© June 2026 | IJIRT | Volume 13 Issue 1 | ISSN: 2349-6002

Challenges Of the Indian Economy in the 21st Century: An Analytical Study of Growing Population, Technological Backwardness and Dependence on Agriculture

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Abstract—**The presented research paper presents a comprehensive analysis of the historical development, current challenges, and future prospects of the Indian economy. The main objective of the research is to understand how 200 years of British colonial exploitation exploited India's resources and left the country in a dilapidated economic situation at the time of independence. The research evaluates the role of India's various five-year plans, highlighting the progress of the agriculture sector and the impact of the Green Revolution in particular. The findings of the study show that while the Green Revolution made India self-sufficient in food grain production, the country's vast population still remains the biggest obstacle to economic growth. The paper also analyses the evolution of India's import-export policies—which have moved from an introverted approach to a global market-oriented one. Additionally, India's rich mineral wealth and its regional distribution are discussed, which strengthen the industrial base. Ultimately, this paper suggests that it is only through the convergence of 'population control' and 'technological innovation' that India can achieve the goal of a fully self-reliant and developed economy.**

Index Terms—**Indian Economy, Colonial Exploitation, Five-Year Plans, Green Revolution, Population Explosion, Trade Policy, Self-reliant India.**

I. INTRODUCTION

The Indian economy has been a prosperous and developed economy. There was a lot of development in the fields of agriculture, industry, etc. Under the British rule, the country was highly exploited in the economic field. During the British period, the British made India their political and economic colony and exploited the Indian economy for 200 years in the interest of their country. Therefore, independence brought with it many problems, and the biggest problem before India was to become self-reliant like other countries of the world.

Major Problems of India's Economic Development
The major problem of development in India is its growing population. India has been a backward nation not only in economic but also in all spheres of social, political. Therefore, there is a need to pay attention to all these things to accelerate the development of the country.

1. Poverty:
India was a very poor nation at the time of independence. Due to the exploitative policies adopted by the British, the economic condition of the peasants, labourers and artisan class had deteriorated to a very low level and they lacked basic life facilities.

2. Population Growth:
India's most prominent problem is its huge population. The excess of population as compared to the land harms the natural environment and the lack of proper accommodation for the growing population leads to filth and pollution.

3. Technological Backwardness:
India has been a country of religious tendencies since the beginning and is dominated by customs, traditions and social beliefs. Due to which scientific progress has been stunted here and the country has lagged behind technologically.

4. Unemployment –
Due to the large population of the population, it is very difficult for the government to arrange means of employment for such a large community.

5. Primacy of Agriculture
Agriculture is the mainstay of the economy in India. Apart from agriculture, most of the people are engaged in the primary sector and earn their livelihood. Agriculture contributes 26 percent of India's total national income, and more than 60 percent of the country's population is engaged in agriculture-related activities.

6. Low Rate of Capital Formation
The scarce availability of sources of capital formation in India is one of the major factors for its slow growth. Not only is there a shortage of funds, but other resources are limited, and most of what is produced is barely available to the vast population of India.
Here we have mentioned the problems faced in India's development. To address this, policies were made on a large scale by India and every effort was made to overcome these problems. Here we will look at the economic development in different regions. '

Agriculture, Trade:
India is an agricultural country. Most of the population here earns their livelihood from agriculture and allied sectors. That is why, in a country like India, development agriculture is not a means of livelihood but a complete way of life. India is one of the few countries in the world where the contribution of agriculture to the economy has been significant since time immemorial. Indian agriculture was used by the British to their advantage and adopted the same policies which were beneficial to them. The interests of farmers were never taken care of at the time of policy formulation. After independence, the policy makers of India gave the highest priority to the importance of agriculture and emphasized the development of agriculture in the First Five Year Plan.

The following are the characteristics of Indian agriculture:
1. Dependence on Nature:
Agricultural production in India depends on rainfall. All the countries of the world are dependent on rainfall, but alternative sources of irrigation are also available here. Thus, in the event of deficient rainfall, the deficiency in rainfall is met through secondary sources, and the production of crops is not much affected. But in India, in the event of drought, the crops are ruined and due to the poor condition of the farmers, they are not able to arrange for other sources of irrigation.

2. Variety of Crops
Different types of soils are found in the country and due to the diversity of climate, different types of crops are produced. Therefore, the condition of the Indian economy is better than other countries in this region. Due to this feature, a variety of food grains and raw materials are available in sufficient quantities. Most of the food crops are grown here. However, sufficient quantity of foodgrains is not available because of the low level of production.

3. Small farmers are predominant.
The country is mainly dominated by small farmers.

4. Due to the increasing population,
The number of small farmers is increasing rapidly, they cultivate very small holdings, due to which production is affected. These poor farmers are not able to take modern measures to increase their production due to poverty and their production is low.

5. Unequal distribution of agricultural land
There is a huge disparity in the ownership of agricultural land in India. A few people own a lot of agricultural land while most of the farming people have very little or no land at all.

6. Low level of production
This is the most prominent problem of Indian agriculture. India's per hectare production is very low as compared to developed countries. The main reasons for this are backward technology, orthodoxy and small size of holdings.
The biggest problem before the leaders of independent India was to bring Indian agriculture in a modern form at par with the developed countries. For this, policy formulation work was done on a large scale and farmers were motivated to adopt new experiments and modern techniques related to agriculture.

The work done for the development of agriculture can generally be divided into two parts.
1. Institutional measures
2. Technical measures

Both these aspects were taken care of for the development of agriculture and efforts were made to modernize Indian traditional agriculture in a phased manner. The following changes were made in Indian agriculture:

Land Reform

During the British rule, the farmers were exploited excessively and various exploitative policies related to agriculture were made and the interests of the farmers were not taken care of, due to which thousands of farmers became landless and most of the land came to the landlords and middlemen. Therefore, the first attempt of the government after independence was to make a systematic distribution of the land so that the people who had been cultivating for years were given ownership rights over the land in India in the following manner

1. Termination of Witchholes

During the time of the British, three types of systems were prevalent: the zamindari system, the Mahalwari system, the ryotwari system. Through these systems, the peasants were highly exploited and most of the land in each village remained in the hands of a few legs.
Therefore, after independence, many acts were enacted to eliminate these middlemen. It was introduced in Madras in 1948. In return, the landlords were given the compensation amount.

2. Land-holding reforms -

Sir Arthur Young said of the evils of the leasing system, "Give a man the safe possession of a desolate barren land, he will turn it into a green garden, and lease it out to him for nine years, and he will turn it into a desert." '
The practice of lease farming was quite common during the time of the British. Small and landless peasants used to earn their livelihood by leasing the land of large landlords. But they had to be exploited by the landlords and despite their hard work, they got a minimum income. This system was applicable to about 20 percent of India's area. Even after the elimination of middlemen, this problem could not be solved. Therefore, in order to remove the evils of tenancy, the control of rent was first imposed.

Thereafter, efforts were made to make the right of lease permanent and the following rules were made in this regard:
1. Large scale farmers should not be evicted from the land.
2. The owner of the land could take back the land only for cultivation himself.
3. On taking back the land, the farmer had to leave the minimum land for his use.

The farmers were evicted by the landowners on the pretext of cultivating on their own and the need to amend the rules made to protect the farmers was felt.

To avoid this problem, the following laws were enacted for the protection of the farmers.
1. The landowners themselves were denied the right to cultivate.
2. The landowners were given a fixed share for the use of their families on which they could cultivate on their own. But they were required to leave the minimum area to the farmer.
3. An extremely revolutionary effort in the field of land reform was to provide for ownership rights for the tenants.

3. Determination of Maximum Extent of Land

Prof. Gadgil noted that "of all the means, land is the one resource which is the most finite in quantity, but the claimants to its ownership are very numerous. Therefore, it would be unjust to allow a person to retain his right over a very large area of land in the absence of other serious and important reasons. Further, it would be undesirable to encourage a capital-intensive mode of production, keeping in view the available supply of land, labour and capital. Moreover, the benefits of large-scale management should not be for a family, but for the collective or cooperative organizations of the tenants. Finally, in the present socio-political environment, land redistribution seems to be imperative. The surplus land obtained by fixing the maximum land limit was distributed among the landless farmers.

4. Consolidation

Farming in small fields adversely affects production. Therefore, to solve this problem, the land was redistributed by mutual consent to collect the scattered plots of the farmer and gather them at one place. With this system, the farmer did not have to do farming in different plots and his time and labor were saved.

5. Cooperative farming
The final stage of the land reform process was to set up government farms. Mahatma Gandhi had said about the usefulness of cooperative farming, "It is my firm belief that we cannot take full advantage of agriculture unless we start cooperative farming. In this way, Indian farmers were motivated to take up cooperative farming and the benefits associated with it were told. As on June 30, 1971, there were a total of 8819 cooperative farming societies functioning in which only two per cent of the farmers were involved. Therefore, cooperative farming could not become popular in India.

6. Provision of Credit for Farmers -
We all know that the Indian farmer lives a life of extreme poverty and due to the policies of the British at the time of independence, the Indian farmers were not so self-sufficient that they could fulfill the basic needs related to their farming. Therefore, at the time of natural calamities, they used to fall into the clutches of moneylenders and their land was grabbed by moneylenders due to high interest. Therefore, to solve this problem, the government arranged convenient loans at low interest rates to the farmers at the time of need and for this, various types of banks and societies were formed. Regional Rural Banks were set up by the Government in 1975. The minimum requirements of the farmers were also fulfilled through cooperatives. In 1982, the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development was established, which was mainly engaged in agriculture-related work.

7. System of Agricultural Marketing -
In order to get a fair price for the produce made by the farmers and to liberate them from the exploitation of middlemen and moneylenders, various types of markets were created by the government for the proper sale of their produce. Established separately in 1954, the Cooperative Marketing Societies used to buy grain from the farmers and sell it to the mandi and give them a fair price for the produce and also lend money to the farmers to meet their farming needs even before production.

1. Propagation of Modern Technology
The first step for the development of agriculture was the wide dissemination of modern technology. Farmers were encouraged to take up farming with modern technology and were asked to take care of crops in a scientific way instead of leaving them at the mercy of nature.

2. Appointment of trained persons
To do agriculture with scientific techniques, such people were appointed who were knowledgeable about these new techniques and they used to go from village to village and provide solutions to the farmers for modern farming and various problems related to it. They used to train uneducated villagers to do modern agriculture.

II. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

1. Type of Research
This research is mainly based on qualitative and historical analysis. In this, the past trends of the Indian economy will be studied and the current problems (such as population and unemployment) will be analyzed.

2. Sources of Data Collection
The data for this research is mainly taken from secondary sources:
- Government Reports: Economic Survey of India, NITI Aayog reports, and census data.
- Literature Review: Books, research journals, and historical documents by famous economists.
- Websites: Official databases of the World Bank, IMF, and Reserve Bank of India.

3. Objectives of the Study
- To understand the changes that took place in the Indian economy after the British period.
- Identify major barriers to economic development (such as poverty and technological backwardness).
- To analyse the relationship between the agricultural sector and capital formation.

4. Data Analysis Techniques
- Comparative Analysis: A comparison between the economic situation at the time of independence and the current situation.

- Cause-Effect Relationship: To study how population growth directly affects unemployment and lack of resources.

5. Scope of the Study
This research mainly focuses on India's primary sector (agriculture) and human resources. It covers the major economic changes from 1947 to the present time.

III RESULT AND DISCUSSION

It was not possible to implement the expansion programme all over India. Therefore, it was implemented as an experiment in some areas and based on its result, it was proposed to be implemented in the entire region. Education and training being conducted for agriculture with modern technology could not be obtained without education and technology in agriculture. Therefore, they were trained in such a way that they could get new inventions and information related to agriculture in time. The importance of agriculture has been acknowledged in the five-year plans of the country. We can solve our economic problems only when adequate progress is being made in the field of agriculture. The first plan was given the highest priority to agriculture in 1951-56 and the scheme had a provision to spend about Rs 823 crore. Efforts were made to increase agricultural production by developing other irrigation facilities. Agricultural production increased by 22 percent during this period. In the Second Five Year Plan 1956-61, industry was given more importance than agriculture. Despite not paying special attention to agriculture in this scheme, satisfactory results should be achieved in agricultural production. In the Third Five Year Plan, agriculture was again given the main place and Rs 1718 crore was earmarked for its development. The focus of the scheme was on irrigation, land conservation, food and fertilizer, improved seeds etc. This plan failed due to the two major wars in this period. In the Fourth Five Year Plan, an attempt was made to fill the shortcomings of the Third Plan and Rs. 3815 crore was spent for the development of agriculture. This Five-Year Plan had partial success in the initial years but later agricultural production declined due to bad weather. In the Fifth Plan, there was a provision of Rs 8078 for agriculture. In this plan, a target of 4 percent annual growth in agricultural production was set. Overall, the progress of agriculture in this scheme was normal. In the Sixth Plan, the importance of agriculture in alleviating poverty and unemployment was understood and special attention was paid to agriculture. Modern technology was also used to meet the target of agricultural production. Thus, in the Five-Year Plans, special attention was given to agriculture and India has made considerable progress in food grain production. The biggest problem facing India today is to control its population. If the population of India is not controlled in time, no matter how much we produce, there will be a shortage of food because the land also has its own limited production capacity. '

Green Revolution
India is counted among the agricultural economies on the world stage, and about 75 percent of India's population lives in villages, whose main source of livelihood is agriculture and related occupations. Therefore, in independent India, Indian leaders gave major attention to the development of agriculture and tried to make the agrarian economy self-sufficient again, which had deteriorated during the British period. The initial five-year plans were partially successful, but India's population was increasing day by day. Therefore, in order to achieve self-sufficiency in food grain production, agriculture based on modern technology was encouraged at par with developed countries and in the 1960s, efforts were made to increase food grain production rapidly by making detailed plans in the field of agriculture. During this period, food grain production increased tremendously and seeing its success, it was referred to as the Green Revolution. Norman Borlaug is considered to be the father of the Green Revolution. Under the Green Revolution, the use of improved varieties of seeds, fertilizers and irrigation facilities were increased. The Green Revolution in India had the greatest impact on the production of wheat and rice. Its impact on the production of coarse grains and pulses was limited, the farmers of Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, etc. benefited the most from the Green Revolution. The Green Revolution took place in India in three phases which are as follows:

First phase (1966-1972) in the agricultural sector in the first phase of the Green Revolution
Fundamental changes were made and a new agricultural policy was adopted to give support price

to the farmers. In 1965, the Agricultural Prices Commission and the Food Corporation of India were established. India received improved varieties of seeds from Mexico. With the use of new varieties of seeds, the production of wheat doubled. Efforts were made to meet the needs of fertilizer, irrigation facilities, power system and other finance related requirements along with the use of improved seeds. The success of the Green Revolution led to an increase in the income of farmers, which improved their standard of living and reduced poverty.

Second phase (1973-1980)
Due to continuous drought in India, food grain production was declining continuously and it was difficult to meet the primary needs of such a large population. In such a situation, there was a need to pay special attention to the field of agriculture again to increase food grain production. And this time it also aimed to increase the production of grains other than wheat, rice.

Phase III (1981-1990) India had become self-sufficient in the production of wheat and rice, and even after the worst drought of the century in 1987, there was no shortage of grains. In this phase, the target was to increase the production in other parts of the country using modern technology and improved seeds. These efforts led to a huge increase in the production of rice and in the agriculture sector, India has now imposed a number of domestic and external restrictions, including licensing regime, tariffs, etc.

Trade
India's Trade Policy India's World Trade Policy has had two objectives

1. Bringing imports to the minimum level and
2. To protect exports so as to bring about economic prosperity.

In line with these objectives, the four features of Indian foreign policy were:

1. Strict control over imports
2. Export promotion efforts
3. Bilateral trade and
4. Enhancing export trade through resource development.

Till the Fourth Five Year Plan, a protective trade policy was in place in the country with the objective of curbing imports and giving importance to Indian exports so as to protect Indian industrial development. Due to the lack of success of this policy, a new Import-Export Policy was announced in 1985, according to which the production of those goods which have to be imported more was encouraged so that the import cost could be reduced. Three years later, in 1988, a liberal policy was again announced for the next three years. Under this, the open general license system was expanded. Some of the major organizations were facilitated to import capital goods and machinery. Again in 1990, a new EXIM Policy came into force with several objectives such as (a) export promotion to earn foreign exchange, (b) import of capital goods for industrial development and modernization, (c) simplification of import licensing and export promotion procedures. To motivate and encourage institutions engaged in research and development and (b) to strive for self-sufficiency to reduce imports. Under this policy, NRIs were protected for trade and economic development. The trade of various goods between different countries of the world is called international trade. International trade is of special importance in economic activities, because the volume of trade gives knowledge of the economic prosperity of a country. Generally, when a commodity is available in a country or region more than the domestic demand, it is exported to the country or region where there is a shortage of it and the demand is high. For example, in the countries of West Asia, there is a large production of petroleum, due to its low consumption, it is exported to all the countries of the world where there is a shortage of it and the demand is high. Ever since the process of globalisation has begun and the General Agreement on Trade and Taxes Policy has been introduced, restrictions on global trade have been lifted and world trade has become much broader. In 1950-51, India's foreign trade was only Rs 1250.8 crore, which increased to Rs 429246 crore in the year 2000-01. Thus, the total foreign trade has increased by about 353 times in the last 50 years. The import growth in this period was significantly higher than the growth of exports. Total imports have increased from Rs. 608 crores to Rs. 230873 crores, which is 380 times increase. Exports increased from Rs. 606 crores to Rs. 203571 crores in the same period, i.e. exports increased by 336 times. As a result, the difference between the prices of imports and exports increased. Imports are made for domestic inputs, production promotion and investment for export. Two-thirds (63 per cent) of the total import value comprises of the value. The Indian import trade has undergone significant changes over the past decades. The total imports of some commodities have come down. For example, the expenditure on petroleum imports declined from 42 per cent in 1980-81 to 27.3 per cent in 1990-91.

Format of Export

Industrial manufactured goods and agricultural products dominate India's exports, accounting for more than three-fourths of manufactured goods 78% and agricultural products accounting for 13.5% of the total exports, i.e., 91.5% of the total export value of these two groups. Among manufactured goods, gems and jewellery contributed 16.7 per cent and readymade garments contributed 12.5 per cent. Cotton yarn and textiles, machines, medicines, chemicals, manufactured and refined metals, leather and related items, transport materials, electrical materials, handloom textiles, handicraft items are the major exports. Agricultural, fish, etc., are exported.

India's Business

In the year 1950-51, India's foreign trade was only Rs 1250.8 crore, which increased to Rs 4,29,246 crore in the year 2000-01. Thus, the total foreign trade has increased by about 353 in the last 50 years. The growth in imports in this period was much higher than the growth of exports. Total imports increased from Rs.608 crore to Rs.2,30,837 crore, which is a 380-fold increase. During the same period, exports increased from Rs.606 crores to Rs.2,03,571 crores, that is, exports increased by 336 times. As a result, the difference between the prices of imports and exports increased. If the volume of exports is higher than that of imports, then this type of trade is considered to be in good standing. At the same time, trade is not considered good when the volume of imports increases compared to exports and this situation remains harmful for the country. The balance of payments is used to express this position, which clarifies the status of imports and exports with any country.

Foreign trade refers to the status of imports and exports. When a commodity is sent out of the country, it is called export. When a commodity is imported from another country, it is called import. Since ancient times, India has been in a very good position in the field of trade. According to Pliny of Roman history, "In India gold flowed like a river. The British government, using its political power, disrupted the Indian business system and started using India's trade policy to the benefit of the British, and took over India's foreign trade policy completely. Goods manufactured in England began to be imported into India and the export of Indian goods was hindered. It was discouraged by adopting various methods.

After independence, Indian leaders took various steps to redevelop India's foreign trade. There was no significant progress in trade in the First Five Year Plan as many goods were imported from outside to build the Indian economic system. Even in the Second Five Year Plan, imports for setting up industrial infrastructure continued unabated and there was no significant increase in Indian trade. The trade deficit was the highest in the Third Plan. At this time, due to wars, defense materials had to be imported and the trade deficit increased significantly. This situation persisted in all the three annual plans and there was no significant change in Indian trade. The Fourth Plan gave special attention to exports, which led to a balance in India's imports and exports and reduced the trade deficit as compared to the earlier plans. During the Fifth Five Year Plan, India's foreign trade began to improve again and after 1976 there was a positive trade balance. But at the end of the plan, the trade deficit widened again. The trade deficit widened due to the import of large quantities of mineral oil, iron and other useful commodities in the Sixth Plan. There was no significant improvement in the trade deficit in the Seventh Plan and this trend of volatility continued.

It is not that India has not made any efforts to increase its exports, but the circumstances in which India became independent were very pathetic and it needed the cooperation of other nations to meet the minimum requirements of its vast population. Therefore, in the initial phase, India could not become completely self-sufficient and the production that was increased by it in any sector ended up in meeting its huge population and it was left with no surplus for exports. In 1971, the government established Trade Development Parity to promote its trade, along with this, the State Trading Corporation, Export House, Import Export Bank of India, etc. were established to promote exports. But all these efforts did not seem to have any significant impact on Indian trade for a very long time, and India's large population remained the biggest impediment to

Indian trade because most of the policies were focused on eradicating poverty and unemployment. As we entered the planning era in the 1950s, the main goal of India's trade and industrial policies was to reduce imports. At that time, the employers more or less thought it appropriate to ignore the option of foreign trade as an element accelerating India's economic growth. The basic reason for this was pessimism about the potential of export earnings. The large domestic market also reinforced this inward trend. Overall, the planners not only underestimated the export potential but also did not properly assess its intensity in the process of reducing imports. As a result, India's share of exports in the world fell from 1.91 per cent in 1950 to about 53 per cent in 1992. Yes, it is certain that this inward trend led to a high rate of industrial growth between 1956 and 1966. But the flaws of such an industrial also soon began to appear. The system began to be termite of inefficiency, and the economy became increasingly "high cost". Over time, this resulted in technological backwardness and poor performance in the export sector.

Although with the passage of time, there was a sense of export trends, but it is fair to say that the overall framework of the development strategy was the goal of reducing imports in various sectors till the 1970s. In the 1980s, the balance of payments situation deteriorated and the old achievements faded in the face of it. The Indian economy suffered as international oil prices fell, and the deficit widened as Indian imports increased. India sought a loan from the International Monetary Fund to improve its economic situation, but the situation continued to deteriorate and later the situation improved due to reduced imports. In the early eighties, some changes were made and the emphasis was on increasing exports by reducing imports. Now foreign trade is seen as a vehicle for efficient use of resources and access to technological developments taking place in the world. Incremental exports evicted the earlier export disappointments.

The policy adopted a two-pronged approach: Licensing was revamped to provide access to capital goods, technology and finished goods for export products at international prices. On the other hand, the exchange rate policy has been flexible and dynamic so that exporters do not feel vulnerable to their foreign peers and competitors. Imports In the 1980s and 1990s, the trade policy of most developing countries shifted from import-displacement to export-oriented. In other words, these countries increased their exports with the help of imports. In this context, the miraculous economic growth of the countries of South East Asia also prompted the adoption of export-oriented trade policies of developing countries. At the same time, almost the whole world adopted market-oriented economic reform programs. Factors such as the collapse of communism and the end of the Cold War were also responsible to some extent for this change.

Mineral Resources:

India is a rich nation in terms of mineral wealth, almost all types of minerals are found here. The mineral sector of India can be divided into the following parts.

1. The North Eastern Continental Region is the most important part of India in terms of mineral wealth. It is said to be the heart of the Indian mineral. Coal, iron, manganese, copper, etc. are found here.
2. Central Zone It is the second most important sector in India. Manganese, coal, bauxite etc. are mainly found here.
3. South Region - Minerals like iron ore, manganese etc. are found here.
4. Iron ore and clay are found in the southwest region.
5. North Western region is found here, uranium, mica and mineral oil etc.

The status of major minerals found in India is as follows:

1. Iron ore:

In the country, iron ore is found in sedimentary and igneous rocks of Kadapa and Dharwad eras. Magnetite ore of the highest purity is found in sufficient quantities.

2. Manganese

Manganese is produced in sufficient quantities in India. India is far ahead of other countries in the production of manganese and it is also an exporter.

In India, copper is of all three types: igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic

3. Copper is found in copper rocks.

The amount of copper produced in the country is less than its supply, so it is imported from other countries.

4. Bauxite

It is an important mineral as it is used in the manufacture of state-of-the-art equipment. It is found in sufficient quantities in India.

5. Gold

It is a very precious metal and is also used internationally as a transaction. It is never found in pure form, but it contains silver and other metals. There is very little gold in India. Therefore, both its demand and price are high.

6. Mica

It is a versatile mineral. The country ranks first in the world in the production of mica. More than 60 percent of the world's best mica is produced here. Most of the country's production is exported to foreigners.

7. Diamond

Diamond is an extremely valuable mineral. India has been famous for diamonds since ancient times. The world-famous Kohinoor diamond was also mined in India

8. Lead is a useful mineral as it is used in various industries.

Due to low production of lead in the country, it is imported from other countries. Silver is found along with copper, gold, etc. Due to its low production in India, it is imported from other countries. Apart from this, the energy resources of the country also play a major role in economic development, so their availability greatly affects development. The industries and power system of the country depend on these resources, which affect not only the industries but also the common man. Some of the major energy resources that affect the development of the country are prominent.

Charcoal

It is used in various industries and also to meet the energy needs inside the house. India ranks third in coal production after China and the US. But the per capita averages are very low.

Mineral Oil

At the time of independence, only Assam was the only country in India that produced oil. But later oil was also extracted in Gujarat and Bombay High, India's mineral oil production and reserves are very low. Therefore, it is imported from abroad to meet its population and other needs. The rate of population growth in India is currently 25 percent annually. Most countries in Southeast Asia also have the same rate of population growth. But the population situation that exists in India today is detrimental because India's population is very high and, in this context, an increase of 2.5 percent increases India's problem. India is second in population after China and if 25 million people per year grow at the rate of 2.5 per cent per 100 million population, then most of the countries of Europe do not have such a population. So, in a country like India, a growth of 2.5 per cent is very terrible. When the western countries were economically backward and had an agrarian economy, both their birth rate and death rate were high.

Therefore, their population growth was gradual. Over time, they overcame their health problems and premature death was overcome with an improvement in the standard of living, which led to rapid population growth and nearly seven-fold population growth in Europe. But the way these developed countries controlled the mortality rate, over time they controlled their population with the help of external means. It is not that India has not made any efforts to control its huge population, but even after all these efforts, there has been no change in the population growth and today when the rate of population growth has decreased, the population of India has become so much that even the annual growth of one percent is more than the total population of many European countries and the previous population has to be reduced Therefore, the government cannot pass any government order to take their lives, so no matter how low the increase is, the population will remain more than other countries for years.

The increase in population of India can be understood from the following table:

In order to explain the status of India's population growth, it is divided into three parts.

1. Period of Stable Population (1891-1921):

During this period, there was an initial decrease in population, due to various types of natural disasters in the country. Later there was a slight increase, but due to the spread of epidemics like famine and plague, the increase in population slowed down and eventually the population remained stable.

2. Period of Rapid Increase in Population (1921-1950)
The population that started increasing after 1921 continues even today. That is why 1921 is called the year of the bathing division.

3. Period of population explosion (1951-present) that followed 1951

As the population began to grow, it brought India's economic growth to a standstill. It became very difficult for the government to meet the minimum requirements for such a large population. Due to the increasing population, the unemployment rate in India also increased. It is because of the population that the level of poverty in India increased. Arranging food and accommodation for millions of people was a very difficult task. Thousands and millions of people still sleep on the sidewalk. In the decade 1951-61, India's population increased by 78 million people, which was 21.6 per cent, much higher than the growth in the previous 40 years. Therefore, the increase in this period was called population explosion. Since 1951, the population has been increasing at a steady pace. But in 1981, the growth rate of population was 24.8 percent, which came down to 23.8 percent in 1991. India's population was 846.3 million in 1991, which has increased to 100 crores in 2000. "

Measures for Population Control in India -
In the first three Five Year Plans, the government did not make any serious efforts to control the population. In the First Five Year Plan, Rs.65 lakhs were spent. In the Second Five Year Plan, Rs. 5 crores were spent, while in the Third Five Year Plan, Rs. 25 crores were spent. In comparison to these three schemes, Rs. 277 crore was spent in the Fourth Five Year Plan and further.

Economic Policies:
As we entered the planning era in the 1950s, the main objective of India's trade and industrial policies was to reduce imports. At that time, the planners more or less thought it appropriate to ignore the option of foreign trade as an element that accelerated India's economic growth. The basic reason for this was pessimism about the potential of export earnings. Overall, the planners not only underestimated the export potential, but also did not properly assess its intensity in the process of reducing imports. As a result, India's export share in the world fell from 1.91 per cent in 1950 to about 0.53 per cent in 1992. Yes. It is certain that due to this inward trend, the rate of industrial growth between 1956 and 1966 became high. But the flaws of such industrialization also soon began to appear. The system began to be termite of inefficiency and the economy became increasingly "high-cost". Over time, this resulted in technological backwardness and the performance of the export sector was very lackluster.
History of Modern Industries Modern Industries in India started in the middle of the 19thcentury and cotton and Patson industries were established in the early stages. During Dalhousie's tenure, the construction of railway lines and roads also increased the convenience of transportation and made it easier to transport goods to different parts of the country and gradually Indian industries began to develop. Most of the capital in these industries belonged to the British company. A special system of business organization was adopted for their operation, the Managing Agencies system. This system remained in the country for some time after independence. After independence, India had no problem in formulating new policies. India was free to choose any path for the development of its industries. Therefore, along with the development of agriculture in India, special attention was also paid to industries. After the formation of the Planning Commission in 1950, the work of planning for the development of various sectors started and the high-level representatives of the Government of India started making plans in every field for the all-round development of the country. Sardar Patel was against the contours of the plan which went beyond the capacity and resources of the country. He always emphasized that we should do our work according to the available resources. He wanted to organize villages as the basis of the country's economy. He firmly believed that once we provide facilities to the villagers, they will take care of themselves. "

In the First Five Year Plan, special attention could not be paid to the industrialization of the country. The total expenditure in this scheme was 1960 crores, out of which 55 crores were earmarked for the industrial sector, but special attention was paid to power and irrigation resources, which laid the foundation for industrialization. In 1948, the government announced its industrial policy, which included the public and private sectors.

The Second Five Year Plan gave special attention to the industrial development of India. In this plan, the development of industries was made the main goal and the emphasis was on the development of the public sector. In 1956, the new Industrial Policy was announced. In the Second Plan, 27 per cent of the total plan was spent on industries. During this period, iron and steel industry, heavy chemical and fertilizer industry, heavy engineering and machine manufacturing industry etc. were set up. The work of development of industries like cotton textiles, jute, sugar etc. was done. During this plan, three mega steel plants were set up at Rourkela, Bhilai and Durgapur and Tata Steel and IISCO were modernized. Industrial settlements were created for the development of rural and small-scale industries. One thousand small factories were set up and steps were also taken for the industrial development of backward areas. Although the scheme could not fully achieve its goals, there was a lot of development in the field of industrialization.

In the Third Five Year Plan, the previous sequence was carried forward and the focus was given to the production of more capital-generating goods and special attention was paid to the modernization and management of machines. The Plan sought to achieve self-sufficiency in the production of various commodities and addressed the issues which remained unfulfilled in the Second Five Year Plan. In this scheme, Heavy Electrical Plant Bhopal, Heavy Engineering Corporation, Rochi Auxiliary Machinery Corporation, Durgapur etc. were established.

In the Fourth Five Year Plan, attention was paid to preparing industries in such a way that even during economic crises, their condition is not adversely affected and their development is not hindered. Special attention was paid to increasing the potential of these industries and creating new bases.

Industrial Policy 1977

This industrial policy was announced by the Janata Party. The salient features of this policy were as follows. Under this policy, the main focus was on the development of small industries to remove unemployment. The goods produced by them were banned for large industries. This policy emphasized on achieving self-sufficiency and prohibited foreign cooperation in areas where there was no need. At the same time, effective control over the main industries was kept in the hands of the Indians. District Industries Centres were also set up under this policy.

Industrial Policy 1980

In 1980, the Congress government again announced its industrial policy. In this policy, special attention was given to modernization of the country and development of backward areas. This policy sought to bring about rapid industrial development. In this too, emphasis was laid on creating more and more employment opportunities. At the same time, attention was also paid to increase per capita income and production. The scheme also focused on the development of agro-based industries. It also targeted to increase exports by increasing production. Industries were set up in backward areas to maintain regional balance. Large industries were encouraged to develop themselves.

Thus, all the policies prior to the liberalization of 1991 had substantially restricted state intervention in the industrial sector and discouraged investment of foreign capital. Therefore, when India's economic situation deteriorated and it did not have enough money left to control its balance of payments, India was forced to seek help from the international financial institutions and these institutions blamed the policies adopted so far for the backward development of India and the strict rules made by it for foreign investment in the economic sector. They were advised to liberalize and on the basis of these conditions, loans were allowed to be given. Therefore, India announced its new policy in 1991, which was based on liberal rules, establishing relations with the world economy.

First Five-Year Plan

Its period was 1951-1956. This scheme was based on the Herad-Domer model. The scheme gave special attention to agriculture and to make Indian agriculture self-reliant, multi-purpose irrigation projects were set up including Bhakra Nangal Dam, Damodar Valley, Hirakud etc. On October 2, 1952, the Community Development Programme was launched. Under this scheme, efforts were to be made to develop the economy of the country in such a way that the country could run at a fast pace on the path of progress. Under this scheme, national level institutions were created in the country which were essential for implementation of development programmes. The aim of this scheme was also to remove economic disparity.

Second Five Year Plan:

Its period was 1956-1961. It is P.C. Mahalanobis was based on the model. Under this scheme, the main focus was given to the development of heavy industries. Increasing employment opportunities was also included in this scheme. Efforts were also made to reduce inequality in the country and improve the economic condition of the people. In order to raise the standard of living in the country, it was necessary to increase the national income by 25 percent in 5 years. Steel plants were set up at Rourkela, Bhilai and Durgapur. The All India Khadi and Village Industries Board was also established under this scheme.

Third Five Year Plan

The duration of this scheme was 1961-1966. The main goal of the Third Plan was to make the Indian economy self-reliant and accelerate its growth. The scheme seeks to increase agricultural production to meet the requirements of self-sufficiency and exports of foodgrains. In the field of industrialization, efforts were made to achieve self-sufficiency by setting up steel and chemical industries. In 1965, the Food Corporation of India and the Agricultural Prices Commission were established. It also aimed to create more employment opportunities and increase the economic power of the people by removing inequalities in the field of income and ghana. But due to the Indo-China war (1962) and Indo-Pak war (1965) during this plan, there were many difficulties in the success of this plan and this plan failed.

Three Annual Plans

The failure of the Third Five Year Plan had an adverse impact on production in various sectors leading to attempts to improve exports by devalued the Indian rupee. But to no avail, the Fourth Five Year Plan was deferred to three annual plans which were implemented between the period 1966 and 1969. This period is also called Plan Vacation as there is no definite target in this period. During this period, special attention was paid to the development of agriculture and the Green Revolution was started in 1966-1967 to meet India's food grain needs.

Fourth Five Year Plan

The duration of this scheme was between 1969-1974. The main goal of this scheme was 'Development with Sustainability'. This plan is designed by D. R. It was prepared on the basis of the Gadgil formula. Special attention was paid to these two sectors to achieve self-sufficiency in the field of agricultural and industrial production. The scheme mainly focused on improving the condition of the backward and weaker sections of the society by increasing the provision of employment and education. The average annual growth rate was targeted at 5.7 per cent. Fifth Five Year Plan The period of this plan was between 1974-1979. Special attention was paid to poverty alleviation in this scheme, but after the Janata Government came to power, this scheme was discontinued a year earlier in 1978. The scheme was based on the DP Ghar model. During this period, the main focus was on enhancing the economic condition of the people living below the poverty line so that they could meet their minimum needs. Efforts were also made to control inflation and establish a balance in the economic sphere. The Janata government started a new scheme by ending the Fifth Five Year Plan a year ago. This scheme is known as the Anantarat scheme. Its time period was from 1978 to 1980. The concept of continuous planning was introduced by Gunnar Myrdal in his book Asian Drama. During this period, efforts were made to develop on the basis of the principles of Mahatma Gandhi. In 1979, self-employment programs were started in the rural area. But with the collapse of the Janata Government, no significant work could be done during this period.

Sixth Five Year Plan

The duration of this scheme was 1980-1985. Through this scheme, an attempt was once again made to reduce poverty and unemployment and special focus was given on these two subjects throughout the Plan period. Efforts were made to strengthen the infrastructure of both agriculture and industry. For the first time, the importance of the public was acknowledged in the formulation of schemes and with their active participation, plans were prepared by collecting information at the local level. Seventh Five Year Plan — Its period was 1985-1990. The scheme promoted policy formulation and employment-oriented programmes. The main objectives of this scheme were to increase food grain production, emphasize employment opportunities and development of industries, modernization, self-reliance and provide social justice to the general public. The reason for this significant increase in food grain production during this plan period was due to natural adaptation and the success of the welfare programmes being run by the government for the benefit of the farmers. Prof. Rajkrishna has described the Santavi scheme as a Hindu growth rate. "

IV CONCLUSION

A detailed study of the paper makes it clear that the Indian economy has come a long and challenging journey from zero to peak since independence. The steps that India has taken towards self-reliance, leaving behind the effects of the dilapidated economy and colonial exploitation of the British era, are commendable.

The findings of this research can be summarized in the following points:

- Agriculture and Food Security:

The priority given to agriculture through five-year plans and the Green Revolution of the 1960s brought India out of the 'begging bowl' status and transformed it into a 'food grain exporter' nation. The use of improved seeds and modern technology has changed the picture of the rural economy, though the benefits have been uneven at the regional level.

- Trade Policy Shift:

India's trade policy has moved from an introverted approach of 'import substitution' to an 'export-oriented' and market-oriented one. The post-1991 economic reforms and globalization have given India a new identity on the world trade stage, giving impetus to foreign exchange reserves and industrial growth.

- Exploitation of Resources:

India is a rich nation in terms of mineral wealth. Mineral deposits stretching from the north-eastern continental region to the south-west strengthen the country's industrial base. Efficient management of these resources is the key to future industrial development.

- Population Challenge:

The most sobering conclusion of the research is that India's vast population still remains the biggest obstacle in the path of economic development. A large part of the increase in production is spent on meeting the primary needs of the growing population, leading to a shortage of 'surplus' for exports.

India is an emerging global economic power. If we can convert our vast population into 'Skilled Human Resource' and promote technological innovation along with agriculture, India will not only become self-reliant, but will also be able to lead the world economy. Future progress will depend on how we strike a balance between our limited natural resources and unlimited manpower.

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