

History of DPSP

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1. Background during British Rule:

- The idea of incorporating social and economic principles into the Indian Constitution was influenced by the social reform movements and the struggles for independence during British colonial rule.
- Leaders like Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru, and Dr. B.R. Ambedkar emphasized the need to address social and economic inequalities and promote welfare in post-independence India.

2. Influence of International Documents:

- The framers of the Constitution drew inspiration from international documents such as the Irish Constitution and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which contained principles of social and economic justice.
- These documents provided a template for incorporating similar principles into the Indian Constitution.

3. Constituent Assembly Debates:

- The Constituent Assembly of India, led by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, debated the inclusion of DPSP extensively.

- B.R. Rajam, a member of the Constituent Assembly, introduced a draft resolution for the inclusion of Directive Principles, and it was subsequently accepted with modifications.
- The debates highlighted the need to balance individual rights (Fundamental Rights) with collective welfare (DPSP) in the new Constitution.

4. Drafting Committee:

- The Drafting Committee, headed by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, played a crucial role in shaping the final language and content of DPSP.
- Dr. Ambedkar and other committee members ensured that DPSP were comprehensive, covering various aspects of social, economic, and political life.

5. Incorporation into the Constitution:

- DPSP were included in Part IV of the Constitution, spanning Articles 36 to 51, reflecting their importance in guiding the state's policies and actions.
- Dr. B.R. Ambedkar referred to DPSP as the "novel feature" of the Indian Constitution during his speech in the Constituent Assembly.

6. Balancing with Fundamental Rights:

- The framers recognized the potential tension between Fundamental Rights and DPSP.

- To address this, they established a harmonious balance, where Fundamental Rights could be limited by laws enacted in pursuance of DPSP, provided such laws were reasonable and did not destroy the essence of the rights.

7. Amendments and Evolving Interpretations:

- Over the years, various amendments to the Constitution have aimed to expand and strengthen DPSP.
- The judiciary has also played a role in interpreting and expanding the scope of DPSP through landmark judgments, such as the Minerva Mills case and the Kesavananda Bharati case.

and leaders regarding the Directive Principles of State Thoughts of different thinkers Policy (DPSP) in the Indian Constitution:

1. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar:

- "Directive Principles are like the instrument of instructions given to the executive authorities, which are expected to follow them faithfully."
- Dr. Ambedkar emphasized that DPSP were essential for achieving socio-economic justice and addressing historical inequalities in India.

2. Jawaharlal Nehru:

- "The Directive Principles of State Policy are not mere pious wishes. They are, in a sense, fundamental in the governance of the country."

- Nehru viewed DPSP as essential for guiding the government in its efforts to build a modern and just India, with a focus on industrialization, education, and social welfare.

3. Mahatma Gandhi:

- "I hold that these [Directive Principles] are fundamental in the sense that if the executive government fails to carry out the provisions laid down under them, it can be dismissed and replaced by another government."
- Gandhi believed that DPSP represented the moral commitment of the state to work for the welfare of the people, and the government's failure to do so could lead to its removal.

4. Dr. Rajendra Prasad:

- "The Directive Principles have been devised by the Assembly to ensure social and economic justice, besides political justice, which is provided for in the Fundamental Rights."
- Dr. Rajendra Prasad highlighted the complementary role of DPSP in achieving comprehensive justice, including social and economic justice.

5. K.M. Munshi:

- "The framers of our Constitution rightly emphasized that in a welfare state, civil and political rights without economic rights and opportunities for progress would be of no avail."

- K.M. Munshi emphasized that DPSP were essential to ensure that citizens could exercise their civil and political rights effectively.

6. Justice H.R. Khanna (from the Minerva Mills Case):

- "The Directive Principles of State Policy ... though not enforceable by the courts for their violation, yet they are fundamental in the governance of the country."
- Justice Khanna, in the Minerva Mills case, highlighted the constitutional significance of DPSP in guiding the government despite their non-justiciable nature.

7. Balwant Rai Mehta:

- "Directive Principles constitute the conscience of the Constitution. They are the basis and background for all legislative and administrative action."
- Balwant Rai Mehta emphasized that DPSP serve as a moral and ethical foundation for governance and policymaking.

8. Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar:

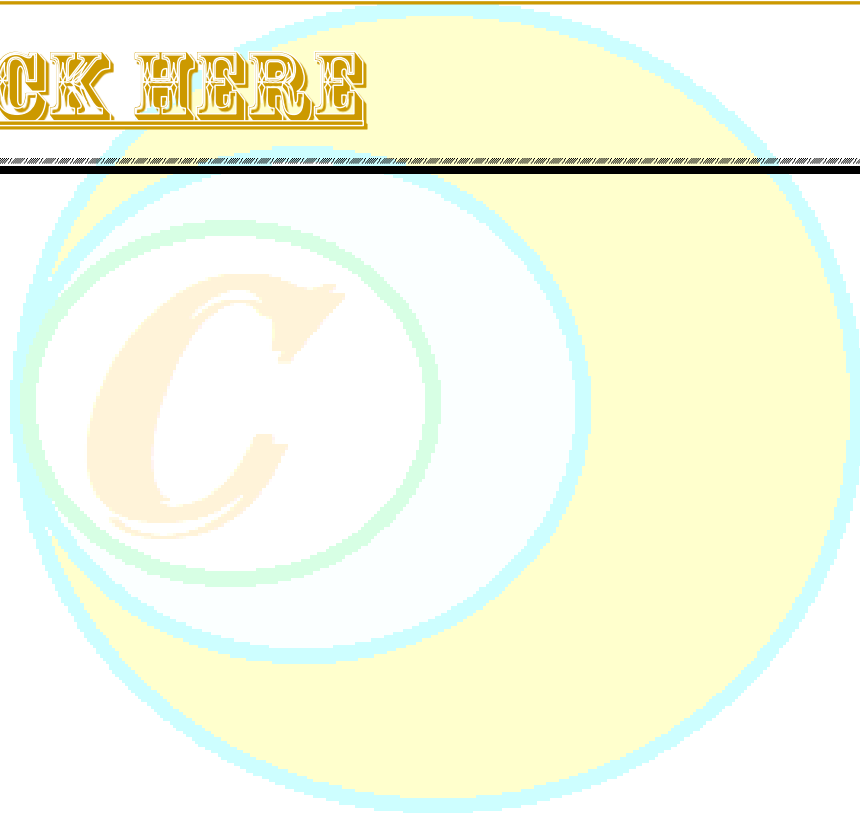
- "Directive Principles of State Policy lay down the ideal that we must try to attain, not necessarily immediately but in course of time."
- Vidyasagar recognized that DPSP represented long-term goals that might take time to achieve but were crucial for societal progress.

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