

Vidya Bhawan balika Vidyapeeth shakti utthan aashram Lakhisarai

Revision class-9<sup>th</sup>

(Based on N C E R T pattern)

Date:- 08.07.XX.

Economics

### Poverty as a Challenge

#### Question 1.

Describe the poverty trends in India since 1973.

Answer:

- There has been a substantial decline in poverty ratios in India from about 55 per cent in 1973 to 30 per cent in 2009-10.
- More than 56% of rural population was living below poverty in 1973 which has come down to 34%.
- Around about 50 % of urban population was living below poverty in 1973 which has come down to 27%.
- Although the percentage of people living under poverty declined in the earlier two decades (1973-1993), the number of poor remained stable around 320 million for a fairly long period.
- If the trend continues, people below poverty line may come down to less than 20 per cent in the next few years.

#### Question 2.

Identify the various groups vulnerable to poverty.

Or

“The proportion of people below poverty line is also not same for all social groups and economic categories in India.” Explain.

Answer:

- **Social Groups:** The social groups which are most vulnerable to poverty are scheduled caste and scheduled tribe households. Although the average for people below poverty line for all groups in India is 30, 48 out of 100 people belonging to scheduled tribes in rural areas are not able to meet their basic needs.
- **Economic groups:** Similarly among the economic groups, the most vulnerable groups are the rural agricultural labour households and the urban casual labour households.
- **Inequality with in family:** Apart from these social groups, there is also inequality of incomes within a family. In poor families all suffer, but some suffer more than others. Women, elderly people and female infants are systematically denied equal access to resources available to the family.
- Therefore women, children (especially the girl child) and old people are poorest of the poor.

### Question 3.

Explain some measures which have been taken by the government to remove poverty.

Or

Describe the current government strategy to remove poverty in India.

Answer:

To remove poverty government has adopted two approaches:

- **Indirect approach:** This covers achieving high economic growth rate, promotion of small scale industry, promotion of agriculture. This approach is also referred as trickle down effect. It was assumed that the development of industry and agriculture would create employment opportunities and income, which would lead to rapid economic development.

- Direct approach: Under direct approach government has launched various poverty alleviation programmes and food schemes to target the poor directly.
- The government has launched various poverty alleviation schemes to control poverty.

(i) National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) 2005: It was passed in September 2005. The Act provides 100 days assured employment every year to every rural household in 200 districts. Later, the scheme will be extended to 600 districts. One-third of the proposed jobs would be reserved for women. The central government will also establish National Employment Guarantee Funds. Similarly, state governments will establish State Employment Guarantee Funds for the implementation of the scheme. Under the programme, if an applicant is not provided employment within fifteen days, he/she will be entitled to a daily unemployment allowance.

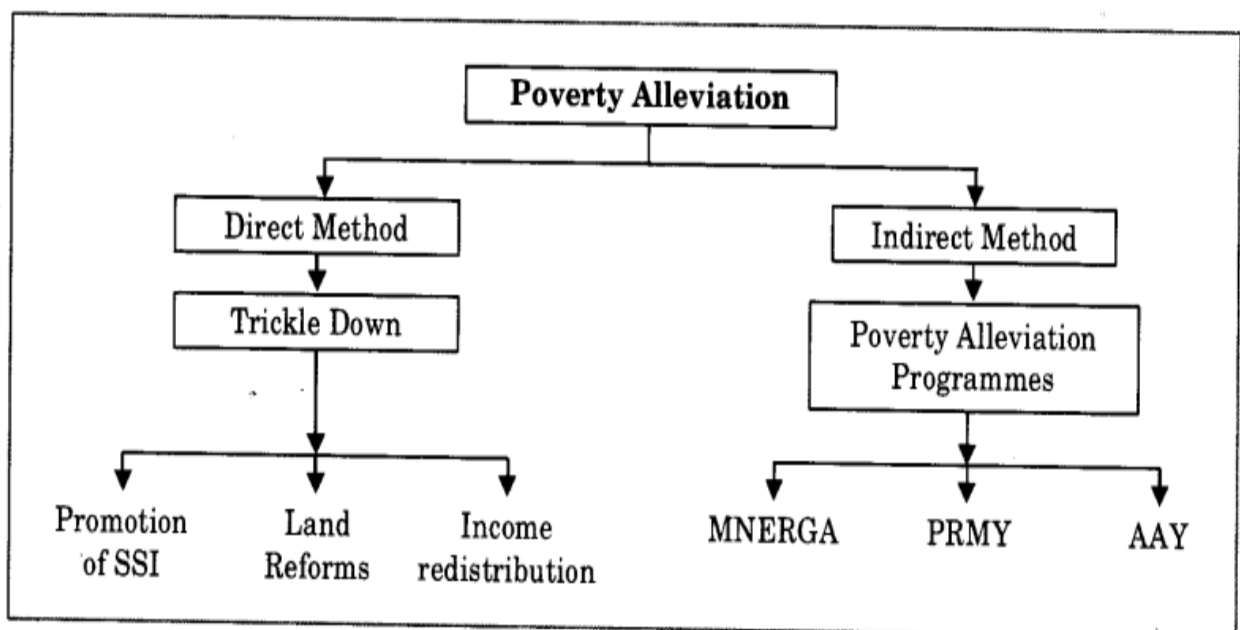
(ii) National Food for Work Programme (NFWP): It was launched in 2004 in 150 most backward districts of the country. The programme is open to all rural poor, who are in need of wage employment, and desire to do manual unskilled work. It is implemented as a 100 per cent centrally sponsored scheme, and food grains are provided free of cost to the states. Once the NREGA is in force, the NFWP will be subsumed within this programme.

(iii) The Prime Minister Rozgar Yojana (PMRY): It was started in 1993. The aim of the programme is to create self-employment opportunities for the educated unemployed youth in rural areas and small towns. They are helped in setting up small business and industries.

(iv) Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP): It was launched in 1995. The aim of the programme is to create self-employment opportunities in rural areas and small towns. A target for creating 25 lakh new jobs has been set for the programme under the Tenth Five Year Plan.

(v) Swamajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY): It was launched in 1999. The programme aims at bringing the assisted poor families above the poverty line by organising them into self-help groups through a j mix of bank credit and government subsidy.

(vi) Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (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.



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