

Urban Poverty And Its Impact In India

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Abstract: Nearly 377 million Indian comprising of about 31 percent of the country population live in urban area (census 2011). It is likely to be increased more in coming future. In this process of urbanization, there is urban poor and slum dwellers exist in cities/towns in India. The spreading of poverty in urban is mainly due to migration from rural areas (whose people do have limited job prospect). In this context, paper is carrying out the study of urban poverty and its impact on health and societal aspect in India. The main objectives are – (i) to study the concept of poverty and main cause, (ii) impact of poverty on health and societal aspect and (iii) conclusion drawn base on the study. The methodology was adopted based on the secondary that available at public domain.

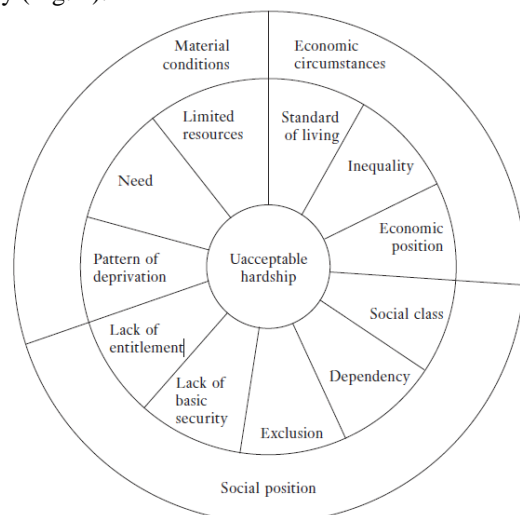
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I. INTRODUCTION

Poverty is spreading every corner on this earth. Nearly 3 billion people are living with an income of \$2.50 a day and 80 percent of humanity lives with an income of \$ 10 in a day. It is simply lack of income and not acceptable socially to live a better quality of life. In India, 32.7 percent of total population falls below the international poverty line of \$1.25 per day and 68.7 percentage of Indian Population live on less than \$ 2 per day (Junofy A. R. N., 2013).

Poverty is deprived or without being sufficient of the existing of material conditions, economic circumstances, and social position to being a quality of life. The cluster of these aspects (i.e. material, economic and social condition) determining the quality of life. Poor people do not have basic need of materials goods such as food, clothing, fuel or shelter to survive is first indicator to determine the poverty. Secondly, poverty as economic circumstances that related to a lack of resources or in terms of income. Limited income of poor people are not able to effort goods and services to have a standard of living or better quality of life as socially acceptable condition. Thirdly, indicator of social circumstance for poverty is the lack of basic security in terms of vulnerability to social risks as living under a struggle to obtain the necessaries of life and make both ends meets. Lack of entitlement refers to lack of right to poor people is includes in

the social circumstance indicator to determine the poverty. Lastly, Poverty as moral judgment is referring to the material with poor people deemed to morally unacceptable (Paul Spiker, 2015). To understand the poverty, different approaches by academics and research scholars are on the way determining the measures of various parameters to define poverty (Fig. 1).



Source: Paul Spiker, 2015

Figure 1: Concepts of Poverty

Urban poverty is defined based on the income or consumption complemented by a range of other social indicators such as life expectancy, infant mortality, nutrition, the proportion of the household budget spent on food, literacy, school enrolment rates, access to health clinics or drinking water, to classify poor group against a common index of material welfare (ADB, 2014). The characters of urban poverty are generally in dimensions of (i) poverty, employment and livelihoods, (ii) assets and consumption patterns, (iii) violence in urban areas, (iv) urban environment, health and poverty, (v) housing, and (vi) transport, public infrastructure and basic services (Rachel, M., et al., 1997). Generally, poverty may also be understood as an aspect of unequal social status, inequitable, social relationship, experienced as social exclusion, dependency and diminished capacity to participate or to develop.

Urban areas are engine of economic growth and Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is shared maximum from urban. It is fact that 37.7 percent in 1970-71 to 52 percent in 2004-05 of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) as fact it leads to attract the migrating rural area to urban area since rural areas has limited economic activities. Approximately 62 – 63 percent of GDP shared from urban areas in 2009-10 (*Planning Commission, 2013*). For the last decade, government of India is still working for improvement of urban poor and slum dwellers across the country. Numbers of schemes and programmes had launched over the decades through five years planning. The identified program and schemes are namely; smart cities, Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT), Swachh Bharat Mission, Urban Transport, North Eastern Region Urban Development Programme (NERUDP), Scheme for Satellite Town around seven megacities, National Urban Livelihoods Mission (NULM), Rajiv Awas Yojana, Credit Risk Guarantee Fund, and Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission etc (MHUA, 2019). Apart from various schemes and programmes, many developments in various sectors had been initiated by government of India. But still challenges for urban poor and their socio-economic development progress is poor in planning and management.

In India, poverty has been classified into extremely poor (6.4%), poor (15.4%), marginally poor (19%), vulnerable poor (36.0%), middle income poor (19.3%), and high income (4.0%). The maximum percentage of poor and vulnerable was 76.8 (IIPA, 2011). This is critical issues and need to address by government of India. For last decade, government has been implemented to eradicate the poverty by serious of schemes/program in India namely; Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDM) in the year of 1976-77, National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) in the year of 1980, Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP) in the year of 1983, Training of Rural Youth for Self-Employment (TRYSEM) in the year of 1979, Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) in the year of 1989, Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) in the year of 1994, Minimum Needs Programme (MNP) in the first year of the Fifth Five Year Plan (1974-78), Indira Awas Yojana (LAY) in the year of 1985-86, Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) in the year of 1993, Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana (JGSY) in 1999, Sampooa Gramin Rojgar Yojana (SGRY) in the year of 2001, Swarna Joyanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) in

the year of 1999, National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) in the year of 2006 etc (MHUA, 2018).

II. REASONS FOR URBAN POVERTY

The main cause of poverty are – (i) heavy pressure of population, (ii) unemployment and under employment, (iii) capital deficiency (iv) under developed economy, (v) increase price, (vi) net national income, (vii) rural economy, (viii) lack skill labour, (ix) deficiency of efficient entrepreneurs, (x) lack of proper industrialization, (xi) low rate of growth, (xii) outdated social institutions, (xiii) improper use of natural sources and (xiv) lack of infrastructure (Pooja Mehta, 2019). The narrative of poverty is describes in the table 1. As a result, migration took place to search job particular rural to urban area. It is a set of urbanization process. Almost 60 percent of the Indian population will live in urban areas by 2030 and slums dweller is projected to double from 1 million to 2 billion over next 25 years (Patricia and Johannes, 2010).

Sl. No.	Causes	Narrated
1	Heavy Pressure of population	Population has been rising in India at a rapid speed. This rise is mainly due to fall in death rate and more birth rate. India reached 84.63 crore in 1991 and became 102.87 crore in 2011. This pressure of population proves hindrance in the way of economic development
2	Unemployment and under employment	Due to continuous rise in population, there is educated unemployment and disguised unemployment. Poverty is just the reflection of unemployment.
3	Capital Deficiency	Capital is needed for setting up industry, transport and other projects, Shortage of capital creates handles in development
4	Under-developed economy	The Indian economy is under developed due to low rate of growth. It is the main cause of poverty
5	Increase in Price	The steep rise in prices has affected the poor badly. They have become more poor
6	Net National Income	The net national income is quite low as compared to size of population. Low per capita income proves its poverty. The per capita income in 2003-04 was Rs. 20989 which proves India is one of the poorest nations
7	Rural Economy	Indian economy is rural economy. India agriculture is backward. It has pressure of population. Income in agriculture is low and disguised unemployment is more in agriculture.
8	Lack Skill Labour	In India, unskilled labour is in abundant supply but skilled labour is less due to insufficient industrial education and training
9	Deficiency of efficient Entrepreneurs	For Industrial development, able and efficient entrepreneurs are needed. In India is shortage of efficient entrepreneurs. Less industrial development is a major cause of poverty
10	Lack of	Industrially, India is backward state. 3% of

Sl. No.	Causes	Narrated
	proper Industrialization	total working population is engaged in industry. So industrial backwardness is major cause of poverty
11	Low rate of growth	The growth rate of the economy has been 3.7% and growth rate of population has been 1.8%. So compared to population, per capita growth rate of economy has been low. It is the main cause of poverty.
12	Outdated Social Institutions	The social structure of our country is full of outdated traditional and customs like caste system, laws of inheritance and succession. These hamper the growth of economy
13	Improper use of natural resources	India has large natural resources like iron, coal, manganese, mica etc. It has perennial flow rivers that generate hydro electricity. Man power is abundant. But these sources are not put in proper use
14	Lack of Infrastructure	These of transport and communication have not been proper developed. The road transport is inadequate and railway is quite less. Due to lack of proper development of road and rail transport, agriculture market is defectives. Industries do not get power supply and raw materials in time and finished goods are not proper marketed.

Source: Pooja Mehta, 2019

Table 2: Causes of Poverty

III. IMPACT OF POVERTY IN INDIA

EFFECT ON HEALTH: The negative impact of poverty particularly on children often suffer from lack of protein and energy, the adverse health effects which are frequently worsened by deficiencies in micronutrients particularly iodine, iron, vitamin A and Zinc as limited income of poverty. They are not to maintenance the balance diet. One of the most devastating effects that poverty has is on the overall health of the nation (WHO, 2017). The problem of malnutrition is widespread in all age group of the nation particular at growing stage of children. Limited income in larger families leads to lack of access to sufficient nutritious food for their children. These children over time suffer from severe health problems like low body weight, mental, physical disabilities and a general poor state of immunity making them susceptible to diseases. Children from poor backgrounds are twice as susceptible to suffer from anemia, nutrient deficiencies, impaired vision, and even cardiac problems. Malnutrition is a gross contributor of infant mortality in the country and 38 out of every 1,000 babies born in India die before their first birthday. Malnutrition among adult also leads to poor health in adults that leaches their capacity for manual labour leading to a decrease in income due to weakness and diseases (Catherine N, and Sebean M., 2017).

EFFECT ON SOCIETY: Poverty exerts some gravely concerning effects over the overall societal health and creates crime. In a backdrop of unemployment and marginalization, the poor resort to criminal activities to earn money. Coupled with lack of education and properly formed moral conscience,

a poverty ridden society is more vulnerable to violence by it people against its own people from a sense of deep-seated discontent and range. Number of crime had occurred in India (states/UTs) and increasing over the years. This crime is mainly due to poverty and social unstable. This crime has been classified into six in this paper namely; IPC, SLL, Murder, Kidnapping & Abduction, crimes against women and crime against children. The number of crime has increased (Table. 2). With this context, Government of India has initiated to launch a mission of “Housing for All” by 2020 on 75th anniversary of India’s independence particular for poor people.

Crime Head	Crime Incidence		
	2014	2015	2016
IPC	28,51,563	29,49,400	29,75,711
SLL	17,20,100	17,61,276	18,55,804
Murder	33,981	32,127	30,450
Kidnapping & Abduction	77,237	82,999	88,008
Crime Against Women	3,39,457	3,29,243	3,38,954
Crime Against Children	89,423	94,172	1,06,958

Source: NCRB, 2016

Table.2: Crime Incidence in India (States/UTs)

IV. CONCLUSION

Urban poverty in India is increasing day by day and expected to increase more in future. Government of India should encourage to the state level and urban local bodies’ level to work the programme and schemes effectively as per the targeted aim and objectives. As the progress of development for urban poor is very slow and seem to less effective in any of schemes and programme. Proper monitoring and evaluation is required to carry out effective and efficiently. The consequence of poverty leads to creates many unwanted accidents. To avoid all unwanted accident, government should initiate to provide employment opportunities through concept of vocational train program.

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