

AN ANALYSIS OF ANTI-POVERTY PROGRAMMES IN INDIA

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ABSTRACT

Poverty is a state under which people does not have enough financial resources to complete their basic needs Such as clean water, house, food, cloths etc. “No Poverty” is 1st Sustainable Goal out of 17 determined by United Nation Organization. Poverty has adverse effect not on person’s health and efficiency but it is also dangerous for economic health of a country. According to NITI Aayog Report (2018), 21.92% people are poor in our country. Poverty Gap is 5.05% and 2.70 % for rural and urban area respectively. Thus to eradicate Poverty by 2030 there should be 8% Annual GDP growth rate and govt. should take urgent steps to achieve SDG1 by 2030. The main objective of this paper is to make an analysis of anti-poverty programs launched in India.

KEY WORDS: Anti-Poverty Programs, Poverty, India

INTRODUCTION

At present time not only India but most of the countries of the world are facing the problem of poverty and want to reduce it at 0 by year 2030. Globally almost 10% people were living below poverty line in 2015. Though poverty rate is declining, it is estimated that almost 6% people would be still below poverty line in year 2030. As per World Bank Report there were 273.1 Million people below poverty line in India in year 2011, this no. reduced to 175.8 Million in year 2015. In other words, in year 2011, 21.6% people were living below International poverty line this ratio decrease at 13.4% in year 2015. The Gini coefficient value which measure income inequality was 35.4 in year 2011. There are many programs implemented by GOI to reduce poverty in India such as MNREGA, PAY-G, EPS, ICDP, PDS, and DAY-NULM etc. As a result in 2011, 35.76% population were accessed to safe drinking water through pipe line, same has increase up to 42.49 % in FY20. In 2018-19, 26, 98 lakh household were linked with bank credit. In addition 36.4% eligible beneficiaries receiving maternity benefits and only 4.2% household were living in Kucha house.

OBJECTIVES

To study about the current scenario of Poverty in India.

To make an analysis of Anti-Poverty Schemes launched in India.

METHODOLOGY

This paper is based on secondary data collected from various reports of NITI Aayog, World Bank Group, Tendulkar Committee report, planning Commission Report, Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India and from some other reliable websites.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Poverty and inequality both are interlinked. There is also cause and effect relationship between poverty and hunger. Thus the target of anti-poverty programs should be raising people income.(Dr. Shreedhar M.[2017])

According to NFHS-3 and NFHS-4 surveys Multidimensional Poverty in India is reduced almost by half during the period of 2005-06 and at least 271 Million people come out from Multidimensional Poverty at the end of the decade. In addition there was no correlation between MPI and state GDP (Alkire et al.[2018]).

PDS play significant role not only in food security but also to stabilize the economy. But because of small amount is transferred than the growth of population and its spread is limited, this system have not favourable effects on economy. In addition in IRDP it was determined that at least 30% female would be beneficiaries under this. But only 8%-15% loans were given to them during 1980s. To ensure that money transferred under each scheme directly available to poor section devolution of resources to local govt. is necessary condition(Ghosh J.[1998]).

CURRENT SCENARIO OF POVERTY IN INDIA

Poverty alleviation is global issue at present time. Poverty is a multi-dimensional phenomenon. Due to poverty a group of people deprived from education, healthy food, and proper housing facilities also face social discrimination. In 2015, 10% people were living below poverty line at global level while this ratio was 13.4% in India. According to Tendulkar Committee Report, if we calculate poverty by Headcount Ratio then % of people living below poverty line in India's different states and UTs can be shown by table1.From table it is clear that poverty is declining over the periods of time. It was 45.3%, 37.2%, 29.8% and 21.9% in 1993-94,2004-5,2009-10 and 2011-12 respectively. It was 60.7% in Jharkhand which was highest % in 1993-94. But in year 2011-12 it was highest in Chhattisgarh as 39.9%. Thus Tendulkar Committee's Report shows that poverty rate is declining in India.

Table1: Poverty Estimates (Combined) Using Headcount Ratio

Sr. No.	State	1993-94	2011-12
1	Andra Pradesh	44.6	9.2
2	Arunachal Pradesh	54.5	34.7
3	Bihar	60.5	33.7
4	Chhattisgarh	50.9	39.9
5	Goa	20.8	9.9
6	Gujrat	37.8	5.1
7	Haryana	35.9	16.6
8	Himachal Pradesh	34.6	11.2
9	Jharkhand	60.7	10.3
10	Karnatka	49.5	37
11	Kerala	31.3	20.9
12	Madhaya Pradesh	44.6	7.1
13	Manipur	65.1	31.6
14	Meghalaya	35.2	17.4
15	Mizoram	11.8	36.9
16	Nagaland	20.4	20.4
	India	45.3	21.9

Source: Tendulkar Committee Report

ANTI-POVERTY PROGRAMS IN INDIA

Government of India has launched many Anti-Poverty programs out of these some are as following

PRADHAN MANTRI AWAS YOJANA-GRAMIN(PMAY-G)

Initially to provide proper housing to poor people of rural area Indira Awas yojana was launched by GOI in 1996 which was renamed as PMAY-G in 2016 with an objective to provide housing for all up to year 2020. Rs 33,000 Cr. has been allocated by GOI in Budget 2018-19 to built 49 Lakh houses.

PRADHAN MANTRI AWAS YOJANA –URBAN

This scheme was launched with an objective to provide houses to 20 Million poor people of rural area up to year 2020.Govt. has committed to release Rs. 81,952 Cr. for this scheme and assistance of Rs 27,811 Cr. has been released by GOI up to year 2017-18.

PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

To ensure food security for poor people of country PDS was started in India in year1945. Under this scheme GOI distribute food and non-food items to poor people of country through Fair Price Shops. This program is world largest food security program. With objective to increasing effectiveness of this PDS this scheme was renamed as revamped PDS in 1992 and as Targeted PDS in 1997. Rs 1,15,145Cr, 14,5,891 Cr and 1,74,159 Cr were allocated in Budget for Food and Public Distribution Department in year 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-

19 respectively. Under this scheme Wheat, Rice and Coarse grains are available at Rs. 2, 3 and 1 respectively. According to World Bank PDS provides subsidies grain to nearly 800 Million people through more than half a Million Fair Price Shops. But according to economist Dreze J. and Khera R. since govt. using 2011 census data to implement PDS effectively, more than 10 Cr. poor people have been excluded from PDS.

ANTYODAYA ANNA YOJANA

AAY was launched in 2000 with an aim to reducing hunger among poor population. AAY ensure benefits of food security program to poorest person from those who lives below poverty line. This scheme has been implemented by all states and UTs of India. The off-take of food in year 2016-17 under AAY was 7.05 Lakh Tonnes.

NATIONAL FOOD SECURITY MISSION

NFSM was launched in year 2007 with target to an annual increase in production of Wheat, Rice and Pulses by 8 Million, 10 Million and 9 Million respectively. Expenditure on food was Rs 1,10,173 Cr in year 2016-17 and Budget of Rs 1,69,323 Cr has been determined by GOI for FY 2018-19.

INTEGRATED CHILD DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

ICDS was launched in 1975 to provide health, nutrition and education children up to age 6 year. This scheme is also focus on health and nutrition level of their mother. Total no. of beneficiaries under this scheme were 102131284, 9834239 and 89276933 in year 2015-16, 2016-17 and in year 2017-18 respectively.

DEEN DAYAL UPADHYAYA-NATIONAL RURAL LIVELIHOOD MISSION

DAY-NRLM was launched in June 2011. The aim of this scheme was organizing poor in Self-Help Groups so that they can generate self-employment. The no. of SHG formed and linked with bank credit were 8.16 lakh, 8.86 lakh and 12.71 lakh in year 2015-16 and 2017-18.

DEEN DAYAL UPADYAYA-NATIONAL URBAN LIVELIHOOD MISSION

DAY-NULM was launched in on September 23rd 2013. Aim of DAY-NULM is to generate self-employment in urban poor, through skill development programs providing assistance to homeless poor and it also look for sustain livelihood of urban street vendor. Fund under this scheme is shared in 75:25 between centre and state. In case of North-Eastern and Special Category States this divided in 90:10.

MAHATMA GANDHI NATIONAL RURAL EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE ACT

MNREGA which was earlier known as NREGA was passed in year 2005. Its main aim is to secure livelihood of poor people of rural area and creation of rural infrastructure. It provides 100 days employment in a year to poor household whose adult member is ready to perform unskilled physical work. Approved labour budget and total release by centre for this program can be shown by following table.

Table2: Approved Labour Budget during 2016-17 to 2018-19

Year	Amount(in Cr.)	Total Fund Released by Centre(in Cr.)
2016-17	220.9274	47,411.72
2017-18	231.31	55,659.93
2018-19	256.56	62,125.07

Source: Ministry of Rural Development

Above table shows that amount of approved labour budget is increasing from 2016-17 to 2018-19. This was Rs. 220.9274 Cr. in year 2016-17 and Rs. 256.56 Cr. in year 2018-19. The fund released by centre was Rs. 47,411.72 Cr. in 2016-17 and this was Rs. 62,125.07 Cr. in 2018-19.

NATIONAL SOCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

NSAP was launched in year 1995. Under this program monthly financial assistance is provided by GOI to person whose age is above 60 years, widows and to those persons who are handicapped and are not capable to perform manual work. Under this scheme Rs 8,854 Cr has been spend by GOI in year 2016-17. According to Revised Estimates Rs 8,745 Cr has been spend on this program in year 2017-18 and Rs 9,975 Cr allocated in 2018-19 Budget.

NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM

This scheme was launched in year 2008. This scheme provide health insurance benefits to unorganized sector workers, who lives below poverty line. Now this scheme is renamed as Ayushman Bharat-PMJAY. According to NITI Aayog in 2015-16, 28.7% households were covered under Health Insurance Scheme.

CONCLUSION

At present 21.92% population of India is poor. Government has launched many food security, housing and employment programs to eradicate poverty. Though poor people have been benefited by all these programs but effectiveness of programs is less than expectations. Main reason behind this is improper implementation of programs. To implement these programs effectively local government, communities and credit institutions

can play important role. Women education also plays an important role in reduction of poverty. MNREGA, PDS, NFSM, PMAY and many other programs are helpful to eradicate poverty but self-employment generation and skill development programs should be effectively implemented by GOI to achieve SDG1.

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