Poverty Assessment in Urban Area of Jodhpur District in Western Arid Region of Rajasthan

Satya Prakash Sharma

Shree Nakoda Parshwanath Jain Mahavidyalaya, Jodhpur, India

Abstract— An attempt has been made to assess the poverty status in rural area of Jodhpur district of western Rajasthan. Two villages were randomly selected fall in the radius of 20 km from the Jodhpur city whereas another two villages were selected 60 km far from Jodhpur city with poor infrastructure facility and poor non-farm employment. 30 respondents were randomly selected from each selected village.A total of 120 respondents were selected from four village for the study. Simple tabulation method was used. For determining the poverty status, income method was used. From the study, it is revealed that agriculture, livestock, non-farm-labor activities are the main factor for poverty assessment. Size of land holding is a crucial factor. Marginal and small land holding couple with low income, are the main reason for poverty. The percentage of earners in the family size groups and percentage of dependents is inversely proportionate.

Keywords— Poverty Assessment, western Rajasthan, BPL.

I. INTRODUCTION

Poverty is very complex and complicated problem and faced by various developing and under-developing countries. A simple meaning of poverty is the inability to secure minimum requirement for life, health and efficiency. These requirements include minimum human needs in respect of food, clothing, housing, education and health. The planners have been using a term 'Poverty line'. Those who can fulfill their minimum needs are 'above poverty' line and those who cannot are 'below poverty line (BPL). IN 1987-88, 30% population was below poverty line; therefore large number of people in our region, particularly in the rural area is extremely poor as compared to the urban inhabitants. Poverty affects the general health and efficiencies of the people and resulted into low productivity. This inadequate economic development causes more poverty and it continues, ultimately forms the vicious civil. Problems of poverty, hunger, malnutrition, illiteracy, unemployment and poor medical facilities are enhancing the economic inequality. It means vast disparities in the income of different sections of people and it's also mean different levels of standard of living in rural as well as in urban areas.

There is a wide difference exists in estimate of poverty because of the differences in methodologies, data adjustments and pre-deflation used. Studies on poverty in India began with DadadhaiNaoraoji in the 19th Century (Naoroji 1962). The major work on poverty estimates during the pre-independence period is that of V.K.R.V. Rao (1936) who revised Naorojiestimates of per capita income. Mukherjee (1969) updated the poverty estimate of Naoroji and Rao at 1948-49 prices than laying the foundation of further work on this subject in independent India. Further, in–depth studies on poverty in independent India are by Charan Singh (1964) and Tirlok Singh (1969). After the publicaton of Myrdal's *Asian Drama* in 1969 when stalwarts like Dandekar and Rath (1971) and Dandekar (1980) took up the burden of the theme.

In India the fruits of growth are largely distributed in favour of rich despite development of agricultural and industrial sector and initiation and spread of various development programs then remains a vast number of people whose economic conditions seem to have remained more or less stagnant if not deteriorated absolutely. NCAEA (1980), Minhas, B.S. (1971). Hanumantha Rao (1972) and Bhalla and Chadha (1974) reveal glaring inequalities in the distribution of income.

It is an accepted fact that there are large disparities both in the income and assets distribution. All over the country there is glaring evidence of concentration of wealth Considerable interest had been shown in equalities in India. Besides the government and other research bodies such as Reserve Bank of India, The National Council of Applied Economic Research. National Sample Survey organization and several scholars Bapana 1975; Bapana and Shah 1973, PhukanUmanuda 1975, Bhattacharya Pranab 1979 and Varghese 1987 have made significant contribution in this regard.

II. METHODOLOGY AND SAMPLE DESIGN

A two stage stratified sampling procedure is adopted to select the sample households. The sample included adequate proportion of social class and their working status to ensure comparison for ascertaining the effects of inequality iJand poverty. Sample selection is done in two stages; stage one refers to selection of urban blocks of Jodhpur city and households were selected in stage two. 5

wards are selected for the study in urban, out of these 2 wards are taken inside the old boundary wall and 3 wards are from outside the main city area. A total of 120 respondents were selected from four village for the study..

Table.1: Distribution of sample household according the main occupation of income

Occupation	Urban
Category-I	3(2.50)
Category-II	46(38.33)
Category-III	31(25.84)
Category-IV	40(33.33)
Total	120(100.00)

Note: Figures in parenthesis are percentages

III. TOOLS AND TECHNIQUE

Income method was used to find out the poverty status of selected respondents. Income from different sources were collected.

The data for the study was collected using a well-structured exhaustive schedule through personal interview of adult male/female covering all the aspect of the study. Simple tabulation method was used. The selected respondents were categories in four different groups as follows and same are presented in the Table 1.

Category I: Income from farming comprises agriculture, livestock and allied activities (farming).

Category II: Income from agricultural and non-agricultural labourers, collies, hand-card puller, horse/bullock cart driver, vendor, hawker, masonry etc. The wages included cash and kind(Wage earners).

Category III: Income from occupations consists of, paltry/tea shop, owner, artisans, black smith, gold smith, carpenter, tailor etc (Business and crafts).

Category IV: Income includes occupation, college, school/university teacher etc in government and private official, who get regular services from public or private institutions.

IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Distribution of urban sample households according to different source(s) of income is given in Table 2. Most of the households earn income from than one source. Wages, salary and business and craft are the main sources of income in the urban area of Jodhpur. Salary (private and government) is one of the main occupations of urban area. As such 22 per cent of the households have reported having received income by working as wage-labourers. The major chunk of income, 39.85 per cent, comes from salaries followed by business and craft and wages, which account 29.51 and 21.78 per cent respectively of total income. The share contributed to total income by daring and agriculture is 2.77 and 0.11 per cent respectively. House property and pensions contributes only 5.98 per cent in the total income.

Table.2: Composition of income of the sample urban households

Income source	Percentage of household	Income Rs./Household	%age of Total income
Wages	50.83	17893	21.78
Salaries	45.00	32746	39.85
Business & Craft	24.17	24247	29.51
Daring	0.83	2278	2.77
Agriculture	0.81	90	0.11
Transfer	15	4909	5.98
Total		82163	

Analysis of the data regarding the earners and dependent in sample households (Table 2) revealed that larger percentage of dependents are found in households having 7 to 8 and 11 and more than 11 members. Generally, dependent population increases with the family size. The depending ratio (i.e. ration of dependents to earners) works out maximum (3.84) in family size group of 11 and more ad minimums in the family size group 1-2 (0.55). The average dependency ratio for the entire sample household is 2.98.

Table.3: Percent distribution of economic status and dependency ratio of urban sample household

Family Size	Earners	Dependents	Dependency
1 - 2	64.29	35.71	0.55
2 - 4	32.93	67.07	2.04
5 - 6	25.25	74.75	2.96
7 - 8	21.38	78.62	3.67
9 - 10	23.40	76.60	3.27

11 and above	20.63	79.37	3.84
Total	25.10	74.90	2.98

Distribution of urban sample households into different annual gross income groups and number of earners in the respondent's households are presented in Table 3. It is clear from the table that 70 per cent of households have one earning member, followed by two earners (17.0 per cent), three earners (9 per cent) and four and more than earners (4 per cent). It is observed that among the households having one earners income up to Rs. 50,000, 50 per cent households have one earner only. The mean number of earners varied from 1.00 to 2.50 and mean annual gross income per household is Rs. 54,173. Thus, table 4 reveals that there is positive relationship between the number of earners in a households and its annual gross income. Larger the number of earners have more average income.

Table.4: Distributions of urban sample household by gross income and number of earner in the family

Income group	One earner	Two earners	Three earners	Four earners	No. of earners
Less than 25,000	7(8.43)	0	0	0	1.00
25,000 - 30,000	15(18.08)	1(4.76)	0	0	1.06
30,000 - 35,000	3(3.60)	1(4.76)	0	0	1.25
35,000 - 40,000	7(8.43)	0	0	0	1.00
40,000 - 50,000	10(12.05)	5(23.81)	1(9.09)	1(20.00)	1.59
50,000 - 70,000	13(15.66)	3(14.29)	2(18.18)	0	1.39
70,000 - 1,00,000	14(16.87)	4(19.04)	0	0	1.22
100,000 - 150,000	9(10.84)	3(19.05)	5(45.46)	3(60.00)	2.10
150,000 - 200,000	1(1.20)	4(19.05)	2(18.18)	0	2.14
More than 200,000	4(4.82)	0	1(9.09)	1(20.00)	2.50
Total	83(100.00)	21(100.00)	11(100.00)	5(100.00)	1.52(100.00)

The cause of poverty, however, does not appear to be the celebrated theorem of demographic pressure on the household resources. It clears from the Table 4 that highest number of household (45 per cent) fall in the family size 5-6 members and they contribute 25.40 per cent of total income with an average income Rs. 65,547. It is observed that an equal number of 18.33 per cent each households are falling in the family size groups 3-4 and 7-8 are earning average mean R. 93,739 and Rs. 113,830 respectively. The average annual income per household is varied from Rs. 32,000 to Rs. 131,625. The table 4 shows that average annual households income tends to increase with the size of family (r= 0.85). The increase in the percentage share of income with increasing size of the household is also evidenced, barring the exceptions. It is difficult to pinpoint the reason of apparent contradiction in the popular relation household income and size. It is perhaps owing to the fact that larger household in this case implies more earning members.

Table.5: Distribution of urban sample household by family size

Family size	Percent of households	Percent share of income	Salaries	Business & Crafts	Wages	Others	Average annual household income
1 - 2	7.5	2.92	6133	9200	15333	1334	32000
3 - 4	18.33	20.91	59103	17336	10273	7027	93739
5 - 6	45.00	35.91	27105	15730	1585	6827	65547
7 - 8	18.33	25.40	31107	55273	17545	9905	113830
9 - 10	4.17	4.18	37200	12000	32800	500	82500
More than 11	6.67	10.68	30000	40000	46925	14700	131625
All classes	100.00	100.00	32746	24247	17893	7277	82163

Table 5 presents the average annual gross income distribution of urban households by level of income. It is clear from the table that only 3 households are earning income from dairying and agriculture, fall in middle income group (i.e. Rs. 70,000-100,000 and 100,000 to 150,000) with average annual gross income per household for this category is Rs. 89,000.

The spread of the incomes achieved by household engaged in business and craft activities varied from Rs. 18,000 to 600,000. The number of households earning

between Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 100,000 with average income of Rs. 71,625 is highest at 45.14 per cent. It is followed by 12.90 per cent of households in the income class Rs. 100,000-Rs. 150,000. It is observed that an equal number of 9.68 per cent (each) household are falling the income group of Rs. 25,000-35,000, Rs. 40,000-50,000 and Rs. 150,000- Rs. 200,000. Similarly equal number of 3.23 per cent (each) families are falling in less than Rs. 25,000, Rs. 30,000 - Rs. 35,000, Rs. 35,000-40,000 and in more than two lakhs income groups

In case of salary earners households, the maximum (30 per cent) earned income between Rs. 100,000 to Rs. 150,000 followed by 20 per cent fall in the income group of Rs. 70,000 to Rs. 100,000. No salary earner households earned less than Rs. 25,000. There are only 10 per cent urban salary earners households in the income of less than Rs. 40,000 with their average amounting to Rs. 33,000

and they contribute 7.96 per cent of the total income. 70 per cent of salary earners households fall fall in middle income group and their share to total income is 58.55 per cent and 20 per cent fall in higher income group and they contribute 38.5 per cent of their total income. The average annual gross income for this category ranged from Rs. 29,400 to Rs. 265,515.

The wage earners households are distributed between Rs. 20,933 at start and Rs. 210,000 at the end of the other scale. The highest number of urban families that is 26.09 per cent tare falling in the income class of Rs. 40,000 to Rs. 50,000 with an average income of Rs. 46,808. More than half (52.17%) urban families are earning less than Rs. 40,000 per annum followed by medium income group (45.66 per cent) and contribute 58.36 per cent of the total income.

Table.6: Distribution of urban sample households according to different income groups

Income group	Farm Households			Wage Earner			Business & Craft			Salary Earner			Overall		
	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C
< 25000	-	-	-	13.04	5.73	20933	3.23	0.61	18000	-	-	-	5.83	1.46	20514
25000-30000	-	-	-	23.91	14.74	29364	9.68	2.90	28433	5.00	1.32	29000	13.33	4.74	29194
30000-35000	-	-	-	4.35	3.10	34000	3.23	1.16	34000	2.50	0.78	34800	3.34	1.38	34200
35000-40000	-	-	-	10.87	8.49	37200	3.23	1.23	36000	2.50	0.86	38400	5.83	2.64	37200
40000-50000	-	-	-	26.09	25.63	46808	9.68	4.49	43933	5.00	1.94	43200	14.17	7.91	45876
50000-70000	-	-	-	10.87	13.17	57700	22.57	14.51	60892	15.60	7.81	58125	15.00	10.79	59083
70000-100000	66.67	55.06	73500	2.17	3.29	72000	22.57	19.63	82357	20.00	15.84	88412	15.00	15.24	83489
100000-150000	33.33	44.94	12000	6.53	16.27	118800	12.90	16.37	120200	30.00	32.96	122637	16.67	24.63	121442
150000-200000	-	-	-	-	-	-	9.68	18.66	182267	10.00	14.71	164135	5.83	12.22	172077
> 200000	-	-	-	2.17	9.58	210000	3.23	20.43	600000	10.00	23.79	265515	5.00	18.99	312010
	100.00	100.00	89000	100.00	100.00	47634	100.00	100.00	94730	100.00	100.00	58864	100.00	100.00	82163

A: Percentage of Households

B: Percentage of income

C: Average income

From the above discussion, it is revealed that agriculture, livestock, non-farm-labor activities are the main factor for poverty assessment. Size of land holding is a crucial factor. Marginal and small land holding couple with low income, are the main reason for poverty. The percentage of earners in the family size groups and percentage of dependents is inversely proportionate.

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