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Regional Disparities in Levels of Development in Rajasthan

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Abstract

It is generally believed that regional disparities increase in the initial stage of economic development. One of the major experiences in India has been the wide regional disparity in levels of development. Regional inequalities also exist among different regions in a state. Even in a district there are marked disparities in levels of development among different tehsils. It reveals that benefits of development have not reached all the people/ sections and regions equitably. Under the existing scenario if disparities in levels of development are not addressed immediately, then they may generate hatred and mistrust among various sections of the society.

It is true that sincere efforts have been made over the last six decades to raise the standard of living by the governments at various levels, but wide regional disparity is still a hard reality. Imbalances in resource base, unequal distribution of assets, poor delivery system etc. have been the major obstacles behind lopsided development in India.

Rajasthan is the largest state of India in terms of area. Geographically, it is difficult to find a region more varied and diverse than Rajasthan. It is a land of great diversity. However these geographical diversities have seem to given rise to regional disparity in the levels of socio-economic development in the state. To analyse the regional disparity in Rajasthan at district level, thirty five indicators have been selected with respect to demographic (13), social (12) and economic (10) development. Composite index following Bhatia and Rai (2004) has been computed for each district. On the basis of composite index an attempt has been made in the present paper to identify sectoral (social, economic and demographic separately) as well as overall disparities in the levels of development in Rajasthan. The results thus obtained show different degrees of development ranging from 'very low' to 'very high' developed regions. Such an exercise will certainly be useful for any type of spatial planning meant to minimise regional disparities.

Introduction

There are enough evidences to support that regional disparities in majority of the developing countries are alarmingly high and probably increasing. Regional disparity in income and human capital is often a source of conflict and dissatisfaction in a federal system. Therefore, when development in different regions occurs unequally, it becomes politically imperative to resort to corrective policy measures. An unchecked and uncontrolled process of growth leading to regional disparities, results in numerous economic, social and cultural problems. Regional imbalances occur either due to under-utilization or even non-utilization of

resources both physical and human. The reduction of regional disparities is essential from the point of maintaining national integration and political stabilities. If it remains neglected and unresolved, these disparities may assume serious dimensions and may pose a threat for the very existence of a nation.

Even after six decades of successful journey of our Republic there is found regional disparities among different states of our country. Similarly, there exist regional inequalities among different regions in a state. Even in a district there is found disparities among different tehsils/talukas. It reveals that fruits of development have not reached so far to all the people equitably. If these disparities are not addressed immediately, then they may create hatred and distrust among various sections of the society with tragic, undesirable, and even violent outcomes. The state of Rajasthan which is located in the extreme west periphery of India is lagging behind many other states of the country in demographic and socio-economic fronts. The prevailing ethno-religious diversities combined with variation in physical conditions and accessibility have made the overall population characteristics varied and complex. Keeping the said facts in view, the present study attempts to examine the levels of social, economic, demographic and overall development among thirty two districts of Rajasthan. The identification of inter-district disparities will provide a meaningful base to policy and decision makers for any type of spatial planning to uplift socio-economic conditions of the people.

Study Area

Rajasthan, spread over an area of 3, 42,239 km^2, is the largest state of India in terms of area. It is inhabited by 5, 65, 07,188 persons (2001). At present, it comprises 33 districts. On January 26, 2008 Pratapgarh was carved out as 33rd district of the state. Rajasthan is a land of great diversities and contrasts. It is characterised by sharp differences in terrain, livelihood, patterns of settlement and social identity. In the study area, agriculture and animal husbandry are the major sources of livelihood. Distribution of income and assets is also highly unequal. The state is overwhelmingly rural with more than three-quarters of the population still residing in rural areas. It has one of the highest proportions of Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST) population among the Indian states i.e. 17.2 and 12.6 per cent respectively. The Aravalli ranges run from the south-west of Rajasthan to the north-east. To its west Thar desert lies which covers over 60 per cent of the state's surface area and leaves Rajasthan acutely deficient in water supply. Agriculture continues to be largely dependent on rainfall, leaving the state highly vulnerable to drought-induced volatility. Rajasthan's development strategy needs to take into account wide regional variations in geographical terrain and social structure within the state. Formed by the union of nineteen princely states and three chieftainships in 1956, nearly a decade after India's independence, Rajasthan inherited a feudal history and had a late start in the development process. As a result, a substantial gap in development of education and infrastructure exist between Rajasthan and the other larger Indian states. For example, in 1960, Rajasthan generated on an average a quarter of the electricity

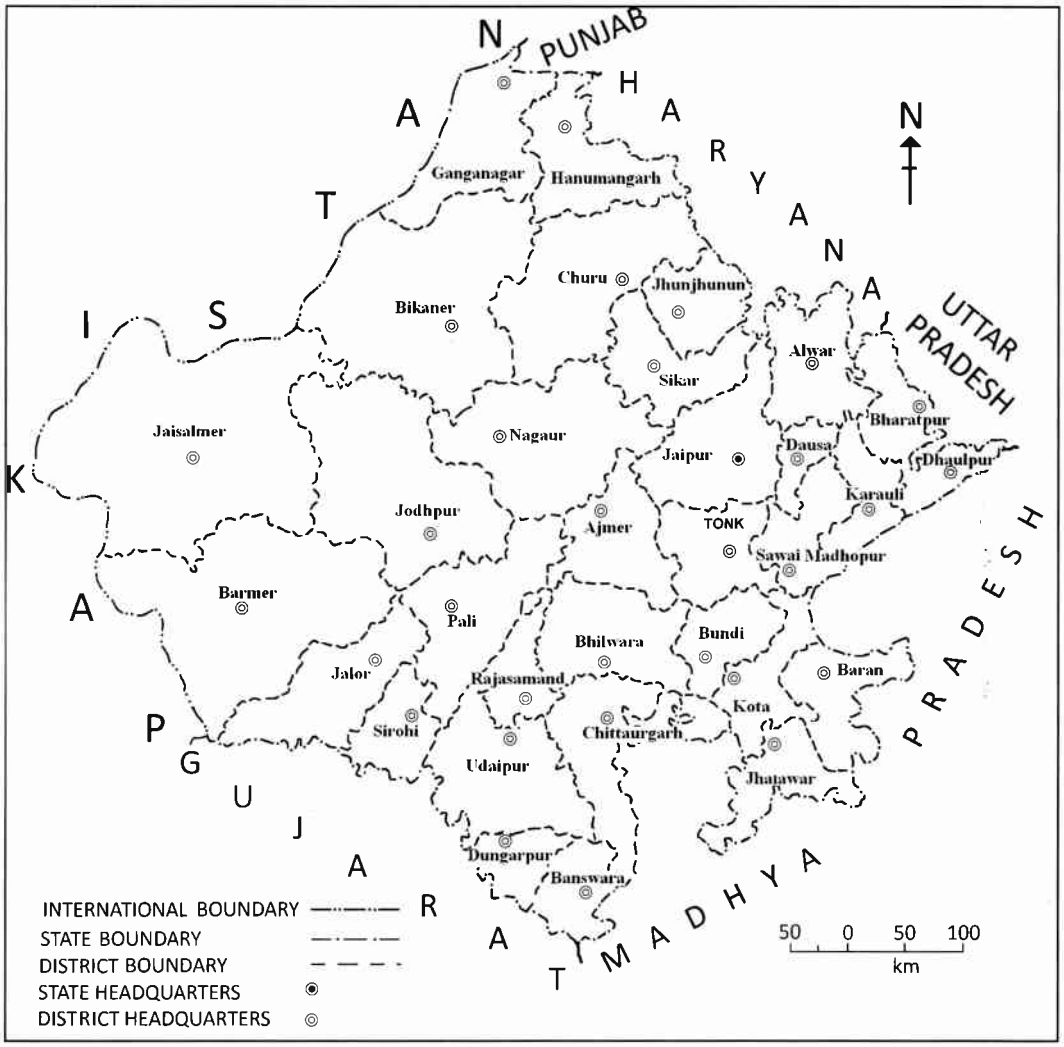

Fig. 1: Rajasthan: Administrative Units

of states such as Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and West Bengal. School enrolment rates were half to that of national average. With slower growth rates compared to the rest of India during 1960s and 1970s, Rajasthan fell even further behind. Rajasthan started to reduce the development gap during 1980s. Growth rates accelerated sharply, poverty declined significantly, and several human development indicators showed notable improvements. Indeed, by the end of 1990s, Rajasthan's low level of poverty compared to some richer states presented a paradox. After that, Rajasthan's growth performance has faltered threatening the progress over the last two decades. It is now crucial to restore economic growth rate and actively promote human development to close the development gap that still exists between Rajasthan and the more developed states.

Table 1: Indicators Used to Measure Levels of Overall Development

Social Indicator		Economic Indicator		Demographic Indicator	
X_1	No. of Pre-Primary and Primary Schools Per 10,000 Population, 2005-06	X_{13}	Net Sown Area, 2005-06	X_{23}	Population Density (Persons/ km^2), 2001
X_2	No. of Colleges Per Lakh Population, 2005-06	X_{14}	Cropping Intensity, 2005-06	X_{24}	Population Growth (%),1991-2001
X_3	No. of Post Offices Per Lakh Population, 2005-06	X_{15}	Net Irrigated Area, 2005-06	X_{25}	Total Fertility Rate, 2002-04
X_4	No. of Telegraph Offices Per Lakh Population, 2005-06	X_{16}	Consumption of Fertilizers (kg/ha), 2005-06	X_{26}	Infant Mortality Rate, 2002-04
X_5	No. of Govt. Medical Institutions Per Lakh Population, 2005-06	X_{17}	Livestock Density, 2003	X_{27}	Life Expectancy at Birth, 2001
X_6	No. of Beds Per Lakh Population, 2005-06	X_{18}	No. of Industrial Units Per Lakh Population, 2005-06	X_{28}	Crude Birth Rate, 2002-04
X_7	No. of Doctors Per Lakh Population, 2005-06	X_{19}	Value of Industrial Output (Lakh Rupees), 2005-06	X_{29}	Couple Protection Rate, 2006
X_8	Percentage of Households with Access to Electricity, 2001	X_{20}	No. of Commercial Banks Per Lakh Population, 2005-06	X_{30}	Crude Death Rate, 2002-04
X_9	Percentage of Households with Access to Safe Drinking Water, 2001	X_{21}	Per Capita Power Consumption (kwh), 2005-06	X_{31}	Literacy Rate, 2001
X_{10}	Percentage of Households with Toilet Facility, 2001	X_{22}	Per Capita Income (Rs.), 2004-05	X_{32}	Female Literacy Rate, 2001
X_{11}	Rural Population Served Per PHC, 2007			X_{33}	Sex Ratio, 2001
X_{12}	Length of Road Per 100 km^2, 2006-07			X_{34}	Percentage of Urban Population, 2001
				X_{35}	Percentage of Main Workers to Total Population, 2001

Objectives

The two fold objectives of the present study are as follows:

(i) to assess the levels of development in different sectors i.e. social, economic, and demographic, and

(ii) to find out the overall level of development at district level.

Data Base and Methodology

There are found wide differences in the levels of development at district level. Thus, to have a precise identification of levels of development, a quantitative evaluation may be of immense help. Since the past few decades a good number of scholars have studied the problem of growing inter-state/

inter-district disparities in India. A few of them have attempted to measure the problem quantitatively. To mention, Sastri (1970) used step-wise regression technique to analyse the inter-state variations in industry in India during 1951-1961.Dasgupta (1971) considered some 24 indicators (earlier used by Mitra, 1961 for classifying the districts of India into various levels of development) and used the discriminant analysis for socio-economic classification of districts. Rao (1973) used multiple factor analysis approach for measuring economic distance between the states. Damodar Suar (1984) used the factor analysis to identify the level of disparities in development of Orissa. Hemlata Rao (1984) also used the Principal Component Analysis (PCA) to study regional disparities in India using taluka-wise data. Iyengar and Sudarshan (1982) analysed inter-district disparities in the levels of development of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka by using multivariate data analysis. On the basis of PCA, Parmar (1985) studied the inter-district disparities in the Saurashtra region of Gujarat. Prabhu and Sarker (1992) identified the sectoral as well as aggregate levels of development of the districts of Maharashtra for 1985-86 using three different techniques, viz, ranking, indexing and principal component. Mishra and Meher (2000) used equal weightage and deprivation method to measure the levels of development and to identify the backward and advanced states of India using inter-temporal data for early 1970's, 1980's and 1990's. Ram and Chander Sekhar (2006) followed the similar mechanism previously used by Iyengar and Sudarshan (1982) to calculate the index value for a given development indicator and the composite index value for a district. Nagraj and Krishna Murthy (2007) used Kendall's ranking co-efficient method to identify the regional disparities in Chitradurga district of Karnataka. For measuring the regional variations of socio-economic development at district level in Haryana, Bishnoi and Aneja (2008) have used the deprivation method as well as PCA. Nayak and Narayankar (2009) used composite index (observed value divided by mean of the respective column) to identify regional disparities at taluka level in Bellary district of Karnataka. In context to Rajasthan, regional disparities were studied by three scholars namely, Sharma (1975), Kulkarni (1977) and Shastri (1997).Besides, Social Policy Research Institute, Jaipur (2004) used ranking method assigning unequal weight to different indicators for analysing the inter-regional economic inequalities in Rajasthan. However, no meaningful inference could be drawn from these studies in view of a very limited number of indicators used therein. In absence of any unanimity on choice of method, in the present study a more refined form of Z-Score method previously used by Bhatia and Rai (2004) has been used to identify different degrees of development in Rajasthan at district level.

The present study is exclusively based on secondary data collected from Statistical Abstract of Rajasthan, 2006 and Census of Rajasthan, 2001. Besides these, studies conducted by various institutions and scholars on regional disparity in Rajasthan are the other sources of data. It may be mentioned here that during 2001 census the state consisted of 32 districts (Fig.1).A total of 35 developmental indicators have been used in the present study to analyse the level of socio-economic and demographic development of different districts (Table 1).

Twelve indicators depict the level of social development and another set of ten indicators is related to economic development. The remaining indicators (13) are concerned with demographic development. However, these indicators may not form an all inclusive list but certainly they are the major interacting components of development in the study area.

To evaluate the levels of socio-economic and demographic development, separate composite index for each sector has been calculated using composite development index formula. Later, indices of all the indicators have been clubbed together to compute the composite index for measuring the overall development of the districts.

The methodology used in the present study is illustrated as follows: From $[Z_{ij}]$ the best value of each indicator has been identified as Z_{oj}. The best value will be either maximum value or minimum value of the concerned indicator depending upon the direction of the impact of indicator on the level of development. For obtaining the pattern of development, P_{ij} has been computed as follows.

$$P_{ij} = (Z_{ij} - Z_{oj})^2$$

$$C_i = [\sum_{j=1}^{k} P_{ij}/(C.V.)_j]^{1/2}$$

Pattern of development C_i is obtained as

where $(C.V.)_j$ is the coefficient of variation of the jth indicator in X_i.

Composite Index D_i is computed as

$D_i = C_i / C$

where, i = 1, 2, . . . n and $C = \bar{C}\bar{C} + 3S_i$

($\bar{C}\bar{C}$ = Mean of C_i and S_i = Standard Deviation of C_i)

It may be noted here that smaller value of D_i will indicate high level of development whereas higher value of D_i will indicate low level of development. Finally, for classifying the districts of the study area into various categories ranging from 'very low' to 'very high' levels of development, a suitable fractile classification of the districts from the assumed distribution of the mean of the composite indices have been made as follows:

Value of Composite Index	Level of Development
≤ Mean - S.D.	Very high
(Mean - S.D.) to Mean	High
Mean to (Mean + S.D.)	Moderate
(Mean + S.D.) to (Mean + 2S.D.)	Low
> Mean + 2S.D.	Very Low

Results and Discussion

The results thus obtained for 32 districts of Rajasthan (Table 2) for different sectors as well as overall development have been discussed in the succeeding paragraphs in sequel.

Social Development

The results pertaining to social indicators provide a clear cut idea about the existing disparities in social sector in the area under study (Table 3). Majority of the districts have moderate level of development. Out of 32 districts, 12 districts (37.50%) have been placed under this category. Jhunjhunu district is at the top in this sector while Jaipur is placed at the bottom. Jaipur-the capital of the state, have a good number of social facilities but high population of the district

Table 2: Composite Index Value (D_i) for Different Sectors of Development

Sl. No.	District	D_i Value			
		Social Development	Economic Development	Demographic Development	Overall Development
1.	Ajmer	0.64	0.55	0.61	0.66
2	Alwar	0.77	0.36	0.75	0.76
3	Banswara	0.73	0.62	0.66	0.73
4	Baran	0.68	0.54	0.65	0.70
5	Barmer	0.81	0.89	0.68	0.83
6	Bharatpur	0.72	0.57	0.93	0.90
7	Bhilwara	0.65	0.43	0.66	0.68
8	Bikaner	0.83	0.70	0.71	0.81
9	Bundi	0.73	0.48	0.70	0.73
10	Chittorgarh	0.59	0.47	0.62	0.64
11	Churu	0.72	0.78	0.56	0.71
12	Dausa	0.83	0.63	0.61	0.74
13	Dhaulpur	0.81	0.74	0.95	0.96
14	Dungarpur	0.56	0.67	0.69	0.72
15	Ganganagar	0.75	0.45	0.57	0.65
16	Hanumangarh	0.89	0.51	0.53	0.69
17	Jaipur	0.90	0.28	0.61	0.71
18	Jaisalmer	0.83	0.83	0.99	1.01
19	Jalor	0.76	0.74	0.63	0.75
20	Jhalawar	0.73	0.56	0.59	0.67
21	Jhunjhunu	0.53	0.56	0.53	0.58
22	Jodhpur	0.74	0.70	0.71	0.78
23	Karauli	0.81	0.68	0.80	0.85
24	Kota	0.82	0.35	0.64	0.71
25	Nagaur	0.72	0.74	0.62	0.73
26	Pali	0.59	0.68	0.67	0.72
27	Rajsamand	0.55	0.59	0.69	0.70
28	Sawai Madhopur	0.81	0.62	0.76	0.82
29	Sikar	0.64	0.56	0.55	0.62
30	Sirohi	0.61	0.50	0.71	0.71
31	Tonk	0.72	0.62	0.74	0.78
32	Udaipur	0.65	0.54	0.71	0.73

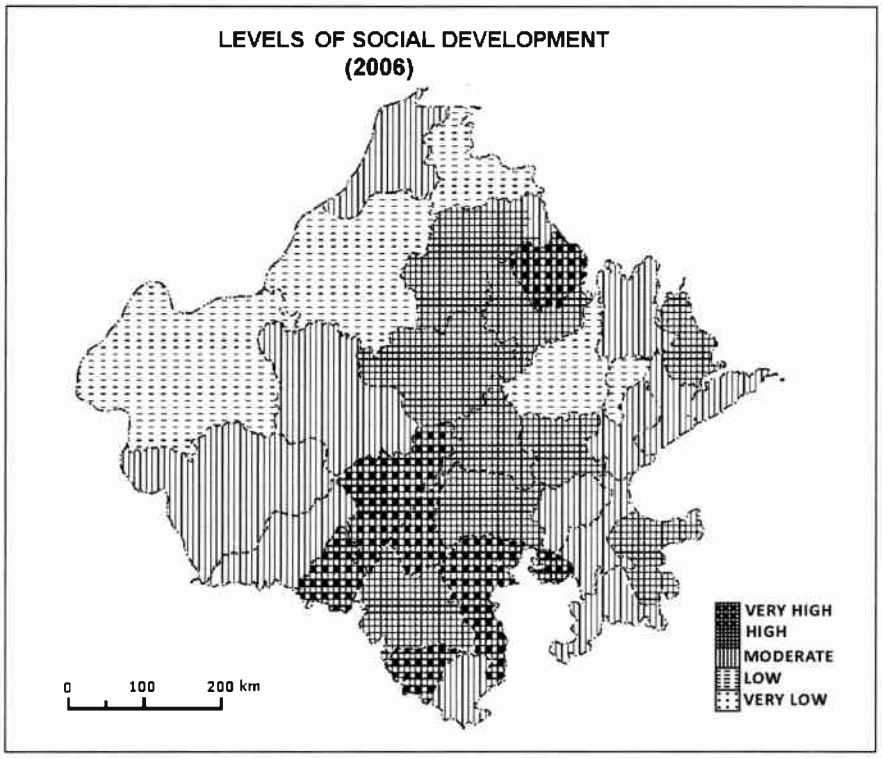

Fig. 3: Levels of Social Developments 2006

has lowered down the ratio of availability of social facilities.

A perusal of Table 2 further evinces that hilly and desert districts of the state excepting Bikaner and Jaisalmer have high level of social development in comparison to the districts located in the plain area. Low population coupled with sizeable number of social facilities have improved the level of social development of these districts. However, frequency of social facilities is found low in Bikaner and Jaisalmer due to highly scattered distribution of settlements in these districts. Slum population in Jaipur, Jodhpur, Ajmer, Kota and Udaipur has lowered down their level of social development as majority of slums are deprived of access to electricity, safe drinking water and toilet facility. Fig. 2 reveals that southern districts of the state and districts lying in vicinity of Aravalli hills from north to south have high level of social development. Western districts excluding Ganganagar and Barmer have low level of social development. There are several factors such as availability of water, relief and poor soils, caste system, tribal dominant society and political instability which control the availability and accessibility of social facilities. It is heartening to note that none of the districts of study area lie in the category of very low social development.

Economic Development

To examine the levels of economic development variables from agriculture,

industries, power etc. have been considered.

There is found remarkable variation in the level of economic development among the districts of the state. Jaipur district possesses highest level of economic development while Barmer records very low level of economic development. Jaipur-capital of the state, Bhilwara-centre of textile industry, Kota-centre of synthetic woollen industry, Alwar-part of national capital region and Ganganagar- area of commercial agriculture have registered very high level of economic development.

Fig. 3 depicts that north-eastern and southern districts of the study area have high and very high levels of economic development while western districts have low level of economic development. Agriculture with its allied activities like animal husbandry and dairying forms the main base of the economy of Rajasthan. Hence, the levels of economic development largely depend on the levels of agricultural development. Northern most districts such as Ganganagar and Hanumangarh have very high and high levels of economic development. These districts are characterised by canal irrigated agriculture and agro- based industrial economy. This is the only region in the state where a good percentage of the cropped area is under the cash crops like cotton, sugarcane and oilseeds. Ganganagar and Hanumangarh produce 11% and 8.25% wheat, 4.70% and 14.77% grains, 21.51% and 0.72% sugarcane respectively and more than two-third (Ganganagar:43.42% and Hanumangarh:28.60%)of the total cotton produce of the state. Barmer, Jaisalmer and Bikaner have recorded low level of economic development. In Jaisalmer the land under cultivation constitutes only 7.30% of the total land while in Bikaner and Barmer, its proportion is 38.4% 44.04% respectively .The irrigation facilities are also very poor in these districts, so the development of agriculture is limited due to paucity of water.

Mineral wealth plays a pivotal role in the state's economic development. Those districts which possess minerals have comparatively higher level of economic development e.g. Bhilwara, Kota, Jaipur and Udaipur. The state has a monopoly in production of zinc, lead, silver, and cadmium, marble, precious and semi-precious stones. There is found great variation in the distribution of minerals in the state with respect to their quantity, quality and value. Bhilwara district has maximum concentration of minerals. Other important districts endowed with mineral resources are Kota, Ajmer, Jodhpur, Udaipur, Jaipur, Sawai Madhopur, Tonk etc. A few districts such as Jalor, Nagaur, Jaisalmer and Churu are deprived of both good agriculture and mineral deposits as a result these districts portray low level of economic development.

Demographic development

The demographic development of any region is closely related with the small population size, low density, higher level of urbanisation, high rural and male-female literacy, large share of working population and low share of other backward classes, SCs and STs population. A region having a high growth of population generally faces numerous constraints in development. Various determinants of population growth namely Crude Death Rate (CDR), Crude Birth Rate (CBR), Total Fertility Rate

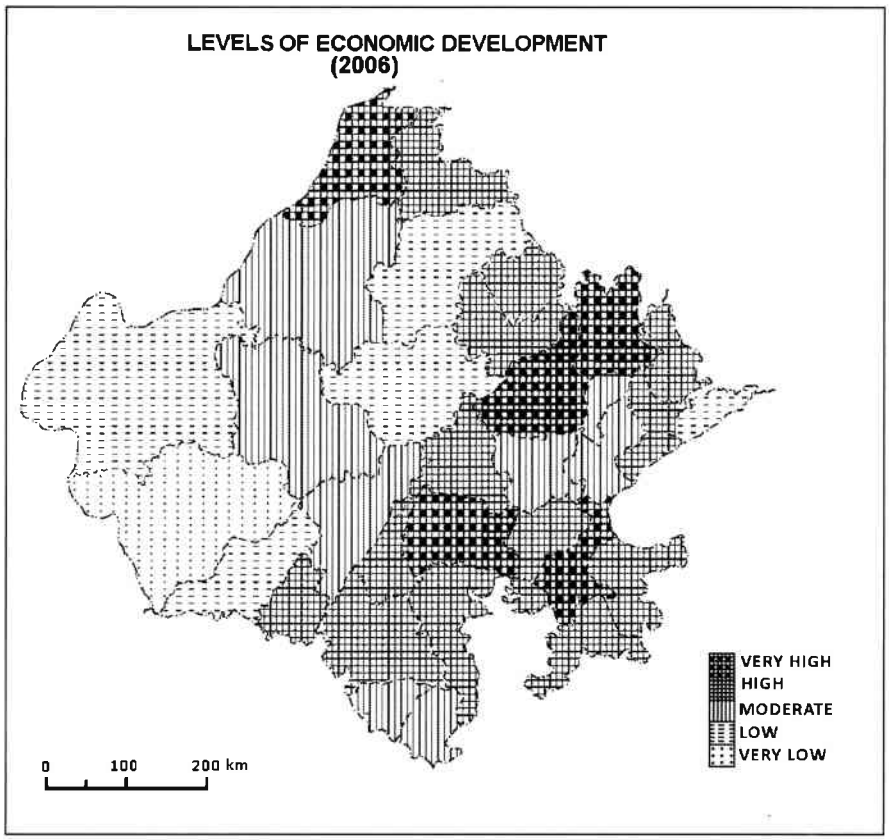

Fig. 4: Levels of Economical Developments 2006

(TFR), Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) and other important demographic indicators like life expectancy at birth, urbanization, proportion of non-agricultural population and density of population etc. have a direct association with the level of development. Thirteen such indicators have been taken into consideration to examine the levels of demographic development at district level in the state under study.

Five districts namely, Jhunjhunu, Hanumangarh, Sikar, Churu and Ganganagar possess very high level of demographic development. Among these, Jhunjhunu (73.04%), Sikar (70.47%) Churu (66.81%) and Ganganagar (64.74%) rank second, third, fourth and fifth respectively in literacy rate in the state under study. Literacy possesses positive bearing on demographic attributes of the population. It is rightly acknowledged that education is the most valuable investment of all.

Hanumangarh district has recorded highest couple protection rate (71.00%). As a result it has registered the highest level of demographic development in the state under study. As many as thirteen districts show high level of demographic development. Among these Ganganagar district has the lowest TFR (2.1) along with low IMR (42.79) and CDR (7.7). Kota district possesses highest percentage of

urban population (53.46%), highest literacy (73.53%) and highest female literacy (60.43%). Interestingly enough TFR, CBR and CDR do not show wide inter-district variations, even though Sawai Madhopur, Barmer, Dhaulpur, Bharatpur and Karauli have recorded relatively high level of TFR. Districts which are infested with ravines of the river Chambal e.g. Karauli and Dhaulpur have low and very low level of demographic development respectively. Other districts which have very low level of demographic development are Bharatpur and Jaisalmer. The desert laden Jaisalmer district has low level of social and economic development. It has also witnessed very low level of demographic development. Bharatpur district with lowest CPR (34.1%) and very high TFR (3.87) and CDR (10.4) has very low level of demographic development. It is apparent from Fig. 4 that northern districts of the state have very high level of demographic development while eastern and western districts have very low level of demographic development.

Levels of Overall Development

A composite index (D_i) has been calculated to put the districts precisely into various levels of overall development (Table 2). On the basis of composite index the districts of Rajasthan have been placed into five categories.

Taking into account all the 35 indicators, Jhunjhunu district finds the top position while Jaisalmer finds the lower most berth. Four districts namely, Jhunjhunu, Chittorgarh, Sikar and Ganganagar have recorded very high level of overall development. Among these districts, Jhunjhunu and Sikar have shown better performance in social and demographic indicators while Chittorgarh and Ganganagar districts have registered better performance in economic development. Karauli and Bharatpur districts have recorded low level in overall development while Dhaulpur and Jaisalmer districts have very low level in overall development.

Jaisalmer and Barmer districts both are located in the Great Indian Desert and have similar physical and infrastructural conditions but Barmer district has an edge over Jaisalmer in demographic indicators. The similar condition is found in the case of Karauli and Dhaulpur districts as both are badly affected by the ravines of river Chambal but Karauli district has relatively better opportunity for agriculture resulting in high level of economic development. Western Rajasthan deserves special attention on certain counts as the values of many indicators in this region are far behind the state averages. As many as seventeen districts namely, Bhilwara, Jaipur, Kota, Ajmer, Sirohi, Rajsamand, Baran, Banswara, Dausa, Jhalawar, Bundi, Udaipur, Hanumangarh, Dungarpur, Pali, Churu and Nagaur have high level in overall development while seven districts namely Alwar, Tonk, Jalor, Jodhpur, Sawai Madhopur, Bikaner and Barmer have moderate level in overall development. The districts which possess higher level in social, economic and demographic development have also recorded higher level in overall development e.g. Sikar, Jhunjhunu and Bhilwara districts. Some districts encompass higher level in overall development but they possess lower level in one or more sectors of development e.g. Jaipur, Dausa and Churu districts. In these districts, low level of development in one or more sectors has been

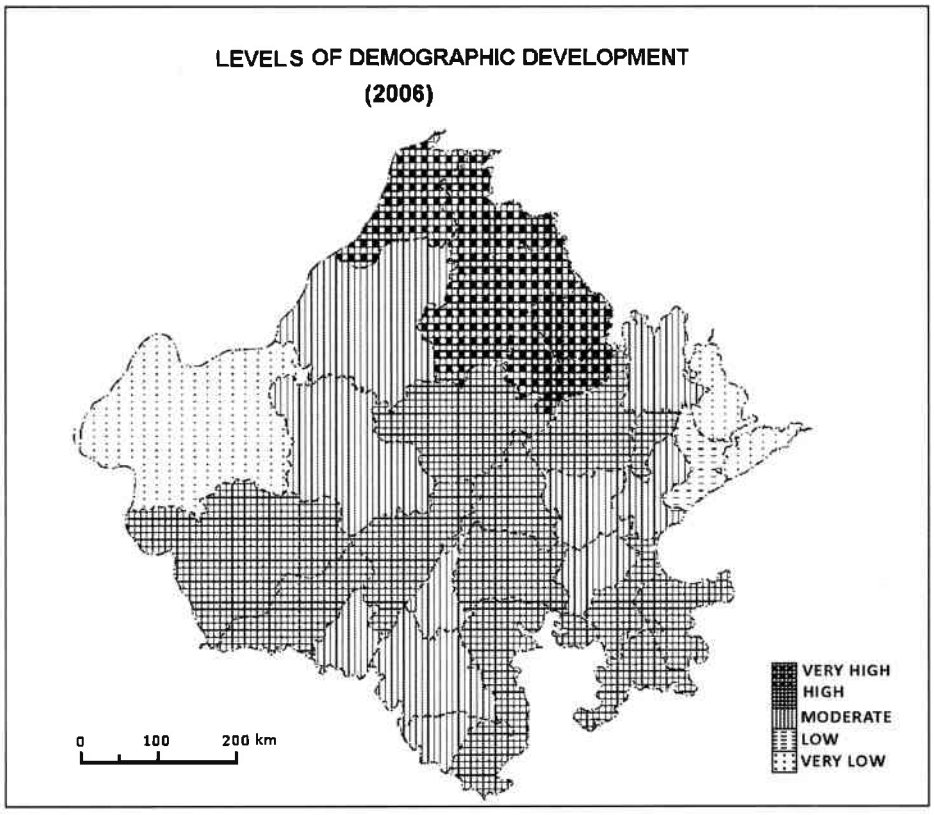

Fig. 5: Levels of Demographic Developments 2006

compensated by high level of development in other sectors of development. It is evident from Fig. 5 that southern and south-eastern districts of the state have registered high level in overall development. Districts like Sikar and Jhunjhunu have witnessed very high level of demographic development and comparatively low level of economic development but they possess very high level in overall development. These districts demonstrate that the development of human resources is pre-requisite for gearing up the tempo of development. That is why investing in human development is considered the most valuable investment for any region. Jaisalmer in the extreme west and Dhaulpur in the extreme east have experienced very low level in overall development. In western Rajasthan dry and hot climate coupled with sand dunes and desert laden rugged surface have adversely affected the path of development. To examine the state of development, a correlation co-efficient matrix has been prepared (Table 3).

It appears from Table 3 that economic development has highest impact on the demographic development while demographic development has highest impact on overall development. A secure, stable and sustainable livelihood is crucial for human development. If people have secure livelihood, then they can afford

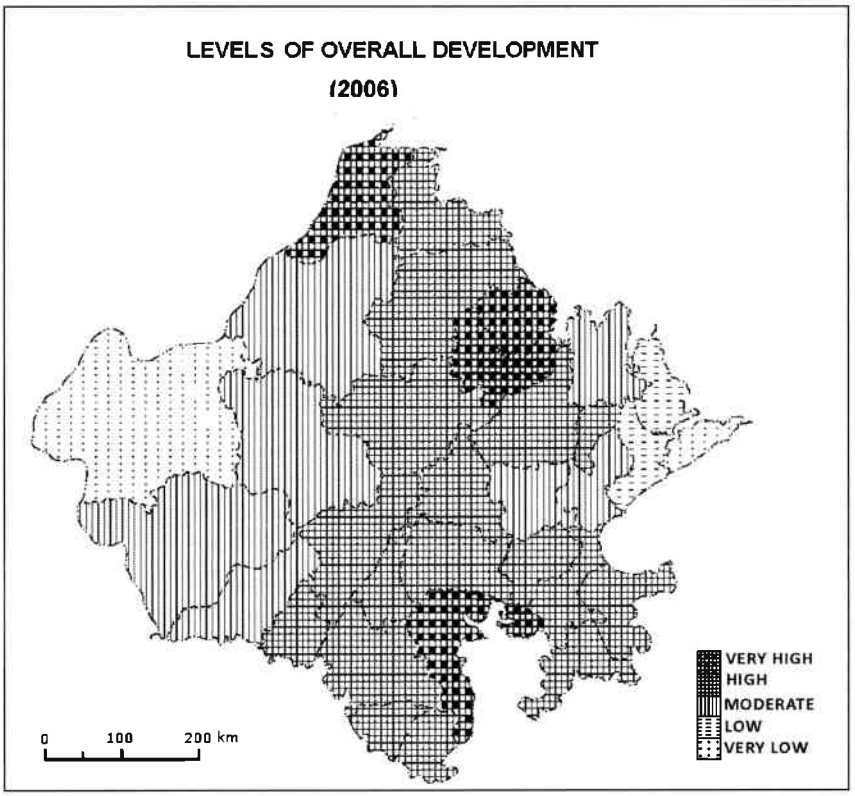

Fig. 6: Levels of Overall Developments 2006

access to social facilities like education, health care, safe drinking water supply and sanitation. Under this situation, people can lessen their dependence on natural resources. In Rajasthan, several programmes have been initiated to remove regional disparity. These programmes include Desert Development Programme (DDP), Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP), Tribal Development Programme (TDP), Hills Development Programme (HDP), Aravalli Development Programme (ADP), Ravine Reclamation Programme for Development of Dang area, Mewat Regional Development Programme and Border Area Development Programme. However, the outcomes of these programmes are not satisfactory as still there exists a wide inter-district disparity in the levels of overall development.

Conclusion

From the foregoing analysis it is apparent that study area is facing the problem of inter-regional as well as inter-district disparities owing to uneven distribution of natural resources, unequal distribution of assets and income, inefficient delivery system and variations in the level of infrastructure development. Southern and south-eastern districts of the state have experienced high level in overall (social, economic and demographic) development. It is due to high level of urbanisation and

Table 3: Correlation Co-efficient Matrix				
Item	Social Development	Economic Development	Demographic Development	Overall Development
Social Development	1.00			
Economic Development	0.05	1.00		
Demographic Development	0.22	0.31	1.00	
Overall Development	0.51	0.52	0.91	1.00

industrialization, higher literacy rate, adequate educational, medical, banking, transportation and communication facilities. Western and eastern districts of the state have seen low level in overall development. There are some districts e.g. Dhaulpur and Jaisalmer whose performances have been highly unsatisfactory in case of majority indicators. The need for increasing the pace of development in these districts is greater than the other districts. Few districts have high level of development in one sector while they have relatively poor level of development in other sectors e.g. Hanumangarh and Jaipur. It would, thus, be appropriate to consolidate the gains achieved in the already developed sectors, while giving importance to those sectors where the level of development is low in spite of good soils and better power and other infrastructure development. In nutshell, to minimise the regional disparities and imbalances, concerted efforts should be made for the development of education, health care, transport, communication and irrigation facilities especially in vast rural areas so that developing districts may come up at par with the relatively developed districts of the state. Authors hope that such an exercise will provide a needed feedback to those who are interested in the all-round development of Rajasthan state.

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