Arvind Subramanian

Arvind Subramanian, currently senior fellow at the Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs at Brown University and distinguished nonresident fellow at the Center for Global Development, was previously chief economic advisor to the Government of India (2014–2018). Foreign Policy magazine named him as one of the world’s top 100 global thinkers in 2011.

He has also been professor of economics at Ashoka University (2020–2021), visiting lecturer at the Harvard Kennedy School (2018–2020) and the Dennis Weatherstone senior fellow at the Peterson Institute for International Economics (2007–2014).

As chief economic advisor, he oversaw the publication of the annual Economic Survey of India, which became a widely-read document on Indian economic policy. For example, the 2018 Survey had twenty million views from over 190 countries in its first year of publication.

Among the major ideas and policies he initiated and helped implement were a simplified goods and services tax (GST), measures to tackle the Twin Balance Sheet challenge, creating the financial and digital platform for connectivity (the so-called JAM trinity), and Universal Basic Income.

His award-winning book Eclipse: Living in the Shadow of China’s Economic Dominance was published in September 2011 and has printed 130,000 copies world-wide in four languages. His latest, best-selling book, reflecting on his time in India, Of Counsel: The Challenges of the Modi-Jaitley Economy, was published by Penguin Random House in December 2018.