

Poverty as a Challenge

Q1. Describe how the poverty line is estimated in India?

Answer: A person is considered poor if his income or consumption level falls below the "minimum level" required to meet basic needs. This minimum level is called the poverty line. In India, the poverty line is estimated by multiplying the prices of physical quantities like food, clothing, shoes, fuel, light, education, etc. in rupees. The number involved in determining the poverty line varies for different years. In addition, the poverty line for rural areas is different from urban areas because work, lifestyle and expenses are different for rural and urban areas.

Q2. Do you think that present methodology of poverty estimation is appropriate?

Answer: The current method of poverty estimation does not seem appropriate. It takes into account only one factor and that is the economic factor. Furthermore, it assumes a "minimum" subsistence level rather than a "reasonable" level of living. Poverty has many dimensions. It is no longer limited to economic factors only. The definition of what poverty happens to development also changes. Its concept has made human poverty widespread. Some people may be able to feed themselves, but if they are considered poor, without education, without shelter, without health care, without job security, without confidence, without social equality. If poverty is to be eradicated in real sense and bring people above the poverty line, then not only do we need to increase their income, but we also have to provide education, shelter, health care, jobs to people. -Security, honor, dignity all.

Q3. Describe poverty trends in India since 1973.

Answer: The 2017-18 Economic Survey shows that although there has been a decrease in poverty in the country, the number of poor is still very high. The poverty ratio of 1993-94 was 45% for both rural and urban areas simultaneously and the ratio has come down to 22% for the year 2011-12. However, the concern still remains that there has been no substantial decline in the number of poor in the country. 404 million poor population in both rural and urban areas in 1993-94. By 2011-12, the poor population has been reduced to 270 million for both rural and urban areas. The survey clearly states that the authorities concerned should take some serious steps to make India a poverty-free country.

Q4. Discuss the major reasons for poverty in India.

Answer: The major reasons for poverty in the country are:

1. Colonial Rule: India underwent a long period of low economic growth under the British colonial administration. Colonial government policies ruined traditional handicrafts and discouraged the development of industries such as textiles.
2. High growth in Population: Rapid growth of population, especially among the poor, is considered one of the major reasons behind Indian poverty. Poor people are illiterate and have a traditional view. Therefore, they are either unaware of birth control measures or not convinced about the need for birth control. In addition, they consider the male child as an asset, a source of income and a source of protection during old age.
3. Unequal Distribution: Although India's national income has been increasing since 1951, it was not properly distributed among various sections of society. A large part of the increased income has been pocketed by some rich people. They become rich. As a result, most people have to live below the poverty line.
4. Social factors: Various social factors that is, caste system, joint family system, religious belief, law of inheritance etc., have blocked the path of economic development.
5. Inequality in people's income is also a major cause of poverty.

Q5. Identify the social and economic groups which are most vulnerable to poverty in India.

Answer: The social groups which are most vulnerable to poverty in India are as below:

1. Scheduled Caste Households
2. Scheduled Tribe Households

The economic groups which are most vulnerable to poverty in India are as below:

1. Rural Agricultural Labour Households

2. Urban Casual Labour Households

Q6. Give an account of interstate disparities of poverty in India

Answer: Poverty in India varies from state to state. The success rate for reducing poverty varies from state to state, leading to inter-state disparities in poverty levels. Orissa, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh are the three poorest states in India, with people living below the poverty line accounting for 47, 42 and 37 percent respectively. As far as poverty is concerned, Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab and Himachal Pradesh are the three best states of India. There are many factors that are responsible for these interstate disparities of poverty in India.

Q7. Describe global poverty trends.

Answer: The success rate for reducing poverty varies from state to state, leading to inter-state disparities in poverty levels. Orissa, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh are the three poorest states in India, with people living below the poverty line accounting for 47, 42 and 37 percent respectively. As far as poverty is concerned, Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab and Himachal Pradesh are the three best states of India. Global poverty has decreased significantly. Poverty declined in China and South-East Asian countries as a result of rapid economic growth and heavy investment in the development of human resources. In Latin America, the poverty ratio remained nearly the same. In Sub-Saharan Africa, an upward trend was seen rather than a decline in poverty. It increased from 41% in 1981 to 46% in 2001. Poverty has been reported in some former socialist countries like Russia, where it was previously non-existent.

Q8. Describe current government strategy of poverty alleviation.

Answer: Poverty alleviation is a major objective of the Indian developmental strategy. The present government's strategy of poverty alleviation is based on two placards:

- (1) Promoting economic development
- (2) Targeted anti-poverty programs

Awareness is being spread in the nation specifying the importance of education, as a result of which the level of literacy has increased. Various schemes like Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005, Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY) and Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) have been launched by the government with the aim of poverty alleviation. Country.

9. Answer the following questions briefly.

(i) What do you understand by human poverty?

Answer: Human poverty is a term that means that poverty in India is not limited only to the economic condition of the people, but also spreads to various other sectors, including lack of education, carelessness of the health care system, discrimination and inequality. Eliminating poverty from the country should not only be the objective of the authorities but it should also be the aim to end human poverty.

(ii) Who are the poorest of the poor?

Answer: Women, infants and elderly women are considered the poorest of the poor. This is because in a poor family, these people suffer the most and are deprived of maximum necessities in life.

(iii) What are the main features of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act 2005?

Answer: The main features of the National Rural Employment Act 2005 are as follows:

1. The Act assures 100 days of employment in every household every year.
2. Sustainable development to find out the cause of drought, deforestation and soil erosion.
3. One-third of jobs are reserved for women.