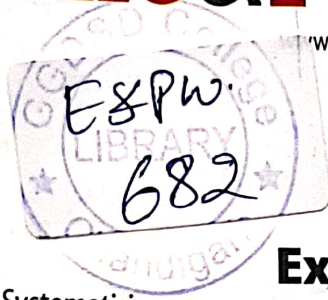


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Extrajudicial Deaths in India

The current legal framework has proven ineffective in holding officials accountable for extrajudicial deaths or ensuring thorough investigations, calling for its judicial review and rigorous enquiries by state governments into these egregious human rights violations. **page 60**

Champions of Literary Modernity

Michael Madhusudan Datta and Ralph Russell engage in a palimpsestic literary modernity project when they are referred to as champions of literary modernity in Bangla and Urdu. **page 31**

Trade Credit

Digitisation procedures, streamlining regulatory bottlenecks, integrating trade finance activities and regulators under a unified framework would help strengthen and expand trade finance activities in India. **page 19**

Divorce and Autonomy

The rise in divorce rates suggests that marriage, which has historically been upheld as a sacred obligation, is being assessed through values such as equality, personal dignity, and mutual respect. **page 37**

Maharashtra Public Security Act

The MSPSA is premised upon removing law's foundational protections, such as the definition of the crime, fairness in the process, proportionality in punishment, and available remedies. **page 14**

The Supreme Court's Three-year Practice Mandate

10 The 2025 ruling mandating a minimum of three years of legal practice for eligibility in the Subordinate Judicial Services Examination has reignited debates on the structure and accessibility of judicial recruitment in India. — *Shivika Goyal, Vandana Sharma & Sharanjit*

Designed for Control

14 The Maharashtra Special Public Security Act, 2024 codifies extensive powers to criminalise associations, evict communities, confiscate property, and declare organisations unlawful under the guise of public safety. — *S M Aamir Ali, Anuttama Ghose & Kshitij Naikade*

Trade Credit in India

19 India faces significant bottlenecks in building a healthy trade finance ecosystem amid a global environment in which growth in trade volume and shifting geopolitical dynamics have made trade finance critical. — *Rahul Nath Choudhury*

Can Fewer Schools Mean Better Education?

23 In rural and marginalised areas, school closures risk undermining equitable access, reframing the policy debate on school mergers and closures as one focusing on quality versus equality. — *Aysha Malik*

Kumar Shahani (1940–2024)

27 Kumar Shahani is one of the finest experimental film-makers of modern times. The synesthetic quality of his films seamlessly merged colour, dance and music, and silence and speech. — *Rama Kant Agnihotri*

The 'Failure' of Marriage or the Success of Autonomy?

37 The growing visibility of divorce is a marker of autonomy, especially for women resisting coercive conjugality. Reforms need to ensure predictability, security, and dignity in marital dissolution. — *Laksheeta Choudhary*

Predictive Power of Inflation Expectations in India

42 Business inflation expectations became more volatile post pandemic, reflecting macroeconomic uncertainty, while household expectations remained stable under the post-flexible inflation targeting regime. Empirical results show that households' expectations better explain consumer price index inflation. — *Nishant Singh, Bajrangi Lal Gupta*

Poverty and Deprivation among Slum Dwellers in Ludhiana

51 The incidence, intensity, and pattern of poverty are explored using survey data collected from 265 slum households in Ludhiana. While factors such as years of schooling and empowerment consistently affect poverty across both slum types, the effect of food security and birth registration varies by locality. — *Ayushee Gautam, H R Sharma*

Surveying Three Decades of Extrajudicial Deaths in India

60 A survey of data on extrajudicial deaths and an analysis of the voluminous case records of investigations show internal inconsistencies in records and glaring non-compliances with the existing legal framework which is inadequate to ensure accountability. — *Pranav Verma, Mangla Verma & Amrasha Singh*

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73 *Pallavi Pradhan* on *Suffragette* (2015) and the pursuit of rights; *Bhaswati Ghosh's* poem, "J K L M N;" *Akhil Katyal's* poem, "First word I learn in the Real Estate Dictionary of Mira Road;" and Last Lines by *Ponnappa*.

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