



Why Should We Care About Development Finance? ...because it's our money!

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## Bridges, Budgets, and Broken Accountability

Two days ago a parapet segment of an under-construction metro collapsed in Mumbai, killing one person and injuring three others. This incident is the newest addition to a troublingly long list of infrastructure accidents in India. Just last July, the Gambhirna bridge collapse in Gujarat cost nine lives. And in 2022, the Morbi bridge collapse cost the lives of 135 people, including women and children! According to government data, between 2019 and 2024 there were 42 bridge collapses in the country.

The several lakhs of crores invested into infrastructure by both Central and State governments, does not translate into good quality infrastructure or safety mechanisms, largely due to severe cost cutting. The Government's famously used L1 system gives tenders to the lowest bidder for a project, leading to bidders severely undercutting expenses, especially around labour, quality and safety. Only recently have they changed this to award tenders based on technical merit. This coupled with the widespread corruption that has been a core part of Indian bureaucracy, form the perfect recipe for such disasters to recur at alarming frequency.

A 2024 survey states that nearly 50% of public infrastructure in India is unprepared for disaster management. As climate crises and disasters mount, this shocking reality should push authorities into immediate action. But in India, where accountability is scarcely practiced, this dysfunction is the norm.

While contractors cut necessary costs and corruption eating into public funds, the ultimate price for it is paid by the citizens, who lose lives and loved ones to entirely avoidable accidents.

- Team CFA

We refuse to give up trying to demystify finance. We will continue to hold the government and financial institutions accountable for their economic policies and investments. Support us.



## FTA is not free trade but US dictated trade: Surrender to Trump is dangerous for the Country

On 7th Feb morning at 4.29 AM, the Government released a press statement by PIB titled *United States-India Joint Statement*. The full agreement was not even made available to the Parliament, and the media is speculating and appreciating it, and industry leaders are lauding the interim agreement without even knowing the full details. The farmers' movement, trade unions, and the opposition parties have called it a sell-out.

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**Article:**  
How Fishing Communities Are Challenging Port Led Growth in Uttara

[Kannada](#)



**Article:**  
The Supreme Court Is Not the Supreme Wisdom



**Article:**  
समूह जल संसाधनों के बीच प्यासा आदिवासी समाज



## 12 YEARS OF INJUSTICE: STILL NO ACTION ON TATA MUNDRA

Communities in Tata Mundra are still fighting for clean water, safe air, and justice. Add your voice — urge the World Bank and IFC to act now.

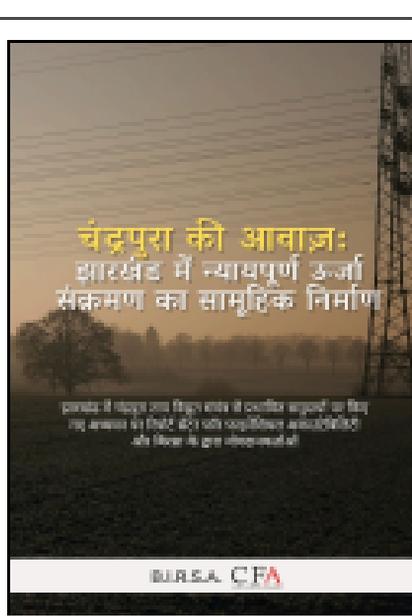
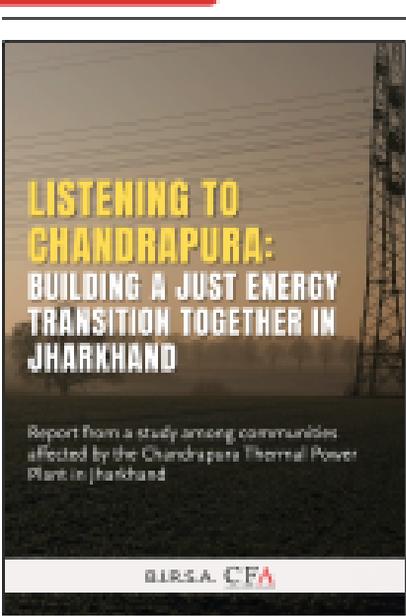
Follow the link or scan the QR code to sign the petition: <https://tata-mundra.com/india.org/petition>

## The Tata Mundra Project: A Decade of Broken Promises

A decade of environmental destruction. Thousands of lives affected (9).

It's time for the World Bank to act.

[Call to action](#)



Report

## Listening to Chandrapura: Building a Just Energy Transition Together in Jharkhand

Just Energy Transition (JET) has gained significant prominence as the global climate crisis intensifies, emphasising the urgent need to move away from fossil fuels to mitigate climate impacts. India, as the third-largest primary energy consumer globally, presents a complex case for JET due to its heavy reliance on coal, which still accounts for about 80% of its energy demand from coal, oil, and solid biomass combined. [Read More](#)



## Flipbook Pocket Money

Brief on what they kept from you about your money this week

A weekly In-Digest from the Centre for Financial Accountability

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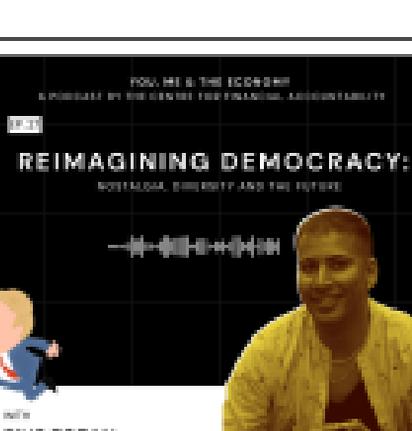
The RBI's latest consumer confidence data signals a sobering optimism among households. Expectations for the year ahead have dipped as people grow less confident about the overall economy, their future incomes and especially the trajectory of prices, while current earnings are seen as stable, but as income growth has moderated and perceptions of the present economic situation have worsened. An unfavourable moment is underpinning to emerge that inflation anxiety stands out as the biggest concern, with households expecting price pressures to remain elevated in both the near and medium term. Overall, the

You, Me and the Economy | Podcast

## Gags to Gaza: Standing up to Neo-fascist onslaught in India & the World

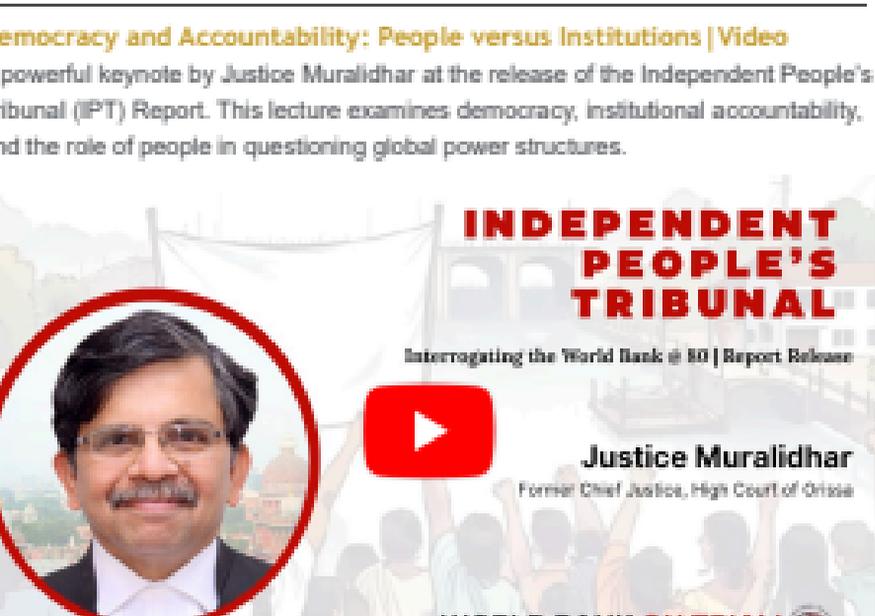
In this episode, Pius Fozan, political thinker and scholar, calls us to rethink democracy. He reflects on the dangers of nostalgic histories, the construction of alternative realities that glorify the past while ignoring today's challenges.

[Read More](#)



## Democracy and Accountability: People versus Institutions | Video

A powerful keynote by Justice Muralidhar at the release of the Independent People's Tribunal (IPT) Report. This lecture examines democracy, institutional accountability, and the role of people in questioning global power structures.



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