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A Critical Analysis of Poverty

UMA ELANGO¹

ABSTRACT

Poverty is a condition where a person does not have the financial resources to meet his basic needs. It is a situation where he has to face difficulties every day of his life. Poverty has various causes and effects. There are different types of poverty. Poverty is a huge issue in India as it has been present for many years, and this problem is current in various parts of the world. Many people in different parts of the world live in poverty. People who live in poverty have to face multiple challenges in their life. They have to face various difficulties in their day-to-day life. The children who grow up in this situation also have to face numerous struggles in their early and later parts of life. This paper will deal with the different types of poverty in our country. It will also deal with poverty's effects and measures to be taken to end poverty. It also deals with how their rights are being violated.

Keywords: *Poverty, types, effects, rights, measures.*

I. INTRODUCTION

There are various types of poverty in our country. They are:

1. Generational poverty

In generational poverty, the poverty situation is passed on to various generations, and the people in that family cannot escape it. The family faces poverty for multiple ages, and future generations are also at risk of being poor. One of the main reasons could be a lack of education. Since the family is in poverty, they aren't able to afford the teaching of the child. Thus he doesn't go to school. This will have a huge effect on his later life and in the future. When the child doesn't get educated, they do not get opportunities to escape poverty. When the child doesn't go to school, they will face many consequences in life. They have to suffer every day, and not going to school is one main cause of generational poverty. Another reason is a lack of determination. People living in this type of poverty feel hopeless and do not have the determination to fight back. They feel hopeless and accept the situation as it is, which is also one of the main causes of generational poverty.

2. Situational poverty

Situational poverty is poverty caused by sudden and situational factors. There are various

¹ Author is a Student at Sastra University, Thanjavur, India.

causes of situational poverty. When the earning family member dies, the family may face situational poverty. It has been caused due to the death of the earning member. The poverty may end when another family member goes to work. It could be due to a loss of a job. When the person loses his job and does not find another job, he has to face its consequences. When the person finds a new job, poverty may end. An ill person may not be able to work properly, leading to poverty. When the person has good health, he will be able to work again, which may also end poverty. Therefore, situational poverty is due to a sudden factor, unlike generational poverty.

3. Rural poverty

In our country, there are many rural areas where people live in poverty. They do not get good job opportunities, and the children in these areas do not acquire good quality education. The people here aren't able to get better opportunities, and these areas also do not have good hospitals. People living in rural poverty also have to face various difficulties in life. The places where they live do not have good roads. The hospitals are also not near their homes. They have to travel a lot to reach the hospital, and it takes a lot of time for people to go there. Not getting a good education is a cause and an effect of poverty. Families who face poverty cannot make their children go to school. So the child does not get an education. So in his later life, he will have to face various difficulties, including poverty.

4. Urban poverty

Even in urban areas, we see people who live in poverty. The family is not able to send their child to school. The family goes for jobs that pay them very low. Many families are not able to afford good healthcare. The child also has to work since the family lives in poverty. Many families cannot afford medicines and consultation charges that must be paid for visiting the doctor. Medical treatment has also become very expensive. These are some of the difficulties faced by the people living in urban poverty.

5. Absolute poverty

The people live in extreme poverty. They won't be able to afford even their basic needs such as shelter, water, and clothes. They won't be able to afford food and education as well. They are very poor and face extreme difficulties in their life. Children who live in this poverty face malnutrition, and many children die due to diseases such as malaria. These children don't go to school, and they do not eat nutritious food. They face malnutrition, and this has huge effects on their later life. The life expectancy is also very low. These are the various types of poverty.

II. EFFECTS OF POVERTY

There are various consequences that a person has to face when he is in poverty. They are:

1. Poor health

A person in poverty will not be able to afford his medical expenses. The poor person will not be able to buy medicines and e won't be able to pay the treatment cost. Therefore he will not be able to have good health. Since he isn't able to afford good healthcare, he will not be able to be healthy. This will affect his family as well. When the person does not have good health, he will not be able to work. So this will reduce the income for the family. When the earning member of the family has poor health, his whole family will have to face the consequences.

2. Crime

When a person lives in poverty, he may start indulging in crimes to escape the situation. Poverty forces a person to do many things, one of which is committing crimes. The person may begin stealing money to escape poverty. He may get into robbery, or he may steal from shops. He may kidnap children and ask for money from their parents. He may get into human trafficking. There are so many crimes that people commit to escape poverty. This is one huge effect of poverty.

3. Lack of sanitation:

Places where poor people live, do not have sanitation. They do not have proper toilets. One of the main effects of poverty is the lack of sanitation. Due to lack of sanitation, people get diseases such as malaria and dengue. Sanitation is very important to prevent infections. Lack of sanitation will lead to poor health. Poor health will lead to loss of work, and therefore, sanitation is very important.

4. Lack of education

A child in poverty must go to work to handle the family situation. The child will also have to work to maintain the family. Therefore the child will not be able to go to school. When the child does not go to school, he will not get educated. Lack of education is one main consequence of poverty. When the child doesn't get proper education, he will have to face many challenges when he grows up.

III. CONSTITUTION AND POVERTY

The right to education is a fundamental right. The state must provide free and compulsory

education to all children between ages six and fourteen. This is given under article 21A. But still, we find any child who does not go to school. Even though it is their fundamental right to go to school and get educated, they are forced by their families to go to work. Right to livelihood is also an important right that comes under article 21. The right to livelihood is also an important human right. The right to food and shelter are other important rights under article 21. The right to live with dignity also comes under article 21. Even though so many rights are given in the constitution, we still see many people who do not have basic food and shelter. Many children do not go to school due to poverty. Many people do not have a good quality of life. We can see that their rights are being violated in various circumstances. Their rights are violated in many situations, but only a few cases come to court. Many cases do not come to court.

IV. MEASURES TO BE TAKEN

We see many people who face difficulties in their day-to-day life. Various measures could be taken to end poverty. One such is creating awareness among people about the schemes that are available to these people. Multiple schemes provide work and provide houses for people in poverty. National Food for Work Program and Indira Awaas Yojana is a few examples of such tasks. Improving the healthcare system is also one measure that will help reduce poverty. Healthcare should be made affordable. When the healthcare quality is improved, and healthcare becomes cheap, the people in poverty will have better health. Better health will lead to a better quality of life. Raising minimum wages will mean a rise in income. A rise in income is needed to reduce poverty. When the wages increase, they will have more money in hand. Creating more employment opportunities is also one way to end poverty. When employment increases, more people will get work, which will help reduce poverty. Sanitation is also very important. Effective measures should be taken to build more toilets. Preventing child marriage is also very important to reduce poverty. These are some measures that must be taken to end poverty.
