

Abortion and the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita

- 10 The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 can be criticised for retaining much of the colonial language and approach of the Indian Penal Code.
—Alok Prasanna Kumar

From Aadhaar Mandate to Mass Job Card Deletions

- 13 In financial year 2022-23, more than five crore workers were deleted from the MGNREGS database—a 247% increase compared to the previous FY.
—Chakradhar Buddhu, Lauwanya Tamang

Anti-caste Legislations in Seattle and California

- 17 Marking a historic moment in the global struggle against caste injustice, recent legislations in Seattle and California explicitly ban caste discrimination.
—Purvi Mehra

The Politics of Delimitation in Assam

- 22 The delimitation exercise in Assam has not only redrawn the boundaries of the constituencies but also the political fault lines of the state.
—Parvin Sultan

Mid-level Healthcare Providers

- 26 The experiences and challenges faced by mid-level healthcare providers or community health officers are explored in this article.
—Alaeriy Mukar, Daksha Parmar

Interstate Variations in the COVID-19 Outcomes

- 35 The variations in covid-19 infections and deaths reported in Indian states as of 31 March 2021 have been analysed in this paper. While the proportion of people living in densely populated areas, per capita net state domestic product, and proportion of aged people explained the variations in covid-19 infections, in the case of deaths, an additional contributing factor was identified in per capita public health infrastructure. —M. Dinesh Kumar, Saurabh Kumar, Main Basu, Ajash Sanjeev & Sajit Raman

Fixed Price Contract as a Viable Option for Farmers

- 42 The economics of contract versus non-contract potato farming in West Bengal is explored using primary data collected from a household survey of 203 farmers. While the proponents of contract farming argue that fixed prices and secure markets provide farmers with better returns, this paper shows that non-contract farmers actually obtained a much higher farm (gross) income per acre than contract farmers. —Prasenjit Barik, Rajeshree Sedamanta

The Early Years of a Communist

- 132 The document is a rendering of excerpts from the autobiographical essay by Poromesh Acharya, "Ak Naisheok Bronidhor Jhaanbondoo" ("Statements of an Old Acheit"), that appeared in Anustup. The focus is on Acharya's East Bengal years and his political activism of the 1940s in Mymensingh area—in particular, his "baptism" in the communist movement. —Poromesh Acharya

Postscript

- 142 Anshul Trivedi on the YouTube channels of independent journalists from Bihar; Vineeta Sharma's poem, "Labour of Love"; Sampriti Singh Roy on how language makes and mutes autistic representation in the popular imagination; and Last Lines by Pennappa.

Economic & Political WEEKLY

EDITORIAL

- Can the Multilateral Development Banks Deliver? ... 7

COMMENT

- Geopolitics Rooted in Realism ... 8

- FROM 25 AND 50 YEARS AGO ... 9

LAW & SOCIETY

- Abortion and the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita
—Alok Prasanna Kumar ... 10

COMMENTARY

- From Aadhaar Mandate to Mass Job Card Deletions: Unravelling the MGNREGS Story
—Chakradhar Buddhu, Lauwanya Tamang ... 13

- Anti-caste Legislations in Seattle and California: The Transnational Development of a Legal Category and Its Historical Resonances
—Purvi Mehra ... 17

- The Politics of Delimitation in Assam
—Parvin Sultan ... 22

- Mid-level Healthcare Providers: Insights from West Jaintia Hills District, Meghalaya
—Alaeriy Mukar, Daksha Parmar ... 26

BOOK REVIEWS

- Stare Aco—Stare, Mistrust and the Darkness of Knowledge
—Supriya Roy Chowdhury ... 30

- From Free to Fair Markets: Liberalism after COVID-19—Viability of the Democratic Liberalism Project
—Prerna Dhoop ... 32

SPECIAL ARTICLES

- Investigating Interstate Variations in the COVID-19 Outcomes in India
—M. Dinesh Kumar, Saurabh Kumar, Main Basu, Ajash Sanjeev, Sajit Raman ... 35

- Is Fixed Price Contract a Viable Option for Farmers? A Case Study of Potato Contract Farming from West Bengal
—Prasenjit Barik, Rajeshree Sedamanta ... 42

DOCUMENT

- The Early Years of a Communist in a Colonial East Bengal Town
—Poromesh Acharya ... 132

- CURRENT STATISTICS ... 139

POSTSCRIPT

- Bihar in the News—Anshul Trivedi (142),
Labour of Love—Vineeta Sharma (143),
What We Talk about When We Talk about Autism
—Sampriti Singh Roy (144),
Last Lines (145)

APPOINTMENTS/PRICING/AMER

- APPOINTMENTS ... 145

- LETTERS ... 4