Study on Estate Sector Poverty with special reference to Ganga Ihala Korale DS Division in Sri Lanka

Karunarathna,B.D.N.S.[1], Bandara, H.G.K.N.[2], Bulankulama S.W.G.K.[3], Nuwan.A.N[4]

Abstract

Poverty measurement and analysis are needed to identify the poor. Around the world more than 780 million people live in extreme poverty on less than 1.90 dollar per person per day an amount which is impossible to support a healthy livelihood in any part of the world. There are two broad classes of methodologies for estimating poverty which are Absolute poverty and Relative poverty. Poverty reduction process is a difficult and complex in developing countries like Sri Lanka. The successive governments of Sri Lanka have been spending huge money for poverty alleviation and social welfare programmers since independence but poverty in rural and estate sectors is remaining the same. Generally, through poverty estimation, we can find out level of poverty of a country and its causes, especially in various sectors in Sri Lank The people of estate sector are undergoing very critical level of living and severe poverty ridden condition. Relevant strategies towards poverty alleviation need to strategize that are strongly associated with poverty. The general objective of the study was to analyses the determinants of Estate Sector poverty in Ganga Ihala Korale DS Division, in Sri Lanka. Key factors such as Education, Individual Level of Health, and Alcoholism were considered as independent variables and dependent variable was Estate sector Poverty. The population of this study was the people who are living in estate sector and 100 main income earners from 100 families were selected as a sample using random sampling method. Logistic regression was estimated based on household survey data in which the dependent variables were whether the residents were living in poverty, and the explanatory variables included a set of socioeconomic variables. The study results were, Education level (p=.004), Health Condition (Having Chronic Diseases) (p=.019) and Alcohol usage (p=.085) added significantly to the model. The results showed that the Alcoholism and Health Condition (chronic diseases) positively associated with the likelihood of being in poverty. Also, Education Level negatively associated with poverty. This study revealed that policy level intervention is needed for the families living in this sector. They haven't enough welfare facilities and satisfied welfare facilities of government in which they live as a shy community. Further, they have lack of political

[1] *Department of Economics, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, Mihintale;*

[2] *Department of Economics, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, Mihintale;*
kolithanishshankabandara@gmail.com

[3] *Department of Economics, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, Mihintale;*
gkbulankulama@gmail.com, annuwan@gmail.com

[4] *annuwan@gmail.com*

voice. Hence, the government needs to focus on improving the standard of living in Estate areas of Sri Lanka. The improvement of infrastructure, Health sector, Education sector, sanitation, water, nutrition, housing conditions and Alcohol policies should be targeted to reduce poverty in which a national policy has to be adopted by the government.

Keywords: Poverty, Education, Health and Estate Sector in Sri Lanka.