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CONTENTS		P.No.
1. From The Editors's Desk		I
2. Efficiency of Guar Seed Futures Market in India: An Empirical Study	Meenakshi Malhotra Dinesh Kumar Sharma	373
3. Diversification of Crops and Chemical Pollution : A Kerla Case	N. Karunakaran	393
4. Resource Productivity and Technical Efficiency of Rice (Paddy) Farms	Sanjib Kumar Hota Aryashree Debapriya	403
5. An Analysis of Competitiveness of Pakistan's Agricultural Export Commodities	Md Rizwan-ul-Hassan	419
6. Effective Public Policy which can Reduce Gender Discrimination in the Agricultural Labour Market: A Theoretical Investigation	Amit Kundu	429
7. Impact of FDI in Retail on Agriculture Sector	Saghir Ahmad Ansari	443
8. Innovative buying behaviour intend: A segmentation of commercial farmers in South Africa	Johan De Jager Dion Van Zyl	453
9. Designing A Model for Task Conflict Management – Application of Theory of Planned Behaviour	Swati Alok MeeraLal	473
10. Empirical Studies on Technology Spillovers in Emerging Economies: A Critical Review	Nigel D'silva	487
11. Economic Growth and Employment Pattern in India – An Analysis of the Recent Trends	Sukanya N Vishwanatha	513
12. Poverty And Inequality In India: The Role of Infrastructure	Rajarshi Majumder	523
13. Disparities in 'Access to Health Care' Services among the Inhabitants of Empowered Action Group (EAG) States of India: A District Level Analysis	Arabinda Acharya Aditya Kumar Patra	543
Asia Statistics		557

## ABSTRACTS

### **Efficiency of Guar Seed Futures Market in India: An Empirical Study**

**Meenakshi Malhotra\*and Dinesh Kumar Sharma\*\***

#### **Abstract**

*Domestic and export demand of Guar Seed and its derivative Guar Gum has increased phenomenally due to its application in multi billion dollar shale energy industry in US. The commodity has risen to new glory but its futures market is being viewed with suspicion. In order to examine the performance of guar seed futures market, its efficiency and price discovery is tested in the present study using robust models like Johansen's cointegration, Vector Error Correction method, Impulse Response and Variance Decomposition. Temporal relation between spot and futures prices from 2004 to 2011 studied using above techniques indicates that both spot and futures prices observe long run co movement and therefore futures contracts can serve as a useful hedging instrument. In the short run uni-directional flow of information from the futures to the spot market is observed i.e futures market leads the spot market for guar seed. Error correction is taking place in both markets, although futures market is seen to make quicker adjustment to restore market equilibrium. But the process of adjustment to disequilibrium is slow in both the markets. This gives an indication that participation in futures market is low which makes the process of information transmission slow.*

## **Diversification of Crops and Chemical Pollution : A Kerala Case**

**N. Karunakaran\***

### **Abstract**

*The agrarian economy of Kerala in the last few decades experienced diversification of crops. During 1960-61 the order of the first five crops was rice, coconut, tapioca, rubber and pepper, in the descending order of shares to the total cropped area. But in 2009-10, the first five crops were coconut, rubber, rice, pepper and arecanut. Rubber came to the second position by pushing rice to the third. Coconut, rubber and pepper together constituted 54.54 percent of the total cropped area. The main crops losing area between 1960-61 and 2009-10 were rice and tapioca. The crop diversification indices for all Kerala and districts during 1960-61 to 2009-10 periods clearly revealed that less diversification occurred in the initial years compared to recent years. The diversification of crops mainly towards rubber and coconut was noticed during the recent years. The diversification of crops and the overuse of chemical fertilisers in Kerala make chemical pollution and is a threat to the sustainability of the agricultural sector of the state.*

## **Resource Productivity and Technical Efficiency of Rice (Paddy) Farms**

**Sanjib Kumar Hota\* and Aryashree Debapriya\*\***

### **Abstract**

*The agricultural productivity and production of paddy continue to be at low level despite the use of critical inputs may be due to the resource-use inefficiency in the paddy farms. Keeping this in view the paper seeks to estimate the resource productivity, resource-use efficiency, technical efficiency and returns to scale across the farm sizes (small, medium and big) in villages (irrigated, tailed-irrigated and non-irrigated) under study in Bargarh district of Orissa by using Cob-Douglas production function and Data Envelopment Analysis (DEA). The study shows that the productivity is often affected by the resource-use and technical inefficiencies of farms even though small farms were comparatively found to be less technically inefficient. Decreasing return to scale is observed as a predominant feature in the area under study in this context. Hence, a prudent mix of resources is suggested for productivity improvement with focus on strategic and timely interventions.*

## **An Analysis of Competitiveness of Pakistan's Agricultural Export Commodities**

**Muhammad Rizwan-ul-Hassan\***

### **Abstract**

*This paper analyzes the global competitiveness of Pakistan's agricultural exports, rice, fish and fish preparations, vegetables and fruits, meat and meat preparations, vis-a-vis major Asian competitors using the approach of revealed comparative advantage (RCA), during the period 2001-2010. The results indicate that rice exhibits very strong comparative advantage while increasing trend has been observed in all other commodities reflecting heavy potentials for export growth in global market. There is a need for Pakistan to strengthen the competitiveness in all these sectors.*

## **Effective Public Policy Which Can Reduce Gender Discrimination in the Agricultural Labour Market: A Theoretical Investigation**

**Amit Kundu\***

### **Abstract**

*Wage and employment differences between male and female agricultural labourers in the under developed countries including India is not new. With the help of a simple theoretical model it is here proved that public policy like implementation of National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) in the rural areas can reduce wage discrimination but fails to reduce employment discrimination in the agricultural labour market. It is also proved that implementation of NREGS not only reduces profitability of the farm household but also decreases employment generation in the agricultural labour market. The paper suggests higher amount of monetary punishment charged by the Conciliation Committee at local panchayet formed by State Government for resolving dispute related with social protection of the agricultural labourer as suggested by National Commission for Enterprises in Unorganized Sector (NCEUS) in 2007 for depriving female agricultural labourers both in terms of wage and employment can be an effective public policy which can reduce wage as well as employment discrimination in the agricultural labour market. It is also proved that the loss of profit of the landlord due to charging higher amount of monetary punishment is less than implementation of NREGS in that region. The possible formation of the proposed Conciliation Committee is also suggested here.*

## **Impact of FDI in Retail on Agriculture Sector**

**Saghir Ahmad Ansari\***

### **Abstract**

*Trade is the second largest contributor to GDP in India with 15.2% share in 2010-2011. Retail market in India has been estimated at US\$ 470 billion in 2011 and is expected to increase to US\$ 675 billion by 2016, at a compound average growth rate of 7.5 % per annum during 2011-16. Retail trade in India is second largest employment generating sector next only to agriculture, which employed 33.1 million persons constituting 7.2% of total workers in 2007-08. Retail sector consists of organised and unorganised sub-sectors. Unorganised retail sector dominates the Indian retail scenario with 95.5% share.*

## **Innovative Buying Behaviour Intend: A Segmentation of Commercial Farmers in South Africa**

**Johan De Jager\* Dion Van Zyl\*\***

### **Abstract**

*In order to meet the ever changing production requirements and progressive operational needs of commercial farmers, the market is constantly exposed to new product innovations. Despite the numerous studies that have been undertaken in the field of consumer buying behaviour, an extensive search of leading electronic journal databases could not yield any research findings relating to innovative buying behaviour intend amongst commercial farmers in South Africa. This paper focuses on addressing this gap by exploring levels of innovativeness amongst commercial farmers in South Africa and using it as a base for market segmentation. A survey of 1204 commercial farmer's yielded quantitative data for analysis. The data was used to develop an index measure of innovative buying behaviour intend. The index was subsequently used as base for segmenting the market. The segments are profiled in terms of selective demographic, firmographic and behavioural discriminators. The findings contribute towards understanding buying behaviour intend amongst commercial farmers in South Africa.*

## **Designing A Model for Task Conflict Management**

### **– Application of Theory of Planned Behaviour**

**Swati Alok\* and MeeraLal\*\***

#### **Abstract**

*The objective of this paper is to study how variables of Theory of Planned Behaviour (TPB) can be effectively used for designing task conflict management model. This paper also suggests related diagnostic concepts and intervention strategies which are based on the results of a research study, conducted to test the efficacy of TPB in a task conflict episode. The study examined the extent to which three specific variables – different attitudes towards interaction, subjective norms and perceived behavioural control, would influence a participant's response to a task conflict situation. The four behavioural intentions used in this study are - avoiding, obliging, integrating and dominating.*

*Change agents and trainers should consider the four kinds of diagnosis and intervention strategies in choosing how to deal with a task conflict episode. It is recommended that this checklist and wider choice of alternatives could be used in designing an effective conflict management workshop.*

## **Empirical Studies on Technology Spillovers in Emerging Economies: A Critical Review**

**Nigel D'silva\* and D.S.Hegde\*\***

#### **Abstract**

*This paper reviews current literature that deals with theoretical and empirical contributions on the role of technology spillovers and the channels through which it diffuses. The empirical studies on spillovers covered in this review include studies from developing and transition economies. International trade, foreign direct investment (FDI) and human capital figure as the major mechanisms through which technology spillovers take place. A number of research gaps and limitations in the measurement and methodological approaches involved in previous studies in the context of emerging economies are identified and suggestions made for further research.*

**Economic Growth and Employment Pattern in India**  
**– An Analysis of the Recent Trends**  
**Sukanya N\*. and Vishwanatha\*\***

**Abstract**

*The relationship between economic growth and employment and a correspondence between the two assume importance in a process of cumulative, self-sustaining and inclusive economic growth of a country. Besides generating employment, economic growth also leads to sectoral shifts in employment in a country. A study of the relationship between economic growth and organised sector employment in India during the period 1991-2010 shows that employment lagged far behind economic growth. For every Rupee one crore increase in the GDP of the country, organised sector employment increased only by 264.76 lakhs, showing a very weak relationship between the two, the coefficient of determination between GDP and organised sector-employment being only 0.203. An analysis of the trends in sexual composition of employment, sectoral shares in employment as among the primary, secondary and tertiary sectors of the economy and as between the public and the private sectors shows an increasing participation of women in employment, almost a stability in sectoral shares in employment and a decline in public sector employment in the organised sector of the economy during the period. The study suggests the adoption of a strategy of employment generating, at reasonable wage rates, economic growth in order to make growth self-sustaining and inclusive.*

**Poverty and Inequality in India:**  
**The Role of Infrastructure**

**Rajarshi Majumder\***

**ABSTRACT**

*Developing countries attach enormous importance to physical infrastructure for poverty reduction. We contend that this association is different across types of infrastructure and regions. The present paper explores the multidimensional association between infrastructure and poverty in India in a regional framework. Infrastructural availability improves average living standards and lowers the incidence of poverty but the relation between infrastructural situation and inequality indicates higher inequality in regions with better infrastructure, especially for rural areas. Various sub-components of infrastructure have different impacts on poverty reduction and policy formulations should focus on such differentiated roles while drawing up programmes.*

**Disparities in 'Access to Health Care' Services Among the  
Inhabitants of Empowered Action Group (EAG) States of India:  
A District Level Analysis**

**Arabinda Acharya\* and Aditya Kumar Patra\*\***

**Abstract**

*Since human civilization the disparities in health status among the different habitations observed across the world. An attempt has been made here to trace out the regional disparities in 'Access to Health Care' services among the inhabitants of Eight Empowered Action Group (EAG) States of India. We propose to employ a simple multivariate technique, namely Principal Component Analysis towards this end. Empirical evidence shows that among the district in EAG States Jagatsinghapur of Odisha is at the top and Baduan of Uttar Pradesh is at the bottom.*