

**Construction of Human Development
Index of Gujjar Community in
Jammu and Kashmir**

ABSTRACT

**SUBMITTED TO
BABASAHEB BHIMRAO AMBEDKAR UNIVERSITY
(A CENTRAL UNIVERSITY)**

LUCKNOW

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BHIMRAO
AMBEDKAR
UNIVERSITY**



• LUCKNOW •
प्रज्ञा शील करुणा
ESTABLISHED 1996

**FOR THE AWARD OF DEGREE OF
DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY**

**IN
ECONOMICS**

**Under the Supervision of
Prof. L.C. Mallaiah**

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Enrolment No: 701/18

Year 2022

Abstract

Introduction

The concept of human development is complex and holistic. It is as old as the civilization of human beings, but it is still in a constant process of evolution. The technique of describing human development has been updated with the passage of time as per demand. Aristotle was the first scholar who first considered social values for the good of humanity, and he believed any action that promoted social welfare was the key to human progress. One of the simplest concepts of human growth was presented by Morris and Alpin (1982). According to them, human development is a way to expand the capacity and capability of individuals, which raises their living level. Many experts explain the concept of human development as per their knowledge and skills, but the true credit goes to Dr. Mahbub Ul Haq. He was the one professor among others who provided prior consideration to human needs and also strengthened development policies. The major purpose of human development is to improve the competence and capacity of people, which leads to a wide spread of human demands and choices. The human development concept comprises of all parts of life, like social, cultural, political, and economic. Apart from this, it also focuses on the needs of underprivileged people. The concept of human development comprises the core demands of people as well as an end means of obtaining progress. Not only economic elements are considered in the concept of human development, but social aspects such as health and education are equally important to human well-being. 20th century, policymakers concentrated primarily on economic growth, and the term "development" was rarely used in economic literature. Even early theories of

development, such as the Harrod (1939 & 1948) and Domar (1946), focused on growth rather than development (1946). But later on, it is understood that economic growth is derived from development and the quality component of development was a novel idea, but with the passage of time, it is called human development. The human development index can be defined as "a statistical tool which measures the overall achievement of a country in its social and economic characteristics such as health, education, and income." It was founded in 1990 by Mahbub ul Haq and was later endorsed by Amartya Sen, Gustav Ranis, and Meghnad Desai. The human development index is used to determine a country's level of development. Each year, the UNDP publishes a ranking of countries based on their social and economic development, which aids in keeping countries on track for development. Governments are now also ranking their states based on their human development index. The human development index is composed of three components: life expectancy in terms of health; predicted and mean years of schooling in terms of education; and gross national income per capita in terms of standard of living. It was the UNDP's first report in 1990, and it switched the focus away from wealth and toward liberty and choice. According to a 1990 UNDP report, human development is a process of expanding people's choices, the most important of which are a long and healthy life, adequate education, and a decent standard of living. However, human development does not stop there; it also includes political freedom, guaranteed human rights, and self-respect. The term "development" was reinterpreted in the 1970's in terms of poverty reduction, inequality, and unemployment in a developing economy.

India's human development index has been increasing steadily since independence, with an average increase in per capita income, life expectancy, literacy rate, and a variety of other measures of human well-being. However, India's problem is the

mixed character of Indian society, which makes it extremely difficult to understand the success and failures of the Indian economy. However, a frequently asked question is why India's economy is so mixed/ heterogeneous. The answer to this question is that Indian society is vastly diversifying its geographical area and internal diversity, which aids in learning about nature. Dreze & Sen (2001) stated that when we look at the inner workings of the Indian economy, we discover that it is divided into four major sets. These four major sets are also explored and described in the context of Indian states in an excellent manner by Gustav, Ranis, and Ramirez. According to them, one group of Indian states performs exceptionally well in terms of national growth, with their economies growing at a rate significantly faster than the national average. These states perform well on economic and non-economic indicators, but on the other hand, they lag behind in terms of economic growth and human development, and the reason for their lag is social evils such as rapid population growth, poverty, low state per capita income, unemployment, and a low standard of living. That is why these states remain economically backward and are moving further and further away from the group of forward-thinking states. Keeping all of these factors in mind, particularly the wide range of diversification among Indian states, it is critical to develop and implement appropriate public policies. As Fukuda-Parr (2003) stated in his article, it is critical to enhance the role of human agency in achieving growth and development and to formulate public-friendly policies. According to Dreze and Sen (2001), a radical change is necessary to assist the economy in achieving its goals and also to ensure a nation's long-term sustainable development. It is necessary for all sectors of the economy to grow concurrently and at the same rate. Human development is the primary indicator of a nation's development. That is why India prioritises human development, as evidenced by the UNDP's annual Human

Development Reports. UNDP published the first GHDR in 1990, and almost every country has since published its own national human development report. In 2002, the Indian government and planning commission jointly published India's first national human development report of 2001. According to UNDP's human development reports, India's HDI ranking has been steadily increasing since 1975, from 0.406 to 0.427 in 1990, 0.427 to 0.493 in 2000, 0.493 to 0.581 in 2010, 0.581 to 0.618 in 2014, and 0.614 to 0.640 in 2017. India's overall HDI increases, but growth in all sectors is uneven across states, regions, castes, and communities, resulting in enormous disparities between Indian states. India is currently ranked 130th in the HDI, with 0.640 points. Certain states in India, particularly Kerala, are doing exceptionally well in terms of development. Kerala state is far ahead of many developed nations in terms of development, ranking first among Indian states and union territories with 0.784 points, placing it in the high HDI category. It is followed by Chandigarh, Goa, Lakshadweep, Delhi, Andaman and Nicobar, Puducherry, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, and Sikkim. Jammu and Kashmir state is ranked 17th in India's HDI, with 0.684 points, and falls into the medium category. Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, and Odisha are the Indian states with the lowest HDI scores.

Research Gap

This study is a unique study on human development index because all the previous studies on HDI are focusses on HDI in general sense like country wise, state wise or a comparative study between states or country or study of a specific tribe. All the previous studies were not touching this community in their studies but this study will be focusses only on a single community (Gujjar) of schedule tribe of Jammu and Kashmir. This community is underprivileged and known for its backwardness in the

Union territory. This study helps in upliftment as well as empowerment of Gujjar community in future.

Significance of the study

Why researcher construct human development index on Gujjar community of Jammu and Kashmir because this community is still underprivileged and known for its backwardness and social evils such as early marriage, illiteracy, low standard of livings etc. Besides these things Gujjar community faces some unique and serious challenges of life like migration from low altitude area to high altitude areas in summer season and vice-versa in winter season along with whole family, cattle and also carrying basic necessities of life like food, cloths and tents for shelters etc. it is an unorganized community which are facing the problems of institutional facilities such as health and hygiene, education, drinking water and sanitation etc. and this community is unaware about their rights due to they are falling in the trap of injustices, harassment, exploitations, and other violations in daily life.

This study will be the first study which is focussing on one of the (under privileged Gujjar community of schedule tribe) of Jammu and Kashmir. This study will try to highlight the real problems of this under privileged sections of the society. This study will be helpful for policy makers and academicians to know the real cause of the pathetic and unstable life pattern of Gujjar community and to frame a suitable policy initiative so, that they could be empowered.

Why Jammu and Kashmir chosen as study area

Jammu and Kashmir having the second highest population of schedule tribes in India after Madhya Pradesh 14.7%, J & K constitute 11.9% STs population of India. Maharashtra 10.1%, Odisha 9.2%, and Rajasthan 8.9%. J&K have 14.9 lakhs STs

population which is divided into 12 tribes such as Gujjar, Bakarwal, Bot, Brokpa, Balti, Purigpa, Gaddi, Sippi, Changpa, Mon, Garra and Beda out of these Gujjar, Bakarwal, Bot, and Brokpa jointly constitute 88% population of STs, Balti, Purigpa, Gaddi jointly constitute 10.1% population of STs and the remaining five castes Sippi, Changpa, Mon, Garra and Beda jointly constitute 1.9% population of STs. According to census of India (2011). Jammu and Kashmir have highest share of Gujjar population among Indian states due to availability of pasture land, forests land, grazing land, and mountainous area. Which attract Gujjar to settle there. In Jammu and Kashmir twelve tribes come under STs category and out of these twelve tribes Gujjar is the most populous tribe which constitute about 69.1% population of STs.

Why district Poonch and Anantnag are chosen

District Poonch has highest percentage of Gujjar population. The total population of Gujjar community in district Poonch is 45% as per census 2011. Whereas district Anantnag has been chosen as a comparative district because it is having the highest Gujjar population of 7.82% in Kashmir valley.

Objectives of the Study

1. To study the socio-economic conditions of Gujjar community in Jammu and Kashmir.
2. To study the changes in occupational structure of Gujjar community in Jammu and Kashmir.
3. To construct human development index of Gujjar community in Jammu and Kashmir.

Hypothesis

1. H0: The socio-economic conditions of Gujjar community in Jammu and Kashmir have improved

H1: The socio-economic conditions of Gujjar community in Jammu and Kashmir are not improved.

2. H0: Human development index of Gujjar community in Jammu and Kashmir is very much below than the HDI of Jammu and Kashmir.

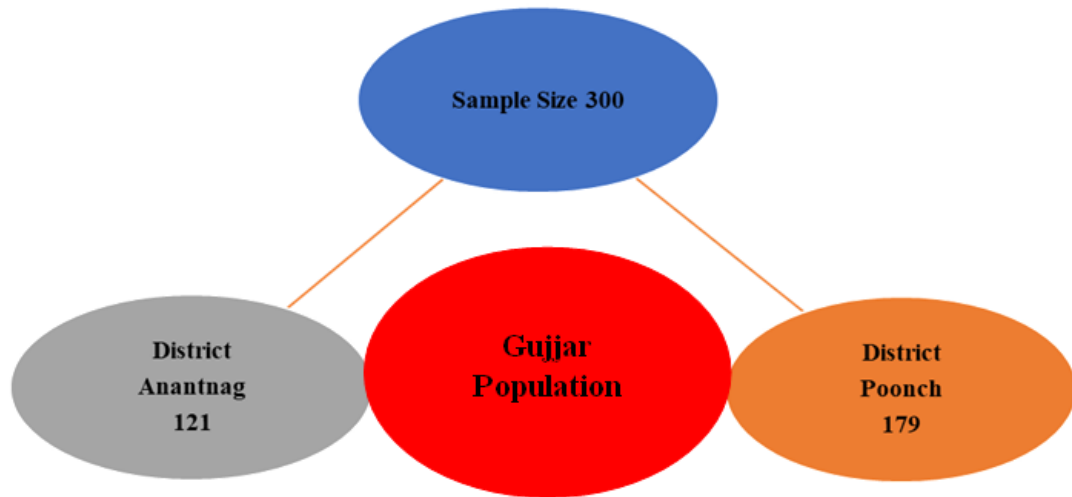
H1: Human Development index of Gujjar community in Jammu and Kashmir is improved significantly.

Methodology of the study

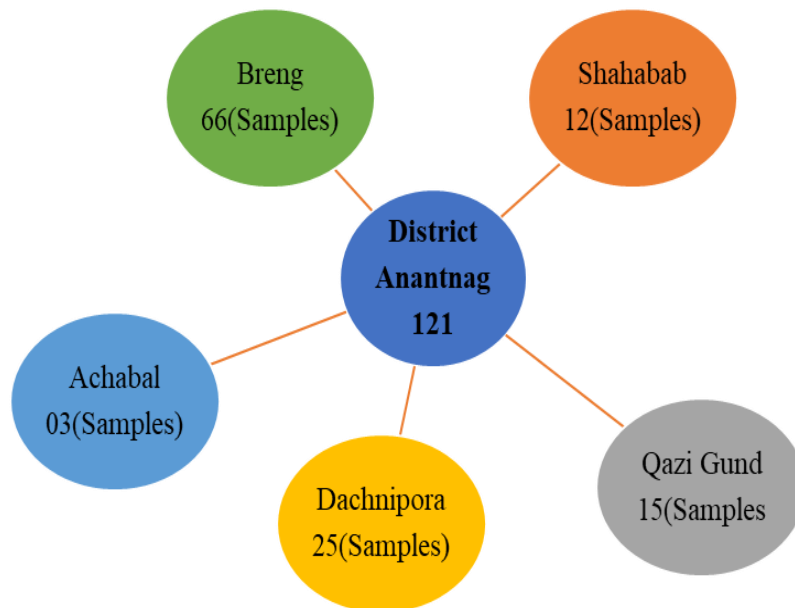
This study is based on new methodology of UNDP of measuring human development index which include health, education and income as indicators. This study is analysed on both primary and secondary data sources. **Primary data** is collected by the well-designed interview schedule and the study area are two districts of Jammu and Kashmir one is from Jammu division and second is from Kashmir division namely Poonch and Anantnag districts respectively. The Sample size is 300 respondents. 179 samples are collected from district Poonch and 121 samples are collected from district Anantnag on the basis of proportionate random sampling technique. Each district is divided into five blocks. **Secondary data**, the secondary data is collected from Global data lab, India stat, JK statistical digest, census of India, central statistical office, All India education survey, Economic survey of concerned states, Ministry of health and family welfare, UNDP reports, WHO reports and world bank reports etc. we analyse the data of human development index and we use basic econometric and statistical tools to check the real inferences of all the dimensions of

human development index. We also use Tables, Graphs, Bar-diagram, histogram and pie chart for better results.

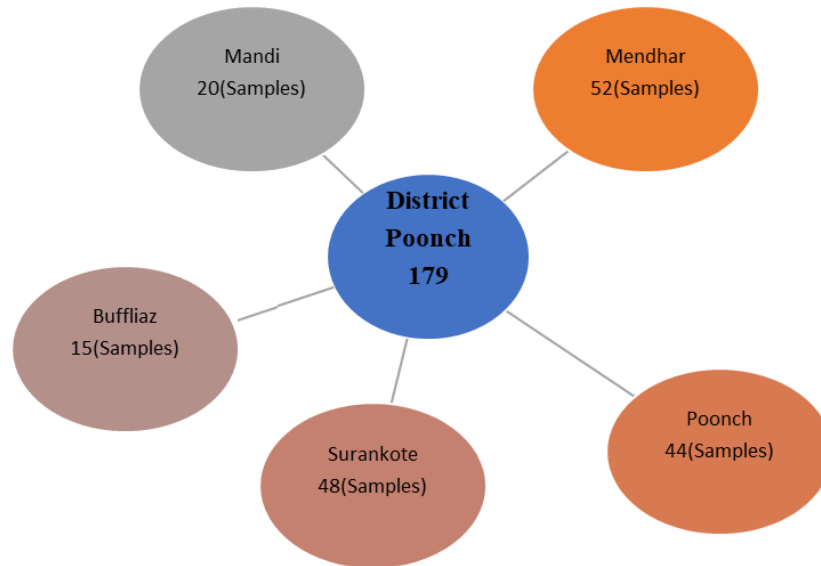
Flow chart of sample populations of selected districts



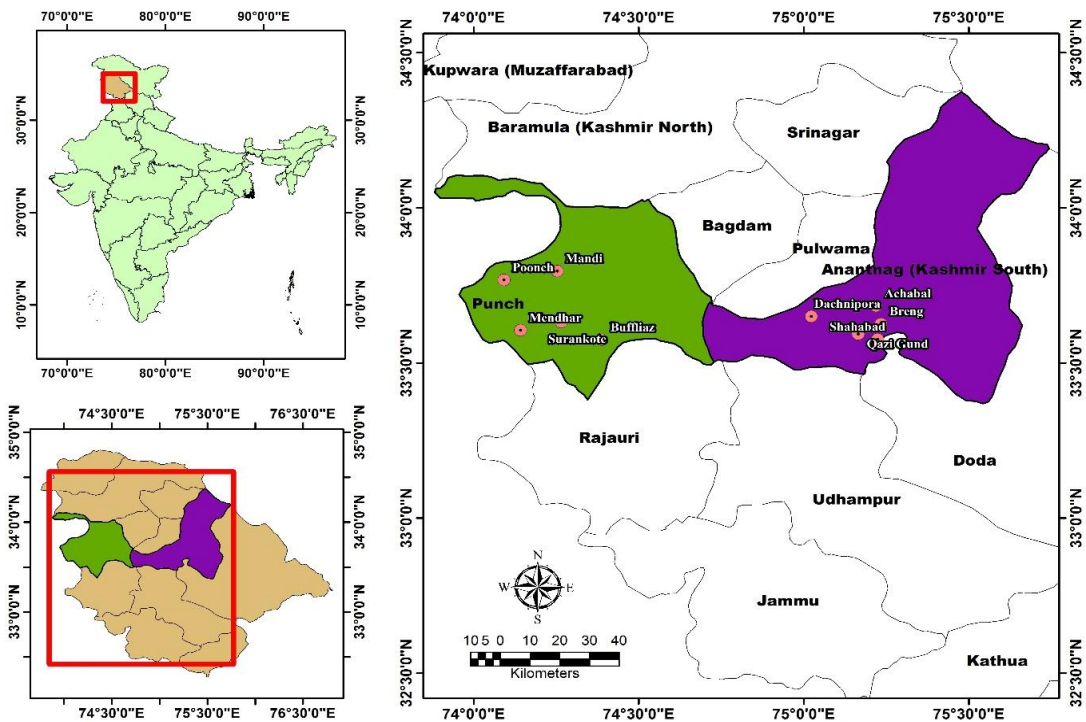
Flow chart of Blocks of District Anantnag



Flow chart of Blocks of District Poonch



Location Map of study area



Source: ARC GIS. Survey of India.

Plan of the Study

This study is based on seven chapters **first chapter:** entitled as introduction which consist of general introduction of topic and then in Indian context, review of literature, Research gap, Significance of the study, Study area, objective of the study, hypothesis of the study and methodology of the study Chapterization of the study.

Second chapter: Theoretical and conceptual framework of human development which consists of theories of human development, UNDP reports on human development, national human development reports and new methodology of measuring human development index.

Third chapter: entitled as human development in Jammu and Kashmir. It consists the trend analysis of human development index in Jammu and Kashmir and India. Zone wise comparison of HDI of Indian states and union territories and compound annual growth rate of human development index.

Fourth chapter: entitled as Socio-economic conditions of Gujjar community in Jammu and Kashmir. Which depend upon health, education, income and occupation. A detailed analysis of above mention indicators reflects their status in this chapter, it is based on primary data.

Fifth chapter: entitled as occupational structure of Gujjar community in Jammu and Kashmir. A detailed analysis of engagement of Gujjar population in primary activity, secondary activity and territory activity. This chapter also based on primary data source.

Sixth chapter: entitled as construction of human development index of Gujjar community in Jammu and Kashmir. The construction of HDI is based on new

methodology of measuring HDI. Block wise Health index, Education index and Income index of Sample Population from selected districts of Poonch and Anantnag. Performance of human development indicators in district Poonch and Anantnag. Comparative analysis of HDI of Gujjar community, J&K and India.

Seventh chapter: entitled as conclusions findings and policy recommendations which includes detailed analysis of summary, conclusions and findings of the study and also suggest some policy recommendations for the development of Gujjar community in Jammu and Kashmir Limitation of the study.

Findings of the Study

- The accumulation of empirical information demonstrates that human development is both fruitless and ineffective in the absence of development.
- After that, better economic and social growth will follow as a natural consequence of human development.
- Regarding the human development index, there is a significant gap among different states/ union territories of India.
- In comparison to the rest of India states the level of human development is high in Kerala and low in Bihar.
- In case of health index out of ten blocks of district Poonch and Anantnag. Breng block of district Anantnag is performing better with 0.60 score and block Shahabad performing worst with 0.06 score.
- In case of education index out of ten blocks of both districts block Poonch is better with 0.25 score and block Dachnipora is worse performing block with 0.12 score.

- In case income index out of ten blocks of both districts block Surankote at rank first with 0.431 score and block Breng is worse performing block with 0.260 score.
- The overall performance of Education index and Income index is better in district Poonch as comparison to district Anantnag with 0.20 and 0.14 score of education index respectively, and 0.38 and 0.31 score of income index respectively.
- The overall performance of Health index is better in district Anantnag as comparison to district Poonch with 0.17 and 0.11 respectively.
- In terms of human development index of Gujjar community district Poonch perform better than Anantnag with HDI score 0.23 and 0.21 respectively.
- Comparatively Gujjar population in the Kashmir division is more vulnerable than Jammu division.
- In overall human development index of district Poonch is better than district Anantnag.

Policy Recommendations

- The problem of rising inequalities should be addressed to overcome the development disparities among the states/UTs in the different regions of the country.
- Open new dispensaries/ hospitals, schools and appoint doctors, para medical staff and teacher in their residing areas of Gujjar community.

- Much needed focus is required to fulfil basic necessities of life like food, shelter, health care facilities, establishment of new mobile schools in their residing areas, roads, drinking water facilities, electricity facility etc.
- A special financial package is required for Gujjar community from UT administration and central government to fulfil the basic requirements of their areas like water, road and electricity connections.
- The multidimensional poverty index of Gujjar community demands the development of health and educational infrastructure in those areas.
- Gender and caste-based inequality should be addressed by creating equal opportunities in every sector for women without any discrimination.
- Gujjar population of Kashmir division need special attention in comparison to Jammu division to achieve the better score in the Human development index.

Future scope of the study

The Gujjar community is one of the excluded groups, should be investigated for future well-being programmes. To understand the differences and similarities among the schedule tribes of India, researchers should examine studies involving diverse population groups both within and beyond the state. These groups should also be investigated based on their language, culture and region.

Conclusion

Disparities and delays in human development have been documented through a thorough examination of many theories on how people develop. "Growth pole theory," "Capability Approach," and "Howitt's Theory of Human Capital and Economic Growth" are only a few of the many ideas that support this term. There are also numerous perspectives or viewpoints to consider. A review of empirical evidence

shows that human development is useless and ineffectual without development. International politicians, economists, and planners understand the importance of improving health care, education, economic possibilities, and a good standard of living in encouraging human development. Affluent standards of living are a reflection of human development because of expanded educational options, which in turn result in more money in the bank. Furthermore, the preceding reasons show that economic and human growth are intimately linked; economic development occurs first, but human development afterward leads to better economic and human development. One of the fundamental goals of a theory is to explain and predict a phenomenon. With this shift in emphasis, human development has supplanted the economy as the primary measure of progress.

Despite the fact that the human development index is an overall index of economic progress, there are certain variances among Indian states. In terms of human development, it is abundantly clear that India and its various states differed. According to the findings, Kerala had a greater level of human development than the rest of India. The fact that Jammu & Kashmir's human development index is greater than India's is more evidence that India's human development index is based on the average of all states and federal territories. In terms of the human development index, the disparity between Indian states like Kerala and Bihar can clearly be observed in the pattern. The development process is characterized by disparities. However, these inequalities must be addressed if India's citizens are to enjoy greater prosperity.

Gujjars in Jammu and Kashmir continue to live in appalling conditions. They still have difficulties in meeting their fundamental needs. They are subjected to social, educational, and economic prejudice. There is a discrepancy in the literacy rates of the Gujjar and other communities in the union territory of Jammu and Kashmir. They lag

behind in terms of health, education, income, and government programs due to a variety of factors, including low literacy, malnutrition among children, a lack of hospitals in their neighborhood, seasonal migration, and a lack of knowledge about local and national government programs aimed at improving their lot. In terms of education, employment, and decision-making, women in this community are more vulnerable than men. They continue to live in their traditional homes and wear their traditional clothing, which is still a big part of their culture. There is also a low employment rate among Gujjars in Indian-administered Kashmir. It's safe to conclude that this town is still far behind in terms of progress and struggles to meet even the most basic of needs.

Gujjars work primarily in agriculture and subcontracting, according to the data collected thus far. The number of people who participate in government services is quite low. The good news is that educational attainment has risen steadily over time and is now considered a key determinant of having a better job. Income is also discovered to play a significant role in a person's ability to land a better job. Gender and age were not a factor in Gujjar participation in particular occupations in Jammu and Kashmir. There is no discernible distinction in the bases of occupation between Jammu and Kashmir. On the basis of primary research evidence, both regions demand attention from policymakers for the development of Gujjar populations, their localities, health, road, education, and infrastructure in Gujjar communities. In terms of Employment, they should be given all the tools they need to get a better job.

Compared to Anantnag, Poonch's educational infrastructure is more advanced. Jammu is once again outperforming Kashmir in terms of economic output. The scheduled tribal population in the Kashmir division is more at risk than the population in the Jammu division based on the income index. The division of Kashmir has the best and

worst-performing blocks, although the division of Jammu does better overall. Overall, the study found that District Poonch had a higher Human Development Index (HDI). Based on the Gujjar population, we conclude that Poonch has a higher HDI than Anantnag.

Limitations of the Study

- This study is limited to the Gujjar community of tribal population of two selected districts of Jammu and Kashmir
- The results of the study are unable to implement on entire country due to limited number of participants in the study.
- One of the limitations is that there exist regional differences on the bases of geography and climatic conditions.