

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND GENDER SITUATION

10.2 As per the UNDP's Global Human Development Report (HDR) 2007, in spite of the absolute value of the human development index (HDI) for India improving from 0.577 in 2000 to 0.611 in 2004 and further to 0.619 in 2005, the relative ranking of India has not changed much. India ranks at 128 among the countries with medium human development out of 177 countries of the world as against 126 in the previous year. In terms of Gender Development Index (GDI), India ranks 113 out of 157 countries ranked on the basis of their GDI value (Table 10.1). A zero count for HDI rank minus GDI rank for India is indicative of almost similar status of ranking in terms of gender development and human development. At the same time, while India's HDI rank reflects low relative achievement in the level of human development, a negative count of (-11) for GDP per capita (PPP US\$) rank minus HDI rank is also indicative that the country has done better in terms of per capita income than in other components of human development. The other indicators related to Health and Education also indicate the same. The situation reinforces the need for greater focus on this area in our development planning. It is this concern that is reflected in the Eleventh Plan which

seeks to reduce not only poverty but also the various kinds of disparities across regions and communities by ensuring better access to not only basic physical infrastructure but also health and education services to one and all.

Major Initiatives in Social Sector

10.3 In consonance with the commitment to faster social sector development under the National Common Minimum Programme (NCMP), the Central Government has launched new initiatives for social sector development during 2007-08 (Box 10.1). Substantial progress was also made on the major initiatives launched in earlier years (Box 10.2).

10.4 Central Government expenditure on social services and rural development have gone up consistently over the years (Table 10.2). The share of Central Government expenditure on social services, including rural development in total expenditure (plan and non-plan), has increased from 11 per cent in 2001-02 to 16.4 per cent in 2007-08 (BE). Central support for social programmes has continued to expand in various forms although most social sector areas fall within the purview of the States. Significant amount of programme specific funding is available to the States through the Centrally Sponsored Schemes.

Table 10.1 India's global position on human and gender development

Country	HDI Rank		GDP per capita (PPP US\$) minus HDI rank	GDI Rank		HDI rank minus GDI rank	Life Expectancy at Birth (years)	Combin- ed GER (Primary, Secondary & Tertiary education)	Physi- cians per lakh people	Infants with low birth weight (%)
	2000	2005		2000	2005					
Norway	1	2	1	3	3	-1	79.8	99.2	313	5
Australia	5	3	13	1	2	1	80.9	113	247	7
Sri Lanka	89	99	07	70	89	-1	71.6	62.7	55	22
China	96	81	05	77	73	1	72.5	69.1	106	4
Indonesia	110	107	06	91	94	1	69.7	68.2	13	9
India	124	128	-11	105	113	0	63.7	63.8	60	30
Pakistan	138	136	-8	120	125	-7	64.6	40	74	19
Bangladesh	145	140	0	121	121	1	63.1	56	26	36
Nepal	142	142	08	119	128	-4	62.6	58.1	21	21
Mozambique	170	172	-16	144	150	2	42.8	52.9	3	15
Niger	172	174	-1	146	155	-1	55.8	22.7	2	13

Source: UNDP Human Development Reports 2002 and 2007.

The pattern of funding for these schemes varies depending upon the priority laid on the sector. At the same time, the objective is to make States more and more self-reliant in supporting these scheme as is borne out by the funding pattern proposed for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan.

10.5 Increasing trend of expenditure on social services by the general government (Centre and States combined) in recent years (Table 10.3) reflects the high priority attached to these sectors. Expenditure on social sectors as a proportion of total expenditure, after decreasing from 20.4 per cent in 2002-03 to 19.5 per cent in 2003-04, increased steadily to 22.3 per cent in 2006-07 (RE) and 22.5 per cent in 2007-08 (BE). Expenditure on education as a proportion of total expenditure has increased from 9.8 per cent in 2004-05 to 10.4 per cent in 2006-07 (RE). Share of health in total expenditure has also increased

from 4.4 per cent in 2004-05 to 4.9 per cent in 2006-07 (RE).

10.6 Inter-State comparisons based upon important socio-economic indicators discussed earlier in chapter 2 bring out disparities between States in development outcomes. The performance of States across various sub-sectors, be it poverty, health or education related, reinforce each other. To some extent this disparity in performance between states may be accounted for by extraneous factors but largely can be attributed to governance and delivery of services. This calls for a greater emphasis on governance issues. While governance is a broader area to be tackled at various fronts, use of e-governance is becoming an important method to ensure better delivery and monitoring of services in different sectors including social sectors.

Box 10.1 Major initiatives in the Social Sector in 2007-08

Aam Admi Bima Yojana

Under a new scheme called "Aam Admi Bima Yojana" (AABY), launched on October 2, 2007, insurance to the head of the family of rural landless households in the country will be provided against natural death as well as accidental death and partial/permanent disability. This cover is Rs. 75,000 on death due to accident and permanent disability due to accident, Rs. 37,500 in case of partial permanent disability due to accident and Rs. 30,000 in case of death of a member, prior to terminal date. The premium to be charged under the scheme is Rs. 200 per annum per member, 50 per cent of which is to be contributed by the Central Government and remaining by State Governments.

Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana

The Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana was formally launched on October 1, 2007. All workers in the unorganized sector who come in the category of Below Poverty Line (BPL) and their families will be covered under the Scheme. The scheme also has a provision of smart card to be issued to the beneficiaries to enable cashless transaction for health care. Total sum insured would be Rs. 30,000 per family per annum with Government of India contributing 75 per cent of the annual estimated premium amount of Rs. 750 subject to a maximum of Rs. 565 per family per annum while State Governments are expected to contribute 25 per cent of the annual premium as well as any additional premium. The cost of smart card would also be borne by Central Government.

National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS)

Under the Scheme, the Central Government provides Rs. 200 per month of financial assistance per beneficiary. The eligibility criteria for NOAPS has been recently modified from "who is 65 years or above and a destitute" to one "who is 65 years and above and belonging to a household below the poverty line". The scheme is administered by the Ministry of Rural Development.

Ujjawala Scheme for Prevention of Trafficking and Rescue, Rehabilitation and Reintegration of victims of trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation

The Scheme was launched on December 4, 2007. It has five components namely, prevention, rescue, rehabilitation, reintegration and repatriation.

Box 10.2 Progress on major initiatives under implementation in the Social Sector**National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS)**

NREGS, which was launched on February 2, 2006, in 200 most backward districts in the first phase, has been expanded to 330 districts in the second phase.. The remaining 266 districts have been notified on September 28, 2007 where the scheme will come into effect from April 1, 2008. As against the employment demanded by 2.61 crore rural households, 2.57 households have been provided wage employment during 2007-08. A budget allocation of Rs. 12,000 crore (including NER component) was made for 2007-08 and Rs. 10,501.02 crore has been released till 30.01.2008.

Bharat Nirman

This programme, which was launched in 2005-06 for building infrastructure and basic amenities in rural areas, has six components, viz. rural housing, irrigation potential, drinking water, rural roads, electrification and rural telephony. Bharat Nirman has received a budgetary outlay of Rs. 24,603 crore in 2007-08 as against Rs. 18,696 crore (including NER component) in 2006-07.

Mid-day Meal Scheme

This Scheme, which was launched in August 1995, is intended to give boost to universalization of primary education by increasing enrolment, retention and attendance while contributing to the nutrition of students in primary classes. The allocation has been enhanced to Rs. 7,324 crore in 2007-08 from Rs. 5,348 crore in 2006-07.

Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission

This programme was introduced as one of the five Societal Missions in 1986 and was called the National Drinking Water Mission. It was renamed as Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission in 1991. Allocation of funds has been increased from Rs. 4,680 crore in 2006-07 to Rs. 5,850 crore in 2007-08.

National Rural Health Mission

The National Rural Health Mission was launched on April 12, 2005, to provide accessible, affordable and accountable quality health services to the poorest households in the remotest rural regions. Allocation increased to Rs. 9,947 crore in 2007-08 from Rs. 8,207 crore in the previous year.

Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM)

JNNURM, which is for a seven-year period from 2005-06, has two main components – Basic Services to the Urban Poor (BSUP) Programme and Integrated Housing & Slum Development Programme (IHSDP). BSUP was launched to assist cities and towns in taking up housing and infrastructural facilities for the urban poor in 63 selected cities in the country. IHSDP, which was launched simultaneously with BSUP in December 2005, is taking up housing and slum upgradation programmes in non-BSUP cities. A budgetary provision of Rs. 4,987 crore has been made in 2007-08 as against Rs. 4,595 crore in 2006-07.