

Importance of Social Amenities in the Regional Development: With reference to Karnataka.

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Introduction:

Societies always seek ways to satisfy their needs in the immediate vicinity. Wherever man lives he has to adopt himself to his surroundings in order to meet the fundamental necessities therefore the first step for a regular development programme is to provide infrastructural facilities for rural development. The development of social amenities in rural area will help to improve the economic and cultural life of the people, as about 80% of the Indian population lives in rural areas. In Sociological literature "social development has been defined as the development of men in their mutual relation. In actual practice the regional development has been measured in terms of a variety of suitable criteria, it includes health, education, transport and communication, power supply etc. These indicators among others reflect the quality of functioning of a social system and efficiency of its economic welfare.

The existing social amenities of the region is necessary for the fulfillment of the aims of the balanced regional development. Among all the sciences concerned with development. Economics has achieved the most in generating theory and policy prescriptions. Conceptually the term development has been defined as change from a given situation to attain a better one and this change is a basic component of development. It is obvious that improvement in one situation transforming it to a better situation is the normative of desirable change.

The analysis of spatial distribution of social amenities in Karnataka which is an important aspect of their locational studies as the human settlements produce a certain degree of order in their distributional pattern over the space and this in some way reflects and conditions the functional relations among centers. The most accepted and yet the most complex task of regional planning is to prepare a comprehensive regional development plan, an integrated and coordinated plan between the physical, economic and social components in a given region and inter-regional, that is between different levels of regions. Regional planning is strongly advocated where there are conflicts arising out of administrative jurisdictions, resource patterns and sharp contrasts in the levels of development between regions of a country which is in the process of development. A large part of the recent interest

in social indicators has been connected with the proposal for a regular national social report in United State of America. This idea is generally said to have began in 1929, with President Hoover Committee on social trends. It reports social trends in the United States was an attempt to analyze social factors likely to have a bearing on public policy. Olson, averred that social indicators must be part of coherent system of socio-economic measurement to facilitate comprehensive and balanced judgment about major aspects of a society.

Objectives:

- 1.To examine the existing levels of social amenities at the district level.
- 2.The examine the spatial distribution of social amenities in the state.
- 3.To identify the different levels of regional development on the basis of distribution of social amenities in the state.
- 4.To suggest the priority orders of district for the planning and locating social amenities in the region.

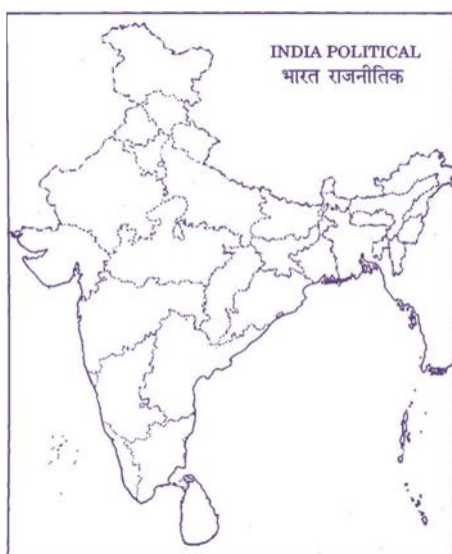
Methodology:

- 1.Methodology in any investigation forms an important part of the study.
- 2.It is essential for understanding and achieve the desired aims and objectives.
- 3.Data collect from secondary sources.
- 3.Statistical methods have been used in working out the observed data matrix, composite weighted index method is used for grouping districts and for summarizing the information of a large number of components.
- 4.The district wise spatial distribution of social amenities has been categorized at five levels on the basis of availability of social amenities in the districts.

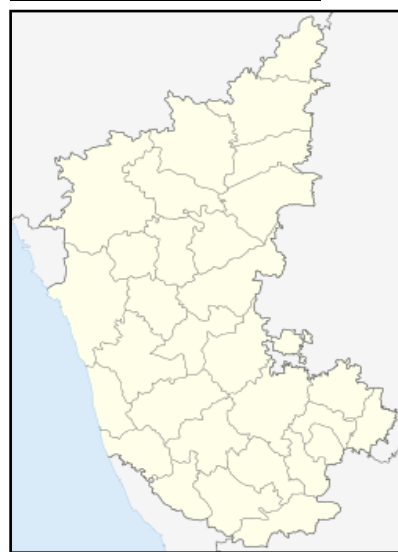
Study Area:

The state of Karnataka has came into existence during the re-organization of states based on linguistic in 1956. It was called Mysore state, later it was called renamed as Karnataka in 1973. At the time of independence the area of Karnataka were scattered in almost 20 different administrative divisions. The state extends from $11^{\circ} 31'$ to $18^{\circ} 45'$ N

latitudes. The state has a maximum extent from Aurad taluk of Bidar district in the north and to Moyar River in south for a distance of 750 Km long. Longitudinally the state extends from $74^{\circ} 12'$ to $78^{\circ} 40'$ east. From west to east the state is about 400kms. Karwar of uttar kannada district lies in the extreme west. Whereas Mulbagilu taluk of Kolar district is in the extreme east. The total geographical area of the state is about 191791sq.km. Karnatka is about 5.84 percent of the total geographical area of the country. Among the states of Indian Republic, it ranks eighth in terms of area. According to 2011 census the total population of the state is 52.73 million.



KARNATAKA STATE



Distribution of Social Amenities in Karnataka:

Social organization helps to establish codes of social conduct, behavior and conformance to them through fear of punishment. Marriages, family ties, social institutions and cultural aspirations all of them form such an organizational setup. The nature of infrastructural facilities required for social well-being in a given region varies according to the general development of the region. An appraisal of social amenities as observed in Karnataka State. The analysis of existing social amenities is necessary for the fulfillment of the aim of balanced development of the region. A classification of 21 social amenities have been grouped into five broad categories.

The major categories are

- 1) Educational

- 2) Medical
- 3) Drinking water
- 4) Transport and Communication
- 5) Electricity

Educational Amenities:

Educational amenities are the basic factors for the regional development, Educational level largely determines human occupation which in turn determines income. The level of education reflects the general economic status of a community. The spatial distribution of educational amenities has been studied at the distinctness.

Medical Amenities:

Health care is one of the most important indicators to measure the state of social well-being of a region. Medical care is no less important in the development because firstly it meets basic welfare need and secondly it greatly contributes to the efficiency of the regional labor force. The present study analysis the distribution of hospitals, dispensaries health centers, primary health centre, sub-centre etc. in the districts of state.

Hospital and public health system is one of the most significant change agents. Hospital amenities exit mostly in the large cities or district and taluka head quarters in the state. There are 393 hospitals located in cities and towns in the state. They account for 3.41 percent of total medical amenities of the state. The maximum number of hospitals are found in the Gulbarga, Belgaum, Hassan, and Mysore, district. There are minimum number of hospitals found in the Bangalore rural, Chamarajnagar, Dharwad, Gadag, and Chikkaballapur, Ramanagar districts.

Drinking Water Amenities:

The drinking water problem is very serious in most of the rural areas have neither tanks, nor tap as hand pumps. Only wells are available for drinking water. All through these wells are privately owned but when they are located in the vicinity of the village. They can be utilized by the whole village. So for tap water is concerned, according to 2008 census report. These are 6022421 tap water facilities available in the state. The districts having maximum tap water facility in Bangalore urban, Mysore, Kolar, Chikkaballapur, Tumakur and

Belgaum districts. There are the districts which have meager connection of taps in Chitradurga, Chikkaballapur, South Canara, Udapi, Kodagu, Chamarajnagar, Bijapur, Bagalakote, Gadag, Haveri, North Canara, Bidar, Raichur and Koppal district.

Transportation and Communication Amenities:

The development of an efficient transport system and provision of such facilities is one of crucial importance for overall development of an area. In Karnataka state only a small number of villages are served by pucca roads and negligible number of them have railway stations. Here an attempt has been made to analyze the communicational amenities, which covers transport as well as postal and telegraphic amenities.

Transport network is vitally important for the development of an efficient economic system. Roads represent important linkage in the process of regional development. These contribute significantly toward mobilization of resources and reduce the gap between the rural and the urban settlements. The existence of railway helps the development of a region. The vast natural resources which the country possess cannot be exploited fully without developing goods and means of transport. Postal services may be classified into two categories i.e post office and telephone exchange office.

To conclude it can be stated that post offices, telephone exchanges are very few in number in relation to the existing population and also systematic spatial planning is required for fair distribution of post and telephone exchanges amenities in the state.

Electricity Amenity:

Electric power is an important element of modern infrastructure and the consumption of power is often taken as an indicator of general economic development. The electrification programme in the rural areas has a dual impact since it affects both agricultural technology and domestic life of the communities.

The above discussion brings the fact that social amenities are distributed unevenly in the state. The index of social amenity brings out clearly. The concentration of social amenities are more in the large size of settlements than the small one. Such disparities should also be taken into consideration whenever a plan is suggested for spatial planning for a balanced distribution of social amenities in a region.

Levels of Regional Development in Karnataka State:

Regional development is the result of interaction between various economic and social institutional factors. The task of regional planning is to prepare a comprehensive regional development plan, an integrated and co-ordinate plan between the physical and economic and social components, that is between different levels of development in the region.

This unit of study deals with the measurement and analyse the levels of development at district level with a view to work out imbalances in the spatial distribution of social amenities in the state. For the purpose of inter-district comparison it would be desirable may absolutely essential to combine various individual indices into a over all measures to operationalize the concept of spatial distribution of social amenities.

Composite Index Analysis:

The district wise spatial distribution of social amenities have been categorized at five levels, viz, **very high, high, medium, low, very low** level on the basis of availability of social amenities in the district in the following paragraphs. District wise distribution has been discussed with a view to examine the concentration of social amenities.

The levels of development of social amenities

I.	Very High :	6-21 and Above	:	Bangalore ®
II.	High :	5.45 to 6-20	:	Chikkamagalore, Kodagu, Chamaraj Nagar, Hassan, Udapi, Kolar
III.	Medium	:4.69 to 5.44	:	Mysore, Tumakur, South Canara, North Canara, Bangalore (U), Shimoga, Mandya, Chitradurga.
IV.	Low	:3.93 to 4.68	:	Davanagere, Bijapur, Ramanagar, Gadag, Haveri.
V.	very Low	: 3.92 and Below	:	Belguam, Bidar, Ballari, Chikkaballapur, Koppal, Bagalkot, Gulbarga, Dharwad, Raichur

COMPOSITE SCORES OF SOCIAL AMENITIES IN KARNATAKA:2008-09

District	Educational Amenities	Medical Amenities	Drink water Amenities	Transp & Comm Amenities	Electricity Amenities	Comp score of social Amenities
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Bangalore	0.65	0.16	1.23	2.01	0.96	5.01
Bangalore ®	1.30	1.16	1.17	0.75	2.31	6.69
Ramangar	1.27	1.20	1.17	0.32	0.18	4.14
Chitradurga	1.11	1.08	1.12	0.33	1.08	4.71
Davanagere	0.92	0.96	1.07	0.35	0.99	4.29
Kolar	1.26	0.80	1.13	0.43	1.86	5.48
Chikkaballapur	1.29	0.88	1.13	0.35	0.21	3.86
Shivamoga	1.18	1.08	1.12	0.60	0.98	4.96
Tumakur	1.30	1.00	1.21	0.34	1.23	5.08
Chikmaglore	1.30	1.68	1.41	0.73	1.05	6.17
S Canara	0.74	1.08	1.03	1.26	0.94	5.05
Udapi	0.82	1.40	1.08	1.25	0.98	5.53
Hassan	1.43	1.44	1.19	0.50	1.06	5.62
Kodagu	0.90	1.76	1.19	1.27	1.02	6.14
Mandya	1.06	1.16	1.19	0.26	1.05	4.72
Mysore	0.85	0.92	1.14	1.38	0.95	5.24
Chamarajnagar	0.84	2.52	1.18	0.27	1.10	5.91
Belgaum	0.82	0.68	0.99	0.44	0.97	3.90
Bijapur	1.08	0.80	1.01	0.34	1.00	4.23
Bagalkote	0.86	0.72	0.97	0.30	0.97	3.82
Dharwad	0.66	0.56	0.93	0.65	0.82	3.62
Gadag	0.79	0.96	0.98	0.43	0.89	4.05
Haveri	0.86	1.04	1.00	0.26	0.90	4.06
N Canara	1.40	0.64	1.07	0.96	0.98	5.05
Ballari	0.78	0.84	1.01	0.36	0.89	3.88
Bidar	0.98	0.84	0.92	0.30	0.86	3.90
Gulbarga	0.89	0.76	0.97	0.29	0.83	3.74
Raichur	0.87	0.64	0.81	0.25	0.87	3.52
Koppal	0.82	0.84	0.98	0.28	0.91	3.83
State	0.95	0.84	1.08	0.71	0.98	4.56

Source: Dept of Statistical and Economic Reports – 2008-0

Very High Level:

It is observed that only Bangalore rural district come under this category. The composite score of social amenities is 6.69 which is noted that Bangalore rural district

ranks first for all the amenities. Which shows the high level development of social amenities in Bangalore rural district.

High Level:

The area under high level of development included for districts namely Chikkaballapur (6.17) Kodagu (6.14) Chamarajnagar (5.91).Hassan (5.62) Udapi (5.53) Kolar (5.48). The districts in this category are formed in the south western part of the state. The map indicates all districts of high level of development influenced by urban functions, political powers and development of district economy.

Medium Level:

For this level the composite score varies from 4.69 to 5.45. Most of the district are found in the medium level of development in the state. It includes Mysore (5.24), Tumakur (5.08), Soth canara (5.05), North canara (5.05) Bangalore (U) (5.01), Shimoga (4.96), Mandya (4.72) and Chitradurga (4.71) districts. These are lie in the south and western part of the state.

Low Level:

It comprises of Davanagere (4.29), Bijapur (4.23) Gadag (4.05), Haveri (4.05) districts of north Karnataka and, Ramanagar (4.14) district of south Karnataka. The map indicates, that all the districts of low level of development are situated in the drought prone area of Karnataka.

Very Low Level:

There are nine districts in this category which includes Balguam (3.90), Bidar (3.90), Ballari (3.88), Chikkaballapur (3.86) Koppal (3.83), Bagalkot (3.82), Gulbarga (3.74), Dharwad (3.62) and Raichur (3.52) districts.

The above analysis brings out the fact that those districts which are located extremely in the border areas and are in remote areas of the state come under low level category. The northern part of the state, level of development is very low level where the physical endowments effect the development of amenities. On the other hand high level of development is observed in the southern part of the state. The primary state of Mysore had achieved relatively more development under the administration of wodeyar. In contrast the

newly added areas such as Hyderabad Karnataka, Mumbai Karnataka, were lagging behind of Mysore Kingdom in terms of socio-economic conditions.

CONCLUSION:

This present study identifies intra – regional variation in spatial distribution of social amenities at district level the distribution of social amenities are to a great extent related to the size of population on the basis of existing social amenities levels of development have been ascertained and some areas which are lacking in certain amenities have been identified. Certainly the study is theoretical in as much as it does not take into consideration various political and other interventions. Social amenities and an explanatory exercise of deficit area is the first step towards effective planning.

This analysis reveals that the levels of development based on existing amenities in the state at district level. The present concluding part tries to bring together in a concise form of these findings. The following main points have been observed.

- 1) Physical endowments have been determined to minimum number of social amenities in the areas of high temperature, less rainfall and later organized part of state. i.e Mumbai and Hyderabad Karnataka and on the other hand maximum utilization of natural resources, the more number of social amenities are distributed in the state.
- 2) Social amenities are highly concentrated in the areas of urban development and non-farming activities developed in the southern part of the state.
- 3) The levels of development have been identified on the basis of availability and population served by social amenities in each district. Most of the districts are found in the medium level of development. Only Bangalore (R) district (6.69) has been observed in the category of very high levels of development, and Raichur (3.52) district is found in the extremely low levels of development.
- 4) The spatial distribution of social amenities are judged on the basis composite weighted index scores, according to the total number of social amenity and population of each district.
- 5) The relative importance of the social amenities have been measured by mean and standard deviation method to identify the five different levels of development, these relative developments have shown by maps.

- 6) This report deals with the intra- regional disparities at the district level. The priority of each major group of social amenities have been made at the district level. A true attempt is made to furnish an empirical framework with regard to social infrastructure and thus lay down the basis for priority decisions in the district of proposed amenities.

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