

## GEOGRAPHICAL WELFARE APPROACH IN INDIAN STATES

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### Abstract

The concept of nation is defined by the geographical distribution undoubtedly, but the efficiency of the state is significantly justified by the condition of the literacy rate, the well-being of the people, employment rate, and other growth indications. The Indian subcontinent is recognized as one of the most mystical countries all over the world. The growth initiatives by the government were purposeful throughout the years. The purpose of this study is to analyses the geographical dimension of the welfare schemes of the country. The article has been developed based on *secondary data* to provide suitable analysis. It has explored the different welfare schemes taken by the central government of India, by the states, or by the collaboration of the central, and state government. Discussion of this study denotes the subsidy by the government in its welfare programs in different fiscal years.

**Keywords:** food subsidies, welfare programs, development programs, political history, state-wise distribution

### Introduction

The central government of India is considered as the huge single employer within the country compared with the state government which carries the major responsibility to look after the well-being of the citizens of the country. The welfare ministry does the prime task of this significant management. Whether it is the centrally allocated or state-allocated welfare schemes all the schemes get the living condition centrally. The condition of the pre-independence and the post-independence numerous welfare initiatives have been taken for the growth and development of the country. This article examines those welfare schemes which are launched throughout the years. The principal aim of this study is to analyze the state-wise allocation of the welfare

schemes. This study has given a brief illustration about the geographical distribution of the significant welfare programs assuming the efficiencies of the Indian government.

### **The political history of the welfare system in India after independence**

During colonial rule, in the early phase of the 19th century to the time of independence, 1947, the Indian welfare arena had gone through several social movements where the major aim was to reduce the racial, religious or caste differences in India. *Brahma Samaj* (1816), *Arya Samaj* (1875), *Theosophical society* (1893), *Anjuman-himayat-i-Islam* (1898), *Ramakrishna Mission* (1897) are several names who worked for social welfare (Chakraborty *et al.* 2017). Abolition of the Sati system, widow remarriage is notable works in this contrast. With the arrival of Mahatma Gandhi (1920), the political mass movement gained another wide dimension, and all the welfare turned into removing disabilities which was imposed on the depressed classes of the country. After independence, the welfare system has turned to shape India as a unitary federal state. New laws were implemented around 1950 centered on social, and labor welfare. "*Industrial Disputes Act*", and "*Coal Mines labor Welfare fund Act, 1947*", "*factory's Act*", "*Dock Workers act, 1948*" were issued addressing the work hours, leisure time, health and safety, and work conditions (Saini *et al.* 2017).

### **State Wise distribution of welfare reform**

The Indian government announces multiple welfare schemes at all levels from time to time for cross sections in different states. The scheme is either central specific, or state-specific, or it is implemented with the joint collaboration of the central and the states.

#### ***Arunachal Pradesh***

Government of India has implemented the "*Employees' State Insurance (ESI)*" scheme in Arunachal Pradesh for the first time with its effect on 1st November 2020 which declares that all the factories having 10 or more employees in the papum pare district are eligible to get the coverage under the ESI Act of 1948. The employees who earn up to 21000 rupees/month are eligible to apply for this scheme. It includes cashless medical service, maternity benefits, sickness benefits, workplace injury benefits etc.

#### ***Jammu and Kashmir***

“*Central sector Scheme*” is initiated for industrial development in J& K. The government allocated Rs. 28,400 crores under this scheme for the period 2020-21 up to 2037. Furthermore, “*market intervention schemes*” (MIS) are initiated for the development of the local markets indicating the internal business growth. The UC (Union cabinet) has implemented a special package of Rs. 520 crores in FY 2013-14 to ensure the “*Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana*”. It was launched during 2011 in the paradigm of rural poverty (Imbert, and Papp, 2015).

### ***Tamil Nadu***

The government of TN is providing more opportunities by the director of the industries, and the commerce. The minimum cost for this project Rs. 10 lakhs, and the maximum cost consists Rs. 500 lakhs.

### ***Andhra Pradesh***

The government of A.P has launched multiple projects for the educational and industrial development of the states. Most of the schemes are borne by the state government. Monetary relief has given for the empowerment of the scheduled tribes, and scheduled caste of the state. The compensation was focused for the uplift of these special backward classes.

Multiple welfare schemes are implemented in AP since the time of independence. The majority of the welfare schemes in Assam target the growth and development of education (Kaushal, 2005).

### ***Bihar***

The state of Bihar is recognized as the backward Indian state in terms of education, and social advancement. In order to follow the growth in Bihar, these welfare schemes are launched by the state government and the central government (Jacoby, 2016).

### ***West Bengal***

The recent welfare scheme of the West Bengal government is “*Swasthya Sathi health Insurance Policy*” under which about 50 lakh families with a total population of 2.5 crore of the state are covered for free access to basic health treatment. This scheme was launched in December 2016. Secondary and tertiary health coverage up to 1.5 lakh/annum are the major target under this scheme (Elder, 2017).

## **Development and non-development of the welfare system in India**

In pre-independence India, and after independence, the ratio of the welfare schemes by the government of India was not processed in similar parity. In the early phase of the development, the major target was to reduce social discrimination whereas in the after days in major status in turns to development the employment. The overall growth target of these welfare schemes is to develop the level of education of the country, to reduce gender equality, poverty level, improvement of the health condition etc. in the rural and urban-centered states the allocation was done accordingly.

## Methods

This article is developed based on *secondary data* (documents, newspaper articles, journals, and recognized websites). These previously published second-hand data has been helped to analyses the welfare schemes taken by the Indian government throughout the years. The best benefits of the secondary data analysis are to follow the increase or decrease of the value of these welfare schemes throughout the years. The coherent usefulness of the analysis of this study illustrates the best efforts with the relevant collection of data in different stages.

## Result and Discussion

Arunachal is comparatively backward than the other parts of the Indian states in terms of employee well-being, especially for those under waged or linear waged employees in SMMEs. The implemented welfare scheme targets to develop the conditions of those employees along with the growth of the SMME industries of the state. Major purpose of the welfare schemes in J & K is to develop the socio-economic picture of that part of India (Datt, and Ravallion, 2002). Capital investment, capital interest incentives, GST linked incentives consist of the eligible value under this scheme. The entire premium of the healthcare scheme in west Bengal is borne by the State government. For the last two decades, the health condition of WB has been in a turbulent position. The major target of launching welfare schemes is to upgrade the health condition of the states.

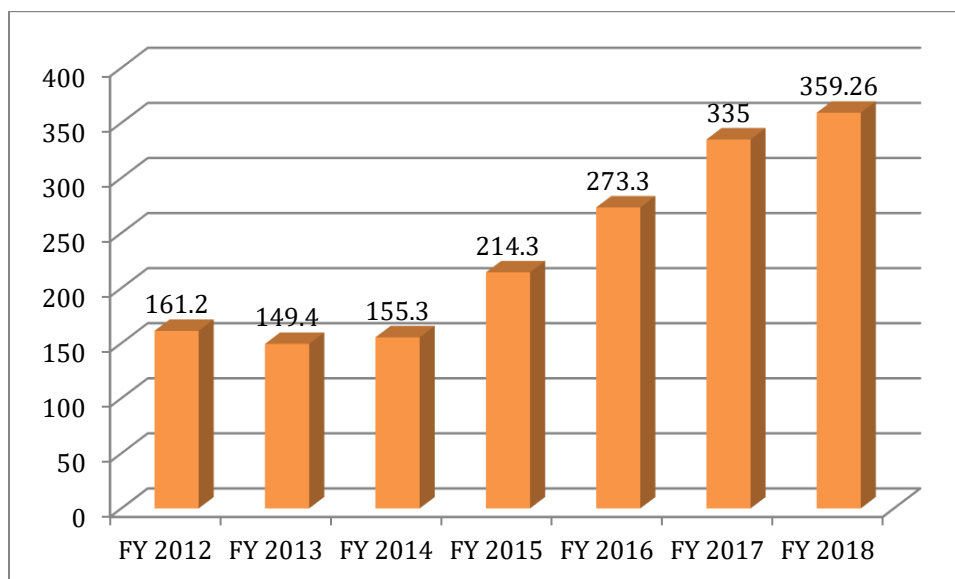
Years (FY)	Government Allocation (million)
FY 2012	161.2
FY 2013	149.4
FY 2014	155.3

FY 2015	214.3
FY 2016	273.3
FY 2017	335
FY 2018	359.26

**Table 1: Number of people under health insurance scheme by the government**

(Source: Statista, 2018)

The above table describes the number of people who are under the health policies. From fiscal year 2012 to 2018 the numbers of people are 161.2, 149.4, 155.3, 214.3, 273.3, 335, 359.26 million respectively.



**Figure 1: percentage of population under health schemes by the government (millions)**

(Source: Statista, 2018)

From figure 1 the percentages of population under the health schemes of the government describes that the percentage has been increased over years, where in FY 2012, 161.2 million peoples were under the scheme, in the FY 2018 it has increased into 359.26 million.

Poverty eradication remains contain in the target list of the welfare schemes that have been implemented in different Indian states since years. While discussing the geographical distribution of those welfare schemes, it can be observed while several states has undergone notable growth and development through the collaborative approach of the central government, and state government, some are deprived of the development. Substantially, the extreme poverty was

declined around 1980, but yet not eradicated completely. The PDS (Public distribution system) is the great example of the approach of the government which was initiated after the unfortunate happening in Kalahandi (Datt and Ravallion, 2002). Giving the food security, it has emerged successful enough over time. The next turn of the welfare scheme focuses on the health and education, and woman empowerment where states like Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, and Uttar Pradesh still requires special observance. Compared with the other states of the country, they are still remains some steps behind.

## Conclusion

The unitary federal framework denotes the joint approach for the growth and development of the country. The political scenario, state of literacy rate, poverty rate, and the employment rate is different in the different states of India. Some states have good industrial or agricultural infrastructure whereas some states are devoid of such kinds of privileges. Several states are comparatively backwards in terms of education, health, and gender discrimination. The geographical dimension of the welfare programs in different states is capable of providing a concise view on these categories in different states which aims to help the readers for better understanding.

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