

**ATMANIRBHAR INDIA: REBUILDING ECONOMY**

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***Abstract***

*At present, almost everyone in this entire world is aware of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic. This pandemic has affected the life of every single individual in some way or the other. It has disrupted economies and downgraded business sectors of many countries including India. India's economy has drastically gone down due to this pandemic. Many countries prioritized economy over life, but in India, life was prioritized over economy because it was believed that if there will be life then only there will be livelihood. Economy was shut down completely. Gradually, people started facing financial crisis because their savings were going down and there were no earnings because of the lockdown. As a result, Prime Minister Narendra Modi equalized economy and life. He said this will be our new normal in our coming times. We will have to survive with this only, because if there will be no economy there will be no livelihood and if there will be no livelihood there will be no life.*

*On 12<sup>th</sup> May 2020, Prime Minister Narendra Modi marked the nation mentioning that Covid-19 has paved the road for India to become self-reliant. He proposed the Self-Reliant India Mission (Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan). This Abhiyan focused on domestic products and self-reliant economy. This mission had both criticism and positive responses. Now the question is whether this Abhiyan will prove beneficial for our country or not and what all efforts are required to adopt this mission in this era of globalization where the world has become interdependent village.*

**Keywords:** *Capital Punishment, Human Rights, International Instruments, Constitution of India.*

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## INTRODUCTION

‘Atmanirbhar Bharat’ which was first mentioned in the form of ‘Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan’ or ‘Self-Reliant India Mission’ is the vision of the Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi to take India on the path of Self Reliant Nation. On 12<sup>th</sup> May, 2020 ‘Atmanirbhar Bharat’ was stated during the declaration of economic package of Rs. 20 Lakh Crores. It is corresponding to roughly around 10% of India’s GDP. Next day, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman outlined the financial package declared by Prime Minister. This abhiyan is not aimed at separating India from rest of the world. Finance Minister clarified “The aim is not to cut ties from the rest of the world but to make India a self supporting nation.”<sup>1</sup> India has exhibited how it stands strong to the obstacles which come in its way and unwrap opportunities therein. Guidelines for phased Re-opening i.e. Unlock 1 have been provided so as to continue the economic activities along with certain curtailments so as to move forward with a caution.

India stands on five support systems namely:

- Economy- Economy is the state of country or region regarding production and consumption of goods and services and supply of money. After many weeks of lockdown, there has been tragic loss of economy leading to several uncertainties over the global market. In this era of globalization, it is difficult to completely become self reliant. It is also not recommendable in this pandemic to ignore self reliance and rely completely on imports and exports. There is a need to thrive the balance between self reliance and globalization. Experts of economics are of the view that in this time of crisis, countries should try to seek their own energy and food supplies in this globally interdependent world. The aim under this is to bring significant change by 2025 in India’s economy and not just a progressive change. The goal is to make India a USD 5 Trillion economy in the next five years.
- Infrastructure- The economic infrastructure of any country is the base of an economy because for the establishment of any business, certain infrastructure elements such as better communication, transportation facilities, financial institutions, supply chains

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<sup>1</sup> Amit Chaturvedi, *To spur growth: Nirmala Sitharaman on PM Modi's Atamanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan*, Hindustan Times, Available at: <https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/to-spur-growth-nirmala-on-pm-modi-s-atamanirbha-bharat-abhiyan/story-s71j5O0ZG2lQY4qsTsUnTP.html> (Accessed on: 13.05.2020)

and distribution networks are mandatory. The Indian government is of the view that infrastructure of the country should be first class and complement with the modern era. During this pandemic, the special reference is in terms of health infrastructure such as increasing the number of hospital beds, medical equipment and health care units. A huge amount of Rs. 100 Lakh Crore will be invested in infrastructure in order to achieve the objective of USD 5 Tn economy.

- **Technology Driven System-** In this era of advanced technologies, it has become important to have efficient technology driven system so as to ensure fast and smooth operations and less cost of establishing business. Technology and internet has reduced the physical barriers to enable fast communication in long distances. In this 21<sup>st</sup> century, it is important for India to establish advanced technology driven system where virtual communication over long distances can be done easily so as to fulfil the objective of becoming self-reliant. The latest technology advancements include robotics, AI, data analytics, machine learning etc.
- **Vibrant Demography-** Demographic economics include the study of the size, density, growth and other important part of statistics regarding human population. India has the second largest population comprising of one-fifth of the world population. Indian Government is of the opinion that such a huge population can be utilized as a great source of energy generation for Aatma Nirbhar Bharat. India is also known as young country because it comprises of huge number of youths who are below the age of 25 years. This implies that India's population comprises of young and energetic working class people who can bring great outcome for the country if their coordination is complemented with each other. If the determination and willingness of these young working class people is combined together, the country does not remain very far from achieving the goal of self-reliant India.
- **Demand-In economics,** supply and demand is a relationship between the price at which producer is willing to supply certain quantity of goods and the quantity at which consumer is willing to pay. In order to make India self-reliant, it is important to increase aggregate demand in the country, wherein the strength of the relationship between demand and supply should be utilized to their maximum potential. India's supply system can be empowered by fulfilling demand of the consumers.

Five tranches of Atmanirbhar India are:

- Businesses inclusive of MSME's,
- Poor people including farmers and migrants,
- Agriculture,
- New Ambit of Growth and
- Government reforms and enablers.<sup>2</sup>

Atmanirbhar Bharat has, for the first time, focused on the approach of 'Vocal for Local' as its internal strength and took it to the global level.

The purpose of the Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan should be to spur the growth of our country at a faster rate than that of the Pre Covid-19 India because this pandemic has not only slowed down the growth of our economy but has also took India's economy several years back.

#### **FRAGMENTATION OF AATMA NIRBHAR BHARAT ABHIYAN PACKAGE**

The biggest financial crisis since 1979 has emerged due to Covid-19 pandemic. This pandemic has adversely effected and drained much of our economy. The worst effected section has been poor and middle income groups. In order to address the needs of poor and restructure our economy, Financial Minister, Nirmala Sitharaman, elaborated the split up of economic package announced by our Prime Minister. This package was introduced to insert liquidity in our economy and to reinforce infrastructure of sectors comprising majorly of poor people such as agriculture, animal husbandry, fisheries etc. However, this package has only broached the needs of poor and has not considered the state of middle income class groups who are entirely dependent on their savings which will ultimately exhaust after some time and nothing will remain with them because this pandemic has touched our economy in such a way that it will take a lot of time to return back on the ground.

The appropriation of the economic package is given as under<sup>3</sup>:

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<sup>2</sup> *Building Atmanirbhar Bharat and overcoming COVID-19*, india.gov.in, Available at: <https://www.india.gov.in/spotlight/building-atmanirbhar-bharat-overcoming-covid-19> (Accessed on: 03.06.2020)

<sup>3</sup> *Finance Minister announce measures for relief and credit support related to businesses, especially MSME*

- The first allotment of Modi's Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan economic package was done towards backbone of India's economy- MSME. It contributes to the huge part of our economy employing 11 crore people and GDP share of around 29 per cent. MSMEs are worst hit in the country by this lockdown. The total of Rs. 5.94 lakh crore i.e. 2.97 percent of our GDP, were allotted in order to pervade fluidity of cash in this segment.

Out of which:-

- Rs. 3 lakh crore were directed towards providing collateral free loans to MSMEs,
  - Rs. 20 thousand crore were addressed to aid stressed MSMEs with equity by providing subordinate debt,
  - Rs. 25 hundred crore were aimed at subsidizing businesses and workers with EPF support for 3 months,
  - Rs. 30 thousand crore were directed towards providing special liquidity relief appraisals for NDFCs/ HFCs/ MFIs,
  - Rs. 50 thousand crore were allotted for 25 per cent reduction TDS/TCS rate,
  - Rs. 90 thousand crore were issued for Power Distribution Companies,
  - Rs. 4 thousand crore were accommodated for NBFCs regarding Partial Credit Guarantee Scheme 2.0,
  - Rs. 6.7 thousand crore were allocated for reduction in EPF contribution by businesses and workers,
  - Rs. 50 thousand crore were assigned for equity injection through Fund of Funds for MSMEs,
- Second tranche of Aatma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan package constituting 3.1 lakh crore and 1.55 per cent of our GDP was announced by Nirmala Sitharaman on 14<sup>th</sup> May,

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support Indian Economy's fight against COVID-19, PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU, Available at: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetailm.aspx?PRID=1623601> ( Accessed on: 13.05.2020, 6:39 PM)

2020. It was introduced to assist poor migrant workers and street vendors. The principle of “One Nation- One Ration card” was introduced. It means that the same ration card can be used at any ration distribution shop throughout the country to procure ration. It will bestow welfare to 8 crore migrants by yielding food grains at no cost for the next two months.

- Rs. 5 thousand crore were issued to provide an access to Rs. 10000 initial working capital to 50 lakh street vendors,
  - Rs. 30 thousand crore were directed towards providing emergency working capital through NABARD,
  - Rs. 2 lakh crore will be provided to equip 2.5 crore farmers through Kisan Credit Cards,
  - Rs. 35 hundred crore will be provided to stock migrants with food grain supply at no cost for two months,
  - Rs. 15 hundred crore were addressed to Mudra-Shishu loans,
  - Rs. 6 thousand crore were provided for afforestation and plantation works by states.
  - Rs. 70000 crore for housing industry.
- The third tranche of this economic package valued at 1.5 lakh crore and comprising of total 0.75 per cent of our GDP, was concentrated on agriculture and associated sectors including fisheries, dairy products and animal husbandry. The key announcement made in this package is towards micro food enterprises to promote the ‘Vocal for local’ scheme of our Prime Minister. Its purpose was to take the value added products of our country to the global level. The main objective of this package was to reinforce the farming sector of our country by strengthening infrastructure of marine, inland fisheries, aquaculture, agriculture and animal husbandry. It also eliminated various selling barriers to take our local products to the global level.
- Rs. 500 crore for expanding Operation Green to all vegetables,

- Rs. 20,000 crore were supplied for PM Matsya Sampada Yojna for the welfare of fishermen,
- Rs. 4,000 crore were directed towards encouragement of Herbal Cultivation,
- Rs. 15,000 crore for fund regarding development of Animal Husbandry Infrastructure,
- Rs. 10,000 crore for Micro Food Enterprises,
- Rs. 1,00,000 crore for development of agriculture infrastructure projects,
- Rs. 500 crore for Beekeeping start-up projects.

The fourth and fifth part of this economic package worth Rs. 48,100 crore were dedicated towards refinement of structural sector including minerals, atomic energy, airports, space sector, defence generation, MRO and air space management and MANGREGA. Out of Rs. 48,100 crore:

- Rs. 40,000 crore i.e. 0.2% of GDP were allocated for employment generation scheme, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MANREGA) to create jobs in the rural areas and reduce unemployment. This employment generation scheme will not only help in making poor people self-sufficient but will also help in improving standards of living and elimination some part of poverty from the country.
- Rs. 8,100 crore i.e. 0.04% of GDP were employed for strategic development.

## **LEGAL REFORMS**

Finance Minister, Nirmala Sitharaman announced the package of 20 lakh crore in 5 tranches. She also explained the breakup of the package in different announcements. She elaborated how this package will address the needs of farmers, fishermen, MSMEs, street vendors, migrant workers etc. The Introduction of this package required amendments and interpretations in various fields of law. The amendments<sup>4</sup> in various acts and statutes are noted below:-

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<sup>4</sup> Major announcements and policy reforms under Aatma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan, MY GOV (May 25, 2020), <https://blog.mygov.in/major-announcements-and-policy-reforms-under-aatma-nirbhar-bharat-abhiyan/>.

1. **Income Tax Act, 1961:** This act is enabled in order to levy and collect income tax and recoveries on it. The rates of Tax Deduction at Source (TDS) for non-salaried resident payers and the rates of Tax Collection Source (TCS) has been reduced by 25% of the prevailing rates so as to render more funds at the disposal of tax payers. This reduced rate of TDS will apply to interest, rent, contract, commission, brokerage, professional fees, dividend etc. This tax reduction till applicable till 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2021.

Further the date for income tax returns has been extended to June 30, 2020 and filing of GST returns extended upto June, 2020. Moreover, the due date of income tax return for the financial year 2019-2020, which was earlier July 31, 2020 and October 31, 2020 has been extended to November 30, 2020 and extension of Tax Audit to October 31, 2020 from September 30, 2020.

2. **Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016:** The purpose of this code is to safeguard the interest of small investors and make the business less burdensome. With the purpose of Atmanirbhar Bharat, government is focusing on the ease of doing business in India by bringing less complex tax reforms, simple registration of property and quick disposal of commercial disputes. These reforms are all aimed at making India one of the easiest places to do business so as to earn more and more revenue with the intention of making it self-sufficient. The recent amendments in IBC are vis-à-vis ease of establishing business. In case of MSME's, the minimum threshold limit to commence Insolvency Proceedings was Rs. 1 lakh, which after amendment, was raised to Rs. 1 Cr.

Section 240-A of the code mentions about the application of IBC to Medium, Small and Micro enterprises. It will acquire Special Insolvency Resolution Framework which shall be notified soon. The fresh commencement of insolvency proceedings are suspended for upto 1 year, subject to pandemic situation.

Another measure which was taken was to authorize Central Government so as not to include debts related to COVID-19 in the definition of 'default' with the intention of triggering insolvency proceeding under the Code.

3. **Companies Act, 2013:** The Companies Act governs the working of the company ranging from its incorporation to its dissolution.



- All the compulsory Board Meetings were extended by 60 days till 30<sup>th</sup> September and all the Extraordinary General Meetings were allowed using video conferencing with online voting system.
- Easier proforma for incorporating company online was introduced i.e. SPICe +. An exclusive form provides 10 services of different ministries and one state government.
- Various actions were taken to reduce the burden of compliance under Companies Act, 2013 during the pandemic.
- Independent Director's databank was launched.
- All the negligible contraventions under the Companies Act, 2013 including little mistakes in board report, loopholes in CSR reporting, default filing etc. got decriminalized.
- Majority of the sections relating to compoundable offences were transferred for Internal Abjudication Mechanism.
- The amendments will free NCLT and Criminal Courts from difficulties or obstructions.
- Seven compoundable offences were removed and five were to be handled by alternative framework.
- Other major reforms included provisions of Part IX-A of Companies Act, 1956 were included in Companies Act, 2013, penalties for small companies, OPC, startups and producer companies were reduced, powers were extended to form additional benches of NCLAT, securities by Indian Public Companies were allowed for direct listing in some of the allowed foreign jurisdictions

**4. Essential Commodities Act, 1955:** The essential commodities act came into being in the days of scarcity. Its purpose was to ensure delivery and supply of goods without any blackmarketing and hoarding so as to ensure that everyone in need of basic needs get access to it. Government proposed various amendments in the act. The amendments are regarding:

- Finer price accomplishment for farmers by bringing in more and more investments in agriculture sector and making this sector more competitive.
- There shall be no limit on the stock of producers with regard to their installation capacity and exporters vis-à-vis export demand.
- The agricultural food products like cereal, pulses, potatoes, tomatoes etc. shall be deregulated by the act.

**5. Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016:** The aim of this act was to safeguard and protect the interest of house buyers and attract the investments in real estate properties.

- Due to Covid-19 all the dates which were registered under RERA for compliance will now be extended so as to unburden real estate developers.
- With this regard, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs has suggested regulatory authorities to extend compliance dates under RERA by 6 months for all the registered projects and if required, it can be extended for 3 months more.
- Other statutory compliances under RERA will also be extended to the new timelines.
- Fresh 'Project Registration Certificates' will be issued according to the new timelines.

**6. Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Act, 2006:** The MSME Act provides for the promotion and facilitation of fair development of small and medium enterprises and increase their competitiveness so that they get equal chances in terms of loans, growth etc.

- The definition of the MSMEs will be rephrased so as to eradicate the differentiation between manufacture and service sector.
- Limit of the investment limit will be upgraded.
- Additional basis of turnover will be introduced.

- 7. Other laws:** The conference proposed regarding implementation of laws for farmers so that they can sell their products without any barriers to price. They also stated that new statute shall be enacted so as to provide an aid to the farmers so that they can engage with large retailers and wholesalers with complete transparency.

### **STANCE OF THE MISSION ON “VOCAL FOR LOCAL”**

Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, boosted the very old measure “Vocal for Local” which was first initiated by Gandhiji in the form of “Swaraj”. Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan is a step towards Gandhiji’s vision of Swaraj i.e., Self-Independence. It is an initiative to help poor people and improve the standards of living in our country by decreasing the reliance on imported products and increasing the use of domestically manufactured products. This mission is an important move towards eradication of unemployment and supporting our local products to pave the way for them towards global platform. However, it is not possible to become completely Atmanirbhar (self-reliant) in today’s world of globalization where nations have become dependent on each other in some way or the other. In this era it has become very difficult to develop by remaining in isolation from rest of the world but what PM Narendra Modi meant by Aatmanirbhar is to replace imported products with products manufactured domestically to the maximum possible extent and not completely cut ties with the rest of the world. His aim is to make India self-sustaining and self-producing by clicking on the unutilized, inevitable and vast potential of the youth of our country.

One example where India showed its excellent capacity is producing a large amount of PPE Kits, Ventilators and N95 Masks domestically where initially there was no production and all these things were imported but in a very less time domestic manufacturers were able to meet the requirements of these products. The proactive efforts of Government of India pushed domestic manufacturers to produce these products indigenously.

“In order to foster Atmanirbhar Abhiyan, the NDA Government will manufacture arms and ammunitions domestically by procuring it from local private industries instead of importing it. The private industries need to be price competitive and focus on quality so as, to not only satisfy domestic needs of security products but also to export it. Government will also use Government e-marketplace to nurture domestically manufactured products. Only then there is

the scope of attaining the mission of Atmanirbhar Bharat.” said G Kishan Reddy, Union Minister of state for home.<sup>5</sup>

A step taken by Government of India to protect integrity, supremacy and safety of our country is digital blocking of 59 Chinese apps in India. The Ministry of Information Technology, citing its jurisdiction under section 69-A of Information Technology Act<sup>6</sup> read with Information Technology<sup>7</sup> Rules, 2009 reached to the conclusion to ban 59 Chinese apps after receiving complaints regarding malicious activities going on through these apps. This step was taken to protect the country from threat posed to the National Security and Defence of India.<sup>8</sup> As a result of ban, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched Digital India Aatmanirbhar Bharat App Innovation Challenge created by Meity-NITI. This challenge was created not only promote old Indian Apps but also to promote development of new home grown apps. This paved the way for Indian Tech Startups, Businesses, and Companies etc. to nurture and grown not only on domestic platform but also on global platform.<sup>9</sup>

Another step taken by Modi government in the vicinity of Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan is restricting the import of TV Sets by licensing them.<sup>10</sup> This measure was taken to make it difficult for other countries especially China to export TV Sets to India and to encourage TV Sets manufactured by indigenous manufacturers. A complete list of items is created to come under the purview of “restricted list”. Not just TV Sets but CCTV Cameras and Set Top

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<sup>5</sup> Government to focus on domestic manufacturing of arms, ammunition to promote to promote 'Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan, The Economic Times, Available at: <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/defence/government-to-focus-on-domestic-manufacturing-of-arms-ammunition-to-promote-atmanirbhar-bharat-abhiyan/articleshow/76302244.cms?from=mdr>. (Accessed on: 10.06.2020, 05:10 PM)

<sup>6</sup> Information Technology Act, s. 69-A (2000)

<sup>7</sup> Information Technology (Procedure and Safeguards for Blocking of Access of Information by Public) Rules, 2009

<sup>8</sup> Government Bans 59 mobile apps which are prejudicial to sovereignty and integrity of India, defence of India, security of state and public order, Public Information Bureau, Available at: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetailm.aspx?PRID=1635206> (Accessed on: 09.06.2020)

<sup>9</sup> Digital India AtmaNirbhar Bharat Innovate Challenge, My Gov., Available at: <https://innovate.mygov.in/app-challenge/> (Accessed on: 27.07.2020)

<sup>10</sup> Pankaj Doval, Government licenses TV imports to support local production, The Time of India, Available at: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/government-licenses-tv-imports-to-support-local-production/articleshow/77274188.cms> (Accessed on: 31.07.2020)

Boxes are also put in the “restricted list”. These items were imported in a huge amount in the past years leading to loss of Indian Manufacturers. This move will not only benefit local manufacturers but will also generate employment.

### **OBSTACLES IN AATMA NIRBHAR BHARAT ABHIYAN**

In the country where corruption has always remained a major problem, the question that arises here is that whether this 20 lakh package will reach directly to the most distressed section of the country for which this package was meant to be. The inadequacy lies in the uncertainty regarding actual expenditure in the Aatma Nirbhar Abhiyan. There is no sure way to know that ultimately whether the amount of this package will help the people in need. Many a times whenever government releases any benefits for the less privileged section of the society, it is taken away by middlemen and it never reaches people for whom they were provided. Same problem might occur with this package until and unless there is strict check upon them. Out of this package, most of the measures are monetary measures such as the transmission of funds from RBI to banks and from banks to citizens. Looking at the inadequate monetary system of the country, this transmission is not going to be as smooth and effective as it is talked about.

Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan can be said to be the remake of ‘Make in India’. Both of them focused on manufacturing goods and services in India. ‘Make in India’ was not very successful because importing goods was much cheaper than making them domestically. The question that arises here is regarding the element that will make this movement different and more successful than the previous one. The intention of Aatma Nirbhar Abhiyan is to focus on making Bharat self-reliant by manufacturing most of the things in India instead of importing them but this will bring more sufferings to the businesses which are already suffering drastically from this pandemic. This is so because imported raw materials were more competitive and low priced then those which are domestically manufactured. This will lead to higher costs in manufacturing domestically, ultimately leading to low incomes adding on to sufferings that they are already facing.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi wants to make Indian markets competitive on the Global platform by producing efficient goods and services but that seems difficult with manufacturing everything in India because lets accept the fact that Indian markets are still not capable of producing all the goods and services of good quality at lower prices. This scheme

will exactly do the opposite of what Prime Minister wants. Finance Minister, Nirmala Sitharaman, introduced many welfare policies in this Abhiyan but many of them were repeated.

MSMEs were given special category with the intention to give them favourable treatment by public sector banks in providing loans but still there has not been any effective results seen out of this. Public sector banks were resistant in giving loans to small and medium sector businesses but giving them special category has also not made them any less resistant. The solution to this is investing in private banks created primarily with the purpose of granting loans to MSMEs.

Further, this package has excessively concentrated on raising investments by infusing easy credits but they forgot that investments will shoot up only when people will have money to spend. During this lockdown most of the savings and incomes of people are drained due to which they are left with very little disposable incomes at their hand. This will reduce aggregate demand in the economy. Moreover, owing to the worries regarding fiscal deficit it is difficult for the government to finance 20 lakh crore packages. The solution to this is strategically using India's foreign reserves to finance this stimulus package. The rest can come from privatization, taxations etc.

This package has overwhelmingly dealt with the poor and distressed section of the society but the middle class people has not found any solace from this package. This lockdown has heavily impacted them. Their savings are completely exhausted and many of them are out of the jobs. Their sufferings are huge and unmet by this stimulus package of 20 lakh crore.

Although it is important to solve the problems of falling businesses, poor sectors etc but this abhiyan should also invest in the health infrastructure. Health expenditures are so large and heavy that both poor and middle income groups get affected by it. Whatever earnings remain in their hands are spent on health treatments after which they are left with nothing. In order to be self-reliant it is also important for government to focus on enhancing health infrastructure.

## **CONCLUSION**

The just and proper implementation of Aatma Nirbhar Abhiyan will take a very long time because since 1991 most of the developed and developing countries are following LPG and sudden withdrawal from it is not possible in such a short time. Today, all the countries of the

world have somehow become dependent on each other for manufacture of certain goods and services. Competition has also increased in terms of quality and quantity and without relying on each other it is very difficult in today's world for any country to manufacture highly efficient products independently. India is still in the developing stage where becoming independent may prove harmful for the country and its businesses. However, it is not impossible. It can become self-reliant with proper implementation of laws and policies. It is not only the duty of government but its citizens should also try to consume domestically manufactured goods to support this movement.

We use large no. of foreign products in our daily lives ranging from basic goods to leisure goods. It was mentioned by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his speech that the brands which have now become globally popular were initially supported by their local consumers then only they gained such a huge market. Similarly if we will also support our local brands then only they will be supported by other countries. We, as citizens, should support and promote them loud not only at national level but at the global level as well.

In this time of crisis everyone should come together and stand for each other to make the best out of this crisis. However, we should also remember that the aim of this abhiyan is not to cut ties from the rest of the world. We should not take the short term approach to fight from this pandemic but instead a long term and futuristic approach.

Prime Minister said "Self-reliance leads to happiness, satisfaction and empowerment" If the energy of 130 crore citizens will be collaborated, nobody can stop 21<sup>st</sup> century to become the century of India. It will take place slowly but if everybody is determined and diligent in making India self-reliant then nobody can stop it.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The objectives of the Abhiyan can be achieved by proper implementation of some measures. The government allotted large amount of the fund towards development of sectors and schemes for poor. Measures should be taken to make sure that amount reaches in actual hands. This abhiyan focuses mainly on poor people and middle class people are not taken into consideration or even given a thought about. They were not given any kind of relief. Middle class people are surviving on their savings which sooner or later will get exhausted. Their businesses are not working and there is no reliable source of income left. This package should be restructured in such a way so as to include middle income groups.

To become self-reliant and competitive on the global platform it is important to increase quantity as well quality of commodities. The potential of various sectors existing in urban and rural areas of India should be recognized and provided with appropriate resources. Futuristic approach will go a long way instead of adopting short term approach.

Country should learn from this pandemic and understand that poor and low income groups are most affected from natural calamities and pandemic. It should be prepared for such situations so that people do not die of hunger. Success of any policy depends on good governance and just and proper implementation of measures. Such pandemics are inevitable and uncertain. Focus should be to frame such policies that help in recovering with the minimum loss and within the limited time period.

Credit infusion in the market will be successful only when aggregate demand will be increased. Government should focus on increasing demand in the market only then investments will pick up. To make this abhiyan a reality, the government should focus on producing long term sustainable assets to eliminate the ambiguity between the country and the notion of Aatma Nirbhar.