

DEVELOPMENT

INTRODUCTION

Development means well-being and quality of life for a community by creating new opportunity in the society.

Development can be different for different categories of people.

For Example-

Landless rural labourers -More days of work and better wages; local school is able to provide quality education for their children; there is no social discrimination and they too can become leaders in the village.

An Urban rich boy- To earn more; expand business or production; be popular, etc.

An Adivasi- Protected area; non-interference by government; to find resources for daily life.

A girl from a rich urban family- She gets as much freedom as her brother and is able to decide what she wants to do in life. She is able to pursue her studies abroad

DESTRUCTIVE OR CONFLICTING GOALS

A girl expects as much freedom and opportunity as her brother, and that he also shares in the household work. Her brother may not like this

To get more electricity, industrialists may want more dams. But this may submerge the land and disrupt the lives of people who are displaced – such as tribal.

Reservation for some in colleges or job can be beneficial for them, but others may not support it.

different persons can have different developmental goals.

what may be development for one may not be development for the other. It may even be destructive for the other



INCOME AND OTHER GOALS – ‘COMMON GOALS’ OR NON-MATERIAL GOALS.

Besides seeking more income, one- way or the other, people also seek things like equal treatment, freedom, security, and respect of others.

All these are important goals. In fact, in some cases, these may be more important than more income or more consumption because material goods are not all that you need to live.

Money, or material things that one can buy with it, is one factor on which our life depends.

But the quality of our life also depends on non-material things.

Example-

If you get a job in a far off place, before accepting it you would try to consider many factors, apart from income, such as facilities for your family, working atmosphere, or opportunity to learn. In another case, a job may give you less pay but may offer regular employment that enhances your sense of security.



Another job, however, may offer high pay but no job security and also leave no time for your family. This will reduce your sense of security and freedom.

It is true that if women are engaged in paid work, their dignity in the household and society increases. However, it is also the case that if there is respect for women there would be more sharing of housework and a greater acceptance of women working outside. A safe and secure environment may allow more women to take up a variety of jobs or run a business.

Hence, the developmental goals that people have are not only about better income but also about other important things in life.



WORLD BANK'S METHOD TO CLASSIFY COUNTRIES

We compare the average income which is the total income of the country divided by its total population. The average income is also called per capita income.

In World Development Reports, brought out by the World Bank, this criterion is used in classifying countries.

Countries with per capita income of US\$ 12736 per annum and above in 2013, are called rich countries and those with per capita income of US\$ 1045 or less are called low-income countries.

India comes in the category of low middle-income countries because its per capita income in 2013 was just US\$ 1570 per annum.

The rich countries, excluding countries of Middle East and certain other small countries, are generally called developed countries according to this report.



THE PROBLEM WITH THIS METHOD-

- Ignores the development parameters health and education.
- While 'averages' are useful for comparison, they also hide disparities. Even though two countries might have identical average income, country with equitable distribution is preferred.

Income and Other Criteria

Nation or a region, we may, besides average income, think of other equally important attributes.

In India, Maharashtra has the highest per capita income and Bihar is at the bottom.



OTHER CRITERIA-

Infant Mortality Rate (or IMR) indicates the number of children that die before the age of one year

Literacy Rate as a proportion of 100 live children born in that particular year. Literacy Rate measures the proportion of literate population in the 7 and above age group.

Net Attendance Ratio is the total number of children of age group 14 and 15 years attending school as a percentage of total number of children in the same age group.



BODY MASS INDEX (BMI)

Calculation-

Take the weight of the person in kg. Then take the height in metres. Divide the weight by the square of the height. If this figure is less than 18.5 then the person would be considered undernourished. However, if this BMI is more than 25, then a person is overweight.

Do remember that this criterion is not applicable to growing children.

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX- PARAMETER FOR COMPARING COUNTRIES DEVELOPMENT.

Human Development Report published by UNDP compares countries based on the educational levels of the people, their health status and per capita income. It would be interesting to look at certain relevant data regarding India and its neighbours from Human Development Report 2015.

Comparing India with neighbor countries, it can be said that Sri Lanka is doing well in terms of HDI rank.

Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Nepal are better in terms of health status (life expectancy at birth).

Sri Lanka, Myanmar are better in terms of educational status (literacy at age of 15+ age population).

