

## APPENDIX V

DESCRIPTION OF THE CATEGORIES USED IN THE  
ANALYSIS OF DATASocial Status of the Household: Caste and Religion

Religion: Hindus and Christians

Caste : Dominating castes: Comprising Thevar, Kallar, Vanniyar, Gounder, Vellala, Konar, Naidu and Reddiar occupying a higher status in each of the nonbrahmin villages.

Service castes: Comprising Kammalar (carpenter, blacksmith and goldsmith) dhobi (washerman) and oddar, (mason), the village artisans and specialists performing specific ancestral jobs.

Harijans/Scheduled Castes: Those caste groups notified by the Government of Tamil Nadu as Scheduled Castes, occupying the lowest social position in the villages.

Type of family: Nuclear and Extended.

Nuclear household: Households comprising a single married individual/couple, residing with his/her/their unmarried children.

Extended household: Households having members other than a couple and their children as permanent members. The additional members can be paid servants or relatives.

Size of the family: Small and large - measured in terms of the number of members in a household as follows:

Small: having 2 to 5 members

Large: having 6 to 10 members

Number of children: by age categories and total number.

Age: Children below 15 years of age who demand varying types of attention categorised as follows: 0 - 1 year, 1 - 2 years 3 - 5 years, 6 - 10 years, and 10 to 15 years.

Number of children: by the actual number as 0, 1, 2, 3 and 4 and more.

Occupation of the household: Operationally defined as one which contributed more than 50 percent of the total income of the household in the previous year.

Agriculture (Own land): Having more than 50 percent of the annual income from own land cultivation.

Castebound work: Households having more than 50 percent of their annual income from work linked to their caste as washing of clothes for a dhobi, carpentry for a carpenter and the like.

Daily labour: Households depending mainly on daily wages for livelihood.

Nonfarm work: Households having more than 50 percent of the income from sources other than agriculture, caste bound work or daily wages.

Income of the household: Households were categorised into very low, low, middle and high en income groups

on the basis of the total income of the households.

Very low: Households having a total income of less than Rs.2000 and Rs.5000/- per annum.

Low: Annual income of the households ranging between Rs.2001 and Rs.5000/-.

Middle: Annual income ranging between Rs.5001 and Rs.10,000.

High: Annual income of the households above Rs.10,000/-.

**Age of the Homemaker:** The chronological age of the homemaker, the individual playing the major role in household work management.

**Educational level of the homemaker:** According to the years of formal education.

Illiterate: who could neither read nor write.

Upto 5th standard - having formal education upto primary school level. 6th to S.S.L.C. 6th to S.S.L.C. having formal education higher to primary level and upto S.S.L.C.

Higher: Having undergone formal education above Secondary School Leaving Certificate level.

**Employment status of the homemaker:** Employed and not-employed based on their involvement in productive activities, that is activities directly supplementing the income of the household.

Employed homemaker: Engaged in productive housekeeping activities like rearing of livestock, tailoring and the like and/ regular employment and / family occupation.

Not employed homemaker: A full time homemaker not participating in any productive work.

**Type of House:** Based on National Buildings Organisation's Classifications (1959, p.22) categorised into huts, kutcha house and pucca houses.

Hut: Houses having plinth of mud; wall of mud, bamboo, and /reed; roof of straw, grass/ thatched.

Kutcha houses: having plinth of mud or brick, wall of mud, bamboo/reed; roof of corrugated sheets, asbestos/tiles.

Pucca houses: having plinth of brick, cement/stone; wall of brick, cement, and concrete; roof of corrugated sheets, asbestos, tiles/ cement concrete\$.

**Type of kitchen:**Based on facilities, arrangement and construction materials categorised into:  
Type I Open Chhola or hearth movable/ semipermanent fittings, scattered work areas, kutcha construction, squatting type arrangement

Type II Open chools (hearth) poorly designed but permanent fittings, one / two cooking points, less conveniently grouped work areas, kutcha finishing.

Type III: Open choola (hearth) cooking points designed properly, fixed structure, pucca construction, work areas fairly grouped.

Type IV: Smokeless choola, well designed, fixed structure, work areas properly grouped, standing or squatting arrangement.

**Meal Type**: Whole day's meal categorised on the basis of the items prepared and the number of times the tasks were repeated daily.

Very simple: A simple cereal preparation with or without a side dish prepared once a day.

Simple: A cereal preparation with two side dishes prepared twice daily.

Complex: Very simple or simple meal prepared thrice a day or a simple and an elaborate meal prepared twice a day.

**Components of household tasks**: In terms of tasks and sub-tasks.

**Time taken for household work**: Actual number of hours spent on each household task and sub-task. The minutes were changed to tenths of an hour using the following table (Oppenheim, 1972, p.115):

Minutes	Hours.	Minutes	Hours.
5	0.1	35	0.6
10	0.2	40	0.7
15	0.3	45	0.8
20	0.3	50	0.8
25	0.4	55	0.9
30	0.5	60	1.0

Same table was used for conversion of seconds into tenths of a minute.

Frequency of performance of household tasks:

Stated as daily, weekly, periodically or rarely according to the number of times the tasks were performed in a day/week/month.

Daily: Tasks performed one to three times every day.

Weekly: Tasks performed once or twice every week.

Periodically: Tasks performed once a fortnight or a month.

Rarely: When performed at longer intervals.