

POVERTY AS CHALLENGE

1 Describe the poverty trends in India since 1973?

Ans There has been substantial decline in poverty ratios in India from about 45% in 1993-94 to 37.2% in 2004-05. Proportion of people below poverty line came down to about 22% in 2011-12. If it continues, people below poverty line ~~will~~ ^{may} come down to less than 20% in next few years. No. of poor has also declined from 407 million in 2004-05 to 270 million in 2011-12 with average annual decline of 2.2% during 2004-05 to 2011-12.

6 Give an account of interstate disparities of poverty in India.

Ans Madhya Pradesh, Assam, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Orissa had above All India Poverty Level, Bihar and Orissa continue to be the poorest states in India, with poverty ratio of 33.7% and 32.6% respectively. Along with rural poverty, urban poverty is also high in these states. On the other hand, Punjab and Haryana have traditionally succeeded in reducing poverty by high agricultural growth rates. Kerala has focused on human resource development. In West Bengal, land reform measures have helped in reducing poverty. Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu have done public distribution of food grains.