



Welcome to the June 2023 edition of the ICRIER Newsletter. In this issue, we present a snapshot of our G20 Round-Up, publications, events, and op-eds from the month of May 2023.

As part of our G20 engagement, ICRIER staff participated in the Third Energy Transitions Working Group (ETWG) meeting in Mumbai and the Second Trade and Investment Working Group (TIWG) Meeting in Bengaluru. We organised the first Trade Facilitation Capacity Building Program for BIMSTEC countries, a brainstorming session on "Nanofertilizers: A Disruptive Innovation," and hosted a webinar on 70 Years of India-Japan Relations. And we welcomed a new Board member!

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G20 ROUND-UP

Third G20 Energy Transition Working Group Meeting, Mumbai

ICRIER team participated in various side events of the third G20 Energy Transitions Working Group (ETWG) meeting held in Mumbai from 15th to 17th May, 2023, as part of the BEE-led G-20/CEM Secretariat. We organized and facilitated three side events focused on: a) sharing global policies and best practices to decarbonize "Hard to abate Sectors," b) synergizing the energy transition pathways of G20 ETWG and B20 India, and c) accelerating energy progress and promoting LiFE. These events took place over the course of three days under the aegis of the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE). [For more...](#)



Second Trade and Investment Working Group (TIWG) Meeting in Bengaluru

As the knowledge partner of MOCI, the ICRIER team participated and delivered two presentations – one on “Integrating MSMEs in Global Trade and the second on “Annual Regulatory Dialogue” – at the Second Trade and Investment Working Group (TIWG) Meeting held in Bengaluru, India from 23rd to 25th May, 2023. [For more details ...](#)



1st Trade Facilitation Capacity Building Program for BIMSTEC Countries, 7-10 May 2023

The 1st Trade Facilitation Capacity Building Program for BIMSTEC Countries was conducted by ICRIER in collaboration with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) on 7th May, 2023. The program aimed to enhance trade facilitation capabilities among BIMSTEC nations, fostering cooperation and improving regional trade. It provided participants with valuable insights and tools to streamline cross-border trade operations, contributing to economic integration and smoother trade in the BIMSTEC region.



Brainstorming session | Nanofertilizers: A Disruptive Innovation, 17 May 2023

ICRIER conducted a brainstorming session on "Nanofertilizers: A Disruptive Innovation" on 17th May 2023. The event explored the potential of nanofertilizers in agriculture, discussing their benefits, challenges, and implications. Experts from academia, industry, and government shared insights, fostering collaboration for sustainable agriculture.



Webinar on 70 Years of India-Japan Relations: Taking Stock of Economic Ties and Looking Ahead, 9 May 2023

The webinar focused on India-Japan economic ties, highlighting collaboration in the northeast region and workshops organized by ICRIER and Japanese institutions. ICRIER expressed its plan to establish a Japan Centre for evidence-based policy inputs. Face-to-face interactions and people-to-people exchanges were emphasized as crucial for strengthening economic relations. The potential for Indian talent to work in Japan was also highlighted.



Detox Development: Repurposing Distorting Subsidies, 15 May 2023

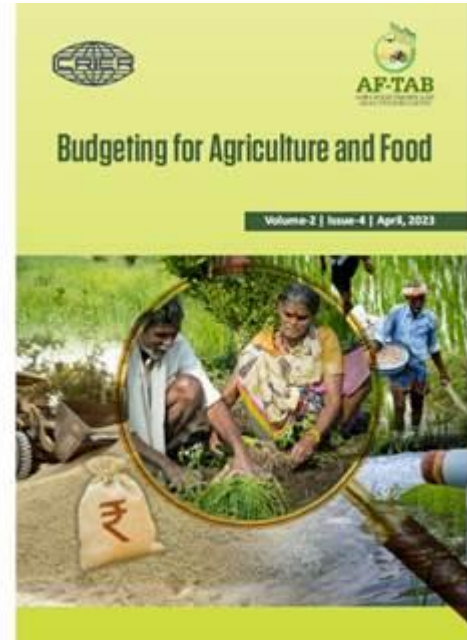
ICRIER conducted a seminar to discuss the World Bank report "Detox Development: Repurposing Distorting Subsidies" on May 15th, 2023. Richard Damania, Chief Economist at the World Bank, presented the report, emphasizing the negative impact of subsidies on efficiency and the environment. The report highlighted that global agricultural subsidies increase output but lower efficiency, while fossil fuel subsidies hinder climate change mitigation. Prof. Ashok Gulati (ICRIER), Dr. R. Kavita Rao, Director (NIPFP), Mr. Siddharth Goel, Senior Policy Advisor (IISD) were the discussants.



PUBLICATIONS

Budgeting for Agriculture and Food

Despite climate change challenges, agriculture continues to grow resiliently. This edition explores the long-term perspective of agricultural sector development and analyzes budgetary provisions for agri-food policies. Delve into the bold steps taken to reorient support from doles to development, with drastic cuts in subsidies and increased allocations for infrastructure and rural initiatives. Learn about the provisions made for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, the ambitious goal of doubling farmers' income, and the pressing issue of malnutrition. Gain valuable insights into balancing agricultural growth with environmental sustainability.



SPOTLIGHT

Sanjeev Bikhchandani joins the ICRIER Board

ICRIER extends its heartfelt greetings to Mr. Sanjeev Bikhchandani, co-founder of Info Edge, as he joins the ICRIER Board. With his remarkable experience in the Digital Economy, Start-ups, and Innovation (DESI) sphere, he will greatly enhance ICRIER's commitment to advancing India's journey towards a more efficient, inclusive, and sustainable digital economy. To know more about ICRIER Board, [click here ...](#)



Sanjeev Bikhchandani joins ICRIER Board

ICRIER is honored to welcome Mr. Bikhchandani, co-founder of Info Edge (Naukri.com, Jeevansathi.com, 99acres.com, Shiksha.com, Nauhrigulf.com) to the ICRIER Board. Mr. Bikhchandani's vast experience, especially in the field of Digital Economy, Start-ups, and Innovation (DESI) space, will greatly enhance ICRIER's endeavours in supporting India's transition towards a more efficient, inclusive, and sustainable digital economy.

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Meet Dr. Tanu Goyal: 15 Years of Dedicated Career at ICRIER

In this edition of the ICRIER monthly newsletter, we celebrate the remarkable journey of Dr. Tanu Goyal, one of our Senior Fellows. With 15 years of invaluable contributions in policy research, Dr. Goyal's expertise has shaped ICRIER's impact. Dr. Goyal's research interests include international trade in services, trade agreements, services value chain and G20 issues. Join us in honouring her commitment to India's international economic policy-making. To know about our faculty members, please [click here ...](#)

TEAM SPOTLIGHT



Dr. Tanu Goyal
Senior Fellow, ICRIER

I joined ICRIER 15 years ago and this place gives great exposure in the field of policy research. I believe engagement is all-round. I am glad to be here and contribute to India's international economic policy-making.



GROWTH EMPLOYMENT AND MACROECONOMY (GEM)

Op-eds | Media appearances:

[FTP, e-commerce, express delivery: Hidden agents for unlocking SME's export potential](#)

Arpita Mukherjee | Economic Times | 20 May, 2023

[A boon for the elderly](#)

Pramod Bhasin | Financial Express | 19 May, 2023

[Logistics makes the world go around](#)

Ajay Chhibber | Business Standard | 19 May, 2023

[India's trade and economic ties with the EU are set to strengthen](#)

Arpita Mukherjee | Mint | 18 May, 2023

[India conducts talks with UAE on pharma export pricing challenges](#)

Arpita Mukherjee | Mint | 7 May, 2023



AGRICULTURE POLICY SUSTAINABILITY AND INNOVATION (APSI)

Op-eds:

[Sowing climate resilience](#)

Ashok Gulati and Purvi Thangaraj | Financial Express / Indian Express | 29 May, 2023

[Reining in food inflation](#)

Ashok Gulati | Financial Express / Indian Express | 15 May, 2023

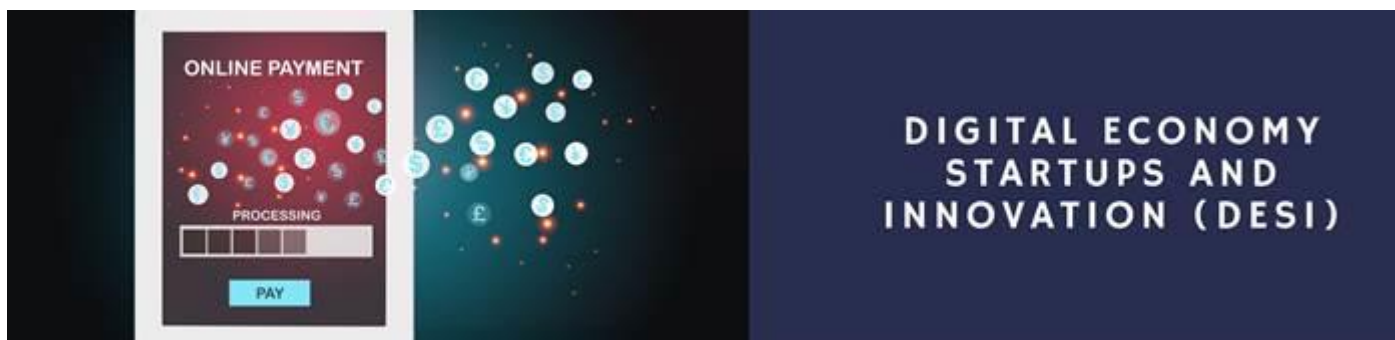
[El Nino casts a shadow over Indian agriculture](#)

Ashok Gulati | Mint | 5 May, 2023

[PDS and climate-smart agriculture](#)

Ashok Gulati | Financial Express / Indian Express | 1 May, 2023

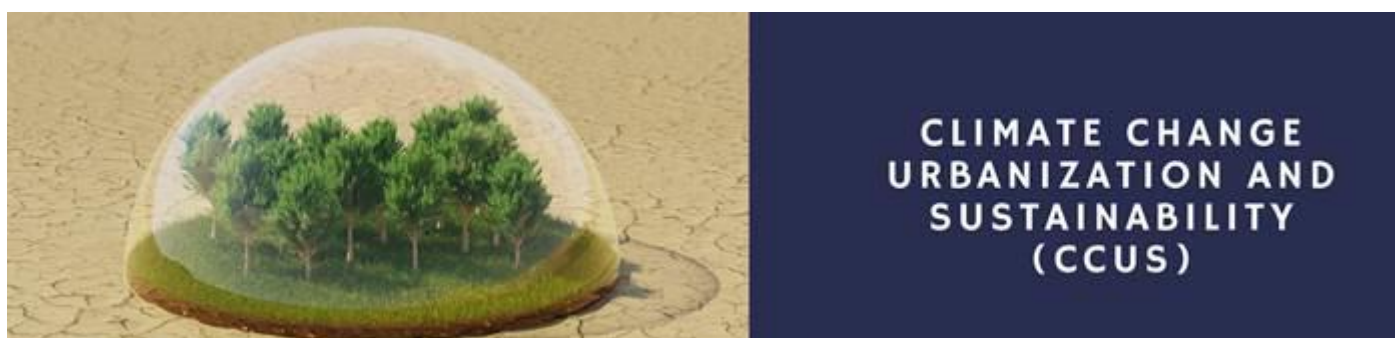




Media appearances:

[Education, economics, climate, disrupted by technology & decentralization](#)

A Damodaran | TOCTW-PODCAST | 16 May, 2023



Op-eds:

[A way out of the coal trap](#)

Somit Dasgupta | Indian Express | 26 May, 2023



[Overstepping jurisdictions](#)

Somit Dasgupta | Financial Express | 24 May, 2023



[The problem with pooling](#)

Somit Dasgupta | Financial Express | 8 May, 2023



[Climate justice elusive](#)

Somit Dasgupta | Hindu BusinessLine | 8 May, 2023



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