

A STUDY OF THE INCLUSIVE GROWTH AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION STRATEGIES IN INDIA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

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- **Abstract:**

This research paper summarizes various aspects of sustainable development in the Indian context, exploring key areas, including inclusive growth and poverty alleviation, and progress towards a more sustainable future.

Today, in the 21st century, the Indian economy is facing more challenges such as global warming, nationalism, war, trade wars, the issue of crude oil, trade deficit, etc. India is the world's largest populous country and one of the five largest economies in the world. But so far, only a small percentage of the Indian population has benefited from this impressive growth, as many people in India still live in extreme poverty. About 8.5% of the world's population lives in extreme poverty. Living on less than \$2.5 a day may seem impossible, but it is a reality for about 601 million people in our world today. While pursuing inclusive and sustainable development, the benefits of development must reach the poor. The gap between the rich and the poor is widening rapidly in the age of Artificial Intelligence (A. I.).

Poverty is a phenomenon where a section of the society is unable to meet even the basic needs of their life. Today, poverty is a serious problem for the world, where we still find more than two billion people in developing countries. Currently, 10% of the world's population faces extreme poverty, 20% of which are found in India.

We have completed 79 years of independence and we are the fastest growing economy in the world. But if this growth is not shared across the society, development will fail. Poverty has long been a serious problem in India, which has affected human well-being due to poor health, low basic levels of education and declining standards of living. Even today, 25.8% of the total population living in rural areas of India lives below the poverty line, while the situation is slightly better in urban areas where 13.8% of the population lives below the poverty line. The findings of this study will help improve poverty alleviation policies that will benefit policymakers around the world who want to leave no one behind. Therefore, this paper will be a reference for scholars, policymakers, governments, and stakeholders for sustainable development to reduce poverty.

- **Keyword:**

Sustainable development, Inclusive Growth, Absolute Poverty, Relative Poverty, Poverty alleviation strategies, Uniform and Mixed Recall Period

- **Introduction:**

Inclusive growth and sustainable development is a concept that provides equal opportunities for economic participants with benefits accruing to every segment of society during economic development. The microeconomic dimension reflects the importance of structural change for economic diversification and competitiveness, while the macro-economic dimension reflects changes in economic aggregates such as a country's Gross National Product (GNP) or Gross Domestic Product (GDP), Total Factor Productivity and Aggregate Factors.

The United Nations Sustainable Development Agenda recognizes the need for multidimensional approaches to poverty eradication that go beyond economic deprivation. The Sustainable Development Goal “No Poverty” (SDG 1) envisions ending poverty in all its forms (income and deprivation) by 2030 through effective and sustainable state interventions, in rural and urban areas and among all groups (children, women, people with disabilities, older people). India is one of the fastest growing economies in the world. India has made remarkable progress in reducing extreme poverty over the past two decades of development. The pace of poverty reduction, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic, slowed down. Between 2011 and 2020, the country halved the share of its population living in poverty - to less than \$2.15 per person per day (2017 PPP).

India's aspiration to achieve high-income status with sustainable development by 2047 will have to be achieved through a process of climate-neutral global warming growth that delivers broad-based gains to the bottom half of the population. Our country will have to address the lack of women in economic participation. India dreams of becoming a developed country by 2047. Recently, NITI Aayog CEO BVR Subramanian predicted that India is on track to achieve a \$30 trillion economy by 2047. Former Chief Economic Advisor Arvind Subramanian has estimated that a \$50 trillion economy is also within India's reach.

However, some business leaders and policymakers have started questioning the current model of governance and fixing long-term targets without facing the real challenges. Infosys founder Narayana Murthy recently said that India's governance system has failed to be innovative. Problems are coming with no viable and sustainable solutions in sight. Murthy used Delhi's pollution to vindicate his point. He urged the government to change its system of management and take the challenges of the Indian economy head on.

Before we examine different efforts aimed at poverty alleviation, we should try to understand Inclusive growth and sustainable development. This particular Research Paper presents on concept of Poverty, figures of Indian poverty, causes of poverty and Measures of poverty and the Poverty alleviation Strategies in India for Inclusive growth and sustainable development.

- **Objectives of the study:**

The following are the objectives of the study:

1. The First objective of the paper is to study the Poverty alleviation Strategies in India.
2. The Second objective of the paper is a study of the Inclusive Growth and Sustainable Development.

- **Research Methodology:**

This paper is prepared through done with help of the information from secondary data sources that are from various websites, journals, Research articles, newspapers and magazines, Books related to Inclusive Growth and Poverty alleviation Strategies in India for Sustainable Development.

- **Aims of the study:**

This paper aims to investigate a study of the recent trends to achieve Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with its critical perspectives and future outcomes in Indian scenario and recognize the gaps and propose the way forward for future research.

- **Definition of Inclusive growth:**

Inclusion for growth means providing equal access to opportunities, resources, and benefits of development so marginalized groups also participate and share economic progress.

Inclusive growth is "that which benefits all segments of society from economic growth, while reducing poverty and inequality. It is not just about the pace of development but also about its method, how it creates opportunities and distributes benefits. The goal of development is to increase productive employment rather than simply redistribute income."

"Inclusive growth is economic growth that delivers social benefits, tackles inequalities and spreads benefits more fairly between people and places."

- **Definition of Sustainable Development:**

Sustainable development is a development process that can maximize the available natural resources. Sustainable development also means development that is able to meet the needs of the current generation without endangering the health and safety of future generations just to meet their own needs.

"Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

Eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions is an indispensable requirement for sustainable development. To this end, there must be promotion of sustainable, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater opportunities for all, reducing inequalities, raising basic standards of living, fostering equitable social development and inclusion, and promoting integrated and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems.

- **Sustainable Development Goals**

17 nos of SDG 'S are:

1. No poverty
2. Zero hunger
3. Good health and well - being
4. Quality education
5. Gender Equality
6. Clean water and sanitation
7. Affordable and clean energy
8. Decent work and economic growth.
9. Industry, innovation, and infrastructure
10. Sustainable cities and communities
11. Reduced inequality

12. Responsible consumption and production
13. Climate action
14. life below the river
15. Life on land
16. Peace, justice, and strong institution
17. Partnership for the goals.

- **Definition of Poverty:**

“Poverty is most hunger, Poverty is lack of good shelter, and people is being sick and not being able to see a doctor, most of child’s is not going to school and not knowing how to read, not having a job, is fear for the future, living one day at a time, powerlessness, lack of representation and freedom.”

Poverty is that state of economic being when the income of the people is so low that they can’t fulfil, even their basic minimum requirements. For survival, a person needs food that would provide 2100 to 2400 calories per day. People who can’t to buy food, which would provide them even this minimum needs, are said to be in Poverty.

- **A. Absolute Poverty:**

‘a condition characterized by severe deprivation of basic human need, food, clean drinking water, sanitation facilities, health, good shelter, education. It depends not only on income but also on access to services.’ Absolute poverty refers to those poor who are unable to maintain a minimum subsistence level of living. And that is why absolute poverty is often known as subsistence poverty.

- **B. Relative Poverty:**

Relative poverty is based on some relative standards which are relative to the particular time and place. It is measured on the basis of a reasonable and acceptable standard of living and style of life according to time.

Relative poverty, another dimension of poverty, is reflected by the extreme differences in levels of living between the top and bottom strata of society.

- **Determinants of Poverty:**

A Researcher identified some major determinants of poverty. Lack of income, Landlessness, Lack of livelihood sources, Inadequacy of infrastructure, Unemployment, Lack of housing, Ill-health, Illiteracy, Lack of food and Lack of Advanced Technology etc.

- **Poverty Estimation:-**

1. **Planning Commission Expert Group (1962)**, working group constituted by the Planning Commission formulated the separate poverty lines for rural and urban areas (₹20 and ₹25 per capita per year respectively)

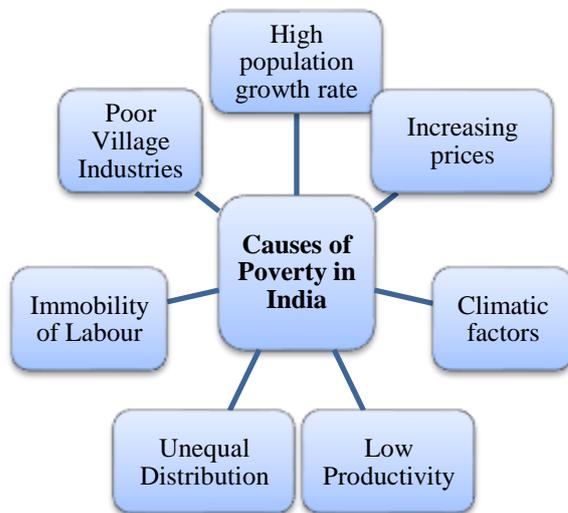
2. **V. M. Dandekar and N. Rath (1971)**, 40% of the rural population and 50% of the urban population lived in below the poverty line in 1960-61.

3. **Suresh Tendulkar committee’s estimate**, the Tendulkar committee gives us a different picture. The all India poverty ratio in 2004-05 is estimated at 37.2%. A figure higher than the planning commission estimate.

4. **Rangarajan Committee estimate 2012**, C. Rangarajan submitted its report in 2014. This committee suggested that persons spending below Rs. 47 a day in cities and Rs. 32 in rural areas be considered poor.

5. International Poverty Line, The World Bank defines a person as extremely poor if she is living on less than 1.90 international dollars a day, which are adjusted for inflation as well as price differences between countries. (Potdar, 2022)

- **Causes of Poverty in India**



- **Sustainable Development Goals- 1. No Poverty**



- **What is Poverty Alleviation?**

Poverty Alleviation Programmes aims to reduce the rate of poverty in the country by providing proper access to food, monetary help, and basic essentials to households and families belonging to below the poverty line threshold. According to the World Bank, Poverty Alleviation is if a person is living on \$1.90 a day or less, then he/she is living in extreme poverty. The Government of India were launched to eradicate poverty and to provide basic amenities to poor households.

- **Poverty Alleviation Programmes in India for Sustainable Development**

1. Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP)-1978
2. Pradhan Mantri Gramin Awaas Yojana-1985
3. Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS)-1995
4. National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS)-1995
5. Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana (JGSY)-1999
6. Annapurna-1999-2000
7. Food for Work Programme-2000
8. Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA)-2005
9. National Food Security Mission-2007
10. National Rural Livelihood Mission-2011
11. National Urban Livelihood Mission-2013
12. Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana-2014
13. Saansad Aadarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY)-2014
14. Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana-2015
15. Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana-2015
16. Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana-2015
17. National Maternity Benefit Scheme-2016

18. Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY)-2016
19. Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana (PMGKY)-2016
20. National Nutrition Mission (NNM), Poshan Abhiyan-2018
21. Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-Dhan (PM-SYM)-2019
22. Prime Minister Street Vendor's Atma Nirbhar Nidhi – PM SVanidhi-2020

To achieve the vision of SDG 1, we should start by acknowledging the multidimensionality of poverty and the importance of capacity building in human development aimed at reducing all aspects of poverty. The Government of India has introduced various schemes such as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act 2005 (MGNREGA), National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP), National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM), PM Awas Yojana, PM Gram Sadak Yojana, Direct Benefit Transfer of LPG or PAHAL, and PM Jan Dhan Yojana along with social protection measures such as PM Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana and Suraksha Bima Yojana and Atal Pension Yojana for the inclusive social and economic development of the marginalized and vulnerable section. The unprecedented and unexpected advent of the COVID-19 pandemic could have significantly increased the gap between an influential and a marginalized section of the population. Several relief packages in the form of free rations, cash payments, loan moratorium, increased free healthcare facilities, and many more gave a sigh of relief to a majority of the population.

The aim of this Research Paper is to provide an overview of various methods of poverty estimation along with the challenges of the poverty line approach in India. It also describes multiple dimensions of poverty and the performance of India based on the Global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI).

- **The Challenges to Inclusive Growth and Poverty alleviation Strategies in India for Sustainable Development:**

- 1. Population Density**

The population density of India is one of the highest in the world. This population density, coupled with Indian infrastructure which is not able to keep up with the population growth, is one of the main problems that the Indian economy faces.

- 2. Poverty Problems**

Another challenge faced by the Indian economy is poverty. Nearly 22% of the population lives below the poverty line. This means that a large portion of the population is not able to participate in the economy and this leads to a vicious cycle of poverty.

- 3. Food problem**

The human body needs to consume enough food to survive. But some poor families do not even get enough food to live on. Therefore, the food problem is seen as a very serious problem.

- 4. Indebtedness**

Due to the persistent situation of poverty, lack of employment, illness, addiction, and low income, consumption cannot be met. As an alternative, some families below the poverty line turn to borrowing, resulting in an increase in their indebtedness.

- 5. Income and wealth inequality**

The information obtained in the field survey revealed that economic inequality is the root cause of poverty. Comparing the income and consumption expenditure of a handful of rich

people with the income and consumption expenditure of the poor classes, one can get an idea of the poverty of selected families below the poverty line. In rural areas, there are respected village leaders, rich farmers and poor families for whom even a single meal is expensive. This economic inequality is the cause of poverty.

6. Poor Education

Another challenge that the Indian economy faces is poor education. The literacy rate in India is only around 74%. This means that a lot of people are not able to get good jobs and participate in the economy. This leads to a lot of social problems as well.

7. Skill Development

India is confronted with numerous issues in developing skills among its citizens due to its current infrastructure and policy framework. Insufficient scale and limited capability, skills mismatch, mobilisation, scalability, and non-emphasis on technical skills are significant challenges in India's skill development.

8. Corruption:

The most widely spread endemic in India is corruption, which must be handled quickly and wisely. There is hardly any office, in both private and public sector, that is untouched from this disease. There is no telling how much loss has the economy suffered because of this. Though most of us are concerned, when the time comes to act, we, the people of India, are found lacking.

9. Safety of Woman:

The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) reveals that there were 3, 09,546 incidents of crime against women in 2013 in India. Crimes against women have only shown an increase in the last five years. Safety is definitely one of the growing concerns in our country, particularly with regard to woman. Technology and access to it can solve many issues that women face in their day to day lives. Many startups have already taken the initiative to introduce products in the form of apps to ensure safety for women. They utilise features like GPS tracking, safe and unsafe areas on maps, ways to send alerts to emergency contacts, and scream alarms. But the main problem is this thinking of the men behind it.

10. Healthcare System:

It is true that worlds the most populous democratic country cannot provide proper healthcare facilities to its entire population. India is becoming a hub for medical tourism but all these facilities are not available to local residents, who are poor. Healthcare is a neglected issue in India, as major attention drawers are agriculture, infrastructure and IT. Lack of resources in rural India is a major concern of the day, leading to most of the problems. 50% of all villagers have no access to healthcare providers; 10% of babies die within a year of their birth; lack of nutrition caused stunted growth in 50% of all the babies. If you want to see the practical example just go for one day visit for Govt. hospital and also Pvt hospital, you will see how peoples are suffering in Government hospital and how much money private hospital are making

- **Suggestions and Way to Inclusive Growth and Poverty alleviation Strategies in India for Sustainable Development:-**

1. Recognition potential talent and capabilities:

Realizing the vision of Inclusive Growth and Sustainable Development demands unwavering dedication, a firm belief in India's destiny and a profound recognition of the vast potential talent and capabilities of its people, particularly the youth.

2. Reduce Poverty and Inequality:

Rapid growth alone has not guaranteed poverty reduction; inclusiveness ensures benefits reach marginalized groups.

3. Balanced Regional Development:

Disparities across states and rural-urban divides call for growth that spreads evenly.

4. Social Justice and Equity:

Ensures equal access to opportunities, resources, and markets, upholding constitutional values.

5. The energy of the students and the youth: -

There is a the need to channel the energy of the students and the youth of every university towards achieving the common goal of 'Viksit Bharat'

6. It requires comprehensive efforts with large-scale:-

1. Infrastructure development
2. broad-based welfare measures for poverty alleviation
3. Commitments to empowering women and youth through entrepreneurship, as well as the development of a vibrant agriculture sector.
4. To achieve the goal of Viksit Bharat by 2047, all sectors must contribute to the economic growth of the nation.
5. For that, regulatory reforms and ease of doing business are critical as they pave the way for attracting global investments.

● **Conclusion:**

To assure more employment generation in the country, the Skilled India programmes must develop more entrepreneurship skills among the population. When it comes to making concerted efforts to boost trade, these programs should focus on the unorganised sector. As a result, the Make in India campaign will succeed in terms of skills, and India will fulfil its goal of 'Koushal Bharat, Kushal Bharat. India seems to be improving its economic growth. Growth rate of GSDP in the last few years. The year has been 7 to 8% per annum. However, the post-reform period saw increase inequalities across regions and social groups, and between rural and urban areas. There is one there is a need for broad based and inclusive development to benefit all sections of the society. The Indian economy has changed a lot in the last 60 years. Changes could be dramatic over the next 40 years. The result shows that if things go right, the Indian economy can become an important source of growth for the world economy.

Economic Growth and Health status are positively correlated and have a two-way relationship, suggesting that better health enhances growth by improving productivity, and high growth allows better human capital formation. Health expenditure is an important determinant of both higher growth and better health a status, and is therefore a key tool available to policy-makers. Among other exogenous variables, literacy and industrialisation seem to reduce Poverty. According to the Global Hunger Index Report 2018 by the International Food Research Institute, India ranks 103 in the Global Hunger Index (GHI). Though there is no shortage of food

production in India, our nation still has 35.8% of children under five in the underweight category. India is working hard to become a superpower in 2020, but such statistics are worrisome, as our nation still lags behind in improving GHI. At the same time, India seems to have According to the Global Hunger Index Report 2018 by the International Food Research Institute, India ranks 103 in the Global Hunger Index (GHI). Though there is no shortage of food production in India, our nation still has 35.8% of children under five in the underweight category. India is working hard to become a superpower in 2020, but such statistics are worrisome, as our nation still lags behind in improving GHI. At the same time, India seems to have achieved commendable success towards poverty eradication, because it is no longer the country with the largest number of poor people.

Our estimates are optimistic. Any long-term projections are subject to great uncertainty in the sense that they assume reasonably successful developments, and we need to keep in mind that India's growth transition is unlikely to be smooth or without setbacks. The current attempt to estimate potential growth may not be conclusive in itself. There is a strong relationship between Poverty and Inequality, Unemployment, Hunger and Malnutrition. Ignoring negative aspects, Positive aspects can be taken into consideration in order to improve the sustainable Economy of our country.

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