Chapter -II

Review of Literature
"We shall require a substantially new manner of thinking if mankind is to survive"

- Albert Einstein

This chapter focuses its attention on the review of various theoretical and empirical studies relating to human development carried out at international, national, and state levels by both institutions and individual scholars.

2.1 OFFICIAL STUDIES AT THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

The annual Human Development Reports being published by the UNDP at international level have triggered rigorous research at international, national, state, regional or even at district levels on various aspects of human development. In fact UNDP itself has focuses its attention every year on a particular theme of human development, thereby enriching the literature on whole gamut of issues relating to human development. Accordingly, an attempt is made in this section to briefly review such theoretical and empirical works relevant to human development carried out at international, national, state and regional levels including Human Development Reports.

*Human Development Report 1990*, launched in London on 24th May 1990, explored the relationship between economic growth and human development. It challenged some of the conventional wisdom, exploded some of the old myths and reached some important policy conclusions that would have significant implications for development strategies for the next decade. The Report emphasized that it was wrong to suggest that the development process has failed in most developing countries in the past three decades. Judged by real indicators of human development, it has succeeded spectacularly. The report highlighted that the average life expectancy has increased by 16 years, adult literacy by 40 per cent and per capita nutritional level by more than 20 per cent and Child mortality rates have been halved. In fact, developing countries have achieved, in the past 30 years, the kind of real human progress that industrial countries took nearly a century to accomplish.¹
*Human Development Report 1991*, released in Washington D.C., on 23rd May 1991, reached the conclusion that restructuring of existing budgets can provide enough resources to finance basic social services for all the people. It is the lack of political courage to make tough decisions, rather than the paucity of resources, that is the problem. There are many examples of wasted resources and wasted opportunities, like rising military expenditures, inefficient public enterprises, numerous prestige projects, growing capital flight and extensive corruption. If priorities are recast, most budgets can accommodate more spending for human development. The Report concluded that as much as $50 billion a year can be found in developing countries for urgent human needs, just by changing government spending patterns.

The Report deduced the following conclusions:

- The human expenditure ratio may need to be at least 5 per cent of Government, if a country wishes to do well on human development.

- An efficient way to achieve this result is to keep the public expenditure ratio moderate (around 25 per cent) to allocate much of this expenditure to the social sectors (more than 40 per cent) and to focus on the social priority areas (giving those more than 50 per cent).

- Government spending need not be high to achieve growth with equity if private and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are extremely active in social sectors.²

The central theme of *Human Development Report 1992³* launched in Stockholm on 23rd April 1992, is that the search for equitable access to market opportunities must extend beyond national borders to the global system. Otherwise economic disparities between the richest and the poorest people that doubled over the past three decades are likely to explode. The income of the richest billion people is 150 times that of the poorest billion, an alarmingly large gap. To put this in perspective, the income disparity between the richest 20 per cent and the poorest 20 per cent of people at individual country levels is far smaller the income disparities at the global level. The share of the richest quintile is five times higher in Sweden, six times higher in Germany, nine times higher in the United States and
32 times higher in Brazil as compared to the poorest quintile. The Report lamented that what would be considered politically and socially unacceptable within nations is being quietly tolerated at the global level. Unless the market opportunities are increased, there is little chance for the poor people or poor nations to break out of their relative poverty (inequality) gap.

Across the globe, people are uniting in a common struggle to participate freely in the events and processes that shape their lives. Accordingly people's participation becomes the central theme of *Human Development Report 1993*, launched in New Delhi on 25th May 1993. The Report highlighted that very few people have the opportunity to participate fully in the economic and political lives of their nations. For instance, at the global level women still earn only half as much as men. And despite casting about half the votes, they secure less than 10 per cent of the representation in parliaments. In United States one of the largest democratic countries in the world, many ethnic minorities still live like a separate nation within their country, creating tremendous potential for ethnic explosions. Despite Commendable efforts at national integration, the country's whites rank number one in the world in the HDI - ahead of all the nations while its Blacks rank only number 31, behind Trinidad and Tobago.

Accordingly, the Report stressed the need for a fundamental change in the management of economic and political systems from markets to better governance. The Report established that not enough people benefit from the opportunities that markets normally create mainly due to insufficient human development. Many people enter the market at a considerable disadvantage in view of low literacy rates below 50 per cent. The very poverty of many people makes them un-credit worthy and the same goes for nations. Paradoxically, where the need for credit is the greatest, the market credit worthiness may be the lowest. According to the Report the bottom 20 per cent of the word's population receives only 0.2 per cent of global commercial credit. People enter the markets with unequal endowments and naturally leave the markets with unequal rewards making the playing fields of life uneven.
The Report suggested that people should participate fully in the operations of markets and share the benefits equitably. Markets must be made people friendly. In this context the Report states that state should come in not to replace the markets but to enable more people to share market opportunities. The state has a major role in leveling the playing field by improving the access of all people to human resource investments, productive assets, credit facilities, information flows and physical infrastructure. The state also has to serve as a referee - correcting the price signals and the incentive system, disallowing the exploitation of future generations for present gains (as in the case of the environment) and protecting the legitimate interests of producers, consumers, workers and vulnerable groups in the society.  

*Human Development Report 1994* launched in Copenhagen on 1st June 1994, underscored the new imperatives of human security in the post-cold war era. Security is now increasingly interpreted as the security of people in their daily lives - in their homes, in their jobs, in their streets, in their communities and in their environment. The Report coined a new concept of human security that is reflected not in better weapons for countries but in better lives for people. The Report emphasized that the countries that have ignored the security of their people could not protect even the security of their nations. The Report quoted the examples of Costa Rica that invested one-third of its national income in education, health and nutrition of its people and nothing in the army. Consequently, Costa Rica, *the only country in the world having no military power for external security*, has survived as the prospering democracy in the inflamed Central America. The Report also introduced the concept of *sustainable democracy*.

The 1994 Report offered six concrete proposals for consideration by the global community:

i. A world social charter, to arrive at a new social contract among all nations and all people.
ii. A 3 per cent annual reduction in global military spending with 20 per cent of the savings by rich nations and 10 per cent of those by poor nations earmarked for global human security.

iii. A 20:20 compact for human development to provide basic education, primary health care, safe drinking water and essential family planning services to all people over the next decade, by earmarking 20 per cent of existing developing countries' budgets and 20 per cent of existing aid allocations to these basic human priority concerns.

iv. A global human security fund financed from such global taxes as the "Tobin tax" on speculative movements of international funds, an international tax on the consumption of non-renewable energy, global environmental permits and a tax on arms trade.

v. A new framework of development cooperation, in which developing and industrial countries would gradually improve their present aid relationship to a more mature development partnership - by including trade, technology, investment and labor flows in a broader design to be negotiated among nations.

vi. An Economic Security Council in the United Nations, as the highest decision-making forum to consider basic issues of human security such as global poverty, unemployment, food security, drug trafficking, global pollution, international migration and a new framework of sustainable human development.

These proposals demand much from the international community - but they are feasible. What is more, they are urgently needed if the World community is to design a new architecture of peace through development in the 21st Century.²

The Human Development Report 1995 introduced measures of human development that take stock of gender inequalities through the indices called the Gender-related Development Index (GDI) and the Gender Empowerment Measure (GEM). The Report also introduced an approach to measuring inequalities based
on capabilities by the use of HDIs, and by disaggregating the HDI by region, gender and ethnic groups. Such assessments have led to lively national debates and policy responses. For example, in Brazil regional HDIs display a wide range, the lowest comparable to the lowest in the world, and the highest comparable to the highest in the world. The most obvious policy implication of these results is that economic growth alone cannot promote human development and ensure gender equality. Greater attention needs to be paid to these human development goals, particularly to narrow down as the gender and ethnic and racial disparities.⁶

The successive reports have shown that countries with similar incomes can achieve very different levels of human development. The Human Development Report 1996 explores and further reiterates the absence of such relationship. The Report asserted that growth could be ruthless, rootless, futureless, voiceless and jobless - but when the links are strong, growth and human development are mutually reinforcing. In embracing the human development approach, the Report has highlighted two central messages, defining well-being as the purpose of development and treating economic growth as a means. The ends-means relationship has been developed in new concepts and measures, and in articulating policy priorities.⁷

The Human Development Report 1997 made an important conceptual breakthrough on poverty. The Report defined poverty as deprivation in lives and choices rather than in material goods and income. The Report introduces the concept of "Human poverty" as distinct from "income poverty". While the standard measure of poverty focuses on incomes or food consumption below a threshold level, the human poverty measured human development achievements below a threshold level in human survival, literacy, nutrition and access to public incomes.⁸

The Human Development Report 1998 focuses its attention on people, especially on the different burdens and needs of the under consumers, who are not consuming enough even to meet basic needs, and the over consumers, whose consumption is huge and growing. Not only do the over consumers create more
environmental stress, but the under-consumers are most likely to suffer from the environmental consequences, from air pollution to rising sea levels.9

In considering globalization the *Human Development Report 1999*10 goes beyond the impact of trade and capital liberalization on economic growth. It focuses further on the changing opportunities in people's lives and raises concerns over new insecurities that are being created.

The *Human Development Report 2000* emphasizes that human development is motivated by the search for freedom, well-being and the dignity of individuals in all societies. The Human Development approach also maintains that all capabilities expand human freedom, and emphasizes attaining the full range of these capabilities, including the social freedoms, which cannot be exercised without a guarantee to political and civil rights. As Human Development Report 2000 states capabilities comprise "the basic freedoms" to meet bodily requirements, such as the ability to avoid starvation and under nourishment, or to escape preventable morbidity or premature mortality. They also include the enabling opportunities given by schooling or the liberty and economic means to move freely and to choose one's abided. There are also important 'social' freedoms, such as the capability to participate in the life of the community, to join in public discussion, to participate in political decision-making and even the elementary ability to appear in public without the same. The Report identifies seven freedoms as inherent to human rights and human development. These embrace the spheres of social, economic political and civil life, including freedom from discrimination, from fear, from injustice, freedom to protect from the violations of the rule of law, freedom of speech, and freedom to obtain decent work. Human Development Report 2000 also addresses policies needed to promote political and civil freedoms. It highlights "inclusive democracy" as a political system that safe guards the rights of all and identifies the exclusion of minorities as a pitfall of majoritarian democracies.11

*Human Development Report 2001* looks at public policies to "make new technologies work for human development"—for example, by shifting priorities for
research and development investment to tackle enduring problems such as tropical diseases, low agricultural productivity and lack of access to energy. The Report introduces a new measurement tool, 'the Technology Achievement Index' (TAI), which focuses on how basic technologies are spread through a country. India, for instance, which is now a world-class centre of innovation, has a relatively low index because large parts of the country are still without access to basic technologies such as electricity and telephones. The TAI also incorporates the human capacity to innovate and adapt. In addition, Report has taken new approaches to the consumption/environment debates, which have been dominated by concerns about economic growth and expansion in consumption as sources of environmental stress. Human Development Report 2001 looks at how the advent of new technologies will affect developing countries and poor people. Technology is a tool, not just a reward, for development. Technological change can advance human development by improving human health, nutrition and knowledge and by enabling communication, participation and economic growth. Yet many people express their fear that new technologies may be of little use to the developing world, or that they might actually widen global inequalities. Indeed, without innovative public policy, innovative technologies could become a source of exclusion and conflict, not a tool for progress.

If any form of development is empowering in the 21st century, it is the acquisition of knowledge and the creation of technological capacity.12

The Human Development Report 2002 focusing on deepening democracy in a fragmented world examines political participation as a dimension of human development. Far from being a luxury for developing countries, democracy puts political participation high on the human development agenda. But the links between democratic governance and social and economic development are not automatic. Too many democratic countries have failed to deliver goods for large segments of their populations. The Report states that deepening democracy can make governance truly responsive and accountable to the demands of ordinary people. This process requires the spread not only of democratic institutions but
also of democratic politics. And in the interdependent world of the 21\textsuperscript{st} century, democratic principles and practices must extend to international institutions and governance systems to address transnational issues - most notably, terrorism, globalization and environmental decay.\textsuperscript{13}

The Human Development Report, 2003 presents a bold action plan for reaching the millennium development goals proposed in the year 2000. It makes the case for action in six policy areas for the countries where progress must be accelerated to reach the goals. The Report provides the first full set of data indicating the status of each goal in every country. It highlights best practices for reaching the goals, calling for a comprehensive, multi-sectoral approach to sustain progress towards each of them. It asserts that the political will to mobilize action for the goals can be marshaled when the goals become issues in local and national politics. It analyses the factors and policies that lead to economic growth or stagnation, asserting that investments in education and health are not the rewards of growing economies- they are essential preconditions for sustainable growth. The Report pleads for a big step up in resources that the donor countries have pledged so as to ensure that these countries meet the goals, within the stipulated period. Human Development Report 2003 concludes that developing countries must take the political and economic lead in reaching the goals and upholding commitments to democratic governance.\textsuperscript{14}

The Human Development Report 2004 dwelling upon cultural liberty in today's diverse world argues that states must actively devise multicultural policies to prevent discrimination on cultural grounds-religious, ethnic and linguistic. The expansion of cultural freedoms, not suppression, is the only sustainable option to promote stability, democracy and human development within and across societies. Such policies are not always simple and many countries are making headway. The Report debunks the myths that have been used to deny expansions of cultural freedoms. Instead, it is at the core of human development the ability of people to choose who they are. The Report presents a path-breaking framework to examine issues that leap from the headlines to the forefront of the international policy
agenda like, migration, predatory extremism, customary law and cultural diversity.\textsuperscript{15}

\textit{Human Development Report 2005} has done a creditable job of stressing the importance of attaining the millennium development goals. It has excited considerable interest in India because of the rather depressed position of India in the global ranking. India ranks 127 in the world comity of nations, while China ranks 85 and Sri Lanka 93. Vietnam ranks 108\textsuperscript{16}. The comparisons are odious and do not give cause for celebration. The Report states that in a world in which rich countries recognize that priority thrusts are linked to global poverty of the population, such an absurd ratio as 10:1 of military spending to aid makes no sense. The Report provokes thought and helps to induce healthy competition between nations and regions in the right spirit to achieve higher levels of human development. It stresses the need for the world as a whole to recognize the challenges of development, especially the need for aid and liberalized trade and not to let precious opportunities to be lost. The abysmal levels of inequality between regions and within regions are an argument for a determined global effort to accelerate human development.

Water is a source of life and a natural resource that sustains our environments and supports livelihoods – but it is also a source of risk and vulnerability. The \textit{Human Development Report 2006} is threatened by a deepening global water crisis. Debunking the myth that the crisis is the result of scarcity, this report argues poverty, power and inequality are at the heart of the problem.

In a world of unprecedented wealth, almost 2 million children die each year for want for a glass of clean water and adequate sanitation. Millions of women and young girls are forced to spend hours collecting and carrying water, restricting their opportunities and their choices. And water-borne infections diseases are holding back poverty reduction and economic growth in some of the world’s poorest countries. The Human Development Report continues to frame debates on
some of the most pressing challenges facing humanity. Human Development Report 2006:

- Investigates the underlying causes and consequences of a crisis that leaves 1.2 billion people without access to safe water and 2.6 billion without access to sanitation
- Argues for a concerted drive to achieve water and sanitation for all through national strategies and a global plan of action
- Examines the social and economic forces that are driving water shortages and marginalizing the poor in agriculture
- Looks at the scope for international cooperation to resolve cross-border tensions in water management
- Includes special contributions from Gordon Brown and Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, President Lula, President Carter, and the former UN Secretary General, Kofi Annan.

Climatic change is the defining human development challenge of the 21st century. Failure to respond to that challenge will stall and then reverse international efforts to reduce poverty. The poorest countries and most vulnerable citizens will suffer the earliest and most damaging setbacks, even though they have contributed least to the problem. Looking to the future no country however wealthy or powerful will be immune to the impact of global warming.

The Human Development Report 2007/08 shows that climate change is not just a future scenario. Increased exposure to droughts, floods and storms is already destroying opportunity and reinforcing in equality. Meanwhile, there is now overwhelming scientific evidence that the world is moving towards the point at which irreversible ecological catastrophe becomes unavoidable. Business-as-usual climate change points in a clear direction: unprecedented reversal in human development in our lifetime, and acute risks for our children and their grandchildren.
Migration, both within and beyond borders, has become an increasingly prominent theme in domestic and international debates, and is the topic of the 2009 Human Development Report (HDR09)\textsuperscript{19}. The starting point is that the global distribution of capabilities is extraordinarily unequal, and that this is a major driver for movement of people. Migration can expand their choices—in terms of incomes, accessing services and participation, for example—but the opportunities open to people vary from those who are best endowed to those with limited skills and assets. These underlying inequalities, which can be compounded by policy distortions, are a theme of the report.

The report investigates migration in the context of demographic changes and trends in both growth and inequality. It also presents more detailed and nuanced individual, family and village experiences, and explores less visible movements typically pursued by disadvantaged groups such as short term and seasonal migration.

The foregoing review of various Human Development Reports clearly reveals that they have emphasized capabilities related to education and health as well as the human-centered approach to development challenges, while paying much less attention to political freedoms, participation and the importance of collective action. Human development is certainly wider than education, health and capabilities that extend far beyond these concerns.

The agenda for the Human Development Reports should be to give more balanced emphasis to political freedoms and collective agency. Over the next decade, they can contribute more to development debates by providing innovative concepts, measures and policy analysis that focus on the instrumental value of these issues for development apart from reliable and robust data.

In an unprecedented gathering of the leaders of 189 countries in September 2000 at UN Millennium Summit\textsuperscript{20} adopted UN Millennium Declaration and committed them to pursue eight goals primarily relating to human development. These goals were to (i). Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger (ii). Achieve

2.2 STUDIES BY INDIVIDUAL SCHOLARS AT INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

Sanjeev Gupta, Benedict Clements and Erwin Tongson (1998),²¹ analysed the recent data on public spending on education and health. They found that real per capita expenditures on education and health have been increasing in developing countries but declining in transition countries. In IMF supported countries the increase was much larger despite the fiscal consolidation required in these countries. These increases, the study found, have been accompanied by tangible improvements in social indicators and ensured equitable distribution of the benefits of social spending on primary education and preventive healths.

Verghese (2004),²² attempted a study to examine the relationship between economic growth and human development and to assess the influence of public expenditure on human development in 60 countries of the world. The study indicated that there was a high degree of correlation (about 0.94) between per capita GDP and HDI of all the countries. Moreover, as per the regression results, per capita GDP, though an important determinant of HDI was not a significant determinant. Some countries, it was found that, could achieve high levels of human development even without adequate public provisioning. It was also found that health expenditure had significant impact on HDI than that of education.

Santhosh Mehrotra (2005)²³ compared human capital theory with the capability approach in the light of empirical evidences from the industrialized countries. The study found that countries with developed state-founded systems of public education (Russia, Northern U.S. Switcher land and Holland) achieved higher levels of enrollment and literacy. Countries with no public system (England and Wales) until quite recently exhibited worse performance in terms of these
indicators. In contemporary fast growing developing countries, the private sector played a minor role in universalizing elementary schooling. In Korea, for instance 99.5 per cent of primary school children were in public funded schools.

Anjanik Kochak (2006) compared the progress in the achievements of various human development indicators by India and China. The author found that in HDI and in many other human development indicators, China occupied a comfortable position than India. Though the trend for the period from 1975 to 2005 was in upward direction for both India and China, rate of growth was faster for China especially after 1990 when it initiated second round of liberalisation. Interestingly, what India achieved in Human Development in 2003 was achieved by China 16 years back in 1987. The study also found that HDI and GDP difference ranks were positive for China and negative for India signifying the fact that China gave much importance for investment in health and education compared to income growth than India did.

2.3 STUDIES AT NATIONAL AND STATE LEVELS IN INDIA

In India some studies were carried out at national level by Government or Government organizations and by individual scholars. An attempt is made here to review some of these studies.

2.3.1 Official Studies

Development Research Group (DRG) of RBI (1993) had undertaken a study on social expenditure and human development across 15 major Indian states to examine the size and composition of government expenditure in different social sectors along with their impact on actual attainment. The study had constructed a human development index for 15 major Indian states for the year 1990-91 using UNDP methodology. There were mainly three indicators viz., log per capita SDP adjusted for income distribution, scores of educational attainments and an average of the combined scores obtained from health and nutrition indicators. The combined index of health and nutrition was considered as a proxy for life expectancy. In the final stage, taking a simple arithmetic average of the three
indicators, combined index was arrived at. As per findings of the study, Kerala scored first rank, while Andhra Pradesh and Orissa obtained 10th and 12th ranks respectively.  

Sheriff, Abbasuddin (1999) of the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) undertook a multifaceted empirical study in India covering such aspects as poverty and relative income, asset distribution, household expenditure and food security, literacy, education, health, morbidity and disability and human development. The study based on rural sample of 33,230 households drawn from 16 states between January and May 1994 provided rich data base on several indicators of human development. It provided valuable information for different social groups to reflect the heterogeneous nature of the Indian population. The study has been used to assess the impact of structural adjustment and economic reforms on human development. According to the findings of the study, the annual per capita income at all India level in rural India was Rs.4, 485. Nearly, 39 per cent was living below the poverty line and the capability poverty measure was 52 per cent. The 7+ literacy rate was 54 per cent. The households were spending 2.7 per cent of total household income on education and 5.3 per cent on health.

The Planning Commission (2002) government of India has brought out National Human Development Report 2001 in the year 2002. The Report has computed Human Development Index (HDI), a Gender Equality Index (GEI) for major Indian states for selected years of 1981, 1991 and 2001. The study found significant improvement in HDI by 26 per cent between 1981 and 1991 and by 24 per cent between 1991 and 2001 at the national level. Though there were gross rural urban disparities in human development, the same seemed to have narrowed down during the period under study. Similarly, there were gross inequalities among different Indian states in human development. As expected the inequalities across states on the HDI were less than the income inequality as reflected in the per capita state domestic product. States like Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Orissa had low levels of HDI but improved over the years.
Most Southern states like Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and Northern states like Punjab and Haryana have done well in human development. The Report also presented rich set of database on different dimensions of human development.

Many State governments have brought out individual Human Development Reports after 2001 highlighting the achievements and challenges on human development front. An attempt is also made here to review major findings of the reports of some of these states.

The Planning and Development Department of Government of Assam has brought out Assam Development Report - 2003 in which it has covered a whole gamut of issues relating to human development. The adult literacy rate according to 2001 census in the state was 64.28 per cent. It varied between a low of 49.86 per cent in Dhubi district to a high of 77.91 per cent in Jorhat district. The per capita state domestic product at market prices that averaged at Rs 6158 in 2000-2001 varied between a low of Rs 3511 in Dhemaji district to a high of Rs 11424 in Kamrup district. Nevertheless, according to the findings of the study Jorhat district Obtained top rank and Dhubi district 23 rank in human development in 2000-2001. The study also highlighted several policy implications arising out of the findings of the study.28

The Gujarat Human Development Report (2004)29 provided comprehensive information on several dimensions of human development and compared its credible achievements with other major Indian states. The study revealed that Gujarat obtained 6th rank in Human Development among the 15 major Indian states in 2001. Kerala, Maharashtra, Punjab, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka states were ahead of Gujarat in human development. While in such human development indicators as housing (2nd rank), income (6th rank), education (2nd rank), Gujarat performed better, in health (9th rank) and political participation (10th rank) the state’s performance was relatively worse. The study reiterated that there was an overall improvement in health status of people of the state between 1991-2001 but the relative position of the state in income levels deteriorated during the same period. The Report also clearly established the fact that several
key health statistics have significantly improved over the period and gap between Gujarat and India narrowed down in these aspects.

The Nagaland State Human Development Report (2004)\textsuperscript{30} highlighted the spectacular performance of the state with respect to all the human development indicators. The state scored higher HDI value of 0.62 as against 0.42 for All India. In 2001, the state’s literacy rate was 67 per cent as against the national average of 65.2 per cent. Thanks to the spread of Christianity that considers education to be a universal phenomenon. In terms of longevity and mortality status also, the state had creditable performance. Within Nagaland, the HDI was the highest in Dimapur (0.73) followed by Mokokchung (0.71). Mon was the only district in the state that realized lower HDI value of 0.45 that was lower than the national average. Interestingly all the three dimensions of HDI viz., income, educational levels and longevity had moved in the same direction indicating positive correlation among them in all the districts. The Report also presented Gender Development Index and Human Poverty Index for all the eight districts in the state. As expected the extent of economic, social and health deprivation is the highest in Mon and Tuensang districts that also had lowest values of HDI.

The Government of Punjab had brought out a Human Development Report for the state in 2004 \textsuperscript{31} as a part of its commitment to development. In the national Human Development Report 2001, with the HDI value was 0.537, Punjab was ranked at 2\textsuperscript{nd} place among the comity of 15 states, but according to State Human Development Report, the HDI value was 0.667. The 17 districts in the state have been ranked according to level of human development index. The HDI values varied between a low of 0.633 to a high of 0.761 (in Ludhiana district). The gender disparities seemed to be at alarming levels in the state. This apart, there was negative rank correlation between HDI and GDI ranks. For instance, Futehgarhshahib and Gurdaspur districts that scored 3\textsuperscript{rd} and 4\textsuperscript{th} ranks in HDI slipped down to 16\textsuperscript{th} and 15\textsuperscript{th} positions respectively in Gender Development. Accordingly, the Report suggested that were was a need to target the districts whose GDI values were much lower than the HDI.
The Rajasthan state Government in association with Planning Commission of India brought out Rajasthan Development Report (2004)\textsuperscript{12} highlighting achievements in human resource development. Even though there was a fall in the infant mortality rate from 108 to 79 between 1985 and 2001, the rate was still higher than the national average. Nearly 48 per cent of women in the age group of 15-45 years and about 82 per cent of children in the age group of 6 to 35 months were affected by anaemia and underweight. The literacy level particularly the female literacy was lower than the national average. The high growth rate of population as indicated by the high level of birth rate of 4.0 per cent was considered to be the principal reason for the tardy performance of the state in human development front.

The Planning Commission and Government of Tamil Nadu brought out a comprehensive report focusing on health scenario and educational achievement in Tamil Nadu. The Report highlighted that since early 1980's the state has made appreciable progress in the health and human development sector. The notable among them were a steep fall in the population growth from 1.5 percent to 1.1 percent during the decade ending 1990-01, marked fall in the infant mortality rate from 93 to 51 per thousand live births between 1980 and 2000, achievement of 130 per lakh live births in the case of maternal mortality (MMR), control of water borne and communicable diseases. On educational front also the state has made noteworthy progress. The enrollments at primary and middle schools level were 98.6 percent and 93.6 percent respectively. The expenditure on school education as a percentage of NSDP at current prices averaged to 2.76 percent in 2000-01. There were 6 general Universities with 477 affiliated colleges in 2000-01, about 4.11 lakh students were enrolled at various degree, P.G. and research courses; nearly 51 percent of them were women students. There was also spectacular progress in engineering and other professional college in the state.\textsuperscript{13}

In another investigation, the National Council of Applied Economic Research (1995)\textsuperscript{14} had also undertaken a major study for assessing the overall level of human development across Indian states and union territories. Their
conceptualization of development included three areas of social concern, viz., and material well-being, acquisition of knowledge and longevity and health status. The NCAER has not attempted to construct a composite index. The results showed that per capita consumption was invariably lower in rural areas as compared to its urban counterpart. Though per capita state expenditure in both rural (Rs.160) and urban (Rs.227) Andhra was slightly better than national average, the relative status of Andhra Pradesh among 15 states was very poor. Andhra Pradesh got relatively lower rank in terms of welfare in both rural (10) and urban (3) areas. NCAER's second dimension of human development "Acquisition of knowledge", was measured in terms of Female-male Disparity Index (FMDI) and Rural Urban Disparity Index (RUDI) by using literacy figures. The estimation showed low values of RUDI (53.87) and FMDI (33.87) for Andhra Pradesh compared to national average of 78.99 and 61.15 for FMDI and RUDI respectively implying the existence of high disparities in human development. NCAER's third dimensions of human development "longevity and Health Status" were measured in terms of Crude Birth Rate (CBR), Crude Death Rate (CDR), Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) and expectation of life at birth. Compared to national average of these figures, Andhra Pradesh was doing well but it had still a lot to do to make her people empowered and healthy.

2.3.2 Studies by Individual Researchers

Mehta's (1996)\textsuperscript{15} exercises on Gender Empowerment Measure (GEM) clearly revealed significant gender disparities among 16 major Indian states. The study concluded by putting Andhra Pradesh as one of the most backward (others were Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Orissa) states in the framework of women's Empowerment.

Disenchanted with UNDP's inadequate variable structure in calculation of Gender Development Index, Indira Herway and Darshini Mahadeve (1996)\textsuperscript{16} proposed an alternative concept and measure of development, called Gender Development Measure (GDM). They preferred to call it as GDM because; it covers some variables like housing, employment safety, violence against women
etc., which are especially important for women's development. The GDM has two variants. GDM-I, which measures individual level gender development and the GDM-II, measures macro level gender development. The individual variables were calculated using UNDP's simple indexing formula. Sectoral and individual indices were calculated by giving weights. This study pointed out the miserable performance of Andhra Pradesh among the 15 observed states, both at individual and macro level gender development status, ranking 9th, 11th and 10th in GDM-I, GDM-II and GDM (combination of GDM-I and GDM-II) respectively.

*K Seeta Prabhu et al. (1996)* attempted state-wise (15 states) study on GDI. Criticizing the inadequacies in the data pertaining to female representation in UNDP's Gender Development Indices, they argued that at sub-national level, addition of more variables would be necessary to give better picture. As per results of the study, Maharashtra emerged as a state with the least gender disparity. Though different variants of GDI provided different rankings scores, Andhra Pradesh showed a disconcerting picture, as its ranking soared from 7 to 9.

*Shiva Kumar (1996)* attempted a notable work in measuring human development status among 16 major Indian states. The HDI and GDI were calculated by using UNDP's methodology. One of the interesting features of the study was, to calculate GDI for the states and rank them along with 130 countries of the world. Results of the studies showed that India had a GDI value of 0.388 as against a maximum value of 0.919 (Sweden) and a minimum value of 0.169 (Afghanistan). India raked 99 out of 130 countries for which GDI had been calculated. A comparison of Indian states with other countries of the world showed that, Kerala ranked 73rd in terms of GDI, ranking somewhere between China (GDI value of 0.578) and Nicaragua (GDI value of 0.560). There were 13 countries in the world that had a lower value of GDI than U.P. Among 130 countries of the world, Andhra Pradesh ranked 102nd in terms of GDI. Among the sixteen Indian states, Andhra Pradesh had a GDI value of 0.371 (10th rank) and HDI value of 0.400 (11th rank). Even comparison of GDI against HDI value also showed disconcerting picture reflecting a severe problem of gender inequality in the state.

35
Madhav Godbole (2002)⁴⁰ analysed the development and policy issues arising out of the findings of the human development report of Maharashtra released in 2002. Since the financial position of the state government was in critical position, the state government needed to adopt suitable strategies to deal with the situation. He suggested government to shed the responsibilities such as power, transport, collection and distribution of milk, irrigation drinking water etc. He advocated the levy of adequate user charges to ensure efficiency in the use of public services.

Achin Chakraborty (2005)⁴¹ unearthed the new challenges being faced by Kerala state mainly due to its early achievements in human development front. Studies by Planning Commission, National Family Health Survey-I and host of other studies by individual scholars highlighted the marvelous achievements of Kerala on several human development indicators including gender equality. Recent studies including those based on National Family Health Survey-II disclosed the new 'disturbing trends' and 'challenges' being faced by Kerala. The author highlighted that the greater gender equality in Kerala has not led to elimination of female disadvantage on social and economic roles. The problem of providing social security to the aged population is haunting the society in Kerala. The morbidity levels in Kerala emerging out of affluence led obesity and hypertensions are posing serious problems.

Sangita Kamdar and Asoke Basak (2005)⁴¹ made an attempt to examine the human development scenario in Maharashtra beyond the HDI as furnished in Maharashtra Human Development Report of 2002. The study evaluated the inter-district disparities in development from the human development perspective. The authors have culled out relevant data on social development and constructed human poverty index that incorporated deprivation indicators in the three dimensions of HDI for various districts in Maharashtra. The study amply brought out the backwardness of the districts of Marathwada and Vidarbha. Among the 35 districts, only 10 districts including districts such as Mumbai, Thane, Pune, Raigarh were above the state average of 0.58 in human development. All other
districts were below the state average indicating that the very high values for Mumbai and other districts have artificially pushed up the state average. The authors have opined that regional disparities in Maharashtra have been largely a historical legacy. The study concluded that the HDI should be constructed using more sophisticated outcome indicators for which data sets need to be created.

*Mahendra Dev and Sreedevi (2005)*[^1] analysed the social sector expenditure in Andhra Pradesh. The study seemed to have indicated increasing trend in social sector expenditure during 1980s but stagnancy during 1990s. As a percentage of GSDP, the social sector expenditure varied between 6 and 11 per cent of its GSDP during the period understudy. As a percentage of aggregate expenditure, Andhra Pradesh seemed to have spent between 35 to 49 per cent on social sector during 1980-81 to 2004-05 (RE). Here again the average for 1990s was lower at 42.05 per cent when compared to that for 1980s, which was put at 46.01 per cent. The per capita real expenditure on social sector increased from Rs.318 crores to Rs.910 crores between 1980-81 and 2004-05 (BE). The Study also revealed that all the components of social expenditure viz., education, Art & culture, health & family welfare and water supply & sanitation as a proportion of GSDP have declined during the period 1980-81 and 2003-04.

*Madhusudan Ghosh (2006)*[^2] evaluated the performance of 15 major Indian states on human development during 1981-2001. He addressed the issue of convergence (in disparities among different states) and examined to what extent measures of human well-being viz., HDI, literacy rate and expectation of life at birth, alternative to real per capita income were converging across the states. By estimating the cross sectional growth regression, he found strong evidence of regional convergence in all the measures of human well being despite considerable divergence in per capita income. The poor states though failed to catch up the rich ones in terms of per capita income have succeeded in terms of human development indicators. He also classified the states based on their actual performance on HD and Economic Growth (EG). The study indicated that only four states have been in the virtuous cycle category while as many as seven states have been in the vicious
cycle category during the whole period under study. Three states followed lopsided HD growth path and no state followed lopsided EG path.

In a study Mahendra Dev (2005) found significant regional disparities in human development in Andhra Pradesh. It should be noted as per National Human Development Report 2001, Andhra Pradesh HDI was lower than all India for the two decades. Andhra Pradesh scored 8th rank in 1981, 9th rank in 1991, and 10th rank in 2001 out of 15 major states in India. Thus Andhra Pradesh lost its relative position vis-a-vis other southern states. As per the study conducted by Mahendra Dev, the regional disparities in human development seem to be declining in the 1990s particularly in the field of literacy and education. But in the case of women's health, it was not clear whether the disparities were declining or increasing over the years. Mahendra Dev suggested to identify backward mandals in each district and to provide a wide range of public interventions including infrastructure facilities, health care, educational services to bring about convergence.

2.4 SUM UP

This preliminary chapter focused its attention on two crucial aspects viz., survey of theoretical and empirical literature relating to human development. In the first part of the chapter, an attempt was made to review briefly some of these major studies conducted by official organizations and individual scholars. The review indicated that there were no micro level studies at district level particularly in Kurnool district. The review of these studies also provided ample support to undertake the present micro level study at district level focusing its attention at divisional, Mandal and village levels. The second part of the chapter made an attempt to HDI an over view; International, National and State levels.
REFERENCES:


*****