

# **A Study on Socio Economic Problems in India**

**Jayanthi.S**

Assistant Professor of Management Studies  
Bharath Institute of Science and Technology,  
Selaiyur, Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600 073

## **ABSTRACT**

India has come a long way in modernizing its economy, reducing poverty and improving living standards for a large segment of its population. Its economy has been one of the largest contributors to global growth over the last decade, accounting for about 10% of the world's increase in economic activity since 2005. Growth has slowed in recent years and several challenges remain unsolved. Bringing more people into the process of generating growth and sharing the gains more widely will make India more resilient for the future.

With one of the largest and youngest populations in the world, India needs to create millions of good-quality jobs in the near future to ensure decent living conditions for the vast majority of its citizens. The country is often cited as an example of an economy that is modernizing by jumping directly into services without passing through manufacturing. The weight of manufacturing in India has been relatively stable over the past two decades, at much lower levels than China. Business services – a high value added sector – represent a larger share of economic activity in India than in Europe.

Will India be able to achieve shared prosperity without a growing manufacturing sector? Agriculture accounts today for only 16% of total value added (down from 44% in 1965), but still employs about half of the Indian population. Productivity in this sector did not increase significantly in the past decades, limiting improvements in living standards in rural areas.

Socio Economics Problems focuses on the relationship between social behaviour and economics. Social economics examines how social norms, ethics and other social philosophies that influence consumer behaviour shape an economy, and uses history, politics and other social sciences to examine potential results from changes to society or the economy. The socio economic problem in India is over population, economic issue (poverty, sanitation, corruption, Education and violence (naxalism, religious, caste related and terrorism). At present time, India faces all types of problems which described above, in spite of these problems, India is emerging as a possible great power in Asia.

**KEYWORDS:** Modernizing Economy, Poverty, Business services, Living Standards, Decades

## **INTRODUCTION:**

Since India's Independence in 1947, the country has faced several social and economic issues. Socio economic problem in India is over population, economic issue (poverty, sanitation, corruption, Education and violence (naxalism, religious, caste related and terrorism). Socioeconomic factors are the social and economic experiences and realities that help mold one's personality, attitudes, and lifestyle. The factors can also define regions and neighborhoods. Law-

enforcement agencies throughout the country, for example, often cite the socioeconomic factor of poverty as being related to areas with high crime rates.

India has made a place for itself as one of the fastest growing economies in the world, yet it loses behind in a lot behind in the name of growth. As the rich are getting richer and the poor get poorer, the divide has been expanding more than before. What can after all be attributed to the various issues that pose a threat before every government that comes to power at the centre? From the increasing poverty, to the corruption at an all-time high, the increasing violence against women across the nation, the incidents of terrorism that rock some or the other city, and the rising prices of basic amenities, are some of the most scary facts of this fast-growing economy, India.

## **DEFINITION OF 'SOCIAL ECONOMICS' PROBLEMS**

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## **AT PRESENT TIME INDIA FACED MANY TYPES OF SOCIO ECONOMIC PROBLEMS:**

**1. RELIGIOUS VIOLENCE:** Constitutionally India is a secular state, but large-scale violence have periodically occurred in India since independence. In recent decades, communal tensions and religion-based politics have become more prominent.

**2.TERRORISM:** Terrorism has affected India since the day India was partitioned. The dispute over Kashmir between India and Pakistan has been a long-standing unresolved issue. Using this, the neighboring country has often used terror against India in the worst manners possible. Uncountable incidents of terror attacks in Kashmir, and its nearby regions such as Srinagar, along with the major cities of the country, have been a source of disturbance very often. One such incident which shook the nation was the 26X11 Mumbai terror attack, among the uncountable similar attacks. India has been disturbed by external terrorism as well as internal terrorism through Maoist attacks in the western parts of the country.

The Government needs to take a strong stand against the neighboring countries terror activities and needs to take action and not only hold peace talks. It's the need of the hour that the citizens of the country are provided with security as well as an assurity of safety as well. A sensitive approach towards terrorists may be attempted to make them surrender. Terrorism in India has often been alleged to be sponsored by Pakistan. After most acts of terrorism in India, many journalists and politicians accuse Pakistan's intelligence agency, the Inter-Services Intelligence of playing a role. Recently, both the US and Afghanistan have accused Pakistan of carrying out terrorist acts in Afghanistan.

**3. NAXALISM :** Naxalism have spread into less developed areas of rural central and eastern India, such as Chattisgarh and Andhra Pradesh through the activities of underground groups like the Communist Party of India (Maoist).

**4. COMMUNALISM: BEING** a mix of various cultures and religions, India has ever-since its formation suffered due to communal differences. Communal clashes have led to a lot of violence in various incidents across the country. The government needs to handle such issues with extreme

sensitivity, along with making sure that communalism is not used for political gains by its ministers. Besides political understanding, change needs to be brought from the grass roots level

itself. The caste divide must be decreased by educating the younger generation and sensitizing them about such issues.

**5. ILLITERACY:** On one hand, India has a state like Kerala that boasts of 93.91% literacy in its state alone, while on the other hand there is a backward state like Bihar with 68.8% literacy rate. Education is not necessary for employment and learning, it is required to create a sensitive and growth-seeking younger generation. A youth needs to be empowered with education, to further know their rights as the citizens of the country. Illiteracy needs to be tackled as one of the biggest social evils of the nation, as this is the biggest reasons why the youth is misguided and involved in criminal as well as terror activities.

The Government needs to enforce free education and strict rules to follow it in every family in India, poor or not poor. An educated population will eventually lead to the country having a stronger workforce as against the world. Education is sure to change the poverty and unemployment scenario in the country. At the core level, the people need to be made aware of the need of education to have enriched lives.

**6. INFLATION:** The past years have seen inflation as one of the major issues faced by the common man. The rising prices of basic amenities have created furore among the people. Rising rates of food items and fuel have affected the pockets of the middle class so much, bringing them out on the roads in protest. The government has not been able to fulfill any of the promises made before coming in power, which were all forgotten later, leaving the people to suffer the brunt of inflation.

There is an essential need to bring inflation under control, and bring basic amenities at affordable prices for all. When will this economic divide be erased, is a question no government has been able to answer as yet.

**7. VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN:** Women in India live under a constant fear all the time. A fear of going out alone disturbs every female mind living in India. The rising cases of sexual abuse and rape across the country have left a black mark on the reputation of India. Foreign tourists have been known to have been given special warnings while travelling to India, in fact some countries even labeled our nation as an unsafe country for women, after the deadly Delhi Rape case. Is this the reputation we wish to maintain across the world? Definitely not! But, what are we really doing about it.

Before the Government does anything about the security, the people themselves need to take a stand against crime against women. We as a society need to fight this social evil from within. The youth needs to be sensitized about the safety of women, and the respect to be given to women. Strong police action needs to be taken against the culprits, and cases need to be handled with more sensitivity and through a quick process. We need to see justice happen, and now.

**8. CASTE RELATED VIOLENCE:** Caste-related violence and hate crimes in India have occurred despite the gradual reduction of casteism in the country. Independent India has witnessed considerable amount of violence and hate crimes motivated by caste.

**9. OVER POPULATION:** India suffers from the problem of overpopulation. Though India ranks second in population, it ranks 33 in terms of population density below countries such as The Netherlands, South Korea and Japan. To cure this problem, Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India, had implemented a forced sterilization programme in the early 1970s but failed. Officially, men with two children or more had to submit to sterilization, but many unmarried young men, political

opponents and ignorant, poor men were also believed to have been sterilized. This program is still remembered and criticized in India, and is blamed for creating a wrong public aversion to family planning, which hampered Government programmes for decades.

**10. POVERTY:** Poverty is one of the biggest evils faced by India in the present scenario. With an increasing population of people in the Below the Poverty Line (BPL) across the nation, it seems like a never-ending issue. Rising inflation has added further to the existing problem. India has an unbelievable number of people suffering due to this evil. According to the Indian Planning Commission's 2013 estimate, around 269 million people (approximately 22% of the total population) live under the poverty line. And, when we start looking around for what has actually been done about it, we wouldn't really find much. One-third of India's population (roughly equivalent to the entire population of the United States) lives below the poverty line and India is home to one-third of the world's poor people.

The Government needs to take a strong action against the biggest social evil of all. Ministers need to work towards creating employment, and providing enough for the large population which does not even receive the basic amenities. New policies are the need of the hour, not only for employment creation but also to create a young educated population. Education must be promoted at all levels of the society to create awareness especially among the poor.

**11. CORRUPTION:** Corruption is ruining the spine of the nation, and has adversely affected the economy of India. India has been marred by a list of scams and scandals, which have crippled the nation from inside out. What has created a hole in the pockets of the Indian economy, it has become essential for the government to tackle it at different levels. From strict rules at all levels of government undertakings, to an awareness among the people against the spread of corruption, needs to be maintained by the government.

**12. WHITE COLLAR CRIME:** white collar crime as a "crime committed by persons of respectability and high social status in course of their occupation". A white-collar criminal belongs to upper socio-economic class who violates the criminal law while conducting his professional qualities. Thus misrepresentation through fraudulent advertisements, infringement of patents, copyrights and trademarks etc.

The complexity of tax laws in India has provided sufficient scope forth tax-payers to evade taxes. The evasion is more common with influential categories of persons such as traders, businessmen, lawyers, doctors, engineers, contractors etc. White Collar Crime in certain Professions as Medical Profession, Engineering, Legal Profession, Educational Institutions and also White collar crime in business deals, Fake Employment Placement Rackets.

At present time India faces all types of problems which described above, in spite of this problems India is emerging as a possible great power in Asia. The end of the Cold War combined with the dissolution of the Soviet Union have had remarkable implications for Asia, and India is showing ambitions towards becoming a great power and is already able to project its influence beyond its own neighborhood. But, all the politicians in India right now are corrupt people with no

aim of helping the Indian economy to stand on its feet. It is very sad that after all these years of hard labor, India remains a poor third world country.

## **SOLUTION TO SOCIAL PROBLEMS**

Firstly, the problem should be accepted by the members of a society as a problem and as we know some die-hards may refuse to regard a particular situation a problem. The existing social

structure is supported by powerful sentiments and vested interests who deny the existence of the problem to safeguard the advantages accruing to them under the situation. Sometimes these vested interests argue that the remedies proposed would cause greater evils than the problem they are designed to solve.

Secondly, some societies do not want to expose their ways of thinking, feeling and living to scientific inquiry.

Thirdly, finances may be a hurdle, the necessary amount of money may not be available or some may object to expenditure for changing the established modes of living of the people.

Finally, there is the problem of implementation, we may be possessed of sufficient knowledge of how to deal with a social problem, but that does not guarantee its implementation.

Some thinkers advocate a laissez-faire philosophy to social problems. According to Herbert Spencer, man is automatically moving toward a better adjustment to life conditions and meddling in this evolutionary process is inadvisable. Sumner and Keller, too, held that man's adjustment to conditions of life is automatic. According to them, large scale effective planning may have disastrous results if it is opposed to the mores and folkways.

Thus, we find the thinkers advocating different solutions to social problems according to their concept of causation. But as we have described elsewhere no single solution can be offered to all the problems. Each social problem is to be scientifically and separately studied and solutions are to be found out accordingly. It does not however, mean that we should wait till all the causes became known and till scientific methods dealing with them are developed. Social problems must be dealt with as they come up.

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