

PREFACE

'Development' with 'Justice' has been the talk of the day among the politicians, policy makers, bureaucrats as well as the professional social scientists over the last couple of years. To note, such a feeling is not a matter of concern at the national level. Rather, the whole of the international community, be it from the developed or the developing nations has come forward earnestly to join such dialogues.

The present study is an attempt, somewhat partial, to trace the emergence and growth of such an idea vis-a-vis the economic structure. Considering the vast canvas that such an attempt require, we have limited our scope of understanding in the light of Indian experiences alone. However, it should be confessed at the beginning that again in the context of India, with so much of socio-political currents and cross-currents flowing side by side, it is hardly possible to pin down the factors affecting and effecting the 'process' as exactly as a doctor can perform with the help of pathological tests. Our attempt has been a more or less probing one only to point out certain general features of India as a socio-politico-economic unit and relate them to the present hue and cry over development and social justice.

A few words about the structure of the present work is necessary. I have quoted extensively on a number of occasions that may not be to the liking of many considering the conventional practice. I have deliberately so done keeping in mind that very often paraphrasing the arguments of distinguished scholars may lead to the loss of the 'basic essence' that were intended to be conveyed. The tables referred to in the text have been provided as the appendices to the relevant chapter. Notes are also given at the end of each chapter whereas the list of references has been placed at the end of the main text.

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Finally, I fondly remember the interest shown and the encouragement provided by my father who would have been very glad to see this project complete.

The errors, if any such are there, are solely mine.

Darjjeling
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Milindo Chakrabarti,
Department of Economics,
St. Joseph's College.