

A Study On Rural Poverty And Development In Villupuram District

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Introduction

The concept of poverty in ‘the new poverty agenda’ has been broadened beyond the notions of inadequate private income or consumption, towards a more comprehensive perspective: poverty is absence of ‘a secure and sustainable livelihood’, amongst other things; the new perspective challenges conventional measurements of poverty in terms of GDP cut-off points and stresses the importance. The present study takes into account the Head Count Ratio (HCR), the most popular method of measuring the level of poverty.

Measurement of Poverty

Measurement of poverty in India is typically based on a normative minimum calorie intake. The calorie norms were fixed at 2400 calories per person per day for rural areas and 2100 calories per person per day for urban areas by the Task force constituted by the planning commission, 1979.

Absolute Poverty

The concept of absolute poverty is based on absolute needs of the people and people are defined as poor when some terms of an insufficiency of basic needs. However, in basic needs, there is a greater measure of agreement on the food component of the needs and their sufficiency in terms of nutritional standards, then what obtains about the non food components. In absolute poverty, the needs of the poor are not related to the consumption pattern of other people in society and a completely absolute poverty line has an elasticity of ‘0’ with respect to changes in the general standard of living in society. The absolute poverty analysis comprises four approaches as discussed below.

Poverty and Nutritional Consumption

But it is misleading to think of poverty as primarily a statistical construct. What does it in fact mean to be poor in India? on the basis of data from the 1993-94 NSS, a person living at India’s official poverty line, would have to spent Rs. 6.8 per day, equivalent to about 22 percentage. While relative prices have changed since 1994, the change is likely to be marginal. Accordingly, we assume the 1993-94 food basket is still relevant for the poor today. On a typical day therefore, a poor person would consume.

Poverty and Rural Development

Development is categorized as part of Economic service in the developmental expenditure of state governments, but much of expenditure in this category has poverty alleviation impact. The annual growth rates in this sector have been considerable but its relative share in economic services has remained more or less constant at about 17 percent during the whole period. Similar to the central government budget, in case of state governments too, all schemes categorized under the poverty alleviation programme are put together under the two broad heads of expenditure, Rural Development and Urban Development.

Research Methodology

The study is entirely based on primary data collected through field survey method. Structured interview schedule was administered personally by researcher. The study consisting of sampling design in terms of a multi-stage sampling was adopted. The Villupuram district was purposively selected as a group of villages under gone the crisis of poverty due to lack of resource in terms of lack of irrigation, prevalence of hilly land and so on. It was also advantages for time and cost considerations. The researcher has selected two villages viz., Theli and Arulavadi, where a number of households are living at the poverty condition and the households which disproportionate stratified random sampling method was adopted for this study. The samples of 50 households each from two villages have been selected in order to facilitate comparative analysis of employment, household earning, expenditure on consumption and diagnostic condition of poverty of the study area. The collected data was processed and transcribed, with the statistical methods of descriptive statistics and percentage. As statistical tools, tables, simple averages and percentages were used to analyse the data.

Objectives of Study

1. To identify the extent of inequality in poverty between occupation of different households, Caste and village background in respect of distribution of wealth, income, and consumption Expenditure.
2. To estimate the magnitude of poverty in terms of poverty spectrum and poverty level of the Rural households.
3. To examine the inter-village variation with respect to various aspects for poverty.
4. To identify the defects and problems in the existing levels of development in the study Villages.
5. To suggest some rational policy measurement to reduce the intensity of poverty and Enhancement of poverty in study villages.

Hypotheses

1. There is a glaring inequality in the wealth, income, and consumption expenditure, and household's different occupation, caste and village categories.
2. The intensity of poverty varies in different villages.
3. There is considerable inter- village variation with respect to effect of explanatory variables on household consumption expenditure.
4. The variations, in occupational and caste wise status dose significantly determine the effect of explanatory variables on household consumption expenditure.
5. There is significant inter- village variation in respect of poverty in the study villages.

Review of Literature

Poverty being a concrete reality affecting the Indian society for the past several decades, individual researches and institutions has attempted form time to time to measure its extent, dimensions and these sections of people affected by it. This section provides a general picture of poverty, studied against it nature, extent and dimensions poverty. There is a voluminous literature on poverty among rural households and measures to deals with the problem of poverty.

Chronic Poverty Research Centre (2005) has also indicated that about 39 percent of the sample households are chronically poor-remaining poor for a long time. People in chronic poverty are those who have benefited the least from economic growth. Chronic poverty exists in all regions, and the chronically poor live in many different situations (CPRC 2005) across the regions, chronic poverty is the highest in the central region and the lowest in the western. Between the eastern and southern regions it is higher in the former.

Chen and Ravallion (2008) have argued that revisions in the poverty lines based on PPP measures resulting from the 2005 ICP (International Comparison Program) price data indicates that that the incidence of poverty in the worlds higher than what the past estimates have suggested. The main reason is that the past PPPs had implicitly underestimated the cost of living in most developing countries. Their correction for the bias in past PPPs has added 400 million people to the global count for 2005, when judged against an international poverty line that is representative of the national poverty lines found in the poorest countries.

Again Ghosh, et al (2012) analyzed irrigation, agriculture and level of living in the districts of Orissa and identified through the regression analysis that irrigation has 71 per cent

variation in alleviating rural poverty. In the concluding remarks, irrigation source is very crucial for irrigated agriculture and reducing rural poverty. The existing studies show that irrigation and poverty are closely related both directly as well as indirectly. However, the level of rural poverty in irrigated and un-irrigated areas are not studied by using field survey data. Therefore, keeping this in view, an attempt is made in this study to analyze and examine the variation of rural poverty in irrigated and un-irrigated areas.

Blochliker et al., (2016) States have significant spending responsibilities. Product market regulations, except those related to trade and FDI, as well as various labour regulations are largely set and implemented at the state level. The recent replacement of conditional grants by a larger tax share has given more autonomy to the states to adjust policies to local circumstances while efforts to publicized data on the ease of doing business at the state level have strengthened incentives to pass reforms. The newly created NITI-Aayog acting as a think-tank is helping to share best practices across states. All these initiatives should help India to get the most out of federalism. More could however be done to achieve a strong and balanced regional development.

Data Analysis of Results and Discussion

Below the table -1 percents the Community –wise occupational distribution of the sample households. The Occupation of the respondents has been classified in to three Categories as Employee, Agricultural Land Owners and Daily Wage- Earners for the purpose of analysis. It could be observed that in the category of employee only 14 respondents have been included in the sample and a the number of Agricultural land owners and Daily Wage-Earner are 31 and 55 respectively. All the 14 employee respondents belong to the Arulavadi and Theli Villages. In the case of Agricultural land owners majority of the respondents belong to Backward community 19.35 percent followed by scheduled Community with 9.68 percent in the Village Theli. In The Village Arulavadi land owners the category wise respondents are Most Backward Community 22.58 percent followed by Scheduled Community with 16.13 percent respectively.

Table -1 Classification of Community -Wise Occupation of the Household Samples

S. No.	Name of the Village	Arulavadi				Theli			
		BC	MBC	SC	FC	BC	MBC	SC	Total
1	Employee	2 (14.29)	1 (7.14)	3 (21.43)	0	5 (35.71)	2 (14.29)	1 (7.14)	14 (100)
2	Agriculture Land Ownerships	3 (9.68)	7 (22.58)	5 (16.13)	2 (6.45)	6 (19.35)	5 (16.13)	3 (9.68)	31 (100)
3	Daily wage	3 (5.45)	4 (7.27)	16 (29.09)	0	10 (18.18)	7 (12.73)	15 (27.27)	55 (100)
Total		8 (8.00)	12 (12.00)	24 (24.00)	2 (2.00)	21 (21.00)	14 (14.00)	19 (19.00)	100 (100)

Source : Computed (Figure in the parentheses denotes percentages)

Table-2 Community-Wise Distribution Of Level Of Education Of The Household Samples

S. No.	Level of Education	Theli				Arulavadi				Total
		BC	MBC	SC	FC	BC	MBC	SC		
1	Primary	0	1 (8.40)	7 (58.30)	0	0	0	4 (33.30)	12 (100)	
2	Middle	0	0	0	1 (25.00)	0	3 (75.00)	0	4 (100)	
3	High school	1 (11.20)	3 (33.30)	5 (55.55)	0	0	0	0	9 (100)	
4	HSSC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
5	UG & Diploma	0	6 (50.00)	2 (16.60)	1 (8.40)	0	1 (8.40)	2 (16.60)	12 (100)	
6	PG & Above	0	0	0	0	1 (100.00)	0	0	1 (100)	
7	Illiterate	6 (9.60)	2 (3.30)	17 (27.40)	0	0	17 (27.40)	20 (32.30)	62 (100)	
Total		7 (7.00)	12 (12.00)	31 (31.00)	2 (2.00)	1 (1.00)	21 (21.00)	26 (26.00)	100 (100)	

Source : Computed (Figure in the parentheses denotes percentages)

Below the table -2 indicates that the community-wise distribution of the respondents in education. It could be observed that out of 100 respondents in Theli Village illiterates are 9.60 percent backward community. In Arulavadi Village, Forward Community percentage of illiterates is zero and backward community zero. Among the Village Most Backward community 3.30 percent , Scheduled Community in tow Village 27.40 percent ,33.30 percent literate and they are fund more Scheduled Community 32.30 percent among the respondents of Theli Village them in other Villages. Primary level educated households constitute in the village primary educational backward community, Scheduled Community zero percent, Most Backward Community 8.40 percent and Scheduled Community 58.30 percent in other Village primary educational community –wise in percentage. Forward Community zero percent ,Backward community zero percent, Most Backward community zero percent and Scheduled Community 3.30 percent primary educational literates.

Table- 3 Classification Of Community -Wise Income Of the Household Samples

S. No.	Type of the Income	Theli			Arulavadi				Total
		BC	MBC	SC	FC	BC	MBC	SC	
1	Daily Income	8 (8.5)	8 (8.5)	29 (30.5)	2 (2.1)	1 (1.0)	21 (22.1)	26 (27.3)	95 (100)
2	Monthly Income	0	4 (80.00)	1 (20.0)	0	0	0	0	5 (100)
Total		8 (8.0)	12 (12.00)	30 (30.00)	2 (2.0)	1 (1.0)	21 (21.0)	26 (26.0)	100 (100)

Source: Computed (Figures in the parentheses denote percentage)

Above table- 3 Presents data in indicates the community –wise type of the household’s income. It could be observed that Theli Village comes to next position in compared with the Arulavadi Village. In the Backward Community 8.5 percent, Most Backward Community 8.5 percent and Scheduled Community 30.5 percent wage the higher level of the Daily income sclonging to Scheduled Community and other community is low in the Theli Village. In Arulavadi Village Forward Community 2.1 percent, Backward Community, Most Scheduled Community 22.1 percent this Village also be in higher level of the Daily income belonging to Scheduled Community only and other community is low. The Monthly income in classification of the community –wise households sample only Scheduled Community and Most Backward Community had highest level of monthly income 80 percent

rather than that of they have Scheduled Community low level they are belonging to Most Backward Community and Backward Community, But in contrary Scheduled are setting monthly income is zero because of they are dependence an daily wages.

Conclusion

The presents data in indicates the community –wise type of the household’s income. It could be observed that Theli Village comes to next position in compared with the Arulavadi Village. In the Backward Community 8.5 percent, Most Backward Community 8.5 percent and Scheduled Community 30.5 percent wage the higher level of the Daily income sclonging to Scheduled Community and other community is low in the Theli Village. The Scheduled Community respondents getting lowest level of annual income than of other communities. The Arulavadi Village respondents has lower annual income groups most of them belonging to the Scheduled Community 84.6 percent it is higher than of other communities, it clearly Most Backward community 38.0 percent and Backward community are none in the annual income range from Rs. 10,000 to 15,000. It could be noticed that in two Villages, highest level of annual income obtained by respondents belonging to Forward Community, Backward community and Most Backward community, But Scheduled Community is only getting annual income is very lower level.

It is evident that employment status part-time the village community –wise backward community 8.40 percent, most backward community 8.40 percent and Scheduled community 30.60 percent in other village Forward community 2.1 percent, backward community 27.40 percent. In the Theli Village respondents of Backward community,37.5 percent get annual income from Rs.10,000 to Rs. 15,000 and Most Backward community closely followed the 33.3 percent. The Scheduled Community respondents getting lowest level of annual income than of other communities. The Arulavadi Village respondents has lower annual income groups most of them belonging to the Scheduled Community 84.6 percent it is higher than of other communities, it clearly Most Backward community 38.0 percent and Backward community are none in the annual income range from Rs. 10,000 to 15,000.

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