

# Poverty the other factors that provide supplementary information

[Nutrition](#)



Poverty is one of the main problems which have attracted enough attention of sociologists and economists. It indicates a condition in which a person fails to maintain a living standard adequate for his physical and mental efficiency.

It is a situation people want to escape. It gives rise to a feeling of a discrepancy between what one has and what one should have. The term poverty is a relative concept. It is very difficult to draw a demarcation line between affluence and poverty. Poverty is one of the most critical issues being faced by any economy. It has been defined variously by the scholars.

“Poverty is conventionally measured by the income or expenditure level that can sustain a bare minimum standard of living” (Bardhan, 1973). But measuring standard of living is a tricky issue. Income/consumption levels though are taken officially to depict poverty but such a measure of poverty needs to be supplemented by other factors that would reflect access to minimum level of social amenities.

Longevity, infant mortality rate, health, nutrition, literacy, and access to primary schools, and drinking water, etc. are the other factors that provide supplementary information on poverty (Vani, 2004). Poverty is defined as the inability to obtain the minimum requirements of life, health and efficiency due to very low income or insufficient assets. World Bank defines poor person as “a person who earns less than 1.25 dollar per day”. It has to be defined in relation to average living standards in a society and the social norms and the customs acceptable to it at a point of time. Poverty is a state where a person finds it unable to maintain a minimum socially accepted level of standard of living. It is pointed as the root cause for low levels of health and educational

outcomes, poor access to clean drinking water and sanitation, inadequate physical security, lack of voice, and insufficient capacity and opportunity for mobility.

Poverty has been described as a situation of “pronounced deprivation in well being” and being poor as “to be hungry, to lack shelter and clothing, to be sick and not cared for, to be illiterate and not schooled. Poor people are particularly vulnerable to adverse events outside their control. They are often treated badly by institutions of the state and society and excluded from voice and power in those institutions.” Poverty has been described as a situation of “pronounced deprivation in well being” and being poor as “to be hungry, to lack shelter and clothing, to be sick and not cared for, to be illiterate and not schooled.

Poor people are particularly vulnerable to adverse events outside their control. They are often treated badly by institutions of the state and society and excluded from voice and power in those institutions.” According to ICMR, the minimum calories intake of a person has been put at 2400 kilo calories per capita per day in rural areas and 2100 kilo calories per capita per day in urban areas. The minimum calorie intake for rural areas has been kept higher than that in the urban areas, as rural people have to put in more physical effort than those living and working in urban areas. Those who fail to secure the prescribed calorie intake levels fall below poverty line and are defined as poor.

**OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY.** The present study is carried out with the following objectives

- Ø To analyze the state wise Specific Poverty Lines for

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the year of 2011-2012. Ø To identify the determinants of poverty at macro and micro levels Ø To analyze the trends in incidence of poverty Karnataka and all -India . Methodology of The Study. The present study is based on Secondary data, secondary data has been collected from Books , journals, Annual reports , and internet sources. Review Literature. Murgal et al., (2003) conducted study on measuring poverty in Karnataka as a regional dimensional.

Under this study they reported that Indian Planning Commission (IPC) estimated poverty at national level by using detailed household consumption and expenditure data from the NSSO, but IPC was unable to measure poverty at regional levels due to inadequate sample size. In order to measure poverty at regional level they made attempt that pooling of central and state sample data to overcome the problems of limitation of sample size. They used secondary information like HCR and PGI of state and central data to measure poverty.

They compared cumulative distribution and Lorenz curve of MPC E separately for the rural and urban area of Karnataka. Their study concluded that Gulbarga and Belagaum division had highest poverty ratio compare to any other district of Karnataka. Rath (2003) noted that poverty line by Dandekar and Rath (1971) was calculated on the basis of household consumer expenditure survey of 1961-62 by NSSO. But from 1972 onwards, though NSSO carried out a large sample consumer expenditure survey but the tabulated calorie data was not published. Rather, in poverty determination, focus has shifted from calorie based approach to income

based approach. He examined a method of estimating poverty on the basis of price indices.

His study based on the NSSO data has created a detailed price index structure for each state of India. It used maximum individual commodities and subsequently he found deep disconnection between income poverty and food consumption. Complexity of monetary poverty and nutritional status has been observed. Increasing income and declining calories intake among poor in many states has shown declining poverty incidence of monetary poverty.

The results of the studies based on price indices and those of the expert group are noticeably different. Sharma (2004) using the planning commission poverty line, computed poverty and inequality indices from the large sample surveys of NSS consumer expenditure data. Rural and urban poverty estimates were presented in the study for the period 1973/74-1999/2000. The author observed that the inter-temporal changes in the poverty ratio were more influenced by the changes in per capita consumption rather than class distribution. Inter-personal inequality in the consumption distribution, measured by the Lorenz ratio, remained fairly stable for a long period but showed signs of decline recently. The study dwells on the quality of data on private consumption obtained from the National Sample Surveys' consumer expenditure vis-à-vis the private consumption expenditure in National Accounts Statistics, particularly the recent changes in the method of data collection in the former. The study also concluded that importance of non-income indicators such as infant mortality rate and school enrolment in the assessment of living standards and also reduction of poverty.

Anonymous(2013) reported that Planning Commission has periodically estimated poverty lines and poverty ratios for each of the years for which Large Sample Survey on Household Consumer Expenditure had been conducted by the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation. These surveys are normally conducted on quinquennial basis. The percentage of persons below the Poverty Line in 2011-12 has been estimated at 25.7 in rural areas, 13.7 in urban areas and 21.9 for the country as a whole. The respective figures for the rural and urban areas were 41.8, 25.

7 and 37.2 for the country as a whole in 2004-05. It was 50.1 per cent in rural areas, 31.8 per cent in urban areas and 45.3 per cent for the country as a whole in 1993-94.

In 2011-12, India had 270 million persons below the Tendulkar Poverty Line as compared to 407 million in 2004-05, that is a reduction of 137 million persons over the seven year period. During the 11-year period 1993-94 to 2004-05, the average decline in the poverty ratio was 0.74 percentage points per year.

It accelerated to 2.18 percentage points per year during the 7-year period 2004-05 to 2011-12. Therefore, it was concluded that the rate of decline in the poverty ratio during the 7-year period 2004-05 to 2011-12 was about three times of that experienced in the 11-year period 1993-94 to 2004-05. Vijaya et al., (2013) conducted a multidimensional poverty analysis, using data collected from the Karnataka Household Asset Survey (KHAS) to assess

gender, intra-household disparities in asset ownership and to construct an individual level of multidimensional poverty measure for Karnataka.

To measure multidimensional poverty, they included four dimensions – education, living standards, ownership of productive assets and empowerment. The study concluded that, in Karnataka 25 per cent of the households were classified as multi-dimensionally poor. The poverty rate among women was (71%) more than double the poverty rate among men (30%).

Nature Of Poverty in Karnataka. Percentage of people below poverty line is 20.91%. Nutritional deficiency among children in Karnataka is acute. It has failed in spreading the facilities of Bangalore's development to rest of the state. It remains one of the few states to have just one city, Bangalore, with more than 1 million people.

North Karnataka has remained untouched by development. These are the 10 poorest states in India where poverty is in dominance. The Indian Government is trying its level best to bring these states and their people to bring above the poverty line. Determinants of Poverty at Macro and Micro levels Poverty is regarded as a vicious circle.

It is the product of different causes. Poverty is a multi dimensional problem and multiple factors are responsible for it. There are several factors which causes poverty at micro and macro levels. Determinants of poverty are broadly classified into 6 major categories which include (1) Personal factors: (a) Sickness, (b) Mental disease, (c) Accident, (d) Idleness and extravagance

and(e) Demoralization. (2) Biological factors: Rapid growth of population is one of the most important macro determinants of poverty.

(3) Geographical factors: (unfavorable climate weather, absence of natural resources and Natural calamities also created poverty at micro and macro levels). (4) Economical factors: i. e Backwardness of agriculture and unequal distribution of wealth. (5) Social factors which include religion, caste, family size and type, education levels, occupation, source of income and land holding. 6) Political factors: Political elites are giving various popular slogans like ' anti poverty programme, ' removal of unemployment' or ' Bekari Hatao', ' Garibi Hatao' etc but these slogans have not been translated into action. The Concept of Poverty Line.

The Concept of poverty line has been derived from the definition of poverty, which is defined in absolute terms. The individual or family income of which is not adequate to ensure them the minimum requirements of life (e. g. nutrition, clothing and shelter) is stated to be the poverty line or more conservatively, only food, a yardstick for socially decent life being the ultimate goal. It has also been observed that the common man must be entitled to a minimum calorie intake to guarantee him bare survival. Poverty line concept is multi-dimensional (viz., income-poverty and non-income poverty). It gives not only levels of Income consumption But also health and education, vulnerability and risk; and marginalization exclusion of the poor from the mainstream of society.

As pointed out by Tendulkar committee , the concept of poverty is associated with socially perceived deprivation with respect to basic human needs. For

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the year 2009-10, the planning commission has defined the poverty line as Rs. 22. 40 per day in rural areas and 28.

60 per capita per day in urban areas. This translates to 672. 8 per capita per month in rural areas and 859. 60 per capita per month in urban areas. In 2004-05 the percentage of people living below poverty line was 33. 3%. in 2009-10 it was 23.

6%. the percentage of people living below poverty line in Karnataka has come down by 9. 7% in the estimate of poverty for 2009-10, released by the planning commission. in 2004-05, the percentage of people living below poverty line was 33. 3%.

in 2009-10, it was 23. 6%. in Karnataka, there were over 1. 42 crore people living below poverty line in 2009-10, down from over 1. 86 crore in 2004-05. while the poverty rate in rural Data Analysis And

Discussion The following tables depicts the state wise Specific Poverty Lines for the year of 2011-2012 Table-1 State Specific Poverty Lines for 2011-2012

Sl. No	States	Monthly per capital (RS.)	RURAL	URBAN
1	Andhra Pradesh	860	1, 009	2
2	Arunachal Pradesh	930	1, 060	3
3	Assam	828	1, 008	4
4	Bihar	778	923	5
5	Chhattisgarh	738	849	6
6	Delhi	1, 145	1, 134	7
7	Goa	1, 090	1, 134	8
8	Gujarat	932	1, 152	9
9	Haryana	1, 015	1, 169	10
10	Himachal Pradesh	913	1, 064	11
11	Jammu	891	988	12
12	Jharkhand	748	974	13
13	Karnataka	902	1, 089	14
14	Kerala	1, 018	987	15
15	Madhya Pradesh	771	897	16
16	Maharashtra	967	1, 126	17
17	Manipur	1, 118	1, 170	18
18	Meghalaya	888	1, 154	19
19	Mizoram	1, 066	1, 155	20
20	Nagaland	1, 270	1, 302	21
21	Odisha	695	861	22
22	Punjab	1, 054	1, 155	23
23	Rajasthan	905	1, 002	24
24	Sikkim	930	1, 226	25
25	Tamil Nadu	880	937	26

Tripura 798 920 27 Uttarakhand 880 1, 082 28 Uttar Pradesh 768 941 29  
 West Bengal 783 981 30 Puducherry 1, 301 1, 309 ALL India 816 1.

00 Note : Computed as per Tendulkar Method on Mixed Reference

Period(MRP) Source: Government of India Planning Commission 2013.

The estimates of state wise poverty lines for rural and urban areas for 2011-12 are given in table. The all India poverty line is the per capita per month expenditure that corresponds to the all India poverty ratio. Poverty in India is a hurdle for economic prosperity. It also indicates the monthly per capita among rural and urban people in different states of India. The monthly per capita among urban people is highest i.e. 1,302 Rupees in Nagaland when compared to other states whereas monthly per capita among rural people is least in Odisha when compared to other states. The Government at the state levels should initiate measures to improve the income level of the people. Table: 2: Poor Estimated by Tendulkar Method using Mixed Reference Period(MRP) Year Poverty Ratio % Number of poor's in million Rural Urban Total Rural Urban Total 1993-94 50.

1 31.8 45.3 328.6 74.5 403.

7 2004-05 41.8 25.7 37.2 326.

3 80.8 407.1 2011-12 25.

7 13.7 21.9 216.5 52.8 269.

3 Annual Average Decline: 1993-94 to 2004-05 (Percentage points per annum) 0.75 0.55 0.74 - - - Annual Average Decline: 2004-05 to 2011-12 (Percentage points per annum) 2.32 1.69 2.

18 - - - Source : Anon, (2013 a) Tablet. 3: Trends in Incidence of Poverty: Karnataka and All-India Karnataka Year Rural Sector Urban Sector Combined %of poor No of poor (million poor No of poor (million %of poor No of poor (million 1973-74 55.14 12.

84 52.01 4.19 54.

34 17.03 1993-94 29.88 (56.60) 9.

60 40.14 (34.20) 6.05 33.

16 (49.50) 15.65 2004-05 20.80 (37.50) 7.

51 32.60 (25.90) 6.38 25.00 (33.40) 13.89 2009-10 15.82 (30.

81) 5.87 23.54 (18.34) 5.

09 18.52 (26.46) 10.87 All India 1973-74 56.

44 261.29 49.23 60.

31 54.93 321.60 1993-94 37.27 (50.10) 244.03 32.36 (31.

80) 76.34 35.97 (45.

30) 320.37 2004-05 28.30 (41.80) 220.90 25.

70 (25.70) 80.79 27.50 (37.20) 301.72 2009-10 22.42 (36.50) 184.

95 19. 27 (19. 80) 67. 33 21.

57 (31. 99) 253. 28 Sorces; Karnataka economic survey The above table shows that changes in status of poverty during the period of 1973-74 to 2009-10 Rural poverty in Karnataka has declined by 39% during 1973-74 to 2009-10, which is higher by 5% as compared to the decline at the all-India level. The number of rural poor also declined over the period.

The decline in number of rural poor in Karnataka between 1973-74 and 2009-10 was 54% which is almost double that of the all-India decline of 29%. Incidence of poverty has always been less in rural Karnataka than the corresponding estimate for the Country as a whole. Deprivation in the urban sector too declined but at a lesser extent (as compared to rural sector) both in Karnataka (28 %) and India as a whole (30 %) between 1973-74 and 2009-10.

The decline in the poverty ratios was not sufficient to neutralize the growth in urban population. Hence, the number of urban poor has increased both in Karnataka and all-India between 1973-74 and 2004-05. However between 2004-05 and 2009-10, a decline is seen in the number of poor and decline is greater in Karnataka (20%) as compared to All-India (17%). Incidence of urban poverty is much higher in Karnataka than in India as a whole for all the years. The extent of deprivation as measured by headcount ratio in Karnataka is 31% in rural areas, 18% in urban areas and 26% for the State as a whole. The corresponding figures for all India are 37% in rural, 20% and 32% for the Country as a whole. Conclusion Karnataka has initiated various poverty alleviation programmes in both rural and urban areas. While these

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programmers have resulted in a marked decline in the number of the state's poor, much remain to be done to address regional and social variations in poverty.

Towards ensuring food security to its citizens, the state operates an extensive food distribution system to provide basic foods with a focus on those who are below the poverty line. The state has also recently completed an elaborate exercise to weed out fake ration cards and to enhance the targeting of the public distribution system. The state has also established institutions to provide affordable housing to the poor.

Promotion of livelihood opportunities through modernizing agriculture, establishing rural industries, and skill up gradation be considered as effective strategies.