

POVERTY PROBLEM IN RUSSIA

Волкова Д.С.

Научный руководитель – доцент Рыжова С.В.

Сибирский федеральный университет

Poverty problem – one of the sharpest social problems of modern Russia. Poverty defines limitation of access of a considerable part of the population of our country to development resources: to highly paid work, qualitative services of formation and public health services, possibility of successful socialization of children and youth. Low level of incomes of a considerable part of families in a combination to excessive polarization of incomes cause a social break of a society, cause social intensity, interferes with successful development of the country, define crisis processes in a family and a society.

Poverty always was the actual problem, but in modern Russia this question stands especially sharply. Presently considerable part of population is below the line of poverty or close to the border «social bottom». It is clearly seen on a background of strong stratification, when difference in income of poor and rich makes ten, hundreds and thousands. And this process has dynamic character; the poor become poorer, and rich yet richer.

The concept “poverty” is interpreted variously: as a low level of income and expenditure, and as impossibility of maintenance of the desired living standards, and as certain perception oneself in society. It depends on an author and conception, which he follows when he considers this question.

The most general determination is following: Poverty is a description of economic position of individual or social group, at which they cannot provide themselves the necessary benefits.

While considering the problem of poverty in Russia, the following groups of “social bottom” were selected: *beggars, vagabonds, homeless children, street prostitutes*. Selection of groups of population in a “social bottom”, as a specific layer, undoubtedly, carries conditional character. However, these groups have similar features: they are people, in basic rejected by society and lost elementary social skills.

A basic sign of the “beggars” group is to beg alms because of the loss of income or its catastrophic falling. There is no help from society or relatives and it is impossible to begin working.

Vagabond is a person who doesn’t have house. People can become vagabonds after release from imprisonment, domestic conflict, as a result of illegal transactions with habitation, and also because of the forced migration. The two thirds of vagabonds dwell on the stations, in basements, on the garrets of houses and the same places.

The third group is a group of children of age from 6 to 17. It is its basic sign. There are two ways of forming of this group. First - children escape from home as a result of conflict, alcoholism or violence of parents; second – loss of parents (death, prison) or actual refuse of parents from children.

The last group is street prostitutes – differs by the character of the activity. Three fourths from them have dwelling, other behave as vagabonds. Their minimum age is 14 that actually testify to child's prostitution.

The analysis of data shows that mainly a “male person” is at a social bottom; among them are two thirds of man and one third — women. Middle age of beggars and vagabonds is 45; for homeless children it is equal to 10 years, for prostitutes - to 28 years.

The major priorities of fight against poverty in modern Russia are:

It is necessary to create conditions for an independent exit of able to work layers of population from poverty on labour basis.

In the sphere of payment of labour the main factor of reduction of poverty must be growth of the minimal payment of labour, reduction of number of low-paid workers. Realization of this task is presently the focus of attention of Government of Russian Federation.

At the same time the problem of legalization of earnings and reduction of scales of “shadow economy” must be considered.

Another direction is an increase of employment of population. This problem can be solved due to creation of more cheap workplaces in small business and labour intensive industries of light and food industry, oriented to the internal market and mass user. Perfection of crediting of domestic producer is needed, development of social works, creation of temporal workplaces for unemployed persons and other measures.

Providing conditions for an exit of able to work population from poverty on labour basis, at the same time it is necessary to perfect the system of “address social help” of socially vulnerable groups of population: invalids, retiree, single parents, refugees and other.

On the estimations of experts in the number of “risk groups” to get on a social bottom are: single elderly people (chances to get on a bottom is 72%), retirees (61%), invalids (63%), families with 3 or more children (54%), unemployed persons (53%), unmarried mothers (49%), refugees (44%) and migrants (31%).

The quantity of people in Russia with incomes below a living wage has grown for the last year on 6 million persons, having made 24,5 million.

The living wage for 2011, according to «Russtat», is established at level 5707 rubles. Thus, as experts in statistics, the able-bodied person consider 6159 rubles a month, to the pensioner – 4532 rubles, and to children – 5510 rubles should suffice.

It is necessary to note, any of social guarantees of the state doesn't exceed a living wage. The minimum wage rate makes 4330 rubles, an old-age pension base unit – 1950 rubles, a disability pension of thirds of degree – 3900 rubles, the minimum grant of students of high schools – 1100 rubles.

Should disappoint sharp growth of number of Russians with incomes below a living wage. If following the results of 2009 such was 18,5 million in 2010 already 24,5 million persons lived below the poverty line. They make 17,4 % of all population of Russia.

The special feature of process of marginalization in Russia is that groups getting on a social bottom have very poor chances to go back to normal life.

So in conclusion we must say that the state must conduct a fight against poverty by encouragement of labour activity, strengthening of legislation of social security. And foremost, it is necessary to stop further growth of scales of poverty.

It is possible to allocate following directions of struggle against poverty:

- creation of conditions for a self-sufficiency of a normal standard of well-being of all families with able-bodied adults on a labor basis;
- formation of system of effective support of vulnerable groups of the population (aged, invalids, families with high dependant loading, families in extreme situations) and guarantees of not discrimination access to free resources;
- in sphere of payment growth of the minimum payment, reduction of number of low-paid workers should become a primary factor of reduction of poverty;
- increase in employment of the population;
- it is necessary to improve system of the address social help of socially vulnerable groups of the population: invalids, pensioners, lonely parents, refugees, etc.