

APPENDIX - B

SEMINARS PARTICIPATED

Topic	Organiser	Nature of Seminar	Presented paper/ Participated	Date
Quantitative Techniques and Software Applications in Research Methodology	Gargaon College, Sivasagar, and Dept. of Statistics, Dibrugarh University, Dibrugarh	UGC Sponsored National Level Workshop	Participated	18-19Jun., 2011
Language, Literature & Culture of North-east India: Their Impact on Ethnic Integration in the Region	Department of Language & Literature, Chaiduar College, Sonitpur	UGC Sponsored National Seminar	Presented paper on " <i>Oinitomot Mising Loka-Jivanar Sabi</i> "	17-18 Feb., 2012
Examination Reforms and Evaluation in Semester System at Under Graduate Level	Naharkatiya College, Dibrugarh	UGC Sponsored National Seminar	Presented paper on " <i>Some Aspects of Examination, the System and its Reforms: A Proposal.</i> "	15-16 Oct., 2014
Rural Marketing in the North East- Issues and Challenges	Dergaon Kamal Dowerah College, Dergaon	UGC Sponsored National Seminar	Presented paper on " <i>Select Issues Regarding Rural Marketing and Determination of Market Participation.</i> "	30-31 Oct., 2014
Governance, Resources & Development of North –Eastern Region of India	Department of Economics, Furkating College, Golaghat	UGC Sponsored National Seminar	Presented paper on " <i>Inequality and Deprivation in North East India</i> "	26-27 Jun., 2015

WORKSHOPS AND REFRESHER COURSES PARTICIPATED

Topic	Organiser	Nature of Workshop	Date
Quantitative Techniques and Software Applications in Research Methodology	Gargaon College, Sivasagar, and Department of Statistics, Dibrugarh University, Dibrugarh	UGC Sponsored National Level Workshop	18-19 June, 2011
Research Methodology & SPSS	Sibsagar College, Sivasagar	UGC, ICSSR & NEC Sponsored National Level Workshop	28 Nov.-3 Dec., 2011
Academic Performance Indicator	SMD College (Sivasagar) Teachers Unit & ACTA, Assam	ACTA Workshop	10 May, 2012
Research Methodology for Social Science	Guru Jambheshwar University of Science and Technology, Hisar, Haryana	21 Days UGC Sponsored Refresher Course	02 June, 2014 to 21 June, 2014
Role of IQAC in All Round Development of College	Sonari College, Sivasagar	UGC Sponsored Workshop	22 Oct., 2014

APPENDIX- C

PUBLICATIONS

- Konwar, Paranan & Mazumder, Ritwik (2015, June). An empirical study on the impact of socio-economic and demographic variables on rural poverty among the Mishing Tribe in Assam of North East India. *IOSR Journal of Humanities and Social Science (IOSR-JHSS)*, 20 (6), Ver. V, 10-15 [ISSN: 2279-0837 (Online), 2279-0845 (Print)].
- Konwar, Paranan & Mazumder, Ritwik (2015, January). Poverty and human development among the Mishing Tribe in Assam. *Asian Journal of Multidisciplinary Studies*, 3(1), 87-92 [ISSN: 2321-8819 (Online), 2348-7186 (Print), Impact Factor: 0.923]
- Konwar, Paranan & Mazumder, Ritwik (2014). Poverty and inequality among the Mishing Tribe in Sivasagar District of Assam”, *Panchajanya*, Vol.04, 73-91 [ISSN: 2230-911X (Print)]
- Konwar, Paranan & Mazumder, Ritwik (2014).An empirical study on the impact of socioeconomic and demographic variables on rural poverty among the Mishing Tribe in Sivasagar District of Assam. *Sonari College Academic and Research Journal*, Vol.03, 78-97[ISSN: 2321-015X (Print)]
- Konwar, Paranan (2013). Norms, estimates and trends of poverty in Assam: A chronological review. *Sonari College Academic and Research Journal*, Vol.02,58-72[ISSN: 2321-015X (Print)]

Poverty and Human Development among the Mishing Tribe in Assam

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Abstract: This paper examines the uni-dimensional and multi-dimensional poverty among the Mishing tribe in Dhemaji and Sivasagar districts of Assam. Attempts have been made to examine the relationship between Human development Index (HDI) and Multi-dimensional of Poverty Index (MPI). Results show that incidence, depth and severity to poverty are high in Dhemaji district as compared to that of Sivasagar district and the relative poverty is high in Sivasagar district as compared to Dhemaji district due to intensity of flood, remoteness and nature of occupation. The HDI is negatively associated with MPI. Among the three dimensions of MPI, standard of living dimension is prime determinant of HDI value. It is concluded that Government and civil society must take policies to prevent economic and health shocks, reduce natural risk and build human resilience to reduce poverty, promote capabilities and protect choices.

Key words: Poverty, MPI, HDI, Mishing tribe, Assam

1. INTRODUCTION

The term 'human development' has come to be accepted in the development economics literature as an expansion of human capabilities, a widening of choices, an enhancement of freedoms and a fulfillment of human rights (Fukuda-Parr & Kumar, 2011:xxi). On the other hand, poverty is about deprivation of the choices. Human development and poverty that are multifaceted and dynamic concepts captures the same dimensions, namely, health, knowledge/education and standard of living (UNDP, 2010:215). Human poverty reflects threats to choices and capabilities critical to human development. Human development can be achieved by reducing human poverty and building human resilience¹.

The Mishings or Miris, the second largest scheduled tribe (plains) of Assam, belong to the Tibeto-Burman family of the Mongoloid group. The Mishings are basically concentrated in (the riverine areas of) eight districts of Assam, namely, Dhemaji, Lakhimpur, Jorhat, Sonitpur, Golaghat, Sivasagar, Tinsukia and Dibrugarh. The Mishings dwelt basically on the bank of rivers in natural environment. This colourful ethnic tribe, an indispensable part of greater Assamese community, has been able to maintain their traditional socio-cultural-religious traits unimpaired in spite of the radical changes during the post-globalization period. The main occupation the tribe is agriculture. Due to globalization and other factors, changes are noticed in the socio-economic life this tribe. Similarly, due to adoption of Vaisnavism and Christianity, changes are prominent in their traditional beliefs, customs, religious practices and cultures. The Mishing tribe has been given autonomy under the name of Mishing Autonomous Council (MAC). The Council was constituted after signing the MAC act 1995 between Mishing organisations and Govt of Assam. The MAC includes 40 constituencies in eight upper Assam

districts comprising of core areas and satellite areas.

The Sivasagar district is situated between 26°45' and 27°15' north latitudes and 94°25' and 95°25' east longitudes. It has elevation of 86.6 meters above the Mean Sea Level. The district occupies an area of 2,668 square kilometers. The average rainfall is about 230 cm. The district has three subdivisions, namely, Sivasagar, Nazira and Charaideo with nine development blocks. It is located in Upper Assam of Brahmaputra valley. The mighty Brahmaputra flows on the northern side of the district. The main rivers of the district are Desang, Dikhow and Janji. It has many others small rivers, such as, Suffry, Towkak, Tiok, Demow, Darika etc.

The Dhemaji district is divided into 2 sub-divisions viz., Dhemaji and Jonai with five development blocks. Geographically situated between the 94° 12' 18" E and 95° 41' 32" E longitudes and 27° 05' 27" N and 27° 57' 16" N latitudes, the district covers an area of 3237 Sq. Km. It has elevation of 104 meters above the Mean Sea Level. It is located in Upper Assam and in the north bank of Brahmaputra river. The river Brahmaputra flows from east to west in the southern part of the district. The prime tributaries viz. Dihingia, Jiadhal, Moridhal, Telijan, Kaitongjan, Laipulia Nadi, Kapurdhuwa, Sissi, Gai, Tangani and Guttong originating from Arunachal Pradesh in the north, flow southwest carrying enormous amount of alluvium through the district before meeting the river Brahmaputra. It is a regular flood affected district causing lots of damages every year.

Dhemaji and Sivasagar districts have been chosen on the ground that, Dhemaji is the highest flood-affected, rural and remote district with the highest Mishing population; where as, Sivasagar is less flood-affected district with semi-urban character and the medium level of Mishing population.

An Empirical Study on the Impact of Socio-economic and Demographic Variables on Rural Poverty among the Mishing Tribe in Assam of North East India

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Abstract: The prime objective of the study is to examine the economic, social and demographic determinants and their impacts on household rural poverty among the Mishing tribe in Dhemaji and Sivasagar districts of Assam in North East India, and recommend remedial measures to the policy makers to reduce poverty. It is based on primary data collected through household level questionnaire from select twelve villages of the two districts. It was found that the prime determinants of poverty among the Mishing tribe are size of the household, dependency ratio, sex ratio, education, health, occupation as agriculture and allied, distance from town to the village, flood and erosion. Thus, it needs the improvement in health quality of rural life, awareness on family planning, more expenditure on education for formation of human capital to enhance capabilities, sustainable employment opportunities and creation of new jobs in quantity and quality, diversification of agriculture, new mechanism to monitor and evaluate anti-poverty programme, expansion of rural non-farm sector (that lead to occupational diversification and rural transformation), infrastructure (transport and communication) and permanent solution of the flood problem among the Mishing tribe. Responsive institutions and effective policy interventions are must to meet the formidable challenges that harm health, impede education and endanger livelihoods of the Mishing tribe.

Keywords -determinants of poverty, Mishing tribe, rural poverty, Assam, North East India.

I. Introduction

The definition of poverty varies not only from society to society, but also varies within the same society at different points of time. Different terms are used to describe poverty. These are income or consumption poverty, human (under)development, social exclusion, ill-being, (lack of) capability and functioning, vulnerability, livelihood un-sustainability, lack of basic needs, relative deprivation etc.[1], lack of hunger and malnutrition, illiteracy, homelessness and inadequate housing, unsafe environment, social discrimination [2] etc.

Poverty has been defined by different researchers based on different criteria. Some have viewed the poor as that portion of the population that is unable to meet basic nutritional needs [3][4]. Others defined poverty as a function of education and/or health [5]. Consumption expenditures are other criteria that are used to define poverty [6]. "Basic needs" [7] and "entitlements" [8] also, in broad terms, used to identify poverty [9]. Now-a-days, human poverty is defined as deprivation in multiple dimensions, such as, education, health and standard of living instead of one dimension 'income' or 'consumption expenditure'[10][11].

They view three basic perspectives poverty as mentioned below:

- i) Income perspective: A person is poor if his/her income level is below the poverty line.
- ii) Basic needs perspective: A person is poor if, and only if he/she is deprived in minimally acceptable fulfilment of human needs for health, education and essential services. It also recognizes the need for employment and participation.
- iii) Capability perspective: Poverty is viewed as the lack of basic capabilities to function. The capability approach incorporates both absolute and relative poverty. Because, relative deprivation in incomes or commodities can lead to an absolute deprivation in minimum capabilities [12]

Poverty is a multi-dimensional and multivariate phenomenon. Instead of bearing an uniform face, it varies across space and time. According to the World Bank[13] "poverty is pronounced deprivation in wellbeing." Wellbeing is 'quality of life' that is measured by income, health, education, housing, assets, rights to speech etc. of an individual.