

## Global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) 2021

**Syllabus- GS 3: Poverty and Developmental issues**

**GS 2: Issues relating to Poverty and Hunger**

### Why in news:

Recently, Global Multidimensional Poverty Index 2021 was released by “United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)” and “Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative (OPHI)”.

### World Scenario:

- As per report, **1.3 billion people are multidimensionally poor**, of which around 644 million are children under age 18.
- 85 percent of them live in Sub-Saharan Africa (556 million) and South Asia (532 million).**
- Top 3 countries **with largest number of people living in MPI: India, Nigeria, Pakistan.**
- 67 percent** of the poor live in middle-income countries.
- 1 billion poor** are exposed to solid cooking fuels, inadequate sanitation and substandard housing.
- 788 million poor people live in household with at least one undernourished person.
- 568 million poor people do not have improved drinking water within a 30-minute round trip walk.
- Of the 80 countries and five billion people for which there is data over time, **70 reduced MPI in at least one period**, with the fastest changes coming from **Sierra Leone (2013-2017)**, followed by **Togo (2013/2014-2017)**.
- Some countries saw the fastest **absolute reductions** in their poorest regions-helping to fulfil their pledge to leave no one behind.
  - ✓ These areas include **North Central in Liberia (2013–2019/2020)** and **Province 2 in Nepal (2016–2019)**.

### DO YOU KNOW

- The **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)** is a United Nations organization tasked with helping countries eliminate poverty and achieve sustainable economic growth and human development.
- Headquartered in **New York City**, it is the largest UN development aid agency, with offices in 170 countries.
- Human Development Report:**
  - Since 1991, the UNDP has annually published the Human Development Report, which includes topics on Human Development and the annual Human Development Index.
  - The **Gender Inequality Index** is one such topic discussed in the Human Development Report.

### Education:

- Worldwide about two-thirds of multidimensionally poor people (836 million) live in households where **no woman or girl completed at least six years of schooling.**
  - ✓ **227 million live in India.**
- One-sixth of all multidimensionally poor people (215 million) live in households in which at least one boy or man has completed six or more years of schooling but no girl or woman has.
- The report also finds that **women and girls living in multidimensional poverty are at higher risk of intimate partner violence.**

### Effect of Covid:

The Covid-19 pandemic has eroded development progress around the world, and we are still grappling to understand its full impacts. It has exposed the weaknesses in social protections systems, education, and workers' vulnerability around the world. These weaknesses are deepest in countries with higher levels of multidimensional poverty.

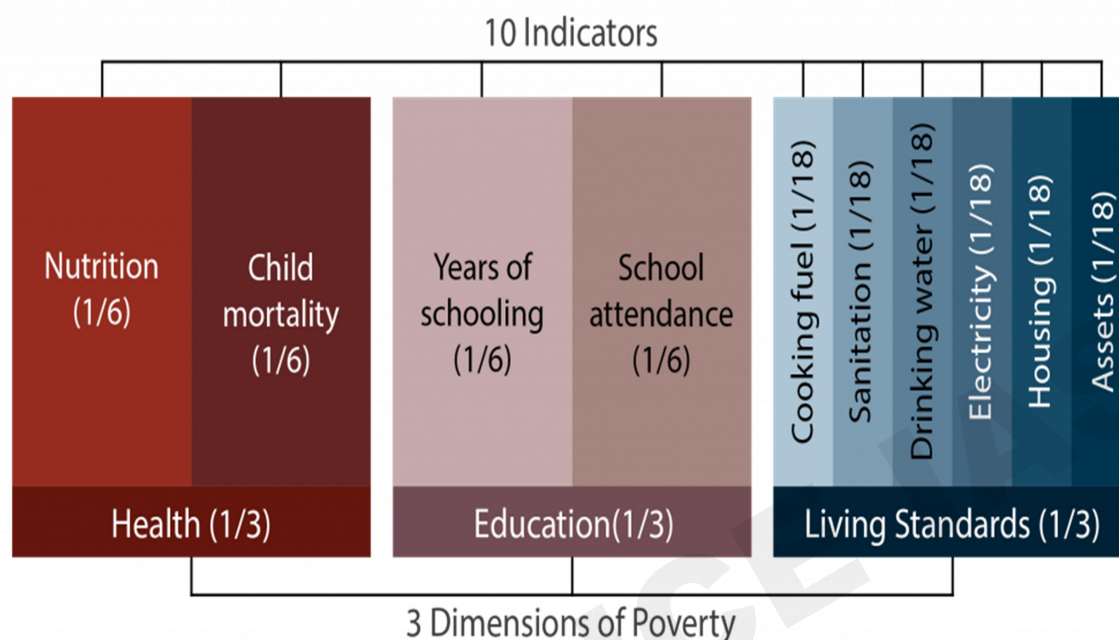
### Indian Scenario:

- **Scheduled Tribe group in India**, which accounts for 9.4 percent of the population, is **poorest**. Out of 129 million people, 65 million are living in multidimensional poverty.
- Out of 283 million scheduled caste group people, 94 million are living in multidimensional poverty.
- In all, five out of six multidimensionally poor people live in households whose head is from a Scheduled Tribe, a Scheduled Caste or Other Backward Class (OBCs).
- In India close to 12% of the population live in **female-headed households**.

### About MPI:

- This report examines the level and composition of multidimensional poverty across 109 countries covering 5.9 billion people.
- Report was launched in 2010.
- It is based on the idea that **poverty is not unidimensional** (i.e. it is not only dependent on income), rather it is multidimensional (i.e. one individual may lack several basic needs like education, health etc.)
- MPI uses **three dimensions** and **ten indicators** which are:
  - ✓ **Education:** Years of schooling and child enrollment (1/6 weightage each, total 2/6);
  - ✓ **Health:** Child mortality and nutrition (1/6 weightage each, total 2/6);
  - ✓ **Standard of living:** Electricity, flooring, drinking water, sanitation, cooking fuel and assets (1/18 weightage each, total 2/6).

**NOTE:** A person is **multidimensionally poor** if she/he is deprived in one third or more (means 33% or more) of the weighted indicators (out of the ten indicators). Those who are deprived in one half or more of the weighted indicators are considered living in **extreme multidimensional poverty**.



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