



Social Protection and Adjusted Monetary Poverty: A Study based on NSSO Unit Level Data in the Context of the Backward Districts of West Bengal

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Abstract

This paper attempts to analyze the impact of two social protection programmes (Public Distribution System (PDS) and the Mid-Day Meal Scheme (MDM)) on poverty outcomes and on nutritional intake. Officially planning commission estimation of poverty by using Tendulkar methodology is not considered PDS-MDM adjusted poverty which is necessary to estimate actual poverty line and head count ratio (HCR). In this paper a simple methodology is taken into account for examining the impact of food-based transfers by including the implicit transfers from these schemes along with generating consumption expenditure estimates consistent with the transfers by help of Social Protection Index (SPI). SPI is the poverty line deflated ratio of total social protection expenditures to total potential beneficiaries. The SPI assesses the depth and breadth of each of these programs and their distributional impact across social castes.

In this work we exercise uni-dimensional measures of poverty. This study also analyses adjusted poverty ratio and food security by help of these two social protection programmes and they can significantly reduce the prices of essential cereals.

The data used in this work are collected from the NSSO 68th round unit level Consumption Expenditure Survey, 2011-12 for three backward district of West Bengal viz., Paschim Medinipur, Bankura and Purulia.

Key Words: Social protection, Monetary poverty, Adjusted Poverty, Adjusted Food Security

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