

CHAPTER – I

INTRODUCTION

Poverty is measured in terms of income, expenditure and nutritional value (calorie intake). Poverty is more of social marginalisation of an individual, household or group in the community or society rather than inadequacy of income to fulfill the basic needs. The aim of poverty alleviation programme is merely increasing of the income level of individual, family or group but usually marginalized in the development process of the country. The nation cannot maintain economic growth when sections of the people are marginalised to the margin of the society. Poverty, therefore, is a multifaceted incident of many aspects but not merely in the economic aspect. So, the government should make better development programme facilities, so that the people living below poverty line can develop their livelihood. It also implies that Poverty alleviation programmes should also take up the issue of poverty from the social and economist's viewpoints. Impact measurement offers prospective as the tools for lowering the poverty, increasing the energy and also for renewing the field of development assistance. Further analytical assessment can be employed to support universal local democracy in the appearance of the globalized corporate influence. Such judgment can be used to measure and promote significant, sustainable growth of the poor in terms of money and power. Recent works on impact indicators at the micro and macro levels especially in the areas of local economic development, gendered development and institutional capacity building can be combined and widened in the service of impact assessment. This can also be used to strengthen the proposal methods to place full control or at least collective control in the hands of citizens at the best in the evaluation of development interferences and more especially in poverty alleviation assessments.

India's economic progress in recent times tries to bring out equal distribution of real income and to reduce the inequalities of income distribution among the rural poor. The main purpose of implementing poverty eradication programmes is to ensure minimum level of income with affordable quantity of food materials to all the human beings. A large group of the population is living in extremely bad conditions. The Indian government formed after independence positioned priority on 'economic growth with social justice'. An assorted economy model with a major role for the situation in industrial production is approved with a prominence on significance substitution strategy. While this policy facilitated to lay the establishment for industrialization and scientific change, national income growth stayed low at about 3-4 per cent per annum for numerous decades. The outward oriented Asian nations grew much faster throughout this era by taking advantage of post-war development in international trade and investment flows. Finally, in the wake of a balance of payments disaster in 1991, Indian policy makers instigated a process of wide range economic changes to shift to a more market welcoming trade and industrial policy administration. India is a latecomer to economic liberalization. The economic reform process has been stable but steady because of a need for broad consultation and broad consent so necessary in a self-governing society. The process of discussion and debate has contributed to non-reversal of policies still under dissimilar political parties that have formed the government after the improvements. Whether and to what extent India has accomplished the stated intention of higher growth and faster poverty elimination during the post-reform period has been a subject of concentrated debate. These improvements make India a fascinating case study for examining subjects in macroeconomics of poverty reduction.

RURAL SCENARIO IN INDIA

Out of a billion populations, over 65% people are presently living in villages and about 35-40% families, who earn less than US\$ 275 per annum, are classified as poor. Presently, about 25% of the villages do not have assured source of drinking water for about 4-5 months during the year and about 70-75% of the water does not meet the standard prescribed by WHO. Poor quality drinking water is adversely affecting the health and diarrhea is an important cause of infant mortality.

Traditional Indian people being male conquered; women have been suppressed till in recent times. While the average literacy rate in rural areas is around 50-65%, it is as low as 20-25% among women in backward areas. Education of girls is felt to be preventable in the past and this has critically exaggerated their quality of life.

Over the previous decades the location of poverty has changed. Twenty years ago, 93% of the world's poor lived in low income countries, whilst today, 72% of the poorest people in the world reside in middle-income countries. In 2010, India is ranked as an intermediate development nation as number 119 on the Human Development Index (HDI, 2010). With a growth in Gross Domestic Product of 9%, India has become the 4th largest economy in the world based on Purchasing Power Parity (PPP). However, the economic attainments, the nation is home to 1/3 of the worlds poor.

INTERNATIONAL/ NATIONAL STATUSES OF POVERTY

In modern years, worldwide research agencies and institutions enclose, based on the proof suggested a transformational transform in the rate of poverty turn down in India. Both in conditions of income and decline of constant poverty as also in terms of multi-dimensional poverty, the performance of India over the last two decades have drawn global attention.

World Bank describes poverty as deficiency in well-being comprising many facets. It comprises low incomes and the incapability to obtain the basic goods and services essential for continued existence with dignity. The UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development reaffirmed the importance of multi-dimensional approaches to poverty eradication that go beyond economic deprivation. Various international attempts to determine poverty along with inferences for India are briefly argued below:

GLOBAL MULTI DIMENSIONAL POVERTY INDEX (MPI) initiated in the year 2010 by the **United Nations Development Program (UNDP)** and the **Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI)**, the MPI is an appraisal of multidimensional poverty covering more than 100 developing nations. It will go beyond the revenue as the individual indicator for poverty and footpath deficits transversely three dimensions and 10 indicators as indicted below:

- 1) Education: Years of schooling and child enrollment (1/6 weightage every one, total 2/6);
- 2) Health: Child death rate and nourishment (1/6 weightage every one, total 2/6);
- 3) Quality of Life: Electricity, flooring, drinking water, sanitation, cooking fuel and resources (1/18 weightage every one, total 2/6).

An individual is multi-dimensionally poor if she/he is withdrawn in one third or more (means 33% or more) of the mentioned ten indicators. Those who are deprived in one half or more than the weighted indicators will be considered as living in intense multidimensional poverty. The Multi-dimensional Poverty Index ranges between 0 and 1, higher value implies higher poverty. It is the result of the prevalence of poverty (proportion of poor people) and the strength of poverty (average deprivation score of poor people). Right now, it is the most widespread appraisal of multidimensional poverty compared to the conservative methodology that measures poverty only in income or economic terms.

Global **Multi-dimensional Poverty Index (MPI)** 2018 outlines India as a success story dedicating a separate division to India. The MPI said that, *“India has made a significant development in reducing multidimensional poverty. The prevalence of multifacet poverty was nearly bisected between 2005 to 06 and 2015 to 16, which climbs down to 27.5%. The global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) was slashed by half due to faster development among the poorest. Hence within a decade, the number of poor people in India fell by more than 271 million - a really huge gain. The scale of India’s scale of multi-dimensional poverty reduction has global implications that could parallel China’s progress.”*

Global MPI 2020 Report indicates that India is 62nd among 107 countries with an MPI score of 0.123 and 27.9% population identified as multi-dimensionally poor, the number was 36.8% for rural and 9.2% for urban India. There were wide variations across states. District level data reveals deep pockets of poverty but also impressive progress across the country. The Global MPI Reports are providing a more complete picture of who is deprived, how they are deprived, and where they live. They also confine the significant progress India has made in dropping multidimensional poverty transversely the country. Global MPI is too a part of Government of India’s assessment to observe the performance of the country in 29 select Global Indices under the “Global Indices to Drive Reforms and Growth (GIRG)” exercise.

WORLD BANK POVERTY LINE

At present, the World Bank describes extreme poverty as living on less than \$1.90 a day, calculated in 2011 purchasing power parity prices. On the other hand, measuring poverty during headcount ratios fails to capture the strength of poverty - individuals with consumption levels marginally under the poverty line are calculated

as being poor just as individual people with consumption levels much further below the poverty level. World Bank has developed the 'poverty gap index' as an alternative way of measuring poverty that measures the intensity of poverty, by calculating the amount of money required by a poor family so as to attain the poverty line. In other terms, it determines the income or consumption shortfall from the poverty line. The "poverty gap index" is deprived of as the mean deficit in the income or consumption from the International Poverty Line (\$1.90 a day in 2011 international dollars) including the non-poor as having no shortfalls, articulated as a proportion of the poverty line. Poverty gap for India is reported at 4.3% in 2011 down from 20% in 1977, according to the World Bank collection of development indicators, compiled from officially recognized sources. There is an obvious positive correlation between the incidence of poverty and the intensity of poverty but is far away from ideal. For example, India and Bolivia have comparatively parallel poverty gaps (means shortfall is close to 4% of the poverty line), but they have extremely different poverty rates (the share of population in poverty in India is 21%, while in Bolivia is 7.7%).

WORLD POVERTY CLOCK (WPC)

WPC is a methodical analytical structure to determine progress towards SDGs by World Data Lab. The World Poverty Clock (WPC) suggests real-time poverty estimations till 2030 for (approximately) each and every nation in the world. The World Poverty Clock (WPC) is a international model that footpaths poverty in instantaneous. It uses widely available statistics on income distribution, production and consumption and bridges the frequent decadal gaps between large-scale surveys and censuses. According to the WPC, for the last quarter century, the percentage of the world's population living below the extreme poverty line has reduced from 36%

to 10% in 2015. That embodies a drop from about 1.9 billion people living in extreme poverty to about 736 million in 2015.

Whereas a large amount of progress is attributable to decline in South-East Asia and East Asia, predominantly China, the declines in this decade are due in considerable degree to South Asia, particularly India. World Poverty Clock shows real-time poverty trends in India, which are based on the latest data, of the World Bank, among others. As per the modern estimations, the country is on track to finishing extreme poverty by meeting its SDGs by 2030. Current poverty line for India is shown as 4% based on USD 1.9 \$ poverty level.

The International Labour Organization (ILO) states that the right to social security as a fundamental human right, and alleges that social security is one of today's world's most important challenges (ILO, 2010b). Globally, only 1 in 5 can enjoy sufficient social security coverage, while half of the world's population have no social security protection at all (GESS official website a). These numbers indicate not only a deficiency of social security, but also an unequal provision of social security coverage worldwide.

Social security is essential to make stronger the potential of the poor to escape poverty and also to prevent people from becoming impoverished. Where adequate social security coverage is lacking, escaping the poverty circle becomes more complicated and therefore the risk of falling deeper into poverty increases. In addition, social security can also be developed economic growth and social stability within countries.

THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

Economists who favour using targeting of selected expenditure programmes argue that attempts to identify the poor and targeting benefits to them can serve important re-distributive and safety net roles in a market economy (**World Bank, 1990; Lipton and Ravallion, 1995**). **Grosh (1995, p. 465)** has observed: “targeted programs have much more incidence than general price subsidies”, and (p. 466): “on a standard targeted program also have more progressive prevalence than public primary health and public primary educational services, although there is a good deal of go beyond in the ranges”.

Chaudhuri and Ravallion (1994) from their study of longitudinal data on 103 households in three villages over 1976-1983 with a view to deriving implications for targeting in the case of the chronically poor, arrived at the following conclusions:

Current income generally dominates all other measures for all budgets in identifying the chronically income poor. At minimum budget levels it is also healthier at identifying those who are persistently poor in terms of their mean expenditure. At the poorer end of the budgets believed, current food expenditure per person is poorer than any of the further consumption or income procedures. But at the upper end it performs better than most. Even for the relatively good cross-sectional indicators, step-wise targeting based solely on cross-sectional data is significantly more costly than perfect targeting in achieving any given impact on chronic poverty. While there is some variation from year to year, there is no obvious pattern, such as between ‘good’ and ‘bad’ agricultural years. This does not bear out the finding of **Lanjouw and Stern (1991)** that current income in a good agricultural year is a better indicator of chronic poverty than in a bad year.

INDIA'S POVERTY CHALLENGE

Since 1970s, the total number of poor in India has been reduced from encircling around 50% of the total population, to approximately one fourth of the population at present (World Bank, 2011c). With a population beyond 1.2 billion people (Census of India, 2011a) the amount of poor continues very much.

PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT GENERATION SCHEMES IN INDIA

The theory of wage employment programmes in India is not a new one. Although the essence of the schemes is similar to the MGNREGA, that preceding the MGNREGA by providing a legal guarantee (CSE, 2008 and Hirway, 2005). In 1961, the Rural Works Programme (RWP) was employed in some rural areas with the intention of providing employment in the agricultural incline period. Afterward, different wage employment programmes were implemented with the aim of improving the lives of the rural poor by providing employment and creating resilient resources, such as the Food for Work Programme (FFWP), the Crash Scheme for Rural Employment (CSRE) in the 1970s. During the next decade, the India Wage Employment Programmes, the National Rural Employment Programme (NREP), the Rural Labour Employment Guarantee Programme (REGP), the Rural Landless Employment Guarantee (RLEG) and the Jawahar Rojgar Yojana (JRY) were implemented. In the 1990s, the Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) and the Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana (JGSY) were introduced, and after the millennium the Sampurna Grammen Rojgar Yojana (SGRY), the National Food For Work Programme (NFFWP) and recently the MGNREGA stands out as the most recent initiative by the Indian government to decrease rural poverty. Deficient of planning has been the major hitch of programmes such as JRY, EAS, SGRY and the MEGA, both in the short term

and long term. Even though the foremost goal of these programmes has been to decrease the rural poverty, the demand for public wage employment has somewhat increased. Other noticeable troubles have been corruption, too small programmes, small wages, little participation rate and inadequate creation of quality assets. The MGNREGA is executed in the entire parts of India. The process of implementation has proceeded during three phases, whereas the first phase officially commenced on February 2nd 2006 and covered the 200 poorest districts. Two years later, the MGNREGA covered the whole country (GOI-MORD, 2008:2).

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE RESEARCH

Identifying the poor households is the requirement for suitable targeting of beneficiaries of pro-poor programmes. Whereas the previous Planning Commission estimated poverty, definite recognition of the “Below the Poverty Line (BPL)” families in rural areas was done by the Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) ever since 1992. The MoRD provided financial and technical support to the States Governments / Union Territories to perform the BPL census through door-to-door survey with 100% reporting of rural households. Below Poverty Line Census was done in the year 1992 for 8th Five Year Plan, in 1997 for 9th Five Year Plan and in 2002 for 10th Five Year Plan. The BPL census conducted in the year 1992 exercised an income criterion to find out poverty with the annual income cut-off fixed at ₹11,000 per household. The BPL census in the year 1997 was performed in two phases. First, some families were expelled on the basis of certain criterion. In the second stage, each outstanding household was interviewed to decide its total consumer expenditure, and was identified as a BPL household if its per capita consumer expenses were under the poverty line set by the planning Commission. The

complexity in recognizing the poor or persons below the poverty line on the basis of income and consumption expenditure based criterion, 2002 BPL census was based on the an indicator-based scoring move toward to classifying households as poor and non-poor. The BPL censuses produced censures across the three key categories: methodological disadvantages in identification, data excellence and corruption, and data substance.

For classification of BPL housholds in the urban areas, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation is the nodal organization which issues procedures to carry out door to door survey by the Indian States and Union Territories on the basis of specific poverty lines particulars by Planning Commission.

NEED FOR THE STUDY

Even after the attainment of Independence of more than 74 years we are unable to achieve the desired results. Poverty in India is an abysmal in nature. Mahatma Gandhiji a long time ago declared that *“Poverty anywhere is a serious threat to prosperity everywhere”*. Since from the days of independence Government has launched various poverty alleviation programmes (Garebe Khato) under various names to mitigate poverty in rural areas where there is majority of people living under miserable conditions on even no opportunity to earn a meager income. *From the one angle these programmes are single bullet in another angle they are so called silver bullets without creating a fruitful results*. The mal distribution of real income among the rural poor also widens the unequal disparities of income distribution and worsens their lives further. Under these circumstances a pragmatic approach is needed to assess their livelihood pattern. The researcher has a strong motivation to undertake an in-depth of the study about the rural alleviation programmes and its economic

sequences among the rural poor. Poverty in India declined from 36 percent in 1993-1994 to 26 percent in 2016-2017. On the other hand, close to 300 million people still live in poverty on less than 1\$ a day. Recent measurements of poverty by the **Suresh Tendulkar Committee** place 37% below the poverty line. **The World Bank** calculates the BPL population at 40%. Unemployment and out of labour force days of rural agricultural labourers is 104 days (76 days for male and 141 days for female). Widespread attrition of the natural resource base over the last 50 years has effected in some of the most horrible natural disasters harmfully impacting agricultural efficiency and employment opportunities. So a multi cited approach like *trickle down poverty measures* is needed to analyze the living conditions of the poor in the rural parts of Tiruchirappalli district of Tamilnadu.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

In the year 2015, Niti Ayog set up a Task Force on Poverty under the then Vice-Chairman, Niti Ayog, Prof Arvind Panagariya. The Task Force deliberated the issue of whether a Poverty Line is required. It was declared that Poverty line and the poverty percentage have three potential usages: identifying poor; allocating expenditure on anti-poverty programs across states or regions; and tracking poverty over instance and across regions. In India, recognition of poor is done by the State Governments based on the data from Below Poverty Line (BPL) censuses of which the newest is the Socio-Economic Caste Census 2011 (SECC 2011). Distribution of expenses on anti-poverty programs is also done by means of instrument other than the poverty ratio. Widespread programs such as those under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNAREGA) and Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) are available to all making the subject of allocation debatable. Hence,

the main objective behind the measurement of poverty is the need for tracking overall progress in combating poverty over time and space.

Unlike BPL censuses in 2011 allowed for the first time to track the deficiency of households and addresses gaps effectively with focus on multi dimensionality of poverty. Being external the Census Act, it offers an infrequent chance to know the specific deficiency of each family. The Sumit Bose Committee (2017) suggested using SECC 2011 facts and figures to classify beneficiaries for all centrally supported, central and state government proposals as far as achievable.

The Government has used SECC data for identification of beneficiary households while implementing its social welfare programmes including Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Gramin, Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihood Mission, Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana-Ayushman Bharat, Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana, and Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana. Use of SECC statistics in the execution of Government programmes allowed for evidence based developmental interventions. With the use of SECC data, the programme specific priority list is generated keeping in view the fiscal space of the welfare programme for targeting specific pro-poor interventions. The assortment of beneficiaries get authenticated through Gram Sabhas, while identity is established through Aadhaar anywhere legally permitted. This leads to selection of right beneficiaries and minimizes duplication and fraud. This has substantially enhanced the effectiveness of government's efforts to tackle multi-dimensional poverty, going beyond income or expenditure based poverty. Hence, the present study elaborately deals on "AN ANALYTICAL STUDY OF THE POVERTY ALLEVIATION PROGRAMMES AMONG THE RURAL POOR IN TIRUCHIRAPPALLI DISTRICT".

SCOPE OF THE STUDY

The present study has vast scope of analyzing the poverty alleviation programmes implemented in improving the economic conditions of vulnerable sections of the society in this area. The scope refers to the subject matter or the coverage of the study. It may be in terms of geographical area, the study or the reference period as well. There were many more studies have already been carried out in this topic but no attempt has been made by any researcher in this angle and hence the present study has vast scope for enhancing not only productive oriented but also a best tool for further researchers to prosecute their studies in this similar arena.

The study deals about the implementation of Poverty Alleviation Programmes in rural areas of the Tiruchirappalli District which deals about socio-economic status of the rural people in this District during 2017-2018.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The present study mainly tries to find out the following major objectives:

1. To understand the need for poverty alleviation programmes implemented in Tiruchirappalli District and the real benefits reaped from the ongoing programmes.
2. To understand the challenges and issues involved in successful implementation of poverty alleviation programmes.
3. To measure the socio economic impact of the poor during the pre and post implementation period of the programmes.
4. To throw light on the methods and means of selecting beneficiaries covered under the various programmes.

5. To analyze the interpersonal and intrapersonal variations of the income of the beneficiaries covered under the scheme.
6. To explore further possible avenues of increasing economic status of the poor.

HYPOTHESIS OF THE STUDY

Having the broad objectives in the mind the following major hypotheses have been formulated by the researcher for the study purpose.

- There is a significant difference between the level of literacy of the rural households and extent of poverty in this area.
- There is a significant difference between the educational qualification and monetary benefits obtained from the poverty alleviation programmes in this area.
- There is a significant association between the economic impact of the poverty alleviation programmes before and after in this area.
- There is a significant difference between the level of economic wellbeing and social wellbeing of the respondents in this area.
- There is a significant difference between the awareness of the poverty eradication programmes and wage differences of the rural households in this area.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

Having the broad objectives in the mind on the foregoing discussion on poverty alleviation programme the researcher raised some important research questions which is most crucial for the validation of the research problem.

- 1) How to judge the performance of the ongoing poverty alleviation programmes implemented in this area?
- 2) What are the various strategies involved in the implementation process?
- 3) How to select the beneficiaries and what methods are followed to evaluate the economic impact?
- 4) How to overcome the defects involved and also narrate the problems of the rural poor?
- 5) What parameters are used to assess the economic impact pre and post implementation programme periods?
- 6) In what ways the ongoing programmes are successfully implemented in a further progressive manner?

RESEARCH DESIGN

In Tiruchirappalli district there are 15 revenue divisions comprises a geographical boundary of this district. Among the 15 divisions 5 divisions are randomly selected for the study purpose by using Simple Random Sampling Technique. The present study has adapted both exploratory and descriptive research designs. It describes the sociological issues involved in rural Livelihood pattern in selected blocks of Tiruchirappalli district namely **Lalgudi, Manaparai/ Marungapuri, Thottiyam, Musiri and Thuraiyur blocks** in Tamil Nadu. From the total no of households among the rural population absorbed from the study about 10% have been selected as the sample size by the use of **Simple Random Technique**. This would cover 20 villages from the above 5 blocks. The 20 villages from the selected 5 blocks are selected on the basis of the ongoing poverty alleviation programmes successfully implemented to improve the living conditions of the rural poor.

STUDY DESIGN

The number of variables related to the impact of poverty alleviation programmes have been identified and processed to establish its association with one another and also with socioeconomic status of the respondents. It means that the diagnostic and co relational research design was used by the researcher for the purpose of this study.

Unit of the study The Poor people living in the villages and towns /city areas of the district Tiruchirappalli was considered as the unit of the study.

VARIABLES STUDIED

In the present study, the following variables have been highlighted and studied: social status, economic status, sources of income, occupational pattern, employment status and nature, wages, political participation, availability of basic amenities, social status, life styles, feeling about insecurity, availability of safety nets and its utilization patterns and the impact of poverty alleviation programmes on various areas of life of the poor in India.

METHOD OF DATA COLLECTION

Primary data have was collected by interviewing the respondents with the help of predetermined sets of questions (Interview Schedule). Similarly the data was also been collected by way of informal discussions, focused group discussion and by way of participatory observations. Secondary data was collected from various research Journals, various reports and books, GOI reports, MORD, Ministry of Statistics and programme implementation, CMIE reports, Government Gazettes, Press Information Bureau of the Tamil Nadu Government of various years and also various websites, Seminar proceedings, Working Papers and even world bank reports and Human Development reports in the various years.

DATA PROCESSING AND ANALYSIS

The raw data collected by the researcher has been scrutinized and entered on the computer with SPSS. Some of the variables were regrouped so as to suit the data for the SPSS system. Descriptive statics such as mean, mode, median, standard deviation, and quartiles were used.

SAMPLING FRAMEWORK

The following table clearly shows the way in which of selecting samples for the study purpose. In the matter of selection of villages priority is given to the poverty alleviation programmes successfully implemented and due weightage has also been given to the beneficiaries of the scheme. Even though there were numerous households existed but only the beneficiaries of the poverty alleviation schemes can alone given topmost priority of selecting samples.

SAMPLING TECHNIQUE

Multi Stage Sampling Technique was followed in this study. In the *first stage* among the 14 total revenue divisions 5 rural divisions are selected. In the *second stage* in every revenue divisions 5 villages were selected in a random manner. In the *third stage* in every village respondents were selected in a random manner. The total number of households in all the selected 20 villages were observed as 20040 and 200 households were randomly selected by the **Simple Random Sampling Technique** ie., 1.0% of the universe. Detailed survey was undertaken with the help of interview schedule which focuses important parameters like Name of the Schemes, Wages, Type of Payment, Income and other Economic variables needed for the study purpose in an elaborate manner.

S.No	Block	Villages Selected	Total Households in villages	No. Of Families Surveyed	Percentage
1	Lalgudi	Aangarai, Valadi, Pambaramsuthi, Maanthurai, Poovalur	3687	40	20
2	Manachanallur	Uluthankudi, Ethumalai, Poonampalayam, Thiruvellarai, Kaatukulam	4841	40	20
3	Thuraiyur	Senappanallur, Keerambur, Pagalavadi, Sengaattupatti, Perumalmalai	5954	40	20
4	Musiri	Iyyampalayam, Aamoor, Gunaseelam, Kallur, Sirukambur	3854	40	20
5	Manapparai/ Marungapuri	Kovilpatti, Mundipatti, Seethappatti, Minnathampatti, Kannudayanpatti	1704	40	20
	Total		20040	200	100

N (Universe) = 20040,

Sample (n) = 200 (1.0%)

A sample is not calculated for its own sake. The entire unit of population has been given equal chance of being selected as a sample.

This study mainly focuses on the poverty alleviation programmes implemented in Trichirappalli District to alleviate poverty and how far these programmes are useful for improving their economic conditions. In the present study, the following variables have been highlighted and studied: social status, economic status, sources of income, occupational pattern, employment status and nature, wages, political participation,

availability of basic amenities, social Status, Life styles, feeling about insecurity, availability of safety nets and its utilization patterns and the impact of poverty alleviation programmes on various areas of life of the poor in India. This was followed by deciding the research question and hypothesis. Two types of research methods most commonly used for data collection are as follows: ***quantitative and qualitative methods***. Primary data have been collected from the households benefitted by the ongoing programmes in Tiruchirappalli District during the study period.

Quantitative analysis use data which have been converted into numbers, graphs; tables and statistics to come to a conclusion whereas qualitative methods often refer to case studies where the collection of information also obtained from a few studying purposes (***Bryman and Bell, 2007***). Qualitative techniques highlight on perceptive, interpretation, observations in normal situations and familiarity to data with a sort of insider sight (***Ghauri et al., 1995***).

This research will use the ***qualitative approach*** as it is more suitable for a research like this in which the firms' internal behaviour, peoples' perceptions, beliefs, ideas and opinions need to be taken into explanation which are complicated to enumerate (***Grimsholm & Poblete, 2010***). ***Both primary and secondary data*** have been collected for the study purpose. Secondary data will be collected from specific reports, articles and other internet sources.

Primary data was collected in person by interviewing people or sending them some questionnaires. The questionnaire was prepared by suitable secondary data collection and some study. Collected data was then accumulated, significantly examined and the research was completed with certain policy recommendations.

LOCALE OF THE STUDY AREA

Tiruchirappalli District is located centrally in Tamil Nadu. Major public sector companies like BHEL, HAPP, OFT and Railway workshop function here. Tiruchirappalli is well-known for fabrication industry, Gem Cutting, Korai Mat Weaving and Readymade Garments.

The Tiruchirappalli district in its present size was formed in September 1995 by trifurcating the compound Tiruchirappalli district into Tiruchirappalli, Karur and Perambalur districts.

The total area of the district is 4403.83 Sq. Kms. It is bound by Perambalur district on the north, Thanjavur district on the east, Pudukkottai and Dindigul districts on the south and Karur district on the west. Since Tiruchirappalli district is located centrally in the State, it has outstanding transport facilities to all other districts in the State.

Tiruchirappalli district in terms of geographical strategy it lies between 11° 00' and 12° 00' degrees of the northern latitude and between 77° 28' and 78° 50' degrees of the eastern longitude.

Primary data: This data has been composed by using the questionnaire with multiple alternative answers. Personal interview was conducted from the respondents of the poverty alleviation programmes implemented in the sample villages.

Secondary data: It has been collected from various books, associated websites, related research papers and various journals.

RESEARCH TYPE

This research is descriptive paper which studies the poverty alleviation programmes in Tiruchirappalli District and its impact.

QUESTIONNAIRE PREPARATION

A well structured questionnaire was prepared by the researcher to gather necessary information for the study purpose with necessary economic and social information.

RESEARCH DESIGN

The choice of qualitative methods, for my research, was primarily to understand the “voice of interest from the participants’ perspective,” and not just from the researcher’s. **Patton (1985)** defines qualitative research as an effort to understand situations in their uniqueness, as part of a particular context and the interactions. This understanding is an end in itself and it does not attempt to predict what may happen in the future necessarily. It also seeks to understand the nature of that setting. What it means for members to be in that location, what their lives are similar to, what’s just about for them, what their implications are, what the world looks like in that specific setting.

This study adopted the phenomenological approach, which seeks to elucidate the meaning of the lived experience of a phenomenon of a group of people. **Patton (2002)** notes that a phenomenological study is one that focuses on descriptions of what people experience and how it is that they experience what they experience.

A phenomenological study requires an investigator to derive research questions that explore the meaning of that experience for individuals and ask them to describe their everyday lived experiences (**Creswell, 1998**). This was prepared in the course of interviews with individuals, who had practiced the event (Creswell, 1998). The main aim in this research is to analyze the impact of poverty alleviation programmes and social change among the rural households in this district was the core theme of the research. The researcher employed in depth interviews, to derive from selected beneficiaries of the ongoing poverty alleviation programmes.

TIME PERIOD

The present study covered a period of one year, from 2017 to 2018. About 12 month's time were spared by the researcher to contact the sample beneficiaries of poverty alleviation programmes in Tiruchirappalli. Repeated and frequent visits were made by the researcher to the 5 revenue divisions in this district, which consumed a larger time consuming.

PILOT STUDY

It is difficult to plan a major study or project, without adequate knowledge of its subject matter, the population to cover and so on. A pilot study is a small scale model of the main project.

Pilot study was conducted with 25 respondents and the questionnaire was restructured, based on the suggestions and recommendations made by them.

SAMPLE SIZE

This refers to the number of items, selected from the universe, to constitute a sample. The sample size, for the study, was 20040 in number, from the total of 200.

SAMPLING TECHNIQUE

The respondents were interviewed by using simple random sampling. This involved selection of respondents whom the researcher judged to be the most appropriate for the study. It was based on the conclusion of the researcher.

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

Simple percentage analysis was used to analyse the tabulated data, collected through the questionnaire. Statistical tools, like mean score and chi square test, Anova, t-Test, p statistical value and inter-correlation matrices were used, to analyze and prove the formulated hypotheses. Hence usage of prominent statistical tools like

OLS, TOBIT model, Inter correlation matrix, Atkinson Model, LANGEVIN FOKKER–PLANCK MODEL and also HCR, FGT-CLASS FOR CASES INVOLVING RESTRICTED HEADCOUNT RATIO DOMINANCE with proper empirical evidences has been used.

RESEARCH GAP

After a thorough review of literatures on various aspects of Poverty Alleviation Programmes in India the researcher identifies the following research gaps.

- 1) No study was conducted to review the impact of the poverty alleviation programmes and their socio-economic status was dealt in detail and so this research is an immense importance of analyzing the ongoing alleviation programmes and what type of changes/modifications are needed for the betterment of the delivery mechanism and creation of social assets which is highly useful only for the particular locality and also enhance the productive efficiency and social audit must be made to improve its working progress in future.
- 2) In a crux, even though it is not a maiden attempt in this topic but a detailed survey about the changes in the livelihood pattern in the rural elites is clearly shown in this picture in a well conceived in an axiomatic approach.

LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

The widespread rule “no research is comprehensive and without limitations” is appropriate to this study as well. Thus, the present research suffers the following limitations. Like all researches this research also faced some serious constraints and difficulties. There may be the possibility of exclusion of some of the villages in which

programmes are successfully implemented and also the exact number of beneficiaries has not been contacted. Owing to the paucity of time and financial constraints the researcher has not been able to contact all the respondents in a detailed manner. At last the findings of the research will reveal various degree of missing data. This is frequently concerning the semi-structured interviews as this data were generally collected in speed because the research subjects had limited time to interrelate. Very frequently, these respondents were occupied in an action or going anywhere, which restricted the number of question they were able to answer, or it made the researcher forget to ask some of the questions.

For a plain truth the result of the experiment couldn't be affected too much by existing information and available literature.

CHAPTERISATION

- Chapter-I : Deals with Introduction international and national status of Poverty Alleviation Programmes, Theoretical background, Importance of the study, Statement of the Problem, Scope, Objectives, Hypotheses, Research Questions, Methodology, Limitations and Chapterisation.
- Chapter-II : Deals with Review of Literature
- Chapter-III : Deals with the Profile of the Study Area
- Chapter-IV : Deals with Overview on Poverty Alleviation Programmes and Measurements of Poverty
- Chapter-V : Deals with Analysis and Interpretation of Data
- Chapter-VI : Summary of Findings, Suggestions and Conclusion
- Appendix : Bibliography,
Interview Schedule

REVIEW OF LITERATURE