

# Economic Effects of Infrastructural Development in Meerut Division

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## Abstract

*Infrastructural development is the base of economic development of a country. It has an immense importance which provides the momentum to the economic development and makes the whole economy strong. Various economically developed countries like Japan, China and South Korea established their unique identity at international level in the field of industrial development on the basis of their infrastructural development. Also Meerut Division is well developed region of Uttar Pradesh in India. It is not only the area having developed agricultural business but it is famous for tyre industry, khadi udyog, pottery industry, scissors industry, agricultural equipment industry, sports industry, transformer industry, publication industry, chemical industry, paper industry etc. and it is due to strong and developed infrastructure of this area. High employment level, fast industrialisation, expended urbanisation, increasing standard of living can be very well seen in the economic activities of this division which is due to fast development of infrastructure in this Division.*

*Keywords: Infrastructural Development.*

*Classification-JEL : A 11, N35, H54*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Infrastructure of a country has an immense importance for its economic development. The infrastructure of a country provides not only the momentum to its economic development but also makes the whole economy dynamic to a large extent. The infrastructure is the base of industrial development of a nation. If we want to see the structure of industrial development of a country, we have to concentrate upon the various constituents of infrastructure viz. its transportation progress, communication system, power generation, financial resources, banking

services, electricity supply etc. For example Japan, China and South Korea are the countries which created their unique identity at international level in the field of industrial development on the basis of their infrastructural development.

There can be different infrastructural development programmes for the economic development. For example; on the one side power resources and uninterrupted electricity supply are very important for the operation of different industrial units while for the development of international trade banking, communication and sea & air transportation are

the basic requirements because without their support we can't imagine to make our place in the international market.

When there is positive changes in the infrastructure of a country with the help of using available resources; also the demand of allied goods and services increases with the changing levels of production of goods and increasing of different types of services. Thus it can be said that for the economic development of any country the developed infrastructure proves as a life-blood.

We can see the infrastructure of a country in two forms i.e. (i) Physical infrastructure and (ii) Non-Physical infrastructure. Road & Railway transportation, Power generation, Communication is the physical infrastructure which provides the immediate momentum to the economy of a country. On the other side, Education, Safety measures, Health training etc. is the non-physical infrastructure programme which proves helpful in making the solid foundation for the long-term economic development.

In the present all the economic world accept this fact if a country wants to achieve her goal, first it will have to develop its infrastructure because it is the foundation of its economic development.

## 2. ECONOMICAL DEVELOPMENT

Meerut Division of Western U.P. is economically more developed in comparison to other divisions of the state. It consists six districts viz Baghpat, Meerut, Hapur, Bulandshahr, Ghaziabad and Gautambudh Nagar. Moreover, 37 per cent area of Delhi NCR lays in this Division.

In this division railway services, banking services and post office services were being provided even prior to independence and after independence there is fast and systematic development of electric services, telecommunication services and transportation services in this area.

## 3. INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT

In the present the infrastructural development is moving speedily in all the districts of this division with various new projects. Fast growth in the field of Banking and communication services indicates towards the tremendous development of this area. In addition to this the trend of multi-storey buildings, shopping complexes, apartments, big malls, and flyovers has taken place during last two decades.

The infrastructure of Meerut division is based on six mainstays viz Road transport services, Rail transport services, Electricity services, Banking services, Communication services and Postal services. There is a remarkable progress in road transport services during last decade. To give new dimensions to road transport different highways were developed in this division. Meerut-Ghaziabad highway, Meerut-Bulandshahr-Khurja highway, Meerut-Bhagpat highway and Meerut-Bijnore highway are the grinning examples of it.

There are two prime bus stands in Meerut city viz Bhaisali Bus stand and Shoharab Gate Bus stand from where the operation of hundreds of buses at local, contiguous areas and inter-state levels is being made. For the purpose to develop road transport the bus stands of this division are being developed on Public Private Partnership (P.P.P.) model and the work of broadening the roads, constructing over bridges and preparing toll roads is running very fast. In addition to this an eastern peripheral express way is under construction in this division.

The name Express way-2 is given to Eastern Peripheral way which will establish inter-state contacts among Delhi, Ghaziabad, Faridabad, Grater Noida, Bhagpat and Sonipat. This 6-lane express way is 135 kms long which will run touching outer side of Meerut District.

A net of highways is being prepared around the Meerut City. After their completion all types of vehicles will run on them without any hindrance and will reach to their destination within very short time. Also the city will get rid of the crowd of heavy transport.

Railway system which provides a special strength to the infrastructure of Meerut division has an important place. Indian Railway system has the first place in Asia and at second place in the world which is imperceptible part of Indian Economy. Up to 31st March, 2019 about 25 railway stations were working in this division which shows the expanded structure on Indian Railway.

In Meerut district Railway transport services was started in 1864. In this district from Meerut Junction Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut and Meerut-Bulandshahr-Khurja lines are operated. From Meerut, Ghaziabad and Hapur junctions various trains are operated at contiguous and inter-state level. In Meerut Cantonment there is the second most busy railway station.

To develop railway transport services in Meerut division the work is in progress for doubling the lines between Meerut and Saharanpur while this work has been already completed between Delhi and Meerut. Also the Metro Rail Project has been sanctioned in district Meerut to lessen the transport problems and to give the stronger shape to infrastructure in this area. Besides this, the state government of Uttar Pradesh sanctioned Delhi-Meerut Rapid Rail Project in 2017. Under this project a 92 kms long semi-high speed corridor is to be erected in which Delhi-Ghaziabad and Meerut were connected in the first phase. The speed of this train will be 160 kms per hour and the distance from Delhi to Meerut will be covered in 62 minutes. An underground station will be erected at Meerut Central between Bhaisali Bus stand and Begam Bridge.

#### 4. BANKING AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

The third main mile-stone of infrastructure is Banking and Finance Services. Financial needs of infrastructure are being fulfilled from financial institutions. Before independence the total banking system was in the control of private sector. Even Reserve Bank was in private hands. In 1949 Reserve Bank and in 1955 Imperial Bank was nationalised. After

this in 19 big banks were nationalised in 1969. Thus various progressive changes were brought after independence.

Though the banking services were started before independence yet its development was seen in free India. There was a fast growth in banking and financial institutions after Narsingham's Banking Promotion Committee, 1991. At present thousands of Bank Branches are in operation in the districts, suburban areas and villages of Meerut Division. ATM services and Digital transactions services brought a great revolution in the field of banking services of this division. To provide financial soundness in banking field government is making efforts to merge small banks with big banks.

#### 5. ELECTRICITY AND POWER

Electricity and Power resources proved very helpful in the operation of fundamental industries and infrastructural development. In addition to the demand of electricity in industrial sector, it is also required for public use at large level continuously. To fulfil this demand and for the soundness of economic and infrastructural development the soundness of electricity structure is inescapable. It is the responsibility of Pachim Vidyut Vitran Nigam Ltd. (PVVNL) to provide the electricity for operation of industries, agricultural purposes and domestic use.

Though it was noted that there is electricity theft at large level in industrial areas, agricultural fields and domestic areas yet PVVNL is making efforts to check it by replacing old meters with new digital meters, replacing open line wires with rubber coated twisted cables and keeping eyes at the points where line loss is found very commonly. Besides it, In Meerut Division new electricity lines are being fixing and additional transformers are being provided to increase the supply of electricity here.

Now we come to the role of telecommunication in the different fields of Economy like business & trade, banking services,

financial services, service providing sectors etc. Without telecommunication services we can't imagine any life in the above mentioned fields. In fact telecommunication services play the heart beating function of these fields in the present time. Without the application of latest technologies of telecommunication no trade is possible at local, national or international level. It is matter of great satisfaction that India brought fast revolution in this field during last two decades.

## 6. CONCLUSION

Also in Meerut Division there is very fast growth in the field of telecommunication services. After BSNL services, Airtel, Vodafone, Reliance and Idea companies are providing their telecommunication services very keenly in this division. During last decade all these service provider companies made their approach to remote areas of this division which made the life of people easier and provided the fast track to business concerns of suburban and village areas of Meerut Division.

Also the postal services play its eminent role in making the infrastructure strong. It provides its services door to door to the public. It makes the economy of the country dynamic. In the beginning when the communication services were undeveloped; Indian mail services used to perform the task of sending parcels & messages from one place to another place and money transfer from one person to another all over the country. After liberalization Indian postal services got rapid development. In the present different premium services like speed post, parcels, e-post, greeting post, e-money transfer, insurance, foreign currency etc. are

being provided by Indian Postal Service Department in Meerut Division. Hence the Indian Postal Services are in very developed form here in the present era.

Meerut Division is not only the area having developed agricultural business but it is famous for tyre industry, khadi udyog, pottery industry, scissors industry, agricultural equipment industry, sports industry, transformer industry, publication industry, chemical industry, paper industry etc. and it is due to strong and developed infrastructure facilities in this area.

High employment level, fast industrialisation, expanded urbanisation, increasing standard of living can be very well seen in the economic activities of this area which is due to fast development of infrastructure in this Division.

Seeing the so rapid growth of infrastructure in Meerut Division and continual efforts of the government it can be said that in near future this division will be the hub of small, medium and large industries; educational institutions and various business activities. The job opportunities will increase here which will minimise the problem of unemployment in this area. Moreover, the per capita income of this area will move upward which will make the life of the inhabitants of this division easy and they can be able to fulfil their dreams in short duration. There will be job security for coming generation due to which they can get their required education without any doubt and confusion. Further, the income of the state government will increase by which it will be enabled to do some efforts for the growth of this division as well as the whole state. ●

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