

# Ease of Doing Business: Political Economic Challenges

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NCAER National Workshop
Building Synergies: Matching Business Reforms to
Improved 'Ease of Doing Business'

# Assessing India's performance



#### **Positives**

- ★ Ease of Doing Business Index (WB)
- Access to Electricity and Bank Accounts (GoI)

#### **Negatives**

- Global Hunger Index (IFPRI)
- Women Health (WEF Global Gender Gap)
- Quality of Education and Job Creation (GoI)



# Action lies in the states



#### States in action

- Uttarakhand: Deemed approval in single window mechanism
  - Inadequate for accessing finance; absence of investor feedback
- Punjab and Haryana: Regulatory reforms in labour market
  - Frequent strikes, labour and social unrest, shortage of skilled labour
- Himachal Pradesh: Investment in and around capital
  - Uneven geographical development and infrastructure constraints
- Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh: Single window clearance mechanism
  - Frequent transfers, delays, lack of institutional memory

## What do we find?

- Reforms occurring in silos
- Implementation, awareness and capacity building related challenges not taken into account
- Ground realities and infrastructure constraints often ignored

AS A RESULT, MSMEs NOT BENEFITTING FROM REFORMS

## Way ahead

- Whole of Government Approach to involve all departments (Invest Punjab)
- Regulatory Impact Assessment and Evaluation (Cost/Benefit Analysis) in policy making and review (analysis of policy failures)
- Sunset clause and regulatory guillotine to do away with unnecessary laws (Rajasthan Law Reform Project)
- Institutionalise feedback, response and grievance redress mechanism
- Invest in awareness generation and capacity building
- Sharing of good practices among states
- Focus on MSMEs: Ecosystem approach to ensure their growth
- Co-opt non-state actors for independent assessment, review and evaluation

## **About CUTS**

- Independent non-profit evidence based economic policy research and advocacy organisation
- Working for improving quality of competition, regulation, investment, governance, consumer protection and trade
- Worked in > 35 emerging economies in last 35 years
- Headquartered in Jaipur, present at grassroots, national, regional and global level

#### Thank You

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Link to competitiveness project: <a href="http://www.cuts-">http://www.cuts-</a>

ccier.org/STATE-COMP/index.htm