



GLOBALIZATION THROUGH HIGHER EDUCATION IN INDIA

Srinivasagowda .K.N

Assistant Professor of History, Government College for Woman's-Kolar.

Introduction

The General agreement on Trade in services (GATS) is part of the World Trade Organization regime which came in to existence from 1st January 1995. The world Trade Organization (WTO) which succeeded the earlier General agreement of trade and Tariffs (GATT) system. As is well known the previous GATT system was beneficial only to the rich industrial countries since it was concerned with only the liberalization of trade in industrial goods. The emerging World trade Organization (WTO) however, in principle appears to be beneficial to both the developed and developing countries provided the follow rules of the free trade or liberalized trade are fulfilled.

The Oxford Dictionary of economics (John Black: pp 197) has defined the concept of 'globalization' as follows:

"The process by which the whole world becomes a single market. This means that goods and services, capital, labour, are traded on a worldwide basis, and information and the results of research flow readily between countries. The raise of cheap sea transport and the telegram contributed to this process in the 19th century. Cheap air travel, the telephone, and the computer, together with the rising importance of multinational companies and general relaxation of controls and trade and international investment continued the process in the 20th century. It is possible that the rise of the internet and the start which has been made on liberalizing trade in services will continue this moment in the 21st century. The world has still a very long way to go, however, before itself economy is fully globalised. In particular international mobility of labour is tightly restricted, and poor transport and communications in most less developed countries (LDCs) mean that only the economics of the richer and more advanced countries are at all seriously globalised".

In simple globalization as a economic process integrating the national economics of the world into a cohesive unit imply the following.

1. Opening up of the national economics by reducing the tariffs, quotas, exchange then in the long-run leading to a near free trade process in the world.
2. Globalization embodies in its womb the economic liberalization and privatization of the enterprises within the national economics. That means liberalization necessitates abolition/phased elimination of economic controls and reduction in the economic role of government. This step actually widens the economic freedom and creates wider opportunities for private ownership. That means globalization ultimately strengthens and enlarges the scope of capitalism. In other words, the present economic reforms intend to establish an 'global capital economic order'.
3. Globalisations entail the competition and thus provide opportunities for efficient use of economic resources.
4. Globalization not only helps to expand national/world output, but it also helps to promote consumption, technological excellence, trade, mobility of capital and labour, higher real wage and income, more investment.



The 'New Economic Policy (NEP)' is an alternative phrase used to denote the process of 'Liberalization and Privatization, Globalization, (LPG)' in vogue since mid 1980's through the world. These three processes are not independent, but they are complementary to each other. Together, the LPG process creates ultimately international capitalism the world over. Today large number of countries, citizens groups and economists has started believing that capitalism compared to socialism and co-operatives is more economically efficient and productive. This claim is questioned of course by the critics of LPG model. The critics are socialists and labour leaders as well as co-operators.

To promote the philosophy of internationalization of capitalism, the developed industrial market economics from North America and Western Europe have created a new economic organization for the purpose viz; world Trade Organization (WTO). The WTO has come into existence from 1st January 1995 in place of General Agreement of Trade and tariff (GATT) established in 1947 the GATT, as is well known, was meant to promote trade liberalization only in industrial goods, thus, it was useful only for more developed countries; therefore, the GATT was termed rightly as 'rich men's club'. The GATT had a limited success.

The WTO was the outcome of NNE long years of deliberations called Uruguay Round of Trade Negotiations (1986-1994) meant to substantially liberalize trade, investment and transfer of technology. In other words, the WTO is meant to promote multilateral trade and investment in the world. This was earlier indirectly attempted or done by International Monetary Fund (IMF) and International bank, for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) Thus the trio-IMF-IBRD-WTO act as the promoters of globalization liberalization and privatization processes in the world economy.

India, a founder member of the WTO, is also a leading member of the developing country group. The globalization process by way of trade liberalization affects the domestic sectors of growth like agriculture, industry and tertiary activities. Thus, globalization along with its two concomitants, viz. liberalization and privatization affect the national overall 'development', including development of higher education sector. Agriculture, rural industries, rural infrastructure, rural credit, rural resources and labour markets and services re affected by the LPG process as it would affect the product and resource markets in the urban industrial sector of an open economy.

Inclusive Growth-Concept, Process and Strategy

Inclusive growth' is a very broad based concept which focus on participatory development on one hand and poverty al eviction, reductions in unemployment, under employment and income inequalities, on the other hand. It increases the growth producing/ contributing abilities of all people (i.e., rich and poor, educated and uneducated, as well as skilled and unskilled) as well as opportunities and choices of people regarding good quality of life.

'Inclusive Growth' is a conceptually of course, new but as an idea it is similar to redistributive justice/social justice with economic growth. The idea of social justice is discussed since early 1970's in India and as a ideology of welfare and fairness; and the concept of social justice is more wide discussed since 1980's by eminent scholars like John Rawls, Nozick, Amartya K. Sen, Hollis B.Chenery and M.S.Ahluwalia and others.

The need for Inclusive growth arises on account of the necessity of reducing and of possible eliminating the problem of poverty. In India social exclusion exists for many centuries in the form of



caste and untouchability, M.C Lean and Alistair Mc Millan (2003) pp 495-96) in their Oxford Concise dictionary of Politics have defined the concept of 'Social exclusion' as under.

"Social exclusion refers to lack of participation in society and emphasizes the multidimensional and multi-layered, and dynamic nature of the problem Definitions of the concept emanate from diverse ideological perspectives, but most share the following features:

1. **Lack of participation:** Protagonists differ over which aspects of society are important and where responsibility for non participation resides. Most agree that exclusion is a matter of degree, since individuals may participating to a greater or lesser extent, and that it is relative to the society in question.
2. **Multi-dimensional:** Social exclusion embraces income poverty but is broader other kinds of disadvantages which may or may not be connected to low income, such as unemployment and poor self-esteem. Full within its compass.
3. **Dynamic:** The advent of dynamic analysis and a demand from policy makers to investigate cause as well as effect has generated an interest in the processes which lead to exclusion and routs back into mainstream society.
4. **Multi-layered:** Although it is individuals who suffer exclusion, the causes are recognized as operating at many levels: individual, household, community and institutional.

The phrase social exclusion' was used probably first in France during 1970's to express the plight/suffering of the disabled people, lone parent and the unemployed Later on during the alter 1980's and early 1990's the term was used widely in European union. Te practice of social exclusion creates a world of poverty, deprivation inequalities disabilities, under-employment. All of which reduce the poor/excluded into various types of discriminations and exploitation.

Concept of Inclusive Growth

The concept of 'inclusive growth' deals with social justice and inclusion of all people making economic growth a participatory process. By now the concept of inclusive growth' is internationally accepted as a means of abolishing poverty social exclusion and income/economic inequalities by all governments and international finance and development organizations. But the concept of inclusive growth is not scientifically, precisely defined by social scientists and bodies like UNDP. However, attempts are made to define/interpret the concept of inclusive growth which may be briefed as follows:

The World Bank has stated that inclusive economic growth can be achieved by "focusing on expanding the regional scope of economic growth, expanding access to assets and thriving markets and expanding equity in the opportunities for the next generation of Indian citizens no matter who they are or where they live", (PXIV, World Bank 2006)

Sen. (2007) sets a necessary condition for inclusive growth in that the disparity in worker income between agriculture and non-agriculture should not widen.

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The present Deputy Chairman (M.S.Ahluwalia) of the Indian planning Commission provides the following interpretations: (1) "Achieving a growth process in which people in different walks in life....feel that they too benefit significantly from the process"; and (ii) "poverty was one-dimensional,



but lack of inclusion now is multidimensional and interlinked with regional and caste issues-The plan is no longer about a model, it is now about pulling together a whole lot of forces and impulses....An Inclusive Strategy should provide for health, education and agriculture".

Experts have started providing their own versions of inclusive growth. The prevailing confusion become apparent when experts propose their own definitions in terms of combinations of a subset of operational strategies for "opportunities, empowerment and Security" as recommended by the World Bank (2000).

The UNDP defines inclusive growth by laying emphasis on the production and income side of the gross domestic product as 'the process and the outcome where all groups of people have participated in the organization of growth and have benefited equitably from it. Thus inclusive growth represents an equation-with organization on the left hand side and benefits on the right-hand side". 9UNDP:2008:2)

The "strategy for achieving faster growth with greater inclusiveness involves several interrelated components. These are (1) a continuation of the policies of economic reform which have created a buoyant and competitive private sector capable of benefiting from the opportunities provided by greater integration with the world, (ii) a revival in agricultural growth affecting rural prosperity, (iii) unproved access to essential services in health and education (including skill development) especially for the poor, which is essential to ensure inclusiveness and also to support rapid growth, (iv) a special thrust on infrastructure development which is a critical area for accelerating growth, (v) environmental sustainability which is becoming increasingly important (vi) special attention to the needs of disadvantaged groups; and (vii) good governance at all levels, central, state and local". M.S Ahluwalia, preface, eleventh plan, pp viijviii, vol.1.

A for greater role for government is envisaged a faster and more inclusive growth both in the.

1. Developed and developing countries.
2. Singular and plural societies.

So the concept of inclusive growth is much broader than social justice. This point must be recognized at the earliest. There the strategy of inclusive growth shall include the following.

1. Employment Opportunities adequate and meet the standards of descent work.
2. Programmes for social Justice and empowerment.
3. Environment Sustainability.
4. Gender equity and.
5. Balanced Regional Development.

The Outlook of the GOI on Inclusive Growth Is Expressed As Under

"The strategy for inclusive growth in the eleventh plan is not just a conventional strategy for growth to which some elements aimed at inclusion have been added. On the contrary, it is a strategy which aims at achieving particular type of growth process which will meet the objectives of inclusiveness and sustainability. This strategy must be based on sound macroeconomic policies which establish the macroeconomic preconditions for rapid growth and support key drivers of this growth. It must also include sector specific policies which establish the macroeconomic preconditions for rapid growth and support key drivers of this growth. It must also include sector specific policies which will ensure that the structure of growth that is generated, and the institutional environment in which is occurs, achieves the objective of inclusiveness in all its many dimensions" (Eleventh Plan 2007-2012-pp.5).



Vision and Strategy of Inclusive Growth:

In view of the urgent and enormous need for bringing more than half of the current Indian population into the fold of 'inclusive growth' process, the government of India intends to increase the rate of development and its quality for the first time. The quality concerns are incorporated into Eleventh plan commodity and services plans components. The poor, SC's/ST's, other backward castes (OBC's) minorities and women are the target of people to be brought under inclusive growth process. It is important to note that.

"The National Development Council (NDC), in approving the approach to the Eleventh plan, endorsed a largest of 9 percent GDP growth for the country as a whole. This growth is to be achieved

in an environment in which the economy is much more integrated into the global economy, an integration that has yielded many benefits but also poses many challenges. If this is achieved, it would mean that percapit GDP would grow at about 7.6% per year to double in less than ten years. However, the target is not just faster growth but also inclusive growth, that is, a growth process which yields broad-based benefits and ensures equality of opportunity for all", (GOL:2007: Eleventh Plan. Pp-2)

This is really a highly national, progressive and humanitarian approach to growth process. Thus, the Eleventh Plan approach to growth embodies several interrelated components which may be enumerated as under:

1. Rapid growth that reduces poverty and creates employment opportunities;
2. Access to services in health and education especially for the poor;
3. Equality of Opportunity;
4. Empowerment through education and skill development;
5. Employment opportunities underpinned by the National Rural Employment.
6. Environmental sustainability;
7. Recognition of women agency and good governance.

Conclusion

Globalization of higher education represents both opportunities and challenges for and plural society like India. It definitely provides opportunities to enhance the quality of higher education institutions and also improve the capacity building. If India manages well the goals of globalizing higher education as well as the goals of inclusive growth (merit v/s reservation v/s marketization) it can develop its higher education sector to obtain export market on one hand and also provide good quality highly development and skilled manpower for the domestic economy with adequate representation for marginalized communities. To achieve this goal government of India should strive to increase the scholarships and improve the living facilities in student hostels; and increase the access of the student to institutional credit for higher education. There has to be a clear blend of social ethics and business concerns in higher education sector.

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