

E1-38: Baseline study for the Samurdhi programme

W P Munasinghe, P N P Fernando

(Dept of Statistics and Computer Science, University of Colombo, Colombo 3)

Samurdhi is a government sponsored development/welfare programme and a baseline study for this was carried out for Hambantota district. Data was collected in the form of filled questionnaire from each household applicant for Samurdhi benefits. A sample of 3% was selected (using a two stage cluster sampling method) from the beneficiaries, where divisional secretaries

(DS divisions) were randomly selected in the first stage and households were selected from the selected DS divisions by using Systematic sampling method in the second stage. Non beneficiaries (approximately 1/6 of the beneficiaries) were also selected using the same procedure.

Demographic profiles of the sample population such as household income, family size, household population, expenditure on food and health, latrine facilities and floor area of the house were considered while economic aspects such as monthly household income, expenditure, indebtedness, savings, labour force participation and percentage monthly household expenditure pattern according to household type and sector (urban-rural and rural) were also considered. Social conditions such as living, housing, ownership of assets and level of educational attainment were analysed. Poverty profiles and indicators for monitoring the poverty were also analysed.

Association between the two variables was tested using Chi-Squared test in contingency tables. Multivariate statistical analysis techniques such as comparison of several multivariate population means (one-way MANOVA) and simultaneous Bonferroni confidence intervals were used to study the expenditure patterns. A linear logistic regression model was used for modelling the poverty profiles. Assumptions under MANOVA, goodness of fit of the fitted linear logistic regression model and diagnostics for that model were checked.

Most of the socio-economic and demographic profiles of the households for Hambantota are very poor among beneficiaries, also some percentage of non beneficiaries gives the same. Average monthly household expenditure patterns are different for both household type and sector type, while income level, living condition, ownership of assets and indebtedness are the most related variables with poverty.