

# Intensity of Household Poverty in Southern States of India

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**Abstract:** Poverty is a wide spread evil in the world, particularly in Asia and Africa countries. It is greatest challenge to the mankind. A strange paradox exists in Indian society one the one hand there are millions of people who are not able to get minimum basic needs of life. Present study estimates household poverty of existing among socio-religious groups of Southern states of India based on 61<sup>st</sup> (2004-05) and 68<sup>th</sup> (2011-12) rounds of unit level household consumption expenditure data surveyed by National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO). Methodology of the research work primarily uses state wise specific poverty line which is defined by Tendulkar (official) Methodology. The resulting estimates of the incidence of household poverty of Head Count Ratio is highest in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu states as compare to Andhra Pradesh and Kerala for both 61<sup>st</sup> and 68<sup>th</sup> rounds. Study also estimates household poverty across social groups of southern states and its reveals that, among the social groups were Scheduled Tribes (ST) and Scheduled Caste (SC) are comparatively poorer than OBC and Others. Meanwhile, among the religious groups Hindu households are comparatively poorer than Muslim Households of among the southern states for both 61<sup>st</sup> (2004-05) & 68<sup>th</sup> (2011-12) rounds.

Key Words: Poverty, Measurement, Socio-Religious Groups

JEL Classification: 'I31', 'I32', 'I39'

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## **Introduction:**

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Poverty is regarded by economists as a serious malaise harmful to economic growth and development. Poor and poverty are historical in nature and their concern appears to be as old as human history. Poverty is one of the most serious issues being faced by any economy. Income or consumption levels though are taken formally to represent poverty, but such a measure of poverty needs to be supplemented by other factors that would reflect access to a minimum level of social facilities. In nature, therefore the concept of poverty is multidimensional, where in concepts such as capabilities, human development, education, health are essential to define and measure poverty. India still is a country having biggest concentration of poor people in the world and home a third of the world's poor. India as a developing country and it was the world fastest growing economy. Country it is second largest country in population after China and third largest purchasing power parity (PPP) and also fifth largest by economy of the nominal GDP. The growth in GDP during 2017-18 is estimated at 6.5 percent as compared to the growth rate of 7.1 percent in 2016-17. Since, 21<sup>st</sup> century average GDP growth has been 6 percent to 7 percent from 2014 to 2018. Agricultural sector provides livelihood to 65% to 70% of total population. This sector provides employment to 48.9% of country's workforce and is the single largest private sector occupation. As the Indian economy has diversified and grown, agriculture's contribution to GDP has steadily declined from 1951 to 2011, yet it is still the country's largest employment source and a significant piece of its overall socio-economic development. Over the last 10 years, India's merchandise trade (on customs basis) increased manifold from US \$ 195.1 billion in 2004-05 to US \$ 660.5 billion in 2016-17.

In Indian context, poverty is measured in terms of a specified normative poverty line reflecting the minimum living standard of people. The measurement of poverty is a complex exercise and the estimates are broadly based on household per capita consumption expenditure from NSS household consumption expenditure surveys. The World Bank (2005) estimates that 42% of India's population are below the international poverty line of \$1.25 a day having reduced from 60% in 1980. However, the Planning Commission of India constituted by Expert Group under the chairmanship of Suresh D. Tendulkar for estimation of household poverty. The committee is

estimates 21.9 percent of the population are poor that is 269.9 million of population are living below the poverty line in 2011-12, it reduced from 37.2 percent in 2004-05<sup>1</sup>. But still sizable proportion of population in the country live below the poverty line and there is considerable disparity in capabilities across regions, within regions and across socio-religious groups in the country. Recently, the World Bank (2015) found 10 percent of world population lived on less than \$1.90 a day in 2015, down from 11.2 percent in 2013. That means 735.9 millions are lived below the poverty threshold in 2015, down from 804.2 million.

## **Southern States of India:**

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South India is the area encompassing the Indian states of Karnataka, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Telangana (the Telangana state is recently bifurcated from Andhra Pradesh) as well as the union territories of Andaman and Nicobar, Lakshadweep and Puducherry. The economy of South India after the independence of the nation conformed to a socialist framework, with strict governmental control over private sector participation, foreign trade and foreign direct investment. Andhra Pradesh (undivided) is the biggest south Indian state with an area that comes fourth in India and a population that is fifth in the country. In size, Karnataka comes next to Andhra Pradesh among the southern states, and in population, third after Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. Thus Kerala is the smallest south Indian state in size and population. Kerala, however, has the highest population density in the South, which is the third in the country after West Bengal and Bihar. Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka are sparsely populated states with density of population lower than the all-India average.

Kerala state has achieved above average economic growth while Andhra Pradesh economy declined during 1960 to 1990. Kerala experienced an economic decline in the 1970s while the economies of Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh consistently exceeded national average growth rates after 1970 due to reform-oriented economic policies compared to other Indian states. As of 2017–18, the total Gross domestic product of the region is ₹56 trillion (US\$790 billion). Tamil Nadu has the second highest GDP and is the second most industrialized state in the country

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<sup>1</sup> Planning Commission Report GoI, (2014)

after Maharashtra. Over 48% of South India's population is engaged in agriculture, which is largely dependent on seasonal monsoons. Some of the main crops cultivated in South India include paddy, sorghum, pearl millet, pulses, sugarcane, cotton, chilli, ragi and etc. Meanwhile, larger the district of southern states like., Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Chennai, Coimbatore and Thiruvananthapuram are amongst the major IT hubs of India and Bengaluru is also known as the Silicon Valley of India. The growth of information technology (IT) hubs in the region have spurred economic growth and attracted foreign investments and job seekers from other parts of the country. Software exports from South India grossed over ₹640 billion (US\$9.0 billion) in fiscal 2005–06. Chennai, known as the "Detroit of Asia", accounts for about 35% of India's overall automotive components and automobile output. Tourism contributes significantly to the GDP of the region with three states - Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Telangana among the top 10 states for tourist arrivals and accounting for more than 50% of domestic tourist visits.

Socio-Economic Performance of Southern State, the Andhra Pradesh (undivided) is having highest population (8,45,80,777) followed by Tamil Nadu (7,21,38,958) Karnataka (6,10,95,297) and Kerala 3,34,06,061. The Human Development Index among the states (2010 report), Kerala having a highest HDI rank with 0.732 and Tamil Nadu 0.655 whereas, lowest in Andhra Pradesh 0.612 and Karnataka 0.610. Kerala state again hold in highest percentage of literacy rate (2011 census) with 93.91 percent followed by Tamil Nadu 80.33 percent, Karnataka 75.60 percent and Andhra Pradesh 66.78 percent only. The Nominal GSDP growth in 2011-12 the Kerala state gives 16.73 percent to the nation followed by Tamil Nadu 13.75 percent, Andhra Pradesh 12.62 percent and Karnataka 10.08 percent. Kerala state having achieved lower the infant and maternal mortality rate (in 2011-13) followed by Tamil Nadu and highest in Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh.

The study is intended to examine the level of poverty by dividing the households into those belonging to scheduled castes (SC), scheduled tribes (ST) and OBCs in the southern states of India. To design effective policies and strategies to reduce poverty, it is vital to understand the characteristics of a given states. It can shed light on whether poverty is increasing or decreasing and on whether economic growth is benefiting the poor. Poverty profiles of southern states can help central and state governments identify the poor by state, by different social groups, level of education, gender, or form of employment. Economists are concerned specifically with the

monetarily-measurable dimension related to individual or household poverty, income and consumption. The current research will, in reviewing the literature, give attention to the status of household poverty. There exist several studies on assessments and determinants of poverty both a macro and micro level-Interstate and Intrastate studies focus on spatial divergence in poverty.

However the empirical analyses on poverty focusing at southern states on socio-religious groups are scanty. The study in respect to southern states since this gap by analyzing the status of district wise and division wise poverty across socio-religious groups. The primary issue is which measure of poverty is to be used for poverty estimation, most usually the Headcount Ratio, Poverty Gap Index, and Squared Poverty Gap Index. Whereas, the most basic and population measurement scale is Head Count Ratio (Hp) measures incidence of mean poverty which is defined as the “Percentage of population which is below the poverty line”. This is an important value addition to the existing list of literature on poverty in various states the study is significance value addition because it examines the extent, intensity of poverty covering two quinquennial rounds for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, OBC and two major religions of the state, Hindus and Muslims. The section following presents of Poverty estimates district wise level of both rural and urban sectors along with brief description. Section III estimates the incidence of poverty across socio-religious groups for southern states. Finally, section IV focuses on findings and conclusion.

## **Poverty Estimation Methodology in India:**

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In India Dadabhai Naoroji was the first person to discuss about the concept of poverty line. After independence, there have been several efforts to develop mechanisms methodologies to construct poverty line and also identify the number of poor in the country. In 1962, the Planning Commission<sup>2</sup> constituted the working group to define the poverty line based on minimum calorie requirements suggested by the Indian Council for Medical Research (ICMR) that is 2,200 kl for rural and 2,100 kl for urban areas. The monetary value of these calories for a family of 5 people is fixed at Rs.100 per month or Rs.20 per capita per month in 1960-61 prices in urban areas. In 1979

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<sup>2</sup> 65-year old Planning Commission has been dissolved and a new institution name NITI (National Institution for Transforming India) Aayog has been constituted by the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) government in 1<sup>st</sup> January 2015.

the planning commission constituted Task Force Committee to estimate the percentage of population below the poverty line the committee fixed 2400 kl per capita per day in the rural area and 2100 kl per capita per day in urban area and estimated Rs.49.09 & Rs.56.64 monthly per capita for all India rural and urban areas. Planning Commission (1984) did not re-defined the estimation methodology of poverty, it adopted the methodology of the earlier task force committee, and accordingly fixed Rs.89.50 and Rs.115.65 as Monthly Per capita Consumption Expenditure (MPCE) for rural & urban area sectors as particularly. Estimates 45.65per cent rural and 40.79 per cent of urban and overall 44.48 per cent of the population is below the poverty line in India. Later in 2005, the Planning Commission constituted the expert group under the chairmanship of Suresh D. Tendulkar. The committee didn't construct a poverty line but they espouse earlier expert group of Lakdawala methodology & they fixed Rs.447 & Rs.579 per capita per month consumption expenditure for both rural and urban sector which is based on minimum calorie requirements is 2100 calorie for rural and 1776 calorie for urban sector. Recently in 2012, the Rangarajan Committee computed the poverty line based on average requirements of calories of 2,155 kcal per person per day for rural and 2,090 kcal per person per day for urban sectors. The committee found 30.9 per cent (260.5 million poor people) in rural area and 26.4 per cent (102.5 million poor people) of the population is below the poverty line in urban areas and overall 29.5 per cent (363 million people) at all India level of population is poor.

### **Concepts in Poverty Estimation:**

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The various measures of poverty estimation are Headcount Ratio, Poverty Gap Index, and Squared Poverty Gap Index.

- **Head Count Ratio ( $H_p$ ):** The number of poor estimated as the proportion of people below the poverty line is known as head count ratio. Is calculated by dividing the number of people below the poverty line by the total population.

$$H_p = \frac{n}{N} \quad (1)$$

$H_p$  = Headcount ratio,  $n$  = Number of people below poverty line &  $N$  = Total population.

- **Poverty Gap Index (PGI):** Another poverty measure is Poverty Gap Index. It is the ratio of gap between the per capita income of the poor and poverty line income or it is difference

between the poverty line and average income of all households living below the poverty line expressed as percentage of poverty line.

$$PGI = \frac{Z - M_p}{Z} \quad (2)$$

PGI=Poverty gap index, Z= Poverty line income in Rs,  $M_p$ =Income of poor &  $Z - M_p$ = Aggregate poverty gap.

➤ **Income Gap Ratio / Poverty Gap Ratio ( $I_p$ )**

Sen (1976) called it Income Gap Ratio and Clark (1981) named it Poverty Gap Ratio. It is obtained by dividing the total expenditure of the poor by the number of people below the poverty line. It measures the poor below the poverty line.

$$I_p = \frac{Z - M_p}{Z.N} \quad (3)$$

Where N is the number of poor and the rest of symbols are defined as above.

- **Squared Poverty Gap ( $I_p^2$ ):** it is the mean of the squared proportionate poverty gaps. It indicates the severity as well sensing to inequality among the poor. It measures inequality among the poor. This measure is a member of Foster- Greer-Thorbecke (FGT) family of the poverty measure (R. Anita 2011).

$$I_p^2 = \sum_{i=1}^A \frac{(Z - M_p)^2}{N} = 1 \frac{(Z - M_p)^2}{N} \quad (4)$$

## Literature Reviews:

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- **Panagariya, A., & Mukim, M. (2013)** provides comprehensive analysis of poverty for 17 larger states in the country, by estimating poverty (headcount ratio) for rural and urban sector and for socio-religious groups by using two official poverty lines based on Lakdawala and Tendulkar Methodology. The study finds out that, during 1993-94 and 2009-10 poverty declining for various social and religious groups in all the states, secondly the reduction of poverty is larger in scheduled caste and scheduled tribes than the other backward class. by using unit level NSSO household consumption expenditure data of 61st (2004-05) and 68th (2011-12) round of **Arora, A., & Singh, P., S. (2015)** estimated regional as well as disaggregated levels of poverty for socio-religious groups for both rural and urban sector of

Uttar Pradesh (UP). The study classifies the state into different regions and identifies critical poverty affected regions in UP across socio-religious groups. The study finds the level of poverty across the central region, southern region and eastern region is unfairly distributed. Estimates multidimensional poverty in 82 regions in India by **Dehury, Bidyadhar. & Mohanty, K., Sanjay. (2015)** by using unit data from Indian Human Development Survey (IHDS), 2011-12. The study measures multidimensional poverty in the dimensions of Health, Education, Standard of Living and Household Environment of eight indicators makes use of Alkire-Foster Methodology. The study found that, 43% of Indian populations are multidimensional poor with large regional variation. Across the regions, where southern region of Chhattisgarh and the Ranchi Plateau is 70% of the populations are multidimensional poor, whereas, they hug less than 10 percent in the regions of Manipur, Mizoram and Chandigarh. The decomposition of MPI indicates that the Health dimension accounts for 36%, environment accounts for 31%, economic dimension for 22%, and education accounts for 11 percent respectively. Measures household poverty among socio-religious groups in Karnataka by **Shivakumar (2019)** by using unit level Household consumption Expenditure data of 61<sup>st</sup> (2004-05) and 68<sup>th</sup> (2011-12) rounds of NSSO regions. State categorized by four administrative divisions for compare to which division has been suffering more chronic poverty. Study found higher the concentration of poverty among districts of Kalaburagi divisions. The incidence of household poverty among the social groups were reduced by 20.66% in Scheduled Caste followed by 19.67 % in Scheduled Tribes, 15.9% in OBC & 4.5% in others during the study period of 2004-05 to 2011-12.

## Data and Methodology:

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In order to fulfill the objective of the study, to estimate district wise household poverty and across the socio-religious groups among the southern state (except union territories) by using 61<sup>st</sup> round (2004-05) and 68<sup>th</sup> round (2011-12) of Monthly Per Capita Consumption Expenditure (MPCE) of NSSO data. Using MPCE of Mixed Reference Period<sup>3</sup> (MRP) to measure incidence of mean poverty i.e. Head Count Ratio (Hp): which is defined as the “Percentage of population

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<sup>3</sup> MRP = consumption data for five non-food items viz., clothing, footwear, durable goods, education, and institutional medical expenses are collected using 365-day recall period and 30-day recall period for the remaining items.



which is below the poverty line”. The study makes use of state wise specific poverty line is based on Tendulkar Methodology for rural & urban sector separately<sup>4</sup>. The study compares 61<sup>st</sup> and 68<sup>th</sup> round of quinquennial surveys, based on their two surveys the poverty levels are estimated among the southern state i.e., Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Andhra Pradesh and across socio-religious groups like., Scheduled Tribes (ST), Scheduled Caste (SC) Other Backward Class (OBC), Others and Hindu & Muslim.

## Empirical Analysis:

**Table: 01 Incidence of Household Poverty in India**

Round/Sector	Rural	Urban	Total
61 <sup>st</sup> Round (2004-05)	42.58	25.57	<b>38.27</b>
68 <sup>th</sup> Round (2011-12)	26.24	14.01	<b>22.75</b>
<b>Declined</b>	<b>16.34 (2.33)</b>	<b>11.56 (1.65)</b>	<b>15.52 (2.21)</b>

Source: Authors estimate based on 61st and 68th round of NSS data.  
Note: ( ) Change in percent of poverty per annum

Table 01 reveals that rural poverty is greater than urban poverty in the country. The study was found 42.58 percent of rural households are poor in country, which is higher than 25.57 percent of urban poverty in 2004-05. Meanwhile, in 2011-12 it has come down to 26.24 percent of rural and 14.01 percent of urban household poverty. In the country some effective government policies has been declined by 15.52 percent of the poverty during the period of 2004-05 to 2011-12.

**Table: 02 Incidence of Household Poverty across Social Groups**

Social Groups	Rural			Urban			Total		
	61 <sup>st</sup>	68 <sup>th</sup>	Change	61 <sup>st</sup>	68 <sup>th</sup>	Change	61 <sup>st</sup>	68 <sup>th</sup>	Change
ST	64.61	48.23	-(2.34)	37.08	25.51	-(1.65)	62.25	45.70	-(2.36)
SC	54.09	32.11	-(3.14)	40.36	21.91	-(2.63)	51.31	29.87	-(3.06)
OBC	40.69	23.55	-(2.44)	30.32	15.95	-(2.05)	38.41	21.50	-(2.41)
Others	27.26	15.60	-(1.66)	16.10	8.16	-(1.13)	23.06	12.54	-(1.50)
<b>Total</b>	<b>42.58</b>	<b>26.24</b>	<b>-(2.33)</b>	<b>25.57</b>	<b>14.01</b>	<b>-(1.65)</b>	<b>38.27</b>	<b>22.75</b>	<b>-(2.21)</b>

Source: Authors estimate based on 61st and 68th round of NSS data.  
Note: -( ) Change in Percentage per Annam

<sup>4</sup> For Karnataka Rs.418 and Rs.588 for rural & urban sector for 61st round (2004-05) and Rs.902 and Rs.1089 for rural & urban sector 68th round (2011-12). For Andhra Pradesh, Rs.433 and Rs.563 for 61st round (2004-05) and Rs.860 and Rs.1009 for rural & urban sector for 68th round (2011-12). For Kerala, Rs.537 and Rs.585 of 61st round (2004-05) and Rs.1018 and Rs.987 for rural & urban sector 68th round (2011-12). For Tamil Nadu, Rs.442 and Rs.560 of 61st round (2004-05) and Rs.880 and Rs.937 for rural & urban sector 68th round (2011-12) respectively.  
Source: [http://planningcommission.nic.in/reports/genrep/pov\\_rep0707.pdf](http://planningcommission.nic.in/reports/genrep/pov_rep0707.pdf)

Table 02 brings out that, between 61<sup>st</sup> and 68<sup>th</sup> round poverty is decline various social groups of among the states. The study found larger the poverty in scheduled tribes and scheduled caste than the OBC and others in the country. The central government has made effective policies has taken several steps to reduce by social, gender and regional inequalities has achieve larger the poverty is decline in scheduled caste is 3.06 points per annum followed by OBC is 2.41 points per annum, scheduled tribes is 2.36 points per annum and others 1.50 points per annum only for both rural and urban sector during the study period of 2004-05 to 2011-12.

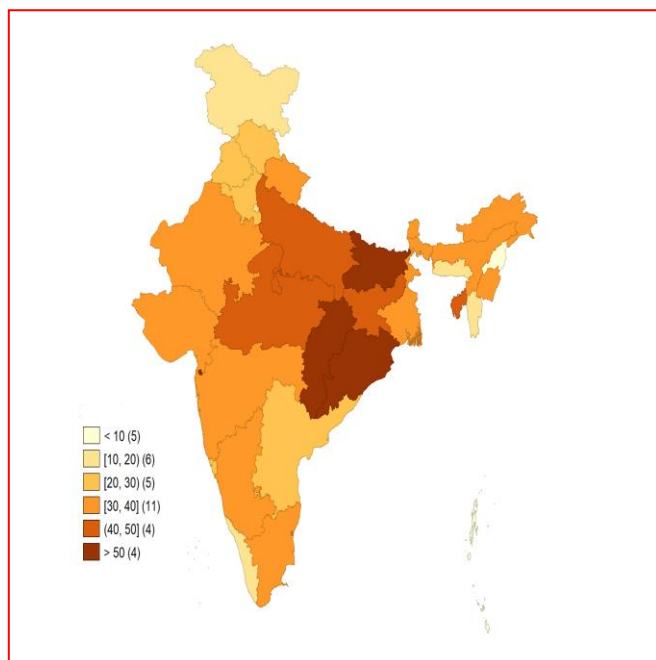
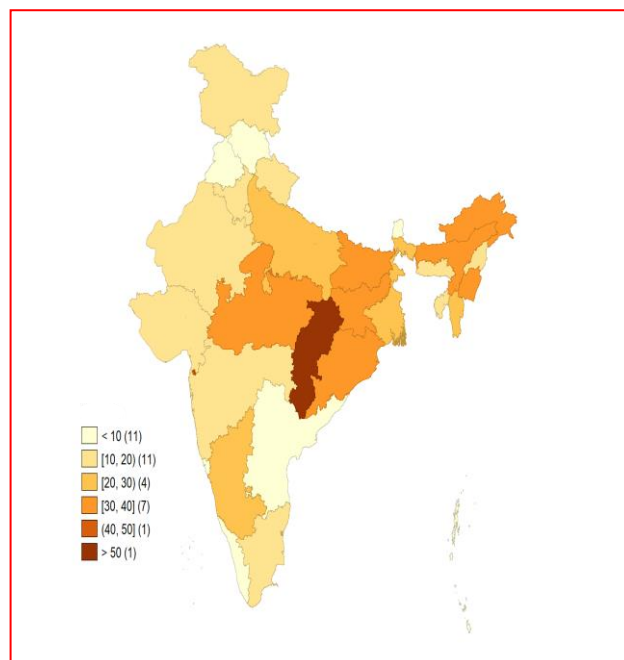
**Table: 03 Level Household Poverty at Religious Groups**

Religions Groups	Rural			Urban			Total		
	61 <sup>st</sup>	68 <sup>th</sup>	Change	61 <sup>st</sup>	68 <sup>th</sup>	Change	61 <sup>st</sup>	68 <sup>th</sup>	Change
Hindu	42.97	26.59	-(2.34)	23.12	12.52	-(1.51)	38.22	22.78	-(2.20)
Muslim	44.51	26.95	-(2.50)	41.20	22.78	-(2.63)	43.42	25.49	-(2.56)
<b>Total</b>	<b>43.15</b>	<b>26.64</b>	<b>-(2.35)</b>	<b>26.27</b>	<b>14.35</b>	<b>-(1.70)</b>	<b>38.92</b>	<b>23.16</b>	<b>-(2.25)</b>

Source: Authors estimate based on 61st and 68th round of NSS data.  
**Note:** -( ) Change in Percentage per Annam

Table 03 shows that, among the religious groups where Muslim households are comparatively poorer in the country as compare to Hindus. In 61<sup>st</sup> round the study found Muslim households have huge poverty is 43.42 percent whereas 38.22 percent of Hindus households. Meanwhile, in 68<sup>th</sup> round is also found larger the household poverty is consisted in Muslims households in 25.49 percent as compare to Hindu households is 22.78 percent for both rural and urban sector.

The state level poverty has been illustrated 61<sup>st</sup> (2004-05) and 68<sup>th</sup> (2011-12) round and it is mapped separately in below figure 01 & 02.

Figure 01: Poverty @ 61<sup>st</sup> (2004-05) RoundFigure 02: Poverty @ 68<sup>th</sup> (2011-12) Round**Table No: 04 Incidence of Household Poverty of Southern States.**

State/ Sector	Karnataka		Kerala		Andhra Pradesh		Tamil Nadu	
	61 <sup>st</sup> Round	68 <sup>th</sup> Round	61 <sup>st</sup> Round	68 <sup>th</sup> Round	61 <sup>st</sup> Round	68 <sup>th</sup> Round	61 <sup>st</sup> Round	68 <sup>th</sup> Round
<b>Rural</b>	37.50	24.53	20.11	09.19	32.10	10.95	37.54	15.83
<b>Urban</b>	25.87	15.28	18.41	04.97	23.36	05.80	19.74	06.59
<b>Total</b>	<b>33.92</b>	<b>21.18</b>	<b>19.71</b>	<b>08.08</b>	<b>29.86</b>	<b>09.27</b>	<b>30.69</b>	<b>11.71</b>
<b>Decline d</b>	<b>1.82</b> points/annum		<b>1.66</b> points/annum		<b>2.94</b> points/annum		<b>2.71</b> points/annum	

**Source:** Authors estimate based on 61<sup>st</sup> and 68<sup>th</sup> round of NSS data.

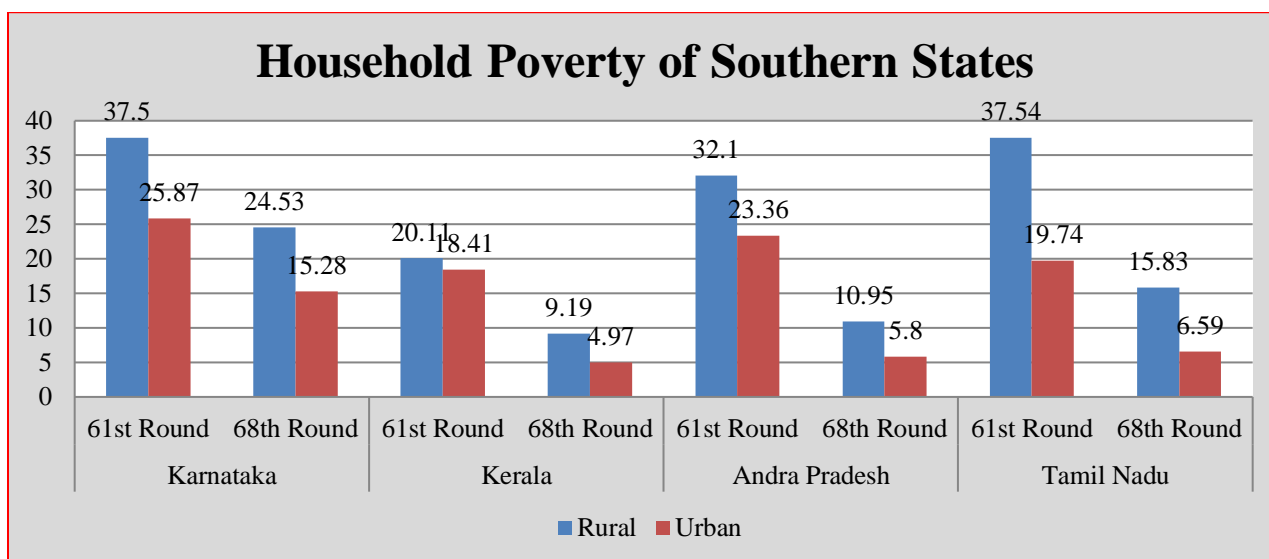


Figure 03: Household Poverty among Southern States for 61<sup>st</sup> and 68<sup>th</sup> Round.

Table 04 and figure 03 reveals that, poverty estimates for southern states of 61<sup>st</sup> & 68<sup>th</sup> round and rural & urban sector separately. The study found that in 61<sup>st</sup> (2004-05) round higher the incidence of household poverty in Karnataka is 33.92 percent followed by Tamil Nadu is 30.69 percent, Andhra Pradesh 29.86 and Kerala 19.71 percent respectively for rural & urban sector. Meanwhile, in 68<sup>th</sup> (2011-12) round it's declined all the states. Whereas, higher the poverty ratio is also found in Karnataka is 21.18 percent followed by Tamil Nadu 11.71 percent, Andhra Pradesh 9.27 percent and Kerala 8.08 percent respectively for rural & urban sector. Among the southern states significantly faster the declining of poverty ratio in Andhra Pradesh (**2.94** % of points) & Tamil Nadu (**2.94** % of points) per annum as compare to Karnataka (1.82 % of points) and Kerala (1.66 % of points) only declined per annum.

**Table No: 05 Incidence of Household Poverty across Social Groups**

Social Groups	Karnataka		Kerala		Andhra Pradesh		Tamil Nadu	
	61 <sup>st</sup> Round	68 <sup>th</sup> Round	61 <sup>st</sup> Round	68 <sup>th</sup> Round	61 <sup>st</sup> Round	68 <sup>th</sup> Round	61 <sup>st</sup> Round	68 <sup>th</sup> Round
ST	51.17	31.50	54.37	39.39	59.10	23.10	41.89	25.81
SC	53.85	33.19	30.95	15.99	40.20	12.70	48.60	18.98
OBC	34.71	18.81	21.25	07.13	29.60	08.00	26.52	09.82
Others	20.13	15.63	10.12	05.77	16.10	05.60	10.08	01.60

**Source:** Authors estimate based on 61<sup>st</sup> and 68<sup>th</sup> round of NSS data.

Table 05 shows that, study estimates household poverty across social groups of southern states and its exhibits that, among the social groups were Scheduled Tribes (ST) and Scheduled Caste (SC) are comparatively poorer than OBC and Others for both 61<sup>st</sup> & 68<sup>th</sup> round of rural & urban sector. In 61<sup>st</sup> (2004-05) round higher the poverty found in ST households in Andhra Pradesh is 59.10%, followed by Kerala is 54.37%, Karnataka 51.17% and Tamil Nadu 41.89% respectively. Second higher the poverty ratio found in SC households in Karnataka is 53.85% followed by Tamil Nadu 48.60%, Andhra Pradesh 40.20% and Kerala 30.95%. Lower the incidence of household poverty found in OBC and Others household respectively. Meanwhile, in 68<sup>th</sup> (2011-12) round it's heterogeneously declined household poverty of across social groups. Whereas, higher the poverty found in ST households in Kerala is 39.39% followed by Karnataka is 31.50%, Tamil Nadu is 25.81% and Andhra Pradesh is 23.10 for both rural & urban sector. The second highest of poorer are SC households in Karnataka is 33.19% followed by Tamil Nadu 18.98%, Kerala 15.99% and Andhra Pradesh 12.70% respectively. For the OBC households are much higher than other caste households' poverty among the southern states. Whereas, 18.81% of households poorer in Karnataka followed by Tamil Nadu is 9.82%, Andhra Pradesh 8% and Kerala 7.13% respectively. For Other caste households are 15.63% of poor in Karnataka followed by Kerala is 5.77%, Andhra Pradesh is 5.60% and Tamil Nadu 1.60% respectively.

**Table No: 06 Incidence of Household Poverty across Religious Groups**

Religious Groups	Karnataka		Kerala		Andhra Pradesh		Tamil Nadu	
	61 <sup>st</sup> Round	68 <sup>th</sup> Round	61 <sup>st</sup> Round	68 <sup>th</sup> Round	61 <sup>st</sup> Round	68 <sup>th</sup> Round	61 <sup>st</sup> Round	68 <sup>th</sup> Round
<b>Hindu</b>	34.08	20.63	20.35	09.76	29.81	09.31	31.55	12.36
<b>Muslim</b>	38.33	26.87	25.75	06.76	30.31	08.31	18.78	03.27

**Source:** Authors estimate based on 61<sup>st</sup> and 68<sup>th</sup> round of NSS data.

Table 06, is found that, among the religious groups Hindu households are comparatively poorer than Muslim Households for 61<sup>st</sup> (2004-05) & 68<sup>th</sup> (2011-12) rounds of southern states. In 61<sup>st</sup> (2004-05) round except Tamil Nadu Muslim households are comparatively poorer than Hindu households. It means that, higher the Muslim households are poor in Karnataka is 38.33% followed by Andhra Pradesh 30.31%, Kerala 25.75% and 18.78% in Tamil Nadu for both rural and urban sector. Whereas, Hindu households of 34.08 % of poor in Karnataka followed by Tamil Nadu are

31.55%, Andhra Pradesh is 29.81% and Kerala is 20.35% respectively. Meanwhile, in 68<sup>th</sup> (2011-12) round except Karnataka Hindu households are comparatively poorer than Muslim households. Whereas, 20.63% of higher the poverty ratio is found in Karnataka followed by Tamil Nadu is 12.36%, Kerala 9.76% and Andhra Pradesh 9.31% for rural and urban sector. Meanwhile, in Muslim households were higher the poverty found in Karnataka is 26.87% followed by Andhra Pradesh 8.31%, Kerala 6.76% and Tamil Nadu 3.27% respectively. Above table is also found that, Karnataka state is suffering chronic poor households of Hindu and Muslim as compare to other states of south during the study period.

**Table No: 07 Lower & Higher the Poverty at Districts levels of Southern States in 2004-05**

Lower the Poverty Districts of 2004-05				Lower the Poverty Districts of 2011-12			
Sl.No	Districts	State	%	Sl.No	Districts	State	%
1	Thiruvananthapuram	Kerala	4.42	1	Nellore	Andhra Pradesh	00.45
2	Bengaluru Urban	Karnataka	4.53	2	Madurai	Tamil Nadu	00.48
3	Udupi	Karnataka	5.77	3	Rangareddi	Andhra Pradesh	01.01
4	Idukki	Kerala	07.30	4	Warangal	Andhra Pradesh	01.19
5	Chennai	Tamil Nadu	07.54	5	Kanniyakumari	Tamil Nadu	01.29
6	Pathanamthitta	Kerala	07.69	6	Bengaluru Urban	Karnataka	01.48
7	Kodagu	Karnataka	10.99	7	Kodagu	Karnataka	01.51
8	Kottayam	Kerala	11.38	8	Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh	01.57
9	Kollam	Kerala	12.71	9	Dakshin Kannada	Karnataka	01.63
10	Nilgiris	Tamil Nadu	13.41	10	Chamarajagara	Karnataka	01.64
Higher the Poverty Districts of 2004-05				Higher the Poverty Districts of 2011-12			
11	Kurnool	Andhra Pradesh	53.64	11	Bidar	Karnataka	35.11
12	Adilabad	Andhra Pradesh	54.52	12	Bagalkot	Karnataka	35.76
13	Tiruvanamalai	Tamil Nadu	55.34	13	Kasaragod	Kerala	36.91
14	Chitradurga	Karnataka	56.12	14	Gulbarga	Karnataka	37.24
15	Uttar Kannada	Karnataka	60.48	15	Raichur	Karnataka	37.73
16	Gulbarga	Karnataka	61.18	16	Cuddalore	Tamil Nadu	40.40
17	Ballari	Karnataka	61.34	17	Koppal	Karnataka	40.71
18	Raichur	Karnataka	68.61	18	Ballari	Karnataka	40.81
19	Davangere	Karnataka	69.05	19	Chitradurga	Karnataka	46.74
20	Haveri	Karnataka	72.96	20	Viluppuram	Tamil Nadu	54.38

**Source:** Authors estimate based on 61<sup>st</sup> and 68<sup>th</sup> round of NSS data.

Table 07 are estimates that, district level household poverty among the southern states for 61<sup>st</sup> (2004-05) and 68<sup>th</sup> (2011-12) round including rural and urban sector. In 61<sup>st</sup> round lower the incidence of 10 districts household poverty is found in Thiruvananthapuram district of Kerala is 4.42% followed by Bengaluru Urban (4.53%) and Udupi (5.77%) districts of Karnataka, Idukki districts (7.30) of Kerala, Chennai district (7.54%) of Tamil Nadu, Pathanamthitta districts (7.69%)

of Kerala, Kodagu district (10.99%) of Karnataka, Kottayam (11.38%) & Kollam (12.71%) districts of Kerala and Nilgiris district (13.41) of Tamil Nadu. Whereas, higher the incidence of 10 districts household poverty found in Kurnool (53.64%) & Adilabad (54.52%) districts of Andhra Pradesh followed by Tiruvanamalai (54.52%) district of Tamil Nadu, Chitradurga (56.12%), Uttara Kannada (60.48%), Gulbarga (61.18%), Ballari (61.34%), Raichur (68.61%), Davangere (69.%) & Haveri (72.96%) districts of Karnataka.

Meanwhile, in 68<sup>th</sup> round is heterogeneously declined the household poverty among the districts of southern states. In 2011-12 lower the incidence of 10 districts household poverty found in Nellore (00.45%) district of Andhra Pradesh followed by Madurai (00.48%) district of Tamil Nadu, Rangareddi (1.01%) & Warangal (1.09%) districts of Andhra Pradesh, Kanniyakumari (1.29%) district of Tamil Nadu, Bangalore Urban (1.48%) & Kodagu (1.51%) districts of Karnataka, Hyderabad (1.57%) district of Andhra Pradesh, Dakshin Kannada (1.63%) & Chamarajagara (1.64%) districts of Karnataka. Whereas, higher the 10 districts of household poverty found in Bidar (35.11%) & Bagalkot (35.76%) districts of Karnataka followed by Kasaragod (36.91%) district of Kerala, Gulbarga (37.24%) & Raichur (37.73%) districts of Karnataka, Cuddalore (40.40%) district of Tamil Nadu, Koppal (40.71%), Ballari (40.81%), Chitradurga (46.74%) districts of Karnataka and Viluppuram (40.454.38%) district of Tamil Nadu.

## **Conclusion:**

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Poverty is a multidimensional phenomenon and it is the greatest challenge to the mankind. In India context, poverty is measured in terms of a specified normative poverty line reflecting the minimum living standard of people. Poverty encompasses low levels of health, education, attainment, poor access to clean water and sanitation, inadequate physical security, and insufficient capacity and opportunity to better one's life (World Bank 2006). The poverty of India is of great importance today even though so many measures have been taken by various Governments and International Organization to alleviate the global poverty. Since the Government of Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Andhra Pradesh also has initiated of various poverty alleviation programmers in both rural and urban areas have achieved to eradicate extreme poverty in the state. Higher the incidence of household poverty found in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu as compare to Andhra Pradesh and Kerala for both 61<sup>st</sup> and

68<sup>th</sup> rounds. Among the southern states significantly faster the declining of poverty ratio in Andhra Pradesh (2.94 % of points) & Tamil Nadu (2.94 % of points) per annum as compare to Karnataka (1.82 % of points) and Kerala (1.66 % of points) only declined per annum. Study estimates household poverty across social groups of southern states and its reveals that, among the social groups were Scheduled Tribes (ST) and Scheduled Caste (SC) are comparatively poorer than OBC and Others for both 61<sup>st</sup> & 68<sup>th</sup> round of rural & urban sector. Meanwhile, among the religious groups Hindu households are comparatively poorer than Muslim Households for 61<sup>st</sup> (2004-05) & 68<sup>th</sup> (2011-12) rounds of southern states.

Kerala and Tamil Nadu states are comparatively poorer than Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka across Socio-Religious groups for both 61<sup>st</sup> (2004-05) & 68<sup>th</sup> (2011-12) rounds. Whereas, Karnataka state considerable heterogeneity in the extent and depth of poverty in the state and still suffering chronic household poverty among socio-religious groups for both rounds in the southern region of India. The incidence of mean poverty across social groups was consistently high among STs and SCs followed by OBC and others and Muslim religious households are comparatively poorer in rural as well as urban sector against Hindus during study period.

The study is request to the central government and as well as state government to start effective policy implementations should focus on development of education and self-employment in general; improve the quality of education in particular amongst rural households, with special emphasis on Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe (ST) in the southern states in general and particularly in Karnataka. The central Government should properly plan and implement target budgeting at state level, and effective monitoring of outcome budget is necessary. To contain spatial variation in poverty and inequality the study suggests for improving infrastructure in agricultural sector which in turn increases income generation in the poverty affiliated regions in general and particularly in southern region states.

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