A Study on the Ideology of State Affairs and the Science-Technology Leadership - Focusing on Democratic Administrations

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Abstract

This study is to consider the ideology of state affairs and science-technology leadership of successive governments from President Kim Young-sam till Lee Myung-bak in democratic period. For this consideration, this research carried out the comparative analysis of history on the basis of literature survey. As a result of this research, there was connection between the ideology of state affairs and science-technology leadership of successive governments in democratic period. In particular, the realization of president on science and technology affected science-technology leadership. To reinforce global competitiveness through science-technology innovation is period trend in modern society. Thus, the strong passion of president on science-technology innovation is decisive variable in determining science-technology development. President should show up science-technology leadership on the basis of reasonable judgement on science and technology. Now the leadership of science and technology which can adjust domestic and international interests related to science and technology and solve the conflicts of science and technology will be very important. We must set up systematical and consistent deciding process of science-technology policy. And we have to enlarge aiding organization for the policy of science and technology.

Keywords: Democratic government, The ideology of state affairs, The leadership of science and technology, The policy of science and technology, The institution of science and technology

1. INTRODUCTION

Science and technology(S&T) have high value added characteristic, so are recognized to be the level of national competitiveness [1]. After the twentieth century, S&T became the core motor of national and international economy based on advanced countries.

S&T value emerged in economic and industrial history of Korea after the 1990s. Afterwards, Kim Young-sam Administration and Kim Dae-joong Administration began to promote high-tech industries through S&T innovation based on heavy and chemical industries. After the 2000s, Roh Moo-hyun Administration set up ‘Constructing Society Based on S&T’ and ‘the Second
Establishment of a State on the Basis of S&T as a state affairs’ indicator. Eventually, S&T innovation became the motor of national development in economic and industrial history of Korea.

Now S&T can influence the international competitiveness of modern states largely. Accordingly, modern states are apt to suggest S&T innovation and development as the main task of state affairs. Eventually, S&T innovation and development are closely connected with the ideology of state affairs. And S&T leadership affects the innovative direction of industry on the basis of S&T.

2. RESEARCH CONTENTS AND METHOD

2.1. Research Contents

This study analyzed the ideology of state affairs and S&T leadership in democratic governments. By the way, the ideology of state affairs means social consensus which is affected by the situation of period. And the S&T leadership means administrational policy interest and method on S&T innovation. Democracy is a type of administrational ruling style. The ideology of state affairs is related to administrational rule. Therefore, the type of administrational ruling style influences the ideology of state affairs. The ideology of state affairs influences S&T leadership. The ideology of state affairs and S&T leadership show various forms according to the type of administrational ruling style. The ideology of state affairs, S&T leadership, and the type of administrational ruling style tend to change in accordance with period [2]. To historically consider the ideology of state affairs and S&T leadership of successive governments in accordance with democracy as a type of administrational ruling style is able to propose meaningful tip in exploring the changing nature and shape of them in each age.

2.2. Research Method

This research applied the comparative way of history on the basis of literature survey. This study inquired into policy reports, reports by government-funded research institutes, and so on to consider the ideology of state affairs and S&T leadership of successive administrations in democratic period.

Detailed study way is following.

First, this research examined precedent study and theoretical discussion and checked the state
affairs’ ideology of successive administrations in democratic period.

Second, this study analyzed S&T leadership of successive administrations in democratic period.

Third, this research considered the relationship between the ideology of state affairs and S&T leadership in democratic administrations.

Fourth, this research acquired forms and nature from the contents of state affairs’ ideology and S&T leadership in democratic administrations.

Fifth, this study analyzed the difference between the ideology of state affairs and S&T leadership in authoritarian and democratic administrations.

3. RESEARCH RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1. Kim Young-sam Administration

3.1.1. The Ideology of State Affairs

President Kim Young-sam ended military dictatorship system and seized power through democratic procedure, opening civilian government period at last. President Kim Young-sam got rid of military dictatorship system and constructed democratic basis through ‘Setting History Right.’ And President Kim Young-sam tried to reform many kinds of field including politics, economy and so on as carrying out real-name financial transaction system [3].

But Kim Young-sam Government brought out foreign exchange crisis due to the lack of economic management capacity, so IMF system emerged. And Kim Young-sam Government changed the goal of state affairs, so it switched from ‘Creating New Korea’ to ‘Globalization: Raising National Competitiveness.’ In addition, Kim Young-sam Government changed the goal of state affairs again, so it switched from ‘Globalization: Raising National Competitiveness’ to ‘Setting History Right.’ Thus, it is evaluated that Kim Young-sam Government was lacking in policy consistency [4].

3.1.2. The Leadership of Science and Technology

President Kim Young-sam suggested ‘S&T President’ as a presidential election promise. And President Kim Young-sam was deeply interested in S&T development from the beginning of seizing power.

Especially, President Kim Young-sam had strong policy will to enlarge S&T investment. As a result of Presidential try, the governmental budget of research and development sector
increased rapidly in Kim Young-sam Government period. In other words, the governmental budget of S&T sector in 1994 increased 32.7%P than the governmental budget in 1993, Rho Tae-woo Government period. That the governmental budget of S&T sector increased rapidly showed the strong will of president to develop S&T.

President Kim Young-sam made policy in closed way according to his subjective will. And President Kim Young-sam depended on private organization in making policy and repeated arbitrary policy-making [5].

Research and development investment and research manpower increased rapidly in Kim Young-sam Government period, so mutual cooperation and adjustment between the R&D investment of governmental sector and that of private sector were needed. But in reality, the adjustment of S&T policy within governmental ministries related to S&T was not efficient. This aspect was able to influence the development of S&T capacity negatively.

Especially, Special Adviser to the President for S&T which President Kim Young-sam suggested as a presidential election promise was not set up [6]. Minister Council for S&T composed of ministers who were in charge of budget adjusted S&T policy among governmental ministries related to S&T but this adjustment was not carried out smoothly in reality. It is evaluated that Presidential Advisory Council for S&T could not supply real policy advisory and policy adjustment to President Kim Young-sam because of conflict among S&T ministries [7].

### 3.2. Kim Dae-joong Administration

#### 3.2.1. The Ideology of State Affairs

Kim Dae-joong Government suggested ‘the development of Democracy and Market Economy’ as the ideology of state affairs. Accordingly, President Kim Dae-joong named his Administration ‘the People’s Government’ and tried to develop productive welfare and democracy at the same time.

And Kim Dae-joong Government tried to overcome foreign exchange crisis which previous Kim Young-sam Government brought about. Kim Dae-joong Government maintained neo-liberalistic policy keynote including restructuring of private and public company, financial reform, and the flexibility of labor-management relations in the process of overcoming foreign exchange crisis. Kim Dae-joong Government overcame foreign exchange crisis through neo-liberalistic policy line in the short term, and reinforced economic and social side effect
including the centralization of economic power, the breakup of middle class and polarization deepening.

Meanwhile, Kim Dae-joong Government pushed ahead with ‘Sunshine Policy’ to embrace North Korea. The Sunshine Policy was very different from strong policy which previous governments carried out against North Korea. As a result of the Sunshine Policy, inter-Korean summit was held and inter-Korean economic cooperation including Mountain Keumkang tourism was accomplished. Thus, stable relationship between South Korea and North Korea was set up. But there is the criticism that the Sunshine Policy which Kim Dae-joong Government implemented could not change North Korean system basically and was one-sided engagement policy towards North Korea.

3.2.2. The Leadership of Science and Technology

Kim Dae-joong Government suggested ‘Constructing Strong Nation Based on Knowledge and Economy’ as state affairs’ goal. Kim Dae-joong Government recognized S&T as a core motor to strengthen global competitiveness, so tried to enlarge budget related to S&T. As a result, Kim Dae-joong Government showed an active S&T leadership, so enlarged national R&D investment continuously.

Specially, Kim Dae-joong Government tried to set up administrative system to integrate, adjust, and implement S&T policy, so let S&T Ministry carry out the adjustment function of S&T policy to cover governmental department. And Kim Dae-joong Government launched National S&T Commission as a top decision-making body and emphasized comprehensive adjustment function of S&T policy and R&D business which governmental department pushed ahead with [8]. President Kim Dae-joong tried to construct administrative system which integrated the adjustment and implementation of S&T policy.

But Kim Dae-joong Government showed a certain limit of leadership in the process to implement and adjust S&T policy. There is criticism that National S&T Commission displayed a certain limit to adjust budget and review some business planning as a typical example [9]. It is analyzed that this problem was due to the inactive leadership of President Kim Dae-joong.

3.3. Rho Moo-hyun Administration

3.3.1. The Ideology of State Affairs

Rho Moo-hyun Government suggested ‘Democracy with People’, ‘Balanced and Developed
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Society to Live with’, and ‘Northeast Asia Age with Peace and Prosperity’ as state affairs’ goals. It is interpreted that in constitutional history of Korea Rho Moo-hyun Government abolished authoritarianism and developed high level of democracy through participatory democracy with Kim Young-sam Government and Kim Dae-joong Government.

Rho Moo-hyun Government emphasized the balance of national development between center and region and tried to promote specialized industry of region. Especially, President Rho Moo-hyun suggested ‘Constructing Society Based on S&T’ as a state affairs’ task [10]. And Rho Moo-hyun Government tried to develop participatory welfare and life quality.

By the way, Rho Moo-hyun Participatory Government suggested the progressive ideology of state affairs externally but maintained neo-liberalistic policy keynote in reality. Accordingly, external economic index including the boom of stock market was good but social unbalance and inequality including the increase of youth unemployment, the recession of commoner economy, concentration of economic power and polarization deepening between the rich and the poor reinforced.

Rho Moo-hyun Government tried to develop free economic zone to foster as the business base of Northeast Asia and construct Northeast Asia Economic Cooperation. And Rho Moo-hyun Government tried to set up the peaceful system of Korean Peninsula through the second inter-Korean summit and inter-Korean S&T cooperation. But there is criticism that the Participatory Government of Rho Moo-hyun implemented one-sided engagement policy towards North Korea similar to the People’s Government of Kim Dae-joong.

3.3.2. The Leadership of Science and Technology

Rho Moo-hyun Government suggested ‘Society Based on S&T’, and ‘the Second Establishment of a State on the Basis of S&T’ as the state affairs’ tasks. President Rho Moo-hyun tried to reform governmental structure continuously and systematically in comparison with previous Presidents [11]. Especially, to select S&T development as a state affairs’ task showed the strong will of President Rho Moo-hyun towards S&T field [10]. Accordingly, President Rho Moo-hyun enlarged the authority and responsibility of S&T Ministry and established Adviser to the President for S&T and the Deputy Prime Minister for S&T. President Rho Moo-hyun reformed administrative S&T system and showed interest in and support for S&T continuously [12].

Rho Moo-hyun Government reinforced the adjustment function of S&T innovation policy. The reason why Rho Moo-hyun Participatory Government tried to construct the innovation system of S&T was that President Rho Moo-hyun recognized the necessity of comprehensive adjustment system related to S&T innovation. And it was very meaningful that Rho Moo-hyun
Government introduced comprehensive adjustment system on R&D business, for civilian evaluated governmental business for the first time [13]. President Rho Moo-hyun established institute related to S&T and pushed ahead with S&T policy at the level of governmental department, carrying out an active adjustment activity as the president of National S&T commission [8].

3.4. Lee Myung-bak Administration

3.4.1. The Ideology of State Affairs

The state affairs’ ideology of Lee Myung-bak Government seemed to be opposite to that of Rho Moo-hyun Government externally. But Lee Myung-bak Government carried out social and economic policies similar to those of Rho Moo-hyun Government in a certain way [14]. President Lee Myung-bak stuck to liberal democracy and market economy at the field of politics and economy, claiming to support open foreign policy. At the field of economy, Lee Myung-bak Government suggested shared growth between big company and small business externally, but displayed conservative characteristic to be loyal to market economy system including deregulation and tax reduction in reality [15].

And Lee Myung-bak Government was oriented to efficient and small administration, so focused on changing governmental organization structure. Therefore, Lee Myung-bak Government pushed ahead with organizational reformation on the basis of integrating governmental department [16]. Lee Myung-bak Government claimed to stand for transferring central authority to region as a state affairs’ goal and implemented the distribution of central and regional function based on Decentralization Advancement Committee [17].

Especially, Lee Myung-bak Government claimed to support pragmatism and emphasized economic growth and employment enlargement. But Lee Myung-bak Government did not realize pragmatism at the field of economy, diplomacy, society, and relationship between South Korea and North Korea [18].

3.4.2. The Leadership of Science and Technology

‘577 strategy’ represented S&T Basic Plan which Lee Myung-bak Government pushed ahead with. This strategy emphasized to increase national R&D investment to 5% compared to GDP until 2012 and foster 7 R&D fields intensively including major and basic industry, creating new industry, state-led technology, service based on knowledge, and so on.
But Lee Myung-bak Government was oriented to small government, so integrated the Ministry of Education and Human Resources Development and S&T Ministry, setting up the Ministry of Education and S&T. Therefore, Lee Myung-bak Government moved the function to support basic science and develop manpower which S&T Ministry implemented to the Ministry of Education and S&T. And Lee Myung-bak Government abolished the Headquarters of S&T Innovation which Rho Moo-hyun Government set up and did not build control tower to construct and implement S&T policy [8]. Afterwards, Lee Myung-bak Government established National S&T Commission permanently and set up the executive office of National S&T Commission as the independent ministry of administration.

Though Lee Myung-bak Government claimed to stand for increasing R&D investment drastically, the real rate of R&D investment rose in a certain degree but did not accomplish target size. Especially, the burden rate of private sector was over 70% of total R&D cost, so the real subject of R&D was private sector [8].

As President Lee Myung-bak claimed to stand for pragmatism and focused on not S&T development but economic interest, the conception of S&T which President Lee Myung-bak displayed had basic limitations. Specially, that Lee Myung-bak Government emphasized pragmatism and economic growth brought about neglecting R&D investment in the long-term [19]. Eventually, Lee Myung-bak Government focused on short-term outcome, so did not reinforce basic S&T competitiveness.

### 4. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

This study is to consider the ideology of state affairs and S&T leadership of successive government from President Kim Young-sam till President Lee Myung-bak in democratic period. For this analysis, this research carried out comparative analysis of history on the basis of literature survey. As a result of this consideration, there was connection between the ideology of state affairs and S&T leadership of successive government in democratic period. Specially, presidential realization of S&T concept affected S&T leadership.

Kim Young-sam Administration was interested in S&T innovation but did not set up infrastructure of S&T policy systematically. The integration and cooperation among institutes related to S&T field were carried out systematically in Kim Dae-joong Administration and Rho Moo-hyun Administration. Implementing one-sided S&T policy led by government in authoritarian administrations changed into adjusting the conflict and interest related to S&T in democratic administrations. And R&D type led by state in authoritarian administrations
changed into type to enlarge the role of private sector in democratic administrations. But Lee Myung-bak Administration tended to recognize S&T field as the subordinate factor of economy and to focus economic effect through S&T development similar to authoritarian governments.

To reinforce global competitiveness through S&T innovation is basic trend in modern society. Thus, the strong passion of president on S&T innovation is decisive variable in determining S&T development. President must show up S&T leadership on the basis of the reasonable judgement of S&T.

Now S&T leadership which can adjust domestic and international interests related to S&T and solve conflicts of S&T is essential. We should set up systematical and consistent deciding process of S&T policy. And we have to enlarge aiding organization for S&T policy.

References


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