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अणुक्रमणिका

इंग्रजी विभाग

1	Educational Thoughts of Mahatma Gandhi - <i>Malmant Jahan Ara</i>	1
2	Gandhi & Feminism - <i>Dr. Beshen</i>	3
3	Introduction of Gandhiji (Mohan To Mahatma) - <i>Ms. Sushma R. Verma</i>	6
4	Gandhian Philosophy in the Consequence of Contemporary Society: A Study - <i>Dr. Mundhe R.D.</i>	9
5	Gandhiji's Visionary Economic Thoughts Towards Sustainable Rural Development (An Analytical Exposure of Kuchh Women Empowerment Activity) - <i>Dr. Lokesh Jain & Nishma Makwana</i>	14
6	An Analytical Study of Gandhian Ideology from Satyagraha To Non Violence - <i>Dr. S.S. Khandekar</i>	19
7	Review of Mahatma Gandhi's Economic Thoughts - <i>Akash Sheshrao Bangar</i>	23
8	Relevance of Gandhian Philosophy in Contemporary World - <i>Dr. Ajay Bhausheeb Patil</i>	24
9	Decentralise Economy the Concept of Mahatma Gandhi And the Applicability in Today's World. - <i>Prof. Dr. S.N. Pilgulwar & Prof. P.B. Pilgulwar,</i>	28
10	Relevance of Gandhian Thoughts - <i>Dr. Deshmukh Mamta.M</i>	31
11	Mahatma Gandhi's Thoughts on Food - <i>Mr. Madhav S. Kadam</i>	32
12	Mahatma Gandhi and Health - <i>Mr. Prashant S. Thakre</i>	34
13	Mahatma Gandhi after 150 Years - <i>Jagruti Gadkar (TGT)</i>	37
14	'Mahatma Gandhi after 150 Years' - <i>Mrs Vijaya S. Dukare</i>	40
15	Gandhiji's Idea of Swaraj And Panchayat Raj as A Feature of Democratic Setup Reflected in Indian Constitution. - <i>Dr. Amol B. Karwa,</i>	42
16	Gandhi's Educational Philosophy And It's Relevance in Present Context of Society - <i>Dr. Manashi Gogoi Borgohain</i>	46
17	Relevance of Gandhi's Philosophy in Contemporary World - <i>Dr. Meer Basharat Ali,</i>	49
18	'Journey From Mohandas To Mahatma' - Mahatma Gandhi's Life Story As An Inspiration For The Development of Personality - <i>Dr. Bobade Tukaram Balasaheb</i>	52
19	Concept of Gandhi's Gram Swaraj - <i>Dr. Deepak Subhash Waghmare</i>	54
20	Gandhism: With Special Reference To Autobiographical, Political, Social, And Nationalistic Point of View - <i>Dr. Jadhav Sanju Pandurang</i>	55
21	Mahatma Gandhi's Concept of Peace: Present Relevance - <i>Dr. R. M. Manjre, & Dr. A. H. Patil</i>	59
22	Pollution Free India: Gandhi's Mission - <i>Kagne SR & Mundhe SG</i>	61
23	Relevance of Mahatma Gandhi After 150 Years - <i>Dr. Kusum Lata</i>	64
24	Relevance of Gandhi's Principles in Today's World - <i>Prof. Sanjay M. Mohade</i>	69
25	Gandhi's Views on Women And Social Evils And Relevance in Present Society. - <i>Mr. Baliram Pawar & Mrs. Mousumi Gogoi</i>	71
26	Mahatma Gandhi Father of Nation - <i>Prof. Sanjay Shamrao Waghmare</i>	73
27	Gandhian Thoughts on Rural Development - <i>Dr. Santosh S. Kolhe</i>	76
28	Mahatma Gandhi And Gram Swaraj - <i>Dr. Suvarna Tryambak Shinde & Wankhede M. R.</i>	78
29	The Gandhian Perspective of Labour And Its Relevance in The 21st Century - <i>Ramandeep Kaur, & Dr. Sangeeta Nagaich</i>	80
30	A Comparative Study of Human Sufferings under 'Breakdown of Civil Order in Biafra' and 'Lockdown in Welfare States in the Corona virus hit World' in the Light of Gandhism. - <i>P. V. Tokey</i>	87
31	Mahatma Gandhi: An Enigmatic Personality - <i>Dr. Anand H. Kargate</i>	94

DECENTRALISE ECONOMY THE CONCEPT OF MAHATMA GANDHI AND THE APPLICABILITY IN TODAY'S WORLD.

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ABSTRACT

The economy is the most important factor for every society and the Country. The Economy shows the overall financial and economic condition of the society. In today's world the economy and the economic powers are centralised in few hands. Centralisation of economic power and wealth is not good for every society. Hence the decentralised economy is the best option. The concept of decentralised economy is presented by the Mahatma Gandhi in there era.

In the capitalistic economy all the economic and financial policies and strategies are affected by the thought of few capitalistic peoples. The impact of that practice on economy is going towards machine oriented production, profit maximisation, exploitation of labour and unemployment. In today's society the problem of unemployment and poverty is most important and harmful for our economy and country.

As Mahatma Gandhi stated the small scale and cottage industries is the backbone of our economy. Hence it is essential to promote the agriculture based and cottage industries must be growth. Outcome of that practice the economic wealth and some profit will be transferred towards village area. Mahatma Gandhi stated that the central point of economy is in the village not in the metro city. Most of population of country is live in the village and most of industry and job opportunity is in the metro area. Hence it is the geographical and economic inequality has been seen. The peoples of village area most frequently migrate towards city and metro area.

All the problems like economic inequality, unemployment, Migration and so on. The solution of all such type of problem is one and the final that the rural area must be develop and promote the small scale industries, cottage industries and agricultural product processing units.

Key words: Centralised Economy, Decentralised Economy, Small scale industries and Cottage industries.

Introduction:

In today's world the decentralized economy is most important concept for the countries like India which has most of the population live in villages. If the major economic activities centralise with urban area then the villages are still undeveloped and need to special attention. Hence it is important that every large population contry must follow the decentralised socio-economic concept. In India the concept of decentralise economy is already applies in Ghandhian era. Mahatma Gandhi had a dream of India - an India of his dreams which consisted not only of the few cities but also of the rural area like villages. Hi wants to reconstruct India from below upwards - a decentralized socio-political and economic order with India's myriad villages as its base. His concept of rural construction and development were based on self-supporting, self-ruling and self-reliant village communities in which life will not be like that of a pyramid with the apex sustained by the bottom but like that of an oceanic circle whose centre will be the individual, ready to perish for the circle of villages composed of individuals, never aggressive but humble and sharing the majesty of the oceanic circle of which they are integral units. Gandhian thought is 'I must dissent from the view that the core of planning is centralization. Why should not decentralization lend itself to planning as well as centralization?' (The Hindus, 28-6-46)

The sarvodaya society was the first step towards the realization of the concept of decentralization occupies paramount importance in Gandhian scheme of development. It is a self-reliant, self-sustaining and self-governing community. The concept of decentralization is the key to the development of the country. It is the only way to bring about the economic and social progress of the country. It is the only way to bring about the economic and social progress of the country. It is the only way to bring about the economic and social progress of the country.

be the basic tenets of Gandhiji's concept of decentralization. Centralization is a system is inconsistent with the non-violent structure of society. The Gandhiji always says 'You cannot build non-violence on a factory civilization, but it can be built on self-contained villages..Rural economy as I have conceived it, eschews exploitation altogether, and exploitation is the essence of violence'(Harijan, 4-11-39, p. 331).

Objectives

1. To Study the views of gandhiji for concept of decentralise economy.
2. To Study the need of decentralised economy in today's world.

Research Methodology

Research in common parlance refers to a search for knowledge. One can also define as a scientific and systematic search for pertinent information on a specific topic. Methodology is the systematic, theoretical analysis on the methods applied to a field of study. It comprises the theoretical analysis of the body of methods and principles associated with a branch of knowledge. Typically, it encompasses model, phases and quantitative or qualitative techniques.

In the present paper we study the secondary data related to the subject collected from the various magazines, books, journals & published research papers. We analyze the concept of decentralisation and the need for that to Indian economy. Also study the Gandhiji's Concept of Decentralised Economy and their applicability in now a days. We analyse and compare the Gandhian decentralise and today's decentralise economic concept.

Data Analysis

In Indian near about 67% population are lived in rural area till today, and near about 75% population are depend upon the agriculture and allied activities. Hence the development of the Indian economy not possible without rural area's development.

Gandhian's Concept of Decentralized Economy

The concept of decentralisation has been much discussed and debated for a long time by economic thinkers. The concept of decentralisation is the old one. Writers, political philosophers, social reformers and many peoples emphasized the concept of decentralised economy and political powers of the state.

An attempt has been made here to explain Gandhi's concept of political and economic decentralisation separately. But sometimes it has become inevitable to explain both simultaneously to sustain the flow of argument and to maintain academic objectivity and perspective in analysis. Gandhi's concept of decentralisation does not stand in isolation but it is shaped by other concept and ideas. Gandhi's complex and dynamic personality was made up of an original mind that encompassed the whole range of issues and problems in human affairs.

Gandhi was not a professional economist in the true sense of the term. But in a large and eventful life he had occasion to develop his economic ideas based on the situation in India. Gandhian economic theory provides a new and realistic approach to contemporary problems of poverty, hunger and degradation. Beginning with the position that exploitation is at the root of all violence, Gandhi builds his economic ideas in such a manner that avoids exploitation of man by man. His panacea is to do away with concentration of economic power through decentralization at various levels of the power hierarchy of the Indian society. Gandhi frequently asserted that "if India is to evolve along non-violent lines, it will have to decentralize many things".

Gandhi gave a very liberal interpretation to the concept of swaraj. He made it applicable to all spheres of life-religious, spiritual social, political and economic. In the economic sphere, it refers to self-sufficiency of the village as an economic unit. "The broad definition of swadeshi is the use of all homemade articles to the exclusion of foreign things, in so far as such is necessary for the protection of home industries, more especially those industries without which India will become pauperized. The spirit of swadeshi is not contrary to anything that is alien. On the contrary a nation could import those goods that are needed for its growth of a nation. Gandhi was very eager to preserve and protect cottage and village industries through decentralization of economic power.

arbitrary state power, unlimited violence Economic exploitation of man by man, removal of poverty and socio-economic inequalities.

World today is faced with a variety of difficult and intricate problems. The moral fibre of the people has been weakened. The only practical way to resolve these problems in a lasting manner is to turn once again to the ideals of Mahatma Gandhi study them in depth and find proper solutions for our ailments.

The relevance of Gandhian ideas, and their universal applicability is precisely because of fact that his ideas thoughts are not based on colonial dominations and exploitative attitudes, cut-throat competition, and some other material and worldly values. As against these, they are on strong human values with moral and spiritual touching. He wanted to give a spiritual touch to all economic social, political and other problems, which he thought as the root cause of all prosperity and happiness. His ideas were always the best interests and to the real solution of the problem of mankind.

Gandhi favoured "production by the masses" opposed to "mass production". But it is significant that he never opposed machinery as such that what he opposed as craze for machinery. He was realist because he knew that every country needs certain large scale industries to cater to vital needs-steel, cement and so on. He knew that even millions of blacksmiths cannot replace a steel plant. According to him, such industries should be controlled and managed by the state and should occupy "the least part of the vast national activities which will mainly be in the villages".

Gandhiji conceived and wished the development of our society on the lines of ramrajya where everyone enjoyed life full of happiness and devoid of any ailment-physical or otherwise. He thought of a society where everyone had equal opportunity to develop equal rights and benefits, as far as possible. Problems in regard to decentralized system of production restriction of wants, proper distribution, industrialism, mechanization of man, minimum wage, role of trade unionism, economic equality, relationship with landlord and peasant, capital and labour and allied economic problems-all these find a solution in the all comprehensive Gandhian principles of economics, viz., sarvodaya which aims at the welfare of all.

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