

This note has argued that over time regional leaders, the lower class and minorities can be expected to develop strong support for reforms as well. However, in the short-term, reforms in India's slow democratic process are likely to be a messy business. We may even witness some provincial governments finding it expedient to attack or undermine specific elements of the reform programme. Such developments will delay the reform process but not derail, stop or reverse it. Overall, we are likely to see broad support for reforms developing among business, senior Indian bureaucrats, both federal and provincial political leaders, the middle class and increasingly the lower class and other minority groups.

In the medium to long-term, India is a potential economic power house. The reform process has just begun in India. The focus is already shifting from consumer goods to India's enormous infrastructure requirements. Reforms in India will continue and new profitable opportunities are going to emerge in sectors where Canada-based companies have comparative advantage.