

The Impact of the Non-Farm Sector on Poverty Reduction and Gender Disparities in India, 1983-99

Abstract

In this paper, we investigate whether and how the growth in nonfarm sector may have been responsible for the observed increase in agricultural earnings during the time span of 1983-99. Is it mostly the agricultural productivity increase or is it the growth in non-agricultural sectors through the creation of employment opportunities? We also examine the role of education and the differential impact of the growth process on women.

Our findings suggest that the contribution of the nonfarm sector has been limited with the exceptions of Haryana and Kerala. It is likely that it is the growth of agricultural productivity that has played a major role in raising agricultural wages and thus reducing poverty. The non-farm sector has primarily benefitted the young and literate. Women have not directly gained from employment opportunities in non-farm sectors.

SPEAKERS

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TOPIC

: The Impact of the Non-Farm Sector on
Poverty Reduction and Gender Disparities in
India: 1983-99.

DATE & TIME

: Tuesday, 8th February 2005 at 3.30 p.m.

VENUE

: Seminar Hall, Madras School of Economics

All are invited

CHENNAI
03.02.2005

Sunder Ramaswamy