

Best Economic Practices in India

Siddharth Singh
M.A. (Economics)

***Abstract:** The aim of this article is to list some of the best economic practices in India. It enlists the practices which have been a role model in their areas for other states and for the entire country to follow. These economic practices have been successful in the country. These practices are related to diverse fields like agriculture, decentralization, economy, transparency and accountability. The practices enlisted here have some relation with the economy and economics.*

Key Words: Economic Practices, Agriculture, Decentralization, Economy, Transparency and Accountability

Introduction

In our country certain economic practices are being followed which have been very successful. These best practices have been role model for states and the entire country to follow. These practices are related to various disciplines but in this article I mention only those articles which are related to economics or have their economic significance. The practices have been divided under different headings like agriculture, decentralization, economy, transparency and accountability.

Agriculture

- **Yantradoot -A Farm Mechanization Programme**
-Madhya Pradesh
In this scheme the 25 villages in Madhya Pradesh are told about the use of importance and use of farm machines and tools. This has led to increase in productivity and income of farmers in Madhya Pradesh. Their productivity has increased by 40 per cent. This has made access of agricultural technologies to farmers. Inspired by this scheme the Government of India is planning to launch a National Mission on Farm Mechanization
- **FASAL Intuit**
-Gujarat, Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh
One of the main problems faced by farmers in India is that they don't get appropriate price for their produce. FASAL tries to solve this by connecting the farmers with the buyers of their produce in two or more mandis. It is a free SMS based service that provides farmers with the real time price of their produce. Launched in 2008, till now around 800,000 farmers use it in the three states
- **Sustainable Agriculture and Supply Chain**
-Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Orissa
This scheme aims to promote the concept of sustainable agriculture and supply chain

management. It is being implemented in cotton growing areas. The use of organic farming and improving the quality of farms is being used by the farmers. The farmers also control the distribution of cotton products from farmland to the marketplace.

- **Doodh Ganga Project**
-Himachal Pradesh

It is a Government of India project to provide interest free loans and subsidy to promote dairy farming. It aims to transform the dairy business into an organized venture and through it generate employment opportunities. It also enhances alternative livelihood options for the people.

Decentralisation

- **Kaushalya Vardhan Kendra (Skill Development)**
-Gujarat
Kaushalya Vardhan Kendra is an institute providing skill development to the rural population with the aim of generating employment opportunities for them. Learning of skills may in turn help people to earn better livelihood opportunities. This programme is implemented through cluster training organized in villages.
- **mGovernance for Municipal Services**
-Rajkot Municipal Corporation, Gujarat
The Rajkot Municipal Corporation has launched this mGovernance initiative to provide timely and effective delivery of services to the residents of Rajkot. The people are informed and intimated about the due date of their property taxes, water bills etc. This has resulted in increased collection of revenue for the municipal corporation and better delivery of services for the people.

- **Participatory Planning-Financial Devolution**
-Kerala
 The government of Kerala has aimed to give the people the right to plan for themselves. This gives the people an opportunity to find out the problems and plan accordingly to meet the needs of its people. The participatory process was followed along with devolution of financial resources to the local bodies. This provides them with autonomy in formulating the plans.
 - **Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act for Naxal Affected Areas (MGNREGA)**
-Balghat, Madhya Pradesh
 MGNREGA aimed at creating wage employment for the people. Its importance increases more in the Naxal affected areas where large majority of population is unskilled. MGNREGA not only provided wage employment to the people of the area but it also helped them to wean out the influence of Naxals. For the government it helped in digging wells, building roads and engaging people in other non-skilled employment.
- Economy**
- **Use of Technology for Financial Inclusion**
-Punjab National Bank Initiative
 Large area and population of India is still unbanked and rely on informal sector for money lending. These may include moneylenders and other local sources. Punjab National Bank (PNB) came with a solution through use of technology. With the use of laptops, webcams etc and with the help of Business Correspondents PNB started the branchless banking facility. Each individual is allowed to open 'no-frills' account with minimum of 'know your customer requirements' (KYCs). This led to inclusion of those people in the mainstream who have been left out over the years.
 - **Micro Pension- Financial Inclusion**
-Gujarat
 Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA) has started a SEWA Sahakari Bank to provide old age pension benefits to its members who work in unorganized sector. It started with the aim of providing basic financial services and has over the years grown into providing other facilities like home loans, insurance and pensions to women.
 - **Financial Inclusion for Migrants**
-Mumbai, Maharashtra
 The scheme of financial inclusion for migrants operates in the slums of Dharavi, Ghatkopar and Shivajinagar. It provides the migrants low

cost transfer of funds to their homes. It has also increased the savings habit among the people because it provides door to door banking facility through banking correspondents.

- **Promoting Women Entrepreneurs-Udyogini**
-In remote and backward areas of India
 The Udyogini project aims at promoting among women the skills of entrepreneurship in remote and backward areas of India. Under this programme women's are taught training and management skills to carry out entrepreneurship. It focuses on areas and skills in which women have interests.

Transparency & Accountability

- **Barcoded Ration Card**
-Gujarat
 The barcoded ration card has helped in efficient and effective public distribution system. It has enabled in curtailing the leakages in the public distribution system which has been a major problem of the Targeted Public Distribution System.
- **Agriculture Marketing**
-Andhra Pradesh
 Middleman has always been a great problem for the farmers. The major share of the profit is reaped by middleman with farmers getting only a small percentage of their produce. Rythu Bazar has been setup with the intension of eliminating the middleman. This has helped the farmers get adequate amount for their produce and also keep them away from the clutches of middleman.
- **Public Distribution System Procurement-Computerization**
-Chattisgarh
 To improve the public distribution system (PDS) in the state, the Government of Chattisgarh has computerized the database related to PDS. All the information relating to procurement, storage and transportation has been computerized and is accessible to citizen with the help of information and communication technology.
- **Taxpayer Database**
-Income Tax Department, Government of India
 The Directorate General of Income Tax has maintained a database of all the high net worth individuals. It regularly monitors all the transactions of these individuals to ensure timely and appropriate payment of taxes. Through this database the income tax department also maintains a family tree to check any possible evasion of tax by tax payers.

- **Treasury Management System -Bihar**
The Government of Bihar has launched a treasury management system named Computerized Treasury Management Information System (CTMIS) which maintains all the treasury records for the state. This has enabled financial discipline through effective and appropriate distribution of public funds.
- **Participatory Poverty Reduction : Kundumbashree -Kerala**
Kundumbashree is a poverty reduction programme in the southern state of Kerala. It is a women centered project under which financial assistance is provided for setting up micro enterprises. This project is jointly carried out by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) and

UNICEF. The mission statement of the Kudumbashree Project is 'to eradicate absolute poverty in 10 years through concerted community action under the leadership of local governments, by facilitating organization for the poor for combining self-help with demand-led convergence of available services and resources to tackle the multiple dimensions and manifestations of poverty holistically'.

Conclusion

This article aims to list out some of the best economic practices which are followed in India. The practices discussed above sets an example for the entire nation to follow. Many improvements can be made to these practices to make them further better. Some practices which are carried out by non-government organizations (NGOs), self-help groups (SHGs) etc, if supported by government organizations can further improve.

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