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Inclusive Development: A Multidisciplinary Approach

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Abstract: ***Inclusive growth is defined as 'growth that not only creates new economic opportunities, but also one that ensures equal access to the opportunities created for all segments of society, particularly for the poor'. It is an equitable development approach built on the understanding that every individual and community of all diverse identities and experiences is instrumental in the transformation of their own societies. Research shows that investments in inclusion and equity improve aid effectiveness such as creating sustainable economic growth, strengthening national security & stability and improving health outcomes. The sole aim of inclusive development is to change social structures in such a way that they are equally accessible to all people, meeting their different abilities and needs. It responds by emphasizing mainly on the social and environmental aspects of development on current generations. Inclusive Development Index (IDI) is an annual economic Index that has been treated as a substitute to GDP to measure a country's economic growth and development. Findings shows that India is presenting growth in GDP rate, life expectancy but our Inclusive Development Index (IDI) is low mainly due to poor performance in the pillars such as growth and development, inclusion. Similar to GDP, IDI measures the level and rate of improvement in socio-economic progress. In this article we will touch on the key points of Inclusive Development Index and analyze India's performance on the basis of this Index.***

Keywords: Inclusive growth,Inclusive Development Index (IDI), Sustainable growth, Socio-economic progress, Economic growth.

I. BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

A high pace of growth over extended periods of time is a essential, and often the main contributing factor in reducing poverty as found by a sizeable body of literature including Deininger and Squire (1998), Dollar and Kraay (2002), White and Anderson(2001), Ravallion (2001) and Bourguignon (2003). Evidence in White and Anderson (2001) suggests that in a considerable number of cases distributions has been as important as growth in explaining the income growth of the poor.One key example of the post-1990s literature is the volume Economic Growth in the 1990s: Learning from a Decade of Reform (World Bank, 2005). It concludes that although the necessary rudiments for growth, such as a stable macroeconomic environment, enforcement of property rights, openness to trade, and effective government, are key factors in the growth process, they are not the whole story as it is country specific. The focus of the government in recent years has been shifted from promoting incredible India for building inclusive India. Inclusive growth needs to be achieved to reduce poverty, social and economic disparities, to sustain economic growth with equity, human development, equal distribution of income and wealth. The planning commission had made inclusive growth an explicit goal in the eleventh five-year plan (2007-2012) and twelfth five-year plan (2012-17). The term 'inclusive' has been mentioned 52 times in the UN Global Sustainable Development Report 2015 and represents the effort by social justice and environmental actors to bring the centre of gravity of the trade-offs between social, environmental and economic issues towards social and environmental goals.

Since independence, India has made considerable progress in education as well as health over the years and significant improvement has been occurred in economic and social development. The India has grown rapidly in the post reform period and improved relating to balance of payments, foreign exchange, service sector, infrastructure, information technology, and stock market, but still inequalities prevail in access and achievement across regions. The desired targets could not achieve relating to poverty, employment, low agriculture growth, regional disparities, gender disparities and malnutrition among children etc. As a large majority of India's population is dependent on agriculture and for better infrastructure facilities, electrification, investment in irrigation in rural areas can be possible through inclusive growth which leads to improve our economy.

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FIGURE-1

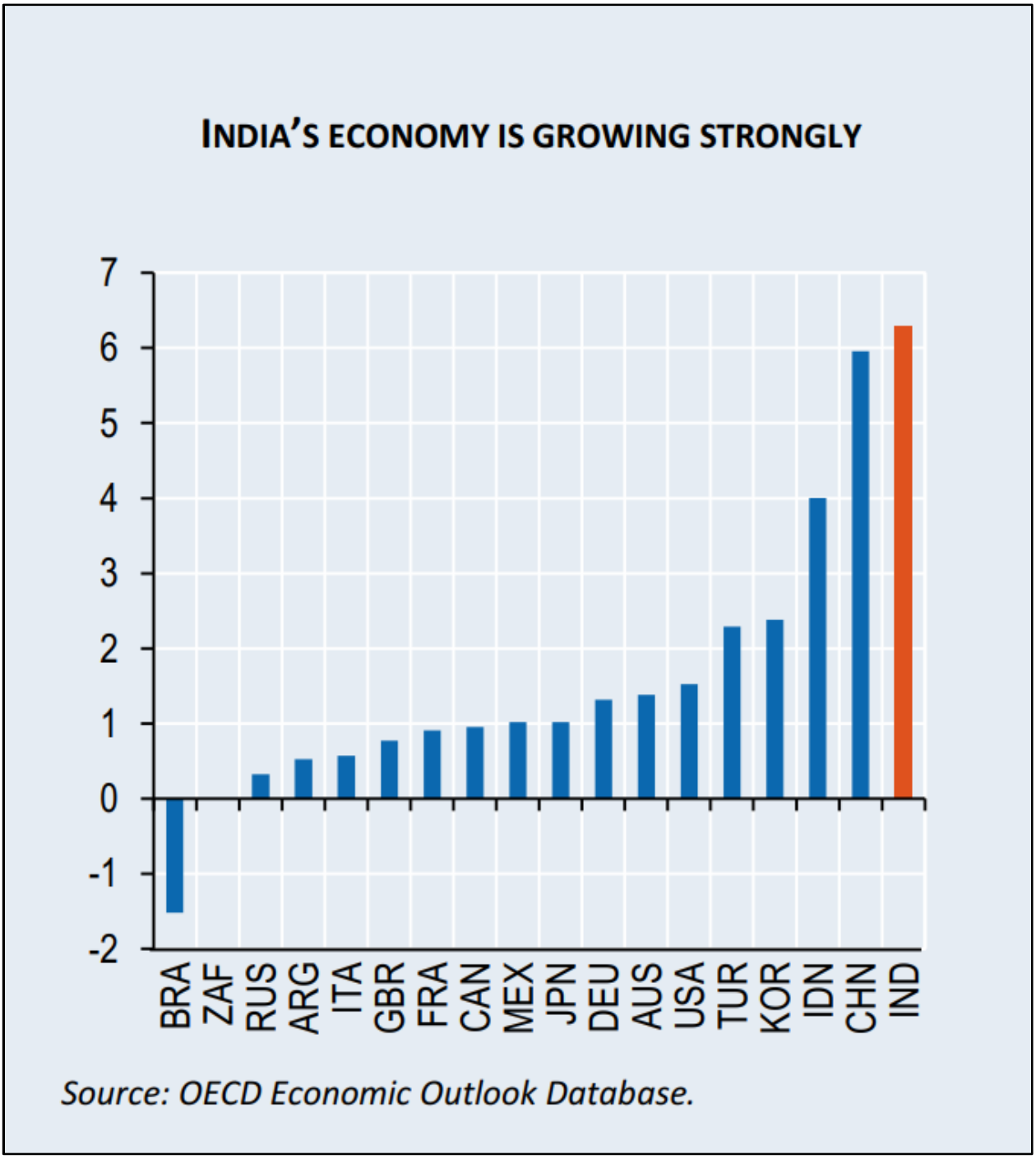

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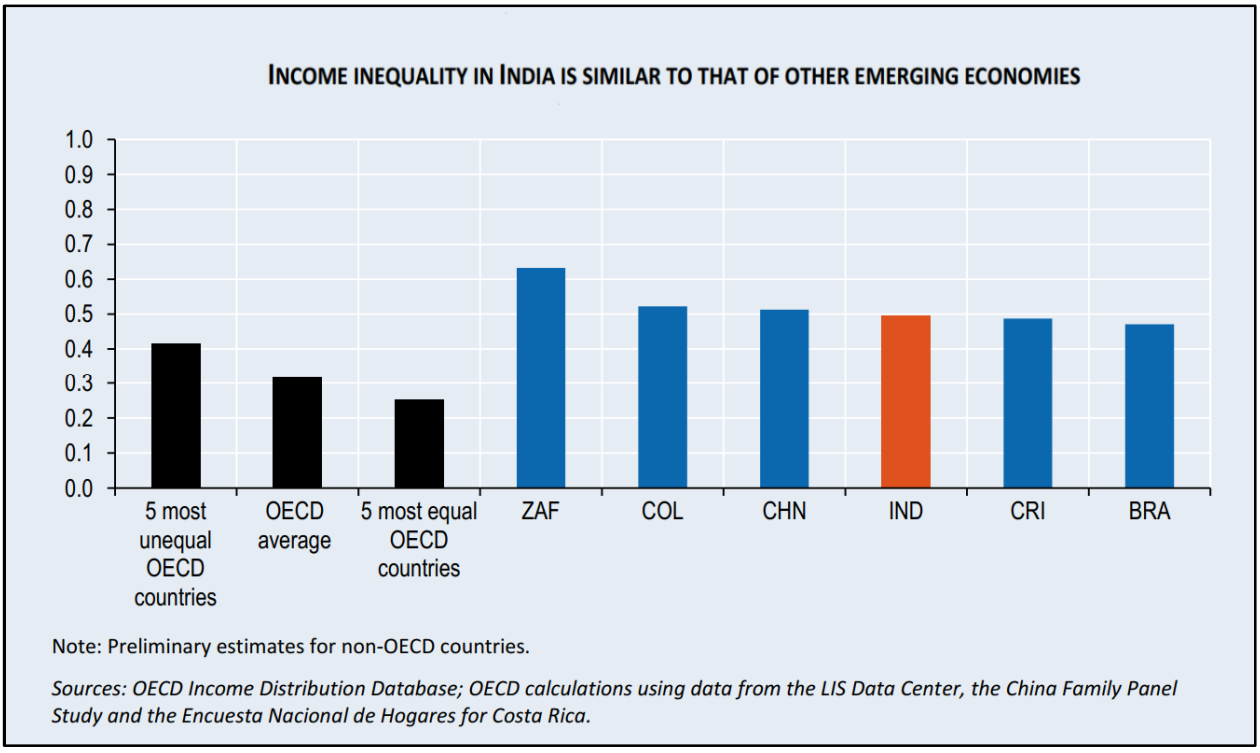
FIGURE-2



II. OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY

In this article we will touch on the key points of Inclusive Development i.e. the tool through which we can measure inclusive development such as Inclusive Development Index (IDI), Social progress Index (SPI) and through Global slavery Index(GSI) and analyze India's performance on the basis of these Index. Here we also put some lights on educational development as well as health sector developmentas the result of inclusive development in these sector as these amenities are coming under the basic needs. This paper is descriptive in nature as it presents current scenario of various aspects pertaining to inclusive growth in India. This paper is based on secondary data and the required data have been collected from various published sources such as National Family Health Survey, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare,Office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner, Educational Statistics at Glance, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India; Economic Survey etc.

III. INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT INDEX (IDI)

The Inclusive Development Index (IDI) is an annual economic Index introduced by the World Economic Forum (WEF) which has been introduced as a substitute of GDP for measuring a country's economic growth and development. The Index has consist with 3 criteria for global economies such as Intergenerational Equity and sustainability, Inclusion, Growth and Development. Through these parameters, the living standard of people and the future blooming of economies is analysed by the World Economic Forum (WEF).

The Inclusive Development Index (IDI) is consists with 3 key pillars and their 12 performance indicators. Based on these scores, countries are ranked on a scale of 1-7. The table below will explain it briefly.

Pillars	Performance Indicators
Growth and Development	1. GDP (Per capita) 2. Labour productivity 3. Employment 4. Healthy life expectancy
Inclusion	1. Median household income 2. Income Gini 3. Poverty rate

	4. Wealth Gini
Intergenerational equity and sustainability	1. Adjusted Net Saving 2. Dependency Ratio 3. Public Debt (as a share of GDP) 4. Carbon Intensity of GDP

The latest Inclusive Development Index (IDI) report was released in 2018. According to this report, Norway features at the top rank and out of 29 advanced economies, there is income inequality in 20 advanced economies. India is ranked 62 amongst the 74 emerging economies, with our neighbors performing better. The rank of Nepal is 22, China is on 26th, Sri Lanka is on 40th and Pakistan is on 47th position which is much higher than India. India's best performance is in the 3rd pillar i.e. Intergenerational equity and sustainability where it ranked 44th in this segment. Similarly, Labour Productivity and GDP per capita in India have grown over the past five years. However, from the employment growth perspective India has slowed and is a factor to look into.

IV. SOCIAL PROGRESS INDEX (SPI)

The Social Progress Index (SPI) for states and districts of India was released by the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM). The report shows that India ranked at 110 out of 169 nations which is quite low. This index consists of 12 elements which are spread over three dimension that are explained by the following table.

Pillars	Performance Indicators
Basic human needs	1. Nutrition and basic Medical care 2. Water and sanitation 3. Personal safety 4. Shelter
Foundations of Wellbeing	1. Access to basic Knowledge 2. Access to Information and communication 3. Health and wellness 4. Environmental Quality
Opportunity	1. Personal rights 2. Personal freedom and choice 3. Inclusiveness 4. Access to advance education

SPI is a comprehensive tool that can serve as a holistic measure of a country's social progress at the national and sub-national level. This index used a framework comprising 89 indicators at state level and 49 at district level. As per this report Puducherry has the highest SPI score of 65.99 where Lakshadweep and Goa closely followed by 65.89 and 65.53 respectively. Jharkhand and Bihar attained the lowest SPI Score i.e. 43.95 and 44.47 respectively. Tamilnadu scored the highest in "Opportunity" dimension. For environmental quality Mizoram, Nagaland and Meghalaya had occupied the top 3 positions respectively among the states. Aizawl (Mizoram), Solan(Himachal Pradesh) and Shimla (Himachal Pradesh) have occupied top 3 best performing districts across India.

V. GLOBAL SLAVERY INDEX(GSI).

The Global slavery Index is a global study of modern slavery published by the Minderoo Foundation's Walk Free Initiatives. Modern slavery encompasses various forms of exploitations, including forced labour, forced marriage, debt bondage, human trafficking and the sale and exploitation of children. According to the Global slavery Index 2023, an estimated 50 million people were living in modern slavery on any given day in 2023 where in 2016 it was less of 10 million people from current numbers. It ranks 167 countries based on their estimated prevalence of modern slavery per 1000 people. India ranked 53th among 167 countries. North Korea is the country with the highest rate of people experiencing modern slavery in 2023 followed by Eritrea, Mauritania and Saudi Arabia. Countries like Switzerland, Norway and Germany having the lowest score in this Index as they were much more developed economies.

VI. CONCLUSION

While historically societies have tended to be more and more unequal, the 20th century and early 21st centuries have experienced a period in which there has been relatively more equality. However, the findings representing that India is claiming growth in GDP rate, life expectancy where our Inclusive Development Index (IDI) is too much lower for the reason behind poor performance in the pillars i.e. Growth and Development and Inclusion. Similar to GDP, IDI measures the level and rate of improvement in socio-economic progress and is a significant factor to consider when analyzing India's standing in the World.Hence, it is clear that globally societies have decided to address access issues, reduce inequalities, and promote more inclusive and sustainable societies through the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals. However, India needs inclusive growth for enhancing economic growth as well as human development. For ensuring inclusive growth, the government must increase investment on education, health, rural areas, rural infrastructure, agricultural development and promoting rural employment through social safety net, policies, programmes and schemes.

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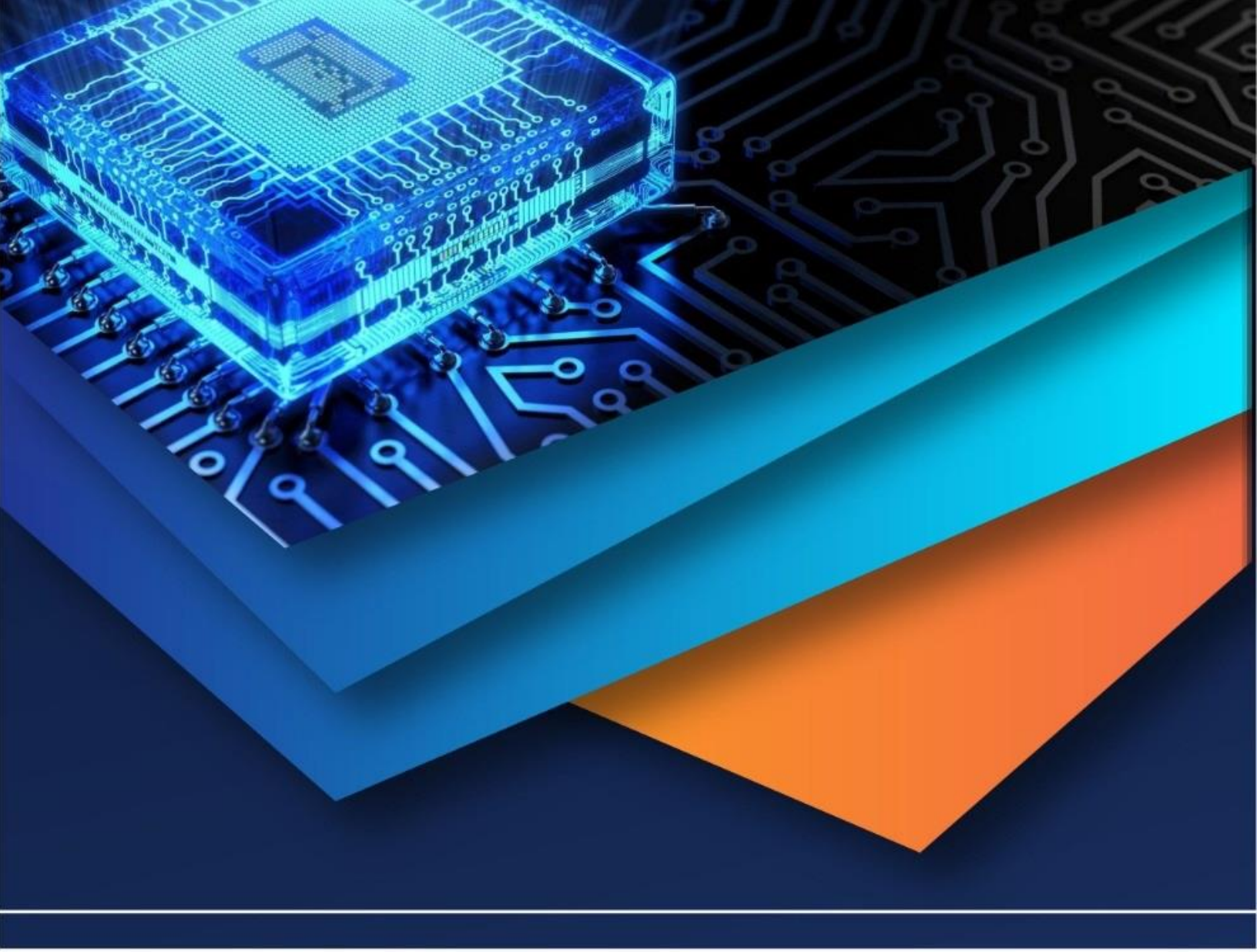

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