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far-reaching. Humanities researchers are often involved in educational and cultural activities of benefit to the individual and critical to quality of life. Subjects in the humanities can make a direct contribution to health and well-being. Subjects in the humanities are accessible to a wide public, making direct contributions to life-long learning agendas. If above discussed challenges are handled properly then the research in Humanities could be highly beneficial to the society.

## A Study of HDI Trends of India

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### 1.0 Abstract:

The Human Development Index (HDI) is a simple composite measure of human development. It evaluates development by economic advances as well as by improvements in human well-being. It is a composite index of life expectancy, education, and income indices. HDI used to rank countries with regard to human development. Human Development Index (HDI) overall for India has risen from 0.428 in 1990 to 0.624 in 2015 recording a rise of 0.196 points during 1990 to 2015. As compare to our country and neighbouring countries China made progress on health, education and income generation. Average annual HDI growth of India from 1990 to 2015 period is 1.52 per cent. India's average annual HDI growth is more than developing countries and World average annual HDI growth for 1990 to 2015 period. During 1990 to 2015 period India's average annual HDI growth is always more than South Asia, Developing countries and World average annual HDI growth.

Keywords: HDI, HDI trends of India, average annual HDI growth of India

### 2.0 Introduction:

"The ultimate objective of development planning is human development or increased social welfare and well-being of the people."  
-Economic Survey 2010-11

The Human Development Index (HDI) is a simple composite measure of human

development. It evaluates development by economic advances as well as by improvements in human well-being. It is a composite index of life expectancy, education, and income indices. HDI used to rank countries with regard to human development. It is published by the United Nations Development Programme. The origins of the HDI are found in the annual human development reports of the UNDP. These were devised and launched by Pakistani economist Mehbub -Ul-haq and followed by Indian economist Amartya Sen in 1990. United Nations devised a comprehensive tool i.e. Human Development Index for measuring the levels of social and economic developments of the different countries and ranking them accordingly. HDI is a comparative measure of life expectancy, education, literacy and standard of living. The human development index measures the average achievement in a country in three basic dimensions of human development i.e. Longevity, Knowledge and Decent Standard of Living. Human Development Index includes three dimensions:

- a) **A long and healthy life:** Life expectancy at birth
- b) **Education Index:** Mean years of schooling and expected years of schooling and
- c) **A decent standard of living:** GNI per capita (PPP US \$)

**Calculation of Index:** For any component of the HDI, individual indices are calculated according to the following general formula

$$\text{Index} = \frac{\text{Actual Value} - \text{Minimum Value}}{\text{Maximum Value} - \text{Minimum Value}}$$

HDI value measured between 0 and 1. If any country's HDI value is 0.999 it is called very high human development country and if any country's HDI value is 0.400 is called as low human development country.

### 3.0 Pillars of Human Development:

- 1) **Equity:** It is the idea of fairness for every person of the society, between men and women;

we each have the right to an education and healthcare.

- 2) **Sustainability:** It is the view that we all have the right to earn a living that can sustain our lives and have access to a more even distribution of goods.

- 3) **Productivity:** Productivity states the full participation of people in the process of income generation. This also means that the government needs more efficient social programs for its people.

- 4) **Empowerment:** It is the freedom of the people to influence development and decisions that affect their lives.

- 5) **Cooperation:** It stipulates participation and belonging to communities and groups as a means of mutual enrichment and a source of social meaning.

- 6) **Security:** It offers people development opportunities freely and safely with confidence that they will not disappear suddenly in the future.

### 4.0 Objectives of the study:

- 1) To study the HDI trends of India.
- 2) To study the average annual HDI growth of India.
- 3) To analyse HDI position of India with compare to other countries.

### 5.0 Research Methodology of the study:

This study is purely depending on secondary data. Data is collected from various reference books, research papers, websites and reports. For analysis descriptive and analytical research methods are used.

### 6.0 Human Development Index Trends of India:

According to India HDR 2011, among all states and union territories the top five ranks in both years (1999-2000 and 2007-08) go to the states of Kerala, Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Goa and Punjab. States that perform better on health and education outcomes are also the states with higher HDI and thus higher per capita income. At the other hand Chhattisgarh, Orissa, Bihar,

Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Assam have HDI below the national average. The seven north eastern states (excluding Assam) have done remarkably well in human development outcomes to climb up three rungs from 1999-2000 and 2007-8. Over the eight year period, HDI has risen by 21 per cent compared to a rise of 18 per cent in India's HDI over 2000-2010 as reported by the global HDR 2010. For six of the low HDI states i.e. Bihar, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and Assam have the improvement in HDI is considerably above the national average. Despite low absolute levels of HDI in these states, HDI is converging across states.

period. China, Vietnam countries are risen their HDI by 0.239 and 0.206 points respectively during above period. On the other hand Bangladesh, Nepal, Thailand, Indonesia, Pakistan and Sri Lanka countries has raised their HDI by 0.193, 0.180, 0.166, 0.161, 0.146 and 0.140 points respectively. This shows that India is in between the developing countries regarding the progress in HDI.

Chart 1: Human Development Index Trends

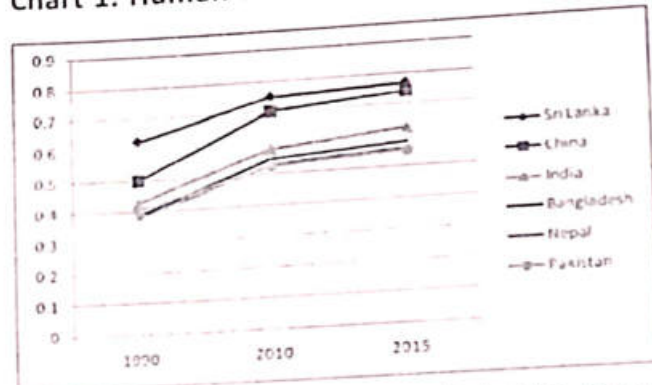


Chart 1 shows that India's HDI trend during 1990 to 2015 is not as good as compare to China. During 1990 to 2010 India's HDI value increased from 0.428 to 0.580 i.e. 0.152 points but on the other hand China increased her HDI value from 0.499 to 0.700 i.e. 0.201 points during 10 years period. As compare to our country and neighbouring countries China made progress on health, education and income generation. India is a need to focus on health, education and employment generation facilities which will help to improve the position of Indian citizens.

#### 7.0 Average Annual HDI Growth of India:

Here is study of India's average annual HDI growth during 1990 to 2015. During 1990-2000 India's average annual HDI growth was 1.45 per cent which was increased to 1.62 per cent for 2000-2010 period. Average annual HDI growth from 1990 to 2015 period is 1.52 per cent.

Table 2: Average Annual HDI Growth

(in percentage)

Table 1: Human Development Index Trends (2015)

Sr. No.	Country Name	HDI Value		
		1990	2010	2015
1	Norway	0.849	0.939	0.949
2	Australia	0.866	0.927	0.939
3	Switzerland	0.831	0.932	0.939
4	Germany	0.801	0.912	0.926
5	Denmark	0.799	0.910	0.925
6	Sri Lanka	0.626	0.746	0.766
7	Thailand	0.574	0.720	0.740
8	China	0.499	0.700	0.738
9	Indonesia	0.528	0.662	0.689
10	Vietnam	0.477	0.655	0.683
11	India	0.428	0.580	0.624
12	Bangladesh	0.386	0.545	0.579
13	Nepal	0.378	0.529	0.558
14	Pakistan	0.404	0.525	0.550

Source: Human Development Report 2016, UNDP

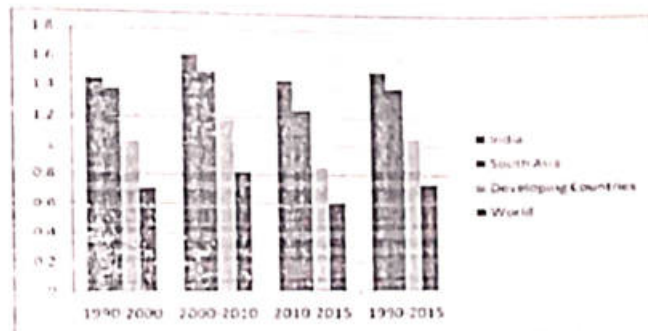
The United Nations Development Report, HDR 2016 covers 188 countries HDI. Among 188 countries Norway has 1<sup>st</sup> rank in HDI with 0.949 HDI value and Central African Republic has 188<sup>th</sup> rank with 0.352 HDI value. Among 188 countries India has 131<sup>st</sup> rank with 0.624 HDI value and India is among medium human development countries. Table 1 shows that Human Development Index (HDI) overall for India has risen from 0.428 in 1990 to 0.624 in 2015 recording a rise of 0.196 points during the above

Sr. No.	Country Name	1990-2000	2000-2010	2010-2015	1990-2015
1	India	1.45	1.62	1.46	1.52
2	China	1.72	1.70	1.05	1.57
3	Bangladesh	1.95	1.54	1.21	1.64
4	Pakistan	1.09	1.55	0.95	1.24
5	Sri Lanka	0.92	0.84	0.56	0.82
6	Thailand	1.25	1.03	0.56	1.02
7	South Asia	1.38	1.51	1.25	1.40
8	Developing Countries	1.02	1.18	0.85	1.05
9	World	0.71	0.82	0.61	0.74

Source: Human Development Report 2016, UNDP

Table 2 shows that as compare to our neighbouring countries India's average annual HDI growth is good except Bangladesh and China. India's average annual HDI growth is more than developing countries and World average annual HDI growth.

Chart 2 : Average Annual HDI Growth



Char 2 shows that during 1990 to 2015 period India's average annual HDI growth is always more than South Asia, Developing countries and World average annual HDI growth. This shows that India is progressing on the dimensions of HDI. Human Development Index (HDI) overall for India has risen from 0.369 in 1980 to 0.624 in 2015 recording a rise of 0.255 points during the period. In terms of the three main segments of Human Development Index i.e. life expectancy, education and income indices; India has made good progress in the period from 1980 to 2015. The HDI Health Index for India was 0.544 in 1980. It increased to 0.648 in 2000 and further increased to 0.702 in 2010. It finally increased to 0.714 in 2013. Thus, HDI – Health Index for India has risen from 0.544 in 1980 to 0.714 in 2013 recording a rise of 0.17 points during the period. The HDI Education

Index for India was 0.356 in 1980. It increased to 0.472 in 2000 and further increased to 0.617 in 2010. It finally increased to 0.65 in 2013. Thus, HDI Education Index for India has risen from 0.356 in 1980 to 0.65 in 2013 recording a rise of 0.294 points during the period. The HDI Income Index for India was 0.384 in 1980. It increased to 0.491 in 2000 and further increased to 0.578 in 2010. It finally increased to 0.6 in 2013. Thus, HDI Income Index for India has risen from 0.384 in 1980 to 0.6 in 2013 recording a rise of 0.216 points during the period(HDR 2014, UNDP).

### 8.0 Policy measures to improve human development:

For education development there is a need to focus from enrolment to improvement in the functioning of schools as well as towards raising the quality of education outcomes in the education policy. Further, there is need for standardisation of schools, with the mechanical provisioning of core inputs and a well-developed pedagogy. To avoid gap in teaching inputs, a well-designed program of recruitment, retention and deployment of teachers needs to be put into place in each state to ensure a high level of teaching quality and also to clear the backlog of vacancies at all levels. In regard to health focus should be on certain wider determinants of healthcare like food and livelihood security, drinking water, women's literacy, better nutrition and sanitation, and above all as well as the public health policy should focus on the prevention of diseases by providing clean water and sanitation rather than fighting diseases by administering antibiotics. Training of public health specialists and development of health facilities at all levels is necessary. For malnutrition issue, national level programmes like the Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) need to be revamped and restructured, and efforts made to facilitate their convergence with schemes pertaining to health, education, water, sanitation and food security at all levels.

Women's empowerment can reduce malnutrition. It will achieved by ensuring higher levels of schooling for girls, higher age at marriage and higher maternal age at the birth of the first child. The unorganised sector in the economy should be strengthened. There is interdependence between organised and unorganised sector of economy. Labour productivity in the unorganised sector is crucial for improving employment conditions in the organised sector. Annual employment surveys will be helpful for analysis and policy making. For social protection, programmes should be based on a combination of universal, self-targeted or targeted strategies to ensure the universal coverage of beneficiaries while simultaneously taking into account the costs of targeting. There must also be pro-poor policies at the macro level in the fiscal, trade and financial sectors. Thus these policy measures are helpful to increase human development in country.

#### 9.0 Conclusions:

1) Human Development Index (HDI) overall for India has risen from 0.428 in 1990 to 0.624 in 2015 recording a rise of 0.196 points during 1990 to 2015.

2) As compare to our country and neighbouring countries China made progress on health, education and income generation.

3) Average annual HDI growth of India for 1990-2015 period is 1.52 per cent.

4) India's average annual HDI growth is more than developing countries and World average annual HDI growth for 1990 to 2015 period.

5) During 1990 to 2015 period India's average annual HDI growth is always more than South Asia, Developing countries and World average annual HDI growth.

Thus in nutshell India's HDI rank is low compare to other developing countries. State wise HDI report shows that there are regional disparities in India. Because of low expenditure on health, education, low level of per capita

income, low level of life expectancy etc. India should emphasis on regional balance of growth and more concentrate on health, education and per capita income among backward states in India then and then only India's rank in world HDI will be improve.

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