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An Economic Analysis of Wild Animal Management under Non-Consumptive Use

Yukichika Kawata

Abstract

A transition from consumptive use to non-consumptive use in wild animal use has been observed in some countries, and is expected to change the optimum population size and management strategy. Therefore, this paper supposes several cases and examines the effect of the decrease in consumptive use and increase in non-consumptive use on game animal management. The results are intuitive: as non-consumptive use increases, the optimum population size will increase. Further, non-consumptive use may result in the under-use problem and introduce a new type of externality. We also discuss the inappropriateness of protection-centric management.

Enlightenment through Education: The Case of the Children of Domestic Helps of Kolkata

Ruby Pal

Abstract

Education is a yardstick of development. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has included 'educational attainment index' in the measurement of development since 1990. If an economy's progress attains increased pace with improvement in educational attainment, one can expect the same for an individual or the society. A study was conducted on 270 female domestic helps of Kolkata, who were living close to or below the Poverty Line; they are usually less educated but are trying hard to educate their children hoping to bring them to the mainstream of economic activity and thereby improving their standard of living. Will they be successful in achieving what they dream of? The answer is sought in this study. It delves into the various intricacies of life of this section of unorganised labour market and then looks into the discrepancy, if any, between their hope and reality.

Approach to Knowledge – Contribution of Bhagavadgita and Its Relevance to Holistic Social Science Research

M V Nadkarni

Abstract

More than being an exposition of the Gita, this paper is an exercise in epistemology, drawing upon Indian intellectual traditions, particularly the Gita, without ignoring western traditions. Most of the training offered in social science research methodology, is focused on quantitative techniques of inductive method. Such analytical techniques suffer from serious inadequacy and are deprived of valuable insights, which can come from a holistic approach and from developing our intuitive capabilities. The Gita has some very interesting verses in support of this.

"When we see the wholeness of a thing from afar that is the true seeing; in the near view trivial details engage the mind and prevent us from seeing the whole, for our powers are limited".

— Rabindranath Tagore

Public Intervention for Food Security: The Case of Kerala Reshmy Nair

Abstract

The Public Distribution System (PDS) was introduced in virtually all the states of India, but Kerala's PDS was the one which evolved as the most efficient and effective measure of food security. The salient features of the model were its universal coverage, high levels of utilisation, physical access made possible through a vast network of retail outlets, rural bias and progressive utilisation of the system. The present paper reveals the near breakdown of the system in Kerala after the introduction of the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and points out its wide ramifications. The paper strongly advocates the immediate need to strengthen the institution of PDS in Kerala so as to effectively address the food security concerns of the poor households, improve the existing extremely low level of cereal and calorie consumption of the poor households, stabilise the open market prices of food grains, and sustain the high achievements of the state in the human development front.

Yield Gap Analysis in Cotton of Akola District

Sangita Warade, Rajendra Deshmukh, Vijay Tiwari and Shubhangi Alexander

Abstract

The primary data for this paper were collected from 100 farmers in the Akola district for the year 2005-06. The results revealed that the yield gap in cotton crop is declining over a long period of time with improvement in productivity. However, the gap is still very large at 8 quintals/hectare. Effective strategies and policies are needed to reduce this gap immediately and increase the productivity level, irrigated area etc and to maintain stable growth in cotton production.