

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES ON GLOBALIZATION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

(VOLUME II)

PARTHA PRATIM SENGUPTA



Editor: Partha Pratim Sengupta

© First Published: 2020
Serials Publications (P) Ltd.

ISBN: 978-81-947932-1-2

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Printed in India
SERIALS PUBLICATIONS PVT. LTD.
4830/24, Prahlad Street, Ansari Road, Darya ganj,
New Delhi-110002 (India)
Phone : 23245225, 23259207, 23272135
E-mail: serials@mail.com

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GENDER AND WORK BURDEN IN RURAL ARUNACHAL PRADESH OF INDIA: A TIME USE SURVEY IN SELECTED DISTRICTS

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Abstract - Increased burden of household activities, care work and other Non-SNA (non-system of national accounts) work for women can be well understood from the fact that women engaged in domestic duties has increased from 51.8 percent in 2005 to 59.7 percent in 2012 in India as per NSSO data. An OECD study conducted in 2012 also indicates that women in India spend 351.9 minutes per day on unpaid work while men spend only 51.8 minutes whereas this difference in work burden is very less in the countries like Norway, Denmark, US, Belgium and Finland (of course with high HDI ranking). In the tribal people dominated states of North East India, women are engaged in agriculture, cooking, housekeeping, child care, fetching fuel wood and water, care of livestock, storing grains, etc. Arunachal Pradesh is not an exception to it. Women's work is not visible or partially accounted for in the data on workforce participation or any other official statistics. Therefore, time use statistics is the only way to understand their work burden. The proposed study will be conducted in four districts, namely, Lohit, East Siang, Lower Subansiri and West Kameng. The data on food gathering and food producing activities, income generating activities, asset holding patterns, collection of forest produce, agricultural operations etc. have been collected at the household level. Individual members of the households have been interviewed about their time allocation pattern, on the basis of a separate questionnaire. In the time-use survey, both yesterday approach and activity approaches has been used. However, information on the time spent on different activities on a normal day in the agricultural and lean period has been collected through the recall method. The study has found significant burdens of women's work do exist in the study area as far as Non SNA and Extended SNA works are concerned. These two groups of activities have been found to be very high among the respondents as per the time pattern is concerned.

Keywords: SNA, Non SNA, Extended SNA, Time use, Gender, Work burden