

# UNDERSTANDING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

SOCIAL SCIENCE TEXTBOOK FOR CLASS X



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  
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## 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







Labour is the  
source of all  
wealth

manufacture (also called the Secondary Sector) was probably the first visible manifestation of economic development. This separation came about through the process of “division of labour” as Adam Smith, regarded as the father of economics had called it. The process is briefly explained below.

At first every person, or at least members of every household, presumably, had to do *everything all by themselves*. Then at some point the advantage of ‘division of labour’ must have been felt. Humans found out with experience that production became more efficient if some people concentrated on learning how to fish, others on how to till the soil, still others on how to produce pottery, or trap or hunt animals and birds for food and so on. This was also ‘development’ of a kind. Then there emerged specialists who were not themselves producing any good at all: they were people specialising in *teaching* others how to do these things better. There were also doctors who healed people when they were injured or had fallen ill. Naturally division of labour between people increased the productivity of all the people and the economy grew.

The second chapter will look at the way economic activities in a modern economy can be classified and understood within the framework of primary, secondary and tertiary sectors. The discussion here is focussed on India and the changes that have occurred in the three sectors over the past decades. Besides this, it also provides two other ways of classifying economic activities — organised and unorganised, and private and public sectors. The relevance of additional ways of classification for understanding the problems and challenges of the modern Indian economy is illustrated using real life examples and case studies.

The third chapter initiates the learners into the world of money — its role in a modern economy, forms and its linkage with various institutions such as banks. Then the chapter moves on to discuss the role of banks and other institutions in providing credit to the people. Issues stressed in the discussion on credit are (a) pervasiveness of credit in economic life across a very large section of the population (b) the preponderance of informal credit in India and (c) role of credit in creating either a self-sustaining *virtuous cycle* of productive investment, higher income streams, higher standards of living leading to more productive investments contributing to development, or a *vicious cycle* of indebtedness, poverty and debt-trap leading to increased poverty. These ideas are presented through case studies.

Globalisation is an important phenomenon, which has influenced development and people around the world in various ways. The fourth chapter focuses on a particular dimension of globalisation that is economic in nature — the complex organisation of production. How multinational companies facilitate globalisation through trade and investment is also explained. Some important factors and institutions that facilitate globalisation also find place in this chapter. In the end, the chapter appraises the impacts of globalisation (positive and negative) on the Indian economy.

The process of development leads to not only higher levels of production in different sectors of the economy, but has some down sides too. The examples and case studies in this chapter and elsewhere try to examine whether the benefits of development are spreading to all people (producers big and small, workers in the organised or unorganised sectors, consumers belonging to all

income groups, men and women and so on) or are being confined to only some privileged sections.

Our final chapter presents a relevant study of how, and to what extent, we can protect the rights of citizens as consumers. During the process of rapid development and emergence of new brands and advertisement campaigns by unscrupulous producers, consumers are often at the receiving end of business malpractices. After tracing the historical root of the consumer movement and through various real-life instances, this chapter tells of different inexpensive consumer protection mechanisms evolved over the years. It also offers details of how people can now assert some of their rights at very little expense at the special consumer courts that operate outside the existing cumbersome, expensive and time-consuming legal procedures.

### Features of this Textbook

The purpose of the book is to understand the economic life around us and also to think about what we would mean by economic development for people. There are many examples and case-studies that we have used both as an aid for conceptual clarity and to relate these ideas to real life. These have to be read and used keeping this overall objective in view.

The chapters start with **Note for the teacher**. Teachers could read this page before they start teaching a chapter. It contains the details of (i) the broad approach and content of the chapter; (ii) some pointers to how the chapter could be taught; and (iii) sources for additional details relating to different topics.

There are several internal exercises in **Let's work this out**, given after each section in the chapters. This contains a few questions to review the section and open-ended questions and activities that can be taken up within and outside the classroom. Some of the internal exercises should be done in the discussion mode. Students can discuss these in groups and present their conclusions and the answers may be put up for debate with the entire class. This will require more time but it is essential as this allows students to explore and learn from each other. The intention is to allow for more interaction than is usually observed but there is no fixed formula for doing this. Each teacher would find his or her own ways and we would like to express our faith in their abilities to do so.

We have used many reference materials while preparing this book. Besides these, many news clippings, reports from government and non-government organisations were also used. Some of them are mentioned in the **Note for the teacher** and some in **Suggested Readings** given at the end of this book.

It is important that **additional information and readings** be brought into classroom discussion. This could be in the form of short surveys, interviews with people around, reference books, or newspaper clippings etc. These should then be used for reflection and creative expression by students themselves in the form of making charts, wallpaper displays, skits, debates etc.

### Evaluation

While addressing the need for reforms in education, the *National Curriculum Framework 2005* and the *Position Paper of the National Focus Group on*



*Examination Reforms* call for a change in the way questions are asked in examinations. The questions asked in this book make a departure from an evaluation pattern that encourages rote-memorisation to one that inculcates creative thinking, imagination, reflection and hones the analytical ability of learners. Based on the examples shown here, teachers can formulate additional questions.

### Questions that test the understanding of core concepts

- (a) GDP is the total value of \_\_\_\_\_ produced during a particular year.
  - (i) all goods and services
  - (ii) all final goods and services
  - (iii) all intermediate goods and services
  - (iv) all intermediate and final goods and services
- (b) Analyse the role of credit for development.
- (c) In what ways will the production of cars by Ford Motors in India lead to interlinking of production?
- (d) How would flexibility in labour laws help companies?

### Questions to assess analytical abilities, interpretation and coherent presentation

- (a) The following table gives the GDP in Rupees (crores) by the three sectors:

Year	primary	secondary	tertiary
1950	80,000	19,000	39,000
2000	3,14,000	2,80,000	5,55,000

- (i) Calculate the share of the three sectors in GDP for 1950 and 2000.
  - (ii) Show the data as a bar diagram similar to Graph 2 in the chapter 2.
  - (iii) What conclusions can we draw from the bar graph?
- (b) In India, about 80 per cent of farmers are small farmers, who need credit for cultivation.
  - (i) Why might banks be unwilling to lend to small farmers?
  - (ii) What are the other sources from which small farmers can borrow?
  - (iii) Explain with an example how the terms of credit can be unfavourable for the small farmer.
  - (iv) Suggest some ways by which small farmers can get cheap credit.

### Questions to test reflective thinking

- (a) Look at the picture (high rise buildings with slums around). What should be the developmental goals for such an area?



- (b) "The Earth has enough resources to meet the needs of all but not enough to satisfy the greed of even one person". How is this statement relevant to the discussion of development? Discuss.
- (c) "Tertiary sector is not playing any significant role in the development of Indian economy". Do you agree? Give reasons in support of your answer.
- (d) People make complaints about the lack of civic amenities such as bad roads or poor water and health facilities but no one listens. Now the RTI Act gives you the power to question. Do you agree? Discuss.



### Questions that test the ability to apply concepts and ideas to real life problems / situations

- (a) What can be some of the developmental goals for your village, town or locality?
- (b) Students in a school are often classified into primary and secondary or junior and senior. What is the criterion used here? Do you think this is useful classification?
- (c) In what ways can employment be increased in urban areas?
- (d) What do you understand by disguised unemployment? Explain with an example each from the urban and rural areas.
- (e) Describe some of your duties as consumers if you visit a shopping complex in your locality.



It is also necessary to develop questions that require students to draw from one or more areas of the syllabus for making relevant connections between materials from different chapters. For instance, in Chapter 4 one question links to Chapter 1— *In chapter 1, we saw what may be development for one may be destructive for others. The setting of SEZs has been opposed by some people in India. Find out who are these people and why are they opposing it.*

We hope that you along with your students would look at this textbook itself in a critical manner and send us your critique, questions, clarification, etc. to the following address. AND we could continue this discussion further.

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**EQUALITY** of status and of opportunity; and to promote among them all

**FRATERNITY** assuring the dignity of the individual and the unity and integrity of the Nation;

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