Certainly, let's discuss a hypothetical case study on a government's disinvestment policy.

Title: Strategic Disinvestment for Economic Restructuring

Background:

Country X is facing economic challenges, including a high fiscal deficit and the need for infrastructural development. The government decides to implement a comprehensive disinvestment policy to raise funds, reduce the fiscal burden, and promote efficiency in state-owned enterprises (SOEs).

Objectives:

- 1. Generate revenue for critical public investments.
- 2. Enhance efficiency and competitiveness of SOEs.
- 3. Encourage private sector participation and innovation.

Implementation:

- 1. *Identification of Enterprises:* A thorough assessment identifies non-strategic and underperforming SOEs suitable for disinvestment.
- 2. *Strategic Planning:* The government strategically selects industries for disinvestment to ensure a balanced and diversified economic portfolio.

- 3. *Stakeholder Engagement:* Engaging with stakeholders, including employees and unions, to communicate the rationale behind disinvestment and address concerns.
- 4. *Transparency and Accountability:* Establishing a transparent process to attract investors, with clear guidelines on valuation and sale procedures.
- 5. *Regulatory Reforms:* Simultaneously, implementing regulatory reforms to create a favorable environment for private sector growth and investment.

Challenges:

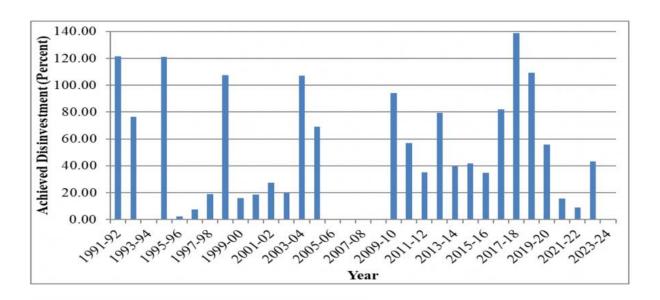
- 1. *Political Opposition:* The disinvestment policy faces resistance from political opponents and certain interest groups.
- 2. *Employee Concerns:* Employees of the SOEs express concerns about job security and benefits.
- 3. *Market Volatility:* Economic uncertainties and market fluctuations can impact the timing and success of disinvestment.

^{*}Outcomes:*

- 1. *Revenue Generation:* Successful disinvestment leads to a significant influx of funds into the government treasury.
- 2. *Efficiency Gains:* Privatized entities experience enhanced efficiency and innovation, contributing positively to economic growth.
- 3. *Investor Confidence:* The transparent and well-executed disinvestment process boosts investor confidence in the country's economic policies.

Conclusion:

Country X's strategic disinvestment policy proves instrumental in addressing economic challenges, fostering a more competitive business environment, and positioning the nation for sustainable growth. The government's commitment to transparency and stakeholder engagement plays a crucial role in achieving these outcomes.



MEANS OF DISINVESTMENT



WHY DISINVESTMENT?

- Reducing financial burden on government finance
- 2 Opening up market for private firms
- 3 Supporting the liquidity measures in the market
- Raise money to facilitate long term government goals
- Channelize resources to more productive avenues by reducing expenditure on loss making firms
- 6 Improve the return of investment of underperforming firms



WHY DISINVESTMENT IS DONE?

ORGANISING THE MARKET SEGMENT



A company may disinvest in one of its under performing divisions when they demand similar resources and expenditure compared to the divisions that deliver high profitability



OFFLOADING UNNECESSARY ASSETS



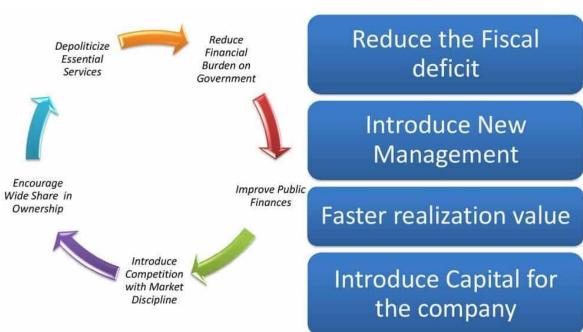
A company is cornered into adopting this strategy when the keeping of an asset does not fit its long-term strategy. When companies are stuck with assets they do not intend to use, they choose to disinvest such assets and focus on their competitive abilities.



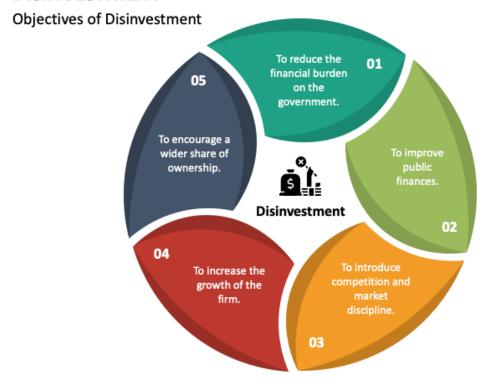
SOCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

A company may have to disinvest if they cross a certain threshold limit in the market holding, to enable fair competition.





DISINVESTMENT



A brief history of disinvestment

1999-2004

Total amount realised through disinvestment

₹24.620 crore

Sale to private entities for the first time

IPCL to Reliance Industries: Amount realised ₹1,491 crore. Stake divested 26%.

VSNL to Tata Communication: Amount realised ₹1,439 crore. Stake divested 25%.

Maruti Udyog to Suzuki: Amount

₹993 crore. Stake divested 27.5%.

Hindustan Zinc to Sterlite: Amount realised ₹445

Crore. Stake divested 22.1%.

CMC to TCS: Amount realised ₹152 crore. Stake divested 51%. 2004-2009

Total amount realised through disinvestment

₹8,516 crore

Government came out with a few IPOs like:

> NTPC: Amount raised ₹2,684 crore. Stake divested 5.3%.

Power Grid: Amount raised ₹995 crore. Stake divested

REC: Amount raised ₹820

crore Stake divested 9.1%

A sluggish period for

to private entities: None

Market cap of PSUs to the total market cap

> March 2004 31.6%

March 2009 27.8%

04)

SUUTI came into being in

What is SUUTI?

February 2003 following the breakup of the Unit Trust of India after its flagship US-64 scheme collapsed. SUUTI has stakes in 43 listed companies and eight unlisted companies, including blue chips like ICICI Bank, Axis Bank, Titan and others

2009-2014

Total amount realised through disinvestment

₹1,05,529 crore

Introduction of CPSE ETF in 2013-14, through which the government divested its stake in some key PSUs. Amount realised in first tranche ₹3,000 crore.

Sale to private entities:

10%

stake sale in

ONGC in the market

for ₹10,542 cr

IPO of Coal India in 2010. Amount raised ₹15,199 crore. Stake divested 10%.

First divestment through SUUTI: 9% stake in Axis Bank offloaded for ₹5,500 crore March 2014

2014-2019

Total amount realised through disinvestment

₹2,80,490 crore

Government divested stake in 22 companies through the Bharat 22 ETF and raised ₹14,500 crore from the first tranche.

PSU to PSU sale of HPCL to ONGC for ₹36,915 Crore. Stake divested: 51.1%

PSU to PSU sale of REC to PFC for ₹14,500 crore. Stake divested 52.6%.

to private

entities: Nore

Bharat 22 ETF

An open-end exchange-traded fund through which the government divested its stake in 22 companies, including three private companies, L&T, Axis Bank and ITC.

Excluding banking and finance stocks Source: BSEPSU.com

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CHALLENGES OF DISINVESTMENT POLICY

- · Social Problem
- · Political Problem
- · Economic Problem
- · Lack of transparency
- · Lack of co-operation and co-ordination

High expectations

The Union Budget 2023-24 has set a disinvestment target of ₹51,000 crore, down nearly 21% from the budget estimate for the current year. With two more months to go in the year, the Centre is yet to meet its disinvestment target

