



# Marx on Value

*Ever since the publication of Das Kapital bourgeois economists have tried to question the relevance and justification of Marx's concept of value for economic analysis simply because they have failed to understand his problematic as well as his method. Confronted to with the demand to prove his labour theory of value his own answer given in one of his letters to Kugelmann remains the most devastatingly simple and cogent.*

Extract from Marx's letter to Ludwig Kugelmann in Hanover

**London, 11 July 1868**

...The chatter about the need to prove the concept of value arises only from complete ignorance both of the subject under discussion and of the method of science. Every child knows that any nation that stopped working, not for a year, but let us say, just for a few weeks, would perish. And every child knows, too, that the amounts of products corresponding to the differing amounts of needs demand differing and quantitatively determined amounts of society's aggregate labour. It is self-evident that this necessity of the distribution of social labour in specific proportions is certainly not abolished by the specific form of social production; it can only change its form of manifestation. Natural laws cannot be abolished at all. The only thing that can change, under historically differing conditions, is the form in which those laws assert themselves. And the form in which this proportional distribution of labour asserts itself in a state of society in which the interconnection of social labour expresses itself as the private exchange of the individual

products of labour, is precisely the exchange value of these products.

Where science comes in is to show how the law of value asserts itself. So, if one wanted to 'explain' from the outset all phenomena that apparently contradict the law, one would have to provide the science before the science. It is precisely Ricardo's mistake that in his first chapter, on value, all sorts of categories that still have to be arrived at are assumed as given, in order to prove their harmony with the law of value.

On the other hand, as you correctly believe, the history of the theory of course demonstrates that the understanding of the value relation has always been the same, clearer or less clear, hedged with illusions or scientifically more precise. Since the reasoning process itself arises from the existing conditions and is itself a natural process, really comprehending thinking can always only be the same, and can vary only gradually, in accordance with the maturity of development, hence also the maturity of the organ that does the thinking. Anything else is drivel.

The vulgar economist has not the slightest idea that the actual, everyday exchange relations and the value magnitudes cannot be directly identical. The point of bourgeois society is

precisely that, a priori, no conscious social regulation of production takes place. What is reasonable and necessary by nature asserts itself only as a blindly operating average. The vulgar economist thinks he has made a great discovery when, faced with the disclosure of the intrinsic interconnection, he insists that things look different in appearance. In fact, he prides himself in his clinging to appearances and believing them to be the ultimate. Why then have science at all?

But there is also something else behind it. Once interconnection has been revealed, all theoretical belief in the perpetual necessity of the existing conditions collapses, even before the collapse takes place in practice. Here, therefore, it is completely in the interests of the ruling classes to perpetuate the unthinking confusion. And for what other reason are the sycophantic babblers paid who have no other scientific trump to play except that, in political economy, one may not think at all! ...

*Other Suggestions:*

1. Marx to Friedrich Bolte in New York, November 23, 1871  
(On Left-Wing Sectarianism)
2. Engels to Joseph Bloch on Konizsberg, September 21-22, 1890  
(On the Dialectic of the Base and the Superstructure)



# The Hyde Act and India's Foreign Policy

Extracts from the Official Text

## HENRY J. HYDE UNITED STATES-INDIA PEACEFUL ATOMIC ENERGY COOPERATION ACT OF 2006

### TITLE I—UNITED STATES AND INDIA NUCLEAR COOPERATION

#### SEC. 102. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

- (6) it is in the interest of the United States to enter into an agreement for nuclear cooperation arranged pursuant to section 123 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2153) with a country that has never been a State Party to the NPT if—
  - (B) the country has a functioning and uninterrupted democratic system of government, has a foreign policy that is congruent to that of the United States, and is working with the United States on key foreign policy initiatives related to nonproliferation;
  - (D) such cooperation will induce the country to give greater political and material support to the achievement of United States global and regional nonproliferation objectives, especially with respect to dissuading, iso-

lating, and, if necessary, sanctioning and containing states that sponsor terrorism and terrorist groups that are seeking to acquire a nuclear weapons capability or other weapons of mass destruction capability and the means to deliver such weapons;

- (7) the United States should continue its policy of engagement, collaboration, and exchanges with and between India and Pakistan;

#### SEC. 103. STATEMENTS OF POLICY.

**(b) WITH RESPECT TO SOUTH ASIA.**—The following shall be the policies of the United States with respect to South Asia:

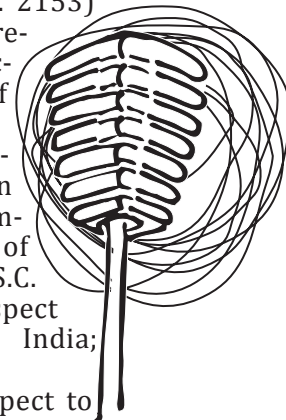
- (3) Secure India's—
  - (A) full participation in the Proliferation Security Initiative;
  - (B) formal commitment to the Statement of Interdiction Principles of such Initiative;
- (4) Secure India's full and active participation in United States efforts to dissuade, isolate, and, if necessary, sanction and contain Iran for its efforts to

acquire weapons of mass destruction, including a nuclear weapons capability and the capability to en-rich uranium or reprocess nuclear fuel, and the means to deliver weapons of mass destruction.

#### SEC. 104. WAIVER AUTHORITY AND CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—If the President makes the determination described in subsection (b), the President may—

- (1) exempt a proposed agreement for cooperation with India arranged pursuant to section 123 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2153) from the requirement of subsection a.(2) of such section;
- (2) waive the application of section 128 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2157) with respect to exports to India; and
- (3) waive with respect to





- India the application of—
- (A) section 129 a.(1)(D) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2158(a)(1)(D)); and
- (B) section 129 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 2158) regarding any actions that occurred before July 18, 2005.
- (b) DETERMINATION BY THE PRESIDENT.—The determination referred to in subsection (a) is a determination by the President that the following actions have occurred:
- (4) India is working actively with the United States for the early conclusion of a multilateral treaty on the cessation of the production of fissile materials for use in nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices.
- (5) India is working with and supporting United States and international efforts to prevent the spread of enrichment and reprocessing technology to any state that does not already possess full-scale, functioning enrichment or reprocessing plants.
- (c) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—
- (1) IN GENERAL.—The President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees the determination made pursuant to subsection (b), together with a report detailing the basis for the determination.
- (2) INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED.—To the fullest extent available to the United States, the report referred to in paragraph (1) shall include the following information:
- (D) A description of the steps that India is taking to work with the United States for the conclusion of a multilateral treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons, including a description of the steps that the United States has taken and will take to encourage India to identify and declare a date by which India would be willing to stop production of fissile material for nuclear weapons unilaterally or pursuant to a multilateral moratorium or treaty.
- (E) A description of the steps India is taking to prevent the spread of nuclear-related technology, including enrichment and reprocessing technology or materials that can be used to acquire a nuclear weapons capability, as well as the support that India is providing to the United States to further United States objectives to restrict the spread of such technology.
- (G) A description and assessment of the specific measures that India has taken to fully and actively participate in United States and international efforts to dissuade, isolate, and, if necessary, sanction and contain Iran for its efforts to acquire weapons of mass destruction, including a nuclear weapons capability and the capability to enrich uranium or reprocess nuclear fuel and the means to deliver weapons of mass destruction.
- (g) REPORTING TO CONGRESS.—
- (1) INFORMATION ON NUCLEAR ACTIVITIES OF INDIA.—The President shall keep the appropriate congressional committees fully and currently informed of the facts and implications of any significant nuclear activities of India, including—
- (E)(i) an assessment of whether India is fully and actively participating in United States and international efforts to dissuade, isolate, and, if necessary, sanction and contain Iran for its efforts to acquire weapons of mass destruction, including a nuclear weapons capability (including the capability to enrich uranium or reprocess nuclear fuel), and the means to deliver weapons of mass destruction, including a description of the specific measures that India has taken in this regard; and (ii) if India is not assessed to be fully and actively participating in such efforts, a description of—(I) the measures the United States Government has taken to secure India's full and active participation in such efforts;
- (G) a detailed description of—(i) United States efforts to promote national or regional progress by India and Pakistan in disclosing, securing, limiting, and reducing their fissile material stock-piles, including stockpiles for military purposes, pending creation of a worldwide fissile material cut-off regime, including the institution of a Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty; (iii) assistance that the United States is providing, or would be able to provide, to India and Pakistan to promote the objectives in clause (i), consistent with its obligations under international law and existing agreements;



Dear all,

“Correspondence”, as it has been conceptualised by the current editors is a political magazine, using “politics” in a very broad sense so as to include all issues, questions and answers that influence our lives. We invite serious contributions on any social, cultural, political or economic issue from counter-hegemonic perspectives, which need not be confined to any established socialist and communist current of thought (though these approaches are most welcome).

Some of the guidelines are:

1. Contributions are to be in English.
2. Writing on film, music, books and sport (the list is not exhaustive) will be accepted, but only when backed by a political/social perspective as is consistent with the magazine.
3. Articles can be sent for republishing but these will be given only second preference.
4. We allow only for non-fiction articles to be published, except in rare cases where poetry/short stories submitted are relevant to the magazine.
5. The length of the articles can range from 800-2500 words. However, essays that are even longer will be accepted on occasion.
6. Articles that are considered unsatisfactory in any way, though can be published with some changes will be sent back to the contributor with suggestions. However, in case of minor editing concerning grammar and syntax you will not be contacted.
7. Articles are subject to rejection. Reasons for this will not be disclosed. Writers will be notified if their article is accepted.
8. Our preference will definitely be for previously unpublished articles submitted exclusively to Correspondence, but we will not restrict their wider circulation and publication. Hence, the copyright resides with the authors; they are free to republish their articles, if possible with a link to Correspondence.
9. During subsequent issues, space shall be provided for readers to comment. Counter-comments shall be permitted, though these can remain unpublished depending on the Editor’s judgment.
10. Contributors are requested to provide their e-mail addresses, so that a network between readers, writers and the representing editors can be established. Within this network, issues/ideas/suggestions can be discussed, and objections raised.
11. All submissions are to be sent at [submissions.correspondence@gmail.com](mailto:submissions.correspondence@gmail.com).

Sincerely,  
The Editorial team.

#### Editorial Board:

**Paresh Chandra**, Third year, English (Hons.), Hindu College, DU

**Anirudh Karnick**, Third year, English (Hons.), Hindu College, DU

**Labanya Unni**, Third year, English (Hons.), Hindu College, DU

**Atul Chandra**, Second year, Political Science (Hons.), S.G.T.B Khalsa College, DU

**Ankit Sharma**, Second year, BJMC, Tecnia Institute of Advanced Studies, IPU

**Bhumika Chauhan**, Third year, Psychology (Hons.), Indraprastha College for Women, DU

