

CBSE Test Paper-05

Chapter 09 Poverty

1. As per Rangarajan Committee, per capita income required per month to consume minimum calorie in take in urban areas is **(1)**
 - a. Rs. 816
 - b. Rs.1407
 - c. Rs.1000
 - d. Rs. 972
2. Amartya Sen developed an index to measure poverty which is called: **(1)**
 - a. Human Poverty Index
 - b. Squared Gap Index
 - c. Poverty Gap Index
 - d. Sen Index
3. Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana aims at **(1)**
 - a. Strengthening the Panchayati Raj system in rural areas
 - b. Generating employment in the rural areas
 - c. Meeting rural needs like Primary education, health care, drinking water, housing, rural roads
 - d. Alleviating poverty through micro-enterprises
4. Which among the following is the method to estimate the poverty line in India? **(1)**
 - a. Human method
 - b. Capital method
 - c. Income method
 - d. Investment method
5. How is absolute poverty measured in India? **(1)**
6. Write two programmes to solve poverty. **(1)**

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7. How much minimum calories are prescribed for children below one year and adults performing heavy work? **(1)**
 8. What is meant by 'Food For Work' Programme? **(1)**
 9. Differentiate between absolute poverty and relative poverty. **(3)**
 10. Which system facilitates the establishment of fair price shops in villages to distribute essential commodities? **(3)**
 11. Briefly explain the three approaches adopted by the Indian Government to combat poverty. **(3)**
 12. What can be your role as an Indian citizen in eradication of poverty? **(3)**
 13. Explain the three dimensional attack on poverty adopted by the government. **(6)**
 14. Discuss the features of poor people. **(6)**
 15. Give the critical assessment of poverty alleviation programmes. **(6)**

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Answers

1. b. Rs.1407

Explanation: Monthly per capita consumption expenditure of Rs. 972 in rural areas and Rs. 1407 in urban areas is treated as the poverty line at the all India level.

2. d. Sen Index

Explanation: Amartya Sen proposed an index that seeks to combine the effects of the number of poor, the depth of their poverty, and the distribution of poverty within the group.

The index is given by

$$P_s = P_0[1 - (1 - G^P) \mu^P / z]$$

where P_0 is the headcount index, μ^P is the mean income (or expenditure) of the poor, and G^P is the Gini coefficient of inequality among the poor. The Gini coefficient ranges from 0 (perfect equality) to 1 (perfect inequality).

3. c. Meeting rural needs like Primary education, health care, drinking water, housing, rural roads

Explanation: PMGY was launched in 2000-2001 in all States and Union Territories (UTs) in order to achieve the objective of sustainable human development at the village level. The PMGY envisages allocation of Additional Central Assistance to the States and UTs for selected basic minimum services in order to focus on certain priority areas. PMGY initially had five components viz., primary health, primary education, rural shelter, rural drinking water and nutrition.

4. c. Income method

Explanation: Economic measures of poverty include access to material needs, typically necessities such as food, clothing, shelter, and safe drinking water, measures of income, or measure of wealth.

5. Absolute poverty is measured in India with the help of poverty line.

6. i. Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana (JGSY)
ii. MGNREGA
7. The minimum calories required for children below one year is 300 and the minimum calories for adults performing heavy work are 3600 as they require more nutrition to carry out the heavy work.
8. Food For Work Programme was launched in 1977-78. This programme aims at ensuring food for the poor instead of money. This programme enables the poor to have access to food instead of money as money can give birth to many evils or maybe misutilised by the poor. Under this programme, the government gave work to poor people related to making of kutcha road, clearing debris, etc and gave foodgrains instead of wages. This programme was later restructured as the National Food for Work Programme in 2001.
- 9.

Basis of Difference	Absolute Poverty	Relative Poverty
Meaning	Absolute poverty means that the person is not able to achieve a minimum level of consumption. It refers to the state in which an individual cannot afford a basic subsistence level i.e. is insufficient in basic necessities of life like food, clothing and shelter.	Relative poverty means that a person is poor as compared to another person. It refers to individuals or groups that lack resources when compared with other members of the society they belong to.
Prevalent in	This concept is prevalent in less developed countries.	This concept is prevalent in developed countries.

10. Public distribution system is a system under which fair price shops are set up in villages, towns and backward areas to distribute essential commodities, particularly foodgrains at subsidised prices. It has provided to be the most effective instrument of government policy over the years in stabilizing prices and making food available to consumers at affordable prices.

11. In order to alleviate poverty, government has adopted the following three dimensional approaches:

- i. **Trickle-down Approach**-This approach is based on the expectation that the positive effects of economic growth will be trickled down or benefit all sections of the society and also the poor people.
- ii. **Poverty Alleviation Approach**-This approach aimed at the creation of income-earning assets and employment generation opportunities.
- iii. **Providing Basic Amenities**- This approach aimed at providing the basic amenities like proper medical and health care facilities, better education, proper sanitation etc. to the poor people.

12. I can do a lot in eradicating poverty.

- a. I must give wages to whomsoever I employ as a domestic servant, driver, gardener or otherwise minimum wages as per government rules.
- b. I can create awareness about government programmes amongst illiterate and poor people who come in my contact so that they get benefits of the programmes started by govt. for poor sections.
- c. I can instead of giving any donations to a beggar help a poor person to start some sort of small scale venture.
- d. People out of poverty waste too much, whether in wedding or at home(electricity, paper...) This led's to increase in price of things, which is harmful for poverty sector. I will tell such people not to waste things, instead give the things which they waste to the poor sections of the society.

13. **Three-dimensional approach to remove Poverty**

- i. **Growth-oriented approach:** The growth-oriented approach for poverty alleviation has been reinforced in the Tenth Plan by focusing on specific sectors which provide greater opportunities for the poor to participate in the growth process. This approach is based on an expectation that effects of economic growth (rapid increase in GDP and per capital income) would trickle down to the poor section also. It was felt that rapid industrial development and transformation of agriculture through green revolution in selected regions will benefit more

backward sections of the community.

- ii. **Poverty alleviation programme:** This is the second approach that has been initiated from the third five year plan and progressively enlarged since then the government has introduced a variety of programmes for eradication of poverty. Some of the poverty alleviation programmes are as under :

Food for work programme, Rural Employment Generation Programme, Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojna, Swarna Jayanti Shahri Rozgar Yojna, National Food for work, National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP), Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act.

- iii. **Minimum Needs programmes:** The Minimum Needs Programme (MNP) was introduced in the first year of the Fifth Five Year Plan(1974–78). This is the third approach and is aimed to provide minimum basic amenities to the people. India was among the pioneers that it would visualize that through public expenditures on social consumption needs. (Foodgrains at subsidized rates, education, health, water supply sanitation) people's living standard could be improved. Programmes under this approach are expected to supplement the consumption of the poor. Three major programmes that aim at improving the food and nutritional status of poor are:-

- a. Public Distribution System
- b. Integrated Child Development Scheme
- c. Midday Meal Scheme

14. Shahein Rafi Khan and Damian Killen have given following features of poor people.

- a. Poverty is hunger.
- b. Poverty is being sick and not being able to see a doctor.
- c. Poverty is not being able to go to a school and not knowing how to read.
- d. Poverty is not having a job. Poverty is fear for the future, having food once in a day.
- e. Poverty is losing child to illness, brought by unclean water.
- f. Poverty is powerlessness, lack of representation and freedom.
- g. Poor people lack financial discipline.
- h. Poor people never Learn New things.
- i. Poverty is feeling proud to ask for help.

15. Poverty alleviation programmes - A critical assessment:

Efforts at poverty alleviation have borne fruit in that for the first time since independence, the percentage of absolute poor in some states is now well below the national average. Despite a variety of approaches, programmes and schemes to alleviate poverty, hunger, malnourishment, illiteracy and lack of basic amenities continue to be a common feature in many parts of India.

Scholars while assessing these programmes, state three major areas of concern which prevent their successful implementation. Due to unequal distribution of land and other assets, the benefits from direct poverty alleviation programmes have been appropriated by the non-poor.

Compared to the magnitude of poverty, the amount of resources, allocated for these resources is not sufficient. Moreover, these programmes depend mainly on government and bank officials for their implementation. Since such officials are ill-motivated, inadequately trained, corruption-prone and vulnerable to pressure from a variety of social elites, the resources are inefficiently used and wasted.

Government policies have also failed to address the vast majority of vulnerable people who are living on or just above the poverty line. It also reveals that high growth alone is not sufficient to reduce poverty. Without the active participation of the poor, successful implementation of any programme is not possible. Poverty can effectively be eradicated only when the poor start contributing to growth by their active involvement in the growth process. This is possible through a process of social mobilization, encouraging poor people to participate and get them empowered. This will also help create employment opportunities which may lead to increase in levels of income, skill development, health and literacy. Moreover, it is necessary to identify poverty stricken areas and provide infrastructure such as schools, roads, power, telecom, IT services, training institutions etc.