

From the Editor's Desk



Inequality, unfair and corrupt practices in Public Services. Non concern, even after reporting to higher authorities but for further harassment and humiliation to the core. Even the senior citizen with multi-organ defects over ageing are not spared. What is preached is never followed. Hence, how do sincere, honest people work as Social and Rights Activist, but for Gandhian ideals of PEACE and NON VIOLENCE keep digesting " Not seen, Not heard and no say of the happenings ". With the result, high inequality in public services of citizen's interest, by ill-conceived local police.

One potent criticism of the Indian growth story is that it has not generated corresponding improvements in social indicators. The new global ranking of countries based on their human development index (HDI) was released by the United Nations Development Programme on Monday. India has moved up six notches from 2009 to 2014. The data also shows that most of the current Indian ranking can be explained by the level of average income. The difference between India's gross national per capita income rank and HDI rank is four. In other words, India is just four places below what its average income predicts. But then, Bangladesh has an HDI ranking five places above its income ranking. Sri Lanka's HDI ranking is 29 places above its income ranking. This means that economic growth is still the best bet for improving living conditions-but that is not the whole story. HDI, as it is defined today, involves three parameters that directly increase human capabilities-a long and healthy life, knowledge, and a decent standard of living. The new Human Development Report (HDR) explores in detail one fundamental factor which increases or decreases human capability-work.

Implicit work like the contributions of homemakers and volunteers add significantly to human development, whereas explicit work which is underpaid or bonded may have negative repercussions. The work of overseas workers and their remittances have brought about human development to both the source and destination countries. In 2014, with \$70 billion (4% of GDP) India topped the list of developing nations which received remittances from abroad. The report takes special care to differentiate work from jobs. While work is not necessarily always rewarded, a job is work done for a predetermined payment. It is the divergence between the monetary evaluation of work and job that essentially divides the world, widening inequality. Between 1990 and 2015, income poverty in developing country regions fell by more than two-thirds. But during the same period, income inequality increased by 11%. High inequality in all three dimensions has cut India's HDI score by an estimated 28.6%. According to the report, the two groups of labour whose potential is not fully utilized are the youth and women. HDI is lower for women than men in all regions. The world youth-to-adult unemployment ratio is at a historical peak. The report takes special care to differentiate work from jobs. While work is not necessarily always rewarded, a job is work done for a predetermined payment. It is the divergence between the monetary evaluation of work and job that essentially divides the world, widening inequality. Between 1990 and 2015, income poverty in developing country regions fell by more than two-thirds. But during the same period, income inequality increased by 11%. High inequality in all three dimensions has cut India's HDI score by an estimated 28.6%.

According to the report, the two groups of labour whose potential is not fully utilized are the youth and women. HDI is lower for women than men in all regions. The world youth-to-adult unemployment ratio is at a historical peak. India has a lot of work to do here. India needs to address the three parameters of human development separately-and simultaneously. First, it cannot possibly envisage a long and healthy life without addressing the issue of malnutrition which is plaguing it, in one section of the society. The recent improvements in nutrition have been noteworthy but not so enough. Why should this vary from one state to the other of one nation. Good things of one another are not adopted to bring about a standard benchmark of quality. Second, in terms of knowledge, India needs to ensure access and quality through effective implementation of schemes such as Digital India and Skill India. Third, for a higher standard of living, it should ensure that work is quantitatively and qualitatively enhanced in the country. The country's efforts in terms of employment guarantee schemes have been lauded for its role in reducing unemployment. But it is by no means a long-term remedy. India needs to reform its rigid labour market governed by obsolete laws, address problems of child labour and forced labour, juvenile crimes dealt unrealistically, unreasonably to meet the changing times leaving lots of loopholes AND in bringing about wage equality. HDR 2015 has an agenda for decent work that rests on four pillars: employment creation and enterprise development; standards and rights at work; social protection and governance; and social dialogue. The formula is simple enough. Making use of it will be less so. Man-made disasters are more than natural disasters, if to look at it realistically, lacking timely corrective measures to avoid re-occurrences. It is the straight-forward and law abiding citizens that suffer unworthily.

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Behavioural Science: has become the usual term for psychological and economic research on human behaviour, often designed to explore people's biases and blunders. For that research, 2015 has been a banner year, with an unusually large number of important books. *Phishing for Phools*, by George Akerlof and Robert Shiller, is an instant classic. Akerlof and Shiller contend that free markets lead companies to "phish"-to exploit both the ignorance and the behavioural biases of "phools" (also known as human beings). One of their major contributions is to show that if we care about people's well-being, the invisible hand is often the problem, not the solution. That hand sometimes punishes companies that fail to take advantage of biases, such as the tendency to ignore fine print or to show unrealistic optimism. Akerlof and Shiller are well aware that the free market does a lot of good, but they demonstrate that it can reward businesses (such as mortgage providers, cigarette companies and sellers of high-calorie foods) when those companies really don't help their customers, but actually harm them.

Superforecasting, by Philip Tetlock and Dan Gardner, is the most important scientific study I have ever read on prediction. Tetlock's previous work revealed that with respect to politics, the economy and international affairs, many professional forecasters (including the experts you see on television) are essentially hopeless. Many of their predictions are no better than random guesses. But using a data set with tens of thousands of people, Tetlock and Gardner show that some identifiable people do demonstrate an ability to make accurate predictions. These superfore-casters tend to be knowledgeable and smart, but they are not just that. They also show a distinctive ability to break up problems into component parts. They don't believe in fate, they are comfortable with numbers and they understand the pitfalls of relying on their intuitions. One of the most constructive features of the book by Tetlock and Gardner is its demonstration that people can learn to make far better predictions than they now do.

Misbehaving: *The Making of Behavioral Economics*, by Richard Thaler, offers a bird's-eye view of the subject from the person most responsible for it. Full of hilarious anecdotes and descriptions of quirky personalities, Thaler's account also offers capsule summaries of the principal findings in behavioural economics, which typically resulted from studying human puzzles. Thaler shows that some of the best large-scale theories come from close observations of daily life. *The Witch of Lime Street*, by David Jaher, is a riveting account of one of the most dramatic contests in American history. In one corner: Mina Crandon, the most successful psychic of the 20th century, who was also beautiful and charming, and frequently featured on the front pages of leading newspapers. In the other: Harry Houdini, the greatest debunker of purported psychics, one of the most famous people in the world, and the man who could always find his way out of traps. Crandon managed to convince numerous sceptics-including prominent psychologists from Harvard and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology-that she was able to communicate with the dead. But she couldn't convince Houdini, to whom she also happened to be intensely attracted. (The feeling was mutual). Jaher's tale of the contest between Crandon and Houdini turns out to be a study of how beliefs get formed, how we see what we want to see and how people end up divided even when confronted with exactly the same evidence. If you are looking for a grandmaster of phishing, you would do well to start with Crandon-but Houdini was nobody's phool. Bloomberg. Cass R. Sunstein is a Bloomberg View columnist. These days, even a local police inspector (Mr. Riazuddin) abuses his little power in office, by fraudulently, illegally detaining overnight, senior-citizen, even though with multiorgan defects of ageing and dignified, qualified captains (master mariners), though alumni of reputed foreign universities and certified by U.K. Govt., by building up concocted stories to please some men, collecting huge some of money, as did in J6 Police Station of the Metropolitan City of Greater Chennai. Reporting to higher authorities do not work, but tries to hush up the matter, since corruption is rampant. "Speaks of the Law and Order and Coporate Social Responsibility" in the country. It is not out of place to mention here that many Master Mariners (Captains) are looted and killed in the region of ECR Road, Chennai, on account of cheap-rated Police Inspectors, who is bent upon amassing wealth, beyond known sources, this is an awakening to our vigilance and I.T. Officials, of our government. While these Mariner's welfare are neglected, by Government after 68 years of Indian Independence, despite their sacrificial life spending most of their sacrificial life-time out on the deep seas and oceans, a sacrificial life keeping the world trade active and while bringing foreign-exchange to their country of origin. They are hard-working, highly committed international professionals, who are little known by the local police, who exploit them. They work hard out on the deep seas and oceans and hence deserve the hard money they make. Merchant Navy forms the Second-Line of Defence to the nation they belong. Need for sensible up-gradation of policeman to higher grades as out of ignorance they cheat and treat them shabbily. The Police is to perform duty-consciously, for their real existence with discipline and honesty while serving in Home Department of our Government.

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