



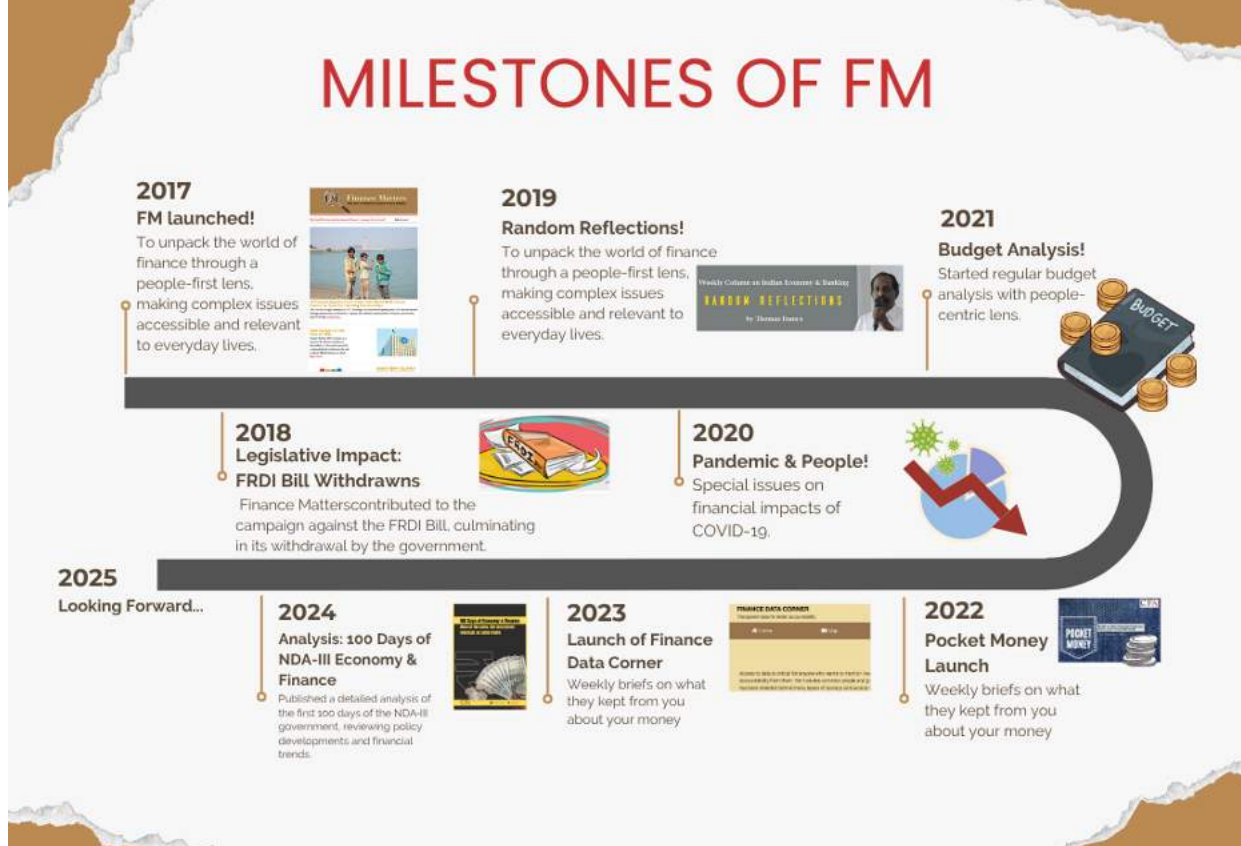
Finance Matters

News, Views & Perspectives on Financial Policies & Institutions

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

Volume 9, Issue 02, July 25, 2025

Finance Matters Turns 8: A Look Back and Ahead



Eight Years of Finance Matters: Still Counting!

We have always been wondering whether our work reaches beyond our bubble? We got an answer to that a year ago when the government gave us the ultimate 'shut up' award: FCRA cancellation! Because, you know, transparency must be threatening someone's nap time. But since silence isn't in our style guide, we just switched to yelling louder from the rooftops!

Eight years ago, a small newsletter called Finance Matters was launched with a simple idea: to demystify finance, empower citizens to question "Where's the money?" and prove that holding power to account doesn't require a PhD in boredom. Today, as we celebrate this milestone, we're still here, doing what we're supposed to—despite difficulties, uncertainties, and existential dread! The purpose of Finance Matters, brought to you by the Centre for Financial Accountability, was never to bore you with spreadsheets or bond yields. It was to pull back the curtain on the messy, murky world of money, power, and accountability. To ask the questions others either didn't want to or were too afraid to. Who's funding that new infrastructure project? What's making public banks and public institutions collapse so spectacularly? And why does the government keep pretending that financial transparency is optional?

Over the years, Finance Matters has tackled everything from corporate cronyism and impacts of demonetisation, non-performing assets of banks, analysing budgets to environmental destruction and displacement of communities funded by public money. It has dissected policies and called out hypocrisy!! It's the kind of newsletter that makes you both informed and slightly more cynical—no small feat! Whether it's tracking dodgy loans, exposing environmental violations, or simply translating complex financial jargon into something that doesn't put you to sleep, Finance Matters has kept the faith.

So here's to eight years of asking awkward questions, pissing off the wrong people, and somehow surviving despite all odds. If that's not a reason to raise a glass (or a well-worn copy of the Union Budget), we don't know what is.

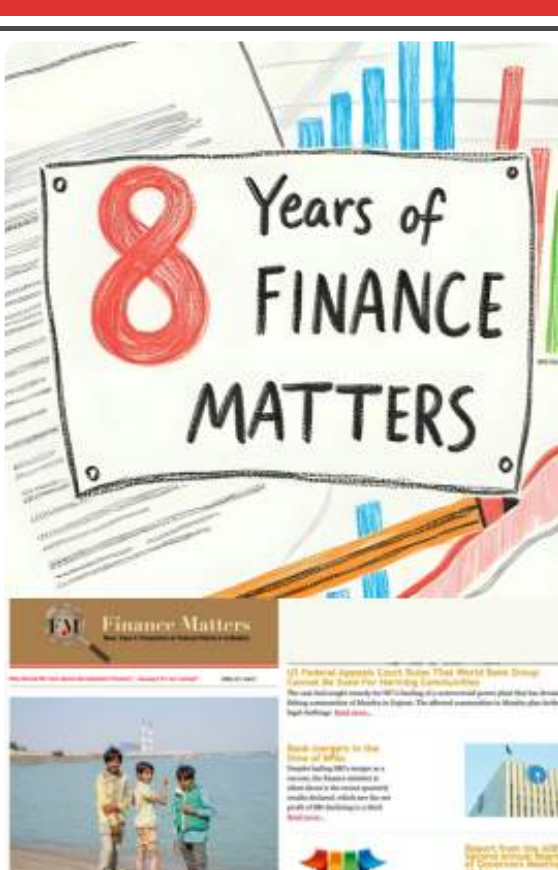
We could have done things better; we could have done more. Agreed. And that will be what we will be striving for, as we enter the 9th year.

We would not have done any of these without the community of well-wishers, supporters and fellow activists (we draw our inspiration to be crazy & stubborn from them!!). A big thank you to all of them. We are sure they will continue the voyage with us to new destinations and as we explore new adventures!!

Last, but never the least. While the black money in Swiss Bank is going up, our bank accounts are drying up! We could keep the fight going, resist the nefarious designs of the government and expose the corporations with the most potent weapon of all: your pocket change! If you are able to spare some, [please donate](#).

- Joe Athialy
Centre for Financial Accountability

We refuse to give up trying to demystify finance. We will continue to hold the government and financial institutions accountable for their economic policies and investments. Support us.

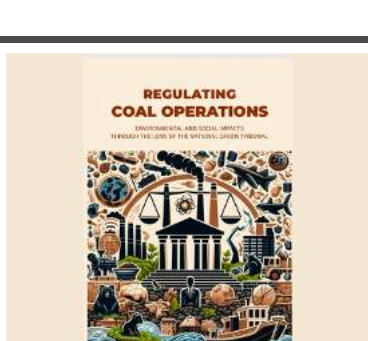


Eight Years of Finance Matters - A Matter of Pride - Salute to CFA Team - Present and Past

The 1st issue of Finance Matters was released on 1st July 2017 and had articles titled: Appointment of a new Indian ED at the World Bank raises a few questions, The Draconian FRDI Bill, 2017 will script death to the public sector banking, India's Ambitious New Energy Policy Draft Tries To Bridge Dreams And Reality, IndiaSpend's analysis of the projections made by India's new draft National Energy Policy (NEP), released by the government's think tank, Niti Aayog, in June 2017, GST to Increase Tax Burden for the Poor in India: Surajit Mazumdar [Read More](#).



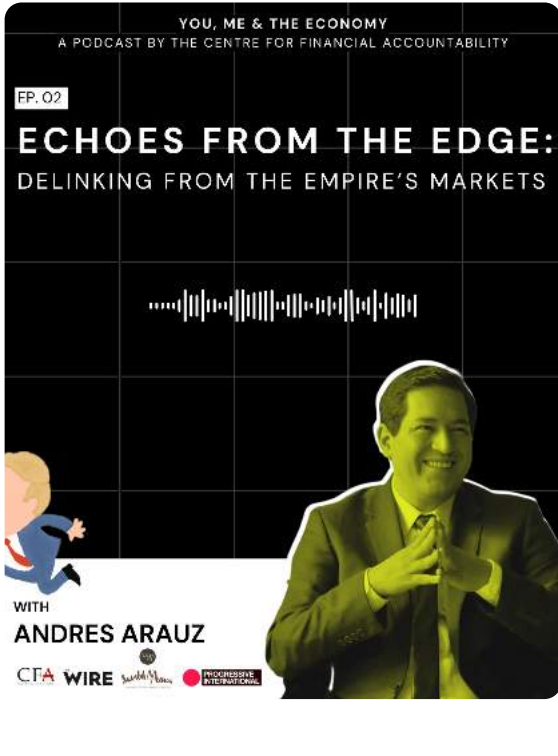
Article:
17th BRICS Summit: Bold words, blunt impact



Publication:
Regulating coal operations: Environmental and social impacts through the lens of NGT



Article:
आदिवासी महिलाओं को संपत्ति पर अधिकार का ऐतिहासिक फैसला



You, Me and the Economy I Podcast

ECHOES FROM THE EDGE: Delinking from the Empire's Markets

In this episode, Andrés Arauz unpacks how US trade policy—across Trump, Biden, and beyond—isn't madness, but a calculated revival of imperialism. From neo-Monroeism to corporate-led trade regimes, he critiques the system's deep inequalities and calls on the Global South to delink and build sovereign alternatives. [Read More](#).



FLIP BOOK: POCKET MONEY

Brief on what they kept from you about your money this week

A weekly In-Digest from the Centre for Financial

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