



GLOBAL MULTIDIMENSIONAL POVERTY INDEX- REPORTS

NEWS: The 2024 Global Multidimensional Poverty Index, is published with the theme of Poverty Amid Conflict.

WHAT'S IN THE NEWS?

About Global Multidimensional Poverty Index

- MPI is published annually by the **UN Development Programme (UNDP)** and the **Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative**.
- **The index utilizes 10 indicators** across these **three dimensions**.
- If a household is deprived in one-third or more of these indicators, it is considered multidimensionally poor.

Key Findings

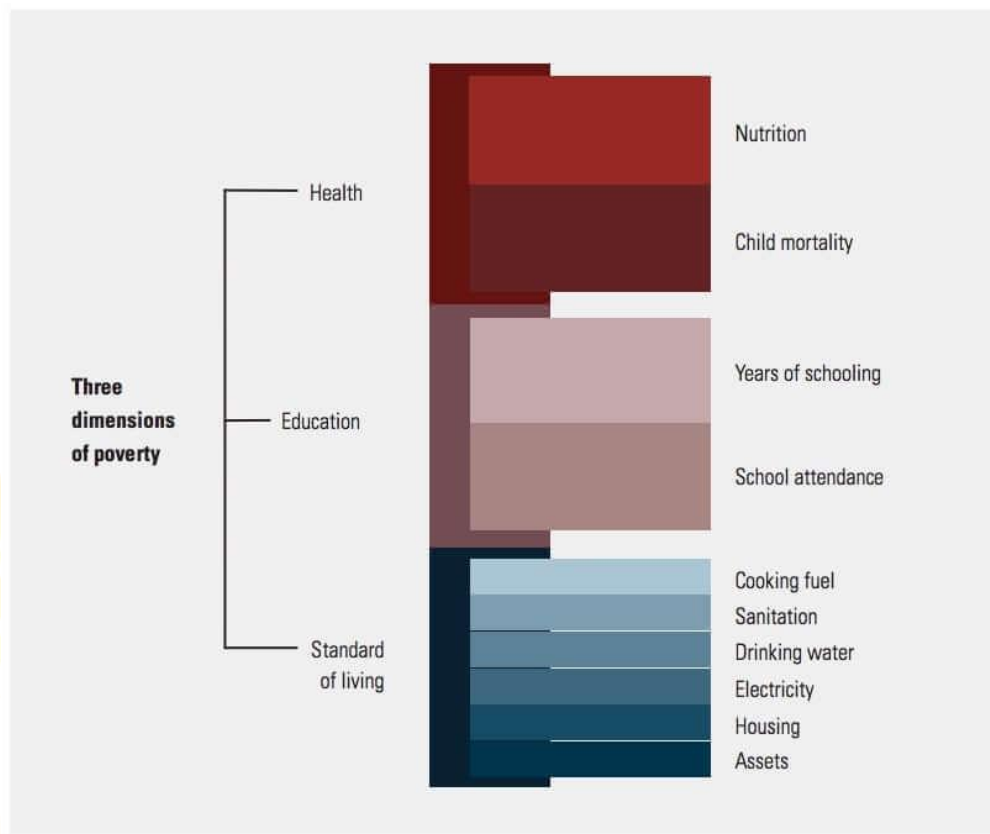
- **Across 112 countries** and 6.3 billion people, **1.1 billion people (18.3 percent)** live in acute multidimensional poverty.
- **Poor people live in rural areas:** 962 million (83.7 percent) live in rural areas.
 - Around 70.7 percent of all poor people live in rural areas of **Sub-Saharan Africa** (463 million) and **South Asia** (350 million).
- **The five countries** with the largest number of people living in poverty are **India (234 million)**, Pakistan (93 million), Ethiopia (86 million), Nigeria (74 million) and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (66 million).
 - Together, these five countries account for **nearly half (48.1 percent)** of the 1.1 billion poor people.
- Approximately **584 million** people under 18 are living in extreme poverty, making up 27.9% of all children globally, compared to 13.5% of adults.
- **Poverty in conflicted regions:** The report noted that 2023 witnessed more conflicts than at any time since World War II causing displacement of over **117 million people**.
- Nearly 40% of the 1.1 billion people live in poverty, approximately **455 million**, are situated in countries experiencing conflict.

Reasons for India's poor performance

- **Regional Disparities:** Rural poverty rates remain high due to inadequate infrastructure, poor service delivery, and limited economic opportunities outside agriculture.
- **Poor nutrition:** India struggles with severe malnutrition, particularly among children.
- **Quality of education:** The quality of education in many government-run schools is poor, leading to insufficient learning outcomes.



- **Water and sanitation:** Poor access to safe drinking water and inadequate sanitation, particularly in rural areas, continues to push many households into multidimensional poverty.
- **Economic setbacks:** The COVID-19 pandemic severely disrupted India's economy, leading



to job losses, reduced incomes, and increased vulnerabilities for millions of households.

Government Steps for Poverty alleviation

- **National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013:** It gives legal entitlement to 67% of the population (75% in rural areas and 50% in urban areas) to receive highly subsidized foodgrains.
- **Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) (2016):** This initiative was introduced to provide LPG (liquefied petroleum gas) connections to women belonging to Below Poverty Line (BPL) families.
- **Ayushman Bharat scheme:** It offers health insurance coverage of up to ₹5 lakh per family per year to shield beneficiaries from the financial burden of expensive medical treatments, thereby preventing them from falling deeper into poverty due to healthcare costs.
- **National Nutrition Mission (POSHAN Abhiyaan):** Launched in 2018, the mission aims to reduce malnutrition by focusing on stunting, undernutrition, and anemia, especially among children, adolescent girls, pregnant women, and lactating mothers.
- **Right to Education Act (RTE):** The RTE Act, enacted in 2009, provides free and compulsory education for children between 6 and 14 years.



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- **Swachh Bharat Mission:** The mission aims to achieve universal sanitation coverage by constructing toilets and promoting cleanliness.

Way Ahead

- India has made significant strides in poverty reduction through various initiatives but there is room for further improvement.
- Promoting sustainable livelihoods, improving the quality of service delivery, and leveraging digital solutions for better implementation will ensure that multidimensional poverty continues to decline.

Source: <https://www.undp.org/sites/g/files/zskgke326/files/2024-10/mpireport2024en.pdf>

