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## A Study of Women & Household Unpaid Work A case study of District Budgam Jammu and Kashmir state India

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### Introduction

One of the significant structural barriers to women 's economic empowerment is women's disproportionate burden of unpaid work at home that restricts women from taking up paid jobs , undertaking advanced education and skill training , and most importantly – participation in public life. The household chores have economic value but is not counted in traditional measures of GDP.

Unpaid labor is defined as labor that does not receive any direct remuneration. This is a form of 'non-market work' which can fall into one of two categories: (1) unpaid work that is placed within the production boundary of the System of National Accounts (SNA), such as gross domestic product (GDP), and (2) unpaid work that falls outside of the production boundary (non-SNA work), such as domestic labor that occurs inside households for their consumption. Unpaid labor is visible in many forms and isn't limited to activities within a household. Other types of unpaid labor activities include volunteering as a form of charity work and interning as a form of unpaid employment.

According to time-use surveys collected by the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD), women are the main undertakers of unpaid labor globally. This uneven division of unpaid labor within households has implications for women's involvement in both public and private spheres. One common form of unpaid work is unpaid domestic work. The burden of this type of unpaid work generally falls on the women in a household. Contributing so much time to unpaid domestic work has major effects on women and their participation in the labor market, which consequently affects children, society, and the state.

Types

#### Unpaid care work.

"Unpaid care work" typically contains everyday activities, such as cooking, washing, cleaning, shopping for own household, as well as care of children, the elderly, the sick, and the disabled. The term "unpaid care work" is primarily defined as care work for family members, but it is important to note that other types of unpaid SNA work exist that address 'productive activities', which include types of labor such as "growing food for own consumption, and collecting water and fuel".

#### Reproductive labor.

While unpaid care work is not completely biological, reproductive labor is a special kind of labor that should not be treated according to market norms"; it includes childbearing and raising/taking care of children and other family members. Childbearing is an act that only those who possess female reproductive organs can perform, making it irreversibly a biological-female's job. Married women, single mothers, or other female family members (such as elder siblings, aunts, etc.) are expected to be the primary actors of this unpaid reproductive labor in their personal lives, on top of the economic necessity of entering the productive, paid labor force. Child-rearing falls under both reproductive and care labor, so, after breastfeeding, any member of the household can take on the job.

#### ROLE OF WOMEN IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Globally women contribute 43% of labor force in agricultural sector .women play a dual role they act as producers of goods and services by working in fields . And also in households by performing domestic chores for day to day consumption . women is a basic pillar of a household they take care of each and every need of their family members whether it is giving care to them when they are in infancy or in old age days or cooking food for consumption , washing cleaning and maintaining the household. In simple words women is a basic supporter and care taker of a family. Yet women's contribution to economic development has been neglected .

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**LITERATURE REVIEW**

( 1) Basu Ranjeeta and Thomas D. Marie(2018),discussed about dramatic reductions in trade barriers during the past 10 years have caused unprecedented economic growth and changes have influenced the formal level market, but little is known about the impact of globalization on informal labor market, especially the impact on women. we revealed that women are working in four occupations in Mumbai's informal labor market discussing similarities and differences in the issues they face. The nature of employment relations among informal workers varies from occupation to occupation, but in most cases they are not covered by formal contracts and labour laws. In 2004-05, 36 per cent of Indian workers in the informal sector were wage workers, and the remaining 64 per cent were self-employed (NCEUS 2007). He focused on workers who experience four types of informal employment relations; our participants were street vendors, domestic workers, construction workers, and home-based worker and how the circumstances of their jobs have changed over the last 5 years. The focus was on women because women are much more likely to be in the informal sector, and they also tend to be segregated into the lower segments of the informal labour market, which are characterized by low earnings and a high risk of poverties .More than 50 per cent of female regular wage workers are domestic workers. In Mumbai, there are more than 600,000 domestic workers, the majority of whom are female. In the case of domestic work, the household is the employer, and almost all domestic work occurs within the home. Since the work is located inside people's private dwellings, domestic work is often rendered 'invisible', in the sense that policymakers ignore it and do not treat those who do it as 'real workers' and domestic workers have little flexibility regarding work hours and safe conditions..The findings suggest that the process associate with economic globalization have not raised earning and improved working conditions in informal sector and women's in our study continues to be optimistic about their lives ,the policies developed directed for providing greater access to education and living conditions. Women played a significant role in reproducing the rural household economy by their involvement in household production system but their role was rather underplayed by the conventional statistics and ambiguity in classifying women's work.

( 2) Devendra (1994)25conducted a study on changing status of women in India, to study the changes brought about in the status of Indian women after 1947, and the effectiveness of legal reforms which were enacted from 1829 to 1992. He concluded that education has made it possible for women to adopt a career and the law has given her protection the environment at home and around her has not changed much. Despite that women has been working today the contradiction in their life still remained the main factor. The changes that have taken place are more theoretical than practical and they have fail to penetrate deep because the law passed by the Government still await genuine expectance by families and society.

( 3)Kistwaria, Rana and Sood (2009) conducted a study on Work Pattern of Hill Farm Women-A Study of Himachal Pradesh. They concluded that women played a pivotal role in all household, farm and allied activities. Women's contribution to the Indian agriculture and allied activities has been a recognized factor. They participated in several activities such as harvesting, manuring, sowing, transplanting, weeding, picking etc. they further concluded that farm women spent maximum time in transplanting activity and in dairy maximum time was spent in cutting of fodder.

(4)Baroahs(2017) , conducted a study about women working or working women in which she highlighted a strategic discrimination against women , denying them adequate compensation benefits and their contribution towards economic activities.

women are considered as caregivers , nurtures and custodian of resources and service providers . working women are not given a status as working men are given like seniority , power ,position etc . women are also given low remuneration when compared to their male counterparts .she also highlights the role of class based societies by saying upper class , middle class societies accept women work inside their homes not outside such an approach strengthens inequality misogyny and gender based social exclusion of women work."

( 5) chen Marty (1989 ) analyzed the opportunities for women to work in different sectors of an economy .But policy makers do not view women as a productive workers whose work can be accounted in GNP. Women are left out of sectoral economic planning and suggests that this problem can be solved by donor agencies .in india two fields have been marked for womens work i.e dairying and silk production .

( 6 ) Deasi N and krishnaraji M 1987 published this volume to fill the need for a text book with an interdisciplinary feminist perspective in this they started with a status of women since time immemorial

to till date . They highlighted that women work has been largely ignored by economists. It concludes with policies and programs of government which have no impact on the problems Indian women's face so it suggests policies should be made as to eradicate problems of these women's

( 7 ) Brown (1996)<sup>^^</sup> studied the valuation of household services. He concluded that since individuals make valid contributions through their efforts at both paid and unpaid work, they should be compensated when they are unable to pursue either type of employment. For valuation of, household services he defined two methods. The opportunity cost method and replacement cost method.

( 8 ) Singh (1999)<sup>^o</sup> conducted an empirical study in order to know an impact of employment on the socio-economic status of female industrial labour in Ludhiana city of Punjab State. He concluded that most of women took to factory work as they were able to purchase many household items from their saving. He further said that after an employment, women workers got respect from family and from society. Their presence was felt in the family due to their earnings and they were consulted in an important family matters. He also indicated that women workers were very poor from an economic as well as social point of view.

( 9 ) Rani and Unni (2004) examined the insecurities faced by poor women in a developing country like India. They concluded that poor women in developing countries were burdened with the dual responsibility of taking care of housework and the need to supplement household income to meet the subsistence needs. The on-going flexibilisation process world over has no doubt created new jobs, most of them informal, but they lie beyond the reach of labour legislation and social protection and were characterized by low income and high levels of insecurity. For improving their situation.

( 10 ) Shimray (2004) conducted a study on women's work in Naga society household work, workforce participation and division of labour. To understand household work, workforce participation, division of labour and women's position in Naga society with special reference to the Tangkhul Nagas of Manipur state

#### **DISTRICT PROFILE OF BUDGAM**

Budgam district came into existence in 1979 prior to which it was a part of Srinagar district. Earlier Budgam was a part of Baramulla district when Srinagar itself was a constituent of Anantnag district. In earlier times Budgam was known as Deedmarbag. Famous warrior Mehmood Ghaznavi made two abortive attempts to invade Kashmir in 11th Century through Punch Gali, the boundary of the present district of Budgam in Khag area. In 1814 A.D. Sikh Ruler, Ranjeet Singh, also made his first attempt from here to capture Kashmir. The famous Chinese traveller, HienTswang, while visiting Punch, also took this route. One of the tallest spiritual personalities of Kashmir, Hazrat Sheikh Noor-ud-Din popularly known as Alamdar-e-Kashmir and NundReshi has travelled extensively in the present Budgam district and meditated at several places here. His resting-place at Charari-e-Sharief is also situated in the district. The worth visiting places in Budgam are Tosamaidan, Nilnag&Khag.

#### **Administrative Set up Budgam**

It is located at 75 degree E and 34 degree N latitudes. District Budgam borders four other Districts- Baramulla and Srinagar in north, Pulwama in south and Poonch border in south west.

The district is mixed with both mountainous and plain areas. Southern and south-Western parts are mostly hilly, while the eastern and northern parts are relatively plain.

The climate is of temperate type with the upper-reaches receiving heavy snowfall in winters. The soil is loose and mostly denuded Karewas not the landscape. There are 8CD Blocks in the district and their names are as following

Name of CD Block

- 1 Khag
- 2 Beerwah
- 3 Narbal
- 4 Budgam
- 5 Chadoora
- 6R.K.pora
- 7Magam
- 8Khansahib

District Budgam is situated at 5281 feet above the sea level. The geographical area of the district is 1371 sq. kms. which is 1.35 percent of the total area of the state. It ranks at No.9 in the state.

Budgam like other districts of Kashmir Valley is predominantly inhabited by Muslim community. The district has 6 tehsils. khag tehsil having 49 villages, Beerwah having 104 villages, khansahib having 99 villages, Budgam having 97 villages, Chadoora having 108 villages and Charar-E-Shareif tehsil has least number of villages in Budgam district, total no of villages are 474.

The number of inhabited as well as uninhabited villages in each tehsil is given as under:-

TEHSILS	INHABITED	UNHABITED	TOTAL
Khag	49	0	49
Beerwah	102	2	104
Khansahib	96	3	99
Budgam	95	2	97
Chadoora	104	4	108
Chara-e-shrief	16	1	17

#### POPULATION OF THE DISTRICT

POPULATION	TOTAL	PERSONS	753745
		MALES	398041
		FEMALES	355704
	URBAN	PERSONS	97912
		MALES	54656
		FEMALES	43256
	RURAL	PERSONS	655833
		MALES	343385
		FEMALES	312448

- Literacy rate in district Budgam is 57.98%
- RURAL URBAN RATIO :- A large chunk of population i.e 86% of total population of the district lives in villages and are primarily involved in agricultural operations .
- POPULATION DENSITY:- The density of population in the district is 537 persons per square kilometer.

#### CROPPING PATERN

Due to topography and demographical features multiple cropping has not been successful . Paddy and Maize are two main crops while as pulses and vegetables are also grown in different parts of district.

	SELF EMPLOYED	2	4%	
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### Statement of Problem

The main objective of the study was to make valuation of women's unpaid household work in district Budgam. The objectives also included identifying the key socio economic attributes contributing to women's status, importance and role in decision making. They suggested for a need to address economic needs of women and a need to reform the social security system to recognize the value of women's labour at home.

Unpaid women work has considerable economic value it is not reflected in the economic indicators like GDP, labor force surveys etc. for this reason the women who work fulltime in their homes without any remuneration are considered as economically unproductive. This institutional neglect of women's work in GDP calculations is an important issue that affects her daily life with repercussions as low status in family, society and in the economy by their spouses. The failure to give visibility and value to the essential household unpaid work in economic measurement leads to underestimation of the women work and their contribution to national economy and provides inadequate information about the state of economy. Women's particularly in rural areas avoid to work outside their homes because of the cultural setup of societies. Also women feel insecure at workplaces as they are male dominated. Mostly in rural areas girls are not allowed to take admission in schools because of the belief they have to work in homes so there is no need to educate them.

### OBJECTIVES OF STUDY

- ❖ To understand the nature and characteristics of unpaid care work of women
- ❖ To make a disaggregated analysis of the time allocation patterns and their relationship to various socio-economic characteristics of unpaid women work.
- ❖ To identify magnitude and determinants of unpaid women work.
- ❖ To examine the implications of unpaid work on women wellbeing.

### ❖ Methodology:

- ❖ Sources of data:
  - ❖ Data for the study is based on both primary as well as secondary sources. The secondary sources include official documents, government statistics, census data, Journals, research papers and studies carried by various Non Governmental Organizations. For generating primary data, an extensive household survey was conducted.
  - ❖ Different methods of sampling have been used to collect primary data
    - Random sampling
    - Stratified sampling
    - Purposive sampling
  - ❖ In the first stage sampling, out of 22 districts we selected our own district purposively.
  - ❖ In the second stage of sampling we stratified our sample as per tehsils. Among 7 tehsils we selected chadoora tehsil randomly.
  - ❖ After that we selected two villages one with highest population (Chatergam) and another with lowest population (Aulipora).
  - ❖ In the 3<sup>rd</sup> stage of sampling 35 are taken from the village with highest population and 15 from a village with lowest population.
  - ❖ Finally households were chosen randomly.

### Tools and Techniques :

The data collected from the respondents were scored and tabulated using MS-Excel and analyzed using MS-Word. Analyze data we have used the average percentage and frequency distribution.

### DATA ANALYSIS

OCCUPATION	PUBLIC	1	2%	100%
	PRIVATE	1	2%	
	CAUSUAL	14	28%	
	HOUSEWIFE	32	64%	
MARITAL STATUS	MARRIED	43	86%	100%
	UNMARRIED	7	14%	
	WIDOW	0	0%	
	DIVORCED	0	0%	
ECONOMIC STATUS	APL	25	50%	100%
	BPL	22	44%	
	AAY	3	6%	
CASTE CATEGORY	GENERAL	39	78%	100%
	OBC	11	22%	
	OSC	0	0%	
	ST	0	0%	
TYPE OF HOUSE	PAKKA	46	92%	100%
	SEMI PAKKA	4	8%	
	KACHCHA	0	0%	

Socio-economic status refers to an individual's level of income, wealth, education and prestige. SEC is an economic and sociological combined total measure of a person's work experience and shows Individuals economic and social position in relation to others based on income, education and occupation. However, SEC is more commonly used to depict economic differences in society. In both villages and cities there has been a remarkable increase in the number Of women going out of four walls of the household and becoming workers. In some fields, the number of women employees is steadily increasing for example women working as teachers, college professors, doctors, nurses, advocates, clerks and so on are to be found in almost all major cities. Employment has given women economic independence and feeling of importance. they now feel that they can stand on their own legs and look after the entire family by themselves. This has boosted their self pride and self confidence. Occupation plays a vital role in determining the position, status, role and importance of women in a household. The women's with occupation as housewives are solely dependent on male counterparts for fulfilling their needs because they are not earning any income. The above table shows that a chunk of women population are housewives they are not earning any income. The reason of having occupation as housewives is due to lack of educations these women's were illiterate. The data shows there is a positive relationship between

education and occupation , education plays an important role in determining occupation . The women with education upto primary level are engaged in casual type of work .only a negligible percentage of females are working in public sectorData showsthat economic status of the women household . Economic status is a some sort of indicator of facilities that a household avails . This data shows that there is a linkage between economic status and type of house .we know that due to demographical features of jammu and Kashmir it is necessary for everyone to have a pakka house but households falling under AAY category are not able to avail this type of facility .Economic status has also a role in determining sanitation facility of a household . Households with economic status as APL & BPL have sanitary latrine in house and households with AAY category have kaccha latrine in house

TABLE 2

VARIABLE	ITEM	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE	TOTAL
SOURCE OF DRINKING WATER	NO SOURCE CLOSE TO PREMISES	0	0%	100%
	TUBE WELL	2	4%	
	POND	0	0%	
	SUPPLY WATER TREATED	48	96%	
SANITATION FACILITY	SANITARY LATRINE	48	96%	100%
	KACHCHA LATRINE	2	4%	
	NO LATRINE	0	0%	
ELECTRICITY IN HOUSE	YES	50	100%	100%
	NO	0	0%	

Electricity has now a days become the necessity, as far as the above table is concerned it shows that every household is facilitated with it.

The data shows a positive relationship between source of drinking water and sanitation facility . Treated source depicts a good sanitary condition and vice versa it may be due to lack of income , awareness and locational factors.

TABLE 3

## ❖ TIME ALLOCATION

This table shows mostly women are not engaged in any type of paid employment women's with any type

of paid employment work only for a few hours . Paid employment has a positive effect on work load ,women with paid employment spend less time in domestic chores it may be due use of modern gadgets from the money they are earning .

A large chunk of women folk spend 7-9 hours in domestic chores .only a small percentage i.e 2% spend more than 12 hours a day for domestic chores .It is due to presence of single lady in a household , large family size and extreme poverty.

TYPE OF WORK	0 HOURS	1-3 HOURS	4-6 HOURS	7-9 HOURS	10 -12	➤12	TOTAL
PAID EMPLOYMENT	32	6	12	0	0	0	50
	64%	12%	24%	0%	0%	0%	100%
DOMESTIC CHORES	0	0	10	26	13	1	50
	0%	0%	20%	52%	26%	2%	100%
LEISURE TIME	6	36	8	0	0	0	50
	12%	72%	16%	0%	0%	0%	100%
SLEEPING	0	0	0	36	14	0	50
	0%	0%	0%	72%	28%	0%	100%



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**WEEKLY ANALYSIS OF TIME SPEND ON DIFFERENT DOMESTIC CHORES**
**Policy Implications :**

The findings of the study disclose that the magnitude of unpaid care work from the part of women is significantly high. It also reflects that women allocate relatively higher percent of time for household

TYPE OF WORK	0 HOURS	1-3 HOURS	4-6 HOURS	10-12 HOURS	>12	TOTAL
CHILD CARE	21	0	7	21	1	50
	42%	0%	14%	42%	2%	100%
CARE OF ELDERS	33	0	6	11	0	50
	66%	0%	12%	22%	0%	100%
COOKING FOOD	0	0	5	32	13	50
	0%	0%	10%	64%	26%	100%
FETCHING WATER	41	3	3	3	0	50
	82%	6%	6%	6%	0%	100%
FETCHING FUEL	19	5	12	9	5	50
	38%	10%	24%	18%	10%	100%
LAUNDERING	1	19	30	0	0	50
	2%	38%	60%	0%	0%	100%
SWEEPING VACCUMING	0	2	33	15	0	50
	0%	4%	66%	30%	0%	100%
WASHING CLOTHES	0	1	19	29	1	50
	0%	2%	38%	58%	2%	100%
REARING ANIMALS	26	0	0	16	8	50
	52%	0%	0%	32%	16%	100%
KITCHEN GARDENING	12	2	6	12	18	50
	24%	4%	12%	24%	36%	100%

maintenance. The drudgery of unpaid care work is still higher in the case of socially marginalized (SC/ST) women residing in colonies, which are lack adequate water facility and other infrastructure facilities. It adversely affects their wellbeing. So governmental bodies at different levels should bring out

policies for the state provision of basic infrastructure facilities and labour saving technologies that benefit women by reducing their burden of domestic activities.

The study found that child care is an important reason for women being unemployed, State should ensure necessary public services including child care centres, adult care facilities ,and health care facilities to support family care provision.

#### CONCLUSION :

We have concluded that the participation of women in paid employment has been consistly declined. And their participation in unpaid women activities has significantly increased . Moreover the increase in unpaid activities is more intense for those women who are less educated and belong to the poorer households..So education sector must be improved. And it is the responsibility of the government to spend huge amount on education sector .Also government have to give different incentives to the poorer households. Also various employment programmes and policies must be launched .

Because unpaid care work is essential for family survival and affects all dimensions of development, it is important for policymakers and development practitioners to maintain a sharp focus on the subject. It is important to focus on why unpaid care work matters for development

(recognition), what development interventions can be prioritized to lessen overall unpaid care work burdens (reduction), and how the burdens of unpaid care work can be more equitably on the basis of gender. Because gender reflects the division of labor in public and private spheres, and the division of labor in both spheres differs by class, the dynamic interplay between gender and class has de facto influence on women's employment beliefs and practices. Placing unpaid care work at the core of poverty reduction efforts and synergistically working across all three dimensions will make a substantial difference to human welfare Two possible refinements to the social psychology of class rise from considering gendered environments in homes and workplaces. First, women's gender-based orientation toward others and preference for affiliation over power may mitigate documented class-based differences in self-other orientation. A second alternative point to the potential for self-other orientation to reverse in women's own understandings of and approach to employment. Middle and upper class women working in male-dominated workplaces, living in households where female employment may be optional, and parenting in communities where intensive parenting is valued, may uphold gendered ideals of women as communal and other-oriented. In contrast, lower class women working in female-dominated occupations, living in households with limited financial resources, and parenting in communities where financial independence is valued, face heightened emphasis on the necessity of looking after one's own self-interests. The self-other orientations of low-income women may thus defy expectations based on gender as well as those based on class. To better understand how both women and men construct meanings regarding the self and other in employment contexts, research needs to go beyond categorizations based solely on class and build toward a gendered-class framework. Fully investigating the intersection of gender and class, starting with simple demonstrations of similarities or differences in a two (male/ female) by two (higher class/lower class) design, will be revealing. We urge scholars studying class-based differences in beliefs and behaviors to incorporate gendered experiences in homes and workplaces into their research, deepening our understanding of the complex interplay between sources of power and status in society.

#### Recommendations :

1. Provide clear and strong leadership on rural women's economic empowerment including on recognizing, reducing, and redistributing their Unpaid Care Work
2. Develop a clear framework that integrates Unpaid Care Work and Climate Resilient Sustainable Agriculture and systematically review the impacts of agriculture policies, investments, infrastructure reforms, fiscal and other economic policies on economic empowerment of rural women (including their Unpaid Care Work) involving the full and meaningful participation of women from affected communities
1. Collect data on the gender distribution and time spend on Unpaid Care Work and strengthen accountability mechanisms for the fulfillment of women's rights commitments by setting clear gender goals, targets and indicators.

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