

EVENTS & ENGAGEMENTS

AI Economics

March 18, 2025 | New Delhi

ICRIER and OpenAI co-hosted a closed-door roundtable, bringing together policymakers, economists, and tech leaders to explore AI's economic impact on India. Deepak Mishra, Director and Chief Executive of ICRIER, set the tone for the discussions, which focused on automation and AI in the Indian context. Amitabh Kant delivered a keynote address, highlighting India's vision to achieve autonomy in technological development. Key insights were shared by OpenAI's Chief Economist Aaron Chatterji and Chief Economic Advisor V. Anantha Nageswaran, and MoSPI Secretary Saurabh Garg on AI's macroeconomic and labor market implications. The discussions emphasized the need for investments in AI infrastructure, inclusive adoption, and strong data governance. India's Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) was spotlighted as a model for democratizing access to AI.



2nd Trade Facilitation Capacity Building Program for BIMSTEC Countries

March 18-29, 2025 | New Delhi, Chennai and Agartala

ICRIER hosted the 2nd Trade Facilitation Capacity Building Program for BIMSTEC countries, a key initiative announced by Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi at the 5th BIMSTEC Summit in March 2022. Supported by the Ministry of External Affairs and the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the 12-day program covered core themes like national single window systems, paperless trade, and risk management, along with emerging areas such as e-commerce, green and gender-responsive trade facilitation, and the use of new technologies in customs. Participants also visited the Chennai Sea Port and ICP Agartala to gain practical insights into India's trade facilitation ecosystem.



Roadmap for EV Battery Circularity in India

March 21, 2025 | New Delhi

ICRIER launched its report "Technological Roadmap for EV Battery Recycling: Ensuring Circularity of the EV Battery Supply Chain" at a dissemination event attended by Dr. Amrita Goldar, Shri Sudhendu J. Sinha (Advisor, NITI Aayog), Prof. Siddharth (Montu) Saxena (University of Cambridge), and the report authors—Anjali Singh, Amit Kumar, Kartik Nair, Ritika Verma and Narasimhan Soundarrajan. The report outlines key challenges in India's EV battery supply chain, future projections for battery waste, and strategic interventions to advance circularity.



Annual survey of MSMEs in India: The role of digitalisation in Enterprise development

March 27, 2025 | New Delhi

ICRIER launched its latest report, "Annual Survey of MSMEs in India: The Role of Digitalisation in Enterprise Development," at the India Habitat Centre. The report was released by Santosh Kumar Sarangi (Additional Secretary & DGFT, Department of Commerce), Sanjeev Bikhchandani (Founder, Naukri.com), Deepak Mishra (Director & CE, ICRIER), and authors Tanu Goyal, Havishaye Puri, and Riya Khanna. The launch was followed by a panel discussion on "How MSMEs Are Leveraging Digitalisation to Overcome Structural Challenges," moderated by Puja Mehra. Panelists—including Dr. Aruna Sharma, Ateesh Singh, Anil Bhardwaj, Janak Raj, and Ram Singh—shared insights on how digitalisation can drive MSME growth, resilience, and market reach.



PUBLICATIONS

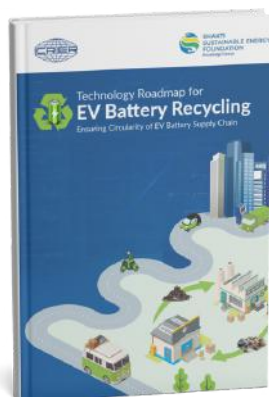


Inspecting the impact of financial inclusion on emissions in India: The Banking Channel

Author: Saon Ray

This working paper highlights how the urgency of climate change has brought environmental degradation and sustainable development to the forefront of policy debates. It emphasizes the role of the financial system in channeling funds toward either green investments or emission-intensive sectors. The paper also explores how expanding financial inclusion can influence capital allocation by bringing more individuals into the formal financial system.

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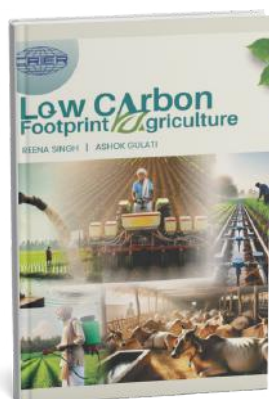


Technology Roadmap for EV Battery Recycling Ensuring Circularity of EV Battery Supply Chain

Authors: *Anjali Singh, Amit Kumar, Kartik Nair, Ritika Verma and Narasimhan Soundarrajan*

ICRIER's technology roadmap for EV battery recycling outlines a strategy to build a circular economy, reduce environmental risks, and ensure the sustainable use of critical minerals like lithium, cobalt, and nickel. It provides investment guidance for scalable recycling technologies and promotes industry collaboration and regulatory compliance. The roadmap forecasts EV battery waste until 2030 and assesses recovery potential of key minerals. It also evaluates recycling technologies for their efficiency, cost, and environmental impact.

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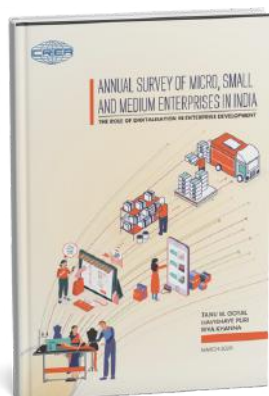


Low Carbon Footprint Agriculture

Authors: *Reena Singh and Ashok Gulati*

This report estimated state-wise agriculture Green House Emissions (GHG) emissions for 2022-23 using Tier 2 methodology of Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) (IPCC 2006) with country specific emission factors. The activity data was obtained from 'cost of cultivation survey', 'fertilizer statistics', 'land-use statistics', 'agriculture statistics at a glance' and the '20th livestock census', published literature and government reports.

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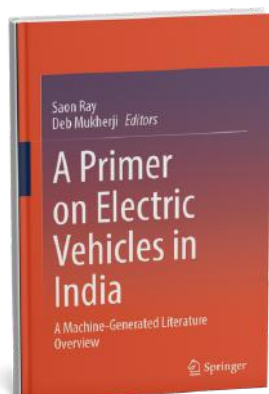


Annual Survey of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in India: The Role of Digitalisation in Enterprise Development

Authors: *Tanu M. Goyal, Havishaye Puri and Riya Khanna*

This report presents comprehensive inter-temporal and cross-sectional insights based on a survey of 2,365 MSMEs, spread over 12 states and more than 20 clusters. It examines the year-on-year performance of firms and compares firms which are integrated on e-commerce platforms with the non-integrated firms, focusing on business metrics and well as other parameters like the firms' ability to access finance and international markets.

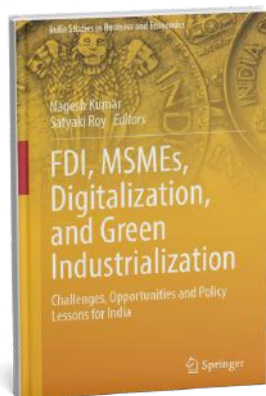
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A Primer on Electric Vehicles in India

This book presents the outcome of an innovative challenge to create a systematic literature overview using machine-generated content. AI was used to query, discover, and cluster information on complex, interdisciplinary topics such as climate, planetary, and evolutionary sciences. Dr. Saon Ray, Visiting Professor at ICRIER, is one of the editors of this volume.

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FDI, MSMEs, Digitalization, and Green Industrialization

This newly published Springer volume explores the interplay between FDI, MSMEs, clustering, digitalisation, and innovation policies in shaping India's industrialisation and sustainability trajectory. ICRIER researchers contributed the following chapters:

- "Analysing International Trade in Green Goods: A Special Reference to India" by Saon Ray (co-author)
- "Circularity of Critical Raw Materials: A Step Towards India's Net-Zero Targets 2070" by Anjali Singh (co-author)
- "Nudging Circular Economy in Indian Industry: An Evaluation Using ICRIER 'Sampada' WSUT Model" by Amrita Goldar, Sajal Jain, Ritika Verma, and Esha Agrawal

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OP-EDS

 **The Indian EXPRESS**

Trump's America First, an opening for Indian farms

Author(s): Ashok Gulati, Harsh Wardhan and Sulakshana Rao | March 03, 2025

Trump's tariff war: How should India play its cards?

Author(s): Ashok Gulati, Sulakshana Rao and Tanay Suntwal | March 18, 2025

The thread and weave of reforming India's textiles industry.

Author(s): Ashok Gulati, Ritika Juneja and Sulakshana Rao | March 31, 2025



Hindustan Times

Trump's tariff threat's impact on India's agriculture trade

Author(s): Ashok Gulati, Sulakshana Rao and Tanay Suntwal | March 17, 2025



India gig workers who offer mobility services deserve GST relief

Author(s): Arpita Mukherjee and Preksha Dugar | March 16, 2025

THE TIMES OF INDIA

How To Bake A Pie With Washington Apple

Author(s): Ashok Gulati, Sulakshana Rao and Tanay Suntwal | March 25, 2025



Government talks big on gender budget, delivers little

Author(s): Shabana Mitra, Shravani Prakash and Anjhana Ramesh | March 05, 2025

The future of Indian turmeric: Can GI tag help to secure export markets?

Author(s): Arpita Mukherjee and Trishali Khanna | March 01, 2025



Potash, the neglected nutrient in Indian agriculture

Author: Sachchida Nand | March 23, 2025

Designing a carbon market

Author: Somit Dasgupta | March 12, 2025



Unlocking India's textile & apparel potential

Author(s): Ashok Gulati, Ritika Juneja and Sulakshana Rao | March 31, 2025

Room for a win-win strategy.

Author(s): Ashok Gulati, Sulakshana Rao and Tanay Suntuwal | March 16, 2025

Wake-up call for policymakers

Author(s): Ashok Gulati, Harsh Wardhan and Sulakshana Rao | March 05, 2025

**Securing exports to USA amidst tariff threats**

Author: Arpita Mukherjee | March 21, 2025

Five key reforms India needs to boost trade-related infrastructure and enhance export competitiveness

Author: Nisha Taneja and Sanjana Joshi | March 03, 2025

FIELD VISITS

Field Insights: Greenhouse Farming and Solar Adoption in Rajasthan

Agriculture Policy, Sustainability and Innovation

From March 18–20, the Agriculture Policy, Sustainability and Innovation-Agrivoltaics team visited Rajasthan to assess the impact of Kheyti's Greenhouse-in-a-Box on farmers' incomes. Engaging with farmers, we saw firsthand how greenhouse horticulture is reducing input costs, boosting yields, and enabling off-season farming—ultimately improving market access and incomes. The team also met with JVVNL DISCOM officials and PM-KUSUM Component A farmers to discuss the opportunities and challenges of solar energy adoption in agriculture.



MEET THE TEAM

This month, we celebrate the work anniversary of Distinguished Professor Ashok Gulati, who currently serves as the Distinguished Professor at the Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER). He leads the Agriculture Policy, Sustainability and Innovation (APSI) team, contributing invaluable insights to shape India's agri-policy landscape. Prof. Gulati brings decades of experience in policy and research. He previously served as Chairman of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), Government of India (2011–2014), and held key positions as Independent Director on the Central Board of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), NABARD, and NCDEX. He is currently a member of the Tenth Audit Advisory Board of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India, and an Independent Director on the Boards of Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited and Godrej Agrovet Limited. With a legacy rooted in rigorous analysis and impactful policy engagement, Prof. Gulati continues to inspire and guide generations of researchers and policymakers. We are deeply grateful for his leadership, mentorship, and unwavering contributions to ICRIER.

