



TRENDS AND PATTERNS OF COMBINED (CENTRE & STATES) PUBLIC EXPENDITURE AND SOCIAL SECTOR EXPENDITURE IN INDIA

Hemantha M ¹, Dr. S.B. Nari ²

¹Research Scholar, Department of Studies in Economics, Karnatak University, Dharwad

²Associate Professor, Department of Studies in Economics, Karnatak University, Dharwad

ABSTRACT

DOI No: 10.36713/epra14989

Article DOI: <https://doi.org/10.36713/epra14989>

The present study discusses Trends and Patterns of Combined Public Expenditure and Social Sector Expenditure in India, during 1980 to 2022. The study provides valuable insights on evolving priorities and responses by Government for addressing socio-economic challenges. Over the period, the study reveals an upward trend in Public Spending reflecting Government's priorities towards Social Sector Development and Public Welfare. Overall, the study highlights a sustained commitment from the Government for achieving Socio-Economic Development amidst changing Economic context and priorities.

1. INTRODUCTION

India as the world's seventh largest and second most populous nation, stands at a critical juncture in its Socio-economic Development. Over the past few decades, the country has experienced remarkable growth and transformation, both in Economic and Social Dimensions. The Indian Government utilizes Public Expenditure to shape the Socio-economic outlook of the nation, making it a crucial aspect of this transformative journey.

Since Independence, the Indian government's role in Socio-Economic Development has been of paramount importance. To achieve these objectives, Public Spending has been a crucial instrument. The Public Expenditure is generally divided into two important components: Development & Non-Development Expenditure. The Non-Development Expenditure comprises daily administrative expenses of the government. While the Development Expenditure is invested in Developmental activities, which also includes the Social Sector. The budgetary allocation to

these activities reflects the government's commitment to enhance the social well-being of its citizens.

The Social Sector comprising education, healthcare, nutrition, and social welfare, is of great importance in the context of India's Growth and Development. Social Sector Expenditure (SSE) is the Total Public Expenditure on 'Social Services' and 'Rural Development' by the Central and State Governments. The 'Social Services' mainly comprises Education, health, family welfare, water supply and sanitation. The head 'Rural Development' generally comprise poverty alleviation programs like employment generation, health and nutritional development initiatives for women and children (Dev & Mooij, 2004). Thus, understanding the Trends and Patterns of Social Sector Expenditure is crucial for analyzing the government's efforts to address Socio-economic challenges.

This research paper traces the journey of Combined Public and Social Sector Spending in India, from 1980 to 2022. It will discuss the significant shifts and

transitions in the budgetary allocation. This research will provide valuable insight into India's development efforts. By examining the Trends and Patterns of Public and Social Sector Spending the researchers and policymakers can gain a deeper understanding of strengths and weaknesses of India's Development Model. This paper can inform future policy decisions, enabling the government to effectively and efficiently allocate its resources to address the needs of its people.

The following sections will explore the evolution of Combined Public and Social Sector Expenditure throughout the study period. It will delve into the obstacles and opportunities that have shaped the India's Development by offering valuable insights for the future.

2. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

In the present study, an analysis is conducted on the Trends and Patterns of Public Spending and Social Sector Spending undertaken by both Central and State

(Combined) Governments of India. To achieve the objective, the study as considered the study period to be from 1980 to 2022. The required data has been obtained from Reserve Bank of India, Database on Indian Economy and Economic and Political Weekly (EPWRF) Database. The study incorporates basic statistical tools such as Percentages, Ratios, Annual Growth Rate and Compound Annual Growth Rate to discern the Trends and Patterns of Combined Public and Social Sector Spending.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This section discusses the findings derived from the Trends and Patterns in Combined (Centre + state) Public Expenditure and Social Sector Expenditure in India. In this section, a comprehensive overview of Combined (Centre + state) Public Expenditure and Social Sector Expenditure in India from 1980 to 2022 highlighting important changes in spending pattern over the period.

Table 1. Combined Central and State Public Expenditure Overview

(In Crores)

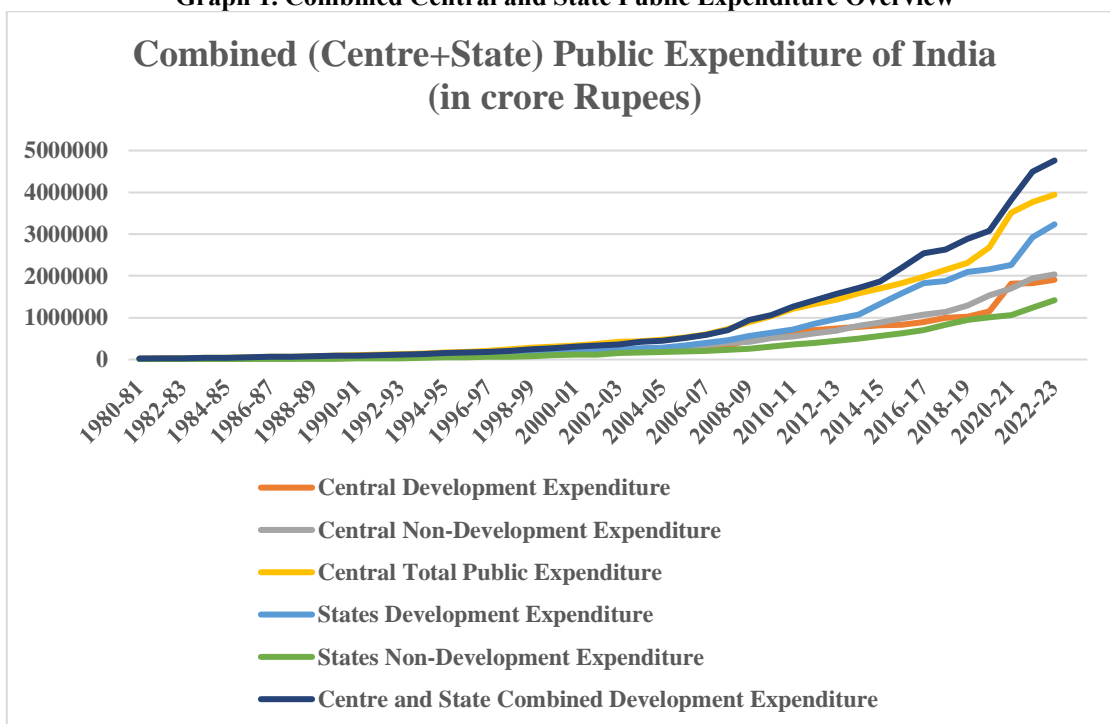
Year	CDE	CTPE	SDE	STPE	CSCDE	CSCTPE
1980	13327	23194	15961	22664	24480	37879
1981	13791	26435	17960	25170	28796	44479
1982	16333	32230	20649	28742	33643	52057
1983	19407	37771	23972	33540	38352	59989
1984	27375	45900	27958	39857	46265	71654
1985	32909	53808	31732	44867	50509	78627
1986	35498	64778	36827	51786	61721	100470
1987	36573	70461	42451	59871	66295	110272
1988	41536	77055	46984	67078	74428	126488
1989	54204	95224	53150	76782	89420	145139
1990	58645	107994	63370	91088	97724	163520
1991	59313	114483	74588	107929	109372	185905
1992	65479	126063	80567	119335	118202	203043
1993	72464	146050	88791	134649	129042	232650
1994	82803	165205	102629	161554	150367	272874
1995	84427	183059	112888	177584	165361	303582
1996	94197	206414	129364	202769	185368	343548
1997	110994	238814	142266	228135	201399	385302
1998	137257	287555	161200	266361	239720	463945
1999	129151	307079	183540	313889	274483	540423
2000	139386	336856	205671	347198	308546	595595
2001	159364	374820	211086	377312	332224	652967
2002	184197	426946	221799	420462	359329	704904
2003	195428	438726	272848	516350	417834	796384
2004	214955	477860	286473	572354	445354	869757
2005	229060	519737	330044	561582	509525	959855
2006	255718	596996	392165	657280	588028	1109174
2007	325670	726398	464462	752325	710271	1315283
2008	471399	899544	567086	882332	943708	1599677
2009	528242	1042343	637731	1015330	1062808	1852119
2010	666069	1217540	720355	1158730	1267697	2145145
2011	705321	1332396	852406	1351612	1420938	2421768
2012	742417	1435273	972256	1534254	1574162	2694933

2013	784504	1587574	1076452	1706144	1714221	3000299
2014	813813	1694972	1325989	2025782	1872062	3285210
2015	835019	1825191	1584006	2360229	2201287	3760611
2016	899369	1975194	1831164	2708219	2537905	4265969
2017	998201	2141973	1877392	2924599	2635110	4515946
2018	1025979	2315113	2100802	3337713	2882758	5040747
2019	1153187	2686330	2163341	3495003	3074492	5410887
2020	1808981	3509836	2264471	3697492	3823423	6353359
2021	1821603	3770000	2922423	4596566	4489442	7453320
2022	1908663	3944909	3234504	5133245	4761567	8008684

Data Source: Reserve Bank of India, Database on Indian Economy

Note: CDE - Combined Development Expenditure, CTPE: Central Total Public Expenditure, SDE: State Development Expenditure, STPE: State Total Public Expenditure, CSCDE: Centre and State Combined Development Expenditure, CSCTPE: Centre and State Combined Total Public Expenditure

Graph 1. Combined Central and State Public Expenditure Overview



Source: Author's Calculation

The Table 1 & Graph 1 presents data on Combined Central and State Expenditure in India from 1980 to 2022, which are categorized into different components of Public Expenditure. The important categories include Combined Development Expenditure (CDE), Central Total Public Expenditure (CTPE), State Development Expenditure (SDE), State Total Public Expenditure (STPE), Centre and State Combined Development Expenditure (CSCDE), and Centre and State Combined Total Public Expenditure (CSCTPE).

Over the years, there has been a significant increase in these expenditures. Notably, CDE, CSCDE, CTPE, and CSCTPE have consistently shown increasing trends, indicating a growing commitment to Development and Public Spending at both the Central and State levels. The data also highlights fluctuations in Expenditure growth, with certain years showing remarkable increases, such as 2020 and 2021, likely driven by exceptional circumstances like the COVID-19 pandemic.

Table 2. Annual Growth Rate of Combined Central and State Public Expenditure

Year	Combined Public Expenditure Annual Growth Rate (%)	Combined Development Expenditure Annual Growth Rate (%)
1981	17.42%	17.63%
1982	17.04%	16.83%
1983	15.24%	14.00%
1984	19.45%	20.63%
1985	9.73%	9.17%
1986	27.78%	22.20%
1987	9.76%	7.41%
1988	14.71%	12.27%
1989	14.75%	20.14%
1990	12.66%	9.29%
1991	13.69%	11.92%
1992	9.22%	8.07%
1993	14.58%	9.17%
1994	17.29%	16.53%
1995	11.25%	9.97%
1996	13.16%	12.10%
1997	12.15%	8.65%
1998	20.41%	19.03%
1999	16.48%	14.50%
2000	10.21%	12.41%
2001	9.63%	7.67%
2002	7.95%	8.16%
2003	12.98%	16.28%
2004	9.21%	6.59%
2005	10.36%	14.41%
2006	15.56%	15.41%
2007	18.58%	20.79%
2008	21.62%	32.87%
2009	15.78%	12.62%
2010	15.82%	19.28%
2011	12.90%	12.09%
2012	11.28%	10.78%
2013	11.33%	8.90%
2014	9.50%	9.21%
2015	14.47%	17.59%
2016	13.44%	15.29%
2017	5.86%	3.83%
2018	11.62%	9.40%
2019	7.34%	6.65%
2020	17.42%	24.36%
2021	17.31%	17.42%
2022	7.45%	6.06%

Source: Author's Calculation

The Table 2 provides Annual growth rates for Combined Public Expenditure and Combined Development Expenditure in India from 1981 to 2022. These growth rates offer valuable insights into the Trends and Patterns of Government Spending over the years. From 1981 to 2007, Combined Public Expenditure exhibited significant fluctuations in Annual growth rates. During this period, the growth

rates ranged from as high as 27.78% in 1986 to as low as 5.86% in 2017. These fluctuations may be attributed to changes in government policies, economic conditions, and global factors affecting public spending priorities. The Combined Development Expenditure also showed variations in Annual growth rates, ranging from a high of 32.87% in 2008 to a low of 3.83% in 2017. This suggests that the Growth in

Development Expenditure experienced periods of rapid expansion followed by periods of slower growth or contraction. The years 2008 and 2009 stand out with exceptionally high growth rates in both Combined Public Expenditure and Combined Development Expenditure. The global financial crisis of 2008 may have influenced these figures, as governments often increase spending during economic downturns to stimulate economic activity and support citizens. In recent years, from 2015 to 2022, there is a noticeable increase in Annual growth rates, especially in 2020, when both Combined Public Expenditure and

Combined Development Expenditure experienced significant growth. This increase could be linked to the COVID-19 pandemic and government initiatives to address its economic and health impacts through increased spending. The lower growth rates in 2022 may indicate a return to more moderate growth patterns, possibly reflecting efforts to stabilize the economy and fiscal policies. In summary, the table reveals the dynamic nature of government spending in India, with periods of high growth, fluctuations, and responses to economic challenges.

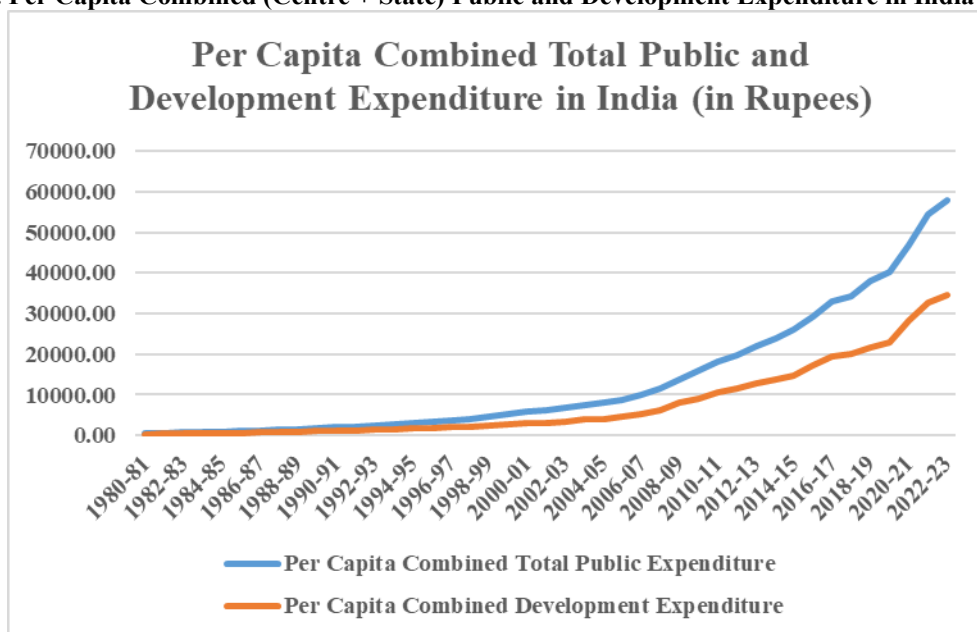
Table 3. Trends and Patterns of Per Capita Combined Total Public Expenditure and Development Expenditure in India

Year	Per Capita Combined Total Public Expenditure (in Rupees)	Per Capita Combined Development Expenditure (in Rupees)	Per Capita Combined Total Public Expenditure Annual Growth (%)	Per Capita Combined Development Expenditure Annual Growth Rate (%)
1980	557.86	360.53	-	-
1981	642.76	416.13	15.22%	15.42%
1982	735.27	475.18	14.39%	14.19%
1983	829.72	530.46	12.85%	11.63%
1984	969.61	626.05	16.86%	18.02%
1985	1041.42	668.99	7.41%	6.86%
1986	1303.11	800.53	25.13%	19.66%
1987	1399.39	841.31	7.39%	5.09%
1988	1571.28	924.57	12.28%	9.90%
1989	1765.68	1087.83	12.37%	17.66%
1990	1948.99	1164.77	10.38%	7.07%
1991	2171.79	1277.71	11.43%	9.70%
1992	2328.47	1355.53	7.21%	6.09%
1993	2608.18	1446.66	12.01%	6.72%
1994	2998.62	1652.38	14.97%	14.22%
1995	3271.36	1781.91	9.10%	7.84%
1996	3631.59	1959.49	11.01%	9.97%
1997	3996.91	2089.20	10.06%	6.62%
1998	4719.68	2438.66	18.08%	16.73%
1999	5398.83	2742.09	14.39%	12.44%
2000	5844.90	3027.93	8.26%	10.42%
2001	6278.53	3194.46	7.42%	5.50%
2002	6675.23	3402.74	6.32%	6.52%
2003	7428.96	3897.71	11.29%	14.55%
2004	7986.75	4089.57	7.51%	4.92%
2005	8678.62	4606.92	8.66%	12.65%
2006	9885.69	5240.89	13.91%	13.76%
2007	11557.85	6241.40	16.91%	19.09%
2008	13862.02	8177.71	19.94%	31.02%

2009	15830.08	9083.83	14.20%	11.08%
2010	18087.23	10688.84	14.26%	17.67%
2011	19850.56	11647.03	9.75%	8.96%
2012	21821.32	12746.25	9.93%	9.44%
2013	23983.21	13702.81	9.91%	7.50%
2014	25929.04	14775.55	8.11%	7.83%
2015	29311.08	17134	13.04%	16.12%
2016	32840.41	19537.37	12.04%	13.87%
2017	34367.93	20054.11	4.65%	2.64%
2018	37986.04	21723.87	10.53%	8.33%
2019	40349.64	22926.86	6.22%	5.54%
2020	46888.26	28217.14	16.20%	23.07%
2021	54443.54	32793.59	16.11%	16.22%
2022	57916.43	34434.24	6.38%	5.00%

Source: Author’s Calculation

Graph 2. Per Capita Combined (Centre + State) Public and Development Expenditure in India



Source: Author’s Calculation

The Table 3 & Graph 3 provides valuable insights into the Trends and Patterns of Per Capita Combined (Centre + State) Public Spending in India from 1980 to 2022. This data offers a comprehensive view of how Per Capita spending on Total Public Spending and Development Expenditure has evolved over the years. Per Capita Combined Total Public Expenditure (CTPE) and Per Capita Combined Development Expenditure (CDE) show distinct trends during this period. In 1980, the per capita CTPE was 557.86, while the per capita CDE was 360.53. Notably, both have exhibited significant growth over the years, reflecting the expansion of government spending. The Annual growth rates for per capita CTPE and per capita CDE provides further insights. Both indicators experienced fluctuations in annual growth rates, with

periods of rapid growth followed by relatively slower growth. For example, between 1980 and 1986, per capita CTPE grew by an Average Annual Growth Rate of approximately 14%, driven by significant increases in Public Spending. Similarly, per capita CDE witnessed substantial growth during this period. A noteworthy pattern emerges in the 1990s when both per capita CTPE and per capita CDE growth rates slowed down compared to the previous decade. This slowdown may be attributed to economic reforms and policy changes during that period. However, growth rates picked up again in the 2000s, with per capita CTPE and per capita CDE showing consistent growth, albeit at varying rates. The years 2008 and 2009 stand out with remarkably high growth rates for both per capita CTPE and per capita CDE. These years coincide

with the global financial crisis, which led governments to increase spending to mitigate the economic impact of the crisis. In recent years, from 2015 to 2022, there has been a resurgence in growth rates for both per capita CTPE and per capita CDE, with 2020 being a

standout year with particularly high growth. This increase may be attributed to various factors, including government initiatives, infrastructure development, and responses to global challenges such as the COVID-19 pandemic.

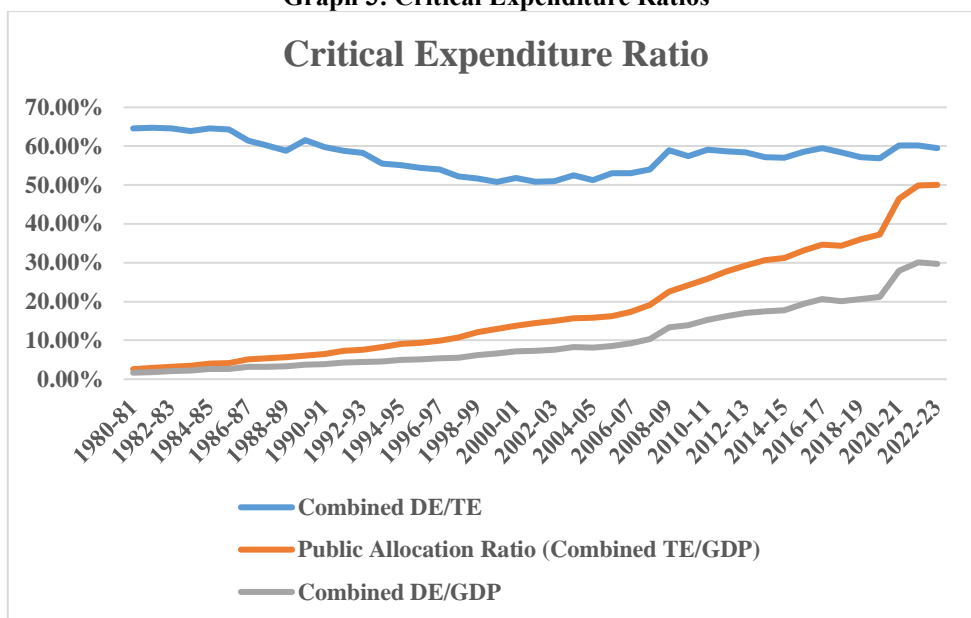
Table 4. Critical Expenditure Ratios

Year	Development Expenditure Ratio (Combined DE/TE) (%)	Public Allocation Ratio (Combined TE/GDP) (%)	Development Expenditure /GDP Ratio (Combined DE/GDP) (%)
1980	64.63%	2.59%	1.67%
1981	64.74%	2.87%	1.85%
1982	64.63%	3.24%	2.09%
1983	63.93%	3.48%	2.23%
1984	64.57%	4.00%	2.59%
1985	64.24%	4.18%	2.68%
1986	61.43%	5.09%	3.13%
1987	60.12%	5.38%	3.23%
1988	58.84%	5.62%	3.31%
1989	61.61%	6.09%	3.75%
1990	59.76%	6.50%	3.89%
1991	58.83%	7.32%	4.30%
1992	58.22%	7.57%	4.41%
1993	55.47%	8.29%	4.60%
1994	55.10%	9.11%	5.02%
1995	54.47%	9.42%	5.13%
1996	53.96%	9.92%	5.35%
1997	52.27%	10.69%	5.59%
1998	51.67%	12.12%	6.26%
1999	50.79%	12.97%	6.59%
2000	51.80%	13.77%	7.13%
2001	50.88%	14.40%	7.33%
2002	50.98%	14.97%	7.63%
2003	52.47%	15.68%	8.23%
2004	51.20%	15.87%	8.13%
2005	53.08%	16.23%	8.61%
2006	53.01%	17.35%	9.20%
2007	54.00%	19.11%	10.32%
2008	58.99%	22.55%	13.30%
2009	57.38%	24.21%	13.89%
2010	59.10%	25.84%	15.27%
2011	58.67%	27.72%	16.26%
2012	58.41%	29.25%	17.09%
2013	57.14%	30.61%	17.49%
2014	56.98%	31.21%	17.78%

2015	58.54%	33.08%	19.36%
2016	59.49%	34.66%	20.62%
2017	58.35%	34.36%	20.05%
2018	57.19%	36.02%	20.60%
2019	56.82%	37.23%	21.15%
2020	60.18%	46.42%	27.93%
2021	60.23%	49.94%	30.08%
2022	59.46%	50.03%	29.75%

Source: Author's Calculation

Graph 3: Critical Expenditure Ratios



Source: Author's Calculation

Table 4 & Graph 3 illustrates three important Expenditure Ratios over a span of four decades, from 1980 to 2022. The Ratio of Combined Total Public Expenditure to Gross Domestic Product (TE/GDP) shows a consistent increasing trend throughout the study period. This suggests that the overall public spending by both Central and State governments are growing at a faster rate than GDP. The Ratio of Combined Development Expenditure to Total Public Spending (DE/TE) indicates the proportion of Combined Development Expenditure in Total Combined Public Expenditure. There is a decreasing trend in this ratio during 1980-1998, But later there's some increase, followed by relative stability around the 60%. This can be considered as an indication for increasing priorities towards developmental initiatives by both Central and State Governments in India. The Ratio of combined Development Expenditure to GDP

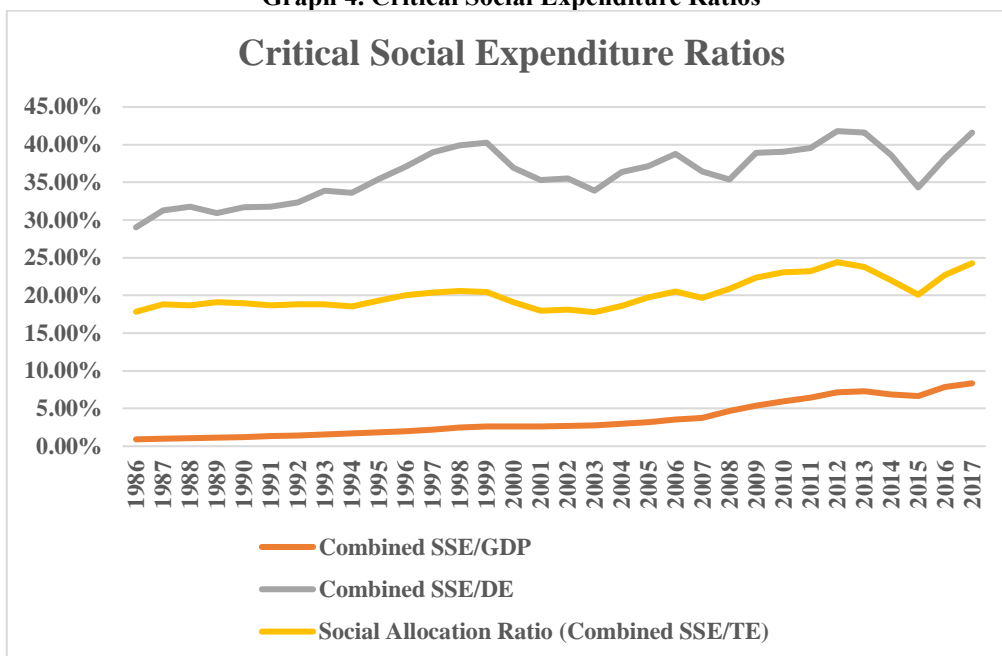
(DE/GDP) also steadily increase over the period, with significant rise observed in 2020, which might be hinting at increased investment towards development initiatives relative to the size of the economy. The rise in DE/GDP during 2020 could be ascribed to an increase in Development spending in response to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. This might include stimulus packages or other developmental initiatives. The rise in Public Allocation Ratio and the DE/GDP Ratio in relation to a decline in the DE/TE ratio until the late 1990s maybe inferring a transition in government priorities or increase in other non-development activities. The sharp increase in the TE/GDP and DE/GDP ratios during 2020 could indicate as the response for global pandemic to support their economies. The overall trend indicates the combined efforts of Central and State Governments towards Economic Growth and Development.

Table 5. Critical Social Expenditure Ratios

Year	Combined Social Sector Expenditure as a Percentage of GDP (CSSE/GDP)	Combined Social Sector Expenditure as a Percentage of Development Expenditure (CSSE/DE)	Social Allocation Ratio (CSSE/TE)
1986	0.91%	29.03%	17.83%
1987	1.01%	31.28%	18.80%
1988	1.05%	31.76%	18.69%
1989	1.16%	30.95%	19.07%
1990	1.23%	31.69%	18.94%
1991	1.37%	31.76%	18.68%
1992	1.43%	32.37%	18.84%
1993	1.56%	33.87%	18.79%
1994	1.69%	33.59%	18.51%
1995	1.82%	35.48%	19.32%
1996	1.98%	37.05%	19.99%
1997	2.18%	39.02%	20.40%
1998	2.50%	39.89%	20.61%
1999	2.65%	40.25%	20.44%
2000	2.63%	36.95%	19.14%
2001	2.59%	35.33%	17.98%
2002	2.71%	35.49%	18.09%
2003	2.79%	33.90%	17.78%
2004	2.96%	36.39%	18.63%
2005	3.20%	37.15%	19.72%
2006	3.57%	38.77%	20.55%
2007	3.76%	36.47%	19.69%
2008	4.70%	35.35%	20.86%
2009	5.41%	38.95%	22.35%
2010	5.96%	39.06%	23.08%
2011	6.43%	39.53%	23.19%
2012	7.14%	41.79%	24.41%
2013	7.27%	41.57%	23.75%
2014	6.87%	38.64%	22.02%
2015	6.64%	34.32%	20.09%
2016	7.88%	38.22%	22.74%
2017	8.34%	41.59%	24.27%

Source: Author's Calculation

Graph 4. Critical Social Expenditure Ratios



Source: Author's Calculation

Table 5 (& Graph 4) focuses on various aspects of Social Sector Expenditure from 1986 to 2017. The Combined Social Sector Expenditure to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) illustrates the Social Sector Spending proportion in Indian Economy. The CSSE/GDP has steadily increased from 0.91% in 1986 to 8.34% in 2017, indicating that Social Sector Spending has grown as a share of GDP over the study period. This also could suggest rising emphasis on Social Sector Development enhancing Healthcare, Education, and other Social Services. The ratio of Combined Social Sector Expenditure within Development Expenditure has (CSSE/DE) also generally increased, from 29.03% in 1986 to reach 41.59% in 2017, with few fluctuations. This indicates

that a larger share of Development spending is being allocated to the Social Sector. This could be due to the shift in government's priority towards Social Sector Development. The Social Allocation Ratio (CSSE/TE) has been increasing, though not at a steady pace, from 17.83% to 24.27% during 1986-2017, with noticeable decline around 2000-01 & 2014-15.

The Increase in all the above ratios indicates increasing prominence of Social Sector Development and Government's fiscal policy towards achieving it. The steady rise in the CSSE/GDP even at the times CSSE/TE ratio is declining infers Government's high priority towards Social Sector.

Table 6. Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of Combined Total Public Expenditure and its components in India

Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR)				
	CTPE	CDE	PCCTPE	PCCDE
1980-90	14.22%	13.41%	12.04%	11.25%
1990-00	12.47%	11.02%	10.50%	9.07%
2000-10	12.35%	13.71%	10.82%	12.15%
2010-22	10.66%	10.72%	9.37%	9.42%
1980-22	13.26%	13.04%	11.40%	11.19%

Source: Author's Calculation

Note: CTPE: Combined Total Public Expenditure, CDE: Combined Development Expenditure, PCCTPE: Per Capita Combined Total Public Expenditure, PCCDE: Per Capita Combined Development Expenditure

Table 6 presents the Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of Combined Total Public Expenditure (CTPE), Combined Development Expenditure (CDE), and their Per Capita. It is observed that there is a downward trend in the growth rates in both Combined

Total Public Expenditure (CTPE) and Combined Development Expenditure (CDE) during the study period. Whereas the 2000-10 period is an exception for CDE, which experienced a higher CAGR than in the previous period. The per capita figures also show a

similar trend in growth rates across the period. On the other hand, the Per Capita Development Expenditure (PCCDE) experienced a rise in the 2000-10 period, reflecting that Development Expenditure outperformed Population Growth. The lower growth

rate for Per Capita Public Spending in comparison with Total Public Expenditure reveals the impression of Population Growth on the overall budgetary allocation by Central and State Governments in Indian Economy.

Table 7. Compound Annual Growth Rate of Combined Social Sector Expenditure and Combined Per Capita Social Sector Expenditure in India

Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR)		
	CSSE	PCCSSE
1986-96	13.72%	11.84%
1996-06	12.99%	10.91%
2006-17	11.52%	9.81%
1986-17	13.98%	12.49%

Source: Author's Calculation

Note: CSSE: Combined Social Sector Expenditure, PCCSSE: Per Combined Social Sector Expenditure Table 7 explains the Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of the Combined Social Sector Expenditure (CSSE) and its Per Capita during 1986-2017. Despite the slower growth, the overall growth rate during the whole period is relatively high. The Per Capita Social Sector Expenditure (PCCSSE) also shows a diminishing growth trend over the same period. The Overall Growth Rate is 12.49%, which is a little less than the overall CSSE, reflecting the impression of Population Growth on Per Capita figures. Policymakers can interpret the slower growth rate as an opportunity to evaluate the Efficiency of the Social Sector Expenditure in the Indian Economy.

4. CONCLUSION

The Trends and Patterns of the Combined Total Public Expenditure and Social Sector Expenditure from 1980 to 2022 reveals noteworthy insights into India's Socio-Economic Development. The present study features growing priorities and commitment to Social Sector Development, supported by a consistent increasing trend in public spending. Particularly, Critical Expenditure Ratios, such as the Combined Development expenditure to Public Expenditure (DE/TE) and the Social Sector Expenditure to Gross Domestic Product (SSE/GDP), have shown substantial improvement, indicating increasing importance on Social Sector initiatives. From a policy perspective, the analysis suggests some strategic recommendations. Even though the increase in Social Sector Expenditure is laudable, a balanced approach that does not neglect other essential areas such as infrastructure, technology, and sustainable development initiatives is necessary. As a substantial amount of Public Spending is allocated to Social Sector Development, regular assessment of its Efficiency and Impact is essential, which leads to further scope for research.

5. REFERENCES

1. Aggarwal, R. (2017). Growth of public expenditure. *Pacific Business Review International*, 9(9), 122-128.
2. Chattopadhyay, S. (2018). Social Sector Expenditure in India in the 2000s: Trends and Implications. *Journal of Development Policy and Practice*, 3(1), 16-40.
3. Database on Indian Economy. Centralised Information Management System. Reserve Bank of India. <https://cimsdbie.rbi.org.in/#/dbie/statistics>
4. EPWRF India Time Series. Economic and Political Weekly Research Foundation. <https://epwrfits.in/>
5. Karnam, G. (2018). Public Expenditure in India: Some Issues and Concerns. *Public Budgeting in India: Principles and Practices*, 91-107.
6. Mooij, J., & Dev, S. M. (2004). Social Sector Priorities: An Analysis of Budgets and Expenditures in India in the 1990s. *Development Policy Review*, 22(1), 97-120.
7. Pattnaik, R. K., Bose, D., Bhattacharyya, I., & Chander, J. (2005). *Public Expenditure and Emerging Fiscal Policy Scenario in India*.
8. Premalatha, R. (2020). Pattern of Public Expenditure on Social Sector in India. *Shanlax International Journal of Economics*, 9(1), 57-62.
9. Seshaiyah, S. V., Reddy, T. K., & Sarma, I. R. S. (2018). General Government Expenditure and Economic Growth in India: 1980-81 to 2015-16. *Theoretical Economics Letters*, 8(04), 728.
10. Shankaranand, G., & Biradar, R. R. (2015). Dynamics of Public Expenditure in Karnataka: An Analysis of its Trends and Patterns. *Journal of Economic & Social Development*, 11(1).