

INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

Class: IX	Department: Social Science	Sub: Economics
Question Bank:3	Chapter-3 Poverty as a Challenge	Year: 2023-24

- 1 Explain the principal measures taken in Punjab, Kerala and Andhra Pradesh to reduce poverty.
 - (i) The principal measures taken in Punjab to reduce poverty is increasing the agricultural growth rates.
 - (ii) Kerala focused more on human resource development to reduce poverty.
 - (iii) Andhra Pradesh focused on public distribution of food grains to reduce poverty.
- 2 How Poverty is viewed by the Social Scientists?

Social scientists look at it through a variety of indicators. Usually the indicators used relate to the levels of income and consumption. But now poverty is looked through other social indicators like

- Illiteracy level.
- Lack of general resistance due to malnutrition.
- Lack of access to Health care.
- Lack of Job opportunity.
- Lack of access to safe drinking water, sanitation, etc.
- 3 Describe how the Poverty Line is estimated in India.
 - In India, the poverty line is estimated periodically, usually every-five years, by conducting sample surveys.
 - While determining the poverty line in India, a minimum level of food requirement, clothing, footwear, fuel and light, educational and medical requirement, etc., are considered.
 - The present formula for food requirement while estimating the poverty line is based on the desired calorie requirement.
 - These surveys are carried out by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO).
 - In India, for determining the poverty line, the accepted average calorie requirement is 2,400 calories per person per day in rural areas and 2,100 calories per person per day in urban areas.
 - In the year 2011-12, the poverty line for a person was fixed at Rs.816 per month for the rural areas and Rs. 1,000 for the urban areas.
 - But for making comparisons between developing countries, many international organizations like the World Bank use a uniform standard for the poverty line, i.e., minimum availability of the equivalent of \$ 1.90 per person per day.

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- 4 Discuss the major reasons for the poverty in India.
 - There are a number of causes responsible for the widespread poverty in India. Some of them are:
 - (a) Low level of economic development under British rule in India.
 - (b) The decline of the Indian handicrafts industry, which led to unemployment, poverty and misery which were responsible for the low rate of income growth.
 - (c) Social factors like caste system, religious faiths and beliefs also kept a certain section of people in society in poverty.
 - (d) The high growth rate of population led to a very low per capita income in the country.
 - (e) Huge income inequalities due to unequal distribution of land and other resources.
- 5 Give an account of inter-state disparities of poverty in India.

In every state, the proportion of poor is not the same. The All India Head Count Ratio (HCR) was

- 21.9% in 2011-12, but states like Bihar, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Assam and Uttar Pradesh had above all India poverty levels.
 - **Bihar and Orissa** continue to be the poorest states with poverty ratios of 33.7% and 32.6% respectively.
 - In **Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh** along with rural poverty urban poverty is also high.
 - There has been a significant decline in poverty in states like **Kerala**, **Punjab**, **Andhra Pradesh**, **Tamil Nadu**, **Gujarat and West Bengal**.
 - High agricultural growth rates are responsible for reducing poverty in Punjab and Haryana.
 - Kerala has focused more on human resource development.
 - Land reform measures have helped in reducing poverty in West Bengal.
 - Public distribution of food grains is responsible for reducing poverty in Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.
- 6 Describe the Global Poverty trends.

The proportion of people in developing countries living in extreme economic poverty— defined by the World Bank as living on less than \$1.90 per day—has fallen from 36% in 1990 to 10% in 2005. Although there has been a substantial reduction in global poverty, it is marked with great regional differences.

- Poverty declined substantially in China and Southeast Asian countries- As a result of rapid economic growth and massive investments in human resource development.
- The number of poor people in China- Has come down from 88.3 % in 1981 to 14.7%in 2008 to 0.6 per cent in 2019.
- Countries of South Asia- The decline has not been as rapid. Despite a decline in the percentage of the poor, the number of poor has declined marginally from 34%in 2005 to 15.2%in 2014. Because of the poverty line definition, poverty in India is also shown higher than the national estimates.
- In Sub-Saharan Africa- poverty has declined from 51% in 2005 to 40.2%in 2018.
- In Latin America- the ratio of poverty has declined from 10% in 2005 to 4% in 2018.
- Poverty has also resurfaced in some of the former socialist countries like Russia, where officially it was nonexistent earlier.

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- 7 Mention any three features of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005.
 - **Answer:** National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 was passed in September 2005 with the following features:
 - (i) It provides 100-days assured employment every year to every rural household with the reservation for one-third of the proposed jobs for women.
 - (ii) The central government will establish a National Employment Guarantee Fund for Women and state governments will establish State Employment Guarantee Funds for implementation of the scheme.
 - (iii) If an applicant is not provided employment within 15 days, he/she will get daily unemployment allowance.
- 8 Explain two planks of poverty alleviation strategies in India.

The anti-poverty strategy of the government is based broadly on two planks:

(A) Promotion of economic growth:

- It results in higher income and a better standard of living.
- It provides resources needed to invest in human development.
- It improves infrastructures and increases employment opportunities.

(B) Targeted anti-poverty programmes:

MGNREGA, PMRY, REGP, SGSY, PMGY, AAY. (Write full form of each of these programmes)

- What are the major reasons for the less effectiveness of poverty alleviation programmes?

 Answer:
 - (i) It is due to lack of proper implementation and right targeting.
 - (ii) There also has been a lot of overlapping of schemes.
 - (iii) Despite good intentions, the benefits of these schemes have not fully reached the poor.
- 10 | State the various Poverty Alleviation Programmes introduced by the government to reduce Poverty.

1. Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005.

*The Act aims to provide 100 days of wage employment to every rural household.

2.Prime Minister Rozgar Yozana [PMRY]

- *It was started in 1993.
- *It aims to create self-employment opportunities for educated unemployed youth in rural areas and small towns.

3. Rural Employment Generation Programme [REGP]

- *It was launched in 1995.
- *It aims to create self-employment opportunities in rural areas and small towns.

4. Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY)

- *It was launched in 1999.
- *It aims to assist poor families above the poverty line by organizing them into self-help groups through a mix of bank credit and government subsidy.

5. Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yozana (PMGY)

- *It was launched in 2000.
- *Additional central assistance is given to states for basic services such as primary health, primary education, rural shelter, rural drinking water and rural electrification.

6.Antyodaya Anna Yozana (AAY)

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- *It was started in 2000.
- *It aims to reduce hunger among the poorest segments of the BPL population by supplying of food and other important commodities for their daily needs at subsidized rates.
- 11 When is a person considered poor?

A person is considered poor if his or her income or consumption level falls below the given minimum level necessary to fulfil the basic needs.

- 12 | Explain the concepts of:
 - (a) Social exclusion
 - (b) Vulnerability
 - (a) Social Exclusion: According to this concept, poverty must be seen in terms of the poor who have to live only in a poor surroundings with other poor people. Poor people are excluded from better surroundings with better-off people. For example, in India people belonging to certain castes are excluded from equal opportunities.
 - (b) Vulnerability: There is a greater possibility of remaining poor in case of certain communities (such as members of a backward classes, widows, physically handicapped persons). These groups of people face greater risks at the time of natural disasters (earthquakes, tsunami). Thus vulnerability describes the greater possibility of being adversely affected in comparison of other people in odd times.
- 13 Who are poor in the rural areas?
 - * In the rural sector, the poor include farm labourers, small and marginal farmers, rural artisans, backward classes and backward tribes.
 - *They lack basic literacy and skills. They are unable to find alternative employment elsewhere. They generally become victims of village moneylenders.
- 14 Who are poor in the urban sector?
 - *In the urban sector, the poor consist of rickshaw-pullers, cobblers, street vendors, domestic servants and low-paid workers working in factories or in other occupations.
 - *They reside in poor localities where the conditions of living are very poor
- 15 | Social exclusion can be both a cause as well as consequence of poverty. Explain the statement.
 - Social exclusion can be seen in the terms of poor who have to live only in a poor surrounding with other poor people.
 - Poor people are excluded from better surroundings with better-off people. For example, in India people belonging to certain lower castes (i.e., Scheduled Castes) are excluded from equal opportunities.
 - Poor people of certain castes have to live in a separate locality and are excluded from mixing with better-off people.
 - Due to such discrimination These people are deprived of better employment and growth opportunities.
 - Social exclusion thus leads to poverty and can cause more damage than having a very low income

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