

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's Thoughts On Industrializations

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Dr. B.R. Ambedkar was a myriad minded person with expert knowledge in diverse discipline. He was a social reformer educationalist a humanist, an economist, a sociologist, a political scientist, and a constitution maker. He was responsible for the revival of Buddhism in India in modern times; such personality has been very rare in the Indian History. The thoughts and activities carried out by Ambedkar were revolutionary. Besides these, he was a perfect economist too. In fact, his first major academic work was in economics. He analyzed a number of basic issues. In this context he wrote the Administration and finance of east Indian Company (1915) provincial decentralization of imperial finance in British India (1921). The Problem of Rupee; Its Origin and solution (1922) etc. he wanted to bring social and economic equality through state socialism. For this he propounded a model of economic development. However the state socialism was not accepted as Dr. B.R. Ambedkar was expecting. In the post independence period many of his thoughts were accepted and implemented. But his thought on agriculture were not implemented, a consequences of this the system has come to serious setbacks in the contemporary period. Similar situation could be found in case of industries. This article deals with the relevance of industrial thoughts in contemporary times.

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar had offered valuable thoughts and insights related to the industries. He believed that the structure of industries must be organized so that it would benefit all the segments of the society. For this Dr. B.R. Ambedkar suggested state socialism. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar state socialism meant the nationalization of Agriculture and Industries in the restricted area. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar stated that agriculture land must be nationalized but, in case of industries he said that only key industries and insurance should be nationalized, he wanted a permanent economic structure of state socialism.

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar said “they way out seems to retain parliamentary democracy and to prescribe state socialism by the law of constitution. So that it will be beyond the reach of a parliamentary majority to suspend amend or abrogate it. It is only by this that one can achieve the triple objects, namely, to establish socialism, retain parliamentary democracy and avoid dictatorship.

In the case of industries, he presented the following important thoughts.

- The key industries shall only be owned and run by the state.
- The industries which are not key industries, but which are basic shall be owned by the state and shall be run by the state or corporation established by the state.
- The insurance sector must be nationalized.

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar wanted to nationalize only to key industries and not all the industries. He also wanted to keep sufficient space for private companies. Thus he worked for mixed economy. His main intention behind this model was to promote equitable distribution of wealth. The private ownership may lead to an unequal distribution of wealth. The state industries can think for the welfare of the people, especially the depressed people. The private industries cannot perform this. According to him the process of industrialization may absorb the disguised unemployment from agriculture sector. Therefore Dr. B.R. Ambedkar insisted to establish the key industries under the state control.

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar held that insurance was equally important for the welfare of the people. He suggested that the insurance sector should be owned and run by the state only. Life insurance owned by the state may provide security to the people.

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar also laid down some causes in the directive Principles which support the equal distribution of wealth and means of production. These can be stated as below.

- That citizen's men and women equally have the right to an adequate means of livelihood.
- That the ownership and control of the resources of the community are so distributed as best to subserve the common good.
- That the operation of the economic system does not result in the concentration of the wealth and means of production to the common detriment.

As Dr. B.R. Ambedkar thoughts and the directive principles of the constitution of India the Planning Commission of India set a few long term objectives. One which is to set up a socialistic society based on equality and justice and the absence of exploitation.

Implementation of Ambedkar thoughts.

Ambedkar thoughts of industries and insurance could be traced to the industries policies declared in the post independence period. Unfortunately many experts have neglected Ambedkar's contribution in nation building the structure of economy. As per the directive principle of the constitution of India and Ambedkar's thoughts in the industrial policy resolution 1956, three categories were introduced.

a) Schedules A: Those which were to be an exclusive responsibility of the state.

b) Schedules B: Those which were to be progressively state owned and in which the state would generally set up new enterprises would be expected only to supplement the effort of state.

c) Schedules C: Remaining industries and their future development would in general be left to the initiative and enterprise of the private sector. The objectives of the public sector or state owned industries are as follows.

a) to promote rapid economic development through creation and expansion of infrastructure.

b) To generate financial resources for development.

c) To promote redistribution of income and wealth.

d) To create employment opportunities.

f) To encourage the development of small scale and ancillary industries and

g) To promote export on the one side and input substitution on the other

Some of the contribution of the states-owned industries can be described as

- It was estimated as 111 lakhs in the year 1971 which increases to 155 lakhs in 1981 and 191 lakhs in 1991 and in later days it started to diminish because of effect of Globalization.

- The state owned industries have played an important role in the net domestic products. About 7.5 to 23% in the year 1991-92.

- The state owned industries have played significant role in developing the key sectors the infrastructure of the economy.

- The state owned industries have been an important source of employment for the weaker section (SC/ST) can be seen in the industries.

- The state-owned industries have played an important role in promoting the social and economic welfare. They tried to redistribute the income and wealth of the society.

Conclusion:

The state owned industries have benefited society both directly and indirectly. Ambedkar's thoughts have been efficacious for the Indian society. Foreign investment is allowed in many industries with least investment of the government. The reason for disinvesting the state owned in their sickness. As a whole this has resulted into high rate of unemployment, exploitation, insecurity inflation trade cycles, etc. this has created a social instability. Therefore once again there is a need to rethink about the state intervention in the most essential sectors which promote social and economic equality. The demerits of globalization can be removed by accepting the thoughts of Ambedkar.

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