

Multidimensional Poverty in Odisha: A Comparative Analysis

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Abstract

Government of India's premier thinktank NITI Aayog has published its first 'National Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) 2021- Baseline Report'. As per MPI, Kerala has lowest poverty (0.71%) and Bihar has highest poverty (51.91%). This index is India's first ever index based on the NFHS Round 4 data (2015-16). Odisha has 29.35% multidimensional poverty. Low nutrition, less access to safe cooking fuel, less sanitation coverage and less housing coverage are contributing towards high multidimensional poverty. Odisha's performance is noteworthy in comparison to neighbouring and comparable states. Though Odisha has performed well between NFHS – 4 and NFHS – 5, due to historical incidence of backwardness, there is broad gap to catch up with lowest MPI states. Odisha's poverty has precipitously decreased by 24.61 percentage points from 57.20% (2004-05) to 32.59% (2011-12). Average annual decline in poverty is 3.52 percentage points. This is highest reduction in poverty among major states in the country. It is worth noting that, India saw 15 percentage points poverty reduction and average annual decline in poverty for the country was 2.14 percentage points during the same period. The state has performed way better than nation and major states in terms of elimination of poverty over last two decades. The state has been largely successful in multidimensional development and eliminating poverty at a faster level than nation. Among other accomplishment in SDG, the achievements of the state is remarkable in the domain of elimination of poverty in last two decades. Several welfare measures with targeted intervention has lead to achievement of fastest poverty reduction and state is targeting to reduce poverty to 10% by the end of 2025. Elimination of all forms of poverty, hunger, malnutrition, socio-economic deprivation will lead to achievement of 2030 agenda of Sustainable Development in Odisha.

Keywords: Poverty, MPI, Multidimensional poverty, Odisha, India, Growth, Education, Health, Development, SDG, Sustainable Development

I. Introduction

Poverty is pronounced deprivation in well-being. Poverty anywhere is a threat to prosperity everywhere. Since independence, defining a poverty line has been a debatable issue. During 1970s, first such poverty line concept in India was came into existence. Generally, poverty measures in India are money metric in nature and calculated according to a threshold level of MPCE. The connotation of poverty has changed over the years to adjust the measures of poverty line and poverty ratio. The constitution of a Working Group (1962), the Alagh Committee (1979), Lakdawala Committee (1989), Tendulkar Committee (2005), and Rangarajan Committee

(2009) contributed to redefining poverty in the country, particularly those of the poor. Multidimensional poverty measures poverty from multiple perspective in terms of education, health, standard of living etc and also involves nonmetric measures in terms of access and deprivation of basic necessities of life. The paper studies evolution of poverty and number of poor population since independence till date for Odisha and compares with multidimensional poverty of other states of India.

II. Poverty in Odisha

All round growth of Odisha Economy began in the 1940's and accelerated during the post-independence era in the 1950s, with the introduction of planned

development. Odisha's paramount mineral reserves, flora and fauna, 484 km long coastline would lead to multidimensional development of all regions of Odisha and all sections of society with special focus on deprived population. Balanced regional development helps in poverty alleviation as fruits of growth reaches to all the section of population and gap between rich and poor diminishes gradually. Tendulkar Committee Report (2005) and several subsequent national Sample Survey Organisations survey results outlines estimates of poverty for state and nation. Poverty is denoted in terms of poverty line and head count ratio. The poverty lines for the state are estimated at Rs. 695 for rural and Rs. 861 for urban area by 2011-12. 32.59% of population (138.2 lakh people) were below poverty line in Odisha by 2011-12. Several welfare measures with targeted intervention has lifted 82 lakh people out of poverty. Poverty has declined by 24.61 percentage points from 57.20% (2004-05) to 32.59% (2011-12). Average annual decline in poverty is 3.52 percentage points. This is highest reduction in poverty among major states in the country (Economic Survey, 2021). It is worth noting that, India saw 15 percentage points poverty reduction and average annual decline in poverty for the country was 2.14 percentage points during the same period (Government of India, 2009). The state has performed way better than nation and major states in terms of elimination of poverty over last two decades. Several welfare measures with targeted intervention has lead to achievement of fastest poverty reduction and state is targeting to reduce poverty to 10% by the end of 2025. Percentage of poor population in Odisha (Rural and Urban) from the year 1973 to the year 2012 is given in Table 1.

Table 1: Percentage of Rural and Urban poor in Odisha from 1973-2012

Year	Odisha		India	
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban
1973-74	67.78	55.62	56.44	49.01
1977-78	72.38	50.92	53.07	45.24
1983-84	67.53	49.15	45.65	40.79
1987-88	57.64	41.53	39.09	38.2
1993-94	49.72	41.64	37.27	32.36
1999-00	48.01	42.83	27.09	23.62
2004-05	60.80	37.60	41.80	25.70
2011-12	35.69	17.29	25.70	13.70

Source: Planning Commission Reports

In 1973-74, 66.2 percentage of people were poor, which increased to 70.1% (1977-78), declined to 65.3% (1983), to 55.6% (1987-88), to 48.6% (1993-94) and again declined to 46.6% (2004-05). Poverty started declining after the year 1978. Elimination was more prominent between 1977-78 and 1987-88 (14.5 percentage points). 67.2% of people were poor in rural area, which increased to 72.4% (1977-78), again declined to 67.5% (1983), to 57.6% (1987-88), and to 49.7% (1993-94) and finally declined to 46.8% (2004-05). Between 1993-2005, poverty in total has declined only 2 percentage points. In rural area, decline was 2.9 percentage points (Panda, 2015). The state has performed way better than nation and major states in terms of elimination of poverty over last two decades. Several welfare measures with targeted intervention has lead to achievement of fastest poverty reduction and state is targeting to reduce poverty to 10% by the end of 2025.

III. Multidimensional Poverty Index of India

Government of India's premier thinktank NITI Aayog, New Delhi has published its first 'Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) 2021- Baseline Report' on 26 November 2021 (NITI Aayog, 2021). As per the report, Kerala has lowest poverty (0.71%) and Bihar has highest poverty (51.91%). This index is India's first ever multidimensional poverty index measure based NFHS Round 4 data (2015-16). The multidimensional poverty index is popularly employed non-money metric poverty index in the world. The index covers overlapping deprivations in health, education and basic standards of living. The non-money metric measures complements money metric poverty measurements because it measures and compares deprivations directly on the basis of several aspects of development.

The Global Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development was signed on 25 September 2015 by 193 member nations of UN. The agenda established the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), 169 targets and 232 indicators. SDG 1 calls for Ending poverty in all its forms everywhere. The goal is multidimensional in its totality. Multidimensional poverty index has wide ranging application for any country in terms of development of schemes and targeted interventions which contribute towards elimination of poverty in all its form from everywhere in the world. The district-wise estimation of multidimensional poverty will help in identifying deprived districts based on these indicators and accordingly policies can be planned and implemented for reaching the goal of Left No One Behind (LNOB) by the year 2030.

NITI Aayog has prepared this index with consultation with Ministries of Union Government. The index has 3

equally weighted dimensions namely health, education and Basic Living Standard. These three dimensions are measured by 12 indicators listed below.

- i. "Nutrition"
- ii. "Child and adolescent mortality"
- iii. "Maternal health"
- iv. "Years of schooling"
- v. "School attendance"
- vi. "Cooking fuel"
- vii. "Sanitation"
- viii. "Drinking water"
- ix. "Electricity"
- x. "Housing"
- xi. "Assets"
- xii. "Bank account"

Percentage of population who are poor in these 12 indicators in all states and union territories is given in Table 2.

Table 2: State/UT Wise Multidimensional Poor Population in India

SI No	State	Headcount Ratio (%)
1	Bihar	51.91
2	Jharkhand	42.16
3	Uttar Pradesh	37.79
4	Madhya Pradesh	36.65
5	Meghalaya	32.67
6	Assam	32.67
7	Chhattisgarh	29.91
8	Rajasthan	29.46
9	Odisha	29.35
10	Nagaland	25.23
11	Arunachal Pradesh	24.27
12	West Bengal	21.43
13	Gujarat	18.60
14	Manipur	17.89
15	Uttarakhand	17.72
16	Tripura	16.65
17	Maharashtra	14.85
18	Telangana	13.74
19	Karnataka	13.16
20	Andhra Pradesh	12.21
21	Haryana	12.28

22	Mizoram	9.80
23	Himachal Pradesh	7.62
24	Punjab	5.59
25	Tamil Nadu	4.89
26	Sikkim	3.82
27	Goa	3.76
28	Kerala	0.71
	Union Territory	
1	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	27.36
2	Jammu & Kashmir, & Ladakh	12.58
3	Daman & Diu	6.82
4	Chandigarh	5.97
5	Delhi	4.79
6	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	4.30
7	Lakshadweep	1.82
8	Puducherry	1.72
	India	25.01

Source: NITI Aayog MPI Report, 2015-16

IV. Multidimensional Poverty in Odisha

Odisha is ranked at bottom 9 in the MPI with 29.35% of multidimensional poverty. Total MPI score of Odisha is 0.136 (Rural MPI score - 0.152 and Urban MPI score - 0.057). Poverty headcount ratio for the state is 29.35% whereas intensity score is 46.42%. Percentage of population who are multidimensionally poor in each district is given in Table 3.

Table 3: District Wise Multidimensional Poor Population in Odisha

SI No	District	Headcount Ratio (%)
1	Nabarangapur	59.32
2	Malkangiri	58.71
3	Koraput	51.14
4	Rayagada	48.14
5	Kalahandi	47.28
6	Mayurbhanj	44.9
7	Kandhamal	44.75
8	Kendujhar	41.78
9	Gajapati	38.8
10	Nuapada	38
11	Debagarh	37.1
12	Baouda	33.03

13	Dhenkanal	30.08
14	Bhadrak	28.43
15	Subarnapur	28.05
16	Balangir	27.49
17	Bargarh	24.9
18	Sundargarh	24.75
19	Anugul	24.57
20	Sambalpur	24.53
21	Balasore	24.42
22	Ganjam	21.88
23	Kendrapara	21.67
24	Jajpur	20.75
25	Nayagarh	20.49
26	Jharsuguda	18.62

27	Khordha	15.49
28	Cuttack	14.97
29	Jagatsinghapur	11.83
30	Puri	11.64
	Odisha	29.35

Source: NITI Aayog MPI Report, 2015-16

Region wise analysis of multidimensional poverty will enable to identify the deprived population. Undivided Koraput and Kandhamal region has historical incidence of poverty in Odisha. These region include districts namely: Nabarangapur, Malkangiri, Koraput, Rayagada, Kalahandi, Kandhamal, Nuapada, Subarnapur and Balangir. The Kandhamal Balangir Koraput (KBK) region poverty is highlighted in several literature and report. Percentage of population who are deprived in each indicator for undivided Koraput and undivided Kandhamal region is given in Table 4.

Table 4: Indicator Wise Score of Undivided Koraput and Undivided Kandhamal Districts

District	Nutrition	Child & Adolescent Mortality	Maternal Health	Years of Schooling	School Attendance	Cooking Fuel	Sanitation	Drinking Water	Electricity	Housing	Assets	Bank Account
Nabaran-gapur	53.72	4.06	33.56	34.15	15.40	90.73	83.31	26.92	29.89	80.22	33.74	19.31
Malkangiri	58.90	6.94	28.08	43.56	17.12	94.63	83.26	19.56	11.53	76.07	35.56	9.26
Koraput	47.60	2.56	24.91	38.82	15.58	81.10	82.22	20.06	22.62	59.13	39.72	16.35
Rayagada	46.62	5.50	25.96	36.80	12.98	83.60	76.90	16.26	19.18	59.51	36.58	15.80
Kalahandi	41.41	1.83	21.33	28.84	8.47	92.52	85.40	27.27	31.17	75.93	27.94	16.98
Kandhamal	42.69	3.57	27.12	19.50	5.43	93.88	83.95	52.94	20.93	63.14	45.09	6.69
Nuapada	49.05	2.52	16.59	21.37	7.34	90.56	80.02	18.59	16.83	71.33	17.54	5.85
Subarnapur	43.04	2.03	14.17	11.83	1.28	85.30	82.59	17.64	9.16	64.12	17.77	6.63
Balangir	44.84	2.19	10.63	16.15	4.01	90.57	85.50	22.09	15.62	65.84	16.75	6.08
Odisha	37.3	2.2	19.5	16.7	5	80.9	70.4	21	13.4	55.8	19.2	10.9
India	37.6	2.7	22.6	13.9	6.4	58.5	52	14.6	12.2	45.6	14	9.7

Source: NITI Aayog MPI Report, 2015-16

If we analyse indicator score for these districts, it can be said that low nutrition, less access to safe cooking fuel, less sanitation coverage and less housing coverage are contributing towards high multidimensional poverty. However, in indicators like child & adolescent mortality, school attendance, and bank account these districts are performing well in comparison to other indicators.

V. MPI of Odisha and Comparable States

It is very interesting to study multidimensional poverty of comparable states namely Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan. This will help us in understanding where the Odisha stands in terms of these 12 indicators compared to other states of the country.

In all indicators, progress of Odisha is visible between NFHS-4 and NFHS-5 (IIPS, 2012). In Stunting Children indicator, Odisha's performance is better than West Bengal and Chhattisgarh but lagging behind Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan. In Underweight Children indicator, Odisha is doing well in comparison to West Bengal but lagging behind Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan. In Women BMI indicator, Odisha's performance is ahead of Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Madhya Pradesh but falling short of West Bengal and Rajasthan. In Men BMI indicator, all neighbouring states are performing well in comparison to Odisha. Overall in Nutrition component, Odisha's performance is better than neighbouring and comparable states.

In Child and Adolescent Mortality category, Odisha's performance is lagging behind all neighbouring and comparable states in all 3 indicators (neonatal mortality rate, infant mortality rate and under-five mortality rate). In at least 4 antenatal care visits of Mother indicator, Odisha's progress is noteworthy and way ahead of Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and West Bengal. In Institutional Birth indicator and Births attended by skilled health personnel indicator, Odisha's performance is lagging behind all neighbouring and comparable states. Overall in Health component, Odisha's performance is lagging behind neighbouring and comparable states.

In Years of Schooling – Women indicator, Odisha is performing better than Jharkhand and Madhya Pradesh but lagging behind Chhattisgarh and Rajasthan. In Years of Schooling – Men indicator, Odisha's performance is better than Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan. In School Attendance indicator, Odisha is performing better than Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal. Overall in Education component, Odisha's performance is better than neighbouring and comparable states.

In Cooking Fuel indicator, Odisha's performance is better than all neighbouring and comparable states. In Sanitation indicator, Odisha is performing better than West Bengal and Madhya Pradesh but lagging behind Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Rajasthan. In Drinking Water indicator, Odisha's performance is better than West Bengal but lagging behind Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan. In Electricity indicator, Odisha is performing better than Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal and Rajasthan and only lagging behind Jharkhand. In Bank Account indicator, Odisha's performance is better than Chhattisgarh and Rajasthan but lagging behind Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal. Overall in Standard of Living component, Odisha's performance is better than neighbouring and comparable states. Indicator wise score of Odisha and other comparable states between two latest rounds of NFHS is outlined in Table 5.

Table 5: Indicator Wise Score of Odisha and Comparable States between NFHS 4 and 5

Sl No	State	Indicator	Odisha		Chhattisgarh		Jharkhand		West Bengal		Madhya Pradesh		Rajasthan	
			NHFS 4	NHFS 5	NHFS 4	NHFS 5	NHFS 4	NHFS 5	NHFS 4	NHFS 5	NHFS 4	NHFS 5	NHFS 4	NHFS 5
1	Nutrition	Stunted Children	34.1	31.0	37.6	34.6	45.3	39.6	32.5	33.8	42.0	35.7	39.1	31.8
		Underweight Children	34.4	29.7	37.7	31.3	47.8	39.4	31.6	32.2	42.8	33.0	36.7	27.6
		Women BMI	26.5	20.8	26.7	23.1	31.5	26.2	21.3	14.8	28.4	23.0	27.0	19.6
		Men BMI	19.5	15.3	24.1	17.4	23.8	17.1	19.9	15.1	28.4	20.8	22.7	14.0
2	Child & Adolescent Mortality	NNMR	28.2	27.0	42.1	32.4	33.0	28.2	22.0	15.5	36.9	29.0	29.8	20.2
		IMR	39.6	36.3	54.0	44.3	33.0	28.2	27.5	22.0	51.2	41.3	41.3	30.3
		U5MR	48.1	41.1	64.3	50.4	54.3	45.4	26.8	22.3	64.6	49.2	50.7	37.6
3	Maternal Health	Antenatal care	61.9	78.1	59.1	60.1	30.3	38.6	76.4	75.8	35.7	57.5	38.5	55.3
		Institutional births	85.3	92.2	70.2	85.7	61.9	75.8	75.2	91.7	80.8	90.7	84.0	94.9
		Skilled Home Birth	3.3	1.9	8.4	5.8	8.0	8.4	6.8	2.6	2.3	2.5	3.2	1.4
		Skilled Birth	86.5	91.8	78.0	88.8	69.6	82.5	81.6	94.1	78.0	89.3	86.6	95.6

4	Years of Schooling	Women years of schooling	26.7	33.0	26.5	36.9	28.7	33.2	26.5	32.9	23.2	29.3	25.1	33.4
		Men years of schooling	37.1	38.6	36.0	41.5	40.2	46.6	33.8	34.7	34.3	39.9	43.8	51.9
5	School Attendance	School Attendance	67.8	71.5	67.6	69.3	61.1	64.5	74.0	76.8	64.0	67.5	57.2	63.5
6	Cooking Fuel	clean fuel for cooking	19.2	34.7	22.8	33.0	18.9	31.9	27.8	40.2	29.6	40.1	31.8	41.4
7	Sanitation	Improved sanitation	30.0	60.5	34.8	76.8	25.0	56.7	52.8	68.0	34.8	65.1	46.1	77.1
8	Drinking Water	Improved drinking-water source	89.1	91.1	91.3	95.5	78.1	86.6	97.2	97.5	85.2	89.0	93.7	96.5
9	Electricity	households with electricity	86.6	97.0	96.3	98.8	81.2	94.3	94.3	97.5	90.9	98.4	91.2	98.1
10	Bank Accounts	Women having a bank or savings account	56.2	86.5	51.3	80.3	45.1	79.6	43.5	76.5	37.3	74.7	58.2	79.6

Source: Author's Calculation

VI. Odisha and Lowest MPI States

It is very interesting to study Odisha's performance in comparison to lowest multidimensional poverty states namely Kerala, Tamilnadu and Punjab. Though Odisha has performed well between NFHS – 4 and 5, due to historical incidence of backwardness, there is broad gap to catch up with lowest MPI states (IIPS, 2021). In Stunting Children indicator, Odisha's performance is better than Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Punjab. In Underweight Children indicator, Odisha is doing well in comparison to Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Punjab. In Women BMI indicator, Odisha's performance is ahead of Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Punjab. In Men BMI indicator, Odisha's performance is ahead of Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Punjab. In neonatal mortality rate indicator, Odisha's performance is better than Kerala and Punjab but broad gap to catch up. In infant mortality rate indicator, Odisha's performance is better than Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Punjab but broad gap to catch up. In under-five mortality rate indicator, Odisha is performing better than Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Punjab but broad gap to catch up. In at least 4 antenatal care visits of Mother indicator, Odisha's progress is noteworthy and way ahead of Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Punjab. In Institutional Birth indicator and Births attended by skilled health personnel

indicator, Odisha's performance is better than Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Punjab. In Institutional Birth indicator, Odisha's performance is better than Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Punjab. In Home births by skilled health personnel indicator, Odisha's performance is lagging behind Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Punjab. In Years of Schooling – Women indicator, Odisha is performing better than better than Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Punjab. In Years of Schooling – Men indicator, Odisha's performance is better than Punjab and Tamil Nadu but lagging behind Kerala. In School Attendance indicator, Odisha is performing better than Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Punjab. In Cooking Fuel indicator, Odisha's performance is better than Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Punjab. In Sanitation indicator, Odisha's performance is substantial and better than Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Punjab. In Drinking Water indicator, Odisha's performance is better Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Punjab. In Electricity indicator, Odisha's performance is substantial and better than Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Punjab. In Bank Account indicator, Odisha's performance is substantial and better than Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Punjab. Indicator wise score of Odisha and other lowest MPI states between two latest rounds of NFHS is outlined in Table 6.

Table 6: Indicator Wise Score of Odisha and Lowest MPI States between NFHS 4 and 5

SI No	State	Detailed Indicators	Odisha		Kerala		Tamil Nadu		Punjab	
			NHFS 4	NHFS 5	NHFS 4	NHFS 5	NHFS 4	NHFS 5	NHFS 4	NHFS 5
1	Nutrition	Stunted Children	34.1	31.0	19.7	23.4	27.1	25.0	25.7	24.5
		Underweight Children	34.4	29.7	16.1	19.4	23.8	22.0	21.6	16.9
		Women BMI	26.5	20.8	9.7	10.1	14.6	12.6	11.7	12.7
		Men BMI	19.5	15.3	8.5	10.0	12.4	12.1	10.9	12.5
2	Child & Adolescent Mortality	NNMR	28.2	27.0	4.4	3.4	14.0	12.7	21.2	21.8
		IMR	39.6	36.3	5.6	4.4	20.2	18.6	29.2	28.0
		U5MR	48.1	41.1	7.1	5.2	26.8	22.3	33.2	32.7
3	Maternal Health	Antenatal care	61.9	78.1	90.1	78.6	81.1	89.9	68.5	59.3
		Institutional births	85.3	92.2	99.8	99.8	98.9	99.6	90.5	94.3
		Skilled Home Birth	3.3	1.9	0.1	0.2	0.6	0.2	4.5	2.6
		Skilled Birth	86.5	91.8	99.9	100.0	99.2	99.8	94.1	95.6
4	Years of Schooling	Women years of schooling	26.7	33.0	72.2	77.0	50.9	56.6	55.1	56.0
		Men years of schooling	37.1	38.6	70.5	73.3	58.3	59.1	59.8	58.7
5	School Attendance	School Attendance	67.8	71.5	95.4	95.5	77.2	80.4	76.0	77.2
6	Cooking Fuel	clean fuel for cooking	19.2	34.7	57.4	72.1	73.0	82.9	65.9	76.7
7	Sanitation	Improved sanitation	30.0	60.5	98.2	98.7	52.5	72.6	82.7	86.6
8	Drinking Water	Improved drinking-water source	89.1	91.1	94.8	94.9	97.7	98.6	99.6	98.8
9	Electricity	households with electricity	86.6	97.0	99.2	99.6	99.0	99.3	99.6	99.7
10	Bank Accounts	Women having a bank or savings account	56.2	86.5	70.6	78.5	77.0	92.2	58.8	81.6

Source: Author's Computation

VII. Conclusion

As per NITI Aayog's first MPI report, Kerala has lowest poverty (0.71%) and Bihar has highest poverty (51.91%). Odisha is ranked at bottom 9 in the MPI with 29.35% poverty. Low nutrition, less access to safe cooking fuel, less sanitation coverage and less housing coverage are contributing towards high multidimensional poverty. Though Odisha has performed well between NFHS – 4

and 5, due to historical incidence of backwardness, there is broad gap to catch up with lowest MPI states. Poverty in Odisha has declined by 24.61 percentage points from 57.20% (2004-05) to 32.59% (2011-12). This is highest reduction in poverty among major states in the country. It is worth noting that, India saw 15 percentage points poverty reduction and average annual decline in poverty for the country was 2.14 percentage points during the same period. The state has performed way better

than nation and major states in terms of elimination of poverty over last two decades. The state has been largely successful in multidimensional development and eliminating poverty at a faster level than nation. Among other accomplishment in SDG, the achievements of the state is remarkable in the domain of elimination of poverty in last two decades. Several welfare measures with targeted intervention has lead to achievement of fastest poverty reduction and state is targeting to reduce poverty to 10% by the end of 2025.

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