

Bridging the Divide: Income Inequality and Policy Interventions in India and Brazil

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Abstract

This study examines the impact of educational disparities, infrastructure investment, and welfare policies on income inequality in India and Brazil, two emerging economies characterized by pronounced regional economic disparities. Despite robust economic growth, both countries have experienced widening income gaps, with wealth and opportunities disproportionately concentrated in urban centers. In India, fragmented welfare systems and uneven infrastructure investment have exacerbated economic isolation in underdeveloped states, while Brazil's Bolsa Família program has mitigated extreme poverty but failed to address income concentration among the top 10%, particularly in the Southeast. The findings underscore the need for targeted policy interventions, including vocational training, regional infrastructure development, and consolidated income support frameworks. By integrating skill development with welfare programs and incentivizing private sector investment in underserved regions, India and Brazil can foster more inclusive economic growth, promoting long-term income redistribution and reducing socioeconomic disparities. Future research should focus on empirical assessments of policy efficacy and the role of digital infrastructure in bridging economic divides.

Keywords: income inequality, welfare policies, educational disparities, infrastructure investment.