

The State of the World's Children report, 2025

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Why in news?

Recently, **UNICEF** has released "The State of the World's Children 2025: Ending Child Poverty - Our Shared Imperative" report on World Children's Day (November 20, 2025).

Key findings of the report

- Global context More than 1 in 5 children in <u>low and middle-income</u> countries (about 400 million globally) are severely deprived in at least two basic needs out of 6 <u>education</u>, <u>health</u>, <u>housing</u>, <u>nutrition</u>, <u>sanitation</u>, <u>clean water</u>.
 - Substantial levels of child poverty exist around the world, even in high income countries (around 50 million children live in poverty).
- Extreme (Monetary) poverty 412 million children live on less than US\$3 per day.

Monetary poverty - A state where an individual or household's income or spending falls **below a set poverty line**, leaving them without sufficient financial resources to meet a minimum standard of living.

- Geographical concentration <u>Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia</u> account for almost 9 out of 10 children living in extreme poverty.
- **Vulnerable groups** Young children, those with disabilities, and children in conflict or climate crisis zones are most at risk.
- **Major barriers** in ending child poverty Climate & environmental crises, conflict, and underfunding.
- India specific insights -
 - 1 in 5 of the world's children or approximately 460 million children under 18 years of age, lives in India.
 - Scale of deprivation More than half of 460 million Indian children (about 206 million) lack access to at least one of 6 basic services.
 - Out of the 206 million Indian children 62 million, lack access to two or more basic services.
 - National Multidimensional Poverty Index 248 million people escaped multidimensional poverty <u>between 2013-23</u> (Poverty dropped <u>from 29.2% to 11.3%).</u>
 - Flagship schemes praised Poshan Abhiyaan, Samagra Shiksha, PM-KISAN, Mid-Day Meal, Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, Swachh Bharat.

References

- 1. The Hindu | State of the World's Children 2025 report
- 2. UNICEF | State of the World's Children report
- 3. New Indian Express | State of the World's Children report

