

An Analysis of Sectoral Allocation of Budgets in India

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Abstract

The paper analyzes sectoral allocation of budgets across different sectors from 2009 to 2024. Historical trends and current patterns were analyzed to gain insight into government priorities, resource allocations, and their socio-economic implications. Through this evaluation of sectoral allocations, policymakers, stakeholders, and researchers can identify areas of underinvestment and enhance fiscal transparency and accountability. This comprehensive examination will serve as a foundation for evidence-based policy formulation. It will ensure efficient resource allocation and equitable distribution to address societal needs effectively. The analysis reveals a shift in priorities over the years. In the early years (2009-2013), the focus was on social sectors like health, education, and rural development, along with infrastructure growth. Defense spending remained moderate. During the mid-years (2013-2018), social sector spending dipped slightly, while infrastructure allocation rose. Defense spending also began to increase. The most recent years (2018-2024) have seen a significant rise in infrastructure spending. However, the social sector's share of the budget has stagnated or even declined. Defense spending has continued its upward trend. The paper acknowledges that external factors like global financial crises and pandemics can influence budget allocations. It also raises concerns about potential underinvestment in social programs and the agricultural sector, which haven't seen a significant rise in budgetary allocation despite its importance in the Indian economy.

INTRODUCTION

India's path towards becoming a global economic powerhouse is intricately linked to the effective utilization of its financial resources. The annual Union Budget, presented by the Ministry of Finance, serves as the country's roadmap for development. It outlines the government's spending plans across various sectors, acting as a powerful tool to shape the nation's social, economic, and infrastructural landscape. India's aspirations are as vast as its population.

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From eradicating poverty and hunger to achieving universal literacy and healthcare, the nation strives towards a future brimming with socio-economic prosperity. These aspirations are meticulously outlined in national plans such as the Five-Year Plans and Vision 2030 and now in India in 2047. However, translating these aspirations into reality necessitates a strategic allocation of resources. The annual budget serves as the primary instrument for channeling resources towards key sectors like infrastructure, agriculture, education, and healthcare. By analyzing trends in budgetary allocations across these crucial sectors from 2009 to 2024, we can gain invaluable insights into the government's priorities and its commitment to achieving national development goals. By scrutinizing these allocation patterns, we can discern the strategic imperatives driving budgetary decisions and identify areas for improvement. Understanding the rationale behind sectoral allocation trends is crucial for policymakers, stakeholders, and researchers seeking to formulate evidence-based policies and strategies for sustainable development.

Despite significant research on budget allocation in India, there remains a gap in conducting an in-depth examination of sectoral allocation trends. Existing studies often focus on broad budgetary patterns without delving into specific sectoral dynamics. This research aims to bridge this gap by systematically analyzing sectoral allocation trends within the Indian government budget. By thoroughly investigating these trends, including their implications and challenges across diverse sectors, this study seeks to offer valuable insights into the efficacy and equity of current budget allocation strategies. By assessing impacts on sectors and development, it identifies challenges like underinvestment in key areas and proposes strategies for optimization. Policymakers and stakeholders, aiding resource allocation and policy design. Addressing the above-said research gap in the domain, the following objectives are tried to be achieved.

1. To identify, evaluate and analyze the trends in sectoral allocation of the Indian government budget.

2. To assess the impact and challenges of the budgetary trends on various sectors.
3. To provide recommendations for a more balanced and effective budget allocation strategy.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The research methodology for the study employs a systematic approach to comprehensively analyze budget allocation trends and their ramifications for national development. A quantitative research design is adopted to meticulously identify, analyze, and evaluate trends in sectoral allocation within the Indian government budget. Data from seven sectors namely Healthcare, Infrastructure, Defense, Education, Agriculture, Social Welfare, and Rural Development for the years 2009 to 2024 was collected from reputable sources including authorized government websites and economic surveys. This data is subjected to statistical analysis and trend identification techniques to discern patterns and shifts in sectoral budget allocation over time. Additionally, qualitative methods such as content analysis have been employed to provide contextual insights into the quantitative findings. Analyzing specific sectors like healthcare allows us for a more in-depth and nuanced examination of trends compared to studying the entire budget, which can be overwhelming. These selected sectors likely represent a significant portion of the total budget and have a substantial impact on national development. Focusing on selectively these provides valuable insights into the government's priorities and their effectiveness. By concentrating on a defined set of sectors, we ensure a more consistent and comparable analysis across the chosen timeframe (2009-2024). By scrutinizing the data through a critical lens, the research seeks to uncover underlying trends and their implications for various sectors of the economy. Ultimately, this methodology endeavors to offer valuable insights that can aid policymakers, stakeholders, and researchers in making informed decisions regarding resource allocation and policy formulation, thereby contributing to more transparent, accountable and effective development strategies in India.

HEALTH SECTOR AND ANNUAL BUDGET

The health sector's allocation in the annual budget plays a pivotal role in addressing the nation's healthcare needs. It reflects the government's commitment to ensuring access to quality healthcare services for all citizens. Adequate funding enables the enhancement of healthcare infrastructure, provision of essential medical supplies, and recruitment of skilled healthcare professionals. Moreover, budgetary allocations influence the implementation of public health programs and initiatives aimed at combating diseases, improving maternal and child health, and enhancing healthcare delivery systems. A robust allocation to the health sector is essential for promoting population health, reducing healthcare disparities, and achieving broader developmental goals. The health sector in the Indian budget receives significant attention as the government endeavors to address the diverse healthcare needs of its population. Over the years, allocations toward healthcare have seen steady growth, reflecting a commitment to improving infrastructure, accessibility, and affordability of healthcare services nationwide (Bagepally *et al.*, 2022). Key priorities in recent budgets have included strengthening primary healthcare systems, expanding coverage to marginalized communities, and promoting preventive healthcare measures. The budget typically introduces targeted initiatives to tackle specific health challenges such as maternal and child health, immunization, sanitation, and disease control (Bhatia *et al.*, 2021). Private hospital enterprises growing to Tier 2 and Tier 3 areas beyond urban centres offer a compelling investment opportunity. Diagnostic and pathology facilities and miniaturized diagnostics are promising growth areas for the medical devices and equipment sector. India is just starting to adopt home healthcare options, but they have great promise. The rising older population, chronic diseases, demand for customized care, and urban nuclear families are contributing to this. AI, wearables, mobile technologies, and the Internet of Things offer investment potential. Health technology companies should focus on emergency care tools and medical infrastructure optimization. This involves increasing the number of wearable

devices that monitor health, establishing patient-accessible mobile health apps, and using AI, robots, and blockchain technology. India is just starting to use home healthcare. However, several aspects make this sector promising for growth. These include an aging population, more chronic diseases requiring long-term care, a demand for customized treatment that hospitals rarely provide, and urban nuclear families asking for more budgetary allocation towards the sector (Sarwal *et al.*, 2017). Moreover, there's a growing emphasis on public-private partnerships and innovative financing mechanisms to bolster healthcare delivery. Investments in medical research and innovation are also prioritized to enhance healthcare outcomes and promote technological advancements in the sector. Overall, the health sector in the Indian budget signifies the government's recognition of healthcare as a fundamental right and its dedication to ensuring the well-being of all citizens through comprehensive and inclusive healthcare policies and interventions.

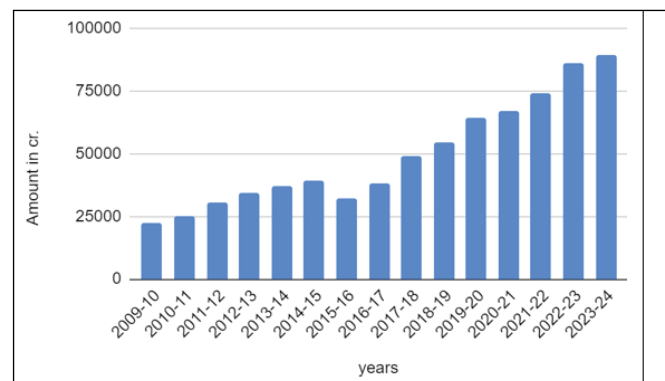


Figure 1: Allocation of the Health Sector's Budget

Data Source: <https://www.indiabudget.gov.in/>

The health sector's budget has experienced an increase in rupee terms; however, it may not have maintained pace with inflation. Despite this rise, as a proportion of the total budget, it has consistently hovered around 2% in recent years. This stagnant percentage raises concerns regarding the sufficiency of healthcare services across the nation. The budgetary allocation within the health sector may be targeted towards various areas such as public health initiatives, rural healthcare infrastructure development, or flagship programs. These specific allocations play a crucial role

in addressing pressing healthcare needs and improving overall healthcare delivery systems in the country.

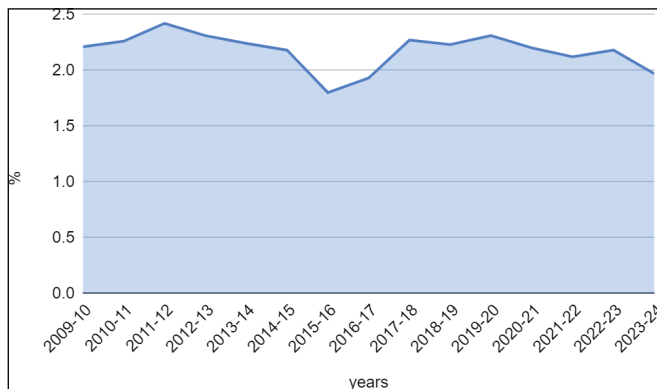


Figure 2: Share of the Health Sector

Data Source: Union Budget, Ministry of Finance

INFRASTRUCTURE AND ANNUAL BUDGET

Infrastructure funding in the annual budget is instrumental in driving economic growth and development. Adequate allocations facilitate construction and maintenance of roads, bridges, ports, and other vital infrastructure projects. These investments not only enhance connectivity and transportation efficiency but also stimulate economic activity, attract investments, and create employment opportunities. Furthermore, infrastructure spending contributes to improve overall quality of life by ensuring access to essential services and utilities. A robust allocation to infrastructure in the annual budget is essential for fostering sustainable development, enhancing competitiveness, and achieving long-term socio-economic objectives. The infrastructure sector features prominently in the Indian budget as a cornerstone for economic growth, job creation, and overall development. The government consistently allocates significant funds towards infrastructure projects, encompassing transportation, energy, telecommunications, water resources, and urban development. In recent budgets, there has been a pronounced focus on bolstering transportation infrastructure, including roads, railways, airports, and ports, to facilitate smoother movement of goods and people and to bridge regional disparities.

Additionally, investments in renewable energy projects and modernization of existing energy infrastructure have been prioritized to meet growing energy demands while promoting sustainability (Makwana, *et al.*, 2024). The Indian budget also emphasizes initiatives to enhance digital infrastructure, aiming to expand internet connectivity, digitize governance services, and promote e-commerce and digital innovation. Furthermore, funding is allocated for water resource management projects, including irrigation, dam construction, and clean water supply, to address agricultural and environmental needs (Singh, *et al.*, 2021). Overall, the infrastructure sector in the Indian budget reflects the government's commitment to building robust physical and digital infrastructure networks to support economic growth, improve living standards, and foster inclusive development across the country.

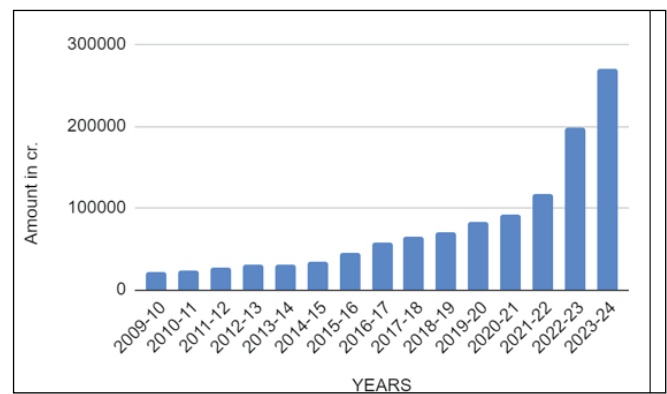


Figure 3: Allocation of the Infrastructure Sector's Budget

Data Source: Union Budget, Ministry of Finance

The infrastructure sector has experienced remarkable growth in budgetary allocation over the years. From 2009-10, with ₹2.23 lakh crore, to 2023-24, reaching ₹15.28 lakh crore, it has witnessed a nearly sevenfold increase. This substantial rise underscores the government's dedication to prioritizing development projects aimed at enhancing the nation's infrastructure. In the latest budget for 2023-24, a significant portion was allocated to infrastructure, marking an 18.5% increase compared to the previous year. This allocation emphasizes the sector's continued significance in driving economic growth, fostering connectivity, and supporting the overall development agenda of the country.

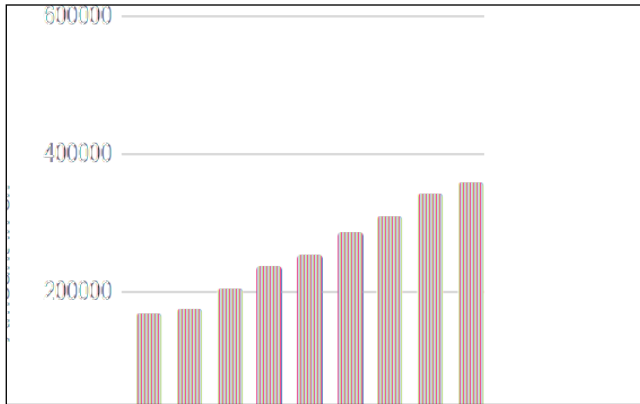


Figure 4: Share of the Infrastructure Sector

Data Source: Union Budget, Ministry of Finance

DEFENSE SECTOR AND ANNUAL BUDGET

The defense sector's allocation in the annual budget is vital for ensuring national security and safeguarding strategic interests. It reflects the government's commitment to maintaining a strong defense apparatus to protect the country from external threats and uphold sovereignty. The budget allocation enables investments in defense infrastructure, technology, and personnel, enhancing military readiness and operational capabilities. Additionally, it supports research and development initiatives to innovate defense solutions and adapt to emerging security challenges. The defense sector's funding in the annual budget plays a crucial role in strengthening the nation's defense posture and ensuring peace and stability in the region (Manchanda, *et al*, 2021). India's defense budget typically includes funding for modernizing the armed forces, acquiring advanced weaponry and equipment, enhancing military infrastructure, and supporting research and development in defense technologies. Moreover, investments are made to strengthen border security, improve surveillance capabilities, and bolster maritime security. The Indian government consistently emphasizes indigenous defense production and self-reliance through initiatives such as Make in India and the Defense Procurement Procedure. These initiatives aim to reduce dependency on imports, promote domestic defense manufacturing capabilities, and stimulate economic growth through the defense

industrial base. Overall, the defense sector in the Indian budget underscores the government's commitment to maintaining a strong defense posture, ensuring national sovereignty, and safeguarding the interests of its citizens in an increasingly complex geopolitical landscape.

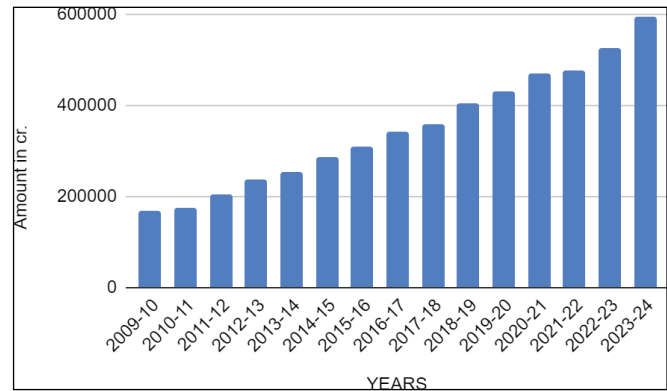


Figure 5: Allocation of the Defense Sector's Budget

Data Source: Union Budget, Ministry of Finance

The defense budget has demonstrated a consistent upward trend over the analyzed period, reflecting a steadfast commitment to national security. Beginning at ₹1.79 lakh crore in 2009-10, it has steadily increased to ₹5.94 lakh crore in 2023-24, nearly tripling in value. This significant growth underscores the prioritization of bolstering defense capabilities to safeguard the nation's interests. Notably, the budget allocation for defense experienced a substantial surge in 2023-24, with a 13% year-on-year increase. This notable rise may be attributed to geopolitical considerations and emerging security challenges, further emphasizing the government's resolve to ensure robust defense preparedness.

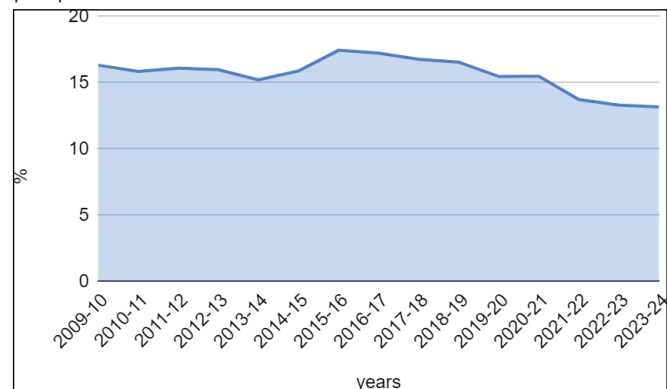


Figure 6: Share of the Defense Sector

Data Source: Union Budget, Ministry of Finance

EDUCATION SECTOR AND ANNUAL BUDGET

In the tapestry of national governance, the education sector's annual budget allocation serves as a cornerstone for nurturing the seeds of knowledge and shaping the future of generations to come. Adequate funding enables the enhancement of educational infrastructure, curriculum development, teacher training, and access to quality education. The budget allocation also supports initiatives to promote literacy, improve educational standards, and address disparities in education access. Additionally, investments in the education sector contribute to nurturing a skilled workforce, fostering innovation, and enhancing national competitiveness. Ensuring a robust allocation to the education sector in the annual budget is essential for nurturing talent, empowering individuals, and driving inclusive growth and development. The education sector is a focal point in the Indian budget, reflecting the government's commitment to fostering human capital development and promoting inclusive growth. Allocations towards education encompass various levels, including primary, secondary, and higher education, as well as vocational training and skill development programs (Banerjee *et al.*, 2022). In recent budgets, there has been a significant emphasis on enhancing access to quality education, particularly for marginalized and underprivileged communities. Funding is directed toward building educational infrastructure, hiring qualified teachers, improving learning outcomes, and promoting innovative teaching methodologies. Additionally, the Indian government prioritizes initiatives to bridge the digital divide in education, expand access to online learning resources, and promote digital literacy among students and educators. Scholarships and financial aid programs are also introduced to facilitate higher education for deserving students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds (Makwana, K., 2024). The education sector in the Indian budget underscores the government's commitment to nurturing a skilled workforce, fostering social mobility, and empowering individuals to contribute effectively to the nation's socio-economic development.

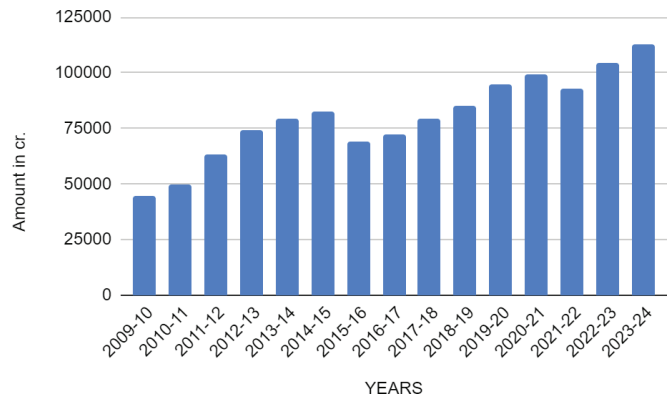


Figure 7: Allocation of the Education Sector's Budget

Data Source: Union Budget, Ministry of Finance

The share of education in the budget has declined compared to 2009-10. While the allocated amount has grown in rupees, it's a smaller portion of the total spending. This could potentially affect areas like teacher training, infrastructure development in schools, or access to quality education.

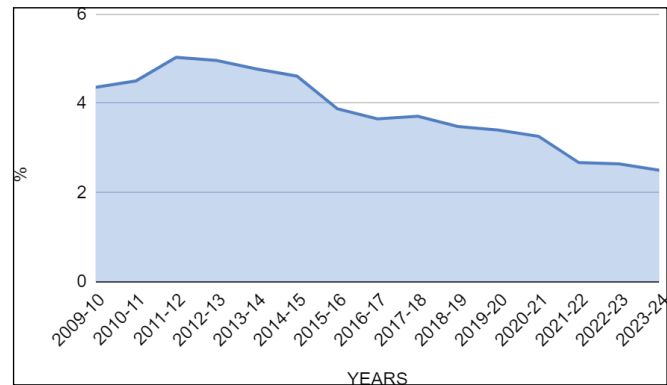


Figure 8: Share of the Education Sector

Data Source: Union Budget, Ministry of Finance

AGRICULTURE SECTOR AND ANNUAL BUDGET

The agriculture sector is of paramount importance in the Indian budget, reflecting its significance in ensuring food security, rural livelihoods, and overall economic stability. Budgetary allocations towards agriculture encompass various aspects, including crop production, irrigation, agricultural research, and rural infrastructure development. In recent budgets, there has been a notable emphasis on implementing schemes and initiatives to support smallholder farmers, enhance agricultural productivity, and promote

sustainable farming practices (Nedumaran, *et al.*, 2019). Funding is directed towards providing agricultural subsidies, crop insurance, and access to credit facilities to mitigate risks and improve farmers' income. Moreover, investments in irrigation projects, watershed management, and rural electrification aim to modernize agricultural practices, increase resilience to climate change, and reduce dependence on monsoon rains (Khan, *et al.*, 2020). Additionally, the Indian government prioritizes agricultural research and development to introduce innovative technologies and improve crop yields. The agriculture sector in the Indian budget underscores the government's commitment to ensuring the welfare of farmers, fostering agricultural growth, and achieving inclusive rural development. Our rapid expansion has damaged natural resources. So, where can we find clean water, thriving crops, and pleasant air? To conserve the environment and preserve natural resources for the future, these questions have led to a rigorous reasoning process. Thus, organic farming and restoring to nature are becoming more popular. Organic agriculture requires significant central and local government funding. Organic product market growth also boosts domestic sales. Incentives should be offered to the producer organization to get NSOP inspection and certification accreditation. India needs more agriculture funding to boost sustainable farming (Yadav, 2017). To sustain the rural economy, rural infrastructure, agricultural markets, cold storages, and warehouses with advanced technology needed additional money. Efficiency and production will rise, especially in agriculture. MGNREGA, land

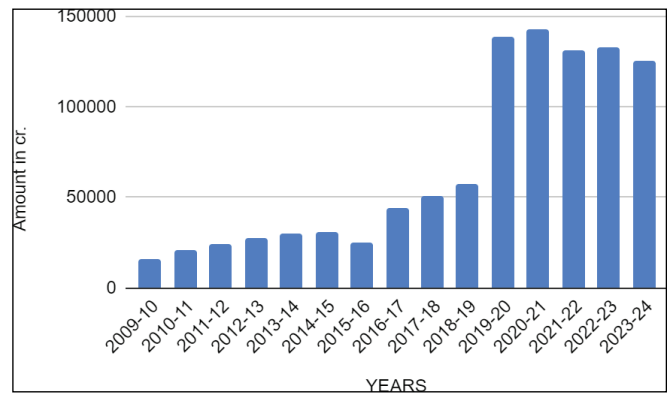


Figure 10: Share of the Agriculture Sector

Data Source: Union Budget, Ministry of Finance

record computerization, and rural roads should be rural development priorities. The agricultural industry has grown significantly in recent times. Initial observations show that farmers' revenues have not improved with production. Many tenant farmers have suffered significant losses and significant informal debt. Public investments in agricultural infrastructure and innovative public infrastructure like community bore wells were needed to reduce agricultural costs (Reddy, 2017).

Despite some fluctuations, the percentage allocation for agriculture hasn't seen a significant rise since 2009-10, it only remains around 5% of the total budget. This stability might be a concern considering the importance of this sector for the Indian economy and its large rural population.

SOCIAL WELFARE AND ANNUAL BUDGET

The social and welfare sector holds a significant place in the Indian budget, reflecting the government's commitment to addressing socio-economic inequalities and promoting inclusive development. Budgetary allocations towards social welfare encompass various programs and initiatives aimed at uplifting marginalized and vulnerable sections of society (Chakraborty *et al.*, 2020). In recent budgets, there has been a strong emphasis on schemes related to healthcare, education, housing, nutrition, and social security. Funding is directed towards initiatives such as the National Health Mission, Mid-Day Meal Scheme, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, and various social assistance programs targeting the elderly,

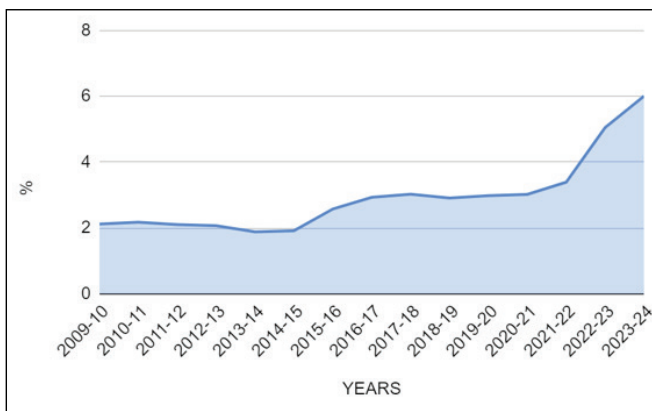


Figure 9: Allocation of the Agriculture Sector's Budget

Data Source: Union Budget, Ministry of Finance

disabled, and economically disadvantaged (Ojha *et al.*, 2020). Moreover, the Indian government prioritizes investments in skill development, women's empowerment, and rural development to enhance livelihood opportunities and foster socio-economic empowerment. Financial inclusion initiatives and welfare measures for migrant workers and unorganized sector laborers also feature prominently in the budget. Overall, the social and welfare sector in the Indian budget underscores the government's commitment to fostering social justice, reducing poverty, and ensuring the well-being of all citizens, particularly those belonging to marginalized communities.

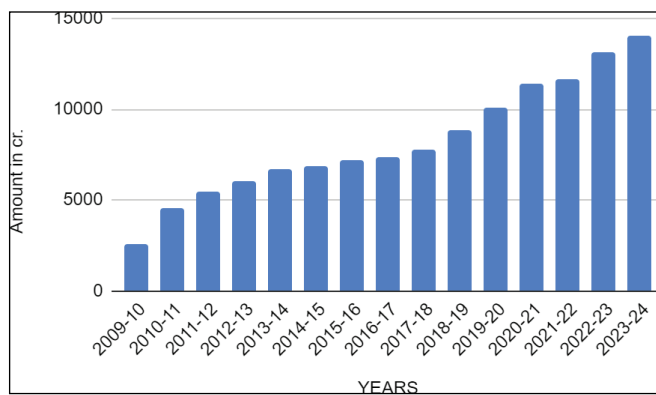


Figure 11: Allocation of the Social Welfare Sector's Budget

Data Source: Union Budget, Ministry of Finance

Despite a potential rise in total budgetary allocation (rupee terms), the percentage dedicated to social welfare has shrunk compared to 2009-10. This signifies a shift in focus towards other sectors or a potential need for re-evaluation of existing programs.

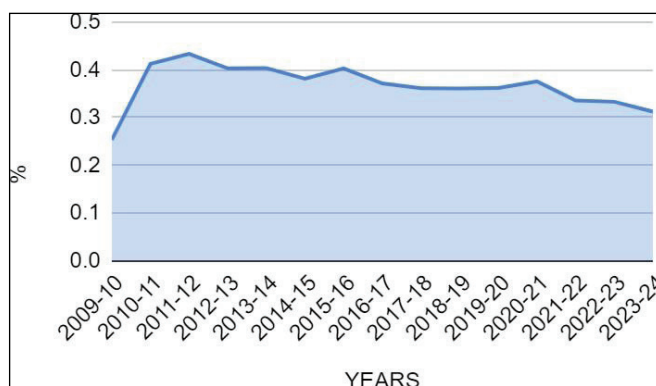


Figure 12: Share of the Social Welfare Sector

Data Source: Union Budget, Ministry of Finance

RURAL DEVELOPMENT SECTOR & ANNUAL BUDGET

The allocation of funds to the rural development sector in the annual budget is essential for addressing the multifaceted needs of rural areas and promoting inclusive growth. The rural development sector's allocation in the annual budget is pivotal for addressing the multifaceted needs of rural areas and promoting inclusive growth. Funding directed towards rural development initiatives encompasses a wide range of programs aimed at improving infrastructure, enhancing livelihood opportunities, and advancing social welfare in rural communities. Investments in rural development contribute to reducing poverty, bridging urban-rural disparities, and empowering rural populations. Additionally, the annual budget allocation for rural development plays a crucial role in promoting sustainable agricultural practices, strengthening rural governance structures, and fostering overall rural prosperity. Ensuring adequate funding for the rural development sector is essential for realizing the government's commitment to holistic and equitable development across the country.

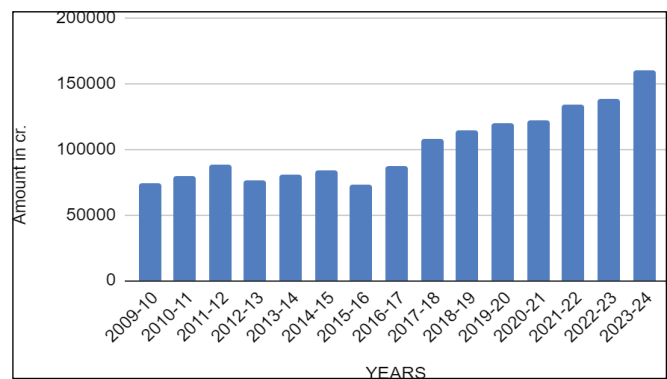


Figure 13: Allocation of the Rural Development Sector's Budget

Data Source: Union Budget, Ministry of Finance

While the total budgetary allocation might have increased in rupee terms, the percentage dedicated to rural development has shrunk since 2009-10. This could indicate a shift in priorities towards other sectors like infrastructure.

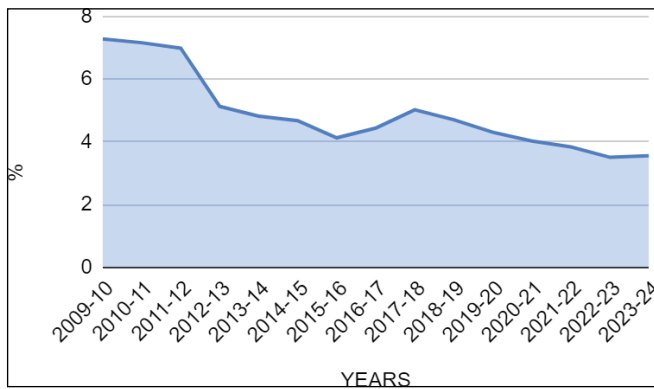


Figure 14: Share of the Rural Development Sector

Data Source: Union Budget, Ministry of Finance

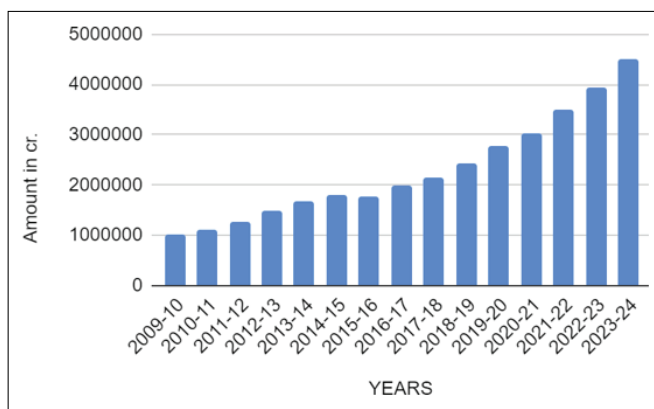


Figure 15: Trend Analysis of Annual Budget

Data Source: Union Budget, Ministry of Finance

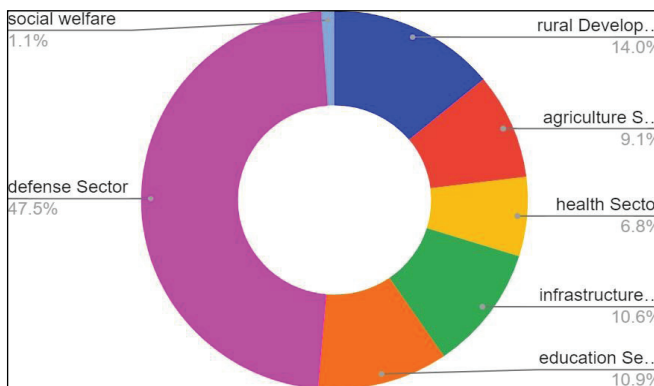


Figure 16: Sectoral Allocation of Total Annual Budgets

Data Source: Union Budget, Ministry of Finance

The above analysis shows three phases in the period 2009 to 2024. In earlier years social sectors were given priority but in later years infrastructural push is observed.

EARLY YEARS (2009-10 to 2012-13):

1. *Focus on Social Sectors:* There was a significant allocation towards social sectors like health, education, and rural development, ranging from 14 to 28% of the total budget.
2. *Infrastructure Growth:* Investment in infrastructure (including roads) also saw a steady rise.
3. *Moderate Defense Spending:* Defense allocation remained around 2% of the budget.

A significant focus on social sectors, encompassing health, education, and rural development, emerges, with allocations ranging from 14 to 28% of the total budget. Concurrently, investments in infrastructure, including roads and other critical projects, witnessed a consistent rise, reflecting efforts to bolster the country's infrastructure and stimulate economic growth. Despite these emphases, defense spending remained relatively moderate, hovering around 2% of the budget, suggesting a balanced approach to resource allocation across sectors.

Mid Years (2013-14 to 2017-18):

1. *Shifting Priorities:* A slight decrease in social sector spending was observed, with a rise in infrastructure allocation.
2. *Defense Importance Grows:* Defense spending started to increase, reaching up to 2.27% in 2017-18

While the decrease in social sector spending may raise concerns about potential impacts on social welfare programs, the corresponding increase in infrastructure and defense allocations suggests a strategic repositioning aimed at addressing broader national imperatives.

LATER YEARS (2018-19 to 2023-24):

1. *Infrastructure Push:* Infrastructure spending witnessed a significant rise, reaching its highest point at 22% in 2023-24. This suggests a strong focus on development projects.
2. *Social Sector Concerns:* The allocation for social sectors like health and education remained

stagnant or even declined as a proportion of the total budget, raising concerns about social welfare programs.

3. *Defense Spending Continues Upward Trend:* Defense spending continued to rise, reaching 13.18% in the 2023-24 budget, reflecting growing security priorities.

In the later years of the analyzed period (2018-19 to 2023-24), distinct trends in budget allocation emerged, shaping governmental priorities and resource distribution strategies. Notably, there was emphasis on infrastructure development, with spending witnessing a significant surge, peaking at 22% of the total budget in 2023-24. However, amidst this infrastructure push, concerns arose regarding social sector allocations. Budgetary provisions for crucial sectors like health and education stagnated or even experienced declines as a proportion of the total budget. This stagnation raises apprehensions about the potential impact on social welfare programs and the overall well-being of marginalized communities. Despite these concerns, defense spending continued its upward trajectory, reflecting growing security priorities and the government's commitment to bolstering defense capabilities. By 2023-24, defense expenditure had risen to 13.18% of the budget, underscoring the evolving security landscape and the imperative to address emerging threats. These findings highlight the nuanced interplay between developmental imperatives, social welfare concerns, and national security considerations, shaping budgetary allocations and policy priorities in the later years of the analyzed period.

CONCLUSION

The findings of this research have several practical implications for policymakers, stakeholders, and researchers involved in shaping fiscal policies and resource allocation strategies in India. Firstly, the observed trends in budget allocation underscore the need for strategic realignment to address evolving societal needs and economic imperatives. For instance, the substantial increase in infrastructure spending signals an opportunity to bolster economic growth and enhance the country's physical infrastructure, especially in the rural areas. Through Gati Shakti urban rural road

network has been improved substantially. This will help transporting raw materials and finished goods and lead to rural development. However, concerns regarding stagnant or declining allocations in crucial sectors like health and education necessitate proactive measures to ensure adequate resource allocation and safeguard social welfare programs. There is a pressing need for a substantial increase in funding across healthcare infrastructure, personnel, and research domains to ensure the delivery of quality healthcare services and enhance preparedness for future health emergencies. Additionally, addressing underlying issues of social inequality and poverty through targeted policies promoting inclusive growth and economic opportunities is crucial. Similarly, the upward trajectory of defense spending highlights the importance of maintaining national security amidst evolving threats, albeit with a requisite balance between defense expenditure and investments in social and economic development. Addressing these challenges requires enhanced coordination, transparency, and accountability in resource allocation processes, alongside targeted interventions to address underlying issues of social inequality, poverty, and agricultural development. While infrastructure development receives substantial funding, concerns persist regarding project delays, cost overruns, and quality issues. Greater transparency and accountability in infrastructure spending are essential to ensure efficient resource utilization and timely project completion. Emphasizing participatory planning and community engagement is vital to ensure that rural development projects are demand-driven and responsive to local needs, ultimately fostering economic growth and reducing rural-urban disparities. Additionally, comparative studies across different regions or countries could provide valuable insights into best practices and potential areas for improvement in budgetary allocation strategies. However, the stagnation or decline in social sector allocations during this period raises concerns about the sustainability of social welfare programs and the well-being of marginalized communities. This nuanced interplay between developmental imperatives, social welfare, and national security highlights the need for dynamic budgetary frameworks and integrated development plans to ensure balanced, inclusive

growth. Governments must engage stakeholders transparently, assess impacts continually, and foster resilience strategies within communities to mitigate the adverse effects of shifting budgetary priorities.

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