

The Language of Social Sciences in India

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Abstract:

The dalit discourse in India presents a sharp contrast to the "derivative" and the "desi" discourses governing nationalist thought and the "idea of India". The dalit discourse goes "beyond" the two in offering an imagination that is based on a "negative" language which however transcends into a normative form of thinking. The dalit goes beyond both the derivative and desi inasmuch as it foregrounds itself in the local configuration of power, which is constitutive of the hegemonic orders of capitalism and brahminism.

International Factors Determine Iran's Energy Policy

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Abstract:

Iran's energy decision-making policy is not determined by internal political and economic issues. It is an outcome of different issues such as international elements. International factors have played a more important role in Iran's energy policy decision making. Most neorealist and liberalism scholars have followed this opinion and among them the theories of Kenneth Waltz (1979) and Robert Keohane and Joseph Nye have been widely used by the scholars. Based on these theories, this work is using different international variables – the world oil and gas demand, the United States sanctions against Iran, and the international policy towards Iran's nuclear programme to address the subject.

Performance of Registered Manufacturing Sector in Andhra Pradesh – Role of Investment Climate

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Abstract:

The paper investigates the impact of liberalisation on the performance of the input-based classifications of the registered manufacturing sector in the state of Andhra Pradesh (AP) for the period 1980-81 through 2004-05. The study further scrutinises the role of the investment climate in enhancing the performance of the registered manufacturing sector. The performance indicators chosen are the structural ratios – capital output; capital intensity and

labour productivity. Chemical- and metal based-industries fall under the first group where the increase in labour productivity is because of the increase in capital intensity. Agro-based industries fall under the second group where there is an increase in all the three structural ratios (K/L, O/L and K/O). Labour productivity of all three input-based classifications registered an increase in the post-liberalisation period. While the fixed capital investment is high for the chemical-based industry, the growth of employment in this sector is not encouraging. This implies that technological change resulted in an increase in productivity coupled with labour displacement. The share of wages in NVA registered a declining trend in the second period over the first period indicating the absence of bargaining power on the part of the labourers. Employment elasticity with respect to output reveals that the chemical-based industries performed relatively better compared to the agro-based and metal-based industries in the post-reform period. Amongst the input-based classifications, chemical industries performed better in the post-reform period compared to the other two classifications in terms of labour productivity, capital investments and also employment elasticity. The investment climate indicators clearly show that the chemical-and metal-based industries have the potential to grow hence it becomes imperative on the part of the government to encourage these two classifications to improve the overall performance of registered manufacturing sector in AP.

India in the 21st Century: A Developed Society and Global Leader

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Abstract:

India reflects multiple images of developmental trends. India's GDP (Gross Domestic Product) is in the range of the developed world. Poverty and unemployment are chronic, acute and wide spread and its human development index (HDI) is still in the domain of averages. This is the expression of the law of capital/technology that tends to be monopolistic and expansive with an urge for wealth accumulation sans societal development. China has effectively been able to tame such a monopolistic and expansive law of capital/technology and direct them to the best interests of societal development. Thus, China is on the rise to global leadership with its society tending towards a developed one. India too could make this a reality if its economic rise is matched with societal development. An attempt is made in this paper to analyze India's developmental trends both in retrospect and prospect and compares and contrasts it with international developmental trends. Appropriate, sustainable and dialectical developmental models are proposed as templates for India to emerge as a developed society in the 21st century and be part of the global leadership. tc "Assistant Professor, MIDS, Chennai"

Vulnerabilities due to Climate Change Impacts and Implications for Long-term Coffee Production: A Case Study of Kodagu District

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Abstract:

Agricultural production in the South is estimated to fall by 25-30 percent as a result of a rise in temperatures and across developing countries potentially reduce the amount of rain-fed land by 11 percent by 2080. On account of such climatic variations, among commercial crops, it is

clear that coffee ecosystems are and will be increasingly affected by a greater frequency of variability in climatic events. In this paper, we draw on the concept of nested vulnerabilities and review some of the initial empirical evidence of the link between local responses to vulnerability caused by local climatic variations in the district of Kodagu - one of the largest coffee growing regions in India. The data analyzed shows an average 7.385 percent reduction in productivity in Kodagu and within the district an average 20.2 percent decline in the villages of Srimangala. The analysis examines the multiple stresses of rainfall, temperature on coffee productivity in Kodagu district. In the concluding section, we argue for further sustained empirical research regarding these concerns and measures to mitigate and adapt to consequences of climate change.

Keywords: Climate Change, Vulnerability, Coffee Production, Kodagu, India

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REPORT

Sociology as Perennial Seeking: Walking with the Inspiring Hands of S. N. Eisenstadt
Ananta Kumar