

The Economics of Socio-Cultural Exclusion: A Behaviorist Perspective

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ABSTRACT-- *India's focus on inclusive growth in the 12th Five Year Plan paved the way for extensive studies on the state of exclusions and deprivations deep rooted in our socio-cultural milieu. Socio-economic and socio-cultural exclusions can't be seen solely from the stereotypical canvas of income rather the contemporary stories of deprivations have to be told from the perspective of behavioral economics. Social marginalization is a hindrance which does have an income effect but identity of an individual plays a dominant role in seeing someone as included or deprived of the basic socio-economic and cultural amenities. A case study of three backward villages in the remotest part of the state of Odisha was conducted with the main objectives of exploring how socio-economic and cultural deprivations have been responsible for the low standard of living of the masses in the rural areas and to determine how identity plays an important role in such exclusions of the masses. With the help of descriptive statistics and a dummy independent variable regression model, this particular study has inferred that exclusion of various types and degrees have reasons and also explanation lies mostly in the demand side. Further, behavioral actions and perceptions of the masses must be prioritized while unfolding the real reasons behind such marginalization of the margins.*

Key Words-- *Exclusion, Deprivations, marginalization, Behavioral Economic perspective, Identity, Behavioral Perception*

I. INTRODUCTION

When Professor Amartya Sen's most popular book 'Development as Freedom' got published, one thing that became clear to the world that poverty needed to be seen from a wider perspective. Not only a bigger canvas but a new approach was what warranted understanding deprivations of multiple kinds and degrees. Sen's conceptualization of 'unfreedoms', 'missing women' and 'capability deprivations' changed the direction of the entire worldwide debate on the multiple dimensions of poverty. If we look at the problem from the perspective of human development or human poverty (HDI or HPI), there is no denying the fact that deprivations caused by socio-economic and cultural exclusions are major contributors to the current state that we Indians are in.

There are a number of ways to define what exclusion is and what different forms exclusions can take in underdeveloped countries like India. Simply speaking exclusion is an act of preventing someone from entering into a place, taking advantage of an opportunity and taking part in any activity there. This means the process through which individuals or groups are fully or partially denied from full participation in the society or economy they live in. In the Indian context, exclusion can be seen from different dimensions like social exclusion, economic exclusion and cultural exclusion and so on.

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II. SOCIAL EXCLUSION

Broadly Social Exclusion can be classified into two types like (i) caste and ethnicity based exclusion and (ii) untouchability based exclusion.

The age old practice of caste system in India determined on the basis of the birth of a person and his occupation and therefore it has become hereditary in nature. This has created a social hierarchy with the higher caste people at the top of the ladder with more socio-economic and cultural rights and the lower caste people are left with very minimal rights to enjoy along.

Further, people at the bottom of the caste hierarchy are categorized and castigated as untouchables. The untouchables are considered as impure and polluting so they are unfit for social association and keeping relation with the higher caste people. They are discriminated on the civil, cultural, economic and behavioral grounds.

Social exclusion is generally practiced mainly in three forms like excluding the people socially, economically and politically. Social exclusion occurs when a group or community is denied from entry into public places, temples, ponds, schools, hospitals and treated unequally at the time of availing of opportunities meant for all. The cultural practices they are associated with are seen as outdated, unscientific and sometimes uncivilized too. Another form of exclusion is excluding the people economically and it occurs because due to denial of equal rights and opportunities to the lower caste groups which leads to lower capability. Exclusion may be practiced in the labor market through denial of jobs, in the capital market by denial of possession of assets like agricultural land, in the consumer market by the denial of sale and purchase of consumer goods and so on. Discrimination also occurs when certain category of jobs are not being assigned to people belonging to the lower castes because of the notion of purity. So they are paid less than the others and in the credit market they have to pay more interest on loans. Practices of discrimination are also rampant in matters relating to political rights in case of which the Dalits or the lower caste people are not allowed to participate in the decision making process.

1.2. CULTURAL EXCLUSION:

Social exclusion can't be seen in isolation because both the social and cultural exclusions are interrelated in nature and also in practice. When exclusions start in the educational spheres, it directly affects the cultural components of the society. Those who are at the societal margins have no or very less access to modern educational facilities and resources. Educational exclusions do have multi-directional impacts on the economic status, cultural practices and political participation of the people being excluded. Further, there has always been a huge difference between the cultural practices followed by the dominant groups and the rest of the citizenry. Due to social stratifications and cultural differentiation, people belonging to the lower segments of the society are being deprived of participation in mainline cultural and spiritual processes and practices too.

1.3. SOCIO-CULTURAL EXCLUSION:

Socio-cultural exclusion can be defined as something which denies people the opportunities to attain and to maintain a universally acceptable standard of living. The features of socio-cultural exclusion can be seen in three

different ways. First it takes into account the culturally defined social groups, then it is embodied in the social relations and finally it affects the rights and entitlements of the people.

Seen in terms of a realistic perspective, socio-cultural exclusion has an undeniable impact on the standard of living of the excluded communities more specifically they face discrimination in accessing the available resources. For example there may be a clean water pump nearby their home but those who are socio-culturally excluded are not allowed to access it. Exclusion denies people of the benefit of development, causes choice failure and deprives them of the opportunity to access and utilize the products and services they deserve to. It also denies the voice to claim their rights, which makes them weaker than the others and further isolate them from a justified common living.

1.4. ECONOMIC DIMENSION OF SOCIO-CULTURAL EXCLUSION:

Seen from the all-encompassing canvas of human development, being socially and culturally excluded is a multidimensional phenomenon which can't be limited only to the material deprivation. It is closely connected with deprivations like lack of access to employment, access to better healthcare services, lack of proper nutrition, unhygienic state of living, poor social relationships, hindrances in the consumer and capital goods markets and so on. The major areas which can be categorized as the economic dimension of socio-cultural exclusion are as follows.

- Exclusion in the job markets:- because of the notions of impurity and presumed ineffectiveness the untouchables are denied to work inside the homes of the so called upper caste people. For the same work they are offered lower wages than the upper class. There are certain jobs like leather work, scavenging, drum beating, sweeping etc. which have been specifically earmarked for the untouchables on the basis of their birth. In the public sector also the upper class people hesitate to seat near them in their work place which makes negative behavioral impact.
- Exclusion in the consumer goods market:- The untouchables are not allowed to enter into the common markets of villages for sell and purchase of commodities and even services. So unavoidably they sell their goods at lower prices to their neighbors or to the families of their own caste.
- Exclusion in capital market:- In capital market the untouchables are charged with a higher interest rate for taking loans/credit from the upper class people but they have to give loans with no interest or lower rate of interest to the people belonging to the upper class and caste.
- Exclusion in resource distributions:- In every villages the untouchables have to reside in the slum areas in unhygienic condition and mostly in isolated pockets . They can't possess landed property or the possession of landed property is marginal. So the upper class people have tremendous control over the entire resources and they use the untouchables as their labourers. The upper caste people are still the ruling class in Indian villages.
- Exclusion in education and health care services:-Even if the govt. is providing free and compulsory education, children of the untouchables are deprived of proper educational facilities because they are engaged in different work to earn wages; they lack the cognitive capability due to severe malnutrition. In the general schools also they are not allowed to sit and eat with the upper class students. Lack of food and proper sanitation facilities

deteriorate their hygienic condition and they are also discriminated in the common hospitals by the upper class employees.

All these are the reasons why capability deprivation through exclusion leads to multi-dimensional poverty. Hence, socio-cultural exclusion is one of the major causes of global poverty. Such exclusion-based deprivations are responsible for choice failure, identity crisis and capability poverty.

III. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

This particular study has been conducted with the following objectives-

- (i) To study the socio-economic and cultural status of rural people in terms of their behavioral perceptions.
- (ii) To see how socio-economic and cultural deprivations are responsible for low standard of living of the masses in the rural areas of the study region.
- (iii) To determine how identity plays an important role in the socio-economic and cultural status of the rural people.

1.6. DESCRIPTION OF THE STUDY AREA:

This particular study has been conducted in the Western Odisha, especially by collecting primary data from three backward villages under the Bhatli block of the Bargarh district of Odisha. The villages are Sulsulia, Kendugudia and Kuisira which are having population strength of 1718, 959 and 1126 respectively. In this area most of the people are dependent on agriculture as their primary occupation. Literacy rate is very low in comparison to the other areas of the Bargarh district and that may be the reason why people are practicing untouchability in a big way in these villages. Typical socio-economic problems like illiteracy, unemployment, low standard of living, backward agriculture, superstitious practices and technological backwardness etc. are widely evident in the lives of the people of this region.

IV. MATERIALS AND METHOD

Methodology:

A. Sample: To conduct this study 120 samples have been taken from the selected study area which has been selected on the basis of convenient sampling. By taking primary data, simple descriptive statistics and inferential statistical methods have been used to interpret the data and results. The major variables which have been used in this study are income, caste and perception of people about cultural factors as indicative variables to study the economic, social and cultural status of the rural people respectively. Further, this study has considered social identity of the people as one independent variable of social exclusion and participation of the people in religion and religious affairs as another independent variable representing cultural exclusion. Since these independent variables are qualitative in nature, their statistical characterizations have been done in terms of independent dummy variables and per capita income has been categorized as a quantitative dependent variable. With the help of these variables multi-variable dummy independent regression model has been used to find out the results.

B. HYPOTHESES OF THE STUDY:

Based on the above stated objectives of the study, the following hypotheses have been outlined for necessary validation.

H0 : Identity of an individual has important bearing on his/her economic status.

H0 : Cultural exclusions are responsible for low economic status of the rural people.

C. Methods and Tools used:

Data have been collected by adopting the technique of the direct interview method. This study is a descriptive study based on the survey method. Direct interviews have been done to collect primary data from the three villages considered for the study. The data so collected have been organized in terms of tables and figures. In conformity with the stated objectives and the hypotheses considered for the study, descriptive statistics have been adopted along with a multiple regression model with dummy independent variables.

V. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS:

As regards the objectives of the present study, the following figures as represented in terms of the tables and graph will clearly bring forth the results to support the objectives and justify the hypotheses as well.

Table 1: Socio-economic Indicators showing Exclusions and Deprivations

Others Socio-economic Indicators					
Sl N o	Socio-economic Indicators	Social Category of Respondents (%)			
		Gen	OB C	SC	ST
1	Non-availability of separate bedroom for adult members of the family	18.18	36.5 9	56.6 7	61.5 4
2	Separate kitchen room not available	18.18	43.9 0	60.0 0	69.2 3
3	Sanitation facility not available	2.50	39.0 2	33.3 3	66.6 7
4	Unsafe sources of drinking water	0.00	0.00	3.33	0.00
5	Non-gas based cooking fuel	9.09	26.8 3	66.6 7	43.5 9
6	Non-availability of electricity connection	0.00	4.88	23.3 3	15.3 8
7	Non-availability of an active bank A/C or partial use of the A/C only to access direct benefit transfer by Govt.	0.00	2.44	3.33	2.56
8	Using the same A/C also for own savings	100.0 0	36.5 9	13.3 3	25.6 4

9	No idea about any Insurance policies or products	27.27	48.7	70.0	79.4
			8	0	9

Source: Compiled from own survey: Primary Data

In this particular study efforts have been made to organize the primary data collected from the field in terms of tables and graphs. While tabulating the data and in finding out the results apropos the objectives set out at the beginning, percentage figures category-wise have been presented in columns against each socio-economic indicators in table-1 and in the socio-cultural status through perception revelations in table-2. The figures in table-1 in percentage represents the socio-economic status of the rural people in terms of different dimensions of access, equity and inclusion. A close inspection of the figures in percentages shown in the above table-1 with respect to a number of physical dimensions of socio-economic profile bring forth the fact that people belonging to the lower caste and class like the SCs and STs and in some cases even the OBCs have deprivations in terms of multiple dimensions. Factors like availability of separate bedrooms, specific kitchen room, availability of sanitation facilities, use of non-gas based cooking fuels and use of bank accounts for own savings not just for receiving DBTs of the government as a part of the Jan Dhan Yojana etc. are clearly throwing lights on the status of the people in the rural areas and their actual beings in terms of access, equity and inclusion.

Thus, a close scrutiny of the figures obtained through the survey method reveals that socio-economic exclusions and deprivations among the rural masses is profound and mostly seen in the families belonging to the SCs, STs and even OBCs. So, deprivations are class-based and caste-centric too.

Another important dimension worth exploring in this connection is whether exclusions in terms of socio-cultural characteristics of the rural population can be ascertained through behavioral perceptions of the concerned masses. Although experimental and neuro-economic techniques are the best suited to explore the cultural dimensions of exclusions through behavioral perceptions of the population, efforts in this study has been made to assess the same through the questionnaire method. The objective was to look into the behavioral perceptions of the concerned sampled respondents with the help of a number of questions relating to the socio-cultural characteristics of the rural populace. The following representative questions, as given in the table below were asked to explore how people think about their own position in the village ecosystem vis-à-vis the others living there for years together. Public perception about their own position in the social stratification is nothing but an indication of the identity of the concerned respondents. Identity has an important role to play in the socio-economic and socio-cultural life of the people. Hence, one thing that can be inferred is that exclusions have something to do with identity of an individual in the society. Amartya Sen's concept of unfreedoms-led deprivations and Akerlof's concept of identity economics are highly relevant so far as the issues of exclusions, capability deprivations and multi-dimensional poverty are concerned.

Table 2: Socio-Cultural Status ascertained from the Behavioral Perceptions of the Respondents

Socio-Cultural status ascertained from the behavioral perception of the Respondents				
Perceptions	Percentage of Respondents saying Yes to the questions in terms of Social category			
	General	OBC	SC	ST

		M a l e	F e m a l e	M a l e	F e m a l e	M a l e	Fe ma l e	M a l e	Fe ma l e
	You are very low in the social strata of the village	3. 7 0	1 4. 2 8	8 7 .5 0	6 6. 6 0	8 5 .7 1	80	5 5. 5 5	61. 90
	You belong to the lower economic class of privilege	1 0. 0 0	1 3. 2 0	2 2 .2 2	3 5. 7 1	3 8 .	80	3 3. 5	85
	You believe in the superiority of the upper class families	6 2. 5 0	6 6. 6 0	5 .4 0	7. 1 4 4	2 3 .8 0	10	5. 5 5	9.5 2
	You believe that the lower caste people should give respect and superior position to the upper caste families	6 2. 5 0	6 6. 6 0	7 .4 0	2 8. 5 7	4 2 .8 5	40	2 7. 7 7	14. 28
	Religion and religious affairs are the domain of upper caste people	5 0	3 3. 3 3	3 .7 0	7. 1 4	4 .7 6	20	1 1. 1 1	14. 28
	Social stratification on the basis of caste is justified	3 7. 5 0	3 3. 3 3	3 .7 0	4. 5 0	1 4 .2 8	8.30	1 1. 1 1	4.7 6
	Entry of untouchables in the religious premises is justified	1 2. 5 0	6 6. 6 0	8 8 .8 8	9 2. 8 5	9 0 .4 7	70	8 3. 3 3	66. 66

Use of common properties resources like – ponds etc by the lower class people with the upper caste is not justified	8	6	1	1	4	20	2	14.
	7.	6.	1	4.	.		2.	28
	5	6	.	2	7		2	
	0	0	1	8	6		2	
			1					
Religious celebrations like RathaYatra , Ganesh Puja etc belongs to the upper caste people only	0	0	0	0	0	0	5.	0
							5	
							5	
Works like scavenging , casual labor , beating drum , leather work etc must be confined to the people of the lower castes	5	6	3	0	4	30	1	9.5
	0	6.	.	.	.		1.	2
		6	7		7		1	
		0	0		6		1	
Higher Education and highly paid executive jobs are meant for the higher caste people only	6.	3	0	0	0	0	5.	0
	7	3.					5	
	0	3					5	
		3						

Source: Compiled from own survey: Primary Data

The figures expressed in percentages in the table above (Table No. 2) show the socio-cultural status ascertained from the behavioral perceptions of the respondents. We have divided the total respondents in terms of three categories and again each category is classified as male and female. These figures obtained from the field are showing very interesting results. The first two questions, as in the first two rows of the table reveal the identity of individuals belonging to the lower strata of the society. Very high percentage of people belonging to the SC and ST category and to some extent the OBC category believes that they belong to the lowest rung of the society both caste-wise and class-wise. The General category people think just the reverse. It implies that people belonging to the socio-culturally and socio-economically deprived sections have negative behavioral perceptions such that they themselves are part of the marginalized and excluded categories, even if such a classification runs the risk of being termed as more of academic interest than anything else. This is nothing but the issue of identity as a conditional factor in influencing exclusions and low economic accomplishments. Thus, identity plays an important role in the socio-economic and socio-cultural exclusions of the masses in the rural areas of our country. Deprivations therefore, can't always and in entirety be ascribed to low per capita income and other economic factors. Behavioral factor like identity acts as an important determinant of how and where do people find themselves in the whole structure of the socio-cultural and psycho-economic pyramids.

Another important aspect that emerges from this study is that people belonging to the lower social strata don't believe in the superiority of the upper caste or higher class people. The other entries in the table (Table No. 2) and

the associated figures show that inferiority complex is stronger among the lower strata people but they don't accept putting the well-to-do in the superior positions. Thus, identity is not about what others are or how others are doing rather it is about what we think of us in a given situation or in a given social set up. Hence, exclusions of various types have much, although not entirely, to do with our own perceptions about identity of self which may be social, economic, cultural and/or even emotional /psychological.

1.9. Do Exclusions have an Income Effect?

The complex issue of exclusion and deprivations can also be seen in terms of the income-criteria. The following tables clearly reveal that social exclusions are closely associated with low standard of living and the relationship seems to be bilateral. Low income causes high deprivations and social exclusions create conditions for further lowering of economic standard. Therefore, exclusions and deprivations in the Indian context can't be seen separately from a canvas having income as the main content. A two-way income effect is observed in the study of social exclusions and deprivations.

Table 3: Per Capita Income of the People in terms of Category and Occupation

CATEGORYWISE PER-CAPITA INCOME IN TERMS OF OCCUPATION				
OCCUPATION	PER-CAPITA INCOME (Rupees)			
	GEN	OBC	SC	ST
FARM	7000	6423	5615	4600
NON-FARM	9938	10875	5714	4131
NON-WORKING	500	458	600	1727

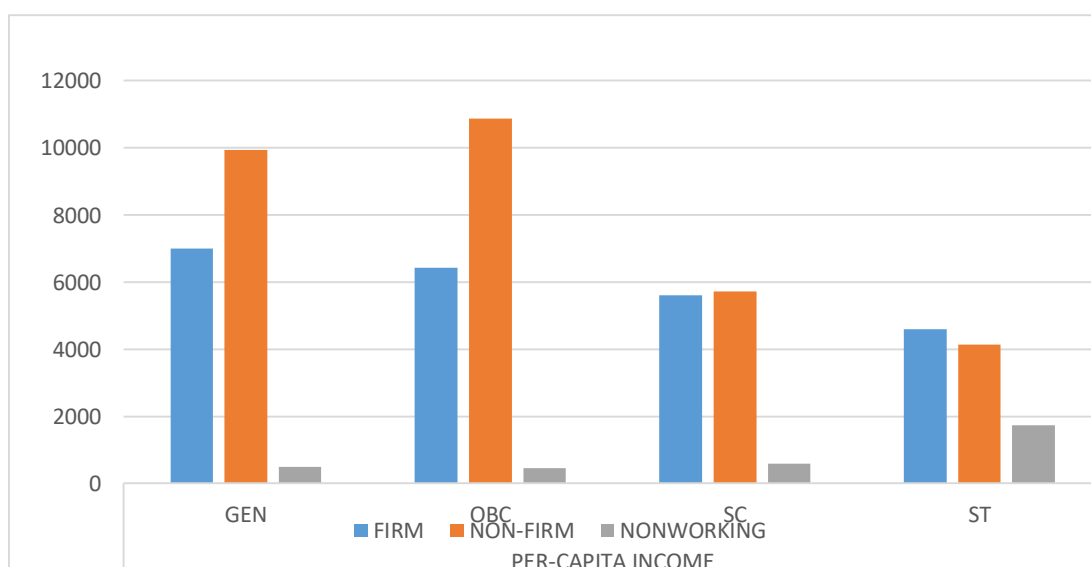


Figure 1: Per Capita Income of the People in terms of Category and Occupation

Source: Compiled from own survey: Primary Data

What we can infer from the above table (Table No. 03) and the associated graph is that people belonging to the SC and ST category are also having very low per capita income as compared to the general and OBC categories. It means those groups of rural population which are socially and culturally excluded and deprived are the people that have a very low economic standard. Thus, exclusions can't be seen only from the perspective of low per capita income rather it is such a complex phenomenon which involves within its gambit the social, cultural and psychological/behavioral components. If we look at the problem from a different standpoint, then the socio-economic and socio-cultural exclusions in rural areas have also a strong psycho-economic dimension.

The psycho-economic implications of exclusions can also be substantiated when we analyze the figures derived from the survey conducted in the three villages of the study area of Odisha. The following table (Table No. 4) clearly brings forth the economic status of the rural population seen in terms of social criteria like category and educational attainment. More than two-third people have per capita income not more than Rs. 3000.00 per month and majority of the people belonging to the SC; ST and OBC categories have per capita income within Rs. 100.00 per day which is very less in any standard. Needless to have a special mention of the fact that people with higher educational attainments are the ones with better/higher per capita income across categories. Thus, the bottom line is that social capital, economic standard, cultural characteristics and behavioral traits like identity of an individual are the multiple intertwined factors which are responsible for exclusions and deprivations of numerous types as we find in the rural areas of our country. Policy paradigms, therefore, have to have a clear orientation towards behavioral economic variables like the identity of an individual.

Table 4: Per Capita Income in terms of Category and Educational Attainment

SAMPLE PROFILE INTERMS OF EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT														
INTERMS OF CATEGORY AND PER-CAPITA FAMILY INCOME (%)														
PER - CAP ITA INC OM E RAN GE	CATEGORYWISE PERCAPITA INCOME WITH EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATION													
	GEN			OBC				SC			ST			T O T A L
	Illiterate	Below Matricul	Above	Illiterate	Matricul	Above	Illiterate	Matricul	Above	Illiterate	Matricul	Above		
UPT O 1000		0	0	1	7	2	5	9	2	2	2	20.		
			3	6	8	3	0	9	0	3	5	66		
			6	9	5	8				8				
			3		7	4				0				

1000 to 3000	10	4	2	5	3	7	3	6	3	5	3	50.41
ABOVE 3000	0	0	0	1	3	0	7	2	2	3	28.92	
				5	4	4	4	3	3	5		
				4	6	2	6		8	0		
				8	8	9	7		8	5		
				1	4				0	0		

Source: Compiled from own survey: Primary Data

1.10. Perception-based Determinants of Exclusion:

The entire discussion made so far has centered on the inter-linkages between social, cultural, economic and psychological factors in creating conditions for exclusions of the masses in the rural areas. While conducting this research, efforts have also been directed towards finding out the importance or strength of each type of factors influencing exclusions and deprivations. We have tried to rank the factors in terms of their weights as ascribed by the people themselves. All such ranks have been added and averaged together and mean ranks have been placed in the following table. This particular exercise is expected to throw lights on the strength or importance of factors affecting exclusions in rural areas. Most important factors have higher ranks followed by the other factors in order of importance.

Table 5: Perceptions of the Respondents about Being Deprived of Basic Requirements

Sl No	Perceptions being deprived of	Percentage of the Respondents saying Yes in terms of Social category							
		General		OBC		SC		ST	
		Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
1	Basic Education	0	33.33	7.4	0	9.52	50	27.7	19.04
2	Adequate healthcare	0	0	0	0	14.28	10	11.1	4.76
3	A better Social Position	0	0	11.1	28.57	95.2	90	77.7	90.47

4	Basic Social and Cultural facilities	0	0	48.14	42.85	100	90	88.88	100
5	Deserving Jobs and position in the Job market	100	100	25.95	21.42	38.9	40	55.55	38.09
6	Using the common property resources like Temples, ponds, roads and other facilities	0	0	7.40	28.57	95.23	90	83.33	80.95

Source: Compiled from own survey: Primary Data

A proper study of the above table (Table No. 5) allows us with the privilege of getting very interesting results in the sense that more than 80 percent people belonging to the SC and ST category believes that low social positions, lack of social and cultural facilities and socio-cultural ostracizations are responsible for socio-economic, cultural and identity-based exclusions in rural areas. For general category people the most important influential variable is economic in nature i.e. the lack of good and remunerative jobs. This clearly reflects the mismatch of prioritizations when we talk of conditional factors excluding people from the mainstream and most importantly this differentiation is behavioral in nature.

Table 6: Perceptions of the Respondents about the Causes of Deprivations

Sl. No	Causes of Deprivation	Rank on the basis of Respondents' Prioritization (in %)						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Caste factor	68	16	10	4	2	0.8	0
2	Religious status	5.7	28	27	20	20	7.4	2.4
3	Educational status	5.7	9	9	26	20	21	9.9
4	Behavioral attitude	6.6	12	27	13	14	15	17
5	Family history	0.8	7	13	15	15	23	26

6	Lack of Capability	4.9	2	10	11	21	15	36
7	Lack of Identity	6.6	25	17	13	20	12	6.6

Source: Compiled from own survey: Primary Data

Another interesting result is found when we have a closer look at the ranks of different factors as prioritized by the people themselves in terms of importance in their lives (Table No. 6). It is clearly visible that caste factor is the most important determinant of exclusions and deprivations followed by cultural and behavioral factors like religious status of the people, identity-related issues and subjective attitude. Thus, it has been proved that exclusions and deprivations are having social, economic, cultural and behavioral connotations. Identity and behavioral attitude of people do influence whether the masses are deprived or included in the mainstream of the society and economy.

To decipher more concrete results about the dominant determinants of exclusions, a multiple regression model has been used by taking two independent variables that are the perceptions of people whether they belong to the lower social strata of privilege which represent their social identity and whether the religion and religious affairs is the domain of upper caste family which represents the cultural exclusion of the lower caste people. As there two variables are qualitative in nature, we have taken these as dummy independent variables. The quantitative data that we have made use of is the per capita income of the people which represents the economic status of the excluded people. As per the model we have taken the per capita income as the dependent variable.

VI. REGRESSION RESULT

SUMMARY

OUTPUT

<i>Regression Statistics</i>	
R	
Square	0.232
Adjusted R Square	0.119
Standard Error	2100.662

Observations								
ANOVA								
	<i>df</i>	<i>SS</i>	<i>MS</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>Significance F</i>			
Regression	2	48110.7009	24055.3	5.493	0.00545			
Residual	117	51629.5127	441.279					
Total	119	56440.5828						

	<i>Coefficient</i>	<i>Standard Error</i>	<i>t Stat</i>	<i>P-value</i>	<i>Lower 95%</i>	<i>Upper 95%</i>	<i>Lower 95%</i>	<i>Upper 95%</i>
Intercept	3104.622	313.8128	9.896	3.8E-17	2483.132	3720.112	248	372
0	-1073.3	398.9	-2.69	0.0081	-1863.36	-283.24	186	283
0	454.8	2.35	194.8	0.0000	197.197	710.403	169	197
0	1070.158	70784.266	1.51	0.069	102.102	2038.203	0.31	1.06

The result that is derived from the dummy independent regression model is that the economic status of the people is being influenced significantly, although weakly by the identity –related variables that are the perception of people that they belong to the lower social strata of privilege and the cultural exclusion indicator that the perception of the people saying religion and religious affairs are the domain of the upper class families. Inclusion of more subjective/dummy variables might have improved the value of the R Square but the possibility of multi-collinearity problem was looming large. Therefore, on the basis of above statistical results we can accept the null

hypothesis with confidence that socio-cultural factors and identity-related behavior of the people influence exclusion and through that the economic status of the excluded people.

VII. CONCLUSION

From this primary study involving three backward villages of one of least progressive blocks of the district of Bargarh of Odisha, the finding that we have arrived at is that exclusions and deprivations can't be confined only to economic considerations. Cultural and behavioral factors do have significant impact on the lives of the people who are excluded from the mainstream. Identity of individuals does have an important bearing on the state of being included or deprived. Data on socio-economic and socio-cultural exclusions have strong connections with behavioral perceptions of the respondents. Further, exclusions of any type and degree have an income effect.

The study also reveals that socio-economic exclusions and deprivations among the rural masses are profound and mostly seen in the families belonging to the SCs, STs and even OBCs. So, deprivations are class-based and caste-centric too. Further, what has been inferred from the study is that social capital, economic standard, cultural characteristics and behavioral traits like identity of an individual are the multiple intertwined factors which are responsible for exclusions and deprivations of numerous types. Hence, policy prescriptions have to be orientation towards behavioral economic variables like the identity of an individual. The study conducted has, therefore confirmed that socio-cultural factors and identity-related behavior of the people influence exclusion and through that the economic status of the excluded people. Any strategy for inclusive development must move beyond the stereotypical income approach of exclusions and need to have a comprehensive broad-based behavioral economic paradigm.

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