

DOI: [10.5575/nairjssh.2023.9.6.15](https://doi.org/10.5575/nairjssh.2023.9.6.15)

REGIONAL PATTERN OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN BLOCK CHENANI IN UDHAMPUR DISTRICT

MUSHTAQ AHMAD KHAN*, MEETU SHARMA**

*Lecturer Govt. Degree College Reasi.

**Research Scholar, University of Jammu

ABSTRACT

Development is the process which includes the quantitative as well as qualitative growth of social and economic performances and rural development aims at improving the standard of living of the people living in villages (Rural areas) as 70% of India lives in villages so if villages of India develop then the whole country will develop. Therefore, to access the development in rural areas the present paper deals with block Chenani one of the blocks of Udhampur district of Jammu and Kashmir state of India. The process of development has been examined through different indicators under Infrastructure, Literacy and Agriculture. The different indicators that have been taken in the present paper are percentage of net cultivated area to the total geographical area, percentage of net irrigated area to net cultivated area, source of irrigation, source of portable water, Electricity facility, Postal services, Medical facilities, Male and Female literacy in the concerned area. As examined by these thirteen indicators, the Block study area shows moderate as well as low level of development pattern and is not provided with basic amenities and better education facilities except some villages.

KEYWORDS: *Development, Demography, Amenities, Agriculture, Infrastructure.*

INTRODUCTION:

CONCEPT OF DEVELOPMENT

Development means the systematic use of scientific and technical knowledge to meet specific objectives or requirements.

Development can also be defined as the process of economic and social transformation that is based on complex cultural environmental factors and their interactions.

Development has different meaning for different people depending upon what attributes of the good life they value. In its strongest sense, development means using the productive resources of society to improve the living conditions of the poorest people. Development is often assumed to be an economic phenomenon. But now the concept of development has changed. Now, it is seen beyond economic performance. Development is basically a multifaceted process. The concept of development is not merely to quantitative aspect but it is also related to qualitative assessment.

Now, an alternative measure that takes into account the development than just economic growth alone is the HDI calculated by the UNDP. It measures development in terms of longevity, knowledge and income sufficiency.

In the modern sense development means improvement in a complex of linked natural, economic, social, cultural and political condition.

ACCORDING TO BEHRENDT (1968): -

“The concept of development is not limited to economic growth but also includes the anthropological, sociological and psychological dimensions.”

The study of rural development has attracted sufficient attention of the social scientists of the country. They are exploring the ways and means of developing rural India. Rural Development is the process of improving the quality of life and economic well being of people living in relatively isolated and sparsely populated area. These areas are traditionally centered on agricultural and allied activities.

However due to increased urbanization the scenario has changed and has changed the character of rural areas. Now the need for rural communities to approach development from a wider perspective has created more focus on broad range of development goals rather than merely creating incentives for agriculture or resource-based business.

In a wider sense rural development means all round development of rural areas with a view of betterment of the lifestyle of rural people.

Rural development has been defined by different authorities in different ways as under: -

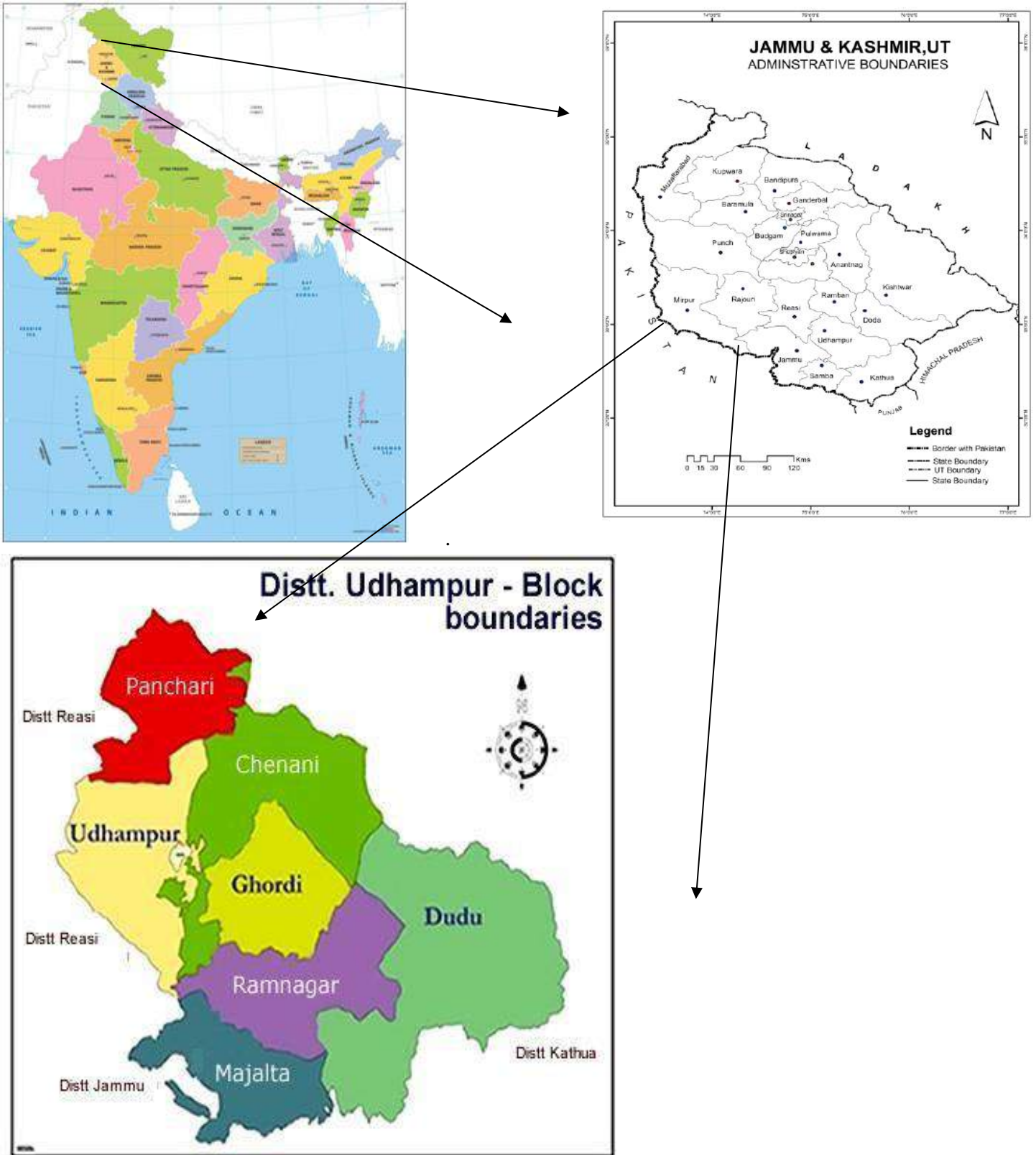
-> Ensminger, “Rural development seeks to involve a process of transformation from traditionally oriented rural cultural towards an acceptance and reliance on science and technology”.

-> World Bank defines rural development as “Rural development is a strategy to improve the economic and social life of a specific group of people, the rural poor, including small and marginal farmers, tenants and the landless.

STUDY AREA

Chenani is a block situated in Udhampur District of Jammu & Kashmir. It is situated in rural region of Jammu & Kashmir, it is one of the seven blocks (Chenani, Udhampur, Ghordi, Dudu, Ramnagar, Majalta) of Udhampur District. Chenani is located at 33.03°N 75.28°E [3] at a distance of 90 km north-east of Jammu city. It has an average elevation of 1,062 meters (3,487 feet). River Tawi flows through Chenani town. It is connected well by road. NH 1A which connects Kashmir to the rest of the country passes through Chenani. Buses from Jammu take about 3 to 4 hours to reach Chenani. Mini-buses are also available for Chenani from Udhampur. The nearest railway station from Chenani in Udhampur, 25 km away. Chenani is the gateway to famous Sudhmahadev, Gourikund and Mantalai shrines

Fig.1. Map of Study Area



OBJECTIVE:

To assess the regional pattern of infrastructure and agriculture development in the Block Chenani of District Udhampur.

INDICATORS:

A total of eight indicators have been taken in the present study. These indicators broadly cover two categories i.e., Agriculture, Infrastructure.

1) AGRICULTURE

- i) Percentage of net cultivated area to the total geographical area.
- ii) Percentage of net irrigated area to net cultivated area.
- iii) Sources of irrigation.

2) INFRASTRUCTURE

- i) Sources of portable water.
- ii) Electricity facility.
- iii) Postal services.
- iv) Lane / Drain Facility.
- v) Medical facility.

SOURCE OF DATA:

The present paper is entirely based on Secondary data and the sources of Secondary data collected for the present paper includes:

- i) Village Amenity Directory District Udhampur 2022.
- ii) Census of India, Villages and Towns Directories, District Udhampur, 2022.

METHODOLOGY:

The methodology adopted for the present paper includes:

- iii) Collection of relevant data through various departments of District Udhampur like Department of Rural Development, Census Department.
- iv) Processing of Data. iii) Tabulation of Data.
- iv) Statistical techniques and methods such as composite score and composite index are used.
- v) Cartographic representation of data.

Following formula has been used to trace out the pattern of development in the study area.

$$C.I = \sum_{j=1}^n X_i / X_j$$

Here, C.I = Composite Index

X_{ij} = Value of j th variate for i th village.

N = Number of variables.

The value index shows the level of development. Higher the value of C.I, the higher will be the development.

Diverse methods have been used by geographers for determining the number and intervals of categories. In the present paper a modified version of mean and standard deviation method has been used wherein the mean occupies the mid position of a class rather than a dividing line.

- a) Very High or Rank 1st = Above (Mean + 1 S.D) or Above (Mean + 2 S.D).
- b) High or Rank 2nd = Between (Mean + 1/2 S.D to Mean + 1 S.D) OR (Mean + 1 S.D to Mean + 2 S.D).
- c) Moderate or Rank 3rd = Between (Mean to Mean +1/2 S.D) or (Mean to Mean + 1 S.D).
- d) Lower or rank 4th = Between (Mean – 1/2 S.D to Mean) or (Mean -1 S.D to Mean).

RESULTS & DISCUSSION:

PATTERN OF INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

Infrastructure refers to the basic facilities, services needed for the functioning of a community or a society. It typically refers to technical structures such as Roads, Bridges, Tunnels, Water supply, Sewers, Electrical grids, telecommunication etc. for the overall development of a country's economy. Infrastructure development holds very important place. It shows the quality of population living in an area.

In the present paper following five indicators for the analysis of pattern of infrastructure developed have been taken:

- 1) Electricity facility. 2) Post office facility. 3) Source of portable water. 4) lane/drain facility.
- 5) Medical facility – PHC, CHC, DISPENSARY.

Table No. 1: Composite Index of Infrastructure characteristics of Block Chenani, 2022

CATEGORY	VALUE OF C.I	RANK	NO. OF VILLAGES
Above Mean to 2 S.D	>15	1ST	1
Mean + S.D TO MEAN + 2 S.D	9.97 - 15	2nd	5
Mean to Mean + S.D	4.94 – 9.97	3rd	6
Mean – 1 S.D to Mean	-0.09 – 4.94	4th	25

The above table reveals the pattern of infrastructure development in the Block Chenani. As revealed by the above table the infrastructure development in the Block is not well developed as maximum number of villages i.e. 25 which constitutes 67.5% of total villages show low level of development and ranked 4th. The low infrastructure development can be attributed to the non availability of medical facilities, poor transportation system. The villages included in this category are Charat, Dhandar, Kurd, Kousar etc. Only 1 village namely Bain ranked 1st, shows very high level of infrastructure development and 5 villages ranked 2nd which constitute 13.51 percent of the total villages thus the present study shows that the basic amenities are not uniformly available in the villages of Block Chenani.

PATTERN OF AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT

One of the most important characteristics of rural development of an area is its agriculture. Development in agriculture leads to economic development and poverty elevation and thus it is the major component of socio-economic development of an area. For the analysis of agriculture development, following three indicators have been taken.

- 1) Percentage of net cultivated area to the total geographical area.
- 2) Percentage of net irrigated area to net cultivated area.
- 3) Sources of irrigation.

Table No. 2: Composite Index of Agriculture characteristics of Block Chenani, 2022

CATEGORY	VALUE OF C.I	RANK	NO. OF VILLAGES
Above Mean + 2 S.D	49.89	1st	1
Mean + 1 S.D to Mean + 2 S.D	37.87 to 49.89	2nd	5
Mean to Mean + 1 S.D	25.85 to 37.87	3rd	10
Mean – 1 S.D to Mean	13.83 to 25.85	4th	15
Less than Mean – 1 S.D	< 13.83	5th	6

The above table reveals the pattern of agriculture Development of Block Chenani. From the table it can be seen that maximum number of villages falls in the rank 4th i.e. 15 villages which constitute 40% of the total villages. So, we can say that the block has moderate facilities like Irrigation, modern equipment etc. Only one village namely Bachhal ranked 1st and shows very high level of agricultural development because of better irrigation and good quality of soil.

While five villages ranked 2nd shows high level of Agricultural Development.

PATTERN OF LITERACY DEVELOPMENT

Literacy refers to the ability to read and write his own name and further for knowledge and interest, write coherently and think critically about the written word. The inability to do so is called illiteracy or analphabetism. Literacy is considered as a key for socio-cultural and economic progress. It is basically the literacy development upon which human development depends. It is the improvement in literacy which improves the living standard and ability to face the social problems which eventually improve the level of development.

The pattern of literacy development can be analyzed through education level. For which the following indicators have been taken

Villages with education facilities: 1) Primary School 2) Middle School 3) Secondary School 4) Higher Secondary School.

Table No. 3: Composite Index of literacy characteristics of Block Chenani, 2022.

CATEGORY	VALUE OF C.I	RANK	NO. OF VILLAGES
Above Mean + 2 S.D	>32.91	1st	4
Mean + 1 S.D to Mean + 2 S.D	20.49 to 32.91	2nd	1
Mean to Mean + 1 S.D	8.07 to 20.49	3rd	6
Mean – 1 S.D to Mean	-4.35 to 8.07	4th	26

The given table shows the pattern of literacy Development of the study area. The table depicts that the level of development in the block is low, as maximum number of villages i.e. 26 that constitutes 70.27% of total villages ranked 4th which reveals that the education condition in the block is in very deteriorated condition. Out of the 38 villages only four villages have better education facilities.

CONCLUSION:

The present paper is an attempt to examine the “Regional pattern of rural development in block” at village level. We can derive the following conclusion from the present study:

Block Chenani is one of the blocks of Udhampur District. The block Chenani falls in Udhampur district situated in Jammu and Kashmir State, with a population 101182. The male and female populations are 56756 and 44426 respectively. The size of the area is about 541.68 square kilometer. It is a hilly area with 38 Villages. The pattern of rural development in the block is examined by taking 8 indicators under three sets namely Agriculture, literacy and infrastructure by using simple method of composite index. By the study of all the above indicators it seems that the pattern of overall development in the block is moderate as well as low. As many of the villages of the block are lacking even some basic amenities like good education facility, drainage, postal services, electricity and water supply. Most of the villages are lacking in good infrastructure like electricity facility, source of portable water, medical facilities etc.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

- [1]. Chandana, R.C (2012). Geography of population. New Delhi: Kalyani Publisher.
- [2]. Madu. (2007). Case Study: The Underlying Factors of Rural Development Patterns in the Nsukka Region of Southeastern Nigeria. Journal of Rural and Community Development, 2,110-122.
- [3]. Mandal, S.K. (1987). Regional Disparities and Imbalances in India's Planned Economic Development. New Delhi: Deep &Deep Publications.
- [4]. Mishra, R.P. (1992). Regional Planning Concepts, Techniques, Policies and Case Studies. New Delhi: Sterling Publishers, Pvt. Ltd.
- [5]. Bhattacharya, M. (1987). Administrative and Organizational Issues in Rural Development. IJPA.