Poverty Mapping at the Local Self Government Level in Orissa

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The policies are made looking at the macro estimates. But today more and more policy makers are demanding estimates at the micro level for its use in the policy decisions. The local self government such as district panchayats, tehsil panchayats and gram panchayats are taking on a greater role in the long term planning and socio-economic development of their areas. However the biggest constraint is often that data sources in the country do not readily support the ability to monitor welfare program at the disaggregated level.

Recently developed techniques such as Small Area Estimation can help fill this data gap. This is a methodology to identify areas with high levels of poverty at the lower levels of disaggregation. The analysis in this paper uses data collected by Census and National Sample survey data. We have also constructed uniform location codes between census and local self government boundaries. The study covers 30 district panchayat, 314 tehsil panchayats and 6052 gram panchayat of Orissa. And the study is limited to the rural Orissa. It also has various interesting policy as well as regulatory implications.

**Keywords:** small area estimation, poverty, local self government