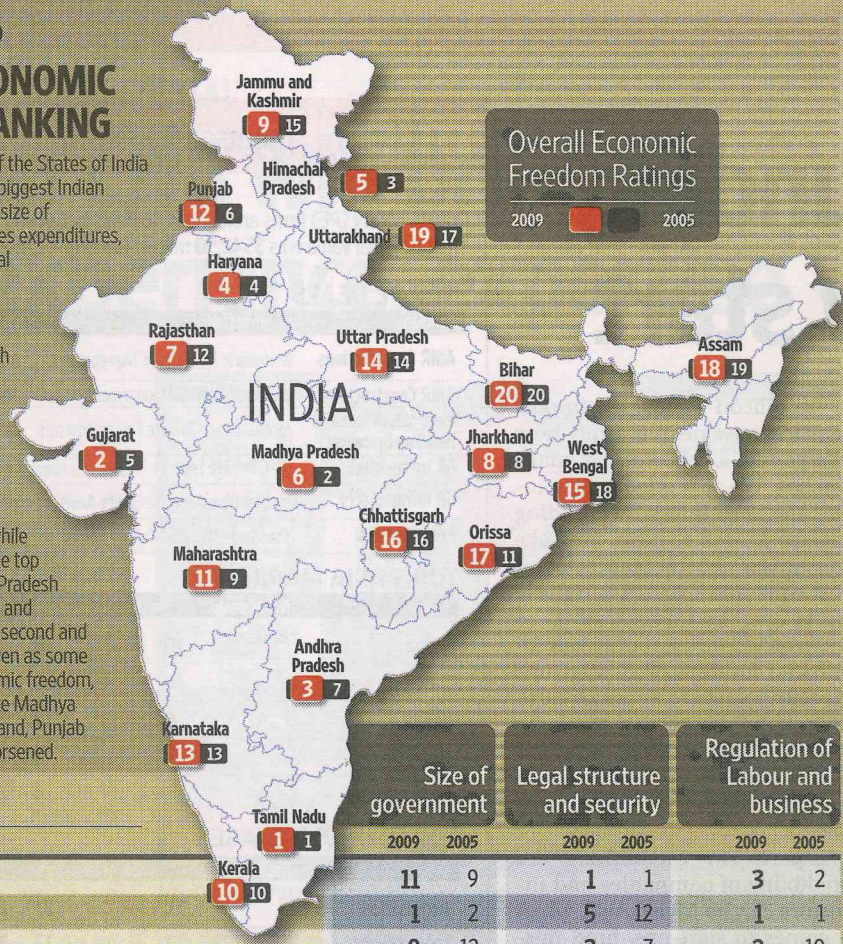


GUJARAT, AP CLIMB IN ECONOMIC FREEDOM RANKING

The Economic Freedom of the States of India 2011 report ranks the 20 biggest Indian states on the basis of the size of government, which includes expenditures, taxes and enterprises; legal structure and security of property rights as well as regulation of labour and business. The report, which uses mostly government data, defines economic freedom as 'the unfettered ability of an individual to make economic choices'.

According to the report, while Tamil Nadu maintained the top rank, Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh replaced Madhya Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh for the second and third rank, respectively. Even as some states improved in economic freedom, ranking of some others like Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Uttarakhand, Punjab and Himachal Pradesh worsened.



Rankings

States	Size of government		Legal structure and security		Regulation of Labour and business	
	2009	2005	2009	2005	2009	2005
Tamil Nadu	11	9	1	1	3	2
Gujarat	1	2	5	12	1	1
Andhra Pradesh	9	12	3	7	2	10
Haryana	3	7	7	3	7	11
Himachal Pradesh	10	1	8	4	5	7
Madhya Pradesh	17	14	2	2	11	3
Rajasthan	13	18	4	5	16	14
Jharkhand	2	3	15	18	14	4
Jammu & Kashmir	14	20	13	14	4	8
Kerala	8	6	12	13	13	15
Maharashtra	6	5	17	16	6	6
Punjab	5	8	11	9	18	13
Karnataka	16	15	10	8	8	17
Uttar Pradesh	18	10	9	10	10	19
West Bengal	4	4	19	17	12	18
Chhattisgarh	19	17	6	6	20	20
Orissa	15	19	16	11	9	5
Assam	7	11	18	19	17	9
Uttarakhand	20	13	14	15	15	12
Bihar	12	16	20	20	19	16

Text by ASIT RANJAN MISHRA

Source: Economic Freedom of the states of India, 2011

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