DHARMASHASTRA NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY

CENTRE FOR LAW & ECONOMICS

E-NEWSLETTER

ARTHA MANTHAN 2.0

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ABOUT DNLU

The Dharmashastra National Law University has been established by the Madhya Pradesh Dharmashastra National Law University Ordinance, 2018. The Chancellor of the University is the Hon'ble Chief Justice of the High Court of Madhya Pradesh. The Vice-Chancellor of the University is Prof. (Dr.) Manoj Kumar Sinha. The objective is to advancing the cause of legal education and achieving excellence as a university for imparting value-based legal education. The university emphasises advocacy skills with professional ethics by providing suitable simulation exercises.

ABOUT CLE

A nation must have an adequate framework of laws and regulations that can offer the necessary safeguards in order to meet its economic goals. Thus, economics and law work together to create effective laws that can direct the country's economic activity. Under the auspices of Dharmashastra National Law University in Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh, the Centre for Law and Economics (CLE) was founded. The Center was established with the intention of advancing study in the related fields of law and economics and of comprehending the interdependence between the state of the economy and the impact that it has on the nation's economic laws. It attempts to offer remedies for the present problems related to Law and Economics.

CENTRE FOR LAW & ECONOMICS

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Dr. Isha Wadhwa
Director, Centre for Law & Economics
Assistant Professor of Economics
Dharmashastra National Law University, Jabalpur

CENTRE FOR LAW & ECONOMICS

VICE CHANCELLER'S NOTE

Vice Chancellor
Dr. (Prof.) Manoj Kumar Sinha
Dharmashastra National Law University, Jabalpur

In today's dynamic landscape, staying informed about developments in law and economics is essential. Through our e-newsletter, the Centre for Law and Economics [CLE] endeavors to provide you with a diverse range of articles, news updates, and quizzes that shed light on the intricate relationship between legal frameworks and economic principles, particularly within the context of India.

Our aim with "Artha-Manthan" is to foster dialogue and encourage critical thinking about the complex issues shaping our nation's economic trajectory. We hope that the content curated in this edition will not only keep you informed but also empower you to engage in meaningful discussions.

I extend my gratitude to the dedicated team whose efforts have made this edition possible. Their commitment to knowledge dissemination is commendable.

I invite each of you to explore the content presented in this edition and to participate in the ongoing dialogue. Together, let us strive for a deeper understanding of the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

Thank you for your continued support.

Best regards,

DIRECTOR’S NOTE

Dr. Isha Wadhwa
Director, Centre for Law & Economics
Assistant Professor of Economics
Dharmashastra National Law University, Jabalpur

Dear Readers,

This e-newsletter aims to grab your attention and involve you in critical thinking to justify its title ARTH MANTHAN.

Our commitment towards the Centre is stronger than ever. We through our continuous efforts are trying to draw your attention towards the growing bond between law and economics. The symbiotic relationship between the two is clearly visible in the present complex world. To breakdown the complexities and find solution to the problems one must have deeper understanding of this discipline. This area of study was not much celebrated in past though presently it has captured the attention of not only Research Scholars and Academicians but also of Lawyers, Policy Makers. The society has learnt to look at the legal issues with economic lens. This interdisciplinary area of study interests both – the lawyers and the economists. It empowers the society to attain economic development with social harmony.
We are striving to promote the development of discipline Law and Economics in halls of ivy. Our dedicated team has again gathered a pool of information and knowledge for you all. The team has put in the best of its efforts to satisfy your intellectual appetite. Our young scholars have shown the courage to write on the controversial and burning issues like Terror Funding, Legalizing Weed, From India to Bharat, Love Triangle of Liquor, Tax and Consumer, Economic Potential of AI and many more. The incidents and decisions of last few months which went unnoticed will now gather your attention.

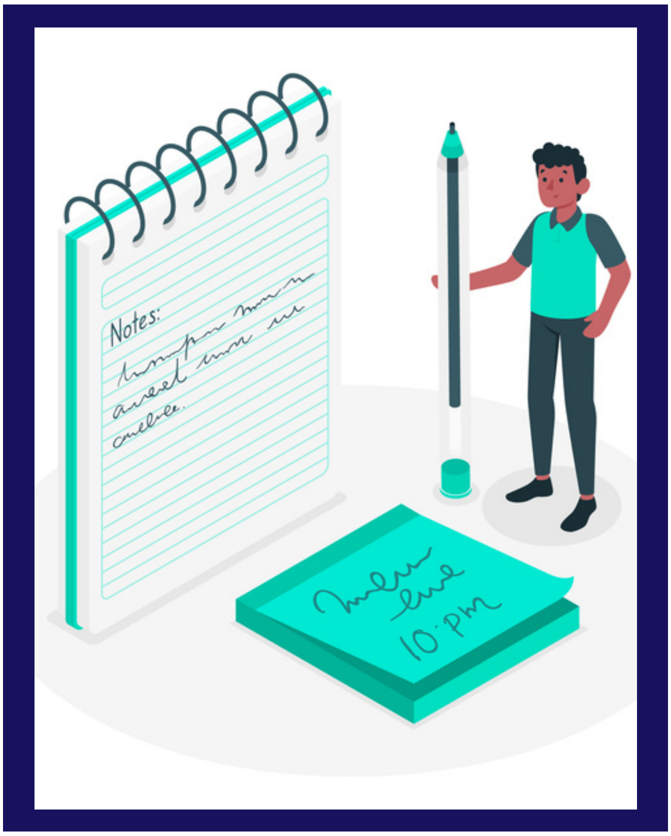
We trust that our readers will find time in their busy schedules to peruse this e-newsletter.
We look forward to receiving your valuable feedback and appreciation. Your feedback will assist us in making improvements, while your appreciation will inspire and motivate the team.

Happy Reading!
Regards
Dr. Isha Wadhwa

EDITOR'S NOTE

Dear Readers,

We are delighted to present to you the second edition of "Artha-Manthan," the e-newsletter on Law and Economics from the Centre for Law and Economics [CLE]. Building upon the success of our inaugural issue, we have curated a fresh selection of content aimed at keeping you informed and engaged with the latest national and international developments in law and economics.



Our team has worked tirelessly to bring you valuable information that highlights the intersection of legal frameworks and economic dynamics, particularly focusing on their impact on India's economy.

As we continue on this journey of knowledge dissemination and awareness-building, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to all those who have contributed their time and expertise to make this edition possible. We remain committed to providing you with meaningful and relevant content that enriches your understanding of the evolving landscape of law and economics in India and beyond.

Thank you for your continued support, and we hope you find this edition of "Artha-Manthan" both informative and enjoyable.

Best regards,

Team CLE

WORDS OF WISDOM

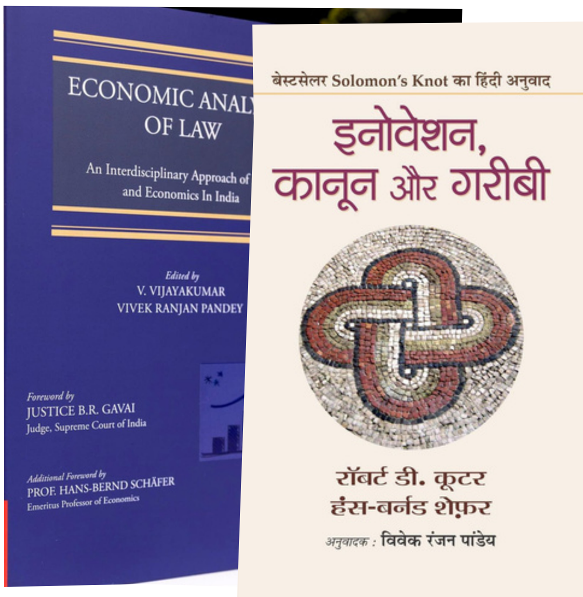
Vivek Ranjan Pandey
Consultant, Centre for Law and Economics, Dhramshastra National Law University Jabalpur MP India
Former Secretary/Founding Member, Indian Association of Law & Economics
Former Govt. Advocate at High Court M.P Jabalpur
Alumni of Coase-Sandor institute for Law and Economics the University of Chicago

Dear Esteemed Colleagues,

It brings me immense pleasure to announce the latest addition to our academic endeavors: the publication of the News-Letter by the Center for Law and Economics at DNLU Jabalpur. This initiative marks yet another stride in our commitment to nurturing the symbiotic relationship between law and economics, fostering growth and innovation in academia.

The discipline of law and economics, or the economic analysis of law, stands as a testament to its enduring relevance and vitality. Its unique perspective offers invaluable insights into navigating the intricate web of societal arrangements amidst the constraints of limited resources. By striking a delicate balance between social and private costs, it illuminates the path towards more efficient and equitable outcomes.

At its core, "Law and Economics" embodies a scientific approach wherein the principles and methodologies of economic analysis are harnessed to dissect the multifaceted dynamics of legal and social frameworks. It unveils a new frontier of scholarly inquiry, injecting a sense of rigor and precision into legal discourse.



By embracing this discipline, we embrace a paradigm shift in legal thinking—one that equips us with modern tools to confront and resolve the myriad challenges confronting our society. Through rigorous study, teaching, and advocacy, we empower ourselves to address pressing social issues with clarity and efficacy.

I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the Center for Law and Economics at DNLU Jabalpur for their commendable efforts in advancing this noble cause. May their publication serve as a beacon of knowledge and inspiration, propelling the law and economics discipline to greater heights.

Warm Regards

SEPTEMBER SNAPSHOTS

RBI DISCONTUINUE I-CRR

From September 9 to October 7, 2023, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) phased out the Incremental Cash Reserve Ratio (I-CRR) in three stages, releasing 25% of reserves on September 9 and September 23. In August 2023, the I-CRR was implemented as a temporary solution to control excess liquidity in the banking sector. Banks were mandated to hold 10% of their net demand and time liabilities (NDTL) as reserves. An evaluation of the financial situation served as the foundation for the decision to end I-CRR. In2016, during a period of high liquidity following demonetization, RBI previously employed I-CRR.

RBI'S FINANCIAL INCLUSION INDEX

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has announced that there has been a notable improvement in the Financial Inclusion (FI) Index. The index had a score of 56.4 in March 2022, but in March 2023 it had increased to 60.1. The development observed in all sub-indices is responsible for this notable advancement in the FI Index.

The central statement provided by the RBI highlights that improvements in the quality and utilization aspects are principally responsible for the increase in the FI Index, which indicates a deeper level of financial inclusion.

The fiscal year ending in March 2021 had a score of 53.9 when the FI Index was first released in August 2021

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX

The Wholesale Price Index (WPI) data for the month of August was released by the Indian government on September 14. The data showed a consistent downward trend in wholesale inflation. The wholesale inflation rate fell to -0.52 percent in August, which is the fifth month in a row that it has stayed negative. Particularly in July, the wholesale inflation rate has dropped to -4.12 percent in June from a previous estimate of -1.36 percent.

One important indication of price changes for goods traded and sold in bulk by wholesale enterprises to other businesses is the Wholesale Price Index, or WPI.

The WPI is centered on factory gate prices prior to their arrival at the retail level, in contrast to the Consumer Price Index (CPI), which measures the costs of products and services that consumers directly purchase. The government ascribed the ongoing negative rate of inflation to many causes, such as the reduction in the costs of food items, textiles, basic metals, mineral oils, chemicals, and chemical products when compared to the same month in the previous year.

RBI PERMITS BANKS TO USE PRE-SANTIONED CREDIT LINE

RBI permits banks to use pre-approved credit lines to facilitate UPI payments. A major expansion of the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) System has been announced by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), enabling users to transact using bank-issued credit lines that have been pre-approved.
The UPI System was principally employed in transactions pertaining to amounts deposited.

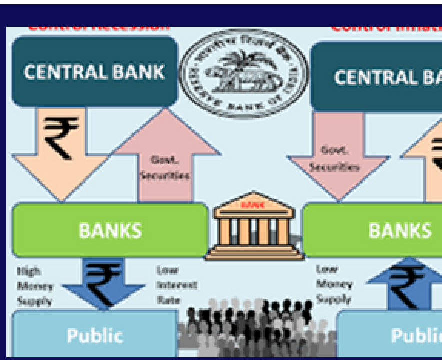
On April 6, 2023, though, the RBI has suggested adding pre-sanctioned credit lines to the UPI System.
Savings accounts, overdraft accounts, prepaid wallets, credit cards, and other types of accounts are now included in the scope of the UPI System. This implies that people can now conduct transactions using credit lines that have been pre-approved by scheduled commercial banks.

INDIA’S FISCAL DEFICIT

The fiscal deficit is the amount that separates the government's total outlays from its total receipts (excluding of borrowings). It indicates the amount of borrowing that the government must do in order to finance its operations and is expressed as a percentage of the GDP of the country.

In April–July 2023, India's fiscal deficit was 6.06 lakh crore rupees, or 33.9% of annual estimates. Compared to the previous year, this is a 78% increase. By 2025–2026, the government hopes to bring the deficit down to 4.5% of GDP. The projected deficit for 2022–2023 was 6.4% of GDP. 2021–2022 saw it at 6.7% of GDP. The aim of the government is to reduce the deficit for the current fiscal year to 5.9% of GDP.

§ RBI- OPEN MARKET OPERATIONS



When the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) purchases or sells government securities (bonds) on the open market, it is known as an Open Market Operation (OMO). The bond market was taken aback by the Reserve Bank of India's announcement on Friday, October 6, that it would examine the Open Market Operation (OMO) sale of government securities to control liquidity in the system.

The central bank did not disclose a timetable for the proposal. As a result, the yield on the standard 10-year Treasury note increased by 12 basis points to 7.34% as a result of the market's expectation that there will be an OMO soon, which is predicted to reduce systemic liquidity. Although there's no set schedule for this, the fact that these OMOs can now be declared on a daily basis carries a heavy price. This is particularly true now that the market is aware that the best liquidity is probably going to occur between October and December. The RBI can decide not to continue with OMOs starting in the following quarter if core liquidity has sufficiently decreased by then. As a result, market participants may be more concerned about the risk of this additional supply, according to Suyash Choudhary, Head of Fixed Income at Bandhan AMC.

Even though August's retail inflation rate was 6.83 percent, the market did not anticipate the RBI's move to remove excess liquidity and give the monetary policy a more hawkish tone. Due to cash withdrawals from the financial system brought on by the upcoming festival season, liquidity is predicted to tighten. “Going forward, while remaining nimble, we may have to consider OMO sales to manage liquidity, consistent with the stance of monetary policy. The timing and quantum of such operations will depend on the evolving liquidity conditions,” RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das said while revealing the financial strategy.

§ RECONSTITUTION OF ADVISORY BOARD ON BANKING AND FINANCIAL FRUADS (ABBFF)

The Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) reorganized the advisory board on Banking and Financial Frauds (ABBFF) to conduct first investigations into bank frauds and then recommend further probes by agencies like the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). Under its responsibility, the ABBFF is charged with investigating into the role that employees and full-time directors of public sector banks, insurers, and other financial institutions played in fraud cases involving at least ₹3 crores. The board comprises of the Chairman and four other members, each contributing their expertise to fraud-related matters and have a tenure of two years. Prior to starting criminal investigations, all public sector banks, insurance providers, and financial institutions are required to report fraud cases involving more than Rs. 3 crore to ABBFF. Notably, ABBFF's operation has not included the concept of a "sunset clause," which may have restricted actions against bankers for credit decisions beyond a given amount of time.

OCTOBER RECAP

§GLOBAL HUNGER INDEX AND INDIA'S POSITION

India's ranking in the Global Hunger Index (GHI) 2023 is [111] out of 125 countries, a decline from 107 (out of 121) in the 2022 edition. The government, however, has disapproved of the ranking, claiming that it is an inaccurate indicator of "hunger" that misrepresents India's actual situation. The GHI 2023, which was made available on Thursday, also placed India's child waste rate, which was the highest in the world between 2018 and 22 at 18.7%, and said to be a sign of severe undernutrition. India's rates of undernourishment and under-five mortality were 16.6% and 3.1%, respectively. Additionally, the report stated that 58.1 percent of women between the ages of 15 and 24 had anemia. The report states that India's overall score, which is classified as serious, is 28.7 in the ranking.

RIGHT TO REPAIR

Through the Right to Repair portal, which was established by the Ministry of Consumer Affairs (MCA), people can get their electronics and cars fixed without eliminating their warranties.

Now that the portal is operational, it offers coverage for four industries: consumer durables,
electronics, cars, and farm equipment.

The site compiles all available public information about warranties, terms and conditions, product servicing, and other pertinent subjects. In contrast to other situations where the producer of such devices requires the consumer to use just their given services, it is meant to enable consumers to repair and modify their personal consumer electronic.

OPERATION CHAKRA-II – FIGHT AGAINST FINANCIAL CYBER CRIMES

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) launched Operation Chakra-II to combat transnational financial crimes enabled by cyberspace. Breaking down the infrastructure of illicit call centers is the aim of the program. The CBI is fighting and dismantling illicit call center infrastructure in collaboration with Microsoft, Amazon, and other national and international organizations.

The government inquiry agency had lately carried out searches in Bengaluru, Cochin, and Gurugram as part of Operation Chakra-2, and these had produced significant evidence that revealed the purported actions of the directors of the shell businesses.

NOBEL PRIZE IN ECONOMIC SCIENCES 2023

This year the Nobel Prize for Economic Sciences (Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences) from the “Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences” has been awarded to the labour economist and economic historian Claudia Goldin of Harvard University for her research on “women's labour market outcomes.” The understanding of the gender gap in the labor market has improved as a result of the research. It is remarkable that Goldin is only the third woman in the world to win such a honour

Goods and services tax appellate tribunal (Appointments and conditions of services of president and members) RULES, 2023

With a field of vision 100 times larger than that of the Hubble infrared instrument, the Roman Space Telescope will be able to observe more of the sky in less time. Throughout the mission's lifetime, the Wide Field Instrument—the main instrument—will measure light from one billion galaxies.

In order to locate about 2,600 exoplanets, it will conduct a microlensing study of the inner Milky Way. Numerous specific neighboring exoplanets will be subjected to high contrast imaging and spectroscopy by the Coronagraph Instrument. The Roman Space Telescope will launch from Cape Canaveral on an EELV with a six-year mission plan. The Committee may direct the Member-Secretary to issue a vacancy circular outlining the positions of Members that are proposed for filling, along with information about (a) the number of current and anticipated vacancies, (b) qualifications, (c) salary and benefits, (d) application format, and (e) the deadline for applications to be submitted in Form-I. adjustments as the Committee may see proper. The Committee will examine, or order to be examined, each applications submitted in response to the notice, compared to the requirements, and may shortlist a sufficient number of qualified prospects for in-person communication as it sees fit.

"WORLD FOOD INDIA 2023"

The second edition of "World Food India 2023" was inaugurated in New Delhi where the Prime Minister of India provided Seed Capital Assistance to over 1 lakh Self Help Group (SHG) members. The primary objective of the event is to present India as the food basket of the world and commemorate 2023 as International Year of Millets ,also the Prime Minister emphasized the significant recognition received by India's food processing sector often referred to as sunrise sector.

NOVEMBER REWIND

Road Accident Distribution: State Highways accounted for 23.1% of accidents, National Highways and Expressways for 32.9%, and other roads for 43.9% of accidents. State highways accounted for 24.3% of fatalities, national highways for 36.2%, and other roadways for 39.4%.

2023 STATE OF CLIMATIC REPORT

The provisional State of the Global Climate report by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) confirms that 2023 is set to be the warmest year on record. Data until the end of October shows that the year was about 1.4 degrees Celsius above the pre-industrial 1850- 1900 baseline. In 2023, a remarkable string of global records pertaining to climate change were broken. Scientists are concerned about the perils of extreme weather, dangerous

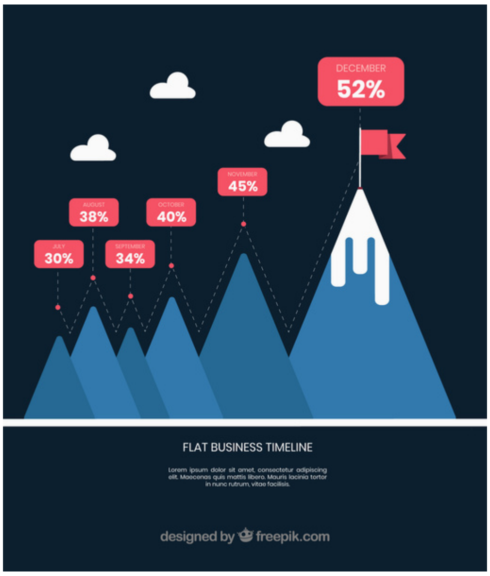
climate feedback loops, and the approaching of destructive tipping points sooner than anticipated due to the startlingly fast pace of change (Armstrong McKay et al. 2022, Ripple et al. 2023). Extreme heat waves have swept the globe this year, setting new records for temperature. As scientists, they are hugely troubled by the sudden increases in the frequency and severity of climate-related disasters. The frequency and severity of those disasters might be outpacing rising temperatures. By the end of the 21st century, many regions may have severe heat, limited food availability and elevated mortality rates.

DELHI AIR POLLUTION

Delhi is one of the world's most polluted cities, with an Air Quality Index (AQI) that frequently exceeds dangerous levels. The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) reports that the amount of PM2.5 and PM10 particle matter frequently above allowable limits, seriously endangering the citizens of the city's health. According to estimates from the World Health Organization (WHO), air pollution causes over a million premature deaths in India.

The State of Global Air 2022 report emphasizes the serious health concerns that come with prolonged exposure to air pollution, connecting it to conditions such as cardiovascular and respiratory disorders. Furthermore, the Lancet Countdown report highlights the complex interrelationship between air pollution and climate change, underscoring the necessity of all-encompassing approaches. Global Frameworks: The problem of air pollution in Delhi is not limited to the country.

APEX SUMMIT 2023



From November 11–17, 2023, San Francisco, California, hosted the APEC Leaders' Summit. Economic leaders gathered at the conference to discuss important issues facing the Asia-Pacific region and to advance economic cooperation. In 1989, the following 12 countries founded the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC): Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and the United States. Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Chile, People's Republic of China, Hong Kong, China, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Peru, the Philippines, the Russian members. Singapore is the location of the APEC Headquarters. The Pacific region of the world is depicted in the APEC logo. The desires of the people in the Asia Pacific region for prosperity, wellbeing, and good health are represented by the colors green and blue. White is a hue associated with stability and calm. India is presently classified as a "observer." • The APEC summits in 2025 and 2024 will take place in South Korea and Peru, respectively. The subject of the APEC 2023 summit is "Building a Resilient and Sustainable Future for Everyone," which is the conference's theme. APEC reaffirmed its commitment to advancing free, fair, and open trade as well as investment and equitable and sustainable growth in the region. The conference concluded with the adoption of the Golden Gate Declaration. Relevance • BY 2021, APEC will account for abou

DECEMBER ROUND UP

INDIA’S 3rd LARGEST ECONOMY BY 2027

India's Finance Minister, Nirmala Sitharaman, hailed the country's economic resilience amid global turbulence, noting a growth rate nearing 7% at the Indo‑Pacific Regional Dialogue. Forecasts suggest India's economy is on track to reach USD 5 trillion by 2027, positioning it as the third-largest globally. Currently ranked fifth, India's GDP doubled in just seven years, emphasizing its rapid ascent. Despite the Global Financial Crisis impact, India's trajectory remains promising, poised to surpass both Germany and Japan economically by 2027. Sitharaman's remarks highlight India's favorable demographics and the burgeoning financial sector as key drivers of this growth, marking a significant milestone in India's journey towards economic prominence.

THE KENYA POVERTY AND EQUITY ASSESSMENT 2023 REPORT

Kenya has made progress in reducing poverty from 47% to 34% between 2005-2019, but regional disparities remain, particularly in arid northern counties. The COVID-19 pandemic further increased poverty by 2 million. Limited job opportunities, vulnerability to climate shocks, inequality in opportunity and outcome, regressive taxes, and low social spending contribute to these disparities. To achieve inclusive growth, Kenya needs to prioritize skill-building, resilience-building, fiscal reforms, and climate-resilient agriculture. By implementing a pro-poor strategy, Kenya can ensure balanced and equitable progress for all.

DECEMBER ROUND UP

WORLD BANK INTERNATIONAL DEBT REPORT

In 2022, developing countries faced an unprecedented financial challenge, spending a staggering $443.5 billion on servicing their external public and publicly guaranteed debt, as revealed by the World Bank's latest International Debt Report. This diversion of resources from critical sectors like health and education due to rising debt-service payments, which increased by 5% compared to the previous year, poses a serious threat. The report highlights a record $88.9 billion debt-servicing cost for 75 eligible countries, indicating a surge in debt levels and interest rates, pushing many nations towards crisis. Interest payments have quadrupled over the past decade, reaching $23.6 billion in 2022, with projections indicating a 39% surge in debt-servicing costs for the poorest countries in 2023 and 2024. With a significant portion of low-income countries' exports now consumed by interest payments and 60% facing high debt distress risks, concerns mount over potential sovereign defaults. Furthermore, dwindling financing options, evidenced by a 23% drop in new external loan commitments in 2022, exacerbate the situation, with private creditors receiving more repayments than disbursing loans, marking a troubling trend for developing economies.

CENTRE GUIDELINES TO COMBAT DARK PATTERNS IN ONLINE PLATFORM

The Consumer Protection Act, 2019, marks a significant stride in safeguarding consumers from deceptive tactics employed by online platforms through the issuance of the Guidelines for Prevention and Regulation of Dark Patterns in 2023 by the Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA). Effective immediately, these guidelines apply to all platforms offering goods or services in India, aiming to curb the manipulation of consumer choices. Dark patterns, defined as deceptive design tactics in user interfaces, are explicitly prohibited. Annexure-1 of the guidelines details 13 specified dark patterns, including false urgency, basket sneaking, confirm shaming, forced action, subscription trap, interface interference, bait and switch, drip pricing, disguised advertisement, nagging, trick question, Saas billing, and rogue malwares. These regulations aim

INDIA'S POSITIVE REMITTANCE

NEW GUIDELINES CONCERNS OVER INDIA'S E-COMMERCE TAX RULE

The CBDT has issued detailed guidelines clarifying Section 194-O of the Income Tax Act, mandating a 1% Tax Deduction at Source (TDS) by e-commerce firms. Introduced in 2020, it obliges platforms like Amazon to deduct TDS on payments to local sellers. The directive applies to resident Indian sellers, exempting those with annual sales below Rs 5 lakh. The circular addresses concerns, offering examples and FAQs, ensuring compliance and bringing small e-sellers into the tax net while adapting to evolving e-commerce model

World Employment and Social Outlook: Trends 2024

The World Employment and Social Outlook: Trends 2024 report from the International Labour Organisation (ILO) highlights concerning trends. Despite global labor markets' resilience amid deteriorating economic conditions, the unemployment rate is projected to rise to 5.2% in 2024. The recovery from the pandemic is uneven, with disparities between higher and lower income countries in terms of unemployment rates and jobs gap rates.

Income inequality has widened, and disposable incomes have declined in most G20 countries, negatively impacting economic recovery.

Working poverty persists, with an increase in the number of workers in extreme and moderate poverty in 2023. Informal work rates are expected to remain high, accounting for about 58% of the global workforce in 2024. Labor market imbalances include a gender gap in women's participation and high youth unemployment rates, posing challenges for long-term employment prospects. Productivity growth, despite initial post-pandemic improvements, has returned to low levels, hindered by factors like skills shortages and the dominance of large digital monopolies. The outlook is uncertain, and structural concerns, such as falling living standards, weak productivity, inflation, and greater inequality, may threaten both individual livelihoods and businesses.

The report underscores the need for effective and prompt measures to address these challenges for a sustainable and just recovery. Additionally, India and Turkey stand out with positive real wages relative to other G20 countries, indicating an improvement in their economic conditions.

CHALLENGES IN INDIA'S GST LANDSCAPE

The recent Goods and Services Tax (GST) revenue data highlights concerning disparities in consumption growth among Indian states, indicating potential dissonance in national economic recovery. Overall GST collections grew by 11.7% in the first nine months of 2023-24, with state GST collections growing at a higher rate (15.2%) compared to Central GST. However, sharp disparities exist among states, with some showing robust growth while others lag behind. Private final consumption expenditure (PFCE) growth is projected at only 4.4%, the slowest since 2002-03. GST, introduced in India on July 1, 2017, is a value-added tax system aimed at creating a unified tax structure. It features tax slabs ranging from 0% to 28%, with benefits such as simplified tax administration, increased transparency, reduced tax burden, and anticipated contributions to economic growth.

Current challenges related to GST in India include the complexity and compliance burden due to multiple tax slabs, posing difficulties for businesses, especially smaller enterprises. Technology and infrastructure readiness are essential for seamless GST functioning, and issues like technological disparities among businesses hinder its effectiveness. Input Tax Credit (ITC) verification and multiple registrations across states further add to administrative burdens and compliance costs for businesses with a pan-India presence. Addressing these challenges is crucial for ensuring the success and efficiency of the GST system.

Concerns over Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016

The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) of 2016, enacted to achieve various objectives such as maximizing the value of debtor assets, promoting entrepreneurship, ensuring timely resolution, and balancing stakeholder interests, has come under scrutiny due to recent developments that raise concerns about its effectiveness.

One major issue revolves around the low repayment percentages in the resolution process. Typically, the approval process for resolution plans involves only about 15% payment by the purchaser, and the repayment period can extend for years without additional interest collected by banks. Settlements and resolutions in recent cases, like Reliance Communications Infrastructure Ltd. (RCIL), have added to concerns. The settlement for RCIL amounted to a mere 0.92% of the debt, and the resolution process took four years, significantly beyond the stipulated maximum of 330 days. This prolonged timeline is attributed to time-consuming processes for identifying and acknowledging defaults, contributing to reduced recovery rates.

The concept of "haircuts," involving the writing off of loans and accrued interest, has gained prominence. Promoters have taken advantage, leading to substantial haircuts from bankers or the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT). After resolutions, borrowers and Insolvency Professionals (IPs) often remain wealthy, while lenders suffer, as only companies are declared insolvent, not the owners. This results in low recovery rates for financial creditors, with some cases realizing as little as 5% of the outstanding loan amount.

However, the RBI notes that creditors realize 168.5% of the liquidation value and 86.3% of the fair value. The amount realized from liquidations has been minimal, raising concerns about the recovery process. Regulatory concerns have also been raised, with both the FSR and the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance highlighting issues related to the Corporate Insolvency Process (CIRP). The admitted claims are less than the dues, and banks or financial creditors are recovering only a fraction of the liquidation value and fair value. The 32nd report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance has expressed concerns about low recovery rates, substantial haircuts, and delays in the resolution process.

Supreme Court Verdict on Adani-Hindenburg Case

The recent Supreme Court verdict on the Adani-Hindenburg case, involving allegations made by the US-based firm Hindenburg Research against the Adani group, concluded with key findings and directives. The apex court refused to transfer the investigation from the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) to other bodies, expressing confidence in SEBI's ability to handle the case.

In January 2023, Hindenburg Research accused the Adani group of stock manipulation, accounting fraud, and improper use of tax havens and shell companies. The Adani group refuted the allegations, attributing them to false information and vested interests, while SEBI defended its competence and independence.

The Supreme Court ruled in favor of the Adani group and SEBI, rejecting the transfer of the probe to other investigative bodies. The court emphasized that the power to transfer an investigation must be exercised in exceptional circumstances and not in the absence of cogent justifications. It deemed the Hindenburg report unreliable and aimed at influencing the market through selective and distorted information. While upholding SEBI's integrity, the Court directed an expedited completion of SEBI's investigation within three months.

Additionally, in March 2023, the Supreme Court formed the Justice Sapre Committee to probe potential regulatory failures after investors suffered significant losses due to market volatility following Hindenburg Research's allegations against the Adani Group for share price manipulation and accounting fraud.

INDIA'S TOY INDUSTRY

The Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Lucknow, on behalf of the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) under the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, conducted a case study on the "Success Story of Made in India Toys," revealing significant developments in the Indian toy industry.

The status of the Indian toy industry, as per the study, shows remarkable growth between FY 2014-15 and FY 2022-23.

There has been a substantial decline in imports by 52% and a significant rise in exports by 239%, reflecting a shift towards self-sufficiency and global competitiveness. The overall quality of toys available in the domestic market has improved, emphasizing compliance with international standards, consumer satisfaction, and safety.

Government initiatives have played a crucial role in fostering the growth of the toy industry. The National Action Plan for Toys (NAPT), comprising 21 specific action points, addresses various aspects such as design, quality control, and promotion of indigenous toy clusters. The increase in Basic Customs Duty (BCD) on toys, from 20% to 60% in February 2020 and subsequently to 70% in March 2023, aims to protect the domestic toy industry from cheaper imports and encourage local manufacturing. Mandated sample testing for each import consignment by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) ensures better quality control, and the Quality Control Order (QCO) for Toys, issued in 2020, emphasizes quality standards effective from January 2021.

The cluster-based approach, supported by schemes like SFURTI (Scheme of Funds for the Regeneration of Traditional Industries) by the Ministry of MSME, and promotional initiatives like The Indian Toy Fair 2021 and Toycathon, further contribute to the growth of the indigenous toy industry, encouraging innovation and creating a platform for showcasing and ideation.

Budget 2024: Eyes firmly fixed on Viksit Bharat

This budget propels Bharat into the top three economies while deftly balancing needs of weaker sections. It continues to build on the four pillars of investment in physical and digital infrastructure, focus on manufacturing, inclusive growth, and simplification. Typically, governments tend to be swayed by populism ahead of elections. But this government hasn't compromised the country's interests for electoral gains. PM Modi has his eyes fixed on the goal of Viksit Bharat@2047. A higher allocation for capex at ₹11.11 lakh crore will sustain economic growth through development of world-class infrastructure. With ₹37,500 crore earmarked for Samagra Shiksha, Bharat moves closer to its goal of ensuring access to quality education for all. ₹38,183 crore being earmarked for National Health Mission makes universal healthcare a norm.

RUSSIAN OIL: INDIA'S STATE OIL REFINERS IN TALKS WITH ROSNEFT TO SECURE RUSSIAN CRUDE FOR LONG TERM

All three of India's state oil refiners are in talks with Rosneft Oil Co PJSC to secure long-term supplies of Russian crude, an effort to move away from one-off purchases that have left them vulnerable to competition. Indian Oil Corp, Bharat Petroleum Corp and Hindustan Petroleum Corp are in discussions, said people familiar with the matter, but talks have been drawn out as the buyers are seeking clauses to protect them from exits and penalties, should payment issues delay cargoes.

In total, Indian refiners want to lock in about 500,000 barrels per day of Russian crude supplies, said the people, who could not be identified as negotiations are private.

'Modi-made jobs famine' height of 'anyay kaal' of last 10 years: Congress

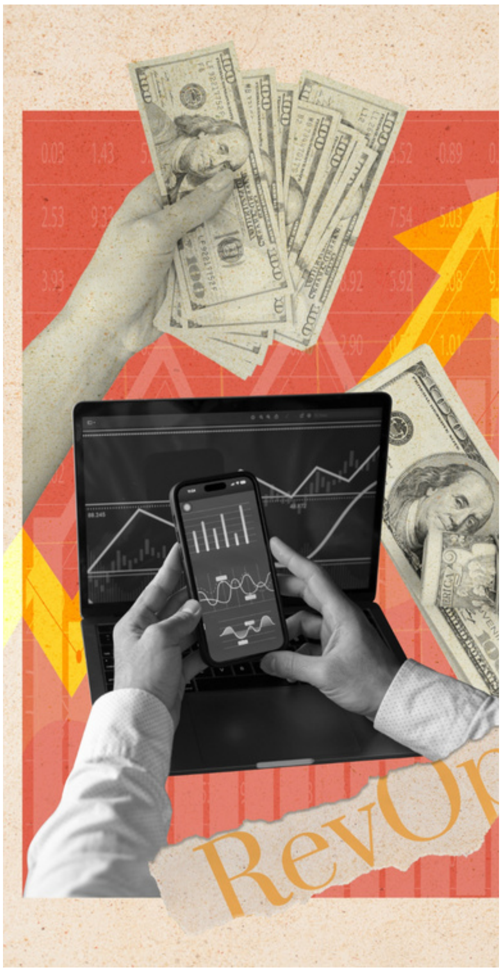
The Congress attacked the government over the issue of unemployment, alleging that Prime Minister "Modi-made jobs famine" is the height of the "anyay kaal" of the last 10 years. Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh cited an analysis of long-term trends in job creation in the Indian labour market to attack the government. In a post on X, Ramesh said that during the Bharat Jodo Nyay Yatra, Rahul Gandhi has been consistently highlighting the urgency of "Yuva Nyay (justice for the youth)”. "The jobs famine in the country has been caused by the Modani-karan (Modani-sation) of the economy," he said.

After failed march to Delhi, Noida farmers back to sit-in protest

A day after an unsuccessful attempt to march to Parliament, protesting farmers returned to the offices of local authorities in Noida and Greater Noida for a sit-in on Friday. Led by the Bharatiya Kisan Parishad (BKP), the protestors stated their intent to continue the protest and reiterated their plan to march to Delhi after the Budget Session of Parliament concludes.

The previous day's march had included thousands of villagers, impacting traffic in parts of Delhi-NCR, and resulted in a meeting between the protestors' delegation and Gautam Buddh Nagar police, which yielded no resolution to their demands for increased compensation and developed plots in exchange for acquired land. "The farmers went for the meeting which continued for two hours. However, only police officers and the district magistrate were present there. No officials of the UP government or the local authorities were there for the meeting, so nothing substantial came out of it," a BKP member told PTI

21ST CENTURY ECONOMICS NEEDS A BETTER GOAL THAN 'GROWTH' : KATE RAWORTH



Kate Raworth is Senior Associate at Oxford University's Environmental Change Institute. Speaking to Srijana Mitra Das, she discusses why reinventing economics is key to the ecological — and development — crises What is the core of your research? I'm rewriting economics, starting with its foundational concepts. That's what my book 'Doughnut Economics' is about. I drew a picture of the shape of progress. We're told this shape is 'growth' — yet, huge ecological and social damage has been done through the way economies have grown. We need a much better goal for the 21st century. The picture I drew had a hole in the middle, like a doughnut — the aim is to leave nobody in that hole, short of life's essentials like food, water, health, education, etc. But we need to do this without overshooting the outer ring of Earth's limits. Returning to the textbooks I was taught, which are still taught today, I found these profoundly misguiding and not giving students the knowledge or orientation to turn things around. My book came out in 2017 and since then, many firms, governments, international institutions, etc., wanted to put these principles into practice. I co-founded the Doughnut Economics Action Lab to work with them

1. BUDGET 2024

Nirmala Sitharaman, India's finance minister, has recently presented the interim budget with a GDP mantra of governance, development, and performance, which was her sixth consecutive budget presentation. According to her, the first budget in 'Amrit Kaal' and highlights the government's achievements towards an inclusive and prosperous India.

This budget adopts a 'Saptarishi' model for the Amrit Kaal, which lays down the basis of seven priorities:

Ø Inclusive Development – The government adopts various schemes to promote inclusivity in society with a motto "Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas" covering all sections of society. The initiative of Skill India was taken in order to skill the unemployed youths of the country so that they can earn a livelihood and live a dignified life as the mainstream section. It can also be seen by the data that over 250 million individuals have been lifted out of poverty as a result of a 50% increase in average real income.

Ø Reaching the last mile – It indicates that the government is trying to reach every community of the society. The poor, youth, women, and farmers are the highest priority. The budget presented Pradhan Mantri PVTG Development Mission (particularly vulnerable tribal group) scheme, through which basic facilities will be provided and it gets a budget allocation of 15,000 crores in the next three years.

Ø Infrastructure and Investment- The greater the inflow of investment, the greater will be the productive capacity. The budget demonstrated a move in the right direction by extending interest-free loans to the states for 50 years, with a 1.3 lakh crore outlay for the construction of infrastructure.

Ø Unleashing the potential – The budget proposes the creation of three centers of excellence for AI that would be helpful in conducting the research work and provide a creative and effective solution in a multi- dimensional area. It also proposes about National Data Governance Policy in which one can have access to anonymized data, which encourages start-ups and academia.

Ø Green Growth- It talks about sustainable finance in the form of Green Hydrogen Mission with an allocation of Rs. 19500 crores. It will effectively reduce carbon footprints with a focus on Lifestyle for Environment and helps us achieve our mission of net zero carbon emission by 2070.

Ø Youth Power- The government formulated a revised National Education Policy for the "Amrit Peedhi" with a special focus on skilling in the field of the interest of the student. For the youths, Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana 4.0 will be launch in order to skill the youths. Skill India Digital Platform will be widened leads to easy access of entrepreneurship schemes.

Financial Sector- There will be a national financial information registry established to function as the primary repository for financial and related data. Public engagement will be included, when appropriate and practical, in the process of developing regulations and issuing subsidiary directives in order to address the concerns of Amrit Kaal and promote the best possible regulation in the financial industry.[1]

Budgetary Allocation and Economic Growth

The Indian government has outlined a budget allocation of Rs. 47,65,768/- Crores for the fiscal year 2024-2025, reflecting a 6% increase compared to the previous year's estimates. Notably, interest payments constitute a significant portion, comprising 25% of total expenditure and 40% of revenue receipts, highlighting a substantial allocation toward debt servicing. Despite this, the budget maintains an optimistic outlook, with a projected nominal GDP growth rate of 10.5% for the upcoming year.

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2. BUNDELKHAND – A FUTURE NOIDA

Bundelkhand is the north-central geographical region in India, comprising area of over 70,000 sq. km. and including some cities like Jhansi, Banda, Chitrakoot from the state of Uttar Pradesh and cities like Sagar, Chhatarpur, Tikamgarh which are in the Madhya Pradesh state. In total there are 7 districts from UP and 6 from MP. The Bundelkhandi region is rich in cultural history and heritage as there are multiple UNESCO world heritage sites including the historical kingdoms of Chandela Dynasty. It has also been associated with the historical figures like Rani Lakshmibai of Jhansi. The region is also quite rich geographically as it straddles between the state of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh which serves as the connecting bridge between the Agricultural rich Gangetic Plains area and the Vindhya Range. The region is highly diversified and driven by multiple sectors of economy like Agriculture, Handicraft industry, Tourism, Mining because of the region being rich in minerals like Granite, limestone and dolomite. The Pharmaceutical sector is also on the rise in this region. But despite having so much potential, when it comes to contributing to the economy of the country this region falls back somewhere and it seems like it has been left there neglected just like that.

Due to the poor performance by the region despite being at the strategically advantageous place in the country, after a long time the government finally decided to pay its attention to this region and in September 2023, it approved its plan for the formation of Bundelkhand Development Authority (BIDA) just like the NOIDA plan which was started in 1970's, to make the region productive again and allocated the budget of Rs 8,000 crores for now. In its starting phase, the city will acquire the area of approx. 35,000 acres from 33 villages near Jhansi. Industrial development will be the main goal of this project along with attracting the private, public as well as foreign players from the international market, the state's long run target will be to achieve 1 trillion dollar economy from here. The recent meeting of the inaugural board of BIDA focused themselves on acquisition of land and hiring experts to craft out the plan perfectly for future moves. The two already existing projects of Bundelkhand Expressway and UP Defence Corridor, which is having cities like Jhansi and Chitrakoot as its important core will fuel up and help in BIDA, a 1000 hectares of land is already provided to the Defence Corridor, Bharat Dynamics is the primary investor in it. The government of UP in upcoming stages will also focus on Developing new townships across the area and at affordable prices to the people, which will decongest the cities as population will spread further outwards.

All in all it's a brilliant plan proposed by the government, which will increase the revenue generated by the region multiple-folds and shifting from being an underdeveloped area to a key industrial hub of the country, countering and eliminating all the problems arising from the weak economic situation, if this plan is executed well enough in 30-40 years down the line in future we'll have another highly developed region like NOIDA or even surpassing it.

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3. CRYPTOCURRENCY: THE SHADOWY WEAPON IN TERROR FUNDING

Cryptocurrency, a digital or virtual form of currency secured by cryptography, has gathered significant recognition in current years for its prospective to radicalise financial transactions. While proponents highlight its benefits, including decentralization, anonymity, and security, critics raise concerns about its misuse, particularly in illicit activities such as terror funding.

Exploring the intersection of cryptocurrency and terror funding reveals a complex and evolving landscape fraught with challenges for law enforcement and policymakers.

Cryptocurrencies offer a level of obscurity and decentralization that conventional financial systems are weary of, making them a viable option for illicit actors seeking to evade detection and circumvent regulatory oversight. Terrorist organizations, in particular, have shown interest in leveraging cryptocurrencies to finance their operations, procure weapons, and facilitate illicit activities due to the perceived anonymity and ease of cross-border transactions offered by these digital assets.

The decentralized nature of cryptocurrencies presents a formidable challenge for law enforcement agencies tasked with monitoring and disrupting illicit financial flows. Unlike traditional banking systems, which are subject to regulatory oversight and monitoring mechanisms, cryptocurrencies operate on decentralized blockchain networks, rendering it difficult to associate transactions and identify the parties involved. Moreover, the use of privacy-enhancing technologies such as mixers and tumblers further obscure the origins and destinations of funds, complicating efforts to track illicit transactions.

Despite these challenges, international cooperation and information sharing among government agencies and financial institutions have been crucial in identifying and disrupting illicit financial networks operating in the cryptocurrency space. Moreover, regulatory frameworks such as anti-money laundering (AML) and know-your-customer (KYC) regulations have been expanded to encompass cryptocurrency exchanges and service providers, imposing greater transparency and accountability on the industry.

The proliferation of privacy-focused cryptocurrencies, decentralized exchanges, and peer-to-peer platforms complicates efforts to monitor and regulate illicit activities in the cryptocurrency space. Moreover, the emergence of new technologies such as decentralized finance (DeFi) presents novel challenges for law enforcement agencies, as these platforms enable users to engage in financial activities without intermediaries or centralized oversight.

In a recent report by CRS (Congressional Research Service) a public policy research institute of the United States Congress, two cryptocurrency analytics firms and Israeli government seizure orders, on October 10, 2023, that cryptocurrency wallets connected to Hamas received about $41 million between 2020 and 2023 and that wallet connected to another U.S.-designated terrorist organization, the Palestine Islamic Jihad (PIJ), received as much as $93 million over a similar period. In 2021, Coinbase a U.S. based cryptocurrency exchange platform identified Hamas as one of several terrorist groups involved in fundraising through cryptocurrency. Authorities of Israel reportedly seized cryptocurrency addresses linked to Hamas, PIJ, and other terrorist groups between 2021 and 2023.

In conclusion, while cryptocurrencies offer innovative solutions to traditional financial challenges, their potential misuse for illicit activities such as terror funding underscores the need for enhanced regulatory oversight and enforcement measures. By leveraging technological innovation, international cooperation, and regulatory frameworks, stakeholders can work together to mitigate the risks posed by the illicit use of cryptocurrencies and safeguard the integrity of the financial system.

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4. DRIVING INDIA'S GREEN ECONOMY: LAW & ECONOMICS OF ELECTRIC VEHICLES (EVS)

India is steadfastly pursuing its vision of Viksit Bharat @2047, aiming to elevate its economy from developing to a developed status by 2047. This comprehensive vision advocates holistic development across various fronts, including economic growth, societal advancement, technological progress, good governance, and environmental sustainability. Among these, electric vehicles (EVs) stand out as one of the most critical and fundamental contributors to India's green economy, paving the way for sustainable development.

By eliminating the need to burn fossil fuels, which release carbon emissions into the atmosphere, electric vehicles help to reduce both air pollution and global warming. Using EVs also reduces the need to import oil, which helps preserve forex reserves.

Driving India's Green Economy: Law & Economics of Electric Vehicles (EVs)

Driving an electric vehicle (EV) is environmentally friendly since electricity can be produced from renewable energy sources including hydropower, wind, and solar power. The use of EVs stimulates innovation and job creation in the battery, renewable energy, charging infrastructure, and related industries, which in turn helps the economy flourish.

Though the initial costs of EVs are high but they are economically feasible in a long run as they have lower running costs and protect us from oil price fluctuations and also have greater energy efficiency than the traditional petrol and diesel vehicles.

Recognizing the critical importance of electric vehicles (EVs) in driving a green economy and achieving multiple United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) sustainable development goals, including promoting good health and well-being (Goal 3), ensuring clean and affordable energy (Goal 7), fostering sustainable cities and communities (Goal 11), encouraging responsible consumption and production (Goal 12), and addressing climate action (Goal 13), India has pledged its support to the global EV30@30 campaign. This initiative sets the ambitious target of achieving a 30% sales share of EVs by 2030. Furthermore, India's constitutional commitment to environmental conservation, as highlighted in Article 48A, reinforces the nation's efforts in promoting electric vehicles for sustainable development and economic prosperity.

The government has also contributed to the increasing demand for EVs through various schemes and initiatives like FAME I&II [Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of (Hybrid and) Electric Vehicles]. These initiatives provide subsidies for EV purchases, along with tax exemptions and reduced registration costs, all aimed at promoting their adoption. Such schemes have effectively led to a decrease in carbon dioxide emissions, as evidenced by the reduction of 195.5 million kilograms of CO_2, according to NITI Aayog's e-AMRIT portal. NITI Aayog in collaboration with UK Government launched the e-Amrit Portal (Accelerated

e-Mobility Revolution for India's Transportation) to create consumer awareness regarding e-mobility. As per the data of e-AMRIT, till now 25+ states have drafted or notified their legislations regarding EVs, Sales of EVs have surged significantly, as evidenced by the 133% growth in EV sales from FY15 to FY20.

EV industry holds immense potential but still there are certain challenges ahead of it such as insufficient charging infrastructure, lack of consumer awareness, myths and misconceptions, high initial costs, range anxiety etc but policy support and government schemes can facilitate to overcome such barriers and increase the adoption of EVs and help achieving India's target of net zero emissions by 2070 thereby moving a step closer towards attaining a green and sustainable economy.

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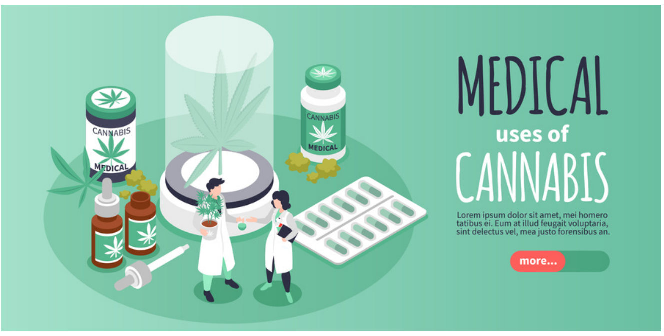
5. ECONOMICS OF DRUG DECRIMINALIZATION: UNVEILING THE HIGHS AND LOWS OF LEGALIZING WEED



Hey, fellow explorers of the green frontier! This is a topic that's not just high-interest but also blazes a trail of economic transformation - the world where cannabis is legal. In recent years, a global paradigm shift has taken root as an increasing number of countries opt to legalize and regulate cannabis. This seismic change is not merely about loosening societal attitudes towards a once-tabooed plant; it's a revolution with profound economic implications with impacts on social order of a country. In this exploration, we'll delve into the economics of legal cannabis, unpacking the positive impacts on taxation and negative impacts like increase in crime rates, while peeking into the green policies of countries that have embraced this controversial crop. Towards the end, this article will look into the socio-legal impacts of legalising weed in India.
Legalizing cannabis means big bucks in tax revenues. One of the most immediate and tangible benefits of legalizing cannabis is the influx of tax revenue. Countries have experimented with various tax models, mirroring those applied to alcohol and tobacco. The economic windfall is not just a green dream but a reality. In the heart of this tax bonanza is Colorado, USA. In 2021, they bagged $387 million in marijuana-related taxes and fees.

Article 21 of the Indian Constitution guarantees the right to personal liberty, which includes the right to make choices about one's life and body. Advocates for legalization argue that criminalizing the personal use of cannabis infringes upon this fundamental right. Legalization doesn't just stimulate the growth of cannabis plants; it cultivates jobs. From cultivators and budtenders to marketing mavens and security personnel, the legal cannabis industry gives rise to a diverse array of employment opportunities. Canada took a bold step in 2018 by legalizing recreational cannabis. Fast forward a bit, and they've got tens of thousands of people employed in the legal cannabis sector. They approached it with strict rules but left room for innovation. It's like they said, "We've got maple syrup, and now we've got green innovations too!" Tax revenues poured in, and the industry flourished like a well-tended garden.

Uruguay, the first country to fully legalize cannabis, witnessed a surge in tourism and related industries. The economic impact reached beyond the cannabis market, creating a ripple effect that touched various sectors, ultimately contributing to the country's economic growth.

Now, let's talk about the not-so-glamorous side of the green revolution. Regulating and overseeing this budding industry comes with its challenges. While the economic benefits of legal cannabis are enticing, there are challenges that governments face in regulating and overseeing this budding industry. Setting up and maintaining regulatory frameworks comes with costs that can eat into the anticipated revenues.

The economic landscape of legal cannabis is like a wild party that's still figuring out its playlist. Market dynamics are uncertain, consumer preferences shift like smoke in the wind, and the illegal market is throwing its own afterparty. Market volatility, shifting consumer preferences, and competition from the illegal market pose challenges that governments and businesses must navigate.

The Netherlands, with its famous tolerance approach, is like the cool cat at the party. But even they are figuring out how to coexist with the illegal market. It's like a dance, two steps forward, one step back. The Dutch cannabis model, known for its tolerance rather than full legalization, showcases the challenges of navigating an uncertain market. The coexistence of legal and illegal markets has created a complex economic scenario, with questions about the long-term sustainability of the current approach. the Netherlands, famous for tulips, windmills, and yes, coffee shops where you can legally enjoy a bit of green bliss. It's not full legalization, but more like a chill tolerance party. These coffee shops aren't just places to get cannabis, they're cultural touchpoints, contributing to the country's unique vibe.

Some argue that the very regulations meant to keep things in check might be creating a breeding ground for certain types of crime. Think about it. In an attempt to regulate and monitor the legal cannabis industry, we might be inadvertently leaving some regulatory blind spots. And you know what loves a blind spot? The not-so-friendly neighbourhood crime. The illegal market wants a piece of the action too. When legal cannabis prices are higher due to taxes and regulations, it's an open invitation for the black market to sneak in.

The negative impacts and crime rates lurking in the world of legal cannabis are like the hidden traps on a treasure map. As we navigate this murky terrain, it's crucial to acknowledge the unintended consequences and address the challenges head-on.

While the push for legalizing weed gains momentum globally, it's essential to consider the unique socio-cultural and legal fabric of India. India is a tapestry of cultural richness, deeply intertwined with religious traditions. Cannabis, often associated with spirituality in certain practices, can also be a slippery slope. The potential commodification of a substance with spiritual significance may clash with the sanctity attached to it in various cultural contexts.

India boasts a youthful population, and the potential repercussions of legalizing cannabis on the education system are a cause for concern. The easy accessibility of weed might tempt the impressionable youth, affecting academic performance and potentially leading to long-term consequences for the nation's intellectual capital.

Regulating the cannabis market allows for better control over the substance's quality and potency. This promotes harm reduction, ensuring that consumers have access to safer products. It could also alleviate the burden on the healthcare system by reducing cases related to illegal or unsafe cannabis use. But cannabis use, even in moderate amounts, can have implications for public health. From mental health concerns to the strain on healthcare resources, the social harmony that India prides itself on could be at risk. Balancing personal freedoms with the greater good is a delicate task, and the impact on the overall well-being of society is a crucial consideration.

In the global arena, where India is a significant player, the stigma associated with cannabis might have diplomatic repercussions. It could impact trade relationships and potentially hinder international collaborations in various sectors. The economic highs are undeniable, from tax flooding in to job markets flourishing like never before. But it's not all green pastures; there are challenges, regulatory bumps, and market uncertainties to navigate.

While the debate on cannabis legalization continues to gather steam, India, with its unique socio-cultural tapestry, must tread cautiously. Balancing personal freedom with societal well-being, navigating regulatory challenges, and considering the potential impact on global relations are critical aspects that demand thoughtful consideration. As the world evolves, India's stance on legalizing cannabis will undoubtedly be shaped by a thorough examination of the social and legal implications, ensuring a path that aligns with the nation's values and aspirations. Yet, challenges in regulation and market dynamics remind us that the road ahead is not without bumps.

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6. EXPLORING THE FUTURE ECONOMIC ANALYSIS OF LAW: BRIDGING LEGAL THEORY WITH ECONOMIC PRINCIPLES

Introduction:-

Economic analysis has been incorporated into legal frameworks more and more in the dynamic field of law and economics. The area of "law and economics," which applies economic concepts to the analysis of legal issues and policymaking, has emerged as a result of the mutually beneficial interaction between policy and law. Going forward, there is potential for these fields to continue to evolve, which will have an impact on how we see, understand, and apply the law. This article examines the possible implications, difficulties, and prospects of economic analysis of law in the future.

The Evolution of Law and Economics:-

Legal academics like Ronald Coase and Guido Calabresi, who were among the first to apply economic ideas to legal theory in the middle of the 20th century, are credited with laying the foundation for the field of economic analysis of law. Their ground-breaking discoveries paved the way for a comprehensive investigation of the ways in which institutions and laws impact economic behavior and results.

Throughout time, there has been a significant convergence of law and economics, impacting several facets of legal research and public policy. Efficiency, incentives, and market dynamics are fundamental concepts in the study of legal problems, ranging from contract law to antitrust legislation. To evaluate the costs and advantages of various legal laws and regulations, economists and legal academics have worked together to create complex models and approaches.

The Future Landscape:-

Looking ahead, economic analysis of law is expected to play a dynamic and revolutionary role in the future. This developing sector is expected to be shaped by a number of trends and developments:

• Scientific Advancement -

Artificial Intelligence (AI) and blockchain, among other technological innovations, are set to transform legal practice and decision-making due to their rapid growth. Large volumes of legal data may be analyzed by machine learning algorithms, which can then anticipate outcomes more accurately. This helps policymakers and attorneys make better judgments. Furthermore, by lowering transaction costs and increasing efficiency, block chain technology has the potential to simplify contract enforcement and dispute settlement.

•Behavioral Economic Insights -

Behavioral economics is gaining ground on legal analysis as our understanding of human behavior expands. Individual choices and results are significantly shaped by behavioral biases and heuristics, which calls into question long held beliefs about rationality in economics. Policymakers can create more effective rules and interventions that take into account real-world human behavior by incorporating behavioral insights into legal frameworks.

Globalization and Cross -

Legal concerns frequently cross national borders in today's globalized society, creating difficult problems for economic research. Transnational legal and regulatory frameworks have emerged as a result of globalization, necessitating the development of novel techniques to economic research. A concerted effort is required to balance conflicting legal systems and economic interests on issues like international commerce, intellectual property rights, and environmental protection.

Challenges and Opportunity:-

Future legal economic analysis holds great potential, but there are still a number of obstacles to overcome. The multidisciplinary character of the sector presents a significant difficulty, requiring cooperation and communication between policymakers, attorneys, economists, and other stakeholders. Although it can be difficult, there is a chance for creativity and idea cross-fertilization when these disparate fields of study are brought together and their viewpoints are integrated.

Furthermore, to guarantee that legal regulations advance justice, fairness, and the public interest, ethical issues and cultural values must be properly included into economic research. Concerns of bias, accountability, and transparency become critical as algorithms and AI systems become more and more integrated into judicial decision-making processes. Regulation and constant monitoring will be necessary to prevent algorithmic discrimination and provide fair access to the legal system.

Assumption:-

There is a great deal of potential for legal theory, practice, and policymaking to be transformed by future economic analyses of law. Through using technology, integrating behavioral economics principles, and tackling worldwide issues, we can create legal frameworks that are more effective, fair, and adaptable.

But to make this vision a reality, cooperation, creativity, and a dedication to respecting moral standards and social norms are needed. The economic analysis of law will remain an essential instrument for comprehending, forming, and navigating the legal environment as we negotiate the intricacies of the twenty-first century.

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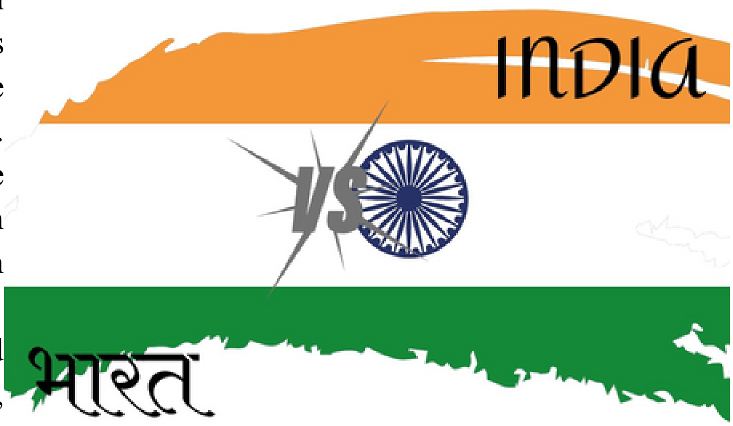
7. FROM INDIA TO BHARAT: AN ECONOMIC PERSPECTIVE

“It is my Bharatvarsha in all its glory, replete with wealth, knowledge, spiritual faith.”
— Rabindranath Tagore

1]Bharatvarsha, or Bharat, India’s original name, according to Vishnu Purana, is demonstrated as a country lying north of the ocean and south of the snowy mountains. Bharata was also a name of a king, from the Hindu Epic, Mahabharata, who was the son of Dushyant and Shakuntala, and an ancestor of Pandavas and Kauravas.



How beautiful it looks when our is named after on of the characters of Mahabharat, yet why do we still use a term not finding its roots in our country?

The word “India” or its variant “Hind” were historically used by outsiders for northern region of Indian Subcontinent near south and east of Indus or Sindhu River. Article 1 (1) of the Indian Constitution states, [2]“India, that is Bharat, shall be a union of states”. Both the names are valid and are exchangeable with each other. Recently, while hosting the 2023 G20 summit themed “Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam — One Earth, One Family, One Future” in New Delhi, President Draupadi Murmu issued official notification for G20 invitees under the name ‘President of of Bharat'. [3] According to a report by the Outlook, it would cost approximate Rs. 14,000 crores for the transition of the name. These calculations were made based on the model of a South Africa based IP lawyer, Darren Olivier. The Outlook article stated that the cost of renaming India to Bharat would be an astounding Rs 14,304 crore if the Oliver formula is used, taking into account India's fiscal revenue collections for 2023, which are Rs. 23.30 lakh crore. The figure is just an estimate, but it provides insights into the extent the actual cost may vary if the government did decode to make changes to the name.

[4]Ashit Srivastava Sir, Constitutional Law professor at National Law University, Jabalpur, in an interview to WION, says that "From a constitutional perspective, any name change would introduce a normative shift in the interpretation of the constitution itself. Using the name 'Bharat' would also raise the question of what the term 'Bharat' signifies… In a secular nation like ours, adopting the name 'Bharat' might carry a distinct leaning towards a specific community".

It is yet to be seen whether the name would be changed, and if it would, it could bring about multiple economic, social, and political repercussions, but at the end what matters is our nations, call it Bharat or India, has its diversities, but we thrive in that unity in diversity.

"In India we celebrate the commonality of major differences; we are a land of belonging rather than of blood." – Shashi Tharoor

-Saniyah
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8. IS INFLATION A GOOD OR A BAD INDICATOR FOR THE ECONOMY

One of the most debatable question is whether inflation indicates a good economy or a bad one. To understand this, it is important to first understand the term "inflation". Inflation in its simplest form can be regarded as the rise in the prices of goods and services in the economy due to the function of demand and supply in the economy. It cannot be said that inflation is a complete boon or a ban. It is generally considered to be a disadvantage which is not the actual case, instead it is regarded as a good indicator for the economy but upto a certain extent only. In general and usual sense, it is considered to be a healthy and growing indicator for an economy.

To control the overflow of money in the market, the situation of inflation occurs as it acts as the control mechanism for an economy which clearly means that a certain level of inflation indicates more money in economy. A moderate inflation indicates a good economy because it encourages investments and spending by the household because with the rise in prices of commodities and services people tend to invest their money as the believe it to give great returns in future.

Also it maintains economic stability as it acts as a control mechanism by controlling and cooling down the economic activity. Inflation also creates flexibility in the monetary policy. Thus, a moderate inflation indicates a dynamic, healthy and a growing economy. But beyond a point it leads to the erosion of purchasing power. Increase in inflation reduces real earning. Increase in inflation creates increase in the interest rates but it also shows the paying capacity and the will of the payer.To have goldilocks economy which is considered to be the ideal economy there must be

a balanced government and Reserve bank working together to curb the extreme situations where government should maintain a balanced budget and RBI must make a careful and beneficial monetary policy. It is concluded that both high and low extremes of inflation are not considered to be favourable, it can be either beneficial or harmful for the economy based on its magnitude. The ultimate goal is to make easier for people have money and regulate economic activity, hence a balanced inflation is required to maintain the health of the economy.

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9. LIQUOR, TAXES, AND CONSUMERS- "A LOVE TRIANGLE"

Taxes love liquor, consumers also love liquor, and so do the consumers for their love for liquor would accept the high taxes?

"If we want to improve global health, we need to tax the things that are killing us. Taxing things that are bad for your health, like tobacco, over things like savings and income, is as close to a free lunch as you can get in economics. The economic rationale for taxing these products is strong if we want to save lives and make a better, healthier world."

-LARRY SUMMERS, former Secretary of the U.S. Treasury and Director of the National Economic Council, and former World Bank Group Chief Economist (2019)[1]

Abstract:

The relationship between liquor, taxes, and consumers is multifaceted, characterized by a delicate balance of economic, social, and psychological factors. Liquor, as a commodity, holds a special place in society, often associated with cultural traditions, social gatherings, and personal indulgence. However, the sale and consumption of liquor are subject to government regulations, including taxation, which can significantly impact consumer behavior and market dynamics. This article explores the intricate relationship between liquor, taxes, and consumers, delving into the complex dynamics that shape the liquor market within the realms of economics and law. It examines how taxes affect consumer behavior in the liquor industry, exploring the extent to which consumers' affection for liquor influences their acceptance of high taxes.

While governments rely on alcohol taxes as a crucial revenue source, consumers' love for liquor presents a challenging dilemma when faced with high taxation. Recent developments in India serve as a case study, highlighting the impact of tax hikes on liquor consumption and the broader economic and legal implications. By analyzing consumer behavior, economic trends, and legal considerations, this study underscores the need for policymakers to strike a delicate balance between revenue generation, public health concerns, and consumer welfare. Through a comprehensive understanding of these dynamics, policymakers can navigate the love triangle of liquor, tax, and consumers with foresight and pragmatism, fostering a regulatory framework that promotes fiscal sustainability and societal well-being.

Keywords: Tax, Consumers, Policy, Welfare, Liquor, Consumption, Health.

[1]PATRICIO V. MARQUEZSHEILA DUTTA, Taxes on tobacco, alcohol, and sugar-sweetened beverages reduce health risks and expand fiscal space for Universal Health Coverage post-COVID 19, August 11, 2020, https://blogs.worldbank.org/health/taxes-tobacco-alcohol-and-sugar-sweetened-beverages-reduce-health-risks-and-expand-fiscal

INTRODUCTION:

In the realm of economics and public policy, few subjects embody the complexity and intrigue found in the relationship between liquor, taxes, and consumers. It is a dynamic interplay that could be aptly described as a "love triangle," where the interests of each party intersect and influence one another in a delicate balance.

As Larry Summers, former Secretary of the U.S. Treasury and Director of the National Economic Council, aptly stated, "If we want to improve global health, we need to tax the things that are killing us." This sentiment encapsulates the rationale behind taxing goods deemed harmful, such as tobacco and alcohol, as a means to promote public health while generating revenue for governments.

In this context, liquor holds a unique position within society, often intertwined with cultural traditions, social gatherings, and personal indulgence. However, the sale and consumption of liquor are subject to government regulations, with taxation being a primary instrument of control. While taxes on liquor contribute significantly to government revenue, they also influence consumer behaviour and market dynamics in profound ways.

As we delve deeper into the complexities of liquor taxation and its implications, it becomes evident that the relationship between liquor, taxes, and consumers is not merely transactional but emblematic of broader societal values and policy objectives. In exploring this multifaceted love triangle, we aim to provide insights that inform evidence-based policy decisions and contribute to the advancement of public health and economic prosperity.

Alcohol is exempt from GST, although other taxes apply. Governments around the world tax spirits and related items. They also manage and regulate sales. Because of municipal licencing fees and a variety of state liquor trade limitations, consumers frequently end up paying four or five times the price at a distillery.

India's 29 states and seven union territories have taken diverse ways to taxing and regulating spirits. For example, since 1961, the state of Gujarat has completely prohibited the sale and consumption of spirits. In contrast, Puducherry, a colony on the Coromandel Coast, derives the majority of its revenue from the alcohol trade. Some states auction retail and wholesale licences, while others maintain their own monopolies. Tamil Nadu is one state that holds a monopoly on the alcohol trade, employing approximately 30,000 workers across 6,000 shops.

Taxation of Liquor:

The High Court held that the alcoholic liquor is liable to be taxed @18%[2].

Even if spirits is not subject to the Goods and Services Tax, it is subject to other levies, which add to growing pricing. The taxes are:

- Excise Duty
- Value Added Tax (VAT)[3]

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[2] Mr. M Govindarajan, Alcoholic Liquor-GST Liability, January 20, 2023, https://www.taxmanagementindia.com/visitor/detail_article.asp?ArticleID=11008#:~:text=The%20High%20Court%20held%20that,Column%203%20of%20Serial%20No.

[3] No GST on Alcohol - Taxation of Liquor and related products, March 14, 2023, https://cleartax.in/s/taxation-liquor-related-products

Liquor Taxes: A Fiscal Imperative

Taxes levied on liquor products play a crucial role in generating revenue for governments worldwide. In India, like many other countries, excise duties and additional taxes imposed on alcohol contribute substantially to state coffers. These revenues support various public services and infrastructure projects, making alcohol taxation a vital fiscal tool for policymakers[4].

The alcohol industry contends that because low-cost items are being substituted, alcohol excise taxes do not effectively discourage heavy drinking and that low-income users are disproportionately affected by these prices. On the other hand, some economists contend that higher alcohol excise taxes lead to a decrease in binge drinking.

Taxing alcohol and drinks helps to limit consumption and stop the onset of chronic conditions that are linked to it, like diabetes, liver cirrhosis, obesity, and heart disease. Moreover, increasing the price of alcohol-related products and strictly enforcing laws against driving while intoxicated might help reduce the significant human and financial costs associated with road accidents, fatalities, and domestic abuse.

New research from the World Bank consistently demonstrates that taxes on sugar-sweetened beverages have net beneficial economic consequences, such as higher government spending and productivity and employment.

Better tax administration is essential to reaping the benefits of pro-health tax policies, especially with regard to controlling the illicit tobacco and alcohol trade.

Consumer Preferences and Behaviour

Consumers' love for liquor is undeniable, fuelled by social, cultural, and personal factors. However, their purchasing decisions are influenced not only by product preferences but by a variety of factors including taste, brand loyalty, social norms, price sensitivity and personal values. When faced with higher taxes, consumers may alter their consumption patterns, opting for cheaper alternatives or reducing overall consumption to mitigate the financial burden.

Higher alcohol excise rates cause both heavy and non-heavy drinkers to buy less ethanol, and there is no discernible difference in how responsive heavy and non-heavy drinkers are to tax hikes[5].

Despite the presence of taxes, many consumers continue to purchase liquor due to its perceived benefits, such as relaxation, socialization, and cultural significance. However, the extent to which consumers are willing to accept high taxes on liquor varies depending on individual circumstances and market conditions.

Role of Taxes in Liquor Industry

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[4] THE EFFECTS OF ALCOHOL EXCISE TAX INCREASES BY DRINKING LEVEL AND BY INCOME LEVEL Henry Saffer Markus Gehrsitz Michael Grossman Working Paper 30097 http://www.nber.org/papers/w30097 NATIONAL BUREAU OF ECONOMIC RESEARCH 1050 Massachusetts Avenue Cambridge, MA 02138, May 2022, https://www.nber.org/system/files/working_papers/w30097/w30097.pdf

[5] THE EFFECTS OF ALCOHOL EXCISE TAX INCREASES BY DRINKING LEVEL AND BY INCOME LEVEL Henry Saffer Markus Gehrsitz Michael Grossman Working Paper 30097 http://www.nber.org/papers/w30097 NATIONAL BUREAU OF ECONOMIC RESEARCH 1050 Massachusetts Avenue Cambridge, MA 02138, May 2022, https://www.nber.org/system/files/working_papers/w30097/w30097.pdf

Taxes play a crucial role in shaping the liquor market, serving as a source of revenue for governments and a tool for regulating consumption. Excise duties, sales taxes, and other levies contribute to the final price of liquor, influencing both supply and demand. Higher taxes typically lead to higher prices for consumers, potentially reducing consumption and generating government revenue. However, the effectiveness of taxation in achieving public health goals, such as reducing alcohol-related harm, is subject to debate.

The Impact of Tax Hikes on Alcohol Consumption and Associated Issues

Drinking alcohol has the potential to become addictive, at least for certain individuals. But during the past 20 years, a number of research utilising various economic and statistical techniques and data types have established that increased pricing can significantly lower alcohol use (and abuse) and the associated negative effects, especially among heavy drinkers[6].

Recent news from India indicates that higher taxes on liquor have led to a noticeable shift in consumer behavior. Karnataka's decision to increase additional excise duty on Indian-made liquor (IML) by 20% and Mumbai's imposition of increased taxes have resulted in slowed demand across segments. The once-thriving spirits market has witnessed a significant deceleration, with sales growth plummeting from 12% to a mere 4% in the last calendar year.

Price's Impact on Youth and Young Adults' Alcohol Consumption

The impact of alcohol costs on young adults' and adolescents' drinking habits has been the subject of numerous research. Due to the relatively high rates of binge drinking and alcohol-related disorders that this generation exhibits, as well as the apparent significant potential for employing tax and price measures to reduce underage drinking, this cohort is particularly relevant. Using data from early waves of National Health and Nutrition Examination Surveys, Grossman and colleagues (1987) and Coate and Grossman (1988) were the first to examine the impact of price on alcohol use among adolescents. The researchers discovered that higher prices resulted in a greater decline in the percentage of adolescents who drink heavily and fairly heavily than in the percentage of light drinkers. Most subsequent studies confirmed this finding (Cook and Moore 2001; Laixuthai and Chaloupka 1993; Young and Bielinska-Kwapisz 2006). Moreover, Laixuthai and Chaloupka (1993) reported that younger adolescent drinkers were more price sensitive than older adolescent drinkers, which is a particularly important finding because Cook and Moore (2001) provided evidence supporting the notion that drinking habits are formed at young ages[7].

Economic Implications

From an economic standpoint, certain public policies that have the potential to impact the entire cost of alcoholic beverages—that is, the money outlay (i.e., pricing) in addition to the time investment and anticipated legal costs linked to alcohol consumption—also have an impact on alcohol consumption.

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[6] Xu X, Chaloupka FJ. The effects of prices on alcohol use and its consequences. Alcohol Res Health. 2011;34(2):236-45. PMID: 22330223; PMCID: PMC3860576. https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3860576/

[7] Ibid.

For example, Xu and Kaestner (2010) found that the increases in weekly hours of work were inversely associated with binge drinking—that is, binge-drinking frequency declined if people had less free time. Likewise, other studies showed that minimum-drinking-age and zero-tolerance laws reduced youth alcohol consumption and driving after drinking by increasing the expected legal costs of alcohol use (Carpenter 2004; Hingson et al. 1989, 1994; Liang and Huang 2008; Saffer and Grossman 1987; Wagenaar and Toomey 2002; Wagenaar et al. 2001; Wechsler et al. 2003).

Many States also enact additional regulations that restrict the availability of alcohol, such as dram shop laws, which increase the time and expense involved in getting alcohol, or restrictions on the locations or hours at which alcohol can be sold[8].

From an economic perspective, the slowdown in liquor sales has broader implications for the consumer discretionary segment. Just as liquor sales have mimicked the overall slowdown in consumer spending on products like apparel and footwear, tax hikes on alcohol have contributed to a contraction in demand. Rising input costs, including raw materials like extra neutral alcohol and packaging materials, further exacerbate the economic challenges faced by the industry. Elasticity of demand plays a crucial role in determining the extent to which consumers react to price changes, with some segments of the market being more price-sensitive than others. Behavioral economics further elucidates how psychological factors, such as framing effects and social influences, shape consumer decision-making in the context of liquor purchases and taxation.

Raising alcohol prices through increased excise taxes is one of the most effective public policy tools for reducing excessive drinking and its consequences (Elder et al., 2010, Wagenaar et al., 2009, Xu and Chaloupka, 2011, Wagenaar et al., 2010). Evidence suggests that increasing alcohol prices by 10% will reduce consumption of beer, wine, and sprits by 5.0%, 6.4%, and 7.9%, respectively (Elder et al., 2010). Alcohol taxes are significantly associated with reductions in the consequences of excessive drinking, including traffic crashes, liver cirrhosis, and violence (Elder et al., 2010, Xu and Chaloupka, 2011).[9]

The Love Triangle

In conceptualizing the relationship between liquor, taxes, and consumers, one can liken it to a "love triangle," where each party is intertwined with the others in a complex web of interactions. Taxes, driven by government policy objectives, seek to regulate liquor
consumption and raise revenue. Consumers, motivated by their affinity for liquor, are willing to pay higher prices to satisfy their desires. However, this affection for liquor may also influence consumers' attitudes towards taxes, with some accepting higher taxes as a necessary trade-off for access to their beloved beverage.

Legal considerations

[8] Xu X, Chaloupka FJ. The effects of prices on alcohol use and its consequences. Alcohol Res Health. 2011;34(2):236-45. PMID: 22330223; PMCID: PMC3860576. 1] Xu X, Chaloupka FJ. The effects of prices on alcohol use and its consequences. Alcohol Res Health. 2011;34(2):236-45. PMID: 22330223; PMCID: PMC3860576.
[9] https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3860576/

In the legal arena, the regulation of liquor taxation involves a delicate balance between revenue generation and public health concerns. While governments seek to maximize tax revenues from alcohol sales, they must also address the potential negative externalities associated with excessive consumption, such as alcohol-related health issues and social harm. Striking a balance between these competing interests requires careful legislative and regulatory measures aimed at promoting responsible drinking while ensuring fair taxation practices.

Consumer Response and Policy Implications

The recent downturn in liquor consumption following tax hikes underscores the importance of understanding consumer behaviour and market dynamics. While tax increases may initially lead to reduced consumption, policymakers must consider the long-term effects on revenue streams and public welfare. Additionally, efforts to curb alcohol abuse and promote public health should complement taxation policies, fostering a more holistic approach to liquor regulation. Understanding the dynamics of the love triangle between liquor, taxes, and consumers has important implications for policymakers seeking to balance public health objectives, revenue generation, and consumer welfare. Strategies such as targeted taxation, public education campaigns, and regulatory measures can help mitigate alcohol-related harm while minimizing unintended consequences on consumer behaviour and market dynamics.

Effects of tax policy changes on businesses

Economic decisions about employment, savings, interstate migration, investments, and firm structure are influenced by tax policies.

- **Legal Forms of Businesses**

Tax laws may have an impact on the legal structures that entrepreneurs adopt for their companies in order to minimise their tax obligations.

- **Borrowing**

Tax laws modify the regulations governing the interest expense deduction, which has an impact on how firms borrow money. Generally speaking, companies are able to deduct interest paid on loans, but not dividends given to shareholders. One benefit of debt financing over equity financing is this.

- **Investment**

The tax laws that control how companies write off capital assets may have an impact on investment decisions.[10]

Conclusion:

The love triangle of liquor, tax, and consumers presents a multifaceted challenge with implications for both economics and law. As governments grapple with revenue needs and consumer preferences, striking a delicate balance between taxation, consumption patterns, and public health concerns becomes paramount. By navigating this complex interplay with

[10] Jialu L. Streeter, How Do Tax Policies Affect Individuals and Businesses?, October 2022, https://siepr.stanford.edu/publications/policy-brief/how-do-tax-policies-affect-individuals-and-businesses

foresight and pragmatism, policymakers can foster a regulatory framework that promotes fiscal sustainability while safeguarding the well-being of society.

The overwhelming majority of these studies offer solid proof in favour of initiatives to increase federal or state taxes in an effort to improve public health by lowering alcohol use, including excessive drinking and its negative effects. More importantly, these studies clearly show that young people and adolescents are more sensitive to price changes than the overall population, suggesting that tax policies could not only have a positive immediate impact on public health but also have even bigger long-term effects. From a public finance perspective, raising alcohol taxes also is among the most cost-effective instruments to reduce harm and promote public health (Anderson et al. 2009).

The relationship between liquor, taxes, and consumers is a complex interplay of economic forces, social norms, and individual preferences. By recognizing the nuances of this love triangle, policymakers can develop more effective strategies to achieve their policy objectives while respecting consumer choice and market dynamics. Further research into consumer behaviour, taxation policies, and public health outcomes will continue to inform efforts to address the challenges posed by alcohol consumption in society.

Increases in the liquor tax have the effect of reducing ethanol consumption rates by chronic heavy drinkers-in particular, those who have contracted liver cirrhosis as a result of years of heavy drinking. Since this group is responsive to liquor taxes, liquor taxation can justifiably be viewed as an effective policy instrument in the public health area[11].

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[11] Cook, P. J., & Tauchen, G. (1982). The Effect of Liquor Taxes on Heavy Drinking. The Bell Journal of Economics, 13(2), 379–390. https://doi.org/10.2307/3003461

10. Navigating the Legal and Economic Dynamics of India's Tech Start-up Unicorns: A Comprehensive Analysis

India's tech start-up ecosystem has witnessed the meteoric rise of unicorns, signaling a paradigm shift in the country's innovation landscape. This article offers a meticulous examination of the intricate legal and economic dimensions underpinning the phenomenon of unicorns in India's tech start-up ecosystem. Through a rigorous analysis of regulatory frameworks, economic catalysts, and sustainability imperatives, this study aims to unveil the complex ecosystem facilitating the emergence of unicorns and evaluate its implications for India's economic fabric.

The advent of tech start-up unicorns in India has catalyzed transformative changes in the global entrepreneurial landscape, underscoring the nation's prowess in innovation and disruption. From e-commerce behemoths to fintech frontrunners and software disruptors, India's unicorns epitomize the zenith of entrepreneurial ambition and technological ingenuity. This article embarks on a deep dive into the labyrinthine legal and economic foundations of India's unicorn phenomenon, elucidating the regulatory intricacies, economic catalysts, and sustainability imperatives that have sculpted the trajectory of the country's tech start-up ecosystem.

Regulatory Framework for Unicorns:

The regulatory milieu governing unicorns in India is characterized by a labyrinthine array of statutes, regulations, and policies spanning multiple domains. Key regulatory arenas encompass company incorporation and governance, intellectual property protection, foreign direct investment (FDI) norms, data privacy and cybersecurity mandates, and antitrust regulations. While initiatives like the Start-up India initiative and regulatory sandbox frameworks endeavor to cultivate an enabling ecosystem for unicorn proliferation, regulatory hurdles such as compliance burdens, bureaucratic impediments, and legal ambiguities pose formidable challenges for nascent unicorns navigating the regulatory labyrinth.

Economic Catalysts of Unicorn Growth:

The growth trajectory of unicorns in India is propelled by a constellation of economic drivers that converge to engender a fertile ground for innovation and entrepreneurship. These drivers encompass India's burgeoning consumer market, demographic dividend characterized by a youthful and tech-savvy populace, escalating internet and smartphone penetration rates, a burgeoning pool of venture capital funding, and a robust ecosystem comprising incubators, accelerators, and angel investors. Moreover, India's vibrant talent reservoir in the technology domain and burgeoning ecosystem of technology and business incubators furnish indispensable impetus to the growth and ascendancy of unicorns in the nation.

Sustainability Imperatives:

As unicorns ascend the echelons of growth and scale their operations, sustainability considerations loom large as imperatives for ensuring long-term viability and societal impact. Sustainability transcends conventional economic metrics to encompass a holistic spectrum of environmental, social, and governance (ESG) imperatives that resonate profoundly with stakeholders. Unicorns must navigate myriad sustainability challenges encompassing environmental footprint, ethical sourcing, labor practices, diversity and inclusion imperatives, ethical deployment of technology, and transparency in corporate governance to forge enduring trust and credibility with investors, consumers, and society at large.

Conclusion:

In denouement, the trajectory of tech start-up unicorns in India epitomizes a multifaceted phenomenon underpinned by intricate legal, economic, and sustainability dynamics. While India's regulatory architecture proffers avenues for innovation and growth, navigating the regulatory thicket remains a formidable challenge for unicorns. Furthermore, as unicorns ascend the growth trajectory, they must pivot towards embedding sustainability imperatives at the core of their operational ethos to ensure sustained growth and positive societal impact. By surmounting regulatory challenges, leveraging economic catalysts, and embracing sustainability imperatives, India's tech start-up ecosystem can continue to burgeon and catalyze transformative changes in the nation's economic tapestry and technological horizons.

-Manyata
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11. The economic potential of AI: The Next productive frontier

You're about to find out how AI impact economics in todays world and in future. And if you've wondered how this article can answer your question".

India, a country with an official population greater than **1.3 billion** people and a gross domestic product (GDP) of **$2.7 trillion**, is heavily impact on artificial intelligence.

"Artificial intelligence is a replication of human intelligence that is able to perform tasks without being explicitly instructed and capable of making decisions and acting rationally."[1]

AI is capable of quickly calculating huge amounts of economic data and predicts future market circumstances. Policymakers, businesses, and individuals may all benefit from predictions.

1.Enhanced output

AI may replace routine and repetitive tasks, allowing human workers to focus on more complex and creative aspects of their jobs. This enhanced productivity and efficiency may support overall economic growth.

2.Cost reduction of goods

AI applications can help businesses reduce costs through automation, optimization of processes, and predictive analytics. This efficiency gain can lead to higher profit margins and increased competitiveness.

3.Innovation of new markets

AI enables the development of innovative products and services, leading to the creation of new markets and industries. As AI technologies advance, businesses can explore new opportunities, fostering economic growth and technological advancement.

4.Supply chain optimization

AI driven analytics can optimize supply chain management, reducing costs and improving efficiency. This can positively impact the production and distribution of goods, contributing to economic growth.

5.Global competitiveness

Nations that actively embrace and invest in AI technologies are likely to enhance their global competitiveness. By fostering a supportive environment for AI innovation, countries can attract investment, talent, and businesses, contributing to overall economic development.

The backbone of the Indian economy is industrialization sector many of the industries have rapid growth in their productivity and the times for making the goods is also decreases.

It has also increased the standard for education which can easily lead to increase and knowledge and people using that knowledge to boost their income.

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[1] Ms. Reena Salvi Dr. Rashmi Singh, artificial intelligence and human society, Volume 06, Journal of International Social Science And Human Research page 5441, 2023

People can easily get any information like tourism, business and trade due to which people taking interest in how the trade works, business cycle works and mainly about interesting concepts of economic, because of AI the knowledge is not limited and people being motivated and trying their best to learn new topics and increasing the money sources.

It is also very important to ensure that AI is not only good economically but socially and politically also.

"Using AI in the correct way can promote fair and equal distribution of **Wealth and improve Harmony."**

-Jaya Bhuriya
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DNLU, Jabalpur

12. UNVEILING THE IMPLICATIONS OF A FOREIGN DATA LEAK: AN INDIAN PERSPECTIVE

The recent data leak from a Chinese cybersecurity agency, encompassing sensitive information from various countries including India, has raised significant concerns regarding national security and privacy. This article delves into the implications of such a breach from an Indian standpoint, considering its impact on the economy, security landscape, and legal dimensions.

The leaked data containing personal information of prominent Indian figures, government officials, and organizations poses a direct threat to national security. Access to such confidential data by foreign entities could compromise strategic decision-making processes, diplomatic relations, and internal stability. Moreover, the breach underscores challenges to India's sovereignty, highlighting the need for robust cybersecurity measures to safeguard against external threats.

In an increasingly digitalized economy, data is a valuable asset driving innovation, competitiveness, and economic growth. The unauthorized access to sensitive economic data, including financial transactions and trade secrets, can have detrimental effects on businesses and the overall economy. Such breaches erode trust in digital platforms, hampering investor confidence and hindering the expansion of e-commerce and digital initiatives.

The data leak raises complex legal questions pertaining to jurisdiction, accountability, and enforcement mechanisms. Indian laws governing data protection and cybercrime must be reinforced to address evolving threats in cyberspace effectively.

Strengthening regulatory frameworks and international collaborations is imperative to prosecute perpetrators and prevent future breaches. Additionally, enhancing public awareness and fostering a culture of cybersecurity consciousness is crucial to mitigate risks associated with data vulnerabilities.

The incident underscores the intricate interplay between cybersecurity, diplomacy, and geopolitics. Allegations of State--sponsored espionage and cyber intrusions strain bilateral relations and complicate diplomatic engagements. India must navigate these geopolitical tensions prudently, balancing national interests with the imperative for international cooperation in combating cyber threats. Establishing clear protocols for information sharing and cyber defense mechanisms is essential to foster trust and collaboration among nations.

The data leak from a Chinese cybersecurity agency underscores the multifaceted challenges posed by cyber threats to India's national security, economy, and sovereignty. As the digital landscape continues to evolve, proactive measures are indispensable to fortify defenses against cyber intrusions and data breaches. Strengthening cybersecurity infrastructure, enhancing regulatory frameworks, and fostering international cooperation are pivotal to mitigate risks and safeguard India's interests in cyberspace. Moreover, fostering a culture of cyber hygiene and resilience is imperative to effectively combat emerging threats and preserve digital trust and sovereignty.

Thus, the implications of the recent data leak extend beyond immediate security concerns to encompass broader economic, legal, and diplomatic ramifications. Addressing these challenges requires a concerted effort by stakeholders across government, industry, and civil society to bolster cybersecurity resilience and safeguard national interests in an increasingly interconnected world.

--Samriddhi Seth

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13. UNVEILING THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF CORPORATE TAXATION: A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

Corporate taxation shapes economic landscapes and business decisions, yet its impact sparks divergent perspectives. This article delves into its intricate economic consequences across jurisdictions, from investment dynamics to innovation, fostering informed dialogue for evidence-based policymaking.

Corporate taxation stands as a cornerstone of fiscal policy worldwide, shaping economic landscapes and influencing business decisions. However, the discourse surrounding its impact remains a contentious arena where policymakers, economists, and businesses converge with divergent perspectives. In this article, we delve into the intricate web of the economic impact of corporate taxation through a comparative lens, exploring its ramifications across different jurisdictions.

At its core, corporate taxation represents a crucial revenue source for governments, funding public services and infrastructure. Yet, beyond its fiscal role, its economic consequences reverberate throughout the entire socio-economic spectrum. Understanding these ramifications necessitates a nuanced examination of its effects on investment, employment, innovation, and international competitiveness.

One of the pivotal debates surrounding corporate taxation revolves around its influence on investment dynamics. Proponents of lower corporate tax rates argue that they stimulate investment by leaving businesses with greater capital to reinvest in growth-oriented endeavours. Conversely, proponents of higher rates contend that they bolster government revenues, funding public investments that spur economic growth.

Corporate taxation stands as a cornerstone of fiscal policy worldwide, shaping economic landscapes and influencing business decisions. However, the discourse surrounding its impact remains a contentious arena where policymakers, economists, and businesses converge with divergent perspectives.

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At its core, corporate taxation represents a crucial revenue source for governments, funding public services and infrastructure.

Yet, beyond its fiscal role, its economic consequences reverberate throughout the entire socio-economic spectrum. Understanding these ramifications necessitates a nuanced examination of its effects on investment, employment, innovation, and international competitiveness.

By comparing economies with divergent tax regimes, such as the low-tax environments of Singapore and Ireland against the higher-tax landscapes of Scandinavian countries, we can discern varying approaches and their corresponding outcomes. By comparing economies with divergent tax regimes, such as the low-tax environments of Singapore and Ireland against the higher-tax landscapes of Scandinavian countries, we can discern varying approaches and their corresponding outcomes.

The relationship between corporate taxation and employment remains a subject of intense scrutiny. Critics of high corporate taxes often argue that they hinder job creation by reducing firms' ability to expand operations and hire new employees.Conversely, proponents of higher taxation assert that they contribute to a more equitable distribution of wealth, thereby fostering social stability and reducing income inequality.

By juxtaposing labour market dynamics in economies with different tax structures, we can illuminate the nuanced interplay between corporate taxation and employment outcomes.Innovation represents a cornerstone of economic vitality, driving productivity gains and fostering technological advancements. Corporate taxation's influence on innovation hinges on its ability to incentivize or disincentivize research and development (R&D) activities.

By analysing innovation metrics across jurisdictions with divergent tax policies, such as the United States, known for its R&D tax incentives, and European countries with varying tax regimes, we can glean insights into the relationship between corporate taxation and innovation dynamics.

As we navigate the complex terrain of corporate taxation, it becomes evident that its economic impact transcends mere fiscal considerations. By conducting a comparative analysis of diverse tax regimes, we can unravel the multifaceted interplay between corporate taxation and economic outcomes. Ultimately, fostering informed dialogue and evidence-based policymaking is essential in navigating the intricate nexus between taxation, economic growth, and societal well-being.

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PAST EVENTS

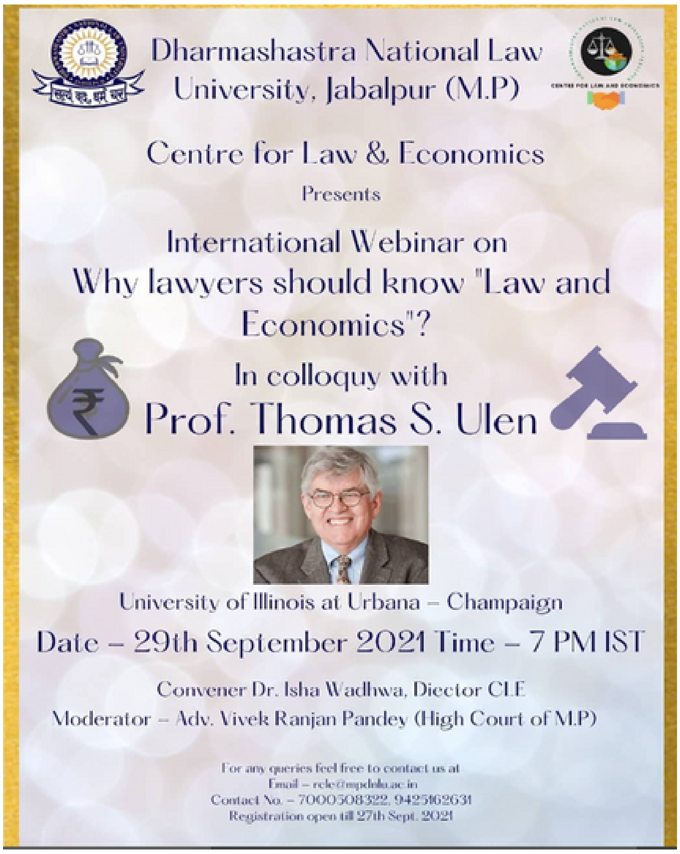
- Guest Lecture By -: Dr. Anil Dhagat (Shree Krishna University Chhatarpur, U.P.)
- Date -: 6th September 2021 (Monday)
- Topic -: Role of Financial institutions
- Mode -: Online

- National Webinar on : Constitutional Expectations and economic justice.
- Guest Speaker : Dr. Pankaj (Director cum Additional registrar of centre for research and planning at the Supreme court of India, New Delhi)
- Date : 9th September 2021
- Mode : Online

PAST EVENTS

- Lecture on : Capital, Savings & Instruments.
- Speaker : Dr. Tanima Dutta (Associate Professor, Lovely Professional University)
- Date : 11th September 2021
- Mode : Online

- International Webinar on "why lawyers should know Law and Economics?"
- In colloquy with - Prof. Thomas S. Ulen (University of Illinois at Urbana - Champaign)
- Date - 29th September 2021 (7pm IST)
- Mode - Online

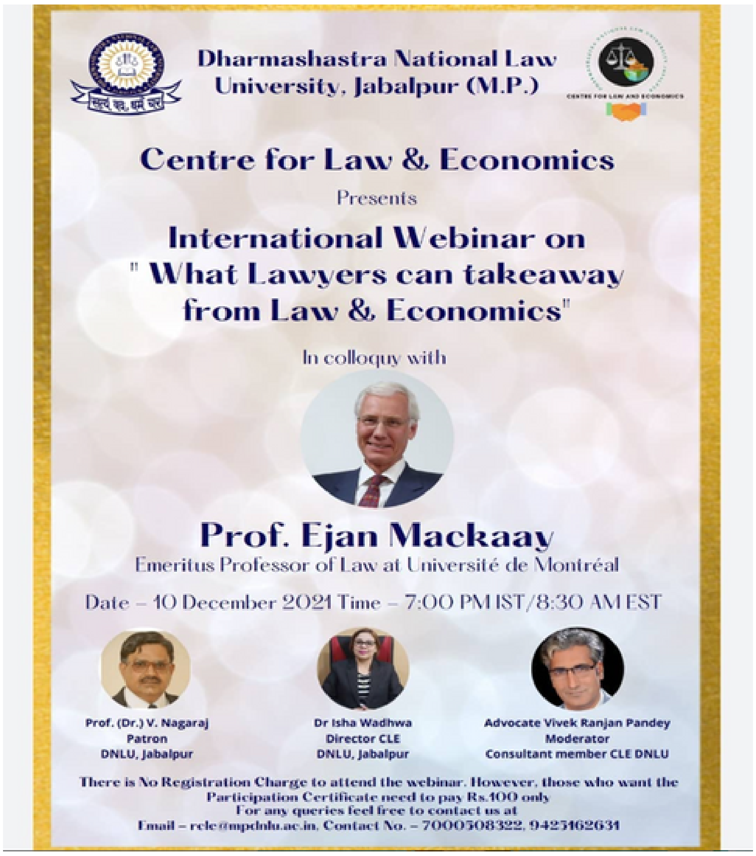


PAST EVENTS

- International Webinar on - “Cryptocurrency - Its legal status and future challenges in India.”
- In colloquy with - Dr. Srinivas Yanamandra (Chief compliance at the new development bank, Shanghai)
- Date - 3rd December 2021 (3:30 p.m. IST)
- Mode - Online

- International Webinar on - “Law, Institutional decision making and social change.”
- In colloquy with - Prof. Maxwell L. Stern, Prof. of Law at University of Maryland Carey school of Law)
- Date - 8th December 2021 (7p.m. IST)
- Mode - Online

PAST EVENTS



- International Webinar on - ‘ what lawyers can take away from ’Law and Economics’?
- In colloquy with - Ejan Mackaay (Researcher and Professor Emeritus at University of Montreal)
- Date - 10th December 2021 (7p.m. IST)
- Mode - Online

- Event - National Essay Writing Competition, 2023
- Theme - (Generalised) “Evolving Dimensions for Law and Economics”
- Mode - Online (Submission deadline - 30th July 2023)

PAST EVENTS

- **Youtube video - 1st Episode of CLE Podcast**
- **Interview with - Adv. Vivek Ranjan (M.P. High Court Jabalpur)**
- **Date - 2nd January, 2024**

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Thank you for your continued support in our mission to advance knowledge and foster dialogue in the realms of Law and Economics.

We hope this Newsletter served you with the right wisdom.
See you in the next issue.

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