



A REGIONAL ANALYSIS OF THE DISPARITY IN LEVELS OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN RURAL AREAS OF THE SANGLI DISTRICT

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ABSTRACT:

Any nation's or region's social development is not consistent. We live in an unbalanced world in terms of social development, as evidenced by the uneven spatial arrangement of human behaviour, both in time and space. No country or region has a well-integrated economy, and it impacts on the social arrangement of that region. As a result, the inequity between developed and developing countries is getting wider. The issue of regional disparities has engulfed all countries, particularly developing countries, and has now become a major concern. With the help of selected economic indicators in the Sangli district, the current research study focuses on regional disparities in levels of social development in rural areas.

Keywords: Social, Disparity, Rural, Development

INTRODUCTION:

According to Gosal and Krishan (1984), a society is both a component and a factor in development. Some areas are economically developed but socially lag behind. As a result, an area's social development is critical to the area's future progress. The main causes of India's social backwardness, according to the Indian scenario, are found in its historical social backwardness, which has badly influenced the standard of living. Because of its rich historical history of saints and reformers, which expedited excellent social practices in society, the Sangli area has considerably higher social development than the rest of Indian society. However, tahsil-wise levels of development vary.

Social development has been a critical component of the overall development process. Regional disparities in social status are usually the result of a combination of factors, including variations in natural and geographical factors; this phenomenon is inherent and a natural byproduct of the development process itself. As a result, the current paper aims to assess the spatial disparities in the levels of social development in Sangli district.

STUDY REGION:

The Sangli district located in west of Deccan plateau of Maharashtra. Nearly 75.49 percent in rural and 24.51 percent people live in urban area. It is situated between 16° 43' and 17° 38' north latitude and 73° 41' and 75° 41' east longitude. It has an area of 8,572 sq. Km. and population of 28, 20,575 according to the 2011 census. There are 735 villages and 07 urban locations in Sangli district.

OBJECTIVE:

1. To analyse the regional disparity in levels of social development in the Sangli district.

DATA BASE AND METHODOLOGY:

The data and materials for this study were gathered from a variety of sources, including both published and unpublished reports. The census handbook, district statistical office, and socioeconomic abstract of Sangli District were the main sources of extensive data in 2011 and 2018, respectively.

Using a composite index, the current study attempts to assess and analyze the spatial distribution of social development and its disparity at the tahsil level in the district. Using appropriate cartographic techniques, the data was classified and presented in the form of tables, charts, maps, and graphs.

$$C.I. = \frac{x_1 \frac{\bar{x}_1}{\sigma_1} + x_2 \frac{\bar{x}_2}{\sigma_2} + x_3 \frac{\bar{x}_3}{\sigma_3} + x_4 \frac{\bar{x}_4}{\sigma_4} + \dots}{\frac{x_1}{\sigma_1} + \frac{x_2}{\sigma_2} + \frac{x_3}{\sigma_3} + \frac{x_4}{\sigma_4} + \dots}$$

Where,

C.I. = Composite Index

X = Particular indicator

\bar{X} = Mean of the series of one particular indicator

σ = Standard deviation of the series of one particular indicator

Sangli is one of Maharashtra's most developed districts in terms of social progression. However, there are significant tahsil-by-tahsil differences in the social development. Tahsil-level composite indexes and indices were calculated with the help of related data (Table 01).

To determine the levels of social development and disparity in it, researchers have selected 10 indicators, which are given below.

SELECTED INDICATORS IN SOCIAL SECTOR:

1. Percentage of literate population to total Population--i1
2. Percentage of female literate population to total female Population -i2
3. Percentage of male literate population to total male Population -i3
4. Percentage of SC literate population to total SC Population - i4
5. Percentage of ST literate population to total ST Population - i5
6. Number of primary schools per 10000 population- i6
7. Number of secondary and higher secondary schools per 10000 population
-i7
8. Number of senior colleges per 10000 population i8
9. Number of primary health and sub centers per 10000 population i9

Table No. 1
Sangli District: Indicators Values of Social Development in Rural Development

Sr. No.	Taluka	i1	i2	i3	i4	i5	i6	i7	i8	i9	CS
1	Shirala	78.9	89.4	68.8	76.9	83.2	4.42	0.25	3.19	5.09	80.76
2	Walwa	84.9	91.3	78.1	80.4	76.2	4.07	0.43	1.76	6.53	82.46
3	Palus	86.1	91	81	80.6	84	3.52	0.24	1.15	6.58	83.31
4	Kadegaon	81	89	73	77.5	62.2	2.80	0.14	2.03	2.97	79.77
5	Khanapur	80.2	89.1	71.8	76.9	76.6	5.00	0.74	1.72	2.31	80.74
6	Atpadi	72.7	82.3	63.2	73.8	79.5	4.48	0.29	2.74	5.26	78.23
7	Tasgaon	82.5	89.2	75.6	78.2	77.3	3.09	0.19	2.62	4.60	81.45
8	Miraj	82.2	89.3	74.8	77.7	75.3	6.60	0.15	1.26	4.62	80.46
9	KavatheMahankal	78.6	86.6	70.4	77.1	78.3	3.55	0.07	3.02	2.62	80.21
10	Jat	70.4	78.3	62.1	69.5	67.6	4.05	0.06	0.76	3.66	73.81
11	Total	797.50	875.50	718.80	768.60	760.20	41.57	2.55	20.27	44.25	
12	Mean	79.75	87.55	71.88	76.86	76.02	4.16	0.25	2.03	4.43	
13	SD	4.96	4.13	6.04	3.21	6.64	1.09	0.20	0.84	1.52	
14	Weight	16.08	21.19	11.90	23.91	11.45	3.83	1.26	2.42	2.92	

Source: compiled by researcher based on Socio-economic abstract of Sangli district 2018.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:

The values of composite index of all the tahsils have been given in table 02. The indices have also been calculated by taking Sangli district as 100 as given below:

Table No. 2: Composite Score of Social Indicators

Sr. No.	Tahsil	Composite Score	Indices
1	Shirala	80.76	100.80
2	Walwa	82.46	102.92
3	Palus	83.31	103.98
4	Kadegaon	79.77	99.56
5	Khanapur	80.74	100.77
6	Atpadi	78.23	97.64
7	Tasgaon	81.45	101.66
8	Miraj	80.46	100.42
9	KM	80.21	100.11
10	Jat	73.81	92.12

Source: Calculated by researcher (KM: KavatheMahankal)

According to Table No. 03, the range of indices varies from 92.12 in Jattahshil to 103.98 in Walwatahsil. In other words, Walwa is the most advanced socially, while Jat is the most backward.

To comprehend the true scenario of disparity in economic development in the Sangli district, these tahsils were divided into four groups.

Table No. 3: Levels of Economic Development in Sangli District

Sr. No	Indices Value	Category	Name of tahsils
1	Above 101	Developed region	Walwa,
			Palus
			Tasgaon
2	98 - 101	Moderately developed region	Shirala
			Khanapur
			Miraj
3	95-98	Poorly developed region	Kavathemahankal
			Kadegaon
4	Below 95	Backward Region	Atpadi
			Jat

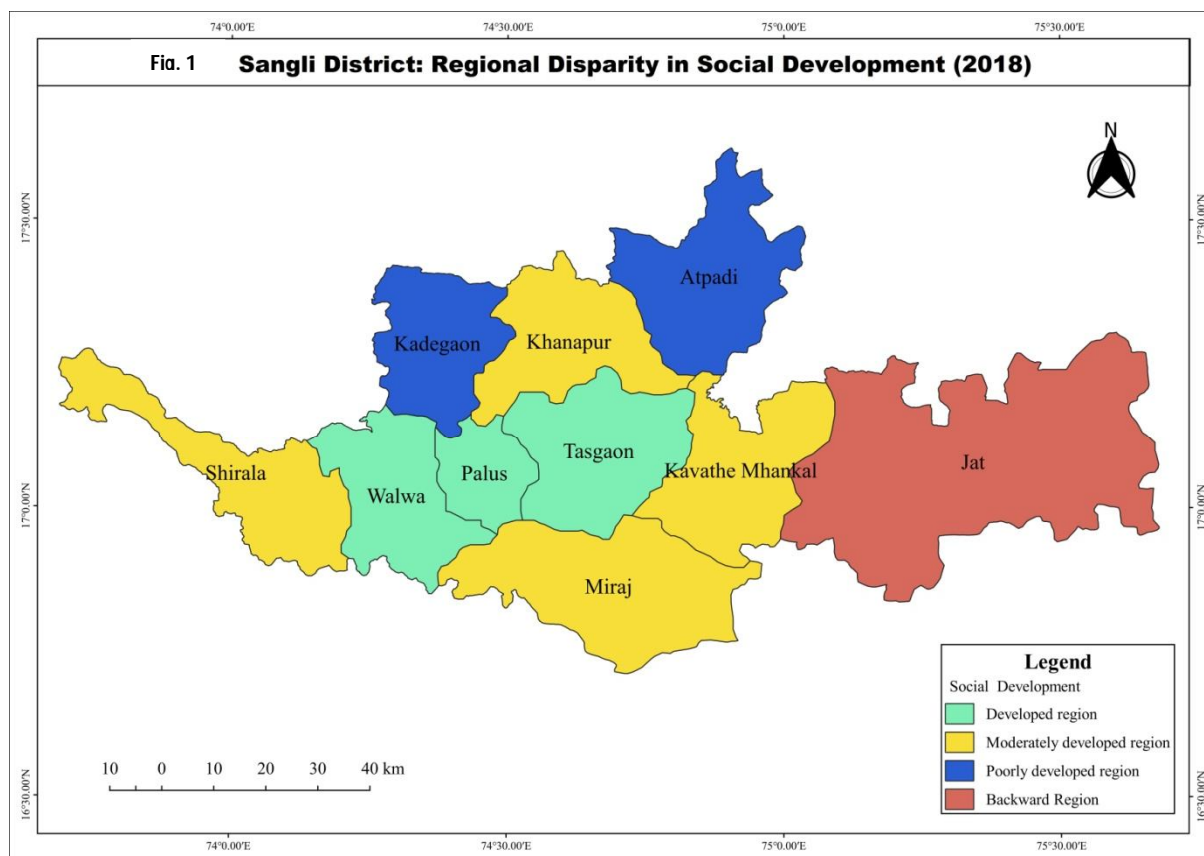
Source: Calculated by researcher

i. Socially Developed Region:

Table no 3 reveals that, this region covers three tahsils that is Palus, Walwa and Tasgaon. The indices value of these tahsils is above 101 which are more than the district value (100). These tahsils shows high social development due to more percentage of Male and Female literacy rate.

ii. Socially Moderately Developed Region:

Shirala, Khanapur, Kavathe Mahankal, and Miraj are the four tahsils that constitute this region. Because of the high number of primary and secondary schools per 10,000 populations and the high percentage of SC and ST population literacy rate, the index value of these tahsils ranges between 98 and 101, indicating that they have a reasonable level of social development.



iii. Socially Poorly Developed Region:

This region is comprised of three tahsils, namely Kadegaon and Atpadi, with index values ranging from 95 to 98. The low level of social development in this region is primarily due to the male and female total population's low literacy rates.

iv. Socially Backward Region:

Jat is the only thasil in this region whose index value is below 95. In this tahsil, all indicators show very poor values of their indices. In other words, Jatthasil is a socially backward region in the district.

These zones are presented on the map. 02. The first region has shown high social development, which is located in the western part of the district and spread over the flood plains of the Krishna and Warna rivers. The third zone, which is socially backward, covers the eastern part of the district.

CONCLUSION:

In the foregoing study, it's also been observed that the scenario of social development and its disparity in the Sangli district is also heterogeneous in nature. The range of composite indices of social development is 11 points. Walwa, Palus, and Tasgaon tahsils show the highest social development in the district, while Shirala, Khanapur, Miraj, and KavatheMahankal lie in the moderately developed region, and Kadegaon and Atpadi fall into the poorly developed, whereas Jat is in the backward category.

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