**Assignment on Analyzing the Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI)**

**Purpose**

To critically examine the Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) as a comprehensive measure of poverty, understanding its methodology, application, and implications for policy-making.

**Instructions**

Prepare a well-structured essay addressing the following components:

1. **Conceptual Understanding**
   * Define the Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) and explain its purpose in measuring poverty beyond income levels.
   * Discuss the rationale for adopting a multidimensional approach to poverty measurement.
2. **Methodology**
   * Describe the structure of the MPI, detailing its three dimensions: Health, Education, and Standard of Living.
   * Enumerate the specific indicators within each dimension and explain how deprivation is assessed for each.
   * Explain the weighting scheme used in the MPI and the criteria for determining if a household is considered multidimensionally poor.
3. **Application and Analysis**
   * Illustrate the calculation of the MPI using a hypothetical example of a household, showing how deprivation scores are assigned and aggregated.
   * Analyze the strengths and limitations of the MPI in capturing the complexities of poverty.
4. **Comparative Study**
   * Using recent data from credible sources (e.g., UNDP), compare the MPI scores of two countries.
   * Discuss the insights these scores provide about the nature and extent of poverty in these countries.
5. **Policy Implications** 
   * Evaluate how the MPI can inform and influence poverty alleviation policies.
   * Suggest ways in which governments and organizations can utilize MPI findings to target interventions effectively.

**Requirements**

* Word count: 1,200–1,500 words.
* Include relevant tables, figures, or graphs to support your analysis.
* Use Harvard APA format for both citations and references
* Submit your assignment by 10th May 2025 at my office (Room: 211).