiseman

[Private Input Suppliers as Information Agents for Technology Adoption in Agriculture](#)

American Economic Journal: Applied Economics: Vol. 16 No. 2 April 2024

Information frictions limit the adoption of new agricultural technologies in developing countries. Efforts to improve learning involve spreading information from government agents to farmers. We show that when compared to this government approach, informing private input suppliers in India about a new seed variety increases farmer-level adoption by over 50 percent. Suppliers become more proactive in informing potential customers and carrying the new variety. They induce increased adoption by those with higher returns from the technology. Being motivated by expanded sales offers the most likely motive for these results.

## **CENSUS – RELIGIOUS**

## **ECONOMICS**

Sam Asher, Paul Novosad and Charlie Rafkin

[Intergenerational Mobility in India: New Measures and Estimates across Time and Social Groups](#)

American Economic Journal: Applied Economics: Vol. 16 No. 2 April 2024

We study intergenerational mobility in India. We propose a new measure of upward mobility: the expected education rank of a child born to parents in the bottom half of the education distribution. This measure works well under data constraints common in developing countries and historical contexts. Intergenerational mobility in India has been constant and low since before liberalization. Among sons, we observe rising mobility for Scheduled Castes and declining mobility among Muslims. Daughters' intergenerational mobility is lower than sons', with less cross-group variation over time. A natural experiment suggests that affirmative action for Scheduled Castes has substantially improved their mobility.

Richard Rogerson

[Why Labor Supply Matters for Macroeconomics](#)

Journal of Economic Perspectives: Vol. 38 No. 2 Spring 2024

Benchmark models taught in undergraduate macro do not attribute any role for labor supply as an important determinant of macroeconomic outcomes. The first part of this paper documents three facts. First, differences in hours of work across OECD economies are large and imply large differences in GDP per capita. Second, there are large differences in the size of tax and transfer programs across countries, as proxied by differences in government revenues relative to the GDP. Third, these two outcomes are strongly negatively correlated. Taken together, these facts suggest an important role for labor supply in affecting macroeconomic outcomes. I conjecture that the reason why macro textbooks do not include a discussion of labor supply stems from a belief that labor supply elasticities are sufficiently small that even large differences in work incentives do not generate important macroeconomic effects. The second part of this paper argues that this belief is based on incorrect inference linking small elasticities for prime age male to small aggregate labor supply elasticities. The role of labor supply at the extensive margin plays a critical role in understanding this mistake in this inference.

Umesh Bhagat, Hrushikesh Mallick

[Does Income Distribution Matter in Accelerating Consumption Demand?](#)

EPW: Vol. 59, Issue No. 14, 06 April, 2024

The relationship between household consumption expenditure and incomes for various decile households is examined. Using linear and non-linear panel fixed effects regression models on estimated household average consumption expenditure, it is found that lower-strata households have a greater propensity to consume and are constrained by their income from raising their consumption. The problem is more glaring in rural India. The study calls for drastic and urgent macro policy interventions by the government to undertake appropriate redistributive policy measures to uplift the income of the poor. This would address the widespread ever-rising income disparity as well as the continuing sagging investment demand in the economy.

## **EDUCATION**

Sule Alan and Ipek Mumcu

[Nurturing Childhood Curiosity to Enhance Learning: Evidence from a Randomized Pedagogical Intervention](#)

American Economic Review: Vol. 114, No. 4, April 2024

We evaluate a pedagogical intervention aimed at improving learning in elementary school children by fostering their curiosity. We test the effectiveness of the pedagogy using achievement scores and a novel measure of curiosity. The latter involves creating a sense of information deprivation and quantifying the urge to acquire information and retention ability. The intervention increases curiosity, knowledge retention, and science test scores, with the effects persisting into middle school years. It also leads to more information sharing and peer learning in the classroom. The evidence can help design better pedagogical tools to increase pupil engagement and the quality of learning.

## **FINANCE/BANKING**

Wendy Edelberg and Greg Feldberg

[The Financial Crisis Inquiry Commission and Economic Research](#)

Journal of Economic Perspectives: Vol. 38 No. 2 Spring 2024

Researchers and economic research were essential to the success of the Financial Crisis Inquiry Commission. For example, researchers submitted testimony, briefed commissioners, and spoke with our staff in recorded interviews. They also provided access to key data sources and helped us use them. Although we started our investigation barely one year after the height of the crisis, there was already a strong core of early, empirical research grappling with many of our key questions, such as why investors ran certain markets, why incentive problems pervaded securitization markets, and why risk management failed at so many large companies. We also benefited from the wealth of research exploring developments in financial markets leading up to the crisis. The process to build the research staff on a tight deadline was chaotic, and we needed people willing to work long hours, work on a team, and follow the evidence wherever it took us.

## **HEALTH**

Reema Gill, Archit Sinha

[Malnutrition among Children in India - A Reflection on Nutritional Parameters from the NFHS](#)

EPW: Vol. 59, Issue No. 14, 06 April, 2024

In India, malnutrition is a major issue among children, especially those from economically disadvantaged communities. A comprehensive multidimensional programmatic intervention needs to focus on preventing malnutrition. Mobilising and reallocating resources, planning for resource utilisation, along with training of health and other cadres are essential.

Samir Garg, Kirtti Kumar Bebarta, Narayan Tripathi

[Why Do Patients Enrolled under Ayushman Bharat Incur Medical Expenses?](#)

EPW: Vol. 59, Issue No. 17, 27 April, 2024

Patients incurred significant medical expenses when admitted to private hospitals under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana. Private hospitals charged patients and also claimed reimbursement under the insurance scheme. This practice of dual billing is a key cause of high medical expenses persisting under the PMJAY.

## **INDUSTRY**

### **RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

Manojit Bhattacharjee, Saumya Chakrabarti, Meenakshi Rajeev

[An Inclusive Transformation of the Rural Non-farm Economy - Leveraging Farm–Non-farm Linkages](#)

EPW: Vol. 59, Issue No. 15, 13 April, 2024

The informal rural non-farm economy of India is a crucial sector that impacts rural development. It is observed that a unilateral expansion of agriculture augments only the traditional non-farm sector in the rural informal segment. On the other hand, there is a biased expansion of its modern counterpart if the capitalistic formal economy develops disproportionately. Contrarily, simultaneous expansions of the agriculture and formal sectors induce both traditional and modern non-farm activities. A vital policy prescription is that for sustainable/inclusive development of

the rural economy, a balanced expansion of the formal sector along with an expansion of both traditional and modern agriculture is essential.

## **POLICY**

Gene M. Grossman, Elhanan Helpman and Stephen J. Redding

[When Tariffs Disrupt Global Supply Chains](#)

American Economic Review: Vol. 114, No. 4, April 2024

We study unanticipated tariffs in a setting with firm-to-firm supply relationships. Firms conduct costly searches and negotiate with potential suppliers that pass a reservation level of match productivity. Global supply chains form in anticipation of free trade. Then, the home government surprises with an input tariff. This can lead to renegotiation with initial suppliers or search for replacements. Calibrating the model's parameters to match initial import shares and the estimated responses to the US tariffs imposed on China, we find an overall welfare loss of 0.12 percent of GDP, with substantial contributions from changes in input sourcing and search costs.

Daisuke Ikeda, Shangshang Li, Sophocles Mavroeidis and Francesco Zanetti

[Testing the Effectiveness of Unconventional Monetary Policy in Japan and the United States](#)

American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics: Vol. 16, No. 2, April 2024

Unconventional monetary policy (UMP) may make the effective lower bound (ELB) on the short-term interest rate irrelevant. We develop a theoretical model that underpins our empirical test of this "irrelevance hypothesis," based on the simple idea that under the hypothesis, the short rate can be excluded in any empirical model that accounts for alternative measures of monetary policy. We test the hypothesis for Japan and the United States using a structural vector autoregressive model with the ELB. We firmly reject the hypothesis but find that UMP has had strong delayed effects.