

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND GENDER SITUATION

10.3 The United Nations Development Program (UNDP) Statistical Update 2008 indicates the human development index (HDI) for India at 0.609 in 2006, placing it at 132 out of 179 countries of the world. In terms of gender development index (GDI), India ranks 116 out of 157 countries on the basis of their GDI value with an index value of 0.591. A negative count of (-1) for HDI rank minus GDI rank for India

is indicative of almost equal status of ranking in terms of gender development and human development. The HDI index is based on GDP per capita (PPP), life expectancy at birth, and education as measured by adult literacy rate and gross enrolment ratio. India's HDI rank at 132 is lower than its per capita GDP rank of 126, largely because of its low ranking on education (Table 10.1). There is therefore a need for special emphasis on policy and the institutional reforms in the education sector.

Table 10.1 : India's global position on human development, 2006

Country	HDI Index	GDP per capita (US \$PPP)	Life expectancy at birth (yrs)	Adult literacy rate (% aged 15 yrs & above)	Combined gross enrol. ratio in education (%)
Poland	0.875(39)	14,675(50)	75.3(46)	99.3(15)	87.7(38)
Brazil	0.807(70)	8,949(77)	72.0(81)	89.6(98)	87.2(39)
Russia	0.806(73)	13,205(55)	65.2(121)	99.5(12)	81.9(49)
Turkey	0.798(76)	11,535(61)	71.6(87)	88.1(103)	71.1(106)
Thailand	0.786(81)	7,613(80)	70.0(102)	93.9(75)	78.0(68)
China	0.762(94)	4,682(104)	72.7(71)	93.0(81)	68.7(113)
Sri Lanka	0.742(104)	3,896(115)	71.9(83)	90.8(91)	68.7(114)
Indonesia	0.726(109)	3,455(121)	70.1(101)	91.0(90)	68.2(116)
Vietnam	0.718(114)	2,363(129)	74.0(56)	90.3(92)	62.3(127)
Egypt	0.716(116)	4,953(99)	71.0(97)	71.4(139)	76.4(78)
India	0.609(132)	2,489(126)	64.1(127)	65.2(148)	61.0(134)

Source : UNDP Statistical Update 2008

Figures in parentheses give ranking among 179 countries

Adult literacy rates for 32 countries were not given and data for these countries is either assumed or is based on outdated census or survey information. Hence, rankings so derived are approximate and should be interpreted with caution.