

# India: A Government of Mammoth Proportions

India's government is one of the largest and most complex in the world, with a vast bureaucracy, multiple levels of administration, and a multitude of challenges. This article explores the history, structure, and challenges of India's big government, as well as efforts to reform it.



## India's Big Government: The Intrusive State & How It's Hurting Us by Vivek Kaul

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## History of India's Government

The history of India's government dates back to ancient times, with the establishment of the Mauryan Empire in the 4th century BCE. The Mauryan Empire was one of the largest and most powerful empires in the world, and its government was highly centralized and efficient. After the fall of the Mauryan Empire, India was ruled by a succession of dynasties, each of which left its own mark on the country's government.

In the 18th century, India came under the control of the British East India Company. The East India Company established a system of colonial rule that was highly exploitative and oppressive. The company's rule led to a number of rebellions, including the Indian Rebellion of 1857. After the Indian Rebellion, the British government took direct control of India.

India gained independence from British rule in 1947. The newly independent country adopted a constitution that established a parliamentary system of government. India's first prime minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, was a socialist who believed in a strong central government. Nehru's government nationalized a number of industries and launched a number of social welfare programs.

Since Nehru's time, India's government has continued to grow in size and complexity. The country has faced a number of challenges, including poverty, corruption, and terrorism. However, India's government has also made significant progress in improving the lives of its citizens.

## **Structure of India's Government**

India's government is a federal system, with a central government and 28 state governments. The central government is headed by the prime minister, who is the head of the Council of Ministers. The Council of Ministers is the main decision-making body of the government.

The Indian parliament is a bicameral legislature, consisting of the Lok Sabha (House of the People) and the Rajya Sabha (Council of States). The Lok Sabha is the lower house of parliament, and its members are directly elected by the people. The Rajya Sabha is the upper house of parliament, and its members are elected by the state legislatures.

The Indian judiciary is independent of the executive and legislative branches of government. The Supreme Court of India is the highest court in the country.

## **Challenges Facing India's Government**

India's government faces a number of challenges, including:

\* **Poverty:** India is home to a large number of poor people. The government has implemented a number of programs to alleviate poverty, but these programs have had limited success. \* **Corruption:** Corruption is a major problem in India. The government has taken steps to combat corruption, but these efforts have been hampered by the lack of a strong and independent judiciary. \* **Terrorism:** India has been the target of a number of terrorist attacks in recent years. The government has taken steps to combat terrorism, but the threat of terrorism remains high. \* **Climate change:** India is one of the countries that is most vulnerable to climate change. The government is taking steps to address climate change, but these efforts are still in their early stages.

## **Reforms to India's Government**

India's government has been the subject of a number of reforms in recent years. These reforms have been aimed at improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the government.

Some of the most important reforms to India's government include:

\* **The of a goods and services tax (GST):** The GST is a comprehensive indirect tax that was introduced in 2017. The GST has simplified the tax system and reduced the tax burden on businesses. \* **The implementation**

**of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC):** The IBC is a new law that makes it easier for businesses to go bankrupt. The IBC is expected to reduce the number of bad loans in the Indian banking system. \* **The creation of a National Investment Promotion and Facilitation Agency (Invest India):** Invest India is a new agency that is responsible for promoting foreign investment in India. Invest India is expected to help India attract more foreign investment and create jobs.

These are just a few of the reforms that have been implemented to India's government in recent years. These reforms are aimed at improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the government, and they are expected to have a positive impact on the lives of Indian citizens.

India's government is one of the largest and most complex in the world. The government faces a number of challenges, including poverty, corruption, and terrorism. However, the government has also made significant progress in improving the lives of its citizens. In recent years, the government has implemented a number of reforms aimed at improving its efficiency and effectiveness. These reforms are expected to have a positive impact on the lives of Indian citizens.



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