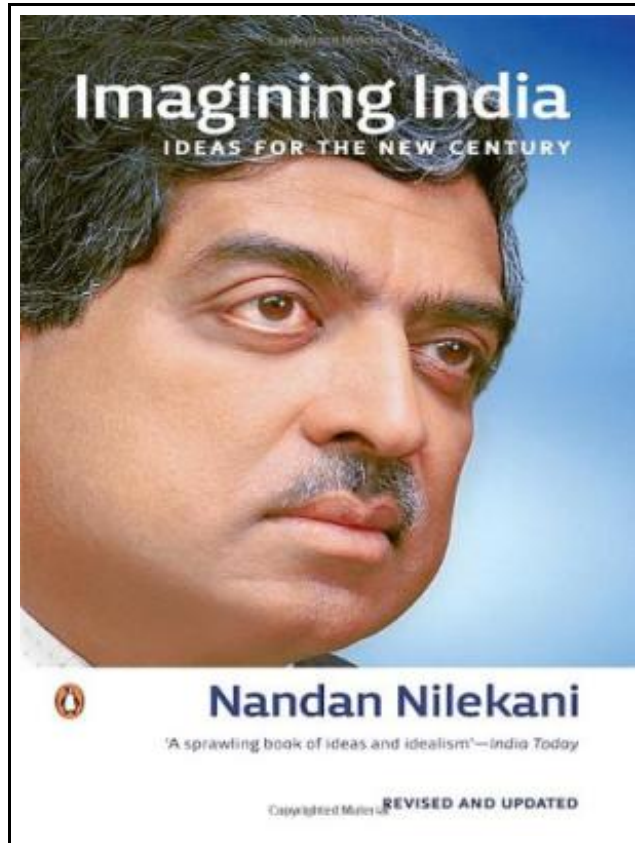


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IMAGINING INDIA: IDEAS FOR THE NEW COUNTRY



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Allen Lane: An Imprint of Penguin Books, New Delhi, India, 2008. Hardcover. Book Condition: New. Dust Jacket Condition: New. First Edition. Since the early 1990s, India has witnessed great social, political and cultural change. As the worlds largest democracy, its most diverse nation and one of its fastest growing economies, India is now, sixty years after Independence, universally regarded as an emerging superpower. In this sweeping and comprehensive book, one of the countrys finest and most dynamic minds examines the central ideas that have shaped modern India, and offers an original perspective on our past, present and future. Infosys co-founder Nandan Nilekani, who has been a key player in Indias growth story, points out that the countrys future rests on more than simply economic growth; it also depends on reform and innovation in all sectors of public life. Looking closely at Indias recent history, he examines the ideas and attitudes that evolved with the times and contributed to the countrys progress, as well as those that kept it shackled to old, unproductive and fundamentally undemocratic ways. He discusses how Indias early socialist policies, despite good intentions and astonishing idealism, stifled growth and weakened democracy; how, contrary to received wisdom, the countrys large and overwhelmingly young population has now become its greatest strength; how information technology is revolutionizing not just business but also governance in the everyday life of a vast majority of Indians; and how rapid urbanization is transforming both society and politics. Nilekani also gets to the heart of charged debates about caste politics, labour reform, infrastructure, higher education, the English language in India and the role of the state in a globalized world where the wealth of big corporations exceeds that of some nations. And as he does this, he asks the key questions of the future: how...



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