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Offense

Miscellaneous Cards

1% increase in GDP growth rate → 4.3% fall in homicide rate (short-run), 23% fall (long-run) (Daniel Lederman – World Bank)

Daniel Lederman (World Bank). "Inequality and Violent Crime." Journal of Law and Economics. April 2002.

Third, the GDP growth rate has a significantly negative effect on the homicide rate. According to our estimates, the impact of a permanent 1 percentage point increase in the GDP growth rate is associated with a 4.3 percent fall in the homicide rate in the short run and a 23 percent decline in the long run. Fourth, our measure of educational attainment remains negative and significant, but the GNP per capita and the urbanization rate now lack statistical significance. The pattern of significance (or lack thereof) of the basic explanatory variables is quite robust to all the various empirical exercises of this paper. It is also similar to what we found in our first empirical cross-country study on violent crime rates.

Lack of reform is the cause for all of India's economic problems (Derek Scissors – The Heritage Foundation)

Scissors, Derek. "India Stays on Path to Economic Failure." The Foundry Conservative Policy News from The Heritage Foundation. Heritage Foundation, 28 Feb. 2013. Web. 04 Mar. 2014. <<http://blog.heritage.org/2013/02/28/india-stays-on-path-to-economic-failure/>>

However, the Indian economy is not healthy. Consumer inflation remains above 10 percent, where it has been for years. More attention is paid to the wholesale price index, but it is consumer inflation that bears more directly on buying power. The true wealth of Indian households has stagnated in the past four years as income growth has slowed and consumer inflation remains high.

In terms of GDP components, services lead. In a more mature economy, this would be good news. India, however, must create tens of millions of jobs in response to demographic expansion. This requires manufacturing to lead the economy, and it is not doing so. The reason underlies all of India's economic problems: lack of reform.

Services lead in large part because the labor market is more flexible in services industries than in manufacturing. Rather than labor market reform, the Indian government offers a state-led infrastructure program. But the infrastructure program has no chance to succeed while property rights to land remain so ill-defined.

Reform is politically difficult. As with governments all over the world—including the U.S.—India is making the huge mistake of substituting spending. The budget results for the last fiscal year were barely acceptable, with the deficit at 5.2 percent of GDP. The proposal for this year is a triumph of hope over courage: Spending is to increase by 17 percent, yet the deficit is to fall to 4.8 percent of GDP.

Banks in Trouble / Non-Repaid Loans

Bank loans not being repaid (Nupur Acharya – WSJ)

Acharya, Nupur. "Rising Bad Loans Pose a Threat for India." The Wall Street Journal. Dow Jones & Company, 06 Jan. 2014. Web. 04 Mar. 2014.
<http://online.wsj.com/news/articles/SB100014240527023048871045793026430_48756988>

Bad loans in India have jumped to a record high, hurting profits and stocks of state-owned banks and threatening to curb lending in Asia's third-largest economy.

With India's expansion slowing to a decade low and higher interest rates taking hold, companies are struggling to pay back what they have borrowed after a credit binge in recent years.

4.2% of loans not repaid, up from 2.4% in 2009 and expected to be 5.7% (Nupur Acharya – WSJ)

Acharya, Nupur. "Rising Bad Loans Pose a Threat for India." The Wall Street Journal. Dow Jones & Company, 06 Jan. 2014. Web. 04 Mar. 2014.
<http://online.wsj.com/news/articles/SB100014240527023048871045793026430_48756988>

As a percentage of total loans, nonperforming assets at Indian banks climbed to 4.2% in September, up from 2.4% in 2009, according to the latest data available from India's central bank. Analysts expect the ratio to rise as high as 5.7% in the next four months.

Immediate action is required (Raghuram Rajan – Reserve Bank of India)

Acharya, Nupur. "Rising Bad Loans Pose a Threat for India." The Wall Street Journal. Dow Jones & Company, 06 Jan. 2014. Web. 04 Mar. 2014.
<http://online.wsj.com/news/articles/SB100014240527023048871045793026430_48756988>

"We want to take action quickly before [the bad loan ratio] gets to the point it becomes alarming," Raghuram Rajan, Reserve Bank of India's governor, said after a policy meeting last month.

The central bank also announced a list of measures last month for monitoring and containing loans turning sour. It has proposed that banks start reporting struggling borrowers earlier and punishing more borrowers for late payments. Much more needs to be done, though, analysts say. The country is stuck in a painful slowdown. Growth in gross domestic product is expected to be less than 5% in the year ending in March, a sharp decline from more than 9% just three years ago.

Indian banks need 10x current funding if they want to survive & thrive (Dhananjay Sinha – Emkay Global)

Acharya, Nupur. "Rising Bad Loans Pose a Threat for India." The Wall Street Journal. Dow Jones & Company, 06 Jan. 2014. Web. 04 Mar. 2014.
<http://online.wsj.com/news/articles/SB100014240527023048871045793026430_48756988>

"The problems of the banking system can't be wished away," said Ramraj Pai, president of Crisil Ratings. "The criticality of the banking sector makes it an important instrument for any government and therefore there is a high possibility they will support it."

Indian banks will need more than 10 times the amount the government is planning to inject this fiscal year if they want to survive and thrive, said Dhananjay Sinha, head of research at Mumbai-based brokerage Emkay Global Financial Services Ltd. "The clock is ticking for Indian banks."

Poverty Reduction

A third of India's population is below the 'extreme poverty line' (Ram Mashru – The Diplomat)

Mashru, Ram. "India's Growing Urban Poverty Crisis." The Diplomat. N.p., 04 Mar. 2014. Web. 06 Mar. 2014. <<http://thediplomat.com/2014/03/indias-growing-urban-poverty-crisis/>>.

The incumbent UPA government, a coalition of left-leaning parties, has long championed an "inclusive" growth model. But its failure to ensure that the benefits of growth have "trickled down" to the poor is well established. When adjusted for variations in the cost of living, **32.7 percent of India's population live below the international extreme poverty line of \$1.25 per day. India is home to a third of the world's poor**, a third of the world's slave population, and on a host of other social and development indicators it continues to slip further and further behind other developing countries.

Economic growth is the only way to end poverty (Ian Vásquez - CATO)

Vasquez, Ian. "Ending Mass Poverty." Cato Institute. N.p., 04 Sept. 2001. Web. 06 Mar. 2014. <<http://www.cato.org/publications/commentary/ending-mass-poverty>>.

Economic growth is the "only path to end mass poverty," says economist Ian Vásquez, who argues that redistribution or traditional poverty reduction programs have done little to relieve poverty. Vásquez writes that the higher the degree of economic freedom -- which consists of personal choice, protection of private property, and freedom of exchange -- the greater the reduction in poverty. Extending the system of property rights protection to include the property of poor people would be one of the most important poverty reduction strategies a nation could take, he says. **The historical record is clear: the single, most effective way to reduce world poverty is economic growth. Western countries began discovering this around 1820 when they broke with the historical norm of low growth and initiated an era of dramatic advances in material well-being. Living standards tripled in Europe and quadrupled in the United States in that century, improving at an even faster pace in the next 100 years. Economic growth thus eliminated mass poverty in what is today considered the developed world. Taking the long view, growth has also reduced poverty in other parts of the world: in 1820, about 75 percent of humanity lived on less than a dollar per day; today about 20 percent live under that amount. Even a short-term view confirms that the recent acceleration of growth in many developing countries has reduced poverty, measured the same way. In the past 10 years, the percentage of poor people in the developing world fell from 29 to 24 percent. Despite that progress, however, the number of poor people has remained stubbornly high at around 1,200 million. And**

Defense

A2: Climate Change

1. Mayer Hillman (University of Westminster): “The effects of climate change cannot quickly be reversed by reducing or even eliminating future emissions of greenhouse gases.”
 - It would likely take hundreds of years for emission reduction efforts to have a tangible impact because CO₂ persists in the atmosphere for thousands of years.
 - Robert Essenhigh (The Ohio State University): Less than 5% of climate change is caused by CO₂ in the atmosphere.
2. Vince Streizch (University of Washington): The warming effects of climate change will continue to happen regardless of steps taken today.
3. London School of Economics: Developing countries would have to drastically cut emissions, which would have terrible effects.
 - “much of the growth in emissions in developing countries results from the provision of basic human needs for growing populations, while emissions in industrialized countries contribute to growth in a standard of living that is already far above that of the average person worldwide.”

If India is the actor

4. Alexander Kasterine (World Trade Organization) – 80% of world emissions would need to be reduced to prevent brink impacts. India only makes up 6%.
 - India isn’t going to be able to solve the problem alone, India is hit much harder b/c they can’t adapt
5. World Resource Organization – Unlike developed countries, eliminating pollution in the atmosphere through regulation would be devastating to basic living standards in India as people would likely lose work and invaluable sources of income.
 - “much of the growth in emissions in developing countries results from the provision of basic human needs for growing populations, while emissions in industrialized countries contribute to growth in a standard of living that is already far above that of the average person worldwide.”

It will take a long time to stop CC (Mayer Hillman - University of Westminster)

Hillman, Mayer and Fawcett, Tina, 2007, The Suicidal Planet: How To Prevent Global Climate Catastrophe, pg. 25-26

The effects of climate change cannot quickly be reversed by reducing or even eliminating future emissions of greenhouse gases. There are two reasons for this. First, greenhouse gases released into the atmosphere linger for decades (in the case of relatively short-lived gases like methane), or hundreds of years (for carbon dioxide), or even thousands of years (for the long-lived gases like per-fluorocarbons). Carbon dioxide and methane concentrations in the atmosphere are respectively one-third and more than twice as high as those at any time over the last 650,000 years. Even if no additional carbon dioxide were emitted from now on, atmospheric concentrations would take centuries to decline to pre-Industrial Revolution levels. While elevated levels of greenhouse gases remain in the atmosphere, additional warming will occur.

95% of CO₂ in atmosphere natural (Robert Essenhigh – The Ohio State University)

Robert Essenhigh, professor of mechanical engineering whose main focus is in the area of combustion. June 23, 2008, Small Parts of Greenhouse Man-Made, Lexis Nexis Database.

Reading the June 7 letter "Fight against warming can't wait," from David A. Scott of the Sierra Club, I was astonished that his organization believes global warming is due to carbon-dioxide emissions from combustion of fossil fuels, since the numbers just don't support it. Of all the greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, water and carbon dioxide are about 99 percent of the total, at relative proportions of roughly 80 percent water and 20 percent carbon dioxide. So, if we want to "control" global warming by reducing the greenhouse gases, shouldn't we start with water? And, since its source is natural -- evaporation from rivers, lakes and seas, with return as rain -- how do we do that? Carbon dioxide's primary source also is nature: vegetation and the sea. Using data from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (and can the IPCC be wrong?), the annual in/out carbon tonnage (carried as carbon dioxide) is about 60 gigatons per year from vegetation and 90 gigatons per year from the sea, for a total of 150 gigatons per year. And from combustion? Currently, it measures about 6 or 7 gigatons per year, which is less than 5 percent of the total. Combine the carbon dioxide with the water emissions, and 5 percent of 20 percent is 1 percent. So this is a problem? Exactly why and how? But the real kicker is that it's not the rising carbon dioxide that is driving up the temperature; it's the rising temperature that is driving up the carbon dioxide, and this has been going on since the bottom of the last Ice Age.

Climate Change irreversible (Vince Striech – University of Washington)

Vince Striech (University of Washington) "If Greenhouse Gas Emissions Stopped Now, Earth Still Would Likely Get Warmer." September 2012.

There would continue to be warming the new research shows that even if all emissions were stopped now, temperatures would continue to rise higher than pre-Industrial Revolution levels due to the greenhouse gases already emitted are likely to persist in the atmosphere for thousands of years

Developing countries would have to drastically reduce emissions (London School of Economics)

London School of Economics and Political Science. "Cutting carbon emissions: Developing countries like India are central to action." 5 Dec 2012. blogs.lse.ac.uk/indiaatlse/2012/12/05/cutting-carbon-emissions-developing-countries-like-india-are-central-to-action/

It is crucial that developing countries are central to action. The emissions landscape has changed rapidly over recent years with the share of global carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions from developing countries increasing from 33 per cent in 1990 to 40 per cent in 1997, when the Kyoto Protocol was signed, to around 55 per cent today. Estimates of future CO₂e emissions indicate that this rising trend will continue. Total emissions from developing countries could be as high as 37-38 billion tonnes of CO₂e in 2030 (around 70 per cent of global CO₂e emissions), and total global emissions for a 2°C path can only be around 32-33 billion tonnes in that year. This arithmetic implies that it is simply impossible to manage climate change unless developing countries take stronger action than currently planned, even if developed countries reduce their emissions to zero by 2030. In quantitative terms it is inevitable that they are at centre stage. And it is in developing countries self-interest that they take stronger action now given the attractiveness of the alternative paths and the dangers of delay.

To avoid 2°C increase we need emissions 80% below 2000 levels (Alexander Kasterine – World Trade Organization)

Alexander Kasterine (World Trade Organization). "The Effectiveness, Efficiency and Equity of Market-based and Voluntary Measures to Mitigate Greenhouse Gas Emissions from the Agri-food Sector". 2010. http://www.intracen.org/uploadedFiles/intracenorg/Content/Exporters/Sectors/Fair_trade_and_environmental_exports/Climate_change/TER_UNCTAD_KasterineVanzetti.pdf

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) considers it will be necessary to stabilize global GHGs at a maximum level of 450 ppm CO₂ equivalent (CO₂ eq) to avoid a temperature rise of more than 2°C. This would require a reduction in global emissions of 80 per cent below 2000 levels by 2050 (IPCC, 2007). However, global emissions increased by 70 per cent between 1970 and 2004, and are still growing.

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The six largest emitting countries/regions (with their share in 2012 between brackets) were: China (29%), the United States (15%), the European Union (EU27) (11%), India (6%), the Russian Federation (5%) and Japan (4%) (Figure 2.2). Remarkable trends were seen in the top three emitting countries/regions, which account for 55% of total global CO₂ emissions. In China emissions increased by 3.0%, while in the United States emissions decreased by 4.0% and the European Union as a whole also saw a decrease of 1.6% in 2012 compared to 2011.

CO₂ use in developing countries is for basic human needs (World Resources Institute)

World Resources Institute. "Climate change and developing countries". 2003. <http://archive.wri.org/page.cfm?id=1284&z=?>.

In addition, much of the growth in emissions in developing countries results from the provision of basic human needs for growing populations, while emissions in industrialized countries contribute to growth in a standard of living that is already far above that of the average person worldwide. This is exemplified by the large contrasts in per capita carbon emissions between industrialized and developing countries. Per capita emissions of carbon in the U.S. are over 20 times higher than India, 12 times higher than Brazil and seven times higher than China.

70% reduction won't solve (Michael Shermer – Scientific American)

Shermer, Michael, 2006, "The Flipping Point" Scientific American, Vol. 294 Issue 6, p28

It is a matter of the Goldilocks phenomenon. In the last ice age, CO₂ levels were 180 parts per million (ppm)—too cold. Between the agricultural revolution and the industrial revolution, levels rose to 280 ppm—just right. Today levels are at 380 ppm and are projected to reach 450 to 550 by the end of the century—too warm. Like a kettle of water that transforms from liquid to steam when it changes from 99 to 100 degrees Celsius, the environment itself is about to make a CO₂-driven flip. According to Flannery, even if we reduce our carbon dioxide emissions by 70 percent by 2050, average global

temperatures will increase between two and nine degrees by 2100. This rise could lead to the melting of the Greenland Ice Sheet, which the March 24 issue of Science reports is already shrinking at a rate of 224 ± 41 cubic kilometers a year, double the rate measured in 1996 (Los Angeles uses one cubic kilometer of water a year). If it and the West Antarctic Ice Sheet melt, sea levels will rise five to 10 meters, displacing half a billion inhabitants.