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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Studies in Applied Economics and World-Economy

Vol. II.

COMPARATIVE INDUSTRIALISM AND ITS EQUATIONS

WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO ECONOMIC INDIA

BY

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PIONEERS OF ECONOMIC STUDIES IN MODERN INDIA

THESE STUDIES IN WORLD-ECONOMY

ARE DEDICATED

Preface to the Economic Development Series

During 1920-25, while in Europe, I was collecting the material for Economic Development with a view to ascertaining the economic status of and suggesting the correct economic policy for India. At that arms I hardly suspected that these studies in applied economics, international statistics and world-economy would lead me to undertake subsequent investigations in the same fields whether topically or regionally. But by 1932 my studies along these lines, carried on, again, partly in Europe, grew into substantial proportions so that a volume could be published as Applied Economics and other volumes had to be promised.

Since then my publications on diverse aspects of comparative statistics and problems of adult and young industrialism, regional as well as topical, have been on the increase. And as there has been exhibited some interest among economic investigators, businessmen and publishers to see them accessible within the covers of books it has been necessary for me to think of bringing all the allied studies in English under a more or less unifying title. That necessity is at the bottom of the Economic Development Series that is being announced at present.

The scheme of the Series is as follows:

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It should be observed that each of these volumes is diverse in its make-up both in economic items and in geographical areas. Neither the items not the geographical areas are identical in the different volumes. It has not been sought through the successive volumes to develop an historic continuity, whether in regions or in topics. The object in every instance is to analyze each question in regard to its contemporary values

Every chapter bears its own dates and is treated as self-contained. The interpretations offered and the conclusions deduced have reference to the dates furnished, i.e., the conjuncture discussed. The contents of each volume have grown both in method and in substance according to the particular interest of the hour or the occasion, so to say

India happens still to be in the earlier or rather infantile stages of most of the phenomena of caipitalism, technocracy and social welfare. The data and interpretaions furnished in these volumes, dealing as they do chiefly with the second industrial revolution, are therefore likely to remain useful for a long time. In the interest of practical business or economic statesmanship it may not be judicious for our countrymen always to consult the latest developments of Eur-America or the most recent investigations about them except perhaps for scientific curiosity or intellectual satisfaction. Economic India has quite an extensive ground to cover it agriculture, manufacture, commerce, labour organization as well as general and industrial education before our countrymen can be in the position to make an effective use of the most uptodate statistics or theories of world-economy. This indeed is the fundamental theory underlying the equations of comparative industrialism.

The following works are excluded from the present Series, in so far as each deals with a special topic and is complete in itself

- 1 Indian Currency and Reserve Bank Problems (Calcutta, first edition, 1933, second edition, 1934), Royal Octavo 94 pages Fourteen charts
- 2 Imperial Preference vis-à-vis World-Economy in relation to the International Trade and National Economy of India (Calcutta 1934), Royal Octavo 172 pages Fifteer charts
- 3 Social Insurance Legislation and Statistics,—A study in the Labour Economics and Business Organization of Neo-Capitalism (Calcutta 1936), Demy Octavo 470 pages, Nine charts Two portraits

For the same reason the present Series excludes hikewise the two demographic publications, namely

- 1 Comparative Birth, Death and Growth Rates,—A Study of the Nine Indian Provinces in the Background of Eur-American and Japanese Vital Statistics (Calcutta 1932) Folio 36 pages (of two columns each) Nine charts
- 2 The Sociology of Population with special reference to optimum, standard of living and progress, A study in social relativities (Calcutta 1936), Royal Octavo 144 pages, Six charts

It may perhaps be added that the following works in Bengali deal also with economic development, comparative industrialism, worldeconomy and applied economics, etc

- Ekaler Dhana-daulat O Artha-shastra (The Wealth and Economics of Our Own Times)
 - Vol 1. The Forms of New Wealth (1930), Double Crown 440 pages
 - Vol. II The New Foundations of Economics (1935)

 Double Crown 710 pages Forty-four portraits
- Naya Banglar Goda-Pattan (The Foundations of a New Bengal, Economic and Social), 1932.

Vol. I. Theoretical, Double Crown 530 pages Vol. II. Practical, Double Crown 450 pages

3 Badtir Pathe Bangali (Bengalis in Progress, Economic and Social), 1934. Double Crown 636 pages Forty-five portraits

In very few instances the material in the Bengali works is more or less identical with that in the English works within or outside the Economic Development Series But most of the Bengali material is new

BENOY KUMAR SARKAR

Calcutta 14 April, 1938

PREFACE

These studies in applied economics constitute some of my recent investigations in contemporary industry, commerce and agriculture carried on both at home and abroad,—in close contact with theorists as well as economic realities,—with a view to ascertain the proper economic policy for India. The topics have been approached from the standpoint of world-economy and international developments in economic legislation and statesmanship. The method of investigation may be seen in part in my reports published in the Journal of the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce (1931) under the following titles: "The Geneva Complex in World-Economy", "Contacts with Economic Italy", and "Industrial Centres and Economic Institutions in Germany"

The book is going to be published in several volumes,—each given over to diverse problems in the economics of business organization, finance and technique The logical affiliations and chronological links between economic India and the other economic regions of the world,-which are in part aspects of the relations between what may be called the regions of the "First Industrial Revolution" and those of the "Second Industrial Revolution",indicated ۱n the form of quantitative equations based statistical coefficients (wherever international on fairly comparable information) statistics can furnish Comparative industrialism or capitalism,-taking the two terms rather interchangeably in the widest sense, namely, that of "modern" economic and societal structure,-will be found thereby to be endowed with a fresh significance The methodology and conclusions of the equations of applied economics may be seen, so far as vol I is concerned, in the chapters on bank and railway statistics

These equations were discussed for the first time in my Comparative Pedagogics in relation to Public Finance and National Wealth (134 pages, Calcutta 1929) and may be traced for their theoretical foundations to Economic Development (464 pages, Madras 1926) as well as to the Futurism of Young Asia (409 pages, Leipzig 1922). The subject has likewise been treated in somewhat definite form in my papers entitled "Indiens Entwicklung im Vergleich zu Eur-Amerika" (Deutsche Rundschau Berlin 1930) and "Die Entwicklung und weltwirtschaftliche Bedeutung des modernen Indien" (Auslandliche Vorträge der Technischen Hochschule Stuttgart, Band 2, Indien, Stuttgart 1931).

World-economy has been arresting my attention since 1918 when my study on the world's labour questions in their bearings on emigration and immigration was published as "Americanization from the viewpoint of Young Asia" in the Journal of Race Development (Clark University, U.S.A.) This study was followed shortly afterwards in 1919 by the publication in the Journal of International Relations (U.S.A.) of my investigation in foreign capital investments as underlying the economic and other concessions in China. Some of my subsequent papers on the topics of world-economy in its bearings on economic India may be listed below (without taking into consideration the chapters on commerce, economic legislation, industrialism and technical education which make up the volume entitled Economic Development)

- 1 "Die Industrialisierung Indiens' (Verein Deutscher Ingenieure Nachrichten, Berlin 1924)
- 2 "Aspetti e Problemi della moderna Economia Indiana" (Annali di Economia, Milan 1930)
- 3 "Die internationalen Handelsbeziehungen and Handelspolitik Indiens" (Magazin der Wirtschaft, Berlin 1931)
- 4 "Die weltwirtschaftliche Bedeutung der indischen Eisenbahnen im Rahmen der internationalen Eisenbahnstatistik" (Allgemeines Statistisches Archiv, Jena 1931)
- 5 "Il Movimento industriale e commerciale dell'India ed i suoi rapporti internazionali" (Commercio, Rome 1931).

The contents of the different chapters in vol I as in other volumes of the present book are dated at important points so that no difficulties may arise in regard to orientations. It should be relevant to observe, besides, that this work in several volumes is ideologically associated as one complex with the two following works in Bengali, each complete in two volumes.

- Ekāler Dhan-daulat O Arthaśāstra (The Wealth and Economics of Our Own Times) vol I The Forms of New Wealth (374 pages. 1930); vol II The New Foundations of Economics
- 2 Nayā Bānglār Godā-pattan (The Foundations of a New Bengal Economic and Social) vol I Theoretical (530 pages, 1932), II Practical (400 pages, 1932)

All the three works are naturally subsequent to Economic Development (1926) and are indeed to be taken as in a certain sense the continuation or rather the expansion and deepening of that work along different lines, and, of course, with altogether new data. The material for these studies in world-economy in its direct or indirect relations with economic India has arisen, as indicated at the outset, in part in the course of my recent travels and investigations in Europe from May 1929 to October 1931. My experiences during this period comprise among other things a guest-professorship at the Technische Hochschule (Technological University) of Munich for two semesters (1930-31) and occasional lectures at Kiel, Berlin, Innsbruck, Leipzig, Dresden, Stuttgart, and other universities in Germany as well as at the University of Geneva in Switzerland and the Universities of Milan, Padua and Rome.

To this period likewise belongs my paper entitled I Quozienti di Natalita, di Mortalita, e di Aumento Naturale nell' India attuale nel Quadro della Demografia Comparata presented at the International Congress on Population held at Rome in September 1931 at which I was a President of the Economic Section. The paper has been translated into English for the Eighth All-India Medical Congress held at Calcutta last March and is being published in the Journal of the Indian Medical Association (Calcutta).

While statistical and factual data will serve by themselves to tell their own tale in regard to the range and scope of each discussion, perhaps it should not be out of place to indicate the unifying link which connects the diverse topics with one another

The themes are varied, so also are the regions. The object is to make a survey of the extensive field of applied economics. This survey, however, is not a purely speculative one. Its purpose is to exhibit India vis a vis other regions and doctor her up to the "next stage" of her economic possibilities.

References to India have indeed been sedulously eschewed from the first two papers. But they address themselves to two problems in which Indian business men and economists have of late been taking keen interest. In regard to the relations between Indian and foreign insurance companies the Indian Insurance Companies Act, 1928, hardly touches the most vital issues, and it is to those issues that attention has been called in the examination of the principles embodied in the continental legislation on the subject. The Reserve Bank of India, proposed in 1927, has not yet come into being but has been all the time in the air. It is the purpose of the second paper to attempt an analysis in as realistic a manner as possible of the fundamental considerations involved in note legislation and central banking such as stand out prominently in the experience of three pioneers in this field, namely, England, France and Germany.

The papers on Bengalı bank-capıtalısm and Indian railways are calculated to show, in spite of progress in modern wealth, the essentially primitive condition of the industrialization such as has been achieved up The fallacy of all those economists, sociologists and political philosophers,-Indian or foreign,-who are tempted to cite and emulate the contemporary developments of the great powers of to-day, especially of America, England, France and Germany, while formulating schemes of economic or societal reconstruction for India with reference to the near future, is thus automatically exposed Attention is, on the contrary, diverted other to the present-day conditions of the "Balkan complex", Eastern Europe and Russia, or to the old conditions of the industrial pioneers and adults such as obtained, say, some two generations ago, -in order that the proper doctoring might be attempted. These two chapters exhibit India more or less in the conditions of what may be described as the First Industrial Revolution, which for England is to be placed between 1785 and 1848 and for France and Germany between 1830 and 1870 And so it happens that rationalization, which is the most signal feature of the Second Industrial Revolution, is to be found only in traces, in its rudimentary conditions, in India The fifth chapter leaves no doubt on this point

In the last chapter the almost inevitable economic and financial relations obtaining to-day between the regions of the First Industrial Revolution and those of the Second Industrial Revolution are analyzed on the peg of the world crisis of 1929-32. Indian economic statesmen as well as experts of other countries are furnished with view-points such as may help them to visualize in a concrete manner the basic foundation of genuine world-economy, namely, the export of capital and "instruments of production" (*Produktionsmittel*) from the regions of the Second Industrial Revolution to those of the First in order that the purchasing power of the men and women of the latter might rise helping thereby to heighten the standard of living of the former

The chapters that are going to be published in the subsequent volumes will likewise serve to focus attention, from the angles of co-operative credit, labour force, occupational structure, unemployment insurance etc., on the same complex of relations between the industrial adults and industrial youngsters with special reference to India. The equations of comparative industrialism are, then, likely to remain no mere mathematical curios but bid fair to be appraised as perhaps quite helpful tools in the task of world-reconstruction at the hands of experts in applied economics, both Indian and foreign World-economy is thus being brought down from the heights

of economic theory and history to the offices and godowns of actual exportimport, factory equipment, agricultural transformation, rural uplift and municipal progress on an international scale.

My sincere thanks are due to the Calcutta University for the material facilities generously accorded to me on my first return to Calcutta towards the end of 1925 after an absence of nearly twelve years spent in foreign countries. I am deeply indebted likewise to the friends who have been liberally cooperating with me in my scientific work since then, especially in connection with the monthly review, Arthik Unnati (Economic Progress), and the Bangiya Dhana-Vijāan Parişat (Bengali Institute of Economics). To the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce whose decision in 1926 to publish an economic and statistical quarterly in English has enabled me as the editor to serve the Bengali commercial intelligence in a systematic manner with the objective facts and ideas of world-economy as well as with suggestions regarding the methods of advancing the economic welfare of the Bengali people I have equal reasons for expressing my profound gratefulness.

It remains to refer with pleasure to the scientific discussions on developments in business organization, technical progress, and policies with Senator Raphael-Georges Levy, banker and currency expert, as well as M. Emmanuel Vidal of the Societe d'Economie Politique de Paris (of which I have been a member since 1920),—Directors March of the Statistique Generale de la France and Pinot of Le Comite des Forges de France, Professors Truchy, Hauser, Gide, Bougle, Berr, Colson and Oualid (Paris), Mr. Pethick Lawrence, MP, Professors Wallas, Tawney, Rowe, Schwartz and Laski of the London School of Economics, Director A. J Toynbee of the Institute of International Relations (London), Professors Arthur Newton and Delisle Burns of London, Prof. Zimmern of Oxford (and Geneva), M. Comert, Mr Cummings and their colleagues at the Information Section of the League of Nations, Prof. Milhaud of the International Labour Office, Professors Hersch and Rappard of Geneva. President Zahn of the Bavarian Bureau of Statistics, Exc. Dr Oskar von Miller of the Deutsches Museum (Munich), the Deutsche Akademie, the Technische Hochschule and Professors Haushofer, Dorn, Adolf Weber, Lotz and von Zwiedineck of Munich, Dr Goldenberger, the Bavarian minister of education, Dr. Carl Duisberg of I. G. Farbenindustrie, Prof. Matschoss of the Verein Deutscher Ingenieure, Directors Karl Lange of the Verein Deutscher Maschinenbauanstalten, Dr. Negbaur of the Verein Deutscher Werkzeugmaschinenfabriken, Dr. Hornig of the Allianz und Stuttgarter Versicherungsgesellschaft, Demuth of the Industrie and Handelskammer (Berlin), Guttmann of the Dresdner Bank, Voss of the Leipziger Messamt, and Furtwangler of the Allgemeiner Deutscher Gewerkschaftsbund, President Wagemann of the Statistisches Reichsamt fur Konjunkturforschung, Professors Tonnies Schumacher, Prion and Aereboe of Berlin, Spann (Vienna), Gunther (Dresden), Wunderlich (Innsbruck), Muesmann (Stuttgart), (Karlsruhe), Helander (Nürnberg) and von Wiese (Cologne,) the statistician Dr Woytinsky (Berlin), Professors Graziani and Musco of Naples, Mortara (Milan), Pietra (Padua), Benini, DelVecchio, Carli and Niceforo of Rome, Director Dr. Tagliacarne of the Consiglio Provinciale dell'Economia (Mılan), as well as Prof. Corrado Gini, President of the Istituto Centrale di Statistica in the Kingdom of Italy

Finally, I avail myself of this opportunity to gratefully record the cooperation in scientific and social work constantly extended to me by Dr. Narendra Nath Law, my friend and colleague of over two decades.

Calcutta, April 14, 1932 Benoy Kumar Sarkar

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