Report/Monograph

ASEAN-India Connectivity Report: India Country Study
Published by Bookwell, New Delhi. 2012. xii+144 pages. ISBN 978-93-80574-37-0

Expansion of North East India’s Trade and Investment with Bangladesh and Myanmar: An Assessment of the Opportunities and Constraints

Trade and Investment Prospects of the IOR-ARC in the New Millennium: New Economic Frontiers of the Region

India’s FDI Inflows: Trends and Concepts
by K. S. Chalapati Rao and Biswajit Dhar
Published jointly by RIS and ISID, New Delhi, 2011.

Policy Briefs

#53 Reserve Management in Asia: Changing Contours and Challenges
In the present US dollar-dominated global reserve system, a skewed distribution of reserve currencies exacerbates global imbalances and acts as disincentive to global production. While the self-insurance view justifies a minimum level of reserve stock for economies those experienced crises and/or facing the risk of financial crises, a conscious strategy of reserve accumulation may perpetuate contractionary real economy effects. This prompts the global policymaking community to envision a holistic approach towards reserve management. (For further details, please see RIS Policy Brief#53)

#52 Public Health and Pharmaceutical Industry: Making the Indian Generic Pharmaceutical Industry Vibrant
While there are many factors influencing access to medicines, in India at least three factors are of critical importance. These are: (i) the nature of the pharmaceutical industry; (ii) the ability of the R&D system to respond to the challenge of disease burden; and (iii) the optimal pricing mechanism that can ensure medicines at affordable prices. Coupled with this is the overarching presence of a product patent regime in the pharmaceutical sector. (For further details, please see RIS Policy Brief#52)
A set of policy reforms have been
Though there is huge spectrum of
A set of policy reforms have been
#174 Productivity in the Era of Trade and Investment Liberalisation in India by Ram Upendra Das

Abstract: Over recent years India has witnessed wide-ranging economic reforms in her policies governing international trade and FDI flows. Consequently, both trade and FDI flows have risen dramatically since 1991. Using firm-level panel data this paper finds that significant productivity improvements have taken place in the period since 2000. The paper further explores the important determinants of productivity improvements across a range of different categories. As per the findings of the paper, some of the important determinants of productivity measured by total factor productivity (TFP) include imports of raw materials and capital goods, size of operation, quality of employment captured by wage rates and technology imports measured by royalty payments. It also emerges that R&D in organised manufacturing remains at a nascent stage possibly because of the inadequate emphasis this sphere has been given by the private sector. However, further exploration of this issue is required in order to draw any firm conclusions. Broadly, foreign firms have catered to the Indian domestic market and as a result India is yet to develop as an export platform. Finally, the import-export linkage is not shown to be significant in the sample of import-dependent firms. However, the paper emphasizes that the issue of productivity gains needs to be kept in a balanced perspective. Towards the end, the paper makes some broad policy suggestions in the realm of regional integration focusing on trade in goods and services, investment cooperation, R&D cooperation and human resource development in order to harness regional sources of demand impulses.

#173 Assessing Barriers to Trade in Services in India by Prabir De

Abstract: International trade in services has become more important in recent years as advances in technology have permitted new means of providing services across borders. Services have emerged as crucial economic activities in India, more prominently since the last decade. Apart from providing the bulk of employment and income in India, the services sector also serves as vital input for producing other goods and services. While a large part of India’s services sector is untapped and rarely explored to the international market, a growing number of barriers at the same time have been slowing down India’s international market access in the services sector. There is little doubt that services trade is an essential ingredient to economic growth. It is widely accepted that it can only make such positive contribution if appropriately liberalised and facilitated across countries. In this study, we have performed an empirical analysis of the linkages between India’s services trade flow and its probable barriers. The results of the analysis show that the linkages between services export and services trade barriers are multiple and complex. One of the findings of this paper suggests that improved trade facilitation may help unlock the unrealised trade potential, and, therefore, more effective policy approaches toward improved services trade infrastructure would be needed to facilitate services export from India. The study finds that recreating favourable domestic policies that are responsible for services trade facilitation and reforming domestic regulations in trade and infrastructure sectors need utmost attention.

Journals from RIS

- **South Asia Economic Journal**
  Vol. 13, Number 1, March 2012
  Contents: An Atypical Approach to Graduation from the LDC Category: The Case of Bangladesh by Debapriya Bhattacharya and Lisa Borgatti; All Foreign Direct Investment Is Local: Indian Provincial Politics and the Attraction of FDI by Travis G. Coan and Tadeusz Kugler; Twin Deficits or Distant Cousins? Evidence from India by Artatrina Ratha; Financial Liberalisation, Savings and the Banking Sector in Bangladesh by Syed Mansoob Murshed and Iftekhar Ahmed Robin; Measuring the Performance of Microfinancing Institutions: A New Approach by Gemunu Nanayakkara; Winner or Loser? A Post-Quota Case Study of Pakistan’s Textiles and Clothing Exports by Umair Hafeez Ghori; Book Reviews.

- **South Asia Economic Journal**
  Vol. 12, Number 2, September 2011
• **Asian Biotechnology and Development Review** Vol. 14, No.1, March 2012

• **Asian Biotechnology and Development Review** Vol. 13, No.3, November 2011
  Contents: Small Island Developing States of the Indian Ocean: Towards An Action Plan for Medicinal Plants by Ameenah Gurib-Fakim; Drugs and Phytomedicines in Indian Ocean and Madagascar: Issues in Research, Policy and Public Health by Philippe Rasoanairo; Biotechnology in Medicine in the 21st Century: Natural Medicine and Intellectual Property Rights by Tomasz Twardowski; Genetic Diversity in Mauritius and Antimicrobial Evaluation: Case Study of Lomatophyllum Species in the Mascarene Islands by J. Govinden-Soulange, S. Khogratry, M. Ranghoo-Sanmukhiya and H. Kodja; Antimicrobial Activity of Some Endemic Species of Albizia (FABACEAE) from Madagascar by Danielle A. Doll Rakoto, Clara Rajemiarimoheloisoa, Ranjana Randriaranivo, Delphin Ramamonjison, Christian Raheriniaina, Noelmarynira Raharisoa and Victor Jeannoda; Conservation and Management of Medicinal Plants: Experiences from Seychelles by D. Mataliken, L. Hoareau, M. Kante, J. Mougal, P. Rene, M. Rosalie, R. Spiro and F. Vidot; Traditional Roles and Future Prospects for Medicinal Plants in Health Care by Ameenah Gurib-Fakim; Status of Conservation of Native Medicinal Plants of Mauritius and Rodrigues by Vikash Tatayah; Medicinal Plants from Reunion Island by Emmanuelle Girard-Valenciennes, Isabelle Grondin and Jacqueline Smadj; Value Addition to Aromatic Plants in Comoros by Mohamed Said Hassani; Support to the Basic Sciences in Developing Countries: Importance of Scientific Networks; by Peter Sundin; Special IOR Forum Role and Recognition of Local and Indigenous Practitioners’ Knowledge: Perspective from Union des Comores by Ali Ahmed; Biodiversity and Traditional Knowledge in Reunion Island: Case of “Conpetition Zerbaz pen” by Hélène Patiama, Isabelle Duriez-Benefix, Stéphanie Brillant, Claude Marodon and Jean-Claude Pieribattesteti; Modelling Sustainable Valuation of Biodiversity in Madagascar: Case Study of Aromatic and Medicinal Plants by Séverine Blanchais; Perspectives: Regional Cooperation in Biodiversity and Biotechnology in Indian Ocean Rim: Challenges and Opportunities for IOR-ARC Countries by S. K. Mohanty.

**New Asia Monitor**

• New Asia Monitor. Vol. 8 No. 3, Vol. 9 No.1 January 2012
• New Asia Monitor. Vol. 8 Nos. 1 & 2, July 2011

**Contributions to Outside Publications by the RIS Faculty Members**

**Books**


De, Prabir (co-author) 2012. International Trade in Services in India Implications for Growth and Inequality in a Globalizing World. OUP, India.
Research Papers


De, Prabir. 2011. “ASEAN-India Connectivity: An Indian Perspective” in Fukunari Kimura and So Umezaki (eds.) ASEAN-India Connectivity: The Comprehensive Asia Development Plan Phase II, Economic Research Institute of ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), Jakarta, November.


**Popular columns**

Dhar, Biswajit. 2011. ‘Reinventing India’s FDI strategy’ *Mint*, 2 August.

Dhar, Biswajit. 2011. ‘Indo-Pak talks on economic co-operation; Small but important steps’ *The Economic Times*, 02 May.
Saran, Shyam. 2012. ‘India’s stake in Arctic cold war’ *The Hindu*, 1 February.
Saran, Shyam. 2011. ‘To Be Or Not To Be- Future Of Nuclear Power In India’ *Force*, December.


Saran, Shyam. 2011. 'China And Asia Monetary Union' *Business Standard*, 20 July.


