

The change that occurs in the social structure and the social institutions is known as social change. Alongwith it changes occurring in composition of society and its functions is also called social change.

Social changes have been seen in social relations, family arrangement, marriage arrangement, in culture, in life style of people, literature, art, music and dance because of westernization, globalization and urbanization. Due to which people have become acquainted with each other's culture. Physical objects, means of luxury, use of modern implements and tools and facilities used in routine life have reached upto rural area. Change has taken place in style of houses of people, in it's building and construction. As a result of physical changes in society, living standard of people has improved. Effect of western culture is evident in the lifestyle.

General Knowledge of laws and its need

Because of low literacy rate, lack of knowledge and understanding, people lack information about day-to-day laws in our country. As the people do not have knowledge about law, they violate law but they are not forgiven from punishment or conviction. So, it has become necessary to give basic understanding and information to every citizen.

Why is it necessary to have general knowledge about law ?

It is very much essential to have general knowledge, information and understanding of law.

- (1) People are saved from doing crime and thus saved from punishment, conviction etc, if they have general knowledge and education regarding law.
- (2) They can get guidance regarding exploitation and legal steps which could be taken against injustice.
- (3) They can enjoy constitutional rights protect individual interests and may flourish himself.
- (4) They can become informed about various legal provisions that have been made for their protection and flourishing.
- (5) His loyalty towards society, state and nation increases.
- (6) So that he may contribute in formation of society, he is not deprived of his right as a citizen and is able to perform his duties.
- (7) If everybody has proper knowledge of laws, they can lead a life of esteem and pride. Thus, it is essential to have knowledge and understanding of laws.

Rights of citizen

None of the common man can make his progress in best way, in present social conditions. Rights are the indispensable feature of citizenship. In its charter of Rights United Nations has enshrined human rights to all the human beings without any discrimination. It has stated that all the nation of the world should try that all the citizens of the nation get the rights simply and easily.

Indian Constitution has given six fundamental rights to all the citizen without any discrimination. About which we have studied in Std 9, we will revise it here. Following are the fundamental

rights of the citizens.

Fundamental Rights of Citizen :

- (1) Right to equality
- (2) Right to freedom
- (3) Right against exploitation
- (4) Right to religious freedom
- (5) Cultural and educational right
- (6) Right to constitutional remedies



21.1 Rights of Citizen

If any of the state or nation violates these rights, then in order to protect his constitutional right citizen has the right to seek justice from High Court or Supreme Court, Citizens have got this right, under provisions in right to constitutional remedies. Thus, it is called “Soul of the Constitution”. It is the duty of the judiciary to protect the fundamental rights of the citizens. It should provide simple, cheap, speedy and impressive (appealing) judgement.

Rights of Child

Children are the least protected section in our society. Progress of any nation depends on the overall development of children living in it. If the child will be educated, protected and righteous or virtuous then he will become a good citizen and will contribute in the development of family, society and nation. This type of citizens will be a boon for the nation. So child development and child welfare are the preconditions for social development. Because child is like property of the nation, so his upbringing, maintenance (child support) and development should be taken care carefully and with responsibility. Our primary duty is to take care that the child is physically healthy and able, mentally cheerful, his moral abilities are developed, he becomes a healthy, sensible and responsible citizen by promotion of physical values.

The United Nations has proclaimed the rights of children with regard to their development and welfare in its Charter of rights in 1992. These juvenile rights have been given place in our Constitution which are as follows :

- (1) Every child has the right to live without discrimination on the basis of caste, colour, language or nationality.
- (2) It is the right of the child to get proper upbringing by the parents. A child can not be separated from the parents without any solid ground.
- (3) It's a legal right of the child to get education so that he can develop his personality.
- (4) Every child has right to healthy life. The child has a right to live life merrily by participating in games and entertainment.

- (5) Every child has right to conserve his culture and live amongst his religious community.
- (6) Every child has right to protect himself against any physical or mental torture, use of narcotic drugs, inhuman purgatory protection from punishment or fine.
- (7) Every child has the right to obtain security and proper standard of living for its physical, mental moral and social development.

Protection Against Exploitation And Atrocities

Children are very sensitive. To injure a child deliberately or accidentally, physical punishment or threatening, bitter speech or use of abusive language for insulting, or publically humiliating, sexual harrassment, excessive battering etc. physical and mental or both type of violence are considered to be child abuse.

It is learnt from Newspaper, T.V. or other mass media that children are becoming victims of exploitation by their blood relatives, kin, close friends, neighbours, close acquaintance or parents. So it is our duty that.

(1) Whenever we become aware about any physical signs of injury or by his behaviour, we should immediately help the child to get appropriate medical treatment.

(2) Generally the exploited child hesitates to reveal information about harrasment because of fear, threat or shame, hesitation or fear of social infamize and keeps on bearing exploitation. So parents should develop confidence in child and by taking child into confidence legel step should be taken on the basis of truth, facts, in order to see that person resposible gets punishment.

(3) The child who has suffered from exploitation or torture should be treated with disdain or neglecton by society or friends rather should be trated with warmth, affection and condolences and sympathy.



Child Labour and Neglected Child

Child labour is a global problem, exsiting in every country which has to be overcome quickly. All the labourers below 14 years of age are called child labourers. According to report of

UNICEF India has the highest number of child labourers in organized and unorganized sector in proportion to its population.

21.2 Child Labour

In Indian economy child labour is seen in abundance in all the sectors like hotels, factories, construction field, hazardous jobs such as cracker business or kiln, agriculture sector as field labour, animal husbandry or fishery it is also seen in service sector as servants, at tea stalls, hotels or Dhabas, in garage, in pulling cart, distributing newspaper, picking up plastic or debris, begging or cleaning roads.

Reasons for Child Labour

Condition of child labour is very pathetic in above sectors. This condition is responsible for birth of child offender. There are various factors responsible for child labour like poverty, illiteracy among parents, big family, family requirements, unemployment of adults in family to increase income of the family. For livelihood those children are forced to do labour who had escaped to cities from home are in search of shelter, orphan or destitute children or those children who have taken shelter in their relatives houses and these relatives force them to do labour in return, they are also forced to do labour in return of food.

Reason for More Demand of Child Labour

Owner of many industries or businessmen prefer to keep child labour rather than adult. Demand of child labour has increased in manifold because of following reasons :

- (1) Child labour is the cheapest factor of production. As compared to adult more work may be taken from child labour by giving less wages.
- (2) They are unorganized. Due to lack of organization, they can not raise their voice or can not protest. So child labourers can easily be exploited in various ways, without even their knowledge.
- (3) In hard and hazardous condition, work could be taken from them by paying less wages. For assigned work they are forced to work for more hours than the scheduled time by threatening or tempting.
- (4) As child labourer is easily available, so the number is more.
- (5) Due to lack of educational facilities in the rural area, children are sent to work in order to fulfill requirement of the family, at the age of schooling. Parents view them as the more earning hands and send them to work.

Thus, in the young age children are deprived of games, entertainment, rest, childhood, love of parents, warmth, care and education. Some of the children among them get involved in crime in tender age and become criminals.

Remedies for abolishing Child Labour

Many Constitutional provisions have been made by the government in order to abolish child labour, child exploitation or abuse. They are as follows :

1. Constitutional Provision (a) No child below 14 years will be employed in a factory or occupation or job. If anybody breaks the law, legal action may be taken against employer. (b) He can not be exploited in any way in childhood or teenage. He can not be devoid of moral security and physical comforts. (C) After implementation of Constitution or within 10 years government will have to arrange free education for children upto 14 years of age.



21.3 Stop Child Labour

In relation to this central and state governments have implemented law in 2009 so that children of 6 to 14 age group may get free compulsory education.

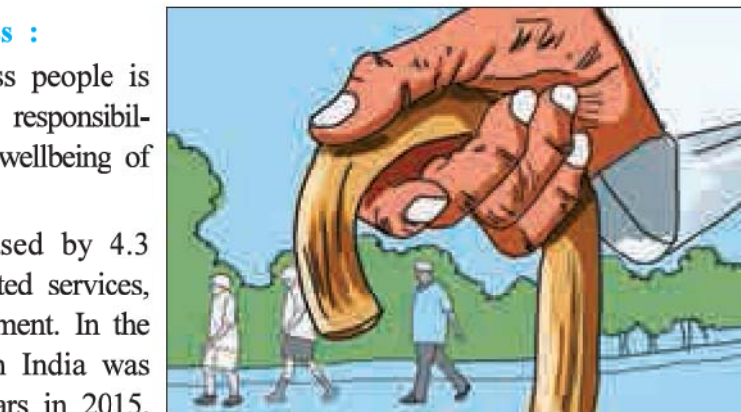
Protection for the elderly and helpless :

The problem of elderly and helpless people is universal. Old age is a natural order. It is responsibility of society to think about security and wellbeing of elderly people.

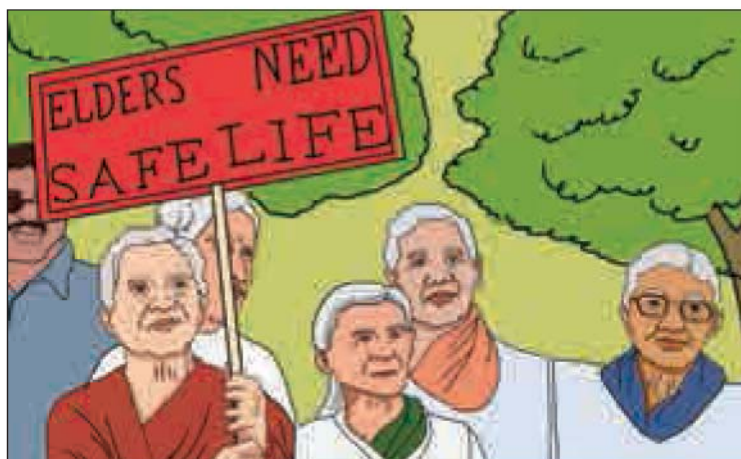
Presently, average age has increased by 4.3 years, due to improvement in health related services, modern medical facilities, medicinal treatment. In the year 2001 to 2005 average life span in India was 63.5 years while it increased to 67.5 years in 2015. In India, in the decade (2001-2011) the number of

elderly people has increased by 2.75 crore. According to one estimate the number of elderly women was 5.28 crore in 2011 while the number of elderly men was 5.11 crores. The highest number of elderly people are in Kerala and minimum number is in Arunachal Pradesh. In Gujarat, the number of elderly people is approximately 35 lakhs. Because of increasing population of elderly people and increase in average life span social and physical problems are coming up.

Due to the influence of western culture and urge to live in nuclear family, children are forgetting ethical responsibilities towards elderly people, values and culture. Elderly people are compelled to live in 'Old Age Homes' due to lack of sensitization. In order to attract attention of people towards problems of elderly people, UN has announced year 1999 as the "International Elderly Year". Along with it every year 1st October is celebrated as "World Elderly People Day" at the international level.



21.4 Help to Elders



21.5 Protection to Elders

The following steps have been taken by the government for safety and security of elderly people.

- In 1999, the government evolved the "National Policy for the senior citizens". according to which elderly people are given pension. e.g. Indira Gandhi National Senior Citizen Pension Scheme and Atal Pension Scheme.
- Under various schemes for elderly people they are given more interest on the amount deposited by them in post office or bank. Male and Female are given 30 to 50 percent discount/concession in bus, railway or air tickets.
- State government has opened "Old Age Home" with grand facilities in every district. In the cities, gardens have been developed for them. It tries to bring peace in their life through music, yoga, games or mental activities.

Government has implemented, parents and senior citizens care and welfare related law in 2007 to protect them from domestic violence, exploitation or abuse. Under this provision has been made to punish

those children who harass them. The responsibility of taking care of elderly people is of their family and relatives. They have the right to get maintenance from their children. Central Government has implemented the programme to honour senior citizen in return for their contributions.

Anti-social Activities

“Such an individual or group activity or behaviour which is against rules proposed by laws in the society” is called anti-social activity.

We often see some criminal or anti-social or restricted activities in the society like murder, theft, kidnapping, robbery, cheating, trickery and cyber crime etc. which are called blue collar crimes.

On the other side white collar crimes are prevalent in the society like bribery, corruption, tax evasion, hoarding, adulteration, land encroachment black marketing.

Corruption :

Corruption is a global problem. According to the definition given by World Bank “Corruption means the misuse of the public position for personal benefits.” Thus corruption originates due to misuse of status and power by the people. Corruption is prevalent in some of the public and private sectors of Indian society. People involved in corruption, the giver and the taker, both are guilty and worthy to be punished.

Corruption - In our Country and Foreign country : Corruption prevails in many countries in small or large scale in recent times.

Conduct of corruption is seen in diverse forms. It is in the form of giving and taking money, gifts and presents in the form of costly ornaments or things or foreign trips, partial behaviour, influencing decision, favouring relatives and friends..

Corruption has adverse effects on economy or society, which are as follows:

- Because of corrupt behaviour there is degradation in the moral values and social policy regulation.
- Problem of black money originates in economy, which is a hinderance in the development of the country.
- Trust of people on laws of State, judicial process, government and administration system dealings. Honest people experience more frustration and disappointment.
- Injustice and disparity in income originates which results into class struggle. So Human rights are violated.
- Due to corruption morality and national character are at risk. Fall of the Level of economic system is there.

Steps to Curb corruption

The following are the steps to curb corruption :

(1) “Central Anti-bribery Bureau” was established in 1964. Its chief function is to investigate the allegation against the government official who are involved in corruption. Corrupt people are caught by it red-handed and are punished by them.

This is a separate department of the government of Gujarat. Its headquarter is in Shahibaug Ahmedabad. If common people have any corruption related problem they may call on helpline Toll-free Number 1800 2334 4444.

(2) To stop corruption Indian Government formulated “Anti Corruption Act, 1988”. Objective of it is to provide clean public life and to stop misuse of position or power.

It is compulsory for every public servant, high official, politician to declare information regarding their property before assuming and the post. If the property of a person increases more than his appropriate income during his working tenure, it is considered as an offence and punishment may be announced for him. In such cases government confiscates such property.

(3) “Right to Information - 2005” and “Citizens Charter” have been issued with the help of which the government employees have to promise to complete administrative work in stipulated time period, by eliminating delay in their own working area and the work under their power and to make the administration transparent and simple.

(4) Recently central government has enacted Black Money Act - 2005 in which corruption is regarded as crime. Other than this changes have been made in FEMA (Foreign Exchange Management Act), Money Laundering Act as well as in section 132 of Custom Act. Efforts have been made to curb corruption and find black money by appointing Lokpal and Lokayukt in each State.

(5) Gujarat Vigilance Commission Gandhinagar has undertaken departmental investigation for the corruption and misuse for power by government officials.



Right to Information Act, 2005 : On 15th June, 2005

Central Government had enacted Right to Information Act. It is applied to all the States of India except Jammu and Kashmir. This act is not applicable to secret services of the country, institutions dealing security and safety, institutions promoting unity and integrity and foreign ambassador's office. On 5th October 2005, according to the above legislative provisions, Gujarat government has implemented the rules regarding Gujarat Right to Information Act, 2005.

21.7 Right To Information Act.

The base of this legislative has been to acquire transparent, clean, simple and quick administrative operations and to seek public co-operation in it. According to the provision of this legislative and any citizen may approach higher official of the department and ask questions to get proper information about his pending work or implementation of schemes, or for success or status of public oriented work.

How to obtain information

As per this right, applicant has to pay fixed fee (presently Rs. 20) in cash or postal order or pay order or non-judicial stamp along with application format, in order to get information. This application may be self signed, typed or in the form of email to the concerned department. Person from the family included in the BPL list doesn't have to pay any fee or charge for copy. There is no need to mention why information has been asked for.

Concerned Assistant Public Information Officer (APIO) gives a copy of receipt of the received application, to the applicant after putting serial number (ID number) in the application. After that

whatever correspondence has to be made regarding application, ID number was to be mentioned in that.

APIO will give direction within 30 days of accepting application for acquiring information. If any copy is demanded by the applicant, then it could be obtained by paying fixed fee or charge decided according to the legislative AIPO may refuse to give information as per legislative. If the required information affects the sovereignty of the country or influences national interest and security, or is related to secret issues or leads to contempt of court or is in connection with scientific secrets or promotes crime then.

Provisions for Appeal

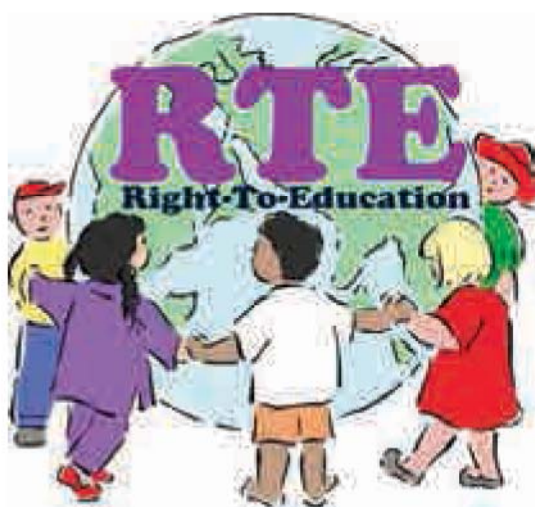
If the concerned department does not extract the information within 30 days or refuses to give information then offended applicant may appeal to Public Information Officer (PIO) within 30 days of rejection. For this applicant doesn't have stipulated to pay any fee. If within the stipulated time period, the decision of the first appeal does not come or the applicant is refused to be given required information, the offended applicant may make a second appeal to State's Chief Information Officer within 90 days.

Provisions for Fine

If any information officer refuses to give information without giving reasonable grounds or hides information with ill intention or intentionally gives improper or incorrect, misleading information or destroys information, the concerned information officer is fined, fixed charges per day for delay in providing information.

For any query, special information, guidance, related to use of Right to Information Act, first time in the country, helpline number 99240 85000 has been started which helps us all the days in working hours except public holidays. In addition to this, civil right letter has been declared, due to which a deadline is fixed for the solution in the concerned offices, with the help of which, status of the application may be inquired. The Gujarat government has started common service portal, on which a citizen may apply online, verify documents and make payments for about 28 services and may inquire the status of application 24 × 7 hours. This Act is a revolutionary step to put off corruption.

Law regarding Right to Free and Compulsory Education 2009(RTE 2009)



21.8 Right To Education

Central Government implemented law regarding right to free and compulsory education for children in 2009, As per this law Gujarat government proclaimed "Law Regarding Right to free and compulsory Education" on 18th February, 2012.

What is the need of this Law ?

According to 86th amendment in Indian Constitution, primary education has been made free and compulsory for all the children of age group 6-14 years. This is a prominent step in the direction of developing human capabilities of

children. With the objective of physical, mental and all round development of children, necessary educational opportunities have been created and which also meet the demand of qualitative primary education.

- (1) Keeping in mind, education and health of the children, schooling facilities and physical facilities, specific norms have been set under this law and accordingly classroom, laboratory, pure drinking water, electricity, arrangement of midday meal and quality and qualification of teachers and standard of recruitment, provision for grant given to the schools have been fixed which are as follows :
- (2) According to this law every child between the age group of 6 to 14 should get admission in the school close to his locality. Children who do not have birth certificate as age proof can not be refused admission in the school by anybody.
- (3) Although the child may have attained 14 years of age and if he has not completed primary education, in such cases he could be imparted free education.
- (4) At the time of admission, the age of the child should be 6 years and if he doesn't have birth certificate, then hospital records, age related affidavit of parents should be taken as age proof for admission.
- (5) All the students should be given admission without discrimination.
- (6) Any kind of fees like capitation fees, admission fees or any other type of deposit can not be taken.
- (7) At the time of admission, interviews of children or parents should not be taken. Admission should not be given on the basis of income or educational qualification or capabilities of parents, any kind of admission test of parents should not be taken.
- (8) For the education of children of age 3 to 5 years a revolutionary step has been taken for the first time, by taking nursery under the law and making rules for special training of pre-school teachers, their courses, curriculum and evaluation.
- (9) According to this Act provision has been made for the children of weaker section and backward classes (SCs. and STs.) who are interested in studying and their families fall in the category of BPL should be given admission in government recognized private primary schools. As per order, it is compulsory that 25% students of standard 1st should be of these sections of the society.
- (10) School teachers are not allowed to take private tuitions.
- (11) All the under qualified teachers of the school should obtain academic qualification within 5 years.
- (12) Any child who has not completed his primary education can not be terminated from school until being transferred.
- (13) In the private primary schools the fees of S.T. and S.C. children is paid by the government as per fixed conditions.
- (14) For the compliance of provisions of this law a scheduled management, tribunal or state council has been provisioned. For the breach of this act the Director of the School may be fined or recognition of the school can be terminated.

National Food Security Act, 2013 (RTF-2013) :

Food security means “every person gets nutritious food for remaining active and for healthy life and procurement of food”.

This bill was implemented on 5th July, 2013 by Central Government.

Objective of Food Security Bill :

(1) To satisfy the demands of food of the increasing population of the country, other than this, ensuring quality and quantity of food and providing it at low rate.



21. Food Security Act. 2013 Grain help at Fair or Free Price

- (2) To curb malnutrition among people and children, important steps should be taken and encouragement should be given to increase production of nutritious food.
- (3) To make Public Distribution System (PDS) very strong, transparent and simple.
- (4) To provide food security, to the families, those who are in the top order of Antyodaya Yojna and BPL list and to stipulate nutritious food in proper quantity and at concessional rate.
- (5) To help the pregnant women and feeding mothers to get nutritious food.

Some Legislative Provisions

- According to this act and “Maa Annapurna Yojna” to the needy, middle class poor families of urban and rural areas are provided grain at subsidized rate. The Antyodaya families are given 35 Kg of grains free of cost.
- As per this law beneficiaries can buy wheat at ₹ 2-00 per Kg, Rice ₹ 3-00 Per Kg and Coarse grain at ₹ 1-00 per kg in fixed quantities and fixed time. Good quality grain is provided under public distribution system on fixed conditions.
- At the time of maternity Central Government would pay ₹ 6000 as help to mother.
- According to this bill food security allowance would be given to the beneficiary in place of grains.
- As per this Act every month sugar, iodized salt, kerosene and edible oil (twice a year) are provided at subsidized rates by Gujarat government to Antyodaya and BPL families through the ration shops.
- State Governments would update list of rich (leading) families and improve upon and list of these families (on the name of women in family) will be publically displayed in Gram Panchayat, Gram Sabha, Ward Sabha, E-gram or fair price shops or office of Executive magistrate Website of supply department.

- Steps like Bio-metric identity, epic card, bar code, ration card or food coupons and taking image with webcamera have been started to improve and strengthen public distribution system, in order to make distribution system corruption free.
- Under this bill “Internal complaint preventive mechanism” has to be set up. With a view to removal of complaints “Nodal Officer” has to be appointed for regulation and control of grain distribution system. For the purpose of complaining “Rajya Ann Ayog” to be set up in State and Food Commissioner has to be appointed. Thus, under various provisions of “National Food Safety Act” as per “Maa Annapurna Yojna” approximately 3.82 crore needy citizens are provided grain at concessional rate. Such type of welfare schemes have been implemented by the state Government.

Exercise

1. Answer the following questions in detail :

- (1) Which juvenile rights are included in India Constitution ?
- (2) Describe the problems of the elderly people and provisions for their protection and welfare.
- (3) Explaining the objectives of right to information, explain the process of obtaining information.
- (4) State the main seven provisions for right to free and compulsory education.
- (5) Discuss in detail various provisions related to frameworks for food grain distribution and public distribution system, under national food security act.

2. Answer the following questions pointwise :

- (1) Explain main factors responsible for social change.
- (2) Why is it necessary to have general knowledge about laws ?
- (3) Explain “Child development is a pre-condition for economic development”.
- (4) Write about government efforts to curb corruption.
- (5) Describe the objectives of food safety bill.

3. Answer the following questions briefly :

- (1) Why is child labour is more in demand ?
- (2) Mention the fundamental rights of the citizens.
- (3) Describe various forms of child labour.
- (4) Corruption is one of the causes of price rise. Give reason.
- (5) Mention the important provision of “Maa Annapurna Yojna”.

4. Choose the correct answer and write it :

- (1) Which is the main factor responsible for social change in India ?
(A) Conservative traditions (B) Public Opinion (C) Westernization (D) Literacy
- (2) Who declared manifesto of human rights ?
(A) Great Britain (B) United Nations (C) UNICEF (D) World Bank

- (3) When is “World Elderly people” day celebrated ?
(A) 8th March (B) 1st October (C) 1st April (D) 15th June
- (4) Which of the following information may be refused to be given ?
(A) Election Commission (B) Government Schemes
(C) Judgement (D) Matters related to sovereignty
- (5) Which things are forbidden in the law related to free education ?
(A) Admission without birth certificate (B) Facility of special training
(C) Admission without entrance test (D) Capitation fee at time of admission
- (6) Which new aspects have been implemented to strengthen public distribution system ?
(A) Barcoded Ration Card (B) ATM Card
(C) Bio-metric identity (D) Election identity card

Activity

- Make a survey of child labourers in your locality. Prepare a report on their family, education, type of work, exploitation or persecution.
- Visit Old-Age Homes of district and prepare a graphic report about problems of elderly people, their activities and the facilities they get.
- Arrange an awareness rally against child labour on the occasion of “Children’s day” (14th November).
- Make a comparative study of rates, quality and distribution system of grains, oil, sugar, salt etc. on fair price shops and other shops. (On the basis of information of last two years)
- Evaluate your primary school on the basis of provision made under “Right to free and compulsory education” and prepare a report. Also request the management to remove the shortcomings.

