



LINKING CAPABILITIES, INFRASTRUCTURE AND MULTI-DIMENSIONAL POVERTY: EVIDENCES FROM GUJARAT

Abstract

Capability approach as base a human development allows perceiving poverty as absence or lack of capabilities that people values or have communal rationale. It thus, becomes necessary to focus on the poor whose deprivation is caused by multiple dimensions. Theoretically, this paper attempts to investigate differences of Nussbaum and Sen in terms of evaluating multi-dimensional poverty.

The application of capability approach is well seen in formulation of HDI and reporting of HDRs. Theories of Human Development and Human Development Reports (HDRs) published by UNDP since last 25 years relatively restricts utilitarian inclination towards analyzing poverty. On other side, economic growth indicated by infrastructure development is assumed as countering force to human development. It is mandatory for governments to translate economic growth into minimization of deprivation by expanding choices of people.

Infrastructure and access to basic services in Gujarat has served as great mechanism to share benefits economic growth among vulnerable sections of society. Political commitment of developing infrastructure in Gujarat has remained controversial but also demonstrated positive relationship between infrastructure and policies for addressing poverty. Contribution of physical infrastructure is well aligned with social variables related to capabilities.

The study, empirically investigate such relationship of infrastructure, capabilities and poverty. Physical infrastructure. It tends to provides analysis of policy level decisions, strategies and approaches adopted for translating economic growth into human development through infrastructure.

Policy level emphasis on social sector in Gujarat since last decade has resulted into application, direction, monitoring and optimization of enormous financial resources (more than 50% to total state budget) for development of infrastructure and improving public service delivery. This has resulted into improvement in human development. Along with inquiring efforts and outcomes, the study also points out fissures came out from formulations of plans, programmes and policies.

At core of this paper is an idea that infrastructure could be viewed as useful tool while framing policy for fostering capabilities. The paper concludes with a note that there is positive relationship between infrastructure development, development of capabilities and multi-dimensional deprivations. It open new gates for further research with adoption of interdisciplinary approach.

Keywords: Human Development, Infrastructure, Poverty

Introduction

There exists consensus among academia, policy framers and political parties that special attention is needed on poverty, inequality and deprivation, and it can't be minimized exclusively by economy (Grusky, Kanbur & Sen, 2006). Such thesis brings out new concerns related to poverty like defining and deciding dimensions of poverty. Ofcourse, economic definition of poverty related to income and expenditure have remained more prominent over the decades. Issue of choosing dimensions of poverty is only side of problem, on other side there exists problem of rationalizing choice of that dimension.

It is very well clear that poverty do not imply solely income poverty. This paper assumes poverty as deprivation of capabilities, this provides legitimate and rationalised method grasp

rationale choosing dimensions to understand poverty. Understanding poverty through capability approach allows to analyse multidimensional measurements and employment of plural variables. Such approach allows to develop consensus over syntax for measurement of multidimensional poverty based on empirical information of people's values and/or behaviours.

Fundamentally, capability approach in various disciplines are considered as normative framework for assessment of public policies. The approach argues on evaluation of social arrangements in terms of freedoms and ability to exercise freedoms to achieve functionings which they value (Robeyns, 2000). Hence, it becomes clear that capability approach grasp poverty as deprivation of agency's valuable freedoms and allows to evaluate multidimensional poverty in terms of capabilities. Another advantageous point for adopting capability approach is its engagement with various methodologies and analytical techniques. Moreover, it aligns well with multidimensional poverty measurement techniques which can draw on quantitative, qualitative, and participatory data.

Best application of capability approach is observed formulation of HDI which assumes that people across, ages, cultures, ethnicities, genders, regions and religions would value longevity, income and knowledge. This assumption is potent enough to draw multidisciplinary attention from social, psychological, political and other such disciplinary literature (like Deci, & Ryan (2000); (Chirkov, Ryan, Kim & Kaplan, (2003); Maslow, (2013)). Although such literature addressed poverty reduction with need based approach, it often combined with empirical evidences and proposed needs of longevity, income & knowledge. Nussbaum's list of central human capabilities can be partly located in such category of normative assumptions. Although her, list is supported by consensus, acceptance of its remains limited for public policy making. While application of Sen's list of human capabilities are put scrutiny with advent of HDI. Thus, assuming dimensions for poverty without public scrutiny stands sceptical. Public deliberations on selection for poverty dimensions can also allow to address poverty in local context.

It is also clear that Nussbaum and Sen have different goals with their perceptions on capabilities, and have also different personal intellectual histories. Nussbaum perceptions are based on justice theory arguing more political principles. Capability approach perceived by Nussbaum argues that a centralised authority (mainly government) should guarantee all its citizens through its constitution. To carry out this task, a generic list of central human capabilities should be inserted in all constitutions. As the task of eradication of poverty is universalistic, such theory makes governments responsible for it (Gasper, 2007).

While on other side, Sen is clearly unclear about specific aim of capability approach in his initial writings. He questions "equality of what?" and supports capabilities instead of utility/resources (Sen, 1980). Sen's previous work on poverty and destitution provides insights that "one size fits all" formula adopted by dominating/developed countries. Moreover, Sen's arguments on social choices strives form common syntax and mathematical reasoning which further removes distractions of generating empirical details.

An authoritative list of poverty dimensions based on capabilities shared universally seems attractive idea. It may help researchers from various disciplines to avoid pore over laboriously on possible areas. Universal syntax can guide broad research agenda and internationally comparable poverty survey. Nussbaum (2000) supports idea of central capabilities and argues to maintain critical edge. Yet the need of "single" list of capabilities stands still as existence of more than one list affects comparison of surveys globally, nationally and even at sub-national levels. Adaptation of single list of capabilities has sharp discourse between Nussbaum (2003) and Sen (2004a). This discourse open up gates for investigation about feasibility of universal list of capabilities and absence of any capability leads to poverty in any domain.

As Nussbaum proposes, that specification of single list of central capabilities of domains is required to ensure that content of the capability approach carries critical edge. If the approach is too open-ended, then there is a real possibility that wrong freedoms will be prioritized and expanded.

Capabilities can help us to construct a normative conception of social justice, with critical potential for gender issues, only if we specify a definite set of capabilities as the most important ones to

protect. Sen's 'perspective of freedom' is too vague. Some freedoms limit others; some freedoms are important, some trivial, some good, and some positively bad. Before the approach can offer a valuable normative gender perspective, we must make commitments about substance.

- Martha Nussbaum, 2003: Capabilities as fundamental entitlements: Sen and social justice, pp-33

Nussbaum repeatedly and consistently sets forth a set of central human capabilities which, she argues, should provide the basis of political guarantees.

In response to all those who call for a more explicit set of capabilities, Sen writes, 'I have nothing against the listing of capabilities but must stand up against a grand mausoleum to one fixed and final list of capabilities' (Sen 2004a: 80). Because Sen's argument in that paper is instructive.

First, Sen affirms that researchers need to select dimensions or capabilities (although a dimension might encompass more than one capability, here we can consider both terms because the structure of the problem is the same). 'The problem is not with listing important capabilities, but with insisting on one predetermined canonical list of capabilities, chosen by theorists without any general social discussion or public reasoning' (Sen 2004). A primary objection to having a fixed list or set of capabilities is that it side-lines ongoing public reasoning, 'pure theory cannot "freeze" a list of capabilities for all societies for all time to come, irrespective of what the citizens come to understand and value. That would not only be a denial of the reach of democracy, but also a misunderstanding of what pure theory can do....' (Sen 2004). And relatedly, 'To insist on a fixed forever list of capabilities would deny the possibility of progress in social understanding and also go against the productive role of public discussion, social agitation, and open debates' (Sen 2004a: 80).

Furthermore, a fixed list is inappropriate in practice in that the lists will be used for a great variance of purposes, often called evaluative exercises. 'What we focus on cannot be independent of what we are doing and why (e.g., whether we are evaluating poverty, specifying certain basic human rights, getting a rough and ready measure of human development, and so on)' (Sen 2004a: 79). In addition to the instrumental and evaluation aspects mentioned earlier, appropriate elements (and the extensiveness) of the list will in part also depend on prevailing social conditions, as well as on the degree of public understanding of, and engagement with, the issues:

In sum, Sen concurs that key capabilities must be selected, but argues consistently against the specification of one single authoritative canonical list that is expected to apply at all times and places. The debate, sketched here lightly rather than analysed, could be caricatured as 'having a list' versus 'making a list for every occasion'. But it might seem rather unfortunate if we had to choose between these extremes, particularly as Sen's stand offers no systematic guidance as to how to choose capabilities or domains in different contexts. Not all evaluative exercises can be open to public discussion in the same manner and it is still unclear what criteria besides public scrutiny there might be. Also, Sen's position still seems to be open to the argument that even with public discussion, capabilities or dimensions could be specified in ways that are detrimental or even, as Frances Stewart forcefully argues, fundamentally misguided (Stewart 2005 and Robeyns 2005).

Nussbaum's position, however, seems too limiting for public discussion and in practice, also of limited relevance in many narrower situations. Her list has generated criticism for its specificity, prescriptively, and unclear epistemological basis. The fact that it is one author's list, it is unclear who decides: if the list is to claim an overlapping consensus, how should constructive disagreement or modifications to the list be made? It seems that the debate has stopped prematurely before a satisfactory alternative has been proposed.

Poverty measurement in India

Poverty has become a crucial fact and has a great influence on economic development. It is a social construct, varies from society to society and from time to time. It has subjective and objective dimensions. Some measures poverty in terms of income or expenditure. On opposite it means not having enough money for basic needs such as food, water, shelter, or toilets. Human beings need a certain minimum consumption of food and non-food items to survive.

Nevertheless there is need for a measure of poverty. Only then, it will be possible to evaluate how the economy is performing in terms of providing a certain minimum standard of living to all its citizens. Measurement of Poverty has, therefore, important policy implications.

1st Analytical survey on Poverty

For the first time, in 8th Plan (1992–97) a detailed procedure was prescribed to identify the BPL families in the rural areas. It was decided to adopt a systematic approach and for conducting the BPL survey and the detailed guidelines was issued making the annual income of the family the primary criteria to decide the poverty status of the rural household.

In order to prevent a situation of ineligible households getting the benefits of the programs of government, an exclusion criterion was also incorporated in the BPL Census in 1997. Multiple qualitative parameters like household occupation, housing condition, number of earners, asset position (land operated / owned), livestock and consumer durables used etc. were considered to classify the household as BPL. If the total expenditure of the household was higher than the poverty line, the household was to be excluded from the BPL List.

BPL Survey (2002)

In the year 2002 BPL Census was conducted using the methodology of score based ranking of rural households for which 13 socio-economic parameters were used. The BPL family having cut off Score 16 or less shall be benefited in GoI Schemes and having cut off score 17 and more will be benefited extensively under GoG schemes. At present among BPL families, the families having score 16 or less are classified as very poor (15.99 lakhs) and the families having score 0 to 20 are classified as poor (31.25 lakhs).

There are various criteria and methodology prevailing in the nation as well as state. The Expert Group (Rangarajan) has been formed reflects a need to examine the estimation of poverty in India keeping in mind the changed perceptions regarding the minimally acceptable standards of living in the country. Poverty lines estimated using the methodology provided by the Expert Group (Tendulkar) did not reflect the changing times and aspirations of the persons, which resulted to re-examine the poverty line and its composition.

Socio Economic and Caste Census 2011

The ministry of Rural Development have undertaken BPL survey viz. Socio Economic and Caste Census in the year 2011 which identify the poor on the basis of inclusion and exclusion criteria of haves and not haves amenities in Urban as well as Rural.

Socio Economic and Caste Census has been conducted in the state under the guidance and over all control of Ministry of Rural Development, Govt. of India. The methodology prescribed by MoRD indicates to rank household through a three-step process as follow

- a) Automatic Exclusion of House holds
- b) Automatic Inclusion of Households , and
- c) Ranking of remaining households using deprivation indicators

Households will be ranked through a three step process in rural areas to be included in BPL population. Households possessing any of the following 13 items will be **excluded** from BPL list:

1. Motorized two/three/four wheeler/fishing boat/
2. Mechanized three/four wheeler agricultural equipment
3. Kisan Credit Card with credit limit of Rs.50,000 and above
4. Household with any member as a Government employee
5. Households with non-agricultural enterprises registered with the Government
6. Any member of the family earning more than Rs.10,000 per month
7. Paying income tax/Paying professional tax
8. Three or more rooms with all rooms having pucca walls and roof
9. Own a refrigerator
10. Own Landline phone
11. Own 2.5 acres or more of irrigated land with at least 1 irrigation equipment

12. 5 acres or more of irrigated land for two or more crop seasons

13. Owning at least 7.5 acres of land or more with at least one irrigation equipment.

For identification of poor households in urban areas, at the first instance one need to begin with automatic exclusion of households from BPL list based on indicators listed below.

Automatic Exclusion : If the number of dwelling rooms exclusively in possession of the household is and above (Dwelling rooms with wall of concrete or burnt bricks or stone packed with mortar, roof of concrete or burnt bricks or machine made tiles), that household will be excluded.

The Government of India decides the scoring pattern under each deprivation criteria, calculate household wise score, arrange households in ascending order of deprivation and provide such list to state along with the upper limit of number of households to be declared under list of deprived households (popularly known as BPL List in Rural areas) targeting for anti-poverty programmes.

Measurement of poverty, since long time has been based on economic criteria of income, expenditure, consumption or purchasing power. The assumption that economic development leads to poverty reduction seems to be blurry in today's time. Huge fund flow towards development of public infrastructure and services has aggregated to overall well-being of populace, but still there remain larger chunk of society who do not get access to public infrastructure and services due to various reasons.

Demographic & economic growth pattern of Gujarat

Clearly, Expansion of human capabilities and wellbeing is based on economic growth. Economic ecology plays vital role in determining quality of life. Aggregate incomes supports and enhance fiscal resources which further allows more per capita spending over health, education and other capability indicators. Fortunately, Gujarat was/is able to translate its economic growth into human wellbeing. Per capita income of Gujarat is has remained higher than national average and this contributed in reduction of poverty in the State.

The population of Gujarat is 6.04 crore comprising 3.15 crore males and 2.89 crore females. Of this, the rural population stands at 3.47 crore and the urban population 2.57 crore. In terms of percentage, Gujarat accounts 5.97% of the area of India and 4.99% of the population of India. The decadal growth rate of state is 19.28% as compared to all India growth rate of 17.68%. Population density (persons per sq.km.) in census 2011 works out to be 308. Rural population constitutes 57.4% of the total population and the urban population is 42.6%. Persons in age-group 10-19 years (Adolescent) have decreased by 1.55% in census 2011 (19.88%) as compared to census 2001 (21.43%). Persons in age-group 15-24 years (Youth) decreased by 0.51% in census. 2011 (19.27%) as compared to census 2001 (19.78%). Persons in age-group 15-59 years (Working age) have also decreased by 2.63% in census 2011 (60.19%) as compared to census 2001 (62.82%). Whereas, persons in age-group 60 years and above have increased by 1.01% in census 2011 (7.92%) as compared to census 2001 (6.91%). The Scheduled Caste population in the state is 40,74,447 (6.74%) in 2011 and the Scheduled Tribe population in the state is 89,17,174 (14.75%) in 2011.

In Gujarat, as per Population Census 2011, the total number of workers (who have worked for at least one day during the reference year) is 247.68 lakh. The Work Participation Rate (WPR) for the Gujarat works out to 41.0 per cent, which is higher than the national average (39.8%). For the first time in Census 2011, the marginal workers, i.e. workers who worked for less than six months in the reference year, have been sub-divided in two categories, namely, those worked for less than 3 months and those who worked for 3 months or more but less than six months. In Gujarat, out of 247.7 lakh total workers, 203.7 lakh are main workers and the remaining 44.0 lakh are marginal workers. Amongst the 44.0 lakh marginal workers, 39.3 lakh (89.3%) worked for 3 to 6 months whereas only 4.7 lakh (10.7%) worked for less than 3 months in the state.

The State economy has been measured in terms of the Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) at factor cost at constant prices as well as at Current prices. GSDP estimates over a period of time reveal the extent and direction of the changes in the level of economic development. Sectorial Composition of GSDP gives an idea about the relative position of different sectors in the economy over a period of

time, which not only indicates the real structural changes taking place in the economy, but also facilitates in formulation of the plans for overall economic development. The present base year for GDP estimation at constant prices is 2011-12. As per the Quick Estimates, the Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) at Market prices at constant (2011-12) prices in 2014-15 has been estimated at Rs. 782,820 crore as against Rs. 726,831 crore in 2013-14, registering a growth of 7.7 percent during the year. Gross State Domestic Product at Market prices at current prices in 2014-15 has been estimated at Rs. 895,202 crore as against Rs. 806,745 crore in 2013-14, registering a growth of 11.0 percent during the year. The share of primary, secondary and tertiary sectors has been reported at 19.4 percent, 42.6 percent and 38.0 percent respectively to the GVA (Rs. 7, 94,563 crore) in 2014-15 at current prices.

Pattern of fiscal allocation for capability development

Translating economic growth into Human development and poverty reduction has remained integral strategy of state's planning and policy making. Government of Gujarat claims to give highest priority to development of Social Sectors which have direct and indirect impact on reduction in poverty by allocating nearly about by allocating nearly half of planned budget. From 2002-2007 government has allocated Rs. 18,090 crore (38% of planned budget), from 2007 – 2012 government has allocated Rs. 53,830 crore (42% of planned budget) and from 2012-2017 government has increased allocation upto Rs. 1,58,736 crore which is about 46% of planned budget (General Administration Department, 2016).

Allocation of financial resources is primary ingredient to strengthen and sustain any kind of development. Since decade commitment of Gujarat towards and poverty reduction can be gauged from table-1.

Table-I: Financial Resources Allocated for Social Sector

(RS.in Crore)								
Sector / Year - >	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2013-14	2015-16	2016-17
Education	1070	1366	1600	1900	2599	3850	6700	6900
Health & Family Welfare	565	845	1132	1900	2195	3845	6594	7005
Water Supply	1220	1549	1549	1849	1886	2700	3463	3400
Housing	917	771	1043	1422	1490	5874	3869	3876
Urban Development	1716	2471	2611	2900	3014	3481	8819	9260
Social Welfare	450	612	632	811	996	1450	2094	2750
Welfare of Tribes	210	255	270	405	700	954	1500	1600
Labour & Employment	80	127	119	260	334	891	1183	1233
Women & Child Welfare	197	380	800	936	1264	1300	2450	2600
Total Allocation	6426	8376	9758	12383	14478	24345	36672	38624
Total Planned Budget	16000	21000	23500	30000	38000	59000	79295	85558
% allocated for Social Sector	40.16	39.89	41.52	41.28	38.10	41.26	46.25	45.14

Source: Author's Analysis on Data Provided by Planning Division, General Administration Department, Government of Gujarat.

Linkages of infrastructure & capability development in Gujarat

1. Education

With adaptation of MDGs, world has observed exceptional motivation for universal access to education. Several countries like Korea, Sri Lanka, Japan, etc. invested heavily for providing universal access to education which further resulted into improvement of their human development index. By

2009, In India, access to education is granted as fundamental right through Right to Education Act 2009. Educational services along with educational infrastructure gained attention of policy framers. Gujarat too has taken number of policy initiatives and increased investment almost 6 times more in educational infrastructure and services in a decade i.e. from Rs. 1,070 crore in 2007 to 6900 in 2017.

Various mission mode programmes were/are formulated and implemented in vigorous manner for enrolment & retention in schools, linking education with vocations, skill development, and mapping labour supply & with market demand for generation of employment & entrepreneurship.

The number of educational institutions imparting primary education in the State were 43,638 in 2014-15 as against 43,176 in 2013-14. The number of pupils enrolled in these schools were 91.42 lakh in 2014-15 as against 92.29 lakh in 2012-2013. The number of institutions imparting secondary and higher secondary education has increased from 10,537 in 2013-14 to 10,811 in 2014-15. Whereas, the number of students has also increased from 27.02 lakh in 2013-14 to 27.32 lakh in 2014-15.

The process of improving retention and decreasing dropout rate for elementary level (Std. I - V) is encouraging. The dropout rate for elementary section has decreased substantially from 22.30 percent in 1999-00 to 1.97 percent in 2014-15. Similarly the dropout rate for the standard I to VII has also decreased from 41.48 percent in 1999-00 to 6.61 percent in 2014-15.

ICT infrastructure with digital learning material also provided to most of schools, which makes Gujarat a leading state among states of India. Over 95% schools have access to electricity enabling 71.23% schools of rural areas and 85.66% schools urban areas to use ICT infrastructure.

Table-II: Percentage of Schools Having ICT Infrastructure

	Rural Areas	Urban
Gujarat	71.23	85.66
India	21.1	25

Source: Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Human Resources Development, Government of India

In larger picture, Literacy rate of Gujarat is risen upto 79.3% in 2011 against 69.1% in 2001. Literacy rate of female also improved significantly in during said decade from 57.8% to 70.7%. Due to this gender gap in education is also reduced to 16.1 in 2011 from 21.9 in 2001 (Directorate of Economics & Statistics, 2015). This change accredits to universal access to education attributing 3rd rank of Gujarat in Education Development Index.

2. Health

In Gujarat, It is observed that focus is made more on medical human resources and medical services as compared to physical health infrastructure. Health infrastructure of state serves as enabling factor to health care service delivery. In 2015 state had 322 community health centres, 1,300 primary health centres and 7,710 sub-centres which treated 223.28 lakh outdoor patients and 18.99 lakh indoor patients (Directorate of Economics & Statistics, 2016).

Interestingly, Gujarat successfully linked education with health through programmes like School Health Check-up Programme which is largest time bound health programme covering all children of age 0-18 year. The programme covered 157.96 lakh children out of which 1,25,696 children were provided referral services, 6,207 children were provided super specialty care. Another flagship scheme titled "Chiranjivi Yojana" targeting mortality rate of mothers and children effectively contributed to improvement in nutritional status of the poor (table-3). The programme addresses nutrition, gender and pre-post natal care aspects.

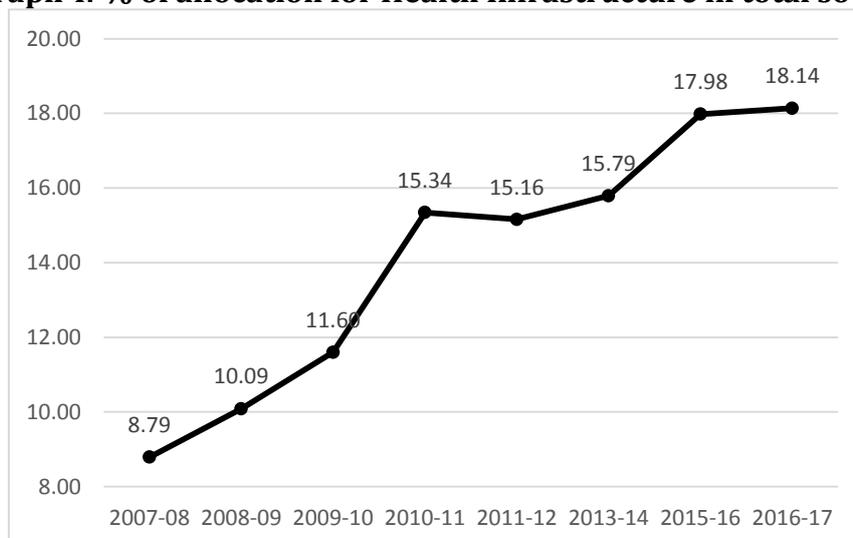
A noteworthy linkage of infrastructure and Health is observed an initiative called "Khilkhilat". A dedicated Khilkhilat Van is provided assist Healthy Mother and Child (once they are discharged from hospital after delivery) for arrival to backhome. This transportation service is linked with "Information Education and Communication" which give guidance to new mother for handling, managing and caring the new born. About 253 vehicles are operational which accessed by remotest population leading to increase in awareness about institutional delivery.

Table-III: Health Indicators contributing to capability development

Infant Mortality Rate	2001	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011	2013
Gujarat	60	57	54	52	48	41	36
All India	66	60	58	55	50	44	40
Maternal Mortality Rate	2001-03	2004-06	2007-09	2010-12	2011-13		
Gujarat	172	160	148	122	112		
All India	301	254	212	178	167		
			1998-2002	2013			
Life Expectancy at Birth (Male)			62.4	69.2			
Life Expectancy at Birth (Female)			64.4	72.5			

Source: Planning Commission & Sample Registration System, Census of India, Government of India

As per the India Human Development Report (IHDR) 2011, Gujarat ranked at 6th position among 18 major states of India. Continuous increase in fiscal provisions for healthcare since decade (graph-1) in health care infrastructure in Gujarat is observed which supports a claim for improvement in health related human development indicators and multi-dimensional poverty indicators at large.

Graph-I: % of allocation for Health Infrastructure in total social sector

3. Power supply

Power sector of Gujarat is most appreciated across the country. State have achieved 100% electrification. Cutting across geographies, villages and cities are having uninterrupted electricity supply. Such crucial achievement has positively affected various sectors health, education and industries. Assurance of power supply for cooking, agriculture, education, health care, and industrial production has boosted up industrial investment, better irrigation, farm mechanization, virtual learning, medical tourism etc.

As of December 2015, Gujarat had a total tied up installed power generation capacity of 24,606 MW (comprised of 12,056 MW 8617 MW and 3,933 MW under private, state and central utilities, respectively) to meet the energy demand of the State. Thermal power contributed 18367 MW to the total installed power generation capacity, followed by hydropower (779.00 MW), nuclear power (559.00 MW) and renewable power (4901 MW). Moreover, 100 % of Gujarat's villages have electricity connections for 24x7 power supply through programmes like Jyotirgram Yojana. – Planning division, Government of Gujarat.

Final word

Investment of public money is reflection of socio-political choices. Historically, Gujarat has remained major contributor India's economic development. Political commitment for development and efforts of translating economic development into social development has been globally applauded. Since decades state has striven to improve quality of life through holistic planning and innovative policy formulation & intervention. Such innovative and proactive policy intervention had improved social indicators contributing to improvement of human development and poverty reduction scenario.

Observing Gujarat's efforts for development it becomes clear that there exists a linkage between infrastructure and capability development which further helps to address multidimensional poverty. Such linkages are directly evident in terms of creation and maintenance of certain standards promoted by political commitment for sustainable capability development. With well-developed roads, incessant power supply, schools and health centres in remotest areas, access to credit, etc. supported by huge public investments has ensured wellbeing of citizenry in Gujarat. The State now need to focus more on more diverse and innovative way to address capability deprivation. For example, addressing special needs of various social groups like nomadic and primitive tribes who are not joining educational institutions due to their cultural setups. Such issues are need to be addressed in more innovative and strategic manner. However, Gujarat has successfully proven that economic growth can be translated into human development and able to partly address issue of multi-dimensional poverty. Of course, there is evidences and scope for wider research into this area.

Economic growth indicated by Infrastructure can create direct and efficient impact on wellbeing and development of human capabilities. Infrastructure related to social causes like mortality reduction, increasing schooling and literacy, generating employment, public amenities, uninterrupted power and water supply enables to break barriers of physical, economic, and financial limitations. Investment in formulating systems or establishing agencies to help needy people and ensuring access to services can generate more participant of communities. Reduction in poverty and building capabilities can be directly addressed by directing economic systems for larger social good.

This further empowers populace to negotiate, and to benefit from the world outside their own domain. Access to multiple options, life chances, and capabilities makes citizenry and not only state as responsible stakeholder of development.

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