

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PLANNING

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 463**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.12.2025

**PEOPLE LIVING UNDER EXTREME POVERTY**

463. SHRI ANTO ANTONY:  
ADV. ADOOR PRAKASH:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has done any latest review on the alleviation of extreme poverty in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the total number of people living under extreme poverty during the last five years, State-wise and year-wise;
- (c) the criteria and methodology used for defining extreme poverty in the country;
- (d) whether it is true that Government of Kerala has declared the State as free from extreme poverty in the country and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details of norms for declaring a State free from extreme poverty in the country?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION; MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE

**(RAO INDERJIT SINGH)**

- (a) to (c) The Government of India developed a comprehensive index known as National Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) to measure poverty. The Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) is based on the Alkire-Foster (AF) methodology- an internationally recognized method which captures overlapping deprivations through 12 indicators in dimensions such as health, education, and standard of living. The baseline report was published in November 2021 and the second edition of the National MPI report was released in July 2023.

As per the latest report, 'National Multidimensional Poverty Index: A Progress Review 2023', released by NITI Aayog, the proportion of population in multidimensional poverty declined from 24.85% to 14.96% between 2015-16 and 2019- 21, indicating that about 13.5 crore people have escaped poverty during the period. Further, as per the discussion paper on Multidimensional Poverty in India since 2005- 06 published by NITI Aayog, Multidimensional Poverty in India is estimated to have declined from 29.17% in 2013-14 to 11.28% in 2022-23 implying that 24.82 crore people have escaped poverty during this period. The state-wise details of the same are in public domain and can be accessed at <https://www.niti.gov.in/sites/default/files/2023-08/India-National-Multidimensional-PovertyIndex-2023.pdf> and [https://www.niti.gov.in/sites/default/files/2024-01/MPI-22\\_NITIAayog20254.pdf](https://www.niti.gov.in/sites/default/files/2024-01/MPI-22_NITIAayog20254.pdf).

- (d) and (e) On 1<sup>st</sup> November, 2025. the Government of Kerala has officially announced the State as the first in the country free from extreme poverty.

The Extreme Poverty Eradication Programme was launched in 2021 by the Government of Kerala. A comprehensive identification process was conducted at the local body, division, and ward levels to identify extreme poverty cases based on distress factors such as food, health, housing, and income. The finalised beneficiary list, approved by Grama/Ward Sabhas, identified 64,006 families in need of support under the programme. Various health, food, shelter, income etc. related interventions were undertaken for these families during the project thereby; lifting them out of extreme poverty.

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