

Economic -Self-Sufficiency thought by Mahatma Gandhi

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Abstract:--

Mahatma Gandhi ,the face of India 's freedom struggle ,is seen as a fountain head of ideological inspiration ,not only for India but for the world at large.His ideas , thoughts about life always inspired to do different and successful life. Mahatma Gandhiji is popularly known as " The father of the Nation "and is the primary face of India's freedom struggle from colonisation . Mahatma Gandhi had several principles that he truly abided by ,for example, he introduced the idea of Economics self- sufficiency through The Swadeshi movement and promoted the use of Indian products.

Key Words:--Self Sufficiency, freedom

Objectives of the Paper :--

- 1.To Study Gandhiji's thoughts about economy**
- 2. To know the views of Gandhiji's philosophy.**

Methodology of the paper:--

For any research work primary and secondary data is important. For this article views are collected from books ,journals and internet media etc.Only secondary data is preferred to collect data for this paper.

Introduction:--

Mahatma Gandhi ji settle down as a lawyer in South Africa where he took part in a political movement against racial discrimination.He had been deeply influenced by Christianity and the ideas of Tolstoy, Ruskin and Thoreau ,so he devised the technique off non -violence as an active method of political leadership in the country.At the same time ,he developed different views and ideas about economy. He was in favour of decentralized economy.

The first basic principle of Gandhiji's economic thought is a special emphasize on plane living which helps in cutting down your wants and being self reliant. Gandhian economics is a school of economic thought based on the spiritual and socio economic principles expanded by Indian leader , Mahatma Gandhiji. As a school of Economics the resulting model contained element of protectionism , nationalism adherence to the principles and objectives of non violence and rejection of class war in favour of social economic harmony. Gandhiji's economic ideas also aims to promote spiritual development and harmony with a rejection of materialism.

Swadeshi status symbol:--

The craze for foreign articles among the people this attitude is not a healthy one. It will hamper the country's progress and development. We should inspire people to use Swadeshi's goods and so it is evolving a self-reliant economy. The positive point among all is that it can help to reconstruction of our economy. Swadeshi would help in solving the problem of unemployment in respect of both the aspect quality and quantity.

Capitalist mode of production:-Reacting sharply to the evils of machinery Gandhi said, I will not have the enrichment of a few at the expense of the community. At present the machine is helping a small minority to live on the exploitation of the masses. He further positively asserted, "I want the concentration on wealth, not in the hands of few, but in the hands of all." For an immediate solution to rural India's massive poverty, unemployment problems and his social economic plans for achieving self-sufficiency. Rural industries should be developed and nationally important. Gandhian alternatives was production by the message through self-employment in village industries.

Trusteeship:---

Trusteeship is a socio-economic philosophy that was propounded by Mahatma Gandhi. It provides a means by which the wealthy people would be the trustees of trust that look after the welfare of the people in general. Gandhiji believed that the wealthy people could be persuaded to part with their wealth to help the poor. Gandhiji's words, "supposing I have come by a fair amount of wealth either by way of legacy or by means of trade and industry. I must know that all that wealth does not belong to me, what belongs to the community and must be used for the welfare of the community. The founder member of J R D Tata was influenced by Gandhiji's idea of trusteeship. He developed his personal and professional life based on his idea.

Gandhiji's idea of self-sufficiency is that villages must be self-sufficient in regard to food, clothes and other basic necessities. To be self-sufficient is not to be altogether self-contained. In no circumstances would we be able to produce all the things we need. To become self-sufficient products must be exchanged. Every village has to be self-sustained and capable of managing its affairs even to the extent of defending itself against the whole world.

*The major Gandhian principles which would be helpful from the point of view of self-sufficient

1. Swaraj Hind
2. Establishment of Local government

3. Rural economy

4. Creative programs

*** The relevance of Gandhian concept of self- reliance in the modern era:--**

A) Gandhiji's have futuristic approach , his idea contained some thoughtful and highly practical proposals, about self sufficient villages.

B) To revive livelihood in agriculture and allied activities to create livehood.

C) To bring self- sufficiency in electricity through renewable sources and in water through its own sources, so Science and technology services will have to be taken in the villages.

D) Gandhian concept enhances the spirit of sustainable development in the country.

Conclusion:--

The Gandhian thoughts are more relevant even today because both nationalisation and privatisation have field to solve many problems like poverty unemployment in equality and so on. Growth programs based on Science and technology are material centric and not human centric and hence there is a need of rethink about Gandhian self sufficient village economic model to solve all our problems.

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