

Institute for Governance, Policies and Politics

Monthly
Newsletter

August
2023



Director's Note

I am delighted to introduce the fourth issue of our monthly newsletter, a publication that aims to connect us on a deeper level and foster a stronger sense of community. This IGPP newsletter would serve as a round up of policy related developments and research every month, focused upon the Institute's core expertise. I invite you to embark on this exciting journey with us. Subscribe to our newsletter and be part of a community that believes in making a difference.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'Manish Tiwari'.

Manish Tiwari

Bharat Pravah

"Rivers and seas have deep connotations and connect with the social psyche, the 'janmanas' of Bharat". The purpose of Bharat Pravah is to highlight the significance and imagery of rivers-ports-shipping in everyday life. A new body of literature on the importance of ports, rivers, and shipping in daily life, and awareness amongst the common people would result from these events.

Blogs

River People in Assam

By - Darshana Bhardwaj

The name "Mising" originates from the words mi (man) and asi (water), and it is commonly used to refer to, "man of the water." A major ethnic group in northeast India, Mising Tribe also referred to as Miri, originally a hill tribe, inhabited the Miri Hills range between Siang and Subansiri districts of Arunachal Pradesh and migrated around the 13th or 14th century to the Brahmaputra valley from the eastern Himalayan mountains. Prior to the advent of Ahoms, they settled in the riverside areas of Brahmaputra and Subansiri. Assam is a melting pot of diverse multiethnicity and the traces of the beardless cheek, and broad shoulders speak about the Mising tribe's Tibeto-Burman ethnicity.

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The Brahmaputra River and the Historic Coolie Trade

By - Darshana Bhardwaj

Dr. Bhupen Hazarika's song inspired by the "Old Man River", by Paul Robson speaks of human sorrows and is symbolic of the river as a continuous witness of the cycles of both creation and destruction. Of the many sorrows, the river Brahmaputra has witnessed, the coolie trade is one dismal chapter, which relied upon the river for the transportation of poor workers.

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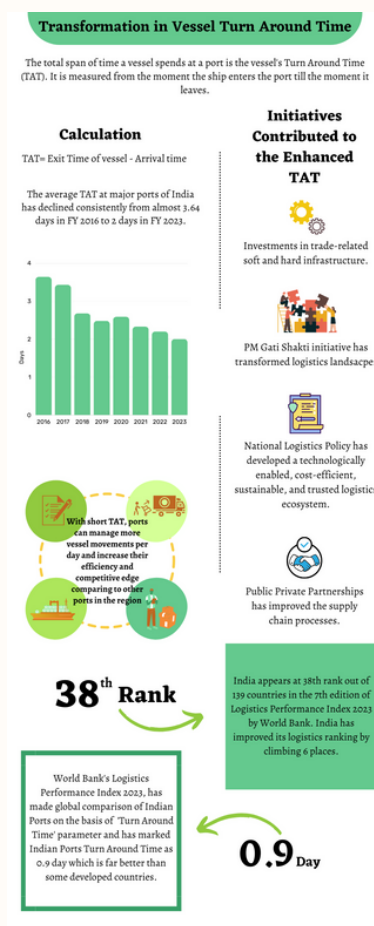
Infograph

Transformation in Vessel Turn Around Time

By- Simran Chopra

The constant demand and supply in the importing and exporting regions prevent sails from finding peace, placing a burden on ports and vessels. In this context, one common challenge they face is ensuring that ships can quickly unload and load their cargo and leave the port efficiently. The total span of time a vessel spends at a port is the vessel's turnaround time (TAT). It is measured from the moment the ship enters the port till the moment it leaves. In this regard, India appears at 38th rank out of 139 countries in the 7th edition of Logistics Performance Index (LPI 2023) by World Bank. India has improved its logistics ranking in the World Bank Logistics Performance Index by climbing 6 places.

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Podcast- India along its Rivers and Shores

The "India along its River and Shores" podcast, an initiative of Bharat Pravah, sets sail to explore India's history and culture along its magnificent rivers and seas.

Research Associate *Darshana Bhardwaj* hosts these podcasts which go live every Thursday and Saturday.



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"इंडिया अलॉग इट्स रिवर्ज एंड शोर्ज" पॉडकास्ट आपको भारत की नदियों और सागरों की विरासत और इतिहास के सफर पर ले चलेगा |

Ep 1. Legends of the Brahmaputra: Battle of Saraighat

Ep 1. अहोम राजवंश और ब्रह्मपुत्र नद की कहानी

Ep 2. Lauhitya bed full of gold

Ep 2. ब्रह्मपुत्र नद और स्वर्ण की अनोखी कहानी

Ep 3. "River people" of Assam

Ep 3. ब्रह्मपुत्र नद और "मिसिंग" जनजाति की अनोखी कहानी

[Listen Here](#)

Social Dimensions of Digital Ecosystems

The Hidden Struggle: Social Media's Impact On Women And The Of Age Digital Parenting

By- Ranjana Kushwaha

While scrolling Twitter I found this intriguing tweet from Dr. Sumitra Misra, an IAS, where she shared a leave application from a subordinate requesting child care leave for her daughter who is in 11th standard. Till now we had examples of women asking for maternity leave to take care of their new born babies, but social media is the new challenge to both motherhood and to women who want to pursue their career. In the letter the mother cited that she is requesting leave for her daughter saying, 'my daughter is pursuing 11th standard in science stream. She is wasting more time on social media and nobody is at home to take care of her.' Sounds strange, doesn't it?

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The THREAD of Misinformation and Online Hate Continues

By- Amrita Tiwari

The Threads app has been successful in garnering around 5 million followers in two days' time and it didn't come as a surprise to the digital users as the app has created a lot of hype and buzz in recent weeks. With another app in the digital ecosystem, the proliferation of misinformation and online hate has flared even more. According to a report, the Threads app, within 24 hours of its launch, was successful in spreading misinformation and online hate.

A user base of more than 70 million followers within a week's time has made Threads the most vulnerable app.

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Unattainable Beauty Ideals In The Age Of Social Media

By- Ranjana Kushwaha

A mother of a 14-year-old teenage girl showed concern for her daughter, saying that she was cheerful and friendly when she was a kid, but all changed when she started using a smartphone nearly two years ago, she began staying by herself. She avoids social gatherings and functions and always stays in the house. The intriguing question is how social media makes people less social and a product of 'virtual socialisation' in the digital age, where they no longer have face-to-face interactions with friends, relatives and other people.

The screen is the only way of community formation for teenagers, where they feel emotionally connected to people in the community.

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X Compliance Report-Accounts Promoting Inappropriate Content Banned

By- Amrita Tiwari

Twitter released its monthly compliance report as is mandatory for any platform having more than 5 million followers to do so. The report suggests that 11,32,228 accounts were banned in India between April 26 and May 24 for violating policy regulations. These accounts were majorly promoting child sexual exploitation and non-consensual nudity.

After Elon Musk took over X, formerly known as Twitter as the CEO in October 2022, he has banned 83% of accounts around the world for violating policy regulations as per the directives of the local government.

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Podcast

As an initiative to highlight and discuss various aspects and latest happenings of the digital ecosystem, IGPP has come up with a series of podcasts, *Unwiring Tech* and *Tech नीति*. These podcasts will cater to larger audiences and help them understand the issues and challenges of the digital world and what could be the probable solutions.

Policy Research Associate *Ranjana* and Research Associate *Amrita* are the hosts of these podcasts which go live every Monday and Wednesday.



Unwiring Tech is a platform where we delve into global digital issues and explore the 'why' behind each topic and incidents.

Tech नीति एक ऐसा पॉडकास्ट है जो सबको रूबरू कराता है डिजिटल दुनिया के तमाम घटनाओं से और परिचित कराता है उनके पीछे के क्या और क्यों से।

Ep 10. The Ill-Effects of Self-Diagnosis and Cyberchondria on Online Platforms

Ep 10. साइबरकॉन्ड्रिया और मानसिक स्वास्थ्य: डिजिटल युग में सेल्फ डायग्नोसिस के नुकसान

Ep 11. The Brighter Side of Social Media

Ep 11. सोशल मीडिया के सकारात्मक प्रभाव

Ep 12. The Effects of Online Gaming on Children

Ep 12. ऑनलाइन गेमिंग का बच्चों पर प्रभाव

Ep 13. Online Gaming and Its Impact on Brain

Ep 13. बच्चों के दिमाग पर ऑनलाइन गेमिंग का असर

Ep 14. Online Gaming: A Billion Dollar Industry

Ep 14. ऑनलाइन गेम्स: बिलियन डॉलर इंडस्ट्री

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#IGPPExpertTalks



[Click to watch](#)

Dr. Ranjana Kumari, Director, Centre for Social Research discusses with Ms. Heena Goswami, Editorial Consultant, Institute for Governance, Policies and Politics, the status of women in India, arenas where we have ushered in improvement and where we need to do better. Dr. Ranjana Kumari emphasizes that women can no longer stand just being part of the agenda but have to set the agenda themselves.

Dr. Sumedha Kushwaha, CEO- GPHI, Founder- ATTAC, India discusses with Ms. Heena Goswami, entrepreneurship in the healthcare sector, harmful effects of tobacco consumption and how the tobacco industry manages to bypass rules and regulations and how young entrepreneurs can make positive interventions.



[Click to watch](#)



[Click to watch](#)

Dr. Sajjan Kumar, Fellow, Prime Ministers Museum & Library, discusses with Ms. Heena Goswami, Editorial Consultant, Institute for Governance, Policies and Politics, the changing discourse of Dalit politics and identity in times of Hindutva politics. Dr. Sajjan explains how the discourse of Dalithood has changed from simply asking for self-respect to more aspirational and fragmented notions of identity and the masculine politics of new age Dalit leaders!



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About IGPP

Institute for Governance, Policies & Politics (IGPP) is a think tank initiative of the Vivek Manthana Foundation (VMF), that conducts in-depth research and analysis on the issues of public policy.

Mission

The Institute for Governance, Policies and Politics provides a setting where a group of researchers work on different issues and ideas which concern society. It helps shape the perspectives of policymakers, public authorities, enterprises and the government through integrated approaches.

Vision

Institute for Governance, Policies and Politics envisages to engage in efficient research to explore innovative and sustainable ideas. The Institute envisions to translate applied and basic research into a language that is understandable, reliable and accessible for policy makers and the public.

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