

Peoples' Expectations from the State in the Context of a Globalizing Indian Economy

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1. Background

The survey and study of “People’s Expectation from the State in the context of a globalizing Indian Economy” is a part of the National Foundation for India’s project on Globalization and the Indian State. The project attempts to discern how the state has changed in its character since the decades following 1990s, when India started the process of globalization and liberalization. It also seeks to analyze how the twin processes of globalization liberalization have affected the welfare capacity of the Indian State.

This report details out the methodology, sampling plan, apart from reporting the results from the study. The results from the baseline have been analyzed in different sections, based on the core topics/services on which the respondent was interviewed. The sections include security for the underprivileged, education, health, employment, housing and consumption security.

2. People’s Expectation from the State: Analysis of data from the Survey

The reform process that was initiated in India in the 1990s has had widespread and varying social, economic and political impact. It has resulted in greater levels of international trade, growth in FDI, greater movement of labour and technology. Internally it meant selling of state owned businesses, transforming the economy from a state monopoly to a more competitive market economy. Reforms also meant less bureaucracy and cutting of the red tape by removing legal and quasi-legal regulations. These developments have changed what Indians expect from the government. The reforms provided the government with the choice of raising capital to meet its expenditure requirements, without having to drastically raise taxes or cut public spending. In the same way reforms, whether globalization, liberalization (deregulation, privatization) etc., are seen as providing choices to the people.

India before the reforms was a mixed economy and markets and competition were heavily regulated. With the levels of capital investment involved in nation building and the slow rate of return on them, only the government was seen as capable of providing (as opposed to facilitating the provision of) basic services. As a large section of the population was poor and illiterate provision of basic services and increasing the coverage of the basic services through public provision was seen as urgent and important.

Till the reforms happened the state acted as the provider, facilitator as well as the regulator of most of the services to the public. The differing views on the reforms stem from how the mechanics of the reform process affected the social reproduction of a particular class. With globalization the dynamics of class and caste and other forms of social relations have also experienced a change, globalization may have empowered some, while some may have not yet benefited from its gains. The expectations of the poorer sections of the role of the government would through light on how such inequalities have changed in character since the reforms were brought about. Further, because of the reform process the government no longer remains the sole service provider for many services, and is partnering with private for

profit and non-profit in many services and in some areas. Moreover after the 73rd and 74th amendments liberalization, and globalization have been supplemented by decentralization within the government.

The survey was conducted to gauge views of the respondents with respect to what they expect the role of the government in the provision of these choices to be (or, what they desire from the state). Whether they perceive that the state should work towards making more choices available or should it aim at providing the choice that are preferred. The following discussion draws from the data collected in the survey regarding people's expectation from the state. Respondents were queried on, and expectations relating to education, health, consumption security, security for the underprivileged and housing.

3. Methodology

The survey was supplemented with an index creation exercise where the states under consideration were assigned values on the basis of their level of globalization. This section briefs the broad methods used in the analysis.

3.1 Survey

The objective of the study is to understand peoples' perceptions of the role of the state at a time when the Indian state is rapidly changing and becoming more globally integrated and liberal in character. The purpose of the survey was to draw out the differences (if they exist) in people's perceptions of the role of the state between those areas where they have been differently impacted by globalization. For this purpose an all India survey was undertaken.

An all-India survey was undertaken where respondents were queried on their expectations from the state in terms of the various services being provided/ensured/facilitated by it. Though the focus of the study is on the underprivileged, all segments of the population have been surveyed in adequate numbers to enable comparisons. The samples taken enable this exercise. The total sample size was 7500.

The sampling used was the stratified random sample conducted across 14 districts (13 states) (550 responses per district on the average). One of the North East states has also been sampled to have representation from the region. Rural and urban areas in each district have also been included.

3.2 Selection of States

The selection of the states for the survey was determined by the aim of having a good geographical spread to bring out the regional character in the perceptions about the role of the state. The country was divided up into 4 regions- North, South, East and West. Four districts were randomly chosen from the southern and northern regions and three each from east and west. This was done sequentially. Once a district was chosen from a state, that state was removed from consideration for further identification of remaining districts. This ensured that adequate geographical spread was obtained.

Table i: Survey Locations and Samples across locations

State Name	Zone	District Name	Sampled Numbers	% of Total
Uttar Pradesh	E	Allahabad	550	7.69
Assam	E	Dibrugarh	550	7.69
Andhra Pr.	S	Hyderabad and Rangareddi	550	7.69
Gujarat	W	Vadodara	550	7.69
Karnataka	S	Bellary	550	7.69
Kerala	S	Kottayam	550	7.69
Maharashtra	W	Pune	550	7.69
Madhya Pr.	W	Ujjain	556	7.77
Orissa	E	Koraput	550	7.69
Punjab	N	Bathinda	550	7.69
Rajasthan	N	Bikaner	550	7.69
Tamil Nadu	S	Kancheepuram	550	7.69
West Bengal	E	Burdwan	550	7.69
Total			7,156	100

3.3 Methodology for Sampling

The sampling for the study is done in the following manner. Firstly, 14 districts were identified (Refer section on selection of states). Each district was then broken up into three parts – large urban center, small-urban center, and rural. In a particular district one large town, one small town and about 12-14 villages across four blocks. Within each cluster, in rural or urban area, every 10th household was chosen for the survey.

Table ii: Sampling Plan for each District

Sl.no	Name of District/town/rural areas	State	Sample sizes			Break up of the sample for rural areas	
			1 large town	1 small town	Rural	per block	no. of blocks
1	Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh	125	125	300	75	4
2	Dibrugarh	Assam	125	125	300	75	4
3	Vadodra	Gujarat	125	125	300	75	4
4	Bellary	Karnataka	125	125	300	75	4
5	Kottayam	Kerala	125	125	300	75	4
6	Ujjain	Madhya Pradesh	125	125	300	75	4
7	Pune	Maharashtra	125	125	300	75	4
8	Koraput	Orissa	125	125	300	75	4
9	Bathinda	Punjab	125	125	300	75	4
10	Bikaner	Rajasthan	125	125	300	75	4
11	Kancheepuram	Tamil Nadu	125	125	300	75	4
12	Allahabad	Uttar Pradesh	125	125	300	75	4

Sl.no	Name of District/town/rural areas	State	Sample sizes			Break up of the sample for rural areas	
			1 large town	1 small town	Rural	per block	no. of blocks
13	Barddhaman	West Bengal	125	125	300	75	4

3.4 Selection of Type of Location

To investigate whether perceptions differ because of residence in a metropolis, or a small town, or village, different types of place of residence was also taken in the sampling and selection process. Our sampling included all types of regions – large urban, semi-rural/semi-urban and rural. This variation in location is one of the objectives of the study, to cover all geographical regions.

Large Towns: Each big town was divided in 5 sections: North, South, East, West and central. One cluster (locality) from each section was randomly chosen. From each cluster upto 25 schedules were taken. Randomly every 10th household has been taken.

Small Towns: Each small town was divided in 5 sections: North, South, East, West and central. One cluster (locality) from each section was randomly chosen. From each cluster upto 25 schedules were taken. Randomly every 10th household has been taken.

Rural Areas: As shown in the above table the survey was distributed across 4 blocks. Maximum of 75 schedules would be taken from each block and a maximum of 25 per village. This required about 3-4 villages (clusters) per block. In village areas as well the 10th household rule was taken.

Table iii: Sampled Numbers across type of location

Type of location	Sampled Numbers	% of Total
Large Town	1,626	22.7
Small Town	1,626	22.7
Village	3,904	54.6
Total	7,156	100.0

The above methodology ensured the spread of respondents within the rural and urban areas. This was important as globalization may impact urban areas more. Moreover, rural areas close to urban centers may also be impacted more. The large spread ensures that differences are captured adequately.

The following tables reflect the socio-economic and demographic characteristics of the respondents who were interviewed during the survey.

Table iv: Distribution of respondents across Gender

Sex of respondents	Sampled Numbers	% of Total
Male	5,023	70.19
Female	2,119	29.61
Missing	14	0.20
Total	7,156	100

*Missing are those queries for which no response was given

Table v: Distribution of respondents across Social Group

Social Group of Respondents	Sampled Numbers	% of Total
SC	1,959	27.38
ST	788	11.01
OBC	2,034	28.42
Others	2,358	32.95
Missing	17	0.24
Total	7,156	100

* Missing are those queries for which no response was given

Table vi: Distribution of respondents across Religious Group

Religion of Respondents	Sampled Numbers	% of Total
Hinduism	5,629	78.66
Islam	715	9.99
Christianity	353	4.93
Sikhism	398	5.56
Others	30	0.42
Missing	31	0.43
Total	7,156	100

Table vii: Distribution of respondents across Age Groups

Age Groups of Respondents	Sampled Numbers	% of Total
15-25 years	862	12.07
25-35 years	2,159	30.23
35-45 years	2,321	32.49
45-55 years	1,062	14.87
55 years & above	739	10.35
Total	7,143	100

Table viii: Distribution of Social Groups across Asset Index

Asset Index	Social Group of Respondent				Total
	SC	ST	OBC	Others	
Low	46.3	76.2	29.4	11.8	33.3
Medium	34.9	17.8	40.2	31.1	33.3
High	18.9	6.0	30.4	57.1	33.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table ix: Distribution of Type of Location across Asset Index

Asset Index	Type of Location			Total
	Large Tow	Small Tow	Village	
Low	16.6	26.9	42.8	33.3
Medium	34.6	27.7	35.2	33.4
High	48.8	45.4	22.0	33.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

3.5 Generating the Economic Groupings - The Asset Index

Before we present the findings of the survey it would be appropriate to indicate that households are classified into three groups (low, medium and high) based on the assets owned by them. For this purpose an asset index was generated using Principal Components Analysis. This resulted in the creation of an index where a higher value indicated higher economic conditions of the households. Households were then rated as belonging to the top, middle or bottom groups based on their asset index value. The Appendix 4 details the PCA and the variables used to generate the index.¹

3.6 Methodology for the creating the Globalization Index

The second part of the study is linking people's expectations with globalization. Secondary data has been used to calculate *two indexes for globalization and liberalization* to correlate the expectations about the role of the state with secondary data analysis on globalization and liberalization.

Globalization index looks at the levels of trade (export), FDI and movement of labour. Based on their performance of the states have been ranked based on the globalization index. The variables used to generate the globalization index are given below:

- State-wise Per capita exports (value) 2002-03
- State-wise Per capita FDI Approved (value) between 2000-2005
- State-wise Per capita Migration (Emigration clearances granted between 1993-2001)

¹ The PCA has also been used to generate an index for accessibility to infrastructure. In the questionnaire the respondents were asked about the facilities such as government schools, private schools, health facilities, markets, public transport etc; and households were then rated as being to the low, medium or high groups based on their access to public infrastructure. However, little differences were found between households on this criteria, consequently it has not been used for the analysis.

Table x: State Ranking based on the Globalization Index

State Name	Ranking
Maharashtra	1
Tamil Nadu	2
Kerala	3
Gujarat	4
Karnataka	5
Punjab	6
Andhra Pradesh	7
West Bengal	8
Rajasthan	9
Orissa	10
Uttar Pradesh	11
Madhya Pradesh	12
Assam	13

In addition access to media, telephone, and mobiles were also initially included in the index, however, since similar results were obtained, it was decided to keep only the ‘pure’ globalization variables in the index creation exercise.

3.7 Liberalization Index

The liberalization index takes into account certain indicators of liberalization like, privatization (levels of selling of government owned businesses) and deregulation (levels of removal of legal and quasi legal regulations). Based on their performance of the states have been ranked based on the liberalization index. The liberalization index draws from the Economic Freedom Index conducted by Debroy and Bhandari, 2005.² The variables used in the index are as follows:

- Size of government: expenditures, taxes and enterprises
- Legal structure and security of property rights
- Regulation of credit, labour, and business

² Bibek Debroy and Laveesh Bhandari, Economic Freedom of the States of India, 2005. Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Contemporary Studies, New Delhi

Table xi: State Ranking based on the Liberalization Index

State Name	Ranking
Tamil Nadu	1
Gujarat	2
Kerala	3
Andhra Pradesh	4
Madhya Pradesh	5
Uttar Pradesh	6
Karnataka	7
Maharashtra	8
West Bengal	9
Rajasthan	10
Orissa	11
Punjab	12
Assam	13

4. Results

The detailed data are presented in the appendix where the responses to all the queries are presented across economic, location, and globalization, social, and other classifications. The key results and insights are reported.

4.1 Security to Underprivileged

India is a welfare state and its Constitution has special provision for the development of deprived section of the society. But who constitute the deprived and marginalized has been a controversial issue. Essentially, underprivileged are those section/groups in the society who are socially and economically marginalized, who lack opportunities or advantages enjoyed by other members of the community. The survey gave respondents various options of which they had to identify groups they perceive to be underprivileged. The options given to the respondents included scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, OBCs, senior citizens, religious minorities, women, poor, widows, handicapped and unemployed.

Table 1: Percentage Considering Various Groups to be Underprivileged

Categories	% Considering Underprivileged (Total)	% Considering Underprivileged (within group)	% Considering Underprivileged (outside group)
Scheduled Castes	75.27	83.79	72.06
Scheduled Tribes	74.27	87.06	72.68
OBCs	65.37	81.86	58.81
Senior Citizens	75.51		

Religious Minority	30.96	46.89	26.63
Women	70.41	72.24	69.58
Poor	88.83	89.23	88.64
Widows	81.56		
Handicapped	89.17		

Under this section we have tried to find out respondents expectation from the government, its role in assisting underprivileged and initiatives to help them. Most respondents felt that widows, poor and handicapped were underprivileged. A slightly lower proportion of the respondents felt that SC, ST and OBC (75%, 74% and 65% respectively) were also underprivileged. The social and economic dependence on others was greater for widows, handicapped and poor than other groups.

Table 2: % Respondents desiring provision of service by government to the underprivileged across economic groups

Provision of services by Government to underprivileged	Economic Groups based on Asset			
	Low	Medium	High	Total
Yes	77.2	76.8	77.6	77.2
No	21.8	22.1	21.8	21.9
Don't know	1.0	1.1	0.6	0.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 3: % Respondents desiring provision of service by government to the underprivileged across social groups

Provision of services by Government to underprivileged	Social Group				
	SC	ST	OBC	Others	Total
Yes	81.9	76.7	73.2	76.1	76.9
No	17.5	22.0	26.3	22.5	22.2
Don't know	0.7	1.4	0.5	1.4	1.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Across all classifications, the majorities of the respondents are sympathetic towards the underprivileged sections of the society and favor the need for special schemes for their development. Majority of them suggest government jobs for them. Those in high-income group believe better access to health and education service is also important for their overall development. Only about 21.71 percent of respondents consider that the government should only focus on better opportunities for all (see Appendix 3b, Section I)

Despite realizing the need for special services for the underprivileged many respondents felt that presently measures taken for their upliftment are more for building vote banks. The survey data reports that respondents across regions, religions or economic groups believe that the government's special measure is nothing but a political strategy to win votes. The failure of the governments to bring about a real difference to the socio-economic status of the marginalized and the periodic declaration of special measures is viewed as politically motivated.

Respondents were specifically questioned on their views regarding the pros and cons of special assistance senior citizens, handicapped and women. The survey data suggests that senior citizens are neglected population of the society. Only one in every four senior citizens is receiving pension. Senior citizens in large towns are in better position than those who are in villages with respect to receiving pension. Their expectations also differ- villagers want subsidies and benefits where as senior citizens from large towns expect free travel and treatment. It shows how location and income influence choices.

Table 4: % Respondents across Type of Benefit to Senior Citizen and economic group

Type of Benefit to Senior Citizen	Economic Groups based on Asset			
	Low	Medium	High	Total
Subsidies & Benefits	55.3	51.8	43.7	50.2
Free travel and treat	44.7	48.2	56.3	49.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 5: % Respondents across Type of Benefit to Senior Citizen and type of location

Type of Benefit to Senior Citizen	Type of Location			
	Large Town	Small Town	Village	Total
Subsidies & Benefits	44.4	47.4	54.0	50.3
Free travel and treat	55.6	52.6	46.0	49.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

India being a patriarchal society, gender bias towards women and their access to basic services and opportunities are felt in varying degrees across the country. The gender bias is reflected in the literacy levels of women being lower than males, child sex ratio (933 girls for every 1,000 boys). The government has various schemes to assist women in receiving proper education and supporting them in becoming financially independent.

The survey schedule attempted to understand the attitude towards female education and establishes the fact that given the option a large section of the respondents would prefer that girls in their households receive a higher level of education to girls. Moreover, as many as three fourths would prefer women in their households to work outside of home. Though

there are some economic, social and religious group wise differences. Across all classifications the majority would prefer women to be playing a greater economic role. Given this background, the strong preference for reservations for women is also understandable – as many as 90% percent favour reservations for women in education (See Appendix 3b, Section I).

According to Census of India 2001 SC and ST population are 16.2 percent and 8.2 percent respectively. The welfare department of Government of India runs several programmes for their development. The reservation policy, which was formulated and implemented 50 years ago, is not likely to be changed in the near future. From the survey results it appears that this policy also has substantial backing from all economic and social groups.

Table 6: % Respondents wanting reservation for SC/ST in government jobs across social groups

Reservation for SC/ST in Government Jobs	Social Group				
	SC	ST	OBC	Others	Total
Yes	70.2	79.8	51.9	40.8	56.3
No	26.2	16.8	45.8	57.3	41.0
Don't know	3.7	3.4	2.3	1.9	2.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 7: % Respondents wanting reservation for SC/ST in government jobs across economic groups

Reservation for SC/ST in Government Jobs	Economic Groups based on Asset			
	Low	Medium	High	Total
Yes	66.5	54.7	48.8	56.7
No	28.4	43.4	50.3	40.7
Don't know	5.1	2.0	0.8	2.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 8: % Respondents wanting reservation for SC/ST in government jobs across type of locations

Reservation for SC/ST in Government Jobs	Type of Location			
	Large Town	Small Town	Village	Total
Yes	50.5	56.5	58.5	56.2
No	48.0	40.8	38.3	41.1
Don't know	1.5	2.7	3.2	2.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Most of the respondents acknowledge need for positive discrimination for socially backward sections of the society. Respondents believe that reservation does play a positive role in shaping and motivating people to raise their standard of life.

The handicapped has been defined as loss or limitation of opportunities to take part in the normal life of the community on an equal level with others due to physical and social barriers. The census puts India's disability rate 2.13 percent in 2001. There were 21.9 million disabled persons in India in January 2001. Of those 16.3 million belong to rural communities and the remaining 5.5 million to urban areas. The distribution in terms of gender stands at 12.6 and 9.3 disabled males and females respectively.

The majority of handicapped are not availing government's schemes for their welfare. However, respondents across regions, religions, gender and social groups advocate for special schemes for their development. The majority of respondents also favour reservations in educational institutions and government jobs.

Globalization and perceptions on underprivileged

How are respondents in relatively more globalized locations different from less globalized ones? For one, the greater the globalization levels, we find that the greater is the support for reservation for SC/ST. This is true for other groups as well, though not to the same degree. Moreover, we also find that respondents in more globalized states have somewhat of a stronger preference for reservations for SC and ST in government jobs as well. When queried that should there be reservations for SC/ST even if more deserving candidates get left out, the vast majority answered in the affirmative, but this was more so in the relatively more globalized locations.

Table 9: % Distribution of respondents desiring ST/SC reservation in education at others cost across levels of globalization

Globalization Index	Yes	No	DK/CS	Total
High	87.43	11.25	1.32	100
Medium	64.47	35.12	0.41	100
Low	57.68	36.81	5.52	100
Total	68.90	28.44	2.66	100

Table 10: % Distribution of respondents desiring ST/SC reservation in jobs at others cost across levels of globalization

Globalization Index	Yes	No	DK/CS	Total
High	70.26	28.46	1.28	100
Medium	45.48	54.48	0.05	100
Low	53.63	40.45	5.92	100
Total	56.23	41.08	2.69	100

However, in general we do not find significant patterns in the differences on the support for the under privileged across more or less globalized locations. The following two tables reflect this.

Table 11: % distribution of respondents desiring special measures to be taken by Government for the upliftment of underprivileged across levels of globalization

Globalization Index	Special Measures for Underprivileged			
	Yes	No	DK	Total
High	82.12	16.33	1.55	100
Medium	63.09	36.50	0.41	100
Low	83.76	15.30	0.94	100
Total	76.9	22.14	0.97	100

Overall, there is also quite a divergence as to the most preferred type that government assistance to the underprivileged (in general and not only SC/STs) should be. The vast majority prefers reservations in government jobs or education. A few (16.58 percent) favour cash transfers, while only 21 percent favour the creation of opportunities for all. In all of these, the respondents in the most highly globalized states are significantly more likely to favour cash transfers or opportunity for all, and less likely to favour government jobs.

Table 12: % distribution of type of government assistance for the underprivileged across levels of globalization

Globalization Index	Government Assistance to Underprivileged					
	Monthly Cash for basic consumption	Government Job	Private Job	Ensure Education	No special privileges but opportunity for all	Total
High	23.65	20.46	8.55	21.33	26.01	100
Medium	9.55	32.00	8.95	29.95	19.55	100
Low	16.55	36.52	7.62	18.62	20.69	100
Total	16.58	30.19	8.32	22.94	21.97	100

For all the interest in the welfare of the underprivileged we find that the majority *do not favour higher taxes to facilitate public efforts towards them*. The table below presents respondents' willingness to pay high tax for welfare of underprivileged. The results indicate that when presented with the information that special efforts towards the underprivileged will involve costs and as a result higher taxes, the overwhelming support turns into overwhelming opposition.

Table 13: % Respondents ready to pay high tax so that government can help underprivileged across economic groups

Readiness to pay higher tax for	Economic Groups based on Asset
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investing in underprivileged.	Low	Medium	High	Total
Yes	13.3	23.7	28.8	21.9
No	84.9	75.6	69.9	76.8
Don't know	1.8	0.7	1.3	1.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 14: % distribution of respondents desiring to pay higher tax for the upliftment of underprivileged across level of globalization

Globalization Index	Higher tax to Government to help Underprivileged			
	Yes	No	DK	Total
High	28.12	71.16	0.73	100
Medium	27.21	71.70	1.09	100
Low	12.87	85.17	1.96	100
Total	21.97	76.72	1.32	100

However, those who are economically better off, and those in more globalized environments are marginally more likely to favour higher taxes to support programs for the underprivileged.

4.2 Education

According to Census of India, India's literacy rate stands at 64.8 percent in 2001. While male literacy rate stood at 75.3 percent, female literacy rate was 53.7 percent. The gap between them is shrinking. Male literacy went up by 11 percent and female literacy by 14.4 percent as compared to the figures in the 1991 Census. This section probes how people negotiate their choice regarding schooling between the different providers of education.

Table 15: % Distribution of respondents across economic group for type of institution providing low cost education

Type of Institution providing low cost Education	Economic Groups based on Asset			
	Low	Medium	High	Total
Private/ Missionaries	1.0	2.4	2.3	1.9
Government	90.2	91.7	95.1	92.4
Most/ All	4.7	4.5	2.1	3.8
Don't know	4.0	1.4	0.5	2.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 16: % Distribution of respondents across type of location for type of institution providing low cost education

Type of Institution providing low cost Education	Type of Location			
	Large Town	Small Town	Village	Total
Private/ Missionaries	3.2	1.4	1.5	1.9
Government	90.0	91.9	93.2	92.1
Most/ All	5.6	4.4	3.1	4.0
Don't know	1.2	2.3	2.2	2.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

The data from the survey shows that majority of the respondents perceive government schools provide education at lower costs than private and missionary schools. Most of the government schools also provide midday meals, which is another incentive for children of poor family to attend schools. These schools are recognized, whereas many private schools (especially primary schools) are not. Another important plus point with government school is their location and easily accessible. They provide education in mother tongue. But these don't form major consideration at the time of making choice for their children's educational growth.

Table 17: % Distribution of respondents across economic group for institution best for their child's future

Type of Institution is best for your child's future	Economic Groups based on Asset			
	Low	Medium	High	Total
Private/ Missionaries	49.8	60.3	76.8	62.3
Government	35.4	22.2	14.0	23.8
Most/ All	10.4	16.6	8.9	11.9
Don't know	4.5	1.0	0.4	2.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 18: % Distribution of respondents across type of location for institution best for their child's future

Type of Institution is best for your child's future	Type of Location			
	Large Town	Small Town	Village	Total
Private/ Missionaries	73.4	72.2	53.6	62.3
Government	16.6	19.2	28.5	23.7
Most/ All	8.8	6.2	15.7	12.0
Don't know	1.3	2.4	2.2	2.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Important consideration for making choice of educational institutes is quality of education in Hindi, English, maths and vocational training. If money were not a constraint, respondents would prefer sending their children to private schools as they are perceived to be providing better 'quality' of education. Across region, religion, gender and economic groups respondents overwhelmingly answer in favour of private schools as being the best for their child's future. The survey results also indicate that these schools are perceived to employ more qualified teachers and have better sport infrastructure (See Appendix).

More importantly, when queried where they would send their child if money were not a constraint, barely one fourth answered in favour of a government school. Three fifths answered in favour of private schools. Moreover, we find little differences between levels of globalization where private-public school choice is concerned.

Table 19: % distribution across choice of school if money were not a constraint

Globalization Index	If money Is not a constraint, choice of school				
	Private/Missionary	Government	Any	D.K	Total
High	62.31	33.41	3.74	0.55	100
Medium	58.42	26.82	14.48	0.27	100
Low	64.59	21.94	9.13	4.33	100
Total	61.99	26.97	9.12	1.92	100

Public education expenditures can either be on direct provision of education through government schools, supplemented by fees charged from students, used to subsidize private schools, or given as transfers to households who then have the freedom to chose which school to spend the cash/voucher on. The following tables present the responses. Lower economic groups have a greater preference for direct provision by the government, but higher economic groups tend to favour either user charges or subsidization of private schools along with regulation. Rural areas also have a somewhat greater preference for direct public provision.

Curiously however, across globalization levels, the most and least globalized states have similar responses – greater preference for public provision of education. But respondents in the mid globalized states have somewhat greater preference for user charges.

Table 20: % Distribution of respondents across economic group for institution best for desired role for government in education

Desired role for Government in Education	Economic Groups based on Asset			
	Low	Medium	High	Total
Directly provide education	56.1	49.4	41.7	49.1
Partially charge education	20.8	30.7	38.2	29.9
Regulate and subsidize private schools	8.8	12.7	14.5	12.0
Give monthly sum for schooling	14.3	7.2	5.6	9.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 21: % Distribution of respondents across type of location for institution best for desired role for government in education

Desired role for Government in Education	Type of Location			
	Large Town	Small Town	Village	Total
Directly provide education	44.1	46.2	52.0	48.9
Partially charge education	36.7	28.8	27.9	30.1
Regulate and subsidize private schools	15.0	13.0	10.4	12.0
Give monthly sum	4.2	12.0	9.7	9.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 22: % Distribution of respondents across globalization levels for institution best for desired role for government in education

Desired Government role in education	Globalization Index			
	High	Medium	Low	Total
Directly provide education	53.87	39.31	52.52	48.87
Partially charge education	26.91	42.86	22.52	30.12
Regulate and subsidize private schools	13.84	12.51	10.21	12.03
Give monthly sum	5.37	5.32	14.75	8.97
Total	100	100	100	100

Other results (see appendix) indicate that private schools are considered to be better in terms of infrastructure, quality education and proper attention to children by a vast majority. But in response to question regarding role of government, the majority prefer government’s direct role in education. In other words, it is not just good education but good education at lower

cost that is important. The government is believed to best be able to fulfill this aspiration-quality education with proper infrastructure at lower cost and at accessible points.

Presently government schools are providing education to a large section of the population, but these schools are perceived to lack quality. In spite of low cost education and easy accessibility private institutions are the preferred option. Private schools are playing important role in providing quality education. These schools have gained a reputation of sincere and accountable institutes with proper infrastructure and qualified teachers. But the government's role in the field of education has not been underestimated. Direct and active role of government is needed to improve educational facilities for masses. Across different groups- region, religion, gender and social – respondents have a preference for direct provision of education by the government provided quality is not compromised.

4.3 Health

Health is one of the basic services provided by the government. Government has an extensive public health system both in rural as well as in urban areas, which aims to provide adequate health care to all. With consistent regularity the government launches various health schemes and programmes targeted at specific beneficiaries like pulse polio, DOTS (medication for TB), among many others. Despite such efforts many prefer to go private medical practitioners than government ones. Reasons could be diverse for this, ranging from sub standard quality of health care at public health centers, paper work required to actually get free treatment, inaccessible timings or locations of government health facilities. Further urban areas are also witnessing setting up of premium hospitals funded by corporates that are perceived to provide good quality health care though at a price. As health to a great extent is related with physical well being, most seek immediate and efficient health care and are ready to pay extra to get proper health care.

With these changes in the background, this section on health looks at the utilization patterns and the expectations that respondents have from the government with respect to provision of good health care.

Utilization of the different health services was captured across the different kinds of health needs. Short-term illness, vaccinations, women’s health problems, long term ailment, child birth, hospitalization and specialized surgery. (See Appendix 3b, Section III for detailed tabulations). According to the survey data, most visit government health facility irrespective of the kind of illness. Even though government is the most frequently accessed, higher proportions of those in the low economic group, scheduled castes, and in the villages go to government health facilities in case of long term illness. As long term illness are generally more financially taxing those in low economic group may not be able to afford private health services over a long period of time. Further for those in the villages, availability and accessibility could be the deciding factor, as many rural areas are not covered by private health facilities.

Table 23: % distribution of respondents across economic groups and health facility visited for short-term illness

Health Facility Visited For Short Duration Illness	Economic Groups based on Asset			
	Low	Medium	High	Total
Government hospital	60.1	37.1	24.4	40.5
Private hospital	12.5	18.4	25.0	18.6
Chemist shop	8.4	5.6	6.9	7.0
Private Doctors	14.9	31.0	37.7	27.9
Religious/ Missionaries	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.1
Primary Health Center	3.1	7.5	5.3	5.3
Ayurvedic/Unani/Homeopathy	0.0	0.3	0.4	0.2
Other	0.6	0.1	0.1	0.3
Don't know	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.1

Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
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Table 24: % distribution of respondents across economic groups and health facility visited for long-term illness

Health Facility Visited For Long Term Ailments	Economic Groups based on Asset			
	Low	Medium	High	Total
Government hospital	75.8	74.3	58.2	69.5
Private hospital	15.3	19.7	28.7	21.2
Chemist shop	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.2
Private Doctors	4.5	3.3	4.9	4.2
Religious/ Missionaries	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1
Primary Health Center	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1
Ayurvedic/Unani/Homeopathy	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.2
Other	3.8	2.3	7.7	4.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 25: % distribution of respondents across type of location and health facility visited for long-term illness

Health Facility Visited For Long Term Ailments	Type of Location			
	Large Town	Small Town	Village	Total
Government hospital	62.4	61.9	75.6	69.6
Private hospital	26.7	22.5	18.6	21.3
Chemist shop	0.1	0.5	0.0	0.2
Private Doctors	7.1	4.5	2.8	4.1
Religious/ Missionaries	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1
Primary Health Center	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.1
Ayurvedic/Unani/Homeopathy	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.2
Other	3.3	10.5	2.5	4.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Economic status plays an important role in deciding the health facility. Individuals from economically better of households are more likely to visit private doctor or private facility. The data suggests a definite shift from government to private health facilities with increasing economic status. Hence it would not be completely unfounded to assume that, if money were not the hindrance in the deciding the choice of health facility, private facilities would be preferred.

The assumption that if money were not a constraint respondents would prefer going to private facility stands true as per the survey data. Almost third of the respondents would prefer going to private health facility even though presently they might be accessing government health facility. With adequate economic resources many who presently visit government health facility would go to private ones. Hence it can be said that 'good' health care comes at a price and a specific location, which is not managed by the government.

Table 26: % distribution of respondents across type of location and health facility preferred

Health Facility Preferred	Type of Location			
	Large Town	Small Town	Village	Total
Government health facility	23.8	18.8	20.3	20.8
Private health facility	70.3	75.7	73.6	73.3
Religious/ Missionaries	2.7	1.3	0.7	1.3
Others	1.7	1.6	3.1	2.4
Don't know	1.6	2.7	2.2	2.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 27: % Distribution of Type of health facility preferred by respondents across levels of globalization

Globalization Index	Type of Health facility preferred					
	Government health facility	Private health facility	Religious Inst.	Others	DK	Total
High	36.38	61.1	0.5	0.23	1.78	100
Medium	11.35	85.17	0.14	1.56	1.78	100
Low	15.75	73.61	2.87	4.9	2.87	100
Total	20.76	73.32	1.3	2.43	2.2	100

Even though the gap between the people's perception about 'good' health care and the reality seems to be greater in case of government health facility than private facility, leaving provision of health services to private providers is not what most desire from the government. When asked to choose between the different possible roles, direct provision or partial provision by the government account for almost a third of the respondents. Only about one in every 10 respondent wanted the government to just regulate and subsidize health services. Hence most respondents felt that provision of 'good' health services is the responsibility of the government.

Table 28: % Distribution of Government's role in the health sector desired by respondents across levels of globalization

Globalization Index	Government role in health					
	Directly Provide	Partly charge	Regulate & subsidize private health care	Monthly sum	Health Insurance	Total
High	54.72	28.86	10.26	3.83	2.33	100
Medium	21.56	42.21	12.85	7.93	15.45	100
Low	48.23	20.93	7.21	14.42	9.21	100
Total	42.02	29.91	9.88	9.17	9.01	100

Table 29: % distribution of respondents across economic groups and desired role of government in health sector

Desired role of Government in Health Sector	Economic Groups based on Asset			
	Low	Medium	High	Total
Directly provide	43.5	45.6	37.2	42.1
Partly charge	20.6	28.6	40.6	29.9
Regulate & subsidize private health care	6.9	10.5	12.0	9.8
Give a monthly sum	15.7	6.6	5.6	9.3
Provide health insurance	13.4	8.7	4.6	8.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 30: % distribution of respondents across type of location and desired role of government in health sector

Desired role of Government in Health Sector	Type of Location			
	Large Town	Small Town	Village	Total
Directly provide	43.5	36.8	43.6	42.0
Partly charge	33.6	33.5	26.9	29.9
Regulate & subsidize private health care	11.1	12.1	8.4	9.9
Give a monthly sum	5.7	10.3	10.1	9.2
Provide health insurance	6.1	7.3	11.0	9.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Among those respondents who belonged to poorer households direct provision was the most desired role for government in health sector while those in the richer households were more aware of the financial constraints and need for finances to provide health facility desired the government to partly charge for the services. To conclude, majority desire a proactive role of the government role in health, rather than leaving it to just private providers.

4.4 Employment Opportunities

With the reforms since the early 1990s the character of employment is likely to undergo drastic changes. Sectors that were hitherto foreign to the Indian economy have been established. The private organized sector is likely to emerge as a major employer, though currently the unorganized sector accounts for the bulk of the employment. The desire for the government to play an important role in directly providing employment however comes out strongly in this section on employment.

This is not surprising given that on 5 of the 7 criteria related to good employment conditions, the majority preferred government jobs. These included job security, health care, retirement benefits, respectability, and overall job satisfaction. As various tables in the

Appendix show, government jobs are considered to be better than private jobs and are the preferred for household members. This is across all categories of respondents, including those in the more globalized environments. Variations do exist across economic groups and type of location but are not significant.

Of the various possible options of the kinds of *permanent* jobs that the government should provide, the most preferred option by most was – low wages to all rather than a high wages to only a few. However, there are significant differences between the high and low globalization locations. The lower globalized locations wanting much more egalitarian job opportunities within the government.

Table 31: % Distribution of role of Government in creating more employment opportunities as desired by the respondent across type of location

Desired role of Government in creating more employment opportunities (EGS)	Type of Location			
	Large Town	Small Town	Village	Total
Low wages to all	73.7	76.1	69.9	72.1
High wages to a few	21.6	17.9	25.3	22.7
Should not have such schemes	4.8	6.0	4.9	5.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 32: % Distribution of role of Government in creating permanent employment opportunities as desired by the respondent across levels of globalization

Desired Government role in Permanent employment	Globalization Index			
	High	Medium	Low	Total
Low wages to all	66.67	67.14	80.49	72.13
High wages to a few	27.04	29.22	14.12	22.74
Should not have such schemes	6.29	3.64	5.39	5.13
Total	100	100	100	100

Other queries related to security, reveal that what drives this preference for government jobs is the security of jobs. On the whole security with lower incomes is preferred to higher incomes without security by most respondents. Though this is slightly less so in more globalized environments, the differences are only marginal. Overall about nine tenths of the respondents prefer security to high incomes.

When we venture out of the government job options, we find much more interesting insights. Respondents hold responsibility of the government in providing employment almost equal to investment in training or in ensuring credit to entrepreneurs. About 50 percent of the respondents desire that the government should invest in wage employment as against 34 percent who prefer imparting training and entrepreneurial skills for self-employment or those 17 percent who felt ensuring credit to new entrepreneurs.

With respect to reservations in jobs, a significant proportions of the respondents (36%) felt that affirmative action or better educational opportunities for the underprivileged was a

better option than reservation in jobs. Even though majority favour reservations, many desire that reservations should also be extended to private sector (42%).

Table 33: % Distribution of sector in which Government should impose reservation as desired by the respondent across levels of globalization

Globalization Index	Sector in which Government should impose reservation				Total
	Public sector only	Private + Public Sector	No job reservation but Affirmative Action	No job reservation but Educational opportunities for underprivileged	
High	15.18	48.45	22.18	14.18	100
Low	23.71	39.11	17.81	19.37	100
Total	21.78	42.32	19.61	16.28	100

Table 34: % Distribution of sector in which Government should impose reservation as desired by the respondent across type of location

Sector in which Government should impose reservation	Type of Location			
	Large Town	Small Town	Village	Total
Only in Public sector	21.2	23.1	21.5	21.8
Both Private & Public	40.1	39.4	44.5	42.3
No job reservation but Affirmative Action	23.3	20.2	17.9	19.6
No job reservation but Educational opportunities for underprivileged	15.5	17.4	16.2	16.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Reservation

Reservation queries were also included in this section. And the responses are most illuminating. The vast majority has a preference for reservations that are based on social *and* economic criteria (61 percent). Purely economic criteria are preferred by about 32 percent of the respondents. Purely social status based criteria (as is currently) are favoured by less than 10 percent of the population.

In other words, on the issue of basis for reservations majority of the respondents across economic classes, social groups and globalization levels felt that government's policy on assistance has to take into account both economic and social status. Assistance based on a purely social status has been negated by majority of the respondents, even those respondents who belong to the marginalized social groups (SC/ST).

Table 35: % Distribution of basis for getting benefits across social groups

Basis for Assistance to the Underprivileged	Social Group				
	SC	ST	OBC	Others	Total
Economic status	27.1	31.7	30.2	36.1	31.5
Social Status	5.4	9.3	6.8	9.7	7.6
Economic & social Status	67.5	59.0	63.1	54.3	60.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 36: % Distribution of basis for getting benefits across economic groups

Basis for Assistance to the Underprivileged	Economic Groups based on Asset			
	Low	Medium	High	Total
Economic status	30.3	26.0	38.8	31.7
Social Status	6.8	6.9	8.9	7.6
Economic & social Status	62.8	67.1	52.2	60.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 37: % Distribution of basis for getting benefits across levels of globalization

Basis for Assistance to the Underprivileged	Globalization Index			
	High	Medium	Low	Total
Economic Status	32.48	37.99	25.35	31.43
Social Status	13.47	5.05	5.09	7.65
Economic & Social Status	54.05	56.96	69.56	60.92
Total	100	100	100	100

4.5 Housing and Shelter

National Housing and Habitat Policy 1998 says that by 1997 the total housing shortages in the country was estimated to be 13.66 million units, out of which 7.57 million units would be in the urban areas. More than 90% of these shortages are for the poor and the low-income category. The Government through a National Agenda declared 'Housing For All' as a priority area and has set a target of construction of 2 million houses every year with emphasis on the poor and deprived. Schemes like Indira Awas Yojana are important initiative to implement its programme for housing for all.

The survey data shows that most of the respondents from lower income group and SC and ST expect proper housing and shelter from the government. Respondents from large towns have different expectation from the government. Those who want free land to build houses are in a minority.

Table 38: % distribution of respondents across economic group and desired role of government in provision of housing

Desired role of Government in Provision of Housing	Economic Groups based on Asset			
	Low	Medium	High	Total
Proper housing & shelter	45.2	36.7	21.7	34.6
Partially charge for housing	27.6	40.4	49.7	39.2
Free land to built house	19.8	12.7	13.3	15.3
Regulate & subsidize	7.4	10.2	15.3	11.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 39: % distribution of respondents across type of location and desired role of government in provision of housing

Desired role of Government in Provision of Housing	Type of Location			
	Large Town	Small Town	Village	Total
Proper housing & shelter	31.0	29.3	38.0	34.4
Partially charge for housing	45.2	43.9	35.1	39.4
Free land to built house	13.4	16.6	15.6	15.3
Regulate & subsidize	10.4	10.1	11.4	10.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 39a: % Distribution of Government's role in housing across levels of globalization

Desired role of Government in Provision of Housing	Globalization Index			
	High	Medium	Low	Total
Proper housing & shelter	38.10	23.11	40.49	34.41
Partially charge for housing	35.55	55.87	29.30	39.39
Free land to built house	9.51	11.65	22.90	15.32
Regulate & subsidize	16.84	9.37	7.31	10.87
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Respondents across groups- type of location, globalization levels and economic- stated that the government should allocate or demarcate areas in towns/ cities for low cost building. They also want government to recognize slums.

Table 40: % Percentage respondents desiring low cost housing across economic group

Views in Town Planning: Low cost housing	Economic Groups			
	Low	Medium	High	Total
Yes	63.2	77.7	80.7	75.2
No	32.1	19.9	16.6	21.7
Don't Know	4.7	2.4	2.8	3.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Privatization

However privatization of utilities is not the preferred option. Moreover, most have a strong preference for regulation. Majority of the respondent reject idea of outsourcing specific sub-tasks to private agencies for greater efficiency in provision of utilities such as fixing water meters etc. Respondents are divided on the issue of privatization of water and electricity supply. Those from higher income groups are marginally less in favour of privatization of basic utilities such as water supply and electricity. In response to a question whether the government should focus on governance rather than regulating utilities most of the respondents were opposed it. There is a preference for government directly providing these facilities to the deprived sections of our society.

Table 41: % Distribution of whether Government should outsource tasks to private agencies across levels of globalization

Globalization Index	Government should outsource tasks to private agencies			
	Yes	No	DK	Total
High	38.81	60.60	0.59	100
Medium	27.53	70.05	2.42	100
Low	26.02	69.10	4.88	100
Total	30.42	66.78	2.8	100

Table 42: % Distribution of whether Government should privatize water and electricity across levels of globalization

Globalization Index	Government should privatize water & electricity supply			
	Yes	No	DK	Total
High	40.67	58.74	0.59	100
Medium	47.52	50.98	1.5	100
Low	47.75	48.84	3.41	100
Total	45.5	52.54	1.96	100

Table 43: % Distribution of whether Government should not regulate provision of utilities but focus on overall governance across levels of globalization

Globalization Index	Government should not regulate utilities but focus on governance			
	Yes	No	DK	Total
High	24.75	74.57	0.68	100
Medium	29.76	68.73	1.5	100
Low	52.14	38.71	9.15	100
Total	36.85	58.96	4.2	100

4.6 Consumption Security

Keeping in mind the incidence of poverty and food insecurity in the country the government has a PDS (Public Distribution System), which is a network of procurement, stocking and distribution centers set up for provision of essential commodities (wheat, rice, sugar, kerosene) at a regulated price. Since early 1990s the focus of the PDS has changed with special attention being paid to the BPL households. Under the Targeted PDS special cards are issued to the BPL households and products are sold to them at highly subsidized rates.

The questionnaire attempted to understand respondents opinion regarding the PDS, its functioning and the extent to which the system is utilized.

Most (about 83 percent) believe that it is the responsibility of the government to ensure food security. However much fewer believe that the government is working for it (about 46 percent). The view is strongest among the medium level globalized states.

Table 44: % Distribution of whether government is responsible for ensuring food for all across levels of globalization

Globalization Index	Responsibility of Government ensure food to all			
	Yes	No	DK/CS	Total
High	85.82	13.13	1.05	100
Medium	66.01	33.62	0.36	100
Low	93.97	5.27	0.76	100
Total	82.87	16.4	0.73	100

Table 45: % Distribution of whether government is working towards food security across levels of globalization

Globalization Index	Government is working for food security			
	Yes	No	DK/CS	Total
High	79.17	18.05	2.78	100
Medium	21.76	77.51	0.73	100
Low	40.39	48.49	11.12	100
Total	46.57	48.07	5.36	100

With respect to provision of basic food items more than half of the respondents believe that the PDS should cater to all, rather than just the BPL families though variations across economic groups and the type of location exist. A significantly higher proportion of the respondents from economically poor households demand that the PDS be available to all as they might not be belonging from BPL category but require assistance from the government to meet their nutrition needs. Conversely a higher percentage of the individuals from the economically better off, state that PDS should be targeted only for the BPL as the PDS shops might be a redundant option for them.

Table 46: % Distribution of Type of provision of basic food items desired by respondents across levels of globalization

Globalization Index	Provision of basic food Items			
	PDS to ALL	PDS only to BPL	Cash to BPL	Total
High	52.91	41.32	5.77	100
Medium	53.69	40.9	5.41	100
Low	54.89	34.58	10.53	100
Total	53.91	38.6	7.5	100

Table 47: % distribution of respondents across economic groups and desired role of government in provision of basic food items

Provision of Basic Food Items	Economic Groups based on Asset			
	Low	Medium	High	Total
PDS to all	64.3	50.2	47.0	53.8
PDS only to BPL	26.6	41.8	47.6	38.7
Cash to BPL	9.2	8.0	5.5	7.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Proper management of the PDS is essential for it to reach its beneficiaries and for it maintain the quality of its services. Management in the hands of government has come under flak for not being efficient and having processes that lead to great leakages that can be avoided. Even though the majority of the respondents preferred that government staff should manage the PDS, one in every five persons also desires that certain tasks such as purchase, storage, movement and distribution can be contracted to private agencies. Further another 20 percent felt that cooperatives are a good option to manage the PDS.

However among the more globalized states, the respondents were least in favour of government management of the PDS, private agencies and cooperatives were the preferred mode for significant proportions. Whereas the relatively less globalized states were much more in favour of government.

Table 48: Percentage distribution of respondents across globalization levels and desired structure for management of PDS

Management of PDS	Globalization Index			
	High	Medium	Low	Total
Government Staff	37.47	62.94	61.41	54.52
Private Agency	28.38	17.14	26.82	24.32
Coop.	34.15	19.92	11.77	21.16
Total	100	100	100	100

Table 49: % distribution of desired structure for management of PDS across economic groups

Management of PDS	Economic Groups based on Asset			
	Low	Medium	High	Total
Government Staff	68.5	46.1	49.6	54.8
Private Agency	16.9	28.6	26.9	24.1

Management of PDS	Economic Groups based on Asset			
	Low	Medium	High	Total
Coop.	14.6	25.3	23.5	21.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 50: % distribution of respondents across type of location and desired structure for management of PDS

Management of PDS	Type of Location			
	Large Town	Small Town	Village	Total
Government Staff	44.1	54.5	58.9	54.5
Private Agency	29.7	26.7	21.1	24.3
Coop.	26.2	18.8	20.0	21.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

5. Summary Conclusions

The results indicate the following:

An ‘average’ Indian is in favour of continued role of the government in direct provision of government services in health, education, employment options, consumption and housing.

When presented with the possible costs of this, by way of higher taxes for instance, the preferences tend to vanish.

The respondents were also in favour of a range of privileges for the underprivileged. Though the definition of what constitutes the underprivileged varies between individual, the vast majority consider the SC/ST population to be deserving of special privileges, especially in employment opportunities.

In employment, a strong weight is put on security, and consequently government jobs are the most preferred option.

However, other government support to employment generation such as better training and credit for starting new businesses are together as preferred as government jobs.

Reservations are not negated, however, pure social status based reservations are not preferred. Instead some element of economic status is favoured by almost 90 percent of the respondents – across all social and economic groups.

There are differences across economic groups, social groups, locations, and globalization levels – however these differences are not the defining elements in most cases.