

Name of the candidate: Anirudh Prasad Singh

Name of the Supervisor: Prof. Shri Prakash

Department: MMAJ Academy of International Studies; Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi -110025

TITLE OF THE THESIS: "Trends in India-Nepal Trade Relations since 1989"

ABSTRACT

India - Nepal Trade relations has had a long history. In this context, the tradition of informal trade relations between India & Nepal has been more powerful and prominent than the formal trade relations. Its reasons are many due to their close regional proximity, frequent people's movement and cultural homogeneity. But in the course of time, Nepal acquired more bargaining power that restructured the trade relations as state to state dealing. This is the departure from the previous pattern.

The issues taken up by the scholar is one of the most burning, vibrant and relevant one in the context of contemporary India-Nepal trade relations. It is one of the most debated issues since Nepal became member of World Trade Organization. Least Developed Countries like Nepal have witnessed how rich countries have increased their wealth by trading with each other. The history of mankind shows that it is the trade in one form or the other that contributed the most in the major activities of human civilization.

In the present work, various dimensions of economic, ideological, social and strategic relations between India & Nepal have been studied in depth by the scholar. India- Nepal trade relations has been highly underworked area of research since 1989. We have had little information related to trends in India- Nepal trade relations. Hence this research has filled this important gap. Most of the earlier studies on India - Nepal relations are either related to polity, security or social issues and no substantial work has been done regarding to bilateral trade, balance of trade and trade policies influencing India -Nepal trade relations.

The study has tried to analyze almost all components of India-Nepal trade relations. The primary and secondary sources of data from Nepal and India are quite exhaustive and elaborate. Composition of India-

Nepal trade relations has been thoroughly dealt with. There are more than enough qualitative and quantitative inputs. Primary and secondary sources of data have been statistically examined and analyzed.

The scholar has used historical, empirical, analytical and descriptive methods. Government's official reports and documents, policy statements, resolution publications of the Government of India & Government of Nepal have been adequately referred. The secondary sources of data like books, articles, newspapers, reports, working papers, occasional papers, journals etc. have been extensively referred. The scholar has divided his work into five chapters excluding conclusions.

The first chapter introduces the topic in its context and highlights. The review of literature broadly elaborates the existing perspective on the subject. In the second chapter traditional trade relations between Nepal and British India has been discussed and analyzed thoroughly. The third chapter critically deals with various sources of remittances from the Nepalese people sharing their earnings with their home. Role of tourism for augmenting revenue for trade has been discussed. The focus of chapter four is on management of Indian Currency in Nepal as it is as good as US \$ for bilateral trade between the two countries. Chapter five has thoroughly analyzed importance of Indian Aid. Pattern of India-Nepal trade has also been empirically and statistically analyzed. Role of service sector, remittances and transfer of technology in improvement of Indian currency reserve and their contributions in offsetting trade balance in favour of Nepal has been critically discussed. Impact of various Treaties of Trade & Transit during the period has been adequately discussed and critically analyzed in detail using the latest data. The final chapter has summarized and justified the objectives and hypothesis of the study.

The researcher has made an extensive use and review of primary and secondary literature available on the topic and has gone in detail to describe the objective, hypothesis of the study, research methodology and scheme of chapterization. The scholar has used sufficient original sources to verify and support his hypothesis. The entire reading makes logical sense to ponder on the topic. Research is very relevant and significant today as Nepal is exercising the trade relations Sovereign Federal Democratic Republic State.

