

A Study on Household Income and Expenditure of Scheduled Tribe

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Abstract — In India, more than 65 percent of the population are living in rural area and most of them are engaged in agricultural and allied activities. Thus the average income and expenditure is also very low, i.e. Rs. 48,097 and Rs. 44,025 in all India level (NCAER 2010). In rural areas, 24 percent of the population are living below the poverty line. Yadav (2006) found that the 47 percent of private consuming expenditure are on goods and services. Objective of this study is to analyse the income and expenditure on scheduled tribe households. Interview method is scheduled for data collection and simple statistical tools are applied for the analysis. This study found that the average monthly income and expenditure are Rs. 5556 and Rs. 7200 per month. This study directly shows that income is low and expenditure is high in tribal area.

Keywords — Households; Income; Expenditure.

1. Introduction

Our father of the nation Mahatma Gandhi quoted that “India is a land of village”, it’s clearly stated that rural area is most important to our country. The Ministry of Labour (2015-16) [1], categorized the organised and unorganised labour forces in India. In rural tribal area, 90 percent of the population depending on agricultural and agricultural allied activities like cultivators, agricultural labour, agro-based industrial works, self-employed, casual labour and etc. According to 2011 census [2], 90 percent of the total tribal populations are living in rural and hill areas in all over the country. In Indian annual economic survey, 93 percent of rural workforces are including self-employed and employed in unorganized sectors (2007-08) [3]. The National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) survey carried out the total employment was 46.5 crore comprising around 2.8 crore in organised and remaining 43.7 crore workers in unorganised sector. Out of these workers in unorganised sector, there are 24.6 crore workers employed in agricultural sector, about 4.4 crore in construction and the remaining population in manufacturing services sectors in India (2009-10) [4]. These rural labour forces generate 50 percent of total Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in India.

2. Income Sources

According to National Survey of Households Income and Expenditure (2010) [4] report, the 66 percent of rural population engaged unorganised sector and their average household income in rural area is around 65,000 and 95,000 in urban area per annum. According to the India

Rural Development Report (2013-14) [5], more than 1.1 billion people are living below the poverty line, and a large proportion of poor people live in rural (tribal also) areas. The study estimate that the rural poverty among the occupational groups in rural areas is the highest among agricultural labour (40 percent), and it followed by other labour at 33 percent and the self-employed in agriculture at 22 percent (IFAD 2016) [6]. These report clearly stated that the most of the rural population are living in poverty.

In these study area, the most of them are working as agricultural labour and casual labour. Their average Monthly Per Capita Income (MPCI) is 6,500 per household and expenditure is 4500.

Table 1: Rural Monthly per Capita Income and Expenditure of the Households (MPCE)

Average income of households	Households income	Households Expenditure
below 2000	4	3
2001-4000	7	18
4001-6000	12	17
6001-8000	15	8
8001-10000	6	3
above 10001	5	0

Source: Compiled Data

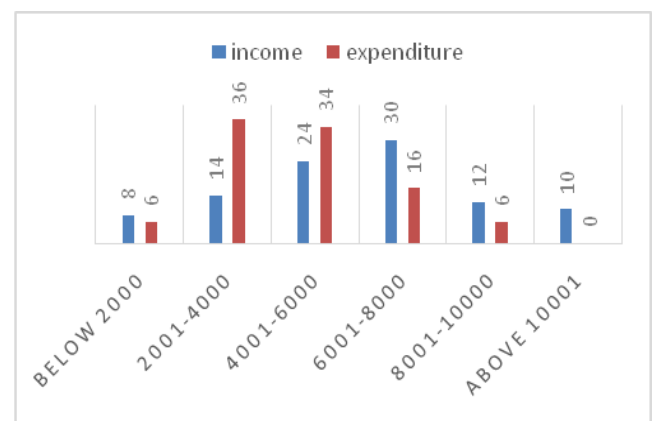


Fig.1: Figure Shows Monthly Per Capita Expenditure (in Percentage)

These studies mainly focused on tribal household income and expenditure. In rural tribal area, the Table I shows that around 77 percent of the household monthly income was very low, at the same time 76 percent of average monthly expenditure is high. The recent NSSO reported states that

in rural areas, the consumption expenditure on food items was decreased in last two decades at the same time non-food consumption was increased (2013). This study also found that consumption expenditure was high.

4. Conclusion

The National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) also found that in last two decades, the food expenditure of the rural population is decreased and at the same time non-food consumption is increased. This study found that 90 percent of tribal population are in poor economic conditions. Their per capita monthly income was very low (Rs. 5,000). Because, they are depending on cultivation, agricultural labour and casual labour works. 4 to 5 members are there in their average family size and roughly 50 percent of the family members are in a status of non-earning. So that the 90 percent of their income is spend for consumption purpose. In this situation, the tribal population are living below the poverty line.

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