



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

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The Economy This Week!

Technology and regulation are making the [government's role in finance](#) explicit worldwide, but in India, the relationship between the government and the banks is even more clear, it is that of a master and slave. But no one has used financial institutions to benefit themselves like the present government, Mudra loans are a case in point.

On the other hand, the present representatives of the state despise “freebies” or actual benefits given to the poor majority for a little relief in their lives. They certainly have no problem with any largesse bestowed on the rich as “incentives.” This debate is actually taking us away from the ‘rights framework’ where we could genuinely talk about the need of the people. We need to quit seeing [welfare measures](#) as “irresponsible populism” if we were to really fulfil the duties of a democratic welfare state.

Meanwhile, 30 years have passed since the World Bank was forced to set up a permanent system to look into allegations against projects funded by it. What is happening with its inspection panel?

Looking for financial data, especially related to the accountability of financial institutions, can be tough. Our new initiative, Finance Data Corner, tracks project-specific financial information on infrastructure and energy projects. Stay tuned for more.

We also have some hirings, so don't forget to check out our jobs page!

Team CFA



Mudra Loans and the Dangers of Micro Finance

The Finance Minister has claimed that in the past eight years, the government has disbursed 41 crore Mudra Loans worth Rs.23 crores. This is not at all the government's money. These are the deposits of customers given as loans by banks. The PM has stated that they have created 8 crore new entrepreneurs through Mudra loans. [Read more.](#)

Investing in public well-being is not 'populism': Why the 'freebie' debate is flawed

Shortly after the Rajasthan government passed its Right to Health Act last month, economist Aravind Panagariya, who served as the first vice-chairperson of the government think tank Niti Aayog, launched a blistering critique against the state's “populist” policies. [Read More.](#)

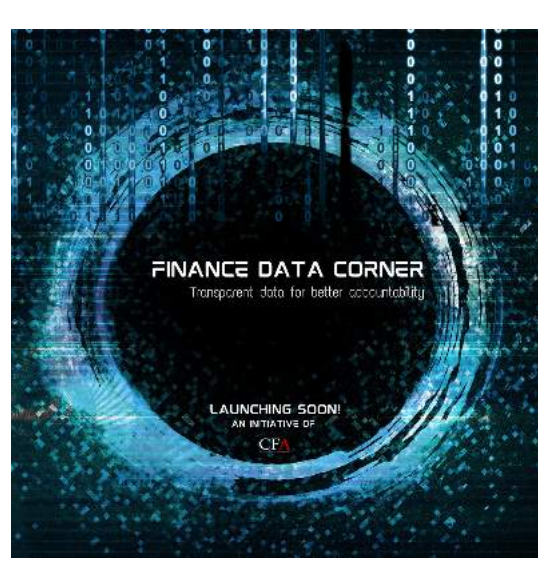


Paris aligned? | Publication

The World Bank's private sector arm, the International Finance Corporation (IFC), plays a significant role in influencing private financial flows. As the “largest global development institution focused on the private sector”, the IFC aims to advance economic development by investing in the private sector. This role could be crucial in global efforts to shift finance away from fossil fuels. [Read More.](#)

Finance Data Corner

Our new initiative, Finance Data Corner, tracks project-specific financial information on infrastructure & energy projects. Now you can access critical data to monitor investors/banks & demand accountability from them. Stay tuned for more!

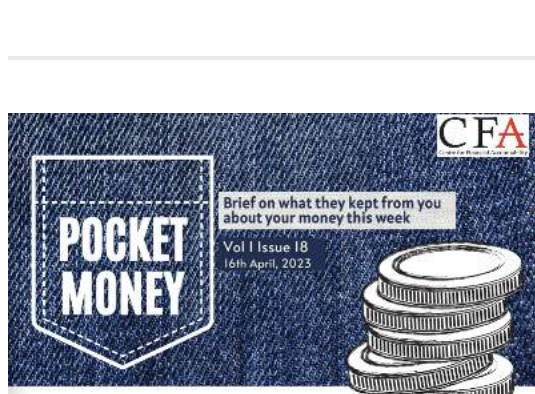
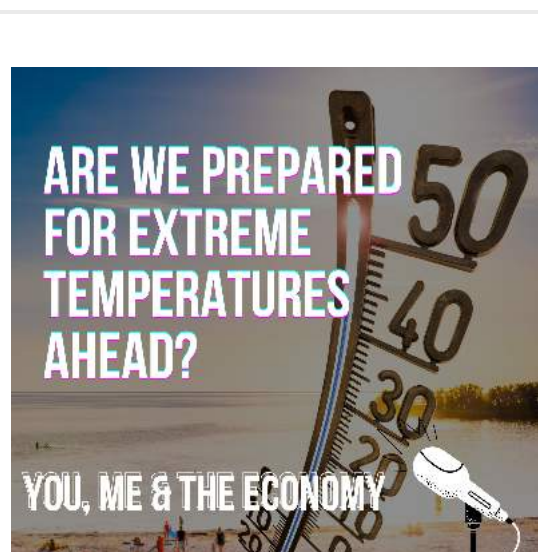


We're hiring a research assistant

Centre for Financial Accountability is inviting applications for the post of Research Assistant in Data Analysis. Read the job description and how to apply [here.](#)

Are we prepared for extreme temperatures ahead?| Podcast

We need to invest in a long-term strategy to mitigate the adverse effects of climate change that India is bound to be facing. [Listen Here.](#)



Pocket Money

Briefs on what they kept from you about your money this week. A weekly digest from the National Finance team. [Read more.](#)

01 Has poverty really gone down since the pandemic?
Amid claims of poverty having undergone a sharp decline since the pandemic, economists have attempted to confront such questions with some bites of reality. It is a difficult battle considering the propensity of the government to junk any piece of data that contradicts its hyperbole. The dismissal of the Consumption



Inspection panel of WB just an eyewash? THE MONEY TRAIL