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GENDER DISCRIMINATION IN ASSAM, A COMPOSITE INDEX ANALYSIS

Korobi Gogoi

Abstract:-Even as India celebrated International Women's Day recently, the fairer sex continues to be discriminated against in the country and elsewhere including Thailand, Myanmar, Afghanistan, China, among different social classes, despite laws against their exploitation. Despite the increase in women literacy rate, women across India are discriminated against both at home and workplaces. With Lok Sabha polls round the corner, although there is a demand to field more women candidates, political parties are unlikely to filed handful.

The Women's Day celebrations on March 8 across the country brought little cause for cheer to the women of Dhubri district in Assam, which has the lowest female literacy rate and working women in the State, according to the Assam Human Development Report, 2003. The situation is equally depressing in other districts of Assam. In The present study examines the status of women in the districts of Assam using some selected indicators.

The paper intends to study the gender discrimination in Assam especially in the perspective of Demographic concern. The paper also intends to study the discrimination in the different districts of the state. The discrimination is studied with some certain demographic parameters such as male, female, rural, urban, sex ratio, literacy rate etc. the data used for the study are from secondary sources such as mainly census publications, Economic survey reports, government publications of directorate of Economics and statistics etc based on the recent census. Econometrics tools are being used to study the district disparity.

Keywords:gender, discrimination, demography, district, disparity etc.

INTRODUCTION

India, discriminatory attitude towards men and women have existed for generations and affect the lives of both genders. though the constitution of Bharat has granted men and ladies equal rights, gender disparity still remains even after sixty years. There is specific analysis on gender discrimination largely in favour of men over ladies. because of a scarcity of objective analysis on gender discrimination against men, it's perceived that it's only women who are suffering.

The research often conducted is selectively sampled, where men are left out of the picture. ladies square measure seemed to be deprived at work, and conclusions square measure drawn that their capabilities square measure usually underestimated. (Subhash C. Kundu, (2003) The cultural construct of Indian society that reinforces gender bias against men and ladies, with varied degrees and variable contexts against the opposite sex, has led to the continuation of India's strong preference for male children. feminine infanticide and sex-selective abortion is adopted and powerfully reflects the low standing of Indian ladies.

Census 2011 shows decline of girl population (as a percentage to total population) under the age of seven, with activists estimating that eight million feminine fetuses might are aborted within the past decade (Prem Narain, S.D. Sharma, S.C. Rai And V.K. Bhatia(2009).

OBJECTIVES:

(I)To study the Gender Discrimination in the districts.
(II)To study the Gender Discrimination among the districts.

HYPOTHESIS:

There is no any Gender discrimination

Developmental indicators:

fully captured by a single indicator. A optimum combination of all the indicators. Each district faces situational factors of development unique to it as well as common administrative and financial factors. Developmental indicators common to all the districts have been included in the analysis Composite indices of. development have been obtained for different districts by using the data on the following developmental indicators . (Narain P. and et. al. 2009).

1	2
Index	**Indicators used for the construction of the indices for 2012**
DDIOM	• X_1 –Total Population of Male(in Lakh) • X_2 –Total Population of Rural Male(in lakh) • X_3–Total Population of Urban Male (in 10,000) • X_4–% of Total Male Population decadal growth • X_5–% of Total Rural Male Population decadal growth • X_6–% of Total Urban Male Population decadal growth • X_7- Literacy Rate of Male Population
DDIOF	• X_8- Total Female Population (in Lakh) • X_9 – Total Rural Female Population (in lakh) • X_{10} – Total Urban Female Population (in 10.000) • X_{11} - % of Female decadal growth • X_{12} - % of Rural Female decadal growth • X_{13} - % of Urban Female decadal growth • X_{14} - Female Literacy Rate

N.B. - DDIM-Demographic Development Indicators of Male
DDIF-Demographic Development Indicators of Female

METHODOLOGY:

The study is on the Gender Discrimination of the districts of Assam and is based on secondary data pertaining to the demographic variables of the different districts. The time reference period of the study is 2012. Main sources of data are Census of India publications, SRS as well as statistical department publications, Government publications, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Published reports, research papers, journals, articles, different web sources etc. Composite indices have been prepared for ranking the different districts of the state.

MATERIALS AND METHODS:

The following methods are used for preparing my research paper.
Composite index of development and developmental distances between different Districts

The crucial issue of regional disparity analysis lies in the construction of a Composite Index out of the several indicators chosen for the purpose. All the selected indicators are to be converted in to a common base either by rank ordering or indexing and finally they are to be converted in to a single index of overall development.

Let a set of n points represent districts 1, 2… n for a group of indicators 1, 2... k, which can be represented by a matrix (X_{ij}); i = 1, 2, … n and j = 1, 2,.. k. As the developmental indicators included in the analysis are in different units of measurement and since our object is to arrive at a single composite index relating to the dimension in question. There is a need for standardized as shown below:

$$Z_{ij} = \frac{X_{ij} - \overline{X}_j}{S_j}$$

Where, $S_j^2 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n}(X_{ij} - \overline{X}_j)^2}{n}$ and

$$\overline{X}_j = \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{X_{ij}}{n}\right)$$

(i=1, 2… n), (j=1,2,…,k)

Let $|Z|_{ij}$ denotes the matrix of standardized indicators. The best district for each indicator (with maximum/minimum standardized value depending upon the direction of the indicator) is identified and from this the deviations of the value for each district has been taken for all indicators in the following manner:

$$C_i = \left(\sum_{j=1}^{k}\left(Z_{ij} - Z_{oj}\right)^2\right)^{1/2},$$

where Z_{oj} is the standardized value of the j^{th} indicator of the best district and Ç$_i$ denotes the pattern of development of ith district.

The composite index of development is obtained through the following formula:

$$D_i = \frac{C_i}{C}$$

$$C = \overline{C} + 2S,$$

$$\overline{C} = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{C_i}{n}$$

And

$$S = \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{(C_i - \overline{C})^2}{n}\right)^{1/2}$$

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:

Composite indices of demographic development have been worked out for different districts of Assam. The districts have been ranked on the basis of developmental indices. The composite indices of development along with the presented in Table-1.

Ranking of the districts on the basis of gender

Sl. No.	Districts	Male		Female	
		CI	Rank	CI	Rank
01	Kokrajhar	1.493	**27**	0.253	**13**
02	Dhubri	0.393	**21**	1.843	**25**
03	Goalpara	0.056	**12**	0.903	**22**
04	Barpeta	0.022	**9**	0.754	**21**
05	Marigaon	0.008	**7**	0.904	**23**
06	Nagaon	0.273	**18**	2.513	**27**
07	Sonitpur	0.626	**24**	0.467	**19**
08	Lakhimpur	0.006	**6**	0.055	**9**
09	Dhemaji	0.001	**3**	2.158	**26**
10	Tinsukia	0.002	**4**	0.088	**11**
11	Dibrugarh	0.025	**10**	0.007	**4**
12	Sibsagar	0.161	**15**	0.024	**7**
13	Jorhat	0.3	**19**	0.079	**10**
14	Golaghat	0.081	**14**	0.022	**6**
15	Karbi Anglong	0.021	**8**	0.002	**3**
16	Dima Hasao	0.52	**23**	0.017	**5**
17	Cachar	0.339	**20**	0.431	**17**
18	Karimganj	0.057	**13**	0.347	**16**
19	Hailakandi	0.002	**5**	0.311	**15**
20	Bongaigaon	0.000196	**2**	0.0008	**2**
21	Chirang	0.639	**25**	0.0002	**1**
22	Kamrup(R)	0.186	**16**	0.46	**18**
23	Kamrup (M)	0.188	**17**	1.556	**24**
24	Nalbari	0.00007	**1**	0.291	**14**
25	Baksa	0.049	**11**	0.144	**12**
26	Darrang	0.662	**26**	0.688	**20**
27	Udalguri	0.487	22	0.052	8

MAIN FINDINGS:

(i)Kokrajhar, Sonitpur, Dibrugarh, Sivasagar, Jorhat, Golahhat, Karbi-Anglong, Dima Hasao, Darrang, these nine districts have biased towards men in demographic development in comparison to Female.
(ii)Only Bongaigaon have the same Rank both Male and female.
(iii)Ramaining all otherdistricts have biased towards female in respect of demographic development.
(iv)Chirang have drastic favorable difference of female development in respect of male.
(v)Similarly Dhemaji have drastic unfavorable difference of female in respect of male.
(vi)Nalbari achieved first rank of male demographic development followed by, Bongaigaon, Dhemaji, Tinsukia respectively.
(vii)Similarly Cirang , Bongaingaon, Karbi Anglong and Dibrugarh achieved First, second, Third and Fourth Rank in Female demographic development.

CONCLUSIONS:

From the study it can be concluded that the state Assam has a wide range of gender disparity in respect of demographic indicators both within and among the districts. Though few districts able to attain better ranks in comparision to others districts but still there intra district gender disparity is remarkable. So Policy maker should keep concentration of both the factors while they prepare any demographic policy.It should be also worth mentioning here that though the study is trying to analyze the

Assam in respect of demographic development, so many indicators still remaining out of our purview. Further the study is static in nature which is based only on one time period. So wide spread opportunities are there in the field for further research which may cover more and more indicators.

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