

# IN THE DEVELOPMENT DISCOURSE OF INDIA: GROWTH, POVERTY AND DEPRIVATION –AN INTERSTATE ANALYSIS.

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This paper is a modest attempt to examine the cross state behaviour of the growth, poverty and deprivation and also to examine the relations between them and to see the spatial distribution of poverty. It shows that poverty decline in the 1990s preceded more or less in line with earlier trends. Regional disparities increased in the 1990s, with the southern and western regions doing much better than the northern and eastern regions. Beyond Poverty, the resurfacing issues in the development discourse are the security of life and sustainable livelihoods. The incidence of this issue is particularly on certain groups in the society termed as Vulnerable Groups (VGs) – are deprived of basic needs and lacks to fully enjoy the wide range of human rights. The elements of the Vulnerability framework are on account of their reduced access to habitat, health, sanitation, education, livelihood opportunities, political participation, etc. Through the Vulnerable Groups Development Framework we briefly examine some indicators of deprivation to see the depth, intensity and the chronic pattern of deprived and poverty inflicted poor people. It is well known that the conventional hypothesis regarding the relation between growth and poverty is that growth is a necessary condition but not the sufficient condition for the reduction of poverty. We will examine this hypothesis also.

## BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

Many studies have recently advanced the conclusion that world poverty has fallen substantially since the early 1990s (Chen and Ravallion, 2001, 2004). A central basis for this conclusion is the view that poverty fell in India and China in the 1990s. However, the extent of recent poverty reduction and the current levels of poverty in these two countries are debated. Moreover, there is reason to believe that poverty reduction has been less rapid elsewhere in the world (in particular, in Latin America and sub-Saharan Africa) than it may have been in India and in China.

**Table 1: Population below International Poverty Line of US \$ 1.25 Per Day, 2005 (per cent)**

<i>Region / Countries Incidence of Poverty</i>	<i>(per cent)</i>
West and Central Africa	53
Sub-Saharan Africa	51
Eastern and Southern Africa	49
Developing Countries	25
India	42

*Source: The State of the World's Children 2009, UNICEF.*

In the present changing global society, aggregate economic development may lead to quite different type of income inequality, different patterns of distribution of the benefits of the growth. Poverty is a multi-dimensional phenomenon; there are institutions and processes that are responsible for causing and reproducing deprivation. The persistence of the trajectory of high growth both at the national and inter-state level and the higher incidence of poverty as well as inequality is indeed puzzling. The strategy of growth mediated development policies on the basis of the expectation of the operation of the "Trickle Down Hypothesis" such that the fruits of economic growth would automatically percolate amongst all sections of people irrespective of region, religion and castes etc. But astonishingly the proportion of people lying below the poverty line remained somewhere around the same.

## DATA AND METHODOLOGY

The data for the present study collated from the Planning Commission, Government of India. NSSO 66<sup>th</sup> round, Human Development Report, 2011 etc. To understand the change in the rate of poverty over time growth elasticity have found, to examine the poverty as well as the potential of chronic indicators of deprivation, Poverty-Deprivation Index and Deprivation Index have analysed as we develop a generalized index following the UNDP methodology adopted by the Human Development Report of Kerala. The regression analysis has used to see how the welfare is related to the growth of the States Domestic Product, Improved Access to Water, Toilet Facility and Literacy.

## REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Estimation of the poverty line has been a much debated issue in India and expert groups have been set up from time to time to review the methodology for estimation. The concept of the

Poverty line was introduced by a working group of the Planning Commission in 1962 and subsequently expanded in 1979 by a task force (Sharma 2004). The methodology of poverty estimation is the one chaired by Suresh D Tendulkar, the approaches are based on a uniform calorie norm for all individuals, later it was modified separately for rural and urban. Average per capita calorie intake has been extensively used to assess the extent of poverty in India. The approaches taken by two expert groups, which were set up by the Planning Commission in 1973 (task force group) and in 1993 (Lakdawala Committee), constitute two examples. Under those approaches, we specify a threshold daily calorie intake per capita – for example, 2,400 and 2,100 calories for rural and urban populations, respectively. Enlightening poverty studies by Krishna (2003, 2004) and Krishna et al (2003, 2004) have enabled us to understand the important reasons that lead people to either escape or fall into poverty.

Three aspects of rising economic in-equality in the nineties have come up so far in our story – divergence in per capita consumption across states, rural –urban inequalities, rising inequalities in the states (Deaton, Dreze, 2002). India presents a particularly interesting case for analysis of poverty trends as the country analysis significantly differs from the cross-section state-by-state analysis (Fox, 2002).

## GROWTH PERFORMANCE OF THE STATES

In the case of India, a time series of consumption distributions from 35 National Sample Surveys (NSS) spanning the period 1951–94 is available. The availability of such a time series presents a unique opportunity to study the relationship between poverty and growth, a relationship that is divergent in nature. India is a large country and many of the Indian states are relatively big, at least in terms of their absolute size. For instance, some Indian states have population of about 45 million in 1991, and Uttar Pradesh alone has a population roughly the size of Brazil, the most populous country in Latin America (India 1993a; World Bank 1993). So an analysis of growth rates of different states is relevant as the policies are changing in varying degrees in different states.

**Table: 2 Five yearly Annual Compound Growth Rates of Per-Capita NSDP (at 1970-71 prices)**

	1971-75	1975-80	1980-85	1985-90	1990-95	1995-2000	2000-05	2005-10
Andhra Pradesh	1.79(4)	0.49(15)	-0.90(16)	7.43(2)	3.28(8)	2.09(12)	5.26(3)	7.50(7)
Assam	-0.33(9)	0.53(14)	2.47(6)	4.20(7)	0.13(14)	5.04(3)	2.34(13)	3.86(16)
Bihar	-0.57(10)	1.36(10)	2.38(9)	1.84(14)	-3.97(16)	3.10(8)	1.29(16)	8.32(4)
Gujarat	10.52(1)	5.60(1)	2.43(8)	-3.15(16)	7.54(1)	1.63(15)	9.74(1)	8.89(3)
Haryana	-2.27(13)	4.75(2)	1.23(11)	5.93(3)	1.23(13)	3.30(6)	4.75(6)	7.85(5.5)
Himachal Pradesh	2.22(3)	-0.05(16)	0.18(14)	5.92(4)	1.50(11)	4.36(5)	4.83(4)	4.56(15)
Karnataka	-0.04(7)	1.19(12)	2.96(4)	17.57(1)	5.07(3)	6.59(1)	2.93(11)	7.01(9)
Kerala	0.08(6)	0.72(13)	0.16(15)	3.78(10)	4.38(6)	3.28(7)	5.30(2)	7.85(5.5)
Madhya Pradesh	-0.76(11)	2.19(7)	2.70(5)	4.11(8)	1.37(12)	1.64(14)	3.30(10)	5.03(13)
Maharashtra	2.22(3)	1.90(8)	1.38(10)	5.56(6)	4.96(4)	2.60(11)	4.41(7)	9.85(1)
Orissa	-3.76(15)	2.55(6)	0.31(13)	0.84(15)	3.37(7)	1.17(16)	3.58(9)	6.75(10)
Punjab	1.15(5)	3.21(3)	4.11(2)	3.48(11)	2.54(9)	2.78(9)	2.21(14)	5.47(12)
Rajasthan	-6.46(16)	1.27(11)	4.05(3)	5.87(5)	1.98(10)	2.69(10)	4.11(8)	7.23(8)
Tamil Nadu	-3.60(14)	2.62(4)	5.88(1)	4.08(9)	5.75(2)	4.54(4)	1.82(15)	9.21(2)
Uttar Pradesh	-2.12(12)	2.56(5)	2.46(7)	3.22(12)	-0.18(15)	1.65(13)	2.72(12)	4.61(14)
West Bengal	-0.14(8)	1.61(9)	0.87(12)	2.04(13)	4.92(5)	5.25(2)	4.77(5)	6.29(11)

Source :Goshal, 2012

Figures in Brackets represent ranks.

The table shows that almost all the states have experienced increase in the growth rates of their real per capita NSDP. Still we can see that almost all the states have experienced high ups and downs in the case of five yearly annual compound growth rate. Most of the states were in a negative growth rate, while Rajasthan, Orissa and U.P were in the lower end of the tale. Later the scenarios have changed as the Centre – State initiatives focused on the development lead growth strategies. During the pre-reform period the states like AP, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Haryana, Punjab, Karnataka, have been able to enjoy higher growth rates especially during the two phases in the 80's. Still in 1980-85, Gujarat comes down in terms of growth whereas in 1990-95 Bihar and U.P show negative growth rates. In the Post-reform period almost all the states have experienced steady increase in the growth rates in varying degrees with some states experiencing enormous increase in the growth rates of their per capita NSDP especially during 2000-05 and 2005-10. Even if the overall growth performance is high, we can also see the rank of the states in terms of their relative position varies increasing, constant or decreasing. During the phase 2005-10 it is observed that, a phase of very high growth rates for some states like Maharashtra (9.85%), TamilNadu

(9.21%), Bihar(8.32), Gujarat (8.89%) A.P (7.55%), Haryana (7.85%), Orissa (6.75%), Kerala(7.85) , Rajasthan (7.23%) and West Bengal(6.29%) . It is also worth to observe that a large number of states have experienced sluggishness in their growth rates in the early period (1990-95) just after reforms, they have recovered it later. Even if the overall growth performance is high, we can also see the rank in respect of the achievement of the growth of per capita NSDP of the states has changed in terms of their relative position varies increasing, constant or decreasing.

Now if we look at the cross state behaviour of the inequality in the distribution of monthly per capita consumption expenditure measured in terms of Gini coefficients which is also a good measure of the distribution of per capita income and also could compare it in terms of cross state behaviour of the growth rates of per capita NSDP, we found a paradoxical situation. The **table -3** gives an over view of the cross state trend in inequality which is measured in terms of Gini coefficient and expressed in percentage terms. It is worth noting that no definite/unique relation between the behaviour of growth and inequality across the states over the period of our study.

**Table-3: Gini Inequality in Monthly Per-Capita consumption expenditure.**

State	1974	1978	1984	1988	1994	2000	2005	2010
Andhra Pradesh	28.05	30.97	31.93	32.98	30.98	29.8	34.32	32.33
Assam	24.69	24.76	21.2	26.2	24.56	24.5	27.22	28
Bihar	25.53	27.93	27.8	25.76	25.8	24.1	27.22	28
Gujarat	23.94	29.97	28.4	26.78	27.06	28.6	29.52	28.69
Haryana	29.94	29.97	30.6	29	29.6	26.9	35.5	32.72
Himachal Pradesh	25.41	27.93	29	27.94	39.08	27.1	32	33.04
Karnataka	28.47	32.97	33.2	31.42	29.94	31.3	32.68	27.76
Kerala	33.82	36.73	33.6	34.02	32.62	30.4	39.92	45.48
Madhya Pradesh	28.06	35.41	30.7	31.68	32.16	29.3	34.54	32.28
Maharashtra	29.29	41.17	34.1	32.64	33.7	35.3	35.16	32.93
Orissa	29.75	30.96	28.4	28.54	28.26	27.8	32.64	31.5
Punjab	27.94	33.86	30.3	29.34	28.1	27.1	35.98	32.87
Rajasthan	28.47	38.28	35	32.74	28.18	24.6	32.36	29.64
Tamilnadu	28.88	32.48	37.1	34.12	33.36	36.6	34.54	29.47
Uttar pradesh	26.35	31.45	30.2	30.5	30.88	28.2	33.74	30.65
West Bengal	30.94	30.45	32.8	29.32	30.5	29.8	33.94	29.94

Source: Goshal, 2012

The inequalities in the distribution of income have shown a tremendous increase during 1994-2005. Some states like Kerala, Maharashtra, A.P, Punjab, W.B, U.P, and T.N having the highest figures of Gini Inequality. During the period 2005 and 2010 all the states except Kerala have experienced a falling trend in the inequality, where as Kerala have experienced a tremendous increase in the inequality even in this phase, the value of inequality being 45.48%. Over the entire period almost all the states however found to remain high in terms of inequality measured in terms of Gini Coefficient. It is astonishing to compare the growth performances of the states with the degree of inequalities then it could note that there some states like Gujarat, T.N, Kerala, Maharashtra, A.P, Orissa, which have achieved high growth rates during the post reform period (i.e. from 1995-2010) coupled with the higher degrees of inequality, where as there are some states like Karnataka and W.B have achieved higher growth rates with a declining tendency of the degree of inequality. In the other way round there are also states with lower growth rates accompanied by higher inequality. So the relation between the growth rates and inequality is indeed paradoxical. It is hard to establish whether the growth causes inequality or the reverse. This paradoxical behaviour of growth and inequality across the states also becomes critical if take into consideration of the behaviour of the incidence of income poverty along with it.

#### **Trend and Growth Elasticity of Poverty and its Nature**

As against the rising trend in poverty during the first quarter century of independence (1951-74) the second quarter century has shown that the rates fell sharply. Direct public intervention programmes of the Govt have curbed the magnitude of the incidence of poverty. It has declined not only at the national level but also at the rural and urban areas across the states in varying degrees. When

we look at the dynamics of the behavioural pattern of the incidence and extent of poverty clearly reveals that the decline was almost negligible up to 1970 because of the failure of the trickle down hypothesis. And so about 51% of our total population lived below the official poverty line in the mid 70s. In the later period since mid 70s the extent of poverty started declining at a faster space both at the national level and cross-state level. In 1977-78 and 1987-88 national level poverty declined to 39% and thereafter by 2009-10 it has reached the figure of 29.8%. The other important aspect is change in methodology; the Planning commission has changed the methodology of estimation of poverty for 2004-05 and 2009-10 by switching over from Lakdawala methodology to the Tendulkar methodology which covers broader perspective for measuring poverty. The change of methodology obviously caused an upward shift in the incidence of poverty across the states between 1999-2000 and 2004-05.

The measure of growth elasticity has given a more vivid picture of the behaviour of growth across the states. During the (1973-1983) periods the growth elasticity was low for almost all the states where as Bihar has shown negative growth elasticity. While in the 1994-2004 period, Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Punjab, Haryana have shown higher values for elasticity where as other states are not so responsive in terms of lowering the incidence of poverty. In the year 2009-10, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab and Haryana have shown lower incidence of poverty where as Assam, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh are showing higher incidence of poverty. Tamilnadu, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh and Kerala are demonstrating a model for other Indian states in the way they handle the chronic issue of poverty. Himachal Pradesh is showing a single digit in the incidence of poverty in the history of time, followed by Kerala with 12.2 percent.

**Table: 4-Growth Elasticity of the Incidence of Poverty (Rural and Urban Combined), 1973-74 & 1983, 1993-94 and 2009-10 (per cent).**

Non Special Category States	1973-74	1983	Growth Elasticity of last two periods	1993-4	2004-5	Growth Elasticity of last two periods	2009-10*
Andhra Pradesh	48.6(8)	28.9(6)	0.045	22.2(4)	15.8(7)	0.032	21.1(6)
Assam	51.21(9)	40.5(11)	0.0232	40.9(14)	19.7(9)	0.058	37.9(14)
Bihar	61.91(16)	62.2(17)	-0.0005	55.0(17)	41.4(17)	0.027	53.5(15)
Delhi		26.2(5)		14.7(2)	14.7(5)	0	
Goa	44.26(4)	18.9(3)	0.064	14.9(3)	13.8(3)	0.008	
Gujarat	48.15(7)	32.8(7)	0.0354	24.2(5)	16.8(8)	0.034	23(7)
Haryana	35.36(3)	21.4(4)	0.044	25.1(6)	14.0(4)	0.049	20.1(5)
Himachal Pradesh	26.39(1)	16.4(2)	0.068	28.4(9)	10.0(2)	0.072	9.5(1)
Karnataka	54.47(11)	38.2(9)	0.033	33.2(10)	25.0(13)	0.027	23.6(8)
Kerala	59.79(14)	40.4(10)	0.036	25.4(7)	15.0(6)	0.045	12(2)
Madhya Pradesh	61.78(15)	49.8(14)	0.021	42.5(15)	38.3(16)	0.011	36.7(12)
Maharashtra	53.24(10)	43.4(12)	0.021	36.9(13)	30.7(14)	0.019	24.5(9)
Orissa	66.18(18)	65.3(18)	0.001	48.6(16)	46.4(18)	0.005	37(9)
Punjab	28.15(2)	16.2(1)	0.047	11.8(1)	8.4(1)	0.032	15.9(3)
Rajasthan	46.14(5)	34.5(8)	0.028	27.4(8)	22.1(10)	0.021	24.8(10)
Tamilnadu	54.94(12)	51.7(15)	0.006	35.0(11)	22.5(11)	0.040	17.1(4)
Uttar Pradesh	57.07(13)	47.1(13)	0.019	40.9(14)	32.8(15)	0.022	37.7(13)
West Bengal	63.43(17)	54.9(16)	0.015	35.7(12)	24.7(12)	0.034	26.7(11)

Source: NSSO; Accessed from: RBI "Database on Indian Economy"

*Figures in Brackets are ranks*

*\* Planning commission's estimates based on Tendulkar Methodology.*

In the case of special category states (**Table: 5**) Jammu & Kashmir and Chandigarh are enjoying the lower incidence of poverty 5.4 & 7.1 percent respectively in the period of 2004-5, where as Uttarkhand and Dadra & Nagar Haveli are in the higher end of the incidence. The incidence during the pre-reform period is quite high as against the case of non special category states. The growth elasticity in the

pre-reform and post reform period shows a significant and consistent result for the states Jammu & Kashmir and Tripura where it is evident that no other states follow the change. The growth elasticity in the post reform phase of special category states of India is quite high and giving high hopes.

**Table: 5- Growth Elasticity of Special Category States.**

Special Category States	1973-74	1983	Growth Elasticity	1993-4	2004-5	Growth Elasticity
Arunachal Pradesh	51.93	40.9	0.0299647	39.4	17.6	0.0614777
Jammu & Kashmir	40.83	24.2	0.0763545	25.2	5.4	0.0873016
Manipur	49.96	37.0	0.0389189	33.8	17.3	0.0542406
Meghalaya	50.20	38.8	0.032646	37.9	18.5	0.0568748
Mizoram	50.32	36.0	0.0441975	25.7	12.6	0.0566364
Nagaland	50.81	39.3	0.0325417	37.9	19.0	0.055409
Sikkim	50.86	39.7	0.0312343	41.4	20.1	0.0571659
Tripura	51.00	40.0	0.0305556	39.0	18.9	0.057265
Uttarkhand		-		-	39.6	
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	55.56	52.1	0.0069194	34.5	22.6	0.0383253
Chandigarh	27.96	23.8	0.0165316	11.4	7.1	0.0419103
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	46.55	15.7	0.0736365	50.8	33.2	0.0384952
Daman & Diu		-		15.8	10.5	0.0372714
Lakshadweep	59.68	42.4	0.0321716	25.0	16.0	0.04
Puducherry	53.82	50.1	0.0076799	37.4	22.4	0.0445633
<b>All India</b>	<b>54.88</b>	<b>44.5</b>	<b>0.0210155</b>	<b>36.0</b>	<b>27.5</b>	<b>0.0262346</b>

Source: Human Development Report (2011); Based on URP

:--Not Available

### Deprivation of basic amenities across the states

Apart from the inequality in the redistribution of income, backwardness or poor entitlements of the community is also an important reason for their overall deprivation. The availability of basic amenities to the community like availability of water, sanitation facilities and basic literacy are utmost important factors with which one can assess the relative deprivation of the community. The percentage of households deprived of these facilities can be argued as vulnerable in terms of their pursuit for attaining a quality of life, health status and human development.

### Index of Deprivation

In order to understand deprivation, we develop a generalized index following the UNDP methodology adopted by the Human Development Report of Kerala. This index measures the deprivation in availability of safe drinking water, good sanitation (availability of water toilet) and basic literacy. To analyse the chronic situation of deprivation we evaluate the Poverty-Deprivation Index by adding the percentage of poverty affected people in the Deprivation Index.

The formula for calculating the deprivation index is as follows.

$$\text{Index of deprivation} = [1/3 (D_1^{\hat{a}} + D_2^{\hat{a}} + D_3^{\hat{a}})^{1/\hat{a}}] \dots (1)$$

$D_1$  – Deprivation in Basic Sanitation. ( $\hat{a}=5$ )

$D_2$  – Deprivation in access to safe drinking water. ( $\hat{a}=4$ )

$D_3$  – Deprivation in basic literacy. ( $\hat{a}=3$ )

Here  $\hat{a}$  refers to weight. If  $\hat{a}=1$ , the index of deprivation is the average of its indicators. As the value of  $\hat{a}$  increase, greater weight is given to the indicators in which there is the most deprivation. We try to improve the Index, by giving different weights to  $\hat{a}$  as against the human poverty index, it is chosen a value of  $\hat{a}=3$  for computing the index of deprivation following the methodology of Kerala Human Development Report (2005).

In the case of **Poverty-Deprivation Index**,

$D_1$  – Poverty ( $\alpha=6$ )

The formula for calculating the index is as follows.

$D_2$  – Deprivation in Basic Sanitation ( $\alpha=5$ )

Index of **Poverty-deprivation** =  $[1/4 (D_1^\alpha + D_2^\alpha + D_3^\alpha + D_4^\alpha)^{1/\alpha}] \dots (2)$

$D_3$  – Deprivation in access to safe drinking water ( $\alpha=4$ )

$D_4$  – Deprivation in basic literacy. ( $\alpha=3$ )

**Table: 6- Deprivation Index and Poverty-Deprivation Index of the Indian States**

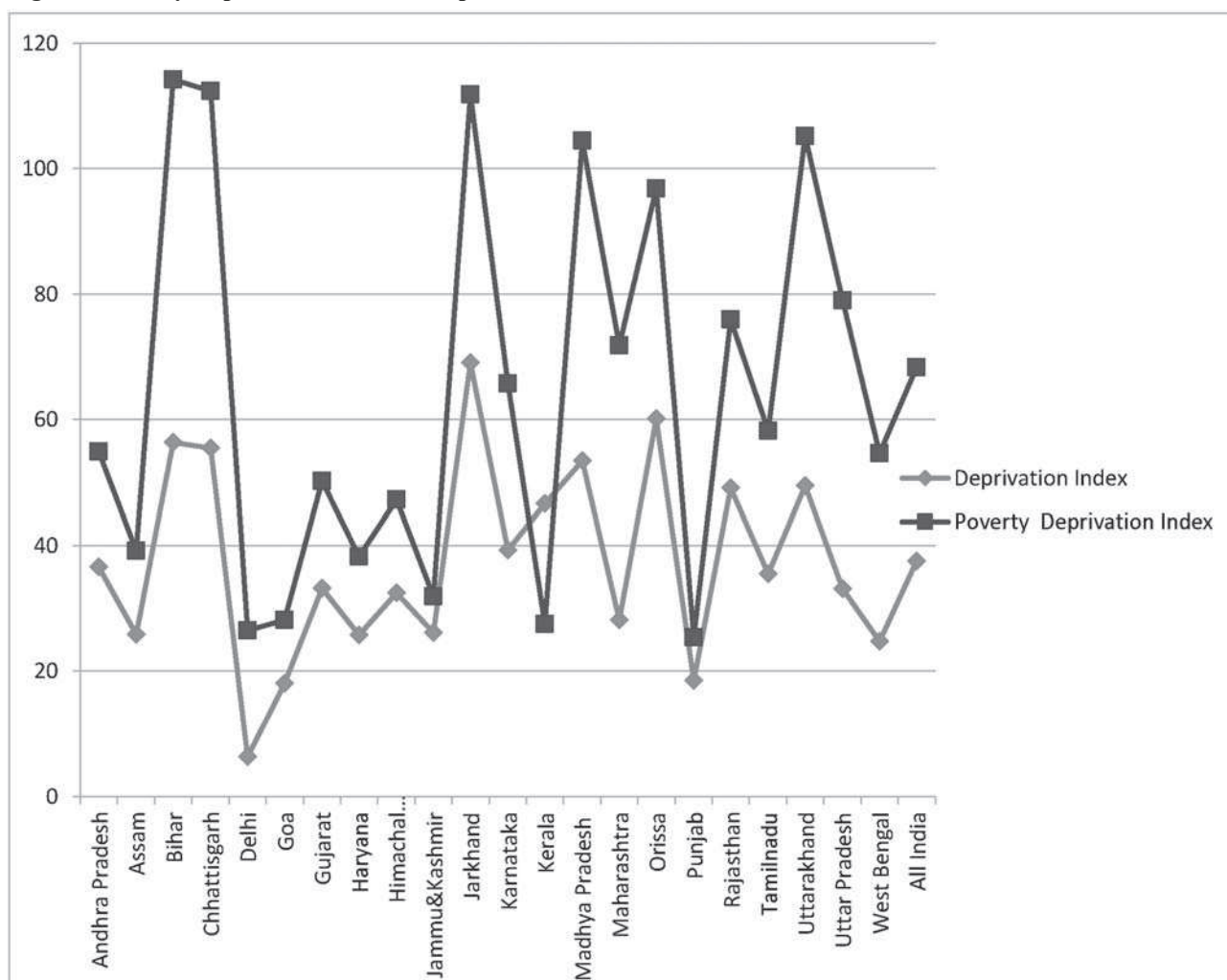
States	Deprivation Index	Poverty Deprivation Index
Andhra Pradesh	36.570	54.833
Assam	25.777	39.149
Bihar	56.338	114.195
Chhattisgarh	55.411	112.293
Delhi	6.357	26.464
Goa	18.042	28.097
Gujarat	33.200	50.204
Haryana	25.693	38.221
Himachal Pradesh	32.407	47.203
Jammu Kashmir	26.081	31.843
Jharkhand	69.000	111.812
Karnataka	39.214	65.757
Kerala	46.549	27.458
Madhya Pradesh	53.385	104.428
Maharashtra	28.083	71.806
Orissa	60.146	96.776
Punjab	18.420	25.357
Rajasthan	49.121	75.910
Tamilnadu	35.449	58.177
Uttarakhand	49.399	105.161
Uttar Pradesh	33.112	78.989
West Bengal	24.706	54.605
<b>All India</b>	<b>37.502</b>	<b>68.330</b>

*Source: Author's own calculation using the UNDP Index.*

The Table6, shows that how much is the poverty-deprivation across the Indian states. Jharkhand, Madhyapradesh and Uttar Pradesh are showing the index more than 100 points representation of the chronic situation

of poverty along with deprivation. The lowest is shown by Punjab, Kerala, and Jammu&Kashmir. The below given pictorial representation gives a better idea of how the deprivation and poverty co-exists.

**Figure 1: Poverty-Deprivation Index and Deprivation Index**



**CONCLUSION**

The study gives an overall idea of how the inequalities in income distribution across states co exist with the chronic issues of poverty and deprivation. However it is evident that as the growth of their real per capita NSDP is not confirming the distributive justice especially in the pre-reform period as envisaged by the Trickle down Hypothesis. But as and when the centre and states started growth mediated development strategies the scenarios have changed in the case of incidence of poverty as well as in the case of deprivation indicators as well. Even if there are ample projects in view of reducing poverty rates it is doubtful whether it is reaching the beneficiaries. Deprivation of basic amenities is even harder when it comes to daily life it re-establish the plight of the poor in the vicious circle of poverty. It is high time to address the poverty with the new dimension introduced by the UNDP the Multidimensional Poverty Index. So in the new development discourse the growth and development of a nation should measure in terms of the welfare the citizens.

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