



Roll No :  
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School : ACHIEVERS  
FOUNDATION  
Assessment : Poverty as a  
Challenge  
Subject : SST  
Class : CBSE -IX

Time : 00:00  
Marks: 107

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1 What kind of people in India are considered poor? 2

**Ans :**

They could be landless labourers in villages or people living in overcrowded jhuggis in cities. They could be daily wage earners at construction sites or child workers in dhabas. They could also be beggars with children in tatters.

2 What is poverty? 2

**Ans :**

Poverty is a situation in which a person is unable to get the minimum basic necessities of life, i.e., food, clothing and shelter for his or her sustenance.

3 What are the factors of human poverty? 2

**Ans :**

There are many factors of human poverty like not having job security, discrimination due to caste, having inadequate access to education, shelter or food etc.

4 Why is the concept of poverty being broadened into human poverty? 2

**Ans :**

The concept of poverty is being broadened into human poverty as the challenge is becoming bigger and the analysis of poverty is becoming rich through a variety of new concepts like social exclusion.

5 How is the analysis of poverty becoming rich in recent years? 2

**Ans :**

The analysis of poverty is being enriched through a variety of new concepts like social exclusion and vulnerability.

6 When is a person considered poor? 2

**Ans :**

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.

7 Who is an urban poor? 2

**Ans :**

An urban poor is a person who has an income of ₹ 1,000 per month and in terms of calories, has a requirement of 2,100 calories per person per day.

8 How is poverty line estimated periodically? State the organisation which is responsible for estimating poverty. 2

**Ans :**

The poverty line is estimated periodically by conducting sample surveys. These surveys are carried out by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO).

9 Why is the calorie requirement higher in rural areas? 2

**Ans :**

On account of people in the rural areas engaging themselves in strenuous physical work, calorie requirement in rural areas is higher than in urban areas.

10 Which social groups are vulnerable to poverty? 2

**Ans :**

The two social groups, most vulnerable to poverty, are scheduled castes and scheduled tribes households.

11 What led to the substantial decline in poverty in China? 2

**Ans :**

The substantial decline in poverty in China has been a result of rapid economic growth and massive investment in human resource development.

- 12 How is regular growth of population one of the major causes of poverty? 2
- Ans :**  
High population growth rate increases the rate of depletion of resources. Due to this, pressure on resources increases. People will have to manage with a smaller share of resources, thus bringing more people below the poverty line.
- 13 Is it correct to say that India has the largest concentration of poor in the world? 2
- Ans :**  
Yes, it is correct to say that India has the largest concentration of poor in the world. In fact, every fourth person in India is poor, which means 270 million (or 27 crore) people in India live in poverty as per 2011-12.
- 14 Give two examples of poor people whom you come across in daily life. 2
- Ans :**Beggars on the roadside, old people and destitute.
- 15 What is mass poverty? 2
- Ans :**  
Mass poverty is a situation in which a large section of people in the economy is deprived of the basic necessities.
- 16 What do you understand by human poverty? 2
- Ans :**  
Human poverty is a concept that goes beyond the limited view of poverty as lack of income. It refers to the denial of political, social and economic opportunities to an individual to maintain a "reasonable" standard of living.
- 17 Give one social indicator through which poverty is now being looked through. 2
- Ans :**  
Poverty is now being looked through illiteracy level and lack of access to healthcare, job opportunities, and safe drinking water etc.
- 18 What is the accepted average calories requirement in India? 2
- (a) In rural areas

(b) In urban areas

**Ans :**(a) 2,400 calories

(b) 2,100 calories

19 Who is a poor person according to the World Bank? 2

**Ans :**

According to the World Bank, a poor person is the one who earns the equivalent of \$ 1 per person per day.

20 Which economic groups are most vulnerable to poverty? 2

**Ans :**

Among the economic groups, most vulnerable groups are the rural agricultural labour households and the urban casual labour households.

21 How has Haryana reduced poverty? 2

**Ans :**

Haryana has reduced poverty with the help of high agricultural growth rates.

22 What does PMRY stand for? 2

**Ans :**PMRY stands for Prime Minister Rozgar Yojana.

23 Give the full form of REGP. 2

**Ans :**REGP stands for Rural Employment Generation Programme.

24 What can be the expected outcomes of poverty reduction? 2

**Ans :**The expected outcomes of poverty reduction are:

- (a) Higher economic growth
- (b) Stress on universal free elementary education
- (c) Declining population growth
- (d) Women empowerment

25 What are the bigger challenges before India? 2

**Ans :**Some of the bigger challenges before India are:

- (a) Providing health care
- (b) Education and job security for all
- (c) Achieving gender equality and dignity for the poor (any one)

26 Explain the colonial rule and income inequalities as causes of poverty.

3

**Ans :**

One historical reason responsible for the low level of economic development, i.e., poverty, was the British colonial administration. It was responsible for the ruin of the traditional handicrafts and textile industries. It led to a fall in employment and thereby income level. The situation was further aggravated by the high growth rate of population. As a result, the growth rate of per capita income was very low. Another major cause of poverty has been the huge inequalities in income, which are attributed to unequal distribution of land and other resources. Major policy initiatives like land reforms which aimed at redistribution of assets in rural areas were not properly implemented.

27 "Poverty is a curse upon humanity." Explain.

3

**Ans :**

Indeed 'poverty is a curse upon humanity' because the poor cannot afford belly-full meals a day.

(a) The poor do not have a proper roof on their heads to protect themselves from cold, rain and heat.

(b) Basic essentials like clothing, oil and soap etc. are missing in the daily routine of the poor. They cannot afford a minimum subsistence level of living.

(c) Sick members of the family suffering from serious ailments like TB, cancer etc. cannot be looked after in the absence of medication.

(d) In the absence of savings on account of very low income, the poor fall an easy prey to indebtedness. (any three)

28 "Every fourth person in India is poor." Substantiate the given statement.

3

**Ans :**

The above statement throws light upon the fact that in India there is poverty all around us. This implies that roughly 270 million people in India live in poverty. This also substantiates the fact that India has the largest single concentration of the poor in the world.

India faces the biggest challenge on the poverty front with the landless labourers in villages, over crowded jhuggis in cities, daily wage workers, child workers in the dhabas and beggars around us.

29 Explain any three social indicators through which poverty is looked upon. 3

**Ans :**

Poverty today is looked upon through social indicators like illiteracy level, lack of access to healthcare, lack of job opportunities etc.

(a) People are poor because they are illiterate and they are illiterate because they are poor.

(b) Poverty is a situation where sick people cannot afford treatment, i.e., they lack access to healthcare.

(c) Poverty also implies lack of a regular job, at a minimum decent level.

30 Define 'Vulnerability'. How is it determined? 3

**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 to have an access to an alternative living in terms of assets, education, health, and job opportunities, when confronted with any kind of disaster or calamity.

31 Describe how the poverty line is estimated in India. 3

**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). 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 ₹ 816 per month for the rural areas and ₹ 1,000 for the urban areas. But for making comparisons between developing countries, many international organisations like the World Bank use a uniform standard for the poverty line, i.e., minimum availability of the equivalent of \$ 1 per person per day.

32 Explain the two methods to estimate poverty line. 3

**Ans :**

The two methods used to estimate poverty line are: (a) 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.

(b) 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.

33 Analyse the factors responsible for contributing to decline in poverty in Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Punjab. 3

**Ans :**

There has been a decline in poverty in Kerala because it has focused more on human resource development. In states of Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu, the public distribution of foodgrains could have contributed to the improvement in food availability and thereby reducing the poverty. In Punjab, there has been a reduction in the level of poverty on account of high agricultural growth rate.

34 "Removal of poverty has been one of the major objective of Indian development strategy." In the light of this statement explain the two planks of Indian government on anti-poverty strategy. 3

**Ans :**

Over a span of thirty years, till early 1980s a very little growth in per capita income was observed and reduction in poverty was also not much. Since the eighties, India's economic growth has been the fastest in the world from 3.5% per annum in 1970s to about 6% during the 1990s. The higher growth rate has helped significantly in the reduction of poverty. This stands a testimony to the strong link between the economic growth and reduction in poverty. In the light of these, there is a dire need for the introduction of targeted anti-poverty programme to affect poverty directly or indirectly. Some of the major programmes in this direction are MGNREGA, PMRY, SGSY, AAY etc.

35 Why the results of the poverty alleviation programmes have been mixed up? 3

**Ans :**

The results of poverty alleviation programmes have been mixed up on account of: (a) Lack of proper implementation and right targeting. (b) Less effectiveness due to a lot of overlapping of these schemes. (c) Despite the good intentions, the benefits of these programmes have not fully reached the deserving poor. (d) Lack of proper monitoring of these programmes. (any three)

36 How is illiteracy responsible for poverty in India?

3

**Ans :**

Illiteracy is both a cause and effect of poverty in India. It is a social indicator of poverty. Illiterate parents do not understand the importance of education, so they do not send their children to school. Illiterates believe in all kinds of superstitions like the birth of a son is considered auspicious and a must. But in the wait for a son many daughters are born, who are then maltreated and undernourished. This increases the family size and thereby the poverty level of the family.

37 "Poverty reduction is expected to mark better progress in the next ten to fifteen years." Justify.

3

**Ans :**

The above statement is indeed true. In the next ten to fifteen years, poverty at the state level has witnessed some decline on account of different reasons. On the global poverty scenario front, too, a substantial reduction has taken place in countries like China. All this has been the outcome of the focus on removal of poverty. Poverty can be reduced mainly due to higher economic growth, continuous stress on universal free elementary education, decline in population growth, rapid empowerment of the women and the economically weaker sections of society, who are now being given equal or more opportunities to lead a reasonable level of living in the society. The eradication of poverty is always a moving and not a static target. Bigger challenges like providing healthcare, education and job security to all, gender equality and dignity for the poor are bigger tasks ahead to be accomplished in the near future.

38 What do you understand by the concept of 'Social Exclusion'?

3

**Ans :**

According to 'social exclusion concept', poverty must be seen in terms of the poor living in a poor surrounding with other poor people and being excluded from enjoying social equality of better-off people, living in better surroundings. The concept of social exclusion can be a cause as well as a result of poverty. In broad terms, it is a process through which individual or groups are excluded from the benefits, facilities and opportunities enjoyed by the others. As a matter of fact, the concept of social exclusion may lead to more damage than, the damage due to having a very low income.

39'Wide disparities in poverty are visible between rural and urban areas and also among the different states in India.' Elaborate.

3

**Ans :**

It is true that wide disparities in poverty are found between rural and urban areas and also among the different states in India. In terms of average calorie requirement, the accepted average calories 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. This variation is because the rural people engage themselves in more physical work, so require more calories than their urban counterparts.

In terms of money, the poverty line for a person was fixed at ₹ 816 per month for the rural areas and ₹ 1,000 for the urban areas. The finding that despite less calorie requirement, the higher amount fixed for urban areas is attributed to high prices of many essential commodities in urban areas. The proportion of poor people also varies between different states. Poverty is still a serious problem in Chattisgarh, Odisha, Bihar, Assam, Tripura and Uttar Pradesh. On the other hand, there has been a decline in poverty in Kerala, Jammu and Kashmir, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat and West Bengal. Haryana and Punjab have also witnessed reduction in poverty.

40Mention the two planks on which the current antipoverty strategy of the government is based. Why were the poverty alleviation programmes not successful in most parts of India?

3

**Ans :**

The two planks on which the current anti-poverty strategy of the government is based are:

- (a) Promotion of economic growth
- (b) Targeted anti-poverty programmes

The poverty alleviation programmes were not successful in most parts of India because:

- (a) Lack of proper implementation and right targeting.
- (b) Less effectiveness due to a lot of overlapping of these schemes.

41 You see children working in the dhabas. Suggest some measures to protect them in the country.

3

**Ans :**

As per the constitution of India, it is the moral duty of every parent or guardian to provide opportunities for education to his or her child. But on account of poverty, parents do not take their duties seriously and send their children to work rather than school. Some of the measures to protect them are:

- (a) Government has already provided free and elementary education for children in the government schools along with the reservation of some seats under the EWS category in the non-government schools. This measure is a march towards providing equal opportunities to all.
- (b) General awareness through media can be promoted through programmes like 'Laadli', 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao', 'Hum do Hamare Do' etc.
- (c) Other better-off people in the society should share and contribute to their social responsibility towards these poor children like sponsoring their education, providing scholarships etc.

42 "Social exclusion is a process through which individuals or groups are excluded from facilities, benefits and opportunities that other enjoy." Which groups of people face social exclusion in India even today? What values are undermined through social exclusion?

3

**Ans :**

In India, we still see that certain sections or groups of people face social exclusion. They are poor, disabled, people belonging to scheduled castes and tribes, minorities etc.

The values undermined through social exclusion are:

- (a) Tolerance                      (b) Generosity
- (c) Team work                      (d) Ambition
- (e) Commitment                      (f) Freedom

43 The current anti-poverty strategy of the government is based on two aspects. What are they? List the values generated among the poor through such efforts.

3

**Ans :**

The two aspects of government anti-poverty strategy are:

- (a) Promotion of economic growth. It widens opportunities and provide resources needed to be invested in human resource development.
- (b) Targeted anti-poverty programmes. It aims at sustainable development, ensures livelihood security and addresses issues like drought, calamities etc.

Values generated through such efforts are:

- (a) Self-respect
- (b) Confidence
- (c) Hopefulness
- (d) Financial independence
- (e) Responsibility
- (f) Practicality

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

3

**Ans :**

The social groups vulnerable to poverty are:

- (a) Scheduled castes households
  - (b) Scheduled tribes households
- The economic groups vulnerable to poverty are:
- (a) Rural agricultural labour households
  - (b) Urban casual labour households