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Influence Valuation Of National Approaches Plan In Poverty Extermination In India

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ABSTRACT: *Poverty infect is a socio-economic phenomenon that is intimately associated with inequality. It adversely affects human health, efficiency and productivity which in turn affect their income. It deprives a segment of society of bare necessities of life- food, clothing, housing, education and health. Poverty is more of social marginalization of an individual, household or group in the community/society rather than inadequacy of income to fulfill the basic needs. Indeed, inadequate income is therefore one of the factors of marginalization but not the sole factor. The goal of poverty alleviation programme should aim merely increasing the income level of individual, household or group but mainstreaming marginalized in the development process of the country. The country cannot claim economic growth when sections of the people are marginalized to the periphery of the society. The Reconstruction and Development Programme represent government's commitment to eradicate poverty. For this vision to materialize, policies must be orientated towards the provision of basic needs, the development of human resources and a growing economy which is capable of generating sustainable livelihoods. The success of government's strategy for growth, employment and redistribution (GEAR) is dependent on the maintenance of a sound fiscal and macro-economic framework.In almost all underdeveloped countries where per capita income is very low, income inequality has resulted in a number of evils, of which poverty is certainly the most serious one. This percentage of population was considered to be poor on an international criterion suggested by World Development Report. So this paper is an attempt to study national policies, plans and programs for poverty eradication. Economic growth and employment opportunities in themselves may not be sufficient to improve the living conditions of the poor. They need to be accompanied by measures that enhance the social and physical conditions of existence. It also tries to capture the dilemma of the policymakers in addressing development and justice over the Successive plans in India.*

KEYWORDS: National Strategies, Extermination, India, governments, Development, socio-economic, Poverty, employment, Economic growth.

INTRODUCTION: The Indian approach to poverty alleviation has relied basically on variety of schemes and programmes formulated by the Planning Commission with the objective of providing various services, benefits, facilities or creating assets for the poor at the grassroots level. The experience of India and several other developing countries indicates that any policy of poverty reduction of necessity had to operate at the grassroots and without a coordinated and targeted approach on the part of governments and its various departments, this objective cannot be achieved [3]. These programmes need administrative and financial support, the initiative for which must emanate from the Central and State governments. In India, the basic responsibility of implementing schemes of poverty alleviation has been of the State Governments with Federal Government providing necessary, policy, technical and administrative support.Poverty is widespread in India, with the nation estimated to have a third of the world's poor [4]. The World Bank (2005) estimated that 41.6 percent of the total Indian population lived under the international poverty line of US $1.25 per day (PPP), reduced from 60 percent in 1981. Poverty eradication has been one of the major objectives of planned development in India. According to the criterion of household consumer expenditure used by the Planning Commission of India, 27.5 percent of the population was living below the poverty line in 2004–2005, down from 51.3 percent in 1977–1978, and 36% in 1993-1994 (Economic Survey 2009-10). The overwhelming fact about poverty in the country is its rural nature. Major determinants of poverty are lack of income and purchasing power attributable to lack of productive employment and considerable underemployment, inadequacy of infrastructure, affecting the quality of life and employability, etc. It means to understand the definition of poverty; one should have knowledge of poverty line [5].

Poverty is a social-economic phenomenon in which a section of society is unable to fulfill even its basic necessities of life. The minimum needs are food, clothing, housing, education and other basic minimum human needs. Humanity faces pains and miseries if it does not attain a subsistence level of such needs. It is generally agreed in this country that only they who fail to reach a certain minimum consumption standard should be regards as poor. "No

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society can surely be flourishing and happy, of which the far greater part of the members are poor and miserable" [1]. Poverty is about denial of opportunities and fulfillment of human potential. Poverty and inequality are closely related, and inequality appears to have been on the rise worldwide in recent decades at both national and international levels. More than 80 percent of the world's population lives in countries where income differentials are widening. The poorest 40 percent of the world's population account for only 5 percent of global income. On the other hand, the richest 20 percent account for 75 percent of world income, according to the United Nations Development Programme. Poverty is the principal cause of hunger and under nourishment. According to most recent estimates of the Food & Agriculture Organization of the United Nations [2], the number of hungry people worldwide has reached 963 million, or roughly 15 percent of the estimated world population. This represents an increase of 142 million over the figure for 1990-92. Poverty essentially consists of two elements, narrowly-defined "income" poverty and a broader concept of "human" poverty. Income poverty is defined as the lack of necessities for minimum material wellbeing determined by the national poverty line. Human poverty means the denial of choices and opportunities for a tolerable life in all economic and social aspects recognizing the problem, the Millennium Development Goals of the United Nations also contain a commitment to halve the proportion of the world's population living in extreme poverty by 2015. Alleviation of poverty has been the basic aim of policy makers ever since the India became independent.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE:

The growing unemployment has been a major problem. Provision of employment to all the jobseekers has been a major challenge for the planners. The entire population does not have access to all the basic necessities of life, in particular, drinking water and health facilities. Infant mortality is still high and literacy levels, particularly among the women, are low. The social infrastructure has to attend to with urgency. Eradication of poverty and provision of basic minimum services are integral elements of any strategy to improve the quality of life. No development process can be sustainable unless it leads to visible and widespread improvement in these areas. There is by now enough evidence to show that rapid growth has strong poverty reducing effects andgiven a public policy stance, which is sensitive to the needs of the poor a focus on accelerated growth will also help in realizing the objectives of alleviating poverty. Economic growth and employment opportunities in themselves may not be sufficient to improve the living conditions of the poor. They need to be accompanied by measures that enhance the social and physical conditions of existence.

India is a haven to 22% of the world's poor. Such a high incidence of poverty is a matter of apprehension, in view of the fact that poverty eradication has been one of the major objectives of the development process. Really, poverty is a global dialog. Poverty eradication is considered integral to humanity's mission for sustainable development. Thus, reduction of poverty in India is vital for the attainment of international goals. The philosophy underlying the poverty alleviation programs is to tackle the rural poverty by endowing the poor with productive assets and training for raising their skills so that they are assured of a regular stream of employment and income in raising themselves above the poverty line [8]. At the macro-level, there is a need to co-ordinate a myriad of poverty alleviation programmes of the central government and the State governments. The transfer of central funds to the States for different programmes should be efficient. Currently, such funds and goods like food grains are not fully utilized by the States. There is a need to strengthen the financial management capacity of certain States to use the funds efficiently [9].Although concerned efforts have been initiated by the Government of India through several plans and measures to alleviate poverty in rural India, there still remains much more to be done to bring prosperity in the lives of the people in rural areas [6]. Self-employment programmes like microcredit is successful because of people's participation in the form of SHGs. The government has taken a major step in this direction in the form of 73rd and 74th amendment to the constitution to give more powers to PRI [7].

Despite considerable efforts, provision of social infrastructure and services remain inadequate. These are areas which are in the nature of quasipublic goods and in which private initiatives and the market are unlikely to play a significant role. Primary education, primary health care, including the preventive and primitive, safe drinking water, nutrition and sanitation require heavy investment which has to be provided out of public funds. The broad strategy of rural development in India is reflected in our constitution. This strategy is based on the progressive elimination of

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inequalities among the different sections of the society in the country. India has strong hierarchical social system with different social and economic inequalities in rural areas. Keeping this in view, the Government of India has taken initiatives for rural poverty alleviation. The initiations have been taken from the First Five Year Plan, it is envisaged that the successive five year plans would create a better, richer and fuller life for the thousands of rural communities in India. Keeping the above realities in mind various Five-year Plans formulated programmes and schemes to tackle the problem of backwardness of the rural areas, poverty and unemployment. The Government of India's poverty alleviation programmes are broadly of five categories; they are Self-Employment Programmes, Wage – employment programmes, Area Development Programmes, Social Security Programmes and other programmes such as Integrated Rural Development Programme, JawaharRozgarYojana, Annapurna, AntyodayaAnna Yojana and PradhanManthri Gram SadakYojana and National Rural Employment Guarantee scheme.

MAJOR PROBLEMS CAUSED BY POVERTY:

Impact of Poverty on Women:

• Being female is reported to be a risk factor for common mental disorders. Studies from India have shown that poverty and deprivation are independently associated with the risk for common mental disorder in women and add to the sources of stress associated with womanhood [1].

• Depression during pregnancy is a common problem and is associated with indicators of socio-economic deprivation as well as other problems such as violence and loss of an intimate relationship [4].

• Interviews with relatives of young women in rural China who had committed suicide and the survivors of suicide attempts revealed that hopelessness was a core experience, associated with poverty, limited educational and work prospects and the migration of husbands to urban areas for employment; these were in addition to other issues such as stigma for failing to produce a son, spouse and family abuse and forced marriages [2].

• Within a household, studies reported that some members of the household go without certain goods and services in order to increase the amount available for others; parents most commonly go without on behalf of children and women are most likely to go without than men[3].

POVERTY EXTERMINATION IN INDIA:

Poverty and inequality are closely related and inequality appears to have been on the rise worldwide in recent decades at both national and international levels. More than 80 percent of the world's population lives in countries where income differentials are widening. The poorest 40 percent of the world's population account for only 5 percent of global income. On the other hand, the richest 20 percent account for 75 percent of world income, according to the United Nations Development Programme. Poverty is the principal cause of hunger and under nourishment. According to most recent estimates of the Food & Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the number of hungry people worldwide has reached 963 million or roughly 15 percent of the estimated world population [10].Poverty is a social-economic phenomenon in which a section of society is unable to fulfill even its basic necessities of life. The minimum needs are food, clothing, housing, education and other basic minimum human needs. Humanity faces pains and miseries if it does not attain a subsistence level of such needs. It is generally agreed that only these would fail to reach a certain minimum consumption standard should be regards as poor. Poverty is about contradiction of opportunities and fulfillment of human potential.

Trends in Poverty in India: During five year plans, several programs has been introduced to alleviate poverty in India, yet there has been an increase in the number of poor persons in the country. There were about 32.1 crore persons living below poverty line in 1973-784. It remained almost stagnant during a decade of 1973-1983 but it come down to 26 crore in 1999-2000 and 22 crore in 2004-05. Poverty in rural sector always was on higher side as compared to urban India. But it came down in 2004-05 in both rural and urban sector. By the end of 11th plan number of poor persons are expected to come down to 10 crore. A brief analysis showing absolute trend in poverty in India is shown through following table:

Table 1 Trends in poverty in India (Crore)

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Year	Rural	urban	India
1973-74	26.1	6.0	32.1
1977-78	26.4	6.5	32.9
1983-84	25.2	7.1	32.3
1987-88	23.2	7.5	30.0
1993-94	24.4	7.6	32.0
1999-2000	19.3	6.7	26.0
2007	17.0	3.0	20.0
2011	___	___	10.0

Trends of State Level Poverty of India: In India different states have different number of poor persons. Utter Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, Utterakhand; Madhya Pradesh etc. have relatively more number of poor persons as compared to other states. In percentage form Orissa has the highest % of persons living below poverty line i.e., 43%age and Punjab has lowest i.e., 6%. A comparative study of rich and poor states is shown below:

Table 2 Trends in poverty among different states

States with higher %age of Poverty	%age	States with lower %age of Poverty	%age
Orissa	46.4	Punjab	8.4
Bihar	41.4	Himachal Pradesh	10
Chhattisgarh	40.9	Haryana	14
Jharkhand	40.3	Kerala	15
Madhya Pradesh	38.3		
Utter Pradesh	32.8		

According to economic survey report 2010-11

1. The percentage of people below the poverty line is very high in states like Orissa, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Uttarakhand, and Madhya Pradesh, both in terms of URP and MRP. Punjab is the best performing state in terms of this indicator.

2. Income inequality measured by the Gini coefficient (in rural areas) is highest in Haryana followed by Kerala, Maharashtra, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, and West Bengal. Though inequality is lowest in rural areas of Bihar and Assam, this may mean greater equality at low levels of income.

3. In urban areas, income inequality is highest in Madhya Pradesh followed by West Bengal, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, and Chhattisgarh

Twelfth Five Year Plan (2012-17): The Twelfth Plan commenced at a time when the global economy was going through a second financial crisis, precipitated by the sovereign debt problems of the Eurozone which erupted in the last year of the Eleventh Plan. The crisis affected all countries including India. Our growth slowed down to 6.2 percent in 2011-12 and the deceleration continued into the first year of the Twelfth Plan, when the economy is estimated to have grown by only 5 percent. The Twelfth Plan therefore emphasizes that our first priority must be to bring the economy back to rapid growth while ensuring that the growth is both inclusive and sustainable. The broad vision and aspirations which the Twelfth Plan seeks to fulfill are reflected in the subtitle: 'Faster, Sustainable, and More Inclusive Growth'. Inclusiveness is to be achieved through poverty reduction, promoting group equality and regional balance, reducing inequality, empowering people etc. whereas sustainability includes ensuring environmental sustainability, development of human capital through improved health, education, skill development, nutrition, information technology etc. and development of institutional capabilities,infrastructure like power telecommunication, roads, transport etc. The Twelfth Plan lays out an ambitious set of Government programmes, which will help to achieve the objective of rapid and inclusive growth. In view of the scarcity of resources, it is essential to take bold steps to improve the efficiency of public expenditure through plan programmes. Need for fiscal correction viz tax reforms like GST, reduction of subsidies as per cent of GDP while still allowing for targeted subsidies that advance the cause of inclusiveness etc. and managing the current account deficit would be another chief concerns. Achieving sustained growth would require long term increase in investment and savings rate.

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Bringing the economy back to 9 per cent growth by the end of the Twelfth Plan requires fixed investment rate to rise to 35 per cent of GDP by the end of the Plan period. This will require action to revive private investment, including private corporate investment, and also action to stimulate public investment, especially in key areas of infrastructure especially, energy, transport, water supply and water resource management. Reversal of the combined deterioration in government and corporate savings has to be a key element in the strategy.

TRENDS IN POVERTY IN INDIA:

During five year plans, several programs have been introduced to alleviate poverty in India, yet there has been an increase in the number of poor persons in the country.

Pre-Independence: The National Planning Committee in 1936 under Nehru has made an economic review and recognized that "there was lack of food, of clothing, of housing and of every other essential requirement of human existence". Against this assessment, the Committee declared that the development policy objective should be to "ensure an adequate standard of living for the masses, in other words, to get rid of the appalling poverty of the people".

Post –Independence: The poverty line which divides the poor from the non-poor is got by putting a price on the minimum required consumption levels of food, clothing, shelter, fuel and health care, etc. There have been various attempts to define poverty line in Indian context. The Expert Group recommended that the poverty line approach anchored in a calorie norm and associated with a fixed consumption basket (as recommended by the 1979 Task Force) might be continued. However, the Expert Group further recommended that the state – specific poverty lines be worked out. This was done in two steps.

1. To work out State-specific poverty line for the base year 1973–74 by taking the standardized commodity basket corresponding to the poverty line at the national level and valuing it at the prices prevailing in each state in the base year.

2. Updating the poverty line to reflect current prices in a given year by applying state-specific consumer price indices.

POLICY PLAN REQUIRED FOR POVERTY ALLEVIATION IN INDIA:

1. Credit policies to promote farm investment and rural micro enterprises Policies to promote human capital to expand the capabilities of the poor Development of rural financial markets.
2. Self-Help Group Approach to be strengthened as it is a proven method of empowerment of the poor.
3. Involvement of local communities and people's participation in NRLM and MGNREGS.
4. Decentralization of the programmes by strengthening the panchayati raj institutions.
5. Public Distribution System (PDS) needs to be reformed and better targeted.
6. To promote growth in agricultural productivity and non-farm rural activities.
7. Public investment in rural infrastructure and agricultural research. Agricultural research benefits the poor directly through an increase in farm production, greater employment opportunities and growth in the rural non-farm economy.
8. Provision of safety nets like targeted food subsidies, nutrition programmes and health.
9. Targeted poverty alleviation programmes to continue as the poor of the developing world may not have the patience to wait for the trickle-down effect.

The main objective of Indian planning is to alleviate poverty. In this regard government has launched many poverty alleviation programmes. Even then no radical change has been undergone in the ownership of assets, process of production and basic amenities to the poor. In this way poverty alleviation programmes have proved failure due to insufficient resources and lack of proper implementation, active participation of poor, proper identification of poor and infrastructure.

CONCLUSION: Poverty is defined in terms of income, expenditure and nutritional value (calorie intake). Social dimension of poverty is a neglected area of study. Poverty is more of social marginalization of an individual, household or group in the community/society rather than inadequacy of income to fulfill the basic needs. Indeed, inadequate income is therefore one of the factors of marginalization but not the sole factor. The goal of poverty alleviation programme should aim merely increasing the income level of individual, household or group but

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mainstreaming marginalized in the development process of the country. The country cannot claim economic growth when sections of the people are marginalized to the periphery of the society. The rapid economic growth process should accelerate the access to services like education and health services for all, especially the marginalized citizens. The government should also aware the rural population about the importance of small family and mortality rate. Poverty give birth too many other problems. The link between ignorance and poverty and ill health and poverty are well-established. There are diseases of poverty such as malaria, tuberculosis, diarrhoea and malnutrition. Having fallen ill due to poverty, the poor do not have the resources to seek quality health care, for which he/she has to borrow money for treatment. Indebtness due to hospitalization leading to poverty has been well documented. Poverty therefore is a complex phenomenon of many dimensions not merely the economic dimension. Poverty is defined in terms of income, expenditure and nutritional value (calorie intake). Poverty is more of social marginalization of an individual, household or group in the community or society rather than inadequacy of income to fulfill the basic needs. The goal of poverty alleviation programme should aim merely at the increasing of the income level of individual, household or group but generally marginalized in the development process of the country.Debate on poverty in India has remained mostly in the domain of economists. So government should provide better medical facilities, drinking water facilities and education so that people living below poverty line can improve their lives. Poverty alleviation programmes should also address the issue of poverty from broader social and economic perspectives. Such assessment can be used to measure and promote substantial, sustainable gains of the poor in terms of money and power. Resent works on impact indicators at the micro and macro levels especially in the areas of local economic development, gendered development and institutional capacity building can be consolidated and extended in the service of impact assessment. This can also be used to strengthen the design methods to place full control or at least shared control in the hands of citizens at the best in the evaluation of development interventions and more especially in poverty alleviation assessments.

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