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Poverty, and Inequality : With Reference  
to SCs and STs in India**

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# **Inclusive Growth and Employment, Poverty, and Inequality**

**: With Reference to SC and STs in India<sup>#</sup>**

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and

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<sup>#</sup> **Paper Presented in *National Seminar* on Making Inclusive Growth With reference to Marginalised Sections: Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Women**, held during 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> February, 2007 at Centre for Economic and Social Studies, Hyderabad.

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## **I. Introduction**

In the normative perspective, the ultimate aim of development programme or plan is social welfare following the norms of equity and justice. However, in the real world, a large no of deviations from the norm are very well witnessed. In spite of the outstanding efforts, especially in developing world such as India, deprivations among different sections of the population continued along with the development. Initially, in the development discourse, economic growth was the prime concern of the development process. Although the focus has shifted from growth to human development, the economic growth (particularly per capita terms) has retained its importance while changing its goal from growth alone to growth with equity and social justice and to growth with human face or pro-poor growth in the liberalisation and globalisation era, to the inclusive growth in the recent past. In 1940s and 50s the growth literature obsessed with growth in per capita income and required savings and investments to achieve the growth target. But recognition of distributional problems of the growth and the persistence poverty shifted the focus. Latter it became essential to assess the growth in terms of what is the distributional impact of the growth process and whether the growth process increased or reduced the poverty and inequalities across sub-population groups characterized by their socio-economic and geographical characteristics.

The independent India, since the beginning, emphasized on the growth with equity and justice, it is constitutionalised and it is included in the planning process. But the half a century of the Indian economic growth path excluded many sections of the population to participate. While recognizing the fact of the excluded, the planning is more focused on these marginalized sections of the population. The Eleventh Five Year Plan approach "Towards faster and more inclusive growth" reflects the need to make growth "more inclusive" in terms of benefits flowing through more employment and income to those sections of society, which have been bypassed by higher rates of economic growth witnessed in recent years. It may be well appreciated a shift in emphasis from mere increase in growth rates to improvement in standards of living of those below the poverty line through increase in employment

opportunities as well as better delivery systems to ensure access to intended benefits by intended beneficiaries.

In this context, it is the aim of the present study to examine the state of Schedule Caste and Scheduled Tribes (SC/STs) in terms of their socio-economic conditions. About one third of the Indian population belong to SC and ST social category and they have been considered as the most deprivation sections of the society. How far they fared well after having so many special programmes for their development over the period. What would be the future course of action that may dovetail into the aim of the eleventh plan, i.e. *inclusive growth*.

## II. Methodology

The study covers the time period since 1980's to the date, over two decades of time span. The proposed study is broadly based on the NSSO quinquennial surveys with respect to Consumer Expenditure and Employment and Unemployment for poverty estimations and employment growth at different points of time in the series. For Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth, we have used Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) published figures.

While computing the employment growth rate we have taken the Work Participation Ratios from the Quinquennial NSSO Employment and Unemployment Survey reports and applied the interpolated Census population. For the Census Projection especially after 2001 Census, we have used Registrar General of India projections.

a. The economic growth in terms of GDP is estimated using semi log model

$$\ln(Y) = a + bT \quad Y = \text{Gross Domestic Product (in Rs.)}$$
$$T = \text{Time}$$

b. The growth of employment is estimated using Annual Compound Growth Rate (CAGR)

$$\text{Egr} = (P_1 / P_0)^{1/n} \quad \text{Egr.} = \text{Growth of Employment;}$$
$$P_1 = \text{End Year; } P_0 = \text{Initial Year.}$$

c. The Head Count Ratio of Poverty (HCRP) is estimated as following

$$\text{HCRP} = (n/N) * 100 \quad n - \text{Population below Poverty Line}$$
$$N - \text{Total Population}$$

d. Decomposed HCR of each social group is estimated as

$$\text{HCRPi} = (n_i/N_i) * 100 \quad i = 1, 2 \text{ and } 3 \text{ Social Groups (ST, SC and Others respectively).}$$

Aggregation of the decomposed HCR is a weighted average of all the social groups.

$$\text{HCRP} = \sum_{i=1}^n \text{HCRP}_i * W_i \quad W_i = \text{Weight in terms of population share of the group.}$$

For head count ratio of poverty (HCRP) across social groups we have used the official poverty line.

### III. Economic Growth and Employment

#### a. Economic Growth

Economic growth is considered to be improving the well-being of people by increasing income in the hands of people that increases the purchasing power. The trickle down theory of economic development assumes that benefits of high economic growth in terms of incomes at macro level seeps down to micro or individual level. The inherent distributional problems and poverty raises doubts on the economic growth lead to development<sup>1</sup>.

**Table 1: Trend Growth of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in India**

Item	1960-61 to 1969-70	1970-71 to 1979-80	1980-81 to 1989-90	1990-91 to 1999-2000	2000-01 to 2004-05	1985-86 to 1994-95	1995-96 to 2004-05
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>
GDP	3.23	3.4	5.2	6.0	6.1	5.4	5.6
Agrl	1.26	1.9	3.1	2.8	1.9	3.9	1.9
Non-Agrl	4.71	4.3	6.3	7.2	7.2	6.0	6.7
PCI	1.04	1.1	3.1	4.0	4.4	3.3	3.8

**Note:** 1. Agrl. – Agriculture; Non-Agrl. – Non-Agriculture; PCI – Per Capita Income.

**Source:** Computed based on CSO figures.

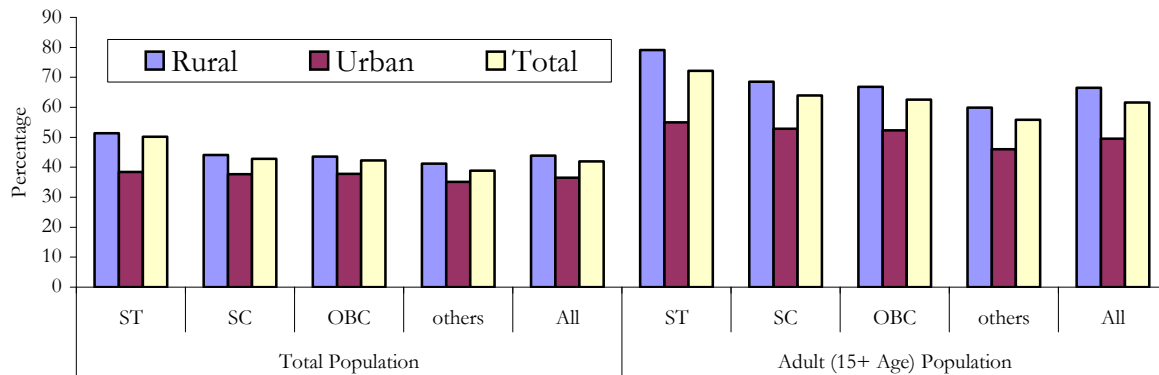
The Indian economy has showing a trend growth at 6.1 percent in the recent period, 2000-01 to 2004-05 (see Table 1). The trend growth of Indian economy over half decade period in the last (20<sup>th</sup>) century shows the it has shift from the *Hindu Rate of Growth* around 3 per cent in 1960s and 70s to the increasing one at 5 to 6 per cent in 1980s and 90s. Similarly, the growth of per capita GDP has a surge during 1980s. The growth of agriculture sector has increased till 1980s and thereafter it is showing a declining trend. One may infer that the policy intervention through land reforms and green revolution technology and initiatives had positive impact on the growth of agriculture till 1980s and the declining trend is correlated with set aside policy intervention of land reforms and the declining public investment and capital formation in agriculture sector.

Having observed the increasing growth rate over the period the Eleventh Five-Year Plan target the 9 per cent growth. It may be possible to achieve such target. However, the distributional aspect of the economic growth has always been in the discussion of development literature or discourse.

**b. Employment**

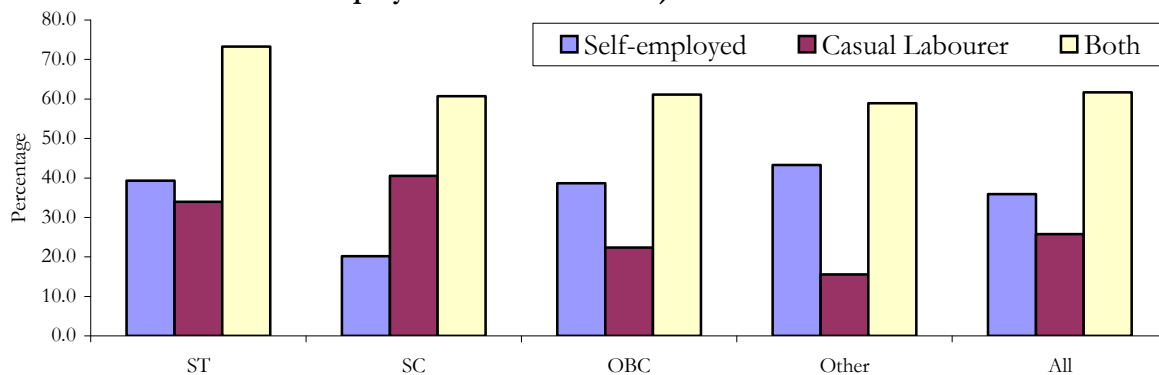
One of the outcomes of the growth of the economy is the quantity and quality of employment opportunities generated. However, it is observed that the acceleration in GDP growth has not been accompanied by a commensurate increase in employment.

**Figure I: Work Participation Rate across Social Groups in India, NSSO 61st (2004-05) Round**



In India, around 40 to 45 per cent of population in rural areas and 34 per cent urban areas engage one or other kind of economic activity or to say they are ‘employed’. The latest NSS quinquennial survey of Employment and Unemployment i.e. 61<sup>st</sup> (2004-05) round, estimates that about 42 percent of the total population is employed. Among the adults (i.e. 15 + age Population), the percentage of persons employed is around 62 per cent. In the working age population (i.e. 15 to 60 years of age), the work participation rates (WPR) are around 90 per cent. Across social groups the work participation rates vary wherein it is (WPR) higher in ST followed by SC and OBC social categories when compared to ‘other’s’.

**Figure II: Percentage of Households Dependent on Agriculture (Self-Employed or Casual Labour) in Rural India**



Above 70 per cent of total workers in rural areas engaged agricultural related activities. Among the social groups, ST and SC households are dependent on agricultural activities more than any other category. Moreover, these social groups particular SCs are engaged

**Table 2: Growth of Workforce in India**

<i>Growth Period</i>		Rural	Urban	Rural and Urban
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>
1	1999-2000 to 2004-05	2.45	3.93	2.81
2	1993-94 to 1999-2000	0.71	2.36	1.11
3	1983 to 1993-94	1.77	1.82	1.51
4	1993-94 to 2004-05	1.51	3.07	1.88
5	1983 to 2004-05	1.68	3.14	2.02

**Note:** 1. for Usually Employed – Principal and Subsidiary Status; 2. the NSSO ratios are applied to Interpolated and Projected Census Population; 3. Growth is CAGR.

**Source:** Computed based various rounds of NSS Employment and Unemployment Survey data

per cent earlier to around 25 per cent in the recent period, its share in workforce slowly declining. As a result there is a widening gap in per capita value added per worker between those engaged in agriculture and non-agriculture activities. In other words, the returns for those who engaged in agricultural activities are relatively lower than those engaged in non-agricultural activities. Altogether it may be inferred that as the STs and SCs are more dependents on agriculture, they vulnerable to all those risks that agrarian economy indulges in.

The growth of employment between last two surveys of NSSO Employment and Unemployment (i.e. between 1999-2000 and 2004-05) is around 2.8 percent which the highest ever during last two years or so time period (see Table 2). Over the period especially since 1980s, the growth of employment has always been a positive although the trend is fluctuating. Between 1983 and 1987-88 the growth employment was 1.5 per cent and it is increased almost one percent more at 2.5 per cent during 1987-88 and 1993-94. Again it fell

**Table 3: Growth of Employment in Agriculture and Non-agriculture in India**

Sector	1993-00	2000-05	1993-2005
Agriculture			
Rural	0.26	1.47	0.81
Urban	-3.19	3.90	-0.03
All	0.13	1.55	0.77
Non-Agriculture			
Rural	2.28	5.39	3.68
Urban	3.03	4.16	3.54
All	2.68	4.73	3.61

Note: Principle and Subsidiary Workers.

Source: NSS

working and living conditions of these migrant workers are more adverse as they live in squatters without basic amenities.

agriculture casual wage labour activities. Owing to low wage rates, seasonality and high volatility due to weather conditions in agriculture, those who depend on this sector are more vulnerable. Though the agriculture sector's contribution to GDP has drastically come down from above 50

per cent earlier to around 25 per cent in the recent period, its share in workforce slowly declining. As a result there is a widening gap in per capita value added per worker between those engaged in agriculture and non-agriculture activities. In other words, the returns for those who engaged in agricultural activities are relatively lower than those engaged in non-agricultural activities. Altogether it may be inferred that as the STs and SCs are more dependents on agriculture, they vulnerable to all those risks that agrarian economy indulges in.

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The employment growth in rural area has always been lower than that of the urban areas. It could be due to out-migration of rural workers to urban areas. For structural transformation theoretician it may appear as good sign as most of the urban workers engaged non-agricultural activities. But the

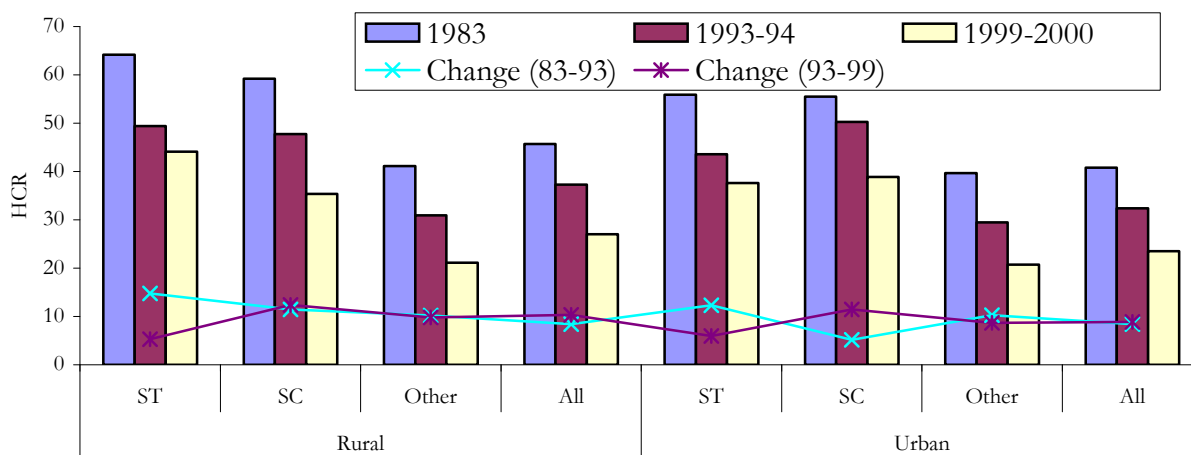
working and living conditions of these migrant workers are more adverse as they live in squatters without basic amenities.

Interestingly, recent trend shows that the growth of employment is higher in non-agricultural activities when compared to that of the agriculture particularly in rural areas (see Table 3). However, the growth of employment that engaged in agricultural activities during last quinquennial survey period (i.e. 1999-2000 and 2004-05) is found to be higher than previous quinquennial (i.e. 1993-94 to 1999-2000) in rural areas.

#### IV. Income Poverty and Economic Inequality

India has been the host of large number poor people living in the world. One of the major thrusts of Indian Planning has always been the reduction in the incidence of poverty. Although the poverty ratios show a declining trend over a period of time, still it stands at 20 per cent for the year 2004-05 (Dev and Ravi, 2007). As matter of fact, there are difference in the incidence of poverty by different estimates, which owe mostly to the method used derive a poverty line. However, for the simplicity, we are in this paper, followed the method that one used for official estimate i.e. by Planning Commission of India.

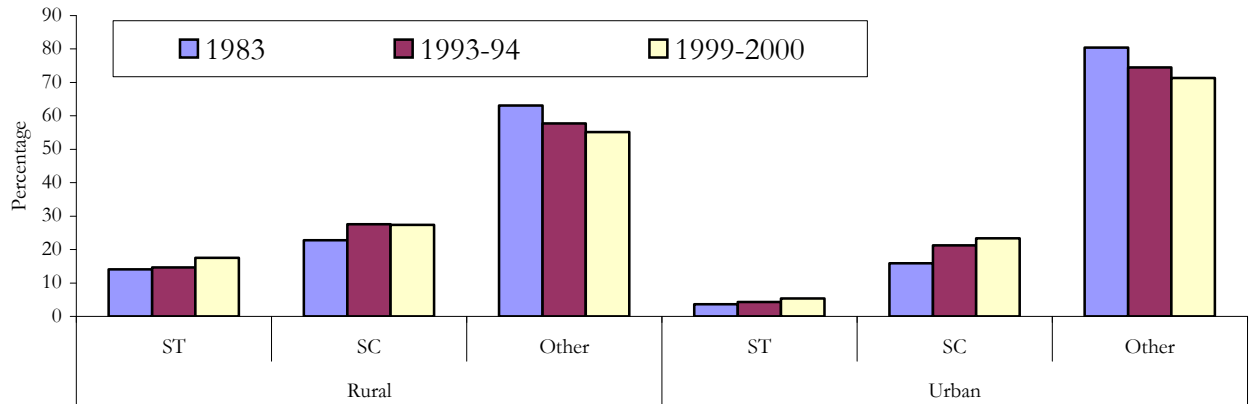
FigureIII: Head Count Ratio of Poverty in India



There are differences in the incidence of poverty across sub-population groups differing by their socio-economic characteristics. The social categories of SCs and STs are bearing burnt of the poverty. Although, the incidence of poverty is declining over the period, STs followed by SCs are having highest incidence of poverty. In rural areas, among the ST social category, the incidence of poverty has declined, from around 64 per cent in 1983 to 49 percent in 1993-94 and 44 per cent in 1999-2000. For SCs, it has declined from 59 to 48 and to 35 per cent in 1983, 1993-94 and 1999-2000 respectively.



**Figure IV: Percentage Contribution of Social Groups to the Total Population Below Poverty Line in India**



It is a cause of concern that the distribution of the poor across social groups getting concentrated among the STs and SCs. In other words, the percentage contribution of STs and SCs to the total population below poverty line was increasing over the period. The population share of ST and SC social groups are around 10 and 20 per cent respectively in rural areas and it is 3 and 14 per cent respectively in urban areas for the year 1999-2000. The contribution of ST and SC social groups is around 17 and 27 per cent respectively in rural and 5 and 23 per cent respectively in urban areas. It is indicating the contribution of these social groups to the total poor is much higher than their share in the total population.

At this juncture one would want to know growth elasticity of poverty. In other words, what would be the responsiveness of the change poverty to the economic growth? Moreover it is interesting to see what would be growth elasticity of poverty for each social group. While examining such a responsive of poverty to the levels per capita incomes across major Indian states, it is observed the growth elasticity of poverty for STs and SCs is relatively lower when compared to the 'other' social category. Similarly observations made throughout for last 20 years, i .e. for all the three Consumer Expenditure Survey of NSSO (1983, 1993-94, and 1999-2000). Having observed one may infer that it is not that poverty especially that of SC/STs failed in responding to economic growth rather it is the growth path that failed to ensure the decline in poverty especially of these social groups.

### **V. Other Deprivations**

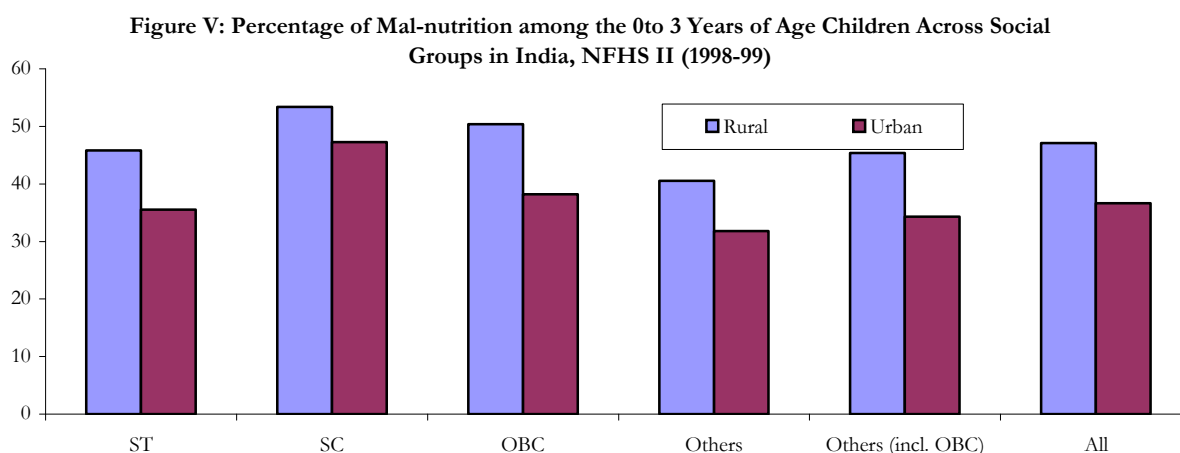
Poverty is multi-dimensional aspect wherein income poverty one of such dimension. There are other dimensions of poverty although they non-economic and non-material in nature definitely they will have an impact on economic dimension. For instance, deprivations such

as illiteracy, ill-health, malnutrition would keeps down the human capita stock of the society and thereby earning capacity of the population. Both the income poverty and non-material dimension of deprivation are concentrated in same sections of the society wherein among the social categories, STs and SCs are more vulnerable to such deprivations.

### ***a. Health and Nutrition***

The strength of the society lies in its human resources and human capital (healthy, educated and skilful persons) wherein demographic and health indicators are the most important ones in analysing the relative status of a society in question. Health is the one of the dimensions that global community is concern with, especially in the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). One specific MDG that commits the global community is to reduce the death rate (mortality and morbidity), among the children in the age group under-five to three quarters by the year 2015 from the 1990 (country specific) baseline rate. Nutrition is an important input to and foundation for health and development. On the one hand, the developed nations encountering the problems related over-nutrition, the developing countries such as India, experiencing micronutrient malnutrition and under nutrition, on the other.

The negative externalities of under-nutrition are many especially among the younger age group population. According to World Health Organisation (WHO), Poor nutrition contributes to 1 out of 2 deaths (53%) associated with infectious diseases among children aged under five in developing countries<sup>2</sup>.

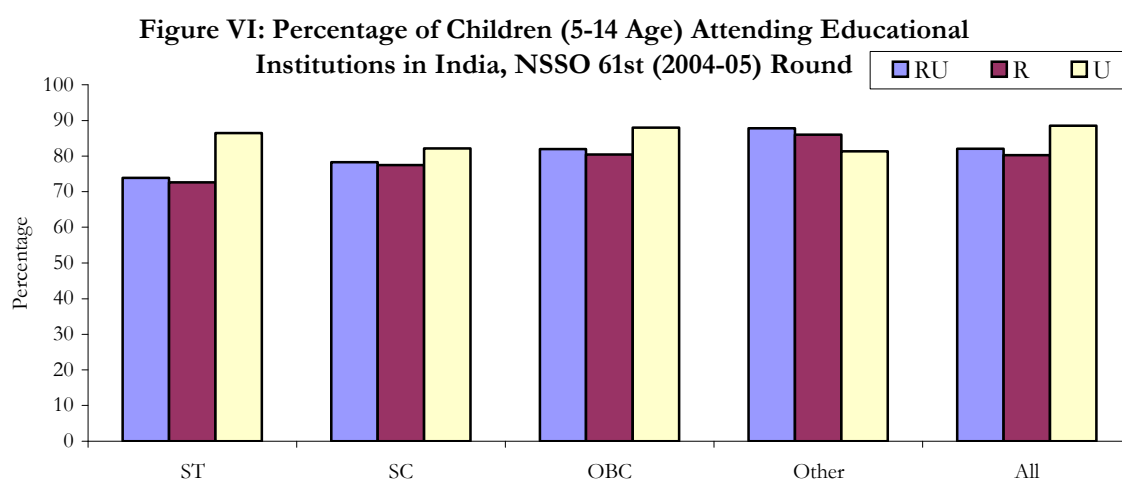


In India, the incidence of under-nutrition among the children of 0 to 3 years of age is about 47 per cent in rural and 37 per cent in urban areas, according to National Family Health Survey (NFHS) II in for the year 1998-99. It is varying across social groups wherein the

percentage of children bearing burnt of under-nutrition is the highest among the SC social category followed by OBCs and STs whereas it is the least among the ‘other’ social category.

### ***b. Education***

Education is one of the most important factors that enhance the human capital formation in the society. It is established fact in economic literature that the earning capacity of the individual increases along with his/her educational attainment. The differences in earnings are higher particularly at primary level of education when compared to that of at higher ones. Therefore minimum educational attainment especially completion of elementary cycle of education system is advocated and made it mandatory national and international level. Despite of such advocacy and mandatory educational deprivation including illiteracy, non-enrolment and dropout are prevalent particularly developing countries such as India. The level of such deprivations varies across sub-population groups wherein those who are belonging to ST and SC social category of population is more vulnerable to such educational deprivation.



As per NSSO 61<sup>st</sup> (2004-05) round survey estimates, the percentage of children in the 5-14 years age group attending educational institutions is 82 per cent and it is 80 and 88 per cent for rural and urban areas respectively. After 50 years of the Constitutional promise of universalisation of elementary education, there remain about one fifth of the children in the age group 5-14 years out of school<sup>3</sup>. The extent of group inequality<sup>4</sup> across sub-population group differing by their socio-economic character. Given the importance of gender (male/female), caste (SC/ST and Others) and location (rural/urban) in Indian context, we categorised children into eight mutually exclusive sub-population groups based on these characteristics. The sub-population groups of children are: 1. Rural SC/ST Male; 2. Rural

SC/ST Female; 3. Rural Other Male; 4. Rural Other Female; 5. Urban SC/ST Male; 6. Urban SC/ST Female; 7. Urban Other Male; and 8. Urban Other Female. Table 4 presents the levels in educational deprivation of children and change during the 1990's across the social groups.

**Table 4: The Level and Change in the Incidence of Educational Deprivation of Children Across Social Groups in India: NSSO**

Sn	Social Groups	The Level and Change			Ranking		
		1999-00	1993-94	Change	1999-00	1993-94	Change
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>
1	Rural SC/ST Female	43.1	55.5	12.4	1	1	1
2	Rural Others Female	33.0	39.0	6.0	2	2	2
3	Rural SC/ST Male	31.4	37.3	5.9	3	3	3
4	Urban SC/ST Female	25.6	30.6	4.9	4	4	4
5	Rural Others Male	22.6	24.4	1.7	5	5	6
6	Urban SC/ST Male	19.4	21.3	1.9	6	6	5
7	Urban Others Female	16.3	16.9	0.6	7	7	7
8	Urban Others Male	13.0	12.9	-0.1	8	8	8
<i>Total</i>		27.3	31.2	3.9	-	-	-

**Note:** 1. Figures refer to children of 5-14 age group; 2. Col 6 and 7 refers to ranking in terms of levels where the lowest number (i.e.1) indicates highest levels of deprivation; 3. Col 8 refers to ranking with respect to change where the lowest number indicates relatively highest change over the period.

**Source:** 1. Venkatanarayana (2005); 2. Estimations Using unit record data of NSSO (1993-94 and 1999-2000) 50<sup>th</sup> and 55<sup>th</sup> Rounds Employment and Unemployment Survey.

in terms of decline in the incidence is relatively the highest in the groups, which are identified with the highest incidence in initial period (i.e. 1993-94). *Thirdly*, though remarkable change is observed for underprivileged group, the ranking of the group remained intact and there still remains a significant level of variation across these sub-population groups. *Fourthly*, among the three characteristics (location, caste and gender), the difference according to each of the attribute while keeping the rest two attributes fixed is significant and the difference in each attribute (for instance gender) varies with the other two attributes (location and caste).

## VI. Policy Implications

The aim of the independent India, i.e. the growth with equity and social justice, is not yet realized. The growth path of Indian economy during last years or so excluded many sections of the population to participate. Owing to lack of human capital that includes health and education, these social groups (STs and SCs) are unable to reap the benefits and opportunities that growing economy generates.

We can summarise the observations in the following manner. *Firstly*, the incidence levels vary across the social groups where the relatively highest incidence is found for children of underprivileged social groups. *Secondly*, over the period, the change

## Appendix

**Table1: Social Group-wise HCR of Poverty in Rural Areas: Major States of India**

States		1983				1993-94				1999-2000			
		ST	SC	Other	All	ST	SC	Other	All	ST	SC	Other	All
<i>1</i>		<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>
1	Andhra Pradesh	35.7	36.7	23.5		26.4	26.0	11.8		23.1	16.5	7.4	
2	Assam	48.6	43.9	42.0		41.9	45.3	45.8		39.2	45.0	39.7	
3	Bihar	74.6	81.6	59.9		69.3	70.6	52.7		59.4	59.3	38.2	
4	Gujarat	57.6	38.8	24.3		30.5	32.9	17.3		27.5	15.6	7.6	
5	Haryana	36.0	38.2	16.9		41.5	46.3	21.0		0.0	17.0	4.4	
6	Himachal Pradesh	11.0	28.6	14.3		64.9	37.1	26.0		6.5	13.0	6.3	
7	J&K	10.2	39.9	21.7		66.3	19.4	16.2		22.5	10.5	3.0	
8	Karnataka	56.9	54.2	31.1		38.7	46.1	24.4		24.9	25.7	13.6	
9	Kerala	42.4	63.5	36.5		37.4	37.6	23.8		25.0	15.6	8.4	
10	Madhya Pradesh	64.8	60.4	40.3		57.0	45.3	30.1		57.1	41.2	26.6	
11	Maharashtra	69.5	59.0	37.1		51.8	51.4	32.2		44.2	31.6	16.7	
12	Orissa	87.1	76.1	58.6		71.3	49.8	40.2		73.1	52.3	33.3	
13	Punjab	16.2	27.5	9.0		25.9	22.1	4.8		16.6	11.9	2.1	
14	Rajasthan	63.5	45.0	31.6		45.7	38.1	18.2		24.8	19.5	8.4	
15	Tamil Nadu	71.0	69.1	52.8		45.9	44.4	28.5		44.6	31.7	14.4	
16	Uttar Pradesh	47.6	56.4	43.0		35.6	59.4	36.9		34.7	43.4	26.9	
17	West Bengal	76.0	74.9	60.6		57.9	42.8	32.5		50.1	34.9	28.4	
18	Others States	48.3	55.7	42.4		15.9	14.1	9.1		7.3	6.2	3.8	
<b>All India</b>		64.2	59.2	41.1		49.4	47.7	30.9		44.1	35.4	21.1	

Note: 1. Figures presented are in Percentages.

Source: NSSO

**Table: Average MPCE (in Rs.) in Rural Areas Across Major States of India**

States		1983				1993-94				1999-2000			
		ST	SC	Other	All	ST	SC	Other	All	ST	SC	Other	All
<i>1</i>		<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>
1	Andhra Pradesh	129	131	159	156	263	230	308	289	383	382	483	453
2	Assam	163	115	161	155	256	250	259	258	437	414	425	426
3	Bihar	137	121	142	139	200	189	230	218	337	329	405	384
4	Gujarat	108	145	168	163	261	267	325	303	438	459	597	551
5	Haryana	197	142	195	187	276	293	423	385	508	543	770	714
6	Himachal Pradesh	285	161	262	243	261	311	369	351	659	589	717	684
7	J&K	177	144	155	155	244	338	379	363	529	575	688	677
8	Karnataka	150	131	171	166	229	221	289	269	404	419	532	500
9	Kerala	154	133	183	179	335	290	403	390	674	597	786	766
10	Madhya Pradesh	145	113	149	144	199	229	289	252	325	375	445	401
11	Maharashtra	131	124	193	185	227	223	292	273	384	429	536	497
12	Orissa	112	116	161	149	175	212	242	220	285	351	428	373
13	Punjab	129	143	197	185	370	356	483	433	548	582	850	744
14	Rajasthan	164	142	168	164	293	279	342	322	466	501	587	549
15	Tamil Nadu	103	117	164	159	251	239	314	294	384	427	555	514
16	Uttar Pradesh	148	117	139	136	298	224	289	274	425	399	490	466
17	West Bengal	123	131	176	169	232	249	301	279	376	439	468	454
18	All Others States	183	138	242	219	346	355	421	383	628	600	755	698
<b>All India</b>		<b>136</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>281</b>	<b>388</b>	<b>419</b>	<b>521</b>	<b>486</b>

Note:

Source: NSSO

**Table: Mal-Nutrition (Underweight) among 0-3 Years of Age Children**

	States	Rural					Urban				
		ST	SC	OBC	Oth	Other	ST	SC	OBC	Oth	Other
	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>
1	Andhra Pradesh	44.9	45.5	43.9	34.2	40.7	100.0	34.5	30.7	27.7	29.3
2	Assam	20.9	32.7	21.1	38.3	35.1	14.0	28.3	12.9	25.7	24.2
3	Bihar	61.6	59.0	57.0	45.8	54.3	41.5	60.6	52.3	28.6	45.2
4	Gujarat	59.9	45.2	57.9	37.0	46.9	52.0	46.7	33.3	36.0	35.1
5	Haryana	-	36.6	44.0	32.6	36.6	-	54.5	44.9	19.7	25.8
6	Himachal Pradesh	40.1	54.2	60.9	37.9	44.2	-	34.8	57.0	22.0	29.1
7	Jammu and Kashmir	39.1	55.8	53.3	30.8	34.5	33.8	50.5	19.0	18.6	18.7
8	Karnataka	57.1	55.1	42.2	44.2	42.9	58.0	47.7	37.8	29.7	34.2
9	Kerala	51.8	44.2	33.4	17.2	26.9	100.0	33.3	22.0	21.6	21.8
10	Madhya Pradesh	64.5	58.4	60.3	45.6	56.7	70.7	55.5	43.6	34.4	39.8
11	Maharashtra	66.5	56.9	51.5	52.2	52.0	60.4	48.5	45.0	42.0	42.8
12	Orissa	60.4	60.8	58.8	44.2	52.9	57.5	56.8	43.7	36.2	40.0
13	Punjab	0.0	41.3	42.1	20.4	26.9	-	32.2	18.9	14.2	15.5
14	Rajasthan	59.1	57.4	51.9	47.4	49.1	67.5	53.5	53.5	40.9	44.0
15	Tamil Nadu	50.3	48.1	35.4	100.0	35.6	81.9	53.1	31.0	-	30.0
16	West Bengal	57.9	59.0	41.2	47.4	47.1	23.9	50.3	29.3	25.6	26.1
17	Uttar Pradesh	59.1	62.4	56.7	47.6	51.7	66.7	48.8	36.8	41.6	40.2
18	All Other States	29.4	38.6	30.4	30.9	30.7	22.6	38.2	38.1	28.1	29.9
	<b>All India</b>	<b>45.8</b>	<b>53.4</b>	<b>50.4</b>	<b>40.5</b>	<b>45.4</b>	<b>35.5</b>	<b>47.3</b>	<b>38.2</b>	<b>31.8</b>	<b>34.3</b>

Note: Figures Presented in Percentages.  
Source: NFSH II (1998-99)

## Reference

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## End Notes

<sup>1</sup> There are instance in and around the world despite the economic growth there exists a low levels of well-being of the people that is attributed inequities (in resources and opportunities), lack of human capital.

<sup>2</sup> One out of two children in Africa with severe malnutrition dies during hospital treatment due to inappropriate care. 1 out of 4 preschool children suffers from under-nutrition, which can severely affect a child's mental and physical development. Under-nutrition among pregnant women in developing countries leads to 1 out of 6 infants born with low birth weight. This is not only a risk factor for neonatal deaths, but also causes learning disabilities, mental, retardation, poor health, blindness and premature death. Inappropriate feeding of infants and young children are responsible for one-third of the cases of malnutrition. 1 out of 3 people in developing countries are affected by vitamin and mineral deficiencies and therefore more subject to infection, birth defects and impaired physical and psycho-intellectual development. Zinc deficiencies: magnitude unknown but likely to prevail in deprived populations; associated with growth retardation, diarrhoea and immune deficiency. 40 million people living with HIV/AIDS are exposed to an increased risk of food insecurity and malnutrition, especially in poor settings, which may further aggravate their situation.

<sup>3</sup> The incidence of educational deprivation has shown a decline of about 4 percentage points between the period 1993-94 and 1999-2000 (i.e. from 31 to 27 percent)

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<sup>4</sup> It is about the aggregate levels of the incidence. The aggregates always conceal the distribution more than it reveals. India is not a homogenous country especially in terms of its socio-economic development across sub-population groups differing by their socio-economic characteristics. Therefore attempts should be made to see the aggregate index reflect the inequality.