

Modi should look to India's neighbours

Joël Ruet (*Economist with CNRS and Chairman of The Bridge Tank*)

Sir, Regarding Victor Mallet's article "[Modernising India presents huge challenges for Narendra Modi](#)" (October 2), I would maintain that the number one challenge for India's prime minister will be that of time.

Mr Modi's government must begin to deliver concrete results to the electorate in order to retain their votes before the next general election. Infrastructure projects and educational reform will not bear fruit for at least another five to 10 years, yet tackling poverty and economic empowerment need not take so long.

Mr Modi should look to India's neighbours to see how economic experiments based on inclusive growth policies have succeeded in improving living standards and empowering rural populations. The vision of Muhammad Yunus is the accepted blueprint in many of the world's emerging economies. Thaksin Shinawatra's policy of inclusive growth managed to lift 6m out of poverty within five years in Thailand.

This approach may be different to that advocated by western economic analysts and commentators, but this strategy of inclusive growth could be key in satisfying the electorate to buy Mr Modi's government the time it needs to address the four problems raised by Mr Mallet.

Biographie

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Specialist of Emerging Economies, Joël Ruet was Alumni of Ecole des mines, Paris & London School of Economics. He has lived in Paris, Cairo, New Delhi, Bombay, London, Beijing and Dakar. Joël Ruet is an expert in renewable energy & nuclear, automotive, agriculture and mining industries on India, China, Africa. He contributes as scientific coordinator to the « Global Vision Program » initiative for Sustainable Mobility Initiative between Fondation Renault & ParisTech « Grandes Ecoles ». He has been invited as an expert in public policy discussions by several administrations in France, Cina, India and several countries in Africa.



As part of his continued efforts to inform public policy economic reforms he has volunteered as an adviser to several Ministers, and joined campaign teams of presidential candidates. In his personal capacity, he has been consulted by C-suite teams in Fortune 500 companies, Investment funds and International Agencies.