

Hindrances in the Economic Development of the Less Developed Countries

There are various social, cultural, political and administrative hindrances/obstacles in the way of economic development of less developed countries like Pakistan which are discussed as under:

A. Sociological Hindrances:

These include:

1) Joint Family System:

In many developing countries like Pakistan the joint family system prevails in which all the members of the family live together. But only few of them work hard while the others do nothing except quarreling with one another. So due to this reason the national product reduces.

2) Illiteracy:

The illiteracy rate is very high in the under developed countries e.g. 26% in Pakistan. This reduces the rate of their economic growth. Because due to illiteracy they are unable to adopt new technology and modern methods of production as a result of which their labour per capita output remains low.

3) Caste System:

In under developed countries people are proud of their caste and colour. Everybody considers him/herself superior to others and does not like much to mix or cooperate with others. Thus this caste system creates hatred among the people and reduces occupational mobility and in turns the pace of economic development.

B. Cultural Hindrances:

Major cultural hindrances are:

1) Customs and Traditions:

These are the main obstacles in the way of economic development. Because in the less developed countries people borrow money and spend it lavishly on different useless ceremonies and occasions such as death, birth, weddings, etc. So their rate of saving always remains low and, hence, their standards of living suffer a lot.

2) Wastage of Money in Suits:

The people of less developed countries waste a lot of money and time to engage themselves in suits which reduces their savings and production.

3) No Active Participation of Woman:

In these countries woman is unable to play any role in the economic activity. Thus half the population remains jobless which reduces the per capita income.

4) Religion & Beliefs:

The people of under developed countries prefer the spiritual wealth instead of material goods. So they cannot utilize their limited resources to the maximum.

5) Attitude of the People:

In under developed countries attitude of the people is also not positive towards economic development. They are conservative and do not get ready to accept any change. So their old and traditional ways of living prove to be a hurdle in the way of economic development as they block the introduction of new inventions, machinery and technology in every field of life.

C. Political Hindrances:

These include:

1) Political Instability:

Less developed countries usually suffer from political instability which reduces the rate of economic growth. Because with rapid changes in the government, the rate of investment in the country decreases. Moreover, every new government condemns and discards the policies of the previous government and introduces its own. As a result of which a large number of time and resources get wasted and economic development does not occur.

D. Administrative Hindrances:

These are as follows:

1) Inefficient Administration:

In the less developed countries administration remains failed to perform its duties efficiently. Most of the officers who have no technical training are appointed as a head of

the department, so they create most problems instead of solving them. Thus this departmental inefficiency adversely affects the rate of economic development.

2) Centralization of Power:

In under developed countries there is a centralization of power which causes delay in planning, decisions and execution. So the process of development remains very low.

3) Corruption:

Corruption rates are very high in less developed countries because of the lack of sympathetic and honest administration. Due to which the economic development gets affected badly.