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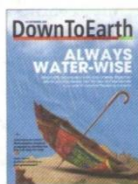
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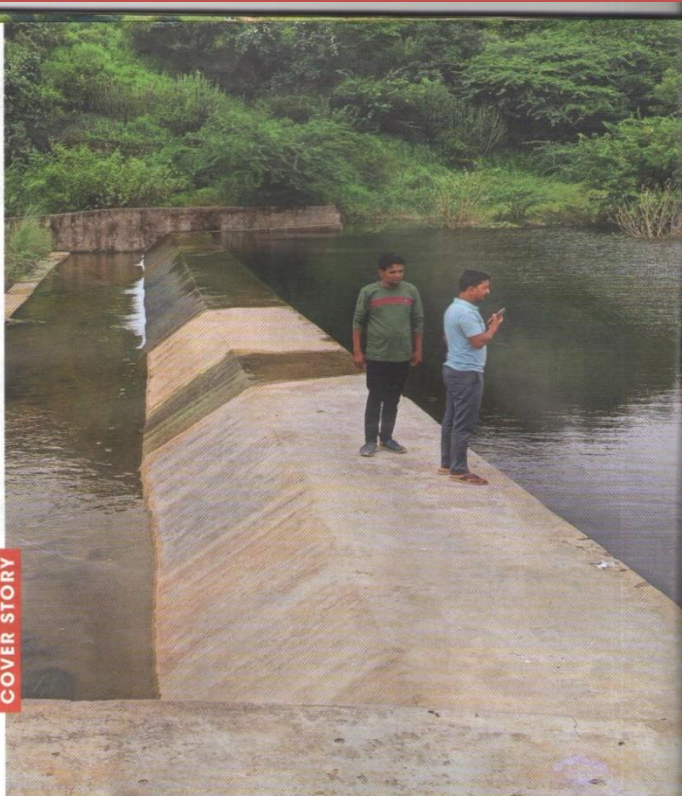
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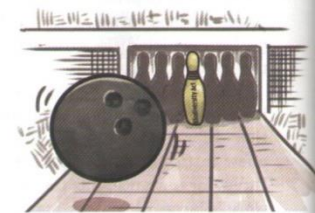
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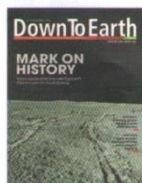
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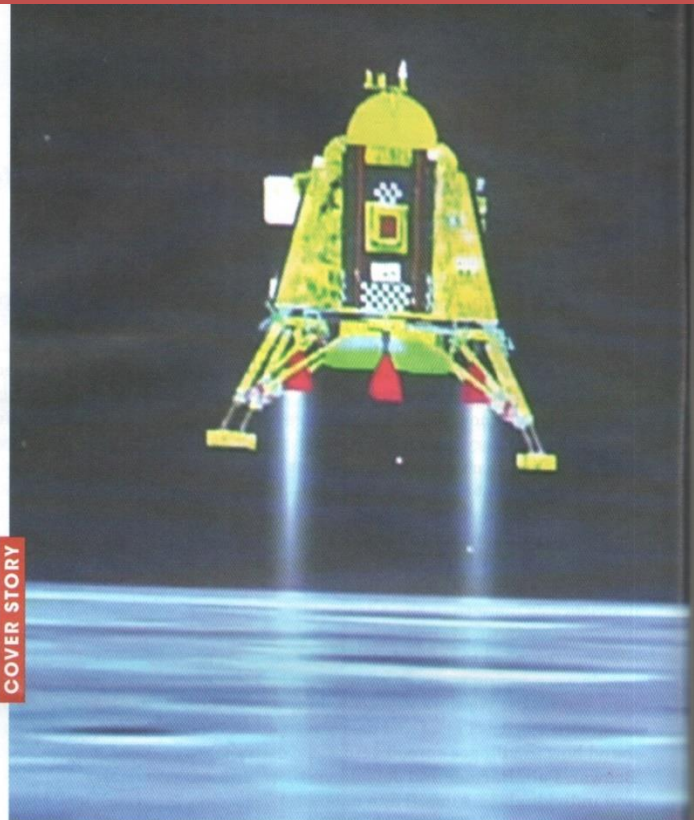
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In a highly polarised world, India must tread carefully to advance its space ambitions

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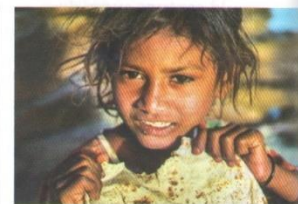
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Disparities in hunger severity across states, Union Territories

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Long-term forecasts will help agriculture prepare for droughts

Making Sense of the Property Tax Increase in Kerala

10 The fiscal compulsion and inevitable nature of property tax reforms in Kerala are examined in this article. — *Muhammed Riyas MP*

Protecting Employees' Personal Data

13 The draft of India's Digital Data Protection Bill, 2022 has been criticised for diluting the provisions and safeguards provided in previous drafts. — *Dharma Raju Bathini*

Alternative Variables for Sampling of Households

16 Alternative variables which are likely to fare better for stratification and sampling of households in the Periodic Labour Force Survey are explored in this article. — *G C Manna, D Mukhopadhyay*

Land Subsidence and Sinking City Dynamics

20 The instances of sinking and cracking of houses in Joshimath are shown to be a result of the heavy pressure on the land to develop infrastructure for the tourism industry. — *Prasanta Moharaj*

Marriage Equality in India

23 The potential judicial outcomes of the marriage equality trial are analysed in this article against the backdrop of the constitutional framework, the lived realities of LGBTQ+ lives, and India's mainstream politics. — *Sourav Mandal*

Compensation to Victims of NPEP

27 There is a case for compensation to victims of oral polio vaccine-induced polio disease under the National Polio Eradication Programme. — *Yash Paul*

Role and Impact of the Inflation Targeting Regime

37 The inflation targeting regime has almost no impact on households' inflation expectation formation. A very high correlation is found between the three-month ahead households' π and current inflation perception. — *Rahul Ranjan, Hrushikesh Mallick*

Integrating Food Commodity Prices in India

44 The e-National Agriculture Market is a pan-India electronic trading portal. Using the maximum likelihood method of co-integration, the onion market price integration of Maharashtra, Karnataka, Rajasthan, and West Bengal are investigated in this paper with the average wholesale onion price of India for 2010-16 and 2016-19. — *Rudrani Bhattacharya, Sabarni Chowdhury*

Educational Deprivation of the Tribes

52 The nature of tribal deprivation is analysed in this paper. It delves into the supply- and demand-side factors which determine the state of education within a region. Reaffirming the deprivation faced by the tribal communities, specific factors that cause marginalisation are identified in this paper. — *Namrata Singha Roy, Nivedita Mandal & Ratan Khasnabis*

FDI, Trade Openness, and Economic Growth

59 Foreign direct investment has a positive and significant impact on economic growth in the short run, whereas that of trade openness is both in the long and short run. The economic growth of India is caused by FDI, trade openness, and exchange rate, separately as well as together, in the short run. — *Manoj Kumar Agarwal, Waheedullah Hemat*

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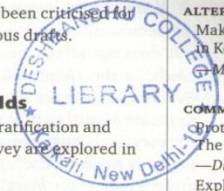
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The Sixteenth Finance Commission

10 An upward revision of vertical devolution to the states as and when there is an increase in cess and surcharges by the union government should be considered. — *R Mohan*

From Formation to Transformation of FPOs

14 Strong institution-building with well-placed internal committees will go a long way in transforming farmer producer organisations. — *Ch Radhika Rani, A Amarender Reddy & Geetha Mohan*

Personal Data Protection and Governance

19 The proposal of having a single legislation for personal data protection and non-personal data governance in India is questioned in this article. — *Indranath Gupta, Paarth Naithani*

Russia, Ukraine, and Geopolitics

24 The Russia-Ukraine war is increasing militarisation, cutting into human security, damaging the environment, and increasing food insecurity. — *Anuradha M Chenoy*

Intensive and Extensive Margins in India's Agricultural Exports

31 An analysis of the relative contribution of intensive and extensive margins to growth in India's agricultural exports from 2001 to 2020 reveals that the intensification of the export of existing products to existing destinations dominated export growth, whereas the contribution of export diversification has remained subdued. There is a wide scope for expansion of India's agricultural exports through the development of new product varieties and markets. — *K Elumalai, Anjani Kumar*

Moving from Food Insecurity to Food Security

39 Despite the increase in the availability and accessibility of foodgrains after the implementation of the National Food Security Act, 2013, a survey conducted among beneficiary households in Bihar and Haryana reveals that many do not get the recommended amount of foodgrains in the scheduled time. Corruption and malpractices such as black marketing need to be curbed to ensure effective implementation of the act and to achieve the goal of ending hunger and malnutrition. — *Amit Kumar, Damodar Suar & Bimal Kishore Sahoo*

The Making of 'Franchisee Politics' in West Bengal

46 The transformation of party society in West Bengal under the Trinamool Congress in which only Mamata Banerjee commands universal loyalty is traced in this paper. She has built an architecture of power that makes extensive political use of governmental resources, allows local party bosses to run their own fiefdom in exchange of total allegiance, and plays dangerously with religious, ethnic, and caste identities. — *Dwaipayan Bhattacharyya*

Rising India-China Trade Deficit

56 India's trade deficit with China has been continuously increasing over the years and is a major cause for concern to all stakeholders. — *Pravakar Sahoo, Ashwani Bishnoi*

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63 *Rahul Muralidharan* on the criminalisation of traditional fisheries; *Divyanshi Sharda* on the portrayal of Poonguzhali in *Ponniyin Selvan*; *Ankit Kawade* on caste and theft in a short story of Baburao Bagul; and Last Lines by *Ponnappa*.

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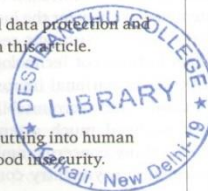
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Swapping Debt for Nature

10 A financially significant deal announced by the Government of Ecuador and Credit Suisse has raised the prospect of debt-stressed countries writing down distressed debt in return for a commitment to allocate part of the “savings” for conservation or climate projects. — *C P Chandrasekhar*

Towards a Better Digital Market Governance

13 The efficacy of the European Union’s Digital Markets Act is examined and a model for platform regulation in India is suggested in this article. — *Himanshi Srivastava, Siddharth Chaturvedi*

High-frequency Indicators in Haryana

18 The use of high-frequency indicators opens the door for casting the state economy and would also help to calibrate policy changes in the very short run. — *Narendra Kumar Bishnoi, Sachin Sharma & Ranjan Aneja*

The Failure of a Rubber Plantation in Colonial Assam

22 The plantation needs to be understood as a means of establishing state control along an ecologically, topographically, and politically volatile frontier. — *Tara Acharya*

Challenges in the Return of Industrial Policy

26 Industrial policy seems to be attempting a comeback to the centre stage of policy discussions. — *Mausam Kumar, M Suresh Babu*

Gram Sabha as a Body Corporate

35 In the Scheduled Areas of Gadchiroli district of Maharashtra, the gram sabhas are demonstrating how they could function as “bodies corporate,” a fact recognised only by a few of the state panchayat acts. — *Milind Bokil, Satish Gogulwar*

Information Technology and Banking Efficiency

40 The effect of information technology in the Indian banking sector is analysed using the stochastic frontier production model to estimate technical efficiency during 2002–18. The evidence suggests that the adoption of IT has a positive and significant impact on the performance of banks. — *Ahmad Shadab Khan, Abdulla*

The Multipronged Agrarian Crisis in Maharashtra

47 The agrarian crisis of Maharashtra predominantly comes out in the form of its nationally largest, yet scanty and inefficient, irrigation sector. Low crop yields and net negative returns for cultivating most of the crops across seasons have resulted in the highest number of farm suicide death toll at the national level for over a period of three and a half decades. — *Dnyandeve Talule, Shrikant Kalamkar*

Institutional Quality and FDI in India

61 Foreign direct investments tend to gravitate to nations with good governance. The quality of governance is largely affected by institutional factors such as control of corruption, government effectiveness, political stability, regulatory quality, rule of law, voice and accountability. — *Nikhil Kumar Kanodia, Dipti Ranjan Mohapatra & Pratap Ranjan Jena*

Good and Bad Statistics

68 There has been a public debate on the quality of official statistics being produced by the Indian statistical system. — *G Raveendran*

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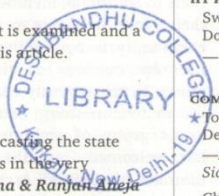
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Abortion and the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita

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 MGNREGA database—a 247% increase compared to the previous FY.
— *Chakradhar Buddha, Laavanya 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 Mehta*

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 Sultana*

Mid-level Healthcare Providers

26 The experiences and challenges faced by mid-level healthcare providers or community health officers are explored in this article.
— *Alacrity Muksor, 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, Nitin Bassi, Ajath Sanjeev & Sujit 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 263 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 investment income per acre than contract farmers. — *Prasenjit Barik, Rajshree Bedamatta*

The Early Years of a Communist

132 The document is a rendering of excerpts from the autobiographical essay by Poromesh Acharya, "Ak Naasteek Breeddher Jabaanbandee" ("Statement of an Old Atheist"), that appeared in *Anustup*. The focus is on Acharya's East Bengal years and his political activism of the 1940s in Mymensingh town—in particular, his "baptism" in the communist movement. — *Poromesh Acharya*

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142 *Anshul Trivedi* on the YouTube channels of independent journalists from Bastar; *Vineeta Sharma's* poem, "Labour of Love;" *Sampriti Singha Roy* on how language makes and mars autistic representation in the popular imagination; and Last Lines by *Ponnappa*.

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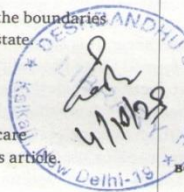
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A Tale of Two Summits

10 Two back-to-back multilateral summits, BRICS and G20, are rightly considered to be 2023's very important meetings. — *Anuradha M Chenoy*

Cash and Wages

13 The cash assistance scheme for eligible female household heads announced by the Tamil Nadu government is a significant policy intervention aimed at strengthening women's agency. — *Gargi Sridharan, Kripa Ananth Pur*

Emerging Trends from Trade

17 Owing to both internal and external challenges, India's share in global tea exports is gradually declining. — *Manash Roy Pradhani, Debashis Chakraborty & Triptendu Prakash Ghosh*

Globalisation, Privacy, and Data Protection

21 Even with the enactment of the Digital Personal Data Protection Bill, 2023, there are various lacunae that still need to be resolved. — *Sunitha Abhay Jain*

Strategising for 2024 Elections

24 The 2023 assembly elections in Karnataka have provided a template for the opposition parties to defeat the ruling party in the 2024 general elections. — *Akshay Dhume, R S Deshpande*

Shashikant Ahankari (1953–2023)

27 Shashikant Ahankari was the driving force behind the social movement aimed at creating sustained and affordable access to formal healthcare for the poor across rural Maharashtra. — *V Kalyan Shankar, Ira Deulgaonkar*

The Spatio-temporal Dynamics of Capitalist Landscape

38 The conceptual delineation of "spatial compression" in the critical writings of Karl Marx and David Harvey is mapped to explain how contemporary capitalist practices use "time" creatively to overcome the spatial constraints to profit-making. — *Aejaz Ahmad Wani, Javid Ahmad Dar*

Fiscal Devolution and Finances of ULBs in Telangana

44 The functional devolution process is incomplete despite the implementation of the 74th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992. The municipal financial indicators are not progressive in comparison with many other states. — *M Gopinath Reddy, Bishnu Prasad Mohapatra*

Imprint of Fertiliser Policies on Farming Practices

51 Policies related to the use of nitrogen fertilisers since independence are reviewed in this paper using primary and secondary databases to derive the present status of nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium fertiliser use among farmers. — *Harshika Choudhary, Kushagra Mishra, Parmod Kumar, Rommila Chandra & Bijay Singh*

What Drives India's Outward FDI?

60 An augmented gravity model and panel econometric methodologies are used in this paper to investigate what drives India's outward foreign direct investment. Due to poor institutional frameworks in both the home and host countries, India's overseas investments are concentrated in tax havens such as Singapore, Mauritius, and the Netherlands. — *Mohd Hussain Kunroo, Imran Ahmad*

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69 While earlier interventions focused on the "who" and "how" questions related to the subject and work of theory, a more fundamental question is addressed here: Why theory at all? — *Salmoli Choudhuri, Moiz Tundawala*

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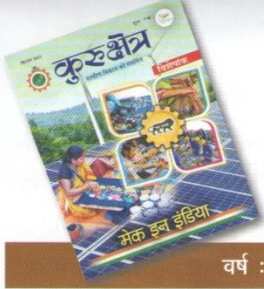
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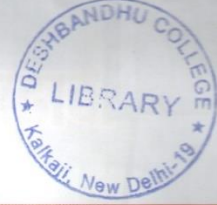
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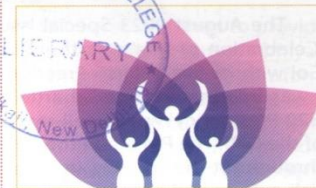


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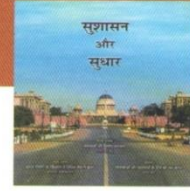
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