

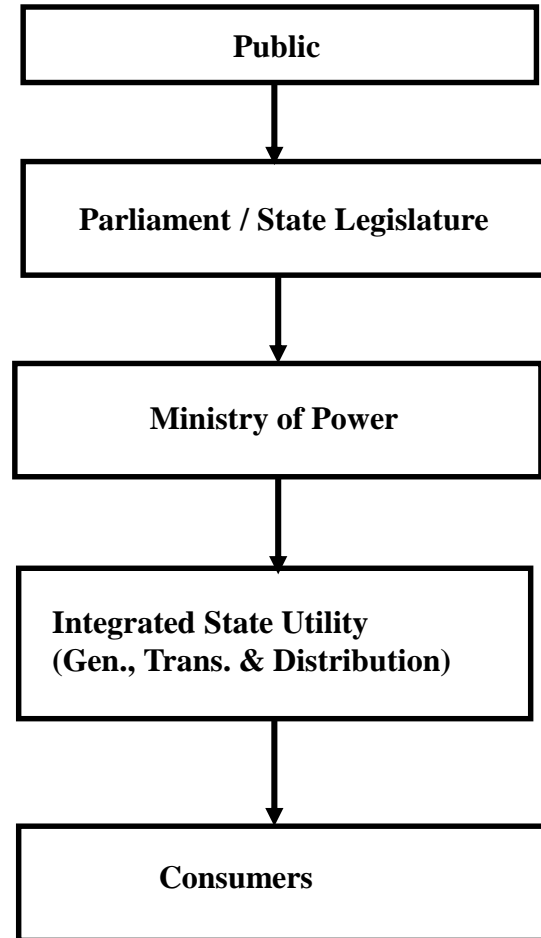
# ANALYZING INDEPENDENT REGULATORY AGENCIES IN INDIA

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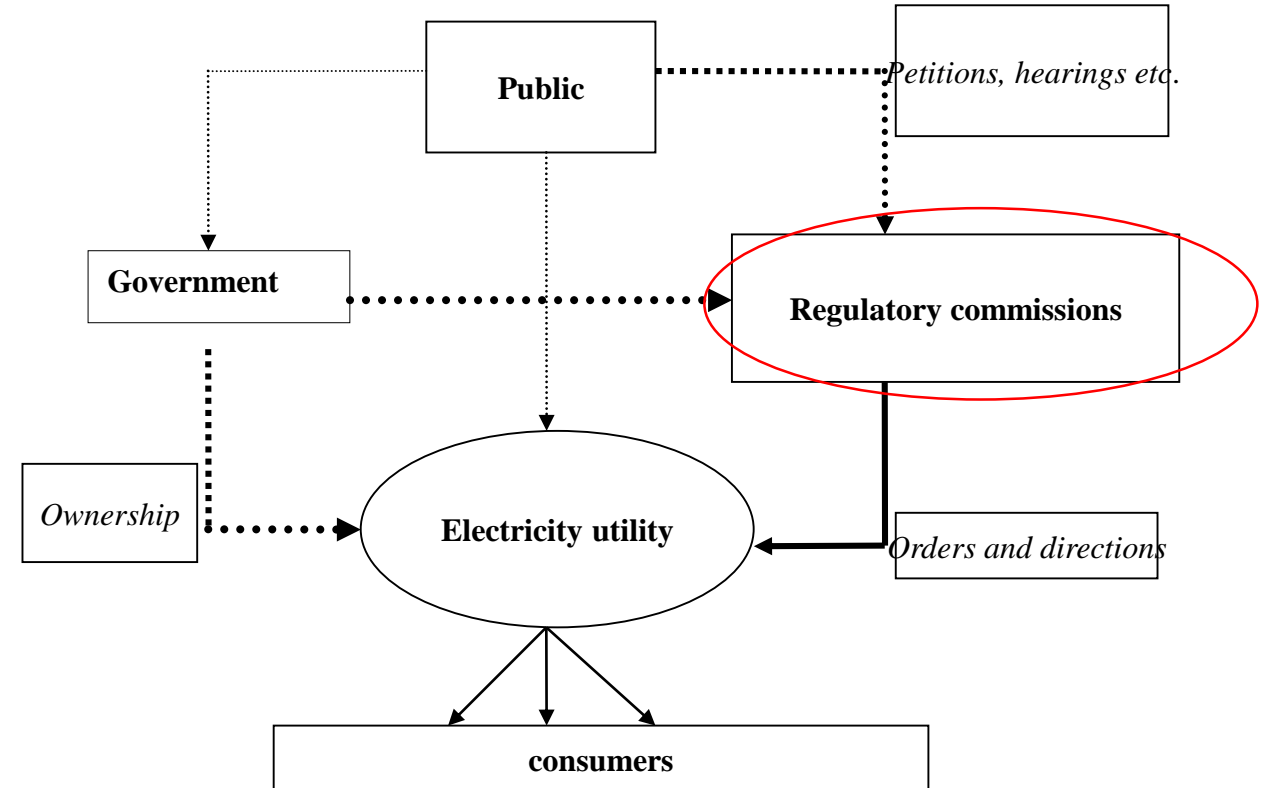


An Illustration from Electricity Sector in India

Prior to governance reforms



After governance reforms

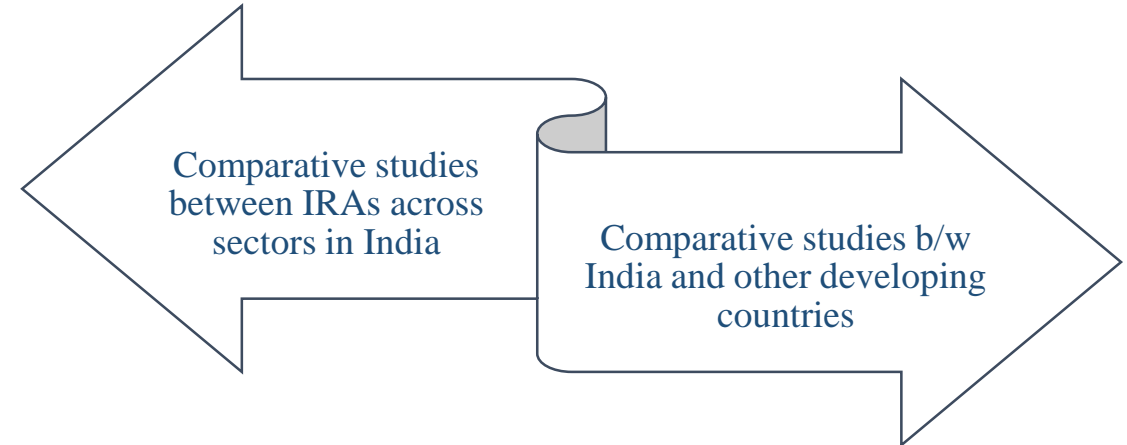


### Existing Literature about IRAs in India

- 14 IRAs in India across all sectors out of which 6 are in infrastructure sector (electricity, telecom, ports, civil aviation, petroleum & natural gas and real estate).
- Literary discourse on IRAs in India revolves primarily around Electricity and Telecom sector
- Diffusion of IRAs in India has been studied extensively
- The institutional level analysis focusing on power, functions, composition, independence and autonomy of sectoral regulators.

### Research Gap

- Based on preliminary survey of existing literature
  - Less focus on other infrastructure sector IRAs
  - There is dearth of comparative studies



# Research Outline

## Broader Research Question/Area

- **How has the traditional administrative-political environment of India influenced regulatory capabilities of IRAs (Working title).**

## Theoretical Framework

- Regulatory Space by L. Hancher & M. Moran

## Approach

- Broader research area to be divided into 3 further sub areas
- 3 sub areas to be developed into 3 papers
- Comparative studies across sectors in India and with another developing country

## Paper 1: Comparing the regulatory arrangement across IRAs in infrastructure sector in India

- **Research Question**

Does regulatory arrangement of IRAs vary across sectors depending on economic or political context?

- **Methodology**

Quantitative (Organizational Proliferation Index, Coordination Index, Actor Influence Index and Concentration Index (Emmanuelle Mathieu, 2016)).

- **Sectors**

Electricity, Telecom, Aviation, Petroleum & Natural gas, Ports and Real Estate sectors in India.

- To understand how IRAs have been influenced by the traditional administrative-political environment
- To get an insight into one of the most important regulatory responsibilities i.e. decision-making
- Ability to influence decision-making process is an indication of how actors are placed in regulatory arrangement
- “Regulatory arrangement” refers to the complex web of actors whose interventions and interactions sustain the regulatory process in a given field (Emmanuelle Mathieu, 2016).

## Paper 2: Bureaucratic culture and governance capabilities of IRAs: A comparative study of electricity sector in India and Brazil

- **Research Question**

How does managerial autonomy affect governance abilities of electricity regulators in India and Brazil over institutional change?

Within managerial autonomy, the area of focus will be Human Resource Management

- **Methodology**

Qualitative (Interviews and desk based research)

- **Sectors**

Electricity

- India and Brazil, both are federal, democratic countries and developing economies. Part of BRICS.
- Both countries have strong bureaucracy
- The electricity regulator has been there in both these countries for almost two decades.
- Exogenously driven reforms (World Bank)
- The World Bank report in 2004 observes how human resource management is an issue for sectoral regulators in both these countries (in terms of pay scale, ability to hire staff and mobility etc.)

## Paper 3: IRAs as an innovative instrument for engaging politics

- **Research Question**

Under which circumstances IRAs emerge as an institution capable of creatively engaging in politics

- **Methodology**

Qualitative (Social Network Analysis)

- **Sectors**

Electricity, Telecom, Aviation, Petroleum & Natural gas, Ports and Real Estate sectors in India

- In developing countries it is difficult to isolate economic governance from political considerations and local political culture.
- A hybrid institutional form that combines politics as usual with opportunities for political intervention by civil society groups (experience of CERC/SERCs).
- Idea is to examine circumstances/conditions under which IRAs emerge as an institution capable of creatively engaging in politics.
- To find variations in other sectors like one exists in electricity sector

THANK YOU