

The **INDIA** you may not know



an *Economy 1st* initiative

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1. **71%** or 770 million people are below 35 years of age. Indians are young.
2. **29 million** people are born every year, 10 million die per year, population increase 1.8% per year.
3. **90% to 94% drop out rate** of children (including those who never went to school) between **kindergarten** and class **10+2**.
4. India has 970,000 schools, China has 1,800,000.
5. **6%** are the ones that cross the 10+2 stage, (**Educational 'Line of Control'**) which is our so called educated youth, go in for a regular college degree which may not be very relevant in today's context for the sake of employment generation and National GDP enhancement.
6. **72%** of all graduates from the 15,600 colleges are **Arts graduates**. **Balance 28%** in Science, Commerce, Engineering, I.T., Medical, Law, Management and special subjects.
7. India has 372 universities, China has 900 & Japan has 4000.
8. **While 95%** of the world youth between 15 to 35 years of age learn a **vocation**, a **skill** or a **trade**, with a choice of 2,500 vocational education and training (VET) programs, we in India have only identified about 71 trades, after 58 years of Independence and hardly 2% of the population goes for formal VET training!
9. India has 11,000 ITI's and VET schools, China has 500,000 senior secondary vocational education and training schools.
10. We can get engineers and MBA's in India but no carpenters, plumbers, drivers, repairmen and other skilled personnel as per international standards!
11. **Information Technology, Software or I.T. is the only exception**, possibly due to 50,000 or more private I.T. training centers spread across the country.
12. **I.T. & Software** is only 1.5% of the world's GDP. India's present share is about 5%. For rapid economic growth and employment generation we need to concentrate on the balance **95% of the Economy & Enterprise** and make it world class.
13. **300* million unemployed / employable age*** and only 45 million have actually registered with employment offices with little or no hope of getting employment (our estimates)*.
14. Of all new employment generated, **1%** are Government jobs, **2%** are in the 'organized sector' and the balance **97%** in the 'unorganized sector'
15. **Out of our 430 million** workforce, **94%** work in the 'unorganized sector' and about **6%** in the 'organized sector'.
16. **1.7%** of the entire population, viz. 18 million people work for the Central & State Government; another 9 million work in the 'private organized sector', a total of 2.6% of the population.
17. **All the Labour Laws** are made to protect, at any cost, the above 2.6% of the Indian population. Article 311 of the Indian constitution needs revision since it over-protects employees of the Government **even at a cost to the Nation**.
18. While MP's, MLA's and Municipal Councilors and the village Panchayats, can only be elected for a maximum of 5 years, the officials, babus, and **government employees enjoy life long benefits of employment**, in spite of their performance.
19. **600 million illiterate people**, based on the international definition of the 3R's (reading, writing and arithmetic, education up to primary level or Class 5th). (our estimates) as per Government of India is 63% literate. China is 93% literate.
20. The Indian definition of literacy is based on survey of people **"If you can write your name, you are literate"**; nobody has seriously ever challenged this definition!
21. **260 million** live below the Government of India's definition of the **Poverty Line** of Rs.11(Rural) to Rs 14(Urban) per day! (based on being able to buy enough rice and wheat from the **Public Distribution System / Ration Shops**, which has food value of 2,200 K calories per day).
22. Nobody has ever challenged this **definition of 'Poverty Line'**. How can one expect people to live with a few kilos of raw uncooked wheat or rice? As human beings don't we need more? How about one set of clothes to cover our bodies, a set of chappals for our feet, some vegetables, milk and fruit, in our diet? How will we cook without any energy and fuel?
23. **450 million*** live below the poverty line definition of the World Bank's old definition of **@ US\$ 1 per day per person**, or US\$ 365 per year. **700 million*** people below the poverty line definition of the World Bank's **new definition of @ US\$ 2 per day per person**, or US\$ 730 per year. (our estimates)*

24. **Average Per Capita** of an Indian is about US\$ 600 per year per person (1.07 billion people and a GDP of US\$ 648 billion). The average earning of an Indian is **US\$ 1.65 per day**.
25. **India has only 1.72%** of the World GDP and has 17% of the world population. Demands are high but buying power is low. Hence we will need to increase our **export related activities by 10 times**, as the foreign markets are **60 times bigger** than the Indian market. Our share of world markets or foreign trade is **0.8%**, down from 33% 1,000 years ago, down from 27% when the British landed in India and down from 3% in 1947.
26. **Only 5%** of Indians understand English, yet most of the websites of the Government of India, State Governments and Public Institutions are in English!
27. While English is a language used in countries which account for about 40% of the world GDP, viz., USA + UK + old British Colonies, yet in India while **we talk of Globalization**, we are not serious to learn the other languages of the world, eg., Japanese, German etc, unlike the Chinese youth who are doing otherwise.
28. India is probably at the bottom of the heap, as far as the **human development index** is concerned such as infant mortality, child care, malnutrition, women's health, disease, health, clean water, etc.
29. **Democracy** is, to the people, for the people, by the people. If we have to succeed, **the Citizen has to get involved and participate in Governance**.
30. Unlike other countries, **we have 18 official languages**, 4,000 dialects, all the religions of the world, and because of low human and economic development, emphasis on SC, ST, Dalits, caste, religion, sect, minorities, region, ethnic groups, etc.
31. **Employment generation is restricted** due to existing Policies which do not encourage 'Labour Intensive' enterprises. **Relevant Labour Reforms** in line with prevailing practices in other countries of Asia are required for a level playing field for Indian organizations.


32. **The size of Enterprises** cannot be decided by officials in the Central Government. They are decided by technology, process, international market forces and competitive pressures. Reservation for Small Scale Industry, **SSI**, needs to be scrapped and SME's should be encouraged. **SSI's are 7% of the Indian GDP**. 99.7% of all organizations in the world are SME's. **90% of the Indian GDP are SME's**. We need to understand the meaning of 'E' in **SME** (small & medium enterprise).
33. As per www.Loksatta.org, about **Rs. 2200 crores are spent every day**, at the Centre and State level, both on revenue as well as capital account in order to Govern INDIA. To improve Governance we need to insure +95% of Literacy, a large number of active Citizen Groups and maximum use of The Right to Information Act!

Under the above circumstances how can we run an efficient country with **Good Governance and Effective Administration?** We need to first put '**Our House in Order**', with suitable Action Plans, as explained in our 56 page booklet, **Transforming INDIA**. The rest will fall into place. **Transforming INDIA** is available at Rs. 100 per copy. Please send demand drafts payable at Mumbai, to *i Watch*, at the address mentioned below.

Please also see our website at www.wakeupcall.org for more details. Copies of The **India you may not know** are available in English, Hindi, Gujarati, Marathi, Bengali, Assamese, Oriya, Tamil, Telegu, Kannada, Punjabi, Urdu and Malayalam.

You may download a sample of the contents of our 56 page booklet, **Transforming INDIA**, from the website in English, Hindi, Marathi, Gujarati, Bengali, Assamese, Oriya, Tamil, Telegu, Kannada, Punjabi, Urdu and Malayalam.

We also interact with Central Government ministries such as HRD, Finance, Planning, Labour, nearly 10 State governments and business associations such as CII, FICCI, ASSOCHAM, PHDCC&I and other chambers of commerce.



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