
CBSE Test Paper 02
Ch-4 Human Development

1. Mention some ways of measuring human development in a country.
2. How can we find access to resources?
3. Who and when gave the concept of human development?
4. What is considered to be the main objective of development?
5. In present times how should we understand development?
6. What is difference between growth and development?
7. How is Bhutan different and special?
8. State the three differences between Human Development Index and Human Poverty Index.
9. Explain four different approaches of achieving human development.
10. Explain those factors due to which there is difference in HDI value of different countries.

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Answer

1. The ways to measure human development are constantly being refined and newer ways of capturing different elements of human development are being researched. Some of them are:
 - a. Political freedom index
 - b. Corruption index
 - c. Gross national happiness
2. Access to resources is measured in terms of purchasing power (in U.S. dollars). If the people of any region has high purchasing power it means they have enough means to be able to live a decent life. Factors affecting *access to resources* for the aged include age, disability, education, ethnicity/culture, gender, geographic location and socioeconomic status.
3. The concept of human development was given by South Asian economists Dr Mahabub-ul-Haq and Dr Amartya Sen in 1990.
4. The main objective of development is to create such conditions in which people can live meaningful live. A meaningful life is not a long life but it is the life with a purpose. It means that people should be able to develop their talents, participate in society and be free to achieve their goals. The aim of economic **development** is to improve the material standards of living by raising the absolute level of per capita incomes.
5. The concept of development should be understood with reference to happiness of the people of a country. At the end of the day, the ultimate goal of all human beings is happiness. High level of education, good health, freedom, political stability, access to resources all are means to attain one goal which is happiness. Therefore, Gross National Happiness is a good index to measure and understand development in present times. But happiness is not a quantifiable concept. Therefore, we need to be judgmental and as far as possible objective. Bhutan claims that Gross National

Happiness is the only possible measure of human development. Material progress and technological development are approached more cautiously taking into consideration the possible harm they might bring to the environment or the other aspects of cultural and spiritual life of the Bhutanese. GNH forces US to think about spiritual, non-material and qualitative aspects of life.

6. The main difference is that growth is quantitative and value neutral. It may have a positive or negative sign. This means that the change may be either positive (showing an increase) or negative (indicating a decrease).
On the other hand, development is qualitative and always positive. This means that development cannot take place unless there is an increment or addition to the existing conditions.
7. Bhutan is different and special because it is the only country in the world which has officially proclaimed the Gross National Happiness (GNH) as the measure of the country's progress. It is not willing to bring material growth and technological progress at the cost of happiness of the people. And also features like Seven things that make **Bhutan** truly **unique** and **special**. **Bhutan**, the birthplace of the principle of Gross National Happiness, is often perceived as one of the happiest places on earth. ... Yet, **Bhutan** is definitely a country like no other. It has no traffic lights or McDonald's but make no mistake.
8. Both of these index measures human development in a region. Together these indexes give an accurate picture of human development situation in a country. But they differ on following points:
 - i. The Human Development Index measures attainments in human development whereas the Human Poverty Index measures the shortfall in human development.
 - ii. Human Development Index (HDI) does not say anything about the distribution whereas the Human Poverty Index (HPI) measures the levels of distribution of education, health and resources.
 - iii. HDI is an income measure whereas HPI is a non-income measure.
9. The four different approaches of achieving human development are as follows:
 - i. Income Approach

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- ii. Welfare Approach
 - iii. Basic Needs Approach and
 - iv. Capability Approach

These approaches are explained in detail below:

- i. **Income Approach:** This is one of the oldest approaches. Human development is linked to income. The idea is that the level of income reflects the level of freedom an individual enjoys. Higher the level of income, the higher is the level of human development.
 - ii. **Welfare Approach:** Human development is linked to government expenditure on welfare. The idea is that the level of expenditure reflects the level of human development. Higher the level of government expenditure on welfare, the higher is the level of human development.
 - iii. **Minimum Needs Approach:** This approach was initially proposed by the International Labour Organisation (ILO). Six basic needs, Le, health, education, food, water supply, sanitation, and housing were identified. Higher the provision on basic needs, the higher is the level of human development.
 - iv. **Capability Approach:** This approach is associated with Prof. Amartya Sen. Building human capabilities in the areas of health, education and access to resources is the key to increasing human development.
10. The Human Development Index measures attainments in human development. It reflects what has been achieved in the few areas of human development. Since 1990, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has been publishing human development report every year. This report provides a rankwise list of member countries according to the level of human development. This rank can be anywhere between 0 and 1 where 0 reflects lowest score and 1 reflects the highest.

According to Human Development Report 2005 - There are 57 countries which have high human development index value (above 0.8); 88 countries have medium HDI value (0.5 to 0.799) and 32 countries have low HDI value (0 to 0.499). These values vary due to the following reasons:

- Some countries are spending huge amount of money on education and health

while in others majority of government expenditure goes for defence and hence these sectors remained ignored.

- In some countries, social development has occurred very fast and it has promoted human development while in others there are social evils which are creating hurdle in human development.
- Some countries have faced political instability and social riots in the past while others faced no such problem. It is also the cause behind difference in their HDI values. Last but not the least, people in different countries vary in their culture. In some cultures education and health are first priority while in others money is spent on religious and social ceremonies and these basic needs are ignored. India also falls in this category.