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RURAL AND URBAN SOCIOLOGY

SEMESTER VI

SOCIOLOGY

BLOCK 2

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COURSE INTRODUCTION

The course **'Rural and Urban Sociology'** introduces a specialised field of Sociology dealing with the Rural and Urban Societies. It intends to familiarize the learners with some of the basic concepts and various aspects of Rural and Urban Society. The course comprises of 15 units and are divided into two blocks. The first block consists of the first eight units and the second block consists of the remaining seven units.

Unit 1- Unit 8 discusses different aspects of Rural Society. From discussing about the emergence and scope of Rural Sociology in Unit 1, discussions on Rural Social Structure, Rural Economy and its changing trends, Rural Polity, Development of Women and Children in Rural areas, Rural Religion are made in the subsequent units.

Block 2 of the course comprises of **Unit 9-13**. Unit 9 and Unit 10 discusses about various schemes and policies regarding Rural and Tribal Development. Unit 11 makes a discussion about the impact of Globalisation on Rural Peasantry. Unit 12-15 mostly focus on Urban Society and its varied aspects. Beginning with a discussion on Origin and Scope of Urban Sociology, this block tries to introduce to the learners the basic concepts in Urban Sociology. Further, Urban Problems and Issues are also discussed at length to develop critical thinking among the learners.

BLOCK INTRODUCTION

This is the second block of the paper titled 'Rural and Urban Sociology' of B.A Sociology 6th Semester Programme of Krishna Kanta Handiqui State Open University. This block intends to provide the learners a basic understanding regarding specialised fields of Sociology i.e Rural and Urban Sociology. After reading this block, the learners will be able to understand the different aspects of Rural and Urban Sociology Unit 9 will explain the learners about the various Schemes and Policies of the Government of India for Rural Development. Unit 10 shall discuss about Tribal Development and various measures taken by the Government of India to improve the socio-economic conditions of the Tribals. Unit 11 discusses about Agrarian Unrest in the context of the Impact of Global Economic Change in India. Unit 12 shall discuss about the Origin and Scope of Urban Sociology, Rural Urban differences so on and so forth, Unit 13 shall explain to the learners the basic concepts used in Urban Sociology, Unit 14 and Unit 15 familiarises the learners to various socio-economic problems and issues of Urban Society.

While going through the units of the block, you will find that unit is further divided into certain sections and sub-sections, wherever necessary, for your better understanding. Again, the units carry certain *activities* after a particular section where needed. These "ACTIVITIES" will provide you the opportunity to practically apply your own thoughts based on the knowledge gained from reading the text in a particular section. Besides, in order to give you additional information on certain relevant topics, you will find a category called "LET US KNOW" after the sections in each unit. Another category that has been included at the end of each section of a particular unit is "CHECK YOUR PROGRESS". The purpose of this category is to help you to asses for yourself as to how thoroughly you have understood a particular section. You may then match your answers with "ANSWERS TO CHECK YOUR PROGRESS" given at the end of each unit. The section "FURTHER READING" in each unit contains the names of a few books, which you might want to consult if you are interested in learning more elaborately about the concepts discussed in a particular unit. Furthermore, the category called "POSSIBLE QUESTIONS" is intended to give you a hint of the type of questions you are likely to get in the examination.

UNIT 9 : RURAL DEVELOPMENT

UNIT STRUCTURE

9.1 Learning Objectives

9.2 Introduction

9.3 Community Development Programme

9.3.1 Salient Features of Community Development Programme

9.3.2 A Critique of Community Development Programme

9.4 Development in Tribal Areas

9.3.1 Provisions in the Constitution

9.5 Land Reform Programmes in Independent India

9.5.1 Land Reform Measures

9.6 Integrated Rural Development Programmes

9.6.1 Special Features

9.7 Minimum Needs Programmes

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9.8 Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas

9.8.1 Community Based Convergent Services

9.8.2 Child Care Activities

9.8.3 National Rural Health Mission (2005-2012)

9.9 Voluntary Organisations and People's Participation in Rural Development

9.9.1 Voluntary Organisations in Rural Areas

9.9.2 People's Participation in Rural Development

9.10 Let Us Sum Up

9.11 Further Readings

9.12 Answers to Check Your Progress

9.13 Model Questions

9.1 LEARNING OBJECTIVES

After going through this unit, you will be able to -

- identify different developmental areas

- explain the genesis of various rural development programmes launched in India from time to time.
- discuss the various strategies and programmes of rural development undertaken by the government after Independence.
- discuss the salient features of the major rural poverty alleviation programmes launched in India from time to time.

9.2 INTRODUCTION

In this unit a comprehensive discussion on various programmes of rural development that India has adopted after Independence would be taken up. During the struggle for India's Independence Gandhiji reiterated that the development of the country depends on its villages. He emphasised that an overall development of the society is possible only when it takes place from the grassroots. The development programmes, which the country is implementing, are aspects of directed change. Plans and programmes, which are especially meant for rural development carry an objective to make a change in the quality of life of the villagers. It is also pertinent to mention that rural development encompasses not only agricultural prosperity but also prosperities with regard to education, health, poverty eradication, drinking water and sanitation, electricity, employment generations of the youth, village industries, transport and communication facilities, market linkages, and a large numbers of other such facilities.

The backward and stagnant economy that India inherited as a legacy of colonial imperialism arrived at a historical turning point at the dawn of Independence. The imperative of meeting the emerging challenges as well as the rising urge for development provided the dynamic impulse for the future course of progress. It seemed to be historically conditioned that the country should undergo a profound socio-economic transformation through comprehensive planning and a massive drive aimed at reaching the cherished goals of growth, prosperity and good life for the people. The development of the rural areas must consider reduction or elimination of poverty, inequality and unemployment as an important index of development.

Let us now look at various strategies undertaken by the Indian government for rural development.

LET US KNOW



The basic elements of Rural Development are:

Basic necessities of Life: People have certain basic needs, without which it would be impossible for them to survive. The basic necessities include food, clothes, shelter, basic literacy, primary health care and security of life and property.

Self-respect: Every person and every nation seeks a certain self-respect, dignity or honour. Absence or denial of self-respect indicates lack of development.

Freedom: In this context, freedom refers to political or ideological freedom, economic freedom from social servitude. As long as a society is bound by the servitude of man to nature, man towards man, institutions, ignorance and dogmatic beliefs, it cannot claim to have achieved the goal of 'development'. Servitude in any form reflects a state of underdevelopment.

9.3 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (CDP)

The Planning Commission in their First Five Year Plan had described the Community Development Projects as the method through which the Five Year Plan sought to initiate a process of transformation of the social and economic life of the villages. It was on 2 October 1952 – the day of Gandhi Jayanti – that the Community Development Project (CDP) was launched in the country. We can trace the beginning of the rural development in India in the CDP introduced during the First Five Year Plan. The CDP mainly aimed at the development of villages. It meant development of agriculture and related matters,

- irrigation,
- communication,
- education,
- health,
- supplementary employment,
- housing,
- social welfare, and
- training.

The CDP was India's first large-scale, well-planned and organised initiative for promoting agricultural rural development with the main focus on equity. CDP is a multi project programme with the aim of an overall development of rural people. This programme consisted of agriculture, animal husbandry, irrigation, cooperation, public wealth, education, social education, communication, village industries etc. The CDP has also the services of experts in various fields, such as agriculture, irrigation, education, and veterinary science. Their services can be given without any payment to the people. The CDP also, in a larger way, promised the villagers to make them available the required amount of money by way of loan on easy terms. The broad objective of the CDP was to make the villagers self-reliant. The people will have to progress with their own efforts and for that the government would provide the required expertise and financial assistance.

9.3.1 Salient Features of Community Development Programme

The main objective of the CDP was to secure the total development of the material and human resources of rural areas, and to develop local leadership and self-governing institutions, so as to raise the levels of living of rural people. This objective was to be attained by bringing about a rapid increase in food and agricultural production by strengthening programmes of natural resource development, such as minor irrigation and soil conservation, by improving the effectiveness of farm inputs supply systems and by providing

agricultural extension service to farmers. The First Five Year Plan was dominanted by the CDP, which reflected India's overriding concern with nation building and equity. Thus, the strategy underlying the CDP was holistic and equity-oriented.

The CDP was designed and implemented initially for three years. It argued that during this period the villagers would be self-supporting; they would have their own irrigation facilities, their own schools and co-operatives. In 1959, the project was withdrawn with the hope that the villages would march ahead on the road to progress without any financial assistance. This, however, did not happen. In the end, the CDP proved to be a project of failure. As an offshoot of the CDP there emerged a new form of community development following the recommendations made by Balwant Rai Mehta Committee in 1959. Before we discuss the new transformations of CDP, let us analyse the drawbacks of the project.

9.3.2 A Critique of Community Development Programme

The Programme Evaluation Organisation (PEO) and a large number of social scientists including sociologists, anthropologists and economists have criticised the CDP. Some of the major criticisms are as follows:

- The needs of the people were perceived by the project personnel or in other words by those who were at the planning level. The necessay requirements of the people throughout the period of implementation of project, remained unidentified by the government.
- The project became highly bureaucratised. It was a development of the village people from the above; the people of the below (the villagers) were only passive receivers.
- Corruption plagued the implementation of various programmes under CDP.
- Despite huge expenditure on agricultural development the food production did not increase.

- The benefits of CDP went to the rich and big farmers at the cost of the small and the marginal farmers.
- There was a dismal lack of coordination among different development departments. As a result, there was much overlapping of the programmes.
- The programmes were implemented uniformly as they were tailored at the central level. The diverse situations at the local level denied the acceptance of these programmes.
- There has been too much emphasis on end result and less emphasis in following the correct methods and process to bring about change in the attitudes of the people.
- The PEO reiterated in its reports that a few of the schemes were implemented only on paper. In reality, on verification, it was found that no wells were dug, no community halls were constructed, no parks were created though all these appeared in the official records. For the people, the programmes of CDP were farce and full of scandals.

Finally, in the year 1959, the CDP was finally withdrawn from the villages. And there came a drastic change when the Balwanth Rai Commission suggested the creation of Panchayati Raj for the implementation of the CDP. The basic argument given towards the establishment of Panchayati Raj was that people should be given power to rule over the villages. The 'Panches' elected by the villagers would implement the programmes. This would ensure people's participation and involvement in the development of the villages. The development under this scheme was thus contemplated by the people at the grassroots.



CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

Q 1: What are the main reasons for the failure of the Community Development Programme? List some of the important points.

.....

.....

Q 2: Who are the main target groups under the CDP?

.....

.....

Q 3: Fill in the blanks:

(a) The CDP was launched in……

(b) The major areas of concern under the CDP are……

9.4 DEVELOPMENT IN TRIBAL AREAS

India has the largest concentration of tribal people. It represents a variety of tribal population across its length and breadth. Areas inhabited by the tribals constitute a significant part of the under-developed areas of the country. There are 533 tribes (with many overlapping tribes in more than one state) as per the notified schedule under Article 342 of the Indian Constitution in different states and Union Territories. The largest number of tribes belong to the state of Orissa with a total of 62 tribes. According to 2001 Census, the population of Scheduled Tribes in the country was 8.43 crores, which was 8.2% of the total population of the country. The population of Scheduled Tribes has been on the increase since 1961. As compared to the sex ratio for the overall population (933 females per 1000 males), the sex ratio among Scheduled Tribes, as per 2001 Census is more favourable, at 977 females per 1000 males. In all States except Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Uttaranchal, the ST sex ratio was more favourable.

The promotion of an all round development of tribals inhabiting the length and breath of our country has received priority attention of the government. There are numerous government policies for ensuring the welfare and well being of tribals. The governments at State as well as Central levels have made sustained efforts to provide opportunity to these communities for their economic development by eradicating poverty and health problems and developing communication for removal of isolation of their habitats. The Constitution of India seeks to secure for all its citizens,

among other things, social and economic justice, equality of status and opportunity and assures the dignity of the individual. The Constitution further provides social, economic and political guarantees to the disadvantaged sections of people.

LET US KNOW



D.N. Majumdar defines a tribe as a collection of families or group 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 and have developed a well-assessed system of reciprocity and mutuality of obligations. The International Labour Organisation (ILO) in its Report of 1953 stated that, "(T)here can be no standard which can apply to all indigenous or aboriginal groups throughout the world". However, consensus may lead us to identify and define any group as a tribe which displays the following characteristics:

- a definite habitat and area,
- a unified social organisation based primarily on blood relationship (consanguinity),
- cultural homogeneity,
- a common scheme of deities and common ancestors, and
- a common dialect with a common folk-lore.

9.4.1 Provisions in the Constitution

The Constitution of India 1950 under the provision of the Article 343 specifies certain tribes and tribal communities as Scheduled Tribes. This list has been revised from time to time but the essential areas first specified by the British are still operational. The general understanding was that the Indian tribals needed to be brought to the mainstream of development. They were at the same time

concerned with the protection of securing tribal regions from exploitation. A policy of providing jobs in government services for the tribal community through reservation was also followed. In 1958, the then Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru laid emphasis on tribal development and suggested that:

- Tribal rights to land and forest must be respected and protected.
- Tribal people be encouraged to develop their own cultural patterns rather than imposing external culture upon them.
- Efforts should be made to prepare and train local people to take over the regions' administrative tasks rather than assigning the tasks to external officers and agencies

The Constitution of India provides a number of provisions for the protection and welfare of the tribal culture and society. The basic idea behind this was to ensure state support for less privileged sections of the society. The Constitutional provisions for the upliftment of the tribals may be divided into two parts:

- Protective and
- Developmental

Provisions for the development of tribal areas of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram are outlined in the VIth Schedule of the Constitution. While Scheduled Tribes inhabiting other states (other than the above mentioned States) are dealt with in the Vth Schedule of the Constitution. The Fifth Schedule under Article 244(1) of Constitution defines 'Scheduled Areas' as such areas as the President may by Order declare to be scheduled areas after consultation with the Governor of that State. The Sixth Schedule under Article 244(2) of the Constitution relates to those areas in the North-east which are declared as 'tribal areas' and provide for District or Regional Autonomous Councils for such areas. These Councils have wide ranging legislative, judicial and executive powers. The criteria for declaring any area as a 'Scheduled Area' under the Fifth Schedule are:-

- Preponderance of tribal population,
- Compactness and reasonable size of the area,
- A viable administrative entity such as a district, block or taluk,
- Economic backwardness of the area as compared to neighbouring areas.

The provisions made in the Vth Schedule are:

- 'Tribes Advisory Council is to be constituted to give advice on welfare and advancement of the Scheduled Tribes in the states as may be referred to them by the Governor.' [Schedule V, Para 4]
- 'The Governor is authorized to make regulation to prohibit or restrict the transfer of land by or among members of, the Scheduled tribes, regulate the allotment of land, and regulate the business of money lending.' [Schedule V, Para 5]

The VIth Schedule provides, "Tribal area (Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram) are to be administered as autonomous districts……Provision is made for the creation of District Councils and Regional Councils for the exercise of certain legislative and judicial functions. These Councils are primarily the representative bodies and they have got the power of law-making in certain specified fields. [Schedule VI].

Article 15 (4): Promotion of Social, Economic and Educational Interests: This Article empowers the state to make any special provisions for the advancement of socially and educationally backward classes of citizens or for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Article 16 (4): Reservation of Posts and Services: This clause empowers the state to reserve any post or appointment in favour of any backward classes citizens, who in the opinion of the state are not adequately represented in the services under the state. The state is expected to reserve reasonable percentage of jobs for the backward classes.

Article 19 (5): Safeguard of Tribal Interests: While the rights of free movement and residence throughout the territory of India and of acquisition and disposition of property are guaranteed to every citizen, special restrictions may be imposed by the state for the protection of interests of the Scheduled Tribes.

Article 23: Traffic in human beings, beggars and other forms of forced labour are prohibited. This is a very significant provision so far as the Scheduled Tribes are concerned.

Article 29: Cultural and Educational Rights: According to this article a cultural or linguistic minority has to conserve its culture and language.

Article 164: It provides for a Minister-in Charge for tribal welfare in the states of Bihar, Orissa and Madhya Pradesh. These states have substantial tribal population and special provision of a Minister looking for after tribal welfare is an evidence of the concern of the framers of the Constitution for safeguarding the interests of the tribal welfare.

Article 330, 332 and 334: According to these articles, seats shall be reserved for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the legislative bodies.

Article 338: It says that there shall be a special officer for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes to be appointed by the President. It shall be the duty of the special officer to investigate all matter relating to the safeguards provided to them under the Constitution and to report to the President upon the working of those safeguards at such intervals as the President may direct, and the President shall cause all reports to be laid before each house of the Parliament.

Article 371 (A,B,C): Provides for the special measures and provisions with respect to the states of Maharashtra and Gujarat (371), Nagaland (371 A), Assam (371 B) and Manipur (371 C). Besides, provisions are also made in the Vth and the VIth Schedules

(as discussed above) of the Constitution regarding the Constitution of the tribal areas.



CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

Q 4: Fill in the Blanks:

(a) _____plays an important role in tribal development.

(b)_____deals with the cultural and educational rights of the tribal population.

Q 5: What are the immediate objectives of the tribal sub-plan?

Q 6: What do you understand by the VIth Schedule of the Indian Constitution?

9.5 LAND REFORM PROGRAMMES IN INDEPENDENT INDIA

In a country where there is still huge dependence of population on agriculture, with 56 per cent of total workers and 72.5 per cent of rural work force engaged in it [Ministry of Finance (MoF) 2007], land is central to the economy, society and polity. It is not merely the primary means of production, but also confers on the holder economic security, social status, power and even identity. Its enormous significance, therefore, makes the whole gamut of problems associated with its management – ownership, structure of rights and interests, production arrangements and social relations – basic to the understanding of the complexity and contestation of 'development' witnessed in the country. Land reforms essentially involve bringing in changes in these dimensions which constitute the property relations for potential production benefits and eliminating injustice in distribution of productive assets and are, therefore, justified on grounds of efficiency and equity.

The need for these changes arose from the colonial pattern of land settlement and taxation which consisted of three types of arrangements as we have discussed in unit II. The arrangements are as following:

- The first pattern consisted of 'permanent settlement' wherein private property rights were conferred on the settlee known as zamindar, who was obliged to pay a fixed amount of revenue to the government. The zamindari system encouraged subletting, which led to several layers of rent receiving intermediaries between the zamindar and the cultivator. It strengthened the position of zamindars against tenants and led to the acute exploitation of cultivators.
- The second type is known as the 'ryotwari system' under which the land was directly settled with the cultivator whose tax liability was determined by periodic assessment. This system too, over a period of time, witnessed subletting, creating layers of interests. The freedom to mortgage and sale of land led to the emergence of non-agriculturists (merchants, tenants, and moneylenders) acquiring control of land and consequent proliferation of different forms of tenancy with adverse terms and conditions of tenure.
- The third arrangement is referred to as the 'mahalwari system', where the settlement was made with the villagers rather than with the individual and the responsibility was cast on the village body to pay revenue. In this system, heavy land tax compelled peasants to sell or mortgage land and become tenants or agricultural labourers of big landlords.

The three land revenue systems gave rise to huge number of distortions affecting the peasantry adversely. These systems delegated power to control land and collect taxes to the settlee and produced an intensively exploitative arrangement of cultivation resulting from large-scale eviction from land, change of tenants, use of physical force to enhance rent, insecurity of tenure, and widespread indebtedness. The peasant revolt in different parts of the country forced the government to enact a number of tenancy legislations which protected the superior peasantry but the tenants of the lower level received no help against

exploitation of the landlords. From these changes in the agrarian structure emerged a class of landlords and upper layer of peasantry which dominated the rural economy encompassing land, lease, produce, credit and labour markets and exercised unparalleled power in rural society. Therefore, the land reform measures in independent India were response to these inequalities.

9.5.1 Land Reforms Measures

With the twin purpose of increasing agricultural production and equitable distribution of land, the official policy of land reforms consisted of the following five components:

- Abolition of intermediaries and bringing tenants in direct relationship with the government.
- Tenancy reforms with a view of providing security to actual cultivators, regulating rent, and conferring ownership rights on tenants.
- Ceiling on agricultural landholdings and distribution of surplus lands accruing to the government resulting from it to the landless.
- Consolidation of landholdings.
- Preparation and updating land records.

Besides the above mentioned land reforms measures, some other reforms were also being pursued. They are:

- Protection against alienation of tribal land.
- Access to Common Property Resources (CPRs).
- Protection of Rights in Forest.

9.6 INTEGRATED RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES (IRDP)

Growth with social justice has been the basic plan objective in India. In fact, reduction in the incidences of poverty and its ultimate elimination is the national goal. IRDP was first introduced in 1978-79 in 2,300 selected

blocks in the country and was extended to all the blocks in the country with effect from 2 October 1980. The IRDP is the most important programme that falls in the category of self-employment programmes. It is the single largest anti-poverty programme currently underway in all the community development blocks in the country. It aims at providing income generating assets and self-employment opportunities to the rural poor to enable them to rise above the poverty line once and for ever. The IRDP in effect seeks to redistribute assets and employment opportunities in favour of the rural poor and thereby reduce income inequality. It is a centrally sponsored scheme and is funded on 50:50 basis by the centre and the state. It seeks to remove rural poverty through a comprehensive and integrated programme covering major development sectors – agriculture, minor irrigation, fishery, animal husbandry and veterinary, industry and services and other tertiary sub-sectors. The need of such a comprehensive programme was felt in view of the failure of earlier programmes to make any positive impact on the income creating capacity of the families of the target groups. IRDP is described officially as a major mechanism for the alleviation of rural poverty.

The target groups under IRDP consists of small and marginal farmers, agricultural labourers and rural artisans having an annual income below Rs. 11,000 defined as poverty line in the Eighth Plan. In order to ensure that benefits under the programme reach the more vulnerable sectors of the society, it is stipulated that at least 50 percent of assisted families should be from Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes with corresponding flow of resources to them. Furthermore, 40 percent of the coverage should be of women beneficiaries and 3 percent of differently-abled persons. Thus, its objective is to bring about the desired socio-economic transformation in the rural sector of the country.

A numbers of steps have been taken in order to improve the implementation process such as:

- The limit for security free loan has been raised from Rs. 5000/- to Rs. 10,000/- for agricultural and allied activities.

- Diversification of activities to include new and innovative programmes like fruit processing units, fish farming, etc. have been enhanced.
- Close dialogue and coordination between DRDA and the employment exchange for employment opportunities and training under Training Rural Youth for Self Employment (TRYSEM). The TRYSEM is an integrated part of the IRDP and aims at equipping the rural youths with skills to enable them to achieve self-employment.

9.6.1 Special Features

There are several special features of the Integrated Rural Development Programme such as the following:

- It seeks to help the poor and under-privileged families of the rural areas and remove the fundamental cause of poverty and deprivation.
- IRDP is conceived essentially as an anti-poverty programme. The programme seeks to eliminate poverty by assisting the poor households to receive productive assets, technology and skill so that they become economically solvent.
- IRDP is also conceived as a comprehensive programme of raising the status of a household not only economic but also social, educational and nutritional, etc. The perspective beneficiaries under the IRDP should be linked to the various social services like applied nutrition, compulsory education, adult education, family welfare, children and women welfare, etc. and it should be the duty of the concerned departments to provide these services to them.
- The IRDP covers a number of important individual beneficiary schemes consisting of land developments, supply of agricultural inputs, minor irrigation, fishery, dairy, goatery, piggery, tailoring, weaving, wool knitting, rickshaw pulling, fish netting, blacksmithy, etc.
- Training for Rural Youth for Self-Employment (TRYSEM) is an essential component of IRDP. Under this Programme, necessary

training for six months is given to the selected rural youths in new schemes, occupations and modern technology relating to agricultural and allied activities, industrial schemes like, tailoring, knitting, dairying, blacksmithy, weaving, etc. This training is expected to improve the skill, expertise and productive efficiency of the participatory beneficiaries.

Active participation of the local people in various stages of IRDP is essential for the achievement of the objectives of the programme. Only with their active participation, the true motive behind the implementation of this rural development programme would succeed. In this regard, the government has a very significant role in mobilising and motivating the youths to secure better livelihoods. Success or failure of any programme purely hinges on how best it is managed and organised. Above all, public consciousness is another potent factor for making any scheme productive.

The IRDP is implemented by an autonomous agency called the District Rural Development Agency (DRDA). At the national level, the Ministry of Rural Development is responsible for the release of the central share of the funds, policy formulation, overall guidance, direction, coordination, monitoring and evaluation of the IRDP. The Ministry of Rural Development has provided for the concurrent evaluation and impact studies of the IRDP as an aid to administer the programme effectively. The state governments have been advised to undertake evaluation studies from time to time to ascertain the impact of the programme and to measure the extent to which the beneficiaries have directly derived additional income and employment from the investments made under the programme. The state governments may make use of their own evaluation machinery, whatever practicable, to undertake concurrent evaluation and impact studies, or they may entrust this work to selected academic/research institutions of standing and repute in this field.

Several all-India evaluation studies of the IRDP have been carried out by the National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development (NABARD), the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the Programme Evaluation Organisation (PEO) of the Planning Commission and academic institutions. The Public Accounts Committee (PAC) of the Indian Parliament made contain recommendations in its report about reshaping the IRDP. Some of the major inadequacies of the IRDP are as follows:

- The per capita investment (loans plus subsidy) too low to generate enough income to bring the beneficiary family above the poverty line.
- Inadequate infrastructural support for various income generating activities.
- Inadequate representation of the concerned agencies on the governing body of the DRDA
- Absence of people's participation in the programme.
- Malpractices by the lower officials have been pervasive.



CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

Q 7: Write true or false:

(a) The IRDP seeks to reduce poverty in the rural areas. (True/ False)

(b) People's participation is the single most factor for effective implementation of the IRDP. (True/ False)

Q 8: What are the objectives of IRDP?

.....

.....

Q 9. List some of the important components of IRDP.

.....

.....

Q 10: Fill in the blanks:

(a) IRDP was launched in the year……

(b) ……..is an important component of IRDP which aims at imparting trainings to the rural youths for self-employment.

9.7 MINIMUM NEEDS PROGRAMMES (MNP)

The draft of the Fifth Plan for the first time enumerated elementary education, rural health, nutrition, drinking water, house sites for the rural landless, urban slum improvement, rural roads and rural electrification as priority items of social consumption to be included in Minimum Needs Programme (MNP). The MNP was launched in the Fifth Five Year Plan. Its objective was to ensure a basic minimum standard of life for all sections of people living in the rural areas of the country. The strategy was to establish a network of facilities to attain an acceptable level of social consumption in respect to selected items within a stipulated time frame.

The availability of certain public service, facilities and amenities constitute part of the standard of living. It is particularly with respect to the community facilities and civic amenities that rural people are at a great disadvantage vis-à-vis their urban counterparts. Duly recognising the need for the provision of such facilities and services in rural areas, the Government of India (GoI) developed and launched a scheme called the MNP in the Fifth Five Year Plan. The MNP initially included eight components. During the Sixth Five Year Plan, one more component – adult education – was added, and in the Seventh Five Year Plan, the list of items was further expanded with three more components, namely rural domestic energy, rural sanitation and public distribution system (PDS).

Components of MNP are as following:

- Elementary Education
- Adult Education
- Rural Health
- Rural Water Supply
- Rural Roads

- Rural Housing
- Rural Electrification
- Environmental Improvement of Urban Slums
- Nutrition
- Rural Domestic Cooking Energy
- Rural Sanitation
- Public Distribution System (PDS)

The concept of MNP emerged and crystallised out of the experience of the previous plans, which showed that neither growth nor social consumption can be sustained – much less accelerated – without being mutually supportive. The main objective of the MNP was to provide the rural population, particularly the rural poor, with access to certain items of social consumption, which form an integral part of the basic needs. It was envisaged that certain national level norms would be fixed with respect to each of these items and that within the specified time frame, all areas in the country would achieve these national goals. The programmes emphasise the urgency for providing social services according to the nationally accepted norms within a stipulated time frame. To optimise benefits, all 12 components of the MNP are taken as a package, and related to specific areas and beneficiary groups. The programme is essentially an aid to human resource development. The provision of free or subsidised services through public agencies is expected to improve the consumption levels of those living below the poverty line, and thereby improve the productive efficiency of both the rural and urban workers.

9.7.1 National Common Minimum Programme (NCMP)

In May 2004, the United Progressive Alliance (UPA) adopted the NCMP to be implemented in the rural areas to raise their standard of living. Some of the important components of NCMP relevant to the rural sector are as follows:

- ***Rural Infrastructure*:** Bharat Nirman is a four year programme (2005-09) for achieving goals in six selected areas of rural

infrastructure - irrigation, drinking water, housing, roads, telephony and electrification.

- ***Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY)*:** There is a direct correlation between poverty and housing in the rural areas. The poor person either does not have a house or lives in an unserviceable kutcha house. Village Housing Progarmme was launched as part of the Community Development Programme (CDP) in 1957. In June 1985, the Union Finance Minister made an announcement earmarking a portion of the RLEGP funds for the construction of houses for SC/ST people and freed bonded labour. The IAY was a result of that announcement. The IAY became a part of JRY when it came into being in April 1989. Considering the magnitude of the problem, the central government announced in 1998 a National Housing and Habitat Policy (NHHP), which aimed at providing 'Housing for all'. The government had set the goal of ending any such lack of shelter by the end of the Tenth Five Year Plan.
- ***Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)*:** The primary objective of the PMGSY is to provide connectivity by way of all-weather roads along with necessary culverts and cross-drainage structures, which is functional throughout the year. It was proposed to cover all the eligible unconnected habitations in the rural areas with a population of 1,000 persons and above in three years (2000-03), and all unconnected habitations with a population of 500 persons and above by the end of the Tenth Five Year Plan (2007). In respect of all hill states (North-east, Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir and Uttaranchal) and the desert areas and Schedule V areas, the objective is to connect habitations with a population of 250 persons and above.

Rural road connectivity is not only a key component of rural development by promoting access to economic and social services,

and thereby, generating increased agricultural incomes and productive employment opportunities in India, but it also a key ingredient in ensuring sustainable poverty reduction.

Thus, the government has been implementing various programmes to eradicate poverty and to bring a 'just equal' society.



CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

Q 11: What do you mean by Minimum Need Programme (MNP)?

.....

.....

Q 12: What are the areas that are covered under the programme?

.....

.....

Q 13:Fill in the blanks:

(a) ……..was launched as a part of ……in ……..

(b) NCMP has been adopted to……

(c) The……..was launched as an important component of …….. in the……..plan.

9.8 DEVELOPMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN RURAL AREAS (DWCRA)

Concerns about the development of women and children in India are not new. Subsequently, women and child issues have been recognised as priority for development in the country as is reflected through different Five-Year Development Plans, Schemes of the Government, as well as through National Health Policies and National Population Policies. Uplifting the health conditions of women and children has been also given high priority for an overall development of the society. The first Health Survey and Development Committee constituted, way back in 1943, recommended that the reduction of sickness and mortality among women and children

should be amongst the highest priority issues in any programme of health development. Similar concerns were raised by the Health Survey and Planning Committee in 1961. Let us now understand the role of different programmes of the Government in uplifting the conditions of women and children, especially in the rural areas.

The DWRCA programme was launch in 1982 as part of the IRDP. Its aim was to empower rural women living below the poverty line by way of organising them to create sustainable income generating activities through self-employment. It was the first programme of its kind that specifically focused on improving the quality of life of rural women. A unique feature of the DWCRA, unlike the other IRDP components was that along with the improvement in income, it also focused on access to health, education, safe drinking water, sanitation, nutrition and so on. Thus, it not only aimed at promoting economic development, but also facilitated social development. Another important feature of the programme was that it emphasised group activity. It was thought that in the long run, women's empowerment depends on creation of a movement that promotes awareness and self-reliance.

Some of the *major thrusts* of the Scheme are as following:

- The scheme - DWCRA was aimed to improve the socio-economic status of the poor women in the rural areas through creation of groups of women for income-generating activities on a self-sustaining basis.
- The main strategy adopted under the programme was to facilitate access for poor women to employment, skill upgradation, training credit and other support services so that the DWCRA women as a group could take up income-generating activities for supplementing their incomes.
- It sought to encourage collective action in the form of group activities which were known to work better and were more sustainable than the individual effort. It encouraged the habit of thrift and credit among poor rural women to make them self-reliant.
- The programme seeks to improve the access of rural women to health, education, safe drinking water, sanitation, nutrition, family welfare, health

care, child care, etc; thereby bringing about an enhancement in the quality of general well being of women & children.

Thus, DWCRA with exclusive focus on economic empowerment of women provides all these inputs by considering women as critical to development. This intervention aims at not only raising the incomes of rural women of poor households, but also enabling organised participation of groups of women provides all these inputs by considering women as critical to development: also enabling organised participation of groups of women in the programmes of credit, skill training and infrastructure support for self-employment. DWCRA was introduced for ensuring that the benefits of IRDP reach to women directly. The Scheme had been merged into Swarnajayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana (SGSY) with Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Training for Rural Youth for Self Employment (TRYSEM), etc. from April, 1999.

9.8.1 Community Based Convergent Services

The Community Based Convergent Services (CBCS), as a component of DWCRA was started in 1991. The objective was to create greater awareness among the village communities to enable them to demand social services provided by the state in a better manner and also share responsibilities in the management and implementation of these services, thus, leading to sustainable development. Traditional methods like visuals, role play, folk art, puppetry, dance and drama etc, are some of the means employed for sensitising the community to the basic needs. The Programme seeks to strengthen existing organisation of rural poor women, encourage the level of social and economic status of women. The programmes of ICDS, Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission, and National Literacy Mission (NLM) are some of the programmes which are sought to be converged at the grass roots level- 298 districts community based convergent Services (CBCS) with cent per cent Central assistance at Rs. 5.00 Lakhs per district.

9.8.2 Child Care Activities

Child Care Activities (CCA) has been incorporated in DWCRA Programme during 1995-96 with the following objectives:

- Ø To provide crèche services for children of working DWCRA women.
- Ø Setting up of literacy centers of DWCRA with specific emphasis on girl child dropouts and illiterate members of the DWCRA groups.
- Ø Filling up critical gaps in the areas of immunization, nutrition etc. for the children of DWCRA members with special focus and emphasis on the girl child to reduce gender disparities in the infant girl child care.
- Ø To provide some relief to the physically handicapped children of DWCRA members. To provide immediate relief and pay for legal assistance in case of redressal of physical abuse of the girl child.
- Ø Children below 6 years are the target group under Child Care Activities. Each DRDA is to receive Rs. 1.50 lakhs (Rs. 1.00 lakhs Central Share and Rs. 50,000 as state share) for Child Care Activities.

9.8.3 National Rural Health Mission (2005-2012)

Recognising the importance of health in the process of economic and social development and improving the quality of life, especially in the rural areas, the Government of India has resolved to launch the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) to carry out the necessary corrections in the health care delivery system. This is a scheme launched to delivery quick health care services in the rural areas and improve the health conditions of the people within a stipulated time-period of seven years (that is, 2005-2012).

The Mission adopts a synergistic approach by relating health to determinants of good health, viz. segments of nutrition,

sanitation, hygiene and safe drinking water. It also aims at mainstreaming the Indian system of medicine to facilitate health care. The Plan of Action includes increasing public expenditure on health, reducing regional imbalances in health infrastructure, pooling resources, integration of organisational structures, optimisation of health man-power, decentralisation and district management of health programmes, community participation, induction of management and financial personnel into district health system, and operationalising community health centers into functional hospitals meeting Indian Public Health standards in each block of the country. NRHM has identified 18 'high focus' states: Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Uttarakhand, Orissa, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Jammu and Kashmir, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Mizoram, are included in the list.

Ø ***Major Goals***

- The goal of the Mission is to improve the availability of and access to quality health care by people, especially for those residing in rural areas, the poor, women and children. It seeks to reduce the Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) and Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR).
- Universal access to public health services such as women's health, child health, water, sanitation and hygiene, immunization, and nutrition.
- Prevention and control of communicable and non-communicable diseases, including locally endemic diseases.
- Access to integrated comprehensive primary health care.
- Population stabilization, gender and demographic balance.
- Promotion of healthy lifestyles among rural masses.
- Integrating vertical Health and Family Welfare Programmes at National, State, Block and District Levels.
- Every Village/ large habitat will have a female Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA) – chosen by and accountable to the Panchayat – to act as the interference between the community

and the public health system. ASHA acts as an honorary volunteer, receiving performance-based compensation for promoting universal immunization, referral and escort services for Reproductive and Child Health (RHC), construction of household toilets, and other health care delivery programmes. She facilitates preparation and implementation of the Village Health Plan along with Anganwadi workers, ANM, functionaries of other department, and Self Help Group members, under the leadership of the Village Health Committee of the Panchayat.

- Availability of trained community level workers at the village level, with a drug kit for generic ailments. Good hospital care through assured availability of doctors, drugs and quality services at PHC/CHC Level. Improved facilities for institutional deliveries through provisions of referral, transport, escort and improved hospital care subsidised under the Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY) for the below poverty line families.
- Health Day at Anganawadi level on a fixed day/month for provision of immunization, ante/post-natal check-ups and services related to mother and child health care, including nutrition.

After sixty years of planned development, India remains backward in health care facilities. India, with 16 per cent of the world population, accounts for about 30 per cent of the infant/child mortality in the world. The maternal mortality of the country is significantly high. Life expectancy at birth of the average Indians is only about 64 years which is about fifteen years lower than that achieved by developed countries. More than half of the women in India suffer from anaemia which results in high rate of morbidity. Almost half of the Indian children under three years suffer from various levels of malnutrition. This level is worse than even those of sub-Saharan countries. It means that about half of the Indian children are at risk of health problems such as stunted growth, mental retardation, and increased susceptibility to infectious diseases.



CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

Q 14: Fill in the blanks:

(a) The DWRCA programme was launched in…….

(b) The main aim of DWRCA is to……..by way of organising organising them to……through…….

(c) The NRHM was launched in……to…….

Q 15: Which are the major focus areas of the programme of DWRCA?

Q 16: List down the names of the states in which the programme of NRHM has been launched?

Q 17: De-abbreviate the following:

(a) NRHM (b) NHS (c) CBCS (d) JSY

(e) DWRCA (f) PPP (g) ASHA

9.9 VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS AND PEOPLE' S PARTICIPATION IN RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Rural development is a dynamic process, directed towards transforming the entire society embracing its economic, social, political and administrative aspects of an all-round and balanced-upward development. It mainly involves extending the benefits of development to the poorest of the poor who seek a livelihood in rural areas. The very success and failure, may even the very survival of a rural development programme depend on its management. Ineffective management of such programmes cuts off the very roots of development. Significantly, people's participation and healthy awareness can bring about development at the grassroot level.

9.9.1 Voluntary Organisations in Rural Areas

The Voluntary Organisations (VAs) or the Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) play a very important role in rural

development. They can motivate the rural population to prepare meaningful plans for rural development, as also to take part in their implementation. Since, the rural population is mostly uneducated, they do not understand the thrust of the different government's programmes that are being implemented at the village level. The VAs or the NGOs can motivate them to actively participate in various governments' programmes by imparting necessary trainings and awareness campaigns.

There are now quite a few VAs in the country which have the requisite technical and managerial resources available with them to undertake rural development projects and to manage them successfully. At the national level, the Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Development Technology (CAPART) is the nodal agency responsible for promoting voluntary action in rural development. CAPART was registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1986, on 1 September, with its headquarters in New Delhi. It aims at encouraging, promoting and assisting voluntary action for rural development.

Now, the NGOs are coming up with greater vigour for development. With the support of the funding agencies, the NGOs (both small and big) have received a boost. This has also made it necessary for funding agencies to take a more proactive role than they did earlier. Many of them now play the role of a resource centre, contributing to the planning and implementation of programme and competence building of the NGO teams. The ability of the NGOs to deliver high quality development had also been recognised by the state machinery. This had also led to fairly high expectations from these organizations.

9.9.2 People's Participation in Rural Development

Above all, the utmost important factor of any rural development is 'people' for whom the programme is meant. Therefore, the

implementation of any rural development programme on a national scale cannot be possible without the active and widespread participation of the rural masses. The programmes of rural development must be formulated in such a way that these initiatives encourage more people's participation and make them partners for effective implementation.

There are many factors that may motivate people to participate or refrain from participating in the rural development programmes. Hence, it is necessary for those responsible for project implementation to find out the factors that motivate the local people to participation in a programme and to formulate specific strategies for effective participation. A review of India's past efforts in involving people in the processes of plan formulation and implementation would reveal that the decentralisataion of planning and administrative functions through the PRIs has not brought about the desired results. After the introduction of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992, people's participation in planning and implementation of rural development programmes was expected to improve than earlier. But the experience to date indicates that it has not improved significantly. Most of the rural poor still do not participate, due to a variety of reasons as:

- people in the rural areas are mostly uneducated or less educated and they do not understand the importance of their participation,
- lack of proper motivation also hinders their active participation,
- Ignorance on the part of the people about various programmes, especially meant for them,
- the programmes are implemented without proper awareness. That is, poor information flow between the concerned authorities and the villagers,
- the women are generally kept out of the decision-making process, that is why their participation rate is low.

Thus, the term 'rural development' connotes overall development of rural areas with a view to improve quality of life of

rural people. In this sense, it is a comprehensive and multi-dimensional concept, and encompasses the development of agriculture and allied activities, village and cottage industries, crafts, socio-economic infrastructure, community services and facilities and above all, the human resources in rural areas. Rural development can be conceptualised as a process, a phenomenon, a strategy and a discipline. As a process, it implies the engagement of individuals, communities and nations in pursuits of their cherished goals over time. As a phenomenon, rural development is the end result of interactions between various physical, technological, economic, socio-cultural and institutional factors. As a strategy, it is designed to improve the economic and social well-being of a specific group of people that is the rural poor. As a discipline, it is interdisciplinary in nature, representing an intersection of agricultural, social, behavioural, engineering and management sciences. Some of the objectives that are usually related to rural development are:

- Increase in per capita income (economic growth).
- Improvement in the distribution of income (equity).
- Equitable access to resources, education, health care, employment opportunities and justice.

Therefore, it can be said that development at the grassroots are means to an end, that is national prosperity. It is therefore always advisable and feasible to have an integrated approach of development particularly for the rural population. For this, active local participation is an essential factor for success of any government initiated programmes of rural development. In order to ensure maximum participation in the development programmes, government has to adopt appropriate mechanisms for widespread awareness among all sections of the rural population. Without proper awareness and social consciousness, people will not be able to fully understand the importance of different programmes of development meant for them. Thus, development has to a bottom-

up approach so that people can actively participate in the process of development.



CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

Q 18: Write true or false:

(a) As a strategy, rural development implies improving the quality and standard of living of the rural poor.

(b) Effective implementation of policies of rural development is possible without people's participation in the process.

Q 19: Fill in the blanks:

(a) The utmost important factor of any……..is……..for whom the programme is meant.

(b) ……..is the nodal agency responsible for promoting……..

(c) ……play a very important role in rural development.



ACTIVITY

1. Write a note on the major rural development policies and programmes in Assam launched by the Government?

…….....

.....

2.Evaluate the causes of success and failure of NRHM in Asssam.

.....

.....

3. Illustrate with examples that poverty and unemployment are inter-related problems and have two-way relations, that is, one is both the cause and effect of the other.

.....

.....



9.10 LET US SUM UP

- The term 'rural development' implies an overall development in the quality of life of rural people.
- Eradication of poverty has remained the top most priority in all government initiated programmes of rural development. Poverty and unemployment have been the bane of India since long. Their reduction has been one of the major goals of India's development planning since the beginning of the planning era. Accordingly, the GoI has launched various programmes from time to time aimed at alleviation of poverty and unemployment.
- The rural development programmes and policies are designed to improve the conditions under which people live and work. The goals of these policies are governed by what people desire, and the measures of policies by what people think the government can and ought to do to bring about the desired changes.
- For the major infrastructural development programmes launched include the Minimum Needs Programme (MNP).
- The Community Development Programme (CDP) was India's first large scale, well planned and organised initiative to promote agricultural and rural development, with the main focus on equity. Its main objective was to secure total development of the material and human resources of rural areas, and to develop local leadership and self-governing institutions, so as to raise the levels of living of the rural people. It laid the foundation for agricultural and rural development programmes.
- The Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) is the most important programme that falls in the category of self-employment programmes. It is the single largest anti-poverty programme currently underway in all the community development block in the country.
- Last but not the least, the Indian Government has also undertaken a number of programmes for the tribal area development to bring the tribal communities in contact with the wider society.

9.11 FURTHER READING

1) Ahlawat, S.R.(ed.). (2008). *Economic Reforms and Social Transformation.* Jaipur: Rawat Publications.

2) Deogaonkar, S.G. (1994). *Tribal Administration and Development (With Ethnographic Profiles of Selected Tribes)*. New Delhi: Concept Publishing Company.

3) Mohanty, Manoranjan (ed.) (2010). *India: Social Development Report 2010: The Land Question and the Marginalized.* Council for Social Development.New Delhi: Oxford Publishing House.

4) Samanta, R.K. (ed.), (1991). *Rural Development in North-East India: Perspectives, Issues and Experiences. New Delhi:* Uppal Publishing House.

9.12 ANSWERS TO CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

Ans to Q No 1: Some of the major causes of failure are:

(i) The needs of the people were perceived by the project personnel or in other words by those who were at the planning level. The felt needs of the people throughout the period of implementation of project remained unidentified by the government.

(ii) The project became highly bureaucratized in its character. It was a development of the village people from the above; the people of the below (the villagers) were only passive receivers.

(iii) Corruption plagued the implementation of various programmes under CDP.

(iv) Despite huge expenditure on agricultural development the food production did not increase.

(v) The benefits of CDP went to the rich and big farmers at the cast of the small and the marginal farmers.

(vi) There was a dismal lack of coordination among different development departments. As a result, there was much overlap in the programmes.

(vii) The programmes were implemented uniformly as they were tailored at the central level. The diverse situations at the local level denied the acceptance of these programmes.

(viii) There has been too much emphasis on end result and less emphasis in following the correct methods and process to bring about change in the attitudes of the people.

Ans to Q No 2: The main target group under the CDP is the rural poor.

Ans to Q No 3: (a) October 1952

(b) The major areas of concerns under the CDP are: agriculture and related matters, irrigation, communication, education, health, supplementary employment, housing, social welfare, and training.

Ans to Q No 4: (a) The Five Year Plans

(b) Article 29 of the Indian Constitution

Ans to Q No 5: The immediate objectives are:

(a) Elimination of exploitation in all forms

(b) Speeding up of the processes for social and economic development

(c) Building up the inner strength of the people

(d) Improving their organisational capabilities

Ans to Q No 6: Provisions for the development of tribal areas of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram are made in the VIth Schedule of the Constitution. The Sixth Schedule under Article 244(2) of the Constitution relates to those areas in the North-east which are declared as “tribal areas” and provide for District or Regional Autonomous Councils for such areas. These Councils have wide ranging legislative, judicial and executive powers.

Ans to Q No 7: (a) True (b) False

Ans to Q No 8: The IRDP is the most important programme that falls in the category of self-employment programmes. It is the single largest anti-poverty programme currently underway in all the community development blocks in the country. It aims at providing income generating assets and self-employment opportunities to the rural poor to enable them to rise above the poverty line once and for ever. The IRDP in

effect seeks to redistribute assets and employment opportunities in favour of the rural poor and thereby reduce income inequality.

Ans to Q No 9: It seeks to remove rural poverty through a comprehensive and integrated programme covering major development sectors – agriculture, minor irrigation, fishery, animal husbandry and veterinary, industry and services and other tertiary sub-sectors.

Ans to Q No 10: (a) 1978-79

(b) Training for Rural Youth for Self Employment (TRYSM).

Ans to Q No 11: MNP was one of the major poverty alleviation programmes of the Government of India. It was directed to ensure a basic minimum standard of life for all sections of people living in the rural areas of the country. The strategy was to establish a network of facilities to attain an acceptable level of social consumption in respect of selected items within a stipulated time frame.

Ans to Q No 12: The major areas covered under the MNP are: Elementary Education, Adult Education, Rural Health, Rural Water Supply, Rural Roads, Rural Housing, Rural Electrification, Environmental Improvement of Urban Slums, Nutrition, Rural Domestic Cooking Energy, Rural Sanitation, Public Distribution System (PDS).

Ans to Q No 13: (a) Village Housing Programme was launched as a part of the Community Development Programme in 1957.

(b) NCMP has been adopted to raise the raise their standard of living in the rural areas.

(c) The Minimum Needs Programme was launched as an important component of rural development in the fifth year plan.

Ans to Q No 14: (a) The DWRCA programme was launched in 1957.

(b) The main aim of DWRCA is to empower rural women living below the poverty line by way of organising them to create sustainable income generating activities through self-employment.

(c) The NRHM was launched in 2005 to uplift the health conditions of the rural masses.

Ans to Q No 15: DWCRA focuses on access to health, education, safe drinking water, sanitation, nutrition and so on. Thus, it not only aimed at

promoting economic development, but also facilitated social development. Another important feature of the programme was that it emphasises group activity. It was thought that in the long run, women's empowerment depends on creation of a movement that promotes awareness and self-reliance.

Ans to Q No 16: NRHM has identified 18 'high focus' states: Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Uttarakhand, Orissa, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Jammu and Kashmir, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Mizoram, are included in the list.

Ans to Q No 17: (a) NRHM: National Rural Health Mission

(b) NHS: National Health Survey

(c) CBCS: Community Based Convergent Services

(d) JSY: Jawahar Rozgar Yojana

(e) DWRCA: Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas

(f) PPP: Public Private Partnership

(g) ASHA: Accredited Social Health Activists

Ans to Q No 18: (a) True (b) False

Ans to Q No 19: (a) The utmost important factor of any rural development programme is people for whom the programme is meant.

(b) The Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Development Technology (CAPART) is the nodal agency responsible for promoting voluntary action in rural development.

(c) The Voluntary Organisations play a very important role in rural development.



9.13 MODEL QUESTIONS

Short Questions (Answer each question in about 150 words)

Q 1: Write short notes on the following:

(a) Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs)/ Voluntary Agencies (VAs) and their role in rural development.

(b) Land Reform Policy in India

(c) Poverty

Q 2: Outline the major features of CDP in India.

Q 3: 'Development of tribal areas is essential for creation of an equitable society'. Comment.

Long Questions (Answer each question in about 300-500 words)

Q 1: Write an essay on why India's rural sector continues to be relatively backward and underdeveloped despite the fact that so many policies and programmes for its development have been launched by the government from time to time over the last 60 years or so?

Q 2: What are the advantages of involving people in the process of implementation of rural development?

Q 3: Discuss different Constitutional provisions for tribal area development.

Q 4: Assess the impact of NRHM in Assam.

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UNIT 10: TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT

UNIT STRUCTURE

10.1 Learning Objectives

10.2 Introduction

10.3 Tribal People in India

10.3.1. Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes

10.4 The Ministry of Tribal Affairs

10.5 Scheduled Tribe Development

10.6 Development Schemes under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs

10.6.1 Educational Development

10.6.2 Economic Empowerment

10.6.3 Social Empowerment

10.6.4 Constraints in Tribal Development

10.7 Let Us Sum Up

10.8 Further Reading

10.9 Answers to Check your Progress

10.10 Model Questions

10.1 LEARNING OBJECTIVES

After going through this unit, you will be able to-

- know about the Ministry of Tribal Affairs
- learn about the various schemes for educational development of the ST's
- explain the various measure undertaken by Ministry of Tribal Affairs for economic empowerment of the ST's
- discuss the various Constitutional Rights and Acts for protection and safeguard of ST's

10.2 INTRODUCTION

Scientific DNA evidence suggests that the Africans migrated to India, Southeast Asia, and Indonesia some 70,000 years back. The Onge tribe from the Andaman Island are found to be the carrier of Negrito DNA outside

of Africa. The Bhil tribe in India is regarded as "the Oldest of the aboriginal tribes". Many of the tribal population have gone out of their way to avoid contact with outsiders and were oblivious to Mughals, British, Maharajas or Indians in power. With the improvement of transportation and communication brought in intrusions into tribal lands.

The tribal population is referred to by different names such as 'primitive, tribal, indigenous, aboriginals, native' to name a few. At that time; most of the tribes were a homogenous and self-contained unit without any hierarchical discrimination. Each tribe had a chief/head for its protection. Gradually the tribe chief assumed political and military power and was recognized as the ruler. This transition to accumulation of power led to the emergence of monarchies and then republics.

In the previous unit, we have discuss about Rural Development. In this unit we shall discuss about Tribal Development.

10.3 TRIBAL PEOPLE IN INDIA

Former Prime Minister Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru once wrote, "There is no point in trying to make them (tribal) a second rate copy of ourselves; they are people who sing and dance and try to enjoy life; not people who sit in stock exchanges, shout at each other, and think themselves civilized."

In India, Tribal population constitutes 8.6 percentage of India's total population, which is 104 million people according to the 2011 census. This is the largest Tribal population in the world. Tribals in India are mostly concentrated along the Himalayas stretching through Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh in the west to Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Manipur and Nagaland in the northeast. Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, and Nagaland comprise 90% of the Tribal population of India.

In hilly areas of central India (Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and to some extent Andhra Pradesh) a large concentration of Tribal population lives bounded by the Narmada River to the north and Godavari River to the South East. In smaller numbers, tribal people reside in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu,

and Kerala, in West India in Gujarat and Rajasthan, and in the Union territories of Lakshadweep and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

There are 573 communities recognized by the government as Scheduled Tribes. In the 1950s a policy of protection was adopted towards all the tribal peoples in India.

10.3.1 Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes

The Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes are official designations given to various groups of historically disadvantaged people. The terms were recognized in the constitution of India. Before Independence, they were collectively known as the Depressed Classes. To avoid any overlaying understanding of what Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Caste are, let us understand their differences.

Scheduled Tribes (STs)	Scheduled Castes (SCs)
• STs comprises 8.6% of the total population (2011 Census)	• SCs comprises 16.6% of the total population (2011 Census)
• The Scheduled Tribe people never faced caste based discriminations such as untouchablity	• The Scheduled Caste people are the one who was previously considered untouchables. Later the Indian consititution abolished untouchability

10.4 THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS

The Ministry was set up in the year 1999 after the bifurcation of Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment with the objective of providing a focused approach towards integrating socio-economic development of the Scheduled Tribes in a planned manner. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs oversees the overall policy planning and coordination of programmes for the development of STs. The subjects allocated to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs are as follows:

- Social security and social insurance to the Scheduled Tribes.
- Tribal Welfare: Planning, project formulation, research, evaluation, statistics, and training.
- Promotion and development of voluntary efforts on tribal welfare.
- Development of Scheduled Tribes.

- Overseeing Scheduled Areas.
- Monitoring of ST Welfare Grants based on the framework and mechanism designed by NITI Ayog.
- The National Commission for Scheduled Tribes. The National commission reports the administration of Scheduled Areas and the Welfare of the Scheduled Tribes and issues directions regarding planning and execution of schemes essential for the welfare of the Scheduled Tribes in India.
- Implementation of the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 and the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act of 1989, including administration of criminal justice in regards to offenses, relate to Scheduled Tribes.

The primary responsibility of the ministry is promoting the interests of Scheduled Tribes with all the Central Ministries.

10.5 SCHEDULED TRIBE DEVELOPMENT

Due to remoteness of location of most of the ST population, the majority of the population could not be benefited directly from general development programmes. Special efforts were needed to ensure an adequate flow of benefits to the Scheduled Tribes. Since the first 5-year plan special attention was given to the needs of the ST population.

Since most of the tribal habitations were located in isolated villages and hamlets in undulating landscapes with forest areas, there is limited access to critical infrastructure facilities such as roads, communications, health, education, electricity, drinking water, and others. In order to reduce the disadvantage gap and increase the quality of life, various developmental projects were implemented by the Central Government through the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. An in-depth explanation of various schemes by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs is given in the next section.

10.6 DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES UNDER MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS

10.6.1 Educational Development

Education receives the highest priority during 'Five-Year' Plans. To facilitate educational development among STs, educational facilities, incentives and support especially focusing ST girls have been provided. Few of the scholarships are discussed below:

- **EKLAVYA Model Residential Schools for Scheduled Tribe Students:** The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has introduced Eklavya Model Residential Schools for Scheduled Tribe (ST) students located in remote locations to provide quality middle and high school level education.
- **Post Matric Scholarship:** The Post Matric Scholarship for ST Children is a centrally sponsored scheme providing financial assistance to the Scheduled Tribe students pursuing higher education beyond matriculation levels. The scholarships are awarded through the government of the State/Union Territory where he/she is domiciled. The income ceiling of parents of children availing scholarship has been raised from 1 lakh to 2 lakhs per annum.
- **Hostels for ST Girls/Boys:** The objective of the scheme is to facilitate ST students to continue their studies at distant places by extending hostel facilities to those who are otherwise unable to continue their studies due to remote location of their villages.
- **Free Coaching for ST Students:** The free Coaching for STs has been in operation since the Sixth Five Year Plan. Though this scheme ST students are provided free coaching to enhance their competitive capabilities to face various competitive examinations. Coaching is provided through State governments/ Universities/NGOs/private coaching institutes for competitive

examinations and development of various skills for employment opportunities in the private sector. Beside coaching fee, a stipend of Rs. 1500/- for out stationed and Rs. 750/- for local students were provided per month.

- **Strengthening Education among Schedule Tribe (ST) Girls in Low Literacy Districts:** The scheme aims to bridge the gap in literacy levels between the general female population and tribal women through facilitating 100% enrolment of tribal girls in the identified districts or blocks and in areas inhabited by Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs), and aims at reducing drop-outs at the elementary level by creating the required ambience for education.
- **Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowships:** The Rajiv Gandhi Fellowship was launched in 2005-06 as a special incentive to extend scholarships to ST students to pursue higher studies and research degrees such as M.Phil and Ph.D. The scheme is implemented through UGC and the benefits are comparable to JRF and SRF of UGC.
- **National Overseas Scholarships for Scheduled Tribe Students:** The National Overseas Scholarship launched in 1954-55 and implemented outside the ambit of the 5-year Plan scheme. In 2007-08, the scheme was converted to a Central Sector Plan Scheme whereby financial assistance to be provided to meritorious ST students for pursuing higher education abroad at the level of Masters and Ph.D. The Grants are given to the selected candidates on a 100% basis directly by the Ministry through the Indian Missions.
- **Tribal Research Institute (TRIs):** Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs) have been set up by various state governments. The basic objectives of the scheme are to strengthen infrastructural needs, research and documentation activities, and training and capacity building programmes, etc. It is envisaged that TRIs work as a body of knowledge and research and as a think tank for tribal development, preservation of tribal cultural heritage, providing

inputs to States for evidence-based planning and appropriate legislations, capacity building of tribals/institutions associated with tribal affairs, dissemination of information and creation of awareness.

10.6.2 Economic Empowerment

Economic development among the tribal population largely depends upon agriculture and its allied activities. Besides, forest resources, minor forest produce contribute substantially to the tribal economy. Since more than one-fifth of the ST population depends on agriculture and forests there is a need to build capacity to diversify their livelihood income sources. To empower the tribal population and diversify their economic activities various income and employment generating programmes were implemented. Few of the programmes are discussed below:

- **National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation:** National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSTFDC) is a Government of India undertaking under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. It provides financial assistance for income-generating schemes for the economic development of Scheduled Tribes. The main objectives of NSTFDC are identification of economic activities to generate self-employment and raise the level of income, upgradation of skills for scheduled tribes by providing both institutional and on the job training.
- **Market Development of Tribal Products:** Market Development of Tribal Products/Produce is a Central Sector Scheme under which the Ministry of Tribal Affairs extends Grant-in-Aid to Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Limited (TRIFED) for four main activities:
  - Retail Marketing Development Activity;
  - Minor Forest Produce (MEP) Marketing Development Activity;

- Ø Vocational Training and Skill Upgradation;
- Ø Capacity Building of ST Artisans and MFP and Research & Development/Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Activity.
- Ø Vocational Training Centers in Tribal Areas: The Scheme of Vocational Training Centers in Tribal Areas was launched in 1992-93 to develop skills among the ST youth to enable them to gain employment and self-employment opportunities and improving their socio-economic conditions by enhancing their incomes. Under the scheme, training for various trades is provided by ITIs, Polytechnics, and Computer Training Centres. Besides providing Vocational training the centers run projects affiliated under 'Modular Employable Skills' and 'Craftsmen Training Scheme'. The scheme was revised in 2009 with enhanced financial norms and a time schedule for submission of proposals.

- Ø **Grant-in-Aid to Voluntary Organizations:** The prime objective of the scheme is to enhance the reach of the welfare schemes of the government and fill the gaps in service deficient tribal areas especially in the field of education, health, drinking water, social security, etc. through the efforts of voluntary organizations and to provide an environment for socio-economic upliftment and overall development of the Scheduled Tribes (STs). Grants can be availed by any registered Voluntary Organization (VO)/ Non-Governmental Organization (NGO), Institutions or organizations set up by Government as autonomous bodies either under a statute or as a society registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 working in relevant fields for atleast three years.

10.6.3 Social Empowerment

Due to their former isolated existence, the tribals are not equipped to deal with the ever-changing and complex socio-economic developments surrounding them. At times they are susceptible to

exploitation, atrocities, and crimes, alienation from their land, denial of their forest rights and overall exclusion of their rightful entitlement directly or indirectly. Some of the Rights and Acts for the safeguard and protection of Tribals are mentioned below:

- Article 46 requires the State 'to promote with special care the educational and economic interests of the weaker sections of the population, in particular, Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes, and provide protection to them from all forms of exploitation and social injustice.
- Article 15 (4) refers to special provisions for their advancement.
- Article 16 (4A) refers to 'reservation' in matters of promotion to any class or classes of posts in services under the State in favour of STs/SCs.
- Article 338 provides for a National Commission for the Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes, with duties to investigate and monitor all matters relating to safeguards provided for them, and inquire into specific complaints and to participate and advise on the planning process of their socio-economic development, etc.
- Article 330 and Article 332 of the Constitution respectively provide for reservation of seats in favour of the Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes in the parliament and legislative assemblies of the States.
- Under Part IX related to Panchayati Raj System and Part IX(A) of the constitution related to Municipalities, reservation for Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes in local bodies have been envisaged and implemented.

The Constitution of India has provided Rights, and various Provisions to safeguard and improve the lives of the Scheduled Tribes in India. Even with Constitutional safeguard, they are the most vulnerable section of the society because of which they had to face segregation, inequality, and violation of Constitutional rights.

10.6.4 Constraints in Tribal Development

Let us now discuss the major problems that the tribes in India have suffered over the course of time.

- **GEOGRAPHICAL SEPERATION:** The tribal communities are spread in different parts of India. Majority of the Tribal population live in remote areas like dense forests, mountains, hills, deep valleys, etc. and have unique traditions and cultures because of which they cannot correlate with modern society. This kind of social as well as physical separation or seclusion has declined the development of the tribal communities.
- **LAND ALIENATION:** Rights of Tribals over forests is inalienable and historical. But their problem started with British Colonialism in India. Britishers started exploiting rich tribal resources across India. As most of the tribal people did not have any legal rights over their land, it became easier for non-tribal people to acquire their land because of the forest policies during the pre-Independence period. Those policies were inclined towards commercial purposes and this led to large scale displacement for the tribal people from forests.

  Often law declares unregistered lands as national parks, sanctuaries or reserved forests. In some forests, the tribal people are not given access to forest produce and grazing of cattle is rendered as illegal by the Government. These people live under the continuous threat of being ousted from their homes.
- **CULTURAL PROBLEMS:** The cultural fabric of the Tribal communities is entirely different from the mainstream society. The customs, practices, and traditions followed by them are often misinterpreted by mainstream society. Christian missionaries during British rule tried to influence and convert Tribal communities from their faith and indigenous traditional practices during the British Colonial period.

Moreover, their physical isolation from non-tribal communities and a lack of cultural understanding between the Tribals and Non-Tribals has led to the negative stereotyping of tribals as primitive, uncivilized and unskilled. This negative stereotyping is used to justify their exclusion from certain services and economic opportunities.

- **EDUCATIONAL PROBLEM:** The literacy rate among tribes is 58.96% (2011 census) whereas it was 18.53% in 1991. Few of the North-Eastern states like Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, and Kerala have the highest literacy rate among tribal communities in India; there is still a long way to go to achieve 100% literacy among tribal communities.

The main problem identified is teachers appointed in Tribal areas by the Government are mostly non-Tribal. There arises a communication gap between them because most tribal people do not know languages except their mother tongue because of which education is deeply hampered. Another major problem is that the curriculum of education is not suited to the tribal people and do not have relevance to them directly. The special holistic initiative needs to be taken up to educate the tribal population.

- **ECONOMIC PROBLEMS:** The tribal people are economically one of the most backward communities in the country and are often exploited due to their innocence and illiteracy. They are mainly involved in agriculture activities for ages. As the literacy rate among the tribals is quite low and lacks professional skills they are unemployed or underemployed.

Due to lack of employment opportunities, tribals migrate and works as bonded labourers in the agriculture sector, brick kilns, stone quarries, power looms and handlooms. They are irregularly paid without any safety or health regulations.

- **HEALTH AND SANITATION PROBLEM:** Health and Sanitation is one of the most challenging problems for tribal people because of illiteracy and ignorance and their hesitation to accept the

modern concept of health and sanitation and modern ways of health diagnosis.

Alcoholism is one of the major problems existing in tribal regions. Brewing alcohol is practiced on a daily basis and it is sold at a very cheap price which not only affects their health but also increases the crime rate. Communicable diseases like dysentery, diarrhoea, Sexually Transmitted Diseases, etc are quite common. The non-communicable diseases like liver cirrhosis, cancer, hypertension, chronic respiratory diseases, hypertension, and malnutrition are common among Indian tribes. The high infant and child mortality are because of a lack of literacy and poor sanitation facilities.

Water borne diseases are also very prevalent in tribal regions as there are no proper facilities for drinking water. Sometimes due to scarcity of water in remote tribal regions, people are forced to drink contaminated water giving rise to a number of diseases. Water borne diseases have claimed many lives of Tribal people in various places like Odisha, Chattisgarh, Rajasthan to name a few.



CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

Q1. Which areas in India has the highest concentration of Tribal population?

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Q2. When was the Ministry of Tribal Affairs formed and from which former department it was bifurcated?

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Q3. Which sector contributes substantially to Tribal Economy?

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10.7 LET US SUM UP

- Scientific DNA evidence suggests that the Africans migrated to India, Southeast Asia, and Indonesia some 70,000 years back.
- The Bhil tribe in India is regarded as "the Oldest of the aboriginal tribes".
- Prior to the caste system in India, people were divided into different tribes.
- In India, Tribal population constitutes 8.6 percentage of India's total population, which is 104 million people according to the 2011 census.
- There are 573 communities recognized by the government as Scheduled Tribes.
- The major Education Development project implemented are Eklavya Model Residential Schools, Post Matric Scholarship, Hostels for ST Girls/ Boys, Free Coaching for ST students, Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowships, National Overseas Scholarship and Tribal Reseach Institute (TRIs).
- The major Economic Empowerment project implemented are: i) National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation; ii) Market Development of Tribal Products; iii) Vocational Training Centers in Tribal Areas; iv) Grant-in-Aid to Voluntary Organizations.
- Major Rights and Acts for Tribal Population are Article- 17, 15 (4), 16(4A), 46, 330, 332, 335,338 of the Constitution of India.



10.8 FURTHER READING

1) Verma. M.M. (1996) "Tribal Development in India"; Mittal Publications, New Delhi.



10.9 ANSWERS TO CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

Ans to Q No 1: In India, Tribal population is mostly concentrated along the Himalayas stretching through Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh in the west to Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Manipur, and Nagaland in the northeast. Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, and Nagaland comprise 90% of the Tribal

population of India.

In hilly areas of central India (Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and to some extent Andhra Pradesh) a large concentration of Tribal population lives bounded by the Narmada River to the north and Godavari River to the South East. In smaller numbers, tribal people reside in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, and Kerala, in west India in Gujarat and Rajasthan, and in the Union territories of Lakshadweep and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

Ans to Q No 2: The ministry was set up in the year 1999 after the bifurcation of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

Ans to Q No 3: The main contributing sectors are forest resources, minor forest produce, agriculture, and allied activities to Tribal economy.



10.10 MODEL QUESTIONS

Short Question (Answer each questions in about 150 words)

Q 1: What are the major differences between Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes?

Q 2: What was the main objective for formation of a separate Ministry of Tribal Affairs and the subject allocated to them?

Q 3: Why there is a need to have special Protection Rights and Acts for Tribal population? State the major Acts for the protection of Tribal people and their significance.

Long Questions (Answer each questions in about 300-500 words)

Q 1: Mention the various schemes implement by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for the education development of Tribal students in India and discuss each of the schemes in a few lines.

Q 2: What are the main schemes launched by GOI for the economic empowerment of the Tribal population and discuss in brief their objectives?

Q 3: What are the major issues and challenges faced by Tribal populations even in the 21st Century, explain each of the issues?

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UNIT 11: GLOBALIZATION AND INDIAN PEASANTRY

UNIT STRUCTURE

11.1 Learning Objectives

11.2 Introduction

11.3Globalization and Indian Peasantry

11.3.1 Definition of Globalization:

11.3.2 Genesis of the Peasants' Movements in India

11.3.3Globalization and Agrarian Crisis In India

11.3.4 Global Impact on the Ways of Agitation

11.4Let Us Sum Up

11.5 Further Reading

11.6 Answers to Check Your Progress

11.7 Model Questions

11.1 LEARNING OBJECTIVES

After going through this unit, you will be able to-

- define the concept of Globalisation
- understand the genesis of the Peasant Movements in India
- explain the impact of globalisation on Agrarian economy in India
- discuss the global impact on the ways of Peasant agitation.

11.2 INTRODUCTION

Peasants' unrest in India goes back long in time. Whenever there was a failure of crop and a raise in the taxes the peasants as a class were very much affected. This resulted in many different sorts of protests to meet their demands. But the most commonly known peasant protest took place during the colonial rule. New taxes and increased taxes were the sole reasons for the peasant unrest in Colonial India. After Independence also grievances of the peasants were not completely wiped out. With new governance and economy came new obstacles and with the steady and consistent impact of globalization, new methods of protests gained momentum. Along with ideas on agitation, global economy had brought forth

some obstacles to the peasantry. The globalized market has a unique labour demand. This has affected Indian agrarian life in a new and different light. So, this unit firstly explores the genesis of peasants protests in India. Secondly, it discusses globalization as the main driving factor for the new changes. Thirdly, the unit explores how cultural interaction with the world have facilitated the movement of the peasants.

Right from his campaigns in Kheda, Gandhi had been mobilizing the peasants in colonial India against their exploitation and had succeeded in giving them the leadership they needed at the moment. But apart from Gandhi, there were several other lesser known peasant leaders in colonial India who also stood out to defend the rights of the peasants.

11.3 GLOBALIZATION AND INDIAN PEASANTRY

11.3.1 Definition of Globalization

Globalization in the most simple sense of the word means international integration and co-operation. After the World War II, the idea of an international community has been shaped. This international community is meant to be inter-dependent for all the good reasons. The original idea was to keep world peace intact and economic development for all the countries through international trade and commerce. To interpret this dependence on one another in the international sphere, R. O'Brien uses the phrase 'end of geography' in the book Global Financial Integration: The End of Geography , New York : Council on Foreign Relations Press, 1992. Globalization is a process of flow. This flow is most vividly witnessed through commodities, art and culture, ideas and people. So, in this sense certain kind of connectivity had always existed among countries. Especially, during the colonial times, the colonies served as the exporter of raw material and importer of finished goods for the colonists. But, as mentioned above after the World War ii, such integration became more solid and global in true sense. Global inter-

connectivity achieved through economic co-operation could be separately termed as economic globalization. The means which help economic globalization foster includes Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), Multi National Corporations (MNC), Capital Flows, technological revolution etc. Through these measures globalization as a phenomenon finds its hold and strengthens it core. The economic essence of globalization reflected most crudely in the global economy of contemporary times. We have seen that after the collapse of the USSR, there emerged a new economic order, dominating the world affairs till today. With markets aiming at global consumers the propensity towards attracting a cumulative mass of people irrespective of national and cultural differences has risen. As a result, we are getting closer and closer towards inter-dependence. The pros and cons of the phenomenon of globalization in general is not the attempt of this unit. So, the subsequent sections and sub sections will focus solely on the globalization's impact on peasants' life and struggle in India in particular.

11.3.2 Genesis of the Peasants' Movements in India

As mentioned above peasants grievances have a long history in India, yet the early twentieth century is the moment when those outcries took shape of a movement. Peasants rebelled in the nineteenth and the twentieth centuries throughout the country. Most remarkable among such rebellions include the Indigo Rebellion of 1859-1860. Apart from it there were Deccan Riots 1875-76, Birsa Munda's Rebellion (Ulgulan) 1899, Champaran Indigo Satyagraha 1917, Kheda Satyagraha 1918. Lesser known yet locally influential peasant uprisings took place in Colonial Assam as well. The raij mel were crucial attempts at redressing peasants' grievances. Phulahuri Dhewa and Patharughatar ron are exemplary incidents of peasants' capacity to revolt as well as rebel. However, with the coming of Gandhi to the mainstream politics in colonial India, the peasants' cries found

a national strategic leadership. Whether it was a boon or a curse for the Indian peasants back then is not the concern of this chapter, though there exists a lot of debate around the topic.

During his satyagraha campaigns in both Kheda and Champaran, Gandhi had been urging to the nation to realize the problems of the peasants with utter care. Drawing attention to the importance of agriculture and peasants for the success of any mass movement, especially the national movement, he said that "our salvation can alone come through the farmers, neither the lawyers, nor the doctors, nor the rich landlords are going to achieve it." But in subsequent period the peasantry as a class had suffered too at the hands of the national leaders. This is the reason for Bipan Chandra to quote "colonial integration was promoted at the unilateral cost of the peasantry." In whatsoever form it was performed, the peasantry had been supremely influential in India's struggle for independence.

Now microscopic observation of the organization and participation of the peasants in the Gandhi led campaigns and the subsequent movements, it is realized that the Kisan Sabha and Aika Movement were the two platforms where Gandhi's call was received in the countryside. Some historians even claim that Gandhi did not become popular in the countryside of India for his success with Satyagraha in South Africa and his association with the Indian National Congress. Rather he appealed to the masses for the reason that his name was associated with the Champaran Satyagraha. The impact of Gandhi and Gandhi led national movement on the peasants and vice versa actually reflects the capacity and importance of Indian peasantry as a class in Colonial India. On this point David Hardiman says that by the first half of the twentieth century there was seen political awakening among the Indian peasantry. The peasant groups which were gaining power at the village level had started to be linked with the political parties at district and provincial level. He also mentions the importance of the Reforms of 1909 and 1919 in boosting

the political spirit of the peasants by granting the right to vote and win elections (In 1909 franchise was given on the basis of landholding).

11.3.3 Globalization and Agrarian Crisis In India

Peasants have been at the lowest rung of the ladder: politically, socially, culturally, economically and historically too. Why is it so? Because they are always marginalized. In sociological literature, they are described as culturally unsystematic, unreflective, unsophisticated, non-literati. In political sphere, they are represented as a weaker section, unorganized and lacking in knowledge of organized mass action. Economically they are the small producers who cultivate for consumption rather than to make profit. Historically they are bearing the brunt of all sorts of subordination and exploitation throughout the world.

Peasants in India are composed of a large number of landless agricultural laborers, sharecroppers, tenants, poor artisans and small and medium cultivators. Though all castes and communities come under the purview of the peasant class in India, it's core lies with the scheduled tribe in rural India. There are different words used to identify the peasants in local languages such as *'krishak', 'roytu', 'chashi'* . Other terms such as *'majdoor', 'bhagchshi', 'adhiar', 'majur', 'coolie'* etc are used to denote the agricultural laborers. The scenario after independence in terms of peasantry was not much different from that of the colonial times. Post-Colonial India had exact same patterns of organization and exploitation of the peasants. It is represented through an exploitative intermediary system of land tenure, sub-infeudation in terms of land holding, tenurial insecurity, rack renting, extra economic coercion of poor peasants, tenants, sharecroppers, lack of mobility, poverty and unemployment. So, this picture does not paint itself in happy colors. Such predicament ought to lead to protests and movements.

Now focusing on the impact of globalization on Indian economy, it is seen that the country is viewed as a harbor of cheap laborers. With the formation of MNCs in India, the economy has truly become globalized. The factors that facilitated globalization are: rapid improvements in technology, liberalization of trade and investment policies and the role of World Trade Organization. Although the market has been expanded and new possibilities are introduced, the worst outcome on production front have been borne by the peasants.

The most striking cause of peasants' crisis in the 21st century India is the import promising policies of the government to ensure food security in the country. This availability and dependency on other countries for food is a direct impact of globalization. In sharp contrast to the chief ideals of the Green Revolution, India now do not ensure the promises made to the kisans during the Green Revolution. The Revolution helped India evolve from, what it was called, a "ship to mouth" economy to one of the world's leading exporters of wheat and rice. In 1964, the annual production of wheat in India was just 10 million tons. In 1970, it doubled. In 2012-13 India exported 6.5 million tons of wheat. In 2013-14 wheat production was at a record high of 95.8 million tons. Now the duty free import policies are going to reverse the achievements and aims of the Green Revolution. India's import budget for wheat, maize and non-basmati rice has increased over 6600% between 2014-2015 an 2016-2017. The policy of duty-free import was aimed at bringing in food security for its citizens, but it has potential to throttle the peasantry as a class. The peasants are the worst hit by the fall in the prices caused by the import. This in most simple terms turns the peasants indebted. Those who are unable to pay the debts resorts to committing suicide, making it the most acute agrarian problem of contemporary India. Let's see how it works? The government policies of checking food scarcity has led to a heavy dependence on imports, which has introduced duty-free

imports and that has increased the availability of cheap quality wheat in the markets easily available. Thus, making the Indian farmers' hardwork fruitless. The situation becomes worst when domestic produces are at the highest. Ajmer Singh Lakhowala, head of the Punjab unit of Bharatiya Kisan Union, says, sarcastically "the import of cheap wheat will bring the prices down. It appears the government wants the farmers to quit farming,". Several agricultural bodies have demanded that the government impose a 40% duty on wheat import. R.S. Rana, a farm sector expert based in Sonepat, Haryana, says that the import of wheat would demotivate farmers and cause a fall in production in the next season. In a way, importing wheat is like outsourcing agriculture. Import of grains is termed as import of unemployment. But apart from being linked to the livelihood of farmers, the issue is also linked to India's food security and sovereignty.As far as pulses are concerned, the government has gone a step further and started outsourcing their production. When the price of pulses was sky-high last year, India signed MoUs with Mozambique to get pulses cultivated in that country. In the next five years, India will import about 0.3 million tons of pulses from Mozambique. The government is also trying to find ways to import pulses from countries like Brazil and Myanmar. Other such products whose import has been devastating on the Indian peasants are edible oils (soya bean oil, granola oil etc.) Though the initiates are made with meeting the demands of the consumers, they are rooting out the essence of peasant economy in contemporary India.

11.3.4 Global Impact on the Ways of Agitation

Integration of production and integration of markets is the key idea behind understanding globalization and its impact. The first and foremost impact of international politics on the peasantry as a class was the world wide growth of the left ideology. The Bolshevik Revolution and the growth of Indian communism had a sharp impact

on the peasants movement in India in the time to come. The Workers and Peasants Party did not take the agrarian crisis very seriously until 1930s. But due to the growing political consciousness and class awareness activities among the agricultural proletariat, poor peasants and landless laborers, the party engaged in great mass mobilization among the peasants. These developments in the socio-political life of the peasants gave further boost to their movements.

The birth of the All India Kisan Sabha was a result of assimilation of different organizations and ideas. The need to organize the masses for an anti-imperialist movement brought the working class, middle class and the peasants together. The Left also came closer to the Congress Socialists and took resolution to end all sorts of peasants' grievances. The significant most demands were abolition of zamindari system, recognition of the occupancy rights of the tenants in all the landlord tenant areas, debt-freeze and agricultural wages. From 1936 to 1939 the All India Kisan Sabha carried out various peasant struggles in Bengal, Bihar, Punjab, Gujarat, Madras, Orissa, Central Provinces and N.W.F.P. The grievances of the peasants against which these struggles were launched included enhancement of rent renewal and canal water rates. The Sabha became very popular at that time.Khet-Majdoor Sabha was organized in Bihar in 1937 throw the first blow to the All India Kisan Sabha. It is mentioned in the beginning of the unit that the phenomenon of globalization does operate itself through various measures. Up until now we have discussed the economic impact of globalization on the Indian peasantry. In this sub section we will discuss something which is quite interesting. The economic burden of the Indian peasants brought upon by different factors at different points of time has found its voice again as a result of the cultural flow of ideas i.e cultural globalization. For example the celebrated All India Kisan Sabha leader Swami Sahajanand was utterly influenced by Lenin's call 'land to the tiller and power to the soviets'.When All

India Kisan Sabha was taken over by the Communists Party of India, it underwent certain ideological shifts, the class content of its programs and perhaps its class base made it the principal peasant organization in India whose tentacles spread fast in Andhra, Bengal and Punjab, particularly among the poor peasants, tenants at will, share croppers and landless agricultural labourers. With their support the All India Kisan Sabha and the Communist Party of India staged the first two Left-wing peasant insurrections in India - The Tebhaga Struggle in Bengal (1946-47) and the Telangana revolt (1946-57). The Communist Party of India under its abled leadership has been very active in mobilizing the peasants and addressing their grievances till today. The Naxalite Movement also has been representing the needs and demands of the poor peasants in India since its inception in 1967. The movement is a result of influence of ideas about peasant protest in other countries and the world wide radical left movements. The main ways of protest the Naxalite movement introduced among the peasants include the forceful occupation of land, cutting of the standing paddy, harvesting paddy in their own courtyard against the will of the landowners, developing barricades against the police, landowners and the administration with traditional weapons, taking part in guerrilla warfare, treating and sheltering the fellow activists. The movements those fought with these ideologies were radical in nature and turned violent easily resulting in heavy casualties. However, the extent to which peasants, as a class-conscious set of protesters, have come forward and participated in the movement shows their utter discomfort with the system and their capacity as a class who are capable of launching a movement, an ideological one, with full vigor. Coming to the most recent ways of protest, the rising number of farmers' suicide is the most terrible sight in Indian agrarian life today. As many as 8,007 Indian farmers committed suicide in 2015, an increase of 41.7% from 5,650 in 2014, and 39% of farmers who died in this manner were in debt, according to 2015 National

Crime Records Bureau data. In 2014, 20.6% of farmers who killed themselves had borrowed money.One in three Indian rural households were in debt in 2013. Although, it cannot be termed as a valid protest , as committing suicide is a criminal offense and it is considered to be an act of cowardice morally, yet we cannot disregard the fact that the peasants who commit suicide do it in a mode of protest.



CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

Q 1 : What is Globalization?

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Q 2 : What is Economic Globalization?

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Q 3 : What are the factors through which globalization functions?

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Q 4 : Describe the peasantry as a class?

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Q 5 : Name a few peasant movements that took place in India.

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11. 4 LET US SUM UP

- Indian peasants got their first national leadership under Mahatma Gandhi.
- The Colonial period saw the rise of many peasants uprisings and movements in India. The Indigo Revolt was the first major protest of farmers in colonial India.

- Apart from Gandhi there were many other national and regional leaders who came forward to help and lead the peasants.
- The movements and the protest were results of certain developments in the agrarian lifestyles. Both in Colonial and post colonial India, the impact of global economy has been one of the most significant reasons for the peasants' distresses.
- British economic policy, which is described as 'drain of wealth' by Dadabhai Naoroji in his seminal work Poverty and UnBritish Rule in India', is one of making the colony a supplier of raw material at cheapest price possible and making the same colony a readymade and easy market for their finished products. This policy was the first blow on the peasants as result of the trade linkage of the colony to the colonist.
- The peasants' grievances had found a new voice under All India Kisan Sabha.
- The Communist Party of India also had been very very active and successful in giving voice tot the peasants in India.
- After independence also, the grievances of the peasants did not find the right redressal and hence, struggles continued.
- The new and firmly established global economy has two way effect of the Indian peasants.
- Globalization means inter-connectivity among countries. This connectivity is maintained through flow: flow of commodities, cultures, ideas and people too.
- On the one hand globalization had reduced the scope of Indian peasants as the market is filled with imported goods available at a cheaper price, making the life of the peasants unbearable. Increasing indebtedness in such circumstances coupled with the other important aspects such as environmental degradation, failure of crop and import of seeds have made situation even worse for the peasants.
- On the other hand it is cultural globalization that had introduced the peasantry to new ways of protest. The traveling political ideas such as the Left movement in Europe, Russia and China had given an intellectual

shape to the peasants' struggle in India since the mid twentieth century.

- The most rampant issue with the peasants in contemporary India is the alarming number of suicides committed by peasants due to their failure to repay debts which again resulted as a price drop of production and failure of crops and replacement of domestic products with cheap and abundant imported products.



11. 5 FURHER READING

1) Debal K. SinghaRoy, Peasant Movements in Contemporary India: Emerging Forms of Domination and Resistance, Economic and Political Weekly, Vol. 40, No. 52 (Dec. 24-30, 2005), pp. 5505-5513
2) Berch Berberoglu, Social Movements and Transformation In The Age of Globalization: Origins, Dynamics and Mobilization, International Review of Modern Sociology, Vol. 41, No. 1 (Spring 2015), pp. 55-77
3) Ed. Tom Brass, New Farmers Movements in India, Frank CASS and Co ltd, (1995), republished by Rutledge, New York (2013)



11.6 ANSWER TO CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

Ans to Q No 1: Globalization is a process through which countries of the world have come closer and have become dependent on one another and have influenced one another.

Ans to Q No 2 : Economic globalization is not something separate from globalization in general. Rather it is the form of globalization that facilitates itself through exchange of trade and commerce between countries via measures such as FDI, MNCs etc.

Ans to Q No 3 : Globalization is made easy through the advancements in technology.

Ans to Q No 4: Peasantry is composed of a large number of landless agricultural laborers, sharecroppers, tenants, poor artisans and small and medium cultivators.

Ans to Q No 5: Indigo Rebellion of 1859-1860. Apart from it there were Deccan Riots 1875-76, Birsa Munda's Rebellion (Ulgulan)1899,

Champaran Indigo Satyagraha 1917, Kheda Satyagraha 1918

11.7 MODEL QUESTIONS

Short Questions (Answer each question in about 150 words)

Q 1: What were the reasons for the Indian Peasants to revolt against the British government?

Long Questions (Answer each question in about 300-500 words)

Q 1: How does globalized economy affect the life of Indian peasant today?

Q 2: How far globalized culture has affected the mode of peasants' protest in India?

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UNIT 12: DEVELOPMENT OF URBAN SOCIOLOGY

UNIT STRUCTURE

12.1 Learning Objectives

12.2 Introduction

12.3 Origin and Scope of Urban Sociology

12.3.1 Rural Urban Difference

12.3.2 Urban Sociology in India

12.4 Let Us Sum Up

12.5 Further Reading

12.6 Answers to Check your Progress

12.7 Model Questions

12.1 LEARNING OBJECTIVES

After going through this unit, you will be able to-

- know about origin and Scope of Urban Sociology
- describe the Rural Urban Differences
- explain the different theories of Urban Sociology
- discuss the development of Urban Sociology in India

12.2 INTRODUCTION

Urban Sociology, in very simple words, is the sociological study of social life and interaction between human beings, in spaces defined as urban. We can also say that urban sociology is the sociological study of cities. According to Castells, one of the foremost scholars of urban sociology in the world today,

"Urban sociology was one of the founding fields of modem social science. It originated from the issues raised by fast urbanization as a consequence of industrialization, breaking down the patterns of rural life that had characterized the livelihood of humankind for millenniums. It was built around the central theme of social integration in a new, urban society made up of recent rural immigrants, and where the traditional institutions of

social integration were crumbling under the weight of population growth, economic development, social mobility, and social struggles. Because American metropolitan areas were the epitome of growth, immigration, and change, they provided the social laboratory in which social scientists could explore the conditions of integration into the urban society of the masses of uprooted immigrants, flocking to the new Babylon from both the countryside and overseas." (Castells 2002)

Thus, the formation of the "urban" was central to the birth of this discipline. However, the task of actually instituting the study of the urban as an actual scholarly discipline was done because of the Chicago School of Sociology, between 1915 and 1940 in University of Chicago in United States of America. Thus, we cannot discuss urban sociology without invoking their contribution in recognising that the study of cities itself called for innovation in terms of methods of study as well as in terms of a newness of perspectives that could not be the same as had hitherto been used in sociology. "…the study of forms and processes of human settlements under the notion of competition and social selection, and the analysis of the social conditions for cultural integration, were the founding themes of an urban sociology that, while ideologically biased, responded to the historical issues raised by industrialization and urbanization in the first half of the twentieth century" (Castells 2002). In the previous units, we have discussed mostly about Rural Society. In this unit, we shall discuss about Urban Sociology its origin and scope and also about development of Urban Studies in India.

12.3 ORIGIN AND SCOPE OF URBAN SOCIOLOGY

The fact that Urban Sociology as a discipline emerged in Chicago has a very interesting relationship with the nature of the city itself during the early 1900s. This was the time, the city of Chicago itself underwent a huge amount of change with increased industrialisation, urbanization, rise of urban cultures and also suburbanization. All these piqued the interest of the sociologists who were at that time in the University of Chicago, who felt the need to form a new department, which they called "Urban Studies" whose

focus would solely be on the new forms and substances which arose due to the rise of the urban, and the interaction and integration of its inhabitants within these urban spaces.

There has been a lot of sociologists and scholars who have engaged with this question of the "urban". Urban Sociology has come to imply a huge body of work, since theoreticians and scholars have been trying to study post industrial revolution modern society since the late seventeenth century itself. Thus, even though urban sociology itself as a disciple was born only in the first decades of the 1900s, there are many theorists before that who recognised the urban as a specialised space of study and offered their theories on the urban. Thus, these scholars also come under the umbrella of urban studies even though they did not operate under the banner of this discipline, simply because the discipline itself was not official instituted until much later.

Briefly, for the purposes of this chapter, we would broadly divide the theorists of urbanity into three broad groups. (Note that this division is not exhaustive and might not include all schools of thought on urban sociology.)

- Classical Theories of City, which would include theories offered by Karl Marx, Ferdinand Tonnies, Max Weber and George Simmel. These formed the foundational contributions and concepts on which latter theories of urbanity rested and were influenced by. Some important contributions from here were ideas such as anomie, alienation, class formation and the production and destruction of collective identities.
- The Chicago School and its critics, where the central thinkers are: Robert Park, Burgess, McKenzie and Louis Wirth. This school of though revolutionised not only the way in which cities are studied, but also the ways in which methods for studying human interactions were innovated. For example, they introduced concepts such as human geography as well as quantitative as well as qualitative and ethnographic research for studying human interactions and spaces.
- And lastly, the New Urban Sociology that includes theories offered by imminent scholars of urbanity such as Henri Lefebvre; David Harvey and Manuel Castells. These scholars continue to pus the boundaries of

social research to newer directions, while accommodating for the rapid changes in human lives and human interaction due to the advent of the digital era as well as means of communication and transportation being faster then ever before in human history, and networking between human being more intensive than could ever be though imaginable.

According to Gottdiener,"The concept of a "new urban sociology" refers to a paradigm shift in urban sociology that began in the 1970s and established a dominant approach. This approach emphasizes Marxist and post?Marxist urban political economy (class, race, gender, agenda?setting major businesses in commerce, banking, and real estate, and the involvement of government officials at all levels in influencing, if not determining, the outcomes of social activities in settlement space), the independent role of organized and constructed space itself, as first articulated by Henri Lefebvre, and the role of culture, symbols, signs, themes, and processes of signification in settlement space activities."

12.3.1 Rural Urban Difference

The emergence of urban Sociology itself highlight that there exists a difference between rural and urban social life. But what this difference exactly could be, is very difficult to pin down. This difficulty arises from several factors such as,

- There is no one definition of what constitutes urban, which is universally accepted.
- If we consider population and industrialization as basis to categorize places as urban or rural, these criterions themselves are different for different schools of thoughts or different authorities.
- There can be a difference in environment even in the same geographical location.
- Even if we denote some places as rural, even rural areas are spaces of rapid change and evolution with the development of communication and transport, therefore rural life and spaces

are also not constant.

One of the most important books on the theoretical distinction between rural and urban, was provided by PitirimSorkoin and Carle C. Zimmerman (1929). As we know, since then, much has evolved in the nature of what constitutes rural and what constitutes urban. However, the aspects of differentiation between rural and urban offered by Sorokin and Zimmerman are still relevant today as both rural and urban societies even today still broadly adhere to these.

- **Occupation:** In the rural world, most of the population would be engaged in agricultural activities, while in the urban world, most of the population would be engaged in non-agricultural activities such as manufacturing, mechanical pursuits, trade, governing etc.
- **Environment:** In the rural world, there is a predominance of nature over man-made environment while it is the opposite in case of the urban world. So, in the former, there is a direct relationship between man and nature while in the latter, there is a greater sense of isolation.
- **Size of Community:** The size of the rural community is smaller than the size of urban communities.
- **Density of Population:** There is a negative correlation between density of population and rurality. Thus, the density of population is always less than that of urban world, where there is a positive correlation between density and urbanity.
- **Heterogeneity and Homogeneity of population:** Rural population are more homogenous in racial and psychological traits compared to urban population where there is more heterogeneity in case of both racial as well as psychological traits.
- **Social differentiation and stratification:** Both social differentiation and stratification shows a negative correlation with rurality, while in case of urbanity, there is a positive relationship between it and both stratification and differentiation.

- **Mobility and direction of migration:** Mobility of both territory and social hierarchy is less in case of rural world compared to that in case of urban world, where mobility of all kinds gets intensified.
- **System of interaction:** System of interaction in the rural world is simpler and is in terms of primary contacts, with people forming more lasting and meaningful ties and social contact. Compared to this, in the urban world, the system of contact is more complex, with greater intensity of numbers as well as greater in superficiality and formalised contact, which might be devoid of a personal affect.

Thus, we see that, in the scheme drawn up by Sorokin and Zimmerman (1929), rural and urban difference is based on not only social and cultural factors, but also psychological and demographic factors.

Apart from this, there have been many other scholars who have differentiated between rural and urban, but the fundamental preoccupation of all of them have been the same: that there is a huge difference between the rural and urban and both have to be studied in their own right. F. Tonnies, in 'Gemeinshaft and Gesellschaft' (1887) uses the terms 'gemeinschaft and gesellschaft' to differentiate between the rural and the urban. While gemeinschaftrefers to 'communal societies' represented by rural societies, gesellschaft refers to 'associational societies' found in urban cities. The former is attributed to the personal relationships and interactions between people which are regulated by traditional social rules, the latter is expressed in the rational and bureaucratic social interactions and relationships that occur in a modern urban society. Again, Durkheim in 'Division of Labour' (1907) offers us with his concept of 'mechanical and organic solidarity' in talking about the transition of a simple society into a more complex modern society. While mechanical solidarity comes about because of the feeling of belongingness among people on the basis of shared similarity that

arise from a low level of division of labour in society, organic solidarity come about because of the interconnectedness of different arenas of social life which itself arises due to a rise in the intensity and sophistication in the division of labour in that society.

12.3.2 Urban Sociology in India

While talking about "urbanisation" as a world-wide phenomenon, it is necessary to also take into account how each place also comes with its own socio-cultural context as well as its own historical transition of urban spaces though the ages. In this existing system, when the modern form of urbanization operates, the results can be very different from a Western model or urbanization. Highlighting some of the prime concerns of urban sociology in India, Rao et al (1991) have the following to say,

"It has been argued, on the basis of Western experience, that urbanisation means a breakdown of traditional social institutions and values. In the Indian context this means, among other things, that the caste system will change into the class system, nuclear families will emerge from joint families and religion will become highly secularized. These hypotheses assume that urbanisation in India is the same as Westernisation, and ignore the existence of traditional urbanization on which modern urbanization had its first impact. The "breakdown" hypotheses, therefore, mislead one into asking the wrong questions, while it would be more realistic to formulate the questions as follows: What changes have come about as a result of interaction between traditional and modern urbanisation? Which aspects of caste, kinship and religion have changed in the new urban context? What are the new forms of associations, relationships and interactions that have emerged in the cities, and in what respects have the traditional ones got intermeshed with new forms of behaviour? What is the impact of such changes in the urban situation on rural life? These questions rightly focus on the changes in the

traditional urban situation instead of taking the rural context as representing the traditional social institutions of India." (Rao, Bhat and Kadekar,1991:2).

Keeping in tune with the development of urban studies in the West, the first department of urban studies was instituted in the University of Bombay by Patrick Geddes in 1915. Since then, the field itself has grown in leaps and bounds and been very central in the project of developing and studying Indian cities. In the beginning, urban studies followed the path set forth by sociologist studying rural India in that the subject matter very often was community, social hierarchy, social movements. This was followed by studies on economics and urban polity, as well as sociological exploration of education, medicine and industries. It has to be underlined that the subject matter of study of urban sociology was in step and attuned to the social changes and development which were taking place in the national, political and economic spheres.

Thus, there were studies that looked at the colonial experience in India and how it impacted urbanisation. The planned development of post-Independence India led to the growth of studies in inquiring about the nature and effects of these developments. Related to this, urban ecology and urban morphology also has constituted an important element of urban studies in India. There have also been studies that have sought to study urban communities and the evolution of urban structures.

Studies in urbanization and urban growth are of utmost significance to India now more than ever, with its burgeoning population and the intensification in communication and transportation technologies everywhere. As Indian cities grew, the problems of urbanization and industrialisation intensified as well, bringing forth a renewed interest among scholars in studying urban India. Below are some of the most important studies in this regard in India:

R I. Crane (1955) studied "Urbanism in India" while G.S. Ghurye's (1962) studied caste and occupational structure in cities in India. Kenneth Gillion (1968) wrote "Ahmedabad: A Study in Urban Indian History", was one of the first modern histories of an Indian cities, which traced Ahmedabad's history and charted it process of coming to terms with the new changes brought about by the forces of modernisation and industrialisation. R.P.Misra (1978) researched on urban problems and the issues of employment and urban informal sector in his very important volume. He also researched on issues of development and planning in India. Alfred D'souza's work (1978) was also on similar lines. Some other notable works are of Subhash Chandra (1977) "Social Participation in an Urban Neighbourhood" as well as the work on urban families by T.K.Oommen (1982). These are but only a few works cited from urban sociology from around the decades on India's independence, which saw a big upheaval not only in terms of its politics but also in the ways in which its economic and societal aspects evolved.

So, we see that urban studies, since its very inception has been primarily about going beyond set academic disciplines and studying the city not only through new methods and new perspectives, but also through its enriching multi-disciplinary underpinnings. Today, urban sociology has evolved even further and continues to be one of the crucial frameworks in order to understand all sorts of issues that humankind is dealing with, not just in terms of culture and industries but also in terms of spaces, ecology and environment.



CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

Q 1: When did Urban Sociology become a discipline?

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Q 2: Who was instrumental in establishing Urban Sociology as a discipline?

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Q 3: What is the difference between Gemeinshaft and Gesellschaft?

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Q 4: How does Durkheim differentiate between pre-modern societies and modern societies?

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Q 5: Is Urban Sociology significant today?

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12.4 LET US SUM UP

- Urban Sociology, in very simple words, is the sociological study of social life and interaction between human beings, in spaces defined as urban.
- The task of actually instituting the study of the urban as an actual scholarly discipline was done because of the Chicago School of Sociology, between 1915 and 1940 in University of Chicago in United States of America.
- Urban Sociology has come to imply a huge body of work, since theoreticians and scholars have been trying to study post industrial revolution modern society since the late seventeenth century itself.
- Classical Theories of City, which would include theories offered by Karl Marx, Ferdinand Tonnies, Max Weber and George Simmel.
- Some of the central thinkers of the Chicago Schhol are Robert Park, Burgess, McKenzie and Louis Wirth.
- New Urban Sociology that includes theories offered by imminent scholars of urbanity such as Henri Lefebvre; David Harvey and Manuel Castells.
- While studying urbanization in India, we cannot ignore the existence of

traditional urbanization on which modern urbanization had its first impact.

- The first department of urban studies was instituted in the University of Bombay by Patrick Geddes in 1915.
- Studies in urbanization and urban growth, are of utmost significance to India now more than ever, with its burgeoning population and the intensification in communication and transportation technologies everywhere.



12.5 FURTHER READING

1) Castells, Manuel. 2002. Urban Sociology in the Twenty First Century in The Castells Reader on Cities and Social Theory by Ida Susser (ed.). 9-19. Blackwell Publishers.
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3) Patel Sujata & Das Kaushal. 2006. Urban Studies. Oxford University Press.
4) Pitirim A. Sorokin and Carle C. Zimmerman. 1929.Principles of Rural-Urban Sociology. New York: Henry Holt.
5) Rao, M.S.A, Bhat C. and Kadekar, L.N. (Editors). 1991. A reader in Urban Sociology. StosiusInc/Advent Books Division
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12.6 ANSWERS TO CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

Ans to Q No 1: Urban Sociology became a discipline between 1915 and 1940 in University of Chicago in United States of America

Ans to Q No 2: The Chicago School of Sociology was instrumental in establishing Urban Sociology as a discipline.

Ans to Q No 3: F. Tonnies, in 'Gemeinshaft and Gesellschaft' (1887) uses the terms 'gemeinschaft and gesellschaft' to differentiate between the rural and the urban. While gemeinschaft refers to 'communal societies'

represented by rural societies, gesellschaft refers to 'associational societies' found in urban cities. The former is attributed to the personal relationships and interactions between people which are regulated by traditional social rules, the latter is expressed in the rational and bureaucratic social interactions and relationships that occur in a modern urban society.

Ans to Q No 4: Durkheim in 'Division of Labour' (1907) offers us with his concept of 'mechanical and organic solidarity' in talking about the transition of a simple society into a more complex modern society. While mechanical solidarity comes about because of the feeling of belongingness among people on the basis of shared similarity that arise from a low level of division of labour in society, organic solidarity come about because of the interconnectedness of different arenas of social life which itself arises due to a rise in the intensity and sophistication in the division of labour in that society.

Ans to Q No 5: Today, urban sociology has evolved even further and continues to be one of the crucial frameworks in order to understand all sorts of issues that humankind is dealing with, not just in terms of culture and industries but also in terms of spaces, ecology and environment.



12.7 MODEL QUESTIONS

Short Questions (Answer each question in about 150 words)

Q 1: Write a short note on the Chicago School of Sociology.

Long Questions (Answer each question in about 300-500 words)

Q 1: Discuss rural-urban difference within the context of urban sociology.

Q 2: Discuss Urban Sociology in India.

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UNIT 13: URBANISM AND URBANIZATION

UNIT STRUCTURE

13.1 Learning Objectives

13.2 Introduction

13.3 Basic Concepts in Urban Sociology

- 13.3.1 Urban, Urbanism; Urbanization
- 13.3.2 Urbanism as a way of life
- 13.3.3 Mega City, Global City, Suburbanization, Satellite City, Rural-Urban Fringe
- 13.3.4 Impact of Urbanization

13.4 Let Us Sum Up

13.5 Further Reading

13.6 Answers to Check your Progress

13.7 Model Questions

13.1 LEARNING OBJECTIVES

After going through this unit, you will be able to-

- learn the foundation concepts in Urban Sociology
- explain the emerging issues and concepts on the sociological study of the Urban
- discuss the impact of urbanization.

13.2 INTRODUCTION

Today, politics, economics as well as culture has been taken over by the urban and urbanity. It is interesting to observe that in the Indian context, the focus of political mobilization in pre-independence India as well as in the decade after independence, was very much dependent on agriculture and land reforms, keeping Gandhi's idea of gram swaraj in mind. This changed drastically with increasing industrialization from the 1960s onwards culminating in the economic reforms of 1991, which really opened up the economy of India to the forces of privatization, industrialisation as well as the far reaching forces of urbanization and globalisation. Today, Indian cities

are among the fastest growing cities in the world and the urbanization trends for India are remarkable for their rates of growth of not just industry but also in terms of the size of population and the rural-urban migration.

However, before sociologically studying urbanity or urbanization, it is important for us to delineate the differences between certain central conceptual categories in the theories of urbanization. In this chapter, we would study the central concepts in urbanisation as well as learn about some new categories within urbanization that has emerged in the recent times.

13.3 BASIC CONCEPTS IN URBAN SOCIOLOGY

In the previous unit, we have discussed about the origin and scope of Urban Sociology and its development in India. In this unit, we shall discuss some of the important concepts in Urban Sociology. Let us first understand the concepts of Urban, Urbanism and Urbanization in the sub section below

13.3.1 Urban, Urbanism, Urbanization

The concept of the "urban" is the central hinge on which Urban Studies centres on. Urban Studies is an umbrella term, which includes within its aegis several disciplines such as sociology, economics, geography, architecture etc., all of whose focus is to study issues related to cities. The term "urban" has come to mean an area which is very densely populated, and where the majority of the population are engaged in economic activities or occupational pursuits that are non-agricultural. Whether a place is designated as "urban" or not also depends upon the laws and bureaucratic procedures of that country since there are different criterions in place to qualify and quantify places as rural or urban. In India, the Census of India 2011 defined urban areas as those places, which have a minimum population of 5000 and the density of people is 400 persons per square kilometre (1,000/square metres) or higher. Along with this, more than 755 of the adult male population should be engaged in

non-agricultural activities. Along with this, is an area is under the administration of bodies such as municipal corporation, cantonment board etc., or is a notified town and they are automatically considered as urban areas.

Pitirim Sorokin and Carle Zimmerman (1929) defined "urban" by systematically differentiating it from what was "rural", based on certain characteristics. The differences they raised were based on the following facets:

- Occupation
- Environment
- Size of community
- Density of population
- Heterogeneity or homogeneity of population.
- Social differentiation and stratification
- Mobility
- System of interaction (i.e. number and type of contacts).

According to Anderson, "'urbanism' is descriptive of the way of life found in the modern city and, following Wirth, is seen as an essentially impersonal, secondary, and contractual way of life, associated in its extreme form with anonymity and transient contact. Moreover, urbanism is fluid and competitive and varies with places and time". In the latter part of this chapter, we would find out more about Wirth's theory of urbanism as a way of life. For now, it would suffice to say that "urbanism" is a way of life or a mental disposition that arises due to living in the urban space.

Just like in case of "urban", there are many strands of thought that would define urbanization in different ways. When it comes to urbanization, Anderson argues that it is "more than a shifting ofpeople from country to city and from landbound work to urban types of work" and the process of urbanization also involve "basic changes in the thinking and behaviour of people and changes in their social values" (Anderson 1959). Thus Anderson takes into account the

subjective behaviour and values of people.

On the other hand there is also a more structural or occupation view of what urbanization is. In this case, urbanization is used to refer to the process through which there is a pooling of people, industries and resources in the urban areas or the cities. According to Warren S. Thompson, it is ""characterized by the movements of people from small communities concerned chiefly or solely with agriculture to other communities, generally larger, whose activities are primarily centered in government, trade, manufacture or allied industries".

There also exists a third way to conceptualise urbanization, which is on the basis of space, which takes a demographic view of the process into account. Here,the conception we have is that, "Urbanization is a process of population concentration" (Elridge 1942).

Thus, we see that the conceptualisation of these terms at hand has differed according to different schools of thoughts and the focus of their study, and have ecological, technological, biological, sociological as well as psychological dimensions to the ways in which they are defined.

13.3.2 Urbanism as a way of life

The concept "urbanism as a way of life" was offered by Louis Wirth, who was part of the Chicago School of Sociology, in his seminal piece of work titled "Urbanism as a way of Life", which was published in 1938. Since then, it has become an oft-quoted phrase. Wirth cautioned against confusing urbanism with industrialisation or modern capitalism. According to him, while the latter are essential for the emergence of urbanism, the concept of "city" existed even before the industrial and capitalist era, even though the nature of these pre-industrial cities might be very different from the cities of the modern era.

Wirth defines the city as, "a relatively large, dense, and permanent settlement of socially heterogeneous individuals" (Wirth 1938). Based on this, he provides us with his theory of urbanism and outlined three important components or key characteristics that formed the basis of urban cities, and it was the relationship among them that led to the development of an urban way of life: large population size, social heterogeneity, and population density.

Due to the large population size in the city, with the increase in the number of people interacting among each other, there is an increasing level, at which differentiation takes place in the society among people. This in turn leads to an increase in the spatial segregation among people based on a variety of differential features, which could include ethnicity, race, economic and social status, tastes etc. City life becomes predominantly concerned about secondary contacts between people rather than primary contacts.

"Characteristically, urbanites meet one another in highly segmental roles. They are, to be sure, dependent upon more people for the satisfactions of their life- needs than are rural people and thus are associated with a greater number of organized groups, but they are less dependent upon particular persons, and their dependence upon others is confined to a highly fractionalized aspect of the other's round of activity" (Wirth 1938).

This segmentation coupled with secondary interaction provides a utilitarian emphasis to interpersonal relationships in the urban space.

Referring to the work of Durkheim and Darwin, Wirth comes to the understanding that due to the increase in density of population in the cities, there is also an increase in the differentiation that results in an increased specialisation among them. This also implies that there is an increase in the spirit of competition among the people and Wirth tries to articulate the situation subjectively by referencing Simmel, who suggests that this change in the objective conditions of live very well leads to a shift in the ways in which people

orient themselves to the social milieu as well as to the other people around them.

"The different parts of the city thus acquire specialized functions. The city consequently tends to resemble a mosaic of social worlds in which the transition from one to the other is abrupt.

The close living together and working together of individuals who have no sentimental and emotional ties foster a spirit of competition, aggrandizement, and mutual exploitation" Wirth (1938).

The last characteristic that led to urbanism as a way of life according to Wirth, is "heterogeneity". Thus the huge differentiation among people and personalities due to the increase in density and population size in the city leads to a differentiated framework of social stratification compared to other less differentiated societies. However, this heterogeneity doesn't lead to the extension of individuality. Rather, the individual needs to subordinate themselves to various organization, groups and communities within the city. "Wherever large numbers of differently constituted individuals congregate, the process of depersonalization also enters . . . Individuality under these circumstances must be replaced by categories" (Wirth 1938).

According to Wirth (1938), urbanism as a characteristic way of life may thus be approached empirically from three interrelated perspectives:

- As a physical structure comprising a population base, a technology, and an ecological order. Here he mentions the biological characteristics of urban cities such as proportion of death, birth rate and death rate, "pattern of land use, of land values, rentals, and ownership, the nature and functioning of the physical structures, of housing, of transportation and communication facilities, of public utilities". All these are sociologically significant since they all impact and are impacted by the urban way of life.

- As a system of social organization involving a characteristic social structure, a series of social institutions, and a typical pattern of social relationships. Here he provides examples such as the changing nature of family and family size as a unit of social life, high rents, and the way in which urban life could discourage self-employment: all these conditions leading the individuals to join groups to obtain their ends.
- And as a set of attitudes and ideas, and a constellation of personalities engaging in typical forms of collective behaviour and subject to characteristic mechanisms of social control.

So we see that Wirth helps to highlight the intricacies and complexities that studying a concept such "urbanism as a way of life" requires, and provided a framework for other theorists who were sociologically studying urban space and societies.

13.3.3 Mega City, Global City, Suburbanization, Satellite City, Rural-Urban Fringe

With the advancement of the industrial societies, rapid progress has been made in technologies of production, industries, means of communication and transport. Mankind is evolving in a manner and at a pace that had never happened before in human history. The rapid progression of humans has happened hand in hand with the rapid changes in the structures, conditions and essence of urban life. In this section, we would attempt to understand some of these changes through acquainting ourselves with the new concepts that have emerged in the context of the urban.

- **Mega City**

As we mentioned, cities are characterised by huge populations. However, in the contemporary context, there are cities whose populations swelled to a size higher than ever before, with cities burgeoning beyond the size conceptualised for an average city. Thus, this situation called for a demarcation between cities, as understood

in Urban Studies, and the cities whose size grew beyond any comparable estimate with other existing cities. These new huge metropolitan areas were accorded the title then, of "mega city".

Demographically, the United Nations defines any place with a population of more than 10 million inhabitants as a "mega city". This is widely accepted as the definition of a mega city. Other conceptualisations could include a population of more than 8 million with a population density of 2,000 persons per square kilometre. A mega city could be one metropolitan area or even two metropolitan areas, which are defined as one mega city due to their proximity with each other.

Ø Global City

Global city has emerged as a very important concept in light of the increased globalisation of the world. The term itself was popularised by Saskia Sassen when she used it to refer to the cities: London, Tokyo and New York, in 1991. In Sassen's conceptualisation, she talks about the unbundling of the "national territories" due to the ability of global flows to operate in a de-nationalised way. Along with this, there is the emergence of non-state actors that operate within this new fluidity, giving rise to new schemas in which new forms of work as well as labour division and has the ability to intensify the inequalities already at place in cities. According to Sassen, "The global city is a border zone where the old spatialities and temporalities of the national and the new ones of the global digital age engage. Out of their juxtaposition comes the possibility of a whole series of new economic and cultural projects" (Sassen 1991).

Thus, we see that the global city becomes the space where the old conceptions and formations of what "national" consists of, comes into contact with the new digital and advanced formations under the term "global", which creates a situation in which a lot of new formations are produced or a lot of old formations change and evolve. The twin process of de-nationalisation and globalization both happen simultaneously hand-in-hand.

Ø Suburbanisation

Suburbanisation has been widely observed in the western cities. It refers to the phenomenon of people moving away from the urban areas and living away from the centre points of urbanization in the cities in ever increasing concentric circles.

The impact of urbanization, including increased traffic congestion, rising pollution and rising costs of living including rent, land price and price of housing, leads many people to move from the epicentres of cities and outwards in search of living situation which is more suitable for them. Suburbanisation is especially apparent in cities that have very good road and transport system where living away from the cities' epicentre doesn't lead to a loss of connectivity with the urban space itself.

Ø Satellite City

Satellite cities are the smaller cities that emerge in the vicinity of major metropolitan cities. The satellite is not part of the larger city but can be influenced by the larger city. These satellite cities are smaller and the cost of living, housing and lifestyle here is much more affordable that the larger city. In essence, the satellite city offers all the amenities that are offered by the larger city, as its emergence itself is a symptom of the aspirations of urbanity and urbanisation that emerges for people, but who might find that major cities are unsustainable for themselves due to the lack of jobs there or the costs associated.

Ø Rural-Urban Fringe

The rural-urban fringe is used to refer to the areas that are usually on the edge of the urban areas where there is a mix between urban and rural in terms of how the land is used and the way of life at play. Robin J. Pryor coined the term "rural-urban fringe", in 1968. The term itself implies that it is a "zone" rather than a clearly demarcated boundary and as such this fringe lacks a clear delineation between the rural and urban. In this transition zone, the presence of both

rural and urban elements can lead to both cohesion as well as a conflict between the two modes of life.

Some of the land used in this fringe zone could include wide swaths of farmland and grazing land interspersed by urban motorways, areas for landfill and garbage recycling, urban entertainment parks which are constructed away from the urban epicentre, as well as residential development and housing.

13.3.4 Impact of Urbanization

Some of the impact of urbanization could be extrapolated from the concept of the urban way of life offered by Wirth that has been mentioned above. Keeping those in mind, we can observe some other impact of urbanization in the Indian context:

- **Rural-Urban Migration**

There has been a huge influx of population from the rural area to India's urban spaces. This increase in the migration is due to many factors such as, lack of livelihood and employment in rural areas, breakdown of the traditional agricultural family set up, lack of growth in India's agricultural sector with it employing the higher percentage of the population but declining in terms of its contribution to the annual GDP of the country. This huge influx of migration is turn has caused a large number of issues with families being separated due to workers leaving home for the city, rise of petty crime and beggary in the city due to the urban areas' inability to accommodate the huge influx of unskilled population, as well as problems of homelessness, among other issues. The formation of slums in cities is the most acute embodiment of this problem.

- **Resource and Infrastructure**

The growth of urban areas has not been in tandem with better resource allocation and better resource use. The consequence of this has been that there have been many water related crisis, such as water shortage and lack of affordable and clean drinking water, which has

almost become a routine in the urban spaces in India. Along with this, urban areas are witnessing lots of issues with sanitation and sewage in the cities. The main reason for the differential access to resources is due to the huge difference in income levels in the urban spaces coupled with the high cost of living and inflation that has been on a steady rise in the Indian cities.

The improvement in transport and communication is one of the key reasons for the development of the urban spaces. But within cities itself, there has been an increase in the population density and massive congestionled to the lack of space so that it can keep the cities running efficiently. And moreover, due to rising traffic blocks in the cities, there are not enough efficient, affordable and safe public transport options available for the people.

- **Environment**

Pollution is on the rise in urban areas in India. Indian cities are today some of the most polluted places on the earth. Smog, as well as vehicular and industrial fumes have become a common problem in Indian cities. There are insufficient checks and balances in place to regulate pollution levels in the city and to penalise the industries and people responsible for this. Pollution is one of the leading causes of soaring heart and lung problems in the urban areas, as well as a suspected cause for the increase in cancer cases in the cities. Along with this, the everyday life in the urban areas has become tough and it is leading to an increase in stress and anxiety among people.

The above are a few impact of urbanization in Indian cities. Of course, the above list is not exhaustive and there are many more ways in which the city is impacting the lives of people living there: in both harmful and beneficial ways. Thus, we see that while providing a chance for high income and lucrative jobs along with modern lifestyles and freedom of individuality, cities can also become the hub of crime, stress and environmental degradation.



CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

Q 1: Which school of thought did Louis Wirth belong to?

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Q 2: How does Louis Wirth define the city?

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Q 3: According to Wirth, what are the key characteristics that defined urban city?

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Q 4: What do you mean by megacity?

.....

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Q 5: What do you mean by rural-urban fringe?

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.....



13.4 LET US SUM UP

- Urban Studies is an umbrella term, which includes within its aegis several disciplines such as sociology, economics, geography, architecture etc., all of whose focus is to study issues related to cities.
- The term "urban" has come to mean an area which is very densely populated, and where the majority of the population are engaged in economic activities or occupational pursuits that are non-agricultural.
- In India, the Census of India 2011 defined urban areas as those places, which have a minimum population of 5000 and the density of people is 400 persons per square kilometre (1,000/square metres) or higher. Along with this, more than 755 of the adult male population should be engaged in non-agricultural activities.

- "Urbanism" is a way of life or a mental disposition that arises due to living in the urban space.
- The concept "urbanism as a way of life" was offered by Louis Wirth, who was part of the Chicago School of Sociology, in his seminal piece of work titled "Urbanism as a way of Life", which was published in 1938.
- Demographically, the United Nations defines any place with a population of more than 10 million inhabitants as a "mega city".
- "The global city is a border zone where the old spatialities and temporalities of the national and the new ones of the global digital age engage. Out of their juxtaposition comes the possibility of a whole series of new economic and cultural projects" (Sassen 1991).
- Suburbanisation refers to the phenomenon of people moving away from the urban areas and living away from the centre points of urbanization in the cities in ever increasing concentric circles.
- Satellite cities are the smaller cities that emerge in the vicinity of major metropolitan cities. The satellite is not part of the larger city but can be influenced by the larger city.
- The rural-urban fringe is used to refer to the areas that are usually on the edge of the urban areas where there is a mix between urban and rural in terms of how the land is used.



13.5 FURTHER READING

1) Anderson, Nels. 1959. Urbanism and Urbanization. American Journal of Sociology, Vol. 65, No., pp. 68-73
2) Eldridge, Hope T. 1942. The Process of Urbanization. Social Forces, XX (March 1942), p. 311.
3) Sassen, Saskia. 1991. The global City: De-nationalisation of Time and Space. Wiley Online Library.
4) Warren S. Thompson.1931. "Urbanization". Encyclopaedia of the Social Sciences New York: Macmillan, Vol. 15, p. 1
5) Wirth, Louis. 1938. Urbanism as a Way of Life. American Journal of Sociology, 44,1

13.6 ANSWERS TO CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

Ans to Q No 1: Chicago School of Sociology.

Ans to Q No 2: Wirth defines the city as, "a relatively large, dense, and permanent settlement of socially heterogeneous individuals" (Wirth 1938).

Ans to Q No 3: The three key characteristics are: large population size, social heterogeneity, and population density.

Ans to Q No 4: Demographically, the United Nations defines any place with a population of more than 10 million inhabitants as a "mega city". This is widely accepted as the definition of a mega city. Other conceptualisations could include a population of more than 8 million with a population density of 2,000 persons per square kilometre. A mega city could be one metropolitan area or even two metropolitan areas, which are defined as one mega city due to their proximity with each other.

Ans to Q No 5: The rural-urban fringe is used to refer to the areas that are usually on the edge of the urban areas where there is a mix between urban and rural in terms of how the land is used. Robin J. Pryor coined the term "rural-urban fringe", in 1968. The term itself implies that it is a "zone" rather than a clearly demarcated boundary and as such this fringe lacks a clear delineation between the rural and urban. In this transition zone, the presence of both rural and urban elements can lead to both cohesion as well as a conflict between the two modes of life.

13.7 MODEL QUESTION

Short Questions (Answer each question in about 150 words)

Q 1: What is the difference between global city and mega city?

Q 2: What is the difference between urbanization and suburbanization?

Long Questions (Answer each question in about 300-500 words)

Q 1: According to Louis Wirth, through what perspectives can "Urbanism as a way of life", be approached?

Q 2: Discuss some of the impact of Urbanization in India.

Q 3: What is the difference between Urbanism and Urbanization?

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UNIT 14: URBAN PROBLEMS

UNIT STRUCTURE

14.1 Learning Objectives

14.2 Introduction

14.3 Problems of Urbanization in India

- 14.3.1 Urban Environment and Urbanization
- 14.3.2 Urban Transport and Water Crisis
- 14.3.3 Pollution
- 14.3.4 Housing and Slums

14.4 Let Us Sum Up

14.5 Further Reading

14.6 Answers to Check Your Progress

14.7 Model Questions

14.1 LEARNING OBJECTIVES

After going through this unit, you will be able to-

- explain the problems related to urbanization in India.
- discuss how urbanization impacts the environment, urban infrastructure, the ecology as well as the living situation of people living in the cities.

14.2 INTRODUCTION

Urbanization in India accelerated fairly rapidly after India's adoption of a mixed economy containing both public and private enterprises, and broke away from the previous condition which was a closed economic regime. According to the census of 1901, about 11.4% of the population was residing in urban areas. This changed to 31.16 % of the population according to the census count of 2011. As per bodies such as United National and World Bank, the population in the urban cities of India is likely to grow even more and is projected to be among the foremost in terms of population density in the world by 2050. Even beyond India/ more than half of the

population of the world is projected to live in urban areas in the next 50 years. Not only will it put a huge impact on these places, but it is also symptomatic of how unequal the development project has become global and the stratified growth that the globe has seen.

This rapid urbanization in India has had both good and bad consequences and its impact has been felt very deeply in all arenas: infrastructure, politics, social and cultural aspect of life, as well as on the question of growth, development and economy. In this chapter, we would discuss some of the most serious and visible problems which urbanization has created in India. It has to be noted that these problems do not exist independent of each other, and very often the problems we discuss below appear in composite forms with each being linked to the other and resulting in entangled problems where the root cause is urbanisation, and the solutions would require targeting more than one category of problems at the same time.

14.3 PROBLEMS OF URBANIZATION IN INDIA

14.3.1 Urban Environment and Urbanization

When we talk about "urban environment", we are talking about a whole host of categories that can be collapsed within the heading of environment. These can include economic environment, political and socio-cultural environment or environment in the sense of the biological relationship between the inhabitants of cities and the physical natural world. There has been a lot of literature and studies arealready done on the ills of urbanization on the environment. However, we also need to keep in mind the social and economic dimension of urbanization and how these can also have an impact how the urban environment is constituted as well as experienced.

Environmental factors affect not just the physical health of the city, but also have a deep psychosocial impact on the people living in the cities. While there has been massive ecological

degradation due to the impact of industrial waste, pollution, production of noise pollution, chemicals seeping into our eco-system; there is also a cost to the social environment due to urbanization. This is evident in the rising violence, unrest, anxieties as well as stress levels in the urban spaces due to the way in which urban life has come to be. This social impact of course comes not just from the way the city is organized physically but also the ways in which the residents react and behave within this organization. The socio-economic dimension here comes from the link of "poverty" to both environment and urbanization. While we know that urbanization has also led to an exacerbation of inequalities, even these negative environmental impacts due to urbanization, are experienced more acutely by the urban poor rather than the middle or higher classes. The poor in the city are more exposed to harmful radiations and fumes due to the nature of their jobs; they do not have basic housing and have to live in squalid conditions without access to safe drinking water or healthcare. Thus, the poor also suffer in terms being more vulnerable to diseases due to infections and presence of harmful chemicals in food and water,

According to Seto et al (2010), "Urbanization creates the most human- dominated landscapes and drives local and regional environmental changes by trans- forming land cover, hydrological systems, and biogeochemistry. Worldwide, urban expansion is one of the primary drivers of habitat loss and alteration and of plant and animal species extinction."

The ecological footprint arising due to urbanization has put global resources at serious risk. So, the question at hand right now is about sustainability and if there is a way in which urbanization and development could be operated upon keeping environmental sustainability as a priority. Seto et al (2010) offer the idea that,

".....the concentration of people, resources, and economic activity also presents opportunities for transitions to

sustainability. High population densities and compact urban design are required to support walkable neighbourhoods and mass transit alternatives to the automobile. Compact urban development coupled with high residential and employment densities can reduce energy consumption, vehicle miles travelled, and carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions. Concentrated populations can also save land for agriculture, wildlife, and habitat by using less land for urban development. The trade-offs between environmental challenges and opportunities will depend in large part on how and where urban areas expand, urban lifestyles, and consumption patterns as well as the ability of institutions and governance structures to address adequately these challenges."We can understand from the above quoted idea that Seto gave that it is the biggest challenge for India to check the problems endowed in urbanisation and efforts to actually make sustainability a priority in development discourse; and in fact not just sustainability of resources but also dignity of life and health should be of great concern especially of the urban poor.

Sustainability itself can be understood as, finding a way to fulfil the needs of the present times without compromising the capacity of future generations to meet their needs, which means using resources such as land, water, air in a responsible way so as not to lead to resource degradation and without creating a situation in which the future generations would not be able to use the same resources to fulfil their needs.

Thus we will see that the following problems related to urbanization all comes under the heading of problems of urbanization, development and environment. We can also discern how the problems of urbanization impact the rich and poor differently; due to the ways in which economic stratification in urban areas is highlighted and amplified, and the ways in which this decides people's access to resources and the routes that are available in order to expand their livelihoods and their qualities of existence. Here, the role of governments must be invoked,

As per United Nations, "Governments should increase the capacity and competence of city and municipal authorities...to safeguard the environment, to respond to the need of all citizens, including urban squatters, for personal safety, basic infrastructure and services, to eliminate health and social problems, including problems of drugs and criminality, and problems resulting from overcrowding and disasters, and to provide people with alternatives to living in areas prone to natural and man-made disasters. (United Nations, 1995: 49)"

14.3.2 Urban Transport and Water Crisis

Ø Urban Transport

The interesting observation about transport in India is that although ownership of private vehicles is much less in Indian urban cities compared to people from similar areas in developed countries, traffic congestion and management is far worse here than in any other advanced countries. There are many reasons for this paradox.

First of all, planning and management of motorways have not been up to the level that is required considering the density and size of Indian cities and mega-cities. Much of these policies have been influenced by political will and motivations of political mobilization rather than looking at hard-core facts and proper planning for the best outcome for all. Thus, roads have been built even in places that are unsuitable just in order to appease certain groups or communities that might enjoy political power and prestige.

Again, due to corruption and improper channels to manage public spending, the government has spent a lot of resources and time in doing rather costly projects such as elevated roadways and mass rail transit systems, which might not even be the need of the hour, and ignored more pressing but smaller budgeted projects like labor-intensive road improvements, extension of the city streets for smooth traffic flow, or promoting public transport alternatives such

as low-cost bus operations.

Much of the vehicles on Indian roads are not fuel-efficient and thus, another by-product of the high density of vehicles on Indian roads is pollution. Along with this, there is also a direct human toll associated with bad roadways and lack of order on Indian roads, which is the reason for the rise in the death toll due to road accidents. Indian roads are responsible for killing thousands every year and in fact, traffic related accidents are one of the leading causes of deaths of people from non-natural causes in India.

Ø Water Crisis

Urbanization coincides with the clustering of people and resource use in urban areas. This makes urban cities one of the prime consumers of resources such as clean water. It has been observed that urban areas are slated to absorb the growing population in the world and over the next couple of decades; more than half of the world's population would be concentrated in urban areas. This implies that urban areas' requirement of water will increase even more with more and more industries being set up which requires water for their day-to-day processes as well as more and more people requiring water for consumption and cooking as well as in order to use it for their daily lives.

This situation must be taken seriously. Already water beds in not only urban areas but also in the rural-urban fringe are drying up. The major reason for this is of course human activity. Often human beings forget that there is a limited supply of water on earth and thus, it is a perishable resource. So the use of water must be done judiciously. However, water, as a resource has not been accorded the importance in policy as seriously as it should be. Not only the public supply of water is still not a reality for a lot of people living in the city, even the people who have access to water supply cannot be sure that the water is safe and clean. The government has not been able to efficiently set up water treatment plants that can ensure that water available for people is safe but also that water

is being handled judiciously. Along with this, corporations and industries which swallow mammoth tonnes of water have not been penalised or been made responsible completely so as to deter other industries from using huge quantity of without being rational and this in turn affects the water resources in a country.

There are no recycling facilities in place yet in order to create a system where water can be recycled and re-used once it has been used by industries or individuals. On the other hand, there have been cases where the private water bottling companies have in fact usurped over water resources that belong to villages or rural communities and have led to the diminishing of water levels there, while ironically, packaging water to be sold to people, especially in urban areas, who can afford packaged drinking water.

14.3.3 Pollution

In an urban environment, "pollution" is one of the gravest threats to health and safety of individuals. And this is true not only at the level of the industries, but more so at the household and community level.

Air pollution itself can be of two types: indoor air pollution and the ambient or outdoor air pollution. Indoor air pollution is especially harmful for women and children, who spend a lot of time in kitchen or working in indoor spaces without ventilation. This is true especially when we are talking about women from lower economic groups who might not have access to clean energy sources and good ventilation while heating or cooking etc. Outdoor air pollution is also the leading cause of respiratory diseases in urban areas, and is especially harmful for young children, old people as well as pregnant women.

As you know, industrialization and urbanization are intrinsically related and as such, with the intensification of industrialization, urbanization intensified as well, causing a cycle in which each fed the other's growth. These industries produced a lot

of toxic wastes as well as created a huge amount of pollution due to the industrial processes that were integral to their functioning. But increasing industrialization was not accompanied by proper channels of pollution control. Apart from indoor and outdoor air pollution, there are several ways in which pollution caused by urbanization occurs. Some of them are:

- Urban smog which is a mixture of smoke from industries, cars and domestic chimneys and fog from the atmosphere creates atoxic environment which is very harmful for respiration. Low visibility associated with urban smog is also responsible for causing road accidents as well as train accidents.
- Acid Deposition, where harmful acids such as nitric acid or hydrochloric acid from the air can deposit themselves in the ground such as forests, land or in water sources such as rivers and lakes, and makes them poisonous. When this acid deposition happens in high doses, it can be very harmful to humans, as well as harming the animals, birds and plants which are dependent on the land or water bodies where the acid deposits are dissolved. While some of these acids might occur in nature, a majority of them are synthetic and have been produced due to man made activities in huge industries and factories in urban centres, along with the pollution from vehicles and human activities. Thus, the scale at which this acid deposition is happening is directly linked to human activity and since human activities are so intensified in urban areas, urbanization has a major responsibility here.
- Ozone Depletion, which is the process by which greenhouse gases emitted by human activities such as industries, or human produced chemicals such as chlorine or bromine are causing the Earth's layer of ozone to erode. The ozone layer of the Earth is important because it protects the planet from the harmful and poisonous Ultra Violet rays of the sun. These rays are responsible for causing cancer in both humans and animals.

- Global Warming, which refers to the phenomenon of the rising temperature on Earth due to the combination of the above factors. Global warming has wide reaching consequences because even a minor centigrade alteration in the average temperature change in a place can completely alter or have far reaching consequences on its ecology, rainfall patterns, seasonal patterns, water levels, vegetation as well as animal population.

Again, noise pollution is also a major problem due to urbanization. The huge density of people, vehicles and industries in the same place has led to utter chaos and an increasing level of noise pollution. Unwanted noise pollution can have both a physiological as well as psychological impact. While on one hand it can cause physical ailments such as hearing loss and tinnitus, it can also lead to anxiety, stress, hypertension, and sleep deprivation among people affected by it.

Government action when it comes to the issue of pollution has not been at the scale that the current situation demands. The main reason for this is the growth of capitalism and the spread of the urban lifestyle. The government has been unable to implement proper pollution control measures at the level of industries due to these industries having major stake in the government. Apart from this, the aspirations related to the urban lifestyle means that people in Indian cities do not refrain from using pollution causing gadgets such as air conditioners, or heaters, or prefer to use cabs or personal cars instead of public transports that might be more energy efficient. Thus, there has to be a change not only in the ways in which the government plans and executes pollution control policies, but also in the mind-set of the people regarding their individual roles and responsibilities regarding the urban environment and problems of pollution.

14.3.4 Housing and Slums

Due to the implosion of population in the urban cities, there have been enormous problems that have arisen when it comes to housing and sanitation. Urbanization attracts an influx of people from different parts of the countries to the cities due to a variety of reasons: people are looking for livelihood, educational attainment, people are looking for urbanized lifestyle which is more modern and offering freedom of individual expression due to which people arebeing attracted to the boom in commerce and corporate sector as well as purely for the reason that urban cities form the central nodes which contains the main arteries that keep a country functioning. Apart from these reasons, people also migrate to cities due to factors such as the disintegration of rural life, the breakdown in the agricultural sector, the creation of a new class of landless labourers in rural places which do not have any means of livelihood in the countryside and whose only option is to sell their labour power to the industries as well as to the labour-intensive work that happens in order for cities to expand, such as road building or construction sites or day wage labourers and vendors.

A situation such as the above coupled with the rising cost of housing in the cities means that there is a huge gap between the number of people living and working in cities and the number of houses that are available in the city. The size of the gap is dependent upon the inequalities of class that are continuously at play in all aspects of resource accessibility in urban areas.

This shortage of affordable housing has led to the creation of urban squalor and urban slums, which has become a routine fixture of the urban landscape, with the most notable slum being Dharavi in Mumbai, which has attained international attention and notoriety for its size. According to UN Habitat, "slum household is a group of individuals living under the same roof in an urban area who lack one or more of the following:

- Durable housing of a permanent nature that protects against extreme climate conditions.
- Sufficient living space, which means not more than three people sharing the same room.
- Easy access to safe water in sufficient amounts at an affordable price.
- Access to adequate sanitation in the form of a private or public toilet shared by a reasonable number ofpeople.
- Security of tenure that prevents forced evictions.

The influx of especially young men from the rural areas who are jobless and able-bodied also implies a growth in petty crimes and robberies in the city, and this gives rise to the negative reactions of the city dwellers towards migrants who belong to the unskilled and poor sections of the society.

Apart from formation of slums, even for the middle class residents, the availability of safe housing and sanitation is still questionable in the context of Indian cities. House rents are soaring and it is particularly hard for single income households as well as women to find housing, which are not only affordable but also safe.

The Indian government's projects such as "Housing for All" and the concept of "Smart Cities" in India are supposed to help target this housing shortage in Indian cities. There are also sheltersfor the homeless that are available for the residents who are very poor and destitute but the quality of these places remains questionable still and a lot still needs to be done. For now, it remains to be seen whether these projects would be successful or not. Proper housing is one of the core essential conditions for people to feel secure, confident and have their dignity as humans. A person, without shelter cannot extend their capabilities to their full potential and it is indeed an offense to all of humanity when we let our fellow beings live in such poor squalid conditions when we should be demanding for reforms in the government's housing policies as well as changes in the development models that the government has been implementing.



CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

Q 1: What do you mean by sustainability?

.....

.....

Q 2: What does "smog" mean?

.....

.....

Q 3: What is Ozone depletion?

.....

.....

Q 4: What is the housing crisis in urban cities?

.....

.....



14.4 LET US SUM UP

- According to the census of 1901, about 11.4% of the population was residing in urban areas. This changed to 31.16 % of the population according to the census count of 2011.
- As per bodies such as United National and World Bank, the population in the urban cities of India is likely to grow even more and is projected to be among the foremost in terms of population density in the world by 2050.
- Environmental factors affect not just the physical health of the city, but also have a deep psychosocial impact on the people living in the cities.
- While we know that urbanization has also led to an exacerbation of inequalities, even these negative environmental impacts due to urbanization, are experienced more acutely by the urban poor rather than the middle or higher classes.
- According to Seto et al (2010), "Urbanization creates the most human-

dominated landscapes and drives local and regional environmental changes by trans- forming land cover, hydrological systems, and biogeochemistry. Worldwide, urban expansion is one of the primary drivers of habitat loss and alteration and of plant and animal species extinction."



14.5 FURTHER READING

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14.6 ANSWERS TO CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

Ans to Q No 1: Sustainability itself can be understood as, finding a way to fulfil the needs of the present times without compromising the capacity

of future generations to meet their needs, which means using resources such as land, water, air in a responsible way so as not to lead to resource degradation and without creating a situation in which the future generations would not be able to use the same resources to fulfil their needs.

Ans to Q No 2: Urban smog which is a mixture of smoke from industries, cars and homes and fog from the atmosphere, which then produces a toxic environment which is very harmful for the lungs and health.

Ans to Q No 3: Ozone Depletion is the process by which greenhouse gases emitted by human activities such as industries, or human produced chemicals such as chlorine or bromine are causing the Earth's layer of ozone to erode.

Ans to Q No 4: Due to the implosion of population in the urban cities, there have been enormous problems that have arisen when it comes to housing and sanitation. In short, this is referred to as the housing crisis in urban cities.



14.7 MODEL QUESTIONS

Short Questions (Answer each question in about 150 words)

Q 1: How does urbanization affect the economic environment?

Q 2: What do you mean by ozone depletion and global warming?

Long Questions (Answer each question in about 300-500 words)

Q 1: Discuss the problem of pollution and urbanization.

Q 2: Elucidate how housing problem and the creation of slums are related to urbanization.

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UNIT 15: ISSUES OF URBAN SOCIETY

UNIT STRUCTURE

15.1 Learning Objectives

15.2 Introduction

15.3. Issues of Urban Society

15.3.1 Class, Caste, Ethnic and Gendered Segregation of Space

15.3.2 Juvenile Delinquency and Beggary

15.3.3 Alcoholism and Drug Addiction

15.3.4 Growth of Consumerism

15.4 Let Us Sum Up

15.5 Further Reading

15.6 Answers to Check Your Progress

15.7 Model Questions

15.1 LEARNING OBJECTIVES

After going through this unit, you will be able to-

- learn about the segregation of space and socio-spatial interactions in urban spaces.
- explain the impact of urbanisation on socio-economic problems in urban societies, such as such as poverty, juvenile delinquency and beggary, alcoholism, drug addiction, spousal violence etc.
- discuss the interaction between urbanisation and the growth of consumerism.

15.2 INTRODUCTION

Spatial segregation has been an integral part of the process of urbanisation and the functioning of urban societies since the very beginning, and there have been many theorists who have addressed this since the 1920s when the first big cities emerged in Europe. The large influx of people, cultures, industries that often accompany the process of urbanisation leads to the creation of clusters of people who group together in certain spaces

due to a sense of similarity of identity or community or economic location that they share. While this sort of clustering is not inherently problematic on it's own, but when it leads to other groups of people being denied access to the same spaces or resources, this sort of spatial segregation can lead to, and is very often equated with, social exclusion in urban societies.

"Segregation of urban space occurs because land is limited. In capitalist cities land is privately owned, each parcel ofland having a different value depending upon its size, its location and its current and potential uses" (Savage, Warde: 1993).Space itself within the urban society need only be in terms of land, and can be divided into three forms: physical, functional and social spaces. These three types of spaces interact with one another and each shapes the lived experience of individuals within the urban society.

"Spatial segregation can be seen as the residential separation of groups within a broader population. A group is said to be completely mixed in a spatial sense when its members are distributed uniformly throughout the population. The greater the deviation from a uniform dispersal, the greater the degree of segregation (Johnston et al., 1986). Spatial segregation exists when some areas show an overrepresentation and other areas an under-representation of members of a group."(Kempen andOzuekren 1998)

One of the most important reasons for urban inequalities is of course urban poverty.Urbanization and poverty are intrinsically related and how poverty itself is understood can go way beyond the simplistic yardstick of income and occupation and can include even the urban poor's self perception on their conditions of existence and the limitations they feel on their ability to extend their possibilities are citizens of the city.

"There is no consensus on a definition of urban poverty but two broad complementary approaches are prevalent: economic and anthropological interpretations. Conventional economic definitions use income or consumption complemented by a range of other social indicators such as life expectancy, infant mortality, nutrition, the proportion of the household budget spent on food, literacy, school enrolment rates, access to health clinics or drinking water, to classify poor groups against a common

index of material welfare. Alternative interpretations developed largely by rural anthropologists and social planners working with rural communities in the third world allow for local variation in the meaning of poverty, and expand the definition to encompass perceptions of non-material deprivation and social differentiation." (Masika et. al. 1997)

When we add the dimension of social, cultural and economic stratification to this, the result is a complex amalgam of undignified conditions of life for people on one hand, and the lack of directed stated action and management on the other. Along with this, there is also the emergence of the new "urban way of life" which leads to highlight the inequalities at play in the differentiated populations within a city in which different segregated groups access the fruits and toxicities of urbanization in different ways.

15.3 ISSUES OF URBAN SOCIETY

15.3.1 Class, Caste, Ethnic and Gendered Segregation of Space

Here, we would look at some of these stratified categories in the society and how they are impacted by urbanization in India and how they interact and are impacted by the urban segregation of space.

Ø Class

The economic reforms of 1991 made wide reaching changes in the economics, politics, and in turn, the socio-cultural lives of Indians. While on one hand, it led to rapid industrialization as well as urbanization and modernization in urban cities of India, on the other hand it led to increasing rural-to-urban migration from the countryside and gave way to a huge upheaval in the traditional relations of productions and traditional modes of life that people in India had. This led to a reinvention of cultural and social categories along with causing a "spatial reconfiguration of class inequalities" in the cities (Fernandes 2004).

The urban poor now constitute a huge category whose

problems and issues have largely been invisible, mainly because they directly contradict the story of development and growth that urban cities aspire to embody; and because they seemingly do not have much to offer in terms of purchasing power, cultural capital or political mobilization. According to Fernandes, the formation of the Indian middle class was a key reason of such differential access to space. "The production of middle-class identity is linked to a politics of 'spatial purification' (Sibley, 1995), which centres on middle- class claims over public spaces and a corresponding movement to cleanse such spaces of the poor and working classes. It is the active nature of this politics of purification that underlies the political project of 'forgetting' subordinated social groups such as squatters and street vendors" (Fernandes 2004).

The process of gentrification is probably the most palpable way in which the class-based segregation of space in the urban cities could be witnessed and it epitomises how the inequalities of urban redevelopment plays out. According to Lopez-Morales, "Gentrification is a fundamentally political conflict. It is one of the most significant and socially unjust processes affecting cities today" (Lopez-Morales 2015).

"Gentrification is identifiable as the coincidence of four processes:

- resettlement and social concentration entailing the displacement of one group of residents with another of higher social status,
- transformation in the built environment exhibiting some distinctive aesthetic features and the emergence of new' local services,
- the gathering together of persons with a putatively shared culture and life-style, or at least with shared, class-related: consume preferences,
- economic reordering of property values, a commercial opportunity for the construction industry, and often an extension of the system of the private ownership of domestic property" (Savage and Warde, 1993).

Gentrification has becomes a fixture in urban India too,

with poor neighbourhoods as well as slum settlements razed down in order to build multi speciality hospitals or shopping malls. Along with this, in a lot of places, housing development and beautification by the government has led to a skyrocketing rent, making it impossible for the previous residents of those areas to continue living there.

Ø Caste

Even though cities grew as spaces which are equated with class discrimination, caste based discrimination still persists in Indian urbanized spaces. It has been found by numerous studies that caste discrimination is still alive even in hiring and working practices in Indian urban labour market.

"Discrimination is found to exist, and to operate at least in part through the traditional mechanism, viz. assignment to jobs, with the scheduled castes entering poorly-paid 'dead-end' jobs. It is assisted by methods of recruitment based on contacts, prevalent in the manual occupation, which also cause past discrimination to carry over to the present. Its practice serves the economic interests of those who exercise a taste for discrimination"(Bannerjee and Knight, 1985).

There has been a lot of social and political action which has taken place in India in order to tackle the scrounge of caste but it doesn't seem likely that caste is going to fade away from the reality of Indian life anytime soon. In urban politics, caste based issues remains the most dominant subject for mobilization of people. Even with the emergence of class as a category, the category of caste still remains a veritable reality in the Indian subcontinent, with the amalgamation of class and caste identities producing new hybrid forms of distinctions between people and new overt ways in which these categories operate and influence practices in work, livelihoods and even in the intimate sphere in issues such as kinship, marriage and friendships.

Apart from the reasons above mentioned, sanitation and

cleanliness are huge issues caused by urbanization. One of the most important roles of the municipal organizations of the city is to keep the city clean.Manual scavenging is a reality even today even in the urbanized context and it is particularly problematic when we consider the facts that manual scavenging still remains a very much caste based reality and occupation for people. The recent deaths of manual scavengers who do their job without proper safety harness or safety equipment, which can protect them from the toxic fumes of the sewers, provide a testament to the failure of India's development project to accommodate the particularly vulnerable sections of the population.

Ø Ethnicity

It can be observed that by the concept of "segregation" itself, we can extrapolate the other side of the phenomenon, which is spatial concentration. The very fact that certain groups are not allowed in certain spaces, led to the clustering of similar groups in certain spaces. The subject of ethnic segregation, thus gives rise to ethnic concentration in certain parts of the urban city.

Some advantages to why people can concentrate themselves on the basis of ethnicity could be the proximity that people enjoy with other people who have the same identity and cultural beliefs and practices as them. Ethnically concentrated neighbourhoods can provide employment as well as improvement opportunities by developing self-help groups, trusts etc. within these neighbourhoods for the upliftment of these communities.

But very often, the disadvantages outweigh the advantages since the reason for ethnical concentration is also because these ethnic identities might have been discriminated in the other spaces within the urbanised city. These forms of discrimination can be in covert as well as overt and can include inability to find rented housing due to the landlords and housing association unwillingness to provide flats to ethnic minorities in their areas, or due to high rent prices or even due to threats of verbal and

physical violence which ethnic minorities very often are at the receiving ends. Very often, bad stereotypes can be attached to ethnic identities leading to these people being persecuted and the areas where they reside being relegated as "ghettos" without proper schools and facilities or infrastructures such as banks, health care, access to civic bodies, sanitation facilities etc. available. Along with this, the segregation and the concentration that follows, leads to these communities becoming isolated from the rest of the city and being able to be assimilated with the city's population, which is ultimately very important if people want to improve their livelihoods and chances in life.

Ø Gender

When we talk about gendered inequalities at work in urban spaces, the situation is very grim indeed. It gets graver when we particularise and talk about the situation of the urban poor woman, experiencing the intersectionalities of being both women and being poor. There are already very real forces of patriarchy, sexism at home and workplace, lack of legal recourse and threats of violence on women, which keep them from being able to participate fully in the city even with the paradoxical spread of modern values and modern ideals in the city. But when we talk about the urban poor women, these issues are also intensified by lack of access to livelihoods, safe jobs, as well as lack of support from governments or even their own families, as more and more people move away from their native towns and villages to try their luck in the big city.

In general, there are two labour market trends due to urbanization and industrialisation which has affected women deeply: one if the feminization of labour and the other is the casualization or deregulation of many different kinds of work and industries that employ women. Feminisation of labour is the process of women entering into a variety of work and industries where they weren't commonplace before. This is an indication of the precarity that most

families face in urban cities where women now have to increasingly bear the brunt of supporting their households. This sort of precarity produces situations in which women are increasingly being compensated less relative to the intensity of the work that they do and often, these jobs do not lead to any promotions or growth. So while women's labour force participation increase itself, is a positive thing, the terms in which such growth is happening does not bode well for women's livelihoods. Again, it has been observed that increasingly, those industries with a huge proportion of female labour force participation are increasingly being characterised by lack of regulation, lack of job security and a situation of abject apathy for the conditions of female labourers.

Talking about land holdings and housing needs of low income women, Baruah states, "….while research and scholarship on housing policy, forexample, explicitly focus on why it is necessaryto distinguish the housing needs of developingworld populations on the basis ofincome, thereis less emphasis on understanding shelter needson the basis ofgender."

But she further adds the necessity to even locate the problem of inaccessibility of property within the gendered segregation of other factors: "In addition to property, urban women prioritize access to jobs, water, and basic services,such as clinics, schools, and crèches as the means to secure livelihoods and to improve the conditions of their reproductive labour.Without livelihoods, incomes, and access to basic services, access to land and property will not take women very far. Therefore, pro-womenland policy must be located within a broaderurban development framework aimed at raisingincomes, optimizing livelihood opportunities,educating both women and men about therights and privileges of property ownership,and providing housing and infrastructure. (Baruah 2007)"

There have also been many studies claiming that spousal violence is also on the rise in cities. One major reason attributed for

this is the rise of alcoholism and drug addiction coupled with marital discord due to lack of food and money. Most interpersonal crimes in urbanized spaces happen against women and it standsin the ways of women being able to rise to their full potential.

15.3.2 Juvenile Delinquency and Beggary

Ø Juvenile Delinquency

Urbanization can lead to a change not only in the economic sphere but also in the sphere of families and how families are structured. Along with this, urbanization has also been observed to lead to a breakdown of the old community ties and feeling of closeness that groups used to experience in more integrated societies. These have been pointed out to be responsible for the increase in juvenile delinquency in urban cities. Juvenile delinquency is when a juvenile, or a young person below the age of 18 commits a criminal or delinquent act.

Urbanization also leads to formation of aspiration among people to be able to access commodities and experiences that signify class belongings and class distinctions: this can be in the form of good clothes, having the latest gadgets or plainly, having disposable income. This desire to partake in the things that modern urbanized societies have to offer, juxtaposed with the ruling poverty and lack of resources that a huge proportion of the population in urban places experience, can lead to a situation where young people take up crime as the only path available for them. This situation is exacerbated by a lack of jobs as well as the huge differences in levels of education accessed by different classes and groups. For a large section of young population, the lack of aspirations coupled with an over-riding awareness of the lack in their condition of existence can lead to a situation of crime and violence due to there being insufficient support for youths.

Ø Beggary

Beggary is another issue, which has arisen in urban cities. Beggars have a negative impact on the city because they impede the flow of traffic, sometimes harassing people in the streets, partaking in petty criminal offenses and deviant behaviour. But we also have to acknowledge that beggary itself can be a result of the urbanization of the city and beggars are impacted very negatively by the situation of their existence. It has been argued that beggary is not the result of capitalist industrialization but the acceptance of beggary is the result of an disintegration of moral values of society which prefers to look away and treat beggars as "trash" of the society and doesn't feel a moral responsibility to look after their welfare as fellow citizens and humans. There is a gamut of " moral, political and social exclusion" which is exercised upon the beggars by urban cities and its inhabitants.

"It may also lead to unpunished violence to person, and the extreme seizure of assets or the complete destruction of 'soul and self'. The denial from employment and social exclusion (in terms of acceptance and tolerance) of this section of population appeared to be justifiable and legitimized by the majority who practice it. However, it must not be overlooked that for these marginalized poor sections, expulsion from moral and political society, and exclusion from work or from social protection by the state (governance) leads to deprivation from the fundamental right to work or from the preconditions for day-to-day economic reproduction of their labour as citizens of any democratic nation-state." (Sarkar 2007)

Hence, it is the duty of civil society and the state to come together and work hand in hand so that human dignity can be restored even to the beggars. And in cases, where begging occurs due to an individual suffering from mental health issues (which is an oft-observed phenomenon), or abandonment by families, adequate medical care as well as support can be offered.

15.3.3 Alcoholism and Drug Addiction

The lack of moral support, emotional isolation as well as rising worries and anxieties of living precariously in the big city can be the main reason for the increasing prevalence of alcoholism and drug addiction.Even though there is no class differentiation when we consider that people from all sections of the society are accessing these substances, the class issue can problematize the situation when we consider the economic stakes and health risks that different substances pose. However, it has to be said that in recent times, it has been observed that alcoholism and drug abuse are no longer issues that belong to the urban India but even in rural and semi-urban areas, these issues have intensified to a great extent.

The government needs to build prevention programs, which start early as well as awareness drives in order to discourage people from these habits. Perhaps the biggest challenge to these programs comes when people resort to drug and alcohol to escape intense hunger and poverty and use these substances as coping mechanisms. In those circumstances, awareness drives can hardly be of any help. Thus, these issues must be tackled within the larger ambit of public health and development.

15.3.4 Growth of Consumerism

Consumerism has come to be the ruling ideal in today's societies and according to scholars; it is the rising middle class, which is at the helm of driving such a consumerist economy. From urbanism as a way of life, the adage has now transformed to "consumerism as a way of life". A mixture of modernization, capitalism and rising income for some sections in the Indian urban cities have led to an upheaval in the ways in which the economy of India operates and the ways in which Indian consumers behave in the market. The Reforms of 1991 was of course the epicentre of this shift and since then, the economy has never looked back. Consumerism is located at,"the uncertain conjunction of a number of interconnected

conceptions of the state, private sector-specifically the foreign MNCs-and empowered citizen-consumer." (Vedwan 2007)

As mentioned above, the levels of inequalities in Indian cities is staggering. So while for the poor, it means inability to purchase daily objects of life, for the people at the other end of the spectrum, this implies that their incomes are at a level higher than ever. Disposable income for the management class has been on an upward slope, and this rise has brought with it, the increasing ability of the Indian consumers to buy and spend. The overall size of the Indian market has made it one of the most attractive destinations for foreign corporations selling all sorts of commodities. Along with this, with more and more Indian being able to travel abroad and being able to get a taste of the finer things in life, they want the same level of luxury back in India, thus creating demands for these commodities which were never available in India before. These commodities range from foreign chocolates to foreign luxury cars. With a huge number of Indian entrepreneurs emerging in the scene, there has never been such a range of choice and options available for customers to choose from.

The psychological and socio-cultural impact of a situation like this is however problematic, bringing to mind Marx's idea of "commodity fetishism", where the things become ends in themselves. Consumerism has affected local vendors, artisans and the village economy, with people now preferring the sanitised environment of malls and the relative affordability of factory made products. Along with this, consumerism also carries an environmental impact with the demand for object causing more production activities, which in turn create more pollution and industrial waste.

Again, for consumerism to exist, there has to be a free market with the ideal of inclusive participation for all. But very often not everyone can partake in consumerism. "Despite the participatory rhetoric associated with consumption, significant barriers to entry in

the marketplace remain. One does not have to buy into the facile distinction be- tween electoral politics and consumption, in which the latter is dismissed as trivial in comparison with the former, to recognize that it is a relatively narrow socio-economic strata- economically well-off, educated, and predominantly urban-in the developing countries that has the capacity and the clout to participate in and, even modestly, alter the market conditions to their advantage."(Vedwan: 2007)



CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

Q 1: What is spatial segregation?

.....

Q 2: Does spatial segregation happen on the basis of ethnicity?

.....

Q 3: What is juvenile delinquency?

.....

Q 4: Why is beggary a problem in urban cities?

.....

Q 5: What are some ill effects of consumerism?

.....



15. 4 LET US SUM UP

- Space itself within the urban society can be divided into three forms: physical, functional and social spaces. These three types of spaces interact with one another and each shapes the lived experience of individuals within the urban society.
- There is no consensus on a definition of urban poverty but two broad complementary approaches are prevalent: economic and anthropological interpretations.

- The process of gentrification is probably the most palpable way in which the class-based segregation of space in the urban cities could be witnessed.
- Even though cities grew as spaces of which are equated with class discrimination, caste based discrimination still persists in Indian urbanized spaces.
- In general, there are two labour market trends due to urbanization and industrialisation which has affected women deeply: one if the feminization of labour and the other is the casualization or deregulation of many different kinds of work and industries that employ women.
- Despite the participatory rhetoric associated with consumption, significant barriers to entry in the marketplace remain



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15.6 ANSWERS TO CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

Ans to Q No 1: Spatial segregation can be defined as the residential separation of groups within a broader population.

Ans to Q No 2: Yes, spatial segregation happens on the basis of ethnicity.

Ans to Q No 3: Juvenile delinquency is when a juvenile, or a young person below the age of 18 commits a criminal or delinquent act.

Ans to Q No 4: Beggary is a problem due to the gamut of" moral, political and social exclusion" which is exercised upon the beggars by urban cities and its inhabitants.

Ans to Q No 5: Consumerism has affected local vendors, artisans and the village economy, with people now preferring the sanitised environment of malls and the relative affordability of factory made products. Along with this, consumerism also carries an environmental impact with the demand for object causing more production activities, which in turn create more pollution and industrial waste.

15.7 MODEL QUESTIONS

Short Questions (Answer each question in about 150 words)

Q 1: What is juvenile delinquency?

Q 2: What is the relationship between growth of consumerism and urbanization?

Long Questions (Answer each question in about 300-500 words)

Q 1: Discuss the process of gentrification.

Q 2: How does gendered segregation of space occur in the urban spaces?

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Housefed Complex, Dispur, Guwahati- 781006
(E-mail id: ciqa@kkhsou.in)

1. Approximately how many hours did you spend for studying the units in the course? | | | |
2. Please give your opinions (by √ mark) to the following items based on your reading of the block:

Sl. No.	Statements	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
I.	The SLMs of the course fulfil the learning objectives set out in the beginning of each unit					
II.	The units of the SLM could satisfy my academic needs and expectations					
III.	The Unit writers have excellent knowledge about the course contents					
IV.	Language and contents of the units were presented at a level which I could readily understand					
V.	Ample opportunity for participation in the activities provided in the units					
VI.	Used enough Illustrations (Diagrams, tables etc.) for conceptual clarity					
VII.	Quality of content is engaging, relevant, and up-to-date					
VIII.	The self check questions are very helpful					
IX.	The Possible/model questions and the answers to check my progress have benefited me a lot					

Additional Comments: *(Please feel free to provide your open comments)*

1. Which aspects of the SLM, according to you, worked well?

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2. What sort of changes/improvements do you feel KKHSOU could implement to improve the overall quality of the SLM?

Thank you for taking the time to complete this form.

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