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Seminar Title	: Assessing Multidimensional Child Poverty in India: A Decomposition Analysis
Speaker	: Itishree Pradhan ( Rollno : 517hs3009)
Supervisor	: Prof. Jalandhar Pradhan
Venue	: Conference Room, Dept. of Humanities and Social Sciences, NIT Rourkela
Date and Time	: 29 Nov 2023 (11.00 AM)
Abstract	: Poverty among Indian children fell faster, however their contribution to the global poor children is highest. The study objectives were: to examine the changes in multidimensional child poverty (MCP) between 2015-16 and 2019-21 across all States/UTs and various population subgroups decompose the MCP by various population subgroups and geographic locations investigate the determinants of MCP in India and across its regions and examine the multidimensional household poverty and intra-household inequality in child deprivation in India. Data derived from the two rounds of National Family and Health Survey: 4 <sup>th</sup> (2015-16) and 5 <sup>th</sup> (2019-21). Alkire-Foster counting approach, Shapley decomposition and various statistical methods such as logistic regression, tetrachoric correlation and first order stochastic dominance approach were employed. The results show that in India, the incidence of child poverty reduced by over 40% between 2015-16 and 2019-21 (46.6% to 27.4%) and the MCP Index reduced by half (0.242 to 0.126). Notably, the decline in MCP has been most significant in urban areas, northern region, Other Backward Classes (OBCs) and Hindus. Children from rural areas, Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs), and Muslim households are the poor performers. Significant improvements were observed in indicators such as access to electricity, birth registration, clean drinking water, assisted delivery during childbirth, sanitation facilities, and cooking fuel between 2015-16 and 2019-21. Among the 15 indicators, sanitation contributes the most to the MCPI, followed by mother's education, cooking fuel, housing condition, and hand hygiene with the order varying across the population subgroups and geographical locations. Factors like child's sex, mother's education, education level of the household head, age and sex of household headship, child's birth order, caste, religion, household structure, and size are the significant predictor of MCP. Intra-household inequality in child deprivation in their basic rights was more prevalent among multidimensionally poor households. This study assists in ensuring the commitment to "Leave No One Behind" by identifying and addressing the specific deprivations faced by children belonging to diverse subgroups within the Indian population.