

Towards a Great India

A magazine of the Freedom Team of India

15 July 2008 Volume 1, Number 4

In This Issue

- Message from the Team
- Short articles

Care for India? Then lead India.

It will take at least 1500 people to reform India's governance. If you believe you can lead India, then apply to join the Freedom Team.

- India can be changed.
- India can become an ethical place.
- But the very best Indians must come together on one platform first.

Target

Year	Number of leaders
2008	100
2009	500
2010	1500

To join the War for Freedom – a War against corruption and sloth – go to this (temporary) website:

http://freedom.sabhlokcity.com free.t.india@gmail.com

Message from the Team

Keep away from people who try to belittle your ambitions. Small people always do that, but the really great make you feel that you, too, can become great. – Mark Twain

India is desperately short of good leaders today. After the flurry of the independence movement, erroneously called the 'freedom' movement by some, the best people of India began to think that their task was done. They thought the country would govern itself; democracy would run on auto-pilot.

That was a big mistake. Independence is a small battle with a clear ending, but freedom is a great war without an end. Freedom is not a matter of simply throwing out the colonial yoke. Zimbabwe has been independent since 1980 but the lives of its citizens are threatened by its own rulers. Fighting for freedom requires constant vigilance and active participation in the nation's political life. It requires holding our governments to account for providing us with good governance. This much is now clear: nothing is harder than good governance. Nations do not run on auto-pilot.

India is fortunate today to have at least 150,000 Indians with sufficient expertise in governance and freedom. These include, among others, lawyers, journalists, academics, bureaucrats, businessmen, doctors and engineers. These people can provide India with leadership – but they *refuse* to lead. Therefore independent India has been looted by corrupt demagogues who have filled this vacuum of leadership.

The Freedom Team of India (FTI) is not prepared to let this drift continue. It is committed to leading India to freedom. To make this happen, it needs at least 1500 outstanding leaders prepared to contest elections under the banner of freedom. We need just one such person in every seven lakh Indians to kick-start major reforms in India. We believe it should not be that hard to find 1500 outstanding Indians.

Have *you* considered becoming the leader that India needs? Please consider becoming part of the Freedom Team. Together, we will change India.

To be a member of the Freedom Team you must be committed to the philosophy and policies of freedom. You must be willing to contest elections after 1500 leaders have assembled and agreed to a common platform. You must be a good team player, committed to becoming an outstanding leader through lifelong learning and self-reflection. Two things above all: you must be persistent and have enormous patience. Reforming India's governance won't be easy.

Bad policy kills



This woman is lucky. She is one of those few in India with access to clean water not far from their homes. The majority of Indians do not have this luxury.

Bad policy at multiple levels has meant that our public infrastructure is illdesigned, badly managed, and inappropriately priced.

Good governance remains a distant dream in India.

Recommended readings

- 1. **Capitalism and Freedom** by Milton Friedman
- 2. **Capitalism: The Unknown Ideal** by Ayn Rand, Nathaniel Branden, Alan Greenspan and Robert Hessen
- 3. **The Ultimate Resource II** by Julian Simon
- 4. **Breaking Free of Nehru** by Sanjeev Sabhlok
- 5. **Economics in One Lesson** by Henry Hazlitt
- 6. The Use of Knowledge in Society by Friedrich A. Hayek
- 7. **India Unbound** by Gurcharan Das
- 8. **On Liberty** by John Stuart Mill
- 9. **The Law** by Frédéric Bastiat
- 10. **Liberalism** by Ludwig Von Mises
- 11. Two treatises of Government by John Locke
- 12. **Good to Great** by Jim Collins

Feedback to improve this magazine welcomed!

Also in Freedom First

Sanjeev Sabhlok will write a monthly article on the Freedom Team in the *Freedom First* magazine which is published by the Indian Liberal Group, starting August 2008.

Pass this on!

If you prepared to join FTI at this stage, or even if you are not, please do forward this magazine to *all* your friends and relatives in India.

Photographs

Photographs used have either been taken by FTI members or downloaded from the internet on an assumption that this would constitute fair use of the image for a non-commercial venture such as this. We thank the photographer and respective copyright owner/s.

Millions of innocent lives have been blighted in our so-called 'free' India. Millions of innocents have been forced to live and die in poverty, squalor, and disease because of socialist policies which deliberately blocked our freedoms. FTI is committed to bringing the world's best policies to India. It asks highly talented people with expertise in policy to combine into a force for change.

Freedom is not a mantra: our life depends on it





Indians who migrate to the West are amazed at the high quality of medical services available to the average person in the West. Policies of freedom and good governance mean that people live much longer in the West.

Health departments in India, however, are a den of corruption and incompetence. As a result the average Indian born today can expect to live only around 60 years compared to an average Australian or Japanese who can expect to live for over 80 years – one-third longer! This is an amazing difference, particularly after 60 years of independence.

FTI believes that Indians deserve to live as long as anyone else on this planet. It is committed to closing this gap in life expectancy. FTI may well save *your* life.

Capitalism and freedom trumps Nehruvian socialism

The following table, taken from Sanjeev Sabhlok's forthcoming book, *Breaking Free of Nehru*, shows that freedom is not only morally good, it works.

Outcome for the country and society	Nehruvian socialism (equality)	Capitalism (freedom, equality of opportunity)
Is the country a great place to grow our children?	×	✓
Are its people <i>independent</i> , i.e., they do not ask the government to do everything for them?	*	√
Is justice delivered effectively and quickly?	×	✓
Are the people largely ethical? Is the society a moral society?	×	✓
Are the people secure? Is there law and order?	×	✓
Is the government free of corruption?	×	✓
Has poverty been banished?	×	✓
Are many of its people <i>deservingly</i> rich? Is inequality encouraged and charity to able-bodied people discouraged?	*	~
Are religious and other discriminations severely punished?	*	✓
Are all children well educated, at least to standard 12?	*	√
Is the country's infrastructure world class?	×	✓
Is the country's environment sustainable, and is its wildlife thriving?	*	√
Do citizens <i>always</i> seek to <i>exceed</i> the world's highest standard in everything they do?	*	√

Capitalism involves the constant search for freedom. Through political and market democracy it unleashes innovation and generates wealth. Socialism destroys wealth.

To subscribe to this magazine: http://groups.google.com/group/towards-a-great-india.