

**Gender Inequalities: Neglected Dimensions and Hidden Facets**

*Bina Agarwal*

**Abstract**

Gender Inequality is a vast subject on which much has been written. But many dimensions remain relatively neglected or hidden, such as inequalities in command over property, and social perceptions and social norms. The former constitutes a significant material form of inequality and the latter a significant ideological form. In turn, both aspects can interactively create new inequalities, such as being observed in emergent institutions for environmental resource management. Inequality can thus be in the process of constant recreation unless steps are taken to mitigate them. Moreover, these inequalities are simultaneously constituted and contested in several arenas: the family, the community, the market, and the state. The paper outlines the "bargaining framework" as a promising analytical approach for examining the possibilities of change, and focuses on some of the factors that could enhance women's bargaining power within these arenas.

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**Effective Demand and Income Distribution: A Review**

*S. Raghavendra*

**Abstract**

The Decade of Nineties characterized the period of 'Great Expansion' of the US economy. There was a considerable debate among the American Economists as to what caused the slow down. One group of economists argued that the slowdown was due to a correction in the stock market of temporary excesses during the great expansion period and the other argued that it was a product of deeper inconsistencies surrounding the generation of aggregate demand. The former group with its neo-classical theoretical underpinning discounted the problem of aggregate demand and saw little need for any corrective policy. The later group looked to Keynesian theory in explaining the absence of demand effects of deteriorated income distribution. We review, how and to what extent the question of interrelation between income distribution and effective demand being addressed by two distinct intellectual traditions originating in Keynesian economics on the one hand, and in Kaleckian economics on the other. It is argued that this question of how income distribution affects the level of effective demand and in turn how the formation of effective demand itself influences distribution of income is not answered by Keynes, Kalecki or their successors. And a possible suggestion to incorporate this question of interrelation within the Keynesian framework is also discussed.

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**Developmental State and Party Politics in India: From Consolidation to Crisis**

*V. Bijukumar*

**Abstract**

That the party system in India entered into a consolidation phase in the early decades of independence was due to the strength of the developmental state. When the legitimacy of the developmental state eroded in the 1990s (due to the unleashing of market forces), the party system in India entered into an era of confrontation and fragmentation.

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## **From Passive Revolution to Possessive Individualism? The Trajectory of India's Political Economy**

*Amarnath Mohanty*

### **Abstract**

India's political economy since the colonial period pivots around the story of capitalism. The capitalist form has dominated in terms of controlling the economic trends through its ability to reproduce itself on an expanded scale, to set the objectives for the economy, and overall to settle on the historical logic of reproduction of capital. India's transition to capitalism has features of what Marx identified as the 'second way' to capitalism or what Gramsci referred as passive bourgeois revolution. A society under the 'second way' or passive bourgeois revolution suffers from an incoherence or asymmetry between the logic of its economic, political and cultural levels. In the post-colonial phase, the capitalist passive revolution strategy has given rise to possessive individualism in India. The logic of passive revolution has influenced (and also been influenced by) the nature of freedom struggle, the transition of India from colonial to post-colonial, the paradigm of development in the post-colonial phase, the making of the Constitution and, in general, the entire course of India's political economy. To understand the origin and trajectory of development, and to discover the causalities of the present emergent situation, one needs ultimately to go back to the past and examine the processes of change through different stages of development. This article, in tracing the trajectory of India's political economy focuses on socio-economic and political forces at work, with a historical perspective to discover the probable causalities of change and of adoption of a specific paradigm of development in India since independence, and the resultant consequence.

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