

Abstract

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Title of the PhD Thesis: Role of NGOs in Development Administration Since 1990: *A Case Study of 'Mission Convergence' in Delhi.*

With the advent of neo-liberal economic policy across the world, many countries including India adopted market approach in the development of its society. Since then India has participated with many market players in order to bring efficiency in the implementation of its public policies. NGOs role in different part of the globe, in the process of development was advocated by many international agencies. India acknowledges this role and collaborated with number of NGOs in the implementation of its policies. Observing such participation of NGOs in the development process this research work chooses to study one of such NGO namely 'Mission Convergence', which is operating in the National Capital Region of Delhi working in different sectors to accomplish the policy objective of the government schemes.

As NGOs have been playing a crucial role in the development of the society, especially focusing at the grass-root level. Keese James and Freire Angudo in their work stated that the NGOs have turned to capture considerable institutional space, whereas the government has failed to meet the requirements of the vulnerable group within society. This worldwide expansion of NGOs has coincided with a change in the ideological, theoretical, and practical tenets of governance based on market- biased neoliberal assumption, anti-welfare programme, business-friendly policies and neo-managerial structure and techniques. Thus, commonly NGOs has been termed as "an important sub-group of the third sector organization family" which continuously get engaged to work for the development of the masses at local, national and global level as well.

Thus, we can say that NGO is an autonomous, flexible, independent, secular, non-profit people's organisation working for and/or support in the empowerment of marginalised class. It is the lifeblood of the democracy. Poonam Sharma in her editorial, "A question of Trust" observed

that Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru had called the voluntary sector the 'heart of the welfare state'. It has also been described as the fifth and central pillar of democracy.

Theoretically, according to the neo-liberal economic policy theory, the state does not have enough resources, lack of transparency and accountability, therefore NGOs should partner with the public sector. This collaboration of NGOs from policy formulation to policy implementation, make them part of the administration. After LPG, the concept has entirely changed, the role of administration has been reduced and the role of governance has increased.

If we analyse the classical theory of Riggs, he opines that, India is a prismatic society and heterogeneity has existed. In heterogeneity, there is also availability of ultramodern and ancient schemes. For example, there are Apollo Hospital and Indian Herbs, Indian Herbs implies that we still practice ancient Ayurveda (like Aushadhi). At the same time, we are working towards development, low-cost medical treatment to the people.

Hence, we can say that after the implementation of LPG in India since 1990, the scenario has changed. Now, because of this development NGOs have become an integral part of the development process of India. Therefore, this research work is less theoretical and more empirical.

Through the provision of quality health and education facilities, the government can complete one of the indexes of the state. It is the state only who can provide good health care and education for the people and is accountable to their citizens. For these services, the government formulates different policies and plans to improve the quality of health and education of the citizens of the state. The ultimate goal of such policies and plans is the comprehensive development of the people. The NGOs help the government in the achievement of these goals by engaging- in policy formulation as well as policy implementation. The NGOs have gradually occupied a significant role in the development discourse, basically in the era of globalization.

Keeping all the above arguments in view this research work explores the relation and the contribution of NGOs specifically of 'Mission Convergence' in the development process.