

Gender Disparity in Economic Development of Indian Hill States: A Geographical Perspective

PREM SINGH KUTWAL

Associate Professor,
Govt. College Bilaspur,
District Bilaspur (H.P.) 174001

Abstract

This study had a fresh look on the gender disparity in economic development of Indian hill states on two spatial contexts i.e. inter states and intra-state during 1991-2011. Across hill states, the economic development disparity among males and females had been converging during the post reform period. Manipur recorded the highest GPI (1.03) and the lowest in Himachal Pradesh (0.88). Research revealed that the gender inequality was more pronounced in western hill states than north-east hill states of India. The gender inequality increased in favour of males from east to west. Across the districts of hill states, all districts of western hill states (except Kinnaur, Lahul & Spiti) recorded gender disparity in economic development in favour of males in 2011. Contrary to it, about fifty per cent districts of north-east hill states recorded gender disparity in favour of females. Across the districts of hill states eight out of ten lowest GPI districts belonged to western hill states. These were Rajauri, Rudraprayag, Leh, Almora, Chamoli, Tehri Garhwal, Kargil, and Shupiyan.

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I. Introduction

Gender disparity means discrimination between individuals on the basis of sex. Development disparity is an omnipresent phenomenon at global, continental, country, regional, and province level. At global level countries have been categorized into developed, developing, and underdeveloped realms. Nearly fifty per cent of the total world population is of women. Human development and economic development cannot be achieved if fifty per cent population is debarred from the opportunities. Most of the societies of the world, men possess larger share of property, wealth, status, and power than women. Generally, the female component of population has been discriminated, exploited, and oppressed all over the world since time immemorial. In context of India, the roots of gender discrimination go so deep that social, economic, and rural disparities are deeply intertwined. The unfortunate phenomenon of gender disparity has been quite widespread, though its magnitude varies from one region to other. In this study, the gender inequality was understood in economic development among and within hill states.

Objective

- Examine the trends and spatial patterns of gender disparity in economic development in hill states

Research Question

The following major research question was forwarded for investigation:

- What were the trends and patterns of gender disparity in economic development in hill states?

Significance of the Study

The study of the trends and patterns of gender disparity in economic development in hill states will provide an insight and unfold the real nature and intensity of disparity. This study on disparity may be useful for policy makers and planners for the formulation of policy and programs to bridge the gap.

Period and Unit of Study

The gender disparity in economic development in hill states was studied covering three points of time i.e. 1991, 2001, and 2011. India adopted policy of liberalization, privatization, and globalization since 1990s. The impact of policy was viewed on gender disparity in economic development during successive decades. The state and district level data were used for tracing inter states and intra-state gender disparity in economic development.

The state level data was used for inter states comparison. The data for new state was adjusted in order to make them comparable for all the three points of time. Further, district was taken as the unit for intra-state analysis.

An attempt was made to adjust district level data of 1991 and 2001 in order to make them comparable with 2011. It was herculean task but challenge was accepted.

The Study Area

This study was focused on the Indian Hill States. These were Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, and Meghalaya. It was spread between 21°57'N to 37°5'N latitudes and 72°40'E to 97°25'E longitudes covering an area of 515 thousand Km². Administratively, there were 106 districts that shared one-seventh (15.67 per cent) of total geographical area of India and contained 3.63 per cent of total population of the country.

Source of Data and Methodology

The secondary data of Census of India was collected to measure the gender disparity in economic development for three points of time i.e. 1991, 2001, and 2011. In this study, economic development was inferred using urbanisation. Gender Parity Index (GPI) was used to assess gender differences. Gender Parity Index was calculated to know the trends and patterns of gender disparity in terms of economic development. Economic development was measured through urbanisation. In this study, GPI discussed at two spatial contexts: (i) inter states and (ii) intra-state.

$$\text{Gender Parity Index (GPI)} = \frac{\text{value of indicator for females}}{\text{value of indicator for males}}$$

The value of the GPI as obtained by above formula reveals that a value less than one indicates difference in favour of males, whereas a value near one indicates the parity in them. The value above one indicates difference in favour of females. The gender disparity increases as difference of value of GPI increases from one.

Gender Disparity in Economic Development in Indian Hill States

Inter States

India (0.96) recorded marginal higher GPI in economic development than Indian Hill States (0.91) in 1991. It reflected that the females of India were economically more developed than Indian Hill States (Hill States). Three out of nine hill states recorded higher GPI than India. These were Manipur, Tripura, and Mizoram. These states recorded GPI above one. It reflected that the gender disparity was recorded in favour of females. All these states belong to north-east hill states. Contrary to it, Meghalaya, Uttarakhand, Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, and Nagaland recorded lower GPI. Comparing with Hill States average, four out of nine hill states recorded higher GPI. These were Manipur, Tripura, Mizoram, and Meghalaya. Against it, Uttarakhand, Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, and Nagaland recorded lower GPI. Across the hill states, three highest GPI in economic development were Manipur, Tripura, and Mizoram. Against it, the least three were Himachal Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, and Nagaland. Across the hill states, Manipur (1.02) recorded the highest GPI of economic development and the lowest in Nagaland (0.85). The gap between the highest and the lowest GPI was 0.17 (Table 1).

Table 1
Gender Disparity in Economic Development in Indian Hill States, 1991-2011

Sr.	Hill States	Index Value		
		1991	2001	2011
1	Manipur	1.02 →	1.03 ↔	1.03
2	Tripura	1.01 ↔	1.01 ↔	1.01
3	Mizoram	1.01 ↔	1.01 →	1.02
4	Meghalaya	0.95 →	1.01 ↔	1.01
5	Uttarakhand*	0.87 →	0.88 →	0.92
6	Sikkim	0.85 →	0.95 →	1.03
7	Himachal Pradesh	0.85 ←	0.82 →	0.88
8	Arunachal Pradesh	0.85 →	0.92 →	0.95
9	Nagaland	0.85 →	0.92 →	0.98
10	Jammu & Kashmir	DNA	0.92 →	0.95
Indian Hill States		0.91 →	0.92 →	0.95
India		0.96 →	0.97 →	0.99

Source: Primary Census Abstract, Census of India, 1991- 2011.

Note: 1 DNA means Data not available. 2 *Data of Uttarakhand (1991) was recasted in consonance with the administrative division 2011.

→ Decadal Increase in GPI ← Decadal Decrease in GPI ↔ Decadal No Change in GPI

After twenty years of new economic policy, India (0.99) recorded higher GPI in economic development than Hill States (0.95) in 2011. It reflected that gender inequality was more in Hill States than India. Fifty per cent hill states recorded higher GPI in economic development than India. These were Manipur, Sikkim, Mizoram, Tripura, and Meghalaya. These states recorded GPI above one. All these states belong to north-east hill states. They recorded gender disparity in favour of females. On the other hand, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Uttarakhand, and Himachal Pradesh recorded the lower GPI. Comparing with Hills States average, only two states recorded lower GPI in economic development. These were Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh. Across the hill states, three highest GPI in economic development were Manipur, Sikkim, and Mizoram. Against it, the least three were Jammu & Kashmir, Uttarakhand, and Himachal Pradesh. Across the hill states, Manipur (1.03) recorded the highest GPI in economic development and the lowest in Himachal Pradesh (0.88). The gap between the highest and the lowest GPI was 0.15. The gap decreased from 0.17 in 1991 to 0.15 in 2011 (Table1).

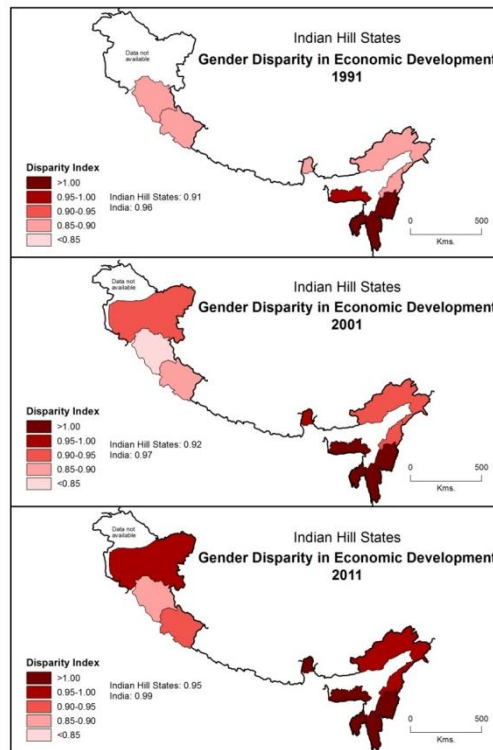


Fig. 1

It was concluded that GPI decreased as we move from east to west across hill states of India. It reflected that the gender inequality in economic development increased from east to west among Indian hill states.

Intra-State

I. Jammu & Kashmir

India (0.97) recorded higher GPI in economic development than Jammu & Kashmir (0.92) in 2001. It reflected that gender disparity in economic development was more in Jammu & Kashmir than India. Four out of 22 districts of Jammu & Kashmir recorded higher GPI in economic development than India. These were Shupiyan, Ganderbal, Srinagar, and Bandipore. The remaining eighteen districts recorded the lower GPI. These were Jammu, Baramula, Kathua, Pulwama, Kulgam, Badgam, Anantnag, Samba, Reasi, Rajouri, Doda, Punch, Ramban, Udhampur, Kishtwar, Kupwara, Leh, and Kargil. Comparing with parent state, ten out of 22 districts recorded higher GPI in economic development. These were Shupiyan, Ganderbal, Srinagar, Bandipore, Jammu, Baramula, Kathua, Pulwama, Kulgam and Badgam. The remaining districts of the state recorded lower GPI. Across the districts of state, the highest three districts in GPI were Shupiyan, Ganderbal, Srinagar and the least three were Kupwara, Leh, and Kargil. Among the districts of state, Shupiyan (1.00) recorded the highest GPI of economic development and the lowest in Kargil (0.67). The gap between the highest and the lowest GPI was 0.33 (Table 2).

Table 2
Gender Disparity in Economic Development in Jammu & Kashmir, 1991- 2011

Sr.	Districts	Index Value		
		1991	2001	2011
1	Shupiyan	DNA	1.00 ←	0.79
2	Ganderbal	DNA	1.00 →	1.01
3	Srinagar	DNA	1.00 ↔	1.00
4	Bandipore	DNA	0.98 ←	0.95
5	Jammu	DNA	0.96 →	0.97
6	Baramula	DNA	0.94 ←	0.89
7	Kathua	DNA	0.93 →	0.98
8	Pulwama	DNA	0.92 ←	0.87
9	Kulgam	DNA	0.92 →	0.96
10	Badgam	DNA	0.92 ←	0.89
11	Anantnag	DNA	0.90 →	0.97
12	Samba	DNA	0.86 →	0.91
13	Reasi	DNA	0.84 →	0.90
14	Rajouri	DNA	0.84 ←	0.60
15	Doda	DNA	0.82 →	0.87
16	Punch	DNA	0.81 →	0.84
17	Ramban	DNA	0.81 ↔	0.81
18	Udhampur	DNA	0.79 →	0.80
19	Kishtwar	DNA	0.77 →	0.89
20	Kupwara	DNA	0.76 →	0.82
21	Leh	DNA	0.74 ←	0.72
22	Kargil	DNA	0.67 →	0.77
Jammu & Kashmir		DNA	0.92 →	0.95
Indian Hill States		0.91	0.92 →	0.95
India		0.96	0.97 →	0.99

Source: Primary Census Abstract, Census of India, 1991- 2011.

DNA means Data not available.

→ Decadal Increase in GPI ← Decadal Decrease in GPI ↔ Decadal No Change in GPI

After a decade, India recorded (0.99) higher GPI in economic development than Jammu & Kashmir (0.95) in 2011. Once again, gender disparity in economic development was more in Jammu & Kashmir than India. Two out of 22 districts of Jammu & Kashmir recorded higher GPI of economic development than India. These were Ganderbal and Srinagar. The remaining twenty districts recorded lower GPI. Comparing with the parent state, seven out of 22 districts recorded higher GPI in economic development. These were Ganderbal, Srinagar, Kathua, Jammu, Anantnag, Kulgam, and Bandipore. Contrary to it, Samba, Reasi, Baramula, Badgam, Kishtwar, Pulwama, Doda, Punch, Kupwara, Ramban, Udhampur, Shupiyan, Kargil, Leh, and Rajouri recorded the lower GPI in economic development. Across the districts of state, the highest three districts in GPI were Ganderbal, Srinagar, Kathua and the least three were Kargil, Leh, and Rajouri. Among the districts of state, Ganderbal (1.01) recorded the highest GPI of economic development and the lowest in Rajouri (0.60). The gap between the highest and the lowest GPI was 0.41. The gap of GPI in economic development increase from 0.33 in 2001 to 0.41 in 2011 (Table 2).

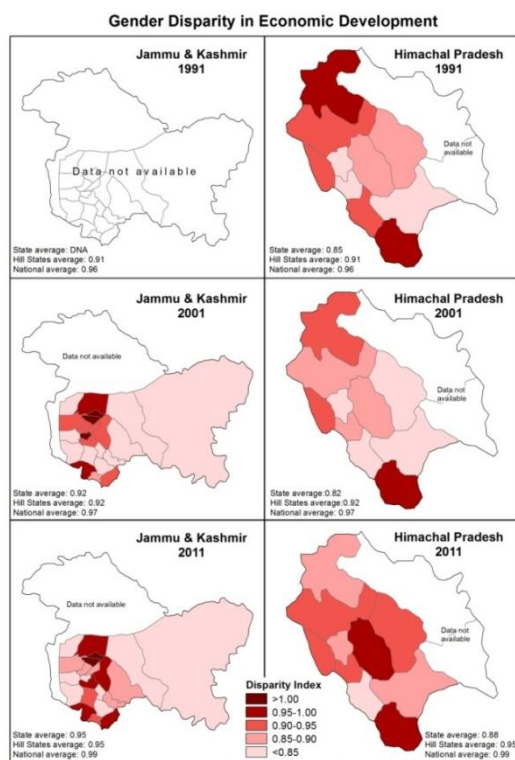


Fig. 2

The border districts of Jammu & Kashmir recorded higher gender inequality during 2001-2011. The adjoining districts with Punjab of Jammu division and capital district of the state (Srinagar) and its surrounding district of Kashmir valley recorded lower gender equality. On the other hand, Leh (Buddhists dominated) and Kargil (Muslim dominated) recorded higher gender inequality. Eastern, northern and western parts of the state had lower gender equality while the central part of Kashmir division and southern parts of Jammu division recorded higher gender equality (Fig. 2).

II. Himachal Pradesh

India (0.96) recorded higher GPI in economic development than Himachal Pradesh (0.85) in 1991. It reflected that gender disparity in economic development was more in Himachal Pradesh than India. Two districts had no urban population in Himachal Pradesh during 1991-2011. These were Kinnaur and Lahul & Spiti. Sirmaur was a lone district out of 10 districts of Himachal Pradesh recorded higher GPI in economic development than India. Contrary to it, remaining districts recorded lower GPI. Comparing with Himachal Pradesh average, six districts recorded higher GPI. These were Sirmaur, Chamba, Una, Kangra, Solan, and Kullu. On the other hand, Bilaspur, Shimla, and Hamirpur recorded lower GPI. Across the districts of state, the highest three districts in GPI were Sirmaur, Chamba, Una and the least three were Bilaspur, Shimla, and Hamirpur. Among the districts of state, Sirmaur (0.97) recorded the highest GPI of economic development and the lowest in Hamirpur (0.79). The gap between the highest and the lowest GPI was 0.18 (Table 3).

Table 3
Gender Disparity in Economic Development in Himachal Pradesh, 1991- 2011

Sr.	Districts	Index Value		
		1991	2001	2011
1	Sirmaur	0.97	0.95	0.98
2	Chamba	0.95	0.90	0.88
3	Una	0.92	0.90	0.94
4	Kangra	0.91	0.88	0.90
5	Solan	0.90	0.73	0.83
6	Mandi	0.86	0.88	0.95
7	Kullu	0.85	0.84	0.92
8	Bilaspur	0.83	0.87	0.93
9	Shimla	0.81	0.83	0.89
10	Hamirpur	0.79	0.78	0.85
11	Kinnaur	No Urban Population	No Urban Population	No Urban Population
12	Lahul & Spiti	No Urban Population	No Urban Population	No Urban Population

Himachal Pradesh	0.85		0.82		0.88
Indian Hill States	0.91		0.92		0.95
India	0.96		0.97		0.99

Source: Primary Census Abstract, Census of India, 1991- 2011.

The district of No Urban Population had hundred per cent rural population.

Decadal Increase in GPI
 Decadal Decrease in GPI
 Decadal No Change in GPI

After two decades, India (0.99) recorded higher GPI in economic development than Himachal Pradesh (0.88) in 2011. It reflected that gender disparity in economic development was more in Himachal Pradesh than national average. All districts of Himachal Pradesh recorded lower GPI in economic development. Comparing with state average, 8 out of ten districts recorded higher GPI. These were Sirmaur, Mandi, Una, Bilaspur, Kullu, Kangra, Shimla, and Chamba. Against it, Hamirpur and Solan recorded lower GPI. Across the districts of state, the highest three districts in GPI were Sirmaur, Mandi, Una and the least three were Chamba, Hamirpur, and Solan. Among the districts of state, Sirmaur (0.98) recorded the highest GPI of economic development and the lowest in Solan (0.83). The gap between the highest and the lowest GPI was 0.15. The gap of GPI in Economic development decreased from 0.18 in 1991 to 0.15 in 2011 (Table 3).

The north western and south eastern parts of the state recorded lower gender inequality at the inception of new economic policy. In the first decade of twenty first century, western, central, and southern parts of the state had improved the gender equality.

III. Uttarakhand

India (0.96) recorded higher GPI in economic development than Uttarakhand (0.87) in 1991. It reflected that gender disparity in economic development was higher in Uttarakhand than India. Three out of 13 districts of Uttarakhand recorded higher GPI in economic development. These were Hardwar, Udham Singh Nagar, and Dehradun. On the other hand, Nainital, Champawat, Pithoragarh, Bageshwar, Uttarkashi, Garhwal, Almora, Chamoli, Tehri Garhwal, and Rudraprayag recorded the lower GPI. Comparing with Uttarakhand average, four districts recorded higher GPI. These were Hardwar, Udham Singh Nagar, Dehradun, and Nainital. Against it, the remaining districts recorded lower GPI. Across the districts of state, the highest three districts in GPI were Hardwar, Udham Singh Nagar, and Dehradun and the least three were Chamoli, Tehri Garhwal, and Rudraprayag. Among the districts of state, Hardwar (0.99) recorded the highest GPI of economic development and the lowest in Rudraprayag (0.38). The gap between the highest and the lowest GPI was 0.61 (Table 4).

In 2011, India (0.99) recorded higher GPI in economic development than Uttarakhand (0.92). It reflected that gender disparity in economic development was more in Uttarakhand than India. All districts recorder lower GPI of economic development than national average. Comparing with the parent state, four out of 13 districts recorded higher GPI in economic development. These were Hardwar, Udham Singh Nagar, Dehradun, and Nainital. Contrary to it, Champawat, Pithoragarh, Uttarkashi, Bageshwar, Garhwal, Tehri Garhwal, Chamoli, Almora, and Rudraprayag recorded lower GPI. Across the districts of state, the highest three districts in GPI were Hardwar, Udham Singh Nagar, Dehradun and the least three were Chamoli, Almora, and Rudraprayag. Among the districts of state, Hardwar (0.98) recorded the highest GPI of economic development and the lowest in Rudraprayag (0.63). The gap between the highest and the lowest GPI was 0.35. The gap of GPI in economic development decreased from 0.61 in 1991 to 0.35 in 2011 (Table 4).

Table 4
Gender Disparity in Economic Development in Uttarakhand, 1991-2011

Sr.	Districts	Index Value		
		1991	2001	2011
1	Hardwar	0.99	0.98	0.98
2	Udham Singh Nagar	0.98	0.97	0.98
3	Dehradun	0.98	0.97	0.98
4	Nainital	0.95	0.97	0.98
5	Champawat	0.85	0.83	0.91
6	Pithoragarh	0.80	0.80	0.90
7	Bageshwar	0.77	0.73	0.85
8	Uttarkashi	0.74	0.77	0.88
9	Garhwal	0.67	0.74	0.83
10	Almora	0.66	0.68	0.74
11	Chamoli	0.64	0.70	0.75
12	Tehri Garhwal	0.54	0.60	0.76
13	Rudraprayag	0.38	0.40	0.63

Uttarakhand*	0.87 →	0.88 →	0.92
Indian Hill States	0.91 →	0.92 →	0.95
Indian	0.96 →	0.97 →	0.99

Source: Primary Census Abstract, Census of India, 1991- 2011.

*Data of Uttarakhand (1991) was recasted in consonance with the administrative division 2011.

→ Decadal Increase in GPI ← Decadal Decrease in GPI ↔ Decadal No Change in GPI

The southern and western parts of the state had higher gender equality in economic development than the other parts of the state since 1991. The trickle-down effect of the improvement in gender equality spread towards the eastern and north-western parts of the state over the period of time. However, the north and central parts of the state recorded higher gender inequality in economic development (Fig. 3).

IV. Sikkim

India (0.96) recorded higher GPI in economic development than Sikkim (0.85) in 1991. It reflected that gender disparity in economic development was more pronounced in Sikkim than India. All districts recorded lower GPI of economic development than national average. Comparing with parent state, one out of 4 districts recorded higher GPI in economic development. It was East District. Contrary to it, West District, South District, and North District recorded lower GPI. Across the districts of state, East District (0.88) recorded the highest GPI of economic development and the lowest in North East (0.70). The gap between the highest and the lowest GPI was 0.18 (Table 5).

Table 5
Gender Disparity in Economic Development in Sikkim, 1991- 2011

Sr.	Districts	Index Value		
		1991	2001	2011
1	East District	0.88 →	0.99 →	1.04
2	West District	0.83 →	0.84 →	0.99
3	South District	0.78 →	0.91 →	1.05
4	North District	0.70 →	0.82 →	1.16
Sikkim		0.85 →	0.95 →	1.03
Indian Hill States		0.91 →	0.92 →	0.95
India		0.96 →	0.97 →	0.99

Source: Primary Census Abstract, Census of India, 1991- 2011.

→ Decadal Increase in GPI

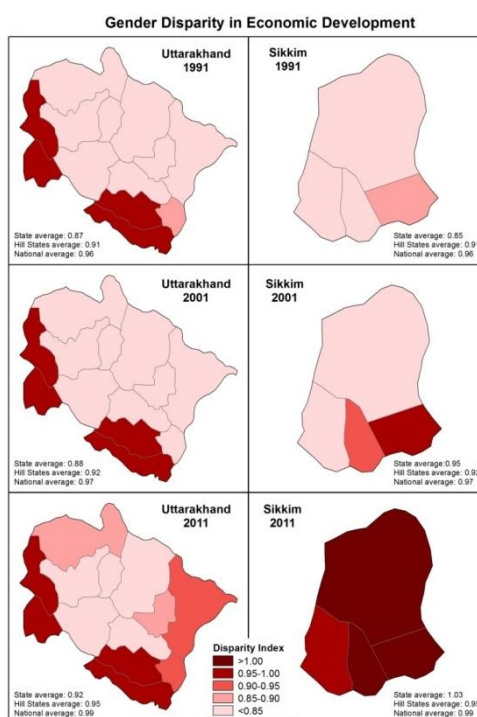


Fig. 3

After twenty years of reforms, India recorded 0.99 GPI in economic development. Whereas, Sikkim recorded 1.03. It reflected that India experienced gender disparity in favour of males while Sikkim recorded gender disparity in favour of females. Comparing with the state average, one out of 4 districts recorded lower GPI in economic development. It was West District. Against it, North District, South District, and East District recorded higher GPI (above one). Across the districts of parent state, North District (1.16) recorded higher GPI in economic development and the lowest in West District (0.99). The gap between the highest and the lowest GPI was 0.17. The gap of GPI decreased from 0.18 in 1991 to 0.17 in 2011.

South-east part of the state had recorded higher gender equality than other parts of the state in 1991. During the last twenty years, the gender equality in economic development had converged in all parts of state (Fig. 3).

V. Arunachal Pradesh

India (0.96) recorded substantially higher GPI in economic development than Arunachal Pradesh (0.85) in 1991. It reflected that gender inequality was more pronounced in Arunachal Pradesh than India. Fifty per cent districts of the state had no urban population. These were Anjaw, Changlang, Dibang Valley, East Kameng, Kurung Kumey, Twang, Upper Siang, and Upper Subansiri. Papum Pare was the lone district which recorded higher GPI in economic development than India. Comparing with the state average, four districts recorded higher GPI in economic development. These were Papum Pare, West Kameng, East Siang, and Lower Dibang Valley. Across districts of state, Papum Pare (0.98) recorded the highest GPI of economic development and the lowest in West Siang (0.75). The gap between the highest and the lowest GPI was 0.23 (Table 6).

India (0.99) recorded higher GPI in economic development than Arunachal Pradesh (0.95) in 2011. It reflected that gender inequality was higher in Arunachal Pradesh than India. Every district of Arunachal Pradesh recorded urban population. Three out of 16 districts recorded GPI above one. These were West Kameng, Upper Siang, and Lower Subansiri. It reflected that these districts had gender inequality in favour of females. Two out of sixteen districts of state recorded a benchmark value. It was one. These districts were East Siang and Dibang Valley. It reflected the gender equality in economic development in these districts. On the other hand, eleven districts of the state recorded GPI less than one. These districts recorded gender inequality in favour of males (Table 6).

Table 6
Gender Disparity in Economic Development in Arunachal Pradesh 1991-2011

Sr.	Districts	Index Value		
		1991	2001	2011
1	Papum Pare	0.98 ←	0.97 →	0.99
2	West Kameng	0.90 →	1.13 ←	1.11
3	East Siang	0.85 →	0.95 →	1.00
4	Lower Dibang Valley	0.85 →	0.89 →	0.95
5	Lohit	0.84 →	0.94 →	0.97
6	Lower Subansiri	0.81 →	0.95 →	1.02
7	Tirap	0.78 →	0.89 ←	0.87
8	West Siang	0.75 ←	0.84 →	0.92
9	Anjaw	No Urban Population	No Urban Population	0.68
10	Changlang	No Urban Population	0.86 →	0.87
11	Dibang Valley	No Urban Population	No Urban Population	1.00
12	East Kameng	No Urban Population	0.91 →	0.95
13	Kurung Kumey	No Urban Population	No Urban Population	0.85
14	Tawang	No Urban Population	0.42 →	0.48
15	Upper Siang	No Urban Population	No Urban Population	1.06
16	Upper Subansiri	No Urban Population	0.91 →	0.94
Arunachal Pradesh		0.85 →	0.92 →	0.95
Indian Hill State		0.91 →	0.92 →	0.95
India		0.96 →	0.97 →	0.99

Source: Primary Census Abstract, Census of India, 1991- 2011.

The district of No Urban Population had hundred per cent rural population.

→ Decadal Increase in GPI ← Decadal Decrease in GPI — Decadal No Change in GPI

Most of the international border districts of the state recorded the absence of urban population in 1991. But, every district of the state recorded urban population in 2011. The research revealed that gender parity in economic development converged during 1991-2011 (Fig. 4).

VI. Nagaland

India (0.96) recorded substantially higher GPI in economic development than Nagaland (0.85) in 1991. It reflected that gender inequality was more pronounced in Nagaland than India. Three districts had no urban population in Nagaland during 1991-2001. These were Kiphire, Longleng, and Peren. All districts recorded lower GPI in economic development than India. Comparing with state average, four districts recorded higher GPI in economic development. These were Dimapur, Zunheboto, Mokokchung, and Wokha. Contrary to it, Kohima, Mon, Tuensang, and Phek recorded lower GPI. Across the districts, Dimapur (0.92) recorded the highest GPI in economic development and the lowest in Phek (0.75). The gap between the highest and the lowest GPI was 0.17 (Table 7).

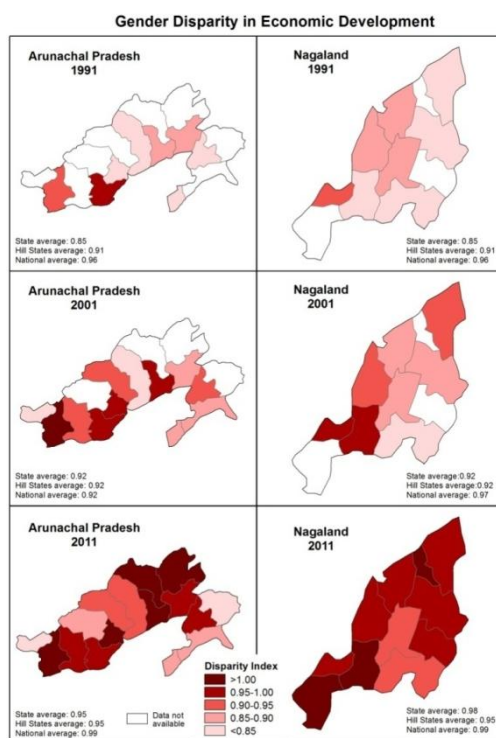


Fig. 4

Table 7
Gender Disparity in Economic Development in Nagaland, 1991- 2011

Sr.	Districts	Index Value		
		1991	2001	2011
1	Dimapur	0.92 →	0.98 ↔	0.98
2	Zunheboto	0.88 ↔	0.88 →	0.93
3	Mokokchung	0.87 →	0.89 →	0.95
4	Wokha	0.86 →	0.91 →	0.97
5	Kohima	0.83 →	0.95 →	1.01
6	Mon	0.80 →	0.93 →	0.98
7	Tuensang	0.79 →	0.87 →	0.96
8	Phek	0.75 →	0.82 →	0.90
9	Kiphire	No Urban Population	No Urban Population	0.96
10	Longleng	No Urban Population	No Urban Population	0.96
11	Peren	No Urban Population	No Urban Population	1.11
Nagaland		0.85 →	0.92 →	0.98
Indian Hill States		0.91 →	0.92 →	0.95
India		0.96 →	0.97 →	0.99

Source: Primary Census Abstract, Census of India, 1991- 2011.

The district of No Urban Population had hundred per cent rural population.

→ Decadal Increase in GPI ← Decadal Decrease in GPI ↔ Decadal No Change in GPI

After two decades of reforms, India (0.99) recorded marginally higher GPI in economic development than Nagaland (0.98). It reflected that the gender inequality was marginally higher in Nagaland than India. Every district of Nagaland had urban population in 2011. Two out of eleven districts recorded GPI above one. These were Peren and Kohima. It reflected gender inequality in favour of females. Contrary to it, nine districts recorded GPI less than one. These were Dimapur, Zunheboto, Mokokchung, Wokha, Mon, Tuensang, Phek, Kiphire, and Longleng. These districts recorded gender inequality in favour of males.

The research revealed that there was wide variation in gender disparity in economic development across the various parts of the state in 1991. The international border districts and southern districts had higher gender inequality than central western parts of the state. After two decades, a dramatic change was observed in the pattern of gender gap in economic development. The southern most part and capital district experienced gap in favour of females. On the other hand, the northern, western, eastern parts of the state were heading towards the convergence of the gender parity in economic development.

VII. Manipur

India (0.96) recorded GPI in economic development in favour of males while Manipur (1.02) recorded GPI in favour of females. Three out of nine districts had no urban population. These were Senapati, Tamenglong, and Ukhrul. Across the districts, Churachandpur, Thoubal, and Bishnupur recorded GPI above one. It reflected gender disparity in favour of females. On the other hand, Imphal West, Imphal East, and Chandel recorded GPI less than one. It reflected gender disparity in favour of males.

After twenty years of reforms, India (0.99) recorded GPI less than one while Manipur (1.03) recorded GPI above one. Every district of the state recorded urban population in 2011. All the districts of Manipur recorded GPI above one. It reflected that the females of the state were economically more developed than India. Comparing with the parent state, five out of nine districts recorded lower GPI in economic development than Manipur. These districts reflected more gender disparity in favour of males. These were Thoubal, Bishnupur, Imphal West, Chandel, and Ukhrul (Table 8).

Table 8
Gender Disparity in Economic Development in Manipur, 1991-2011

Sr.	Districts	Index Value		
		1991	2001	2011
1	Churachandpur	1.05	No Urban Population	1.03
2	Thoubal	1.01 ↔	1.01 ↔	1.01
3	Bishnupur	1.01 ←	1.00 ←	1.01
4	Imphal West	0.99 →	1.01 ↔	1.01
5	Imphal East	0.99 →	1.03 ↔	1.03
6	Chandel	0.95 →	0.98 →	1.01
7	Senapati	No Urban Population	No Urban Population	1.05
8	Tamenglong	No Urban Population	No Urban Population	1.03
9	Ukhrul	No Urban Population	No Urban Population	1.01
Manipur		1.02 →	1.03	1.03
Indian Hill States		0.91 →	0.92 →	0.95
India		0.96 →	0.97 →	0.99

Source: Primary Census Abstract, Census of India, 1991- 2011.

The district of No Urban Population had hundred per cent rural population.

→ Decadal Increase in GPI ← Decadal Decrease in GPI ↔ Decadal No Change in GPI

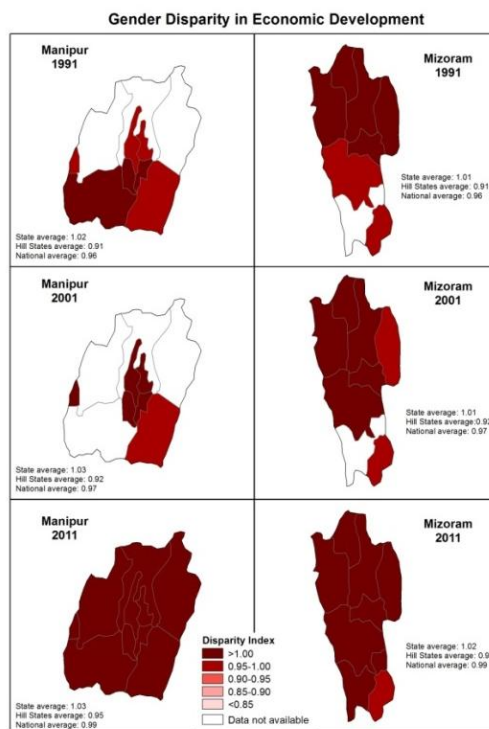


Fig. 5

The urban population was concentrated in the center and south-east and south-west parts of the state in 1991. South-west and partially centre parts of the state recorded gender inequality in favour of females. Contrary to it, south-east and partially centre parts of the state registered gender inequality in favour of males in 1991. After two decades, every parts of the state recorded the gender inequality in favour of females in economic development (Fig. 4).

VIII. Mizoram

Mizoram was the most urbanized hill state of India. Lawngtlai was the lone district of the state which recorded the absence of urban population in 1991 and 2001. According to the census 2011, every district of the state had urban population (Table 9).

The finding revealed that Mizoram recorded higher GPI than Hill States and national averages at three points of time i.e. 1991, 2001, and 2011. The state recorded marginal increase in GPI from 1.01 in 1991 to 1.02 in 2011. It reflected gender inequality in economic development in favour of females in the state. It widened during post reform period. It reflected that females were economically more developed than males. Across districts of the state, Lunglei and Saiha registered GPI lower than 1.00 in 1991. Except Saiha, all districts of the state recorded the GPI either 1.00 or above in 2001 and 2011. It reflected the position of females in economic development was better than males. Interestingly, five out of eight districts of the state, GPI inched towards 1.00 during 1991-2011. These were Mamit, Kolasib, Serchhip, Lunglei, and Saiha. It reflected that these districts were heading towards the gender parity in terms of economic development (Table 9).

Table 9
Gender Disparity in Economic Development in Mizoram, 1991-2011

Sr.	Districts	Index Value		
		1991	2001	2011
1	Mamit	1.07 ←	1.04 ←	1.01
2	Kolasib	1.03 ←	1.01 ↔	1.01
3	Serchhip	1.03 ←	1.02 ←	1.00
4	Champhai	1.01 ←	0.97 →	1.02
5	Aizawl	1.01 ↔	1.01 →	1.02
6	Lunglei	0.97 →	1.00 ↔	1.00
7	Saiha	0.96 →	0.98 →	0.99
8	Lawngtlai	No Urban Population	No Urban Population	1.01
Mizoram		1.01 ↔	1.01 →	1.02
Indian Hill States		0.91 →	0.92 →	0.95

India	0.96 →	0.97 →	0.99
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Source: Primary Census Abstract, Census of India, 1991- 2011.

The district of No Urban Population had hundred per cent rural population.

→ Decadal Increase in GPI ← Decadal Decrease in GPI ↔ Decadal No Change in GPI

North parts of the state recorded gender inequality in favour of females in 1991. Excluding Saiha, all districts recorded either gender equality or inequality in favour of females in 2011 (Fig. 5).

IX. Tripura

All districts of Tripura had urban population during 1991-2011. India and Hill States recorded gender inequality in favour of males in economic development. Against it, Tripura registered gender inequality in favour of females (Table 10).

The picture at the district level was different at different points of time. West Tripura and North Tripura had gender inequality in favour of females in 1991. Against it, South Tripura and Dhalai registered gender inequality in favour of males. South Tripura and Dhalai recorded decline in GPI during the last decade of twentieth century. In 2011, all districts of the state recorded GPI above 1.00. It reflected the gender inequality in favour of females persists all over the state. In spatial context, northern and western parts of the state females supersede the males in economic development and vice-versa in eastern and southern parts of the state at the time of inception of new economic policy. After two decades, all districts of the state experienced gender inequality of economic development in favour of females (Table 10).

Table 10
Gender Disparity in Economic Development in Tripura, 1991-2011

Sr.	Districts	Index Value		
		1991	2001	2011
1	West Tripura	1.02 ↔	1.02 ↔	1.02
2	North Tripura	1.00 →	1.01 ↔	1.01
3	South Tripura	0.99 ←	0.97 →	1.00
4	Dhalai	0.98 ←	0.95 →	1.01
Tripura		1.01 ↔	1.01 ↔	1.01
Indian Hill States		0.91 →	0.92 →	0.95
India		0.96 →	0.97 →	0.99

Source: Primary Census Abstract, Census of India, 1991- 2011.

→ Decadal Increase in GPI ← Decadal Decrease in GPI ↔ Decadal No Change in GPI

X. Meghalaya

Ri Bhoi had no urban population in 1991. Meghalaya (0.95) recorded marginally lower GPI in economic development than India (0.96) in 1991. India and State experienced convergence of gender parity in economic development during 1991-2011.

Across the districts of the state, except Jaintia Hills (1.00), all districts recorded GPI lower than 1.00 in 1991. It reflected the gender inequality of economic development was in favour of males. Contrary to it, except Ri Bhoi, all districts recorded GPI either 1.00 or above in 2011. It reflected that these districts recorded gender inequality in favour of females.

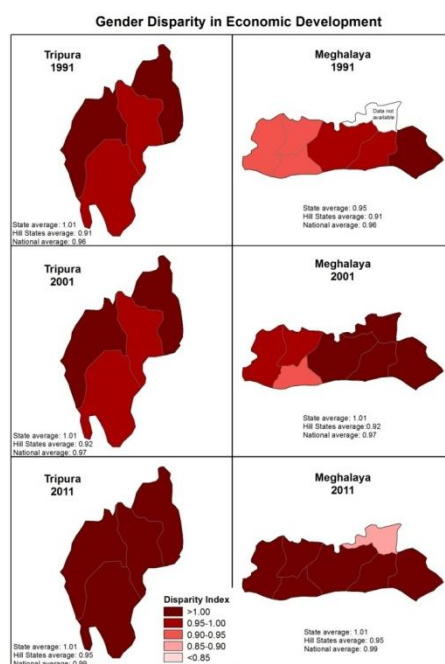
Table 11
Gender Disparity in Economic Development in Meghalaya, 1991-2011

Sr.	Districts	Index Value		
		1991	2001	2011
1	Jaintia Hills	1.00 →	1.05 →	1.07
2	West Khasi Hills	0.99 →	1.02 →	1.04
3	East Khasi Hills	0.96 →	1.01 ←	1.00
4	West Garo Hills	0.94 →	0.98 →	1.03
5	South Garo Hills	0.91 →	0.93 →	1.02
6	East Garo Hills	0.91 →	0.99 →	1.00
7	Ri Bhoi	No Urban Population	1.01 ←	0.87
Meghalaya		0.95 →	1.01 ↔	1.01
Indian Hill States		0.91 →	0.92 →	0.95
India		0.96 →	0.97 →	0.99

Source: Primary Census Abstract, Census of India, 1991- 2011.

The district of No Urban Population had hundred per cent rural population.

→ Decadal Increase in GPI ← Decadal Decrease in GPI ↔ Decadal No Change in GPI



Meghalaya recorded an increase in gender inequality of economic development in favour of males from east to west in 1991. After two decades of reforms, except Ri Bhoi, all parts of the state experienced the gender inequality in favour of females.

Conclusions

Every hill state of India recorded an increase in GPI of economic development during 1991-2011. Except Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland, all north-east hill states of India recorded GPI above 1.00 in 2011. It reflected gender inequality in these states was in favour of females. Contrary to it, all western hill states recorded GPI below 1.00 in 2011. It reflected gender inequality in these states was in favour of males. Across the hill states, gender inequality increased in favour of males from east to west.

All districts of western hill states (Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, and Uttarakhand) recorded GPI less than 1.00 in 2011. It reflected this part of Indian hill states had gender inequality in favour of males. Contrary to it, out of 59 districts in the north-east hill states, 7 districts recorded GPI 1.00 and 29 districts recorded GPI above 1.00 in 2011. It reflected about fifty per cent districts of north-east hill states recorded gender inequality in favour of females in 2011.

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