



**CONCEPT OF POVERTY AND
CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS
AND MEASURES RELATED TO IT**

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“That condition in which a person either because of inadequate income or unwise expenditures, does not maintain a scale of living high enough to provide for his physical and mental efficiency and to enable him and his natural dependents to function according to the standards of society of which he is a member”

John L. Gillian

“Poverty is the insufficient supply of those things which are requisite for an individual to maintain himself and those dependent upon him in health and vigor”

J.G. Goddard

“Man is rich or poor according to the degree in which he can afford to enjoy the necessaries, the conveniences and the amusements of life”

- Adam Smith¹

ABSTRACT

Rich and Poor have always existed in society but historically the existence of poverty did not constitute an important social problem until exchange system and a scale of values came into existence. When trade expands some people began to amass wealth leading to its uneven distribution. They started living

a luxurious life depriving others of comforts. The members of society began to compare the differences in economic status and look upon themselves as either poor or rich in accordance with the prevailing living standards. So poverty is considered a problem only when obvious differences in economic status and look upon themselves as either poor or rich in accordance with the prevailing living standards. So poverty is considered a problem only when obvious differences in economic status among members of a society are established and comparisons and evaluations of those differences are made.

India is a country where poverty is rampant. People from villages and smaller towns migrate towards metropolitan cities in search of better employment opportunities, better living, better lifestyle and so on. But they face lot of discrimination in these big cities and hence inequality of lifestyle, resources resulting in poverty. We shall be studying about poverty in detail about what really is meant by poverty and what is the basic concept behind the idea of poverty.

KEYWORDS- [Concept of Poverty, Basic Characteristics of Poverty, Different Philosophies and Rules Related To Poverty in India]

INTRODUCTION

The word poverty is a state of not having enough material possessions or income for a person's basic needs. Poverty may include

¹ S Routh, *Enhancing Capabilities through Labor Law: Informal Workers in India*(2014)

P.L. Malik's Industrial Law (Covering Labor Law in India) (2 Volumes with Free CD-ROM) (2015 ed.) Eastern Book Company pp1 -3656 ISBN 9789351451808

Labor Laws- A Primer (2011) Eastern Book Company pp 1-224 ISBN 97893502881437

*“World Poverty Clock” worldpoverty.io
271 million fewer poor people in India UNDP in India” UNDP*



social, economic and political elements. Absolute poverty means a person is completely devoid of all the basic necessities of the life such as food, clothing, shelter, potable water resources etc. Relative poverty is just a different concept from absolute poverty where an individual cannot meet a minimum level of living standards, compared to others in the same time and place. The concept of poverty differs from place to place and from time to time. Different philosophers have given different theories related to the concept of poverty. Poverty is the biggest sin in the society and hence it should be removed as early as possible by the governments of various countries because it deprives an individual of his basic rights, freedom to live according to his own will, the self-identity of the person is lost, he is humiliated by everyone in the society, he is devoid of all the luxuries in his life, he cannot buy the products which he actually deserves to buy and many other problems. Unfortunately the problems related to poverty and discrimination of people on the basis of income and resources are much more rampant and applicable in developing countries rather than the developed countries. Countries such as **Sudan, South Africa, India, Pakistan, Kazakhstan, South-East Asia, Latin American Countries, Sub-Saharan Region etc.** The Government has brought many welfare schemes and improvement measures in order to find solutions to control the rate of poverty in their country, but unfortunately either the

execution of these policies were extremely poor or there was rampant corruption in these countries where the amount of resources and the money came into their pockets and hence there are inequalities of income in the society. People who mostly spend their lives in poverty loses their ray of hope of living a proper life and believe that poverty were written in their destiny and hence they submit their lives under miserable conditions and extreme poverty which results in their discrimination and unequal share of resources which they actually deserve in the society.²

POVERTY AS A LINE TO IDENTIFY THE IMPOVERISHED

Identification of Poverty- The basic factor to identify poverty is to get familiar with the lifestyle of an individual how does he live, is he having all he basic necessities of the life, does he have good housing facilities, good amount of food, potable water resources, does he have good income job, is the individual restrained from all the basic resources of lives, does he have good amount of money so that he can improve his lifestyle and buy good amount of resources etc. His clothing style and facial expressions also tells us the living conditions of that individual because when he would earn good amount of income and would live a decent amount of life, then he would feel satisfied and would be much happier than the rest of the people.

² Puja Mehra (2 April 2016) 8% GDP growth helped reduce poverty: UN report” *The Hindu*. Retrieved 16 August 2017

T. Roy, *London School of Economics, Globalization, Factor Prices and Poverty in Colonial India, Australian Economic History Review, Volume 47 No 1 pp 73-94 (March 2007)*

Maddison, Angus (1970) *The Historical Origins of Indian Poverty” PSL Quarterly Review, 23(92) pp. 31-81*

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A Sen (1983) *Poverty and Famines: An Essay on Entitlement and Deprivation, Oxford University Press, ISBN 978-0198284635*



Poverty is not just the state of mind, but the circumstances and the surroundings which makes the life of an individual miserable and creates tremendous pressure in his life. In each and every part of this world, the amount of resources available to the individuals is limited, but the populations of individuals who can avail these resources are unlimited. The concept of poverty is basically related to the simple concept of economics i.e. the concept of demand and supply. Also the malnourishment is an important indicator of poverty because it tells us about the social, economic and cultural patterns of that individual whether he is getting enough nutrients to sustain his life and to improve his health and conditions. If the person is able to get the balanced diet and also he is able to get potable water to drink, then in that case it is indication of his healthy and good life and if he is earning income above the national average according to the indicators of that particular country. If an individual is earning enough to sustain his lifestyle, then it can be said that he is living a decent life and he lives above poverty line. Other indicators of indication of poverty are decent healthy life, equal representation in the society by all the sections, gender equality, healthy women and girl child etc.

Related to the concept of poverty, **Dr Mahbub-Ul-Haq and Amartya Sen** had given their ideas. According to DR Mahbub-Ul-Haq, development is all about enlarging people's choices in order to lead longer, healthy lives with dignity. The United Nations Development Program has used his concept of human development to publish the Human Development Report annually since 1990.

Both Growth and Development refer to changes over a period of time. The difference

is that growth is quantitative and value neutral. It may have a positive or a negative sign. This means that the change may be either positive (showing an increase) or negative (indicating a decrease).

(ii) Problems of Urban Settlements- People flock to cities to avail of employment opportunities and civic amenities. Since most cities in developing countries are unplanned, it creates severe congestion. Shortage of housing, vertical expansion and growth of slums are characteristic features of modern cities of developing countries.

In many cities an increasing proportion of the population lives in substandard housing, e.g. slums and squatter settlements. In most million plus cities in India, one in four inhabitants lives in illegal settlements, which are twice as the rest of the cities. Even in the Asia Pacific Countries, around 60 per cent of the urban population lives in squatter settlements.

(iii) Economic Problems- The decreasing employment opportunities in the rural as well as smaller urban areas of the developing countries consistently push the population to the urban areas. The enormous migrant population generates a pool of unskilled and semi-skilled labor force, which is already in urban areas.

(iv) Socio-Cultural Problems- Cities in the developing countries suffer from several social ills. Insufficient financial resources fall to create adequate social infrastructure catering to the basic needs of the huge population. The available educational and health facilities remain beyond the reach of the urban poor. Health indices also, present a gloomy picture in cities of developing countries. Lack of employment and education tends to aggravate the crime rates. Male selective migration to the urban areas distorts the sex ratio in these cities



(v) **Environmental Problems-** The large urban population in developing countries not only uses but also disposes off a huge quantity of water and all types of waste materials. Many cities of the developing countries even find it extremely difficult to provide the minimum required quantity of potable water and water for domestic and industrial uses. An improper sewerage system creates unhealthy conditions. Massive use of traditional fuel in the domestic as well as the industrial sector severely pollutes the air. The domestic and industrial wastes are either let into the general sewerages or dumped without treatment at unspecified locations. Huge concrete structures erected to accommodate the population and economic play a very conducive role to create heat islands.

Cities, Towns and Rural Settlements are linked through the movements of goods, resources and people. Urban-Rural Linkages are of crucial importance for the sustainability of human settlements.³

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

i) **Measuring Human Development-** The Human Development Index (HDI) ranks the countries based on their performance in the key areas of health, education and access to resources. These rankings are based on a score between 0 to 1 that a country earns from its record in the key areas of human development.

ii)

The indicator chosen to assess health is the life expectancy at birth. A higher life expectancy means that people have a greater chance of living longer and healthier lives. The adult literacy rate and the Gross enrolment ratio represent access to knowledge. The number of adults who are able to read and write and the number of children enrolled in schools show how easy or difficult it is to access knowledge in a particular country.

Access to resources is measured in terms of purchasing power (in US Dollar). Each of these dimensions is given a weight age of 1/3. The Human Development Index is a sum total of the weights assigned to all these dimensions.

The closer the score is to one, the greater is the level of human development. Therefore, a score of 0.983 would be considered very high while 0.268 would mean a very low level of human development. Yet it is not the most reliable measure. This is because it does not say anything about the distribution. The Human Poverty Index is related to the human development index. This index measures the shortfall in human development. It is a non-income measure.

The ways to measure human development are constantly being refined and newer ways of capturing different elements of human development are being researched. Researchers have found links between the

³ Anderson and Parker, *Society*, Van Nostrand Company, New York, 1964

Argyle, Michael, *The Scientific Study of Social Behavior*, Methuen and Co., London 1957

Encyclopedia of Social Sciences, Vol. XV

Dobois, Abbe J.A., *Hindu Manners, Customs and Ceremonies*, Reprint: Oxford: At the Clarendon Press, 1947

Seligman, *Encyclopedia of the Social Sciences*, Vol.11, Introduction, MacMillan, Reprint, 1949

Summer W. Graham, *Folkways*, New York, Ginn and Company. 1940

Sumner W.G and Keller, A.G., *The Science of Society*, 4 Vols., New Haven: Yale University Press, 1946



level of corruption or political freedom in a particular region.

(ii) **International Comparisons-** Size of the territory and per capita income are not directly related to human development. Often smaller countries have done better than larger ones in human development. Similarly, relatively poorer nations have been ranked higher than richer neighbors in terms of human development.

For example, Sri Lanka, Trinidad and Tobago have a higher rank than India in the Human Development Index despite having smaller economies. Similarly, within India, Kerala performs much better than Punjab and Gujarat in Human Development despite having lower per capita income.

POVERTY LINE

The Indian Planning Commission defined “poverty line” on the basis of nutritional requirements of 2400 calories per person per day for rural areas and 2100 calories per person per day for urban areas.

POVERTY TYPES

- (i) **Absolute Poverty-** Absolute Poverty is often known as “subsistence poverty”. Here Individual is not able to meet the basic “physical needs” like food, clothing, shelter, health needs etc.
- (ii) **Relative Poverty-** “Relative Poverty is measured in terms of judgments by members of a particular society of what is considered as reasonable and acceptable standard of living styles of life according to the conventions of the day. An individual may be relatively poor among the persons of his own group who are richer than him.”

CAUSES OF POVERTY

What are the causes underlying poverty?

According to Henry George, the main cause of poverty is the personal ownership and monopoly of the individual on the land. He writes, “In the great cities, where land is so valuable that it is measured by the foot, you will find the extremes of poverty and luxury. And this disparity in condition between the two extremes of the social scale may always be measured by the price of land. According to Marx, the main cause of poverty is the exploitation of the workers by the capitalists. According to Malthus, increasing population is the cause of poverty. These thinkers however, laid emphasis on one particular cause of poverty. As a matter of fact the causes of poverty are numerous and complex. Gillins listed three factors as primarily responsible for poverty;

- 1) Incapacity of the individual, which may be due to a faculty heredity or to the environment
- 2) Unfavorable physical conditions, such as poor natural resources, bad climate and weather, and epidemics; and
- 3) Misdistribution of wealth and of income and of the income and the imperfect functioning of our economic institutions. Of these three factors the last two factors are principally responsible for poverty in India. Ours is a country rich in natural resources, but we have not yet adequately exploited them. A vast area of land remains uncultivated. Our means of cultivation are old styled resulting in less production. Industries are not well developed; a vast portion of population depends on agriculture. And in addition to its⁴ wealth is unevenly distributed due to bad

⁴ www.researchgate.in/journals.sagepub.com/onlinelibrary.wiley.com

[www.downtoearth.org.in](http://www.downtoearth.org.in.one.un.or)
[www.downtoearth.org.in](http://www.downtoearth.org.in.one.un.or)



economic planning which even leads to wastage.

OTHER CAUSES

- 1) Defective social organization like educational deficiencies, poor housing and living conditions rapid technological advancements.
- 2) War brings more number of disabled, widows in society, which has direct bearing on their living standard
- 3) Physical and mental illness
- 4) Accidents and Trauma
- 5) Illiteracy
- 6) Extravagant lifestyle
- 7) Big Family Size

GEOGRAPHICAL CAUSES

- 1) Extreme climatic and weather conditions
- 2) Absence of natural resources
- 3) Natural calamities like tsunami, earthquakes, cyclones, cloud burst, avalanche etc.

ECONOMIC CAUSES

- 1) Agricultural, Non-Availability of machinery and tools affects cultivation process
- 2) Unequal distribution of goods and wealth
- 3) Economic Debacle
- 4) Unproductive hoarding and amassing of assets

SOCIAL CAUSES

- 1) Joint family system
- 2) Caste System
- 3) Customs and traditions like dowry system
- 4) Unequal and costly educational system

POLITICAL CAUSES

- 1) Poor government policies and taxation norms exploits the situation more

BIOLOGICAL CAUSES

- 1) Increasing birth rate
- 2) Decreasing death rate

Some of the other causes of poverty are- overpopulation, scarce resources, illiteracy, caste and untouchability, gender inequality, unequal pay of income, failure to educate girl child, economic inequality, natural causes, labor exploitation, brain drain, wastage of resources, corruption and black money, resistance to change, unorganized sector, shortages of food etc.

REMEDIAL MEASURES FOR POVERTY

Independent India paid due attention to the problem of poverty and undertook many measures and launched many schemes, programs and projects for the upliftment of the poor.

ANTI-POVERTY PROGRAMMES

Some of the poverty alleviation programs launched from time to time by the government are discussed below-

INTEGRATED RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (IRDA) 1978-79

DEVELOPMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN RURAL AREAS (DWACRA) 1979

NATIONAL RURAL EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM (NREP)

RURAL LANDLESS EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE PROGRAM (RLEGP)

JAWAHAR ROZGAR YOJANA (IRY) 1989

DROUGHT PRONE AREAS PROGRAM (DPAP) (1972-73)

TRAINING OF RURAL YOUTH FOR SELF- EMPLOYMENT (TRYSE) 1979

Siddhantalankar, S. Samaj Shastra Ke Mul Tattwa. Dehradun Vidya Vihar, Balbir, A.V. 1954



. **SWARNJAYANTI GRAM
SWAROJGAR YOJANA (PMRY) 1993
.NATIONAL FOOD FOR WORK
PROGRAM (NFWP) 2004
. PRADHAN MANTRI GRAM SADAK
YOJANA 2000**

HEALTH EXPENDITURE AND IMPOVERISHMENT IN INDIA

At the national level, 10.1 per cent of rural households as against 6.2 per cent of urban households have either become poor or poorer as a consequence of OOP for Healthcare. The proportion of rural impoverished households due to OOP health expenditure in the four most underdeveloped states of Orissa, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh are 11.4, 9.5, 7.9 and 7.3 per cents, respectively. The corresponding proportion of urban impoverished households for these states is 7.2, 7.5, 5.9 and 5.1 per cents, respectively. It is also that the OOP (Out-of-Pocket) payment tends to increase significantly with inequality in income distribution and shortage of physicians at the state level. Health System inadequacy measure by population density per physician has escalating effect on impoverishment.

AN ANALYSIS OF THE DETERMINANTS OF POVERTY IN INDIA AND SOUTH AFRICA

India and South Africa are two very different nations; however both experience sizeable issues with poverty. In 2011, 21.2 percent of India's population lived below \$1.90 per day poverty line. In the same year, 16.6 percent of South Africa's population lived below \$1.90 per day. Both Nations India and South Africa have factors include education, healthcare and economic opportunity. Both

India and South Africa have taken actions to mitigate poverty.

Unlike India, South Africa experienced a major setback in their life expectancy between 1992 and 2005 due to the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Their life expectancy peaked in 1992 at 62.3 years, before failing and eventually bottoming out at 52.6 years in 2005. In 2016, South African men had a life expectancy of 59.2 years, while women had a life expectancy of 66.4 years. This is a difference compared to India, where women lived only 3.1 years longer than men in 2016. In South Africa, the gap in life expectancies between genders has not changed over time in India, with men living 1.1 years longer than women in 1970.

Both nations have seen improvements in their adult literacy rates, through the improvements have been more limited in South Africa than in India. In 1980, South Africa had a literacy rate of 76.2 percent and ended at 94.4 percent in 2015. India's literacy has been substantially lower than South Africa's throughout this time.

Major social factors in both India and South Africa have shaped their present societies. These factors have contributed to poverty in these two nations and have also shaped their present societies. These factors have contributed to poverty in these two nations and have also shaped how both have responded to reduce their poverty levels. Past Events in both nations have made large segments of the population's susceptible to poverty.

Poverty is worsened by the relatively high level of income inequality in both nations. While income inequality is a separate issue in



both India and especially South Africa, i) extreme levels of income inequality can contribute to poverty by influencing social, spatial and political factors. Increased inequality influences what people view as the qualities of success, separates the wealthy from the poor (making them unaware of poverty by influencing social, spatial and political factors. One of the key measures of inequality is the GINI coefficient. GINI coefficient ranges from 0 to 100 percent, 0 being no inequality and 100 being complete inequality. In 2011, India had a GINI Coefficient of 63.4 percent, giving it one of the highest levels of income inequality in the world. iii)

Poverty is also disproportionately rural in both India and South Africa. According to World Bank (2018) data, the percent of the rural population in India that lived below the national poverty line (not the \$1.90 extreme poverty line) was 25.7 percent in 2011. In contrast, the percentage of the urban population living below the line was 13.7 percent. In 2005, 87.6 percent of South Africa's rural population lived below the national poverty line while 52 percent of their urban population lived below the line. v)

Clearly a much larger section of South Africa's population is considered to live below the poverty line. However, the disparity between the prevalence of poverty between urban and rural areas in both nations is evident. In addition to the rural-urban differences, there are different levels of poverty between Indian States and South African Municipalities.

PROGRAMS AND CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS RELATED TO POVERTY IN INDIA

Integrated Rural Development Program (IRDP)- The Integrated Rural Development Program is one of the largest micro-enterprise programs in the world, having reached 50 million borrowers since its inception in 1979. It seeks to raise the incomes of the poor beneficiaries to a level above the poverty line by requiring the banks to extend loans to them for the purchase of assets, and by subsidizing 25 to 50 percent of the cost of the assets. It is centrally sponsored scheme being implemented on a 50:50 basis by the Centre and the States.

Rationale for Rural Works Program- The NSS rates of under-employment appear to be under estimates. The whole family may do a certain quantum of work in three days which would actually require only one day for a person, if he had some other productive work. Measurement of employment without prescribing standard work norm is quite hazardous. Secondly, withdrawals from labor force of those who are usually/currently in the labor force during daily or weekly count are not always voluntary due to lack of perception of employment opportunities.

Subsidizing the rich and taxing the poor- The total number of cane, bamboo and basket weavers in 1981 in the country was 6.2 lakhs, out of which 6.9 are in the rural areas. For instance, The Government of Orissa has decided to assign bamboo forests to paper industry, who has been appointed in 1993 contractors and sub-agents in several of the OFDC (The Orissa Forest Development Corporation). Similar arrangements exist in several states where bamboo is supplied at a subsidized rate to paper industry and denied to the artisans. In Gujarat the industry pays only 5% of the market rate for the bamboo. Despite discouragement to subsidy in the



New Forest Policy, 1988 and the prescription in the new Policy that the needs of the Forest Dwellers will be first charge on the forest produce, the poor in central Indian States have to meet their demand for bamboo by stealing, while the industry gets subsidized bamboo and has the first charge.

vi) **Sale of land by SC/ST farmers-** Section 42(B) of the Rajasthan Land Tenancy Act bans the sale of land owned by SC/ST farmers to farmers of other castes, and declares such transactions null and void. This creates a problem for those SC/ST families living close to a town who wish to sell their land at the open market price for a housing colony etc. They are thus deprived the opportunity of changing their profession and migrating to towns in favor of a better provision. Similar restrictions exist in many state laws.

vii) **India's Commitment to remove Poverty at International Level and increase Urbanization-** All member countries of the United Nations are committed to achieve the Millennium Development Goals to eradicate poverty and then to achieve sustainable development for all in the times to come. India has also been able to progress significantly in its poverty eradication goals and may achieve the poverty reduction target in speedy manner under Global Investment in India

Hence, there is urgent need of employment generation and skill development for poverty alleviation, minimum 10 percent growth requirement to eradicate poverty in India. Make in India initiative can be really boastful in this regard.

viii) **ARTICLE 14 of the Indian Constitution (Equality before Law)-** The State shall not deny to any person equality before the law or the equal protection of the laws within the territory of India.

ARTICLE 15 of the Indian Constitution (Prohibition of Discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth) - The State shall not discriminate against any citizen on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, place.

of birth or any of them. (2) No citizen shall, on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, place or any one of them, be subject to any disability, liability, restriction or condition with regard to-

- (a) Access to shops, public restaurants, hotels and places of public entertainment; or
- (b) The use of wells, tanks, bathing ghats, roads and places of public resort maintained wholly or partly out of State funds or dedicated to use of general public.

(vii) **ARTICLE 38 of the Constitution of India (State to secure a social order for the welfare of the people) -** [(1)] the state shall strive to promote the welfare of the people by securing and protecting as effectively as it may a social order in which justice, social, economic and political shall inform all the institutions of the national life. [(2)] the state shall, in particular, strive to minimize the inequalities in income, and endeavor to eliminate inequalities in status, facilities and opportunities, not only amongst individuals but also amongst groups of people residing in different areas or engaged in different vocations.]

(viii) **ARTICLE 39A of the Constitution of India (Equal justice and free legal aid) -** The State shall secure that the operation of the legal system promotes justice, on a basis of equal opportunity, and shall, in particular, provide free legal aid, by suitable legislation or schemes or in any other way, to ensure that opportunities for securing justice are not denied to any citizen by reason of economic or other disabilities.]



PROBLEMS OF THE UNPRIVILEGED

a) Problems of the Scheduled Caste-

a.1) Lowest Status In The Hierarchy- In the caste hierarchy the Scheduled Castes are awarded the lowest status. They are considered to be unholy, inferior and low and are hated by the other castes. They have suffered from the stigma of untouchability. Their image is considered to be polluting for the upper castes. Hence, they have been treated as the servants of the other castes.

a.2) Education Disabilities- The Harijans were prevented from taking up education during the early days. Sanskrit Education was not meant for them. Schools and other educational institutions were closed for them. Even today many of them are illiterate and ignorant

a.3) Civic Disabilities, Prevention, from the use of Public Places- For a long time the scheduled castes were not allowed to use public places, places and avail of civic facilities such as village wells and ponds, temples, hostels, schools, hospitals, lecture halls, dharmashalas. They were forced to live on the outskirts of the towns and villages during the early days.

b) Scheduled Castes- A tribe is a collection of families bearing a common name, speaking a common dialect, occupying or professing to occupy a common a territory and is not usually endogamous through originally it might have been so- Imperial Gazetteer of India

A Schedule Tribe refers to a “collections of families or groups of families, bearing a common name, members of which occupy the same territory, speak the same language and observe certain taboos regarding

marriage, profession or occupation have developed as well as assessed system of reciprocity and mutuality of obligations- Dr D.N Majumdar

TRIBAL PROBLEMS

The tribals are faced with a number of problems some of which as discussed below-

1) Geographic Separation- The tribals of India are geographically separated from the rest of population as they live in the unapproachable areas like deep valleys, dense forests, hills etc. It is difficult for them to develop relations and hence socially they are away from the civilized world

2) Cultural problems- The tribal culture is entirely different from the civilized people. The tribal people fail to mingle with the civilized people, their customs and practices, beliefs and attitudes are different. They are suspicious towards the civilized people. They cling strongly to their customs and traditions.

3) Social Problems- The tribals too have their own social problems. They are very traditional and custom-bound; as a result they become the victims of superstitious beliefs, outmoded and absurd practices and habits. Child marriage, infanticide, animal sacrifice, exchange of wives, black magic and other harmful practices are still found among them. They believe in Ghosts and Spirits.

4) Economic Problems- Tribal people are economically the poorest people. Majority of them live below the poverty line.

• PROBLEMS OF THE BACKWARD CLASSES

. Low social position in the caste hierarchy of Hindu Society

. Inadequate or no representation in government services



- . Inadequate representation in the field of trade, commerce and industry
- . Lack of general advancement among the major sections of a caste or community

CONCLUSION

The overall conclusion that can be drawn from the above discussions is that poverty is the greatest sin of the society and no country would like to suffer its citizens from extreme levels of poverty, malnourishment, ill-treatment from people of different societies, illiteracy, economic instability, brain drain etc. Nordic Countries such as Norway, Finland, Iceland, Sweden, Denmark as well as the autonomous countries of the Faroe Islands as well as countries of New Zealand, England, USA, France, Netherlands, Japan, Canada, Qatar, Switzerland, Australia etc acts as a role model for most of these countries of these world in terms of reducing the level of poverty and improved quality of living. Countries such as South Africa, India, Pakistan, Sub-Saharan Regions, Latin America, Central Asia, Bangladesh, Nepal, South-East Asia etc have issues related to poverty, illiteracy, poor quality of living, poor hygiene, immigrant problems, problems related to health facilities, corruption in organizations which deal with these problems, poor sex ratio etc need to understand the need of an hour to improve the conditions of the lifestyle of the people and move their citizens out of the level of the poverty. Further they need to understand the importance of education because education is something which is the gateway of success and a key value to move out of poverty. This can be done through improving the level of education at school and college level, improves the enrolment ratio, improve the teacher-student ratio, improve fluency in

mother tongue as well as vernaculars and English language and promote these languages, develop new schools, colleges, increase the level of education budget etc. That's all can be done to remove poverty from each and every part of these world.

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