

## WOMEN CONTRIBUTION IN AGRICULTURE SECTOR: AN ECONOMIC ANALYSIS IN HARYANA STATE

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### ABSTRACT

In past few years, various beliefs and assumption about rural economy have changed due to growing body of evidence on female's contribution in agriculture and allied activities. There is now wide awareness and recognition of their participation in various economic activities. Rural women play a significant role in domestic, socio-economic life and agriculture sector. The economic development of a country is not possible without growing this important and substantial segment of our society. The result of the paper explained that the category wise (agricultural labourer and agricultural cultivator) classification of population in Haryana. The results reveal that 65.2 percent population exists in a rural area in which 53.1 percent and 46.8 percent has been noticed male and female respectively. The percentage share of the agricultural working population to total working population in Haryana had been increased from 2001 to 2011 was 15.3 percent to 17.1 percent. The ratio of male and female of the laborers working had been increased from 12.6 percent to 15.3 from 2001 to 2011. The multidimensional contribution of rural women, in terms of time and efforts, is not minor of less than of men in any way. However, this is widely unpaid, home based, and therefore not visible. This input has not considered as an input while, formulating policies and programs for rural women.

**KEYWORDS:** Agriculture, Cultivator, Contribution, Labourer, Activities.

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### INTRODUCTION: -

Agriculture is the largest sector of the rural economy in the developing countries. Agriculture is an engine for growth where it is a main occupation of the people. Economic security of India heavily depends on agriculture because 58.2 percent population directly or indirectly employed in the agricultural sector. Women in India are the backbone of the society and important human resources in the economy. They make fruitful economic contribution in the agriculture and rural economy. Indian rural women are extensively involvement in agricultural activities. However, the nature and extent of their insolvent differs with the variations in agro- production system. The female participation in agricultural activities varies with the land-owning status of farm households. Broadly, their contribution to social- economic development has two fold in the home and outside the home. In the home, women's roles as a daughter, wife and mother cannot be underestimated. In a family, a woman as a caretaker of the members of the family attends to food requirements. Women are also the first teacher and the training imparted by her to the child forms the basis of future skills formation among the work forces. Outside the home, women take active part and work with male in the agriculture sector. Female is engaged in seeding, planting, weeding, irrigating, processing, harvesting and threshing operations. The dual role of women in the home and outside the home leads to a significant contribution in real terms of the productive system. But throughout the world, rural women have been under represented in the development process. The male dominated society has not recognized their valuable contributions. The unique features of the female participation throughout India is that they are

workers, labourers, cultivators, producers beside performing all household activities which are considered as unproductive. In cultivation except plugging, leveling, irrigation, all works are generally shared by both men and women. Women are involved in most arduous and herds working conditions in agriculture under different climate in different region on the lowest wage rates. Analysis of the gender division of labour has revealed that women typically take on three types of roles in terms of the paid and unpaid labour they undertake. Firstly, the productive role of women refers to market production and home subsistence production undertaken by women which generates income. Secondly, the reproductive role of women in economy refers to the child-bearing and child-rearing responsibilities borne by women which are essential to the reproduction of the workforce. Lastly, the community management role refers to activities undertaken by women to ensure the provision of resources at the community level, as an extension of their reproductive role. Agricultural developmental programs are usually planned by the men and aimed at men. Mechanization for example, alleviates the burden of tasks that are traditionally men's responsibility, leaving women's burden unrelieved or even increased.

### **OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:-**

1. To analysis the role of women as a agricultural cultivator in different districts of Haryana.
2. To analysis the share of agricultural cultivator to total agricultural working population in Haryana.

### **STUDY AREA AND DATA METHODOLOGY:-**

The study is carried out in the Haryana state. Haryana is the major agricultural productive and major contributor state in the food security of India. In this research paper, Haryana state as a whole has been taken to carry out the present work to highlight the participation of female as a cultivator or as an agricultural worker in agricultural activities. Haryana geographical extent is lying between the 27° 3' to 31° 9' north latitude and 74° 5' to 77° 6' east longitude. Rajasthan surrounds it in the west, Uttar Pradesh in its northeast and Punjab and Himachal Pradesh from its northern boundary. Population characteristics are as the study area has 21144564 person, to total geographical area 44212 kms and its density of population is 468 per sq. kms. The study is mainly based on secondary data. A Secondary source mainly consists of literature review survey, reviewed articles, research papers. The Government published documents (**Statistical Abstracts of Haryana, National Census Reports and Census of India- 2001& 2011**) have been used for collecting secondary data for analyzing the specific objectives of the study.

**Results & Discussion:** This section deals with the discussion and interpretation of the collected data and also highlights the main findings related to the objectives.

### **Category wise classification of population in Haryana**

The table 1.1 explains the category wise classification of population in Haryana. The results reveal that 65.2 percent population exists in a rural area in which 53.1 percent and 46.8 percent has been noticed male and female respectively. In the urban scenario, 34.8 percent has urban to the total population and composition of male and female have been 53.6 percent and 46.3 percent respectively. Regarding the working population in Haryana, the results reveal that 35.1 percent has been the working population to the total population, in which 76.2 percent and

23.7 percent have been male and female respectively. In rural area, the table reveals that 67.3 percent working population exists in rural area.

Table1.1 Category wise classification of population in Haryana.

Category	Total Population	Total Male	Total Female
Rural Population	65.2	53.1	46.8
Urban Population	34.8	53.6	46.3
Working Population	35.1	76.2	23.7
Working population In Rural Areas	67.3	74.1	23.6
Working population In Urban Area	32.6	82.8	17.1

Source: Directorate of Census Operations, Haryana

In rural area, 74.1 percent male and 23.7 percent have been female working in agricultural activities. In the urban area, 32.6 percent populations to the total population have been working in which 82.8 percent has been male and 23.6 percent has been female in the total working population in rural area. The results conclude that the sex ratio in rural and urban area has been low due to social-cultural and economic reasons. Due to the dual role of women in the home and outside the home, the percentage share of female workers to the total working population at rural and urban level has been very low as compared to male.

### **Districts Wise Percentage of Agricultural Cultivator to Total Agricultural Working Population in Haryana**

Table 1.2 depicts the district wise classification of agricultural cultivator to total working population in Haryana. It seems from the table that the rural area has experienced much higher decline in percentage share of cultivators in both male and female during 2001 to 2011. The percentage has been declining from 36.6 to 27.8 percent. The results further explain that the district wise classification of cultivators to total working population in Haryana. The similar results in respect of the percentage share of cultivators in both male and female have been observed as the share of both of the categories has been declining in 2011 as compared to 2001 except for Yamunanagar district.

Table 1.2 Districts Wise Percentage of Agricultural Cultivator to Total Agricultural Working Population in Haryana

Districts	Percentage of Cultivator to Total Worker in 2001	Percentage of Agricultural Worker to Total Cultivator in 2011
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	Person	Male	Female	Person	Male	Female
Haryana	36.6	32.5	43.7	27.8	26.3	32.8
Ambala	16.3	18.0	6.6	14.2	15.4	6.6
Yamunanagar	17.4	20.0	4.9	15.8	7.0	6.8
Kurukshetra	23.7	38.1	11.5	20.5	23.6	8.0
Kaithal	40.3	40.6	39.7	34.2	35.6	29.2
Karnal	26.6	27.8	22.9	21.8	23.4	15.1
Panipat	23.4	21.7	27.5	17.5	17.6	17.2
Sonipat	36.3	32.3	44.0	27.2	26.4	29.7
Jind	50.0	45.7	57.6	44.4	40.9	51.4
Fatehabad	44.5	42.0	48.9	35.8	34.9	38.1
Sirsa	37.4	38.5	35.4	32.7	33.4	30.8
Hisar	43.5	38.8	52.3	37.8	34.0	46.9
Bhiwani	52.4	48.3	58.9	46.3	42.8	54.1
Rohtak	38.6	32.6	51.3	27.7	26.7	31.1
Jhajjar	45.6	39.1	56.8	34.4	32.5	40.6
Mahendragarh	54.7	48.0	63.9	44.0	38.0	57.4
Rewari	44.4	38.2	53.8	30.4	28.1	35.6
Gurgaon	20.9	18.8	26.4	10.3	9.7	12.7
Mewat	42.1	40.3	44.6	35.9	34.3	41.7
Fridabad	9.6	7.3	20.0	4.8	4.8	4.8
Palwal	42.6	39.8	47.0	29.6	28.9	31.8
Panchkula	16.9	14.8	24.7	12.6	11.7	15.9

Source: Directorate of Census Operations, Haryana

The percentage of cultivator in case of both male and female has been very low in Panchkula, Gurgaon, Faridabad and Ambala in 2001-2011. On the other side, the participation of cultivators to total working population has been much higher in case of Mahendergarh, Bhiwani, Jind, Mewat, Fatehabad and Hissar districts. The female share of cultivators has been higher in most of the district except Yamunanagar, Ambala, Kurukshetra and Kaithal districts. The reason has been given behind that the male has been diversified in other economic activities and due to social and cultural constrain, rural women engaged in the agricultural sector. It is also noted that the majority of the rural woman had been uneducated, unskilled and traditional bounded, therefore, their participation in the agricultural sector has been much higher as compared to others economic activities.

### District-Wise classification of Agricultural Labourer of Total Working Population in Haryana

Table: 1.3 District- wise classification of agricultural labourer of total working population in Haryana

District	Percentage of Agricultural Labourer to Total Working Population in Haryana 2011			Percentage of Agricultural Labourer to Total Working Labourer 2001		
	Person	Male	Female	Person	Male	Female
Haryana	17.1	15.3	23.1	15.3	12.6	21.1
Panchkula	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.1	5.1	9.9
Ambala	15.4	15.5	14.8	13.0	12.2	17.6
Yamunanagar	18.8	18.9	18.3	16.2	16.8	13.2
Khurushetra	25.5	22.3	38.1	22.7	20.5	29.1
Kaithal	22.9	20.1	33.0	22.6	18.4	32.1

Karnal	25.9	23.2	36.6	23.7	19.5	36.4
Panipat	15.1	13.5	21.5	14.4	10.9	22.8
Sonipat	19.4	17.1	26.4	16.7	13.3	23.4
Jind	19.5	17.2	25.0	16.4	13.8	21.0
Fatehabad	26.6	23.9	33.1	22.9	19.9	28.1
Sirsa	29.3	26.5	37.1	23.8	21.5	28.4
Hisar	20.9	18.4	26.7	15.2	12.6	19.8
Bhiwani	16.7	15.4	19.5	11.5	9.7	14.3
Rohtak	10.6	9.8	13.6	12.3	9.7	17.6
Jhajjar	13.7	12.5	17.9	11.5	9.4	15.3
Mehendergarh	11.3	9.2	16.1	11.1	7.7	15.7
Rewari	8.4	6.6	12.3	13.3	8.8	20.1
Gurgaon	5.0	4.4	7.1	6.1	4.5	10.0
Mewat	19.1	16.1	29.1	12.6	7.8	19.5
Fridabad	5.1	4.6	7.1	4.3	2.6	11.8
Palwal	19.6	16.1	32.0	18.7	13.3	27.4

Source: Directorate of Census Operations, Haryana

Table 1.3 examines the district wise classification of agricultural working population to total working population in Haryana. The results reveal that in Haryana, the percentage share of the agricultural working population to total working population had been increased from 15.3 percent to 17.1 percent in 2001 to 2011. The ratio of male and female of the laborers working population had been increased from 12.6 percent to 15.3 from 2001 to 2011. But in the districts of Panipat, Rewari, Gurgaon, Panchkula and Rohtak, the percentage share of female agricultural workers as compared to male has been reduced during the period from 2001 to 2011. Due to high literacy rate, small land holding and higher economic development has opened new doors of getting job opportunities, women had migrated from agriculture to other sector with best opportunities of employment. But, the scenario has different, in case of Yamunanagar, kurukshetra, Fatehabad, Sirsa, Hissar and Mewat, in which case, the percentage share of women agricultural labourer has been a higher increase as compared to male from 2001 to 2011. The reason has been given behind that due to low literacy rate; women have not participated in other economic activities of employment. So, there diversification has been low as compared to other districts. The overall results reveal that as a worker, the female participation in rural Haryana has been found that there were more variations throughout the state due to various social, economic, cultural and traditional variables.

**Conclusions:** It may be concluded from the above discussion that rural women have the major contributor in agriculture and allied activities, from household and family maintenance to crop production and livestock management. The category wise classification of population in Haryana reveal that 65.2 percent population exists in a rural area in which 53.1 percent and 46.8 percent has been noticed male and female respectively. The percentage share of the agricultural working population to total working population in Haryana had been increased from 15.3 percent to 17.1 percent in 2001 to 2011. The ratio of male and female of the laborers working population had been increased from 12.6 percent to 15.3 from 2001 to 2011. The multidimensional contribution of rural women, in terms of time and efforts, is not low or less than that of men in any way. However, this is largely unpaid, home based and therefore not visible. This input has not considered as an input while formulating policies and programs for rural women. The constraints put by this large chunk of unpaid work of rural women on their development opportunities are neither understood nor measured by policy makers. Despite such a huge involvement, her role has yet not been recognized. Women's status has low by all social, economic and political indicators. So, more efforts are needed to encourage women and to raise women's knowledge of efficient management practices and implementations of agricultural activities. Generally, the women are unable to get any reward for their work; therefore, the policy should be devised in this issue.

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**Conflict of Interest Reported: Nil; Source of Funding: None Reported.**