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UNDERSTANDING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

SOCIAL SCIENCE TEXTBOOK FOR CLASS X



1070

विद्यया ऽ मृतमश्नुते



एन सी ई आर टी
NCERT

राष्ट्रीय शैक्षिक अनुसंधान और प्रशिक्षण परिषद्
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FOREWORD

The National Curriculum Framework (NCF), 2005, recommends that children's life at school must be linked to their life outside the school. This principle marks a departure from the legacy of bookish learning, which continues to shape our system, and causes a gap between the school, home and community. The syllabi and textbooks developed on the basis of NCF signify an attempt to implement this basic idea. They also attempt to discourage rote learning and the maintenance of sharp boundaries between different subject areas. We hope these measures will take us significantly further in the direction of a child-centered system of education outlined in the National Policy on Education (1986).

The success of this effort depends on the steps that school principals and teachers will take to encourage children to reflect on their own learning and to pursue imaginative activities and questions. We must recognise that, given space, time and freedom, children generate new knowledge by engaging with the information passed on to them by adults. Treating the prescribed textbook as the sole basis of examination is one of the key reasons why other resources and sites of learning are ignored. Inculcating creativity and initiative is possible if we perceive and treat children as participants in learning, not as receivers of a fixed body of knowledge.

These aims imply considerable change in school routines and mode of functioning. Flexibility in the daily time-table is as necessary as rigour in implementing the annual calendar so that the required number of teaching days are actually devoted to teaching. The methods used for teaching and evaluation will also determine how effective this textbook proves for making children's life at school a happy experience, rather than a source of stress or boredom. Syllabus designers have tried to address the problem of curricular burden by restructuring and reorienting knowledge at different stages with greater consideration for child psychology and the time available for teaching. The textbook attempts to enhance this endeavour by giving higher priority and space to opportunities for contemplation and wondering, discussion in small groups, and activities requiring hands-on experience.

The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) appreciates the hard work done by the textbook development committee responsible for this book. We wish to thank the Chairperson of the advisory committee for textbooks in Social Sciences, at the secondary level, Professor Hari Vasudevan and the Chief Advisor for this book, Professor Tapas Majumdar for guiding the work of this committee. Several teachers contributed to the development of this

textbook; we are grateful to their principals for making this possible. We are indebted to the institutions and organisations, which have generously permitted us to draw upon their resources, material and personnel. We are especially grateful to the members of the National Monitoring Committee, appointed by the Department of Secondary and Higher Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development under the Chairpersonship of Professor Mrinal Miri and Professor G.P. Deshpande, for their valuable time and contribution. As an organisation committed to systemic reform and continuous improvement in the quality of its products, NCERT welcomes comments and suggestions which will enable us to undertake further revision and refinement.

New Delhi
20 November 2006

Director
National Council of Educational
Research and Training

A FEW INTRODUCTORY WORDS FOR TEACHERS

This book introduces you to a simplified view of the process of development in the Indian economy. In Economics, we usually try to look at development as a process of change in the economic life of the people, as producers or consumers of goods and services. Sometimes, development is studied mainly as a phenomenon that acquired significance only with the growth of the modern industrial civilisation. This is because the state of development (or underdevelopment) of a country has often depended on outcomes of wars and conquests and on colonial exploitation of one country by another. However, in this book, we have not emphasised on the external factors. We have taken a long view of the process of development: a process that could have started before any external factors intervened or interrupted it. The process of development may also restart after such interruptions, and continue on independent lines after the period of subjugation ends. This has happened in the case of our own country, India.

In this book the first beginnings of development are seen in terms of the emergence of agriculture, manufacturing and services as three distinct sectors of the economy. We have also tried to look at economic development not in isolation but as part of a more general concept of human development that includes the development of health and education and other indicators that, along with income, broadly define the quality of life of a people.

In the first chapter, we will study how people actually perceive development and how it can be measured. There are various measures available for this purpose. We will look at the extent to which some of the important developmental indicators help in understanding development and how the process may affect different people differently.

Development as a process had probably started quite early in history. To begin with, perhaps no country could be distinguished as developed in the sense that we understand development. Perhaps the process would have started in most human settlements when people started living in relative peace and in more or less fixed habitations without which agriculture would not have been possible on any significant scale. Once agriculture began and developed, the extraction of other natural products, like mineral ores, probably was started. This latter process of recovering stones and other minerals is called 'quarrying'.

Humans learnt to use the non-food products like wood from trees and the minerals obtained from quarrying as raw materials for making their tools, weapons, utensils, fishing nets and so on. These were the first human-made products called 'artefacts'. Economists called the process of making the artefacts 'manufacture' as distinguished from 'agriculture (including quarrying)' that covered the gathering, cultivating or extracting of purely natural products such as fruit, rice or minerals.

The separation of productive activities between the two distinct sectors of agriculture including quarrying (also called the Primary Sector) and

