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## How can India's governance become world class?



A conference-workshop  
**13 and 14 April 2013**

Indraprastha Estate, Ring Road,  
New Delhi-110002.

A not-for-profit Trust, Regd: Hyderabad  
<http://indiapolicy.org/>

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**Inaugural address**            **Shri Gurcharan Das**, public intellectual and author of *India Unbound*

**Chairperson**            **Shri T N. Chaturvedi**, Chairman, IIPA and former Governor of Karnataka

**Keynote address**            **Delivering world class governance: key pointers from my Indian and Australian experience**  
- *Sanjeev Sabhlok, former IAS officer*

India is undergoing a major crisis of governance. Despite our rich cultural heritage, fertile land and abundant natural resources, we remain one of the poorest nations in the world. Nations much poorer than us in the past are doing ten times better. Most of this underperformance can be explained by governance that leaves much scope for improvement.

### Joint organisers

#### ***Indian Institute of Public Administration***

Conceived by well-known US expert Paul H. Appleby and Founded and promoted by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, IIPA (a society registered under the Societies Registration Act 1860), is a premier centre for Training and Research in Public Administration and Management.

#### ***India Policy Institute***

India Policy Institute (IPI) is a trust registered in Hyderabad. It believes that India's poor performance is largely attributable to poor incentives (systems) and poorly designed policies. IPI issues policy documents from time to time, and has organised a 5-day workshop-cum-seminar in the past.

### Who should attend?

This conference will identify causes of India's unsatisfactory governance and consider how these causes can be addressed. It is likely to be particular interest to senior policy makers and academics in public administration, economics and sociology.

However, its audience is more general. **All Indian citizens** who want to learn about good governance principles and practices which are commonplace in the West, but almost entirely absent in India, are a suitable audience for this conference. Participants will learn about a range of intuitive (and some not-so-intuitive) solutions to India's problems, enabling them to directly address such issues if they

have a direct capacity to implement such solutions, or demand that such issues be addressed in India.

### **Sanjeev Sabhlok, (Hony.) Executive Director IPI**

The keynote speaker and moderator of the Conference is Sanjeev Sabhlok, (Hony) Executive Director of IPI. **With three decades of experience as a public servant in India and Australia, he is uniquely qualified to discuss governance reforms in India.**

He has extensive understanding and direct experience of best-practice frameworks in public administration, political system design and economic (and regulatory) policy, and is able to sharply identify critical shortcomings in India's policy and governance system.

#### **Sanjeev Sabhlok's background**

Sabhlok has a Post Graduate Diploma in Business from Australia and doctorate in economics from the University of Southern California. He is a former IAS officer (1982 batch) and served the Government of India as Professor of Management at the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration, Mussoorie, and the States of Assam and Meghalaya in various senior roles, the last of these being in the scale of Joint Secretary, Government of India.

Since leaving the IAS he works as a public servant in Victoria, Australia in the areas of economic and regulatory policy. In one of his roles he co-authored the Regulatory Change Measurement Manual, being the first methodology in the world that measures delay costs of regulation, in addition to substantive compliance and administrative costs.

Sabhlok is author of the 2008 *Breaking Free of Nehru* (Anthem Press), about which Gurcharan Das has written: "It must be read by every Indian".

Sabhlok writes extensively on public policy, particularly in the Mumbai-based magazine, *Freedom First*, and provides comments occasionally in the national press. He has also appeared on radio and TV. His blog, "Sanjeev Sabhlok's Revolutionary Blog" (<http://sabhlokcitiy.com/>) is one of India's more popular policy related blogs.

### **Key issues for discussion at the Conference**

A draft Agenda for the Conference is provided in **Attachment A**. A final agenda will be provided at the venue, based on any papers received.

The following is an outline of issues to be discussed at the conference:

#### **1) Theory of good governance**

- What is the appropriate role of government in a free society?
- Incentive and principal-agent issues at the interface between citizen-politician-bureaucrat.

#### **2) India's system compared with Australia's system**

- Key comparisons at the broader level

#### **3) Public Administration reforms for India**

- Key learnings for public administration in India

#### **4) Economic policy reforms for India**

- Key learnings for economic policy in India

## 5) Regulatory policy reforms for India

- Key learnings for regulatory policy in India, including best-practice policy frameworks and gatekeeping mechanisms.

## 6) Transition from India's system to world-best system

- Issues during a possible transition, and how these can be managed.

The conference will present an opportunity for participants to present their ideas on the above topics, so if you would like to present a paper, please let Sabhlok know at [sabhlok@gmail.com](mailto:sabhlok@gmail.com).

## Date, venue, and fees

**Date:** 13 and 14 April 2013 (Saturday & Sunday)

**Venue:** Indraprastha Estate, Ring Road, New Delhi-110002

**Registration:** 9 am on 13 April 2013

**Inaugural address:** 9:30 am on 13 April 2013

In anticipation of sponsorship, **Indians will be able to attend free of cost.**

For foreign organisations and individuals, the following fees apply:

Foreign organisations/citizens	Cost
Governments	Rs.10,000 per persons
Other educational institutions	Rs.25,000 for up to two persons
Private companies or business associations	Rs.30,000 for up to two persons
Not-for-profit organisations	Rs.20,000 for up to two persons
<b><i>Private individuals</i></b>	
Interested individuals in private capacity	Rs.15,000 per person

## Residential accommodation

Participants can choose to stay in the IIPA hostel at their own cost. For arranging such accommodation please register first, and write to Sabhlok at [sabhlok@gmail.com](mailto:sabhlok@gmail.com).

## How to register

### 1) Registration form

Please enter your data [here](#). A link to the registration form is also provided on [IPI's website](#). Please register quickly since seats are very limited.

### 2) Payment details

If you are a foreign citizen or representing a foreign organisation, please pay the applicable amount electronically. Details of the account are:

India Policy Institute  
HDFC Bank Limited  
Hyderabad Branch  
Lakdi Ka Pul, Saifabad  
A/c No. 0211000041020  
IFC Code: HDFC0000021

If you have questions regarding the account, please contact Supratim Basu of India Policy Institute at [xsupratim@gmail.com](mailto:xsupratim@gmail.com).

### **Next steps**

All registered persons will be added to a mailing list by India Policy Institute for ease of communication.

### **Questions**

Please write to Sanjeev Sabhlok at [sabhlok@gmail.com](mailto:sabhlok@gmail.com).

Dr. C.Giri, Registrar IIPA at [c.giri123@gmail.com](mailto:c.giri123@gmail.com)

Prof. Vinod K Sharma at [profvinod@gmail.com](mailto:profvinod@gmail.com) or Dr (Ms) Sheela Reddy at [sheelachavva@gmail.com](mailto:sheelachavva@gmail.com)

## Draft Agenda

The final agenda will be provided at the venue.

### **Day 1: Saturday 13 April 2013**

9-9:30 am: Registration. Participants are expected to be in time. Coffee will be available.

9:30 am

Inauguration: Welcome speech by Gurcharan Das

Introductory comments from each participant: 5 minutes each. Key points will be noted.

11:15 am: Tea break

11:00 am: Chairperson: Mr TN Chaturvedi

Part one of Sanjeev Sabhlok's keynote presentation

- 1) Theory of good governance
- 2) India's system compared with Australia's system
- 3) Public Administration reforms for India

12:30 am: Lunch

1:30 am

Second half of Sanjeev Sabhlok's keynote address/ presentation

- 4) Economic policy reforms for India
- 5) Regulatory policy reforms for India
- 6) Transition from India's system to world-best system

3:00 pm: Tea break

3:15 pm

Participants split into three groups and select their own chairperson and rapporteur.

- a) Public Administration
- b) Economic Policy
- c) Regulatory Reform

Each session to elect a chair and note-taker, and produce key points and recommendations for broader discussion the following day.

5 pm: Adjournment till next day

### **Day 2: Sunday 14 April 2013**

9.00 am:

Sanjeev Sabhlok to summarise key points from previous day

9:30 am

Each group to provide key recommendations to the broader group for consideration/ discussion

Post morning tea

#### **Transitional issues: Key Recommendations for India**

Open workshop to discuss and debate key recommendations for India, and how these reforms can be achieved. Transitional issues would be particular important.

Post lunch

**Strategy for implementing reforms**

- Role of governments, universities, political parties, civil society

Closing comments by participants and Sanjeev Sabhlok

Vote of thanks: Prof Vinod K Sharma

**Programme Coordinators (IIPA):**

Prof. Vinod K Sharma > profvinod@gmail.com <and

Dr (Ms) Sheela Reddy > sheelachavva@gmail.com <