



## Discussion Questions

1. How does India's large and youthful population create both opportunities and challenges for the country's economy and development?
2. What differences does the story highlight between India's northern and southern states, and what might these regional contrasts reveal about governance and priorities in a diverse democracy?
3. Economist Mihir Sharma says Modi's popularity rests on giving citizens a "sense of pride" even without jobs. How can nationalism and pride serve as both strengths and risks in a democracy?
4. Critics in the story argue that Hindu nationalism is marginalizing India's Muslim minority. How can a democracy balance majority identity with protection of minority rights?
5. What role do education and health play in ensuring India's "demographic dividend" doesn't become a demographic burden? What might happen if these needs aren't met?