



POVERTY: AS A SOCIAL PROBLEM

DR. ASHISH GHANSHYAMBHAI PATEL

Assistant Professor, (Sociology)
Arts and Commerce college, Bamna.
(GJ) INDIA

ABSTRACT

Poverty is a major problem in developing and undeveloped countries, India is developing rapidly, Indian economy is directly connected with GDP, agriculture base country is transforming in industrial base, in India 70 % people are living in rural areas, and rural people are looking towards urban areas for better opportunities and facilities. Over population is directly concerned with poverty. Government has taken lots of action and implemented various schemes to prevent poverty. Five year planning commission has decided to reform agriculture sector to increase income of people who are living below poverty line. Still we have to do more regarding this serious problem and we have to involve NGO's , financially sound people and corporate houses. Government has to revise tax policy and take strict action to prevent corruption. Surplus fund could be spend for poor people. Government should arrange proper employment opportunities for workless poors.

INTRODUCTION

Poverty and unemployment are the major problems in worlds developing and undeveloped countries. Regarding poverty, as per reference of world bank 1.90 dollars for poor country, developing countries 3.20 dollars, and developed nations 5.50 dollars daily income earning considered as a poor. The definition of all three sections is defined by international poverty line. In developed nation the poverty line ratio is defined by the government body of that country.

In year 1993 { 45.9% (43.3 crore) } , in 2005 (38.2%), in year 2010 (21.2%) Indian people were poor according to international poverty ratio, but according to India's poverty ratio in year 2011 { 21.92% (27.5 crore)} people were poor. Rural poverty ratio is 25.70%. By India's five year planning system the ratio of poverty has decline, but as per Tendulkar

DR. ASHISH GHANSHYAMBHAI PATEL

1P a g e



committee 27% people of our country are leaving below poverty line. Even after 70 years of independence and reaching globally highest economic growth rate India has remained poor. Asian countries who were consider more poor or underdeveloped than us like (North Korea, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, Malaysia, Vietnam) are now more developed than us. From year 1949 to 1976 china who was consider poor than us, now clams that poverty has been decrease due export oriented industrialization. Chinas income per person is four times more than us. Even small nation like Srilanka has earned two times more income than us.

Instantaneous president Shee Pranav Mukharji quoted in his speech to the nation that 20% of the people in India is still poor. According to rural poverty PM shree Narendra Modi quoted on speech of independence day of 2017 that farmers and peasants are the most poor among the poverty ratio of country. Even India is agriculture base country farmers and peasant labour are poor.

It is noted that most poor people are in Orissa by 72%, west Bengal by 68% and after that Bihar followed by Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Assam. Lest poverty is noticed in Punjab by 15%. In last 70 years to decrease poverty government has done many projects but according to the expectations of people no such difference is seen. Today in India 21.93% and in Gujarat 16.33% people are living below poverty line and rural poverty ratio is 25.70% and 21.50%.

REASONS OF POVERTY IN INDIA :

1 : Over Population –

High population growth rate is one of major reasons of poverty in India. This further leads to high level of illiteracy, poor health care facilities and lack of access to financial resources. Also, high population growth affects the per capita income and makes per capita income even lower. It is expected that population in India will reach 1.5 billion by 2026 and then India will be the largest nation in the world. But India's economy is not growing at the same pace. This means shortage of jobs. For this much population, near about 20 million new jobs would be required. Number of poor will keep on increasing if such a big number of jobs won't be created. At the time of independence our population was 35 cr. And now 127 cr. Indian population growth rate is 1.2 %.

2 : Low Productivity in Agriculture –

According to the WTO, India would have everything to gain from a full liberalization of the international markets for agriculture, industry and services alike. The liberalization of



international agricultural trade would allow India to develop and meet the great challenges it faces. Approx 49 % manpower of our country is directly involved in Agriculture sector, but output is only 14 % in national income. Indian agri sector is non efficient, poverty seems very high in rural area. Agriculture dependent people are not happy with commodity selling prices. Farm sizes are very small and 85 % farms are smaller than one hector, so commodity production per hector is very low. Weather and monsoon is playing an effective role in Indian agriculture.

3 : Corruption and Tax Evasion –

Corruption and Tax Evasion are also reasons for poverty in India, if we control or remove corruption, than we can get higher national income. In India we have only 16.7 % income from Taxes, USA 25.4 % , Japan 30.3 % getting income from Taxes. If India makes policy for double income from taxes, than government can help 26.5 cr. poor people by giving them 2000 Rupees per month as a poverty allowance.

4 : Unincorporated field –

Almost 90 % people of Indian work force are working in unincorporated field. Their wages, working days and salaries are Uncertain, so they are poor. They are not getting proper salaries and related benefits.

5 : Lack of irrigation –

Shortage of irrigation facilities is another factor which is affected to poverty. In India 14.1 cr hector land is agriculturable, but only 46 % land is with irrigation facilities.

6 : Non-implementation of Land Reforms -

Equitable access to land is an important measure of poverty reduction. Access to adequate land, a productive asset, is necessary for fuller employment of members of an agricultural household. Most of the rural poor are agricultural laborers (who are generally landless) and self-employed small farmers owning less than 2 acres of land.

PREVENTION OF POVERTY :

1. Accelerating Economic Growth:



In the fifties and sixties it was generally thought that poverty in India can be significantly reduced by accelerating economic growth. According to this view, benefits of economic growth will trickle down to the poor in the form of more employment opportunities, greater productivity and higher wages. With this it was expected that the poor will be raised above the poverty line.

2. Agricultural Growth and Poverty Alleviation:

Agricultural growth has been recognized as an important factor that contributes to marked reduction in poverty. A study made by Montek Ahluwalia, former member of Planning Commission, brought clearly that agricultural growth and poverty are inversely related.

3. Speedy Development of Infrastructure:

An important measure to generate employment opportunities for the poor and to raise their productivity is the speedy development of infrastructure.

CONCLUSION :

Government has taken lots of action to prevent poverty in India, but that are not sufficient, Economic development policies has decreased poverty from 56 % to 50%. To remove poverty from India, we must have to involve rural people in industrialization.

REFERENCES

1. Arthkaran na Aatapata, Gujarat Samachar.
2. Dr.Jayesh N. Barot & Prof.Vajesinh K. Pagi : "Change in Rural Society of India"
Sarth Bublication, Anand.
3. P.V. Yung :Scientific social surverand Research 1953
4. Goode and Hatt : Methods in Social Research.Tokyo
5. Forese and Stephen : Social Research methodology: printice Hall, New jersey (1973)
6. Gopal M.H.: An introduction to Research procedure in Social
Sciences. Asia pub.Housecc -1994
7. 12. Goode W.J. : Method in social ResearchP 1952



8. Maharana D.P., B;K;Nayk & N.C.Shah : Socio-Economic Change through
N.G.O. A case study of Gram vikas in a Tribal region in Orissa
9. Puline Young : Scientific Socioal Survey and Research. Prentice- Hall Of India
New Delhi- 1968
10. Selltitz,jahoda and others : Research Methods in Social Relations.
11. Vohra Vandna: Research methodology Omega pub.New Dilhiccs2007)
12. Desai A.R. (1950) Rural Sociology in India. Bomby
13. Patel A.S. (1992) Badlatu Gamdu' Centre for Social Studies, Surat
14. Zaveri M.K. (1977) Social Change, Gujarat University