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DOMESTIC CHALLENGES TO INDIA'S RISE IN THE WORLD: A CRITICAL STUDY

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KEYWORDS

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ABSTRACT

India is the world's largest democracy, having made enormous gains in recent decades. We are now the third-largest economy in the world. India's acceptance on various international forums is continuously increasing. Apart from America, many other countries now see India as an emerging superpower and keep an eye on India's policies and strategies. Recently, the US administration has given India the status of a global power in its new national security strategy. America believes that India is changing now and its impact can be seen in many forums, so India should be seen as a global power. The country has recently performed economically well, the idea is uncomplicated but still impactful. However, there are a series of constraints, despite its potential, it is restricted by geopolitical factors as well as domestic factors. Through this research paper, the domestic challenges facing India at the global level, including security, poverty, unemployment, terrorism, corruption, illiteracy, communal riots, and separatist movements, have been described, which prevent India from moving forward at the global level. Along with this, some suggestions have also been given through this research paper by which India can be made a global power.

Introduction

India got independence in very difficult circumstances. After almost 200 years of slavery, on 15 August 1947, our country India became independent. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru was made the first Prime Minister of independent India. Citizens of India are eagerly waiting for this freedom. We got independence but the country also had to face the partition and the minorities had to bear the most problems in the partition, as soon as the partition was announced, the attacks on the minorities started, people were killed, and the respect of sisters and daughters was looted and

Many people killed their daughter-in-law and daughter in-law with their own hands to save the honor of their house. The partition was so dangerous that even those who did not want to leave their house in the partition had to leave their house under compulsion. And it is very easy to listen but only those who have faced such troubles can know how bad the situation was in this way, so 1947 is considered the year of the tragedy of violence, and displacement.

Independent India's Major Challenges

Challenges to Unity and Integrity- When India got independence, immediately after independence,

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our country India had to face three big challenges, in which the first challenge was the challenge of unity and integrity, the biggest first after independence and partition in India. The challenge was the challenge of unity and integrity because there are many people of religion, caste, language, and region living in India, creating unity and integrity among them was no less than a challenge, the demand for the division of the country on the basis of religion, caste, language, and the region started arising. This challenge still remained.

Challenges of The Establishment of Democracy-

The challenge of establishing democracy, second challenge was how to establish democracy, because people in India did not even know the meaning of democracy, what is a democracy, after all, people had to go door-to door to explain the meaning of democracy. Because people used to consider King Maharaja as their everything, it was very difficult to explain the meaning of democracy to the people. Electoral lists had to be made and demarcation of constituencies had to be done in this way, after long preparation, the first general election was held in 1952. Thus, we see that the chosen Getting it done and establishing democracy was no less than a challenge.

Challenge of Development - The third challenge was the challenge of development. India had lagged behind a lot due to British rule. Now we had to make rapid progress and move forward. There were two ways to progress or to develop. One was the capitalist path of America and the other was Assimilation into the socialist system of the Soviet Union. Now, which path should we follow for development? Whether to adopt the

capitalist path of America or Assimilation into the socialist system of the Soviet Union, a controversy has arisen regarding development as to which path should be followed for the development of India. After a long debate, a mixed economy was adopted in India, and economic planning was adopted.

Refugee Problem

The problem of refugees arose due to partition. A lot of people came and went. Many people came to India from Pakistan and many people also went from India to Pakistan. Now, these people had to rebuild the house. For them, employment was to be created and this work was no less than a big challenge. The partition had led to large-scale communal riots. Many people were killed in this and the unity and integrity of India was also threatened due to the refugees. It's very difficult to divide in this way. When did everything get divided?

The Problem of The Merger of Princely States -

After the partition of British India, the problem of princely states arose, at that time there were about 565 princely states or princely states inside India and there were three roads in front of these princely states. Merger in India, a Merger in Pakistan, or 1 option to remain independent. In such a situation, there was a danger that if all the princely states declared independence, then it would pose a threat to the unity and integrity of India, and what was feared happened there. Most of the princely states declared independence. First of all, Hyderabad, Travancore, Junagarh, Manipur, and other states declared independence in this manner. Due to this the unity and integrity of India were threatened.

What are India's Most Pressing Challenges Right Now?

- **Corruption-** Corruption, the most ubiquitous endemic in India, has to be thoroughly and swiftly addressed. There is hardly a workplace in the public or commercial sectors. This sickness affects almost every workplace in the public and private sectors. It is unclear how much money the economy has lost as a result. We Indians shouldn't be chastised for not acting when the moment is right, despite the fact that the majority of us are concerned.
- **Illiteracy in India-** the illiteracy rate is alarmingly high. The 2011 census found that 74.04% of people were literate, however there is still a substantial gender difference between the populations of men and women in rural and urban areas. The state of the villages is worse than that of the cities. In rural India, elementary schools have been created, yet the problem persists. Many persons who are regarded as literate scarcely possess reading or writing skills. Since many adults in India lack literacy, concentrating simply on educating children will not solve the country's illiteracy issue.
- **Education System-** Indian education has occasionally come under fire for being excessively theoretical and deficient in skill-based learning. Students study in order to acquire excellent marks rather than learn new things. In order to create servants who were able to assist but not lead, colonial masters adopted the same educational system, which we still employ today. Rabindranath Tagore

suggested changes to the Indian education system in a number of articles. However, success is still elusive as ever.

- **Simple Sanitation-** In Indian, one of the Issues of greatest concern is with sanitary conditions. Around the world, 700 million people lack a means of using indoor restrooms. In slum areas, there are no toilets. As a result, individuals are responsible for numerous ailments including vomiting, cholera, dehydration, etc. being compelled to urinate in the open. Parents don't bring their children to school, especially girls, because many rural schools lack restrooms. Gandhiji brought this issue to light appropriately, Nevertheless, not much was done. The primary concern an expanding population is responsible for these problems. For instance, Delhi's drainage system was designed to handle the three million population of the city. However, Delhi is currently home to almost 14 million people. Delhi is not a single case; this issue affects all of India's states and regions.
- UN data shows that 44% of the global population still uses open defecation, contradicting claims that thirteen million new toilets have been built within the framework of the Swachh Hindustan Abhiyan programme in the five years before that. Drainage, garbage management, and sanitation issues still persist in India.
- According to the initiative's website (ODF), however, more than 101 million toilets have been installed in India as a whole, and all of

the country's states, Union Territory (UT), Gramme governing bodies, and Districts professed themselves to be openly farces free.

- **Medical System-** It is true that the republican nation with the greatest population in the globe its residents with access to quality healthcare. Even while India is growing in popularity as a destination for medical tourists, its less fortunate citizens are unable to use any of these facilities. While facilities, IT, and agriculture are given the majority of the attention in India, healthcare remains a neglected issue. A current primary concern is that the bulk of problems in the countryside of India are brought on by an abundance of resources. In India, fifty percent of towns without access to healthcare workers, 36% per cent the general population without connection to toilets, the rate of infant mortality (IMR) is 34 per thousand live births, and the newborn fatality ratio (IMR) is 34 per one thousand live births.
- Despite the fact that this country's medical tourism business is predicted to earn \$2.8 billion in revenue by 2020 and that it has been the fourth-biggest market for medical devices, the healthcare system for Indian nationals has been a letdown. According to an NITI Aayog study, the nation has 1.3 hospital beds per 1000 residents, with around 50% of them located in states likes Karnataka, Telangana, Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and Maharashtra.
- **Poverty-** In India, the poverty rate decreased from 39% in 2004–2005 to 22% in 2011–

2012. (Data from the Planning Commission). In 2011–12, 22% of Indians, or one in five of the population, lived in extreme poverty. According to the World Poverty Clock, this percentage will fall to 5% by 2022. However, 80% of India's poor live in rural areas. the state of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, the state of Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, Bihar, the state of Orissa and Chhattisgarh are among the states with the poorest areas. According to World Bank data from 2016, 43% of the poor belong to a designated caste or scheduled tribe. This mismatch has to be corrected immediately by the government.

- According to Pew Research Center, the country's middle class has significantly decreased by roughly 32 million as a result of the epidemic, despite statements to the contrary from the World Poverty Clock that poverty is declining. The report provides information on how a global epidemic last year led to a quadrupling of the number of individuals living in poverty or those who make \$2 or less, from 59 million people to 134 million.
- **Pollution-** India is presently experiencing significant issues with pollutants and the environment. India is making great efforts, however there is still much to be done. The deterioration of the ecosystem, the depletion of resources that are essential to life, and the decline of diversity are the main issues brought on by pollution. Untreated sewage is the major cause of water pollution. Both the Ganga and Saraswati streams in India are

currently among of the most polluted. The same state is home to several rivers that meander through populated areas. Cities are becoming more crowded and more congested, which increases the pollution there. India must adhere to the idea of sustainable development.

- The 2021 World Air Pollution Report included 3 Indian towns (Bhiwadi, the city of and New Delhi) among the top ten worst for air quality in the world. This number should prompt quick government action to safeguard the health of the populace.
- Women's Safety Men and women enjoy equal opportunities, but India lags behind other nations in terms of the freedom and security of women. We must act quickly to address issues like how women are portrayed in the media, domestic violence, rape, and other problems.
- **Infrastructure-** Infrastructures In order to enjoy improved roadways, more affordable dwellings, and other facilities such as basic healthcare, sanitation for water, etc., India must act swiftly to build its infrastructure. According to the budget for 2021, the government has set aside Rs 233,083 crore to upgrade the transport infrastructure. The Indian government also plans to expand the NIP (National Infrastructure Pipeline) and invest \$1 trillion in infrastructure upgrades.
- **Unemployment-** Today's youth experience frequent unemployment. This situation is also known as unemployment. The phrase also describes a number of circumstances in which

someone who is physically fit actively pursues occupation however is successful when doing so. We may calculate the percentage of unemployed individuals who dominate the economy by multiplying it by the overall amount of people who are currently employed. The Indian government has to take the necessary steps to put a stop to it by increasing job opportunities in both the private and government sectors. Additionally, it needs to support companies in the private sector that could hire people who actually deserve work. According to information from the government's Centre of Monitoring the Indian Economy, the unemployment rate rose to 8.10% in February 2022.

- **Growing International Protectionism-** India is still developing and aspires to be a developed nation. Our country gladly overcomes every challenge put in its path. One of India's concerns against industrialized countries like the US is the problems experienced by computer service importers and the taxes that the US places on the export of items like steel and aluminum. Furthermore, the US has restricted the import of petroleum products from Iran, which is likely to harm India's economy and raise import prices. Additionally, India is under continual pressure to liberalize its own market and to deal with the possibility of taxes from other countries.
- **Child Work-** Despite the social reforms' gains, child labour is still widely practiced in India. About ten billion young people in our

country are employed in manual labor-intensive businesses. The child is compelled to labour as a child due of poverty and a failing educational system. Parents frequently require their children to work so that they can to support their households. This is the only means of survival accessible for abandoned or homeless youngsters. raising awareness, stricter regulatory implementation, increasing student enrollment, outlawing child labour in homes, enterprises, and factories, etc.

- **Malnutrition-** In the World Hunger Index (GHI) 2021, India slid from 94th to 101st rank out of 116 countries, placing it behind the neighboring nations India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Nepali. There are around 33 million malnourished children in India, over fifty percent of them are categorized as critically malnourished and reside in areas like Maharashtra, which Bihar, and Gujarat. Over a third of children below the age 5 are at risk for wasting and stunting, and 40% of infants under the ages of one and four are anemic. The Integrated Childhood Development Plan (ICDS) and school lunches were inconsistent when schools were shuttered for protracted periods of time due to pandemics. Pursuant to the National Survey on Family Health (NFHS)-5, every third child still experiences persistent starvation, and every fifth kid suffers from severe malnutrition. India is unlikely to be able to decrease the epidemic's effects unless problems with insufficient funding to

guarantee children's dietary security and use restrictions are overcome. The mid-day meal programme has been discontinued, take-home food access has been limited, and access to medical services is hampered as a result of the full shutdown of Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) due to the pandemic due to supply chain issues caused by the ensuing lockdowns.

- **Child Trafficking-** Child trafficking is a crime that employs both boys and girls for forced labour and prostitution, among other things, It has connections to crime and corruption. Children are frequently the targets of human trafficking when it takes place, whether it is for household labour, industrial labour, agricultural labour, or mining work. There is no official definition of child trafficking under Indian law. The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act of 1956 only addresses the prostitution of children. There are also regulations, such as the Bombay Prevention of Begging Act and the Andhra Pradesh Devadasi's (Prohibition of Dedication) Act from 1988, which can help with child trafficking. The Indian Constitution's Article 23 (1) contains a particular clause relating.

Some Suggestions Regarding Making India a Global Power

1. **Control Over Population Growth-** Due to the increasing number of families, the economic condition of the family becomes very bad, if it is controlled, then the condition of the family can also be improved.

2. Increase in Employment Opportunities-

One of the main reasons for poverty is the lack of employment opportunities. If the employment opportunities are increased, then the standard of living of the people will improve and their economic condition will also improve so that they will be able to fulfill the basic needs of their children, which will increase child development.

3. Changes in Personal and Social Values-

People of different religions and castes traditionally live in India and their different personal and social values are determined. For example, getting people from lower castes to serve outside castes, getting them to work as laborers. Similarly, high tasks were assigned to the lower caste people. Change in all these values is necessary. Due to change in these, the social values of the people rise high, due to which their standard of living is high.

4. Education- Education is a powerful medium of expression, education develops a person's thinking and they become aware of their rights, but uneducated people have always been exploited. So, if the poor people are educated then no one will be able to exploit them and those who work hard will get their full payment so that they will be able to give comfort to their children and by being educated the parents will be able to raise their children even if they are poor. By educating them, we will be able to give them a place in society.

5. Redistribution of Income - Inequality in the

distribution of income and wealth makes poverty permanent. It also adversely affects the efficiency of the citizens. When the structure of the country's economy is such that only the rich people grab the increased income due to the efforts of development, then all the efforts of development become useless. In such a situation, instead of decreasing poverty, it increases more. To some extent, the same is happening in India. Therefore, to eradicate poverty, it is necessary to redistribute income in such a way that the level of income and consumption of the poor can be raised. For this, the flow of national resources, wealth, and income have to be diverted from the rich to the poor.

6. High Rate of Development- Redistribution

of income, population control, etc. measures are important for poverty alleviation, but they have some limitations. Therefore, it is necessary that for the permanent solution of poverty, maximum attention will have to be paid to increasing the rate of economic development. Though it is possible to share present things among themselves through redistribution of income. But in order to increase the total reserves of the country's goods, production has to be increased. Therefore, from the point of view of poverty alleviation in India, rapid economic development is the first essential condition. For rapid economic development, we need to increase productivity and efficiency, improve the level of technical knowledge, and make

full use of the human and natural resources of the country.

- 7. It is Necessary to Be Self-sufficient in The Matter of Weapons-** India is the world's largest arms importer, and it is equally true that no country can claim to be a global superpower without being self-sufficient in arms. Now it has also become clear that no superpower shares its technology or weapons with any country. Well, a basic rule of defence economics is that it is more expensive to manufacture a weapon or a defence product than to buy it. That's why it is better to develop the weapon only if it comes to your army before coming to the international market. The country's new defence policy has initiated efforts in research and development through collaboration between the Army, DRDO, PSUs/Public Defense Undertakings, and private companies. But this

alone will not work, in such a situation it is very important for India to achieve self-reliance in this matter along with the ability to design and produce.

Encourage Innovation- Through the traditional and straight path, India's economy cannot grow at that speed, which is expected and needed to be called a global superpower. For this, the public and private sectors will have to adopt innovation to increase productivity and investment, and for this foreign direct investment will be necessary, which will promote technological development and continuous innovation. According to a report, India will not be able to achieve such a GDP rate without a strong push for innovation and research. For this, an amount of 2.4 per cent of the total GDP will be required to be spent on research and development for the next two decades as compared to 0.8 per cent currently being spent.

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