

INTERPLAY OF DPSPs AND THE GOVERNMENT POLICIES IN POVERTY ERADICATION

Written By Dr. Eritriya Roy

Asst.Prof./Hidayatullah National Law University, Raipur, India

ABSTRACT

Article 45 of the Irish constitution gave rise to the concept of DPSP. The DPSP requires the state not just to safeguard and recognize the individual's fundamental rights, but also to attain social and economic objectives. Poverty is regarded as extreme violation of human rights and fundamental right to equality. Therefore it becomes the duty of the state to follow its obligatory duty of providing equality to all the individuals of the country and to curb the problem of poverty. The government follows institutional procedures and policies framework to tackle the problem of poverty and has brought out many developmental schemes to curb poverty. The current study examines the relationship between DPSPs and various government policies that are necessary for poverty reduction in India, as well as the government's varied initiatives to eradicate poverty. The study is critical in character and confined to their results and conclusions because it uses secondary sources of data.

INTRODUCTION

India, the land of a billion dreams, is rapidly expanding. With our growing economy our enemies are also growing and so does our challenges are becoming complex day by day. We cannot achieve our objectives until and unless we fully utilise our resources. Just like in an industry if resources are not fully utilised then the profit of the company decreases. Similarly in India we have human resources which are not fully utilised. On other hand China is growing rapidly by utilising their human resources and possess a great threat to our sovereignty and integrity. After independence, more than half of the population was poor, but that figure is now less than 7%. Although people have overcome poverty and those who have are still in the lower middle class, they may fall back into poverty for a variety of reasons.

Less privileged communities usually rely on states to promote them. The existence of a nation only indicates that it was established for the benefit of the people. Some people are wealthy and privileged and therefore do not depend on government for their well-being. Some people are completely dependent on the government. After independence, poverty was widespread, and constitutionalists created Part 4 of the Indian Constitution. It describes the guiding principles of state policy that the state must provide basic amenities to the poor. In India, poor people do not have land, shelter, food security or health insurance and need to start over. Failure in any of these areas can put a person at risk of poverty.

The reason why DPSPs was included in constitution and it was not made compulsory was because of the situation from which our country was going through during independence. It was included so that state should not forget about the poor people and not only work for capitalists and industrialists. Due to poor condition of the states it was not feasible for them to achieve these objectives because this requires a huge financial backing and that is why it was set up as guiding principles according to which state has to achieveⁱ.

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

The goal of this research is to look at how the DPSPs stated in the Indian Constitution interact with the function of government policies in addressing poverty. The study covers management of poverty in India through various initiatives of the Government.

RESEARCH METHOD

The present study is descriptive in nature and as it utilizes secondary sources of data, the study is critical in nature and limited to their findings and conclusions.

DIRECTIVE PRINCIPLES OF STATE POLICY AND THE PROBLEM OF POVERTY

Part IV of the Indian Constitution is comprised of what is called Directive Principles of State Policy. The Directive Principles constitute a very comprehensive social, political and economic programme for a modern and welfare state. These principles provides that the State shall try to promote the welfare of people by providing them basic facilities like shelter, food and clothing and to follow some ethos for collective benefit. The emergence of the welfare Stateⁱⁱ concept has affected the democracies very profoundly. It's led to State activism, there has occurred an outstanding increase within the area of operation; it's appropriated variety of functions which were previously left to non-public enterprise. The State today pervades every aspect of human life; it runs buses, railways and postal services; it undertakes planning of social and economic lifetime of the community with a view to boost the living standards of the people and reduce concentration of wealth; it improves slums, plans urban and rural life, takes care of health, moral and education of the people; it generates electricity, works mines and operates key and important industries. It acts as a lively instrument of socio-economic policy, regulates individual life and freedom to an outsized extentⁱⁱⁱ, and provides many benefits to its citizens^{iv}.

Poverty is defined as a state of relative deprivation caused by unequal distribution of resources. It is a distinctive attribute of a portion of society that lacks the resources, means

of subsistence, or capacity to participate in the desired quality of living. Poverty in India is not only broad, with multiple causes, implications, and dimensions, but it also requires a holistic approach to treatment. Because a poverty reduction programmes entails multiple unique components, the government's constitutional role is expressed in legislation and development strategies. Defining poverty has been an ongoing endeavor. The definitions have altered but slightly, in their intent, objective and outcome, although they might have changed in their manifestation. From Smith^v to Amartya Sen^{vi}, all theoreticians are unanimous in their opinion that poverty may be a genuine deprivation of life's basic necessities and incapacity to satisfy minimum biological, social, and cultural needs.

The perception of basic necessities, however, varies; what some societies consider as necessities could be considered extravagance or opulence in others. Moreover, within an equivalent society, when sub-groups become used to a particular standard of living, that level of existence becomes a necessity, leading to the propensity of a measured but steady ascent within the benchmark level of what's considered as 'basic necessities'^{vii}.

When it comes to the incidence of poverty, there are a variety of related ideas. The ideas of basic and secondary poverty, as well as absolute and relative poverty, are examples of associated concepts. Absolute poverty refers to a person's complete lack of access to the essential necessities of life. Hunger, malnutrition, famine, and illiteracy are all associated with it. A household is termed impoverished if it does not supply the bare minimum of commodities and services required for human subsistence. It's usually calculated in terms of calorie consumption. The term "relative poverty" refers to the disparity between those in subhuman living conditions and those who are wealthy or well-off. It is the product of societal inequity. It is the result of contrasting and comparing the poorer off and the better off. It denotes the disparity in the allocation of resources and income in society.

DPSP denotes the ideas of the constitution makers that the State should keep in mind while formulating policies and enacting laws. It is similar to the 'Instrument of Instructions' enumerated in the Government of India Act of 1935. In the words of Dr B R Ambedkar, 'the Directive Principles are like the instrument of instructions, which were issued to the Governor-

General and to the Governors of the colonies of India by the British Government under the Government of India Act of 1935. It constitutes a very comprehensive and elaborative economic, social and political programme for a democratic State which aimed at realising the objectives of justice, liberty, equality and fraternity as outlined in the Preamble to the Constitution. Law committee made by general assembly included the concept of a 'welfare state' which was absent during the colonial era.^{viii}

ARTICLES IN DPSP

Article 38	Promote the welfare of the people by securing a social order through justice—social, economic and political—and to minimise inequalities in income, status, facilities and opportunities
Article 39	Secure citizens: Right to adequate means of livelihood for all citizens 2. Equitable distribution of material resources of the community for the common good. Prevention of concentration of wealth and means of production Equal pay for equal work for men and women Preservation of the health and strength of workers and children against forcible abuse. Opportunities for the healthy development of children
Article 39A	Promote equal justice and free legal aid to the poor
Article 41	In cases of unemployment, old age, sickness and disablement, secure citizens: Right to work Right to education Right to public assistance,

Article 42	Make provision for just and humane conditions of work and maternity relief
Article 43	Secure a living wage, a decent standard of living and social and cultural opportunities for all workers
Article 46	Promote the educational and economic interests of SCs, STs, and other weaker sections of the society and to protect them from social injustice and exploitation
Article 47	Raise the level of nutrition and the standard of living of people and to improve public health

The above-mentioned articles clearly state that the government is responsible for ensuring the social and economic well-being of the country's citizens, as well as ensuring inclusive economic development in which the benefits of development reach all persons and sections of society.

GOVERNMENT POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES AIMED AT ADHERING TO THE DPSP'S ARTICLES AND ERADICATING POVERTY

In India, one of the guiding concepts of the planning process has been poverty reduction. The importance of economic expansion in providing additional job opportunities for the populace has long been recognised. Focusing on certain industries that provide increased chances for people to engage in the growth process has reinforced the growth-oriented strategy. The planning process has gradually internalised the numerous characteristics of poverty relating to health, education, and other essential services. The federal and state governments have increased funding for education, health, sanitation, and other services that help the disadvantaged build capacity and improve their well-being. Agriculture, area development programmes, and afforestation investments provide job and income opportunities. Special programmes for the welfare of scheduled castes (SCs) and scheduled tribes (STs), the disabled, and other vulnerable groups have been implemented.

The third strand of the larger anti-poverty strategy is anti-poverty programmes that strive to transfer assets and skills to people for self-employment, as well as public works programmes that help people cope with temporary poverty. The targeted public distribution system (TPDS) shields the poor from price increases by ensuring food and nutrition security at affordable costs. Many momentous steps towards the goal of poverty alleviation has been taking by the Government which clearly shows the interplay between the obligations of the Government quoted in articles of DPSP and the policies of poverty reduction.

1. Community Development Programme (CDP)
2. Small Farmer Development Agency and Marginal Farmer and Agricultural Landless (SFDA and MFAL) Programme
3. Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP)
4. Crash Scheme for Rural Employment (CSRE)
5. Minimum Needs Programme (MNP)
6. National Rural Employment Programme (NREP)
7. Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP)
8. Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP)
9. Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY)
10. Training of Rural Youth for Self Employment (TRYSEM)
11. Development of Women and Children in Rural Area (DWCRA)
12. Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS)
13. Millions Wells Scheme (MWS)
14. Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS)
15. Swarnajayanti Shahri Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY)
16. Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) 7
17. National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP)

18. Pradhan Mantri Gramoday Yojana (PMGY)
19. Indira Awas Yojana (IAY)
20. Annapurna Prakalpa or Antyodaya Anna Yojana
21. Rashtriya Samavikash Yojana (RSY)
22. Valmiki Ambedkar Awas Yojana (VAAY)
23. Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)
24. Sajal Dhara
25. Sampurna Gramin Swarojgar Yojana (SGSY)
26. Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF)
27. District Primary Education Programme (DPEP)
28. Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC)
29. Nibir Adivasi Unnayan Prakalpa (NAUP)
30. Gramin Rozgar Nischayata Bill (2005)
31. Janani Suraksha Yojana
32. Free Legal Aid Clinics
35. Land Reforms
36. Primary Agriculture Cooperative Societies
37. Pesa 1996
38. Skill Development Programme
39. Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojna
40. Rural Housing

CONCLUSION

Since the dawn of time, humans have lived in smaller groupings called tribes. Humans benefit from a sense of belonging because it offers them power, confidence, and support in difficult

situations. As the tribe's population rose, so did the tribe's size. As a result, the concept of state was born. The concept that people's moral and/or political obligations are contingent on a contract or agreement among them to construct the society in which they live is nearly as old as philosophy itself. People live together so that when they are in need, they can turn to one another for assistance, and in today's highly complex society, each individual need different things that he cannot attain on his own. As a result, a society is a well-established phenomenon in which people live together and work toward a common goal. A poor individual who does not have enough money or food should seek assistance from society because he is a member of that society and may be able to contribute to it in the future if he is capable. It is the government's job to assist the impoverished and to train them to be capable and efficient so that they can give their talents and abilities to society. India is a quasi-federal state with many agencies sharing authority. After independence, India was in terrible shape, with a literacy rate of less than 50% and more than half of the people living in poverty. Hence it becomes the duty of the Government to follow the obligations and bring out the poverty alleviation programmes and policies to provide the equality of justice to every individual of the country. Through proper implementation and regular supervision of the poverty eradication programmes the government can truly achieve the target of ensuring equal access of benefit and opportunities among the citizens of the country.

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ENDNOTES

ⁱ UN declaration at World Summit on Social Development in Copenhagen in 1995

ⁱⁱ A welfare State is a concept of Government where the State plays a key role in the protection and promotion of the economic and social well-being of its citizens. It is based on the principles of equality of opportunity, equitable distribution of wealth, and public responsibility for those unable to avail themselves of the minimal provisions for a good life. The general term may cover a variety of forms of economic and social organization.

ⁱⁱⁱ Bernard Schwartz, “Crucial Areas in Administrative Law” 34 *George Washington LR* 401 (1966)

^{iv} Charles A. Reich, “Individual Rights and Social Welfare: The Emerging Legal Issues” 74 *Yale LJ* 1245 (1965).

^v ADAM SMITH, AN INQUIRY INTO THE NATURE AND CAUSES OF THE WEALTH OF NATIONS 519 (1776) (By necessities I understand, not only the commodities which are indispensably necessary for the support of life, but whatever the custom of the country renders it indecent for creditable people, even of the lowest order, to be without...Under necessities therefore, I comprehend, not only those things which nature, but those things which the established rules of decency have rendered necessary to the lowest rank of people).

^{vi} AMARTYA SEN, INEQUALITY RE-EXAMINED 109-110 (1992) ([P]overty as the failure of basic capabilities to reach certain minimally acceptable levels. The functionings relevant to this ... can vary from such elementary physical ones as being well-nourished, being adequately clothed and sheltered, avoiding preventable morbidity, etc., to more complex social achievements such as taking part in the life of the community, being able to appear in public without shame, and so on).

^{vii} JOHN K. GALBRAITH, THE AFFLUENT SOCIETY 235 (1958) (In part poverty is a physical matter but it is wrong to rest everything on absolutes. People are poverty-stricken when their income, even if adequate for survival, falls markedly behind that of the community. Then they cannot have what the larger community regards as the minimum necessary for decency; they cannot wholly escape, therefore, the judgment of the larger community that they are indecent).

^{viii} Sachs, Jeffrey D. (30 December 2005). *The End of Poverty*. Penguin Press.