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Globalization & Indian Administration: An Analysis of Good-Governance

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Introduction

Globalization is basically a socio-economic term where people think locally and act globally. The phenomenon of globalization has many aspects and implications. It is referred to as a strategy of economic development where border of the countries do not matter for movement of commodities, services, capital, finance, labour, technology, ideas and information. This strategy generates a process of increasing economic integration and growing interdependence between countries of the world economy. The process of globalization started on a much wider scale with emergence of capitalism as a universal/dominant system in the world. This generated a very powerful wave in the Nineteenth century and continued in the Twentieth century till the outbreak of First World War (1914-18). This was the period when colonialism was at its peak and the developing worlds of today were colonies of imperial powers. IMF, the World Bank (IBRD) and the US Treasury in the form of an alternative package policy known as "Washington Consensus" accelerated the process of globalization. Initially, this set of policies was practiced by Ronald Reagan in the US and Margaret Thatcher in Britain. These policies are also known "Neo-liberal" policies. The formation of WTO replacing GATT creates new conditions for better implementation of Washington Consensus. Many new areas/activities, which were earlier not under the ambit of global trading system, were brought under the purview of WTO. They also included production and trade of agriculture produce, trade in services, Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs), trade related investment measures etc.

Globalization and India

A new chapter has dawned for India and its billion plus population in July 1991 when India initiated reforms. This period of economic transition has had a tremendous impact on the overall economic development of almost all the major sectors of the economy, and its effects over looked besides, it also marks the advent of the real integration of the Indian economy into the global economy. In the Uruguay round of negotiations of GATT 1994, India signed the agreement on trade related investment measures that has forced India to do away with protection of Indian industry from severe global competition within five years. Of the 13 investment measures that were identified to distort global trade, India has been using as many as eleven of them to meet the needs of social and economic development of the country. Signing of this agreement is bound to remove these much-needed measures. In the meantime, the custom duties on imports have been steadily brought down as per the Industrial Licensing Policy 1991, in January 1995 being a founder member of GATT; India joined WTO and agreed to stand by the regulatory framework of free global trade and competition.

Globalization and Indian Administration

As the World order is rapidly changing due to global structure of production, trade and communication. Indian administration is facing structural changes due to revolution in telecommunication, transportation and formation of global financial markets. Modern management processes to increase the efficiency of the administration have been emphasized. The principle of hierarchy has been losing its length and got flattened and downsized, and has been eliminating the need for levels of bureaucracy and long chain of commands. Indian administration has undergone sea-change in response to new inputs from the contemporary socio-economic and political scene and under the impact of globalization. Now the competition with private sector has increased. The public sector has to compete with private sectors in case of cost, quality, and span of production otherwise it has to face elimination. Financial matters of our country, may it be related to banks, inflation, share prices, monetary and fiscal policy, budget are being finalized according to international financial market. The scope of public sector is becoming limited so the powers and functions of bureaucracy have been reducing, due to the entry of foreign investors in telecommunication, roads, posts, airports, insurance, health, education and IT sectors.

Impact of Globalization on Indian Administration:

1. Entrepreneurial Government:

The government office is seen as a dusty moth-eaten, dingy, paper-infested hovel chockfull of babus, which is feudal in its outlook, hierarchical in structure, antediluvian in its procedures, dilatory in examination of issues and secretive in its dealings with customers. The common man views the government functionaries as exploiters rather than facilitators or providers. The entrepreneurial government is the answer to the present administrative malaise. Efficiency and productivity, the hall-mark of entrepreneurial Government is the answer to the present administrative malaise. Efficiency and productivity, the hall-mark of entrepreneurial government are two areas where considerable changes have resulted due to constant pressure of globalization. Public sector organizations are now under worldwide pressures to enhance their productivity by increasing efficiency. Along with cutting down waste and increasing output, the public bureaucracies are trying to simultaneously facilitate better delivery of services.

2. Changing Role of Bureaucracy:

The process of economic liberalization in its basic conceptual formulation seeks a reduced governmental intervention in the economic sector, thus implying a reduced role for the bureaucracy in the process of development. There has to be a realization that with the switch over to globalization, liberalization and privatization, the bureaucracy will have to play the role of a catalyst for change. In the new economic order the bureaucracy has to function as a helper, an accelerator, a booster.

3. Public Service Reforms:

The policies of World Bank, IMF, And WTO pursued the developing countries and compel them to adopt free market economy by introducing liberalization and privatization policies in their public sector. These public service reforms firstly adopted in 1980s in UK and other Western countries and in 1990s India adopted, which is also known by different names, viz., New Economic Policy, Structural Adjustment Programme, privatization, liberalization, deregulation and contrasting out. The impact of free market economy on the concept of government, structure of government and also on the way of governance is on the agenda of discussion world over. It is based on the perception that private is good and public is bad. The consequences of

free market reforms on government and governmental business are generally described as the new way of governance, government by the market, reinventing government, new public management, sharing power, slimming of state, hollowing out of state and so on.

4. **Good Governance:**

The key items on the development agenda of the 1990s have reform of public administration and issues of governance amongst their priorities. "Governance" deals with the capacity of the government to design, formulate and implement policies and in general to discharge their functions. Good governance is more than a mere word that implies efficient public administration. It is the process of building and enduring bridges between the state and the society at large through effective and people-oriented mechanisms of administration. The concept of good governance was conceived in 1989. It found mention in a World Bank Report on Sub-Saharan Africa. It defined good governance as "a public service that is efficient, a judicial system that is reliable and an administration that is accountable to the public". Good governance is associated with efficient and effective administration in a democratic framework. It is equivalent to purposive and development-oriented administration which is committed to improvement in quality of life of the people. It implies high level of organizational effectiveness. In simple words, good governance can be considered as citizen friendly, citizen caring and responsive administration.

5. **Empowering Citizens:**

Globalization from below has also witnessed the rise of grass-roots, people's active participation at the local level in areas such as women's empowerment, education for all, human rights including the rights of the poor, consumer rights, environmental protection and decentralization. Thus, empowering citizens has been a key component of recent reform wave surrounding public administration.

Summation

The process of globalization leads to transformation of lives of the peoples through social, economic, legal, administrative changes. In context of India Globalization means integrating the India with world by removing the restrictions as well as barrier, quota and tariffs on the export and import of goods and services across the countries. The Government of India has been adopted new economic policy in July 1991, to minimize the controls over the flow of foreign goods, services, capital, and technology investments and has to adopt liberal policies for adjustment of investment. The governmental interference in economic activities has been declining since 1991. The integration of the world market and rapid technological change led to efficiency gains and growth. These in turn increased competition through lower cost and higher market efficiency, higher productivity, lower barriers to entry and new investment opportunities in public sector. Indian administration has undergone sea-change in response to new inputs from the contemporary socio-economic and political scene and under the impact of globalization. Now the competition with private sector has increased. The public sector has to compete with private sectors in case of cost, quality, and span of production otherwise it has to face elimination. The importance of transparency in the governance has been realized and the measures have been taken to ensure the participation of masses in developmental processes. Globalization provides a useful mean to develop technologies necessary for the production of goods services that improve the well-being of the masses. There is no doubt that the process of globalization increases the flow of communication as well as IT enables services and invented the new form of governance. But in context of India as well as lot of developing countries where they have huge illiteracy, even they don't have electricity,

how this balance will take place? This is the main question which is the challenge for new era of government, to serve the opportunities by equal distribution at grass root level.

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