# **OCTOBER 2024 ISSUE**

# Centre for Development Policy and Practice

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

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# **GLIMPSES OF OCTOBER**













# POLICY TO PRACTICE PODCAST

The CDPP launched the "Policy to Practice" podcast featuring development sector experts. The podcast aims to enlighten a diverse audience on global issues, fostering conversations with experts to simplify complex concepts related to social, cultural, economic, and technological development.





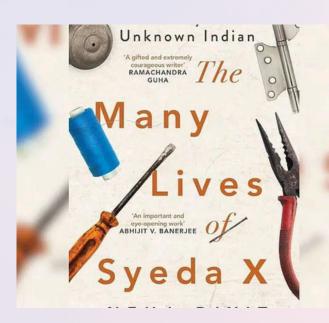
Catch us in conversation with Dr. Ipsita Sapra, hosted by Apoorva Ramachandra and Moumita Barman, on **Gender and Public Policy**. She explained the role of gender perspectives in public policy, and how women are underrepresented in the planning and practice.

Dr. Ipsita Sapra is the Dean and Associate Professor of School of Public Policy and Governance, at Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Hyderabad.

# **ONLINE ARTICLES**

CDPP disseminated thought-provoking articles via renowned platforms like Siasat. This month's articles covered themes like inclusive development, presence of banned drugs, and home-based workers.

#### Meet "Syeda X": The Everyday Woman You Don't See



The article discusses the precarious conditions faced by India's informal sector workers, particularly focusing on women home-based workers, as highlighted in Neha Dixit's book, The Many Lives of Syeda X. It describes the plight of home-based workers, like the protagonist Syeda, who often juggle multiple jobs for meager wages while managing household responsibilities. With a vast number of home-based workers in India, particularly women, the article emphasises their crucial role in sustaining small and medium-sized industries despite the lack of recognition and support from policymakers and society.

Dixit's ethnography of individuals reveals the systemic issues and shared struggles of home-based workers, urging a re-evaluation of their contributions to the economy

#### Ladakh: Balancing Development, Autonomy, and Environmental Protection



The article explores the delicate balance between development, autonomy, and environmental protection in Ladakh, following its designation as a Union Territory. It focuses on activist Sonam Wangchuk, who advocates for constitutional safeguards under the Sixth Schedule to protect Ladakh's unique identity and fragile ecosystem. region faces significant threats from unregulated industrial activities and climate prompting Wangchuk's activism, change, includina hunger strikes demand governmental action.

The article emphasises the importance of local governance in addressing these challenges and highlights the necessity for broader public support and sustained engagement with the central government to secure a peaceful and sustainable future for Ladakh amidst ongoing political and environmental tensions.

# **ONLINE ARTICLES**

CDPP disseminated thought-provoking articles via renowned platforms like Siasat. This month's articles covered themes like inclusive development, presence of banned drugs, and home-based workers.

#### Banned Drugs Continue to Be Sold, Prescribed, and Purchased in Open Market



The article explores the alarming persistence of banned fixed-dose combination drugs in the Indian market, following a 2019 directive from the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. Despite the ban, these medications continue to be sold, prescribed, and consumed, posing serious health risks, including antimicrobial resistance and adverse effects. The Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation faces challenges due to underresourcing and procedural inefficiencies, while low consumer awareness contributes to the problem.

The article highlights specific examples of medications such as Ofloxacin and Ornidazole, which continue to be widely used despite their ban, and discusses the broader implications for public health and healthcare costs. It calls for stronger regulatory enforcement and increased public awareness to address this growing crisis.

#### Inclusive Institutions Are Pathways to Economic Growth



The article discusses the Nobel Prize-winning research of Daron Acemoglu, Simon Johnson, and James Robinson, focusing on how the nature of political institutions influences a nation's economic success. The researchers argue that inclusive institutions—characterised by the protection of personal rights and broad economic participation—create prosperity, while extractive institutions lead to inequality and limited growth.

Their work connects economic growth with technological innovation, emphasising that a supportive legal framework is essential for sustained development. Acemoglu stresses the need for democracies to address polarisation and ensure representation to fulfill their potential for inclusive growth, contrasting the more unstable and less innovative nature of authoritarian regimes. The research highlights the critical role of inclusive democratic institutions in achieving lasting economic progress.

# **EVENTS**

#### **Discussion on**

# The Constitution of India and How It Protects the Marginalised and Minorities

at CDPP, Masab Tank on Monday, October 28, 2024, at 11:30 a.m.



#### Mr. Nikhil Sanjay Adsule

(A scholar working on Dalit issues)

Nikhil Sanjay Adsule is a Doctoral scholar at the Department of Humanities, IIT-Delhi. He is a Senior Research Fellow, UGC, as also Dr. Ambedkar International Fellow at Union Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. He has been recently selected as SIU Dewey Center Emerging Scholar Award for his contribution to John Dewey and His Legacy for Education at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, USA. He has presented papers at Chicago University (USA), SIU-Illinois (USA), London School of Economics, University of London, King's College-London, and will next give a talk at the University of Texas (USA).



#### The Constitution of India and How It Protects the Marginalised and Minorities

The discussion revolved around the Constitution of India as both a protective as well as an aspirational document for the marginalised communities and minorities. Mr. Adsule probed into the critical distinction between "Constitution of India" and "Indian Constitution," as it was emphasised that the former as a work-in-progress towards a democratic society. Invoking the key provisions like Fundamental Rights, Fundamental Duties, and Directive Principles, he expounded on how the Constitution provides a framework for social justice, but that it depends on the interpretations of the Supreme Court to bring these ideals to life. Moreover, Mr. Adsule outlined the judiciary's evolving role from rigid textualism to judicial activism and pragmatism, elucidating how landmark Supreme Court cases have shaped protections for marginalised groups. Employing Ambedkar's conception of democracy, Mr. Adsule advocated for the inclusivity and effective implementation of constitutional principles. However, he also emphasised on the missing aspects of "constitutional morality," while at the same time acknowledging post-2014 paradoxes in the post-truth context and capitalist pressures.

Click on CDPP Community Group for updates on all the events.

# **EVENTS**



#### Bazm-e-Sukhan

The Bazm-e-Sukhan is a weekly gathering where people who treasure Urdu poetry and stories come together. The gathering which began in December 2018 initially took place every Wednesday at Lamakaan, Hyderabad. Post-pandemic, in-person meetings now happen every second Wednesday of the month while online meetings take place every Tuesday. The attendees mainly consist of literature enthusiasts who love discussing art and appreciating clever language. Professors of Urdu help explain tricky words, and younger professionals share verses from their cherished poets, receiving praise from seasoned admirers who also share their memories of traditional poetry gatherings.

#### Sahir Ludhianvi Ki Shaeri

Dr. Syed Mahmood Kazmi, HOD and Assistant Director of Department of Translation, MANUU, Hyderebad, spoke on "Sahir Ludhianvi Ki Shaeri," and Dr. Atiya Mujeeb Arefi, poetess and compere and school assistant of Government of Telangana recited Sahir Ludhianvi Ki Filmi Shayeri.

Click on CDPP Community Group for updates on all the events.

## **WORKING PAPER**



# UNDERSTANDING COMMUNAL CLASHES DURING RELIGIOUS PROCESSIONS

REPORT ON THE BRAJMANDAL JALABHISHEK YATRA, 2024

Rashad Ullah Khan

#### **WORKING PAPER**

ISSUE-04 | OCTOBER-2024 | VOLUME-04

In collaboration with



#### **Understanding Communal Clashes During Religious Procession**

India's secular and pluralistic identity is under severe strain due to escalating communal tensions, particularly from groups aiming to instigate violence. The rise of communal sentiments during the Bharatiya Janata Party's rule has increased anxiety among minority communities. One tactic employed to fuel discord is the organisation of armed religious processions. Groups such as Bajrang Dal and Vishwa Hindu Parishad have been leading these processions more frequently, often resulting in violence and chaos.

One notable incident was the Brajmandal Jalabhishek Yatra in Nuh, Haryana, on July 31, 2023, which sparked off clashes between procession participants and local Muslim residents. In 2024, when the procession was scheduled again, it proceeded peacefully, and concluded without any communal violence. This paper explores why the 2024 event was different, examining factors such as the contrasting approaches of the administration and police, the specific elements present in the 2023 procession that were absent in 2024, and the local context that contributed to heightened communal tensions. By addressing these questions, the paper sheds light on how a religious procession, typically a spiritual act, can devolve into a trigger for communal conflict.

# **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### **DIGITAL CITIZEN SUMMIT 2024**





The upcoming Digital Citizen Summit (DCS) 2024, scheduled for **November 15-16,** will focus on the critical theme of "Algorithms, Al, and Accountability." Hosted by the Digital Empowerment Foundation in collaboration with the Centre for Development Policy and Practice and the Government of Telangana, the summit aims to engage citizens in discussions about the impact of Al technologies on communities. Key questions to be explored include how citizens can actively participate in Al accountability, who is responsible for algorithmic bias, and the role of regulatory bodies in overseeing Al governance. By addressing these issues, DCS 2024 seeks to empower communities to reclaim agency in the digital landscape and ensure equitable access to technology.

Registration Link: https://shorturl.at/pDvNI

**To Know More:** https://dsummit.defindia.org/concept-note-2/

# **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### **Book Discussion**

Join us for an engaging open panel discussion on Tuesday, 19th November 2024, from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm at Lamakaan, Hyderabad, as the Centre for Development Policy and Practice (CDPP) hosts a significant conversation centered on the future of Indian Muslims within the present context.

This event will feature:

**Dr. Mujibur Rahman** discussing his thought-provoking book, "Shikwa-e-Hind: The Political Future of Indian Muslims"

Mr. Rahul Bhatia, who will present insights from his recent work, "The New India: The Unmaking of the World's Largest Democracy."

This session promises a rich dialogue on the evolving socio-political landscape of India, inviting the public to contribute their perspectives and engage in this critical discourse. Don't miss this unique opportunity to be part of an important conversation shaping our understanding of democracy and societal change in India.















































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