

TALE OF POST COLONIAL INDIA

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ABSTRACT

India's independence is the start of an epoch that was imbued with a new vision of better country. In 1947, the country commenced its long march to overcome the colonial legacy of economic underdevelopment, gross poverty, and illiteracy, wide prevalence of disease and obdurate, social inequality and injustice. 15 August 1947 was only the first stepping stone, the first break—the end of colonial political control: centuries of backwardness were now to be overcome, the promises of the freedom struggle to be fulfilled, and people's hopes to be met. Euphoria of independence was quite overwhelming for the citizens of the country that out of respect of common men, leaders of Congress party became the natural heir of country's throne and task of nation building began, the main goal was to establish unity among citizens post partition. Long-term projects were also started to establish Indianness. During early days of post-independence many have doubted about the survival of democracy as India will fail to develop or even sustain the kind of diversity country possess. But the growth today India shows in almost all sectors is implausible. But colonial legacy has weighed heavily on country's development since independence.

ECONOMIC SPHERE

Due to the unfortunate partition, India faced problem of rehabilitation of millions of refugees of the country. Meanwhile, illegal invasion and occupation of Kashmir by the Pakistan's army and tribal elements, added to the burden. Sino-Indian War (1962) and Indo-Pakistan Wars in 1965 and 1971, further weakened the financial condition of the country. Frequent droughts, spate of floods, earthquakes and natural disasters multiplied the problems. British impact on economy was so much as late as 1935–39, food, drink, tobacco and raw materials constituted 68.5 per cent of India's exports while manufactured goods were 64.4 per cent of her imports. The net savings in the Indian economy, from 1914 to 1946 was only 2.75 per cent of Gross National Product (GNP) 1971–75 - 12 per cent of GNP. The trivial total capital formation, 6.75 per cent of GNP during 1914–46 as against 20.14 per cent of GNP during 1971–75, reflects this jump. Moreover, the share of industry in this low level of capital

formation was abysmally low. As economy of India is known as developing market economy as the data by International Monetary Fund (IMF) in 2019 India ranked 5th by Gross Domestic Product (GDP) (nominal) and 3rd by GDP Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) In 2020. From 1947 until 1991, governments promoted protectionist economic policies, and state intervention, and history began by our 1st Prime minister J.L Nehru's economic approach towards central planning, Fabian socialism, and quantity of bureaucratic red tape with hands in same gloves of private sector which led to rampant corruption and huge inefficiency resulted into currency crisis of 1991. But on the eve of 74th Independence Day we can generate the sense of pride that our very mother land had seen a tremendous progress in each and every aspect be it per capita income or standard of living. Establishment of Finance Commission central government helped states to share the tax revenue load. The change of government in 2014 led to an explosive change in the country, the very new government had broken the monotony and revamped the economy and touched the lives of common people, former prime Minister Indira Gandhi slogan of 'garibihatao' andolan wasn't working with present scenario so the Modi – led NDA government brought up many usher changes in economy transformation of planning Commission in 2015 to Niti Aayog led an implausible change and 'Jan Dhan Yojna' in 2014 was record breaking financial inclusion in the world, which hold 38 Crores beneficiary accounts and helped common people to get benefits of banking as well as government schemes. Demonetization which led 500 and 1000 is currency note as illegal tender to curb the black money transaction also impacted economy to great extent.

INDUSTRIAL SECTORS

India being the agriculture-based country, without the development of industrial sector there is nil chance to enhance the economy of the country so post – Independence industrial sector played a vital role in the development of the country. In 1948 The industrial policy resolution was a major breakthrough. After which Indian government has launched several policy reforms but after the economic crisis of 1991 the most radical changes have been witnessed, the liberalization of the industrial policy. Pre-colonial era only two industries were flourishing i.e. cotton, and jute, which were limited to certain regions only. In this very aspect India is very fortunate to have laid a firm foundation immediately post partition, less than a decade of independence established its 1st nuclear power plant on 4th August 1956 and

steel plant in the same year. We can say that this approach had been already started with Industrial policy resolution (IPR) 1948 to support the Gandhian philosophy to make India self-sufficient so during 1st five year plan many heavy and primary industries were set up as chitranjan locomotive, Indian cables, Indian telephone, HMT, U.P cement industry, DDT, penicillin factories and was based on Harrod-domar model and in 2nd five year plan steel plants at Bhilai, Raurkela, Durgapur based on Nehru-Mahalanobis came into existence. But in 3rd FYP India faced degradation in industrial growth after Indo-Sino and Indo-Pak war in 1961 and 1966 respectively. During the 5th FYP government focused on our core primary sector i.e agriculture it was for the 1st time government talked about sustainable development and technological advancements, which was proved by the then prime Minister Indira Gandhi's speech during Stockholm agreement in 1971. Her speech quoted "poverty is one of the persistent reasons for environmental degradation therefore till the time we will not take poverty as pressing issues we can't save our environment". As eradicating poverty became the main focus of the government new industries were set up, modern machineries were implemented and workforce were inducted abruptly, thus it can be said that government who showed environmental concerns, in the process of eradicating poverty neglected the environmental issues even when they are aware of impact of industries on environment, which is more or less persistent till date. But we are in the era where sustainable development is not a choice but the need of an hour. But to walk hand-in-hand with the world we are nowhere behind. From heritage to culture, nature to cuisine India offers infinite verities of things to explore making India as incredible India according to world economic forum in travel and tourism competitiveness index India stands at 34th position we are not less in IT sector as well which shows that from high emergence of mobile companies to Tata's Nano car, Chandrayan, Mangalyaan, to game changer jet Rafael modern metro to powerful ships. India showed that it has charted a unique yet flourishing path on the industrial development whose impact is empowering inclusive and transformative.

JUDICIARY SYSTEM

Judiciary is playing a vital role as an organ of government to settle disputes, interpret law and protect fundamental rights of citizens and also act as a guardian of constitution. Indian Judiciary system is the legacy of colonial power to India, in ancient periods the concept of court and justice were linked with religion and caste, king's court often provide justice based

on 'dharma' and 'Varna'. History of modern Judiciary system starts with Mayor's court under the royal charter 1661, Supreme court of fort William at Calcutta established by regulating act 1773 in 1774. And so on. Today India enjoy three level of Judiciary system in the form of pyramid as lower courts at district and council level, high courts at state level and the apex court i.e. supreme court. To resolve the cases at different levels. Just having police and court is negligible for the shake of justice. The prime concern is over pendency of cases in the different courts of the country more than 2 lakh of cases are pending in the court over 25 years and about 1000 cases dismissed, to strengthen the justice delivering mechanisms India have to work upon strengthening judicial apparatus. For that India should raise the retirement age of judge from current 62 to 65 and improve the quality of judges as India possess lowest number of judges in the world i.e. only 20 judges per 1 million population. Need some changes in the appointment of judges in the lower court, some judges are self by judges of high court which is totally inappropriate as judges are competent in justice delivery not in selection of judges. Strengthen judicial apparatus led to crime free India, Which will give the true meaning to be independent India.

WOMEN AND EDUCATION

A country is independent in black and white only until women of the country isn't fell free or independent, independent in her choice, customs, societal pressure and list goes on. In India women are treated as liability of her own parents. The concept of development is not static but dynamic which also includes the development of women in the society. In India, women fought for social orthodoxy to freedom struggle. After math of independence, when the time came to consolidate the gains of the hard fought struggle, the gaze naturally shifted to securing legal and constitutional rights. The constitution completed the promise of giving equality to women. promise made many years ago by the national movement: the right to vote was given to women along with men, without any educational background, property or income A right for which women suffragettes fought very long and hard in many western countries but Indian women won in single stroke.

In the early 1950s, Nehru government initiated the process of the enactment of the Hindu Code Bill. A committee under the chairmanship of B.N. Rau for raising the age of consent and marriage of women, right to divorce, maintenance and inheritance, consideration of dowry as "streedhan" or women's property. Although these steps got great opposition but had laid a strong foundation to enhance the quality of lives of women in Indian society. The

Hindu Marriage Act, the Hindu Succession Act, the Hindu Minority and Guardianship Act, and the Hindu Adoption and Maintenance Act. Proved as boon for Indian women. The recent amendment of the Hindu succession Act announced that daughters have full right in her paternal property gave wings to daughters having no value in her parents home as well as in-laws. By abolition of triple talaq system women felt her rights to be preserved. Transgender persons protection of right act, also act as a last nail in the coffin to strengthen every citizen of the country to make our country powerful in all aspects of scale of justice and equality.

India being the land of knowledge and intellect had worked very hard since independence to improve its education and to provide quality education to all. The path from vernacular school to these days high profile international schools is not the bed of roses. The Right to Education Act 2010 which enables children of 6 years to 14 years of compulsory education proved a new Kickstarter to the primary education. Mid-Day meal, free books and dresses, sanitary pads for girls, led the decrease of school dropout and the recent revision of National Education Plan (NEP) will surely benefit the Indian educational system as whole.

CONCLUSION

The strength of a country lies in science, technology, education and civilization ethos. And India more or less is qualifying the parameter but the road ahead is long. Despite of many schemes and several policies like digital India, make in India have made country powerful and self-sufficient. Now we can say that we are proud independent nation but not alone. We share partnership and democratic friendship with many countries which provide room to grow, and gives us an ultimate edge. In this era of uncertainty, it is the high time to share future in the interest of world's peace, purpose and prosperity.

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