



ABSTRACTS OF COSMOS PROJECTS

HISTORY

IMPACT OF BRITISH RULE ON BANGALORE WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO INFRASTRUCTURE IN A HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

History of Bangalore predates to 900 according to some historical references. Whereas the written history about a continuous settlement exists from 1537 when Kempe Gowda I, the modern architect of Bangalore built a mud fort in the city and made it the province of the Vijaynagara Empire. But the earliest reference to the name Benguluru was found in a 9th century Ganga inscription on hero stone. Before the city came completely under the control of British, it witnessed the rule of Marathas, Mughals and later Tipu Sultan. After the death of Tipu Sultan in 1799, British incorporated Bangalore into the Madras Presidency. It is from here the city evolved as a centre for colonial rule in South India. Thus it gained the attention and importance to develop transport, communication, education, and Entertainment etc. One can see the reflections of Colonial influence and impact on Bangalore which transformed it into so called Garden city or Silicon city.

I HESP 'M'

THINK IT! INK IT! PRINT IT!

The first printing press was invented by Johannes Gutenberg around 1440 but it was Portuguese who brought the art of printing, which first entered India through Goa in 1556. The (Karnataka) credit for becoming the second state in India to witness the usage of printing press goes to Mark Cubbon, who introduced it in 1840. Though it was established to promote imperialism and Christianity, it served the purpose of revolutionaries to share their ideas with the people; but today it plays an even greater role as it keeps the people of nation aware of all the happenings in and around the world. Through the printing press the people can express their thoughts about various subjects. Thus in time printing press became a force behind the change in our society.

II HEPP 'N'

POLITICAL SCIENCE

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALLIKE

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Pallike is the administrative body responsible for the civic and infrastructural amenity of the city of Bangalore. It was established to develop the civic amenities of Bangalore. The BBMP is the fourth largest Municipal Corporation in India, after the city corporations that administer Mumbai, Delhi and Chennai; it is run by a city council - The city council comprises elected representatives called “corporators”, one from each of the wards of the city. The Executive body of BBMP comprises of Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Commissioner and Committees. Its roles and responsibilities include - the “orderly development of the city” - Zoning and building regulations, health, hygiene, licensing trade and education, as well as quality of life issues such as lung spaces, water bodies, parks and greenery.

The BBMP plays a vital role in the functioning of our daily life. We would face number of problems if the BBMP failed to render its services. Doing a project on BBMP helps us to understand the dynamic relationship between us, the people and the BBMP. It also brings to light the achievements of the BBMP and also fosters more confidence in their working which requires our active participation. Thus, the BBMP helps us to live a healthy and organized life.

I PPES ‘O’

Electoral Reforms in India

Free and fair elections are essential for a healthy democracy. The more the elections are free and fair, the stronger the allegiance the people will have towards democratic institutions. Contrary to this, if the elections aren't free and fair, the people will not have faith in democracy. Indeed, the battles of ballots have been turned into battles of bullets. On the election days booths are captured, polling agents attacked and bombs thrown to prevent the electorates from exercising franchise.

Thus, **Electoral reforms act as a catalyst by bringing desired change from time to time by making our elections free, fair and fearless. This keeps our democracy vibrant.** Some of the noteworthy reforms are introduction of electronic voting machine, voter’s identity card, State Funding of elections and Mandatory Disclosure of education, background and property. These electoral reforms have immensely contributed to the effective functioning of the democratic process.

II HEPP ‘N’

LEARNING – OVER THE YEARS

Learning is often defined as a relatively lasting change in behaviour that is the result of experience both subjective and objective. In these changing times it is imperative for us to understand the importance of involvement in learning and how subjective experiences and individual differences affect learning. This project plans to shed light on how learning has evolved and how various techniques can be used according to an individual's specific needs to make learning a more positive and enjoyable experience. It will examine various theories of learning and how it has evolved to suit the needs of the changing situations.

I PPES 'O'

THE SOCIO – NET PSYCHE (A STUDY ON PSYCHOLOGICAL EFFECTS OF ONLINE SOCIAL NETWORKING)

Online Social Networking is the latest buzz word in social psychology and one of the more recent developments that mark social change. This project aims at analyzing the psychological effects (both positive and negative) of social networking. An analysis of online social behaviour holds great relevance. Almost everyone has a networking profile. Major social networking sites such as Twitter and Facebook have millions of users. Once one becomes a user, the process becomes linked with our thought processes and our emotions. Millions of individuals are either directly or indirectly affected by this raging trend of social networking. The importance of this project would be to make people aware of both the positive and negative effects of online social networking, the changes this trend has brought along and hopes to minimize the distressing effects it could have.

Certain areas will be studied such as possible addictive behaviour, compulsive checking of profiles (one's own and others), increased / decreased social skills, cyber bullying, risk of displaying distressing information, virtual empathy, narcissistic behaviour, aggressive tendencies being displayed online, depression due to comparisons, health related problems etc. The hypothesis states that online social networking has had a profound effect on health, coping skills and social skills. The survey method will be used among the college students. A questionnaire will be developed with both open and close ended questions related to the above areas. Charts and PPT'S will be used for oral presentation. A still model will be exhibited. This model will compare social and interpersonal skills before and after the influx of networking online.

The project aims at making people become aware of the compulsive behaviour one can develop after constantly being on these sites, to know the psychological effects of being associated compulsively on these sites, to make people realize how social and interpersonal communication and skills can be affected and to make one aware of one's own online behaviour exhibited and the risks they are exposed to.

II PPES 'O'

SOCIOLOGY

A CORRELATION BETWEEN INCREASE IN JUVENILE DELINQUENTS AND SOCIO-CULTURAL CHANGE

Children are a human resource, invaluable but vulnerable, yet developing with potentiality to bloom with joy in an atmosphere of caring society. They are great promise of tomorrow, the dawn of humanity and bud of social development.

A child of today can not develop to be a responsible and productive member of tomorrow's unless an environment which is conducive to his social and physical health is assured to him. A humanist approach towards children is embedded in Indian culture.

In a developing country like India the problem of juvenile neglect and delinquency is considerably low but gradually increasing at good rate. The neglect of child by their parents, family, society creates detrimental effect on their physical, mental growth and over all development. The major relevance of the study would be to spread awareness about the issue.

I PPES 'O'

TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT (A STUDY OF IRULAS AND SANTALS)

Government policies of integration and assimilation among tribal's to make them contribute to economic development of our country has brought more of positive changes within their community. One of the criteria to stratify our Indian communities has also been done on tribal population. Tribal groups consist of 8.2% (2001) of the total population. There has been a transition in the culture of tribal's in India due to the development policies of our Indian government. We are taking up the study of two tribal groups of India, the **Irulas** from south zone and the **Santals** from central zone. Irulas are present in various parts, but are mainly located in the Thiruvallur district of Tamil Nadu. Their main occupations are snake and rat catching. The Irula people belong to the Negrito race. With a population of more than 1 crore, Santali tribes are the largest tribes in India. Santali is the prime language spoken by the Santal Tribe. This Indian tribe also has a script of their own called **Olchiki**. Apart from Santali they also speak Bengali, Oriya and Hindi but Santali remains to be the most spoken. This is also one of the official scheduled languages of India. The analysis will be based on the history, origin and the changes. Our research will be oriented towards the changes in these two tribal communities. The diversities and changes in society is an integral part of all Social Science research and thus will compliment the subjects we study. The project will be towards understanding their culture and development programme by Indian government to bring tribal's into mainstream (social and economic).

II PPES 'O'

IMPACT OF SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONES

A Special Economic Zone (SEZ) is a geographical region that has economic laws more liberal than a country's typical economic laws. It is a trade capacity development tool, with a goal to promote rapid economic growth by using tax and business incentives to attract foreign investment and technology

India has 274 notified SEZs as on December 2008 in addition to 19 existing zones established before the enactment of the SEZ Act 2005 as compared with the US, China, Indonesia, Philippines and Thailand, where the number of SEZs are much lower and the land areas of their multi-product SEZs are huge in size. In addition, more than 400 SEZs are in the pipeline due to aggressive policies adopted to promote them as growth drivers but are delayed for notification due to land acquisition problems, lower growth prospects for some specific zones, etc. No doubt, the SEZs are promoting infrastructure and also instrumental in increasing manufacturing growth and thereby exports. But the growing number of SEZs with sector-specific small sized fragmented zones may not yield the desired results. In order to smoothen the process of setting up of large zones, the land acquisition policy should be reoriented towards locating the zone at strategic places without encroaching upon the agricultural land and the compensation package should be standardised without adversely affecting the displaced poor and the farm sector.

On the whole, the SEZs may be encouraged but within manageable parameters; approve after thorough scrutiny of the sustainability of such propositions with a preference for developing them in the barren regions, thereby not affecting the cultivable areas; compensate and rehabilitate the land holders and the affected poor with well-balanced standard compensation package including employment opportunities; provide well developed infrastructure facilities within the vicinity of SEZs with forward and backward linkages; limit the fiscal concessions and standardise them with a focus on long term perspective; and above all, develop basic transport infrastructure including export infrastructure while operationalizing the SEZ units to ensure smooth movement of goods produced and thereby enhance the competitiveness of the products in the world market. In India, the SEZs are a necessary channel to promote industry, infrastructure, employment generation and growth. Therefore, at this juncture, the SEZs will continue to stay in India, but a balancing strategy needs to be adopted to safeguard the interest of all constituents.

I HESP M

THE ECONOMIC CULTURE OF SUPERMARKETS WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO BANGALORE

India today is one of the largest and fastest growing economies of the world with an average GDP nearing 9% in the last decade. Rapid modernization and economic development has made it a very attractive region for local and Foreign Direct Investors. Supermarkets are mainly based on the classical self-service system. They are flourishing today, because customers are attracted to low prices and other offers. The fact that a supermarket includes everything from stationery to grocery makes it an ideal site for shopping. Supermarkets, unlike the indigenous grocery stores, are successful in offering to the consumer a **huge variety of goods**, with a lot of options. This as a result has created a neo middle class which can afford most of these goods and the upper middle class who prefer to use the higher end consumer variety goods, which the supermarket has to offer.

The indigenous group of grocery stores are very **primitive** in nature and as a result are not competent, hence not investing in consumer satisfaction and consumer friendly environment, whereas the supermarkets are more **mature** and have more capital backup as a result of which they are more competent and invest a lot more time money and man power in achieving higher level of consumer satisfaction and a *better shopping experience* for the consumer. This in result creates various opportunities for employment, in various fields and levels of the supply chain, viz., warehouse staff, customer services unit, employees at the supermarket, etc.

We aim at unveiling the mechanism behind the supply chain of these supermarkets, through various surveys and interviews of staff, employers, and customers at these supermarkets.

India has opened the country's retail industry to foreign supermarkets. The government has allowed 51% foreign direct investment in the multi-brand retail sector. It also decided to raise the cap on foreign investment in single brand retailing from 51% to 100%. Organized retail sector in India has the potential of becoming the highest source of FDI in India.

II PPES O