



NISHA TANEJA
Professor, ICRIER

“As global trade navigates turbulent waters - shaped by shifting alliances, security concerns, and rising economic nationalism - the Trade, Investment, and External Relations (TIER) vertical of ICRIER is charting a strategic course for India’s external economic engagement. With trade diversification at the forefront of strategic priorities, and the recent thaw in India-China relations - highlighted by the 25th Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit - our team’s policy brief, “Calibrating India’s Economic Engagement Strategy with China Amidst the Changing Geopolitical Landscape,” came out as a timely contribution. Drawing on an analysis of export trends, untapped potential, import dependence, and the evolving trajectory of Chinese investment in India, our research outlined policy pathways to enhance export competitiveness, reduce vulnerabilities from concentrated imports, and channel FDI with appropriate guardrails.

In another step towards strengthening bilateral economic and strategic ties, our team, in collaboration with the India–Republic of Korea Friendship Society (IRKFS), hosted a conference on “Changing Geo-economic Environment: Road Ahead for a Robust India-ROK Partnership”. Bringing together leading policymakers, diplomats, and industry leaders from both countries, the dialogue examined contemporary geopolitical and economic imperatives, explored new avenues of collaboration, and deliberated on concrete policy measures and institutional frameworks to facilitate the “second wave” of South Korean investments in India.

Furthering the agenda of inclusive trade in the context of the India-UK CETA, the team hosted a roundtable dialogue, complemented by the screening of the documentary Garment Kelsa – Women and Work. The discussions highlighted the challenges faced by women entrepreneurs and workers in the textile sector, while also exploring potential initiatives under the Trade and Gender Equality Working Group to foster a more enabling ecosystem for Indian women in trade. We hope these initiatives contribute to actionable policies, inclusive growth, and stronger strategic partnerships, while advancing a more resilient and forward-looking framework for India’s external economic engagement.”

EVENTS & ENGAGEMENTS

Conversation with Dr. Rachel Glennerster

Aug 22, 2025 | New Delhi

ICRIER hosted Dr. Rachel Glennerster, President of Center for Global Development (CGD), for a discussion on India–US economic relations. She interacted with the ICRIER team, learning about our ongoing research work and sharing her experiences of addressing similar issues globally.



Changing Geo-economic Environment: Road Ahead for a Robust India-ROK Partnership

Aug 05, 2025 | New Delhi

ICRIER and India-Republic of Korea Friendship Society (IRKFS) jointly organised a high-level dialogue with policymakers, diplomats and industry leaders from both countries. The discussion focused on contemporary geopolitical and economic imperatives for a stronger strategic economic partnership, exploring new areas of collaboration and concrete policy measures to drive the “second wave” of South Korean investments in India.



Enhancing Women's Participation in the Garment and Textile Exports of India

Aug 28, 2025 | New Delhi

In the context of the recently signed India-UK CETA, ICRIER curated a roundtable dialogue complemented by the screening of the documentary, *Garment Kelsa – Women and Work*. The discussions focused on challenges faced by women entrepreneurs and workers in the textile sector, and examined potential initiatives under the Trade and Gender Equality Working Group to foster an enabling ecosystem for Indian women in trade.



Asian Development Policy Report (ADPR) 2025: Harnessing Digital Transformation for Good

Aug 20, 2025 | Hybrid

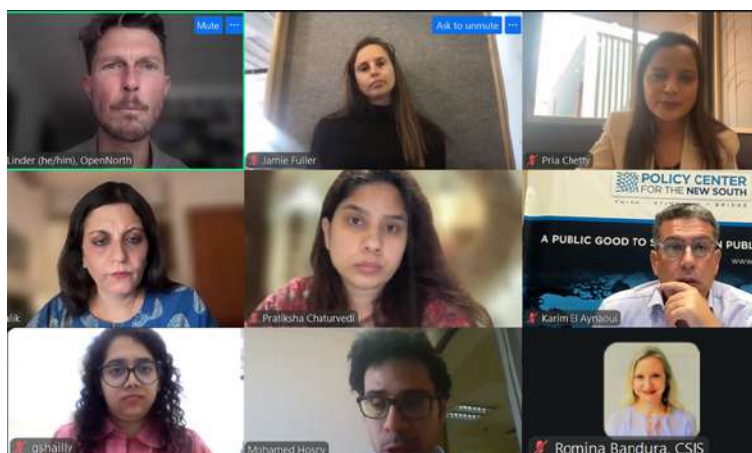
The ICRIER Prosus Centre (IPCIDE) hosted the Asian Development Bank for a seminar on the Asian Development Policy Report (ADPR) 2025. Dr. Donghyun Park and Dr. Shu Tian from ADB's Economic Research and Development Impact Department (ERDI) were the key speakers. They presented the report's findings on how digital transformation can foster low-carbon, inclusive growth in a region vulnerable to climate change and inequality.



Community of Practice (CoP) on Digital Public Infrastructure for Development (DPI4D) Webinar 11: Towards an Integrated Data Governance Framework for DPI

Aug 27, 2025 | Online

ICRIER's 12th DPI4D session focused on a T20 policy brief on Data Governance for DPI. Speakers Pria Chetty (Research ICT Africa), Payal Malik (ICRIER) and Thomas Linder (Open North) discussed policy solutions to ensure DPI drives greater innovation and inclusion.



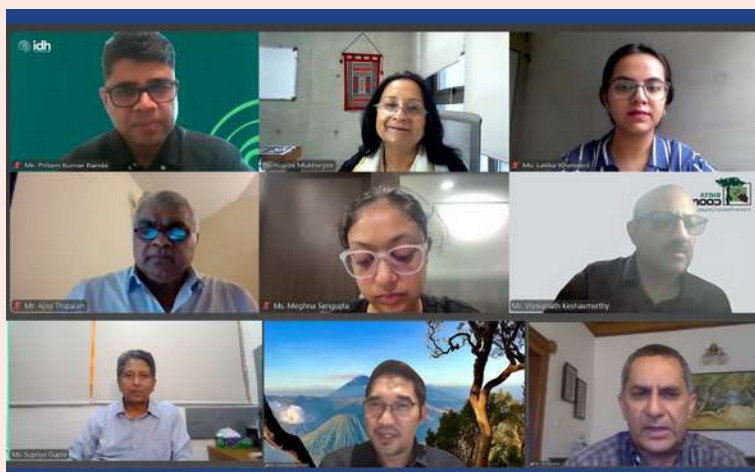
EU Sustainability Standards on Indian Agri-Product Exports

As part of its study on "Understanding the Impact of EU Sustainability Standards on Indian Agri-Product Exports, ICRIER organised multiple stakeholder consultations.

Coffee Sector and the European Union Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive (EUCS3D)

Aug 05, 2025 | Online

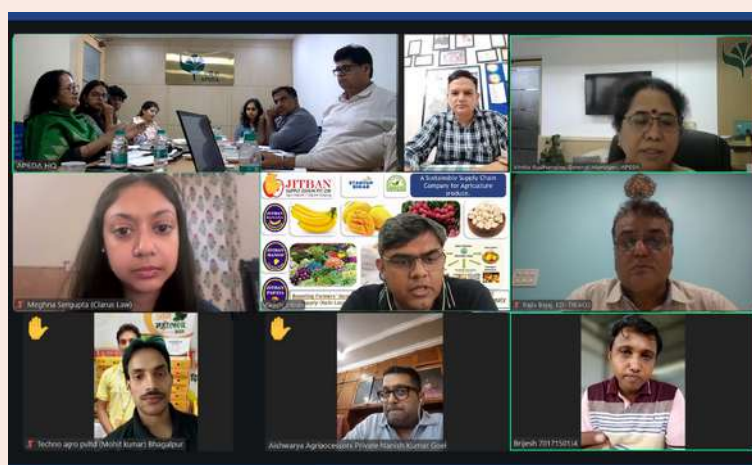
Stakeholders discussed ways to strengthen India's coffee export value chains, address EU sustainability requirements and enhance India's share in global markets.



Rice Export to the EU Market and the EUCS3D

Aug 14, 2025 | Hybrid

ICRIER, in collaboration with APEDA, organised a consultation on "Rice Exports to the EU Market and EUCS3D." Discussions covered export requirements, challenges faced by exporters, and the support needed in capacity building, technology, and risk mitigation.



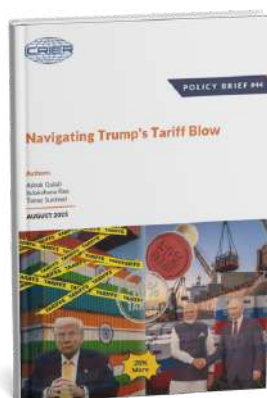
LATEST PUBLICATIONS



Calibrating India's Economic Engagement Strategy with China Amidst the Changing Geopolitical Landscape

Authors: *Nisha Taneja, Sanjana Joshi, Vasudha Upreti and Nirlipta Rath*

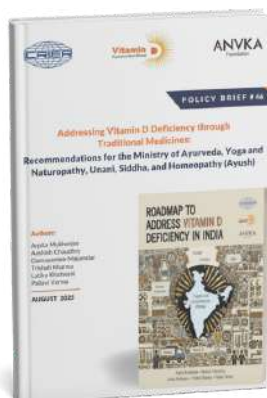
This brief outlines policy pathways to enhance and diversify India's exports to China, lower vulnerabilities from uncompetitive imports and channel FDI responsibly to balance opportunities with strategic safeguards.



Navigating Trump's Tariff Blow

Authors: *Ashok Gulati, Sulakshana Rao and Tanay Suntuwal*

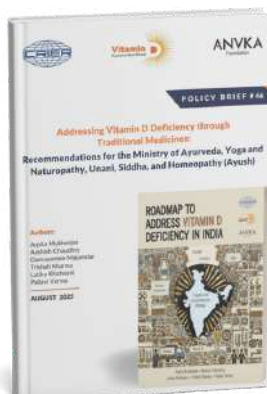
A three-pronged strategic response is recommended to address the 50% US tariff on Indian exports: (i) engage in smart negotiations grounded in logic and rationality; (ii) announce immediate and targeted relief measures for the hardest-hit sectors; and (iii) diversify India's export markets.



Addressing Vitamin D Deficiency through Traditional Medicines: Recommendations for the Ministry of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, and Homeopathy (Ayush)

Authors: *Arpita Mukherjee, Aashish Chaudhry, Damayantee Majumdar, Trishali Khanna, Latika Khatwani and Pallavi Verma*

On alleviating Vitamin D deficiency, this brief underscores the pivotal role the Ayush Ministry can play by creating awareness on heliotherapy and dietotherapy, encouraging use of traditional medicines to enhance the body's natural healing abilities and collaborating with Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) to relaunch Project Dhoop, which promotes safe sun exposure across all population groups.



Action Points for the Ministry of Women and Child Development (MoWCD)

Authors: *Arpita Mukherjee, Aashish Chaudhry, Trishali Khanna, Latika Khatwani and Pallavi Verma*

Focusing on the role the MoWCD can play in delivering a "Vitamin D Kuposhan Mukh Bharat", this brief presents six key action points for addressing Vitamin D deficiency, one of the most widespread forms of malnutrition.

ICRIER PODCASTS



The Trump Tariffs: What India Must Now Do

Pramod Bhasin (Chairperson, ICRIER) and Prof. Arpita Mukherjee (Professor, ICRIER) join Puja Mehra (Senior Fellow-Consultant, ICRIER) to discuss the impact of the tariffs announced by the US on Indian exports and the policy responses the government must consider.



India's Lopsided Economic Relationships with China and Urgent Corrections Needed

Prof. Nisha Taneja (Professor, ICRIER) speaks with Puja Mehra (Senior Fellow-Consultant, ICRIER), on the structural imbalances in India-China trade, the risks of overdependence, and the policy shifts needed to safeguard India's economic interests.

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

Conference on Standard Essential Patents

ICRIER was the knowledge partner for a conference on Standard Essential Patents (SEPs) for Indian Startups. It was organised by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI). In her welcome address, Prof. Payal Malik of ICRIER emphasised the need for a modern industrial strategy. This can embed incentives through a robust IPR regime, foster an innovative culture and support programmes that encourage entrepreneurship.



CBAM Will Have Massive Impact on Finished Steel Export to EU: Economist Saon Ray | Carbon Accounting

Prof. Saon Ray was a guest on the podcast where she discussed the potential fallout of the proposed Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) on India's finished steel exports to the EU. She described how carbon accounting and compliance can help reduce risk and open new markets.



OP-EDS

mint

The long arc of an India-US trade deal could end in a win-win

Authors: Puja Mehra and Arpita Mukherjee | Aug 01, 2025

The India-UK economic pact gives our digital trade the enablers it needs

Author: Arpita Mukherjee | Aug 03, 2025

Aquaculture shock: Spare a lifeline for shrimp farmers reeling under US tariffs

Authors: Raya Das and Sanchit Gupta | Aug 07, 2025

Indian agriculture and dairy sectors are enough to withstand US tariff vagaries

Authors: Arpita Mukherjee and Nandita Gupta | Aug 09, 2025

 **The Indian EXPRESS**

Planning the next leap forward

Authors: Ashok Gulati and Ritika Juneja | Aug 18, 2025

With right policy choices, AI can become a driver for inclusive growth

Authors: Payal Malik, Nikita Jain and Shailly Gupta | Aug 23, 2025

 **FINANCIAL EXPRESS**
Read to Lead

India@79: From independence to influence

Authors: Ashok Gulati and Ritika Juneja | Aug 18, 2025

 **THE ECONOMIC TIMES**

Rebalancing trade ties: India's path to reduced Chinese import dependence

Authors: Nisha Taneja and Vasudha Upreti | Aug 01, 2025

Balancing bilateral trade ties: India's path to enhanced exports to China

Authors: Nisha Taneja, Vasudha Upreti and Nirlipta Rath | Aug 05, 2025

India's manufacturing shift: Capital intensity and workforce gaps

Authors: Cledwyn Fernandez and Arjun Tandon | Aug 18, 2025

Trump's 50% tariffs go live: What they mean for India and the way forward

Authors: Saon Ray and Smita Miglani | Aug 27, 2025

The Statesman

Economic ties with Seoul must be strengthened

Authors: Nisha Taneja and Sanjana Joshi | Aug 13, 2025

TEAM SPOTLIGHT



SUBHODEEP BASU
Research Fellow, ICRIER

Subhodeep Basu is a Research Fellow with the Agriculture Policy, Sustainability and Innovation (APSI) team. He holds an MSc in Economics (specialising in Development Studies) from the Symbiosis School of Economics, Symbiosis International University, and a BSc in Economics (Hons) from Scottish Church College, University of Calcutta.

With over five years of experience in mixed-method research on rural livelihoods, Subhodeep's work focuses on farmer collectives, agricultural solarisation, and the groundwater economy.