

## **SURVEY OF AGRICULTURAL WORKERS FROM MARGEINALIZED SOCIAL GROUPS IN MARATHWADA REGION**

**The present survey was carried out with following objectives:**

1. To identify problems of agricultural labourers in Marathwada region.
2. To study the socio-economic condition of agricultural labourers in Marathwada region.
3. To analyse the gender and caste discriminations in agricultural labour market in terms of agricultural wage and employment in Marathwada region.
4. To examine the agricultural labour household access to social security schemes in Marathwada region.

**Research Methodology:**

The present study adopted a more disaggregate level classification of caste based discrimination as the study considers SCs, STs, OBCs, and general categories for the purpose of analysis. Total thirty two villages were selected, Manjari from Aurangabad, Dhakephal from Paithan, Antarwall Sarati from Ambad, Pimpalgao Renukai from Bhokardan, Raorajur from Palam, Chudawa from Purna, Lalwandi from Naigaon, Wannali from Degloor, Hayat Nagar from Vasmat, Pedgaon from Hingoli, Chincholirao from Latur, Togari from Udgir, Sheri (BQ.) from Ashti, Dhondrai from Georai, Andora from Kalamb and Bavi from Vashi tehsil. From each village 2.5 per cent agricultural households were selected randomly to collect primary information through schedule, about forty per cent agricultural households selected were scheduled castes and scheduled tribes, forty per cent were from other backwar castes and remaining were from general category. Thus total 300 agricultural labour households units were selected for the study.

**Survey Team:**

It consisted of research students of M Phill and Ph D Sach as Khandare, Deelip Sobkamble, Sriram Fartade, Dnyaneshwar Supekar, Sidharth Wghmare.

**Important findings of the study:**

Most of the SCs and STs agricultural labourer household's families have three children. The study found that almost (43 per cent) of the respondents were illiterate. It was further observed that, 54.8 percent of the households were living in the pucca houses and 45.2 percent of the

households have Kutcha houses. Most of the ST families (75.0 per cent) were found to have Kutcha houses as compared to others. In case of STs 66.7 per cent agricultural labourer households are without electricity. About 75 per cent of the SCs and STs agricultural labour households are landless. It is observed that there is no category wise wage differential among casual agricultural labourers. But wage differentials were observed for seasons and off– season employment. Caste based abuse at the time of work is mostly faced by SCs and STs agricultural labourers. The agricultural labourer households were unaware of the allotted quota of food grains, whatever quantity of food grains shops owner gave it was accepted by agricultural labourer households. The study found that only 22.00 per cent agricultural labourers have registered for MGNREGA Scheme and 18.0 per cent have received their job cards. Out of 300 agricultural labourer households studied only 9 agricultural labourers were found to have registered for this scheme. In case of Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana, it was found that only 15 (5 per cent) of the total 300 agricultural labourer households have registered for this scheme. In case of Atal Pension Yojana and Jeevan Jyoti Beema Yojana no registration was found from ST category.

**Policy Measures:**

The expansion of non-farm employment opportunities will benefit the landless and land poor agricultural labour households to delink labour market from credit market. The process of land lease in and lease out should be eased & small, marginal and landless farmers, agricultural labourers should be encouraged to lease in land and large farmers be encouraged to lease out land.

In the era of liberalization providing social security measures for agricultural labourers which is the most disadvantaged class is important. To achieve food security it is important to have income – employment security to agricultural labourers.

This survey was conducted by Prof. SS Narwade with the help of 40 Students of PG, M. Phil and Ph. D.



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