The Economy This Week!

The tussle between profit and people continues, with the war on one side and the economic assault on the people on the other. In a grim reminder, IMF has warned global economy fallout impact on the Indian economy while as per an ET survey, 75% of CEOs see moderate or no impact of war for the Indian economy. With destabilised global financial markets, surging prices of crude oil and commodities, capital outflows and currency depreciation, we have effectively reached times of global uncertainties.

- Team CFA

Tata gets a loan at 4.5%, but the poor pay over 26% for microfinance!

On 14th March 2022, RBI issued revised instructions for micro finance loans to the poor by Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) called Micro Finance Institutions (MFI). The draft has been criticised by several women's organisations over the proposed removal of ceiling on the interest rate and giving freedom to the boards of these institutions to decide the interest rate.

Read more.

Modi’s ‘Namak’ and the Politics of Welfarism

One of the striking factors in the BJP’s electoral win in the just concluded election in five states is the role welfarism played in overcoming anti-incumbency. Ground reports and political analysts have reported and commented on this. The post-poll survey of Lokniti-CSDS and the exit poll of Axis-My India – two very credible organisations in the domain – have also confirmed it.

Read more.

Oil Security or Oil Dependency?

Mr. Amit Bhandari, in his article “A sovereign wealth fund for oil security” published in the Financial Express on February 1, 2022 suggests that despite the push for renewable energy and electric vehicles, the world will still be dependent on oil, natural gas and coal to fulfil its energy requirements. He suggests that for India to secure its oil and gas supplies, it needs to invest in countries like the US, Canada and Australia.

Read more.

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