

# Chapter 1

## Introduction

It is said that India is rich country of poor people. Her richness lies in ample production, natural resources and tremendously potentiality of the production resources. However the untapped and undiscovered production makes India an underdeveloped country.

In fact population as labour force is an asset. However the quantity to aspect of the human resources makes India poor because large number of non-working population create greater demand for food rather than thier production efficiency. As a result the population in India becomes a liability rather than assets. Moreover the land as factor of production in the form of agriculture is a subject of deminishing return and we always face the problem of lack of selficiency in food grains production. Thus the three basic issues -

- 1) Under developed economy
- 2) High population growth
- 3) Low productivity of agriculture, creates the problem of poverty of Indian economy. In the context of poverty can be conceived in both absolute terms and relative terms.

### CONCEPT OF POVERTY

Poverty is a social phenomenon where a section of population finds it difficult to fulfil even the basic necessities of life. A person living in poverty cannot get sufficient quantities of food, clothing and shelter. When majority of the people are deprived of minimum level of living and are made to continue at a bare subsistence level, the society is said to be plagued with mass poverty.

There are two broad concepts of poverty : absolute poverty and relative poverty. In India we are more concerned with absolute poverty. Relative poverty to some extent is bound to be there in all free societies. It is related to the unequal distribution of income.

### ABSOLUTE POVERTY

In absolute sense poverty of a large segment of population signifies, its inability to get even the basic requirements of food, clothing and housing not to speak of comforts of life.

Absolute poverty is therefore defined in terms of given minimum requirements of cereals, pulses, oils etc. or we may call it a nutritional

minimum. This can be expressed in terms of a rupee value or the amount of the income which is required to purchase these goods. If people do not have income enough to meet the basic requirements, they are said to be suffering from absolute poverty. It should however, be noted that this definition only tells us about maintaining nutritional standards. It does not tell us anything about the cost of clothing, shelter and other items essential to maintain life. On account of low incomes, people's expenditure is so small that they live below the minimum subsistence level.

Hence, absolute poverty can be expressed by the pattern of per capita expenditure. If the expenditure falls short of the minimum, people are below the poverty line.

#### RELATIVE POVERTY

Relative poverty is measured on the basis the income and consumption standards of the relatively rich and the poor in the same society. Relative poverty arises on account of unequal distribution of wealth, property and incomes. Relative poverty exists in all societies. It is a universal phenomenon prevailing in developed, developing and under

developed countries of the world.

The concept of relative poverty denotes the relative position of the income group to which a person belongs. Those who have lower income live in relatively poorer conditions than those who have higher incomes, though the former may be living above the minimum level of subsistence. The concept of relative poverty has its uses. We cannot remove absolute poverty without taking into account relative poverty. Hence, economic growth should result in expansion and distribution of consumption goods to all sections of the society.

### MEASUREMENTS OF POVERTY

In fact the measurement of poverty is difficult to task. However some efforts have been made by eminent Economists and Institutes of Economic and Social Research. We have made a very brief reference regarding the measurement of poverty in India. The studies made by Minhas (1970-71), Dandekar-Rath (1971), Sukhatne (1965, 1973, 1977, 1978, 1980), Bardhan (1970, 1973), Rudra (1974), Sen (1974) planning commission (1962, 1978) and several others gives us the analysis of the causes of the poverty and they have evolved the concept of poverty line and the below poverty line.

### DEFINITION OF POVERTY LINE

The poverty problem from the measurement point of view has been viewed from two angles. The first one is the minimum level of living i.e. the cost of the bundle of goods at the relevant prices. The second approach is based on inadequacy in food consumption i.e., the shortage of necessary energy intake a major component of nutritional requirement for healthy living.

The question of defining a poverty line in India was first mooted by the Indian Labour Conference in 1957. A poverty line for India was first recommended by a distinguished working group set up by the Planning Commission, Government of India in July 1962. Later on poverty lines under different assumptions were estimated by Prof. V.M. Dandekar and N. Rath, A. Rudra and others. The working group set up by Planning Commission in 1962 probably after considering the recommendation of balanced diet made by the Nutrition Advisory Committee of the Indian Council of Medical Research, recommended the national minimum consumer expenditure at Rs. 20/- per capita per month at 1960-61 prices to provide minimum nutritional diet in terms of calories intake and to allow for a modest

degree of items other than food. The group suggested that for the urban area the minimum should be raised to aRs. 25/- per capita per month in view of the higher cost of living there. By implication this meant that the corresponding amount in rural area would work out to Rs. 18.9/-.

In a study conducted by Dandekar and Rath in 1971 and intake of 2250 calories per capita per day was assumed as adequate under Indian conditions, both in rural and urban areas. It seems the working group didnot make a distinction between rural and urban level costs. On the basis of National Sample Survey data on consumer expenditure, the study revealed that an average annual per capita expenditure of Rs. 170.80 or equivalently Rs. 14.2 per capita per month at 1960-61 prices would suffice to meet the calories requirements in the rural areas. The corresponding figures in the urban areas was Rs. 271.40 and Rs. 22.6 at 1960-61 prices.

In the Sixth Plan, the poverty line was defined as the mid-point of the monthly per capita expenditure class, having a calorie intake of 2400 per person in rural areas and 2100 in urban areas. In terms of 1979-80 prices, the mid-points corresponded to Rs. 76/- in rural areas and Rs. 88/- in urban





areas, as given in the Plan document. The basic data utilised for building up these estimates are from the consumer expenditure surveys of the National Sample Survey Organisation. The population having a per capita expenditure below this line has been considered to be poor.

According to Nehru Rozgar Yozana household incomes below Rs. 7300 per year at 1984-85 prices are said to be below poverty line in urban areas.

## THE PRESENT RESEARCH WORK

The present research work is studied the poverty and unemployment in an urban area of Solapur city. The specific objectives are as follows.

- 1) To understand the extent of poverty with the broad indicators of standard of living of the people.
- 2) To study the socio-economic conditions of the urban poor in slums area of Solapur city.
- 3) To study the pattern and composition of unemployment problem in slums areas of Solapur city.

## METHODOLOGY

In view of the above objectives we have selected the identified slum area of the Urban Community Development Project of Solapur Municipal Corporation. The 50,000 population in 29 identified Zopadpattis under the command area of the Urban Community Development Project of Solapur Municipal Corporation was the unit of our study.

Considering the time and resources available with us, we selected 10 % sample of the total population and adopted random sampling method which gives 1064 sampled households in the Zopadpattis under the study ( see table no. 1 )

Table no. 1:- TOTAL SAMPLE HOUSEHOLDS SELECTED FOR  
THE STUDY.

Sr. no.	Name of Zopadpattis	Total no. households	popu- lation
1.	Ghongade wasti	1330	6915
2.	Maddi Patil Wasti	1028	5475
3.	Shahir Wasti	1110	5600
4.	Hanuman Nagar	1030	4900
5.	Bagale Wasti	1090	5100
6.	Thorala Rajwada	1096	5700
7.	Maratha Wasti	780	3900
8.	Ramabai Ambedkar	148	700
9.	Masre Wasti	148	670
10.	Ambedkar Nagar	171	750
11.	Jawalkar Wasti	458	2000
12.	Matanga Wasti	532	2000
13.	Mote Wasti	130	500
14.	Pathan Wasti	140	700
15.	Hande Flot	200	860
16.	Wadgaonkar Wasti	150	835
17.	Mukund Nagar	100	480
18.	Jamma Wasti	100	430

Sr. no.	Name of Zopadpattis	Total no. households	popu-lation
19.	Baswanti Plot	150	620
20.	Basav Nagar	83	220
21.	Joshi WAsti	128	475
22.	Yalleshwar Wadi	200	1050
23.	Sarda Plot	228	1100
24.	Jaibhim Wasti	110	500
TOTAL :		10,640	51,480

It should be made clear that, all the 29 Zopadpattis as stated in Appendix I were made into 24 by emerging the 4 contiguous slum areas i.e. Maddi Patil Wasto, Wadar Wasti. Thus there is a total number of 24 identified Zopadpattis in the command areas of UCD.

While considering the location, population and the size of the Zopadpattis were regrouped into 7 independent units of big size zopadpattis and 5 composite units of centres defined and coded as RMAJ,

MMPHW, MJBB and other slums (see table no. 2). The big 7 zopadpattis includes :

1. Ghongade Wasti
2. Maddi Patil Wasti
3. Shahir Wasti
4. Hanuman Nagar
5. Bagale Wasti
6. Thorala Rajwada
7. Maratha Wasti

Thus regrouping of all 24 sampled zopadpattis into 12 units of study gived us very convenient and comparable sample to serve our purpose of analysis both at the individual level of the major zopadpattis and the total sample of 1064 households

Table no. 2 :- GROUPING OF IDENTIFIED ZOPADPATTIS  
UNDER STUDY.

	NAME	No. OF SAMPLE HOUSEHOLDS
I. Seven independent units	Ghongade Wasti	133
	Maddi Patil Wasti	103
	Shahir Wasti	111
	Hanuman Nagar	103
	Bagale Wasti	109
	Thorala Rajwada	109
	Maratha Wasti	78
	RMAJ	93
II. Five composite units	Ramabai Ambedkar	15
	Masra Wasti	15
	Ambedkar Nagar	17
	MMPHW	
	Matanga Wasti	53
	Mote Wasti	13
	Fathan Wasti	14
	Hande Plot	20
	Wadgaonkar Wasti	15
	MJBB	
Mukund Nagar	10	

Jamma Wasti	10
Baswanti Plot	15
Basav Nagar	08
Other slums	
Joshi Wasti	13
Yalleshwar Wadi	20
Sarda plot	23
Jaibhim	11

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TOTAL SAMPLE 1064



## THE SCHEDULE

According to the objectives of the present study, the information was collected through interview method by canvassing two types of the schedules No.1 socio\_economic conditions and No.2 Health conditions. The information regarding the community participation and leadership pattern was collected through observation method and unstructured questionnaire. The special field visits were conducted by the project Director.

### (A) Schedule No.1- Socio Economic Conditions

It contains the following aspects of the sample households:

- 1 Family information
- 2 Occupational pattern
- 3 Working women
- 4 Information about children
- 5 Unemployment situation
- 6 Income and expenditure pattern
- 7 Assets and liabilities
- 8 Housing conditions
- 9 Water supply and other amenities
- 10 Environmental conditions

(B) Schedule No.2: Health Conditions

It contains the following aspects:

- 1 Physical conditions of the members of the family
- 2 Major illness
- 3 Immunisation
- 4 Family planning
- 5 Health conditions of the children under five years of age

THE ANALYSIS :-

The analysis of the data and other collected information was made at the level of individual zopadpattis with particular reference to Ghongade Wasti, Maddi Wasti, Shahir Wasti, Hanuman Nagar, Bagale Wasti, Thorala Rajwada and Maratha Wasti and other small size zopadpattis defined as RMAJ,MMFHW, MJBB and others.

The analysis was also made at the aggregate level of the total simple households. This would enable us to generalise the problems being faced by all zopadpattis in command area of the UCD project and it will also throw light on the problems of big and small size zopadpattis independently.

APPENDIX I : LIST OF THE SLUMS UNDER UCD PROJECT OF  
SMC .

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Slum no.	Name of slum
1	Ghongade Wasti T.P. no.2 F.P. no. 71,76
2	Ghongade Wasti T.P. no.2 F.P. no. 69
3	Maddi Patil Wasti T.P. no.2 F.P. no. 83
4	Maddi Patil Wasti T.P. no.2 F.P. no. 87
5	Wadae wasti T.P. no. 2 F.P. no. 81 (PT)
6	Maddi Patil Wasti T.P. no.2 F.P. no. 82
7	Shahir Wasti T.P. no. 2 F.P. no. 81
8	Shahir Wasti T.P. no. 2 F.P. no. 55
9	Mukund Nagar T.P. no. 2 F.P. no. 59 (PT)
10	Jamma Wasti T.P. no. 2 F.P. no. 58 (part)

Slum no.	Name of slum
11	Basvanti Plot T.P. no. 2 F.P. no. 56 (PT)
12	Basav Nagar T.P. no. 2 F.P. no. 49
13	Hanuman Nagar T.P. no.2 F.P. no. 49
14	Ramabai Ambedkar Nagar T.P.no. 2 F.P. no.48 (PT)
15	Masare Wasti T.P. no. 2 F.P. no. 48 (part)
16	Ambedkar Nagar T.P. no. 2 F.P. no.s 43, 46
17	Bagale wasti T.P. no. 2 F.P. no. 41
18	Maratha Wasti T.P. no. 2 F.P. no. 60
19	Sarada Plot C.T.S. no. 2175
20	Yalleshwar Wadi C.T.S. no. 8755
21	Thorala Rajwada T.P. no. 2 F.P. no.s 352 to 452

Slum no.	Name of slum
22	Jawalkar Wasti T.P. no. 2 C.S. no. 898
23	Matang Wasti T.P. no. 2 F.P. no. 18
24	Matang Wasti T.P. no. 2 F.P. no.17
25	Mote Wasti T.P. no. 2 F.P. no. 13
26	Pathan Wasti T.P. no. 4 F.P. no. 187
27	Wadgaonkar Wasti T.P. no. 4 F.P. no. 188
28	Hande Plot
29	Jaibhim zopadpatti