



## Poverty Reduction Schemes in Shopian: A Case Study

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**ABSTRACT:** The objective of the study was to find the impact of poverty reduction schemes in Shopian district. A pretested questionnaire was circulated among the residents of Shopian who have received the benefits of the schemes. It was found that these schemes have helped the people of Shopian by and large. 23.07% of the respondents received funds more than once for state marriage assistance programme. 63.63% respondents have department interaction for Hunnar and 15.15% have interaction for state marriage assistance programme. 42.42% of respondents have received funds for state marriage assistance programme. However, awareness towards these schemes are very less and needs intervention from the concerned department.

**Keywords:** Poverty, Schemes, benefit, awareness, shopian.

### I. INTRODUCTION

Being a rural economy on the move is gone up against with issue of wide spread Poverty which has turned into a significant test to the Government since Independence, poverty is incredible revile on mankind [1]. It is damned not just for the wretchedness it perpetrates, yet in addition for the corruption that it brings, poverty is multi-dimensional. It suggests a serious absence of material and social products which blocks the ordinary advancement of the people to the point of the trading off their own trustworthiness and accordingly, is 'outright' poverty. An individual is said to be poor who is unequipped for approaching one's assets exercises to meet one's natural needs or those of one's family, living in a perpetual condition of confinement and in security which will in general be genetic, to be ravenous to be neither teach nor thought about in lacking lodging and to work in human conditions [2-4]. The individuals who experience the ill effects of total Poverty need to ensure that they will have the option to meet the essential expenses of living as a person [5].

Since there are different plans that have assumed a job in the alleviation of poverty in Jammu and Kashmir, the analyst has chosen just scarcely any plans that are right now in activity and no examination has been carried on these particular plans. During the review it was noticed that these plans have incredible effect in region Shopian, consequently this locale was chosen for the present examination.

The plans that will be talked about and discussed in this paper will be restricted to Hunnar, State Marriage Assistance, Sponsorship (for Orphans), AWWs/AWHs only.

### II. METHODOLOGY

For collection of primary data 140 and 25 Male and Female respondents, respectively, were selected from the schemes viz., Hunnar, State Marriage Assistance, Sponsorship (for Orphans), AWWs/AWHs, A predesigned questionnaire was used for collection of data. The questionnaire consisted of various questions that ranged from the personal information to the financial status of the respondents. The respondents were asked about different schemes like Hunnar, State Marriage Assistance, Sponsorship (for Orphans), AWWs/AWHs schemes like No of times, amount, where from you received information, how easy was it to get the amount Cash/Account.

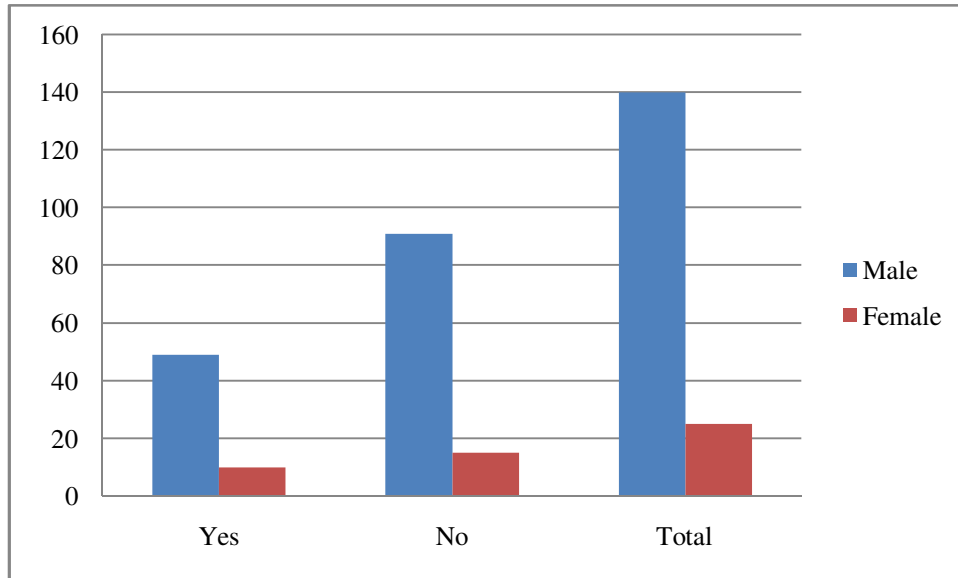
### III. STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

All the data was subjected to the Pearson's coefficient of correlation to find the association between two variables (Male and Female) and between different schemes. -1 indicates there is a strong negative correlation and + 1 means that there is a strong positive correlation, a 0 means there is no correlation (Zero correlation).

#### IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

**Table 1: Awareness of Poverty Reduction schemes provided by the government.**

Subsidy Schemes Provided	Shopian		
	Male	Female	Total(%)
Yes	49	10	59(35.76)
No	91	15	106(64.24)
<b>Total</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>165</b>

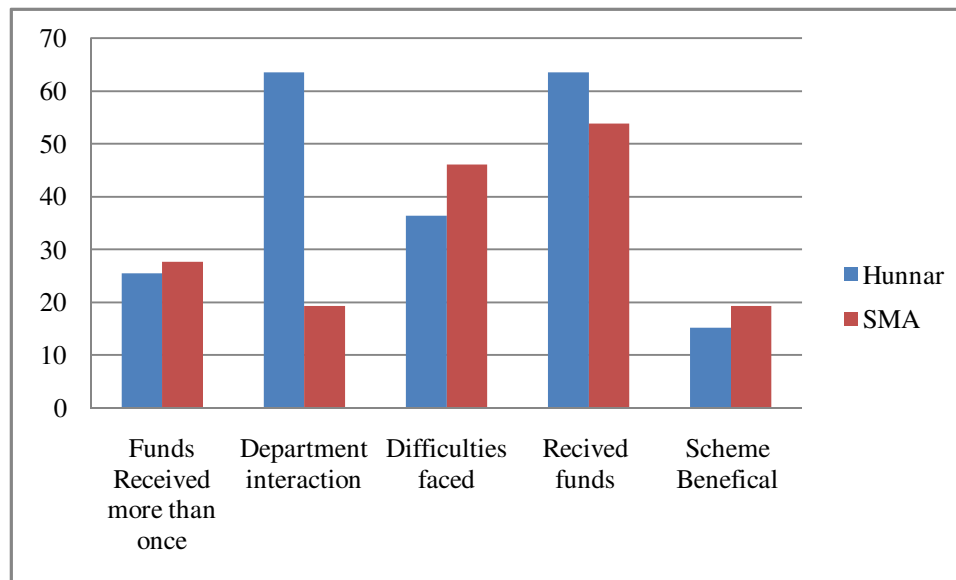


**Fig. 1.** Awareness of different schemes.

Table 1 shows the awareness about the incentives and subsidy schemes provided by the government. Table shows 35.76% from Shopian were aware and those who were not aware from Shopian were 64.24%. A strong positive correlation ( $r = 0.98$ ) for awareness of different schemes among male and female respondents has been observed during the study period.

**Table 2 : Perception for Hunnar and State Marriage Assistance by respondents in Shopian.**

Perception of respondents towards Schemes	Hunnar				State Marriage Assistance			
	Male	Female	Total (%)	r value	Male	Female	Total (%)	r value
Received more than once	42	0	42 (25.45)	<b><math>r = 0.92</math></b>	23	13	36 (23.07)	<b><math>r = 0.72</math></b>
Department interaction	90	15	105 (63.63)		22	3	25 (15.15)	
You faced difficulties	50	10	60 (36.37)		49	11	60 (36.36)	
Received Funds	90	15	105 (63.63)		51	19	70 (42.42)	
Scheme beneficial or not	25	0	25 (15.15)		22	3	25 (15.15)	



**Fig. 2.** Perception for Hunnar and State Marriage Assistance.

Table 2 shows the funds received more than once by the respondents. 25.45% of the respondents gave received funds for Hunnar Programme, while as 23.07% of the respondents received funds more than once for state marriage assistance programme. 63.63% respondents have department interaction for Hunnar and 15.15% have interaction for state marriage assistance programme. 42.42% of respondents have received funds for state marriage assistance programme. 15.15 % of the respondents think that state marriage assistance scheme is beneficial for them. A strong positive correlation of ( $r = 0.92$ ) and  $r = 0.72$  for Hunnar and State Marriage Assistance among male and female respondents has been observed during the study period.

**Table 3: Perception of respondents towards sponsorship for Orphans and AWWs/AWHs in Shopian.**

Perception of respondents towards Schemes	Sponsorship (for Orphans)				AWWs/AWHs			
	Male	emale	Total (%)	r	Male	Female	Total(%)	r
Received more than once	6	0	6 (3.63)	<b>-0.36</b>	0	0	0	<b>0.63</b>
Department interaction	25	0	25 (15.15)		22	3	25 (15.15)	
You faced difficulties	34	14	48 (29.09)		13	9	22 (13.33)	
Received Funds	37	10	47 (28.48)		34	13	47 (28.48)	
Scheme beneficial or not	38	1	39 (23.64)		31	5	36 (21.81)	

Table 3 shows the funds received more than once by the respondents towards sponsorship for Orphans and AWWs/AWHs. 3.63% of the respondents received funds for Orphan Programme. 15.15% respondents have department interaction for Orphans and 15.15 have interaction for AWWs/AWHs programme. 28.48% of respondents have received funds for AWWs/AWHs. 21.81% of the respondents think that AWWs/AWHs is beneficial for them. A strong negative correlation of  $r = -0.36$  and positive correlation  $r = 0.63$  for orphans and AWWs/AWHs among male and female respondents has been observed during the study period. The study founded very strong relationship between fund utilization and employment generation in Shopain. In Shopian, we observed that the elasticity between the funds utilization and employment generation is more of local schemes like Hunnar, sponsorship to orphans to be more than PMEGP and MGNREGA. 35.76% from Shopian were aware and those who were not aware from Shopian were 64.24%. 25.45% of the respondents received funds more than once for Hunnar Programme, while as 23.07% of the respondents received funds more than once for state marriage assistance programme. 63.63% respondents have department interaction for Hunnar and 15.15% have interaction for state marriage assistance programme.

The current poverty eradication programs are sufficient to meet the needs of poor people in Shopian; however, they need to be allocated to the deserved and underprivileged.

The state of Jammu and Kashmir is ranked at No. 7 in terms of poverty, hence, same schemes are not able to alleviate poverty and different approaches and policies need to be implemented. It was observed poor is becoming poorer in Shopain due to escalating prices in different commodities and these schemes are not properly diverted to the deserved people. Most of the schemes are running under the influence of rich, people in power and political dogma and people with political approach are being benefitted by these schemes. There are no proper criteria to measure poverty in villages of Shopian. A new report prepared under the supervision of Tendulkar (2009) reveals that 37.2 per cent of the Indian population is living below the poverty line.

The number of urban poor has decreased overtime in Shopain, while in rural areas it has gone up. The opinions made by officials and poor people in Shopain are quite contradictory. The former claims that these schemes are employment generating and later claims that these schemes have reduced working labour days. The officials were reluctant to provide exact information about the schemes and beneficiaries, citing different reasons. The poor people in Shopain were not satisfied with the current schemes and with the department officials. The attitude of officials and bribery in these offices were regarded as main reasons of dissatisfaction among the people.

## V. RECOMMENDATIONS

The following are the recommendations that may be helpful in removing the obstacles of poverty in Shopian.

- A separate department that will look only to the cases of poverty is urgent need of hour. This will make the fund distribution process smooth and will identify the actual people who are really in need of assistance.
- The officers who are in charge of these schemes need to visit the particular household in person; the link between poor person and officer in charge must be abolished in order to restrict corruption and kiths and kins advantage that is prevalent at this time in these offices.
- The amount of particular scheme that reach to the actual persons takes years, it must be on fast track basis.
- The criteria to identify poor person is usually dependent on BPL ration card, that is against the poverty triangle, this procedure must be abolished.
- A village level committee must be drafted in consultation with higher officials for identification of poor people and funds must be disbursed without involving many departments in the process.
- Currently, a person has to move from one office to other in order to get funds credited in their accounts, half of the money is being wasted by doing so by the person, hence it must be controlled.
- Awareness programmes by the concerned department must be launched in all these villages on priority basis so that common people will be able to take advantage of these schemes.
- Pamphlets must be distributed and pasted at important places in villages in vernacular language so that people will get information of different schemes at the appropriate time.
- The amount that is given to the people under different schemes must be enhanced as this amount is not sufficient to meet the requirements of particular individual.
- Proper verification of the documents like Aadhar card, account details, mobile numbers, and ration cards must be made in order to make the process more transparent.

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