

# Economic Development in India

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## Issues and Challenges

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# Can Climatic Shock Affects Childhood Malnutrition Case Study from the Indian Sundarbans

NILANJAN PATRA

## ABSTRACT

Childhood malnutrition is a wider problem in the developing countries. This paper tries to see if climatic shocks can affect childhood malnutrition and if the community has the capability to reduce malnutrition, among other factors. Here an analytical framework of childhood malnutrition under climatic shock is also developed. Method: The present study uses data from a primary survey in the Indian Sundarbans in 2012. The survey uses two-stage stratified random sampling technique. It collected data from 1,200 households on children age below six years. Bivariate and multivariate data analysis has been done. It uses three indicators of malnutrition—underweight, stunting and wasting. Results: Community capability can reduce malnutrition. Climatic shocks raise childhood malnutrition. Institutional delivery reduces malnutrition. Children from nuclear families and richer families are less likely to be malnourished. Children are more malnourished in the villages more away from the block