
CONTENTS

	Page No.
Editorial	1
Articles	
Alternative Service Delivery in Indian Health Sector: Neglected Areas in PPP Projects D. Sriram and Manoj Kumar Sahoo	2
Delhi Water Policy: How Economically Sustainable? Meeta Singh	10
Economic Reforms and Labour Market Outcomes: The Case of India Amit K. Giri and S.P. Singh	21
Ethics in public administration: The Case of Poland Jacek Czaputowicz and Tomasz Potkanski	38
Expert Column	
Food Security Issues in India: A Practitioner's Perspective R M Deshpande	53
Articles	
Is the Era of Coalitional Governance over in India Subhendu Ranjan Raj	61
Status of E-governance in India Kawaljeet Kaur and Neena	71
Drinking Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Practices of Dalits in Karnataka I. Maruthi and Pesala Busenna	82
Legislative Oversight and Government Budgeting in India: Revisiting Processes, Practices and Potential Constraints Gyana Ranjan Panda	103
About the Authors	115

ALTERNATIVE SERVICE DELIVERY IN INDIAN HEALTH SECTOR: NEGLECTED AREAS IN PPP PROJECTS

D. Sriram and Manoj Kumar Sahoo

In health service delivery, PPP is one of the alternative models for governments wherein governments collaborate with NGOs and corporate sector. In developing the partnerships, governments and private providers are interested in creating entities in physical infrastructure but not in social infrastructure. In India many PPP projects are coming up in physical infrastructure; but PPPs in social infrastructure are continuing with old entities without efforts to establish new hospitals or medical entities. In health and education sector governments are collaborating with private sector and establishing new projects only in the form of contract in and contract out. This paper examines the various PPP models in health service delivery and the major areas which are neglected by the governments and private providers. This paper also explores the reasons of why governments are more interested to make payments to the private sector rather than developing service delivery infrastructure in health sector.

Keywords

Public Private Partnerships (PPPs), Health Infrastructure, Public Sector, Alternative Service Delivery, Governments.

Introduction

There have been lots of experiments in developing countries and LDCs for public sector service delivery. Paucity of funds and scarcity of adequate skilled manpower along with unavailability of suitable technology, force the governments in these countries to seek alternative models of service delivery so as to increase the efficiency and effectiveness in provisioning of various services. Health sector is a crucial component of services provisioned by the governments so as to enhance social welfare of the masses by providing low cost and affordable healthcare. But health sectors in LDCs and developing countries like India are in very miserable condition because of failure of governments in rationalizing their priorities and increased reduction in involvement of public sector in delivery of these services. Increased privatization in health sector, post-WTO regime, in India has also led to shift of priority of governments away from the health services segment. However, in sectors like infrastructure, government has focused on enhanced role of alternative models like Public-Private Partnerships (PPP). But the social infrastructures like health and education have seen lesser participation of these sorts of PPP partnerships. The present paper seeks to examine the various PPP models in health service delivery and the major areas which are neglected by the governments and private providers. It also seeks to examine the effectiveness of PPP as an alternative model of service delivery in healthcare sector of India.

DELHI WATER POLICY: HOW ECONOMICALLY SUSTAINABLE?

Meeta Singh

"In an age when man has forgotten his origins and is blind even to his most essential needs for survival, water along with other resources has become the victim of his indifference."

Rachel Carson, American Marine biologist

The paper highlights the various issues related to water woes in the Capital city of Delhi. The paper delves into issues related to Demand and Supply, Quality of water supplied, reclamation of water and harvesting of ground water and rainwater Harvesting in Section I. Section II is deals with governance in water including insufficient data and information maintained, water tariff, subsidies and cross subsidies and fallouts of the short, intermittent supply. The effect of declining quality of water supplied which has led the households to use membranes and reverse osmosis at significant cost has been probed. The concluding section is devoted to opportunity costs and trade offs. Future challenges and recommendations after the evaluation of the urban water supply scenario in Delhi are effectively discussed in the conclusion.

Keywords

Delhi Water Policy, Water Tariff, Subsidies and Cross Subsidies, Delhi Jal Board, Demand and Supply of Water, Reclamation of Water, Water Governance, Non-Revenue Water (NRW), Water Theft.

Introduction

The capital city of Delhi has a specific position in the Indian Institutional System. It is indeed located in the National Capital Territory (NCT), which has a status similar to the other states of the Indian federal system. Although only 50% of the total area (1483 km²) is urbanized, the urban agglomeration of Delhi extends its limits out of the NCT, with cities like Gurgaon, Noida, Faridabad, and Ghaziabad, growing in the immediate vicinity of Delhi in the neighboring states of Haryana and Uttar Pradesh. Delhi is currently the fastest growing metropolis in India. According to the Census 2001, the population of the national capital territory of Delhi was 13.85 million people. In 2021, projections of population for the NCT are between 22 and 23 million, and around 10 million inhabitants in the different adjacent cities, making it the second largest urban agglomeration after Tokyo¹.

¹ Augustin Maria, Urban Water Crisis in Delhi. Stakeholders responses and potential; scenarios of evolution, dated 06/2008, http://www.iddri.org/Publications/Collections/Idees-pour-le-debat/Id_0806_Maria_Urban-Crisis-Water-Delhi.pdf

ECONOMIC REFORMS AND LABOUR MARKET OUTCOMES THE CASE OF INDIA

Amit K. Giri and S.P. Singh

Beginning early 1990s, the state of India started launching slew of reforms measures to accelerate the growth rate of the economy. Consequently, growth rate accelerated in the post-reforms period compared to the pre-reforms period, but did any perceptible positive changes occurred in the labour market? Lately, both the union and many provincial governments are assiduously trying to launch labour reforms in the economy on the plea that this reform process will accelerate both domestic and private investment and will bring about perceptible positive change in India's labour market. Will the launching of labour reforms in the economy serve the interest of the labouring class and bring about any positive and perceptible changes in the labour market? The major objectives of this paper are to address these issues. The paper notes that there has been a surge in the incidence of unemployment of the labour force, informalisation of the formally employed workforce and decline in the share of workers' wages compared to the share of profit in gross value added in the post-reforms India. The paper does not paint an optimistic picture for India's labour force after the launching of labour reforms in the economy.

Keywords

India; labour reforms; labour market; structural changes; informalisation; precarious work; primitive accumulation

Introduction

According to the pro-reformists, one of the major reasons for the persistence of slow economic growth and thereby slow structural transformation in any economy is the adoption of socialist leaning economic policy persistently by any state. If the state in question adopts the neoliberal economic policy, not only the state will record comparatively faster growth but will also witness faster structural changes. The basic idea behind this thesis is that the free play of market forces results in efficient allocation of resources, which promotes competitiveness and thereby boost production and growth. On the other hand, exerting control and regulation on the market by the state leads to deviation from fuller and efficient employment of resources resulting into less than optimal growth and thereby slow structural transformation in the economy. In essence, neoliberal theology asserts that unregulated markets are the most efficient mechanism possible for allocating resources and optimising outcomes for any state's economies, organisations and individual workers. As a corollary to the above arguments, the neoliberalists argue that for those states having higher incidence of unemployment and workers in informal employment, the state should create an enabling environment for the growth of private investments, because a liberalized economic environment facilitates the growth of industries in the

ETHICS IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION: THE CASE OF POLAND

Jacek Czaputowicz and Tomasz Potkanski

The transformation of the socio-economic system initiated in Poland after 1989 laid the foundations for democracy as well as for an effective and efficient economy. The transformation also gave rise to challenges and threats related to corruption. This paper analyzes the case of Poland, as an example of a Central Eastern European country, in terms of the compliance of its legal and organizational anti-corruption framework with the standards developed by international organizations. The paper presents measures undertaken by central and local governments in the aim of implementing these standards in Poland. The conclusion is that, in general, Poland has indeed managed to introduce anti-corruption instruments in line with those standards. However, despite the number of positive trends demonstrated by the Transparency International Corruption Index, both the fight against corruption and the implementation of ethical standards are far from satisfactory.

Keywords

Ethics in public administration, integrity, anti-corruption policy, Poland

Introduction

During Poland's communist era, public administration was politicized, sectoral, and characterized by low mobility. Politically dependant officials were susceptible to corruption defined as the abuse of public power for private gain. Political loyalty was of primary importance when it came to prospects for promotion. There were no clear legal regulations concerning public service, whether in terms of values or practice. In particular, there were no clear rules concerning the recruitment, promotion, training, and improvement of professional skills. As the expansion of communist political power was accompanied by a shortage of all types of goods and services, it was all the easier for those in power to buy political loyalty and obtain personal benefits (Bossaert, Demmke, 2003; Czaputowicz, 2005).

The transformation of the socio-economic system initiated in Poland after 1989 laid the foundations for democracy as well as for an effective and efficient economy. Poland, just like other countries of Central Eastern Europe, launched reforms affecting the economy and politics, but also public administration and the civil service, as well. At the same time, the threat of corruption reared its head. For this reason the reforms of public administration involved the implementation of ethical principles for public officials to follow (Czaputowicz, 2003).

The objective of this paper is to analyze the compliance of ethical regulations in Poland (i.e., a country representative of the region of Central Eastern Europe) with the standards adopted by developed countries, as well as to assess the effectiveness of such regulations. The following research questions were raised:

FOOD SECURITY ISSUES IN INDIA: A PRACTITIONER'S PERSPECTIVE

R M Deshpande



Issue of food security has taken a centre stage for the Government and with an ever increasing demand for food by a growing population in India things have become very crucial. Availability of fertilizers has become a key to improve food production. In this context, can you please elaborate on the adequacy of current food security bill as well as the fertilizer policy of Gol and does it have the inbuilt mechanism for meeting the requirements? What are the key challenges and what are the suggestions for a way forward in short term and long term?

The National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) passed by Parliament received the assent of President of India on 10th September, 2013. An Act to provide for food and nutritional security in human life cycle approach, by ensuring access to adequate quantity of quality food at affordable prices to people to live a life with dignity.

Food security means the supply of entitled quantity of food grains. Food grains means rice, wheat and coarse grains. Entitlement is five kilo grams of food grains per person per month at subsidized prices. Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) i.e bottom line strata of below poverty line (BPL) population shall get 35 Kg of food grain per household per month. Uniform prices of Rs.3/2/1 per Kg for rice/what/coarse grain will be applicable to all beneficiaries for 3 years of implementation of the Act and thereafter link the same suitably to Minimum Support Price (MSP). In addition there are provisions for free meals Anganwadi child from 6 months up to 6 years, free midday meal at school for child between 6 years and 14 years, assistance to pregnant women. In case of non availability of food grains there are provisions for food security allowance by Union / State Governments.

At the proposed coverage of entitlement total estimated annual food grains requirement is 612.3 lakh tonne and corresponding estimated food subsidy is about Rs.1,24,724 crores at 2013-14 costs. (Source – PIB – NCJ/RV).

Major Implication of National Food Security Act (NFSA)

High fiscal burden: Food Subsidy will costs above Rs. 1.25 lakhs crores per year but there is under provisioning. For example, budget allocation in Budget Estimates (BE) 2014-15 was Rs.1,15,000 which includes Rs. 88,000 crores was specifically provided for NFSA. BE 2014-15 were revised to Rs. 1,22,676 crores in Revised Estimates (RE). In the budget for financial year 2015-16, BE allocation for fertilizer subsidy is Rs.72,969 crores and food subsidy is Rs.1,24,419 crores, out of which Rs.64,919 crores towards implementation of NFSA. It may be seen that sufficient amount is not provided in the Union Budget for effective implementation of the Act.

IS THE ERA OF COALITIONAL GOVERNANCE OVER IN INDIA

Subhendu Ranjan Raj

A full majority government after 3 decades and after 7 successive elections which had resulted in hung parliaments and minority governments from 1989 to 2009 was formed by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in India's 2014 general election was greeted with much brouhaha. Many commentators and analysts have noted that majoritarian rule by single majority party was a welcome feature and is heralding a new chapter and that the persistence of coalition governments of the last three decades was now history. Is it? This paper presents a contrarian perspective. It believes that coalitional politics may not ipso facto be construed as something regressive and may actually be representing a factuality that is inherent in the nature of federal politics. It makes a strong case that the change to majoritarian rule may be illusory because much of the coalitional paradigm is still very existent and can't be wished away. Identifying at least three factors apart from the current electoral strength of regional parties which remains the same even in post 2014 elections a strong case is made by the author that coalitionalism is inherent in the Indian setting and that the paradigm of power-sharing and federalization in Indian politics demands some form of coalitional give and take. It will remain critical in the near future and even beyond. It also mulls that additionally, appropriate economic policies and their performance outcomes and strong leadership will have significance in an increasingly globalization paradigm of governance and whichever form – either majoritarianism or coalitionalism – delivers results to Indian public will become the governing leitmotif of governance.

Keywords

Federal Politics, Coalition politics, Public policy, Governance, Power sharing, Leadership, Globalization, Economic Growth, Performance

Introduction

Ever since the May 2014 elections threw up a majoritarian mandate of overwhelming majority for one party there have been talk regarding the end of the era of coalitions. It is felt that full majority government formation is now an indication of the return to the status quo in the Indian political and governance firmament as it was in the days of yore. Is this true? Can it be said that the coalitional era of tortuous power sharing model of government formation, policy making and governance over in the Indian context.

This poser has been dealt with in this paper. A legion of commentators on the Indian political firmament, even academics, endless critics, print median and television news channel editors etc have written off the coalition era from Indian politics basking in the glow of Modi-nomics and bravado over BJP's continuing nation level successes in the Lok Sabha elections and in a handful of State elections in

STATUS OF E-GOVERNANCE IN INDIA

Kawaljeet Kaur and Neena

Over the past decade, many e-governance initiatives have been taken up by the government in the country at the National, State, District and even Block levels. The focus of this paper is at the current status of National e-Governance Plan in India. National e-Governance Plan (NeGP) comprises of 27 Mission Mode Projects approved on May 18, 2006. In the year 2011, 4 new projects - Health, Education, Public Distribution System and Posts had been introduced and now the number has increased to 31. But United Nations E-Government Survey 2012 shows that India ranks 125 among 190 countries for which a composite E-government Readiness Index has been calculated. This shows that there are many obstacles in e-governance in India including large population, illiteracy, lack of ICT infrastructure and huge geographical variations. The paper reviews major e-governance initiatives at central and state levels and examines their performance. The study also highlights major challenges to successful implementation of e-governance.

Keywords

E-Governance, National e-Governance Plan, Projects, Stages.

Introduction

The advancement in Information and Communication Technology (ICT) has affected our interaction with people, businesses and more recently with governments. The Introduction of ICT's has changed the way governments interact with its citizens and has led to development of a worldwide phenomenon called e-government. E-government involves the use of the ICT to facilitate an efficient, speedy and transparent process of providing information to the public and to carry out administration activities. The modern Information Technology services like the internet, mobile communication, wireless devices and a mix of other technologies are used to implement e government solutions (Alhomod and Shafi:2012). E-Governance is broadly defined as an "application of Information Technology to the functioning of the Government". E-government is not simply a matter of giving government officials computers or automating old practices. E-government utilizes technology to accomplish reforms by fostering transparency, eliminating distance and other divides and empowering people to participate in the political processes (Hashmi and Darem: 2008).

The concept of e-governance has its origins in India during the seventies with a focus on development of in- house government applications in the areas of defence, economic monitoring, planning and the deployment of Information Technology to manage data for intensive functions related to elections, census, tax administration etc (Bhanti and Kumar:2012). Although e-government encompasses a wide range of activities and actors, three distinct sectors can be identified. These include Government-to-Government (G2G), Government-to-Business (G2B), Government-to-Citizen (G2C) services and Citizens-to-Government (C2G).

DRINKING WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE PRACTICES OF DALITS IN KARNATAKA

I. Maruthi and Pesala Busenna

Water is crucial resource for human beings, in their day-to-day life. People use water for drinking, cleaning vessels, washing clothes and houses. Many sources of drinking water are available in society. Hand washing with soap can reduce the incidence of diarrhoea. Improving water, sanitation and hygiene practice would improve the health status of all. The objective of the paper is to investigate the status of Drinking water, Sanitation and Hygiene practices in rural Dalit households in Karnataka. The study pertains to the Karnataka state. The study depends on primary survey. The sample respondents were drawn by using multistage random sampling technique. The study selected 12 villages and in each village 150 sample households were selected on random basis. Thus the total households selected are 1,800. The primary survey results reveal that a majority of the households' water source is PSP. And the majority of the people fetched water from different sources and travelled long distances. Sanitation is very important for an human being. Due to lack of own toilets in their houses concerned people are going to open defecation and due to this people are getting different types of diseases in their day-to-day life. Bathroom is one of the basic amenities for rural people. Our study shows that nearly half of the households do not have bathrooms and toilets in the studied area.

Keywords

Water, Sanitation, Hygiene, Discrimination, Rural Karnataka

Introduction

Water is of crucial importance for human beings in their day-to-day life. People use water for drinking, cleaning vessels, washing clothes and houses. Many sources of drinking water are available. Among the sources, piped water is better and gives safety and protection from contamination. The Government of India also suggested that piped water is better for drinking than water from streams. Many villages use piped water but interior villages still depend on streams and canals and other available sources. Chambers et al (2013) examined sanitation and its impact on health. According to the author the lack of sanitation and hygienic practices in rural India is resulting into sufferings for children from various health problems. Chambers et al (2013) focused on five 'A's which are: Availability; Access; Absorption; Antibodies; Allopathogens. The five attributes are very important for human beings. According to the author water, sanitation and hygiene practices are improving in India. Hand washing with soap can reduce the incidence of diarrhoea in children. Improving water, sanitation and hygiene practice would improve the health status of all. The objective of the paper is to investigate the status of Drinking water, Sanitation and Hygiene practices in rural Dalits households in Karnataka.

LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHTS AND GOVERNMENT BUDGETING IN INDIA: REVISITING PROCESSES, PRACTICES AND POTENTIAL CONSTRAINTS

Gyana Ranjan Panda

In the discourse of ensuring accountability in the policy institutions, legislature in any polity usually attains primacy. This is due to the fact that it reflects the stamps of representative democracy in policy making whose role in the larger discourse of policy cycle is never discounted. As the Country returns to single party rule after more than two decades of coalition parliamentary set-up, focus is now returned to strengthen the legislative control over budget business in a new setting. Parliament is entrusted with responsibility to ensure that the allocated resources in Budget should be prioritised as per the socio-economic demands of the country, with allocated budgets spent fully and asking executive why it is not fulfilling its budgetary proposals as approved by the supreme law-making body. Further several policy level questions are also posed pertaining to functional shifts of the opposition parties in the context of single-party governance in the country. What would be the role of opposition parties during budget sessions in discussing and debating sectoral budgets; and most importantly their role in strengthening oversight mechanisms in the Parliament? In view of the above raised questions, the paper attempts to discuss the system of legislative oversight mechanism in place and constraints in Indian context. Finally the paper intertwined the analysis with certain solutions to strengthen legislative oversight within the west-minister model of parliamentary democracy.

Keywords

Budgets, Legislative Oversight, Parliament in Policy-making

Context Setting: Analytical Framework of Legislative Oversight

Legislative oversight commonly refers to a set of activities that a legislature performs to evaluate the government's performance on a day-to-day basis. This is a process through which the accountability of the government or the executive to the people's representatives is fixed and restored. This process helps in extending legitimacy to the overall system of governance in a country. Accountability is ensured through certain oversight tools, identified by Shephard (2008:184) as parliamentary debate, question and oversight through committee hearings. Some such oversight tools can be broadly conceived as procedural while others are substantive in nature. Procedural oversight comes from various provisions of the constitution, business rules and processes as established by the legislative members themselves, whereas substantive oversight, fundamentally based on procedural oversight, draws heavily from the standard of many political or non-political debates and discussions pertaining to government policies and decisions on the floor of the legislature and in the off-camera committee meetings of parliament.

The importance of legislative oversight is paramount during the budget process. During this timeframe, it has an obligation on the part of the legislature to ensure that all revenue and spending measures