The Age of Cybertariat and the Labor Question

Abstract

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The globalization syndrome to which the academic world has preferred to pay obituary by shifting the foci from the idea of Americanization to that of Chinaization is very well felt in the recent World Economic Forum annual meeting at Davos, where the proponents of globalization have taken a safer route by claiming it’s the end of Americanization and not globalization. With the phenomena of one world, one Nation, and one work the concept of labor has been distributed spatially across the globe. The age of generic work force – workers who are multi-task and who aren’t a specialist in any given area, they are casual workers with payments dependent on the availability of client, no space for unionism and areas where labour reforms are a priority.

The paper examines on theoretical front the increase in corporatism and the denunciation of labor union by the so called mighty corporate organization has brought down the question of better pay and workers welfare to a secondary halt. The arguments that are provided by the post Keynesian theorist or the New- Keynesian school of thought who had been sponsoring the inflation and unemployment trade off, this was something that was deliberately criticized by Keynes when Pigou proposed a wage cut in order to increase employment. This idea had been able to gain a space in the economic literature and on the handbooks of policy makers, often quoted as NAIRU. Such an idea has called the trade unions as a threat and protective labour laws as decelerating forces for a progressing economy.

The paper had been constructed within the framework of political economy with respect to Asia, taking into consideration the secondary sources, as the ICT using sectors are considerably more difficult to define than ICT producing ones. Sectors which are heavy users of information, such as banking and financial services and government are also heavy users of ICTs but these technologies are used across all sectors of developed economies for a range of different
activities, some of which may be outsourced and therefore assigned to other sectors in the statistics. The EMERGENCE report Jobs on the Move (Flecker and Kirschenhofer 2002) analysed a range of different backgrounds and concluded that the cases could be distinguished along the following core dimensions like isolated measures versus more comprehensive company reorganisations; and reduction versus expansion strategies, these are some prominent changing conditions that helps in making judgments for relocation of work places from Europe to Asia.

The papers will address the question of wage flexibility and declining quality of working conditions with special reference to Asia and why is there a necessity for a global labour union to address the issues and act as a catalyst by acting as pressure groups and compelling the governments to initiate labour security norms.

Keywords: Cybertariat, Americanization, New Keynesian

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