



SOCIAL PROBLEMS OF INDIA IN CURRENT SCENARIO

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INTRODUCTION

Social problem is any social behavior or concern that deviates from social norms and affects a majority of population in the society. A social problem is a concern a large number of people in the society, which can be solved or managed by cumulative effort. India got independence from the British colonization around 76-years age yet as a country it is shackled by several social problems which is causing a hindrance in its development.

Some of the major social problems in India are

- a) Poverty
- b) Unemployment
- c) Overpopulation
- d) Child Labour
- e) Dowry
- f) Disability rights
- g) Crimes against women
- h) Caste system
- i) Pollution
- j) Mental health

a) Poverty- Poverty is a condition of lack of basic resources to the individual like of food shelter, adequate living conditions, education etc. Poverty is the absence of subsequent minimal (resource as) requirement of an individual to lead on average life. India ranks among the top few countries on the poverty index. A large part of population in India lives below poverty live margin.

Causes: – No population control

- Lack of education in people
- Increasing inflation
- Migration from rural to urban areas
- Increasing cost of living

Solutions: - Various govt schemes to provide shelter food, clothing, housing to marginalized families.

- Providing working opportunities to individual
- Providing financial aid to families
- Free education to children

b) Unemployment: - Individual who have the capabilities and the will to work but do not have opportunities come under the condition of unemployment. When an individual is not able to get a job due to competition in the field, it is an individual problem but when majority of youth in a village is not able to get job, even after being educated, it is a social problem.

Causes- Lack of job opportunities

- unskilled labour
- increasing demand of jobs, limited opportunities
- corruption in job placement process.

Solutions: - Providing training or organizing training programs to enhance skills.



- Govt. schemes like Rojgar Yojna
- Organizing job faces for awareness and placements.

c) Overpopulation: - Overpopulation is a social problem

There is a major surge in population leading to deficiency of basic needs. India is the most populated country in the world. This social problem leads to other problems like poverty, slums, unemployment to name some. India is a dowry populated country. We have a limited amount of resources but the demand for these resources is increasing tenfold due to the increase in population. Lack of education in women, poor knowledge of birth control, the need for a male child/heir for the family are the contributing factors to the rampant increase in population. This rapid increase in population is causing problems like unemployment, poverty, slums, inadequate health etc.

Causes – lack of education in people

- need for a male child
- poor knowledge on contraception

Solutions – awareness and educative programs for specially women of the society

- removing the hesitation of discussing birth control with doctors.
- Tacking the gender stereotypes.

d) Child labour :- Children below the age of 14 when forced to work in labour industry, is known as child labour. Children are not given education opportunity and are forced to work in industries for financial gain.

Causes - no jobs to parents - orphans
child trafficking
migration of families
financial needs of the family

Solution – free and good education to children
Implementation of acts like POSCO

e) Dowry: - When the family of a girl is asked for money gifts, favors or any material thing as a requisite for marriage wedding is considered as dowry. It is an existing problem form age-old India. It also leads several women committing suicides are being killed by her laws.

Causes - greed of groom's family
lack of value of women in society
expressing social status among others.

Solution: - reporting cases of dowry to police/govt. officials.
declining the dowry demands
reducing the gender gap

g) Crimes against women India as a country of faces several crimes against women. Rape, sexual exploitation, gender pay gap, trafficking, dowry deaths, inequality, child marriage are to name a few.

Causes: - all genders are interpreted as equal
- lack of education
- influence of religious and political leaders
- male oriented society

Solution - effort to understand the problems
- strict laws to instill a fear

i) Pollution – Climate change and pollution are a real threat to the society. Pollution can be air, water, soil, food, noise.

Causes – Overpopulation
lack of hygiene
excessive use of technology
increased standard of living
lack of concern for others in society



Solutions – increasing awareness of the after affects
working together as a society to find solutions
taking individual responsibility and accountability.

j) Mental health - Mental health is still a taboo in India.

The economic burden of mental health is around 4% of GDP. Individuals suffer silently with mental health concerns like anxiety, depression, PTSD, phobias etc yet never visit an expert to find solutions. India is a diverse country where individual like different color pallets live together in harmony. There are several issues which are a concern in our country and these can be managed by group efforts. To find solutions to the problems faced by our nation it is important to first find the causes responsible for them.

The Major Causes of Social Problems in India are –

b) Corruption – The demand or extortion of money are any other financial aid in exchange of any govt. service or political gain is called as corruption. Political parties to gain votes give money or expensive goods to people of a area which influences their votes and attack the foundation of democracy. Several govt. officials ask for money or favors to do their jobs ; pass a file or give signatures. Corruption causes individuals to lose faith in govt and this also leads to increase in crime rate.

c) Unstable political structure - Democracy gives right to an individual to change or elect their govt. every 6 years through election. The election process even though is a way to correct the wrongs also cause unitability in govt. whenever a govt. causes to term for 5 years, works for the betterment of individuals/country, the change in it causes unitability losing of time and loss of money and resources.

d) Pollution - With the increasing people in the country, pollution has increased. Pollution has caused in poor health of the society. Air-Borne and water-Borne diseases are a common story of every household today. Cities like Delhi is unable to have clear air for breathing. Dumping of waste has led to unclean water for consumption.

e) Gender inequality - Men and women are not treated equally in our country. The presence of third gender is not even acknowledged. Gender inequality has led to various problems like workplace bio, gender pay gap, dowry deaths, rape, trafficking, sexual exploitation, force marriages.

Societal structure responsible for these problems

- Our society is divided on various grounds like rich-poor educated illiterate, male-female, rural-urban caste etc.
- The gap between different categories of classification in increasing day-by-day
- Rich is becoming richer and poor is becoming poorer, leading to accentuation of wealth in the hands of few.
- The educated people treat the illiterates with disrespect get better opportunity of work and hence move higher in the economic ladder.
- Gender discrimination is causing the women and the third gender to be exploited.
- People living in rural areas, being influenced by the urban gains, migrate and lose their livelihoods.
- Caste system is still being followed by the rigid stubborn upper caste of several urban and rural villages leading to exploitation of women, unequal treatment of people.
- The societal structure keeps charging and cooling but not all change is good. The gap in society is creating new social problems and elevating the already existing ones.

Strategy, plans and role of NGOs to eliminate farmers problems

Agriculture is the backbone of our country. Around 70-80% of our population is involved in agriculture. It is the primary sector of India. Yet the farmers are in poor condition in the society. Agriculture being a weather dependent occupation, faces extensive loss due to the unpredictable nature. Farmers in our country are struggling with receiving proper price for their produce, getting adequate produce, soil conditions, unpredictable rains lack of support from banks and govt. corruption in govt. policies and the serious debt cycle. Even of many places, farmers are forced to sell their land for urbanization.

Strategies and plans

- Proper govt. support and subsidies by the govt. to less on the burden (economic) of the farmers.
- Insurance and financial aids at times of unpredictable rains or lack of growth due to unfavorable condition.



- Making the farming process technologically advanced in order to decrease the dependency on nature.
- Fixing basic prices of farm commodities to reduce the exploitation of farmers.
- Providing scientific help to understand the soil quality and conditions and to harvest accordingly for better gains.
- Banks to provide flexible loans and financial support in order to ease the repayment of debt.
- Decreasing the loan from 'saokars' and 'seths', to lessen the burden of high interest rate.
- Strict action and laws for those exploiting the farmers and their families sell their lands.

Role of NGO's

- Non govt. organizations are the support for the society when and where the govt. is either lacking or has inadequate resources to provide help.
- Quick and effective action from the NGO has led to decrease in no. of farmer's suicide.
- NGO's provide financial aid to farmers and are understanding and flexible for returns as well.
- NGOs create awareness among the rural areas on the farming conditions and educate the farmers for better growth in their farms.
- At times, NGOs also appeal to the banks and govt. to bring in new policies for the farmers or to close the loans of farmers.
- NGOs are the support system for farmers and they help in reducing the exploitation faced by them.

Involvement of corruption in politics

Corruption threatens the foundation of democracy. Democracy gives the right to the people in our country to select and elect the govt. of their town, state and country every 5 years. This concept of election gives the people a chance after every 5 years to have their choice, to correct the wrongs and to elect a government that would benefit them. Eater to their development and is people centric.

But corruption hinders the path of progress. Politicians for their selfish gains, there the poor and innocent through money and greed to beg their votes. The right to vote is an individual choice and yet when that gets influenced, causes the wrong govt. to be elected at times.

Groups of the society are also given false hopes of reservation in jobs and education, false hope of free food, water, electricity, reduction in prices of basic commodities to get votes.

While forming the govt. as well, political leaders buy their seats with money and financial exchange which leads to the less deserving candidate to get the position. Corruption in politics leads to unstable govt. for example the current scenario in Maharashtra the past 5 years have been a turmoil of leading parties forming their govt. and choosing their chief Minister. The decisions even though have been made for political gains, corruption and financial gains have been a leading factor for this unitability. The nation is prepping for the national elections and the political parties have already started giving handouts and extorting money from the rich for the elections to get a favorable result. Corruption is also seen in politics where politicians bribe the bureaucrat to do their dirty deeds. Uneducated and underling candidates get elected due to misuse of money and riches.

Solution

- Having a transparent bureaucracy and govt.
- Working for the people throughout the years instead of just before elections to be re-elected.
- Robust legal measures to report and to punish these asking or giving bribes.
- Strict decline by the people of the country to any politicians or govt. official asking or giving money and favours.

Some of the schemes and plans are as follows –

1) Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna

- The cost of living is increasing day by day making it impossible for the under privileged to have decent living conditions.
- The increase in population and migration has also lead to the increase in slums. Slums are unhygienic, cause various diseases and not appealing to the eye.



- Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna is a govt. scheme providing housing in good society to the individuals at a minimum price.
- This scheme has given many people concrete homes with all the basic amenities.
- It has helped improve people's health.

2) Jawahar Nehru Rojgar Yojna

- The youth of our country is facing the problem of unemployment.
- Unemployment is leading to other problems like poverty, increase in crime rate etc.
- This scheme provides a job portal which gives information of the jobs available in various sector along with the process of application, salary scale and the required skills for the same.

3) Mid-day meal plan and POSHAN

- Food is the basic right of an individual, yet many are dying of hunger.
- Mid-day meals are provided school going children which includes a balanced diet.

Other Schemes and plans

- A subsidy of Rs. 1000 to 5000 is given to pregnant women for their nutritional support.
- Free education to children below the age of 14
- Acts like POSCO to prevent and punish exploitation of children and women.
- Subsidy of gas cylinders.
- Free health check-up camps
- Healthcare services provided at minimum prices in govt. hospitals.
- Schemes for education of adults to get better work opportunities.
- Insurance from govt. to labourers who work on sites and for their families.
- Financial aid to poor farmers.
- Ration shops opened in each area for adequate food commodities.
- Quota or reservation in colleges and for higher studies.

Role of research to eliminate the social problems in India

- Research is a process of identifying a problem, studying about it and then finding solutions for that problem.
- Research of any social problem can be done through survey, field visit, national data from govt., case studies, and experiments.
- Finding a social problem is not enough for ever society, discovering new valuations and shelter these solutions are admissible is what brings a change.
- Research can help in defying the upcoming problem.
- It can help in understanding the existing gap.
- It can fascinate the understanding of the needs of different social group.
- Research helps find new solutions to existing problems.
- Research helps in accommodating the needs of the people for a better future.
- Research can aid in bringing new technology required to solve the problems
- Research can also work in human development.

CONCLUSION

Our society is divided into many social groups. The marginal strata are the one where individuals struggle with basic needs of living. People here have a difficulty in having adequate livelihood, sanitized and clean surroundings, clean drinking water, nourished food, education and clothing.

The govt. of India has launched several schemes and plans to provide support and to improve the standard of living to the people in marginalized strata.



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