



Question 7. Is there any relationship between unemployment and poverty? Explain.

Answer. Unemployment means lack of living. It leads to hunger, gloom, pessimism, indebtedness, etc. They all are signs of poverty.

Question 8. What is the difference between relative and absolute poverty?

Answer.

Relative property

1. It refers to poverty of people relative to other people, regions or nations.
2. When we say India is relatively poor, then it is in comparison with other countries—the comparison is that of per capita income of different countries.
3. Within India, relative poverty is calculated with the help of Lorenz Curve and Gini Coefficient.
4. India is relatively one of the poorest countries of the world as its per capita income is less than one dollar per day.

Absolute Property

1. It refers to total number of people living below the poverty line.
2. The concept has relevance for less developed countries and the concept has no relevance for developed countries.
3. In India, absolute poverty is calculated with the help of poverty line.
4. In India, 29.8 percent of the total population is absolutely poor.

Question 9. Suppose you are from a poor family and you wish to get help from the government to set up a petty shop. Under which scheme will you apply for assistance and why?

Answer. The assistance can be given by Aajeevika. In this scheme one can get financial help in the form of bank loans. Other Programmes which can provide help are:

1. REGP (Rural Employment Generation Programme)
2. PMRY (Pradhan Mantri Rctegar Yojana).

Question 10. Illustrate the difference between rural and urban poverty. Is it correct to say that poverty has shifted from rural to urban areas? Use the trends in poverty ratio to support your answer.

Answer. In the rural areas, poor people are those who are landless agricultural labourers, small and mar-ginal farmers. In the urban areas, poor people are those who are unemployed, underemployed or employed in low productivity occupations with very low wages. Rural-Urban Break-up of Poverty Following pattern emerges:

1. The decline in poverty was comparatively much steep in rural areas where the percentage of people living below poverty line fell to 33.8 per cent (2009-10) from 41.8 per cent (2004-05).
2. In urban areas, percentage of people living below poverty line fell to 20.9 per cent (2009-10) from 25.7 per cent (2004-05).
3. The number of people living below poverty line was estimated at 354.7 million in 2009-10.

Question 11. Explain the concept of relative poverty with the help of the population below poverty line in some states of India.

Answer. Relative Poverty refers to poverty in relative terms. It refers to poverty of people in comparison to other people, regions or nations. It indicates that a group or class of people belonging to the lower income groups is poorer when compared to those belonging to higher income groups. Among the major states, percentage of people living below poverty line was 37.9 per cent in Assam, 23.0 per cent in Gujarat, 20.1 per cent in Haryana, 23.6 per cent in Karnataka, 36.7 per cent in Madhya Pradesh, 24.8 per cent in Rajasthan and 26.7 per cent in West Bengal in 2009-10.

Question 12. Suppose you are a resident of a village, suggest a few measures to tackle the problem of poverty.

Answer. Some measures that can be taken are:

1. Making people aware about benefits of sanitation.
2. Telling people about various programmes of the government.
3. Helping people to take loan and get self employed.
4. Keeping a control on growth rate of population.
5. Helping people to start small scale and cottage industries which would generate employment.

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