CHAPTER-II

CONCEPT AND THEORY OF DEVELOPMENT

For any and every research attempt, it would be first advisable and unavoidable to create an indelth understanding of the concept and Theory upon which the statement of problem rests. Consequently, the researcher has widely dealt with the concept and theory of Development in this chapter in the manner as mentioned hereunder:

A. Meaning & concept of Development:

(i) Meaning of Development:

Development is a widely participatory process of directed social growth in a society intended to bring about both social and material advancement for majority of the people through their gaining greater control over their environment. Such an advancement includes greater equality, freedom and other valuable norms of life.

Development has been defined by social scientists on the basis of their ideological commitment. Dicknson has aptly described development as, “Everyone is talking about development, but what is it in reality? One thing is certain. It has no simple meaning. Development means something different to each one who
speaks." Applied to an economy, it means growth in its different sectors of production and distribution; improvement in the standards of living; and improvement in the wages of the workers. Political development similarly means healthy growth of political institutions in society like democracy, growth of public administration with justice, equality and linguistic homogeniety. Sociologists talk about development in terms of social transformation i.e. improved inter-institutional and inter-organisational relations.

(ii) Concept of Development

The concept of development is not new but still it is in a primary stage. Since Civilization, it has been growing in scope and substance and the present nature of development greatly differs from that of the early period. Serious attempts have been made by scholars of different disciplines to define the concept of development. "Development never will be and never can be defined to universal satisfaction" states the Brandt Commission Report. Similarly we can see the idea of Uphoff and Ilcham about the concept: "Development is probably one of the most depreciated terms in social science literature, having been used more than it has been understood".
Many have defined it in terms of increase in national economy, others defined it to include social improvement and still others in terms of increase in the capacity of the political system and while there are others who make no distinction between development and modernization. Thus development is a complex phenomenon comprising many dimensions—social, political, economic, administrative and so on.

We now speak of 'economic development', 'Political Development', 'Social Development' and so on. Development should not be discussed in terms of economic development only. The most important component of development is its dynamism. Development must signify continuous change in society for the betterment of the people in various phases of life. Development brings in its processes continuous change in the pattern of living of the people in different walks—spiritual, material, religious, social, economic and political. It may be, however, stated that it is not possible to draw a line of demarcation between the economic, political and social components of development. All these components tend to come into play, when
development is seen taking place through cumulative circular causation process. Thus development is a complex phenomenon.

**ESSENTIAL PRE-CONDITIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT:**

Since modern societies lay down certain goals and objectives for development, they also need the foundations on which development can be based. Some factors which play a key role in the development are given below:

1. **A stable political system:**

   If a society aspires for a planned development, it must have the basic infrastructure laid down in an acceptable political order and a well-defined constitutional system. Without such a base no society can move in the direction of nation-building and socio-economic progress. It must have a stable constitution to provide for mutual adjustment among its different social components, sections, classes and sectors. Unless there is a well classified and regulated system of law and order to delineate the mutual inter-relationship among the component parts, there can be no well sustained rate of development.
2. Stable Administrative system

The Indian Experience of development is somewhat new. In this new content the role of bureaucracy is cited as central to the whole problem of development. Though from 1950 onwards in India a system of planning is contemplated to be necessary for the development but along with this system of planning the machinery and structure of personnel remained based upon bureaucratic development. This kind of model of development thus explains the importance of bureaucracy in the Indian System. For the sake of clear understanding we can divide the role of bureaucracy in the following into parts.

a) Role in policy formation

b) Role in policy implementation.

The system of planning to formulate the policies needs extensive machinery. This machinery can either be created denovo or the existing machinery is utilised for the formulation of the development policy. That is the reason that the bureaucracy plays important role as far as policy formulation is concerned.

B) Role in policy implementation:

In India the implementation of the development
policy has always been an exclusive role of bureaucracy because this is the only machinery available to implement the development policies.

3. A system of planning

For a concrete programme of development and achieving the desired objectives of such programmes, it is necessary for a society to improvise the concept of planning.

4. Peoples' participation

For development of society it is extremely necessary that the people as a whole must be active or direct participants in the process of development. In the modern Democratic Systems, the role of individual is increasing. This kind of increase is taking place in two ways - the growing significance of individual separately and as a unit of society.

The peoples' participation is generally perceived to be the one where the opinions of the citizens are given weight in the administrative decisions. In fact the peoples' participation involves influencing the system of authority.

In our country, the idea of peoples' participation is not very old that's why the context of
the peoples' participation in India is an effort to remove the inequalities. There are some other opinions about the meaning of peoples' participation in general. In the context of western Democracies the peoples' participation is taken in terms of more and more services provided by the administration. In the socialist countries the peoples' participation is generally taken as growing towards self rule. Actually, the meaning of peoples' participation is more taking to the process of self-rule.

In the developing countries the problem of development is directly linked with society in general. In these societies are the administration in its functioning needs to have a faith of the people. Now a days we find that in most of the developing countries there number of problems comming up in the society. In the case of India itself the problem in society is escalating.

In the Indian Situation, to ensure the peoples' participation in the administrative functioning, the following needs and conditions should be created and fulfilled

Education

The consiousness to participate in the
functioning of the administration is a direct issue of the social rights of individuals. If they are conscious of their rights and freedoms they can ensure their place in the administrative functioning. In the developing countries the people in general like in our own country are engulfed in the problem of survival and existence that's why the consciousness that administration is for the people is very significant.

Material upliftment

The question of consciousness and education predominantly depends upon the material conditions of the people. If the material conditions are improved than the levels of consciousness will also rise. That's the reason that to ensure peoples' participation the material conditions in the society should be improved.

Reorientation of the administration

Alongwith the education and improvement in the material conditions there is a need for change in the value system of Indian bureaucracy. Without peoples' participation nothing can work meaningfully.

THEORIES OF DEVELOPMENT:

During the 1950s and 1960s, a general optimism about development was widespread among both academic
scholars and Government Officials. This optimism gradually dwindled and a questioning stance about development characterised in 1970's. The main viewpoint in the 1980's is pluralism, a willingness to recognise many different approaches to development. Mainly there are three types of Theories:

Marxist theory
Liberal theory
Third worldist theory

Marxist Theory:

The most scathing attack on development and industrialism came from Marx whose indictment has remained extremely important for understanding the historical process.

Marx pointed out to the built conflict in the very process & industrialisation. He believed that one had to penetrate below the superstructure of politics and society to discover the real forces that operate. It should be remembered however, that political theorizing about development is different from what it has been traditionally. The past political arrangements were regarded as highly beneficial and the aim was to so order politics as to approximate to them as far as possible.
The entire process of history was seen as a conflict in which the backward looking antiquated, rural based interests had their kits loaded against them and their defeat was inevitable. Capitalism was celebrated for its progressive role about equally condemned for its tendency to ground down lower classes.

Development in its broader sense therefore divides itself into two schools, the capitalist and the Marxist.

Liberal Theory

The social economic and political happening that took place for a period of a hundred and fifty years from the 18th century can be regarded as constituting a type of development that was unprecedented in the world and which was to have a profound influence throughout the globe. For want of a better phrase this can be labelled as "Liberal Materialism". It developed gradually and fitfully and both intellectuals and institutions, no less than economic and political happenings, contributed to this.

Diffusionist Approach:

Diffusion is defined as the process by which an innovation is communicated through certain Channels over
time among the members of a social system. Edari utilises diffusion theory in a somewhat narrow sense to explain the process of Third world development. Diffusion is a process by which a Third World country adopts capital, technology, and social structure from Western industrialised Countries. He argues that Third World Countries will develop to the extent that:

- Western industrialised countries provide Capital (through loans and grants) to invest in development programmes.
- They adopt modern methods of agricultural and industrial production.
- They adopt those values, attitudes and behaviour patterns that are exhibited by Western industrialised nations.

In sum, early development theorists viewed development as a process by which a "traditional" Third World society could be transformed into a modern Western Society. They were concerned with what a Government did to and for its people. They stressed economic growth (measured as the annual rate of growth in a nation) as Gross National Product through industrialisation. They implied that poverty is equivalent to underdevelopment.
The obvious way for Third world countries to develop was to follow the Western scholars.

Third worldist Theory:

While this account may appear idealistic, it represents the general outlook that was dominant. This was the path of European development and to those in the third world it offered the only guide to their country's development as well.

An instance of the influence is to be seen in the Justice Ranade (1842-1901) who toiled hard for the regeneration of India and for the development of the land. Along with his disciples he was to stress the very path that had been trod upon by the west as the path to be Carved out in the country. He was fearless in wanting to build institutions in wanting to develop public opinion. Even as in the West it was a market economy that had developed but which was regulated and promoted by the Government. Ranade wanted a similar promotion to be made of national commerce and industries by the Government. He commonly tried to improve the lot of agriculture by drawing the attention of the Government to the problems of the peasantry. He tried to promote an active public opinion by encouraging the foundings of newspapers and
Economic Approaches:

Soon after the second world war many Third World countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America gained their independence from Western Colonial rule. These newly independent Third World nations noted the pathways that had been followed by the Western industrialised countries to achieve socio economic progress. Economists advised the people of Third World countries to save more and to invest it as capital, a strategy based on the writings of such classical economists as Adam Smith, John stuart Mill, and Karl Marx.

The key question, therefore, was where and how to invest. Some experts recommended balanced growth, while others argued for unbalanced growth that is investing heavily in one area, and letting other areas be pulled along. Investment was usually concentrated in the industrial sector, often at the expense of rural and agricultural sectors of the economy.

Rustow identified five stages in the process of a nation's economic development:

- A traditional society characterised by low level of
technology, a rigid social structure, fatalistic attitudes, and a low per capita income.

- Preconditions for take off:
  
  When a traditional society is exposed to modern scientific knowledge and technology, the traditional values begin to break down.

- Take off:

  Wherein sustained economic growth gets under way, and the society discards its traditional values.

- Drive to maturity:

  In which society undergoes rapid economic growth and becomes integrated into the larger international economic system.

- High Mass consumption:

  This is the final stage of development, characterised by a high standard of living for a majority of the society.
References:


