



Full Length Research Article

FARMERS VS. AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS: A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF TWO RURAL SOCIOECONOMIC GROUPS

***Chinmay Patel**

'Chinmay', Opp Yogashram Society, Satellite, Ahmedabad-380015, India

ARTICLE INFO

Article History:

Received 27th May, 2016
Received in revised form
17th June, 2016
Accepted 11th July, 2016
Published online 30th August, 2016

Key Words:

Socio-economic,
Agricultural Labourers,
Farmers, India,
Rural.

ABSTRACT

More than half of the world's second largest population is directly dependent on agriculture. Within these people, there are two main socioeconomic groups- landless agricultural labourers and land-owning farmers. This study is aimed at understanding the socio-economic status and the disparities of socio-economic level between these different groups of the agricultural sector. The report- based on primary data collected during the year 2015-16- presents and compares the socio-economic statuses of 346 farmers and agricultural labourers in Dabhoi Taluka (division of district) of Vadodara District of Gujarat. The classifications have been made by considering all need-based aspects such as land size, income source, debt, education, family income and productivity. The end conclusion is derived based on analysis of the primary data acquired through surveys in 39 villages of Rural Dabhoi and displays the high extent of disparities between the different groups.

Copyright©2016, Chinmay Patel. This is an open access article distributed under the Creative Commons Attribution License, which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.

INTRODUCTION

India is agriculture-based economy where 49% (CIA World Factbook) of India's population depends upon agriculture directly or indirectly for their livelihood. Agriculture, being the primary sector acts as the backbone for the entire economy. Within those that work directly with agriculture, there are two main sub-classes – farmers (cultivators) and agricultural labourers. As per the census of India, 2011, Cultivators are land owners who supervise or direct agricultural labourers to produce crops in their land. 31.7% of the Indian population worked as cultivators as per census of 2001 while it decreased to 24.6% as per census of 2011. This encompasses 33% of the rural population and only 2.8% of the urban population. The census of 2011 defines agricultural labourers as landless workers working on somebody else's land for wages in cash or kind. 26.5 % of the Indian population was agricultural labourers as per the census of 2001 but as per the census of 2011- this number has increased to 30.0%. This encompasses 39.3% of the rural population and only 5.5% of the urban population.

There seems to be a worrying trend of cultivators becoming agricultural labourers. This is largely due to small farmers selling of their land to settle their debts. Furthermore, since they are not educated or skilled in any other profession, they end-up working as agricultural labourers. Since cultivators are land owners, they usually have a higher socio-economic status than landless labourers. However, the cultivators are the ones who take risks as profit from selling the produce is their source of livelihood hence their income depends on the success of the crops. Labourers have no risk as they do not have any share of the land and they have to be paid wages regardless of the success of the crop. Labourers are the bottom of the social and financial hierarchy. They often belong to backward classes and therefore are not given equal opportunities to move up the hierarchies. This is the social group that faces the struggle of poverty, unemployment, illiteracy, mal-nutrition etc. Nowadays, due to shortage of agricultural labourers in rural areas, rather than the wages of agricultural labourers increasing, cultivators have started finding alternatives to labourers such as less labour intensive modern machines. Since agricultural labour is unorganized employment, labourers cannot come together and make demands as they are widely separated and disconnected from each other. They are also the oppressed group in society and therefore cannot gain

***Corresponding author: Chinmay Patel,**
Chinmay, Opp Yogashram Society, Satellite, Ahmedabad-380015,
India

the courage to make demands. Farmers on the other hand are generally members of the general caste. They are organized and are in position to demand from the government. The government has adhered to several demands of this group e.g. farmer's income is tax free. However, there is lot of variants within this group. This group can be further divided into small, medium and large categories based on size of land owned. There are wide disparities in the socio-economic status and standards of living between all these different groups. Even though farmers and agricultural labourers form such a huge portion of the Indian population, the agriculture sector and the socio-economical groups have not been studied or examined as much as they should be. The focus of Indian development has shifted away from agriculture to services and industry but India, being a developing country needs continued focus more on its agriculture if it wants to grow. As per the Indian Economic survey of 2014-15, the growth rate of the agriculture sector was only 1.1% compared to the 7.4% (as per the IBEF survey) growth rate of the overall GDP. The growth rate of the service sector is 10.3% compared to which, the growth rate of agriculture is miniscule. Despite of the large percentage of Indian population working in agriculture, it only forms 16% of the India's GDP (IBEF Survey, 2015-16). Therefore, it seems that to improve the standards of living of Indian citizen, we have to start with the agriculture sector. This study is aimed at understanding the socio-economic status and the disparities of socio-economic level between different groups of the agricultural sector.

The location of Primary Research

Vadodara district is located in east Gujarat and Dabhoi taluka is located at the center of the district. It is located 22.18° North and 73.43° East at an elevation of 39 meters (Wiki mini atlas). The population of Dabhoi, according to the IndiKosh survey, is 1.8 lac and the sex ratio is 934. The literacy rate is 79% ; 87% for males and 72% females (Pandya, 2014). The Narmada river passes through Dabhoi and supports the irrigation of the fields around Dabhoi. Majority of the population of Dabhoi depends on agriculture for means of living. The main crops grown in Dabhoi include rice, wheat, sorghum, peas, groundnut, tobacco, cotton & sugarcane (Pandya, 2014).

Dabhoi has a tropical climate due to its proximity to the equator therefore it has 3 main season summer, monsoon and winter. It has a warm and humid climate throughout the year which makes it ideal for agriculture. The Narmada dam has only been operational for irrigation for the past 10 years. Therefore, it has not been able to bring adequate water supply to the Dabhoi region as of yet, so farmers here still have to depend on rainfall for their irrigation. Hence farmers are only able to harvest once a year in most cases after monsoon.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Study Area

Dabhoi consist of two main regions. The first region is the urban part of Dabhoi and it consists of the Dabhoi city. The second part is the rural part of the Dabhoi taluka, consisting of 118 villages, where the farming actually takes place. Therefore, the survey would be taken in the villages of the rural part of Dabhoi. In the rural part of Dabhoi, there are 1.3 lac people with 52 %⁸ (67,000) males and 48 % (62000) females – the sex ratio being 932 (932 female for every 1000 males), higher than the state average of 919. 53 % of the population belong to the general caste, 40 % of the people belong to schedule tribes, 6 % of people belong to schedule castes and the remaining 1% belong to other backward classes (OBCs).

The children population of Dabhoi is 11% (14300) and the child sex ratio is 915, better than the statewide ratio of 890. The literacy rate is 78%, slightly lower than the state average of 79.31% (Indian Economic Survey, 2014-15). There are 29000 households in rural Dabhoi and on average, 5 people live in each family. According to the 2011 economic survey, In Vadodara district, there are 30.3% cultivators and 55.1% agricultural labourers. This has changed from the 2001 survey similarly to overall trend of India, which was 33.4% cultivators and 46.6% agricultural labourers. Out of 118 villages, we surveyed farmers and agricultural labourers belonging to 39 different villages (list in appendix). This should provide a good representative sample for the entire rural Dabhoi.



Figure 1. Dabhoi Taluka in Vadodara District

Method

We have conducted a random sample survey by producing a basic multiple choice questionnaire consisting of 16 questions covering areas including age group, gender, caste, education, family details, income, debt, land size, sources of income. This has provide us with primary data from 39 villages for the year 2015-16. There are 18 large farmers, 96 medium farmers, 127 small farmers and 105 agricultural labourers who were randomly chosen and interviewed for this study. Since majority of the respondents are unable to speak or read English, the interview was conducted in the local language i.e. Gujarati and the interviews were conducted with the help of local who could explain the questionnaire, its purpose and answer any doubts that the respondents would have. This data was analyzed and interpreted through cross tabulation with category of the farmer as the common factor. The statistics have been compared using percentages.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Socio-economic status (SES) is a combination of an individual's social class and economic position, as compared to other members of society. It is based on an individual's work, income, education and wealth. SES is categorized into 3 levels- High SES, Low SES and Medium SES. Studies have found that the SES has a direct effect upon the physical and psychological health, nutrition, family stability etc.

Land Size

Table 1. Size of Owned Land

Size of owned Land	Percentage
Landless (Agricultural Labourers)	30.30%
Less than 10 Vigha (Small Farmers)	36.70%
10 to 50 Vigha (Medium Farmers)	27.70%
Above 50 Vigha (Large Farmers)	5.20%

(1 acre =1.75 Vigha)

This is the classification used for the cross-tabulation of the other factors.

farmers with more than 50 Vigha of land are large farmers. Majority of the interviewees were small farmers (36.7%). All around India, this is the most common category for farmers. Agricultural labourers come next at 30.3%. Medium farmers take up 27.7% of all the total farmers. There are only 5.2% farmers that fall into the large farmers' category. This is because large farmers usually prefer to sell a portion of their land and move to cities to take up a job or start a business. Since, they are highly educated, they find the service sector and industrial sector to be much more profitable than the agricultural sector.

(1 acre =1.75 Vigha)

Caste

Table 2 present the details of farmers according to caste. It can be seen that the agricultural labourers mostly belong to backward classes (96.2%), while the large, medium and small farmers mostly belong to the general category (65.4%, 75.0% and 88.9% respectively). There seems to be an economic and social divide between the general category and backward classes. Even though both categories have roughly equal members (General- 50.6%; Backward- 49.4%), they are not equally represented in the 2 groups of labourers and farmers. A significant portion of small farmers (34.6%) belong to backward classes, however, not too many prosperous farmers (medium and large farmers) belong to backward classes. This could be remnants of the caste system in India. We have come a long way since, but the caste system has still not been eradicated in India, especially in rural areas.

Age Group

Table 3 shows the age group that farmers of different categories fall into. Majority (75.3%) of the agricultural labourers belong to the younger half i.e below 40 years, while majority (72.2%) of the large farmers belong to the older half i.e above 50. There seems to be a trend of increasing age as we move higher up the hierarchy of farmers and labourers. The middle age group (31 to 50) seems to be dominating the

Table 2. Caste and Category of Farmer

Caste	Category of Farmer				Total (n=346)
	Agricultural Labourers (n=105)	Small Farmers (n=127)	Medium Farmers (n=96)	Large Farmers (n=18)	
General	3.8%	65.4%	75.0%	88.9%	50.6%
OBC	5.7%	3.1%	3.1%	5.6%	4.0%
Schedule Caste	50.5%	18.9%	9.4%	5.6%	25.1%
Schedule Tribe	40.0%	12.6%	12.5%	0	20.2%

Table 3. Age group and Category of Farmer

Age Group	Category of Farmer				Total
	Agricultural Labourers	Small Farmers	Medium Farmers	Large Farmers	
Below 30	14.3%	10.2%	10.4%	16.7%	11.8%
31 to 40	61.0%	33.9%	34.4%	11.1%	41.0%
41 to 50	12.4%	40.9%	41.7%	27.8%	31.8%
Above 50	12.4%	15.0%	13.5%	44.4%	15.3%

Landless farmers are agricultural labourers. Farmers with less than 10 Vigha of land are small farmers. Farmers with land between 10 Vigha and 50 Vigha are medium farmers and

agricultural sector of Dabhoi with 72.8% of farmers and agricultural labourers falling into that category. The average age group could be an effect of the Socioeconomic status as

age directly corresponds to health. Labourers might have fewer older members as compared to farmers because the health of labourers deteriorates with age due to the strenuous nature of their physical work and they don't have access to good healthcare like the farmers. So, after a certain age, labourers have to stop working because with bad health, they are not able to carry out the physical labour with ease. On the other hand, the children of farmers would be educated well and would therefore prefer to get a job in city rather than work in agriculture as the service and industrial sectors are more lucrative.

Gender

Table 4 presents the sex wise classifications of the different groups of farmers and agricultural labourers. As we move up the hierarchy, the sex ratio seems to be getting worse. While agricultural labourers have a token 15.2% female workers, large farmers have none (0%). You might expect the opposite as you'd expect the more educated farmers to be more forward thinking and liberal to women than their uneducated counterparts, but this is not the case. Since the income of labourers is very low, the women also need to work in order to afford a decent life. India is a patriarchal society, where women mostly stay at home as housewives while men go out to earn. Farming or agricultural labour is not seen as an occupation fit for women, who are viewed as delicate, so only 9.5% of all people surveyed were women. Since some labourers can't afford to live like this, the women of the household are forced to work. On the other hand, large farmers can easily afford a decent lifestyle, so they don't need their wives to work. Most wives of large farmers either stay at home as housewives, while some might work in a less physically tolling profession.

decreases and vice versa. There are no graduate labourers and no illiterate or only primary educated large or medium farmers. The majority of labourers have had primary education i.e Std 1 to 5 (53.3%); the majority of small farmers have started or passed out of high school (66.1%); most of the medium farmers have graduated from high school (74.0%) while the largest portion of large farmers hold college degrees (61.1%).

Family Type

Table 6 shows the distribution of the labourers by family type. Majority of the members of all the groups lived in joint families (87.6% overall). This is very typical in rural India, where all members of the family tend to stay together.

Dependent members in Family

Table 7 shows the distribution of farmers by number of dependent members in their family. Majority of the interviewees had 4 or 5 dependent family members (57.3%). It was noted that large farmers had quite a few dependent family members ranging from 3 to 6. However, the smaller farmers and agricultural labourers had excessive dependent family members ranging from 4(30.1%) to 7(9%). Most of these dependent family members are children. Labourers and small farmers have very low incomes and therefore, they don't have the money needed to sustain 7 members of their family.

This leads to absolute poverty and destitution and the several children suffer from malnutrition, illiteracy etc., so they cannot even escape their poverty through their personal advancement. They are not taught anything by their parents as their parents are always working to feed the members of their family, so

Table 4. Sex and Category wise Classification of Farmers

Gender	Category of Farmer				Total
	Agricultural Labourers	Small Farmers	Medium Farmers	Large Farmers	
Female	15.2%	9.4%	5.2%	0	9.5%
Male	84.8%	90.6%	94.8%	100.0%	90.5%

Table 5. Education and Category wise classification of Farmers

Education	Category of Farmer				Total
	Agricultural Labourers	Small Farmers	Medium Farmers	Large Farmers	
Illiterate	21.9%	4.7%	0	0	8.7%
Std 1 to 5	53.3%	16.5%	0	0	22.3%
Std 6 to 10	21.90%	30.70%	25.00%	5.60%	25.10%
Std 11 to 12	2.9%	35.4%	50.0%	33.3%	29.5%
Graduate	0	12.6%	24.0%	61.1%	14.5%

Table 6. Family and Category wise presentation of Farmers

Family	Category of Farmer				Total
	Agricultural Labourers	Small Farmers	Medium Farmers	Large Farmers	
Joint Family	83.8%	83.5%	95.8%	94.4%	87.6%
Nuclear Family	16.2%	16.5%	4.2%	5.6%	12.4%

Education

Table 5 presents education and the category of farmers and labourers. As expected, the trend shows that as we move up the hierarchy, the level of education increases and illiteracy

they end up being unskilled and have to continue the hard and strenuous profession of agricultural labour. This links in with the joint family tradition in India.

Earning members in Family

Table 8 shows the distribution of farmers by the number of earning members in their family. Majority of the sample had 1 or 2 earning members in their families. Most small and medium farmers had 1 earning member (66.9% and 51.0% respectively) while majority of the agricultural labourers and large farmers had 2 earning members in their families (42.9% and 66.7% respectively). The average no. of dependent family members exceeds the average no. of earning family members for all groups. The ratio of dependent members to earning members in Rural India, especially Dabhoi, is worrying. As per this, the joint family system is financially detrimental to the lower income agricultural groups in India. For the socioeconomic status of these groups to improve, they need to have a better earning member to dependent member ratio or they need to shift from joint families to nuclear families so that they have fewer mouths to feed.

Annual Income

Table 9 shows the distribution of farmers by their income. The large farmers and agricultural labourers show a similar but opposite trend. While 80% of labourers earn less than 1 lac each year and the remaining 20 % earn just above 1 lac upto 5 lacs, 83.3% of large farmers earn above 15 lacs each year and the remaining 16.7% earn just below 15 lacs down to 11 lacs. No members of these 2 groups earn in the mid-income range of 6 lacs to 10 lacs. This range is dominated by medium farmers (33.3%). The trend is obvious and shows the direct relationship between hierarchy in land ownership and income.

Debt

Table 10 shows the distribution of farmers by their debt. Majority of the agricultural labourers have no debts (76.2%) or very small debts below Rs. 50,000 (22.9%). On the other hand, all the large farmers have some large debt, mostly greater than 3 lacs (77.8%). The small and medium farmers have a wide range of different debts with small farmers having lower debts, mostly below 1 lac (45.6%), than medium farmers who mostly have debts between 1 and 5 lacs (60.4%). This is mainly because larger and medium farmers are trusted more by banks to return the money that they owe. Therefore, they are able to borrow larger sums of money to improve their yields. However, this also comes with risks as the large sums of money need to be paid back in time. There is the common no income, no loan, no risk idea in villages for agricultural labourer. However, without taking risks, upliftment of these agricultural labourers to groups higher up in the hierarchy cannot take place. Debt is a major problem for small and medium farmers as it forces them to sell their land and change their profession from farmers to agricultural labourers. Many farmers are not able to feed their families and as a result commit suicide. Therefore, there is a need to reduce the debt of the farmers.

Main Source of Income

Table 11 shows the distribution of farmers by their main source of income. The classification of farmers and labourers by the size of owned land was quite accurate. All the classified medium and large farmers claim to have farming as their

Table 7. Dependents in Family and Category of farmers

		Category of Farmer				Total
		Agricultural Labourers	Small Farmers	Medium Farmers	Large Farmers	
No of dependent family members	1	1.0%	2.4%	-	-	1.2%
	2	11.4%	9.4%	1.0%	-	7.2%
	3	14.3%	7.1%	6.3%	11.1%	9.2%
	4	25.7%	33.9%	29.2%	33.3%	30.1%
	5	23.8%	27.6%	30.2%	27.8%	27.2%
	6	16.2%	8.7%	24.0%	27.8%	16.2%
	7	7.6%	11.0%	9.4%	-	9.0%

Table 8. Earning person and category wise classification

No of Earning Person	Category of Farmer				Total
	Agricultural Labourers	Small Farmers	Medium Farmers	Large Farmers	
1	37.1%	66.9%	51.0%	27.8%	51.4%
2	42.9%	26.8%	42.7%	66.7%	38.2%
3	7.6%	3.1%	5.2%	5.6%	5.2%
4	12.4%	3.1%	1.0%	0	5.2%

Table 8. Earning person and category wise classification

No of Earning Person	Category of Farmer				Total
	Agricultural Labourers	Small Farmers	Medium Farmers	Large Farmers	
1	37.1%	66.9%	51.0%	27.8%	51.4%
2	42.9%	26.8%	42.7%	66.7%	38.2%
3	7.6%	3.1%	5.2%	5.6%	5.2%
4	12.4%	3.1%	1.0%	0	5.2%

primary occupation. A tiny percentage (1.6%) of the small farmers have labour as their main source of income, but these farmers are the ones with very small areas of land, which cannot sustain them, so they have to work for others to earn their livelihood. They are labourers with some land of their own. 1.9% of the labourers have farming as their main source of income. These would probably include landless farmers who rent other people's land and practice farming on that land. Therefore, they may have been put into the labourers group. These variations are very low; therefore, they can be ignored.

dairy industry- Amul, which is a cooperative of 3.6 million members and so, the farmers can be sure to get fair rates for their milk. Animal husbandry is not that common for agricultural labourers (14.3%) as it requires a lot of initial capital to buy the animals, which usually pays off in the long run. However, major portions of all farmers practice animal husbandry as a secondary occupation. A major portion (38.9%) of the large farmers practice business as a secondary occupation. Some of the farmers practice the business of trading their own produce and that of other farmers

Table 9. Annual Income and Category wise classification

Annual Income	Category of Farmer				Total
	Agricultural Labourers	Small Farmers	Medium Farmers	Large Farmers	
Below 1 Lac	80.0%	18.9%	1.0%	0	31.5%
1 Lac to 5 Lacs	20.0%	70.1%	35.4%	0	41.6%
6 Lacs to 10 Lacs	0	11.0%	33.3%	0	13.3%
11 Lacs to 15 Lacs	0	0	28.1%	16.7%	8.7%
Above 15 Lacs	0	0	2.1%	83.3%	4.9%

Table 10. Debt and Category wise classification of farmers

Debt	Category of Farmer				Total
	Agricultural Labourers	Small Farmers	Medium Farmers	Large Farmers	
1 Lac to 3 Lacs	0	19.7%	33.3%	22.2%	17.6%
3 Lacs to 5 Lacs	0	3.1%	27.1%	55.6%	11.6%
51k to 1 Lac	1.0%	23.6%	14.6%	0	13.0%
Below 50k	22.9%	22.0%	3.1%	0	15.9%
More than 5 Lacs	0	3.9%	12.5%	22.2%	6.1%
None	76.2%	27.6%	9.4%	0	35.8%

Table 11. Main source of income of farmers

Main Source of Income	Category of Farmer			
	Agricultural Labourers	Small Farmers	Medium Farmers	Large Farmers
Agriculture Labour	98.1%	1.6%	0	0
Farming	1.9%	98.4%	100.0%	100.0%

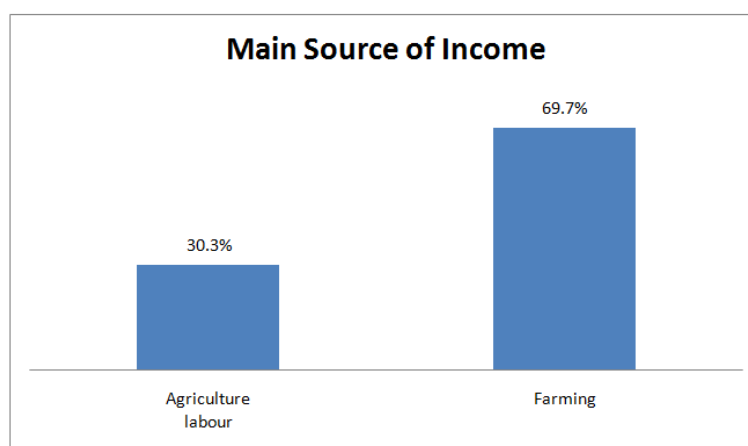


Figure 2. Main Source of Income

Secondary Source of Income

Table 12 shows the distribution of farmers by their secondary source of income. The most common secondary profession is animal husbandry (30.6%). This is a very common profession in India, especially Gujarat as it is home to the world's largest

in the local area, some hire out technologically advanced farm equipment to other farmers etc. Quite a few (17.3%) of the small farmers practice agricultural labour as a secondary occupation as they own very small pieces of land and hence, they have to work on other people's land to earn their livelihood.

Table 12. Secondary Source of Income of Farmers

Secondary Source of Income	Category of Farmer				Total
	Agricultural Labourers	Small Farmers	Medium Farmers	Large Farmers	
Agriculture Labour	0	17.3%	5.2%	0	7.78%
Animal Husbandry	14.3%	32.3%	44.8%	38.9%	30.6%
Business	1.9%	4.7%	13.5%	38.9%	8.1%
Job	4.8%	7.1%	7.3%	0	6.1%
None	19.0%	23.6%	17.7%	16.7%	20.2%
Other	19.0%	13.4%	9.4%	5.6%	13.6%
Transportation	1.0%	1.6%	2.1%	0	1.4%

Summary Statement

Overall, it can be concluded that there are wide socioeconomic differences between agricultural labourers and farmers. Labourers usually belong to the Backward castes while farmers mostly belong to the General caste. Labourers are usually younger due to the physical and strenuous nature of their work which causes their health deteriorate early and they do not have access to good healthcare. Farmers, on the other hand, belong to middle and older age groups as the younger generation of their families are educated and therefore, prefer jobs in urban areas over farming. This is also because of their work being less physically strenuous and their affordability of better healthcare. A small portion of agricultural labourers are females because they have to support their family since 1 earning member is not enough in the family. Larger farmers have almost no female contribution because they don't need another earning member in the family and so, the women work as homemakers or in other "more feminine" professions. The education level is directly proportional to the hierarchical level of the farmer or labourer. Most of the larger farmers are graduates and most of the labourers have only primary education. Almost all farmers, regardless of their group live in joint families as per Rural Indian tradition.

The dependent members in the family exceed the earning members of the family in all cases due to the joint family system. This causes several hardships, especially for the low income groups such as labourers and small farmers. For the upliftment of agricultural labourers and small farmers, either the number of earning members in the joint family needs to increase or there needs to be a shift from joint family to nuclear family. Either way, the ratio of earning family members to dependent family members needs to improve. The incomes of the agricultural labourers and large farmers are at two extremes. This highlights the massive problem of several countries i.e. Income inequality. In the agricultural sector, like other sectors, the rich keep getting richer and the poor keep getting poorer. The average income of a large farmer is more than 15 times the income of a labourer as found in this study. This causes the divide between these groups to keep widening. The large and medium farmers have very high debts, while the labourers and small farmers have smaller debts. The risk is greater for the farmers as they are the land owners and so they stand to lose their land if they cannot pay back their debts in time. This problem is especially true for small farmers who don't have much land that they can sell off to pay their entire debts, so they are forced to work as agricultural labourers.

Most of the farmers have animal husbandry as their secondary source of income as it is very profitable due to the milk cooperative. Fewer agricultural labourers can participate in this as they don't have enough capital to buy animals or sustain them. Several small farmers have agricultural labour as their secondary source of income as the produce from their small area of land is not enough to sustain their families, so they have to work in other's fields. As it can be inferred, there is a wide socioeconomic divide in the Agrarian society of India. The agricultural labourers have a very low SES and large farmers have a high SES. The small and medium farmers have some members with a low and high SES respectively, but majority of them fall into the middle SES category. This socioeconomic status is based on all 3 variables viz. Income, Education and Occupation. This socioeconomic divide in Rural India is one of the major causing factors of absolute poverty, disturbances to national peace and oppression based on income, caste and gender. Therefore, steps need to be taken to improve the current situation if India wants to develop and change its status from developing to developed Country.

REFERENCES

- "Agriculture Growth Rate in India GDP." *Agriculture Growth Rate in India GDP*. Business- Maps of India.com, n.d. Web. 10 Aug. 2016.
- "Census of India, 2001." *Census of India, 2001- Primary Census Abstract- Figures at Glance* (2001): 1-2. Census Board of India. 10 Aug. 2016
- "Census of India, 2011." *Census of India, 2011- Primary Census Abstract- Figures at Glance* (2011): 1-2. *Census India*. Census Board of India, 2011. Web. 10 Aug. 2016. <http://www.censusindia.gov.in/2011census/PCA/PCA_Highlights/pca_highlights_file/India/5Figures_at_glance.pdf>.
- "Dabhoi Taluka Rural Part." *IndiKosh*. Indikosh.com, 2016. Web. 10 Aug. 2016. <<http://indikosh.com/subd/548399/dabhoi-22>>.
- "Distribution of Workers by Category." *Data.gov.in*. Government of India, 2011. Web. 10 Aug. 2016. <<https://data.gov.in/resources/distribution-category-workers/download>>.
- "Industry Growth Rate in India GDP." *Industry Growth Rate in India GDP*. Business- Maps of India, n.d. Web. 10 Aug. 2016.
- "India." *CIA World Factbook*. Central Intelligence Agency, 2016. Web. 20 8 August 2016. <<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/in.html>>. <<http://business.mapsofindia.com/india-gdp/sectorwise/agriculture-growth-rate.html>> <<http://business.mapsofindia.com/india-gdp/sectorwise/industry-growth-rate.html>>. <[http://gujecostat.gujarat.gov.in/wp-content/uploads/2013/Rural_and_Urban_Profile_in_Gujarat_State\(2001_and_2011\).pdf](http://gujecostat.gujarat.gov.in/wp-content/uploads/2013/Rural_and_Urban_Profile_in_Gujarat_State(2001_and_2011).pdf)>.
- Pandya, R. N., Mr. "Rural and Urban Profile in Gujarat State (2001 and 2011)." *Rural and Urban Profile in Gujarat State (2001 and 2011)* (2014): n. pag. May 2014. Web. 10 Aug. 2016.
- Vadodara Map Image "Vadodara District." *One Five Nine-Explore India*. Onefive-nine.com, n.d. Web. 8 August 2016. <<http://www.onefive-nine.com/india/villag/vadodara>>.

Appendix

List of Villages: Akotadar, Bamboj, Bhavpura, Borbar, Boriyad, Chanvada, Dangiwada, Dharmapuri, Farati Kui, Gopalpura, Habipura, Jia Talavdi, Karvan, Kothara, Kukad,

Kunvarpura, Mandala, Menpura, Nada, Nana Fofaliya, Ordi, Parikha, Puniyad, Rajli, Sathod, Shankarpura, Shirola, Shorpur, Simliya, Sitpur, Sultanpura, Thikariya, Thuvavi, Timbi, Vadaj, Vadhvana, Vasai, Vega
