

Q3. Describe poverty trends in India since 1973?

Ans) The trends in poverty since 1973 are

i) There is a substantial decline in poverty ratios from about 55% in 1973 to 36% in 1993.

ii) The proportion of people below poverty line further came down to about 26% in 2000.

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

iv) Although the percentage of the people living under poverty declined in the earlier 2 decades (1973-1993) the number of poor remained stable around 320 million for a fairly long period.

v) The latest estimates indicate a significant reduction in the no. of poor to about 260 million.

Q6. Give an account of interstate disparities of poverty in India.

Ans) In India, the proportion of poor people is not the same in every state.

- Bihar and Odisha continue to be the two poorest states with poverty ratio of 33.7% and 32.6% respectively. Illiteracy, social backwardness etc. are the causes.

- Along with rural poverty, urban poverty is also high in Odisha, MP, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh.
- There has been a significant decline in poverty in Kerala, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat and West Bengal.
- Punjab and Haryana have reduced poverty with the help of high agricultural growth rates.
- Kerala has focused more on human resource development.
- In West Bengal, land reform measures have helped in reducing poverty.
- In Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu, public distribution system of food grains could have been responsible for the ~~government~~ improvement.