



Welcome to ICRIER's October 2023 newsletter. This edition showcases our G20 Roundup, events publications, and op-eds from September 2023.

ICRIER hosted the G20 Independent Expert Group in New Delhi, which has been set-up by the Indian G20 Presidency to provide recommendations on strengthening the Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs). The Group met with the Finance Minister and submitted the Volume 2 of its report to the Indian Presidency. Last month, ICRIER organized two successful events: the IPCIDE Conference on "AI in School Education Impacts and Challenges" and the Dissemination Event on "Sustainable Supply Chains for EV Batteries."

We published a report on "Annual Survey of MSMEs," examining the economic impact of e-commerce on the sector. Additionally, two policy briefs have been released: "Tackling Food Inflation: Policy Brief" and "India-Africa in G21: The Challenge of Nutrition Security." It highlights India's G20 presidency and discusses the African Union's inclusion as a permanent member of the G20 and its significance for nutrition security.

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ICRIER Hosted G20 Independent Expert Group Meeting

ICRIER had the privilege of hosting and facilitating the G20 Independent Expert Group (IEG) meetings in New Delhi on 23-24 September 2023. The Group, co-convened by Mr. N.K. Singh and Prof. Lawrence Summers, focused on providing recommendations for strengthening the Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs). The discussions during the visit revolved around current geopolitical scenarios, climate concerns, and sustainability.

During the visit, the IEG had the opportunity to meet with the Honorable Finance Minister to discuss the report's findings and its importance on the global economic landscape. The Finance Minister expressed her gratitude and appreciation for the work done on the report and conveyed her interest in ensuring a smooth dissemination of its findings.

Visit Website: <https://icrier.org/g20-ieg/>

Download Report: [The Triple Agenda](#)

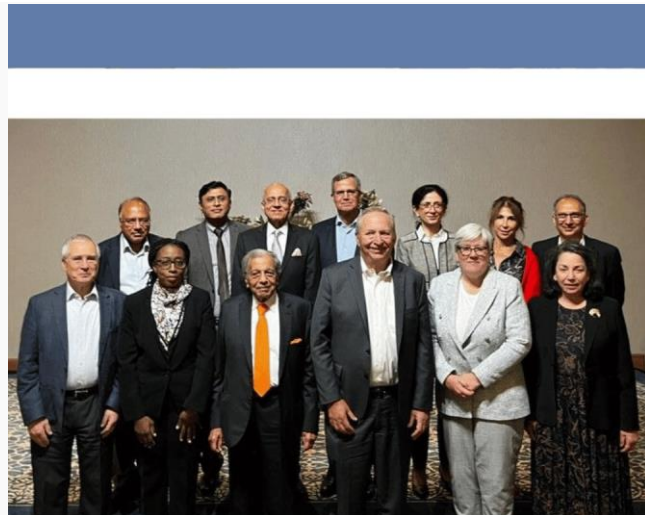
Twitter: [@ICRIER_G20](#)

In the News:

[Business Standards](#)

[NDTV 24x7](#)

[Indian Express](#)



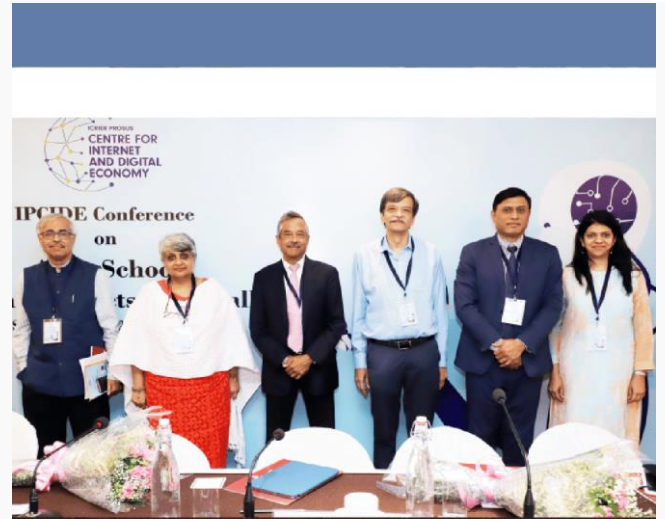
EVENTS
SPOTLIGHT

IPCIDE Conference on AI in School Education: Impacts and Challenges

The IPCIDE Conference on AI and Education, held on 19 September, 2023, at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi. The conference discussed AI's potential to reshape education, emphasizing the importance of a blended learning model aligned with NEP goals. Additionally, concerns about the impact on critical thinking were addressed, alongside the need for regulatory frameworks to protect student data and ensure AI's human-centric approach.

Twitter: @ipcide

Click [here](#) to watch the event.



Dissemination Event on "Sustainable Supply Chains for EV Batteries"

ICRIER, in collaboration with the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD), hosted a dissemination event titled "Sustainable Supply Chains for EV Batteries" on 26 September, 2023, at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi. Key takeaways included the need for private sector investment, a local ecosystem, ESG reporting, global partnerships, and stakeholder alliances to support India's EV battery supply chain. Additionally, circular economy parks were discussed as a way to realize agglomeration benefits, especially concerning environmental monitoring and logistical systems.

Click [here](#) to watch the event.

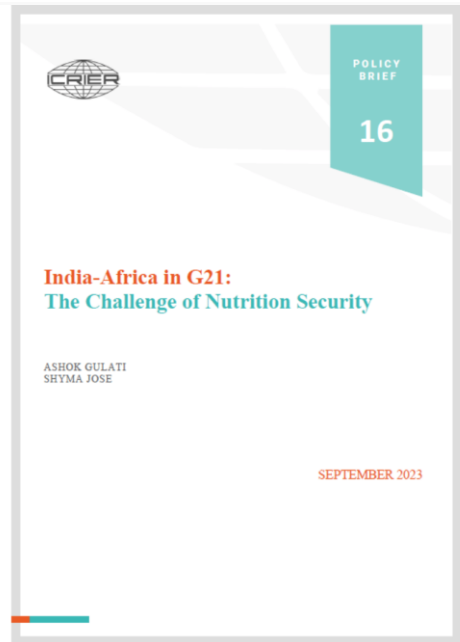


India-Africa in G21: The Challenge of Nutrition Security

Author(s): Dr. Ashok Gulati, Dr. Shyma Jose

This Policy Brief highlights a significant development in India's G20 presidency— the inclusion of the African Union (AU) as a permanent member, potentially renaming the group as G21. This decision amplifies the voice of the Global South, with the AU representing 55 countries and 1.4 billion people. The new G21 would encompass 84 percent of the global population, aligning with the motto of 'One Earth, One Family, One Future.' India and Africa share common challenges, including low per capita income, persistent poverty, undernourishment, and population growth.

Click [here](#) to download the policy brief.



Annual Survey of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) In India: Leveraging E-commerce for the Growth of MSMEs

Author(s): Dr. Radhicka Kapoor, Dr. Tanu Goyal

ICRIER released a report titled, 'Annual Survey of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in India: Leveraging E-commerce for the Growth of MSMEs'. Based on a comprehensive primary survey of enterprises integrated with e-commerce platforms and those not, this report seeks to understand how e-commerce can be leveraged to enable the growth of the Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) sector in India.

Click [here](#) to download the Report.

Click [here](#) to download the Executive Summary.

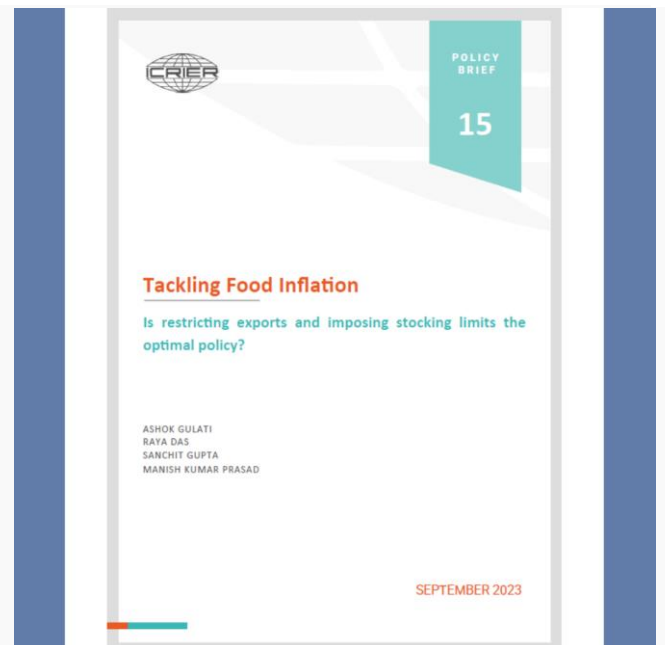


Tackling Food Inflation: Is restricting exports and imposing stocking limits the optimal policy?

Author(s): Dr. Ashok Gulati, Dr. Raya Das, Mr. Sanchit Gupta, Mr. Manish Kumar Prasad

This Policy Brief examines India's macroeconomic challenges, with retail inflation at 6.83 percent in August 2023, above the Reserve Bank of India's upper tolerance limit of 6 percent. The surge is driven by soaring food prices, which carry substantial weight in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) basket. India's vulnerability to food price fluctuations is accentuated by a 10 percent rainfall deficit during the ongoing monsoon season, categorized as a potential "drought" by the India Meteorological Department.

Click [here](#) to download the policy brief.



Meet our Distinguished Professor A. Damodaran

A. Damodaran, a Distinguished Professor in ICRIER's Digital Economy, Start-up, and Innovation team, previously held a senior professorship at IIM Bangalore. His expertise encompasses a wide range of topics, including digital technologies, Metaverse and NFT economics, distributed economic systems, blockchain in defense, IoT applications in the food industry, and digital-based climate and biodiversity financing models. With a background in Economics, he has held academic and professional positions globally, including with the US Environmental Protection Agency and the University of California at Berkeley. To learn more about our faculty members, please [click here](#)





GROWTH EMPLOYMENT AND MACROECONOMY (GEM)

Op-eds | Media appearances:

[Unlocking MSME potential](#)

Radhicka Kapoor, Tanu M Goyal | Business Standard | 21 September, 2023

[Digital infrastructure is aiding women too unevenly](#)

Cledwyn Fernandez & Havishaye Puri | Mint | 21 September, 2023

[Our trade thrust has been in sync with the G20 agenda](#)

Arpita Mukherjee | Mint | 19 September, 2023

[Private labels offer Indian MSMEs an export pathway](#)

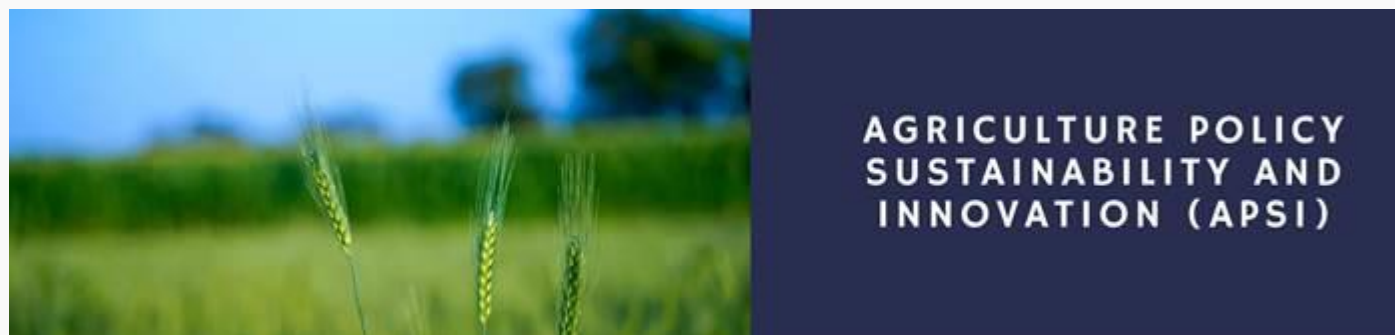
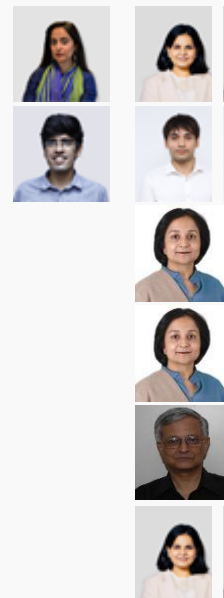
Arpita Mukherjee | Mint | 13 September, 2023

[Opium, history and economics](#)

Shankar Acharya | Business Standard | 13 September, 2023

[India's role after the G20 summit](#)

Tanu Goyal | Ellenomics | 7 September, 2023



AGRICULTURE POLICY SUSTAINABILITY AND INNOVATION (APSI)

Op-eds | Media appearances:

[Man of Science and Humanity](#)

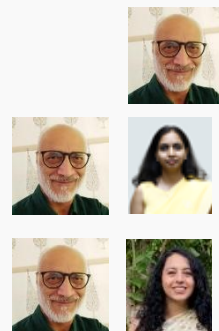
Ashok Gulati | Indian Express | 29 September, 2023

[It's time for India and Africa to deal with food and security issues together](#)

Ashok Gulati, Shyma Jose | Indian Express / Financial Express | 18 September, 2023

[A climate question for G20](#)

Ashok Gulati, Purvi Thangaraj | Indian Express / Financial Express | 4 September, 2023





Op-eds | Media appearances:

[Mudda Aapka - G20: टेक्नोलॉजिकल ट्रांसफॉर्मेशन और डिजिटल इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर](#)

Mansi Kedia | Sansad TV | 28 September, 2023

[AI can transform school education, minimise drudgery to improve quality](#)

A Damodaran | Business Standard | 20 September, 2023



Op-eds | Media appearances:

[G20 Declarations and the lack of detail](#)

Somit Dasgupta | Indian Express | 21 September, 2023



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Deepak Mishra
Director & CE

www.icrier.org



Our Offices:

Core 6A, 4th Floor, India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003

Plot No. 16-17, Pushp Vihar, Institutional Area, Sector 6, New Delhi-110017

Ph: +91 11 43112400, E-mail: info@icrier.res.in

Website: www.icrier.org

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