

## Policy needed for urban poor

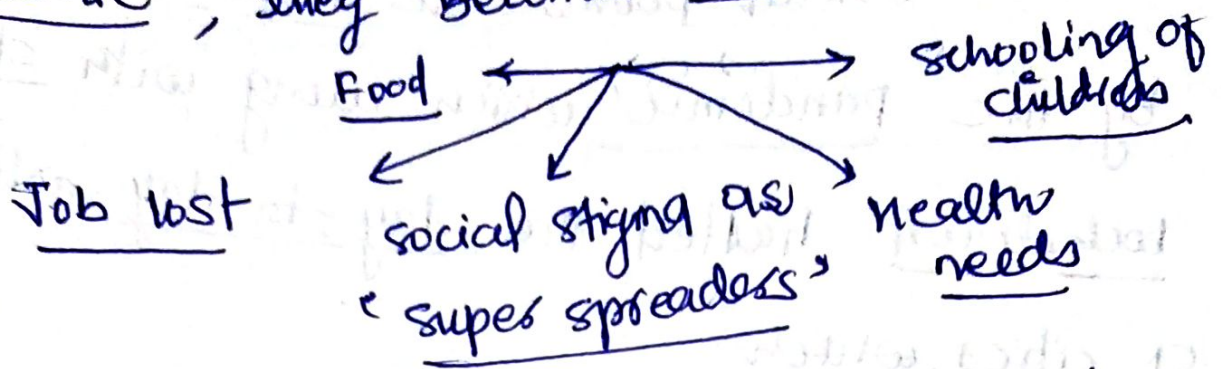
Urban poor are impacted hardest by the pandemic which along with strict lockdown halted the day-to-day activities of cities. which

Urban poor are a section of people unorganised, migrated from villages, live in slums and lack social security. The people are the engine of cities daily functioning by doing most menial jobs segregated by upper class urban residents -

such as

- (i) working as Domestic workers
- (ii) scavenging and cleaning
- (iii) Gig workers - ca, uber, auto etc
- (iv) supplying essentials to people as delivery boy.

But, as the city got closed due to pandemic, they become insecure by



Thus an urgent policy intervention is required to address these issues -

(i) livelihood - similar to MNREGA urban livelihood scheme can be formed by employing them under → AMRUT, SMRT city.  
→ National urban livelihood mission should be reinvented to address current need of pandemic.

(ii) skill training - As modernity proceeds, urban poor are unable to upgrade their skill set.

↳ scheme - Skill India, Startup India  
should prioritise urban poor by creating  
a quota kind of system.

↳ Education - closed school, lack of  
online equipment will pull future generation  
into poverty.

→ community/civil society participation  
is needed along with ~~MAA~~ MoE initiatives  
like 'manodarpan'

↳ Health - out of pocket expenditure  
can be avoided by scheme like Ayushman  
Bharat, which can be made more inclusive

through less documentation, mobile  
cliniques etc. Affordable healthcare will  
increase their disposable income  
towards → 'Nutrition'

↳ Housing - Fast mode affordable

house construction in mission mode  
by rationalising resources of → PMAY  
with supplementary schemes of gas, lighting  
and cleaning.

multiple schemes have created  
complexity, red tapism (delay). The policy  
should empower local bodies with responsibility  
and time frame and fix specific target  
to uplift the urban poor.