We live in an increasingly prosperous world, yet the estimated number of undernourished people has risen, and will continue to rise with the doubling of food prices. A large majority of those affected are living in India. Why have strategies to combat hunger, especially in India, failed so badly? How did a nation that prides itself on booming economic growth come to have half of its preschool population undernourished? Using the case study of a World Bank nutrition project in India, this book takes on these questions and probes the issues surrounding development assistance, strategies to eliminate undernutrition, and how hunger should be fundamentally understood and addressed. Throughout the book, the underlying tension between choice and circumstance is explored. How much are individuals able to determine their life choices? How much should policy-makers take underlying social forces into account when designing policy? This book examines the possibilities and obstacles to eliminating child hunger. This book is not just about nutrition, it is an attempt to uncover the workings of power through a close look at the structures, discourses, and agencies through which nutrition policy operates. In this process, the source of nutrition policy in the World Bank is traced to those affected by the policies in India.
driving those behind them? Are their motivations religious or has Islam provided a language to express essentially political causes? How can the perpetrators remain so lucidly effective in the face of certain death? And do these disparate attacks have something like a common cause? It focuses on four main instances: the Kamikaze, missions carried out by the Tamil Tigers in the civil war in Sri Lanka, the Lebanese and Palestinian groups in the Middle East, and the al-Qaeda 9/11 attack on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. For more than two years, the authors have pursued an unprejudiced inquiry, investigating organizers and perpetrators alike of this extraordinary social phenomenon. Close comparisons between a whole range of cases raise challenging further questions: If suicide missions are so effective, why are they not more common? If killing is what matters, why not stick to ‘ordinary’ violent means? Or, if dying is what matters, why kill in the process?

Tamil Tigers, 1987–2002
Stephen Hopgood

in Making Sense of Suicide Missions

The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) have been fighting a war for the national liberation of Tamils living in the north and east of Sri Lanka since the early 1970s. This chapter addresses a series of questions concerning both organizational and individual motivations. Why were the Black Tigers formed? How and why have they been deployed? Why did the intensity of their use Xuctuate? Who becomes a Black Tiger? Why have they acquired such a powerful reputation? The first section gives a brief history of the conflict. The second looks at the Black Tigers in the context of the LTTE, the third at the Black Tigers as a unit, and the fourth at what little can be said about personal motivations. The chapter concludes with some conjectures about the Black Tigers at both the organizational and personal levels.

The View from the Community
Devi Sridhar

in The Battle Against Hunger: Choice, Circumstance, and the World Bank
This chapter presents findings on the impact of the Bank framework of women as ‘agents of change’ on the Bank's projects and the communities at which they are aimed, using TINP. It is a critical analysis of local understandings of TINP, specifically the tools of growth monitoring of preschool children, supplementary feeding, and health education for mothers. In addition, knowledge and practice of child care in Tamil Nadu and women's groups are discussed along with reflections on the main obstacles to addressing undernutrition in Tamil Nadu. The chapter examines the relative importance of choice and circumstance in explaining child hunger.

How Fighting Ends: Asymmetric Wars, Terrorism, and Suicide Bombing

Audrey Kurth Cronin

in How Fighting Ends: A History of Surrender

Published in print: 2012 Published Online: September 2012
Item type: chapter

In campaigns involving suicide terrorism, individual operatives and parent societies can rarely ‘surrender’ in the conventional wartime sense; however, terrorist organizations sometimes terminate their campaigns. The reasons why they do so are widely misunderstood. This overview begins with the Assassins and moves through the history of suicide terrorism. It explains the surprising findings of research done on hundreds of modern groups, with case studies on the Tamil Tigers (LTTE) and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict examined in greater depth. The conclusion discusses the unique challenges, especially for democracies, of compelling groups that use suicide terrorism to end their operations and surrender.

Sri Lanka

in Cutting the Fuse: The Explosion of Global Suicide Terrorism and How to Stop It

Published in print: 2010 Published Online: March 2013
Item type: chapter

This chapter examines the ebb and flow of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam's (LTTE) use of suicide terrorism over the course of the 26-year civil war in Sri Lanka that ended in 2009. It suggests that the use of suicide terrorism was triggered by the religious conflict between
the ethnic Tamil minority and the Sinhalese majority, which led to the emergence of a culture of martyrdom that sustains popular support for suicide terrorism. The chapter also discusses the three components of the Sri Lankan policy to end suicide terrorism and discusses its potential as a general model for ending suicide terrorism.

Hybridity, Imaginations, and Diasporic Otherness
Sanjay Chaturvedi

in International Relations Theory and South Asia: Security, Political Economy, Domestic Politics, Identities, and Images, Vol. 2

This chapter argues that International Relations (IR) theory is yet to systematically address the multifaceted phenomenon of ‘diaspora’ as well as the diverse factors and forces behind the transformation of historically contingent patterns of mobility and hybridity into diasporic otherness. Diasporas can be approached and analysed only through a theoretical hybrid of liberalism, constructivism, and critical geopolitics. The statist discourses on diaspora reflect in some cases the cartographic anxieties of de-territorializing states to re-territorialize the ‘nations’ they claim to represent against the backdrop of time-space compression caused by the forces of globalization. This is not to deny the varied feelings of longing and belonging on the part of various overseas communities, based at considerable distances from their respective homelands or motherlands or fatherlands. Such imaginative geographies of belonging, however, often described in terms of ‘long-distance’ nationalism, are not as rigid and territorialized as they are often assumed to be.

Indo-Sri Lanka Relations
Eswaran Sridharan

India’s relations with and policy towards Sri Lanka have been determined by geography, the legacy of British colonial rule, the relationship inherited from the colonial period, geopolitical alignments, economic
relations and personal relationships between the leaders. This chapter, an interpretative essay, analyses the evolution of India’s Sri Lanka policy and its drivers and argues that domestic politics has been the most significant factor in shaping Indian policy, but in a way that is different from most other analyses which share this conclusion. It is argued that the central government’s own sensitivity to the perceived requirements of national unity as the foundation of national security, and not only pressure from Tamil Nadu parties, explains the broadly Lankan Tamil-sympathetic policy stance since the July 1983 riots even by governments not critically dependent on Tamil Nadu parties, and that this attitude is rooted in India’s accommodative strategy of nation- and state-building.

Business and Politics
John Harriss and Andrew Wyatt

in Business and Politics in India
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Item type: chapter

The political economy of Tamil Nadu presents a puzzle: in spite of politics that are generally considered to be unhelpful to development, the state does relatively well in terms both of economic growth and of human development. The chapter argues that Tamil Nadu is neither a developmental nor a social democratic state, while having some of the features of both. It is, rather, characterized by Bonapartism. While the state has generally been supportive of big business, the relationship between the corporate sector and the political elite is distinctly “arm’s-length.” The power and influence of business groups has not “grown enormously,” as has been claimed elsewhere. Tamil politicians do not rely for financial resources on big business but have their own sources of finance, some of them in semilegal or illegal activities such as sand mining and granite quarrying.

Conclusion
Christophe Jaffrelot, Atul Kohli, and Kanta Murali

in Business and Politics in India
Published in print: 2019 Published Online: January 2019
Publisher: Oxford University Press
Item type: chapter
This conclusion follows the three main concerns of the volume: the power of business in India, business influence across issue areas, and cross-state variations. The chapters that address these respective concerns and their main contributions were already summarized in the introduction to this volume. This conclusion draws out some key themes that emerge when the chapters are either juxtaposed to each other or considered as a set. In particular, it addresses three broad questions: How do we assess the power of business in contemporary India? How is this power shift shaping democracy and development in India? Do insights from India travel to other countries?

Terms of Engagement
Mohan K. Tikku

in After the Fall: Sri Lanka in Victory and War
Published in print: 2016 Published Online: June 2016
DOI: 10.1093/acprof:oso/9780199463503.003.0003
Item type: chapter

This chapter examines how interactions between Sri Lankan government and the Tamil Tigers were flawed on either side even before Rajapakse was elected President. The programme for reconstruction and rehabilitation sanctioned by the donor countries remained frozen as there was little movement in the peace talks. Unresolved issues, such as the High Security Zones (HSZs), which affected many Tamil civilians in the north, introduced fresh complications into the discourse. The proposal for setting up an Interim Self-Governing Authority (ISGA) failed to take off as the LTTE raised the bar rather high. Or, that is how the government saw it. Moreover, fresh strains between President Kumaratunga and Prime Minister Ranil Wickremasinghe made it difficult to make any advance in the peace process. At that point, the LTTE were confident of playing on these contradictions.