



INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

Class: IX	Department: Social Science	Sub: Economics
Chapter -3 Q.B No: 3	Topic: Poverty as a Challenge	Year: 2024-25

1	'Poverty is looked through various social indicators by the social scientists. What are these indicators? OR Poverty is a multi-dimensional problem. Justify Ans. Poverty is a situation in which a person is unable to get the minimum basic necessities of life like food, clothing, shelter etc. There are various issues related to poverty. They are, • Hunger and lack of shelter • Lack of clean water and sanitation facilities. • Lack of a regular job at a minimum decent level. • A sense of helplessness. • Illiteracy level / parents are not able to send their children to school • Lack of access to healthcare • Ill-treated at almost every place, in factories, government offices, hospitals, railway stations etc.
2	What does Social Exclusion mean? Ans. • It is a process through which individuals or groups are excluded from facilities, benefits and opportunities that others (their "betters") enjoy. • According to this concept, poverty must be seen in terms of the poor having to live only in a poor surrounding with other poor people, excluded from enjoying social equality of better-off people in better surroundings. • Social exclusion can be both a cause as well as a consequence of poverty.
3	Define 'Vulnerability'. How it is determined? Ans. • Vulnerability refers to a measure describing the greater probability of certain communities like people belonging to backward castes, handicapped persons, old women etc. becoming or remaining poor in the coming years. • It is determined by the options available to different sections of the society in terms of assets, education, health and job opportunities, when confronted with any kind of disaster or calamity.

4	A common method used to measure poverty is based on the income or consumption levels. Explain. Ans. In India, the poverty line is estimated periodically, usually every-five years, by conducting sample surveys. These surveys are carried out by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO). The two methods used to estimate poverty line are: – • Income method: In this method, the poverty line is estimated with the help of minimum income required. In the year 2011-12, the poverty line for a person was fixed at ₹ 816 per month for the rural areas and ₹ 1,000 per month for the urban areas. The higher amount for urban areas has been fixed because of high prices of essential products in urban areas. • Consumption method: In this method, the average calorie requirement of a person is multiplied to the current prices. The accepted average calorie requirement in India is 2,400 calories per person per day in rural areas and 2,100 calories per person per day in urban areas.
5	Discuss the various groups that are vulnerable to poverty. Ans. The following groups are vulnerable to poverty: • Social Groups: - Social groups, which are most vulnerable to poverty are Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe households. • Economic Groups: - Among the economic groups, the most vulnerable groups are the rural agricultural labour households and the urban casual labour households. • Poor family: - There is also inequality of incomes within a family. In poor families, all suffer, but some suffer more than others. In some cases, women, elderly people and female infants are denied equal access to resources available to the family.
6	‘The proportion of poor people is not the same in every state’. Give reasons OR Give an account of inter-state disparities of poverty in India. Ans. • In every state, the proportion of poor is not the same. Bihar and Orissa continue to be the poorest states with poverty ratios of 33.7% and 32.6% respectively. 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.

7	Describe global poverty trends. Ans. • 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. • 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. • In the 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.
8	Describe the major reasons for the poverty in India. Ans: The main causes of widespread poverty are: • The low level of economic development under the British colonial administration: - It was the historical reason of poverty. The policies of the colonial government ruined traditional handicrafts and discouraged the development of industries like textiles. This resulted in less job opportunities and low growth rate of incomes. • High growth rate of population: - high growth rate of population and less job opportunities make the growth rate of per capita income very low. The failure at both the fronts: promotion of economic growth and population control perpetuated the cycle of poverty. • With the growth in irrigation and the Green Revolution, many job opportunities were created in the agricultural sector. But the effects were limited to some parts of India. • Unable to find proper jobs in cities: - Many people started working as rickshaw pullers, vendors, construction worker, etc., with irregular and small income. These people lived in slums and the problems of poverty became the feature of the urban sector. • Huge income inequalities: - One of the major reasons for this is the unequal distribution of land and other resources. Major policy initiatives like land reforms which aimed at redistribution of assets in rural areas have not been implemented properly by most of the state governments. • Socio-cultural and economic factors: - In order to fulfil social obligations and observe religious ceremonies people in India spend a lot of money.. Since poor people hardly have any savings, they borrow. Unable to repay, they become victims of indebtedness. So, the high level of indebtedness is both the cause and effect of poverty.

9	Removal of poverty has been one of the major objectives of Indian developmental strategy. State the various Poverty Alleviation Programmes introduced by the government. Ans. (a) Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005. • The Act aims to provide 100 days of wage employment to every household to ensure livelihood security in rural areas. • One-third of the proposed jobs have been reserved for women. (b) Prime Minister RozgarYozana [PMRY] • It was started in 1993. • It aims to create self-employment opportunities for educated unemployed youth in rural areas and small towns. (c) Rural Employment Generation Programme [REGP] • It was launched in 1995. • It aims to create self-employment opportunities in rural areas and small towns. (d) 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. (e) 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. (f) Antyodaya Anna Yozana (AAY) • 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.
10	What do you understand by human poverty? How can poverty be reduced in the future in India? Ans. It refers to the denial of political, social and economic opportunities to an individual to maintain a “reasonable” standard of living. Illiteracy, lack of job opportunities, lack of access to proper healthcare and sanitation, caste and gender discrimination, etc., are all components of human poverty Poverty can be reduced in the following ways: • Higher economic growth, • Increasing stress on universal free elementary education • Declining population growth • Increasing empowerment of the women and the economically weaker sections of society