Why Should We Care About Development Finance? ...because it's our money!

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US Federal Court Rules in Favour of IFC in Tata Mundra Case: Fishworkers and Farmers to Challenge Decision

The fishworkers and farmers of Mundra affected by the Tata Mundra Power project will challenge the ruling from a federal judge in the District of Columbia, United States, that the International Finance Corporation (IFC) – part of the World Bank Group – is immune to being sued for damages inflicted as the commercial activity was not carried on in the United States. IFC has been granted immunity by the courts in subject matter jurisdiction.

In a long legal battle for the Mundra Power project damages caused by the Coastal Gujarat Power Ltd (Tata Mundra) co-financed by IFC, which started in 2015, the community won a decision from the U.S. Supreme Court last year that the IFC does not have absolute immunity to all lawsuits. On Friday evening, United States District Judge John D. Bates again granted the IFC's motion to dismiss, finding that the IFC is immune under the facts of this case.


The analysis of the Economic Survey 2019–2020 is an attempt to help common people and activists understand the document, as well as the budget 2020 better. The Survey is rarely looked into in detail. However, to understand the government outlook on the economy, it is imperative to understand what is there.

Faultlines in the path of PSU privatisation

The Economic Survey for 2019–20, on page 158 in Chapter 7, puts it on record that “PSBs are clearly not efficient today.” This is the statement issued by the owner of these banks. If the argument is being offered as introspection, then it is fair enough. But it appears this argument is being advanced to prepare the ground for a new round of bank privatisation, which raises many questions.

Marie Antoinette’s Musings for Agriculture

Today, Parle-G biscuits or other variants manufactured by their competitors are almost conspicuous by their absence or by their presence only as a rare commodity. The bigger story that needs to be told is of falling incomes and distress of agricultural workers and peasants who are unable to buy biscuits like before.

Random Reflections: PMO, Finance Ministry and the Finance Mess

It’s a known fact that decisions of every Ministry are taken by the Prime Minister’s Office (PMO), which has officers responsible for each Ministry. For a population of 130 billion, one PMO, which earlier talked about minimum government, maximum governance, is proving to be a disaster.

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