

VIDHARBHA REGION - POLITICAL STUDIES VARIOUS ISSUES IN PRESENT SITUATION

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Abstract

In Vidarbha, Satvahan, Rashtrakta, Wakataka, Yadav and Marathe etc. Various such rulers ruled over Vidarbha. The Muslim dynasty was followed by the Bhosle dynasty. The kingdom of the Bhosle dynasty was spread in Middle East India. In 1818, the third British-Maratha war broke out. The Marathas were defeated and the Bhosle dynasty was confined to Nagpur. In 1819, Bhosle's kingdom was annexed to the British Empire due to no heirs.

After independence the state of Maharashtra was formed in 1960. There should be a single state of Marathi language including Vidarbha. The Nagpur Agreement was signed on September 28, 1953, assuring Vidarbha of development through this concept. Combine Maharashtra was formed by amending the Constitution and uniting Vidarbha and Mumbai provinces as per Article 371 (2). Later, according to the linguistic regional structure. In 1960, Vidarbha merged with Maharashtra. After India's independence in 1947, the Central Provinces and Berar were known as Madhya Pradesh state.

After the formation of United Maharashtra, the then Chief Minister of Maharashtra Yashwantrao Chavan had agreed to provide proportional funds to Vidarbha and Marathwada. But such a development find In 2006, the Hon'ble Finance Minister stated that, We do not have money in the treasury to give find Vidarbha. The center government should help for this. If there is such a disadvantage, how can integrate development be achieved? What is the use of Vidarbha Statutory Development Board? Such a question will not remain unanswered by the people of Vidarbha.



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Formation and working procedure of 'Vidarbha' Statutory Development Board :

Article 371 (2) of the Constitution provides for the establishment of Statutory Development Boards for the purpose of providing constitutional protection to the neglected territories. The members of this board are experts from various fields. So one is its president. This is the format. The members of the concerned board should study various issues in their region and send a report to the Governor. The Governor should order the Chief Minister to implement it. This is the kind of procedure that is prescribed.

The history of injustice done to Vidarbha is old. However, in the year 1970, the development imbalance of Marathwada and Vidarbha region started increasing. That is why the term 'backlog of development' became common. In 1983, senior economist Dr. V. M.

Dandekar's committee had decided that Vidarbha had the highest backlog of 39.8 % as compared to the whole of Maharashtra. Also for the next five years, 85 % of the funds should be spent on development work to eliminate the backlog. The remaining 15 % was recommended to be spent on other regular activities. However. The report was not intentionally accepted. Vidarbha has received such discriminatory treatment till date. In the year 2000, the then Governor of Maharashtra P. C. Alexander made many efforts to bring justice to Vidarbha But in the year 2003-04, there were also cases of diverting Vidarbha funds to Western Maharashtra.

Voices were often raised in the assembly for the development of Vidarbha and to eliminate the backlog. But the statutory development Board does not get funding. Therefore, regions like Vidarbha and Marathwada could not be developed. However, Vidarbha was neglected keeping in view the development of Westem Maharashtra. It is as if the Vidarbha Development Board is being closed down. Statutory Development Board gets extension every five years. The deadline recently expired on April 30, 2020. Whether to get further extension or not. And Vidarbha's backwardness will not go away and development will not happen. This is a big question mark for Vidarbha. Will Vidarbha's long-standing demand for an 'independent Vidarbha' be mer? Will Vidarbha be a victim of politics? Many such questions remain unanswered today.

Data collection and research methodology

The research is based on secondary sources and like published books, magazines and websites.

The objectives of the research

1. To see the history of Vidarbha
2. To study the problem in Vidarbha
3. To review the resource wealth in Vidarbha
4. Measures for Vidarbha development
5. Conclusions

Vidarbha Natural Resources :

Vidarbha is a region rich in forests and mineral resources. Dense forests, have abundant water, coal reserves, mineral reserves, herbs, forest resources, wildlife, etc. Vidarbha is a region of natural beauty. All the tiger projects in Maharashtra are in Vidhabha. Among them

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Melghat tiger project in Amravati district, Andhari tiger project in Chandrapur district, Pench tiger project in Nagpur district etc. These tiger projects in Vidarbha are famous. Every year people from all over India come for jungle safaris for jungle tourism. The eastern part of Vidarbha is densely forested and has large reserves of coal, limestone, manganese and other minerals.. There are thermal power plants at Koradi, Khaparkheda, Chandrapur. The recently formed G. M. R., Wardha Power Plant, Adani Power Plant etc. These Thermal power projects are in Vidarbha. Also many Lakes and Dams ie. Ghodazari, Asolamendha in Chandrapur district. Upper Wardha in Amravati district, Dina in Gadchiroli district, Etiadoh in Gondia district. Pench in Nagpur district, Totlad Vena, Wadgaon. Gosekhurd Bhandara Lower Wardha project in Wardha district etc. are in Vidarbha. Despite such wealth. Vidarbha lags behind the rest of Maharashtra.

Industrially, however, Vidarbha could not develop on its own. Many efforts are being made to develop Vidarbha-Marathwada economically. Vidarbha has the highest power generation. Farmers' lands are acquired for setting up large scale projects Water from Vidarbha, coal is used. But only 30 percent of electricity is used for Vidarbha Electricity should be made available to the entrepreneurs of Vidarbha at low rates. Only then will entrepreneurs be attracted to Vidarbha. Efforts should be made for this. If electricity rates remain the same for Vidarbha and the rest of Maharashtra, entrepreneurs will not turn to Vidarbha. Electricity should be made available at concessional rates for industrial growth in Vidarbha and Marathwada. The recommendation was made by a 15-member inter-divisional committee chaired by the Nagpur divisional commissioner. The committee was constituted in September 2015. His report was submitted to the Government of Maharashtra in December 2015. But political leaders in western Maharashtra opposed it. Vidarbha funds were diverted to Western Maharashtra. The backlog of irrigation has not been filled yet. Why should Vidarbha be in Maharashtra because of such discrimination? Such a question should arise and a separate Vidarbha should be created. Such is the feeling of the people of Vidarbha.

Thermal power plants in Vidarbha

- i) Paras District Akola- 62.5 MW
- ii) Koradi District Nagpur- 1100 MW
- iii) Khaparkheda District Nagpur- 420 MW
- iv) Ballarpur Durgapur District Chandrapur- 1840 MW

According to the BBC's Marathi news on March 2, 2019, on the very first day of the Maharashtra budget session, the government and the opposition became extremely aggressive.

vi) Bhandara-Bodhalaksa Dam, Sangadi Fort, Pawani Fort etc.

vii) Yavatmal- Mahurgad, Tipeswar Sanctuary etc.

viii) Akola/Buldhana- Shegaon (Gajanan Maharaj Shrine) Anand Sagar, Lonar Sarovar, Nammala etc.

ix) Amravati- Ambadevi Temple, Chikhaldara, Gavilgad Fort etc.

4) Processing Industries -

Mineral resources found in Maharashtra. It is found mainly in East Vidarbha. Mineral resources are found in 12.3 per cent of the total area. In Maharashtra, 97 per cent of the mineral wealth is in Vidarbha. These assets include stone, coal, limestone, manganese, iron ore, etc. Nagpur Bhandara, Chandrapur. Yavatmal, Wardha, Gondia, Gadchiroli districts have large mineral reserves. But there are no mineral processing factories in Vidarbha. This is the misfortune of Vidarbha. Employment and investment can be increased processing industry is allowed while mining is allowed. Different types of art exist. It is necessary to accommodate their talents in the process of economic development. The major crops grown in Vidarbha are cotton, tur paddy and soybean. Farmers will benefit if processing industries based on these crops are set up at the district level. Similarly, Vidarbha has a large number of dams, reservoirs and lakes. There is a huge scope for growth of fishing business int this place. If the infrastructure for fisheries is established in the districts of East Vidarbha, the reputation of Vidarbha will reach the national and international markets.

Mineral resources and districts of East Vidarbha

i) Coal-Nagpur, Chandrapur, Wardha, Yavatmal (approximately 5000 million tons of coal)

ii) Manganese- Nagpur, Bhandara

iii) Iron ore- Chandrapur, Gadchiroli, Nagpur, Bhandara, Gondia

iv) Limestone- Chandrapur, Yavatmal, Gadchiroli, Nagpur

v) Dolomite- Chandrapur, Yavatmal, Nagpur, Gadchiroli

vi)) Kyanite and silicate- Bhandara8) Chromite- Nagpur, Chandrapur Bhandara

vii) Bromite- Chandrapur

viii) Copper-Nagpur, Chandrapur :

ix) Zinc and tungsten Nagpur, Chandrapur

x) Fluoride-Chandrapur

Vidarbha has not developed even though Vidarbha has 2/3 of the total natural resources of Maharashtra. It is safe to say that this is the misfortune of Vidarbha. More than half of Maharashtra's forest resources are in Vidarbha. It is rich in forest resources. Major crops like cotton, wheat, rice, gram, and soybean are grown in Vidarbha. But due to the government's Indifferent policy, the crops are not getting good market prices.

5) Forests: Districts in Vidarbha :

Forests- Chandrapur, Nagpur, Gadchiroli, Gondia, Bhandara, Yavatmal, Wardha, Amravati.

According to the Indian Forest Survey 2019, the total forest area of the state is 50,778 sq km. Forests cover 16.50% of the total area of Maharashtra. Gadchiroli district has 68.5 per cent forest cover. Also Chandrapur, Amravati, Wardha, Nagpur, Bhandara, Gondia, Yavatmal districts are also covered with forest areas. Many things like wood, forest medicine, bamboo, honey, lacquer, flowers, fruits are obtained from the forest.

6) To provide adequate irrigation facilities :

Rainfall in Vidarbha is satisfactory. Therefore, in the geographical language, Vidarbha is called the promised region of rain. However, dryland farming in Vidarbha is 95 percent. Le. the irrigated area is only five percent. Therefore, there is a lot of poverty in the rural areas of Vidarbha. Persistent barrenness, natural calamity has found the farmer in crisis. The state government's partisan policy of irrigation development is responsible for the problem of agriculture and rural poverty in Vidarbha. As on April 2, 2008, there was a backlog of 80.39 percent for Vidarbha, 19.1 per cent for Marathwada and 0 per cent for the rest of Maharashtra. Not much has changed in these ten to twelve years. If Vidarbha. funds are spent on Vidarbha, this backlog can be eliminated. But political apathy is to blame. This equally true.

7) Enhancing Industrial Development :

In 1991, the largest five-star industrial estate in Asia was established at Butibori near Nagpur. Also Mihan (Multi Modal Integration Cargo Hub and Airport) and project was set up. It can create a lot of jobs here. If all the basic facilities are provided, big entrepreneurs will set up industries. For this, all political leaders, social activists and other organizations must come together and work for the development of Vidarbha

8) Promoting small scale industries Government projects, industrialization, increasing population stress on agriculture, etc. led to fragmentation of agriculture. Dryland agriculture and urban migration have decimated rural areas. Decreased agricultural productivity.

Measures

- District wise Decentralization of economy.
- District wise policies like industry-trade, decentralized tax structure, financial planning etc.
- Implementing development programs at the local government level. . Quality education. Private technology. To create skilled manpower through training. institutes To create employment business on the basis of privatization and globalization.
- Proper guarantee of locally produced goods and easy implementation of export policy.
- Increase private investment and make local people shareholders.

Conclusion:

This shows that Vidarbha has remained backward due to politics. There is no resentment. Statutory Development Boards are left for the name. The main reasons are the damage done to Vidarbha, the indifference of the political leaders. Lack of money in the treasury. Due to this, irrigation, industrial, roads and other infrastructure could not be made more efficient in Vidarbha. As a result, Vidarbha has become Backward. Most of the natural resources of Vidarbha are being utilized for Western Maharashtra. However, even though Vidarbha is still endowed with natural resources, politicians have to reach out to the pro government regime for development. Such a dire situation has befallen. Vidarbha.

Vidarbha is a region rich in natural resources. There are rich in mineral and forest resources. Vidarbha's backlog has never been filled by providing so many committees, their reports, recommendations, funds. The provision of real funds cannot be a solution to this imbalance. Many experts think so. This problem can be solved permanently by creating a separate Vidarbha. Many experts think also. Therefore, the demand for a separate Vidarbha is still being made and it is true.

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