

Chapter 1st: Development

Introduction to Development

1. Concept of Development:

- Development involves understanding aspirations for a better life and envisioning improvements in society.
- It includes addressing essential needs, striving for better living conditions, and promoting equality among people.

2. Complexity of Development:

- Achieving development goals is a multifaceted task that requires careful consideration of various factors.
- This chapter initiates the exploration of development, with further depth provided in higher classes.

3. Interdisciplinary Approach:

- Development is not solely an economic concept; it intersects with history and political science.
- Understanding the past informs our aspirations for change and shapes our approach to achieving development.

4. Role of Democratic Processes:

- Realizing developmental aspirations requires engagement in democratic political processes.

- Democratic governance enables the translation of hopes and possibilities into tangible outcomes for society.

What Development Promises – Different People, Different Goals

TABLE 1.1 DEVELOPMENTAL GOALS OF DIFFERENT CATEGORIES OF PERSONS

| Category of Person | Developmental Goals / Aspirations |
|---|---|
| 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. |
| Prosperous farmers from Punjab | Assured a high family income through higher support prices for their crops and through hardworking and cheap labourers; they should be able to settle their children abroad. |
| Farmers who depend only on rain for growing crops | |
| A rural woman from a land owning family | |
| Urban unemployed youth | |
| A boy from a rich urban family | |
| 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. |
| An <i>adivasi</i> from Narmada valley | |
| | |
| | |

1. Understanding Development Aspirations:

- Development or progress holds different meanings for individuals listed in Table 1.1.

- Aspirations vary based on personal circumstances, needs, and desires.

2. Diverse Notions of Development:

- Each person seeks things that are most important to them, reflecting their unique priorities.
- Conflicting aspirations may arise between individuals or groups, leading to differing views on development.

3. Example of Conflicting Aspirations:

- Conflicts in aspirations can arise within families, such as between a girl and her brother regarding gender roles and responsibilities.
- Similarly, conflicts can emerge at societal levels, such as between industrialists advocating for large dams and tribals opposing them due to displacement concerns.

4. Development Subjectivity:

- Development goals are subjective and context-dependent, differing from person to person.
- What may be considered development for one individual or group may not align with the aspirations or interests of others.

Income and Other Goals

1. Desired Goals of People:

- People desire regular employment, better wages, and fair prices for their products, aiming for increased income.

2. Non-Material Aspects of Life:

- Beyond income, individuals seek equal treatment, freedom, security, and respect, rejecting discrimination as they consider these equally important.

3. Importance of Intangible Values:

- Intangible aspects like friendship, dignity, and societal respect significantly contribute to life quality, even though they are not quantifiable.



4. Factors Influencing Job Choice:

- When considering job opportunities, individuals consider factors beyond income, such as family facilities, working environment, and personal fulfilment.
- Job security, work-life balance, and opportunities for personal growth are crucial considerations alongside monetary compensation.

5. Diverse Developmental Goals:

- Development goals encompass a mix of objectives beyond income enhancement, including gender equality, household dynamics, and societal safety.
- A safe and secure environment fosters greater acceptance of women in the workforce, facilitating their participation in various roles and activities.

National Development

1. Diverse Notions of National Development:

- Individuals have varied perspectives on what constitutes national development, reflecting their different goals and aspirations.

2. Discussion on Development Strategies:

- Classroom discussions often involve debating what India should prioritize for development, reflecting diverse student opinions.
- Students may propose different strategies, highlighting the complexity of development planning.

3. Conflicting Views on Development:

- Conflicts may arise when different individuals prioritize competing goals for national development.
- Resolving conflicting viewpoints requires careful consideration of fairness and justice.

4. Criteria for Evaluating Ideas:

- Students may question the relative importance of different development ideas and seek criteria for evaluation.
- Considerations may include whether an idea benefits a broad segment of the population or only a privileged few.

5. Importance of Inclusive Development:

- National development necessitates ensuring that development strategies benefit a large number of people rather than catering to narrow interests.
- A fair and just path for development aims to address the needs and aspirations of diverse sections of society.

How To Compare Different Countries or States?

1. Understanding Development Classification:

- Development can have diverse interpretations, leading to the categorization of countries as developed or underdeveloped.

2. Comparison Methodologies:

- Like comparing students based on various attributes, countries are compared using key characteristics such as income.

3. Importance of Income in Development:

- Income is a crucial determinant in comparing countries' development levels, as it reflects the capacity to fulfill human needs and desires.

4. Concept of Total Income:

- The total income of a country is the collective income of all its residents, providing an overview of the country's economic activity.

5. Challenges with Total Income Comparison:

- Comparing total income between countries is flawed due to differences in population sizes, as it doesn't reflect the average income per person.

6. Introduction of Per Capita Income:

- Per capita income, calculated by dividing total income by total population, offers a more accurate measure for comparing individual prosperity across countries.

7. Role of Per Capita Income in Classification:

- The World Development Reports by the World Bank utilize per capita income to classify countries into different income categories, such as high-income and low-income countries.

8. Per Capita Income Classifications:

- High-income countries have a per capita income of US\$ 49,300 per annum or more, while low-income countries have a per capita income of US\$ 2500 or less.

9. India's Income Classification:

- India falls within the category of low-middle-income countries due to its per capita income of US\$ 6700 per annum in 2019.

Average Income

1. Understanding Averages in Comparison:

- Averages serve as a tool for comparing different entities, but they can mask underlying disparities.

2. Illustration with Two Countries:

- Using the example of countries A and B with five citizens each, the concept of average income is analyzed.

3. Calculation of Average Income:

- Students are tasked with calculating the average income for both countries based on the provided data in Table 1.2.

| Country | Monthly incomes of citizens (in Rupees) | | | | | Average |
|-----------|--|-------|------|-------|-------|---------|
| | I | II | III | IV | V | |
| Country A | 9500 | 10500 | 9800 | 10000 | 10200 | |
| Country B | 500 | 500 | 500 | 500 | 48000 | |

4. Consideration of Country Preference:

- Despite having identical average incomes, preferences for living in country A over country B may vary due to factors like equitable income distribution.

5. Importance of Income Distribution:

- While average income facilitates comparison, it fails to reflect how income is distributed among the population.

6. Equitable Distribution in Country A:

- Country A is favoured due to its more equitable income distribution, where individuals are neither excessively wealthy nor impoverished.

7. Disparity in Country B:

- Country B exhibits stark disparities, with most citizens being poor while one individual possesses extreme wealth.

8. Limitations of Average Income Comparison:

- The scenario highlights the limitation of relying solely on average income to gauge a country's development, emphasizing the importance of income distribution.

Income And Other Criteria

1. Attributes of Development:

- Beyond average income, the development encompasses various attributes such as security, respect, equal treatment, and freedom.

2. Example Analysis:

- Analyzing the per capita income of Haryana, Kerala, and Bihar provides insights into their relative development.

TABLE 1.3 PER CAPITA INCOME OF SELECT STATES

| State | Per Capita Income for 2018–19 (in Rs) |
|---------|---------------------------------------|
| Haryana | 2,36,147 |
| Kerala | 2,04,105 |
| Bihar | 40,982 |

Source : Economic Survey 2020–21, P.A 29.

3. Per Capita Income Comparison:

- Haryana has the highest per capita income, while Bihar has the lowest, indicating differences in economic prosperity.

4. Consideration of Other Data:

TABLE 1.4 SOME COMPARATIVE DATA ON HARYANA, KERALA AND BIHAR

| State | Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births (2018) | Literacy Rate % | Net Attendance Ratio (per 100 persons) secondary stage (age 14 and 15 years) 2017–18 |
|---------|--|-----------------|--|
| | | 2017–18 | |
| Haryana | 30 | 82 | 61 |
| Kerala | 7 | 94 | 83 |
| Bihar | 32 | 62 | 43 |

Sources : Economic Survey 2020–21, P.A 157, National Sample Survey Organisation (Report No. 585), National statistical office, Government of India.

Explanation of some of the terms used in this table:
Infant Mortality Rate (or IMR) indicates the number of children that die before the age of one year as a proportion of 1000 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.

- Examining additional data from Table 1.4 sheds light on the multifaceted nature of development.

5. Infant Mortality Rate (IMR):

- Kerala has a significantly lower IMR compared to Haryana, highlighting disparities in healthcare and child well-being.

6. Impact of High IMR:

- High IMR reflects the heartbreaking reality of parents losing their children before their first birthday, emphasizing the human aspect of development.

7. Contemporary Relevance:

- The data pertains to 2018, showcasing persistent challenges despite India's post-independence progress.

8. Education Disparities:

- Bihar faces challenges in education, with around half of children aged 14–15 not attending school beyond Class 8, indicating gaps in access to quality education.

9. Personal Reflection:

- Encourages students to empathize with the situation by imagining themselves in similar circumstances, fostering a deeper understanding of development issues.

10. Real-Life Impact:

- Illustrates the real-life consequences of development disparities, emphasizing the importance of addressing social and economic inequalities.

Public Facilities

1. Limitations of Income as an Indicator:

- Income alone does not reflect the availability of essential goods and services for a decent standard of living.

2. Inadequacy of Money in Addressing Needs:

- Money cannot guarantee access to pollution-free environments, unadulterated medicines, or protection from infectious diseases without collective efforts.

3. Collective Provision of Goods and Services:

- Many vital goods and services are best and economically provided collectively rather than individually, such as security and educational facilities.

4. Cost-Effectiveness of Collective Security:

- It is more economical to ensure security collectively for a locality rather than for each household to have its own security staff.

5. Importance of Community Support for Education:

- Access to education depends on the collective commitment of the community and government to open schools and provide facilities for all children, especially in areas where private options are limited.

6. Impact of Public Policy on Education:

- The government's role in opening schools and providing facilities significantly affects children's access to education, particularly for girls in areas with inadequate infrastructure.

7. Example from Kerala:

- Kerala's low Infant Mortality Rate is attributed to its robust provision of basic health and educational facilities, reflecting the importance of public investment in these areas.

8. Effective Public Distribution System (PDS):

- States with well-functioning Public Distribution Systems (PDS) tend to have better health and nutritional outcomes due to improved access to essential resources.

Human Development Report

1. Limitations of Income as a Development Indicator:

- Despite the importance of income, it alone does not provide a comprehensive measure of development.

2. Need for Other Criteria:

- Recognizing the inadequacy of income, other criteria such as health and education indicators become crucial for assessing development.

3. Significance of Health and Education Indicators:

- Health and education indicators, like those used in comparing Kerala and Haryana, have gained prominence alongside income in evaluating development.

4. Use of Health and Education Indicators:

- Global reports like the Human Development Report by UNDP incorporate health and education levels, along with per capita income, to compare countries' development status.

5. Comparison with Neighboring Countries:

- Sri Lanka, despite being smaller, surpasses India in various development aspects, highlighting the disparity in development within the region.

6. Life Expectancy Comparison:

- Countries like Nepal and Bangladesh, with lower per capita income than India, exhibit better life expectancy, indicating the importance of non-income factors in development.

7. Focus on Human Development:

- The Human Development Report emphasizes the significance of people's well-being and health, highlighting that development is ultimately about the citizens of a country.

Sustainability Of Development

1. Desire for Continuous Development:

- Nations aspire for continuous development, aiming to enhance their current level or at least sustain it for future generations.

2. Importance of Sustainable Development:

- Scientists have raised concerns about the sustainability of current development practices since the latter half of the twentieth century.

3. Recognition of Unsustainable Development:

- There is growing acknowledgement that the existing type and levels of development may not be sustainable in the long term.

4. Need for Sustainable Practices:

- The imperative to adopt sustainable development practices arises from the realization that unsustainable practices may lead to adverse consequences in the future.

Resources

1. Renewable Resources:

- Groundwater serves as a prime example of renewable resources.
- These resources, like crops and plants, are replenished naturally by processes such as rainfall.

2. Overuse of Resources:

- Despite being renewable, resources like groundwater can be overused.
- Overuse occurs when the consumption surpasses the replenishment rate, leading to depletion.

3. Non-Renewable Resources:

- Non-renewable resources are finite and will deplete after a period of use.
- Unlike renewable resources, their stock cannot be naturally replenished over time.

4. Resource Depletion:

- Even with the discovery of new resources, the overall stock of non-renewable resources diminishes over time due to continuous extraction.

5. Global Consequences of Environmental Degradation:

- Environmental degradation affects regions and nations indiscriminately, disregarding national or state boundaries.
- This global interconnectedness emphasizes the shared responsibility for environmental sustainability.

6. Interdisciplinary Approach to Sustainability:

- Sustainability of development is a contemporary field where scientists, economists, philosophers, and social scientists collaborate to address environmental challenges.

7. Perpetual Debate on Development:

- The discourse on development and progress remains ongoing, requiring continuous reflection on societal goals and aspirations.
- Individuals and societies must consistently assess their desired trajectory and long-term objectives amidst evolving environmental concerns.

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