SUBJECT NAME: CONTEMPORARY INDIA (1947-2014)

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UNIT – IV

1.GROWTH OF INDUSTRIES-TRANSPORT

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

Industrial development is a very important aspect of any economy. It creates employment, promotes research and development, leads to modernization and ultimately makes the economy self-sufficient. Infact, industrial development even boosts other sectors of the economy like the agricultural sector (new farming technology) and the service sector. It is also closely related to the development of trade.

But just after independence India's industrial sector was in very poor condition. It only contributed about 11.8% to the national GDP. The output and productivity were very low. We were also technologically backward. There were only two established Industries- cotton and jute. So it became clear that there needed to be an emphasis on industrial development and increasing the variety of industries in our industrial sector. And so the government formed our industrial policies accordingly.

Control of the state

One of the biggest hurdles in industrial development was lack of capital. Private industrialists did not have enough capital to build a new industry. And even if they did, the risk involved was too high. So in 1948, it was decided that the state would play the primary role in promoting the industrial sector. So the state would have absolute and complete control over all industries that were vital to the economy and the needs of the public.

Coal, petroleum, aviation, steel etc. were all reserved exclusively for the state. The private sector could provide services complementary to those by the state. The public enterprises thus had a monopoly over the markets for many years to come.

INDUSTRIAL POLICY RESOLUTION 1956

During the second five year plan the industrial policy resolution came into action. The aim was to introduce more private capital in the industry but in a systematic manner. So this resolution classified industries into three categories :

- First category: Industries exclusively owned only by the state.
- Second category: Industries for which private sectors could provide supplementary services. These industries would still be mainly the responsibility of the state. And also only the state could start new industries.
- Third category: The remaining industries which fell to the private sector.

While any private company or individual could start an industry falling in the third category it was not that simple. The state still maintained control over these industries via licenses and permits. Every new industry needed a license and many permits from the appropriate ministry. They even needed permissions and permits to expand the present industry.

The aim behind such as industrial policy was to keep a check on the quality of the products. It was also an important tool to promote regional equality, i.e. to make sure industries were developed in economically backward areas.

SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES

In 1955 a special committee known as the Karve Committee advised the promotion of small-scale industries for the purpose of rural development. It was believed that since small-scale industries are more labour intensive they would create more employment. Also, the manpower requirement of small-scale industries is semi-skilled or unskilled which was suitable for those times. However, these small scale industries cannot match up to large scale industries. So, there were special goods and products reserved by the government. These could only be manufactured by small and medium scale industries. Such industries also got financial aid in form of loans and tax and duty breaks.

Strengthening of Infrastructure for Industrial Development

One of the first requirements for the development of the economy is to improve the infrastructure of the country. The various other sectors of the economy cannot develop without the support of infrastructure facilities like transport, rail, banking communication etc. So to develop these industries the government formed appropriate industrial policies. The development of most of these industries fell to the public sector. Like for example, the rail industry to this day remains firmly in the public sector.

Promotion of Capital Goods Industry

Capital goods are goods used in the production of other goods. Capital goods are not for direct sale to the consumer. But they are a hallmark of a good industrials sector. So the government decided to focus on the capital goods industry for the development o our industrial sector.

So the Mahalanobis model came into effect in the second five year plan. The focus here was on heavy industries, especially those that produce capital goods. This was to create a robust capital base for the economy. So industries of

heavy metals, chemicals, machine building, tools, electrical etc all saw growth in this period. Such industries have massive capital requirements. But the government ensured they had enough capital to function smoothly. Soon there was a development of high-tech goods in the market as well.

GROWTH OF TRANSPORT

The transport system in India includes Rail transport, Road transport, Air transport, water transport and portal connectivity. India has one of the largest road networks in the world, largest railway system in Asia and second largest in the world. Water transport in India is the oldest means of transport is till very poor.

RAIL TRANSPORT

Indian Railway is the 3rd largest rail network in the world after US and China. It is a multi-gauge, multi traction system covering Broad Gauge, Meter Gauge, Narrow Gauge. The first railway line in India was operated for public in traffic in 1853, between Bombay to Thane over distance of 34km and it was nationalized in 1950. The railways recognized by UNESCO are Darjeeling, Himalayan Railways, Nilgiri Mountain Railways, Chhatrapati Shivaji terminus, and Kalka-Shimla Railways.

The Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Limited (DFCCIL) is a corporation run by the Ministry of Railways (India) to undertake planning and development, mobilization of financial resources and construction, maintenance and operation of the Dedicated freight Corridors. It is both enabler and beneficiary of other key Government of India schemes, such as Industrial corridor, Make in India, Start up India, Sagarmala, Bharatmala, UDAN-RCS, digital India, BharatNet and UMANG.

ROAD TRANSPORT

Roads help in connecting far-fetch villages, interior countryside and hill areas which are not connected with railways. It is complimentary to railways. It acts as arteries for goods and passenger arriving at the railway station and often

provides last mile connectivity. India's road network is the third largest in the world.

Nagpur plan of 194 classified the roads into four categories- National Highway, Highway, State Highway, District roads and Village roads. National Highways comes under jurisdiction of National Highway Authority of India (NHAI). Golden Quadrilateral stretch which connects the four metro cities of India (Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai). National Highways are specifying by Yellow and White colour milestones. State Highways are specifying by Green and White colour milestones. City roads are specify by black and white colour milestones.

AIR TRANSPORT

The Air transport is the fastest and the costlier mode of transport. It was started in 1911 in India between Allahabad and Naini. In 1995, International Airport Authority of India and National Airports Authority were merged to form Airports Authority of India. The authority manages the Civil Aviation Training College at Allahabad and National Institute of Aviation Management and research at Delhi.

Pawan Hans Helicopter Limited has providing helicopter support services to the petroleum sector like ONGC, ODL etc. and also provides services to certain state Governments, PSU and in the North-Eastern States.

WATER TRANSPORT

Water transport in India is one of the cheapest modes of transportation. There are six national water ways set-up by Inland water ways Authority of India in 1986. There are 17 major ports and 187 minor ports. Maritime transport comes under the concurrent list of the Constitution, so central shipping ministry administer major and minor ports are administered by the respective coastal states.

2.DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNICATION-EDUCATION

Indian media consist of several different types of communications, such as television, radio, cinema, newspapers, magazines, and Internet-based web sites-portals. Indian media was active since the late 18th century with print media started in 1870, radio broadcasting initiated in 1927, and the screening of Auguste and Louis Lumiere moving pictures in Bombay initiated during the July of 1895. It is among the oldest and largest media of the world. Media in India has been free and independent throughout most of its history, even before establishment of Indian empire by Ashoka the Great on the foundation of righteousness, openness, morality and spirituality. The period of emergency (1975 – 1977), declared by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, was the brief period when India's media was faced with potential government retribution.

The country consumed 99 million newspaper copies as of 2007, making it the second largest market in the world for newspapers. By 2009, India had a total of 81,000,000 internet users, comprising 7.0% of the country's population, and 7,570,000 people in India also had access to broadband Internet country in the world in terms of broadband Internet users. As of 2009, India is among the 4th largest television broadcast stations in the world with nearly 1,400 stations.

The Bombay Gazette, which was started in 1791, merged with the Bombay Herald the following year. Like the Madras Courier, this new entity was recognized as the publication to carry "official notifications and advertisements". 'A Chronicle of Media and the State', by Jeebesh Bagchi in the Sarai Reader 2001 is a handy timeline on the role of the state in the development of media in India for more than a century.

Bagchi divides the timeline into three 'ages'. The Age of Formulation, which starts with the Indian Telegraph Act in 1885 and ends with the report of the Sub-Commiittee on Communication, National Planning Committee in 1948.

STATE OF MODERN MASS MEDIA:

After Indpendence, the Indian media had evolved, realigned and reinvented itself to a large extent, and now a days you can see a clear division between commercial and aesthetic expressions of our Media Giants, sometimes arbitrary. Modern mass communication media is poles apart relative to any aesthetic feeling; vulgarity and arrogance nullify any hypothesis of meaning. Aesthetics is the more powerful answer to violence of modern mass communication. Today's mass communication media seems to elude every determination, exposing its message to all possible variants, it finishes to abolish it. Goal of mass communication is always the unbiased dissipation of any content, and the world wide web is no exception, and surely is the most efficient media tool.

It's also very interesting to observe how the old media are becoming more and more permeable to blogs and D.I.Y. Information. This phenomenon is not due to a fascination in more democratic information sources. On the contrary, the pressing is rising due to the growth of the eyes' (cameras and new digital devices) that are watching the same events that mainstream media are reporting to us: the possibility of being uncovered are too many and broadcast journalists are forced to tell the truth (or at least a plausible version of it). As a consequence, blogs have become the major source of news and information about many global affairs. We also have to consider that bloggers are often the only real journalists, as they (at their own risk) provide independent news in countries where the mainstream media is censored, biased or under control.

DEVELOPMENT OF EDUCATION

EXPANSION OF GENERAL EDUCATION:

During the period of planning there has been expansion of general education. In 1951, the percentage of literacy was 19.3. In 2001 the literacy percentage increased to 65.4%. The enrolment ratio of children in the age group of 6 – 11 was 43% in 1951 and it became 100% in 2001.

Primary education became free and compulsory. Midday meal has been started in schools since 1995 to check drop-out rate. The number of primary schools has

risen by three times from 2.10 lakh (1950-51) to 6.40 lakhs (2001-02). There were only 27 universities in 1950-51 which increased to 254 in 2000-01.

DEVELOPMENT OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION:

Besides general education, technical education plays important role in human capital formation. The Government has established several Industrial Training Institutes, Polytechnics, Engineering colleges and Medical and Dental colleges, Management institutes etc.

WOMEN EDUCATION:

In India, literary among women was quite low. It was 52% according to 2001 census. While the literary among men was 75.8%, women education was given top priority in National Policy on Education. Many State Governments have exempted the tuition fee of girl's up to university level. Separate schools and colleges have been established to raise level of literacy among women.

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION:

National Policy of Education, 1986, aims at vocationalisation of secondary education. Central Government has been giving grants to State Governments to implement the programme since 1988. Agriculture, pisciculture, diary, poultry, typing, electronics, mechanical and carpentry etc. had been included in higher secondary curriculum.

GROWTH OF HIGHER EDUCATION:

In 1951, there were 27 universities. Their number increased to 254 in 2001. In Orissa state, there was only one university in 1951. Now there are 9 universities.

NON-FORMAL EDUCATION:

This scheme was launched on an experimental basis from the Sixth plan and on regular basis from Seventh plan. The aim was to achieve universal elementary education to all children in the age group 6-14 years. The scheme was meant for those children who cannot attend schools regularly and for full

time due to poverty and pre-occupation with other works. The Central Government is providing assistance to State Government and voluntary organization to implement the scheme. Non-formal education centres have been set up in remote rural areas, hilly and tribal areas and in slums. These impart education to children of 6-14 age group.

ENCOURAGEMENT TO INDIAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE:

After the adoption of National Policy of Education 1968, regional language became the medium of instruction in higher education. Syllabus on science and technology, dictionaries, books, and Question papers are translated into regional languages. Indian history and culture have been included in school and college curriculum.

ADULT EDUCATION:

Simply speaking adult education refers to the education for the illiterate people belonging for the illiterate people belonging to the age group of 15-35 years. The National Board of Adult Education was established in the First Five Year Plan. The village level workers were assigned the job of providing adult education. The progress remained not too good. The National Adult Education Programme was started in 1978. The programme is considered as a part of primary education. National Literary Mission was also started in 1988 to eradicate adult illiteracy particularly in rural areas. The Centre gives assistance to states, voluntary organizations and some selected universities to implement this programme. There were 2.7 lakh adult education centres working in the country in 1990-91. This programme helped to raise the literacy rate to 65.38% in 2001.

IMPROVEMENT OF SCIENCE EDUCATION:

Central government started a scheme for the improvement of science education in schools in 1988. Financial assistance is given to provide science kits, up gradation of science laboratories, development of teaching material, and training of science and mathematics teachers. A Central Institute of Educational Technology (CIET) was set up in NCERT to purchase equipment for State Institutes of Educational Technology.

EDUCATION FOR ALL:

According to 93rd Amendment, education for all has been made compulsory. The elementary education is a fundamental right of all children in the age group of 6-14 years. It is also free. To fulfill this obligation Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) has been launched.

The above discussion makes it clear that a lot of development in education has been made in India after Independence. There is wide growth in general education and higher education. Efforts have been made to spread education among all sections and all regions of the country. Still our education system is ridden with problems.

3.INDIA AS A NUCLEAR POWER-SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

It was Dr. Bhabha's vision that India should become self-reliant in the field of nuclear energy. Initially, it was the DAE that implemented the nuclear power development programme till the creation of the Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd. (NPCIL). Accordingly, India adopted a three-stage nuclear power programme based on indigenously made reactors and fuel processed form domestic resources.

GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF NUCLEAR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN INDIA:

India's journey in the field of nuclear science and technology began with the formation of Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) in 1954. The aim was to harness nuclear resources for peaceful purposes. India had to surpass the obstacle of technology denial by capable nations. The Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) headed by the prime minister started functioning since then. As a part of an agreement with the USA, India set up its first nuclear power station (410MW) in 1963 at Tarapore in Maharashtra. It was based on Boiling Water

Reactors (BWRs0 using enriched Uranium fuel supplied by the USA. This project started commercial operation in 1969. Tarapore marked the beginning of India's nuclear power development effort.

It was in 1988 that India signed an agreement with the then Soviet Union for setting up a 2*1000MW capacity power project based on Soviet manufactures pressurized water reactors at Kudankulam in Tamil Nadu. The three stage nuclear power programme was formulated by Dr.Homi Bhabha ion 1950s to secure country's long term energy independence, through use of uranium and thorium reserves found in the monazite sands of coastal regions of South India. The three stages adopted were ;

- Natural uranium fuelled pressurized Heavy Water Reactors (PWHR)
- Fast Breeder Reactors (FBRs) utilizing plutonium based fuel.
- Advanced nuclear power systems for utilization of Thorium.

The first stage was based on indigenously manufactured Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors (PHWRs) that used natural Uranium from domestic sources as fuel and indigenously produced Heavy Water as both the moderator and the coolant.

In the second stage, Plutonium-239, separated from the spent fuel in the first stage, was to be used in indigenously developed Fast Breeder Reactors (FBRs) for generating electricity.

In the futuristic third stage, is envisaged to use the indigenously available Thorium raw material from the sea sands along the coast and produce Uranium 233 which in turn would be the fuel for electricity generation.

Currently, all the components and equipments, especially the oversized heavy components have been successfully manufactures by Indian industries and erected in PFBR project. By following the above approach, India has mastered the design and manufacturing of sodium cooled Fast Breeder Reactors (FBR).

ADVANTAGES OF FAST BREEDER REACTORS (FBR):

- FBRs are designed with several safety measures and features which follow redundancy and diversity principles. Fast Breeder Reactors are safe and efficient apart from the benefits from environmental considerations.
- Economic viability of FBRs depends on successful operation of PFBR and subsequently successful commissioning and operation of FBRs in the country.
- Electricity generated by FBR would be a source of green energy as the waste from the first stage nuclear programme is reprocessed and used as fuel in FBR. The spent fuel from this sector can be fed back into the reactor core several times, till the spent fuel contains only short lived fission products.
- The advantage with a breeder reactor is that it generates more fissible material than it consumes. Also in the second stage, fast breeder reactors (FBRs) would use Plutonium-239, recovered by reprocessing spent fuel from the first stage, and natural uranium.
- Breeder reactors use a small core, which is important to sustain chain reactions. Besides, they do not even need moderators for slowing down neutrons, as they use fast neutrons.
- Further there is no need of large quantity of fuel materials for the annual external feed and thus eliminates the need for large capacity waste storage spaces with complex construction features.

India has achieved much in nuclear technology. Entry to NSG group is important for India to achieve further advancement. Nuclear technology are future and can help by providing India as a sustainable energy resource.

4.NDA-A.B.VAJPAYEE

'India Shining' may have been a failed marketing slogan for Lok Sabha elections in 2004, but former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, an administrator and orator par excellence who led hat campaign after running the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) government

for five years, did indeed lay the foundation stone for several things that took India forward in the later years.

One and a half decade after Vajpayee demitted office, he is today remembered as a leader who took forward India's telecom revolution, laid the foundation for massive infrastructure projects; roads, rail and air, in a size and scale that matched the Nehruvian era. He is also known for introducing social development schemes, including making education a fundamental right. He charted a new diplomatic path by encouraging people to people engagement with Pakistan (Delhi-Lahore bus route), declared India's nuclear power capabilities to the world and kick started a disinvestment process that saw privatization of non strategic public sector enterprises.

It was not without reason Prime Minister Narendra Modi, after inaugurating the Magenta Line of Delhi Metro recently, observed that the first traveller in Delhi Metro train was Atal Bihari Vajpayee. The first line of the capital city's life line was inaugurated during Vajpayee's time. In fact, Delhi Metro today is a beacon of the country's urban mobility. In terms of roads too, the much talked about Golden Quadrilateral Scheme, which linked the four metro cities Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai was his dream. The other grand vision was that of a network of all weather roads that criss-cross villages across India. Pradhanmantri Gramin Sadak Yojna helped movement of farm produce, and improved access to healthcare and education.

The mobile revolution started during his time as NDA government decided to slash call rates and thereby bring in more competition in the telecom industry. The rest is history. If India's telephone penetration rate was in single digits before Vajpayee's New Telecom Policy, mobile connectivity has taken off in such a manner that it is today the key pillar of the Central Government's JAM (Jandhan, Aadhaar, Mobile) plan for financial inclusion. Despite its increased thrust on spending, Vajpayee was keen on managing India's fiscal deficit arithmetic. In fact the Fiscal Responsibility Act was introduced during his time.

Narendra Modi government is known to have shown keen interest in the development of India's North Eastern states. In fact, what Modi government is

doing is something which Vajpayee had started off when he set up for the first time, a separate ministry for all round development of North Eastern states.

Vajpayee's achievements did not happen in a conducive atmosphere. Unlike the absolute majority BJP government enjoys today, Vajpayee had steered a coalition government that depended on its NDA partners. Neither was the global markets, spooking oil prices, and India had to fight a war in Kargil to buy peace.

The best witness to Vajpayee's performance as the India's Prime Minister will be his predecessor Manmohan Singh. When he followed Vajpayee as Prime Minister in 2004, India's GDP growth was inching towards double digits, inflation was under control and India was, at least in terms of numbers, shining.