

Q4. Discuss the major reasons for poverty in India.

Ans. There were a number of causes for the widespread poverty in India. One historical reason is the low level of economic development under the British colonial administration. The low rate of growth persisted until the nineteenth eighties. This resulted in fewer job opportunities and a low growth rate of incomes. This was accompanied by a high growth rate of the population. The two combined

to make the growth rate of per capita income very low. One of the major reasons for this is the unequal distribution of land and other resources. Despite various policies, we have not been able to tackle the issue in a meaningful manner.

(Q7) Describe the current government strategy of poverty alleviation.

Ans- The current anti-poverty strategy of the government is based broadly on two planks.

- promotion of economic growth.
- targeted anti-poverty programs.

(Q8) What do you understand by human poverty?

Ans- Many scholars advocate that we must broaden the concept of poverty into human poverty. A large number of people may have been able to feed themselves, but they do not have education or shelter or health care or job security or self confidence.

They are not free from caste and gender discrimination. The practice of child labour is still common.

(Q9) Describe how the poverty line is estimated in India.

Ans- Removal of poverty is one of the major objectives of the Indian development strategy. The current govt strategy of poverty alleviation is based on two planks:

1. Promotion of Economic Growth.
2. Targeted Anti-Poverty Programme.

- Some of the ~~Guarantee~~ Targeted Anti-Poverty programmes undertaken by the government are:
1. Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY). This programme was started in 1993. It aims at creating ~~self~~ self-employment opportunities for educated unemployed youth in rural areas and small towns.
  2. Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY). This programme was launched in 2000. It aims at creating and improving basic services like primary health, primary education, rural shelter, rural drinking water and rural electrification.
  3. Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP). This programme was ~~launched~~ launched in 1995. It aims at creating and improving basic services like primary health, primary education, rural shelter, rural drinking water and rural ~~etc~~ self-employment opportunities in rural areas and urban towns.
  4. Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment ~~Act~~ Guarantee Act. This act was passed in September 2005. This act provides 100 days assured employment every year to every rural household in 200 districts. Later, the scheme would be extended to 600 districts. One-third of the proposed jobs have been reserved for women.