

CLASS NOTES

Class: XII

Topic: POVERTY

Subject: ECONOMICS (INDIAN ECONOMIC DEV.)

Basic concepts: THREE DIMENSIONAL APPROACH TOWARDS POVERTY ALLEVIATION.

Three Dimensional Approach Towards Poverty Alleviation

To achieve the objective of poverty eradication, the government has adopted a three dimensional approach based on growth, poverty alleviation programmes and providing minimum basic amenities to the people. These approaches are discussed ahead:

1. Growth Oriented Approach

It is based on the expectation that the effects of economic growth (rapid increase in Gross Domestic Product-GDP and Per Capita Income) would spread to all sections of society and will benefit the poor sections also. Also, economic growth results in the creation of more employment opportunities and this would lead to fall in poverty levels. This was the major focus of planning in the 1950s and 1960s.

- However, this approach was not much successful because of the reasons enumerated below:

(i) Because of population growth, there was little increase in per capita incomes. The inequalities of income had widened.

(ii) Green Revolution widened regional disparities, as well as, the disparity between the large and small farmers.

(iii) There was unwillingness and inability to redistribute land.

2. Special Poverty Alleviation Programmes

The second approach to eradicate poverty focuses on various poverty alleviation programmes. They were initiated from the Third Five Year Plan. This approach also aims to eradicate poverty through employment generation programmes. The various plans are discussed below:

(i) Food For Work Programme

This programme was launched in 1977-78. Under this programme, the government gave work to poor people related to making of kutchra road, clearing debris, etc and gave foodgrains instead of wages.

This programme was later restructured as National Food for Work Programme in 2001.

(ii) Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP)

<p>This programme aims at creating self employment opportunities in rural areas. It is implemented through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission. . Under this programme, one can get financial assistance in the form of bank loans to set up small industries.</p>
<p>(iii) Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY)</p>
<p>This scheme was started on 2nd October, 1993. Under this scheme, the educated unemployed from low-income families in rural and urban areas can get financial help to set up any kind of enterprise that generates employment.</p>
<p>(iv) Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY)</p>
<p>This scheme was initiated in December 1997. It mainly aims at creating self-employment and wage employment opportunities in urban areas.</p>
<p>(v) Swarna Jayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana;</p>
<p>It was launched wef. 1st April, 1999. It aimed at promoting micro-enterprises and helping the rural poor to establish Self Help Groups (SHG). This scheme has now been restructured as National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM).</p>
<p>(vi) National Rural Livelihood Mission:</p>
<p>This scheme was initially launched in 150 districts in 2012-13. It is planned that this scheme will be extended to whole of India by 2016-17, providing self-employment to about 90 lakh persons.</p>
<p>(vii) National Food for Work Programme:</p>
<p>It was launched in 2001 and aims at augmenting food security through wage employment in drought affected rural areas of eight states, i.e. Gujarat, Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand. In 2006, this programme was merged with Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act.</p>
<p>(viii) Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana:</p>
<p>This scheme was launched in 2001 to provide greater thrust to wage employment, infrastructural development and food security in rural areas. Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) and Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana (JGSY) were merged with this scheme</p>
<p>(ix) Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MNREGA):</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">3. Providing Minimum Basic Amenities:</p>
<p>(1) Public Distribution System:</p>
<p>This system was launched in India in June 1997. It is a food security system which is established by the Government of India under Ministry of Consumer Affairs. Under this system, subsidised food and non-food items are distributed among the poor people.</p>
<p>(ii) Integrated Child Development Scheme:</p>
<p>This programme was launched on 2nd October, 1975 and provides food, pre-school education and primary healthcare to children under six years and their mothers</p>

(iii) Mid-day Meal Scheme:

This scheme was initially launched on 15th August, 1995 as National Programme of Nutritional

Support to Primary Education (NP-NSPE). It was renamed as 'National Programme of Mid Day Meal in Schools' in 2007

(iv) Pradhan Mantri Gramodya Yojana:

This scheme was launched in 2001. It aims at providing houses with facilities such as drinking water and sanitation to the rural poor.

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