P11 / Rethinking Poverty in context of Aligning Local Solutions with Global SDG Targets

Topic : INEQUALITIES AND PUBLIC POLICY

Chair : Nemi Chand Goliaya (Panjab University)

Second Chair : Renu Kapila (Punjabi University Patiala)

Third Chair : Anju Chhillar (Panjab University)

GENERAL OBJECTIVES, RESEARCH QUESTIONS AND SCIENTIFIC RELEVANCE

There are many form of human deprivation which collectively leads to poverty. In contemporary time inclusive growth and equitable development needs to be achieved to reduce poverty and other disparities. World poverty is one of the most pressing problems faced by present world. Despite global efforts to eradicate poverty, challenges persist due to the diverse socio-economic contexts and unique local needs that are often overlooked in broad, one-size-fits-all approaches. Now time has come that policy maker to reassess and improve on the existing policies of poverty reduction considering ecological context as suggested by F.W. Riggs. Traditionally Theoretical base to measure poverty was absolute poverty in economic and calorie intake terms and which decide poverty line later on concept of relative poverty came in to existence. In present time poverty measurement is multidimensional it also include human development parameters. This Panel will explore the critical need to rethink poverty alleviation strategies by aligning local solutions with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Present research emphasizes the importance of integrating local knowledge, cultural practices, and community-driven initiatives with global SDG targets to create more effective and sustainable outcomes to reduce poverty.

Main research question in this context is:

Have the SDGs implemented by governments trough policy intervenes in respected countries?

What are the mechanisms developed by the governments to implement SDGs? Is there any evidence based methodology developed to evaluate the impact of SDGs in reducing poverty? Is Poverty reduction Polices are adaptive in nature in light of socio-political environment of respective county? What are the main challenges in implementation of poverty eradication strategies in light of SDGs?

CALL FOR PAPERS

Problem of Poverty is at the focal point of policy agenda of all the governments of world. SDGs of UN also mainly concern with Poverty eradication for better life of people. Considering and analyzing case studies from various regions, this panel highlights how localized knowledge and approaches, when aligned with the global SDG framework, can lead to more meaningful and long-lasting poverty eradication solutions. It also includes the factors which hinders governments in implementing poverty eradication strategies like political, social, economic, pressure groups etc.

The panel inviting research papers which advocates for a synergistic model where global targets provide a guiding framework, while local solutions drive implementation, ensuring that efforts have both globally relevancy and locally resonant. Such approach not only addresses the immediate needs of communities but also contributes to the broader goal of eradicating poverty in all its forms by 2030. Researches which are based on Poverty eradication and its governance will be discussed in this panel. All type of research papers with Poverty eradication strategies and its governance and evaluation mechanism are main concern in panel.

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Session 1 RETHINKING POVERTY IN CONTEXT OF ALIGNING LOCAL SOLUTIONS WITH GLOBAL SDG TARGETS

Thursday, July 3rd 08:00 to 10:00 (SME-F2)

Discussants

Anju Chhillar (Panjab University)

Arshpreet Kaur (Punjabi University Patiala)

Food Fortification in India: Impact Analysis on Nutrition and Poverty

Anju Chhillar (Panjab University)

Nemi Chand Goliaya (Panjab University)

Public health is one of the focal points for the democratic country for attainment of social welfare at mass scale. The largest democracy of world has allocated Rs 90,958.63 crore in 2024-2025 and Rs 89,287 crore to the health sector in its Union Budget 2023-24. It was hike of 13% more than the previous budget of 2022-23. According to National Health Accounts (NHA), government health expenditure as proportion of GDP has been increased by 63% between 2014-15 and 2021-22. Further the National Health Policy proposed to take the expenditure to 2.5% of the GDP for the public health expenditure by 2025. However, despite the increasing expenditure, the NFHS-5 (2019-2021) reports that, 30.1% of the urban children and 37.3 % of rural children below 5 years are stunted and total 32.1% children below 5 years underweight. Further, 67.1% of the children of age group 6-59 months are suffering from anemia. Among the youth who are to bring in demographic dividend, more than half of the female population is severely anaemic. For age group 15-49 of women, about 53.85% from the urban and 58.5% from the rural background are anemic. Fortification of food has been termed as a scalable approach to intervene to cater to hidden hunger and reduce disease burden.

India's food sector regulator Food Safety and standards Authority (FSSAI) implemented the Food Fortification Regulations in October, 2016 for providing nutritious food for the targeted population including the young children, women and displaced population in India. The most common fortified food are the cereals (Rice, Wheat etc.), fats, oils, infant formula, milk and milk products etc. to address the deficiencies of Vitamin A, Anemia and iodine. The fortified rice is distributed under the Public Distribution System throughout the India.

The unsafe and non-nutritious food perpetuates health problems and reduces economic productivity of the individual and trap them in the cycle of poverty. The paper delves into the interconnected challenges of malnutrition, unsafe food and poverty in India. The objective of the paper has been to assess the effectiveness of government support to food fortification in reducing deficiencies and improving health indicators.

Furthermore, this paper primarily analysis the impacts and the implication of food fortification on the impoverished section of the society by using surveys and health data analysis. The major findings are that anemia is still highly prevalent in states that are having low iron rich diversity of crops. Majority of rural women and children are anemic. The food fortification program is not cost effective as it requires high machinery. The Haryana government is spending 17000 crores on Rice Fortification Schemes. Moreover, there is lack of awareness among the consumers regarding fortified food. The paper also proposed the integrated strategies to enhance the nutritional health and economic productivity by alleviating the poverty and malnutrition. Dietary diversity is the healthier and more cost effective than the food fortification process.

Keywords: Food Fortification, Food Safety, Poverty Eradication, Public Health, FSSAI

Poverty eradication in Punjab, India: A Study with special reference to SDG goal 1.

Kuldeep Kaur (Punjabi University Patiala)

Poverty Eradication in Punjab, India: A Study with special reference on SDG-I.

Dr. Kuldeep Kaur

Assistant Professor,

Akal Degree College Mastuana, Sangrur, Punjab

ABSTRACT

India confronts multiple challenges in achieving Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 1, ending poverty in all its forms by 2030. Despite progress, over 200 million Indians still live below the poverty line, with rural areas and marginalized communities bearing the brunt of this crisis. Structural inequalities, insufficient employment opportunities, and inadequate access to basic services continue to impede poverty alleviation efforts. This paper is limited to study of state of Punjab and main focus in on challenges encounter by Punjab Government weigh the condition and eradicate poverty in Punjab state.

The Punjab government faces significant challenges in eradicating poverty and achieving Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 1, which aims to end poverty in all its forms everywhere. Poverty in Punjab is multidimensional, with rural areas bearing the brunt due to limited access to quality education, healthcare, and employment opportunities. Additionally, agrarian distress, especially among small farmers, exacerbates poverty levels, with rising debts, unpredictable weather patterns, and low crop productivity creating a cycle of vulnerability. The urban poor, on the other hand, face challenges of informal employment, inadequate housing, and poor access to social safety nets. The disparity in income distribution, regional imbalances, and insufficient infrastructure further complicate poverty reduction efforts.

The government's policies have made strides in addressing poverty, including welfare schemes such as the Punjab State Rural Development Board's poverty alleviation programs, subsidized food programs, and skill development centers and financial assistance for farmers.. However, there are gaps in effective implementation and monitoring, often hindered by bureaucratic inefficiencies, political instability, and inadequate funding.

To achieve SDG 1, the Punjab government must adopt a more inclusive, integrated approach to poverty alleviation. Key remedies include enhancing the effectiveness of agricultural reforms to improve the livelihoods of farmers, promoting skill development tailored to market needs, and strengthening the social protection system to ensure a safety net for the urban poor. Further, improving education and healthcare accessibility in rural areas will provide long-term benefits, while investments in infrastructure can spur regional development. Tackling corruption and enhancing transparency in governance will also be crucial in optimizing the resources available for poverty reduction.

Ultimately, addressing systemic issues, fostering economic diversification, and focusing on sustainable development initiatives can help Punjab significantly reduce poverty and work towards achieving SDG 1 by 2030.

In other secondary sources were taped. Moreover, for the completion of study documentary research method has been used. The findings of the study focus on challenges faced and initiatives taken by Punjab to eradicate Poverty.

Key Words: Poverty, Sustainable Development Goal I, Punjab State Rural Development Board's Poverty alleviation programs, Skill development centers.

Impact of Job Reservation Policy on the Socio-Economic Upliftment of Scheduled Tribes in India: A Case Study of Kinnaur District, Himachal Pradesh

Bindeshwari Bindeshwari (Punjabi University Patiala)

Sukhpal Singh (Punjabi University Patiala)

Arshpreet Kaur (Punjabi University Patiala)

Reservation Policy in employment opportunities has an important role in the socio-economic upliftment of the disadvantaged and poor sections of the Indian society. Special emphasis has been given by the certain provisions of Indian Constitution to safeguard and promote the socio-economic interests of disadvantaged, poor and backward sections such as Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. A lot of research has been done to understand the impact of job reservation for Scheduled Castes on various parameters in India. But

the studies on exploring the impact of job reservation on the Scheduled Tribes is unfolding recently. In this research paper, an attempt has been made to study the impact of policy of Job Reservation in Scheduled Tribes in their socio-economic upliftment and poverty alleviation. This study will be conducted in the Kinnaur district of Himachal Pradesh state. Himachal Pradesh is located in the Northwest region of India. It is situated in Western Himalayas. In Himachal Pradesh, only four areas come under Schedule V of the Constitution due to a tribal population exceeding 50% of the total population. These areas include District Kinnaur, District Lahaul- Spiti and Bharmour and Pangi Sub- Divisions of Chamba District. These scheduled areas are very difficult and remote, with high mountains terrain and very harsh climatic and living conditions. Backwardness and deprivation are widespread. Therefore, it is expected that job reservation policy will play a significant role in providing better access to education, government jobs, and political representation, improving household incomes and literacy rates. Many from the Kinnaur region have secured stable employment, thus reducing economic disparity to some extent. The main purpose of this research study is to figure out the role and impact of affirmative action such as reservation policy of Government of India to remove poverty, inequalities existing in society because of the various factors such as lack of education, unemployment and immobility etc. The primary data will be collected from a purposive sample of ST people of Kinnaur district of HP through an Interview Schedule. The present study will highlight the ways to bridge inequalities in employment faced by the disadvantaged group; improve access to education for all, and redress the issues of apparent past injustices, acute deprivations and present hindrances and thereby resulting in alleviation of poverty and achieving the first Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) to considerable extent.

INTERSECTORIALITY IN IMPLEMENTATION: ANALYSIS OF PUBLIC POLICIES TO COMBAT POVERTY IN COLOMBIA

Cristian Rodríguez Olaya (Universidad Nacional de Colombia)

The objective of this article is to analyze the intersectoral dynamics of two public policies, which are part of the Colombian social protection system and have the purpose of combating poverty. In this sense, the project asks what is the intensity of the intersectorality between these public policies in their implementation? This is because the two public policies addressed have, in their design, intersectoral dynamics that constitute an important commitment of the social policy of the Colombian State. In this way, categories that present the intersectoral relationship determined in the formulation of these two social policies are initially analyzed.

Methodologically, the research is of a mixed nature and is carried out in the Meta region, in Colombia. In this order, in the qualitative field, information gathering techniques are used such as semi-structured interviews with both bureaucrats in charge of implementing the policies and their beneficiaries. These interviews are also analyzed using coding and categorization techniques. Quantitative surveys are also conducted on the two population groups mentioned above. Therefore, the results of these surveys are analyzed using evaluation techniques such as Pearson or Spearman.

The aim is to determine whether the intersectoral dynamics established in their design are maintained in the implementation of these two public policies, or whether, on the contrary, intersectorality is significantly reduced in the implementation of public policies and for what reasons, if this happens. In this sense, issues such as the technical and political components inherent to the implementation of public policies are analytically explored, including variables such as the prejudices and values ??of bureaucrats, their discretion regarding decisions about the beneficiaries of social policies (or even potential beneficiaries), or the perception of the beneficiaries regarding the objective and structure of the public policies studied. Thus, the research contributes to understanding how the relationships - similar or disparate - between formulation and implementation can contribute to the cohesion of public policies to combat poverty, understood within the framework of the Colombian social protection system.

Keywords: intersectorality, poverty, public policies, implementation, bureaucracy.