

India Policy Forum 2010-11: Volume 7

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India Policy Forum is a joint venture of NCAER, the National Council of Applied Economic Research in New Delhi, and the Brookings Institution in Washington DC that aims to examine India's reforms and economic transition using policy-relevant empirical research. The objective of the IPF is to generate theoretically rigorous, empirically informed research on important current and unfolding issues of Indian economic policy. The first paper examines the services

sector in India, evaluating its growth and future prospects. The second paper looks at India's corporate sector, analyzing the profitability of firms in the wake of liberalization. The third paper explores the reasons for the large time and cost overruns that have been endemic to Indian infrastructure projects. The final two papers focus on more political issues, looking at the impact of political reservations used to increase women's political voice, as well as the politics of intergovernmental resources transfers. The volume would be useful to researchers and policy-makers in the fields of economics, policy studies, development studies, and political economy.

About the Author Suman Bery is Chief Economist, Shell International, based in The Hague, Netherlands. He assumed this position on 1 February 2012. Mr Bery served as Director-General (Chief Executive) of the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER), New Delhi, from January 2001 to March 2011. NCAER is one of India's leading independent policy research institutions. He then served as Country Director-India Central, the International Growth Centre (IGC). The IGC is a research initiative of UK Aid in partnership with the London School of Economics and the University of Oxford. In this capacity he was responsible for setting up the IGC's New Delhi office in partnership with the Indian Statistical Institute's Delhi centre. Prior to NCAER, Mr Bery was with the World Bank in Washington, D.C. From 1992 to 1994, on leave from the World Bank, Mr Bery worked as Special Consultant to the Reserve Bank of India, Bombay, where he advised the Governor and Deputy Governors on financial sector policy, institutional reform, and market development and regulation. Mr Bery completed his undergraduate work at Magdalen College, University of Oxford in Philosophy, Politics and Economics and holds a Master of Public Affairs (MPA) degree from the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University. Arvind Panagariyan is a Professor of Economics at Columbia University. He has been the Chief Economist of the Asian Development Bank. He has also worked for the World Bank, International Monetary Fund, World Trade Organization, and United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in various capacities. His books include India: The Emerging Giant (2008) and The Economics of Preferential Trade Agreement (coedited with Jagdish Bhagwati, 1996).