Economic Growth and Planning

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How to measure Economic Growth?

- * GDP is the best measurement for Economic Growth
- * *GDP* is the total value of all the final goods and services produced by the residents of a country within the territory in a time period
- * Increase in the GDP shows the rising standard of living

What are the factors of Economic Growth?

- Two types
- * Economic Factors- Those directly affect the Economic Growth
- * Non-Economic Factors- Those Indirectly affect the Economic Growth

Economic Factors

- * Natural Resources
- * Human Resources
- * Capital Formation
- * Technological Advancement
- * Basically Land Labour Capital and Enterprise

Natural Resources

- * Gift of Nature
- * It includes raw materials, minerals, forests, air, water, sunshine, vegetables, Plants etc
- * Land is regarded in the predominant position for Economic Growth
- * Abundance of Natural Resources is essential for the Economic Growth
- * But the *efficient utilization* of natural resources is also important which depends on the skills and abilities of human resource, technology used and availability of funds

Human Resources

- * Quantity and Quality of Human Resource (HR) is crucial for the Economic Growth
- * Quality of Human Resource depends on its skills, creative abilities, training, and education
- * Good quality of Human Resource produce high quality output and it creates Economic growth
- * Quantity of HR is also important as lesser quantity will hamper production
- * Hence skilled labour in adequate quantity is the requirement for the Economic Growth

Capital Formation

- * Capital implies the stock of physical reproducible factors of production
- * It includes land, building, machinery, transportation, power and mode of communication etc
- * Production of all these manmade goods termed as Capital Formation
- Increase in capital leads to capital accumulation
- * Capital formation increase the level of Investment, which has two results
- * Firstly, Increase in Per capita Income =Increase in Purchasing Power= Increase in Effective Demand = Economic Growth
- * Secondly, Investment leads to more production = Economic Growth

Technological Advancement

- * Level of technology is an important factor of Economic Growth
- * Rapid progress in technology makes growth process fast
- * Rapid rate of growth can be achieved with the high level of technology
- * It increases the production, fast moving products to market, easy access to new markets, increases communication etc
- * It has positive impact on economy as well as Economic Growth

Non-Economic Factors

- * Social factors
- * Political factors
- * Demographic factors

Social factors

- * Social factors involves values, customs, beliefs, traditions which contributes growth of the economy
- * An *individual's views* in a society, *towards development* decides the Economic growth of that country
- * Social institutions can *help or hinder* the process of growth and development of the country
- * Undeveloped and under developed countries where society has *conventional and* superstitious beliefs which resist them to adopt modern technology and way of living, hindrance for economic growth
- * On the other hand developed societies have *scientific temper* towards modern life style and technology which helps them in economic growth.

Political Factors

- * Political factors, such as participation of the government in formulating and implementing various policies for the economic growth.
- * The government ensures *strong*, *competent and honest* administrative machinery.
- * The government maintains law and order for the economic growth.
- * International law plays an important role in defence of the country against external aggression and protection of public property against external disorder.
- * The existence of peaceful atmosphere in the state, law and order are significant factors to ensure quick economic growth.
- * The government bring new policies, advanced technological and monetary policies to ensure economic growth.

Demographic Factor

- * Demographic change can influence the growth rate of economy, structural productivity growth, living standards, saving rates, consumption, and investment.
- * It can influence the *long-run unemployment rate*.
- * Demography influences the *supply of labour*. Typically, as mortality rates decline and people live longer, the supply of labour increases.
- * The *shift of rural population to the urban areas* reduces the need for large families to run farms.
- * Life expectancy has a positive effect on economic growth.

