

# **HDI of Dalits and Tribes in India: The Distance - Travelled and to be Travelled**

By

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### **Abstract:**

*It is well recognised by planners and policy makers that improvement in Human Development Index (HDI) represents the overall development of any region. On the other hand, due to rigid caste-based hierarchical social system in India, inclusive development is a more challenging task. Therefore, in this context, achieving inclusive human development becomes a very important issue for researchers and policy makers. In the present study an attempt has been made to construct and analyse the HDI for Dalits, Tribes, and non-SCSTs. A considerable gap was found in the HDI values of these social categories. The study indicates that like UNDP, India should have a Human Development Report for the entire nation. This report should construct social group-wise HDI for all districts. These indices can be calculated once in five years. In the next five years, good policy and programme towards achievement of higher human development based on the finding and recommendations of the report should be implemented. Hence, inclusive balanced regional development can be achieved in India.*

**Keywords:** Dalit, Human Development Index, Caste, Social Exclusion, India

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