

SOCIO ECONOMIC STATUS OF MARGINAL FARMERS: A CASE STUDY OF ROHTAK DISTRICT OF HARYANA

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Introduction

Agriculture plays an important role in economic development of any economy and India is no exceptions in this regard. Agriculture is the lifeblood of Indian economy. India is predominantly an agriculture- based country with nearly three-fourth of its population living in the rural area. It contributes significantly to the country's gross value added and the sector has been growing rapidly. There is general feeling that Indian cultivators have been adopting modern technology to raise the growth rates in the agriculture sector of the economy.

Agriculture is also the main stay of the people of Haryana. The vast majority of rural people in the Haryana depend primarily upon this crop. Haryana's agricultural economy is overwhelmingly a food economy. The state of Haryana has also registered a considerable change in agricultural production during last different phases of green revolution. Area, yield and production increased almost all districts of Haryana states.

T.S. Rao discuss in the paper "Financing disadvantaged farmers in India" that a category usually called "uneconomic" or "sub marginal" farmers. The term "sub-marginal" farmers appears to be inappropriate in the Indian context. The concept of "margin" in economics, is related to a particular conjuncture of time and circumstances such as prices, conditions of supply and demand and states of technique, so that what is "marginal" activities in any sector of the economic at one time and under one set of circumstances would be sub-marginal or supra- marginal under different conditions. There should be nothing like a permanent "sub-marginal" sector in the rest of the economy, since such a sector should sooner or later cease to operate. Since a substantial part of the Indian agricultural

economy continues to operate for fairly long periods of time on a "deficit" basis, it would be rather odd to call it "sub-marginal. In matter of food it was a deficient state, Haryana is basically a land of marginal farmers. Major part of the state and specially the southern parts i.e. Jhajjar, Gurgaon, Faridabad, Rewari, Mohindergarh etc. are semi-desert. These districts were not only food deficite but totally rain dependent. The land holdings of these districts measured about 2 acre on an average.

After separation of Haryana, its Govt. of the day took special care to create infrastructure, like provision of electricity, roads, canal and tube-well irrigation to southern Haryana. Haryana became a truly surplus state in matter of food. Haryana has major role to provide to central food pool. In this achievement the role of marginal farmers is creditable. It is actually the achievement of the marginal farmers of Haryana. Socio-economic conditions reflect the quality of life of the society as a whole as well as that of its constituents. The major components of socio-economic life of the people in any society are the level of per capita income, income pattern, consumption and saving pattern, housing conditions, level of literacy, attitude towards marriage, sex ratio and position of women. Major components of Socio- economic conditions of a household or a set of households are levels of income, pattern of income distribution, pattern of consumption expenditure, nature and pattern of asset distribution housing conditions, level of literacy, sex ratio, political and health care consciousness and positions of women etc. On the relevance of above discussion, this study takes only one objective that is to know the socio economics conditions of marginal farmer in Rohtak district of Haryana.

Research Methodology

A brief description about the selection of nature, sources, method of data collection and analytical techniques used during the research are given below:

The nature of data of this paper is qualitative. It is based on the primary data sources. The primary data sources are collected from Rohtak district of Haryana. In the present paper, suitable techniques of analysis such as tables, percentage and average etc are used for analyzing the data.

Socio Economic Conditions of Marginal Farmers

Socio Economic conditions of marginal farmers may be explained with the help of following variables.

3.1 Caste Structure of Marginal Farmers

3.2 Characteristics of the Occupied Houses 3.3 Land Position of Marginal Farmers

3.4 Position of irrigation land (Land in acres)

3.5 Average Value and Composition of Income of Marginal Farmers

3.1 Caste Structure of Marginal Farmers

Table 1. shows the cast structure of marginal farmers in Rohtak. Table shows that district records different cast structure among the marginal farmers from Jat community, followed by Ahir and Brahmins caste. It is concluded that the marginal farmers are in the district from every community or caste.

Table-1: Caste Structure of Marginal Farmers Percentage wise

Sr. No.	Caste	District Rohtak
1.	Brahmin	15
2.	Rajpoot	20
3.	Punjabi	3
4.	Ahir	0
5.	Jat	54
6.	B.C.	1
7.	S.C.	7
	Total	100

Source: Field Survey

3.2 Characteristics of the Occupied Houses

Table 2 brings out the effort to make research in to study of Kutcha and Pucca houses of Rohtak through the field visits in district. In Rohtak, 98 percent are houses are Pucca, Same are the case in electrified and un-electrified houses, where district having 91% electrified houses and 09 percent un electrified house is at top. However the situation is opposite in case of the study about independent and shared houses, whereas district having 97% independent houses and 3 % shared houses is the lowest. In case of separate bathroom, Rohtak scores 36%. In separate kitchen, the percentage of Rohtak is 50%. In a nut shell, one can conclude that as is clear from the research and the table, just district is in at a not better platform with Rohtak.

Table-2: Characteristics of the occupied houses.

Sr. No.	Description	Rohtak (%)
1.	Kutcha	2
2.	Pucca	95
	Both	3
3.	Electrified (yes)	91
4.	Electrified (no)	9
5.	Independent	97
6.	Shared	3
7.	Separate bathroom	36
8.	Separate kitchen	39
9.	Parental constructed	65
	Self constructed	28
	Both constructed	5
10.	Air provision	0
	Light provision	0
	Both	48
	Not provision	52
	Total	100

Source: Field Survey

3.3 Land Position of Marginal Farmers

Table 3 shows that owned land position of marginal farmers in Rohtak district. Village-wise different numbers of marginal farm households are selected from different villages. According to the total numbers of marginal-farm households, village Kahni and Lahli recorded highest per household owned (2 acre) followed by village some other villages. It is clear from the table that different villages have different average of owned land position in rural Rohtak. The owned land position of marginal farmers in rural Rohtak is between 1.00 acre to 2.00 acre.

Table- 3: Land position of marginal farmers

Sr. No.	Name of the villages	Size of land
1.	Ghilour Khurd	1.83
2.	Kahni	2
3.	Madina Gindhran	1.33
4.	Krishan Garh	1.55
5.	Khairari	1.77
6.	Lahli	2
7.	Atail	1.4
8.	Ismaila	1.4

Source: Field Survey

3.4 Position of irrigation land (Land in acres)

Table 4 attempts to find out the position of irrigation of land in Rohtak especially related to marginal farmers. It is clear from the above table that 100% irrigation is there in the It is also important to know that total land leased in and leased out, mortgaged in and mortgaged out is also 100% irrigated in the district.

Table-4: Position of irrigation land (Land in acres)

Districts	Net land under cultivation	Irrigated land	% of irrigate land
Rohtak	2.29	2.29	100%

Source: Field Survey

Average Value and Composition of Income of Marginal Farmers

Table 5 shows the level and composition of average income or mean value of income per household in Rohtak. An average marginal farm household income is Rs.27643 in the district. District Rohtak has per- household income (Rs. 27643.6). It is clear from the table that farm business income accounts highest proportion in district. It is clear from the same table that major source of income of marginal farmers in the district is farm business.

Table-5: Average Value and Composition of Income of Marginal Farmers

Sr. No.	Items	Rohtak
1.	Income from farm business	1588.62
2.	Income from dairy products	6489
3.	Income from agriculture	1046
4.	Non-farm income	4222
	Total income	27643.62

Source: Field Survey

Conclusion

The paper show the socio economics conditions of marginal farmer in Rohtak district of Haryana with the help of Caste Structure of Marginal Farmers, Characteristics of the Occupied Houses, Land Position of Marginal Farmers, Position of irrigation land (Land in acres) and Average Value

and Composition of Income of Marginal Farmers. It is concluded that district records different cast structure among the marginal farmers from Jat community, followed by Ahir and Brahmins cast. 98 percent are houses are Pucca, Same are the case in electrified and un-electrified houses, where district having 91% electrified houses and 09 percent unelectrified house is at top. Different villages have different average of owned land position in rural Rohtak. Owned land position of marginal farmers in rural Rohtak is between 1.00 acre to 2.00 acre. 100% irrigation is there in the It is also important to know that total land leased in and leased out, mortgaged in and mortgaged out is also 100% irrigated in district. An average marginal farm household income is Rs.27643 in the district.

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