

REGIONAL VARIATION IN RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN CUDDALORE DISTRICT

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The model of development which focus on agriculture also brings about the role that infrastructure plays in agricultural development in particular. The spread of technology in agriculture depends critically on both physical and institutional infrastructure. It is also indicated that infrastructure plays a strategic role in producing large multiplier effects in the economy with agricultural growth in rural areas. This paper deals with rural development in Cuddalore District in three dimension relating to regional level, block level and village level. This paper identifies regional disparity in rural development in the study area.

Introduction

As regards measuring development, most of the scholars used the percapita income and/or consumption expenditure as a proxy indicator for level of living. The percapita income which is widely accepted as a general measure of development, is an index of production not consumption. Society can be made better off by any number of changes—length of life or mortality rates—even without an increase in GNP. Kuznets explicitly notes that “from the standpoint of basic wants or needs, the system of valuation in national income measures may lead to an underestimate of the extent of economic progress or of the extent of economic superiority across space in satisfying primary wants”. Further, income as an aggregation concept does not reflect society’s physical qualities of life, such as life expectancy, its birth, death and morbidity characteristics, and its literacy. So income is not a very satisfactory measure of development and at best it can be taken as one of the indicators of development. On the other hand, to assess the poverty level and also development of the particular sector, a few authors and governmental organisations have used food consumption expenditure as a proxy indicator of development.

The problems of using consumption expenditure are: (1) the estimate of consumption at different levels are taken into account only in private consumption. But no one includes what an individual or household shares socially financed consumption. (2) It has been pointed out that consumptions as an indicator of level of living can be misleading as it will tend to underestimate the differences between those at low and high levels. This paper analyses regional variation in rural development in Cuddalore district on the basis of chosen indicators.

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Method of Analysis

This district is divided into three regions viz. Flood Plain Region, Coastal Region and North Plain Region. Flood Plain region has five blocks viz. Kumaratchi block, Kattumannar koil block, Keerapalayam block, Melbhuvanagiri block and Kammapuram block. Coastal region has 3 blocks viz. Kurinjipadi block, Parangipettai block and Cuddalore block, North Plain region has 5 blocks viz. Mangalore block, Vridhachalam block, Nallur block, Annagramam block and Panruti block. This study confines to six selected blocks. In this study two blocks from each region have been selected for the purpose of analysis. The selected include, Bhuvanagiri, Kattumannar Koil, Kurinjipadi, Cuddalore, Mangalore and Panruti blocks. It could be noted that from each block two villages are selected and thus totally 6 villages are selected from six blocks. Atarmangalam village is selected from Kattumannar Koil block and Erumpur village is selected from Bhuvanagiri block. Sandorpalayam villages is chosen from Cuddalore block and Ayyekuppam village is chosen from Kurinjipadi block. Passer Village is chosen from Mangalore block and L. Puram village is selected from Panruti block. The development of rural infrastructure has been analysed in the three dimension in Cuddalore district on the basis of chosen indicators.

Results and Discussion

A study of data in Table 1 indicates the region wise development status in Cuddalore district.

Table 1 presents data on the region wise development status in Cuddalore district. The population density of Cuddalore district is 657.83 persons. Among the three regions in Cuddalore district Coastal region has highest population density and flood plain region has lowest population density. The percentage of urban population to total population is 5 per cent. The flood plain region and north plain region have less per cent of urban population to the total population in the district. This district has 977.67 females per 1000 males. The coastal region has lowest sex ratio. The percentage of scheduled caste total population is 13.26 per cent in Cuddalore district. Out of the total three regions in Cuddalore district, north plain region has lowest per cent of scheduled caste population. This district has lowest percentage of scheduled tribe population and all regions have below 1 per cent of scheduled tribe population. In this district, average size of household is 4.25. The flood plain region has average household size of 4 members. The percentage of workers to total population in Cuddalore district is worked out to 22.73 per cent. The coastal region occupies the first position with respect to per cent of workers to total population. In Cuddalore district the percentage of female workers to total workers is worked out to 8.04 per cent. The flood plain region has lowest per cent of female workers to total workers. It could be noted that Cuddalore district has 23.63 per cent of agriculture workers to the total workers. The percentage of agriculture workers to the total workers is lowest in flood plain region and highest in coastal region. In Cuddalore district the percent of agriculture labourers to agriculturalists is worked out to 23.34 per cent. The percent of agriculture labourers to agriculturalists is worked out to 12.40 per cent in flood plain region and it is 38.26

per cent in coastal region. Cuddalore district has 6.36 per cent of workers in manufacturing industry with respect to total number of workers.

Table 1
Region wise Development Status in Cuddalore District

<i>Socio-Economic Indicators</i>	<i>Flood Plain Region</i>	<i>Coastal Region</i>	<i>North Plain</i>	<i>District Average</i>
Density of population	520.50	757.00	696.00	657.83
Percentage of Urban population to total population	10.27	16.62	11.5	12.80
No. of females per 1000 males	981.00	959.00	993.00	977.67
Percentage of schedule caste to total population	12.33	17.16	10.29	13.26
Percentage of schedule tribe to total population	0.21	0.38	0.29	0.29
Average size of household	4.00	4.50	4.25	4.25
Percentage of workers to total population	21.46	26.27	20.45	22.73
Percentage of female workers to total workers	5.16	8.69	10.28	8.04
Percentage agriculture workers to total workers	15.14	37.11	18.64	23.63
Percentage of Agricultural labours to total Agricultural lists	12.40	38.26	19.35	23.34
Percentage of workers in manufacturing industry to total workers	8.04	6.02	5.01	6.36
Percentage of area sown to total area	21.74	32.88	18.61	24.41
Percentage of gross cropped area to net area sown	11.66	30.88	16.07	19.54
Per capita net area sown	16.09	19.50	11.20	15.60
Percentage of net area irrigated to net area sown	24.94	50.08	32.31	35.78
Percentage of gross area irrigated to gross cropped area	18.66	32.25	22.29	24.40
Bovine population per Sq. Km	352.00	168.00	192.00	237.33
No. of draught animals for thousand hectares of net area sown	513.50	249.00	400.50	387.67
Percentage of villages electrified	0.91	0.94	0.94	0.93
No. of post offices per thousand of population	17.50	11.55	19.00	16.02
No. of radio sets per thousand of population	63.83	33.50	43.50	46.94
Percentage of literacy	26.58	35.22	29.61	30.47
Percentage of literacy amongst schedule castes	57.62	65.2	61.22	61.35
Percentage of villages covered by protected water supply	0.94	0.94	0.96	0.95
No. of households per 100 residential occupied houses	94	92	99	95

Source : Computed.

Regarding agriculture 24.41 per cent of area sown to the total area. The area sown to the total area is highest in coastal region and lowest in north plain region. The percent of Gross cropped area to net cropped area is worked out to 19.54 per cent in Cuddalore district. The percent of Gross cropped area to net cropped area is highest in coastal region and lowest in flood plain region. Cuddalore district has 15.60 per cent of per capita net sown area. The per capita net sown area is lowest in north plain region and highest in coastal region. The per cent of net irrigated area to net sown area is worked out to 35.78 per cent in Cuddalore district. The coastal region has 50.08 per cent of net irrigated area to net sown area. The per cent of gross irrigated area to gross cropped area is worked out to 24.40 per cent in Cuddalore district. The coastal region has 32.25 per cent of gross irrigated area to gross cropped area and it is lowest in flood plain region. Cuddalore district has 237.33 bovine population per sq. km. The density of

bovine population is highest in flood plain region and lowest in coastal region. In Cuddalore district, 93 per cent of the villages are electrified. There is no significant regional variation with respect to per cent of villages electrified in Cuddalore district. In this district, 387.67 draught animals per thousand hectares of net sown area. The number of draught animals per thousand hectares of net sown area is highest in flood plain region and lowest in coastal region. Cuddalore district has 16.02 post offices per 1000 population. The number of post offices per 1000 population is lowest in coastal region and highest in north plain region. This district has 46.94 radio sets per 1000 population. The flood plain region has highest number of radio sets and coastal region has lowest number of radio sets. The literacy rate of Cuddalore district is worked out to 61.35 per cent. The flood plain region has lowest level of literacy. In this district, 95 per cent of villages have protected water supply. There is no significant variation among regions with respect to coverage of protected water supply. The number of the households per 100 residential occupied is worked out to 95.

A study of data in Table 2 indicates the block wise development status in Cuddalore district. It could be noted that the population density is highest in Cuddalore block and lowest in Mangalore block. The Cuddalore block occupies the first position with respect to per cent of urban population and Kattumannar koil block comes to second position. The present of urban population is lowest in Mangalore block. However, Mangalore block has highest sex ratio and sex ratio is lowest in Kurinjipadi block. The concentration of scheduled caste population is highest in Mangalore block and lowest in Panruti block. The scheduled tribe population is considerably higher in Panruti block than those of other blocks chosen in the study. Kurinjipadi block occupies the first position with respect to possession of more number of households than those of other blocks and this block has more per cent of workers to the population. Panruti block has lowest number of female workers to the total population. Bhuvanagiri block occupies the first position with respect to per cent of agriculture workers to the total workers and also per cent of agriculture labourers to total agriculturalists. Cuddalore block takes the first position with respect to more number of industrial workers than those of other blocks. The total cropped area is highest in Kattumannar koil block and lowest in Mangalore block. The per cent of gross cropped to net cropped area is highest in Mangalore block and lowest in Bhuvanagiri block. The per capita net sown area is highest in Kattumannar Koil block and lowest in Kurinjipadi block. The per cent of net area irrigated to net area sown is highest in Cuddalore block and lowest in Mangalore block. The percent of gross area irrigated to gross cropped area is highest in Kurinjipadi block and lowest in Panruti block. Kattumannar Koil block occupies the first position with respect to possession of bovine population and draught animals. Cuddalore block occupies the first position with respect to per cent of villages electrified and Bhuvanagiri block takes the last position. Kurinjipadi block has less number of post offices in relation to its population size. Cuddalore block has more number of radio sets and Panruti block has less number of radio sets per population than those of other blocks. Among the selected blocks Cuddalore block has highest level of literacy and Kattumannar koil block lowest level of literacy. The per cent of literacy among the scheduled caste is

Table 2
Block wise Development Status in Cuddalore District

Socio-Economic Indicators	Flood Plain Region			Coastal Region			North Plain		
	Bhuvanagiri	Kattumannar	Koils	Kurinjipadi	Cuddalore	Mangalur	Pamruti		
Density of population	526	515		508	1006			328	1064
Percentage of Urban population to total population	26	28.69		24.00	38			14	23
No. of females per 1000 males	983	979		933	985			1020	966
Percentage of schedule caste to total population	32.00	34.21		31.82	34			39	18.70
Percentage of schedule tribe to total population	0.70	0.58		0.29	0.75			12	5
Average size of household	4	4		5	4			4	4.5
Percentage of workers to total population	43	48.51		53.57	52			52	37.10
Percentage of female workers to total workers	14.00	17.50		37.65	17			45	10.10
Percentage agriculture workers to total workers	72	29.56		22.38	74			67	61.50
Percentage of Agricultural labours to total Agriculturalists	77	2		51.75	76			46	23.2
Percentage of workers in manufacturing industry to total workers	4.00	3.3		3.64	12			1	1.60
Percentage of area sown to total area	65.22	82.98		76.48	65			48	73.90
Percentage of gross cropped area to net area sown	59	72.36		76	61			118	95
Per capita net area sown	0.12	0.17		0.11	0.14			16	0.4
Percentage of net area irrigated to net area sown	99.40	88.21		70.43	99.45			33	29
Percentage of gross area irrigated to gross cropped area	61.75	71.18		75.00	63.75			31	27
Bovine population per Sq. Km	169	535		336	85			90	80
No. of draught animals for thousand hectares of net area sown	360	667		108	390			762	39
Percentage of villages electrified	88	93		89	99			92	96
No. of post offices per thousand of population	12	23		10	13			23	15
No. of radio sets per thousand of population	61	66.66		57	67			40	35
Percentage of literacy	63.00	52		43.23	70			57.5	64.8
Percentage of literacy amongst schedule castes	22.63	24.69		20.21	23.05			10.15	20.7
Percentage of villages covered by protected water supply	92	96		99	88			99	93
No. of households per 100 residential occupied houses	96	92		95	89			99	99

Source: Computed.

highest in Kattumannar Koil block and lowest in Mangalore block. Cuddalore block is pushed down to last position with respect to percent of villages covered by protected water supply.

A study on data in Table 3 indicates the villages wise development indicators in Cuddalore district. It could be noted that the population density is highest in L.N Puram village and lowest in Ayekuppam village. The Passar village the first position with respect to percent of urban population and L.N. Puram village comes to second position. The present of urban population is lowest in Ayekuppam village. However, Ayekuppam village has highest sex ratio and sex ratio is lowest in Atarmangalam village. The concentration of scheduled caste population is highest in Ayekuppam village and lowest in Passar village. The scheduled tribe population is considerably higher in Ayekuppam village than those of other blocks chosen in the study. Erumpur village occupies the first position with respect to possession of more number of households than those of other blocks and this village has more per cent of workers to the population. Passar village has lowest number of female workers to the total population. L.N. Puram village occupies the first position with respect to per cent of agriculture workers to the total workers. Atarmangalam village occupies the first position with respect to per cent of agriculture labourers to total agriculturalists. L.N. Puram village takes the first position with respect to more number of industrial workers than those of other blocks. The total cropped area is highest in Sandorpalayam village and lowest in Ayekuppam village. The percent of gross cropped to net cropped area is highest in Ayekuppam vilalge and lowest in Atarmangalam village. The per capita net sown area is highest in Ayekuppam village and lowest in Passar village. The per cent of net area irrigated to net area sown is highest in L.N. Puram village and lowest in Ayekuppam village. The percent of gross area irrigated to gross cropped area is highest in Sandorpalayam village and lowest in Passar village. Sandorpalayam village occupies the first position with respect to possession of bovine population and Ayekuppam village occupies the first position with respect to possession of draught animals. Passar village occupies the first position with respect to per cent of villages electrified and Sandorpalayam village takes the last position. Sandorpalayam village has less number of post offices in relation to its population size. Atarmangalam village has more number of radio sets and Passar vilage has less number of radio sets per population than those of other blocks. Among the selected blocks L.N. Puram village has highest level of literacy and Sandorpalayam village lowest level of literacy. The per cent of literacy among the scheduled caste is highest in Ayekuppam village and lowest in Erumpur village. Atarmangalam village is pushed down to last position with respect to percent of villages covered by protected water supply. The percent of number of households per 100 residential is highest in Ayekuppam village and Passar village and lowest in Erumpur village.

A study on data in Table 4 indicates the village wise distribution of agriculture of Infrastructure. Atarmangalam village has 63 agriculture infrastructure facilities. These include 46 diesel engine, 10 electric motor pump sets, 6 length of canal and 5 irrigation tanks. Erumpur village has 59 agriculture infrastructure facilities. These include 25

Table 3
Village wise Development Indicators in Cuddalore District

<i>Socio-Economic Indicators</i>	<i>Atammangalam</i>	<i>Erumpur</i>	<i>Sandorpalayam</i>	<i>Ayekuppam</i>	<i>Passar</i>	<i>L.N. Puram</i>
Density of population	326	304	412	272	894	996
Percentage of Urban population to total population	21	18.00	20.19	10	42	23
No. of females per 1000 males	782	813	851	922	872	885
Percentage of schedule caste to total population	24.00	22.18	14.21	29	11.60	19
Percentage of schedule tribe to total population	0.70	0.29	0.58	8	4	0.65
Average size of household	3	4	3	3	3.1	3.8
Percentage of workers to total population	33	43.57	38.51	41	32.16	49
Percentage of female workers to total workers	10.00	31.25	11.28	34	9.90	11
Percentage agriculture workers to total workers	68	18.32	19.56	57	51.18	69
Percentage of Agricultural labours to total Agricultural workers	68	42.76	1	33	18.90	63
Percentage of workers in manufacturing industry to total workers	3.00	2.23	1.75	1	1.50	9
Percentage of area sown to total area	59.21	62.48	83.98	33	63.81	59
Percentage of gross cropped area to net area sown	55	69	63.88	111	89	64
Per capita net area sown	0.09	0.07	11.69	14	0.3	0.06
Percentage of net area irrigated to net area sown	79.52	52.43	78.21	23	20	89.45
Percentage of gross area irrigated to gross cropped area	52.88	63.00	69.15	26	21	59.78
Bovine population per Sq. Km	153	142	438	70	69	99
No. of draught animals for thousand hectares of net area sown	280	96	487	520	38	370
Percentage of villages electrified	92	93	88	90	96	89
No. of post offices per thousand of population	11	0.15	23	0.23	15	13
No. of radio sets per thousand of population	59	33	63	9	2	49
Percentage of literacy	61.00	41.26	29.23	47.52	59.20	69.23
Percentage of literacy amongst schedule castes	20.15	10.15	26.15	35.07	31.67	24.65
Percentage of villages covered by protected water supply	89	99	92	96	98	93
No. of households per 100 residential occupied houses	93	95	88	99	99	98

Source: Computed

diesel engine, 23 electric motor pump sets, 5 length of canal and 6 irrigation tanks. Sandorpalayam village has 74 agriculture infrastructure facilities. These include 18 diesel engine, 42 electric motor pump sets, 10 length of canal and 4 irrigation tanks. Ayekuppam village has 80 agriculture infrastructure facilities. These include 35 diesel engine, 33 electric motor pump sets, 9 length of canal and 3 irrigation tanks. Passar village has 73 agriculture infrastructure facilities. These include 40 diesel engine, 25 electric motor pump sets, 6 length of canal and 2 irrigation tanks. L.N. Puram village has 89 agriculture infrastructure facilities. These include 45 diesel engine, 36 electric motor pump sets, 5 length of canal and 3 irrigation tanks.

Table 4
Village wise Distribution of Agriculture Infrastructure

<i>Village wise</i>	<i>Atarmangalam</i>	<i>Erumpur</i>	<i>Sandorpalayam</i>	<i>Ayekuppam</i>	<i>Passar</i>	<i>L.N. Puram</i>
No. of Pump sets	42	25	18	35	40	45
No. of Electrical Motor pump sets	10	23	42	33	25	36
Length of canal	6	5	10	9	6	5
No. of tanks and ponds	5	6	4	3	2	3
Total no. of Infrastructure	63	59	74	80	73	89

Source: Computed.

A study of data in Table 5 indicates the village wise distribution of power infrastructure facilities. It could be noted that Sandor palayam village occupies the first position with respect to possession of power infrastructure facilities. It has 278 power infrastructure facilities and among them 20 street lights, 180 electrified households, 28 houses with one light scheme, 8 sodium lamps and 10 electric pump sets. Ayekuppam village comes to the second position with respect to possession of power infrastructure facilities. It has 272 power infrastructure facilities and among them 9 street lights, 179 electrified households, 33 houses with one light scheme, 8 sodium lamps and 33 electric pump sets. L.N. Puram village comes to the third position with respect to possession of power infrastructure facilities. It has 269 power infrastructure facilities and among them 15 street lights, 169 electrified households, 40 houses with one light scheme, 9 sodium lamps and 36 electric pump sets. Erumpur village comes to the fourth position with respect to possession of power infrastructure facilities. It has 256 power infrastructure facilities and among them 15 street lights, 176 electrified households, 36 houses with one light scheme, 6 sodium lamps and 23 electric pump sets. Passar village comes to the fifth position with respect to possession of power infrastructure facilities. It has 250 power infrastructure facilities and among them 18 street lights, 175 electrified households, 26 houses with one light scheme, 6 sodium lamps and 25 electric pump sets. Atarmangalam village comes to the last position with respect to possession of power infrastructure facilities. It has 209 power infrastructure facilities and among them 10 street lights, 162 electrified households, 22 houses with one light scheme, 5 sodium lamps and 10 electric pump sets.

Table 5
Village wise Distribution of Power Infrastructure Facilities

<i>Village wise</i>	<i>Atarmangalam</i>	<i>Erumpur</i>	<i>Sandorpalayam</i>	<i>Ayekuppam</i>	<i>Passar</i>	<i>L.N. Puram</i>
No. of street lights	10	15	20	19	18	15
No. of electrified households	162	176	180	179	175	169
No. of houses with 1 light scheme	22	36	28	33	26	40
No. of sodium lamps	5	6	8	8	6	9
No. of electric pump sets	10	23	42	33	25	36
Total	209	256	278	272	250	269

Source: Computed.

A study of data in Table 6 indicates the village distribution of road facilities. The total road length in Atarmangalam village is 4011.34 meters. Out of the total road length tar road length is 1222 meters, length of cement road is 1366.98 meters and length of mud road is 1422.36 meters. Erumpur village has 4186.47 meters total length of road and among them length of length tar road length is 1233 meters, length of cement road is 1483.95 meters and length of mud road is 1469.52 meters. Sandorpalayam vilage has 4078 meters total length of road and among the length of length tar road length is 1206 meters, length of cement road is 1489.25 meters and length of mud road is 1382.75 meters. Ayekuppam vilage has 4193 meters total length of road and among the length of length tar road length is 1455 meters, length of cement road is 1469.00 meters and length of mud road is 1269.33 meters. Passar vilage has 4254.85 meters total length of road and among the length of length tar road length is 1500 meters, length of cement road is 1297.85 meters and length of mud road is 1475 meters. L.N. Puram vilage has 3950 meters total length of road and among the length of length tar road length is 1096 meters, length of cement road is 1395 meters and length of mud road is 1459 meters.

Table 6
Village wise Distribution of road facilities

<i>Village wise</i>	<i>Atarmangalam</i>	<i>Erumpur</i>	<i>Sandorpalayam</i>	<i>Ayekuppam</i>	<i>Passar</i>	<i>L.N. Puram</i>
Length of Tar Road	1222	1233	1206	1455	1500	1096
Length of cement road	1366.98	1483.95	1489.25	1469.00	1297.85	1395
Length of mud road	1422.36	1469.52	1382.75	1269.33	1457	1459
Total	4011.34	4186.47	4078	4193.33	4254.85	3950

Source: Computed.

A study of data in Table 7 indicates the village wise distribution of water infrastructure facilities. It could be noted that Sandorpalayam village takes the first position with respect to possession of water infrastructure facilities. It has 92 water infrastructure facilities. Among them 75 are household tape connections, 2 bridges across the canals, 7 public tape connections and 8 public hand pumps. L.N. Puram

village occupies the second position with respect to possession of water infrastructure facilities. It has 84 water infrastructure facilities. Among them 66 are household tape connections, 1 bridges across the canals, 9 public tape connections and 8 public hand pumps. Ayekuppam village occupies the third position with respect to possession of water infrastructure facilities. It has 77 water infrastructure facilities. Among them 60 are household tape connections, 4 bridges across the canals, 8 public tape connections and 5 public hand pumps. Erumpur village takes the fourth position with respect to possession of water infrastructure facilities. It has 74 water infrastructure facilities. Among them 58 are household tape connections, 4 bridges across the canals, 5 public tape connections and 7 public hand pumps. Atarmangalam village occupies the fifth position with respect to possession of water infrastructure facilities. It has 70 water infrastructure facilities. Among them 50 are household tape connections, 5 bridges across the canals, 9 public tape connections and 6 public hand pumps. Passar village takes the last position with respect to possession of water infrastructure facilities. It has 69 water infrastructure facilities. Among them 50 are household tape connections, 3 bridges across the canals, 6 public tape connections and 9 public hand pumps.

Table 7
Village wise Distribution of Water Infrastructure Facilities

<i>Village wise</i>	<i>Atarmangalam</i>	<i>Erumpur</i>	<i>Sandorpalayan</i>	<i>Ayekuppam</i>	<i>Passar</i>	<i>L.N. Puram</i>
No. of hand pumps	6	7	8	5	9	8
No. of public tape	9	5	7	8	6	9
No. of bridges across the canals	5	4	2	4	3	1
No. of houses with tape connection	50	58	75	60	50	66
Total	70	74	92	77	68	84

Source: Computed.

A study of data in Table 8 indicates the village wise distance of access to infrastructure facilities. Atarmangalam village has an average of 5.56 km distance of access to infrastructure facilities. In this village, distance of access to bus station is 3 km, telegraphic office 5 km, post office 2 km, fair price shop 3 km, college 12 km, secondary school 5 km, nearest town 6 km, primary school 9 km and hospital 5 km. Erumpur village has an average of 5.11 km distance of access to infrastructure facilities. In this village, distance of access to bus station is 3 km, telegraphic office 5 km, post office 3 km, fair price shop 3 km, college 10 km, secondary school 3 km, nearest town 9 km, primary school 5 km and hospital 5 km. Sandorpalayan village has an average of 6.44 km distance of access to infrastructure facilities. In this village, distance of access to bus station is 4 km, telegraphic office 4 km, post office 2 km, fair price shop 3 km, college 23 km, secondary school 4 km, nearest town 5 km, primary school 4 km and hospital 9 km. Ayekuppam village has an average of 8.33 km distance of access to infrastructure facilities. In this village, distance of access to bus station is 5 km, telegraphic office 3 km, post office 5 km, fair price shop 4 km, college 29 km, secondary

Table 8
Village wise Distance Access to Infrastructure Facilities

Village wise	Atarmangalam	Erumpur	Sandorpalayam	Ayekuppam	Passar	L.N. Puram
Distance of access to hospitals	5	5	9	9	6	8
Distance of access to primary health centre	9	5	4	2	6	9
Distance of access to nearest town	6	9	5	12	6	5
Distance of access to secondary school	5	3	4	6	9	5
Distance of access to colleges	12	10	23	29	20	24
Distance of access to fair price shop	3	3	3	4	2	3
Distance of access to post office	2	3	2	5	3	4
Distance of access to telegram office	5	5	4	3	5	2
Distance of access to Bus station	3	3	4	5	4	5
Total	5.56	5.11	6.44	8.33	6.78	7.22

Source: Computed.

school 6 km, nearest town 12 km, primary school 2 km and hospital 9 km. Passar village has an average of 6.78 km distance of access to infrastructure facilities. In this village, distance of access to bus station is 4 km, telegraphic office 5 km, post office 3 km, fair price shop 2 km, college 20 km, secondary school 9 km, nearest town 6 km, primary school 6 km and hospital 6 km. L.N. Puram village has an average of 7.22 km distance of access to infrastructure facilities. In this village, distance of access to bus station is 5 km, telegraphic office 2 km, post office 4 km, fair price shop 3 km, college 24 km, secondary school 5 km, nearest town 5 km, primary school 9 km and hospital 8 km.

Conclusion

It could be seen clearly from the above discussion that coastal region occupies the first position with respect to high population density, percentage of urban population, percentage of scheduled caste population, average number of households, net irrigated area, net sown area, gross cropped area and per cent of literacy. The flood plain region occupies the first position with respect to high sex ratio, bovine population, draught animal and radio in use. The north plain region occupies the last position with respect to scheduled caste population, workers population, workers in manufacturing industry, cropped area and per capita net sown area. Inter block variation and inter village variation have been observed with respect to rural infrastructure development in Cuddalore district

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