

Spatial Inequalities in Social Development among Northwest Indian States

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ABSTRACT The issue of regional imbalances has received attention from various researchers, policy planners and academicians. It is a global phenomenon and can be found all across the world including India. The present study intends to examine the trends and pattern of regional disparities in social development in Northwestern states of India. Based on 8 indicators, the study has been conducted with reference to three reference years, that is, 1971, 1991 and 2011. In order to examine the social development composite standard score has been computed and interpreted. Co-efficient of variation has been computed to gauge into spatial variations at individual level of social variables. Majority of the districts of Jammu and Kashmir and Rajasthan registered low level of social development. The study reveals high development in few enclaves and pockets of the region. Although, regional disparities are declining but some districts are still socially backward.