

People's Perception for Economic Growth and Development of District Ghaziabad

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ABSTRACT

The analysis is based on a broad view of economic development, focusing on human well-being and 'social opportunity' rather than the standard indicators of economic growth. India's success in reducing deprivation since Independence has been limited. Recent diagnoses of this failure of policy have concentrated on the counterproductive role of government regulation, and on the need for economic incentives to accelerate the economy. Professors Dreze and Sen argue that an assessment of India's failure to eliminate basic deprivations has to go beyond this limited focus, and to take note of the role played in that failure by inadequate public involvement in the provision of basic education, health care, social security, and related fields. Even the fostering of fast and participatory economic growth requires some basic social change, which is not addressed by liberalization and economic incentives. The authors also discuss the historical antecedents of these political and social neglects, including the distortion of policy priorities arising from inequalities of political power. Following on from this, the book considers the scope for public action to address these earlier biases and achieve a transformation of policy priorities. 'A fine account of India's achievements and failures written throughout in a fine style it will be a starting-point of subsequent discussions on social life in India.'

INTRODUCTION

The economic development of a country or society is usually associated with (amongst other things) rising incomes and related increases in consumption, savings, and investment. Of course, there is far more to economic development than income growth; for if income distribution is highly skewed, growth may not be accompanied by much progress towards the goals that are usually associated with economic development. Ghaziabad is one of the most important cities of UP sub-region of NCR and can easily be termed as Gateway of UP. It is located at about 22 kms. from NCT Delhi and is an important industrial and trading center in Delhi Metropolitan Area (DMA). The City is spread and developed on both the sides of River Hindan, an important tributary of River Yamuna. The city is bounded by the NCT Delhi in the west and NOIDA in south. This is an important town of U.P due to rapid growth of industrial, commercial activities.

The status of Ghaziabad was upgraded from Municipal Board to Municipal Corporation, known as Ghaziabad Nagar Nigam (GNN) on 31 August 1994 following 74th constitution Amendment Act 1992 and conformity legislation by state government. The Municipal administration has been decentralized in five zones and 80 administrative wards. Area of

Ghaziabad Nagar Nigam (GNN) was confined to the core area of the city i.e. only 63.94 sq km till 1991 with population of 5, 11,759 but by 2001, area increased to 171.43 sq km with census population as 9, 68,521. The city is growing at a very high pace and the population base has increased from 0.5 to more than one million. During the last twenty years the population concentration has been on the periphery of the municipal board boundary. The city is growing spatially. Private developers promoted by Public —Private Partnership policy (PPP) are now supporting the urban development. The quality and quantity of housing is improving and reflecting the contribution of the private sector. Estimated population of GNN and GDA in 2041 is 4.4 million and 6.1 million respectively.

Major Economic Activities

The economy of the town has been bi-functional industries cum services since 1971. Industries form an important component of the economic base of the city. Ghaziabad is one of the largest industrial cities, next to Kanpur, in Uttar Pradesh. It is also an important centre for trade and commerce in western UP sub- region. Various products and equipments are supplied to the regional, national and international markets. The workforce participation rate and percentage workers in secondary sector are marginally declining but the size of work force in the city has maintained its increasing trend. A number of famous major industries like Bharat Electronics Limited (a public sector unit of Central Government), UPTRON (a public sector unit of Uttar Pradesh Government), Dabur, Mohan Meakins, GaganVanaspati, Sri Ram Piston, Bhushan Steel and Weston Television are located in Ghaziabad. Sahaibabad industrial area and commercial activities are concentrated in the western part of the town. It is an important city in NCR area, which is being developed to decongest National Capital Delhi by improving infrastructure in NCR towns with the aim of Shifting some of the offices and establishments of Government of India. With all the required facilities and proximity to Delhi, Ghaziabad has become one of the fast developing city in NCR.

Indian cities overwhelmingly dominate a new list of the world's fastest-growing 100 cities in terms of urbanization, with three leapfrogging to the top 10 and 22 others figuring prominently in a crop of boomtowns usually reserved for those in China.

Ghaziabad occupies the second, Surat fourth and Faridabad eighth slots in the list presented by City Mayors, a global think-tank that studies urban affairs to promote good governance. The City Mayors' catalogue of the fastest-growing cities and urban areas between 2006 and 2020 is based on past growth and forecasts by international and national statistics organisations. The study debunks the popular perception that most cities whose populations are ticking rapidly are in China and casts the spotlight on a surprising list of urbanIt areas spanning the Middle East to Mali. And India. Nashik, Patna, Rajkot and Jaipur figure in the top 25 of the list of cities that will be most densely populated by 2020. Delhi occupies the 28th position and Bangalore 67.

Mumbai and Kolkata find no place. The study comes at a time of mass urbanization around the globe. For the first time in history, a majority of the global population now live in cities. According to the UN Population Fund, urban-population will swell to nearly 5 billion by 2030. In the case of India, its population is expected to overtake China's by then. A McKinsey study says India's urban population will amplify to 590 million in that period. This expansion will happen at an unprecedented pace. Since Ghaziabad is one of the fastest growing cities, it is worthwhile to study the feelings and perception of the people of the city regarding its economic growth and development.

Economic growth and development is highly important for improvement in the quality of life of the people of any country/society. Growth means positive change in the level of production and services over a certain period of time. The most widely used measure of economic growth is the real rate of growth in a country's total output of goods and services indicated by gross product adjusted for inflation or real GDP. National per capita income and consumption per capita are also used for measuring growth.

Rate of economic growth and development are closely related. An increasing Economic growth implies positive economic development.

Human capital and growth

One ubiquitous element of both theoretical and empirical analyses of economic growth is the role of human capital. The skills of the population enter into both neoclassical and endogenous growth models. The most commonly used measure of human capital is the level of school attainment in a country/society, building upon the data development of Robert Barr^o and Jong-Wha Lee. This measure of human capital, however, requires the strong assumption that what is learned in a year of schooling is the same across all countries/societies. It also presumes that human capital is only developed in formal schooling, contrary to the extensive evidence that families, neighbor hoods, peers, and health also contribute to the development of human capital. To measure human capital more accurately, Eric_Hanushek and Dennis Kimko introduced measures of mathematics and science skills from international assessments into growth analysis. They found that quality of human capital was very significantly related to economic growth. This approach has been extended by a variety of authors, and the evidence indicates that economic growth is very closely related to the cognitive skills of the population.

The above discussion reveals that the perception of people is an important aspect of the economic growth and development of a society. The present study is a step in the direction of the assessment of people's perception regarding the growth and development of Ghaziabad. Findings of the study will highlight both positive and negative feelings of the city which will be helpful for the further developmental planning of the city.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Design: The proposed study is descriptive in nature. Primary data will be collected from the various localities and sectors of Ghaziabad.

Sample: The size of the sample will be 400 respondents representing various sectors of the society. It will be drawn on random basis.

Data: Both primary and secondary data will be used in the proposed study.

Tools: A self developed questionnaire will be used to measure the people perception.

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