

## **INDIA'S FINANCIAL CRISIS AND MOUNTING PUBLIC DEBT—NEED TO RESTORE FISCAL BALANCE**

**B. P. MATHUR**

*Government has been financing its burgeoning public expenditure through fiscal deficits, which makes it vulnerable to economic and financial crisis. On an average, 35 per cent of public expenditure is met out of borrowed funds, bulk of which is on current consumption, as only one-third are used for income generating capital assets. This results in huge debt liability, with interest payments consuming more than one-third of revenue earned by the government. Government lacks the 'will' to raise taxes by taking hard and unpopular decisions. Tax revenue is financing only about 50 per cent of expenditure. There is no serious effort on the part of government to restrict public expenditure which is growing exponentially. Government's expenditure on salary and allowances of its employees has steeply increased as a result of Sixth Pay Commission award, which jumped from around 16 per cent to more than 25 per cent of its revenue earnings. There is also poor outcome of public expenditure due to outdated budgetary practices followed by government. Budgets should be approved for a three-year cycle and all unspent money should be allowed to be carried forward to the next year and the rule of lapse should be discarded. To put the economy on the path of prosperity, Government's foremost agenda should be freedom from crippling debt and restoring fiscal balance.*

## **ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS IN MANAGEMENT OF ELEMENTARY EDUCATION IN INDIA- IMPACT OF GLOBALISATION**

**R. S. TYAGI**

*Administration of school education in the recent years has witnessed a major transformation in its approaches, structures and functions. The emphasis has been on structural changes so as to make administration more responsive to the educational needs of the people at the grassroots. New dimensions are continuously, being added to the learning strategies and the educational management practices. Globalisation too has added new dimensions to the whole educational domain by underlining the need for reforms in educational system with particular emphasis on decentralisation and localisation of administration of education and emphasis on research and development. The article based on the inferences drawn from several contemporary research studies on administration of school education critically analyses how globalisation has impacted the reforms in educational administration and how administration is responding to the renewed thrust and*

*priorities, as envisaged in the National Policies on Education.*

## **PUBLIC POLICY AND SCIENCE OF ETHICS**

**SUDAMA SINGH**

*This article is concerned with the necessity of ethics and morality in social and public life. In this humble endeavour, ethics and morality have been explained and analysed on the basis of bio-evolutionary, socio-biological and cultural theories. The article thoroughly denies the normative abstraction of ethics and morality on the basis of subjective speculations as suggested in the traditional-classical and also in modern-philosophical theories. It attempts to objectify ethics and morality to a workable extent so that the utility of ethics and morality cannot be denied in social and public perspective all in the name of so abstract ideas that cannot be actualised. Finally the article concludes that it is our biology that leads us to accept ethics and morality as an objective referant in the context of social, political and general public life, since biologically we are designed so. Otherwise, even the survival of human being will come under question.*

## **EVALUATION AND GROWTH OF PRIVATE POLICING IN INDIA**

**ANUP SAHU**

*In today's society policing is conducted not just by those people commonly referred to as 'police' but by a host of private and non-government operatives. There is now a rapid trend of privatisation of police services. This is a trend which is changing the law enforcement landscape. Finding the state policing inadequate and ineffective, many individuals as well as establishments have gone to agencies for personal security problems. Moreover, as government has sought to withdraw from many areas of their traditional law and order functions, private bodies have assumed an important role. However, the phenomenon of private policing has raised some significant ethical and legal concerns. This article seeks to discuss and analyse 'private policing', an emerging trend in the era of dual law enforcement which is all set to expand with the ongoing changes in society and governance. Given the long standing neglect of private-policing the article is preliminary and exploratory. It aims not to exhaust a subject of study, but to begin one.*

## **ACCREDITATION OF HIGHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTES: A STUDY WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO INDIAN SCENARIO**

## **A. T. GAIKWAD AND R. V. KULKARNI**

*Quality enhancement through accrediting of the Institutes in higher education sector is the need of the education sector since quality awareness has been seen in the minds of stakeholders like parents, students, companies/employers and society at large. In the country higher education has become the important sector which shapes the academic career of the youth. In India NAAC, NBA and ISO are widely accepted accrediting agencies with number of Institutes going for accreditation. This trend is growing rapidly.*

*The awareness of quality in higher education has forced the Institutions to go for accreditation from different bodies. The accreditation has proved to be the measure of quality assurance and enhancement. The students community is asking grade of the Institute before taking admission in Institutes. The strict policies, scales, parameters to grade the Institutes is the challenge before these agencies. The main focus of this article is to study the procedure of the accreditation and their requirements. The parameters used to measure the quality and its application to the quality enhancement. The authors have done the extensive study on NAAC procedure for accreditation of the Institutes.*

## **INTENSITY OF CRIME AND POLICE EXPENDITURE IN DIFFERENT STATES OF INDIA (2000 - 2012)**

### **S. S. BAINS**

*Internal disturbances and high crime rates prove detrimental to the economic health of a nation. In the present times, the nations facing such problems are incurring huge public expenditure on maintaining defence and internal security. The present article is an attempt to examine the intensity of crime under various categories (IPC, SLL & Violent Crimes) and to develop a comparative study among crime and police expenditure in different states of India over a period of analysis (2000-2012) using Karl Pearson's coefficient of correlation. In India Police expenditure had a very high correlation with IPC crimes (to the extent of 0.940), whereas low correlation with Special and Local Laws (SLL) crimes (to the extent of 0.267) and negative correlation with violent crimes (to the extent of -0.225). The expenditure on police forces in India had been appropriately allocated among various standard heads of expenditure (SOE) as for the most part it is successful in controlling violent crime of heinous nature, which should be of highest priority of any police force.*

# **SOCIO-POLITICAL DYNAMICS OF INFORMATION SOCIETY**

**V. BIJUKUMAR**

*Information Technology is a double-edged sword and can be used for humanity with great caution and vigil. The proliferation of information helps the human kind and at the same time, it creates some adverse consequences for the society. The advent of Information Technology both strengthens and weakens democracy and politics. The growing instances of deideologisation and apolitical tendencies of elite is a great concern for the survival of democracy in the era of information society. Though information society brought qualitative changes in society, it was not able to distribute its benefits to the cross sections of the society.*

## **CITIZENSHIP AND COLLABORATION: NEW THRUSTS IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**

**KAZI S. M. KHASRUL ALAM QUDDUSI**

*In the broader context of governance intervention, humane governance, joined-up government, whole-of-government, democratic citizenship, empowered community, engaged citizens, organisational humanism, interpretive as well as critical analysis of bureaucracy and organisations, the diction shows a clear centripetal tendency towards a discourse that increasingly associates itself with a convergence that places citizens at the centre and their interests at the top. Discourse theory and post-modernism stressing the need for enhanced public dialogue reinforce the position of citizen as central in the whole scheme of things. This article is an attempt to furnish a review of recent and relevant developments in the field of governance and public administration with major emphasis on New Public Service and Collaborative Public Management, which advocate citizenship and collaboration for upholding citizens rights and ensuring better services.*

## **OPPOSITION IN A PARLIAMENTARY DEMOCRACY**

**J. ZAHLUNA**

*Modern democracies are representative in character. The essence of parliamentary democracy lies in the tolerance on the part of the majority as well as the minority. If democratic parliamentary institutions are to function, an effective and viable Opposition is an essential prerequisite. The importance of a strong opposition in a parliamentary democracy cannot be over emphasised. There can be no democratic government without an effective Opposition and that too has to be a strong and responsible one. It is an organised and effective Opposition that constantly keeps the government in checks. The Opposition criticises and exposes the lapses and acts of omission and commission of the government and offers alternatives. The functions of the Opposition are almost important as those of the government. The Opposition sharpens the government's policy by its criticism and prevents abuses by its "watchful eye".*

## **CHANGING PARADIGM OF PUBLIC SERVICES: THE EXPERIENCE OF KERALA RIGHT TO SERVICE**

**JAVA S. ANAND**

*Public systems in Kerala as elsewhere have been getting alienated from the people because of fall in quality of services from the Government. The environment of perceived inefficiency in government has been addressed through various reforms of which the recent one is the Kerala Right To Service Act. Kerala went for a 'big bang approach' while the other states adopted the 'phased approach'. Though the legislation guarantees efficacy in service delivery due to the provisions of timeliness, inbuilt grievance redress mechanism, transparency and accountability and the penal clause, the slow pace of implementation has hampered the desired outcome even after 18 months of implementation. The article discusses the issues in implementation and suggests the way forward.*

# **GOVERNANCE IN INDIA: A GENDER PERSPECTIVE**

**MIDATALA RANI**

*Empowerment of any section of a society is a myth until they are conferred equality before law. Empowerment is the power through which collective action is possible and the power to change fundamental inequalities. Status of women in governance is the degree of equality enjoyed by women in sharing power as well as decision-making. Notions of democracy, governance and state are often not gender neutral constructs but result of both historical factors and experiences. The concerns and problems of women transcend national boundaries. Political participation and representation of women has important implications for governance in any country. In this regard there have been several initiatives undertaken in different countries across the world. Apart from providing Constitutional safeguards, several policies, plans and programmes have been implemented for empowerment of women. Affirmative action for providing reservation for women to actively participate in governance has been provided. The present article is an attempt to trace the conceptual evolution of the position of women, efforts made at International level to empower women, political participation and representation of women at global level, initiatives towards women empowerment in India, reasons for low participation of women in politics. The article also traces the larger debate of need for a fair share for women in political participation.*

## **CENTRE-STATE FINANCIAL RELATIONS: HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES AND ISSUES\***

**NAND DHAMEJA AND RAKESH GUPTA**

*This article discusses the Centre-states financial relations and is divided into four parts. Division of financial powers between the Centre and states relating to levying of taxes and principles of such powers are presented in Part I. Part II deals with the finances of the Centre and the sources of revenues for the states. Provisions for the setting up of the Finance Commission for the devolution of funds from the Centre to the states and the allocation among the states are the subject matter of Part III. This section also presents the recommendations of the Finance Commissions relating to devolution of funds from the Centre to the states. Issues relating to such distribution of sources between the Centre and the states are addressed in the last section.*

# **JUDGEMENTS OF THE CENTRAL INFORMATION COMMISSION UNDER RTI ACT, 2005: A STUDY**

**JYOTI RATTAN**

*International and national reasons led to enactment of the Right to Information Act, 2005 in India. An informed citizenry and transparency of information, removing corruption and to hold Governments and their instrumentalities accountable for their actions are main objectives of RTI Act enacted in 2005. To achieve these objectives, the Public authorities are empowered to appoint Central and State PIOs to disclose information and to make this Act a reality. Significantly, only citizens of India are entitled to exercise their right under this Act. However, to enable aggrieved applicants to redress their grievances, the Act provides for establishment of two Commissions, i.e., the Central Information Commission (CIC) and the State Information Commissions (SICs). The author has made a humble attempt to analyse judgments of the CIC.*

## **ETHICAL AND AFFORDABLE HEALTHCARE IN INDIA**

**R. KUMAR**

*Public hospitals have become victims of apathy, absenteeism and corruption thus denying competent, compassionate and accessible healthcare to the citizen. In private hospitals, services are unaffordable, where even the rich have to pay through their nose by unnecessary interventions risking their lives. Now many members of society, including some doctors believe that corruption has crept into the holy precincts of 'this noble profession' viz. avoidable insertion of coronary stents, unnecessary and over-priced cataract surgery, uterus removal and caesareans and joint replacements has become increasingly common. There is a need to cut costs of procedures, medicines, devices and reduce investigations, giving precedence to clinical acumen. The healthcare can improve if the approach of the health workers is ethical and government makes adequate arrangements for affordable care in public hospitals. Government aided private family clinics or NGO clinics in every corner of the towns/villages can be another step in this direction to provide primary health care.*