Reviewer’s report

Title: Disparities in child mortality trends in two new states of India

Version: 2 Date: 27 May 2013

Reviewer: Perianayagam Arokiasamy

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Comments on the paper titled “Disparities in child mortality trends in two new states of India”

Section-wise comments are provided below.

Rationale

• These two smaller states are better performing states among the EAG states. Author’s justification of these two states is not understood. If I were to do this analysis, I will cover all EAG states.

Data and Methods

• Authors could have strengthened their analysis by using more comprehensive measures of disparity and inequality assessment.
• Besides the methodological limitations of data, the authors should have also tried to examine the quality of birth history data for valid estimates of child mortality.
• New Annual Health Survey (AHS) data are also available district-wise for these states

Results and Conclusion

The results on district, rural-urban, ethnic and wealth based differentials in child mortality and conclusions are not entirely new.