

# Bihar Government and Economic Development of Dalits

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**Abstract**—In Bihar Caste involve every layer of economic life; in school, university, the labor market. The caste extends beyond private economic activity into the public region, where caste politics determines access to public incomes. Evidence indicates that there has concurrence in education, occupations, income, and access to public resources across caste groups in the decades after independence. Some of this convergence is likely due to active action, but caste-based networks could also have played an equalizing role by exploiting the opportunities that became available in a Bihar economy. Ethnic networks were once active in many advanced economies, but ceased to be salient once markets developed. With economic development, it is possible that caste networks will cease to be salient in Bihar. In the interim period, however, it is important to understand the positive and negative consequences of caste involvement across a variety of spheres in the Bihar economy.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The Gandhian path of land to the tillers recommended by Kamarappa Committee to effect the abolition of tenancy still remains the only viable way to do away with the feudalistic constraints on social development imposed by Mandal way via caste based identity politics in Northern India with a new face of Kulak lobby. Bihar is the hot bed of such politics.

Once tenancy is abolished, the development of infrastructure in agriculture which still is lagging in the state (Anubatha 1998) with stress on irrigation will have to be given priority because capitalist growth of agriculture is critically dependent on assured and perennial source source of irrigation.

Rural roads and electrification are also crucial for both agricultural as well as for non agricultural diversification. Needless to say, any infrastructural investments will further help in boosting agricultural growth which has witnessed stagnation in the last three decades (1981-2011) except for a part of (1981-83).

It is puzzling in the case of Bihar to find that neither the ruling elites, nor the peasant leaders have paid attention to such obvious needs of development. They are much agglomerate in organizing birth or death anniversaries of some Kisan leaders to foment their caste rivalries on political regrouping as required by them from time to time. Thus, the silent revolution that ushered in change of political regime is turning into a failure with the lapse of twenty plus years. As such per capita income growth in agriculture has been either

stagnant or have declined due to increasing sub-division of land holdings, stagnant production in agriculture and adverse agricultural price climate etc.

## 2. OBJECTIVE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF DALIT'S

All these scenarios demand heavy public investment, the availability of cheap but institutional credit to the farmers for productive purposes is another critical need of the state.

It is unfortunate that militant peasant and agricultural labour movements are perceived by the state as a law and order problem rather than a development issue. Class contradictions in the industrial and agrarian sectors remain dormant in a situation of growth and become militantly manifested in periods of stagnation. This world wide experience needs to be internalized by the policy makers in Bihar.

However, certain socio-political developments of the last several years during the reform era militate against these desirable options. The social justice regime by pushing a feudal social group on the fence seat somehow, in agrarian oligarchs (Brahmin & Kayastha and to some extent even Bhumihar and Rajput) have aggravated the agrarian relations in Bihar by the **emergence of non labouring educated youths of both social groups** (because caste based reservation has failed to deliver adequate white collar jobs to them in the period of reform, where private players rules at large) have taken recourse to alcoholism and act as brokers between people on the one hand and administrators on the other. It has resulted into the criminalization of civil society with the concomitant insidious fall outs such as a culture of appropriation without production manifested almost blatantly in the misappropriation of development funds by the resulting elites (administrators and contractors-cum politicians).

**This antidevelopment nexus** among bureaucrat's, contractors, land owners (because landowners by misappropriation via seat in local bodies have converted into contractors of political class by Banami subletting of govt. contracts) and politicians will have to be broken before Bihar can launch a sustained growth path and this may well be one of the major strategies of workers and peasants movement in near future.

Thus, new economic reforms instead of delivering much through privatization game via trade has taken away the opportunities created by mass mobilization during early 1970's and the economic growth decade and via fomenting caste strife let loosen by Mandalisation of politics and Bihar was converted into a **stateless regime**, where criminals wins the root through misappropriation of development funds. The election process of changing the social order has ended up being changed by it via spooky money. Everything around seems infected by the corruptin curse, which now is taken as too much of a surprise. It seems now too good to be true via secret service funds running into hundreds of crores, cloak and dagger operations, no questions asked, no audit reporting.

### 3. CONCLUSION

So, liberalization has difficulty in giving a way for development of the poor working class inherent in its structural organization and it lies in its within in the poverty of its philosophy of growth (Karl Marx, 1975). The answer of Dalit's development in Bihar, fact lies not in reform as it is going but in institutional break through giving land to the tillers and in infrastructural growth of the economy with inbuilt internal pressure for growth by way of mass awakening of rural peasantry and toiling majority. Thus, depicting case of young, smart and the youthful Nehru with unfolded arms welcoming the masses and the poor old and vulnerable Gandhi's portrait behind in official policies regime will not solve India's problem of development. The miseries of Dalits be only the solved by following Ambedkarian path of Salvation. We seek the solution of the problems of the poor marginal farmers and labouring masses linked with under production syndrome of small size farm due to increasing pressue of population. It is thus creating superfluous employment in agriculture which creates meager income or low income at their disposal to make their living decent one.

He therefore advocated collective farming system vis-avis rural industrialization on a massive scale with heavy investment in infrastructural development and creation of a creative social sector for ability building among the poor labouring class of India. This invisages institutional programme for capacity building as well as structural programme for opportunity of job for the masses at a large scale in rural India. Mere tall talks in policy and lame approach at application will create contradiction of development through which Bihar at present state is passing.

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