

Table 1
PRINCIPLE ECONOMIC STATISTICS - INDIA 1994

	1991/92	1992/93	1993/94P	1194/95E
GDP (Rs. 000 Crore) (at 1980/81 prices)	214.2	223.4	233.0	245.3
Industrial production (index 1981 = 100)	213.9	218.9	227.8	232.8
CPI	229.0	243.0	267.0	289.0
(per cent change)	13.9	6.1	9.9	9.5
Money Supply (M3) (per cent change)	317.0	366.8	433.6	498.4
	19.4	25.7	18.2	18.6
Imports ¹ (US\$ million)	19411	21882	22321	22708
Exports ¹ (US\$ million)	17865	18537	22174	20871
Foreign Currency Assets (US\$ million)	5631	6434	15068	19651
Exchange Rate (Rs/US\$)	24.65	28.96	31.37	31.38
Population ²	862.5	878.6	894.6	

Source: Government of India: Economic Survey 1994/95

P = preliminary

E = estimate

Rs. 1 Crore = Rs. 10,000,000 = C\$435,000 (approx.)

Notes:

1. at current prices
2. based on annual series of the Standing Committee on Experts on Population Projections

Of course, the statistics expose some truths but mask others. Most importantly, India is widely seen to be in a period of transition and change. As a result of the liberalization process, India is moving from a managed economy to one which is notably more market oriented. Current economic policy features concepts such as 'increasing foreign investment', 'productivity', 'entrepreneurship', and 'economic efficiency'. Figure 1 provides highlights of industrial policy reforms in India since 1991.

Figure 1
SELECTED INDUSTRIAL POLICY REFORMS - 1991-95

- Number of industries reserved for the public sector reduced from 17 to 8
- Automatic approval of foreign investments up to 51 per cent
- Mining, Air transport, Power, Telecommunications actively opened for foreign investment
- Corporate tax rates reduced to 40 per cent for domestic companies, and 55 per cent for foreign companies
- Five year tax holiday for industrial investment in 'backward' areas
- Across the board reductions in tariffs, import duties, and related trade barriers