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Socio - Economic status of female headed-households in rural Punjab-Haryana Plain 2011

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Abstract

A woman is the companion of man gifted with equal mental capacities. She has the right to participate in the minutest details of the activities of man, and she has the same right of freedom and liberty as he. By sheer force of a vicious custom, even the most ignorant and worthless men have been enjoying a superiority over women which they do not deserve and ought not to have, “Women hold up half the sky – the Chinese proverb – has long been more aspiration than fact. In developed and developing countries alike, gender gaps persist in education, health, work, wages and political participation. In patriarchal societies all over the world and in India in particular, an elderly male member of the family is considered as head of the household. But family and household structure and headship are fast changing under the impact of structural changes due to the development of the Indian society (Vardhan, 1999) ^[31].

Keywords: Socio-economic, multidimensional, Punjab-Haryana Plain 2011, Indian society

Introduction

Socio-economic status is an objective, multidimensional concept that defines a standard level for physical, material and social wellbeing. It serves as a reference against which an individual or society can measure the different domains of a personal life. It includes not just income and building materials but also educational attainment, financial security and subjective perceptions of social status and social class. It is a construct that reflects one’s access to collectively desired resources, be they material goods, money, power, friendship networks, healthcare, leisure time or educational opportunities (Oakes & Rossi, 2003) ^[32]. Provision of basic amenities is an important factor for measuring the household’s quality of living. There are many types of variables of basic amenities in a society (Das & Nipun, 2012) ^[33].

According to Das & Mistri (2013) ^[34] household quality of living refers to three broad aspects pertaining to housing condition, amenities and assets. They have analyzed the regional variation in household’s quality and found that southern states like Goa, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra rank very high while Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and whole eastern and north eastern states occupy lower positions in the ladder in terms of household quality of living. Eastern India particularly demonstrates very poor quality of living based on composite index in 2011.

Geographers and other scholars have carried out many detailed studies on conditions and quality of household amenities prevailing in rural dwellings at district, state and national levels from time to time (see for instance Bhagat and Sharma, 2001; Krishan, 2017; Dave, 2018; and Raj *et al.*, 2018) ^[35, 36, 37, 38]. With a significantly larger proportion of population still residing in rural areas, rural housing conditions provide a very good insight into living standard of the people in an area. The present chapter therefore endeavors to identify the levels of socio-economic status of female-headed households in rural Punjab- Haryana Plain.

Economic condition of female-headed households

District-wise census data of 2011 on various aspects of housing conditions of female-headed households have been used for this chapter. To identify the condition of socio-economic status of female-headed households in rural Punjab-Haryana Plain ten indicators have been taken up in this study.

They are as follows

1. Material of wall; burnt brick (X1).
2. Material of roof; concrete (X2).
3. Material of floor; cement (X3).
4. Number of dwelling rooms; two rooms (X4).
5. Source of drinking water (Tap water treated) (X5).
6. Kitchen facility; inside the house (X6).
7. Communication facility; mobile (X7).
8. Latrine facility; inside house (X8).
9. Fuel used for cooking; LPG/PNG (X9).
10. Permanent house status; owned houses (X10).

To find out the levels of socio-economic status ‘Z score’ in

respect to each of the indicator in a district has been calculated as under

$$Z \text{ score} = \frac{X - \bar{X}}{\sigma}$$

Where,

X = Percentage value of the indicator in a district.

\bar{X} = Mean value of the indicator in the study area.

σ = Standard deviation.

The ‘Z scores’ of the entire selected ten indicator have been added to obtain the ‘composite Z score’. On the basis of ‘composite Z scores’, levels of socio-economic status at district level among female headed households in rural Punjab- Haryana Plain have been identified.

Table 1: Rural Punjab-Haryana Plan; Districts wise Z Score of Selected Amenities of Female-Headed Households 2011

Sr. No.	Name of Districts	X1	X2	X3	X4	X5	X6	X7	X8	X9	X10	Composite Index
1	Ambala	-0.04	0.91	016	0.27	0.58	182	-1.08	-0.57	-1.7	-0.59	6.22
2	Bhiwani	0.45	-0.88	0.57	-0.25	-1.04	0.44	-0.66	-0.53	-1.44	-0.57	0.04
3	Faridbad	-0.6	-0.98	107	0.62	-0.81	-0.28	-0.97	-0.78	-1.39	0.78	-3.34
4	Fethabad	0.36	-0.7	-1.05	-0.33	-1.19	123	0.33	0.09	-0.81	-1.19	-3.26
5	Gurgoan	0.27	-0.54	133	-0.35	0.33	038	-0.6	0.07	-0.46	1.1	1.53
6	Hisar	0.91	-0.89	-0.54	-0.49	-134	109	0.25	-034	-0.98	-216	-4.49
7	Jhajaar	0.75	-1.13	023	1.04	-0.66	034	0.02	0.04	-1.3	0.4	-0.27
8	Jind	1.29	-0.79	-0.54	1.59	-101	-0.3	-0.57	01	-0.53	-3.08	-3.84
9	Kaithal	-0.01	-0.45	-0.76	2.09	-091	-0.42	-0.97	0.27	-0.27	-276	-4.2
10	Karnal	0.34	0	-0.4	1.73	0.13	136	0.42	0.13	-0.21	-0.83	2.67
11	Krukshttra	0.41	0.66	-0.22	0.59	0.45	151	1.41	0.48	-0.53	-0.64	4.13
12	Mahandergrah	-1.83	-0.45	166	-1.12	-0.69	-0.74	-02	0.79	-0.61	1.11	-209
13	Mewat	4.27	-1.16	-0.5	-101	-202	-1.05	-0.87	1.03	-0.14	-0.43	-10.42
14	Palwal	-0.41	-1.27	0.18	0.92	-141	0.04	-0.37	0.47	-1.01	0.61	-225
15	Panchkula	-0.08	2.34	154	-1.12	04	238	-0.37	0.64	-0.11	0.09	5.71
16	Panipat	0.84	-0.78	-0.29	1.49	01	-0.12	-1.34	13	01	-0.76	0.54
17	Rewar	-0.67	-0.59	128	-0.62	-0.66	0.15	-0.71	0.64	0.03	1.08	-0.07
18	Rohtak	1.09	-1.23	0.09	1.67	-0.71	0.69	-0.14	135	-1.95	-1.12	-0.26
19	Sirsa	-0.88	-0.56	-1.38	-1.48	-139	214	-3.02	-1.09	-0.91	-0.5	-9.07
20	Sonipat	1	-1.12	0.09	1.4	-0.18	-0.45	-0.42	0.17	-2.56	-0.47	-254
21	Yamunager	0.03	1.67	-0.49	1.32	-0.22	102	-212	-186	-0.76	0.22	-1.19
22	Gurdaspur	-0.84	1.72	033	-0.9	12	-1.29	-0.77	-1.19	0.87	0.86	-0.01
23	Kapurthla	0.51	0.72	0.92	-1.13	2.35	-0.53	1.12	14	0.98	0.85	7.19
24	Jalandher	0.26	0.3	117	-0.03	1.52	-0.98	0.97	-0.09	0.95	0.83	4.95
25	Hosiarpur	0.55	1.2	144	-0.98	2.02	0.18	-0.22	-0.27	0.92	1.01	5.85
26	Sbsnagar	0.95	0.22	142	-0.74	12	-0.25	0.43	-1.4	1	0.7	3.53
27	Fathgrah Sha	0.77	1.48	0.59	-0.39	1.09	-0.84	1.25	0.05	0.9	0.91	5.81
28	Ludhina	0.15	0.66	0.27	-0.16	1.45	-1.05	1.58	-1.76	0.92	0.39	2.45
29	Moga	0.24	-0.16	-1.27	-0.52	0.59	-0.87	1.47	0.44	0.85	-0.3	0.47
30	Frojpur	-1.72	-0.34	-1.23	0.04	-0.56	-0.98	0.29	0.04	0.9	-0.04	-3.6
31	Muktsar	-0.15	-0.65	-1.35	-0.48	0.16	-0.12	0.62	0.01	0.94	0.6	-0.42
32	Faridkot	0.67	-0.24	-1.25	-1.22	0.75	-0.65	1.2	0.15	0.92	0.58	0.91
33	Bathinda	0.21	-0.58	-1.47	-1.13	-0.34	-0.42	1.41	02	0.99	0.19	-0.94
34	Mansa	0.72	-0.48	-1.47	0.7	-1.25	-0.18	-0.04	-0.04	037	0.29	-138
35	Patila	-0.43	0.36	0.05	0.42	0.48	-0.35	0.9	0.64	0.84	0.17	3.08
36	Amritsar	-0.8	0.53	-0.25	0.21	03	-1.54	0	1.05	0.84	0.27	0.61
37	Tran-Taran	-0.89	-0.14	-0.64	0.88	0.08	-1.69	0.23	201	0.9	0.69	1.43
38	Rupnaggr	0.23	2.58	178	-0.84	07	0.68	-0.43	05	0.83	-0.38	5.65
39	Sasnagar	-0.71	1.33	106	-147	07	111	-0.06	0.77	088	0.66	4.27
40	Sangrur	0.44	-0.16	-0.76	0.49	-0.25	-0.97	0.91	-281	0.84	0.88	-139
41	Barnala	0.89	-0.37	-1.4	-0.68	0.09	-0.55	1.13	-21	0.92	0.55	-152

Census of India; 2011 (Compiled by Scholar

The value of 'composite Z score' so obtained was classified into three categories. It is assumed that the value falling more than 1.5 considered as status of high level condition while the value falling in between minus -3 to plus 1.5 represents the medium level condition and the values minus -3 and below considered as low level condition of a district respectively in Punjab-Haryana Plain. Finally, maps were prepared with the help of Arc GIS (Arc map 10.2) and tables were drawn to interpret and analyze the results.

Socio-Economic Condition

Studies on socio-economic condition have been become an important focus for geographers and researchers in the 21th century. The level of socio-economic condition among female headed households is marked by striking regional variations in rural Punjab- Haryana Plain. A wide range of variation in 'composite z scores' has been obtained on the basis of selected indicators in rural Punjab Haryana Plain. It varies from a maximum of 7.19 as recorded by Kapurthala district to minimum of -10.42 as witnessed by Mewat district. As already mentioned earlier, to describe the regional variations in level of socio-economic condition of female headed households in rural Punjab-Haryana Plain following three types of areas have been identified.

Regions of high level of socio-economic condition

The districts with the value of composite Z score more than 1.5 are included in this category of regions of high level of Socio-Economic status among Female Headed Household in rural Punjab and Haryana (see table, 3.11). This category represented 13 districts of Punjab and Haryana and all are located in the North-Eastern part of Punjab-Haryana plain except Yamunanagar district. The highest level of Socio-Economic status has been recorded in Kapurthala district with a Composite score of 7.19 followed by Ambala and Panchkula. The lowest value of Composite Z score 1.53 under this category can be seen in districts of Gurgaon. It may be noted that North-Eastern sector of the study area has better transport facility, high level of urbanization, better economic condition and influence by Punjabi culture as compared to western part. This is also reflected the level of socio- economic condition of Female -Headed Household and quality of living space in these districts. It may also be noted that barring only Yamunanagar district, all the districts have moderate to better facility and amenities in 5 out of 10 indicators selected for the purpose, such a high value of composite Z score recorded by area of high level of socio-economic condition are mainly due to moderate better

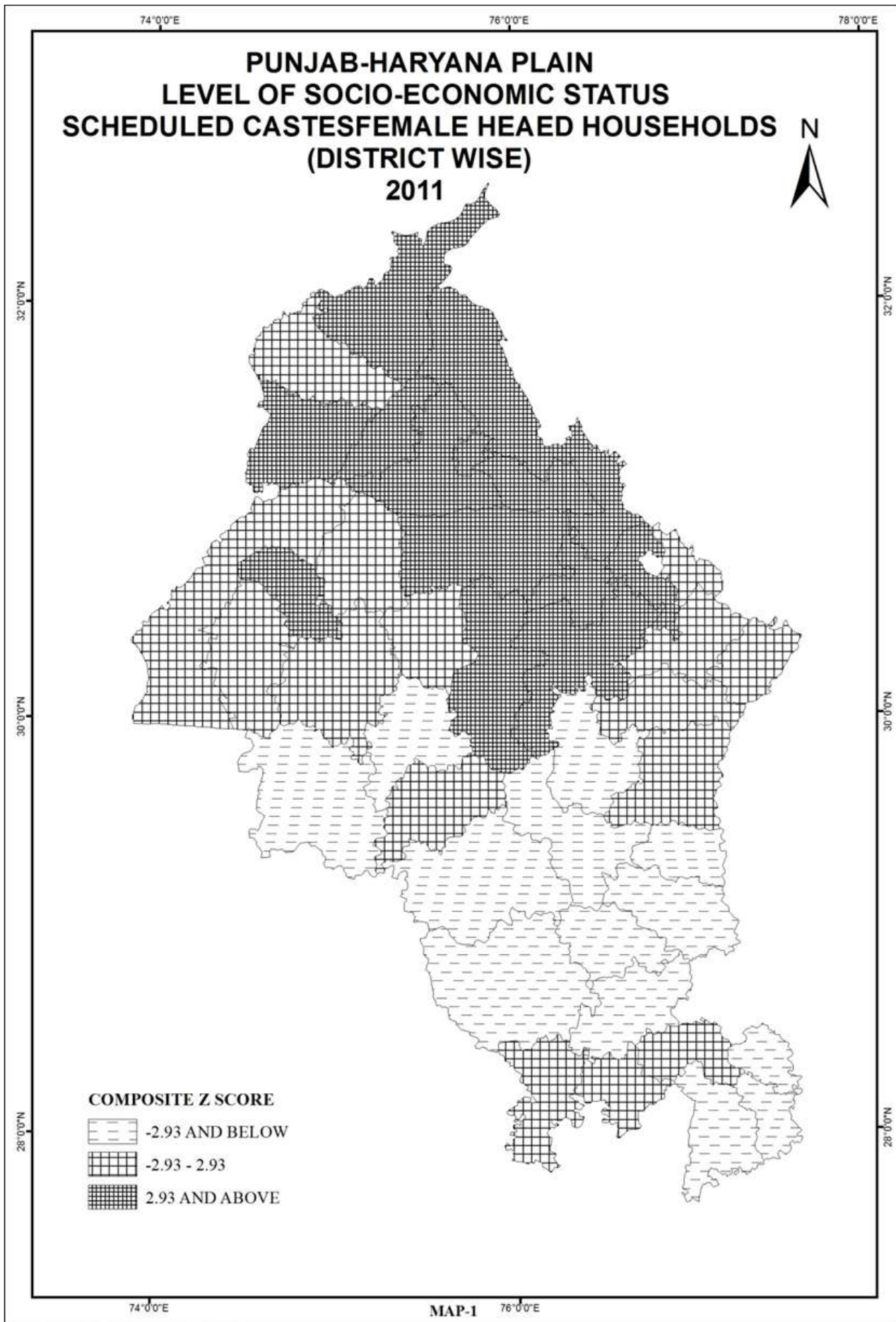
facility of kitchen inside house exclude by Yamunanagar district. Excluding Ambala and Gurdashpur district of good condition of wall material like burnt brick is observed all the districts in this category along with these districts Hoshiarpur, Kapurthala, Jalandhar, and SBS Nagar also come under this category of high level of socio- economic condition among Female Headed Holds in rural Punjab-Haryana plain.

Region of moderate level of socio-economic condition

The districts that have recorded Composite Z score ranging from (-3 to 1.5) are included under this category. The moderate level of Socio-economic status is observed in the central part and southern part of the study area. The moderate level of Socio-Economic status recorded by Amritsar (0.61 per cent), Tarn-Taran (1.43 per cent), Faridkot (0.91 per cent) and Sonapat (-2.54 per cent), Faridabad (-3.34 per cent), Jind (-3.4). All the districts in this category located in the western Punjab and South Haryana which is socio-economically less developed than the eastern part of the study area with a composite score of Tarn-Taran (1.43 per cent) tops in this category. The district regards to no. of dwelling rooms and moderate better with Latrine facility, Permanent house and floor material cement. Mahendragarh followed by Rewari and Gurgaon which has better facilities and amenities in the Female Headed hold such as floor material and no. of dwelling room and moderate better such as permanent house, drinking water, Latrine facility and facility of mobile.

Regions of low level of socio-economic condition

A Composite Z score with negative values ranging from -3 and below included in this category. Only 8 districts mainly Mewat (-10.42), Sirsa (-9.07), Hisar (-4.49), Kaithal (-4.2), Jind (-3.84), Ferozepur (-3.34) and Faridabad (-3.34), Fatehabad (3.26) fall under this category (see table; 3.11) Mewat and Faridabad districts are located in the extreme south-eastern part whereas Sirsa, Fatehabad, Ferozpur districts are located in north-western part of the study area. It may also be noted that Mewat, Faridabad districts are marked with high proportion of Muslims in its population likewise in Sirsa, Fatehabad and Ferozpur districts from a significant proportion of scheduled caste, largely engaged in agricultural sector. In general, the standard of living among female-headed households are very poor in these districts. It can be seen that except Faridabad all the districts are relatively less urbanized and marked with low female literacy rate. None of the indicators could attain Z score.



Source: Censes of India, 2011
Administrative Atlas Punjab and Haryana

Fig 1: Punjab-Haryana Plan Level of Socio-Economic Status Scheduled Castes Female head households (District Wise) 2011

Conclusion

It is concluded that a relatively good socio-economic condition among female headed households is observed in Northern part of Punjab-Haryana Plain, due to Punjabi cultural better economic facilities, high level of urbanization, female literacy rate is high and good economic condition in general people. On the other hand, low level of status of female headed households is witnessed in extreme southern and middle part of study area. The extreme south part of study area are report worst condition with regard to status of among female headed households. It may be that this part represents the most backward space in term of development in Punjab-Haryana plain. Low level of urbanization, overall standard of living is poor, widespread illiteracy rate and large size of occupancy unit characterize in this area.

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