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Financial Development, Money, Public Expenditure and National Income in Nigeria

A Enisan Akinlo and O Olufisayo Akinlo

This paper examines the effects of financial development, money and public spending on national income in Nigeria. The results of the study, obtained using the Vector Error Correction model, show weak evidence for supply-leading view of financial development. In addition, the results provide some support for the McKinnon-Shaw repressionist proposition. Finally, there is no clear evidence to support monetary and fiscal policy effectiveness in the country. Based on these findings, the paper suggests that efforts should be geared towards the development of the financial sector, in particular, further deregulation of the sector. However, financial deregulation should be done in such a manner that the rate of interest is not allowed to be too high to discourage borrowing or too low to discourage saving and engender inefficient and unproductive investment.

Correlates of Rural Out-Migration in Southern Ethiopia

Nigatu Regassa and Ansha Yusufe

Ethiopia is experiencing a high population growth rate (about 2.6 per cent per annum) mainly as a result of a high fertility rate (Total Fertility Rate (TFR) of 5.9). Like in other developing nations, rural-urban migration is increasingly becoming a common phenomenon mainly as a direct response to environmental degradation and rural poverty. In this regard, some socio-economic and demographic correlates play a pivotal role in the out-migration of masses from villages.

The study is based on primary data collected from 1,258 households selected from four of the most populous districts (zone) of southern Ethiopia. The study has employed a multivariate analysis (logistic regression) to estimate the socio-economic correlates of out-migration in Southern Ethiopia. While the dependent variable of the study is “whether at least one household member out-migrated during the past 10 years or not”, about eight important independent variables were regressed against the response variable.

The rural out-migration in Southern Ethiopia is related to some non-economic and economic factors, among which are lack of land, food insecurity, household size pressure, educational and religious status.

Models of Measuring Targets and Results in Primary Education

G V Satya Sekhar

‘Primary Education’ in India is yet to reach its target. The target is to achieve universalisation of primary education. In other words, achievement of 100 per cent enrolment along with 100 per cent primary completion rate is the need of the hour. This study focuses on trends in the targets of primary education in India, in general, and in Andhra Pradesh, in particular. The main barriers for achieving the targets are a high dropout rate at the primary stage and stagnation.

But the impact of stagnation on the dropout rate is negligible because of automatic promotion to the next grade in the primary education system. The main reason for stagnation is absenteeism, which ultimately results in "dropouts". The target achievement lies in reducing the dropout rate at the primary stage and improving the literacy rate. Literacy and dropouts are two sides of the same coin. There are different methods to calculate the dropout rate.

In this regard, a comparative study of the Census data and results of the National Sample Survey (NSS) is necessary. Because of a variety of reasons, our education statistics are completely at variance with reality, as they overestimate the number of children in schools and underestimate the number of children out of school. Even the NSS data and the 2001 Census have their own limitations to reflect the reality. However, the Census data is being taken for the purpose of the present study.

The Debate about Development in India and Egypt

Nicholas S Hopkins

Debates about development include not only statements but also actions and programmes, and constitute a discourse that both derives from the past and shapes the response to the future. The debates in Egypt and India are contrasting, along the three dimensions of conflict, cooperation and consciousness or awareness. Using three different examples (dam construction, sugar production, and the role of consciousness), this paper compares the debates about development in these two different national traditions. The discourse about development includes opposition between sets of ideas. It is subject to change as anomalies emerge that no longer fit the categories of the debate.

Programmes of Poverty Alleviation: A Case of Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana in Maharashtra

Hemantha Kumar Ummiti, S P Ray and K Jayasree

This paper is based on a research study on factors affecting the implementation of Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY), which was carried out in Maharashtra during 2004-05. The survey results revealed that as a direct intervention programme, SGRY meets certain considerations in the choice of interventions with some success. These interventions are: providing maximum benefits for the target groups, causing minimum disincentives to participants, and ensuring cost effectiveness and minimum leakages. While SGRY satisfies the first two criteria, there is further scope to enhance both the requirements, particularly the second one, by making the scheme more attractive to women. As far as the third criterion is concerned, there is some cause for concern regarding the cost effectiveness of the scheme. There is a need to make it more cost effective and pass on the benefits to workers. As for the last benchmark, the programme ensures minimum leakages to a great extent by virtue of being self-targeting and non-discretionary.