

The Freedom Team of India

A movement to defend our freedoms and bring good governance to India



An introduction to the Team

Why the Freedom Team of India (FTI)?

India's governance shows no sign of improving, stumbling from one crisis to another. Our security is threatened, our economic growth stumbles every few years, we have terrible infrastructure, and one of the lowest standard of living in the world. There are more poor people in eight states of India than in the 26 countries of sub-Saharan Africa.

FTI is a team of leaders who identify with freedom and everything it implies, such as:

- Enforcement of rule of law
- Law and order, and equal justice
- Accountable government
- Equal opportunity for all
- Tolerance of all but pandering to none
- Prosperity through free enterprise and minimal regulation

We believe that the government's responsibility is to create a framework of just laws and ensure that such laws are implemented fairly and uniformly. The **system of natural liberty** we want to see in India is radically different from the socialist form of governance that has been imposed on India since 1947. That model is seriously flawed, damaging all incentives for excellence. It has never worked anywhere. It is time to change it. Now!

FTI's structure and objectives

FTI is a forum for policy, strategy, and leadership development to promote our freedom. FTI registered as a non-for-profit Trust in Indore on 1 July 2009, and its detailed Rules of governance include a stringent Code of Conduct.

Our emphasis is on the word "**team**" because all members in this group are equal partners in the design and delivery of its activities and governance, and work as a close-knit team, each member respecting and considering others' opinions. All its major decisions are taken by voting decision within the membership of its General Body.

FTI's first task is to bring together outstanding leaders – individuals of unimpeachable integrity and sound liberal thinking.

It is our belief that should even 100 outstanding leaders assemble, then nothing will stop the Team from delivering on a new India.

Invitation to join the Freedom Team

The Freedom Team is *actively* looking for leaders to come together to lead India to freedom. **FTI is not a political party.** You can join us if you believe in the ideas of freedom.

Key FTI activities so far

FTI has conducted the following key activities:

- **Release of basic documents:** These include its brochure, basic principles, and strategy
- **Magazine:** FTI releases a magazine called *Towards a Great India* every two months
- **Conference:** FTI's first conference was held in Mumbai in February 2010
- **Outreach events:** Held in n Indore, Allahabad, Mirazpur, Bengaluru, Delhi, Mumbai and Guwahati
- **Videos:** Event and introductory videos released on Youtube and Veoh
- **Internet presence:** FTI website, Facebook
- **Media coverage:** FTI outreach events covered in local newspapers and many write-ups on blogs and some magazines.

FTI Delhi and Shantanu Bhagwat's talk

FTI has an active Delhi chapter, with members including Somnath Bharti, Dipinder Sekhon, Ram Atri, and others, including a former Vice Chief of Naval Staff. Somnath and Dipinder are IIT Delhi alumni. Ram Atri is Secretary of Bharat Shodh.

In February 2010, a small talk was presented at IIT Delhi by a few FTI members including Sanjeev Sabhlok (Sanjeev is a former IAS officer and author of *Breaking Free of Nehru*, a book well received in the liberal circles in India).

FTI is now proud to sponsor a talk on 2 August 2010 on **Governance in India: Issues and solutions** by FTI member Shantanu Bhagwat, a former Indian Foreign Service officer who works as venture investor and advisor to start-ups in London.

For more details on FTI please visit our website. To contact FTI write to <mailto:info@freedomteam.in>.