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BUREAUCRACY AND DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION

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ABSTRACT:

The present research article is an attempt to probe and analyse the historical background of Indian Bureaucracy and its role towards development administration with special reference to the weaker sections of people. It may well be pointed out that the development administration is an action oriented and goal oriented administration. It is an innovative administration acquainting new skills and new ideas to encourage change and growth. It indicates a willingness to take risks in order to encourage change and growth. It attempts to change the socio-economic condition of weaker sections of people and promotes growth in their condition. It emphasizes on group performance and intergroup collaboration rather than on individual performance. Along with this individual roles are continuously changing under the development administration as the structures are shaped and reshaped according to goal requirements. It involves employing of trained manpower and improving the existing skill of the staff, using of sophisticated aids to decision-making and adopting empirical approach to problem solving as well as emphasizing on problem finding. It is thus development administration functions in a rapidly changing environment and also strives to contribute to change the environment itself. In this context it may be pointed out that it involves an interdisciplinary campaign looking for new functions and new dimensions, having flexibility, innovativeness, dynamism, participation and goal orientation as its basic elements. ¹

KEYWORDS: weaker sections, dynamism, participation and goal orientation.

INTRODUCTION:

Development administration is closely associated with bureaucracy. It is bureaucracy which provides meaning and dimension to development administration. Development administration deals with the extension and community services, Extension and community services are best seen as a form of partnership between the government agencies which provide technical, institutional or functional services and the people. Their significance comes from the fact that they are a substitute for a system based on government action alone and are rooted in the belief that it is the community at the local level which receives the services, responds to them and in the process itself grows in initiative and responsibility to improve the condition of the weaker section people. They imply community organizations of one kind or another at the base. The most difficult problem met with in extension is that, within the limits of the resources available benefits do not easily reach the sections of the population who are in a situation of weakness, unable to contribute their own share or to claim what is due to them. Therefore, there is need both for first hand investigation of social situations for better devices and instruments for dealing with social disabilities, psychological handicaps and other lacks, and for more comprehensive social and economic policies. Thus

through extension and community services the bureaucracy attempts to improve the socio-economic condition of the people of weaker sections of the people.

Programme planning is essential for development administration as it enables the bureaucracy to extend services to the people of the weaker section enabling them to improve their socio-economic condition. ³ Problems of programme management run right through the entire range of development in various sectors of the economy of the people of weaker sections. They include questions of organizations, personnel delegation and attitudes in administration, but if one issue should be identified more sharply than any other, it is the critical role in programme management of planning for supplies and inputs, invariably, though facts will assert themselves soon enough, plans err in accepting commitments and targets in excess of supplies and inputs and other material resources which are in fact likely to be available. This failure in planning, itself a cause of much failure in implementation, may occur partly for lack of measurement and systematic estimation, partly because pressures have a way of persuading and planners may be tempted to leave difficult choices to others.

Bureaucracy attempts to promote the welfare of the people of the weaker sections of society and for this project management is essential. 4 Project management more specially the management of public enterprises, has become an altogether crucial area, because major projects account for a high proportion of new investment and make demands on resources in men, materials and organization which are frequently underestimated. They call for decisions and procedures at the level of policy which would facilitate their preparation and execution and at the same time, there must be efficiency, initiative and compactness in the organizations responsible for them. They are undoubtedly a major challenge to administrative and technical capacity to achieve development. From the various management studies which have been the difficulties in the early stages, success and failure in the management of enterprises is not a matter of chance or only of favourable circumstances. It is proper to ask for complete accountability at every point and to judge by results as it is essential also to be ruthless against failure. The life cycle of a project from inception to operation contains well marked stages such as project definition and pre-construction phase, construction management and operation management. The techniques and methods required in each phase as a matter of sound planning and execution have now been sufficiently established in terms of India's own experience and analysis to which this has been subjected. IN presenting this view it is also important to recognize that project authorities face several problems beyond their power, which can only be resolved by the agencies should, therefore, be equally stressed. For instance, it is for them to ensure that such enterprise has the requisite organization, competent top level personnel and boards of directors with the necessary authority. They have to secure effective communication with the project and a system of management information and control which will help anticipate problems and provide for them in advance. It may thus be pointed out that the bureaucracy with the help of project management attempts to improve the socio-economic condition of the people of the weaker sections of society. 5

Bureaucracy attempts to promote are development, which will enable people of the weaker section to improve their socio-economic condition. Area developmental activities are very difficult. Area development is an extremely difficult field of administration and one for which we do not have yet sufficient experience. It was perhaps too readily assured in the past that the problems which arise in the area level would be adequately dealt with by men and institutions on the spot. It was not realized that area development required a clear frame of delegations and procedures within which both at the state level and in districts and blocks, each agency could not in its own, as well as identification of the points at which its activities should be complimentary to those of other agencies. Again, at the district levels there are three sets of institutions which have to work together- Panchayati Raj institutions in the rural areas, district officials functioning with the collector outside the scheme of Panchayati Raj and the local self governing institutions in towns and cities. The role of cooperative organizations and voluntary agencies at the level should also be noted. Before we can make a success of the area development for more knowledge and understanding will have to be brought to bear on problems at the local level. Local level problems are best regarded as facts of difficult national problems, looked at in terms of given areas and communities. They

demand no less expertise and knowledge from higher levels of administration and from universities and research institutions than problems at the state and national level. Area development can be successfully handled or tackled by bureaucracy. People of the weaker sections of society residing in certain area can better be served by the bureaucrats endowed with the tasks of promoting development.⁶

Urban administration to promote the welfare of the people of the weaker sections of society Municipal institutions in the urban areas first come into existence in the eighties of the last century, but they have not yet become effective means for involving urban communities in the solution of their own problems or for the efficient administration of social services. To secure their effective working in relation to civil life and development there is need as much for a changed outlook towards urban problems and allocations of large resources as for more intensive and systematic training.

It is pertinent that manpower planning and development should be associated so that the socioeconomic condition of the people of the weaker section of society can be improved. It may be said that no developing country can progress without properly assessing its skills, manpower estimation, improvement and development is thus the first need of developing countries like India. For promoting development of the weaker sections of people manpower planning must be made and be promoted.

The developing countries like India should adopt perspective and long term planning. The under-developed countries will have to adopt short range and long-range perspectives in order to utilize available, but scarce resources in order to catch up with the economically development nation. It will enable the bureaucracy of the developing countries to take up the development of the condition of the people of the weaker sections. It will also enable district administration to improve the socio-economic condition of the people.

There should be adequate research to be undertaken to promote development of the people of the weaker sections of society. Therefore it may be pointed out that adequate research will enable the district administration to take up the promotion of the condition of the weaker sections. So it is said that another very important process for developing countries in total acceptance without reservation of science and technology as a level of development. Under developed countries continuously neglecting science and technology as a challenge to their culture are bound to lag behind in competitive world. Either in the name of religion or being against the 'invasion' of tradition, such countries are continuously neglecting scientific investigation and thus inviting ignorance and under development.

There is the requirement of scientific analysis of the reasons of the poverty of the people and study as to how to improve the socio-economic condition of the people of weaker sections of the society. Therefore scientific studies should be undertaken in every educational institution from the 4th standard to university level and in other national institutes. This will help to develop a scientific temper and promote scientific outlook. Without understanding scientific research studies, there cannot be any development and the bureaucrats would be unable to improve the socio-economic condition of the people of weaker sections of society. Therefore scientific studies and researches should be undertaken to understand the reasons for the poverty of the people and methods to know as to how to improve their condition.⁸

There is the necessity for adoption of new values for the purpose of development of the socio-economic condition of the people of the weaker section of the society. A number of scholars are of the view that the people of the "Third world" (under developed countries) should come out of the shackles of myths, religious dogmas and superstition, and adopt new values of work, discipline, dedication and sacrifice. There is no use cursing fate. Instead hard work will overcome fate. The socio-economic and political values of the people should be changed and be modernized in outlook and value. People should do hard work to remove their poverty.

There should import of scientific techniques, instruments and technology which will be utilized for promoting development. Scholars are of the view that it is highly essential for the Asian countries like India where large number of people live below poverty line. Japan and China to coordinate their efforts to import sophisticated technologies and share these with other under developed countries of the third world.

Scientific technologies should be adopted in improving agriculture and industries which will enable people to get improved their socio-economic condition.⁹

Scholars are of the opinion that there should be established training institutes with the objectives that these institutions should be endowed with the responsibilities to carry on development programmes and projects. All forms of development from political and social to economic, industrial and technological are only possible through a highly efficient instrument of government that is administrative system. So, there is political, economic and social cultural context of development administration which is to be carried but by bureaucrats for improving the condition of the people particularly of the people of the weaker section of the society.

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