

OECD-World Bank Joint Conference on
INNOVATION AND SUSTAINABLE GROWTH
IN A GLOBALISED WORLD
INNOVATIONS: THE INDIAN STORY

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Notes for Discussion at the Roundtable, 19th November, 2008

CASE STUDIES: The Green Revolution; Pharmaceuticals; The cross-bar telephone exchanges; MHD power Generation; Light Combat Aircraft; Fast Breeder reactors; Geostationary satellites; rocket to the moon; Baby Food; diamond industry; catalysts for petrochemicals; a few service industries eg., the Dabbawallahas of Mumbai

THE DRIVERS: Market opportunities; major national concerns; competence show-off; champion promoters

THE PROMOTERS: Usually the government or the public sector; fewer private sector industries

THE ENABLERS: graduate scientists and engineers; selective international cooperation; global experts; political support; IPRs; protectionism; embargoes

PERFORMANCE: some imitative; a few original innovations; no global marketable innovation;

SHORTCOMINGS: scarcity of tacit knowledge; school and college education (memory testing against puzzle and problem solving; lack of project work) absence of start-ups and venture capitalist and angel investor culture; perceptions of small national market; corruption; dependence on risk-averse government employment; minimal institutional support