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

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The Economy This Week!
As we sit in front of our devices and watch a humanitarian crisis unfold before our eyes, we have an urgent need to act. The impact on the global trade due to the sanctions on the banks shelling up in Russia has not ceased to be felt. So, we will push for the privatization of our assets and banks with the same urgency.

Are we prepared for the nuclear winter that's already on its way? Will we see a pandemic-like situation, or a more catastrophic war? What's going to hit the impact on women and the marginalized? As we all struggle with these questions, here is a small effort to outline this week's economy and finance.

- Team CFA

Should Corporates Own Banks?
In 1993 with the liberalization policy, the conditions implemented by the World Bank & IMF, banking was extended to private players. 143 applications were received from several people wanting to establish banks, from which 21 were accepted, while only 10 could finally start. These included the Times Bank by Bennett Coleman, Indus Ind Bank by the Hindujas, even out of these ten, four failed.

World Development Report 2022 released; Historic leak of Swiss banking, Credit Suisse in the eye of the storm
Amidst Russia’s revanchist war against Ukraine starting last week, there is lots of ink on the financial markets and the sequence will hit the global economy. The flurry of events has shattered the hopes of steady global economic recovery and have only increased the geopolitical tensions, laying a path for high inflation and supply chain bottlenecks.

Gender and Energy
While it is unclear how the national net-zero commitments will be achieved, and details of its implementation are awaited, what is worth noting is that none of these major commitments are grounded on making gender equality central to energy planning. Achieving such ambitious goals, without clear commitments for women’s participation, will only make it harder for these goals to be achieved.

National Monetization Pipeline: A Critical Evaluation
In August 2021, the NDA government unveiled its grand design to put chunks of the nation’s public assets on lease for private profits. The plan has been named the National Monetization Pipeline, the idea being, to lease or monetise infrastructural assets ranging from roads, railways, ports, telecom, gas, power and so on, to raise 6 lakh crore over the course of four years.

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