The World: A different view

We continue the series (see *Natl Med J India* 2006;19:234–5, 293, 334 and 2007;20:34, 100, 157, 203, 269).

In Map 1, the size of each territory is shown proportional to its spending on primary education, adjusted for purchasing power parity in the year 2001. There is a distinct difference in the spending on primary education per child between regions. The average spending in Japan, North America and western Europe is often much more than 3 times the spending in other regions. Central Africa has the lowest rate of primary school enrolment and also the lowest spending. The countries with the highest spending on primary education in terms of purchasing power parity adjusted US$ (PPP US$) per person in the age group of 0–15 years in the year 2001 were: Norway (6151), Luxembourg (4346) and Denmark (4074). In comparison, India spent only PPP US$ 118 per year per person in the age group of 0–15 years.

In Map 2, the size of each territory is shown proportional to the absolute gap between enrolment of girls and boys in primary education in the territory in the year 2002. Worldwide, the absolute gap is 15 million girls. The territory with the largest such gap is India where there are about 8 million fewer girls than boys enrolled in the first 5 years of education, accounting for more than 50% of the global gap. The gap in India is 7% of the total eligible population.

REFERENCES
2 http://www.sasi.group.shef.ac.uk/worldmapper/display.php?selected=201# (accessed on 27 August 2007).