Socio Economic Conditions of Rural Population: A Case Study of Aragonda Village an Income Level Analysis

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ABSTRACT

Socioeconomic circumstances of the rural population varied greatly between nations and areas, there are some trends and issues that rural people face globally. An outline of the main factors influencing rural socioeconomic situations is provided below: Economic Activities: Farming, raising cattle, and fishing are all forms of agriculture, which accounts for the majority of economic activity in rural areas. On the other hand, a lot of rural communities struggle with issues including low production, outdated farming methods, and limited market accessibility. Small-scale Industries: Handicrafts, textiles, and food processing are a few of the small-scale industries and crafts found in some rural areas. These sectors frequently experience difficulties getting access to markets and funding. Service Sector: The service sector, which includes retail, healthcare, and education, is important to the rural economy in some areas. Long travel times between schools, a lack of skilled teachers, and poor infrastructure frequently prevent rural residents from having access to high-quality education. Literacy Rates: Generally speaking, rural areas have lower literacy rates than metropolitan areas, which have an impact on employment prospects and economic growth. Healthcare Access: Lack of medical personnel, facilities, and necessary medications are some of the issues that rural communities frequently experience while trying to get access to healthcare services. Health Outcomes: Unhealthier health outcomes, such as increased incidence of avoidable diseases, maternal and newborn mortality, are a result of poor access to healthcare. Infrastructure & Transportation: The absence of adequate transportation infrastructure in many rural locations makes it challenging for locals to go to marketplaces, medical facilities, and educational opportunities. Utilities: In rural areas, access to necessities like electricity, clean water, and sanitary facilities is frequently restricted. By addressing these challenges and leveraging opportunities, rural areas can improve their socio-economic conditions and contribute more effectively to national and global development.

Keywords: *Socio-Economic Conditions. , Rural Population, Income Level Analysis,   Rural Economy, Livelihood Sources, Health and Well-being, Government Policies, Community Development, Social Services, Demographic Analysis*

I.INTRODUCTION

The current situation of the society in developing nations is rapidly moving from poor economy to develop economy with the development of social condition. But these changes are not equal to all places. Basically rural areas are very less developed as compared to urban areas in terms of social, cultural and economic aspects. Lifestyle of an individual's are widely depended on their economic status. Hence, social position of the person is dominated by his/her income. No society or region can be developed with the exception of any

part remaining lag behind. Proper socio-economic development can control the healthy and balanced growth of a region. Now- a- days, increasing educational level and perception of education has been changing the socio-economic status among the rural population. Reddy, Kamma, Balija and Palli Reddy are traditionally landowners, whereas Modaliar are moneylenders, Mala are agricultural labourers; and Chakali are washer men. Almost all members of the households from different castes are engaged in agriculture and agricultural labour.Only two, one each from Reddy and Kamma and Balija, are in service.

II.REVIEW OF LITERATURE:

Socio-economic characteristics are the important tools to the measures of human development. It is a measure of an individual's or family's or group of people's economic and social position based on education, income, health, and occupation [1]. Socio-economic is the most important determinant of the livelihoods as it influences levels of knowledge, skill and income conditions which mean for their living. Peoples' way of living is differ from one income group to another as their consumption power is also differ among income groups of population.

According to Dutton and Levine (1989), socio-economic status is "a composite measure that typically incorporates economic status, measured by income; social status, measured by education; and work status, measured by occupation" [2]. Rathod & Ningshen (2012), noted that Socio-economic status is an economic and sociological combined total measure of a person's work experience and of family's economic and social position relative to others, based on income, education, and occupation [3]. Krieger et al. (1997) define socio-economic position as 'an aggregate concept that includes both resource-based and prestige-based measures, as linked to both childhood and adult social class position' [4]. Socio-economic status refers to the position of individuals, families, households, or other aggregates on one or more dimensions of stratification.

These dimensions include income, education, prestige, wealth, or other aspects of standing that member of society deem salient [5].Socio-economic status is often considered a personal demographic variable; however, Socio-economic status can also reflect aspects of an individual's broader environment. As a result, it can be measured at the individual level or the area level [6].

III.OBJECTIVES

The main objectives of the study are as follows:
 • To study the demographic conditions by level of income of sample population in the study area.
• To analyse the level of education among different income groups of population.
• To investigate the housing situation by level of income of the sample population.
• To examine the overall socio-economic status by level of income of peoples in the study area.

IV.DATA BASE AND METHODOLOGY

The present study is based on primary survey by which a sample of 120 households have been taken randomly for the analysis of socio-economic status of different income groups of population from the Aragonda Village of Thavanampalli Mandal of Chittoor District. The relevant data were collected from demographic, social and economic aspects. All the collected data were converted into relative number such as percentage to observe the overall situation and divided all the sample population in five income groups on the basis of monthly per capita income to examine the socioeconomic status of different income groups of population in the study area.

V.THE STUDY AREA

 Aragonda village is the most populous village with population of 5392 located at the 17.1.Aragonda is a large village located in Thavanampalle Mandal of Chittoor District of A.P. with total 1378 families residing. The Aragonda village has population of 5392 of which 2625 are Males and2767 are females as per 2011Population Census. In Aragonda village population of children with age 0-6 is 502 which make up 9.31 % of total population of village. Average Sex Ratio of Aragonda village is 1054 which is higher than Andhra Pradesh state average of 993. Child Sex Ratio for the Aragonda as per census is 1074, higher than Andhra Pradesh average 939. Aragonda village has higher literacy rate compared to Andhra Pradesh. In 2011, literacy rate of Aragonda village was 76.73 % compared to 67.02 % of Andhra Pradesh. In Aragonda Male literacy stands at 84.26 % while female literacy rate was 69.57.

Table-1:Aragonda Village Details

Sl.No.	Particulars	Total	Male	Female
1	No.of Houses	1378	-	-
2	Population	5,392	2,625	2,767
3	Child (0-6)	502	242	260
4	Schedule Caste	1,649	815	834
5	Schedule Tribe	185	98	87
6	Literacy	76.73 %	84.26 %	69.57 %
7	Total Workers	2,520	1,602	918
8	Main Worker	2,164	-	-
9	Marginal Worker	356	114	242

Source: District Census 2011.

Caste Factor: Aragonda village of Chittoor has substantial population of Schedule Caste. Schedule Caste (SC) constitutes 30.58 % while Schedule Tribe (ST) were 3.43 % of total population in Aragonda village.Work Profile: In Aragonda village out of total population 5392 , out of which 2520 were engaged in work activities. 85.87 % of workers describe their work as Main Work (Employment or Earning more than 6 Months) while 14.13 % were involved in Marginal activity providing livelihood for less than 6 months. Of 2520 workers engaged in Main Work, 367 were cultivators (owner or co-owner) while 969 was Agricultural labourer.

Table -2: Population Distribution by level of Per Capita Income

Percapita Income (Rs.)	Households		Total Population		Male		Female	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Below 500	44	36.67	297	43.05	159	43.20	143	44.40
501-1000	41	34.17	255	36.95	132	35.87	115	35.72
1001-1500	17	14.16	89	12.89	42	11.42	37	11.49
1501-2000	12	10.0	27	3.93	20	5.44	15	4.66
2001 & Above	6	5.0	22	3.18	15	4.07	12	3.73
Total	120	100.0	690	100.0	368(53.33)	100.0	322(46.66)	100.0

Source: Field Survey Data

The total population of 120 sample households is 690, among them, males occupied by 53.33% and rest of 46.66% is by females. In the study area, Average Sex Ratio of Aragonda village is 1054 which is higher than Andhra Pradesh state average of 993. Table-2 depicts that among total 120 households, majority of them (43.05%) belongs to very low per capita income (below Rs. 500), which contributes 36.95% of total population, followed by 35.87% and 35.72 % households belongs to per capita income of Rs. 501 – 1000 and share 12.89% of total sample population, 11.42% & 11.49% of total sample households belongs to Rs. 1001 – 1500 per capita income and compose of 89 sample households of total population and only 3.8% households of total sample households come under the per capita income of Rs. 2000 and above, and constitute 4.07% of total population and 3.73% of total sample households lies under per capita income of Rs. 1501 – 2000, which is 10.00% of total population. The number of population is gradually decreasing with the increasing of per capita income of the population.

VI.EDUCATION:

Dr.S.Radhakrishnan says there cannot be an educated people without educated women. If general education had to be limited to men or women, that opportunity should be given to women, for it would more surely be passed on to the next generations. Education is one of the finest means of reducing inequality in every society. Social status of a person can be improved by Education. Education helps a person to accrue knowledge, skills values and attitudes. These help one to lead a desired quality of life. So both Education both for Men and Women is important in every walk of life. According to Human Resource Development Education is one of the best ways to reducing inequality in every society. Education is one of the most important helpful components of the people for enhance lifestyle by increasing per capita income.

Table-3: State Wise Literacy Details in India

Sl.No.	State/ Union Territory	Literacy Rate in % (Person)	Literacy Rate in % (Male)	Literacy Rate in % (Female)
1	**Kerala**	94.0	96.1	92.1
2	**Lakshadweep**	91.8	95.6	87.9
3	Mizoram	91.3	93.3	89.3
4	Goa	88.7	92.6	84.7
5	Tripura	87.2	91.5	82.7
6	Daman & Diu	87.1	91.5	79.5
7	Andaman & Nicobar Island	86.6	90.3	82.4
8	NCT of Delhi	86.2	90.9	80.8
9	**Chandigarh**	86.0	90.0	81.2
10	Pondicherry	85.8	91.3	80.7
11	Himachal Pradesh	82.8	89.5	75.9
12	Maharashtra	82.3	88.4	75.9
13	Sikkim	81.4	86.6	75.6
14	Tamil Nadu	80.1	86.8	73.4
15	Nagaland	79.6	82.8	76.1
16	Manipur	79.2	86.1	72.4
17	Uttrakhand	78.8	87.4	70.0
18	Gujarat	78.0	85.8	69.7
19	West Bengal	76.3	81.7	70.5
20	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	76.2	85.2	64.3
21	Punjab	75.8	80.4	70.7
22	Haryana	75.6	84.1	65.9
23	**Karnataka**	75.4	82.5	68.1
24	Meghalaya	74.4	76.0	72.9
25	Odisha	72.9	81.6	64.0
26	Assam	72.2	77.8	66.3
27	Chhattisgarh	70.3	80.3	60.2
28	Madhya Pradesh	69.3	78.7	59.2
29	Uttar Pradesh	67.7	77.3	57.2
30	Jammu & Kashmir	67.2	76.8	56.4
31	Andhra Pradesh	67.0	74.9	59.1
32	**Jharkhand**	66.4	76.8	55.4
33	Rajasthan	66.1	79.2	52.1
34	Arunachal Pradesh	65.4	72.6	57.7
35	Bihar	61.8	71.2	51.5
36	Telangana	66.46	74.95	57.92

Source: Census 2011, India 2016

In the census 2011, a person aged seven and above, who can both read and write with understanding in any language is treated as literate. A person, who can only read but can't write, is not literate. India's literacy rate is at 74.04%.Kerala is the most literate state in India, with 93.91% literacy. Bihar is the least literate state in India, with a literacy of 63.82%.India's literacy rate is at 74.04%. This fact is not very encouraging to a country like India which is dreaming to become a global player in every aspect of development. So if India really wants to become a global player it has to increase its expenditure on the education. All the developed countries of the world are spending more than 5% of their GDP while India is spending less than 3% of GDP. According to the 2011 census, Telangana's literacy rate is 66.46%. Male literacy and female literacy are 74.95% and 57.92%, respectively.

Table-4: Literacy rate by Level of Per Capita Income

PerCapita Income (Rs.)	Literate	Illiterate
<500	59.56	40.44
501-1000	66.47	33.53
1001-1500	82.05	17.95
1501-2000	85.71	14.29
>2000	100.00	100.0

Source: Field Survey Data

Table-4 reveals that 59.56 % of the total population of less than Rs. 500 per capita income are literate, followed by 66.47% of Rs. 501-1000 per capita income, 82.05% of Rs. 1001-1500 per capita income, 85.71% of Rs. 1501 – 2000 per capita income and 100% literate peoples are found under Rs. 2000 and above per capita income. Because of low level of literacy, scope of the work participation in non agricultural sector would be reduced and people cannot exit from primary activities, in which returns are very low. Lifestyle of an individual's is purely dependent on the level of education. Marlin *et al.,* (2008) noted that low literacy levels have negative impacts on individuals (such as children, youth, adults and seniors), health and well being, community participation, training, labour force, employment, productivity, and economic development [8].

Table-5: Levels of Education by Level of Per Capita Income

Per Capita Income (Rs.)	Level of Education						
	Primary	Pre Secondary	Secondary	Higher Secondary	Graduate	Post Graduate	Others
<500	33.94	41.28	19.27	4.59	0.92	0.00	0.00
501-1000	35.65	34.78	20.00	5.22	4.32	0.00	0.00
1001-1500	19.88	33.38	20.88	5.25	15.63	0.00	0.00
1501-2000	25.00	25.00	13.67	21.00	8.32	0.00	0.00
>2000	3.76	20.05	26.57	21.81	10.52	11.52	0.00

Source: Field Survey Data

Table-5 reflect that in below Rs. 500 income group, maximum literate persons are pre secondary educated (41.28%), followed by primary level (33.94), secondary level (19.27%), higher secondary level (4.59%), and graduate level (0.92%) of education. In Rs. 501-1000 per capita income the share of literate persons are as follows: 35.65% are primary educated, 34.78% are pre secondary, 20% are secondary educated, 5.22% are higher secondary educated, and 4.32% are graduates. Between in Rs. 1001-1500 income group, most of literate peoples are pre secondary educated (33.38%), followed by primary level (20.88%) and secondary level (19.88%), graduate level (15.63%) and higher secondary level (6.25%) of education. Between Rs. 1501-2000 income group literate peoples are distributed by primary (25%), pre secondary (25%) and higher secondary (21%), followed by secondary level (13.67%) and graduate level (8.32%) of education. And Rs. 2000 and above income groups' literate persons are constitute by secondary level education is 26.57%, higher secondary is 21.81%, pre secondary is 20.05%, post graduate is 11.52%, graduate level is 10.52% and primary level is 3.76%.

Figure 1: Educational attainment by level of per capita income of population
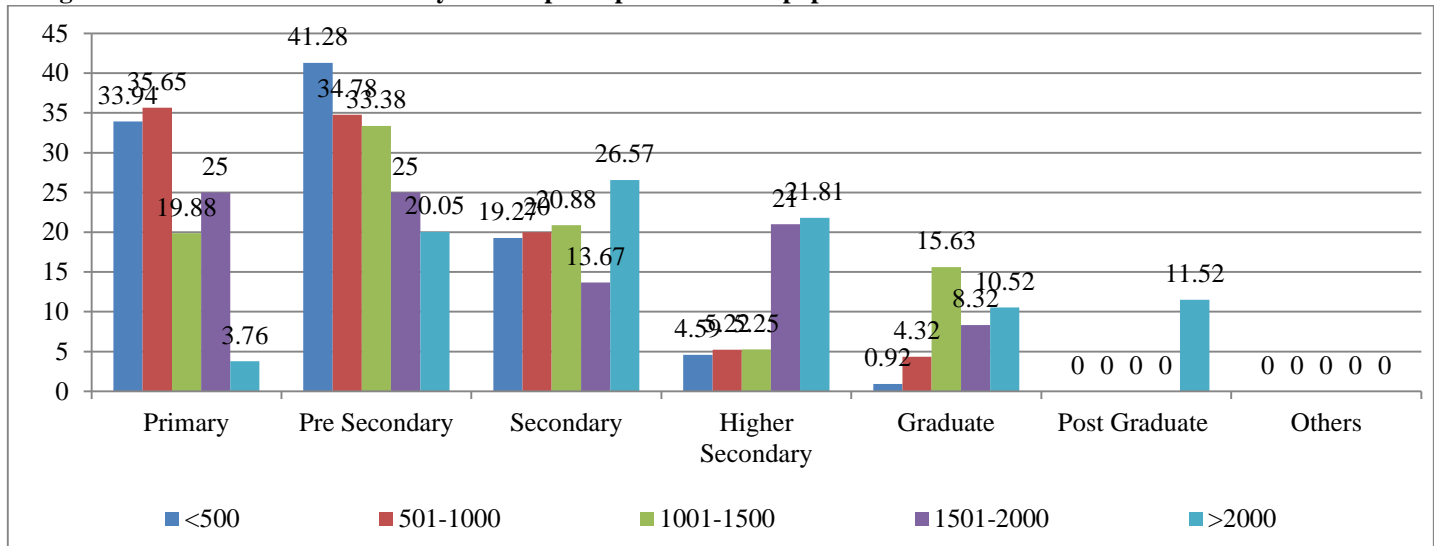
Source: From the Table-5

VII.OCCUPATION:

The occupational pattern shows that agriculture is the main occupation of the people and constitutes the key sector of the economy in the selected village of Tavanampalli Mandal employs nearly 85 per cent of the local labour force. The rest of the labour force is engaged in other sectors like construction, ginning, processing etc.The occupational classification of respondents was done on the basis of total income from farm and non-farm sources. An individual getting more than half of his income from a particular source was categorized in that occupation. Occupational distribution of respondents is presented in Table-10. To find out the differential impact, if any on various occupational categories, the total Households were broadly classified into five groups viz. 1.Cultivators,2 Daily Wage labourers,3.Rural Artisans 4.Working /Service 5 Others category. The data on different occupational groups are given in Table-11.

The occupation of an individual refers to his trade, profession, type of work etc. The occupational structure of a society is the product of a number of intimately related factors [9]. Occupation is a major factor to determine the economic status of an individual, as different type of occupation reflects different incomes. In the study area all people are actively engaged in cultivation. In spite of it, many of them are also engaged in other occupations like, Daily Wage Labour, Rural Artisan, business, service, etc.

Table-6: Occupational Composition by Level of Per capita Income

Occupation	Per Capita Income (Rs.)				
	<500	501-1000	1001-1500	1501-2000	>2000
Cultivators	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
DailyWage Labour	45.06	23.80	0.00	0.00	0.00
Rural Artisans	22.80	26.80	28.00	0.00	0.00
Service Sector	0.00	0.00	15.50	33.33	100.00
Others Specify	13.74	7.45	62.50	33.33	0.00

Source: Field Survey Data

Table-6, Among below Rs. 500 income group of people are engaged Daily Wage labourers (45.06%) in agricultural fields, brick kilns, rice mills, etc. Between Rs. 501-1000 income populations are engaged as Daily Wage labourers are (23.80%),Rural Artisans (26.80%), and other activities (7.45%). Among Rs. 1001-1500 income population's major occupation is others (62.50%) viz. Peddler of rice and jute, shopkeeper, etc., followed by service (15.50%) and Rural Artisans (28%). Between Rs. 1501-2000 income populations are engaged in business (33.33%) and service (33.33%). And Rs. 2000 and above income populations are actively engaged in service sector (100%). They are mainly associated with teaching profession or clerical service and army police. As they all are educated, can link with tertiary sector, which reflects them, a better social and economic position in the study area.

Figure: 2 Occupational Composition by Level of Per capita Income
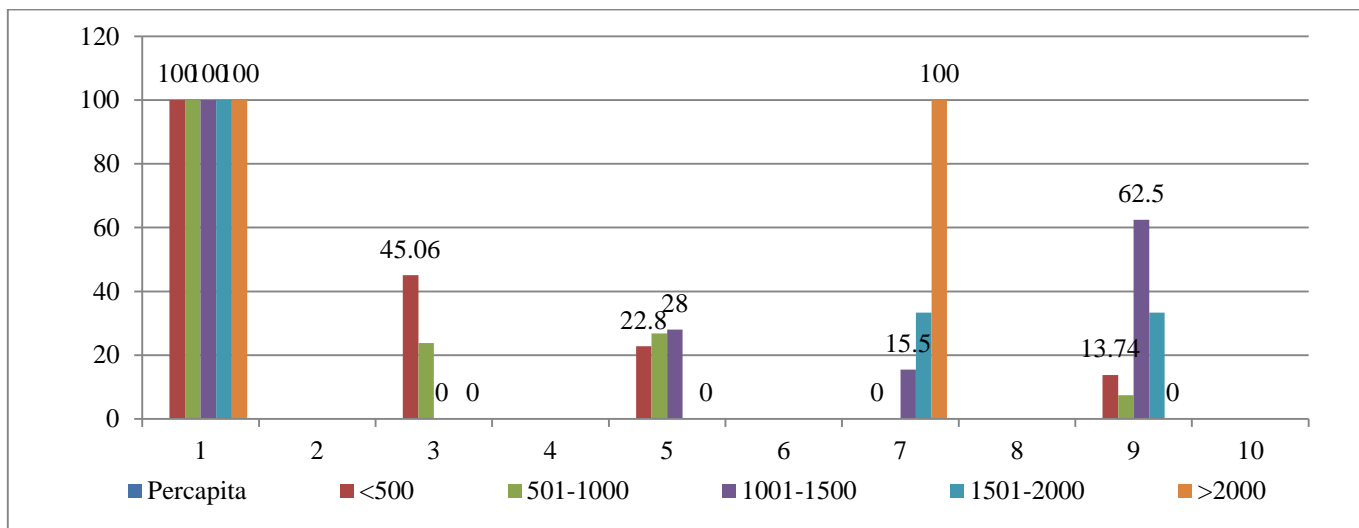
Source: From the Table-6

VIII.HOUSE PARTICULARS:

The ownership of land house determines the capacity to take control over assets to take decisions by the rural people. The in regard to caste-wise distribution of house particulars in selected samples of Aragonda Village.

Table -7: Type of houses by Level of Per Capita Income

Types of House	Per Capita Income (Rs.)				
	<500	501-1000	1001-1500	1501-2000	>2000
Pucca House	0.00	0.00	0.00	41.5	100.00
Kutcha House	84.56	77.6	40.00	0.00	0.00
RCC	3.03	12.90	45.00	52.00	0.00
Mixed House	12.5	9.5	15.00	6.5	0.00
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source: Field Survey Data

In rural areas, different types of house are found viz. Hut, Pucca house, kutcha house, RCC and mixed type house. Types of houses distribution is solely determined by the income of an individual's or family. Among below Rs. 500 income groups of people, kutcha type (84.56%) of houses is mostly found in the study area, followed by mixed type house (12.5%) and no Pucca house is found in that income group of peoples , because of low income. Among income groups of Rs. 501-1000, kutcha type of houses are mostly found (77.6%), followed by mixed type houses (9.5%) and RCC houses (12.90%). Among Rs. 1001-1500 income group of peoples, distribution of kutcha houses are (40% each) followed by RCC (45%). Among Rs. 1501-2000 income group, 41.5% people have Pucca house, as they pay out their surplus earnings on education for their children. 100% Pucca house are found in the Rs. 2000 and above income group of people, as they are 100% literate which reflects them to more earning by engaged in different non-agricultural activities. Among all sample household, only this group of people's enjoy a little better lifestyle.

IX.SANITATION PARTICULARS:

Lack of proper sanitation is the major concern in India basically in rural areas of the country. Proper sanitation is most important for a healthy life. But lack of finance and awareness of rural population, very small people are getting facilitated of latrine.

Table-8: Latrine types by Level of Per Capita Income

Type of Latrines used	Per Capita Income (Rs.)				
	<500	501-1000	1001-1500	1501-2000	>2000
Flush Latrine	0.00	3.23	15.50	25.00	100.00
Pit Latrine	23.88	32.80	59.00	53.33	0.00
No Latrine	76.12	67.2	25.5	21.67	0.00

Source: Field Survey Data

In the study area, uses of latrine are very few (Table-8). Among below Rs. 500 per capita incomes population, very few have pit latrine (23.88%) and remaining 76.12% population are used open space for their sanitation. Between Rs. 501-1000 incomes population, availability of flush latrine (3.23%) is very low, pit latrine (32.80%) and nearly 67.2% population have no latrine facility. Between Rs. 1001-1500 incomes group of people have flush latrine (15.50%), pit latrine (59%) and 25.5% have no latrine facility in their houses. Between Rs. 1501-2000 incomes people have Flush Latrine 25.00, Pit latrine (53.33%) and remaining 21.67% have no latrine facility. And Rs. 2000 and above incomes population, all have flush latrine (100%).

Table-9: Savings by Level of Per Capita Income

Saving Status	Per Capita Income (Rs.)				
	<500	501-1000	1001-1500	1501-2000	>2000
Savings	5.88	21.90	50.00	100.00	100.00
Insurance	32.35	61.29	50.00	100.00	100.00

Source: Field Survey Data

As saving is surplus earning, the lower income (below Rs. 500) population cannot save their earning because management of three times meals and cloths is challengeable task within this income. A small portion (5.88%) of population try to save a little bit and a small portion (32.35) of population run insurance for marriage of their girls. But comparatively higher (Rs. 1501-2000 and 2000 and above) population saves their earning for future needs and runs insurance for secure of life.

X.CONCLUSION

The above analysis plainly indicates that overall socio-economic status of population in the village is not good. 59.56% of literates and 40.44% of illiterates total sample population's monthly income is below Rs. 500.The lower income groups of people mainly engaged in agricultural fields, rice mills, brick kilns, Construction work or other places as Daily wage Labour. Most of them are still not getting many facilities like electricity, safe drinking water, proper sanitation etc., where comparatively higher income peoples are getting some of these facilities. Although comparatively higher income population enjoy a better life but lower income population's socio-economic situation is very risky due to mainly low level of literacy and low income resulting create many social issues and pollution.

XI.SUGGESTIONS

In the light of the empirical study the following few suggestions for the improvement of socio- economic conditions of population of Aragonda village in the study area.

1. To improve the educational status of the people in the study area by set up new primary and secondary schools.

2. Mark the people under Below Poverty Line (BPL) and provide them BPL card so that they can get more facilities from the Government site.

3. To provide primary health care services and creates awareness about health among the villagers.

4. Job oriented programmes should be implemented in the village level.

5. To introduce various employment programmes for the youth population to reduce the burden of unemployment.

6. To provide small loans to the villagers to run various small household industrial and Income generating activities.

7. To introduce subsides programmes for various activities, especially, agriculture & allied activities, social services and credit.

8. To introduce various welfare schemes for poor peoples of the village irrespective of the Caste and Gender.

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