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**TITLE: Spatial Dimensions of Muslim Well-being in India: A Comparative Study of Indian Districts**

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The Sachar Commission Report of 2006 on Social, Economic and Educational Status of the Muslim Community of India sparked widespread awareness of socioeconomic disparity and exclusion of religious minorities in India especially the Muslims. This paper will seek to deepen this analysis further by using the Human Development Index (HDI) to investigate the relative general wellbeing of Muslims in all districts. The findings show that HDI of Muslims is associated with their proportion in the population. The Muslim HDI decreases as their proportion in the district population increases. But this relationship does not hold in 21 districts in which the proportion of Muslim population is over 50 per cent. However, the general relationship between the percent Muslim population and the overall wellbeing of the Muslim community is fairly universal. Specifically, HDI values for Muslims tend to be much worse than Hindu General (Upper Caste Hindus), somewhat worse than Hindu OBC, better than Hindu SCs/STs, and worse than those for other minorities. When the overall wellbeing increases, Muslims experience a smaller increase in their Human Development Index values as compared to all other groups, including Hindu SCs/STs. The paper will offer a comprehensive analysis, discussion and policy implications of these findings.