

A new study reveals that there are 1,574 schools as opposed to Government statistics that shows only 350 schools in Patna, leaving 2,38,767 school going children out of 3,33,776 students from the official data.

New Delhi, 25 February 2012: India Institute is proud to announce the launch of *The Private School Revolution in Bihar: Findings from a survey in Patna Urban*, a pioneering study that plots each school in all of the 72 wards of Patna Urban using Global Positioning System technology, revealing glaring gaps in the government statistics provided by the official DISE data (District Information System for Education).

We take great pleasure in inviting you to the official launch the study on Monday, 27 February 2012 at Lecture-1, India International Centre Annexe from 4-5pm.

The official government data shows private education as an entirely insignificant part of the educational landscape in Bihar. This study with EG West Centre of the Newcastle University is a comprehensive analysis of the complete private schools' landscape within one city in India. Conducting a thorough on-the-ground census and survey of private unaided schools in Patna Urban, this study attempts to fill some of the gaps in our knowledge. By focusing on a previously unstudied phenomenon in an entire Tier II city, the findings of this study challenges government figures that grossly underestimate the true picture and will have implications for the entire country in the wake of the regulations for private schools in the Right to Education (RTE) Act.

The report will be launched by **Shri N K Singh**, Member of Parliament, following which will be an address by **Shri Gurcharan Das**, Public Intellectual & Author. An introduction to the report and sharing of key findings will be done by the authors, **Baladevan Rangaraju**, Director of India Institute and **Prof James Tooley** from Newcastle University. The launch will end with hi-tea.

About India Institute

India Institute is an independent and nonprofit public policy research and advocacy organisation. We have set out to research and test policy ideas so that we may present critiques of current policies as well as alternative ideas. Since November 2010, we are full time into researching, testing, sharing, and advocating policy ideas that are better suited for growth, transparency and accountability.

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