

1. SUMMARY OF MAIN FINDINGS

The main findings of the data are summarised below :

a) **Agricultural occupations:**

1. All-India annual average daily wage rates in different agricultural occupations during the year 2007-08 varied widely from Rs.47.64 for male 'herds-keepers' to Rs.106.96 for male labour engaged in 'well digging'; from Rs.37.78 for female 'herds-keepers' to Rs.62.31 for the female labourers engaged in 'harvesting' activities; and from Rs.31.40 for child 'herds-keepers' to Rs.45.70 for those employed in 'transplanting' occupations.

Table 1 (a)

2. Amongst agricultural occupations, 'well digging' was observed to be the highest paid occupation for men possibly on account of the requirement of skill and risk in the performance of the activity followed by 'ploughing' and 'sowing' occupations. During the year 2007-08, the all-India average daily wage rates in 'well digging' ranged between Rs. 111.58 in September, 2007 to Rs.103.95 in April, 2008

Table 1 (a)

3. 'Harvesting' occupation fetched maximum wages for women followed by 'transplanting' and 'threshing' occupations. The all-India average daily wage rates for women in 'harvesting' occupation ranged between Rs.60.62 in July, 2007 and Rs.66.11 in June,2008.

Table 1 (a)

4. Children got highest wages in 'transplanting' occupation in the range of Rs.44.00 in July,2007 to Rs.48.24 in June,2008, followed by 'sowing' and 'harvesting' occupations.

Table 1 (a)

5. During 2007-08, 'herds-keeping' was observed to be the least remunerative occupation for men, women and child workers as the annual average daily wage rates in this occupation were reported to be as low as Rs.47.64, Rs.37.78 and Rs.31.40 respectively.

Table 1 (a)

b) Non-agricultural occupations:

1. The all-India annual average daily wage rates in non- agricultural occupations during the year 2007-08 also varied widely from Rs.59.40 for male ‘sweepers’ to Rs.143.06 for male ‘masons’; from Rs.55.55 for female ‘unskilled labourers’ to Rs.57.49 for female ‘sweepers’. In case of children, due to non-receipt of sufficient number of quotations, the average daily wage rate could be calculated for ‘unskilled labourers’ only, which worked out to Rs.35.98.

Table 1 (b)

2. Amongst non-agricultural occupations, ‘masonry’ was observed to be the highest paid occupation for men, followed by ‘carpentry’ and ‘tractor driving’. During the year 2007-08, the all-India average daily wages for male ‘masons’ ranged between Rs.137.72 in July, 2007 to Rs.148.60 in June, 2008.

Table 1 (b)

3. ‘Sweeping’ was the highest paid occupation for women as their all-India average daily wages in that occupation varied from Rs.53.40 in July, 2007 to Rs.59.67 in April, 2008 .

Table 1 (b)

4. During the year 2007-08, the all-India average daily wages for children engaged as ‘unskilled labourers’ ranged between Rs.33.36 in July, 2007 and Rs.38.35 in June, 2008.

Table 1 (b)

5. ‘Sweeping’ was found to be the lowest paid occupation for men during the year under reference with an all-India average daily wage rate of Rs.59.40. For women and children ‘Unskilled labour’ was observed to be the lowest paid occupation with an average daily wage rates of Rs.55.55 and Rs.35.98 respectively.

Table 1 (b)

6. The average daily wage rates for women were found to be generally lower than those for men in most of the occupations. These may be attributed to variation in the number of quotations as the wage differential based on sex was not that significant at sample village level.

7. None of the female workers were found engaged as ‘blacksmiths’, ‘cobblers’ and ‘tractor drivers’ and hence no wage rate was reported for these occupations during the year 2007-08.

c) Monthwise Average daily wage rates of states in Agricultural and non-agricultural occupations :

1. Amongst states, the highest average daily wage rates are reported in all the occupations in Kerala in all the months of the year.

Table 3 (a) to 14 (b)

2. After Kerala , in the two hill states of Himachal Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir, average daily wage rates in all the months are higher than developed states like Maharashtra, Gujarat, Punjab and Haryana.

Table 3 (a) to 14 (b)

3. The lowest average daily wage rates in all the occupations for all the months of the year are reported from Madhya Pradesh.

Table 3 (a) to 14 (b)