



Human development in India

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Abstract

Human development is the expansion of human capabilities, enhancement of freedom and fulfillment of human right by the people's active participation in the processes to shape their life and improves their living. United Nations Development Programme defined human development as the process of enlarging people choices, allowing them to lead a strong and healthy life, to be educated, to enjoy a decent standard of living providing human rights and various ingredients of self-respect. Gender equality and women empowerment is the new dimensions of development. Human development index is way for people and nations to see the policy frame of region and country. The present paper is an attempt to analyze the Characteristics and goals of human development with special reference to Indian context.

Keywords: human development, freedom, human right

Introduction

Human development is a process of enlarging the range of people's choices, increasing their opportunities for health facilities, education and empowerment of socially and economically disadvantaged groups and covering the full range of human choices from physical environment to economic, political and social freedom. Both growth and development represents the change over a period of time, still there is difference between growth and development. Growth is quantitative and value natural that may have a positive or negative sign. It means that change may be positive or negative. Development is the qualitative change that is always value positive. Development occurs when positive growth takes place. But positive growth is not always development. Development occurs when there is positive change in quality. Before 1990,s, country's development was a measure of economic progress. It means that countries with better economic conditions were more developed while poor countries were less developed. But it is not true nature of development because in many cases the benefits of economic growth did not reach the common man. The quality of life of people, their opportunities and freedoms are important aspects of development. The idea of human development was introduced by Dr. Mahbub-ul-haq of Pakistan and Amartya Sen of India. Dr. Mahbub said that development is all about enlarging people's choices in order to lead long, healthy lives with dignity. The main objective of the development is to create conditions in which people can live meaningful lives. Dr. Amartya Sen said that an increase in freedom is the main objective of development. He laid emphasis on the role of social and political institutions and processes of increasing freedom. Development and freedom are associated with modernization, comfort and pleasure. In the modern urbanized and industrialized world, large education system, advanced and modern educational facilities, safety and security and efficient transport and communication systems are the

symbols of development. In India, development is a mixture of opportunities and deprivation. In urban areas, some people have a lot of facilities while people belonging to scheduled caste and scheduled tribes have not the basic amenities. Lack of development lead to serious environmental conditions. Different types of pollution are increasing (Chandna, 2011) [4].

Objectives of human development

The main objectives of human development are to provide its citizens good health, self-determination, access to knowledge, dignity, human security, non-discrimination and better standard of living.

Need for human development

With fast growing population and urbanization, the stress on natural resources has increased. We are using more and more energy resources that are creating many environmental issues. More urbanization has created slums in which people live in dangerous conditions. Being illegal colonies, they do not have any civic amenities like drinking water, sewage, electricity etc. Depletion of forests, population growth, vehicular emissions, use of hazardous chemicals and various other undesirable human activities are mainly responsible for this degraded scenario of environmental health in India. Other factors include poor environmental regulation, less efficient technology of production, congested roads, poor maintenance of vehicles also create air pollution. Indian cities generate more than 100 million tons of solid waste a year. Mining in urban areas discharge some harmful pollutants as heavy metals, acids, mercury lead, copper, mineral fibres in the atmosphere. It is necessary to have access to resources, health and education. But lack of knowledge, social discrimination, and poverty keeps people away from living healthy lives, to get educated and to lead a civilized life. So, there is a need to reduce the growth of population, improving living condition, to achieve higher level of productivity, reducing

discrimination in society and increasing political and social stability and to improve human conditions and to enlarge people's choices (Singh, 2014) [7].

Policies for human development

The main policies for human development will emphasis to ensuring justice, promoting inclusion, controlling population growth rate, mobilizing resources for human development, upholding human rights, combating violence against people's security, ensuring accountability, promoting social protection and human development for marginalized groups.

Basis's for human development

To achieve human development, the growth should have the following basis:

- 1. Enhancing financial inclusion:** It includes the expending banking services to disadvantaged and marginalized groups using modern technology to bring them in the development process.
- 2. Formulating an employment based growth strategy:** There is a necessity to establish link between large and small entrepreneurs to increase production. The distribution of capital and labour should be to create jobs.
- 3. Adoption of multi-dimensional intervention:** There should be effective access to services to poor people in rural areas especially roads and electricity and provisions of cottage industries.
- 4. Enhancing opportunities for women:** There should be gender equality and flexible arrangements for working women.
- 5. Attaining sustainability:** The sustainability o means the eternal availability of resources as future generation also need for resources. So, we should use our resources in a sustained way and should leave some resources for future generations.

Indicators of human development

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has calculated a composit index known as Human Development Index (HDI). It includes longevity of life, knowledge based and decent standard of living. It is a composit statistics of life expectancy, education and per capita income indicators used

to rank countries for human development. In India, three sets of indicators have been used for calculating Human Development Report.

Calculation of HDI

1. Life expectancy index (LEI) = $LE-20 / 85-20$
2. Educational index (EI) = $[MYSI+EYSI] / 2$
 - a. Mean year of schooling Index = $MYS / 15$
 - b. Expected years of schooling index = $EYS / 18$
3. Income Index (II) = $[\ln(GNIPC)-\ln(100)] / [\ln(75000)-\ln(100)]$

$$HDI = 3 \sqrt{(LEI*EI*II) / 3}$$

Human development is measured in terms of Human Development Index (HDI). It measures average achievements in basic human development in one simple composite index and produces a ranking of countries on the basis of their performance in areas of health, education and access to resources. These ranking are based on a score between 0 and 1. The closer a score is to one, the greater is the level of human development. In Human Development Report released by United Nations Development Programme in 2011, the HDI of India was 0.547 with a ranking of 134 out of 187 countries. However India has progressed in terms of HDI, still Thailand, Egypt, Indonesia, South Africa have better HDI. Life expectancy at birth in India was 65.4 years in 2011 in comparison to 81.9 years in Australia, 74.1 years in Thailand and 74.9 years in Sri Lanka (Khullar, 2014) [5]. Mean years of schooling is 4.4 years in India in comparison to 12.6 years in Norway, 9.5 years in Malasia and 7.5 years in China.

The Human Development Index of India, 2011 shows that Kerala is on the top in respect of Human Development Index with a value of 0.817. West Bengal (0.817), Himachal Pradesh (0.717), Punjab (0.667) also have higher HDI. Himachal Pradesh is not economically developed state, still it has high human development index. It shows that human development is not related to economic growth. Some other factors also contribute to human development. States like Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh display lower human development index on account of illiteracy, higher population growth rate and less health facilities.

Table 1: Human Development Index of some selected countries, 2011

Country	HDI 2011	HDI rank 2011	Gross national income per capita(constant 2005 *PPP\$)2011	Life expectancy at birth (years) 2011	Mean year of schooling (years) 2011	Expected years of schooling (years) 2011
Norway	0.943	1	47,557	81.1	12.6	17.3
Australia	0.929	2	34,431	81.9	12.0	18
Poland	0.813	39	17,451	76.1	10	15.3
Malasia	0.761	61	13,685	74.2	9.5	12.6
Brazil	0.718	84	10,162	73.5	7.2	13.8
Turkey	0.699	92	12,246	74.0	6.5	11.8
China	0.687	101	7,476	73.5	7.5	11.6
Sri Lanka	0.691	97	4,943	74.9	8.2	12.7
Thailand	0.682	103	7,694	74.1	6.6	12.3
Egypt	0.644	113	5,269	73.2	6.4	11.0
Indonesia	0.617	124	3,716	69.4	5.8	13.2
South Africa	0.619	123	9,469	52.8	8.5	13.1
Vietnam	0.593	128	2,805	75.2	5.5	10.4
India	0.547	134	3,468	65.4	4.4	10.3

Pakistan	0.504	145	2,550	65.4	4.9	6.9
Kenya	0.509	143	1,492	57.1	7.0	11.0
World	0.682		10.082	69.8	7.4	11.3

Source: Human Development Report, 2011.

*PPP is purchasing power parity.

Table 2: India: Human Development index, 2011

State	Human Development index (HDI)	HDI ranking
West Bengal	0.650	13
Uttarakhand	0.530	14
Uttar Pradesh	0.473	18
Tamilnadu	0.637	8
Gujarat	0.633	11
Chhattisgarh	0.417	23
Bihar	0.563	21
Assam	0.407	16
Andhra Pradesh	0.580	15
Haryana	0.627	9
Himachal Pradesh	0.717	3
Jharkhand	0.500	19
Karnataka	0.627	12
Kerala	0.817	1
Madhya Pradesh	0.430	20
Maharashtra	0.650	7
Odisha	0.450	22
Punjab	0.667	5
Rajasthan	0.587	17

Source: India, HDR, 2011.

Conclusion

Development is a mixture of opportunities and deprivation in India. Human development disperses the concentration of distribution of goods and services that underprivileged people need and centre its ideas on human decision. Some people have a lot of modern facilities while people living in rural areas and slums in urban areas do not have the basic facilities. Peoples belonging to scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and poor farmers are living in deprivation. The Human Development Index of India, 2011 shows Human Development Index is high in West Bengal, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab while states like Jharkhand, Madhya States, Odisha, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh display lower human development index on account of illiteracy, higher population growth rate and less health facilities. For human development to reach everyone, more stress should be given to empowerment, social and economic equality, increasing productivity and special provisions for deprived sections of society.

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