



GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

Q.R Explain three differences between the growth and development.

Ans. Both growth and development refers to changes over a period of time. But they differ in following ways:

- Growth is quantitative where as the development is qualitative.
- Growth is value neutral which means that it can be either positive or negative where as development is always positive.
- Development occurs when positive growth takes place and when there is a positive change in quality. However, positive growth does not always lead to development.

Q.1 Explain the concept of Human development.

Ans. The concept of human development was introduced by Dr Mahbub-ul-Haq. He described human development as development that enlarges people's choices and improves their lives.

People are central to all development under this concept. The basic goal of human development is to create conditions where people can live meaningful lives. A meaningful life is not just a long one. It must be a life with some purpose. This means that people must be healthy, be able to develop their talents, participate in society and be free to achieve their goals.

Q.3 What are the three basic areas/aspects of human development?

Ans. The three areas/aspects of human development are:

- Access to health:** Leading a long and healthy life,
- Access to education:** being able to gain knowledge and
- Access to resources:** having enough means to be able to live a decent life.

Why are they important?

Building people's capabilities in these areas of health, education and resources is important in enlarging their choices. If people do not have capabilities in these areas, their choices also get limited.

For example, an uneducated child cannot make the choice to be a doctor because her choice has got limited by her lack of education. Similarly, very often poor people cannot choose to take medical treatment for disease because their choice is limited by their lack of resources (money).

Q.4 Explain the four concepts/pillars of human development.

Ans. The idea of human development is supported by the concepts of **equity, sustainability, productivity and empowerment.**

- Equity** refers to making equal access to opportunities available to everybody. The opportunities available to people must be equal irrespective of their gender, race, income and caste.
- Sustainability** means continuity in the availability of opportunities. Each generation must have the same opportunities. All resources must be used keeping in mind the future. Misuse of any of these resources will lead to fewer opportunities for future generations.
- Productivity** means the human-labour productivity must be constantly enriched by building capabilities in people. Efforts made to increase their

knowledge, or provide better health facilities ultimately leads to better work efficiency.

- d. **Empowerment** means to have the power to make choices. Such power comes from increasing freedom and capability. Good governance and people-oriented policies are required to empower people. The empowerment of socially and economically disadvantaged groups is of special importance.

Q.5 Explain four different approaches of achieving human development.

Ans. Some of the important approaches are:

- a. **The income approach:** This is one of the oldest approaches. Human development is linked to income. The idea is that the level of income reflects the level of freedom an individual enjoys. Higher the level of income, the higher is the level of human development.
- b. **The welfare approach:** Human development is linked to government expenditure on welfare. The idea is that the level of expenditure reflects the level human development. Higher the level government expenditure on welfare, the higher is the level of human development.
- c. **Minimum needs approach:** This approach was initially proposed by the International Labour Organisation (ILO). Six basic needs i.e.: health, education, food, water supply, sanitation, and housing were identified. Higher the provision on basic needs, the higher is the level of human development.
- d. **Capabilities approach:** This approach is associated with Prof. Amartya Sen. Building human capabilities in the areas of health, education and access to resources is the key to increasing human development.

Q.6 What is human development index and explain the three indicators used to measure the level of human development in a region?

Ans. **Human development index** is a key of measuring the quality of life and human well-being. It is developed by United Nation Development Programme. It is a composite index of the following indicators:

- a. **Access to health:** The indicator chosen to measure health is the life expectancy at birth. A higher life expectancy means that people have a greater chance of living longer and healthier lives.
- b. **Access to education:** The indicator chosen to measure education is the adult literacy rate and the gross enrolment ratio. These two shows how easy or difficult it is to access knowledge in a particular country.
- c. **Access to resources:** Access to resources is measured in terms of purchasing power (in U.S. dollars). If the people of any region has high purchasing power it means they have enough means to be able to live a decent life.

Q.7 What is **human poverty index**? Mention the four indicators used to measure this index.

Ans. The human poverty index is constructed by UNDP which is used to measure the **shortfall** in human development. It is a non-income measure. The four indicators used to measure it are:

- a. The probability of not surviving till the age of 40,
- b. The adult illiteracy rate,
- c. The number of people who do not have access to clean water, and
- d. The number of small children who are underweight.

- Q.8 State the three differences between human development index and human poverty index.
- Ans. Both of these index measures human development in a region. Together these indexes give an accurate picture of human development situation in a country. But they differ on following points:
- The human development index measures **attainments** in human development whereas the human poverty index measures the **shortfall** in human development.
 - Human development index (HDI) does not say anything about the distribution whereas the human poverty index (HPI) measures the levels of distribution of education, health and resources.
 - HDI is an income measure whereas HPI is a non-income measure.
 - The human poverty index is more revealing than the human development index.
- Q.9 Mention some other ways of measuring human development in a country.
- Ans. The ways to measure human development are constantly being refined and newer ways of capturing different elements of human development are being researched. Some of them are:
- Political freedom index: Democratic country gives political freedom which in turn influences the human development.
 - Corruption index:
 - Gross national happiness.
- Q.10 How countries are classified on the basis of the human development?
- Ans. The scores attained by a country is important basis of classifying countries into different groups.
- Countries with Very High index value**
 - They have scores of 0.800 and above.
 - There are 66 countries with very high index values.
 - They are Norway, Australia, Switzerland etc.
 - Countries with high index value**
 - There are 53 countries having scores of 0.701 to 0.799. They have lot of investment in the social sector.
 - Providing education and healthcare is an important government priority.
 - A higher investment in people and providing good governance.
 - Many of these countries have been the former imperial powers.
 - The degree of social diversity in these countries is not very high.
 - Countries with Medium Index Value**
 - There are 37 countries having scores between 0.550 to 0.700.
 - Most of these countries have emerged in the period after the Second World War.
 - Some countries from this group were former colonies.
 - Many of these countries have been rapidly improving their human development score by adopting more people-oriented policies and reducing social discrimination.
 - Most of these countries have a much higher social diversity than the countries with higher human development scores.
 - Many in this group have faced political instability and social uprisings at some point of time in their recent history.
 - Countries with Low Index Value**
 - As many as 33 countries record low levels of human development.
 - A large proportion of these are small countries which have been going through political turmoil and social instability in the form of civil war, famine or a high incidence of diseases.