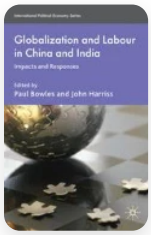
SPRINGER NATURE Link

Log in

Globalization, the Financial Crisis and Petty Commodity Production in India's Socially Regulated Informal Economy

Chapter

pp 131–150 | Cite this chapter



Globalization and Labour in China and India

Barbara Harriss-White

Part of the book series: International Political Economy Series ((IPES))

472 Accesses **15** Citations **30** Altmetric

Abstract

This chapter explores some theoretical and practical problems arising from the impact of liberalization/globalization and its latest crisis on India's informal economy — heavily populated by petty commodity producers and petty traders (henceforth pcp). Its theoretical focus is the distinctions between pcp and 'labour' more generally because it is now common practice theoretically to elide the two kinds of work.[2] Reviewing field material it focuses on two aspects of India's informal economy — the persistence of small firms and their regulation by social institutions rather than by the state. These social institutions express identity as well as class. The practical focus of this chapter is on the impact of globalization and the financial crisis on pcp in India.

Please see the version of this paper published in the*Global Labour Journal*, 1, 1 (2010): 151–76 for sincere acknowledgements.

This is a preview of subscription content, log in via an institution to check access.

Access this chapter

Log in via an institution

Subscribe and save

Springer+ from €37.37 /Month

- Starting from 10 chapters or articles per month
- Access and download chapters and articles from more than 300k books and 2,500 journals
- Cancel anytime

View plans

Buy Now

Chapter EUR 29.95
Price includes VAT (Poland)

- Available as PDF
- Read on any device
- Instant download
- Own it forever

Buy Chapter

eBook EUR 42.79
Price includes VAT (Poland)

- Available as EPUB and PDF
- Read on any device
- Instant download
- Own it forever

Buy eBook

Softcover Book EUR 53.49
Price includes VAT (Poland)

Hardcover Book EUR 53.49
Price includes VAT (Poland)

- Compact, lightweight edition
- Free shipping worldwide - view details

Buy Softcover Book →

- Durable hardcover edition
- Free shipping worldwide - view details

Buy Hardcover Book →

Tax calculation will be finalised at checkout

Purchases are for personal use only

Institutional subscriptions →

Preview

Unable to display preview. Download preview PDF.

Explore related subjects

Discover the latest articles, books and news in related subjects, suggested using machine learning.

Emerging Markets and Globalization | Globalization | Economic Sociology | Social Economy | International Political Economy' | Economic Aspects of Globalization | Informal Economy Dynamics in the Global South

References

Ackerman, F. (2008) 'The Economics of Collapsing Markets', *Real-world Economics Review*, 48: 279–90.

Alagh, Y. (2008) 'India and the World', plenary presentation to the conference 'Development, Freedom, Welfare', Cornell University and Institute of Human Development, New Delhi, December.

Asian Development Bank (ADB) (2009) *The Global Economic Crisis: Challenges*

for Developing Asia and ADB's Response, Manila: ADB.

Auer, P. and Jha, P. (2008) 'Labour Market Reforms in India: Barking Up the Wrong Tree?' Plenary paper, Indian Society for Labour Economics, Golden Jubilee Conference, Giri Institute, Lucknow.

Banaji, J. (1977)'Capitalist Domination and the Small Peasantry Deccan Districts in the Late 19th Century', *Economic and Political Weekly*, Special Number (August): 13 75–1404.

Bouchaud, J. P. (2008) 'Economics Needs a Scientific Revolution', *Real-world Economics Review*, 48: 291–2.

Breman, J. (2006) *The Poverty Regime in Village India*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press.

Breman, J., Guerin, I. and Prakash, A. (eds) (2009) *India's Unfree Workforce: Old and New Practices of Labour Bondage*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press.

Chatterjee, B. (2008) 'Democracy and Economic Transformation in India', *Economic and Political Weekly*, 43, 16 (19 April).

Credit Lyonnais Securities Asia (CLSA) (2009) 'Asia-Pacific Market', *Triple: a Weekly Economic Commentary*, 3, 4: 1–9.

EPW Research Foundation (2009) 'Stimulus Packages Facing Institutional Constraints', *Economic and Political Weekly*, 44, 4: 23–9.

Ghose, A. K. (2008) 'Globalization and Employment in Developing Countries', *Indian Journal of Labour Economics*, 52, 4: 497–504.

Ghose, A. K., Majid, N. and Ernst, C. (2008) *The Global Employment Challenge*, Geneva: International Labour Office.

Ghosh, J. (2009) 'The Outcry is Muted but the Food Crisis is Getting Worse', *The Guardian*, 9 January, p. 34.

Gowan, P. (2009) 'Crisis in the Heartland', *New Left Review*, 55: 5–29.

Government of India (GoI) (2007) *Trend and Progress of Banking in India*, Reserve Bank of India, Mumbai.

Government of India (GoI) (2008a) *Financial Sector Reforms*, Planning Commission, New Delhi.

Government of India (GoI) (2008b) Memorandum on the Financial Crisis, Ministry of Finance.

Government of India (GoI) (2009) *Report on Effect of Economic Slowdown on Employment in India*, Ministry of Labour and Employment, Labour Bureau, Chandigarh.

Harriss-White, B. (2003) *India Working: Essays on Society and Economy*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Harriss-White, B. (Forthcoming) 'Work and Well-being in Informal Economies: the Regulative Roles of Institutions of Identity and the State', *World Development*.

Harriss-White, B. and Sinha, A. (2007a) 'Introduction', in B. Harriss-White and A. Sinha (eds), *Trade Liberalisation and India's Informal Economy*, New Delhi:

Oxford University Press, pp. 1–14.

Harriss-White, B. and Sinha, A. (eds) (2007b) *Trade Liberalisation and India's Informal Economy*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press.

Harriss-White, B., Mishra, D. and Upadhyay, V. (2009) 'Institutional Diversity and Capitalist Transition: the Political Economy of Agrarian Change in Arunachal Pradesh', *Journal ofAgrarian Change*, 9, 4: 230–66.

Harriss-White, B., Prakash, A. and Mishra, D. (2010) 'Globalization, Economic Citizenship and India's Inclusive Developmentalism', Workshop on Citizenship, Heidelberg University, South Asia Institute.

Holland, S. (2009) 'The World after Keynes', *Red Pepper*, 163: 22–4.

Huws, U. (2003) *The Making of the Cybertariat*, London: Merlin.

Huws, U. (2007) 'The Emergence of Emergence: the Challenge of Designed New Research on the New International Division of Labour', *Work Organization, Labour and Globalization*, 1, 2: 20–35.

Huws, U. and Dahlmann, S. (2007) 'Global Restructuring of Value Chains and Class Issues', *Proceedings of the ISA Conference: Work and Employment: New Challenges*, Montreal, August.

International Labour Organization (ILO) (2009) *Global Employment Trends*, Geneva: International Labour Office.

Jhabvala, R. and Kanbur, R. (2004) Globalization and Economic Reform as Seen from the Ground: SEWA's Experience in India, in K. Basu (ed.), *India's Emerging*

Economy: Performance and Prospects in the 1990s and Beyond, Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, pp. 293–312.

Kannan, K. P. (2008) 'Dualism, Informality and Social Inequality', Presidential Address, Indian Society for Labour Economics, Golden Jubilee Conference, Giri Institute, Lucknow.

Kapadia, K. (1999) 'Gender Ideology and the Formation of Rural Industrial Classes in S. India Today', *Contributions to Indian Sociology*, 33, 1–2: 329–52.

Kaplinsky, R. and Morris, M. (2000) *A Handbook for Value Chain Research*, IDRC/Institute of Development Studies, Sussex.

Kumar, A. (2005) *Black Economy in India*, New Delhi: Pengu in Books.

Lerche, J. (2010) 'From "Rural Labour" to "Classes of Labour": Class Fragmentation, Caste and Class Struggle at the Bottom of the Indian Labour Hierarchy', in B. Harriss-White and J. Heyer (eds), *The Comparative Political Economy of Development: Africa and South Asia*, Oxford and New York: Routledge, pp. 64–85.

Mezzadri, A. (2008) 'The Rise of Neoliberal Globalization and the "New-Old" Social Regulation of Labour: a Case of the Delhi Garment Sector', *Indian Journal of Labour Economics*, 52, 4: 603–18.

Nath, G. B. (2008) 'Globalization and Growth of Precarious Jobs in the Indian Labour Market: Implication for Economic Policy', *Indian Journal of Labour Economics*, 52, 4: 533–44.

National Commission for Enterprises in the Unorganized Sector (NCEUS) (2006) *Social Security for Marginalised Workers*, New Delhi: NCEUS.

National Commission for Enterprises in the Unorganized Sector (NCEUS) (2008) *The Global Economic Crisis and the Informal Economy in India: Need for Urgent Measures and Fiscal Stimulus to Protect Incomes in the Informal Economy*, New Delhi: NCEUS.

National Commission for Enterprises in the Unorganized Sector (NCEUS) (2009) *Growth Pole Programme for Unorganised Sector Enterprise Development*, New Delhi: NCEUS.

Neethi, P. (2008) 'Contract Work in the Organised Manufacturing Sector: a Disaggregated Analysis of Trends and their Implications', *Indian Journal of Labour Economics*, 52, 4: 559–74.

Patnaik, U. (2007) *The Republic of Hunger and Other Essays*, London: Merlin.

Roman, C. (2008) 'Learning and Innovation in Clusters: Case Studies from the Indian Silk Industry', DPhil thesis, Oxford University.

Roy, R. (1996) 'State Failure: Political-Fiscal Implications of the Black Economy', *IDS Bulletin*, 27, 2: 22–31.

Ruthven, O. (2008) 'Value and Values in a North Indian Value Chain', unpublished DPhil thesis, Oxford University.

Sardar, S. I. (2008) 'The Indian Experience of Globalization: an Overview', *Regional Studies*, 26, 3: 83–110.

Singh, N. and Sapra, M. K. (2007) 'Liberalisation in Trade and Finance: India's Garment Sector', in B. Harriss-White and A. Sinha (eds), *Trade Liberalisation and*

India's Informal Economy, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 42–127.

Sinha, A. and Adam, C. (2007) 'Modelling the Informal Economy in India: an Analysis of Trade Reforms', in B. Harriss-White and A. Sinha (eds), *Trade Liberalisation and India's Informal Economy*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 307–64.

Sinha, A., Sangeeta, N. and Siddiqui, K. (1999) 'The Impact of Alternative Policies on the Economy with Special Reference to the Informal Sector: a Multisectoral Study', National Council for Applied Economic Research, New Delhi.

Soros, G. (2008) 'The Crisis and What to Do About It', *Real-world Economics Review*, 48: 312–18.

Unni, J. (2008) 'Women Workers in the New Economy', *Indian Journal of Labour Economics*, 52, 4: 657–74.

Vijay, G. (2008) 'De-fragmenting Approaches to the Global Disintegration of Value Creation: From Value Chains to Value Cycles', Department of Economics, University of Hyderabad, gudavarthyvijay@hotmail.com.

Women in the Informal Economy Globalizing and Organizing (WIEGO) (2009) 'Impact of the Global Recession on the Working Poor in the Informal Economy', http://wiego.org/about_ie/ie_news/EconomicCrises2009.php accessed 11 June 2009.

Editor information

Editors and Affiliations

University of Northern British, Columbia, Canada

Paul Bowles (Professor of Economics and International Studies) (Professor of Economics and International Studies)

School for International Studies, Simon Fraser University, Canada
John Harriss (Director) (Director)

Copyright information

© 2010 Palgrave Macmillan, a division of Macmillan Publishers Limited

About this chapter

Cite this chapter

Harriss-White, B. (2010). Globalization, the Financial Crisis and Petty Commodity Production in India's Socially Regulated Informal Economy. In: Bowles, P., Harriss, J. (eds) Globalization and Labour in China and India. International Political Economy Series. Palgrave Macmillan, London. https://doi.org/10.1057/9780230297296_7

.RIS .ENW .BIB

DOI	Publisher Name	Print ISBN
https://doi.org/10.1057/9780230297296_7	Palgrave Macmillan, London	978-1-349-31183-5

Online ISBN	eBook Packages
978-0-230-29729-6	Palgrave Political & Intern. Studies Collection Political Science and International Studies (R0)

Keywords

Foreign Direct Investment | Informal Sector | Trade Liberalisation | International Labour Organization | Informal Economy

These keywords were added by machine and not by the authors. This process is experimental and the keywords may be updated as the learning algorithm improves.

Publish with us

Policies and ethics

Search

Search by keyword or author

Navigation

Find a journal

Publish with us

Track your research