

3) Describe poverty trends in India since 1973?

There is a substantial decline in poverty ratios in India from about 45% in 1993-1994 to 37.2% in 2004-2005. The proportion of people below poverty line further came to 22% in 2011-12.

If the trend continues people below poverty line may come down to less than 20% in next few years.

Although the percentage of people living under poverty declined in earlier two decades, the number of poor declined from 407 million in 2004-05 to 270 million in 2011-12 with an average decline of 2.2 percentage points during 2004-05 to 2011-12.

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

The proportion of poor in India is not same in every state.

Bihar and Odisha continue to be the two poorest states with poverty ratios of 33.7 and 32.6 percent respectively.

But, in comparison there has been a significant decline in poverty in Kerala, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat and West Bengal and Punjab and Haryana.

States like Punjab and Haryana have succeeded in reducing poverty with the help of high agricultural growth rates.

Kerala focussed on human resource development by providing better educational and skills improving facilities, thus reducing poverty.

- In West Bengal, land reform measures have helped in reducing poverty.
- In Andhra Pradesh, public distribution of food grains could be responsible for improvement.