Arvind Panagariya
Career & Contributions
Arvind Panagariya holds a Ph.D. from Princeton University and is currently a Professor of Economics and the Jagdish Bhagwati Professor of Indian Political Economy in the School of International and Public Affairs at Columbia University.

From January 2015 until August 2017, Professor Panagariya served as the first Vice Chairman of the NITI Aayog, Government of India, with the rank of Cabinet Minister. In 2001, he was the Chief Economist, Asian Development Bank.

Professor Panagariya has authored more than fifteen books. His book India: The Emerging Giant (2008, OUP, New York) was described as the “definitive book on the Indian economy” by Fareed Zakaria of the CNN. The Economist magazine has called his book, Why Growth Matters, (with Jagdish Bhagwati) “a manifesto for policy makers and analysts.”

Professor Panagariya’s scientific papers have been published in the top economics journals such as the American Economic Review, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Review of Economic Studies and International Economic Review. His policy papers have appeared in the Foreign Affairs and Foreign Policy. He has also written guest columns for the Financial Times and Wall Street Journal. He can be frequently seen in the Indian print and television media.

In March 2012, the Government of India honored Professor Panagariya with the Padma Bhushan, the third highest civilian honor the country bestows in any field.

Arvind Panagariya: A Biography

Arvind is one of the finest humans, a brilliant economist, original thinker, compassionate global citizen, enlightened thought leader, and a prolific writer. He is counted by me as my dear friend, which for me is a great accomplishment of my life.

I have known Arvind for years now and was very fortunate to be his colleague in the Modi govt, wherein he became the first ever head of the newly created, unique institution NITI Aayog.

He made very pioneering, intellectually high-order contributions, setting the important agenda for India’s transformation. He set very high standards of highly acclaimed and creative policy work, to take this agenda forward. He implemented some very useful, socially relevant schemes, with great efficiency. He has left very high bar of standards for his successors to follow.

Suresh Prabhu
Minister of Commerce and Industry

To celebrate Arvind Ji’s life from just the prism of academia would be a great injustice to his argumentative yet compelling self, his warm smile, an encouraging word he has for you when the going gets tough.

Every time the chips were down, every time I wanted to turn things around, I saw him lead me to a better ending from rocky beginnings ( mild shaiyari but true ).

That’s the Doc I fondly remember. Have a grand celebration Doc you deserve it and so do those who were a part of your journey.

Regards,
Smriti Irani
Minister of Information and Broadcasting

Wishes from former colleagues

Dear Dr. Panagariya Ji,

On the occasion of your 65th birth anniversary, let me take the opportunity to express my gratitude to you on a number of counts.

First, for your stature as an economist of international repute, you have brought glory to our country. Your prolific contribution to the academia has enriched our understanding of the world. In achieving what you have, you are an inspiration for millions who have humble beginnings but dream big— they draw hope from your story. Such assurance is invaluable for the youth struggling against life’s odds.

Secondly, for your unparalleled contribution in shaping the vision of the Prime Minister of a new, robust economy, and, indeed, a New India that emphasizes both wealth creation and reaching out to the marginalized. As the Vice-Chairman of NITI Aayog, the reforms undertaken during your tenure have given the much-needed fillip to this inclusive vision. We continue benefitting from your prescient economic policies.

I have, thus, come to know you as a man of great achievements with admirable humility in equal measure.

The day you left for Columbia University, New York, I met you over a cup of tea—you left me with deep thoughts and a conversation to cherish. For that, and more, I thank you.

I wish you a very Happy Birthday. My prayers for your health and well-being.

Best Regards,
Dharmendra Pradhan
Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas
Minister of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
“I WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND MY BEST WISHES TO ARVIND JI. HE HAS DONE OUTSTANDING WORK. THIS COUNTRY WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER HIS SERVICE AND CONTRIBUTIONS.”

PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA MODI, AUG. 22, 2017

Arvind Panagariya @APanagariya · Sep 1
PM @narendramodi gave me a painting of Vadnagar, his hometown, as farewell gift. Deeply touched by his gesture.
Met @rashtrapatibhvn on 29/8. Prez warmly welcomed me saying we last met in Patna. Amazing memory & most affectionate.
Mr. Panagariya’s book is the capstone of a career, a sustained work of scholarship. It demands a lot of its readers, and amply repays the investment. The author’s father told him: “Take your time, but write a definite book on India.” The son did not disappoint.

The Economist (second review)

“This latest contribution from Jagdish Bhagwati and Arvind Panagariya, two Indian-born economists at Columbia University, is welcome. In Why Growth Matters, the duo provide perhaps the most full-throated defence to date of India’s economic liberalisation, which began in 1991 and is widely understood to have led to a period of fast growth over the past decade.”

James Crabtree, Financial Times

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WHY GROWTH MATTERS (2013)
**NOTABLE PUBLIC POLICY APPOINTMENTS**

2015 - 2017  
Vice Chairman  
NITI Aayog

2014  
Vice Chairman, Chief Minister’s Advisory Council, State of Rajasthan, India

2010 - 2014  
Director  
Program on Indian Economic Policies

2012 - 2014  
Member, International Advisory Board of the Securities and Exchange Board of India

2004 - 2014  
Editor of India Policy Forum  
Brookings Institution/NCAER

2007 - 2014  
Non-resident Senior fellow, Brookings Institution, Washington DC.

2001  
Chief Economist  
Asian Development Bank

**RECENT ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

2004 - Present  
Professor of Economics & Jagdish Bhagwati  
Professor of Indian Political Economy, School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University in New York City

1978 - 2004  
Professor of Economics [1989-2004]  
Associate Professor of Economics [1983-1989]  
Assistant Professor of Economics [1978-1983],  
Department of Economics, University of Maryland, College Park, MD

**MOST-CITED ACADEMIC ARTICLES**


Authored more than 115 Academic Articles and Policy and Technical Papers.

**OTHER BOOKS**

New Dimensions in Regional Integration, ed. (with Jaime de Melo), Cambridge University Press, 1993.


Arvind Panagariya

In honor of his 65th Birthday & Accomplishments
Celebrated at Columbia University, International Affairs Building
October 27 & 28, 2017