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“Role of Atamanirbhar Bharat Scheme in Transforming Indian Economy”

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Abstract:-

The global economy is undergoing significant upheaval. Nations are concerned about the ease of doing business and adapting to changing environmental circumstances and scenarios. During the winter season, there is widespread concern about pollution and the presence of smoke and fog. Visibility is limited to approximately one foot on highways, railway tracks, and aircraft. Due to smog and smoky conditions, route plans for roadways, railways, and airplanes are being modified or suspended. We can barely breathe fresh air because there isn't any around. We are forced to breathe extremely dirty air. We aim to improve the economy and people's lives by making it easier to conduct business. Shifting investment priorities from agriculture to MSMEs can assist the average man by providing bread and butter locally. To realize Ghandhi's vision, we need to strengthen rural development programs and strengthen the three-tier panchayat raj system, which was first implemented in Nagore on October 2, 1959 by then-Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru. With the advent of strong panchayat raj system based on Balwant G Mehta committee's report of 24 November 1957, the vicious circle of poverty will break and split, and the income, output and employment will grow in the economy simultaneously. This will present a unique model of growth with respect to the developing rural sectors of the economy, with special and specific emphasis on the agriculture sector, bringing to life Prof. Ragnar Nurkse's model of "disguised unemployment as a saving potential in the agriculture sector of the rural economy." This will present a unique model of growth with

respect to the developing rural sectors of the economy, with special and specific emphasis on the agriculture sector, bringing to life Prof. Ragnar Nurkse's model of "disguised unemployment as a saving potential in the agriculture sector of the rural economy." This will also reinforce Gandhi ji's concept of Gram Swaraj, making panchayat raj stronger and ensuring Gram Swaraj. This will undoubtedly improve, mobilize, and secure the ease of living, as well as the ease of doing and earning. In this way, we may make Bapu's wish come true.

Keywords: *Aatmanirbhar, MSMEs, Bharat, Panchayati raj, Disguised unemployment, Vicious circle of poverty, Covid-19 pandemic.*

Introduction

Things are currently experiencing significant change, and the climate is altering on a daily basis. We must seize the potential of changing climate and weather circumstances, as well as today's altering environmental situations. The Prime Minister of India issued a policy declaration promoting self-reliance and proclaimed and started the Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan. It also improves ease of living and doing. PM Modi's goal for India is one of self-reliance. This vision statement consists of four essential aspects.

* The first and most important phase is the government's public expenditure for the welfare and upliftment of the public and the people. A good government is one that has made significant public expenditures since they generate income, output, and employment in the economy, and they are necessary for economic growth. Similarly, an increase in governmental spending and investment intended at increasing welfare and raising the investment rate for the general population. Investment is the primary and fundamental criterion for self-sufficiency and economic progress.

* Second, policy reforms make the economy stronger domestically. Policy reforms sought to make the domestic economy more globally competitive and responsive to global needs. In other words, it promotes and facilitates healthy competition while ensuring higher quality, sustenance, safety, security, and services.

* Third, the most essential element discusses structural shifts in the system. As it happens in the long run and produces greater results. So, a long-term structural transformation to make the economy more "self-reliant" and less reliant on the global economy.

* The fourth wheel of this new growth engine is based on the announcement of the lockdown 4 in the shape of a supportive economic package worth Rs. 20.97 lakh crores, which is 10% of GDP. This will provide additional incentive to play an important role in all sectors of the economy.

It is properly stated that for India to be truly self-reliant, self-sufficient, and self-confident, public participation in education, human capabilities, and research and development must expand. This is a necessary requirement for carrying out India's self-reliance agenda. Situational Scenario: As we all know, eight-nine months ago, in November-December 2019, we were all concerned about the condition of pollution, dingy and polluted air, and an unhealthy environment. As a result, we were forced to implement an odd-even vehicle arrangement on the highways, particularly in Delhi and the National Capital Region. We also issued advisories prohibiting the burning of crops' parali in Punjab, Haryana, and the northern areas of Uttar Pradesh, which are the prominent agricultural regions. In addition, we decided not to burn dry waste materials in cities, towns, villages, or even on the premises of offices, schools, colleges, and universities, among other places. Even so, we were unable to reduce the amount of dense and smoky pollution to a reasonable and desired level suitable for breathing unpolluted air. It has endangered our health and safety. Despite such significant procedures and efforts, we were unable to reduce pollutants to a level that would not be hazardous to our health or our ability to generate money. It is remarkable and worrisome for our ultra-modern human age that we have gone into space, rather than floating in spacecraft, and that we can control their path, direction, and even speed from the space station or the earth but we are unable to do anything to control pollution and prevent the world from its adverse effects.

Need of doing and Maintaining:

After facing the worldwide pandemic of COVID-19 We must now realize its essence and strive hard to preserve and maintain such a neat and clean atmosphere and environment. This is the stage that has been given to humanity at the expense of their countrymen's lives, as well as the precautions taken to prevent a community spread. For the first time, we realized that all we needed was food, shelter, and clothing, as well as fresh air and clean water, and nothing else. Because of the homestay and lockdown, we now have the natural living conditions that we have always desired. We see and hear birds chirping everywhere, and an environment is being constructed to help flora, plants, and wildlife thrive more effectively, and it is made available to us as a gift. We can now see at night, and the sky is pure and spotless, with even the twinkling of stars visible. The nights are filled with moonlight. We can see the GREAT BEAR in the sky with our own eyes. We can even count the stars in the densely packed constellations. Covid-19 brought about happy natural environments and settlements, some of which are highlighted below:

* Natural environments have dramatically transformed people's lives.

* Air pollution has decreased by 40-50 percent as industries and transportation have shuttered and ceased operations. The amount of nitrogen dioxide in the air has been lowered by 40-50 percent.

* NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) also mentions in its reports that earth has become safe and clean as before which it used to be during and after second world war.

* During pandemics, the hole in the ozone layer shrinks and closes. It is a pleasant and positive omen for people all across the world. As a result, it can be stated that Covid-19 has caused us misery and discomfort, making life difficult to live. However, it also made the air, atmosphere, rivers, and earth safer and cleaner to live in.

Save the environment

As the world's most populous country, we sincerely need to save this clean and neat environment for ever and reserve the conditions for ease of living, followed by ease of doing, which will be of great help to us and the flourishing one for our businesses and firms to grow holistically. If ease of living is achieved, then ease of acting will undoubtedly follow with enormous aim, purpose, intensity, and gravity. We can reasonably remark, "If ease of living comes, can ease of doing be far behind?"

Investment priority

Here, it appears appropriate to move investment to the agriculture sector, agro-based companies, and MSMEs in order to promote and elevate the Indian rural economy, which is founded on the Gandhian model of development, rather than just superimposing the model. It is underlined that the government should initiate plans and programmes to promote the rural sectors of the economy in order to reduce population concentrations in cities and metropolitan areas. The government should direct its resources and investments to small towns and villages. This will enable the localization of industries in rural areas. By doing so, fundamental infrastructure facilities such as medical and health, sanitation, water, electricity, roads, schools, colleges, and so on will encourage locals to stay in their hometowns because all of their essential requirements, facilities, and amenities are given there as well. There will be no rush to the cities, and the environmental scenario will adhere to the suggested guidelines of the environment and pollution control department. This will increase investment in the area. This would further improve the condition in terms of ease of living, ease of doing, and self-reliance in India. Such a shift in investment will undoubtedly benefit the rural economy and improve the lives of craftsmen, laborers, farmers, small enterprises, firms, and other local citizens. It is now urgently necessary

to transform the economy into one that is self-sufficient, as Gandhi ji envisaged. The public should have a say in the planning, execution, and implementation.

Rural Development and Panchayati Raj:

Rural development is the only conceivable option and may be best achieved by strengthening the Panchayati raj institutions outlined in our constitution, as Gandhi ji once dreamed. In accordance with the 73rd constitutional amendment act, which went into effect on April 24, 1993, Panchayati raj institutions were granted constitutional status, and a three-tier system was also envisaged. The Panchayat Raj Amendment Act repeats the three-tier system as follows:

1. Gram Panchayat at village level
2. Panchayat Samiti at block level
3. Zila Parishad at district level

This is a groundbreaking approach for the rural growth of the Indian economy. It is a progressive step toward decentralization of powers and a road break from centralization to decentralization. This will serve as a model for implementing Gandhi ji's vision of Gram Swaraj. Gandhi ji believed that Gram Swaraj embodied true administrative power. It was Bapu's dream. We must also adopt this development strategy in order to reap the benefits of Janta Raj while also realizing BAPU JI's dream. As if it were for, by, and about the people. We must implement such a paradigm modestly in both theory and practice. India's progress will be held accountable for public welfare in the actual sense. We do not need to be modern, but rather realistic in our approach, actions, and spirits. Gram Swaraj is the only way to growth in today's India.

Aside from that, we need to streamline and enhance road traffic procedures and rules in metropolitan cities, major cities, and even large towns. There must be separate spaces and lanes for walkers, cyclists, and motorcyclists, followed by public transportation and, last, privately owned four-wheelers. Except for the ordinary man, no one should have priority on public roadways. This will make traffic safer, more secure, and comfortable for the general public, potentially leading to zero accidents in such cities and towns. These can also be useful for living and earning. We must be modern and humble in saving lives and earning food rather than simply existing. It is now time to revamp the roadways for public transportation and everyday use. The individual with wealthy ways, means, and income may resort to their own affordable ways, such as airways, first-class railways, and AC bus coaches, depending on the situation. This may also serve and fulfill their requirements and purposes. This will improve one's quality of life by making it easier to live and do. This will result in more ecological balance for future generations, leading to sustainable growth. So, it is correct to conclude that "ease of living" should

be prioritized first, followed by "ease of doing." The ease of living should take precedence over anything else. The time has come for the government to develop policies to encourage micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) to start in villages, thereby providing income, output, and employment opportunities at the local level to small and marginal farmers, artisans, sculptors, potters, petty laborers, both local and migrants, organized and unorganized laborers, daily wage earners, and so on. This would bring employment prospects to the doorsteps of the needy, petty workers, and laborers, enhancing and boosting the rural economy and diversifying Indian agriculture, as well as putting an end to the problem of disguised unemployment.

Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME): The government altered and amended the definition of MSMEs. The divide between the manufacturing and service sectors has been completely erased by the amended MSME definition. Now, both manufacturing and services are on equal footing in terms of investment and other plan benefits. There is no difference between the two, and the revised classification is displayed as revised MSME classification: It depicts the composite criteria for investment in Plant & Machinery, Equipment, and Annual Turnover.

Micro Enterprises: The specifications developed for tiny businesses can be explained as follows: Investment in Plant, machinery and equipment is not more than Rs. 1 crore and the annual turnover cannot be more than Rs.5 crores. This is the most recent definition and investing guidelines for micro units.

Small Enterprises: Similarly, the investment limit and other parameters for small businesses are shown below. The investment in plant, machinery, and equipment cannot exceed Rs 10 crore. Similarly, the annual turnover cannot exceed Rs 50 crores.

Medium Enterprises: Medium-sized firms cannot invest more than Rs. 50 crores in plant, machinery, and equipment. Also, the annual turnover limit cannot exceed Rs. 250 crores. This is also demonstrated in the figure below:

Figure 1



Source: Government of India

The above figure and graphic demonstrate the same thing we discussed earlier. The government has promoted the expansion and development of MSMEs in the economy to improve the ease of doing business. Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan has been allocated Rs. 20.97 lakh crores to set the pace of rural development in the rural and agricultural sectors of the economy.

The principal allotment is as follows: The overall stimulus supplied under the Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan Package is stated as below in five different segments, for earlier measures spelled forth in PMGKP and RBI's actions.

In Part 1: Rs. 5,94,550 crores

In part 2: Rs. 3,10,000 crores

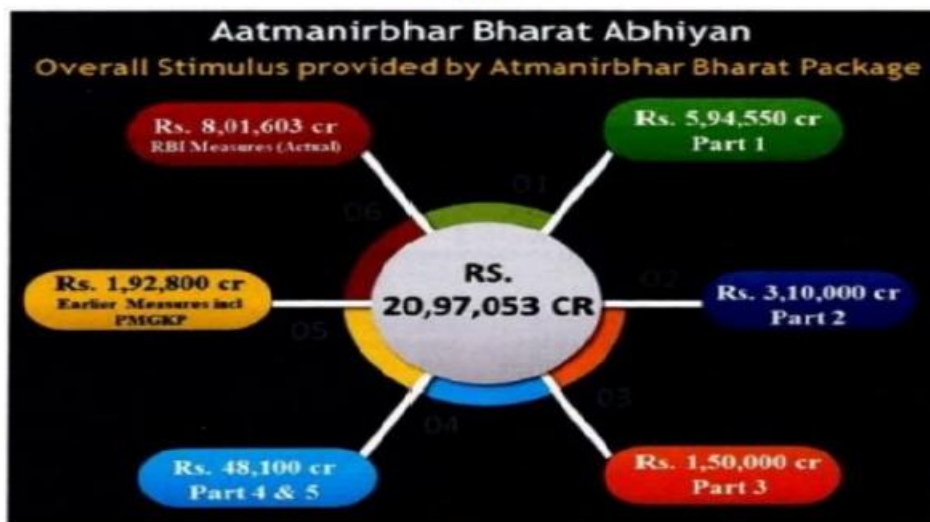
In part 3: Rs. 1,50,000 crores

In part 4 & 5: Rs. 48,100 crores

Earlier measures in PMGKP: Rs. 1,92,800 crores

RBI measures (actuals): Rs. 8,01,603 crores.

Figure-2



Source -Ministry of Finance, Government of India

The above image also shows the same thing. The injection of such a large sum of money into Aatmanirbhar Bharat will have a significant impact on the future of India's rural economy, allowing Gandhi ji's goal to be realized. This will eventually determine the rate of economic growth and development. This endeavor will break the vicious circle of poverty, paving the way for income, output, and employment to rise and grow in the same proportion and direction. This will present a novel growth model for the developing rural sector of the economy, with a special emphasis on agriculture as "disguised unemployment as a saving potential in the agriculture sector of the rural Indian economy. "This will further restrict and monitor migrant workers who travel to cities in

search of work when jobs are available in their hometowns or adjacent areas. The government is now being urged to establish and launch such schemes in India's rural communities. This will improve mobile phones and make it easier to live and earn money.

Self-Reliant India: With ease of living, we can move forward more readily and vibrantly in our efforts to make India a self-sufficient country. This can be further explained and reinforced by the government's primary goal of making India a self-sufficient country among the world's nations. The Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan can make this desire come true, possible, viable, and attainable, as detailed below:

PM Narendra Modi talked to the public during the nationwide Covid-19 shutdown in New Delhi on Tuesday, May 12, 2020, about the five pillars of self-reliance in India. India can achieve self-sufficiency through the following five pillars: economy, infrastructure, system, demographics, and demand.

*** Economy**

The economy will experience quantum leaps in order to achieve its aims. It will not rely on incremental adjustments. The large push theory model will guide the economy toward economic development and appropriate planning. This will have far-reaching consequences for the economy as a whole, determining the pace of economic growth and development, as well as rural development.

*** Infrastructure**

Any nation's progress is dependent on the dissemination of fundamental infrastructure and utilities, particularly in laggard sectors of the economy. Such investments in the rural sector will provide tremendous outlets and growth chances for the poor masses. This will be modern India.

*** System**

A system that enables us to realize our dreams and is based on technological facilities. The system is one that functions independently and should be technologically driven in its design and operation. A system is one that operates continuously and successfully using a technology-driven concept to achieve goals and objectives in a timely and phased manner, as needed. If necessary, both balanced and unbalanced approaches can be used to propel the country toward rapid economic development and entry into the global stage.

*** Demography**

Vibrant demography is our strength, and we must capitalize on it by leveraging the potentials of demand and supply chain, as stated and envisaged by our Prime Minister,

Mr. Narendra Modi, on May 12, 2020, who also stated that India must increase its demand and that all stakeholders must be active and proactive.

*** Demand**

There should be full use of the power of demand and supply. There should be no mismatch between the two. The market equilibrium occurs when demand and supply sides are equal, ensuring a general equilibrium in the economy and allowing economic growth and development to occur. The Prime Minister stated that the focus would be on the four Ls: land, labour, liquidity, and laws. The strategy aims to address the demands of laborers, the middle class, cottage industries, MSMEs, and industries, and it is argued that radical reforms are required. The Prime Minister also stated that there would be agricultural supply chain changes, a sensible tax structure, simple and clear legislation, capable human resources, and a robust financial system. The graphic above displays the same thing as previously said. This manner, we may fulfill Gandhi's ambition of making India a self-sufficient country in the world.

Conclusion:

The Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan package, which focuses on land, labour, liquidity, and regulations with a primary focus on production, would meet the demands of many sectors of the economy, including cottage industry, MSMEs, labourers, lower and middle class, and industries, among others. As a result, it is argued that India's self-reliance objective will prepare the country for fierce competition in the global supply chain.

With hopes and pledges, we can confidently declare and assert that the country will overcome all obstacles, difficulties, and issues. This package focuses on empowering the underprivileged, including both local and migrant workers from the organized and unorganized sectors of the economy. Aside from that, it helps businesses and firms survive and thrive throughout the Covid-19 pandemic. As a result, the Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan is extremely important to these individuals and organizations. PM Narendra Modi developed and conceived this vision. It is a flagship programme of the Indian government. Start-ups, MSMEs, enterprises, and firms play an important role in attaining economic growth and development. It is for the rehabilitation and growth of the Indian economy during the Covid-19 epidemic

It has also been recommended and suggested as a redemptive instrument for India's post-pandemic economy. It is properly stated that the Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan is a gigantic attempt to help the Indian economy and commercial firms recover from the epidemic that has harmed them during this time. It is beneficial in dealing with the pains, afflictions, and obstacles associated with Covid-19. This also provides the groundwork for India's economy to reach \$5 trillion in size by 2025. So, what can we do

but remain vigilant, calm, patient, glad, and joyful while attempting to reap the benefits outlined in the mission document. Furthermore, the ease of living and doing makes it happen in a practical sense as per Gandhi ji's vision, making the dream come true in actuality.

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