

PATTERNS AND PREVALENCE OF DIARRHEA IN INDIA: A REGIONAL EXPLORATION THROUGH GIS-MAPPING

Anita Bhargava

Centre For The Study Of Regional Development (CsrD), Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
Email: annubps@gmail.com

Abstract

Objectives: Despite commendable efforts, Diarrhea is one of the factors of Child Mortality in India. Therefore, to delineate the pattern and prevalence of diarrhea across the states of India is the prime objective of the paper. The plausible factors which lead to disease prevalence are also examined.

Method and Material: The information on children's health provided by mothers provided in a national level Reproductive and Child Data (2007-08) survey is used to examine the objectives of the paper. To delineate the pattern and prevalence of diarrhea across the states, GIS-mapping is used. Regionalisation is done based on the intensity of prevalence of diarrhea across the states in India. Results: Among all, diarrheal cases observed high where medical services are minimal. Secondly, poor and backward states are exposed to unsafe drinking water and hence more vulnerable to water-borne diseases. Poverty and education are barring factors to seek treatment.

Conclusion: Safe and protected water is the prime measure. to reduce the high prevalence of the diarrhea. It is essential to clean the water through various measures like chlorination, boiling, filtering etc. The government is equally responsible to provide safe drinking water. Such affirmative measures ensure to reduce the cases and eventually eradicate it to some extent.

Keywords : Diarrhea, Child Health, Reproductive and Child Health Survey.