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This volume is a compilation of research works on deprivation as reflected in various forms of inequality, poverty and development. The socio-economic targets and goals of MDGs (SDGs at present) discussed here are some of the important areas which need to be looked into by the researchers of social sciences. Therefore, it will be a valuable acquisition to the scholars and students in these areas.

Utpal Kumar De
Manoranjan Pal

Development and Deprivation
in the Indian Subcontinent


Development and Deprivation in the Indian Subcontinent

This volume is a compilation of research works on deprivation as reflected in various forms of inequality, poverty and inclusive development. It is a must read for the researchers in social sciences.

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Manoranjan Pal**



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Edited: Utpal Kumar De & Manoranjan Pal

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Preface

This volume is not just a compilation of some papers on the concerned aspects of deprivation as reflected in various forms of inequality, poverty and development. The papers included in this volume address a number of issues related to some important aspects of MDGs namely inequality, poverty, and inclusive development with various socio-economic dimensions.

Poverty is not just an indicator of income deprivation. In the current development paradigm it is considered as an acute case of capability deprivation and multidimensional in nature. It has however been reflected in the studies of the researchers that there is no such straightforward relationship between Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) and official income/consumption-based poverty estimates. Inequality in various spheres including employment opportunities, earning, allocation of productive factors, distribution of resources and access to capital is detrimental to achieving inclusive development in the society.

The book addresses wide number of issues including socio-political aspects of poverty and inequality, financial inclusiveness, poverty and inequality at regional level, Socio-Political interface and society's role in sustainable resource use and management for sustainable socio-economic development.

It tries to introduce the readers with some main issues and fundamental questions of poverty, inequality and inclusive development, role of institutions, and socio-political perspectives of development in Indian sub-continent with a special focus on North-East India.

Besides introducing some new questions on financial inclusiveness in development, regional inter and intra sectoral analysis sophisticated tools have been used like Spatial correlation-regression to analyse regional variation, cointegration, vector autoregression, panel data technique like fixed and random effect models to address the socio-economic complexities, society's role in sustainable resource use and development along with an analysis of penetration index in ICT. Also,

role of largest rural development scheme of MGNREGA, Self-help group in India in socio-economic development have also been highlighted. It is to be noted that the views expressed in the papers are exclusively the views of the authors and not of the editors.

There is a dearth of books on deprivation, poverty, inequality and entrepreneurship and socio-political issues addressing together for Indian subcontinent and North-East India, in particular. This book addresses those issues with a special focus on North-East and Eastern India. Also financial inclusion and assessments of MGNREGA, SHG have got attention. The research outputs presented here will also help the planners, politicians and the social workers.

Utpal Kumar De
Manoranjan Pal

Foreword

The concept of “Development and Deprivation” is an important and timely topic for discussion. It is also highly relevant for Indian sub-continent, particularly for North-Eastern part of India which is comparatively underdeveloped part of India as this region seems to suffer from deprivation in many aspects until last decade of the previous century.

Deprivation can be measured as the impact of lack of income and other financial, non-income and physical resources, which can cause income and non-income poverty. The deprivation has four major dimensions, namely the economic, social, political and cultural needs of people. It can be measured by Human Poverty Index (HPI) as devised by United Nations Development Programme’s (UNDP) and achievements of MDGs and SDGs.

The book entitled “Development and Deprivation in the Indian Sub-Continent” by Utpal Kumar De and Manoranjan Pal attempts to examine several important issues such as poverty, inequality, financial inclusiveness, and role of institutions, entrepreneurship and other socio-political perspectives of inclusive development in Indian sub-continent with a special focus on North- East India. As there are very few books in these areas covering North-East and Eastern India, this book will contribute significantly to the literature on deprivation and development with recent data analysis on these topics.

Furthermore, the authors of the chapters utilize advanced techniques and quantitative methods to analyze secondary and primary data. Besides introducing some new questions on financial inclusiveness in development; regional, inter and intra sectoral analysis, sophisticated tools have been used such as Spatial correlation-regression techniques to analyse regional variation, co-integration, vector auto regression, panel data techniques like fixed and random effect models to address the socio-economic complexities, society’s role in sustainable resource use and development along with an analysis of penetration index in Information and Communication Technology (ICT). Also, the roles of the largest rural development scheme, namely MGNREGA along

with the role of Self-help groups in India towards socio-economic development have also been taken into consideration in some chapters.

The book is divided into four parts, namely: 1. Poverty, Development and Financial Inclusion, 2. Poverty and Inequality, 3. Entrepreneurship, Development and Deprivation and 4. Socio-Political Issues of Development and Inequality.

In Part-1 , Ashok, Nair and Kharlukhi examine the nature and extent of financial inclusion and region specific constraints in expanding institutional credit in the North-Eastern region of India. The relationship between deficit financing, crowding out and economic growth in Bangladesh is also examined by Banerjee, Siddique and Amin with the help of time series cointegration and vector autoregression techniques. Chapter 3 addresses three issues - the level of concentration; inter regional and state-wise differences; the impact on sectoral performance - in the distribution of priority sector advances over the period from 2000 to 2013 in India. The other chapters of the section address issues related to the role of financial inclusion, micro finance and MGNREGA in poverty reduction.

Studies include in Part 2, highlighted the behaviour of absolute and relative levels of living explaining the true picture of poverty in India and North-Eastern states. The other issues covered in this part are the (1) achievement of women in the context of Gender Empowerment Measure, (2) role of gender inequality in human development, (3) ways of capacity building among the women, and (4) economic inequality between the native and non-native groups by using Lorenz Curve and Gini Index on consumption expenditure. Also the role of information technology in development and informal sector along with education is analysed from the perspective of poverty reduction.

Part 3 includes studies on various entrepreneurial activities and socio-economic measures in the light of deprivation and inclusive development in various zones of Indian sub-continent. Various socio-political issues in inequality and development are presented through different case studies in Part 4. The role of institutions in addressing deprivation, inequality and development has also been highlighted in a number of studies.

The book therefore addresses a wide number of issues including socio-political aspects of poverty and inequality, financial inclusiveness, poverty and inequality at regional level, agriculture-environment interface and socio-economic development, which will certainly benefit the researchers, other readers and policy makers. I congratulate the authors and the editors for producing a very useful, timely and important book in the area of deprivation and economic development and wish them all the success.

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Manoranjan Pal is currently a Professor in the Economic Research Unit (ERU) of the Indian Statistical Institute (ISI), Kolkata. At the institute, besides teaching graduate and postgraduate courses, he is also engaged in carrying out projects of the Government of India and other organizations, while also guiding doctoral students. He was the Head of the ERU and Professor-In-Charge of Social Sciences Division (SSD) of the ISI. He worked as Member Secretary, Board of Directors, International Statistical Education Centre (ISEC), Kolkata, for more than 10 years starting from February 1999. Prof. Pal has held the post of a Visiting Professor at many international institutions. He has published more than 100 papers in reputed national and international journals and books. His research interests include the measurement of poverty, inequality and segregation, applied econometrics, health and nutrition and so on. Professor Pal's name is included in the World 2013 Pearl Anniversary Edition in Marquis Who's Who, inclusion in which is limited to those individuals who have demonstrated outstanding achievement in their own fields of endeavour.

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Abbreviations

AAY: Antodaya Yojana
ADF: Augmented Dicky-Fuller
AGAB: Amar Ghar Amar Bari
ALB: Average Loan Balance
ANBC: Adjusted Net Bank Credit
AOI: Amount of Debt
AP: Annapurna Yojana
APL: Above Poverty Line
ARDL: Auto-Regressive Distributed Lag
BNT: Basic Needs Theory
BPL: Below Poverty Line
CAGR: Compound Annual Growth Rate
CGAP: Cumulative Group of Assisting Poor
CPI: Consumer Price Index
CSO: Central Statistical Office
CSR: Corporate Social Responsibility
CUSUM: Cumulative Sum
CUSUMSQ: Cumulative Sum of Squares
DMB: Deposit Money Bank
EDP: Entrepreneurship Development Program
FAO: Food and Agriculture Organization
FCI: Food Corporation of India
FICCI: The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry
FIG: Food Insecurity Gap
GCA: Gross Cropped Area
GDP: Gross Domestic Product
GI: Gini Index
GIA: Gross Irrigated Area
GOI: Government of India
GLC: Ground Level Credit
GNI: Gross National Income
GNH: Gross National Happiness
GNP: Gross National Product
HDR: Human Development Report
HPI: Human Poverty Index

HYV: High Yielding Variety
IAY: Indira Awas Yojana
ICDS: Integrated Child Development Services
ICESCR: International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
ICICI: Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India
ICT: Information and Communication Technology
IDS: Institute of Development Studies
IIE: Indian Institute of Enterprises
ILO: International Labour Organization
IOI: Incident of Indebtedness
IT: Information Technology
ITC: Indian Tobacco Company
JLG: Joint Liability Groups
JSI: Janani Suraksha Yojana
KPSS: Kwiatkowski-Phillips-Schmidt-Shin
KVIC: Khadi & Village Industries Commissions
LC: Lorenz Curve
LIC: Life Insurance Corporation of India
LSDV: Least Squares Dummy Variables
MDG: Millennium Development Goals
MDM: Mid-Day Meal
MFI: Micro-Finance Institution
MGNREGA: Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act
MGNREGS: Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme
MMR: Maternal Mortality Ratio
MPCCE: Monthly Per Capita Cereal Consumption Expenditure
MPCE: Monthly Per Capita Expenditure
MPHE: Monthly Per Capita Health Expenditure
MPI: Multivariate Poverty Index
MRP: Mixed Reference Period
MSME: Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
NAB: Number of Active Borrowers
NABARD: National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development
NCAER: National Council of Applied Economic Research
NDP: Net Domestic Product
NEI: North-East India
NER: North-Eastern Region
NGO: Non-Government Organization

NPA: Non-Performing Asset
NREGA: Same as MGNREGA
NREGS: Same as MGNREGS
NSDP: Net State Domestic Product
NSIC: National Small Industries Corporation
NSSO: National Sample Survey Office
OBC: Other Backward Class
OER: Open Education Resource
OLS: Ordinary Least Squares
OPHI: Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiation
PAB: Program Approval Board
PCI: Per-Capita Income
PDS: Public Distribution System
PFB: Percentage of Female Borrowers
PG: Poverty Gap
PGI: Poverty Gap Index
PHR: Poverty Head Count Ratio
PI: Penetration Index
PMJDY: Pradhan Mantri Jana Dhan Yojana
PPP: Public Private Partnership
RBI: Reserve Bank of India
RFE: Ratio to Female Enrolment
RGB: Ratio of Girls to Boys
RPHC: Rural Primary Health Centre
RRB: Regional Rural Bank
SBI: State Bank of India
SC: Scheduled Castes
SDG: Sustainable Development Goals
SDP: State Domestic Product
SDP: Skill Development Program
SEPI: Software Export Processing Zone
SEZ: Special Economic Zone
SFIG: Squared Food Insecurity Gap
SGSY: Swarnajayanti Gram Swarajgar Yojana
SHG: Self Help Group
SIDBI: Small Industry Development Bank of India
SLI: Standard of Living Index
SPGI: Squared Poverty Gap Index
ST: Scheduled Tribes

STP: Software Technology Parks
TSC: Total Sanitation Scheme
UDHR: Universal Declaration of Human Rights
UGC: University Grants Commission
UIDAI: Unique Identification Authority of India
UN: United Nations
UNDP: United Nations Development Project
VAR: Vector Auto-Regressive
VECM: Vector Error Correction Model
VIF: Variance Inflation Factor
WB: World Bank
YPHE: Yearly Per Capita Health Expenditure

Introduction

Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) are the stepping stones of developmental efforts in the new millennium. It sets 8 goals to be achieved by the end of 2015. The eight MDGs have been substituted by seventeen Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with specific targets to be achieved over the next 15 years, i.e., by 2030.

In this volume, we concentrate on the two aspects of these Goals, namely poverty and inequality. Special thrust is given on financial inclusion, agricultural and environmental perspectives. Research papers had been invited from researchers from India and some other countries for the purpose of editing a volume on these topics. The papers are then reviewed and shortlisted on the basis of the quality and relevance to the topics of the volume.

Amelioration of extreme poverty and reduction in inequality come in the forefront of MDGs' declaration. So far as amelioration of poverty is concerned, a significant reduction in the percentage of population living under poverty has already been achieved in India. Incidence of poverty in India came down from about 51% in 1990-91 to 37% in 2004-05 and thereafter to an overall figure of 22% in 2011-12. The head count ratios of rural and urban India were about 26% and 14% respectively. Though a remarkable progress has been achieved so far, there are more than 250 million people living below the poverty line of which more than 200 million are in rural areas. Still now 1 in every 5 persons in India is well below the national poverty line.

Across the countries in the world, progress is commendable. According to the most recent estimates, in 2011, about 17 per cent of the people in the developing world live below \$1.25 income a day. That's significantly lower than 43 per cent figure of 1990. This means that, in 2011, just over one billion people lived on less than \$1.25 a day, as compared with 1.91 billion in 1990.

Apart from the significant improvement in the form of poverty reduction in both rural and urban areas, there is significant rural-urban variation in achievement across the states. The rural urban gap in poverty ratio varied from 1 per cent in UP to 29 per cent in Mizoram

during 2011-12. Also, there is a significant variation in male female poverty ratio. We have to search for ways and means to tackle the issues of inequality to improve the welfare across all sections of the society.

Quality of environment is also directly and indirectly linked with the growth process. Thus achieving sustainable progress is another target and remains elusive. In terms of reduction in pollution, carbon dioxide emission, deforestation etc India is far behind the expectations. The growth of agricultural production has been decelerated substantially in recent decades and whatever institutional attempts have been undertaken, the benefits do not reach to all sections of the society.

From the above discussion it is clear that we could not achieve the MDGs in all targets and there are also significant spatial variations. Thus it is high time we review our achievements and lapses incurred in comparison with the targets of the MDGs.

We hope that the readers of the volume will be highly benefitted and be encouraged to do further studies to meet up the gaps which still remain. The research outputs presented here will also help the planners, politicians and the social workers.

We divided the volume into four Parts - 1. Poverty, Development and Financial Inclusion, 2. Poverty and Inequality, 3. Entrepreneurship, Development and Deprivation, and 4. Socio-Political Issues of Development and Inequality. There are 7, 6, 5 and 6 numbers of papers included in the respective categories.

The first Chapter of Part-1 by Ashok, Nair and Kharlukhi examined the nature and extent of financial inclusion or exclusion in the North-Eastern region of India. The region specific constraints in expanding reach of institutional credit in this region have also been analyzed. Finally, the progress of financial inclusion initiatives and innovations like micro credit, BC/BF, JLGs, FPOs, PMJDY, and a few suggestions to improve financial inclusion process; thereby, aid to the development of this region have been included.

The second Chapter examines the relationship between deficit financing, crowding out and economic growth in Bangladesh by using time series (cointegration and vector autoregression techniques) analysis. No long term relationship between government borrowing

from bank and private investment in Bangladesh is observed. However, a short term positive relationship exists, implying the crowding in effect of development that has important implications.

In Chapter 3 of the section, George and Suresh examine three issues - the level of concentration; inter regional and state-wise differences; the impact on sectoral performance - in the distribution of priority sector advances over the period from 2000 to 2013 in India. The findings reveal significant differences in distribution; in the impact of the loans upon sectoral performances; and in concentration of the funds flow, across sub sectors, regions and states in the priority sector lending activities of scheduled commercial banks over the study period. Sector-wise financial flow is examined statistically. These evidences call for setting up of location specific targets and modified clustered approaches instead of the existing classifications in the lending program in India.

Chapter 4 explains the urgency of financial inclusion of poor and the role of financial inclusion in poverty reduction. It then presents trends and patterns of financial inclusion of rural poor in India as well as their nature and characteristics and the role of microfinance in strengthening financial inclusion. Furthermore, the chapter analyzes the nature, characteristics and determinants of financial inclusion of urban poor in Pune, a large city of India based on a household survey at an identified slum area. Empirical findings of the survey include the socio-economic characteristics and banking behaviour of households. The paper identifies the major determinants of the level of financial inclusion using a multiple regression model of the socio-economic characteristics of the households. Chapter 5 tries to examine the relation between participation of poor in the microfinance programmes on the incidence of poverty using a set of panel data from 92 countries in the world. The study finds a favourable impact on poverty reduction of the microfinance participation while the relation is found to be weak in case of women empowerment indicators. In Chapter 6 however Tithi Bose and Archita Ghosh tries to find out the efficacy of MGNREGA in alleviating poverty in West Bengal. Household level studies in two districts of West Bengal have been undertaken for the purpose. Econometric analysis of the household level data from two districts of West Bengal reveals that beside a few social factors, political patronage plays a vital role in generating benefits of MGNREGA. Economic factors have almost no role in the whole process.

Nidhi Ganguly, in Chapter 7 critically examines the impact of MGNREGA works and its seasonality on the agriculture of the North-Eastern states of India. The paper shows unrealized potential of the programme to be tapped effectively without adversely affecting the agricultural activities in the region.

Under Part 2, Chapter 8 throws some light on the behaviour of absolute and relative levels of living and examines how these two explain the true picture of poverty reduction in India and its major constituent states. In the next Chapter (No 9), Das, Nath and Choudhury examine the urban poverty in Barpeta, Assam by using various standard methods. Also the paper analyses the role of various factors behind the observed incidence of poverty in the area.

The next Chapter (No 10) seeks to examine the (1) achievement of women in the context of Gender Empowerment Measure in Assam, (2) how Gender inequality plays a role in human development, and (3) the ways of accelerating capacity building among the women, particularly in Assam. The method of the paper is purely descriptive, and analytical in nature based on the extraction of the data from various secondary sources. The 11th Chapter presented the extent of economic inequality between the native and non-native groups in Assam by using Lorenz Curve and Gini Index on per capita consumption expenditure.

Chapter 12 focuses on two aspects of IT in relation to development, which have been hitherto neglected, along with the associated effects. The first aspect is the socio economic disparity as perceived in general about IT. The second is an alarmingly increasing occurrence of behavioural changes in the Indian Society as fallout of the IT boom. The study is based on the IT workers who primarily earn their living working for IT companies. Using Gini Decomposition method the authors show how inequity increases with variation in experience albeit marginal gender inequity in earning and high work stress.

Chapter 13 by Sathe and Deo gives a qualitative description of incidence of poverty of pavement dwellers in Pune and expresses that only way to discontinue the intergenerational transmission of poverty is to save from their earning in informal activities and educate the next generation.

Under Part 3, in Chapter 14, Kuntal Chakraborty analyses the contribution of small and micro enterprises in employment and income generation across North-Eastern states of India by using Panel data regression model. The main finding is that MSME sector has made significant contribution in development of entrepreneurship among the youth population of North Eastern states of India. Some states show more success due to their specific state policies like financial subsidy, SEZ etc. Next we focus on employment generation capacity of MSME sector.

Thereafter, marketed surplus generated by the milk producing farmers in Nepal and the factors affecting the production of such surplus is examined in Chapter 15. The result reveals that family size, family consumption of milk; distance and market and value addition in milk have inverse impact on such surplus.

Chapter 16 also describes the role of corporate social responsibility as an instrument for poverty alleviation. India is the first country in the world to mandate CSR in its new Companies act 2013. Under the Companies Act, 2013 a company is required to fulfil its Corporate Social Responsibilities (CSR) that includes eradicating hunger, poverty and malnutrition promoting preventive healthcare. Mandated companies have to spend 2 per cent of their net profit on social development.

Social and economic and cultural implications of development initiatives through land acquisition and displacement of people in Midnapore, West Bengal is addressed in Chapter 17. The picture depicted is worsening conditions of people due to large scale land acquisition and in the absence of proper rehabilitation and pre-project impact assessment that has a downward spiralling effect in the study area.

Chapter 18 on the other hand examines the effectiveness of various Social Protection Policies to Remove Inequality and Poverty in three Tribal Districts of West Bengal.

The Chapter 19 by Suman Chakraborty presents an investigation on the status of food security in household level and its association with some socio-economic parameters among the Rabha tribe living in fringe forest areas of northern West Bengal.

Rajyosree Roy et al. in Chapter 20 examines the performance of the fishery groups and impact of earning of Self Help Groups on

their households and threats related to this economic activity as well as social & economic empowerment of the women members of SHG. The study observes better earning potential of male SHGs than that of female. However empowerment of SHG women through training and other assistance is found to have positive impact on the SHG members; increase in self-confidence, leadership qualities and enhanced income to improve their nutrition.

Rout in Chapter 21 intends to highlight the constitutional basis for right to food and role of Indian Judiciary in development of the said right thorough various decisions. Further, the development at the international arena in this regard, the salient features and scope of the National Food Security Act, 2013 is also discussed.

In Chapter 22 Priyanka Ghosh and Chakraverti Mahajan follow a normative analysis to exhibit the varying cast structure in relation to the existing livelihood and other social activities. The study concluded that the Rajasthan village has practice of inequality based on caste and gender; and political reservation didn't bring much change, resulting in internal tensions within the village.

Chapter No 23 however examines the ongoing debate on the issue of sustainable development and role played by indigenous community in Sikkim. Further an attempt is made in this paper to validate the idea that the sustainable development should be as one which must satisfy the criteria which are not purely economical.

Sulaiman and Roy in the last chapter (No 24) provided an empirical study to explain the implication of caste structure, social hierarchy for the social inequality, which is widely prevalent in rural areas in comparison to urban areas.

The book therefore addresses wide number of issues including socio-political aspects of poverty and inequality, financial inclusiveness, poverty and inequality at regional level, agriculture-environment interface and socio-economic development that will benefit the researchers, other readers and policy makers.

Development caused Displacement on Peasants Livelihood: A Case Study from a Village of West Bengal

Arup Majumder

Abstract: Development-induced displacement has become controversial because millions of people have been displaced or deprived of their livelihood all over India in the name of greater good or national development. Those who are thus affected rarely get to decide whose good it is. However, use of agricultural land for industrialisation leads to a number of adverse socio-economic and cultural impacts in the rural societies. The district of Paschim Medinipur in West Bengal is chiefly an agro-based district where more than seventy percent of the population lives in rural area and majority of whom depends on agriculture and related activities.

In this micro-level study, we would present some empirical data on the socio-economic and cultural consequences of land acquisition for the establishment of a heavy industry (Tata Metaliks) on the fertile agricultural land in the Kharagpur subdivision of Paschim Medinipur district in the early 1990s by the West Bengal government.

The findings revealed that land acquisition, which took place about two decades ago has worsened the socio-economic condition of the affected sadgope families and the people are also making attempts to cope up with the situation by adopting various strategies, some of which have further adverse effects on their socio-economic condition. Largely, land acquisition in the absence of proper rehabilitation and pre-project impact assessment has shown a downward spiralling effect in the study area.

Keywords: Sadgope, Land acquisition, Paschim Medinipur, Development, Displacement

1. Introduction

Land acquisition in West Bengal has a special significance in the context of pro-peasant land reform policies adopted and implemented by the Left Front government in the state since it came to power in 1977. Almost all the studies conducted by the researchers on displacement in other states of India did not take into consideration the dampening effects of land acquisition on small peasants and sharecroppers, who are the real beneficiaries of land reforms.

In this study, we have undertaken a field based anthropological study among a group of peasant families in a village under Kharagpur- I Block in Paschim Medinipur district, West Bengal, regarding the effects of agricultural land acquisition on landloser families.

2. Area and the people

The villages of the study area come under the administrative jurisdiction of Kharagpur-I block of present Paschim Medinipur district. The Kharagpur-I block is situated in the western part of the district and is bounded in the north by the Kasai river. On the west and the south of the block lie the Jhargram sub-division while the Kharagpur township is located in the east. Although the two major townships of the district are situated almost in the vicinity of this block it is chiefly an agricultural area with few patches of sal forest. The area is characterized by vast open cultivable lands interspersed with village settlements connected by unmetalled roads.

According to a survey conducted by Block Development office in 1997-98 the block has an area of 201 sq. km. or 27,979.21 hectares within which 18,500 hectares are under cultivation (66.12 per cent). The same survey has also found that out of the total cultivated area at about 6,905 hectares are under more than one crop, which turns out to be 37.32 per cent of the cultivated land of the block. Total population of the block is 1,21,685 of which males outnumber females (male 62,314 and female 59,364), and there are 22,666 scheduled castes (18.62 per cent) and 29,974 (24.63 per cent) belong to scheduled tribes. Among the scheduled castes, females (11,683) outnumber males (10,983) while within the scheduled tribe population, sex ratio is in favour of males

(15,528 males and 14,448 females). Population density of the block turns out to be a little more than 605 persons per sq. km., while the average household size is slightly above 5 persons. The district statistical handbook, which is based on 1991 census data, however differs from the survey conducted by the Kharagpur-I Block Development Office. According to 1991 census figures the total population of the block had been recorded as 1, 21,659 while the area of the block was 281.94 sq. km. and this gave a population density of 432 persons per sq. km. with 268 mouzas of which 225 were inhabited (District Statistical Handbook, Medinipur 1998).

3. Methodology

The study mainly depends on direct intensive observation, interviews and collection of case studies from the villagers affected by land acquisition. The economical surveys were conducted among the households of the Gokulpur village with the help of structured and open ended questionnaire schedules.

4. Findings

The name of the village which has been studied specifically is Gokulpur and it is a multiethnic farming village. The village is situated at about 7 kms from the Medinipur town which was the District Headquarters of erstwhile Medinipur. This village is located very near to the river Kasai on the east and in the west lie the south- eastern railway track which runs between Medinipur and Kharagpur railway station.

On the east of Gokulpur, lie the village Borkola. At the south side of this village, there are Chunpara and Nimpura. In the west and north lie the villages Amba and Ajobpur respectively. Except Chunpara all the other villages that surround Gokulpur are agricultural villages in which most of the inhabitants depend on agriculture and agricultural related economic pursuits. In Gokulpur too, majority of the villagers are depended on the cultivation of paddy and various kinds of vegetables.

There are mainly two types of land in Gokulpur. They are termed as 'Jal Jami' and 'Kala Jami' in local parlance. The villagers call those lands as 'Jal Jami' which are low lying and hold water during the rainy

season, while the 'kala Jami' is located near the house sites and at higher elevations than the 'Jal Jami'. In the rainy season, people cultivate mainly paddy in the 'Jal Jami'. On the other hand, 'Kala Jami' is used for vegetable cultivation, in the winter season. In Gokulpur 48.26 per cent land belongs to the category 'jal' out of the total amount of land under cultivation. This has been calculated from the data collected by our household census survey.

Table 1: Land Type in Gokulpur

Land Type		Total
Kala Jami (in acres)	Jal Jami (in acres)	
61.89 (51.74)	57.73 (48.26)	119.62

Note: Figures in parentheses represent percentage out of column total.

Source: Authors Survey.

We would now describe the land holding pattern of the households of Gokulpur in Table 1. This table has been constructed on the basis of the two types of land ('Jal' and 'Kala') owned by the villages.

Table 2: Land Holding Pattern of the Village Before Acquisition

Size category of Landholding in Acres	Number of Household	Mean Household Size
Landless	98 (25.26)	4.50
≤ 0.5	59 (15.21)	4.38
0.5 – 1.5	87 (22.42)	4.85
1.5 – 2.5	61 (15.72)	4.15
2.5 – 3.5	27 (06.96)	4.55
3.5 – 4.5	28 (07.22)	7.28
4.5 – 5.0	10 (02.58)	9.90
5.0 +	18 (04.64)	6.67
Total	388	4.95

Note: Figures in parentheses represent percentage out of column total.

Source: Author's survey.

Table 2 reveals the nature of landholding pattern of the Gokulpur village before the acquisition of land for the Tata Metaliks Company. Land is one of the most vital life support resource for the peasant

families of this area. But that does not mean that all the families of this village owned agricultural land before the acquisition. There was about 25 percent families in the village who were landless even during the pre-acquisition period. The rest 75 per cent families owned some amount of agricultural land. The landholding pattern of these landowning families, however shows that there were fewer families (about 20 per cent) who owned 2.5 to 5.0 acres or more land. Majority of the families in this village (about 53.35 per cent) owned 0.5 to 2.5 acres of land. The highest percentage of families in a single category of land holding belongs to the cohort 0.5 to 1.5 acres of land, which is 22.42 per cent of the total number of families.

We should also look into the family size vis- a- vis the land ownership pattern in the village in order to understand the nature of dependency on land. The mean household sizes of families and their corresponding landholding categories clearly reveal a pattern. It shows that families from the landless level upto the level owning 3.50 acres of land supported 4.50 persons on an average which is also very close to the average household size of the total village. But the average household size rises to more than 7 persons as soon as the level of landholding crosses 3.50 acres and the former rises to 9 persons with a landholding of 4.5 to 5.0 acres. This relationship between household size and landholding pattern implies that it is agricultural land which held a higher number of persons in a family. The earlier study based on field surveys done in Gokulpur during 1996 (after land acquisition) also revealed the preponderance of landless and land poor families. There were 34 percent landless families and about 49.40 percent families under the landholding category (\leq 0.5- 1.5 acres) out of the 329 families (Guha, 2007). Comparing the two surveys it can be said that although there is no radical shift in the landholding pattern in the village over the 12 years but some improvement has occurred in terms of landownership of families in this village. For example, in 1996, there were 14 families owning 2.5 to 3.5 acres of land while according to 2007 survey, 27 families (out of present 388 families) were found to belong to this landholding category. On the higher side, the situation is more revealing. There were only seven families owning 3.5 to 7.5 acres of land in 1996 where as in 2007 as high as 56 families belonged to the above landholding category. Does this mean that during 1996-2007 some land

has been distributed to the villagers of Gokulpur through land reform? The household census and economic surveys conducted during 2007 in the village did not yield any case of land distribution by the Land Reforms Department of the Government. Our field interviews revealed that many families of Gokulpur purchased agricultural land and some have received land as dowry which is a very common practice among the peasant families in this area. It seems that we have to investigate in more detail regarding the improvement in landowning scenario in Gokulpur, which of course is not related directly to acquisition of land for the industry. But the improvement in the landownership pattern proves another point. The point is although the peasant families in Gokulpur are living under a constant threat of land acquisition, since many industries have come up in this area, but they are still trying to stick to their agricultural occupation through landownership.

5. Land acquisitions for Tata Metaliks

Tata Metaliks is a heavy industry, which was established within the jurisdiction of the Kalaikunda Gram panchayat during 1992. This is a pig- iron manufacturing plant which was found to produce about 290 tonnes of pig- iron per day in 1995- 96. After the establishment of Tata Metaliks, the company has built up a metal road on the western side connecting the plant with the national high way 6 in a place named Sahachawk. The south- eastern railway station line runs on the eastern side of the industry. The Kharagpur railway station is only about 5 kilometers and the Medinipur district headquarters is 7 kilometers from this place. In this connection we can recall that in his answer to a question on 1.6.1992 in the West Bengal Legislative Assembly the land and Land Reforms Minister mentioned that 217.23 acres land was acquired for the Tata Metaliks (Guha 2007, P. 85).

The land acquired for the pig- iron industry belonged to “jal some” class according to the age- old system of classification made by the Land and Land Reforms Department. The possessions on these lands were given to the company on different dates in the month of August 1991 and declaration notifications were published from November 1991 to January 1992. The Land Acquisition Department approved a rate of Rs. 20,686 per acre. The cases of Land acquisition for Tata Metaliks have shown that the Government of West Bengal desired a quick acquisition

of land for the company and that is why Act-II was employed for the said purpose (Ibid p.87).

Table 3: Pr-acquisition and Post-acquisition Agricultural Landholding Scenario of the Landloser Families in the Village

Size Category of Landholdings in Acres	Before land Acquisition	Mean Household Size	After Land Acquisition	Mean Household Size
Land less	-	-	5 (5.05)	3.60
≤ 0.5	10 (10.10)	1.90	28 (28.28)	4.21
0.5 – 1.5	38 (38.38)	3.97	39 (39.39)	6.21
1.5 – 2.5	23 (23.23)	6.80	19 (19.19)	5.16
2.5 – 3.5	17 (17.17)	7.80	03 (03.03)	9.66
3.5 – 4.5	04 (4.04)	8.20	03 (03.03)	9.33
4.5 – 5.0	-	-	1 (01.01)	14.00
5.0 +	07 (7.07)	9.40	1 (01.01)	11.00
Total	99	5.63	99	5.63

Note: Figures in parentheses represent percentage out of column total.

Source: Author's collection.

Table 3 shows pre acquisition and post acquisition agricultural land holding scenario of the landloser families in Gokulpur. After land acquisition, 5 families among the total number of 99 families became landless which constitutes 5.05 percent of the total landloser families. The families having less than 0.5 acres of land dramatically increased from 10 (10.10%) to 28 (28.28%) after land acquisition. It was noticed that even after land acquisition the number of families having 0.5-1.5 acres of land increased from 38 (38.38%) to 39 (39.39%). But, the families having 1.5-2.5 acres of land decreased from 23 (23.23%) to 19 (19.19%). Similarly a good decline was noticed in the number of families having 2.5 acres to more than 5.0 acres of land the number of families decreased from 28 (28.28%) to 8 (8.08%) after acquisition. On the other hand, the number of households within the size category 2.5- 5.0+ acres has declined from 6.53 to 4 only.

6. Socio-Economic Consequences of Land Acquisition in Gokulpur

The first and foremost consequence of land acquisition in Gokulpur conforms to the observation of Michael Cernea, which

he analytically elaborated in one of his series of publications on the “eight major risks” (i.e. landlessness, joblessness, homelessness, loss of common property, marginalization, food insecurity, mortality, social dis-articulation) involved in involuntary displacement caused by development projects all over the world (Cernea 1999). Industrialization in the liberalization decade in Kharagpur Block has undoubtedly led to dispossession of the small and marginal farmers from their principal means of production.

Table 4 Profile of Utilization of Compensation Money by Land Loser Households in the Study Area

Compensation Category in Rupees	Utilization Category							
	Purchase of Agricultural land	Purchase of Shallow Tube well	House Building/ or Repair	Domestic Consumption	Marriage of Family Members	Repayment of Loan	Bank Deposit	Business Investment
< 5000	-	10	-	21	14	07	09	02
5000-10000	-	12	-	08	08	03	06	08
10000-15000	-	14	04	12	-	01	07	-
15000-20000	-	09	06	05	-	-	06	-
20000-25000	01	04	-	02	03	-	02	-
25000-30000	-	09	04	05	02	-	05	-
30000-35000	-	01	-	01	-	-	01	-
35000-40000	02	04	01	03	-	-	03	02
40000-45000	-	01	-	01	-	-	01	-
45000-50000	-	01	01	01	-	-	01	-
50000-55000	-	02	02	02	-	-	02	-
55000-60000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
60000 <	-	08	07	08	02	-	07	-
Total	03 (3.03)	75(75.75)	25(25.25)	69(69.69)	29(29.29)	11(11.11)	50(50.50)	12(12.12)

Note: Figures in parentheses represent percentage out of column total

Source: Author's collection

We have quantified the pattern of utilization of the compensation money received by the land losers in the study village (Table 4). First, it should be mentioned that all the 99 households have received compensation. Second, all the families have utilized the compensation money in more ways than one. So, under each utilization category, any row total is a result of the addition of same household more than one time under different categories.

As a result, sum of the row total is not equal to the total number households in our sample. This gives a fair idea as to how the villagers have attempted to compensate their loss of land. The maximum number of affected households has spent some portion of the compensation money for agricultural purposes (for example, purchase of agricultural land, shallow tube wells etc.), while the second highest number of households spent some portion of the compensation money in domestic consumption. Beside these, from this table it is also evident that 50.50 per cent families deposited compensation money in the bank.

BOX 1

Murali Santra is a land loser Sadgop farmer. He inherited 8.60 acre fertile land from his father. He used to till the land with his family members and got 20,000 – 25,000 kg paddy per year. He cultivated different traditional varieties of paddy, such as *Rupsal, Patnai, Sitasal, Jota* which were usually planted in the rainy season. During the other times of the year the land remained uncultivated owing to shortage of water. The paddy yielded in this land was used to feed his family and if there was any surplus then he sold it in the market. He came to know about acquisition of the land from a notice, which came from land acquisition office of Midnapore. After receiving the notice he attended meetings but never submitted any objection in writing. After a short period of time like other farmers of Gokulpur, he agreed to give away his land with the hope that a member of his family will get a permanent job in the industry. He got a compensation Rs. 22,000/- for his 1.00 acre land (located in the Amba mouza) which was acquired for the Tata metaliks company. He saved this compensation money in the bank. His family is now undergoing through an economic as well as psychological stress. The land, which he possesses, now cannot supply food for his family throughout the year. Now he has to purchase paddy from the market for two months of the year. After the acquisition of his land he bought two ploughs and a pair of bullocks and a shallow tube well. Since the acquisition he did not take any loan from the bank, but received some economic assistance from his relatives. He also sells vegetable grown in his homestead land. He emphatically stated that the most adverse and immediate effect of land acquisition in his family was the scarcity of food and fodder for the cattle (Majumder 2007).

We would now summarise in Table 5 the scenario of occupational change that have taken place among the agricultural households of Gokulpur after acquisition.

Table 5: Changes in Occupational Pattern Among the Land loser Family Members

Occupational Pattern	Number of Family Members in pre-Acquisition Period	Number of Family Members in Post-acquisition Period
Cultivation	379 (75.19)	39 (6.99)
Vegetable business	18 (03.57)	52 (9.31)
Cultivation & vegetable business	30 (5.95)	286 (51.25)
Regular job	9 (1.78)	32 (5.73)
Contract labourers	68 (13.49)	133 (23.83)
Shopkeeper	-	16 (2.87)
Total	504 (99.98)	558 (99.98)

Note: Figures in parentheses represent percentage out of column total.

Source: Author's collection

It is evident from the above breakdown of occupation categories that the number of persons engaged in cultivation has dramatically declined after the land takeover from 75.19 percent to a meagre 6.99 percent. But interestingly enough this shift from agriculture in terms of occupation was not found to be filled in by a consequent proportional increase in regular job and/ or occupations unrelated to agriculture. In fact, a substantial number of Gokulpur villagers were found to grow vegetables in 'Kala Jami' along with cultivation of food crops in the unacquired land and the number of persons in this category have also dramatically increased from 30 to 286 which reveals the tendency of the Sadgop farmers to adapt under the situation of landlessness. Number of permanent service holders (e.g. school teachers, govt. office employees, railway employees etc.) had increased in Gokulpur but none of them got a job in the Tata factory. Among the 'contract labourers' there were a number of persons who got casual employment on daily wage in the construction works of the Tata factory, but here too, a good number of persons were found to work as agricultural daily labourers. Only one new occupation was found to emerge in the post-acquisition period and that is the category of 'shopkeeper' that includes village grocers, cycle repairing outfit and fertilizer selling shop owners.

Box 2

Gokul Choudhury is a middle aged man who inherited 0.54 acres land from his father. He has read up to class VI and his main occupation was agriculture. But after the acquisition his main occupation has become vegetable selling. He used to till his '*Jal jami*' with his family members and used to get roughly about 2800 kg paddy per year. He cultivated different traditional varieties of paddy (*Rupsal, Patnai* etc.) which are usually planted in the rainy season. He came to know about acquisition of the land from a notice, which came from land acquisition office of Midnapore. After receiving the notice he however, attended meetings organized by the villagers but never submitted any objection in writing. After a short period of time like other farmers of Gokulpur, he also had to give away his land with the hope that a member of his family will get a permanent job in the industry. He got compensation of Rs. 4000/- for 0.22 acres land (located in the Prithimpur mouza) which was acquired for the Tata Metaliks Company. His other piece of purchased land located in the Amba mouza amounted to 0.32 acres, was also acquired by the Government for the Bansal Cement Company in the year 1995. Since the rate of compensation was enhanced during the acquisition for Bansal Cement Company, he got compensation of Rs. 48,000/- for parting with this land. He saved the money in the local State Bank. The land which he possesses now cannot supply food for his family throughout the year. He has to purchase paddy from the market for 2-3 months of the year. He and his son also sell vegetables grown in his homestead land. He also opined that the most adverse and immediate effect of land acquisition in his family was scarcity of food and fodder for the cattle (Majumder 2007)

Table 6: An Over View of the Effect of Land Acquisition on the Socio- Economic Conditions Among the Villagers

Sl.	Effects of Land Acquisition	Number of Household	
1	Fully engaged in non-agricultural occupation	07 (7.07)	
2	Sold out plough and bullocks	06 (6.06)	
3	Purchased new land after acquisition by compensation money	03 (3.03)	
4	Purchase of any agricultural implement (Plough, shallow etc) after acquisition.	75 (75.75)	
5	Purchasing paddy from the market for subsistence with numbers of months	A. 1-4 months	[11.11] 11 (20.37)
		B. 5-8 months	[31.31] 31 (57.41)
		C. 9-12 months	[12.12] 12 (22.22)
6	Does not purchase paddy from market.	45 (45.45)	
		54 (54.54)	

7	Engaged in both agricultural and non-agricultural activities, before acquisition.	86 (86.86)
8	A) In pre-acquisition stage used to work in own and others agricultural land. Presently works more on others fields.	05 (5.05)
	B) Cropping pattern of vegetables has been changed.	58 (58.58)

Note: Figures in brackets represent percentage in respect to total number of landloser family
Source: Author's collection

Table 6 represents an over view of the effect of land acquisition on the socio- economic conditions among the villagers. After the land acquisition 5.05 percent are totally landless and rest 2.02 percent contain very short amount of agricultural land which is not sufficient for cultivation. So, they (7.07 %) fully engaged in non-agricultural work. Besides this 6.06 percent families sold their plough and bullocks, because some of them lost their lands and others had no sufficient land after acquisition. On the other hand this table also shows only 3.03 percent families purchased new land after acquisition by compensation money out of total land loser families. But maximum number of families purchased agricultural implements after land acquisition, i.e. 75.75 percent out of total landloser families. Because after the acquisition, their amount of agricultural land was decreased, so they try to maximize their agricultural growth with the help of agricultural implements.

7. Conclusion

The empirical field based study described in this paper revealed that macro level policies which assumed a bright prospect of development of the state through industrilisation had many adverse consequences upon the local peasantry in the long term. One of the major consequences of industrialization was the acquisition of fertile agricultural land and that had led to food insecurity to the landowners and loss of employment to landless agricultural labourers. This major consequence shows that the political slogan. Agriculture is our foundation and future lies in Industry may be self- defeating since industriallisation by land acquisition without proper rehabilitation would endanger household level food security and other adverse socio-economic consequences in the longterm.

Acknowledgement

I would like to express our gratitude to the villagers of Gokulpur and other adjoining villages for providing us valuable information on the various socio-economic aspects of their life. We also thank the office staff of the Land Acquisition Department of erstwhile Medinipur district for giving us useful information on the acquisition of land for Tata Metaliks.

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