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MONETISATION OF WOMEN'S UNPAID WORK – A STUDY OF TAMILNADU

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Introduction and Statement of the Problem

The present study takes up "Monetisation of Women's Unpaid work in Tamil Nadu". The major emphasis of the study is to measure the women's contribution to the household income and national economy by their unpaid work. The term work is much broader and deeper than the meaning of job. Job gives stable revenue, societal and economic recognition opens the opportunities for effective participation in social and economic activities. Though, the conceptualization of job is fail to cover many factors which are fundamental, vital and indispensable for human development in the economy. Hence, the conceptualization of work covers different sort of works which ensure the human development inferences such as domestic services, care works, voluntary works and others in addition to job (Human Development Report 2015: Work for Human Development, UNDP, 2015).

Furthermore, the concept of work has been categorized as paid work and unpaid work. The term paid work refers to "working time in paid employment (corporations, quasi-corporations, nonprofit institutions and government), primary production activities, non-primary production activities, construction activities and providing services for income." On the other hand, the concept of unpaid work refers to "working time in providing unpaid domestic services for own final use, providing unpaid caregiving services to household members and providing community services and help to other households" (Human Development Report 2015). Of the total works at the global level, paid work consists 59 percent and outstanding 41 per cent works are unpaid

work. Mostly unpaid work contains housework, care work and others. At this juncture, most of the nations in all regions, female population work a lot than male and as a whole 52 per cent of the world work is done by the women and remaining 48 per cent contributed by men. In case of global labour force participation rate, male population labour force participation rate is 77 per cent and it is 50 per cent in female labour participation (Human Development Report 2015). In India, female labour force participation has ceaselessly declining in both rural and urban India than the male labour force participation (61st, 62nd, 64th, 66th, and 68th rounds of NSSO surveys on Employment and Unemployment Situation in India - 2006, 2008, 2010, 2011 2014). Higher the amount of women's enrollment in higher education, higher the household income in rural areas as well, This high wage rates does not force the women to participate in work, decline short-run and long-run employment openings due to various reasons and socio-cultural and regional factors are highlighted as prime reasons for decreasing trend in female labour force participation rate in India. (Das, 2006; Olsen and Mehta, 2006; World Bank, 2010; Chowdhury, 2011; Rangarajan et al., 2011; Mazumdar and Neetha, 2011). In total, socio-cultural parameters have overwhelmingly affected the female labour force participation rate and consequently facing the discrimination in both paid and unpaid works. In particular, countries like India and third world countries the burden of unpaid work load and non-availability of leisure time are desperate Further, women's unpaid works does not consider in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) calculation and labour force participation rate

statistics. However, some of the countries try to measure the women's unpaid work contribution to GDP and data reveal that unpaid works contribution to GNP is between 20 percent and 60 percent and especially in India it is 39 per cent.

With this back ground, fresh study on Economic Valuation of Women's Unpaid work is indispensable to measure its contribution to household economy as well as national economy and suitable policy making.

Research Gap

Studies on economic estimation of women's unpaid work deal with three different streams namely methodological and conceptual issues of economic valuation of women's unpaid work, women' economic contribution to economy through their unpaid work and economic value of women's unpaid work. But these studies haven't touch the area of women's unpaid work contribution to household economy and women's decision making. Further, the literature's components coverage matrix also confirmed the same and clearly highlights the need for fresh study about the inter-linkages between structure of women's unpaid work, time allocated for unpaid work and leisure time availability and economic valuation of women's unpaid work and inter-relation between the same.

Focal Theme

To compute the market value of women's unpaid work by using replacement value method

Hypothesis

The monetary value of different components of unpaid work significantly varies between urban and rural women.

Sample Selection

Women's unpaid work in household is a traditional practice, part of the Indian society and exists in Tamil Nadu also. The practice of women's unpaid work is a common phenomenon in all parts of the Tamil Nadu state and it is the primary responsibility of the female member

in each household. For analyzing the women's unpaid work, Villupuram district has been selected.

The study area Villupuram district is the largest district in Tamil Nadu. But the district is one of the most backward districts in Tamil Nadu. Stands 25th position in Sex ratio in Tamil Nadu. It has moved from 20th (2011) rank to 25th rank (2011). 60% of women in this district are non-worker. One in five belong to urban 80% of women are living in rural areas. The study adopts cluster sampling. The samples are non-workers. The researcher selects 1% of the sample from four urban areas. For comparison purpose, the same number of sample is collected from rural areas as well.

Details of Sample Respondents in Villupuram District

Sl. No.	Regions	Female Non-Worker	No. of Sample	
1.	(a) Urban	Arakandanallur	2433	24
		Ananthapura	2523	25
		Manalurpet	3053	30
		Thiuvonnainallur	4125	41
	1% of Urban Sample			120
2.	(b) Rural	Arasankuppam	73	36
		Kurumparam	53	27
		Soliasokkulam	64	32
		Kunnathu	50	25
	50% of Rural Sample			120
Total (a + b)			240	

Source: computed from the Secondary data (Census Report, 2011)

Delimitation

This study is delimited to unemployed married women only.

Monetary Value of Unpaid Work in Rural and Urban Regions

The hypothesis of the study reads that the "The monetary value of different components of unpaid work significantly varies between urban and rural women." As per the above mentioned hypothesis, the monetary value of different components of unpaid work may differs between urban and rural women. Based on the nature of

hypothesis, One-way ANOVA model has been applied to examine the variation in monetary value of different components of unpaid work in between rural and urban women in the study area. Different components of unpaid work include housework, care work and other unpaid works which are not incorporated under the heading of housework and care work.

In the One-way ANOVA model, monetary value of housework, monetary value of care work and monetary value of other unpaid works are taken as dependent variables. On the other hand, regions are considered as an independent parameter. The variation in dependent

parameters has been analyzed through the regions of the study area.

The calculated 'F' values of the One-way ANOVA model are found significant in all categories of unpaid work. Further, results of the analysis approves that monetary value housework (97.328), monetary value of care work (119.875) and monetary value of other unpaid work (81.994) are statistically significant and it implies that here is significant variation in between the regions. In addition, the sum of squares and mean sum of squares are found statistically significant and endorses the suitability model and reliability of the test.

Particulars of Descriptive Statistics One-way ANOVA: Variation in Monetary Value of Unpaid Work

Parameters		N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error
House Work	Rural	120	2329.7000	391.12663	35.70481
	Urban	120	2762.4000	279.04105	25.47285
	Total	240	2546.0500	402.42044	25.97613
	Model			339.73810	21.93000
	Random Effects				216.35000
Care Work	Rural	120	468.7000	221.63201	20.23214
	Urban	120	1087.5000	578.09271	52.77240
	Total	240	778.1000	535.70790	34.57980
	Model			437.78529	28.25892
	Random Effects				309.40000
Other Works	Rural	120	403.1000	209.72080	19.14480
	Urban	120	200.0000	128.00998	11.68566
	Total	240	301.5500	201.03218	12.97657
	Model			173.73740	11.21470
	Random Effects				101.55000

Source: Calculated

Policy Suggestions

Women's unpaid house work, care work and other works are playing major role at the household level as well as macro level. Therefore, development of appropriate methodology is necessary to measure the real value of women's unpaid work and incorporate same in to the national income accounting.

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