UNIVERSAL BASIC INCOME AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PYRAMID: ACHIEVING SDGS THROUGH FINANCIAL INCLUSION IN INDIA

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Abstract

According to UNDP -Human Development Index (HDI) Report 2018, India ranked very poorly with 130 out of 189 nations of the world. This reveals that a considerable proportion of population is underprivileged, marginalized and deprived of basic resources i.e. food, drinking water, electrification, education, health etc. The rapid economic growth witnessed in India is not balanced and holistic as the dichotomous experiences fails to justify this growth episode. India has been suffering from poverty, hunger, lack of basic health and education and many other socio-economic menaces. The co-existence of such imbalance is the real irony of our economic development. Poverty is a multidimensional approach which may be the outcome of the dynamics in social, economic, and political ecosystem by virtue of which an individual is unable to meet the basic needs like food, clothe and shelter. The 'Universal Basic Income (UBI)' has become popular construct in recent past in India. The UBI is borrowed from the scholars of the west which may be manifested in India to enhance 'Financial Inclusion'. In fact, higher financial inclusion has been the prerequisites to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. This paper has attempted to understand the idea of UBI, and determine the rates both for rural and urban population of India. This study explores how UBI may influence on the agendas of SDGs. This research is empirical and developed based on secondary information.

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1. Introduction

India is one of the fastest growing economies of the world. The size of its economy was worth of 2.6 trillion US Dollar in 2017 and presently the country is moving close to $3 trillion USD. India is almost in the transition from the sixth position to move ahead towards the fifth largest economy of the world. The shining image of Indian economy has drawn attention to global community. Unfortunately, the elevating economic indicators of India have not been holistic and deeply rooted all across the demography of the country. In fact, the counter economic figures are more detrimental and essentially exhibit severe contradictions and inconsistencies to our growth narratives. According to UNDP -Human Development Index (HDI) Report 2018, India ranked very poorly with 130 out of 189 nations of the world. A significant size of population is still underprivileged, marginalized and deprived of accessing to the basic livelihood i.e. food, drinking water, electrification, education, health etc. The concept of 'Transforming India' is defeated by the poor indicators of 'Rural Bharat'. One form of India talks about its elephantine size of economy which is comparable to the apex global economic super power, GDP etc. while the other form of India has been suffering from poverty, hunger, lack of basic health and education and many more socio-economic menaces. The imbalanced co-existence of 'Transforming India' with 'Rural Bharat' is the reality of our economic development.

Poverty is a multidimensional approach which may be the outcome of the dynamics in social, economic, and political ecosystem by virtue of which an individual is unable to meet the basic needs like food, clothe, shelter to fulfill. According to UN Definition "Fundamentally, poverty is a denial of choices and opportunities, a violation of human dignity. It means lack of basic capacity to participate effectively in society. It means not having enough to feed and clothe a family, not having a school or clinic to go to, not having the land on which to grow one's food or a job to earn one's living, not having access to credit. It means insecurity, powerlessness and exclusion of

individuals, households and communities. It means susceptibility to violence, and it often implies living on marginal or fragile environments, without access to clean water or sanitation" (UN Statement, June 1998 – signed by the heads of all UN agencies).

In the World Summit on Social Development in Copenhagen in 1995 where 117 countries adopted resolutions to eradicate "absolute" and minimize "overall" poverty. 'Absolute poverty' was defined as "a condition characterized by severe deprivation of basic human needs, including food, safe drinking water, sanitation facilities, health, shelter, education and information. It depends not only on income but also on access to services". The concept of 'Overall Poverty' is broad and multidimensional which was narrated by UN as "lack of income and productive resources to ensure sustainable livelihoods; hunger and malnutrition; ill health; limited or lack of access to education and other basic services; increased morbidity and mortality from illness; homelessness and inadequate housing; unsafe environments and social discrimination and exclusion. It is also characterized by lack of participation in decision making and in civil, social and cultural life. It occurs in all countries: as mass poverty in many developing countries, pockets of poverty amid wealth in developed countries, loss of livelihoods as a result of economic recession, sudden poverty as a result of disaster or conflict, the poverty of low-wage workers, and the utter destitution of people who fall outside family support systems, social institutions and safety nets" (UN, 1995).As per Rangarajan Committee Report "Financial Inclusion is the process of ensuring access to appropriate financial products and services needed by vulnerable groups such as weaker sections and low income groups, at an affordable cost, in a fair and transparent manner by mainstream institutional players."

1.1. The Concept of 'Universal Basic Income (UBI)

The concept of universal and unconditional grant to every citizen is quite an old idea in the countries of the West. The notion of this analogy has been witnessed in the works of the notable reformists and socialists like Thomas More, Thomas Paine, Charles Fourier, and John Stuart Mill etc. Jim Tobin, the Nobel Laureate Economist conceptualized to vouch for a promise of 'demogrant' during the presidential campaign for McGovern in 1972

(Bardhan, 2017).In fact, Universal Basic Income (UBI) is conceptually a provision or a commitment by the state to regularly disbursing a certain amount to all individuals without any work or conditions imposed on them (De Wispelaere, 2015). The International Monetary Fund defines universal basic income as "a cash transfer of an equal amount to all individuals in a country." (Upadhyaya & Sukriti 2018) It differs from other government transfers, like tax refunds or welfare payments (Hanna and Benjamin, 2018), as the recipients can spend the money however they like, and they are not required to report how they spend it.

Historically, it was debated again and again among the policymakers to understand the rationale of introducing UBI in the economy (Upadhyaya & Sukriti, 2018).One school of thought argues and opposes the very basic idea of such distribution of financial resources among every person universally and unconditionally undermining the existing norms of social contract (Banerjee, Paul and Suri, 2019). It works on expenditure mode not as investment of resources which weakens the fiscal health of a state. Not only that, such exercises are too much costly for the developed nations as it siphons the major chunk of the budget as the basic minimum income is fixed at a fair rate. However, with the advent and popularity of using Artificial Intelligence and robots in the work places in the western countries (Ghosh, 2017), the Universal Basic Income (UBI) is emerging in the developed economy (De Wispelaereand Lindsay, 2004).Tesla CEO Elon Musk and Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg advocate of universal basic income as the money could provide flexibility for workers who might lose their jobs to robots or automation. In India, situation is remarkably different. The workers in the lowest strata or in the unorganized sector are paid very less and mostly overburdened with work. The condition becomes more vulnerable with respect to gender (Bardhan, 2017). On the contrary, the country still depends on subsidy which is mostly ineffective to address the issues due to unwanted leakage and corruption at every stage. Recently, there has been a paradigm shift in the state policy where subsidies are on regressive trend rather it is operated through 'Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT)' which essentially enhances higher transparency, efficiency and reduces the corruption and undesired leakages of resources in the system. The Economic Survey 2016-17 advocated for introducing UBI as a social welfare scheme

suitable for India which coin the issue in limelight of the policy debate in the country. The Former Greek Finance Minister Yannis Varoufak is argues that wealth in society is always the Collective ownership; the UBI shall not be financed from taxation rather as a share of society's capital (Project Syndicate, 2016)

1.2 Background of the Study:

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a collection of 17 global goals set by the United Nations General Assembly in 2015 which are to be achieved by the year 2030. The SDGs are part of Resolution 70/1 of the United Nations General Assembly:"Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" which are unanimously agreed upon by all the 193 member-countries. The United Nations is committed to achieve all its developmental for the entire global communities. Poverty, hunger toped the lists of SDGs which are matter of concern for India to achieve. The paper has attempted to understand the gravity of the situations particularly in India. This research work has devised how to develop to determine the Universal Basic Income (UBI) both for rural as well as urban regions of India so that the every citizen can earn above the 'below poverty line' and can participation in the economic activities in the country with dignity & honour.

2. Research Objectives and Methodology

2.1 Objectives of the Study:

(i)   To understand the status of poverty in India.
(ii)   To develop a dynamic approach for determining the rate of 'Universal Basic Income (UBI)'in India both in rural as well as urban areas.
(iii) To explore how the agendas of UN-SDGs can be mitigated through the instrument of 'Universal Basic Income (UBI)' in India.
(iv)   To understand the inherent challenges and discourse that may encounter the process of implementations.

2.2 Research Methodology

This study has been performed based on secondary information collected from reliable sources. The secondary sources include research papers, Survey Reports from acclaimed national and international agencies. The relevant information are presented in the appropriate form /table so as to easily compare the indicators year wise, country wise as desired. The study is empirical in nature. The dataset is analyzed and interpreted for achieving research objectives.

3.   Analysis and Interpretation

3.1   Analysis and Interpretation I

Table:1 Glimpse Economic Indicators of India

Annual Growth rate of GDP			Per Capita Gross National Income (2016) (Atlas Method)	Inflation Rate (2017)
2016 - 17	2017-18	2018 – 19		3.7%
7.1%	6.7%	7.36%	$ 1670	

From the above table, it is observed that annual growth of GDP has been reduced by 0.4% during 2016-17 and 2017-18. As on 2016, the per capita Gross National Income (in Atlas method) was $1670. However, the Inflation rate was under 4% in 2017. According to a recent estimate, India would achieve 10 Trillion Economy by 2028 with a consistent growth rate of 8% assuming the inflation would be less than equal to 4%. In a conservative projection, it could be achieved by 2030 with a consistent growth rate of 7% assuming the rate of inflation will be around 4%. This would make the nation to be the third largest economy after USA and China. However, the status of India among the top ten economies of the world in terms of poverty needs to be revisited.

Table: 2 List of top ten world biggest economies with relevant statistics

World Biggest Economies	Value of Economy (in USD Trillion)	Population 2017 (in millions)	Rate of Population Growth (%) 2017	% of Population below national poverty level	Per Capita Income (2017)^ In USD
USA	20.252	327	- 0.81	15.1%	60,055
China	13.093	1390.08	0.41	4.5%	44,974
Japan	4.999	126	-0.21	16.1%	44,976
Germany	3.9905	81	-0.16	16.7%	38,415
India	2.876	1316.00	1.17	21.9%	38,220
UK	2.807	65	0.52	15%	39,758
France	2.787	67	0.39	14%	32,747
Brazil	2.131	207	0.73	3.7%	9,821
Italy	2.095	62	0.19	29.9%	8,682
Canada	1.787	36	0.73	9.4%	1,923

https://www.indexmundi.com/g/r.aspx?t=0&v=24&l=en
https://www.indexmundi.com/g/r.aspx?t=0&v=69&l=en
https://www.indexmundi.com/g/r.aspx?t=0&v=21&l=en
https://www.focus-conomics.com/sites/default/files/wysiwyg_images/focuseconomics_january_biggest_economies-01.jpg
^As per United Nations (UN) (National Accounts Main Aggregates Database, 2017, Select all countries, "GDP, Per Capita GDP - US Dollars", and 2016 to generate table), United Nations Statistics Division. Accessed on 17 Jan 2019)

From the above dataset, following indicative trends are observed as mentioned below:

• That there is inverse relationship between 'Value of Economy of the top ten biggest economies (in USD Trillion)' and 'Rate of Population Growth (in %)' in these high economy Nations. [Pearson Correlation Coefficient = (-) 0.652].

• That there is inverse relationship between 'Per Capita Income' and 'the rate of population Growth' among the top ten biggest economies of the World. [Pearson Correlation Coefficient = (-) 0.538].

- that 'the Rate of Population Growth (%)' is somehow inversely associated with 'the percentage of Population below National Poverty Level' among top ten biggest economies. [Pearson Correlation Coefficient = (-)0.141].

Table: 3 Correlation between 'Value of Economy of the top ten biggest economies (in USD Trillion)' and 'Rate of Population Growth (%)' in these high economy Nations

Correlations		Value of Economy (in USD Trillion)	Rate of Population Growth (%)2017
Value of Economy (in USD Trillion)	Pearson Correlation	1	(-)0.652*
	Sig. (1-tailed)		.021
	N	10	10
Rate of Population Growth (%)2017	Pearson Correlation	(-) 0.652*	1
	Sig. (1-tailed)	.021	
	N	10	10
*. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (1-tailed).			

ANOVA						
Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	142.575	1	142.575	5.906	.041b
	Residual	193.128	8	24.141		
	Total	335.703	9			
a. Dependent Variable: Value of Economy (in USD Trillion)						
b. Predictors: (Constant), Rate of Population Growth (%)2017						
Coefficientsa						
Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
		B	Std. Error	Beta		

1	(Constant)	7.753	1.772		4.375	.002
	Rate of Population Growth (%)2017	-6.998	2.880	(-) 0.652	-2.430	.041
a. Dependent Variable: Value of Economy (in USD Trillion)						

Table: 4 Correlation between 'Per Capita Income' and 'Rate of Population Growth (%)' among these high economy Nations

Correlations			
		Per Capita Income	Rate of Population Growth (%)
Per Capita Income	Pearson Correlation	1	**(-) 0.538**
	Sig. (1-tailed)	-	.054
	N	10	10
Rate of Population Growth (%)	Pearson Correlation	(-)0.538	1
	Sig. (1-tailed)	0.054	-
	N	10	10

Table: 5 Correlation between 'Rate of Population Growth (%)' and '% of Population below National Poverty Line' among these high economy Nations

Correlations			
		Rate of Population Growth (%)	% of Population below National Poverty Line
Rate of Population Growth (%)	Pearson Correlation	1	**(-) 0.141**
	Sig. (1-tailed)	-	0.348
	N	10	10
% of Population below National Poverty Line	Pearson Correlation	(-) 0.141	1
	Sig. (1-tailed)	0.348	-
	N	10	10

Table: 6 Poverty Statistics in India

Total Population (2017)		1,316 million
Average Annual Population Growth during (2012 – 2017)		1.3%
Rate of Population Growth (%) in 2017		1.17%
Proportion of population below $1.90 PPP per day		21.2%
Proportion of population below the National poverty line as on 2016		21.9%
Proportion of Employed Population below $1.90 PPP/ Day	Male	10.7%
	Female	12.3%
	Total	11.1%
Population Density (Persons residing per square Kilometer surface area)		400

Adapted from Basic Statistics, 2018 published by Asian Development Bank

From the above table, it is depicted that Proportion of population below the National poverty line was 21.9% as on 2016 which is quite high.

Table: 7 National poverty estimates (% below poverty line) during 1993-94 to 2011-12

Year	Rural (%)	Urban (%)	Total (%)
1993 – 94	50.1	31.8	45.3
2004 – 05	41.8	25.7	37.2
2009 – 10	33.8	20.9	29.8
2011 – 12	25.7	13.7	21.9

Source: Poverty Estimates, 2011 – 12, Planning Commission; Report of the Expert Group to Review the Methodology for Estimation of Poverty (2009) Planning Commission; PRS.
[http://mospi.nic.in/sites/default/files/publication_reports/India_in_figures -2018_rev.pdf]

The above table confirms that as on 2011-12, 25.7% of rural people still rest below poverty line whereas about 13.7% urban population exist under poverty line aggregating to about 21.9% of total population of India live under the poverty line.

3.2 Analysis and Interpretation II

Strategic Approach for Determining the Rate of 'Universal Basic Income (UBI)'

Two redistributive proposals i.e. universal basic income as propounded by Philippe van Parijs and stakeholder grants as elaborated by Bruce Ackerman and Anne Alstott (Wright & Erik Olin, 2006) are indeed the Utopian ideology that cannot be surfaced on reality. In order to determine the rate of Universal Basic Income (UBI) in India, the thrust is given on the following objectives and priorities as follows:

- To raise the income of the every Indian above the poverty line.
- To protect the beneficiaries of 'UBI' scheme from the evils of inflation.
- To design the model so that age specific expenditure pattern can be incorporated.

Table: 8   Distribution of Population in India: With Reference to Age Groups and Gender#

Age Group	Age Groups and Gender# wise Distribution of Population in India (1,281,935,911)
0-14 years	27.34% [186,087,665(Male) +164,398,204(Female)]
15-24 years	17.9% [121,879,786 (Male) + 107,583,437(Female)]
25-54 years	41.08% [271,744,709 (Male) + 254,834,569(Female)]
55-64 years	7.45% [47,846,122 (Male) + 47,632,532 (Female)]
65 years and over	6.24% [37,837,801 (Male) + 42,091,086 (Female)]

Source:https://www.indexmundi.com/india/demographics_profile.html   as estimated up to July, 2017 # Figure of 'other gender category' was not found

The following concepts / terms used for determining UBI are discussed below:

➢   **Rangarajan Committee Report on Poverty Line: Basic Income Component for Rural (BICR) and urban Areas (BICU)'**

For computing the monthly UBI rate, 'Rangarajan Committee Report on Poverty Line' has been considered with varying rates for rural and urban population. Accordingly, Persons spending below Rs. 47 a day in cities should be considered poor, much above the Rs. 33/day mark suggested by the Suresh Tendulkar Committee while, a person spending less than Rs. 32/day should be considered poor in villages against Tendulkar Committee's prescription of Rs. 816 a month (Rs. 27/day).

So, BIC $_R$ = Rangarajan Poverty Line for Rural Areas as published on
                01.07.2014
                = Rs. 32 per day X 30= **Rs. 960.00 per month**

BIC $_U$ = Rangarajan Poverty Line for Urban Areas as published on
                01.07.2014
                = Rs.47 per day X 30
                = **Rs. 1410.00 per month**

➢ **'Non Compliance Index (NCI)'**

The proposed model would aim to promote social engineering particularly among the youth as they are expected to contribute at least 20 days in a year in any or few of the state or NGO sponsored welfare activities or social development programmes (Brinkerhoff, Stephen, and Hildy, 2007). The indicative lists of such programmes or activities should be apolitical in nature that may include participation in village development programmes run by any Govt. or NGOs, NCC / NSS, Volunteering or creating awareness for Health Mission Programme, Vaccination, Blood Donation Camp, Relief work etc.

The active participation shall be mandatory failing which it would attract for Non-Compliance and reduction in the UBI rates. If the beneficiaries of the scheme are found guilty for any cognizable offence or crime or convicted by any court of law, the UBI Scheme shall be withdrawn permanently. The scheme may be suspended as per the direction of the competent Authority if

prima facie is accepted or charge sheet is served. The appropriate modus-operandi may be devised for the purpose of implementation. Thus the instrument may boost peace, tranquility and social harmony to a certain extent.

> ‘Inflationary Protective Measures (IPM)’

The proposed model would aim to protect the beneficiaries of UBI scheme from the growing influx of inflation. Percentage of inflation may be compounded on ‘Basic Income Component both for Rural (BICR) and urban Areas (BICU)’ in the similar line as Dearness Allowance (DA) is calculated for govt. employees.

> ‘Age Induced Multiplier (AIM)’

The ‘Age Induced Multiplier (AIM)’ would address to meet the varying responsibilities augmented with expenditure pattern across different age groups of the targeted beneficiaries of UBI Scheme. For this purpose, total annual expenditure data across different age groups as reported by ‘Consumer Expenditure (CE) Survey, 2013’ conducted by U.S. Bureau of Labour Statistics is considered as the reference point.

Table: 9 Determining ‘Age Induced Multiplier (AIM)’ based on Average expenditures by age of reference person

Item	Age Groups							
	All Age Groups	Under 25	25–34	35–44	45–54	55–64	65–74	75 and above
Total annual expenditures	$51,100	$30,373	$,48,087	$58,784	$60,524	$55,892	$46,757	$34,382
Proportionate ratio of total annual expenditures among various age groups.		1	1.58	1.93	1.99	1.84	1.53	1.13
Share of Entertainment on Total annual expenditures	4.9%	4.1%	4.6%	5%	5.1%	4.7	5.3%	4.1%

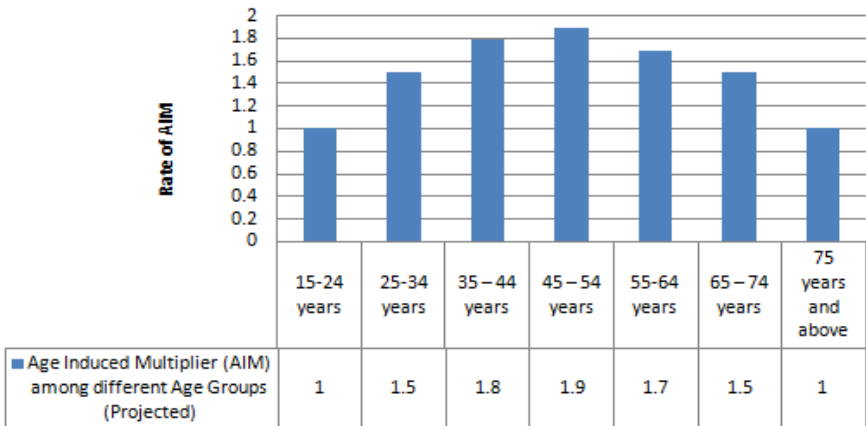|							
Regressing the ratio by 5% (approximated average share of entertainment) excluding Under 25 age group		1	1.5	1.83	1.89	1.7	1.45	1.07
Age Induced Multiplier determined approximating by making round up if the number is 5 and above or round down if the number is less than 5 up to one decimal point.		1	1.5	1.8	1.9	1.7	1.5	1

aU.S. Bureau of Labour Statistics, Consumer Expenditure (CE) Survey, 2013
bUBI would not support for expenditures for entertainment purposes among the beneficiaries except the persons below 25 years age group.

Table: 10   Determining the 'Age Induced Multiplier (AIM)' among Different Age Groups

Age Induced Multiplier (AIM) among different Age Groups (Projected)

	15-24 years	25-34 years	35 – 44 years	45 – 54 years	55-64 years	65 – 74 years	75 years and above
Age Induced Multiplier (AIM) among different Age Groups (Projected)	1	1.5	1.8	1.9	1.7	1.5	1

Based on these observations and inputs, two separate UBI equations have been developed i.e. Rural UBI and Urban UBI as prescribed below:

Compositions of Rural UBI

UBI_R= [{(BIC_R+ IPM) X AIM} – NCI]
Where,
UBI_R is the 'Universal Basic Income for Rural Areas' that is computed per month basis.
BIC_R is the 'Basic Income Component for Rural Areas' that is computed per month basis which shall follow the 'Rangarajan Poverty Line for Rural Areas'.
IPM is the 'Inflationary Protective Measures'
AIM is the 'Age Induced Multiplier'
 shall be the 'Non Compliance Index'

Illustrations:

BIC $_R$ = Rs. 960.00 per month [Alleviating 'Rangarajan Poverty Line for Rural Areas']

IPM   = 20% on BIC_R assuming 5% inflation per annum for 4 years (i.e. 01.07.2015, 01.07.2016, 01.07.2017 and 01.07.2018 as 'Rangarajan Poverty Line' was published on 01.07.2014)
        = Rs. (960 X 20%)
         = Rs.192.00

For a person with 30 years of age in rural areas, the value of 'Universal Basic Income' per month shall be computed as follows:

        UBI_R= [{(BIC R + IPM) X AIM} – NCI]
            = Rs. [{(960 + 192) X AIM} – NCI]
            = Rs. [{1152 X 1.5} – 0]   as Age Induced Multiplier (AIM) at the
              age 30 years is 1.5
             = Rs. 1728 per month
            =**Rs. 1728 per month**

Compositions of Urban UBI

$UBI_U = [\{(BIC\ U + IPM)\ X\ AIM\} - NCI]$
Where,

UBI_U is the 'Universal Basic Income for Urban Areas' that is computed per month basis.

BIC_U is the 'Basic Income Component for Urban Areas' that is computed per month basis which shall follow the 'Rangarajan Poverty Line for Urban Areas'.

IPM is the 'Inflationary Protective Measures'

AIM is the 'Age Induced Multiplier'

NCI shall be the 'Non Compliance Index'

BIC_U = **Rs. 1410.00 per month** [Alleviating 'Rangarajan Poverty Line for Urban Areas']

IPM   = 20% on BIC_U assuming 5% inflation per annum for 4 years (i.e. 01.07.2015, 01.07.2016, 01.07.2017 and 01.07.2018 as 'Rangarajan Poverty Line' was published on 01.07.2014)
= Rs. (1410 X 20%)
= Rs.282.00

For a person with 30 years of age in urban areas, the value of 'Universal Basic Income' per month shall be computed as follows:

UBI_U $= [\{(BIC\ U + IPM)\ X\ AIM\} - NCI]$ per month

$= [\{(1410 + 282)\ X\ AIM\} - NCI]$ per month

= Rs. [{1692 X 1.5} – 0] as Age Induced Multiplier (AIM) at the age 30 years is 1.5

= **Rs. 2538 per month**

3.3 Analysis and Interpretation III

Table: 11 Logical Interpretations of the Possible Indicative Impacts of UBI on relevant SDGs

SDGs	Description of SDGs	Impact of Universal Basic Income (UBI) on SDGs
Goal 1:	No Poverty	It empowers the beneficiaries to cross & raise above the Below Poverty Line (BPL)
Goal 2:	Zero Hunger	UBI shall be able to eradicate hunger.
Goal 3:	Good Health and Well-being	UBI shall ensure the beneficiaries to avail good health and well being. It is protected from inflationary impulse and augmented by age group multiplier. Other schemes like 'Universal Health Scheme' may be availed as compounded with the UBI.
Goal 4:	Quality Education	UBI shall encourage the young beneficiaries to continue with quality education since it enables to achieve part of its livelihood by the state.
Goal 5:	Gender Equality	UBI is individual specific and universally disbursement of regular grant that does not discriminate the beneficiaries with respect to gender.
Goal 6:	Clean Water and Sanitation	UBI shall motivate the person to opt for Clean Water and Sanitation. However, there are other schemes which may be complimented with the UBI scheme in order to avail Clean Water and Sanitation.
Goal 7:	Affordable and Clean energy	UBI shall motivate the person to opt for Affordable and Clean energy. However, there are other schemes which may be complimented the UBI scheme in order to avail Affordable and Clean energy.

Goal 8:	Decent Work and Economic Growth	UBI is protected from inflationary impulse and augmented by age group multiplier and it enhances 'Quality of Work Life' and the ecosystem for sustainable economic growth.
Goal 9:	Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	UBI ensure to fulfill the basic requirements of the individual to a certain extent. It creates entrepreneurial aspirations with higher risk taking ability and innovative minds.
Goal 10:	Reduced Inequalities	UBI shall bring the sense of equality. People can lead life with self respect, dignity and honour rather depending on others for basic livelihood.
Goal 11:	Sustainable Cities and Communities	UBI shall harness positivism of minds. It inculcates and incubates the culture of sustainability into their ways of life and practice.
Goal 12:	Sustainable Consumption and Production	UBI shall lead to learn the value of Sustainable Consumption and Production as the means of cascading effects.
Goal 13:	Climate Action	UBI may trigger to be more responsive to climate changes.
Goal 16:	Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions	The 'Non Compliance Index (NCI)' shall remain active in maintaining Peace and tranquility among the UBI beneficiaries. This would strengthen the social justice and institutional development. The NCI guided withdrawals of UBI schemes would necessarily act as a brake to commit any crime or unlawful activities among the beneficiaries.
Goal 17:	Partnership to achieve the Goal	UBI shall build the spirit of working with integrated and collaborative culture to achieve SDGs collectively.

3.4 Analysis IV

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Inherent Challenges and Discourses for implementing the scheme in India

- Introduction of 'The Universal Basic Income (UBI)' scheme may attract Demand Pull Inflation as every citizen would earn more than Below Poverty Line (BPL).
- UBI may severely affect on the fiscal health of the country.
- The huge expenditure on UBI may force the state to curtail funds for developmental projects.
- The Universal Basic Income (UBI) may promote the syndrome of remaining with 'Status quo' among a section of beneficiaries. If it is developed, it needs to be addressed with appropriate mechanism failing which the system would promote towards massive inefficiency in the society.
- The UBI scheme may be continued for long term perspective if the state can reduce the rate of population Growth as the study reveals that there is inverse relationship between 'Per Capita Income' and 'the rate of population Growth' among the top ten biggest economies of the World.
- UBI is unconditional in nature across the globe and the same spirit would prevail in India. However, all the beneficiaries are supposed to actively participate in the national programmes at least for 20 days in a year. This would bring justice to the term UBI as it is 'Universal Basic Income' but not the 'Universal Basic Grant'. This model would also promote the beneficiaries to become preacher of peace, tranquility and social harmony. Further, this scheme would reduce crime rates among the beneficiaries for the perceived fear of losing the financial dividend permanently.
- The scheme may be withdrawn from such beneficiaries if the total earning exceeds the minimum slab/level of income tax. It may be monitored by appropriate instruments like PAN Card etc. and dynamic e-governance mechanism.
- If we assume that Average UBI rate is 2000.00 INR per month and 20 crore people would be identified from the lowest strata of poverty line at the initial phase, the total annual fiscal burden on the country would be around 4.8 lakh crore INR. To accommodate such huge financial commitments, fund allocation on poverty and hunger like subsidy on

food grains may be partially withdrawn. The UBI beneficiaries shall be credited directly as the means of 'direct benefit transfer (DBT)' to boost higher transparency and governance using bio-metric smartcard system. This would diminish any sort of corruption like siphoning of fund in the name of fictitious persons, reduction of delay in the payment of UBI or occurrence of discounted payment (Chakrabarty, 2019).The model of 'social security system' as it is widely practiced in the advanced nations, may be adopted in India exploring Aadhar platform.

4. Conclusion:

This paper has attempted to study, enquire and interpret the related indicators of economy to understand the gamut of issues concerning to poverty in India. The study has deliberated on the premises whether the UBI can be implemented in India (Ghatak, 2016) and if so, the paper has developed a model to determine UBI rates both for rural and urban areas of India in such a way that the beneficiaries would be able to elevate from below poverty line. The model has also incorporated the appropriate measures to protect the beneficiaries from inflationary effect.

4.1 Limitations of the Study:

This study depends on secondary data which are collected from various data sources. But the dataset were prepared at different reference period. However, this would not affect the study significantly to derive the working model of 'Universal Basic Income (UBI)' scheme in Indian context. For determining 'Age Induced Multiplier (AIM)', total annual expenditure data was considered from 'Consumer Expenditure (CE) Survey, 2013' conducted by U.S. Bureau of Labour Statistics. A dedicated Consumer Expenditure (CE) Survey may be conducted across India to understand the very likely expenditure behavioral patterns of the population at different age groups so that, the most appropriate 'Age Induced Multiplier (AIM)' may be worked out for determining the dynamic rates of UBI with reference to various age groups in Indian context.

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