

CHAPTER VI

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, SUGGESTIONS, FURTHER RESEARCH AND CONCLUSION

Poverty is an anti social phenomenon. It should be eradicated from its grossroots. Since, from the days of independence, central and state governments have ben launched various poverty alleviation programmes in India. But it was unable to achieve the desired results. Nearly 22% of the India's population is going to the bed without taking supper. There is a peculiar problem prevail only in India in the distribution of income in an inequitable manner and the real income and real expenditure by the people is largely varied. There is no any specific attempt after 2012 in determining the poverty line. Anyhow, the individuals' per capita income of \$1.58 is the most determinant factor of deciding poverty line.

POVERTY IN INDIA

Poverty in India is multidimensional. India is ranked as a country with very high vulnerability measured by the proportion of the population living below the Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) of 2USD a day, and the proportion of workers engaged in the informal. As much as 93% of India's total work force is engaged in the informal sector, which amounts to about 370 million people. Being unrecognized and unprotected by law and the absence of unions makes the workers vulnerable to exploitation. In addition, over 70% of the work force is educated below the primary level or are illiterate.

In 2004-05, the population below poverty line in rural areas was 28% and 26% in urban areas. Of the rural population, 80% lives below the poverty line of `22 a day (measured in PPP of 2USD a day). According to the HDI for 2010, life expectancy in

India was 64.4 years, the child mortality rate under the age of 5 was 69 deaths per 1000 births, and 22% of the Indian population suffered from undernourishment. In terms of education, the illiteracy rate in the country was 31.7%, and the mean years of schooling were only 4.4 year.

During the MGNREGA, the Indian government distinguished the right to social security by initiating one of the largest rights based social protection initiatives in the globe. Briefly, the MGNREGA guarantees annual employment for 100 days to all the rural households whose adult members are willing to do untalented manual work at a legislative minimum wage. The major objective of the MGNREGA is to alter the conditions of poverty not only by providing employment and income, but also by the creating durable assets through the work conducted. These attempts address the sources of constant poverty and have the potential to change the rural economy.

Especially in the parts of Tamil Nadu there is a greater variation of incidence of poverty and the prevalence of extreme poor which scatters all over the state. More specifically the research area chosen by the researcher i.e., Tiruchirappalli district is blessed with the availability of natural resources and irrigation facilities in an abundant manner. But iradically the select blocks like Thuraiyur, Manapparai, Manachanallur are the most rain fed areas whereas the remaining two blocks namely Lalgudi, Musiri are blessed with holy river cauvery's irrigation potentialities.

ECONOMIC GROWTH AND POVERTY REDUCTION

Growth is one of the strongest antidotes to poverty. The pattern of ownership of assets and redistribution policies can strengthen the poverty reducing impact of growth by correcting market failures specially the imperfections of the credit and

insurance markets. The sectoral composition of growth is also critical. In Tiruchirappalli District, as in Tamil Nadu as a whole, the structure of the economy is shifting away from agriculture. For people remaining in agriculture, the real growth rate is likely to remain relatively low compared to the other sectors. Agricultural prices also tend to be volatile. These trends will lead to further migration of people away from agriculture to non-agricultural activities, and away from rural to urban areas.

Growth in employment in the primary sector in Tiruchirappalli District has been negative in recent years whereas that in secondary and tertiary sector has been positive and relatively high. The fundamental challenge in the milieu of the changing structure of the economy and employment is to generate the capacity to attract the population migrating out of agriculture into industry and services with appropriate training and skill development. At the same time, productivity in agriculture should not be allowed to fall. This will require considerable additional investment in agriculture where government will have to play a key role as the returns will not be adequate to attract large inflows of private capital into agriculture. Higher growth, particularly in the non-agricultural sectors, has been shown to have a significant direct impact on reducing poverty in Tiruchirappalli District. The present research mainly deals on the poverty alleviation programmes in Tiruchirappalli District and how it helps the rural poor to improve their socio-economic conditions.

The research area chosen by the researcher is Tiruchirappalli district which is the most central part of Tamil Nadu state which connects important southern centres. It mainly deals on the performance of the ongoing poverty alleviation programmes only in the rural areas of the district and it did not take into account of the programmes implemented in the urban centres of the district.

Most of the respondents responded in the survey have openly opined that definitely the many poverty alleviation programmes implemented in this district is boon to improve their socio-economic status. But most of the programmes like MGNREGP, PMMY schemes are unable to cope up with their entire employment needs and also inadequate to lead their life. Hence, the PDS schemes and AAY, Food for Work programme and other social asset creations in the rural parts not only useful to the individual but also to the entire village. The distribution of real income among the poor is largely varied from one region to another region. Inorder to prove the hypotheses formulated by the researcher for the study purpose is justified with the 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 emphirical evidences.

MAJOR FINDINGS

- Among the 200 respondents 90% belong to the male headed households and the remaining 20% belong to female headed households.
- In the case of the occupational status it was found that 45% depend upon the agriculture as a main source of occupation and 30% are unemployed. The remaining percentage of people depend upon other services sector and trade.
- Nearly 45% of the households have the educational status of up to primary schooling and 30% of the households are illiterates and even they are not having pre-primary level.
- In the case of unemployment nearly 65% of the respondents in their families their dependent was estimated at 5 to 6 members. Similarly 15% of their

families are grouped under the category of the family members in between 6 to 7 members.

- It is very pity to note that the 45% of the respondents earned an average monthly income of `5000 to `6000 and 30% of the respondents are having the income strata of `4000 to `5000.
- Nearly 45% of households earned income from agriculture and 30% earned income from the allied agricultural activities like dairying, poultry and so on.
- Among the many antipoverty schemes MGNREGP placed rank one and 32.5% of the people benefited under the schemes and 20% of the rural households enjoyed the benefits from the implementation of SGSY scheme.
- A considerable portion of rural people enjoy the benefits from the implementation of other programs like PMRY, EGS and FWP.
- Ensuring food materials through the implementation of TPDS scheme and definitely Antyodaya Anna Yojana is a boon to the poor destitute and uncared poor.
- 40.5% respondents earned an annual income of `60000 to `80000 32% earned income range of `40000 to `60000 and 16% earned income range of `20000 to `40000 from the implementation of poverty alleviation programs like MGNREGP, EGS and PMRY.
- It is very interesting to note that most of the respondents frankly opined that these schemes are the only amicable chance of living patronage to the larger extent.
- By implementing MGNREGP scheme in creation of social assets to the local people a larger utilization of the mandays throughout the year

- 45% of the sample households earned a monthly income of `500 to `1000 from other sources like contract farming in their local area as casual workers and 30% earned `1 to `500 as an additional source of income.
- The incidence of poverty was largely found in a dry belt regions and lower extent of poverty was found in the irrigated regions because of the availability of primary sectors employment opportunities.
- Regarding the payment of wages it was found that 41% opined that wages paid to them are very discriminated and 30% responded that No discrimination of wages and the remaining percentage of people are not aware.
- There is a remarkable change of the economic conditions of the rural people in this area was estimated as 61% in contrary 24% have the opposite opinion and the remaining 15% do not have any definite idea.
- Regarding the payment wages under the ongoing poverty alleviation programmes nearly 58% of the households responded that they knew about the implementation of minimum wages and negligible portion responded that something about it.
- 60% of the households responded that they have been paid correct wages and 32% opined that wages are incorrect and not properly settled. Though wages have been credited in their respective bank accounts under the MGNREGP Scheme a portion of amount has been forcibly taken away by the local rural panchayat officials. It should be eradicated completely.
- The economic and social status have been fairly increasing before and after the implementation of programme and one we can conclude that the ongoing programmes are the only silver bullet to improve their income status.

- There is a perfect correlation between the subject wellbeing and economic wellbeing.
- The BPL families are needed to get more income through the Government supported other Stand-up or Start-up programmes in generating additional employment by utilizing by only the unemployed rural youth.

PROBLEMS OF RURAL LABOURERS IN TIRUCHIRAPPALLI DISTRICT

Following factors are responsible for the poor conditions of rural labourers in India:

(i) Unorganised:

Rural labourers in India are completely unorganised as they are uninformed, illiterate and widely distributed. Thus, the agricultural labourers have no capacity to negotiate for securing a fair wage level.

(ii) Low Social Status:

Rural labourers mostly belong to depressed classes and thus they lack the courage to assert their basic rights.

(iii) Seasonal Unemployment:

As the agricultural operations are seasonal thus the rural workers are often face the problem of seasonal unemployment and under-employment. Rural workers on an average get employment for about 200 days in a year.

(iv) Absence of Alternative Occupations:

In the absence of alternative occupation in the rural areas, the workers do not get alternative jobs when they suffer from seasonal unemployment.

(v) Growing Indebtedness:

Rural labourers in this area are highly indebted. As the level of wages is very poor thus the labourers have been borrowing from landlords and become bonded labourers ultimately.

Thus, considering these above factors, it can be said that the rural labourers in this area live in inhuman conditions and in the absence of organised status they are deprived of all the basic amenities of life.

SUGGESTIONS

- ❖ Existing poverty eradication programmes may be modified in accordance with the situations prevails in the local area.
- ❖ To combat natural calamities like drought/ flood or any other contingencies the existing programmes may be changed/ extended more days than as the specified period.
- ❖ MGNREG Programme may be extended to more quantum of days like 100 to 150 days or even 150 to 200 days to meet the employment opportunities in the particular area.
- ❖ In the lines of Start-up/ Standup programmes DRDO/ concerned officials may come forward to set-up many more FPO (Farmers Producers Organisations) with overall technical assistance given by the district rural industries centre to create additional employment chances.
- ❖ Certain agricultural products like Banana or some other fruit cash crops may be converted into value added products which will create additional employment opportunities to the local public.

- ❖ Targetted Public Distribution System (TPDS) may be changed so as to suit to the local peoples's food needs (or) NPHH card holders.
- ❖ Generally this district is endowed with abundant supply of natural resources like sand, clay soil and precious metals. DIC, DRDO must come forward to set-up rural industrial hubs which will absorb more unemployed people in the local areas then they may be evaded from poverty trap.
- ❖ Implementing centrally sponsored programmes like PMJDY, GSJRY, Swarna Jayanthi Rozgar Yojana schemes may be changed to meet the needs to localities without affecting norms and conditions of those schemes.
- ❖ Liberalized policy may be followed to adopt the selection of beneficiaries and poorest of the poor/ or very very poor must be given to the first preference (Antodya Approach).
- ❖ Creating awareness among the public to participate Grama Sabha meetings held on important days in their areas, where they go to raise their concerns to make their representation to solve some grievances.
- ❖ Besides, agriculture is only a seasonal employment and it couldn't provide employment opportunities throughout the year and so an alternative employment opportunities are needed to absorb the unutilized labour force where there are huge unemployment problem prevalls, and so allied agricultural sectors like Poultry, Fishing, Piggery farms and Dairy units may be set-up with the financial assistance of NABARD and RRBs.
- ❖ NABARD's priority credit plan may be prepared by giving top most priority in eradication of poverty. Specified programmes like 'Kudi Maramathu' must be made like distilling works, canal construction, removing Aerial lotus plants

must be done under the poverty alleviation stream. It should be done only by the usage of physical man power and won't use machinery power.

- ❖ To make the environmental good quality in rural areas Govt. agencies may come forward to set-up "Green Manuring" units/ Solid Waste Management practices, vermi composed units which will provide larger additional employment opportunities to the unemployed rural youth.
- ❖ Digging of Jeevan Dhara wells, Rural Road connectivity schemes must absorb only the local rural people.
- ❖ Monitoring and social auditing must be done by the elected representatives to the panchayat bodies/ Labour wings may be done to make more accurately and worthiness the ongoing programmes.
- ❖ Imparting new technique of rural youth under TRYSEM programme, the authorities may come forward to set-up some skill based training centres which will in future to get more employment opportunities to them.
- ❖ To execute the Minimum Wage Act solemnly and to improve the minimum wages sporadically considering the altering price level.
- ❖ To develop their negotiating power, the agricultural labourers should be organised through the development of unions of farm labourers under the protection and maintain of the government.
- ❖ To eradicate serfdom between the landless agricultural labourers completely.
- ❖ To regenerate the agricultural labourers on the attained land pronounced superfluous under maximum laws and also on the recently reclaimed land.
- ❖ To create substitute resources of employment by increasing small scale and cottage industries in the rural regions.

- ❖ To progress the conditions of agriculture by approving enhanced concentrated methods and multiple cropping for raising the efficiency of agricultural labourers.
- ❖ To recover the working circumstances of agricultural labourers by enforcing fixed hours of work, outlawing child labour etc.
- ❖ To encourage co-operative agricultural in the rural regions.
- ❖ To recover the ordinary of living of agricultural labourers by organising exceptional programmes like Minimum Needs Programme.
- ❖ To introduce social security calculates for the agricultural labourers and also to commence obligatory insurance on marginal contribution and also to set up old age pension schemes for the agricultural labourers by the government.

FURTHER DIRECTION OF RESEARCH

From the foregoing discussion, it is very interesting to note that the existing poverty alleviation programmes must be revamped and streaming in a good structured path so as to attain the benefits which will be useful to the local elites only. It is only a micro level study and not macro level study have not been undertaken to address the problems involved in implementing the anti poverty programmes. In order to widen the research problem and its scope must be extended to all sections of the society in the rural areas with wider awareness of the public must be made by the government agencies in the thorough manner. In this task the local NGOs or government bodies will be entrusted to undertake the research in future.

CONCLUSION

One cannot deny the fact that ensuring the availability of food materials and sufficient income are the most deciding factors of their well being conditions. The gap between the 'haves' and 'have nots' must be reduced in a maximum level with the prompt policy measures of the Government through some social security programmes with the main aim to equal distribution of real income. The attention of the policy makers and bureaucrats must be made to ensure in providing the basic amenities of the rural elites. From the foregoing discussion on the analysis of anti-poverty programmes and its impact on the living conditions of marginalized poor in this district clearly reveals that they have better opportunity to earn more income through the implementations of those programmes. Most of the anti-poverty programmes in the rural areas of the district properly function and attain its targets in improving the economic status of the poor.

After the careful monitoring on the study undertaken by the researcher was found that some difficulties and constraints involved in implementing the programmes must be reduced. The findings of the study and suggestions recommended by the researcher are properly implemented in future definitely this district will emerge as a forerunner in the state and it is having "best ray of hope" for further development and light a lamp in the lives of rural poor.

BIBLIOGRAPHY