

THE PARADOXES OF DEVELOPMENT AND ISSUES OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES: WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO INDIA

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ABSTRACT

The word 'Development' is widely used to describe the journey of mankind's success. Development is multifaceted concept used by different sections of the society starting with the Organic development to the institutional development to economic development. Concept of development is extensively used by economist primarily used in the reference with the income numbers and growth of economy. Later on in eighteenth century few economist started it relating with the well being and standard of living of common living. Amartya Sen a renowned economist explains the concept of development in wider sense, quote "It is not hard to see why the concept of development is so essential to Economics in general. Economic problem do of course involve logistic issues and a lot of it is undoubtedly 'engineering' on one another on the other hand. The success of all this has to be judged ultimately in the terms of what does to the lives of human beings." At large it is related with change, modernity, liberalization and welfare. However on several platform it is misleading, unreal, exaggerated and overrated as far as the mass welfare is concern. To understand and to evaluate the impact of development we need to look in the reference of developed and undeveloped countries. It has to be analyzed in the context of rich nation's agenda of development and its impact on the poor nation especially country like India, which has diverse aspects in the context of development.

KEY WORDS: Development, Paradox, Social Inclusion, Poverty

As human society transformed from uncivilized to civilize society, humans progressed from the basic need of mankind to the advanced needs and the era of modernization. The aspects of human development have changed over the time. Essentially the journey of development is started from the industrial revolution followed by huge migration of population. Discovery of machinery and automation of industries is the milestone of this journey. 'An ease to human life and sustainable development' was the objectives of this process and it is the issue of analysis that this journey has reached at desired goal or failed. (Jay Weinstein: 2010) However the trail of this process has left some footprints which resulted in massive implications to the human society. Worldwide process of Development is started after World War II, different agencies of United Nations (UN) initiated the process of development. The international Bank for Reconstruction and Development which is World Bank emerged as a key player in this drive. Initially the bank started helping the countries who were affected in the war. Another important institution was established later, it was international monetary fund (IMF) who was responsible to provide financial assistance of its member countries. So far

international organization was stimulating development projects and provides financial assistance to the member countries. The process of economic development was depended upon the international help for many countries. But very soon the nature of development was changed; the development agenda was hijacked by the multinational companies for their tread. Later in late 1990s process of Globalization, Privatization and Liberalization was started and GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade) replaced by WTO (World Trade Organization) was responsible for this. These were the efforts made by international companies to explore their markets all over the world however this imposed paradigm shift in development strategies for developing country. Eventually the development policy was became market driven and it accelerate the development projects in all fields. (Mohan : 2007)

WESTERN MODEL OF DEVELOPMENT

The western Model of Development was forcefully applied to everywhere in the world however the result was not same in every country. After a long period almost 145

countries are still 'developing' and poverty is not reduced as expected. There are many developing countries where the impact was negative particularly in Asia. The developing countries and poor nations were forcefully drawn into the world trade organization as they were not entitled to get international financial assistance until they became member. The local pattern of industry, employment and farming were different in various countries this was led to chaos when globalization rules were followed. The international market pressure has pulled many countries to negative impact. In early years Japan neighboring countries in Asia and European countries also had negative impact. Local policies were changed in accordance with the need of multinational companies. The visible impact of all this was the increasing debt, unemployment, increase in production cost of farming, increase in crime and poverty and importantly widening gap between rich and poor. The dilemma of this model of development was the domestic policy was changed with ignorance of local needs and circumstances. Moreover the small and developing countries were no voice in framing the international guidelines. Most developing countries were determining the conditions and policies of international market in their interests. Eventually the western model was not successful at the end of developing countries. The process of liberalization compelled the nations to the worldwide competition of production, distribution and creating infrastructure. These pressures also create the growing demand of skill labour, raw material, natural resources and oil. Most of the countries were depended upon the other countries for the procurement of oil and gas. Needless to say that most of the economy portion was diverted to purchase oil and gas for developmental projects. This situation creates additional pressure of developing countries.

Liberalization policy has invited the private players to flow money into social sector. The traditional system of many developing countries was to depend on the social sector which was monitored by the government of respective countries. After the implementation of liberalization policy the private industry were introduced to the social sector like Education, Electricity, Water management, Insurance Employment, Health, etc. It was a drastic change in the services and quality of social sector as the traditional way of working were replaced by the professional companies. (Maiti : 2005) This change totally replaced earlier systems and control of private companies on social sector became prominent. Sector like Education was opened to private players which resulted in to the increase in facilities of education. But at the same time due to the investment cost

private companies made this sector expensive for the poor and those who cannot afford.

INSTITUTIONAL CHANGES AND ACUTE IMPACT

In late nineties development become growth and profit oriented for multinationals. This was a major change in the civilized society as equal to colonial period. This was perhaps second time when the rooted institutional practices was aborted and new principles were inserted in many developing and poor countries. The greatest impact of liberalization policy was on the field of Agriculture. Most of the developing countries are depended upon the agriculture economy. The largest share of the investment and expenditure is came from the sector of agriculture. New policy of liberalization impacted on commodity policies for agriculture and the pattern of cropping and consumption as well. This was a major change as far as developing countries were concerns. A unique example of destroying institutional practices by new policy was the induction of hybrid seeds and increase in production cost of farming. Many developing countries including India where largest population is depended upon agriculture was affected by this move. Increased production cost was far ahead what the farmers were gaining from their income. Lastly the cycle of debt becomes a reason of farmer's distress. Farming was not merely a profession in country like India, it was a institution and many other things like culture, social customs and pride were associated with the farming. New economic policy compelled farmers to participate in the competition while the farming sector was not ready to fight in comparison with the developed countries. (Roy : 1993)

Worldwide business of multinational companies stimulated unprecedented migration all over the world. The new economic policy opens the boundaries of various countries to each other. As the result massive migration has been started within the country and at international level. This migration is happening mainly in the search of jobs and better opportunities. The most prominent change due to migration is increase in the rural population moving to urban centers. One side the urban industries are benefited with the huge human resources on the other hand rural industries especially farming center is facing huge short fall in terms of labours. Due the massive movement the joint family structure prevailing in the rural sector is transmitted into nuclear family. This is major change in the traditional family structure of rural population. The crowd has been shifted to urban center has been creating lot of issues like housing, slums, crime and health.

Welfare state is to ensure better life and opportunity for every citizen of the country. In the form of welfare state the expenditure on the public well being is expected. The state has to design the policy of spending money on public health, infrastructure and governmental organization to look after the need of citizens. Huge amount of government's revenue is being spent on the social welfare policies. Many countries including India has been spending huge amount of money on social services and schemes as the part of policy. The pressure of privatization and liberalization is compelling government to cut down the spending on social welfare schemes to protect the invested of multinationals who ought to be invest huge amount of money as part of trade. Developing countries who are forced to be part of liberalization needs to be continue their social welfare schemes as most of the population in such countries is living in poverty. Moreover the loans from the international funding agencies itself is barrier in the spending money on social welfare schemes. Because international agencies indirectly ensure that their money should be repaid and not to be used on social welfare as it may not be interest of repayment. The privatization of social sector mainly in the field of education, health and employment has restricted the role of government to participate in social welfare schemes.

DEVELOPMENT, INCLUSION, DISPLACEMENT: INDIAN SCENARIO

India a second largest population is fastest growing economy and developing country has many folds of development. In spite of incredible growth rate of around eight and most promising information technology sector India has many issues related to the development. India's distinct feature of diverse religion, caste, culture, regional imbalance and geographical variation is challenge to any model of the development. the population of rich people is undermined by the population of Below poverty line and underprivileged. Development has to be reached to the tribal, weaker section and most neglected female population. The development model has to test on the issues of Terrorism, Naxalism, communalism and fundamentalism. Corruption, lacuna of efficient bureaucracy and implementation of development schemes is also critical issue here in India. It is always difficult to ensure sustainable development where large population is uneducated and unskilled. There are many unorganized sector where the fruits of development yet to be reached. The process of modernization is defeated by the illiteracy and poor education facilities all over India. However Indian journey is came across a long distance where

the dream of superpower is reachable, few sectors are needed to be addressed immediately.

India is multi religion and multi caste state which has its long history how few sections of the society are still behind relatively. Indian constitution ensures the equal opportunity to each and every member of the society; however the structure of Indian composition is complex and need a different treatment. For the several years the society is divided in to 'Have' and 'Have not', due the stratification system of India. The development model of India is started with 'Five Year Development Plan' which itself evokes the need of attention towards the poorer. First few five year plans after independence was dedicated to poverty eradication but not succeeds due to the social structure and inequalities presented over the society. This is because of the rigid caste system and supporting values of stratification. In several states of the country dominant castes enjoyed the occupancy upon the goods and local administration which eventually increased the imbalance among the castes. The fruits of globalization and modernization are still unreachable to the underprivileged. There is clear discrimination of the distribution of wealth, land and means of livelihood. The gap between the rich and poorer can't be met in fact it is widened. The western model of development cannot be applied as it is in such circumstances.(Jacob: 2011)

Distress and Development are become relative terms as far as India is concerns. Past few decades developmental projects are being opposed on various grounds. 'Narmada Bachav Andolan', 'Jaitapur Project' oppose are few of them. Being populace country development induced displacement is major issue in India. As a developing country India has to create infrastructure for industry, huge developmental projects, water dams and land procurement for special economy zones, this prerequisite have triggered many issues and distress over the years. Apart from that there are few hidden impact which appear after the completion or implementation of the project. The traditional occupation which is farming is affected in various ways. The unplanned and uncontrolled migration towards urban areas is causing the shortfall of labour to farming sector and on the other side problems of urbanization is becoming a major challenge. India is facing the crucial challenge of Naxalism in various states which is mainly due to oppose of localize to provide land to the industrial project. The Naxal affected areas occupied by the local tribals and groups who are opposing the developmental projects as they don't want to give away their land which is their livelihood and pride too. Tata's Project

was opposed in West Bengal and created huge anger among localities.

This is the ambiguity of international community's policy that two contradictory policies are being enforced at the same time. Developmental projects are necessary to sustain in the international market and the same time the ecological degradation should be in control as per the UNO resolutions. It is the policing of few developed countries that ecological norms should be followed by the third world countries while establishing developmental projects. Environmental organizations are continuously opposing the big projects which need land and affect the ecology. There are many incidents where the environmental organization has opposed the projects. Jaitapur's Nuclear Power project (Maharashtra) is one of the latest examples.

CONCLUSION

Development is a wide and crucial process for third world countries especially India where the social structure and constraints are unique. Western model of development can't be imposed in the country like India where the discrimination in the distribution of wealth, land and opportunities prevails and is increasing due to the principles of Globalization, Privatization and Liberalization. The outer side of the globalization exhibits that it will be beneficial for each country however the hidden agenda of multinational is to extend their reach to third world countries as a market is no longer a secret. Developing countries are expecting profit booking which undermines the idea of social welfare. The expectations of LPG are to reduce the social welfare expenditure can create havoc among the poor and developing countries.

It is found that the benefit of the development projects are less than the destruction of weaker sections and poorer due to the massive displacement. This has led to the conflict issues and opposed to the developmental projects. Partnership of the government and private players can be crucial if they are overlooking the common interest of masses and generalizing the policy in the interest of industry

Development is pro private industries which are not entitled to ensure the principle of social justice and social welfare. Success of any development plan depends upon the policy which may consider the ground reality of the Indian society and diverse culture and caste system.

Another aspect of Indian society that it lives in villages and farming is the backbone of any development policy has to be taken care of this. Unprecedented suicides committed by farmers have proven that the present model of development is unsuccessful and needs urgent attention. Development should not be the growth rate of economy and per capita income, it should be addressed to the well being of individual and welfare of each and every one of the society.

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